

Inserted in Surgical Instruments in Greek and Roman Times
by John Stewart Milne... 1907.

From Dr. J. S. Milne to W.O.
(Script)

Brougham Terrace,
Hartlepool.

June 23, 1908.

Dear Dr. Osler,

I have delayed longer in writing to you than I had intended, partly because I wished to familiarise myself with the contents of Simon, and I am slow at German. I learnt it late and easily forget it. I have made a translation of the first half of the first chapter and I shall complete this as it finishes the dissection of the brain and shall extract a summary only of the rest of the contents. I already know Galen's views on most of the other parts from his other works such as the De Usu Partium and the special works on the arteries etc. and shall leave the rest of Simon to some one better at German than I am. I take the greatest possible care of your beautiful ~~volume~~ copy and hope to return it in good condition. After much trouble I got at Algiers a specimen of Galen's ~~Life of~~ *Life of Macacus* - In us ① and was looking forward to studying its habits a little before putting it to dissection, but it arrived a few days ago and although the captain described it as an interesting and affectionate ~~and~~ beastie when he got it, it arrived in a meningitic condition and I had to chloroform and pickle it straight away. They are most horribly expensive as they are dying out in most places - or are said to be when you go to buy them, and ~~it~~ was lucky the animal arrived here even moribund. I have already begun to dissect it but everything is so neat and small that it is a slow job. I have it in the hospital mortuary and have already aroused grave suspicion among the maids and porters as to the reason ~~H.D~~ the H.S. and I spend so much time in the place. We are rather slack as to work just now so I have a bit of time to give to it and I get in a bit of deadly work before breakfast. I had a good case the other day. A little girl inhaled a glass eye of a doll six months ago, and a colleague tried to get it out by a tracheotomy - I assisted him. It could not be found and it was hoped it had been swallowed again after being perhaps coughed out. A little bronchopneumonic patch followed but no other symptom till last week when she was brought in again cyanosed. I put her in a sort of half inverted position and just had time to smother her a bit with chloroform when she choked altogether. I made a cricothyroid opening and pushed it into the mouth with my little finger and we got it. She is all right now. Yours very sincerely,
J. S. MILNE.