MITCHELL (S[ILAS] WEIR) 1829–1914.

7596. In English, on paper: written in 1902–13 by S. Weir Mitchell: 8 × 5½ in., 61 leaves.

28 letters (13 autograph, 15 either wholly or mainly typed) from S. Weir Mitchell to W. Osler, 24 Dec., 1902, to 14 Aug., 1913.

A number of the letters refer to Mitchell's studies on Harvey (cf. no. 788).

See also the letters inserted in nos. 3419, 3562, 4669, 5158, 5163, 5165, and 5978; 8312 & 8313.

leaves 43-44 th survived 1904, mislaid. — offered 1954 for C. P. Phillips. [illegible]

1524 Walnut Street
Philadelphia

My dear Carter –

I believe I have
to send you
double thanks –
for and Ramsay
& for the delightful
Treasure book
of song – I brought
it – yesterday
but carried it –
could not then

Yours most sincerely

Weir Mitchell

Wm. Asher Esq

get one for myself -
I have a score
of things to say
& am too busy -
to linger over a
letter -
I have only time
to say how truly
I desire for you &
yours all that
of good 1903
holds in his
closed hands -

Nov. 10
1903
Nov 6

1524 Walnut Street
Philadelphia

Many thanks for the address — which interested me as does whatever you write — This gift of being interesting is — just that — a gift — I had from you a pleasant letter but no indication of whether to direct a reply — or rather

you are coming this
way — The board is here
the company — ?
the cellar good —

With affection &
remembrance

Weir Mitchell

Dr. Weir Mitchell
1729 Spruce Street
Philadelphia

an acknowledgement -
I have refused to
discourse at the un-
-veiling of the mon-
-ument to Rush -
I have seven reas-
-ons against say-
-ing yes to the re-
-quest to speak of
Rush —

I am very well —
G. Mrs M. better than
since our fatal
year — Remember
Mrs Inn-whenever

Received
Nov. 14th
1903
Wolcott

1524 Walnut Street
Philadelphia

My dear Asher —
I hope you will
pull my big cousin
out of his unfor-
tunate state — It
must be very gram-
ophonic — I you are
to be here over
night — this hotel
is open — I too
have long had an

Thoroughly of yours

"Ever friend"

S. Weir Mitchell

Nov. 13th

interest in some
who was poetical, &
sometimes a poet —
The recent life of
Keir I found
most readable —
but the gift book
of this essay on
self murder — the
crime without possi-
ble remorse — I
never saw —
Thank you for the
book & for the
remembering

Published by H.C. in Osler Bibl. 1924.

Dec. 3 – 1903

1524 Walnut Street
Philadelphia

Dear Osler – I am having just enough of a cold to claim the privilege of a day at home – Hence ill a bachelor argumenti – which is I suspect equal to the dam-dog Latin of Barney-cum which I am more than puzzled – I think a commentary on his lecture notes would

of Admiring –.
In quoting's on p. 23 –
I should like to have
whispered (see Good)
from the German Bi-
ble – Sufficient unto
the day ~~are~~ — not
the evil – but the
cares of the day –
The good word about
faith & science & –
made me like
you more & more
I – phrase myself
with up. phrase of
the light that breaks
upon our homes &

curses with publicity —
But Addison approved
over it & Charles
was in his day
had never heard of
Lamb & Charles —
I have Beaumontes &
~~[illegible]~~ our cakes
Somerset —
of that little classic —

yr ever friend

Weir Mitchell

Wm. Peterson Esq

tax the wits of the most
ingeniously learned —
See p. 7 for one puzzle —
Solomon "Eccles^s 1. 9. 28 —"
what on earth has it to
do with "waddle like a
puffin" — There is scarce a
page without its problem
I write you of the lec-
-ture — to be adjourned —
until Lang — I have to
thank you for
Beaumont which I
like very much & of
I measured thanks
— not so much for
the Canada address
or rather the first
part the last — I find
as Barrie says full

Dec. 23 1904 10

C 23

dec

1524 Walnut Street
Philadelphia

Dear Osler — my equanimitas is badly disturbed when I think of what the general profession will lose in the way of high minded example when you leave us — Some of these addresses I have read — I promise myself an

Xmas time —

I have been making rules up on the basis of my own belief in past-mortality & reading

? Fishes & Non-games — Therefore — a good talk with you would be in order, but alas! that never comes — unless by serious appointment — which is fatal —

Dec 23 — 04. over Wm Weir Mitchell

a pleasable hour over
those as yet un-read.
I lack courage to put
mine together — one
of them you may
soon hear —
I had a talk with
the Bibliopoles
here last night —
about books with a
history — quite amu-
sing it was —
My most affectionate
greetings for you &
yours in the kindly

Did I send you my
Geo. Washington — I lost my
list — Let me know —

Stowe

12
C

1524 Walnut Street
Philadelphia

March
2nd
1906—

Dear Asher—

There is—in Oxford—at Merton? a letter of Harvey of which I should like to have at my cost a photographic copy of exactly the size of the original. See awaiting a D'Arcy Power—for it.

