

CUS-17/57.13

Dear Dr. Cushing:-

I have seen Michael Duffy and have persuaded him to see the wisdom of my first suggestion which you so ably seconded in your letter - to return to Boston and consult you. He has obtained a pass over the railway for which he works and will be in Boston either at the week-end or the beginning of next week. In my experience, I do not know of a family that has been dogged by such sustained calamity and bad luck. Death, disease and all but despair have been their companions for the last two or three years and naturally the question of expense looms large in an already depleted budget. Dr. Hopkins, the radiologist of Montreal, has been kind enough to see that the X-ray therapy cost him nothing and special examinations have been given with a charitable hand and I trust that you will be as lenient as possible, as he is the sole bread-winner for a large family. His condition is gradually getting worse and his trip to you will relieve my mind.

May I be permitted to digress from medicine to literature and tell you of the delight that has come to my wife and me in the reading of your "Life of Osler"? My interest was more than that elicited by the charm and elegance of your writing as Sir William's father united my maternal grand-parents in marriage. My mother was born in the neighbourhood of Dundas, my uncle and house-sake attended a night school organized by Rev. Osler and each time that I visit that section I pass by the Helen Osler Memorial Home. And too, it was my privilege to know Sir William's son, a high-minded, gallant gentleman who served in the same unit with me (No. 3. Canadian General Hospital). Among my literary adventures, the reading of your book furnishes the zenith of satisfaction, and it is my hope that you will in the near future repeat your effort upon another subject or upon another phase or particular heading in that great man's life. Will you pardon me for such an intrusion?

Very sincerely yours,

Lightfoot Roman

Valleyfield, Quebec,
May 4th - 1926.