

Inserted in Illustrations of Sterne: with Other Essays
And Verse. John Ferriar, 2nd. ed. 1812.

From Dr. E. M. Brockbank to W.O.

(Script)

51, Palatine Road,
Withington Road,
Manchester.

September 22, 1906.

Dear Dr. Osler,

I knew you would be very grieved to hear of Harris's death. I thought you were away or would have written to you about it. The illness resulted from too much work (for him) of 5 years' standing, sleeplessness of some years or so, no sleep for last week during all the very hot weather which we had, and shooting in the sun temp. 90' in the shade. He absolutely overdid himself and suddenly symptoms of acute mania or itsequivalent developed and he died in three days or so. You may be pleased to hear that when he was very ill he asked for "Osler" and when an injection of morphia was given him he smiled and said "Ah! Osler has come". Many of his friends had urged him to take a decent holiday and his wife had begged him to but he wouldn't. However, at the end he told Mrs. Harris that "she was right, he ought to have gone away, but he thought he could pick up without and that he was "playing the game". We are all very much upset, as apart from the loss to his family, he undoubtedly was the ablest all-round man on the medical side of the Infirmary and we can't replace him.

So much for our sad news. Now my "nice thing". If you have not guessed who it is by now - it is Ferriar. Taken from a maniaure in the possession of the Challinors of Leek to whom it was left by Miss Ferriar. I knew that they had the miniature, but omitted reference to it in my sketch. Recently I thought I would like a copy and wrote for two, one for you and one for myself.

Mrs. Challinor has written me some very nice letters asking me to go to Leek (Staffs) as they have some of Ferriar's library -

"3rd folio Shakespeare, 1st ed. George Herbert's poems and others of which I fear we know but little - one is so dreadfully ignorant".

Wouldn't this be a nice afternoon's outing for us?
I should enjoy it with you very much.

Many thanks for kind offer to visit Oxford. It would indeed be a great ^{treat} to see you at home, but I can't manage it at present. I must get a week at the sea-side for a rest before session work. Yours very truly,

E. M. BROCKBANK.