I have had his

our. M. S. Harvey?
scripts, upon which
I have very doubts —
Can a man so alter
his hand writing?
It is very curious —
D'Arcy Power says the
Wills & Codicils are
not dated; but a
man at the chase
does date the
Codicils — all this
will interest you —
I am always yours —
Lemuel
There is room for an
essay on the Harveian
orations — Yet other
ones might be inter

estring — many were
missing when I
landed from up
at the C. of G. —
Why not do this?

Yours

Wm. Osler Esq — M.D —

March 2.. 06

entire will - three fourths
in his own hand
accurately photo-
graphed. It is a clear,
steady, minutely
characteered scrawl.
like the hand of some
refined clerk - all
in the current Italian
script, easy to read
as print. I looked
from it in wonder to
the crabbed hieroglyphic
of 1616 in the matter -
a. in a letter letter -
(arching) - I regret is now
at work on this even
more matter a. very

(Easter Sunday)

1524 Walnut Street
Philadelphia

Word of thank - about the
portraits - from Mitchell
finds me in the
house - wildly
gripped - like half
the country - I
have been housed
three days & this
has its advantag-
es - I - one gets
down some chores
long neglected -
I have just seen
Gropper who brought
[illegible]
Send it soon -
yrs very Mitchell

Need – 50.000 – additional but this will come – the hope to lay the corner stone in Oct.! – and this after fifteen years fight! I some times analyze it myself of obstinacy! – I have started Feb. at the W. of T. with a campaign fund, to struggle with modern methods our

[illegible]

(continuing) – [illegible]

~~[illegible]~~ – to show you the photo – of yr. mother & fine – from Carrow old face. –

I got this last week 50.000 from Carnegie with a really pretty note of congratulation –, we have now in bank some 105.000 $. – & good subscriptions for – 100.000. more – You should

Send it soon –

yrs very Mitchell

two poisonous lizards — I do not
know — touched this subject. I
and — that among the diseases
to wh — the blacks seems in
mem — chronic — Loc. atax? in
many and grave disease —
I have a lot of matter for this
but not quite enough — I was
pleased to get from Ross yesterday (Mrs —
quite — Ross) a book of amusing
verse. — But for the gaps — this

Jan 4 1909

18

C

1524 Walnut Street
Philadelphia

16

I wish Russ Applik could come over.

12/
-09

1524 Walnut Street
Philadelphia

Dear Asher—

My Harvey pa-
pers will be in
print & I shd
like to have
get up. Portrait
list to add as
an appendix—
Send it soon—

yrs Weir Mitchell

two
has-
and
to u
mar
mo
shra
but
plea
quiro
mere

Jan 4 1909 18

C

1524 Walnut Street
Philadelphia

Dear Archer

Thank you for the beautiful book-diploma of W. H. I had it for a night on front of Lemuel Ins. stand. There was noble company -

[illegible] years of anxiety over - we should our

I am already pathering over
my presidential address for
May — on the oneness of the
(force?) nerve energy —:
seen in animals & in
plants & — am having some
new work done on sensi-
tive plants. — &c —
I am also raising £5000
to complete the college

I have had a
number of messa
ges from Gt. B.
of congratulation on
the F.R.S. I wrote
to correct my
name on the roll,
merely that our
my family. The
issues on Gulf
Nominal justice.
So I return my
diploma for correction

seven years of anxiety
over. We shall our

May 1909 be generous
to you & yours —

Weir Mitchell

Jan 43
1909

Dec. '09

1524 Walnut Street
Philadelphia

Dear Asher — we do interchange pamphlets that I never forget things sent or received. You may fill up a blank cheque of thanks as seems conscionably due from me — The college is quiet now & very noble with its great rooms & — quiet. Every one is pleased & may seven years of tranquility follow — We should own

There is an unpublished bit concerning
him on Hobbes, of the Jesuit who came
to see him – If the new picture of Har-
vey at the college has been photoed
send me a copy –

With all good Xmas greetings
for all of your house I am
yrs – truly –

Wm Mitchell –

Wm – Osler Esq – Bart – ?

