

OSLER LIBRARY,
16 July, 1951.

Colman
The Medical Librarian,
Dalhousie University,
Halifax,
N. S.

Dear Miss Allan,

The Caduceus, the winged staff with two serpents entwined, is the symbol of Hermes (Mercury) the god of merchants and thieves. He had some medical functions also, so that his symbol had been occasionally used by medical men and institutions long before the U. S. Army adopted it (wrongly, as most people think) as their official emblem, at least for officers' insignia. On their coat of arms they use the proper medical emblem, the Aesculapian staff with one serpent.

The trouble is to find an adequately illustrated article. Those by Garrison are no good in this respect, nor is the excellent summary by H. A. Arnold in Bull. Hist. Med., 13: 627-30, 1943.

The badge of the R.C.A.M.C. or R.A.M.C. is a good representation of the Aesculapian staff, and that of the Medical Dpt. of our Canadian air force represents the Caduceus, which they adopted on account of its handsome and appropriate wings.

In Osler's "Evolution" there are some reproductions of statues of Aesculapius with his staff, also a fine one on p. 50 of the staff carved on the foundation of his temple at Rome.

I am sending you on loan E. S. Potter's, "Serpents in ... medicine," 1937, the only book I know of on the subject that brings the illustrations together, though they are a pretty poor choice.

Sincerely yours,

W. W. Francis
W. W. Francis, M.D.,
Librarian.

WVF:ed
~~Encl.~~

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DETROIT, MICHIGAN

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OSLER LIBRARY, 4 St.
15 November, 1948.48

Miss Marjorie Darrach,
The Public Library,
Detroit,
Mich., U. S. A.

Dr. Francis
Osler Library
McGill University Medical Library
Montreal 2, Quebec
Canada

Dear Marjorie Darrach,

My apologies to Dr. Gould. I'm sure Osler said something like that, but I can't find it. What I should have sat down and made twenty years ago was a complete Osler concordance. It would have saved me time in the end. You are still youthful and energetic, and I know you are a consummate indexer. You wouldn't like to start on the job?

I hated to miss Phila., but perhaps it was just as well. My good wife jocularly blames my first heart attack on my MLA "girl friends" at New Haven two years ago. My second, in July this year, would have clinched it! I am now getting back to work from eleven to three daily, but don't feel like tackling anything formidable. If you know of any such quotation you would I've passed the Psalmist's limit and have acquired a grandchild, so treat me with respect!

Please don't go to any trouble because it seems to me we have made a fairly thorough search of Osler's place but being steeped in the Osler tradition, as well as being a librarian, I thought you might know of such a statement. Besides I am sure you'd like to hear from your "girl friends".

Yours cordially,

Bill F.

Sincerely yours,

WWF:CD

Marjorie J. Darrach,
Chief, Medical Science

We have a new type of index as you see
Almost as good as a scratch

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645 Mullett St.
November 8, 1948

Dr. W. W. Francis
Osler Library
McGill University Medical Library
Montreal, 2, Quebec,
Canada

Dear Dr. Francis:

My intentions were of the best after the Philadelphia meeting, for I intended to write you all the gossip of the meeting, but as usual work and laziness got the best of me and I never did write. But I hope everyone else did and that you know all the highs and lows of the meeting.

But as usual I'm writing a letter because I want some information.

Dr. Gould, pathologist of Wayne County General Hospital, thinks that Osler wrote something to the effect that, "As is your pathology so is your practice." He searched for a long time and didn't find it and I searched what we had, except that I didn't read the Principles and Practice. If you know, without searching, of any such quotation you would have my eternal gratitude, not to mention Dr. Gould's. I think he has been gaily quoting or misquoting and I think someone has tried to pin him down.

Please don't go to any trouble because it seems to me we have made a fairly thorough search of likely places but being steeped in the Osler tradition, as well as writing, I thought you might know of such a statement. Besides I was sure you'd like to hear from your "girl friends".

Sincerely yours,

Marjorie Darrach

Marjorie J. Darrach,
Chief, Medical Science Dept.

*We have a new typist - not so good as you see...
Almost as bad as my own scratching*

OSLER LIBRARY,
25 Feb., 1948.

OSLER LIBRARY,
24 Feb., 1948.

Miss Marjorie Darrach,
Miss Marjorie Darrach,
The Public Library,
645 Mullett Street,
Detroit 26, Mich., U. S. A.

Dear Miss Darrach,

"Bulletin of the Medical Library Association,
Cumulative Index, v. 1-25, 1911-27. Compiled by Maude Irene
Jones!" My desk got unstratified last week, revealing the fore-
going altruistic masterpiece. (As well as some other of my sins
of omission). How long have I had it? Two years? Long enough
to copy it, but without having that done!

