(handwritten)

(Dr. W. S. Thayer)

S. S. "Cedric".

Aug. 6th, 1904.

Dear Thayer

You will be surprised when I tell you that I have accepted the Chair of Medicine at Oxford; - to leave next Spring! 'Tis a serious step, but I have considered it well from all points. I am on the down grade & the pace of the last three winters has been such that I Knew I was riding for a fall. Better to get out decently in time, & leave while there is still a little elasticity in the rubber. It will be an awful wrench to part with all you dear boys, but I shall only cut off 4 years as I had firmly decided to chuck everything at 60. We can have a last good winters work together, I hope, before I lapse into a quiet academic life. Mrs Osler is strongly in favor of the move, which is a mercy. The offer or suggestion came last Spring from Sanderson, the present occupant. I told him that I would decide when I came over. Balfour formerly offered me the post - 'tis a crown appointment - yesterday & I accepted

Love to Sister Susan

Yours ever

Wm Osler