many of course —
but that will get
paid — I shall send
you a proof of press
very soon — The proof —
I ask will answer you.
What is the Royal
Society of Literature —
I am its secretary, a
foreign fellow — I am
entirely ignorant
of what it is —!
He as Harvard has
year rules of masters
of mention been
thrown ghly studied

1524 Walnut Street
Philadelphia

My Dear Asher —
Thank you for Brown
to Japan. — I send you
a book "Viva Mexico"
witty — humorous — true,
merciless sketches,
found an intelligent
despair — otherwise it
is incarnation of
the devil ~~[illegible]~~ May-
that have an
any minute —
Thanks for your opinion
about concerning the R.S.
of Literature — It seems it was

you are on Beits commission — It may be a useful gift — if spent chiefly on the trained laboratory man —

I may have sent you Leonard Woods amazing story of the small pox in Cuba — but to add a second copy will do no harm — I shall like to hear the comments of the Quinby vacci — Good luck to the young eyes — through the new light of the heir of the ages —

Wm Mitchell

Jan. 3. 1910

Gen. Gorgas account of Panama — Panama Canal — Dr Leonard Wood

The first Cycl. Bur. — No
Prog. Bur. is richer with
bits of Harry & some ex
aspirating comments — reformers —
Harry's courage ought to
be traceable back of his
father — One of the Elwyns
Jacks — mother people
married a Harry of Burr
nor Wm. people but an
Elwyn married a Walker
Harry — mothers people —
There is still despite
D'Arcy Power book a high
& twists of Harry to be
written —
Phipps gave Vera W. Ba a
hospital for tubercle
£10,000 a year to run
& some one — gave us about
£60,000 to endow medi
cal research — I see

2 born about 1819 & Baptist —
Coleridge were members —
They have sent me a half
dozen very interesting re-
prints. We are to hear at
the College — 2 to 4 lectures
a year for the public — on
great M.D's — I head off
with Harvey — It set me to
looking up original
information on — & I have
spent hours over many great
books, all to be found in
the Phil. Library — are always
amazing collection,
Woodes Rogers — Pedro
Desiderata, curiosa —
Not much about Harvey
but a desirable gazetteer
for an evening interview —
Yours —

1524 Walnut Street
Philadelphia

January 14, 1910.

My dear Osler:

I enclose a curious "find" concerning Wm. Harvey. Although Mead hinted at death by suicide, and Scarborough (see Aubrey) says that Harvey seems to have prepared for it, I do not believe it; but I found yesterday in a note the statement I send. Naturally it has been overlooked, for it requires courage to tackle the huge volumes of those old county histories. We have not here Morant's Essex (vol. 11, p. 530). It may be well to look at it.

I still think it might be worth while to write "The Life and Times of Harvey". I cannot find the reference to Mead's story of Harvey's death. I

saw it somewhere.

That Bacon, Harvey's patient, in all his nine volumes says not a word of Harvey or his discovery seems to me ~~most~~ amazing.

The most odd of all my "finds" in regard to Harvey proved to be in the end of no moment--a mistake-- owing to the incorrectness of one of these county historians. In Salmon's history of Essex there is an account of the Harveys, with nothing new except that in a note he quotes Aubrey as authority for the story of Harvey's life having been saved by a dream. The story is too long to report in a letter, but quite worth your while looking up.

After searching Aubrey's volume of Miscellanies, the edition of 1734 and page 34, I found what I was looking for; but it was not Harvey who was saved by a

dream, but Hamey, of whom you know something. Was there ever a queerer blunder? To be certain I would like to look at the edition of Aubrey of 1721, which is that which Salmon quotes, and which I have not.

This ends my Harvey matters. I had written the largest part of the letter, but had so many corrections that I have asked my secretary to typewrite it, to save your aged eyes.

We are in the midst of a tremendous snow storm, the second of the winter, and everybody is saying that it is an old-fashioned specimen of winter weather.

Vale, tuus ex anima,

Weir Mitchell

Dr. William Osler.

I have now exhausted all the possible sources of Hawthorniana — all the memoirs of the day — are they printing as yet. I always wish the lectures — There must be many descendants of H. in the female lines among whom I should like to move —

J Brzuchez

C

1524 Walnut Street
Philadelphia

February 8, 1910.

My dear Osler:

All that business about the Harvey letters sticks in my head a little and seems to me to be incredibly stupid. The reports of the Commissioners are always sent to the Philadelphia Library by the British Government and have been for many years, so that if they come out, if I am alive, I shall see them.

There is another source of material about Harvey quite neglected, in regard to which there must be a good deal of manuscript material in the records of the Courts; that is, his long law suit with the heirs of Lord Lumley.

