

Peter Bent Brigham
Thos. P.

CUS 417/108.101

Instr. to act as
Res. Adviser

79 Marlborough Street.

Oct, 1909

Boston Oct 12/09

My dear William:

I hope you will excuse the familiarity and yet somehow I cannot bring myself to write you formally -

I am going to ask you what will probably strike you as the most absurd thing possible - yet if there be one chance in ten thousand and that it is not absurd I am taking that chance.

Gov. Draper of Mass. recent

ly appointed me and one of the late Pres^t Garfield's sons as members (representing the State of Mass) of the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital board of trustees—

Peter Bent died twenty seven years ago leaving some two millions of dollars to found a hospital in Boston "for the indigent sick" the fund was to be allowed to accumulate for twenty five years— under judicious management it is now a little under six millions, exclusive of the land purchased for the site of the hospital.

The site is the land, several

acres, facing & adjoining
the Administration Building
of the Harvard Medical School.

I stand, as do all of us,
on the board for the best
hospital when completed
that there is in the world -
the day it opens - This
cannot be done without
a big man as a Medical
director and advisor to
the trustees -

Of course I am only a
humble member of the board
& do not know what they
might do - It's a good board,
gentlemen - & men of large
means - men of the right
sort -

Now here is the foolish question
I suppose!! Is there any chance

You would come back to America;

Is there any sum or any inducement that could be offered to make you think of this work?

If I have made a "bad break" don't belittle me before Grace by giving me away because I ~~not~~ value her good opinion highly -

When you write me please treat me as a Cousin and give me all the advice you can - if you could ^{not} & would not consider this will you suggest who is the best man you know of for the job -

I want to do the best I can for the public whom I represent.

Sincerely yours (Priscilla sends
John W. Reynolds. Good wishes)