

L. L. Mackall
Librarian

June 20, 1917.

To

Sir William Osler, Bart.
Regius Professor of Medicine
Oxford England

My dear dear Chier

Though I have thought of you at least a thousand times and thanked you in my heart for your extremely kind letter (written just after receiving the "Miscellanies" of your friend Sir Thomas) and then the 2 copies of that fine note on entomological Book-Worms, somehow or other I have never succeeded in writing you a letter, though it has really been constantly on my mind, you may be sure. I can only say that my thanks are at least as cordial as they are belated!

Today came the note from your secretary about the "Maupertuisiana". At this distance from most bibliographies I can just now only suggest your looking in the elaborate Voltaire-Bibliography by Bengesco (but propably you have already done this!) Similarly I do not yet know who wrote the "Ueber d, Charletanerie der Gelchrten seit Menken 1791", but will try to find out. Have you tried the "Deutsches Anonymen Lexikon" of Holzmann & Bohatta, published by the "Gesellschaft der Bibliophilen" (Weimar)? As to Schiller's early medical essays, you will find them in Goedeke's ponderous "Historisch-Kritische-Ausgabe of all of Schiller's works arranged chronologically. No doubt Prof. Fiedler has this, and other data on the subject, not accessible here in Savannah, but I will try to find out more a about that too. There is a recent cheap Historisch-Kritische-Ausgabe of Schiller published by Hesse, and edited by Witkowske (brother of "Harden") and others, but it is popular, and so may not have those crude early efforts. I tried in vain to get this in New York some time ago.

Now a few words as to your copy of Sir Thomas Browne's Certain Miscellany Tracts 1683: While in New York for a short time last October I saw the title in Anderson's catalogue of their auction:—"No.1241/Fine Books/from the /Library/of the late/

Richard A. McCurdy/of New York/and under a separate alphabet/Miscellaneous Books/
 from various consignors/to be sold/October 30 and 31, 1916.../The Anderson Galleries/
 Madison Avenue at Fortieth Street/New York/"lot #278(among the "books from other
 consignors"). At once I examined the book and communicated with Cushing, Boggs,
 Ford, Putnam & Co. who were all very enthusiastic at the idea of having a chance to
 give you pleasure. Before the auction came off I had to come back to Savannah,
 but I arranged with the bidder, and Boggs attended to the rest of the correspondence,
 getting the actual signatures, sending over the book & c. Also he started the
 photographs for the subscribers even before he received my letter suggesting them.
 Later it turned out that these fine photos. were substantially a present from him!
 Though by chance I happened to be the first to see the book, we all felt at once that
 it naturally belonged to you as of right, so that I do not think that I am entitled
 to any more credit in the matter than anyone else. I really mean this.

As to the book's previous history, the description in Setheby's catalogues of
 the sales of June 17f.(Library of Edw.Jac.Stanley)1901 #483 lacking frontispiece
 (sold to Pickering for 10 pounds) and June 3-7 (Miscellaneous) 1902 #152 in red-
morocco by Chas. Mearne(sold for 41 pounds) show that these are different copies.
 Yours was consigned to Anderson by G. A. Baker & Co. of N. Y. who had bought it
 a year or two ago from Bookseller G. Gregory of 5 Argyle St., Bath, England, who had
 bought it near Bath. A N. Y. print-seller told me that he thought that Tregaskis flat-
 ely had a copy! No doubt you can easily get these English catalogues and follow
 their clues. Have you the Anderson sale Catalogue above mentioned?

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 Ferguson's Chemical Bibliography? (I have his "Some Aspects")