I am beginning to think that I send you too long letters, but the cacoethes scribendi is a malady most incident to age,

1524 Walnut Street
Philadelphia

and so you will have to put up with me.

I think I wrote you that I had found since then Morant's Essex, and now I see that a descendant of Harvey's brother, Viscount Maidstone, is going to marry a Philadelphia girl. I wonder whether there are any Harvey matters still in possession of Lord Maidstone's family.

Very truly yours,

S. Weir Mitchell,
M.D.

Prof. Wm. Osler, M.D.

1524 Walnut Street
Philadelphia

December 6, 1910.

My dear Osler:

I fotgot in writing to you the other day to say that I am having one or two matters about Harvey looked up by my London agents through John S. Billings. I want to know at once from you what you can tell me about those letters you mentioned, which are to appear in the next volume of the Record Office and not to be seen for two years. I mean to make an effort through the American Ambassador to see if I cannot break through this ridiculous situation and obtain copies of these letters. Now tell me just about what they are, why they cannot be seen, and to whom application must be made; then I will write to Whitelaw Reid and

threaten a war with Great Britain in case they are not immediately forthcoming.

Alas, Great Britain! I think we do not sufficiently value the fact that we live in a country with a constitution which cannot be upset by a single act of the Lower House of Congress. Now, you are really on the brink of what seems to be a political revolution. All who love England feel sorry the shillelagh has become so potent in the politics of Great Britain.

Yours very truly,

S. Weir Mitchell, Jr.

William Osler, M.D.

C

1524 Walnut Street
Philadelphia

January 3, 1911.

My dear Osler:

I have been expecting to hear from you, but this is not a reminder of failure to reply, but a simple New Year greeting to a friend.

The new year has opened sadly for us with the recent news of the death of Fannie Leigh, the wife of the Dean of Hereford, whom I dare say you know. She has been a friend since childhood and a relation by marriage. Whenever you are in the way of seeing Fannie Leigh's daughter, now Lady Butler, do not fail to profit by the chance. This young woman is very dear to us, and her husband is a typical specimen of the best Irish gentleman.

As for news here, you may have heard or not that I have resigned my Trusteeship at the University, after thirty-five years' service. There is the usual constant hot water in the Faculty, and I believe this is the case wherever doctors are associated together in teaching positions. What, causes it?

Harrison also goes out, and the new Provost comes in with a little doubt in my mind as to his fitness all around, and a great deal of regret that the most splendid chemical career of the day in America is going to be, in fact must be, cut short.

Reichert is doing another wonderful piece of work, on what he calls the "starch crystals"; that is to say, starch grains. I believe that Woodward, of the Carnegie,

thinks it even more interesting than his work on the "Blood crystals", which he will take up again as soon as the present research is over.

Getting out of the University relieves me from committees. In fact, I have said to my wife, if I died, she must put over my grave, "committed to the grave", since it seems to me I do nothing else except attend committees.

I suppose I have a thousand things to say to you, but they escape one in this process of dictation. I have finished a novel which has been on my desk more or less for three years. As usual there is a medical sketch , that of a paranoiac. Also, I have been thinking of writing sermons, and I put forth my

claim to a title, "Sermons from the Pew", which is all I have done as yet. I think the pew has something to say to the pulpit, and a propos of this (why have we no English for a propos?) thank you for your sermon.

There are many more things I would say, which must (as my Scotch ancestors would have said) bide a wee.

Give my affectionate regards to Mrs. Osler, and rest assured that you have my best wishes for the year and the years to come. Some day I must make acquaintance with your boy. If you see Sir. Wm. Markby, say a kind word for me, and to any other Oxford friends.

I am sorry Anne Thomson has left Oxford. I felt more easy about her while she was under your wing.

Yours very truly,

Dr. Wm. Osler. Wm Mitchell

1524 Walnut Street
Philadelphia

January 28, 1911.

My dear Osler:

I am indeed grateful for these interesting letters, which but for your obstinacy and my own would not have seen the light of day for some years to come.

I shall be careful to comply with the conditions.

In the meanwhile, my dear friend, I thank you very much for your own share in procuring these interesting documents.

Very truly yours,

Weir Mitchell

William Osler, M.D.

over

I wonder if the
Earl of Winchelsea
may not have
Harvey M.S —
as yet unpublished — It is
worth — the
asking —

C

1524 Walnut Street
Philadelphia

February 6, 1911.

My dear Osler:

You may think me a perfect nuisance with my letters, but when I am on the track of some little bit of literary investigation, I have the eagerness of a hound on a warm scent.

The letters I am allowed to use by the Manuscript Commission are of singular interest and are curious revelations of character. I shall print them some time before very long, with some ~~of the~~ other fresh material about Harvey.

