

Letter dated 17. viii. 17. contd.

detail and conclude:

"although the evidence goes to show that the belief in changelings prevails among the Irish peasantry and has often lead to inhuman acts it seems clear that other and baser motives prompted the foul deed at Ballyradlea". They decided not to press for mitigation of sentence. I should like awfully to get the full report of the trial.

Sincerely yours,

Wm. Osler.

Letter (Script) 12. IX. 17.

Away till 20th.

13, Norham Gardens, Oxford.

Dear Foy,

Please send me memo. of cost of the witch transcription &c. It is most kind of you to have taken all this trouble.

You will be sorry to hear that we have lost our boy — shrapnell wounds chest, and abdomen on 30th.

Sincerely yours,

Wm. Osler.

Letter (Script) 17. IX. 17.

13, Norham Gardens, Oxford.

Dear Foy,

Thanks for your kind message of sympathy. It is a hard blow.

Now do like a good kind man send me full statement of expenses, re. witch case that I may send cheque.

Sincerely yours,

Wm. Osler.

Home next Saturday.

Dr. Joyce Kilmer of Cambridge from Dublin has sent a bundle of postcards & occasional notes which are most typical of the flying omens. <sup>the 1st</sup> A few of them say he copied her. The all-weather gentlemen were full of gloom. They deal with witchcraft, amulets, etc.

Card (Script) Jan. 27th. 1917.

13, Norham Gardens, Oxford.

Most interesting. Do try to run down the reference. I see a good notice of Higgins in the Dic. Nat. Biography. Is there a good 2nd. hand book shop in Dublin? I want any of the works of Dr. Paul Hifferman (1719-1877) particularly his "Dramatic Genius in Five Books"

Wm. Osler.

Card (Script) (Jan. 30th. (1917)

13, Norham Gardens, Oxford.

Many thanks. Why not write up Higgins? It has not been done properly. Let me know if I can look out anything in Bodley.

Wm. Osler.

Card (Script) Feb. 4th. (1917)?

13, Norham Gardens, Oxford.

I wish you could find an account of that last Witch trial in Ireland 1865 see Hayden Dic. of Dates. I have picked up two plays of Hifferman.

W. Osler.

Re Witch burning case

Letter (Script) 17. viii. 17.

13, Norham Gardens, Oxford.

Dear Foy,

Times July 6th/95 tel. report from Dublin July 5th Trial resumed. Very brief statement and then the sentences.

July 12th Ed. Clodd writes that he thinks the sentence too severe as Cleary was evidently possessed with the belief that the woman whom he burnt was a changeling.

Aug. 1st. Ed. Clodd writes again that he and <sup>Dr</sup> Andrew Lang have made a full investigation and had gone through the evidence in

Contd. Letters & Cards of Dr. Foy from W. O.

Letter (Script) 22. IX. 17.

13, Norham Gardens, Oxford.

Dear Foy,

Your kindness and generosity embarrass me! Do let me pay the type writing expenses. It makes me hesitate to call on you for further help. And it is so good of you to have had the papers so nicely bound. I read the Report last eve. What an extraordinary record. I am writing to Clodd, who still lives, about the investigation which he and Andrew Lang made and which led them to suppose that Cleary had other motives, the nature of which are not stated.

Sincerely yours,

Wm. Osler.

Very sincerely yours  
 J. J. Joyce  
 27  
 Jan 1917

7, CAVENDISH ROW,  
 RUTLAND SQUARE EAST  
 DUBLIN.

9<sup>th</sup> August 1920

ENCLOSURE

6 Letters  
 12 Postcards.

Cushing  
 A. H. H. H. H.

Dear Sir

A diligent search examined

the enclosed cards and letters. I may say that the "Jefferys Witch case" is the prosecution of Michael Cleary for the burning to death of his wife. The reference to William Higgins of Sligo refers to Higgins passport that we would find a surgical anaesthetic in the ether series of alcohol. Higgins it was that preceded Davy in the laboratory of Jeddoes. On July 18<sup>th</sup> 1910, Sir William presented me with a crayon portrait of himself bearing his signature and that of the artist August.

Yours truly

If I find any more letters I will send them.

George Joy