From the Regius Professor of Medicine, Oxford.

16, July, 1914.

Dear Birkett,

I am delighted to hear that you have been appointed Dean, as you have got plenty of glue in your composition, a much needed element in a large Faculty Group. ...

Let me know if you will be over this year. We should like very much to see you.

Do you not think we could have a really first-class portrait of Shepherd painted for the Faculty? I should be glad to start the ball rolling. One painted by Guthrie of Edinburgh: I should think we could raise as much as £500.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd) Wm. Osler.