There is one thing I have been trying to run down and cannot. Dr. Mead is credited with the statement that Harvey poisoned himself. I cannot find the reference to this in anything that Mead

1524 Walnut Street
Philadelphia

has written, nor in D'Arcy Power's Life, nor in that of Willis. It has become interesting since my discovery of a note in one of the County Histories, in which a descendant of Harvey describes his having taken poison when he discovered that he had become blind. How this could have been invented without the aid of a newspaper reporter, I do not see; otherwise, as you know, Aubrey is the only witness as to the mode of Harvey's death.

With one thing and another we have had a busy winter. I shall talk Harvey on the first of April (his birthday) to the Harvey Society of New York, and hope before that time to have a little trip

1524 Walnut Street
Philadelphia

to Cuba with Sir William VanHorn.

With my constant and most affectionate regards to Mrs. Osler, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Wm Osler

William Osler, M.D.

C

1524 Walnut Street
Philadelphia

March 21, 1911.

My dear Osler:

By this time you have concluded that the curse of a corresponding friend has come upon you; but this cannot be helped. Do not forget about Sir Vere Isham. I much want the whole of that letter of the Bishop's.

Now, a question you can answer easily. Harvey was a lesser pensioner at Caius College, Cambridge. Please tell me what was the difference between a lesser pensioner and a greater pensioner. This will decide the question as to whether Harvey's father was sending his son there with some difficulty or not. Always the question of where the Harvey money came from remains for me a puzzle.

I am afraid I have worn out the patience of D'Arcy Power by my queries about Harvey, but it cannot be helped. I am now pretty well done with him, or shall be after I deliver my lecture to the Harvey Society on April 1st, in New York.

It is rather an amazing thing to me that the greatest of English physicians should the the one great Englishman about whom no great biography has yet been written. If I were in your place, I would undertake it. Whether D'Arcy Power ever will or not, I do not know. He has all I could give him.

Very truly yours,

Wm Osler

William Osler, M.D.

C

1524 Walnut Street
Philadelphia

April 5, 1911.

My dear Osler:

I send you a copy of a note which I wrote you during January. I suppose, I have the American impatience of slowness of action added perhaps to the impatience of age. I should like to know if you have heard anything of the matter here mentioned, or whether it has failed entirely, or whether I must attack this gentleman from some other direction.

I am now putting together all that is novel about Harvey which I have found in the last year, including the interesting letters I obtained through your kindness. Their dates are somewhat puzzling.

I have also of late written to the Earl of Winchilsea through our Ambassador,

1524 Walnut Street
Philadelphia

to ask whether his family have in their possession any relics or letters of Harvey which may have come down through his maternal ancestor ~~through~~ Daniel Harvey's daughter.

I remember that you told me you were going away for two or three months, but presume you may have sent my letter before you left, and may have had a reply. I do not like to trouble you, but nobody hesitates to trouble me and I may as well pass it on.

Yours very truly,

Weir Mitchell

William Osler, M.D.

1524 Walnut Street
Philadelphia

April 17, 1911.

My dear Osler:

Thanks for your little note, and I hope we may get something out of Winchilsea. I must see that letter of Bishop Duppa's. I shall wait to bring out my rather disconnected article concerning Harvey until I hear from these two possible sources of information.

Will you look over for me a book, the name of which I enclose. It is a pamphlet of seventy pages, and is not in any of the libraries in America. It must be in the Bodleian, and please to amuse yourself by running over it for me and telling me if there is anything in it at all about Harvey. It is a horrid thing to lack the service of a perfect library.

1524 Walnut Street
Philadelphia

May 24, 1911.

My dear Osler:

I send you the "Evening Post" because it has so full an account of the wonderful library in New York, and also a little booklet which they gave me at the opening yesterday.

I begin to despair about our untraceable Sir Vere Isham. It seems to me nothing but a wireless telegram could reach him. I hate to bother you so, but please to go on. In the fall I shall have ready a little booklet of rather disconnected matter about Harvey. I have a clear mind now as to the man and his character, which was greatly assisted by those splendid letters you got for me.

I have written to the French Academy, through Prof. Dejerine, asking them to consider reprinting in autotype facsimile the "Christianismi Restitutio" of Servetus. If you know, as you must, any of the more important men there, I wish you would write them about it.

I also send by this mail a copy of my new book, "John Sherlock, Ironmaster."

Yours always,

most cordially.

I decline to [illegible] it so

William Osler, M.D.

England

Evidently
re "Sex & Immortality"
See letters from Mrs Dennett
C.P.Phil. 10.11.54.
& 26.11.54.

43

C.

