

W.D.
M. D. 1915

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2014 PINE STREET

21 Dec 1920

My Dear Cushing -

In the Canadian Medicine journal memorial number I see a note asking for letters from Osher and have been looking over my stack of unsorted letters but only find three which are not very significant but such as they are, are at your service.

The card no. 1. refers to a tentative plan I had presented to the War Office for the establishment of Command Depôts for the treatment of wounded men & their re-training for active service. It was carried out & I was put in medical command of the one at Heaton Park, where we had over 4000 men. Osher visited me there & was greatly interested in my progressive exercise treatment of heart cases. He & Mackenzie sent up Dr Wilson who stayed a week watching the effects of it & afterwards they took it as a basis for their exercise treatment at Hampstead & Chelsea. At that time I had many talks with Osher. The Command Depot idea spread & we had 16 of them before Sir Robert Jones established his orthopaedic centres & the Depôts became training centres only.

Card no. 2. refers to a statue I made of Capt Ery Drummond killed Ypres April 1915. It is in the War Museum at Ottawa. He often urged me to collect & write up my work and we had a good deal of correspondence on that. He was interested in the hobbies of doctors & asked me to collect the names of all doctors who had been founders & sculptors. The list was short Paul Reber in France Foubert in England. but I secured for him the life of Wm. Pinner of Boston written by Furman Bartlett, a rare book now in the museum of Fine Arts has a good collection of his wonderful drawings of anatomical figures. The book must have reached Osher after his last illness had begun for I never heard from him & the news of his death came soon afterwards.

When I came to Philadelphia one of the first things

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I was asked by Gould (the medical Dictionary man) was about a certain Evelyn V. Davis who had been sending in remarkable case reports from a Canadian place called Cangua wanga.

I had to tell him that this was a small Indian village of log huts & that E.V.D. was not a prominent figure in the medical life of Canada under that name. You was perhaps familiar with some of these reports faithfully recorded in the Dictionary of Medical Anecdotes.

My last visit to Osh was in 1916 where his home was as usual filled with young people & "rednecks" among others Egoon who was of thousands killed.

His note in reply to my letter following his sons death is characteristic & must have been repeated many times to mourning friends.

I hope you will have all success in your labors, & that his memory is a most precious legacy to us all.

With best wishes for this future season

Drummond

Yours most sincerely,

R. D. McKenzie