Should it not be printed as a supplement to the
Bulletin?

Our one (rare) copy of the "Reminiscences" and that
(sic) booklet is out at present. When it comes back I'll check
It comes back to you at last herewith and with
my best thanks to you and my congratulations to Miss Jones, and
evidently an indicial genius.

I hope you remain young and slim. I grow older
and fatter, but keep well, and remain

I'll look it up in our University Library, where they
have it.

Your constant admirer,

W.W.F.

W.W.F.

WWF:d

Encl:

X P.S. Does this make the plural of you
Michigooses or Michigeese?
set out their Michigooses or Michigeese?

LEO M. FRANKLIN
H. NURSE D. GREEN
EDWARD J. FOSSELIUS
JOHN H. WERNER, EX-OFFICIO

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY
DETROIT, MICHIGAN 26

MEDICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT
MARGORIE DARRACH
LIBRARIAN

645 Mullett Street

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OSLER LIBRARY,
25 Feb., 1945.

Dr. W.W. Francis
Osler Library
Miss Marjorie Darrach,
Librarian,
The Public Library,
Detroit, 26,
Mich., U. S. A.

It was good to hear from you even though it was to ask for some references. However, it was a very simple task to find them. Do you want to borrow the volumes?

Dear Miss Darrach,

The first installment is "published by favor of the Canadian Magazine. Many thanks. You are the compleat informant. In that magazine. I tried some amateur sleuthing to try to find out the "mysterious connection" of the editor, Stockwell, probably the name of the editor, Stockwell, probably takes the mystery out of the "connection", a family of hereditary doctors in the Eastern Townships near Sherbrooke, though I see another Stockwell recorded as what you call a Michigander (if that is ⁱⁿ polite usage by strangers?).

I shall not need to borrow the Medical Age vols., thank you. Our one (rare) copy of the "Reminiscences" (sic) booklet is out at present. When it comes back I'll check and see if the last instalment 12: 545-552, 1894, is included. I don't remember a "Watson & Bell's section." The portrait and editorial from the 1895 vol. are prefixed in the Sherbrooke booklet of 1897. unless we have extra free days for gossip.

I'm also grateful for the "Canadian Magazine" lead. I'll look it up in our University Library, where they have it.

Sincerely yours,

Marjorie Darrach

Yours sincerely,
W.W.F.
Medical Age 12:229-234; 353-359, 1894. Worthington, Edward - Reminiscences of medical student life fifty years ago.

12:385-391, 1894. Worthington, Edward - Reminiscences of medical student life fifty years ago in Edinburgh.

W.W.F.:CD 12:493-499, 1894. Worthington, Edward - Reminiscences of early practice.

12:545-552, 1894. Worthington, Edward - Watson & Bell's section - a reminiscence of early practice.

13:161, Portrait of Doctor E.D. Worthington

13:177-179, 1895 Editorial The late Doctor Worthington

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645 Mullett Street

February 19, 1945

Dr. W.W. Francis
Osler Library
McGill University
Montreal, P.Q. Canada

Dear Dr. Francis:

It was good to hear from you even though it was to ask for some references. However, it was a very simple task to find them. Do you want to borrow the volumes?

The first installment is "published by favor of the Canadian Magazine, Toronto, Ontario" so you can perhaps get the original in that magazine. I tried some amateur sleuthing to try to find out the "mysterious connection" between Worthington and the Medical Age. At this time the editor of Medical Age was G. Archie Stockwell, F.Z.S. who, I think, practiced in Windsor. Both he and Worthington were contributors to the Canadian Magazine. I haven't had time to examine the files of that journal but perhaps some clue could be found.

The Worthington obituary in Medical Age is an editorial and that seems strange as most of the articles in the magazine are by Detroiters or at least Michiganders.

When we can once again have M.L.A. meetings we'll have to have an extra session for reunion. None of us will be able to catch up on the doings of friends unless we have extra free days for gossip.

Sincerely yours,

Marjorie Darrach

Medical Age 12:229-234; 353-359, 1894 Worthington, Edward - Reminiscences of medical student life fifty years ago.

12:385-391, 1894 Worthington, Edward - Reminiscences of medical student life fifty years ago in Edinburgh.

12:493-499, 1894 Worthington, Edward - Reminiscences of early practice.

12:545-552, 1894 Worthington, Edward - Watson & Bell's section - a reminiscence of early practice.

1895
13:161, Portrait of Doctor E.D. Worthington

13:177-179, 1895 Editorial The late Doctor Worthington

*has 1893
thru 1879
in U.L.*

*I inserted
a copy into
the book
1947
G.M.F.*