2.84-00-[illegible]

1524 Walnut Street
Philadelphia

My Dear Asher—
I read your little
book last night.
I shall read it
once again. I am
glad to have es-
caped the ordeal
of merely saying
as you must have
felt. Lord I believe;
Help Thou my un-
belief — as I get
near the fatal
marksman — I

can not conceive
that she will,
against all her
ways, waste in
death her mental
accumulations
any more than
her mere assistin
material—
How does this ad-
dress itself to you.
And how does a
man reach the
position C. E. M—
expresses in the
letter I inclose.

Let me have it
again —
I groan in antici
pation of your
lass tons —

yrs. always
Weir Mitchell

Wm. Osler Esq

← C[harles] E[liot] N[orton], the letter printed in
Burns "Letters", 1929, p. 304 ?

more & more re
flection — this mat
-ter. I have a
self-worn theory
of this world's —
workings which I
have never had
the courage to put
on paper — It has
helped me to keep
afloat spiritually —
& indeed, seeing
how miserly is na
ture & how she
holds on to her
properties & her
civilised-winings I

1524 Walnut Street
Philadelphia

December 22, 1911.

My dear Osler:

Thank you very much for your long letter and for the trouble you took about the pictures, which I herewith dismiss from mind.

My Harvey is not a lecture, but a collection of disconnected articles about that great man, some of which will be new even to you; and of course I reprinted all the letters obtained from the family of Lord Denbigh.

Thank you very much for the promised photograph of the Harvey at University College. I have been having correspondence about the Harvey Arms, some of it rather late for use. In the course of a month I shall send you several copies of

moment did not recognize her.

Yours always,

Weir Mitchell

Sir William Osler, M.D.

my paper, and you may use them as you think best. I await with the impatience which belongs to my years for the other volume of Harvey Notes, and am perfectly conscious that the present notes have not been sufficiently studied; there is a world of interest in them.

Thanks for the Laennec. I have just received a four-page letter of Koch, which I shall have framed as soon as I can get a competent photograph. We have had a great many gifts to the College. The last one is a lot next door (where a stable stood). It has now been made over to the College free of charge, being really a gift of $45,000.

I had a pleasant surprise in meeting Lady Osler on Chestnut Street. I did not know she was in the country, and for the

C

1524 WALNUT STREET
PHILADELPHIA

March 26, 1912.

My dear Osler:

I have just received your letter, and as I have nothing immediate on hand I reply and thank you in advance.

I sent you two copies of the "Harvey", and now send a copy to the Radcliffe College Library and the British Museum Library. I have distributed them pretty freely to friends in London. Also, I had printed enough copies for each Fellow to get one, as a part of our Proceedings; and I sent them to the various descendants of the Harvey family, like Lord Winchilsea and Heneage Finche. If you think of anybody else who ought to have a copy, I will send copies.

I am more than pleased with the reception of this little piece of work, and have a very enthusiastic letter from Adami with regard to it. Indeed, it is quite wonderful that I should have been left to discover so much about Harvey as is reported in my two papers and seems to have been ignored or not known by English doctors.

Dr. Elwyn, the father of my first wife, said that his own family (Kentish people) had intermarried with two sets of Harveys, and that one of them was descended from William Harvey's uncle. This could be decided, I think, if one were in England for a while. Much I could

1524 WALNUT STREET
PHILADELPHIA

have known is closed to me by the fact that I am not in your distracted land.

I am most thankful for what you tell me about your Dentz recovery ~~son~~ and his brief illness. It is curious that in Bermuda, from whence I have just returned, there was practically no pneumonia until the New York convalescents from that disease began to come there twenty years ago, since which it has become common.

Finally, I think, I ought to have that "Epistle to Riolanus". I have long been on the look out for it. I have just discovered at the College what I had given up for lost -- a long consultation letter by Rush in the case of the mother of Washington, who was dying of cancer.

Yours very truly,

Weir Mitchell

Sir William Osler, M.D.

49 53

28 June 1912

after July 12
Bar Harbor

CASCAPEDIA CLUB,
GRAND CASCAPEDIA,
QUEBEC,
CANADA.

Tell your son that I killed a 45 pound salmon last week, & two days before three, 40, 39, 29 lbs — of less importance is it that you are a Bart. What is that to me — for whom you are long ago high in the peerage of friendship — the towering number alas! I can count among the survivors —

e interested in the romance of Agnes

bob - to the air Heaven soaring thro -
I am inter was ill pleased with
the mediums of the W.P. the had
planned so nobly well, the Brown
G-d-Ehem! Keep an eye on any
Harry things for me & quit
writing - my the are half page
scrapes of letters - I have seven quires
to put at you about Harry - I spare
you - Could I learn at the Herald
office when Mr H. got arrm? I hear you
cuss - well -! Good by - yrs. Mark Twain

50

I want — I must
have — for in this
fall my paper on
Harvey will be ready,
but for this, I fear,
from what Lord Wm
Chilcza writes that he
has no Harvey matter —
and now I am
after the Chancellor
Finch of Burton on the
Hill —
But suppa! ?
I am a little pleased
that no one can
write a great life of
Harvey without some
reference to me — It
is something to be a

be interested in the romance of Agnes

from only four —
Lima has terribly dealt
with that splendid
peerage — Lowell, Holmes &
Alex. Agassiz, Brooks —
and Carr Ch. Norton —
and Aldrich, T. I am
the last of our
children, save one, Sarah
Therefore please to
take care of the new
Baronet —

Did you get any new
book? You will like it
but, it is for the mature only
a book to read slowly
for the bits bring them —
Dear Sir Wm Isham —
I hear supp a letter I

Bar Harbor, Maine.

Received Aug 3rd 1911 at Oxford
Aug 22/12 C

Bar Harbor, Maine.

My dear Osler:-

I send you what will, I am sure, interest you for two or three reasons. In the first place, because it is an American memoir in which the family history is not traced back to William, the Conqueror, or anybody in the ~~that~~ period. It is quite as comfortable to be ascendants as descendants, and there is some psycological matter in this little paper which I think you will consider as worth attention. Mrs. Osler - I beg your pardon, Lady Osler - will I sm sure be interested in the romance of Agnes

cal papers or the kind you and I like to write, which are of the life of the profession's great men, but I have been and shall be absorbed this summer in a novel I began last year in order to fill up my vacant hours, for indeed I wonder what people do with their time in a resort like this. I do not play bridge. I walk in the afternoons alone or, what I like better, with some pleasant young woman, but the long hours of the morning must find occupation. I probably shall be this year and next year before I finish the book, which concerns the time of Buchanan's administration and the war. No one has sufficiently put on paper the home influences, the changes in families which that period brought on, or the extreme bitterness of party.

Yours very truly
John Bach McMaster
Jan. 1908

how soon you consider a catalogue here, people in England have had the first shot at it and, as for me, I scarcely ever succeed in getting what I want. Had I been in London, I would have had it and you would have had it. Perhaps you got it. I hope so.

I think you are going to consider seriously, in the light of my misfortune about the Harvey papers, giving us that letter about Harvey which we lack to make our own splendid collection complete. If I had you at dinner with a little good Madeira, I think I could soften your bibliographical heart..

I have had a dozen schemes in mind about medical papers of the kind you and I like to write, which

Yours — only Your —
Time has terribly dealt
with that splendid

Penn and you in the enormous number of doctors my family has produced. I printed but fifty copies of this and do not propose that it should get into outside hands.

I had another disappointment in London the other day when a page of Burns' accounts as a guager had on the back a long letter written by my great grandfather praising his work. I bid thirty-five pounds on this, an absurd price. Then my agent learned that the bids on the other side were practically limitless. I had a similar annoyance when I tried to buy for you the travels of John Brown, the son of our beloved doctor knight. I meant to give it to you but, as usual, no matter

Bar Harbor, Maine.

I have been also interested in securing commemoration by bronze tablets on the field of Gettysburg at all the points where field hospitals were placed or where doctors were killed and wounded. Thirteen suffered in that great battle and how many confederates, I do not know. Eighty remained with their wounded and finally were sent back with benedictions across the lines to their rebel states. All this will interest you, and I do not remember ever having spent a more wonderful two days than I spent at Gettysburg with Charles Francis Adams, fifty years

give it to you but, as usual, no matter

was, I am sure, happier on a salmon river where we killed fish of a size to make your young man envy.

Pray assure Lady Osler of my undiminished affection and, with remembrances from Mrs. Mitchell, believe me,

Always sincerely yours,

Wm Osler

July twenty-second, 1912.

from the time when he commanded a troop on this field where my brother was with John Reynolds when he was killed, while I was within a few hours at Westminster, until I was turned back with a carload of wounded. Mr. Baer of the Reading Road was also a Lieutenant in the army and we had a last survivor of the great cavalry leaders, General Wilson. Besides that, my brother-in-law, Cadwalader, ~~who~~ helped to fuse the parties socially and we had two days which could only have been more satisfactory if I had had you with me.

I suppose I ought to have gone ~~off~~ over to the Royal Society Meeting, but I hesitate about going far from home and

give it to you but, as usual, no matter

1524 WALNUT STREET
PHILADELPHIA

November 7, 1912.

Dear Osler:

I find on my table this morning the Eighth Edition of your "Principles and Practice of Medicine". It has come just in time. I usually keep one or two "Principles and Practice of Medicine" for immediate reference.

I am very happy this morning in the disastrous defeat of Roosevelt, whom I dislike personally, politically, and in every other way. I think we shall do well to have a trial of the Democratic Party, since the great Republican Party with its many achievements is suffering from senile degeneration. Enough of that!

I see there is for sale in Boston a portrait of Harvey said to be by Janssen. I suspect it to be the one about which you wrote to me and which you decided was probably a fake. They now want $1800 for it, which would be cheap and makes one the more suspect that it is not the real thing.

I had a letter from Major-General Sir Francis Lloyd the other day, thanking me for a copy of my last Harvey memoir. He tells me that he has one very fine portrait of Harvey by Dobson at Rollscourt, and as soon as he gets back from a voyage taken for his health, he will have a photograph made of it and sent to me. He speaks of some Harvey things in his house, and begs me to come and look at them and stay with him. I

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PHILADELPHIA

think somehow if you could replace me, it would be a good business. He may have things there of value. He represents the eldest daughter of Sir Eliab Harvey, who was the last of the male line, but he could not tell me who were the descendants of the great Harvey's uncle in Kent. I could trace them if I only were in England. It is an abominable thing that we are not twins. In fact I should rather be numerous,

I think I sent you some time ago a little "family history", and if you have time to read it with Mrs. Osler, also I should like to know; or rather, to be more modest, I should like to know you got it. I have a dim recollection that you have said so, but that is only founded upon knowledge of your good manners.

I am, with as much love as you dare carry to Lady Osler,

also Yours always,

Wm Mitchell

Sir William Osler, M.D.

-4-

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Bar Harbor, Maine.

Aug 14 1913

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Bar Harbor, Maine.

Dear Osler:-

I have an immense disinclination to lose touch of friends like you and Lauder Brunton, of whom I have heard nothing for a long while.

I should like to have been at that great Congress, although I have a very strong disbelief in the utility of these immense collections of doctors. The contacts with men worth while are brief and unsatisfactory. What they have to tell you has been better told in the form of magazine articles. I have rather critical distrust of Crile's ideas on the subject of shock, founded upon what I saw in the Civil War.

on the position of the profession in the war of the rebellion.

I think I had a very interested audience. I propose to repeat it as a popular lecture - (and it was in fact that) - in the fall in Philadelphia unless Wilson finds some better person, you perhaps. We are likely, through the death of Duhring to fall into a very considerable amount of money for the College, certainly Harte tells me a hundred thousand dollars, perhaps twice that, but I always predicted that our move would so excite attention as to even trouble us with gifts and now my son John is bothered by people who want to present busts and pictures of doctors for whom nobody cares a penny.

Mrs. Mitchell desires her regards to Lady Osler who

the literary members of the profession in America.

I was surprised to see that the Royal College of Surgeons gave degrees to surgeons. Am I mistaken in supposing that this is never done by the Royal College of Physicians, except after examination?

Mrs. Mitchell is better from her long attack of neuritis, in both legs, much better, but I shall take her in October to the Hot Springs, where, ~~as~~ where everybody is doing the same thing and she will have no cares or social duties, the treatment has been of more value than the same treatment at home.

I lectured in Chicago - and I never printed it - on the position of the profession in the war of the rebellion.

I do not see how his plans are to be worked out, except in rare cases.

I am writing a brief memoir of Billings for the National Academy and because the thing has been done over and over by others, I find it difficult to be freshly interesting. Garrison is to write his life and the material, I think, is competently sufficient.

By the by, I wrote to Robert Bridges, the new Laureate, and sent my letter to what I was told was his address, Yattendon, Berks. It may have gone astray. I sent him also a little book of mine. Now I see that he is living near Oxford and if you should see him, you would perhaps say a word to him of the great satisfaction his appointment has given

Bar Harbor, Maine.

I need not say still has my undiminished affection.

Yours faithfully,

S. Weir Mitchell

Sir William Osler, Bart.,
13 Norham Gardens
Oxford, England.

August fourteenth, 1913.

you would perhaps say a word to him of the

great satisfaction his appointment has given

61 (cont.)

Epitaph – "committeed to the grave" – 3.1.11.

Where is the letter dated "13th Jan. 1904" [query 1905] which cushing prints no 7746, i, p. 627? Been loose at the back of this vol. 1947

Immortality, see leaves 43-4 + corresp. with Mr Daniel, C.P. Phil. Feb. 1904.