

Presentation of Warrington Collection to J.H.H. - "Detritu Cordis" volume 2	1	Plans for new Text-book revision	25
Mary Putnam Jacobi memorial meeting, N.Y.	3	Burning of McGill Medical School Appeal to Mr. Gates-28.	27
Return to Oxford, Jan 8 <sup>th</sup> alterations to Brompton Gardens; plumber.	4	Departure for U.S. April 20 <sup>th</sup> Reading Pactor's life of Lady Mary Montague.	28
Letter to Robertson on medical zoology scheme at Montreal	8	Tuberculosis meeting, Washing, May 6 <sup>th</sup>	29
Talk before Royal Medical Society, Edinburgh To students on Cerebrospinal Fever	8, 10, 17	Congress Am. Phys. & Surgeons Washington "Evolution of Idea of Experiment in Medicine"	30
Correspondence about System of Medicine W.O.'s Introduction 50 (cf. also XXX, 19)	4, 11, 18, 50 53, 69	Semi-centennial of Pathological Society, Phila.	32
Royal Commission on Vivisection (cf. also XXX, 36; XXXI, 12-13)	12, 65	Plan of "Lectures for Baltimore, 1908"	33
"The College of the Book"	13, 16	Oxford University Endowment Fund (cf. also XXXI, p. 64)	34
"Early Diagnosis of Cancer of Stomach," Bath Interest in Bath "Olivers".	16	1 <sup>st</sup> Annual meeting, Ass <sup>n</sup> Physicians Gt. Britain & Ireland W.O. Chief of Editorial Board. 38; 51-a	37
Consulting Physician, Edw. VII Sanatorium, Surrey	18	Baptism of Royal Medical Society Oster's great activity in it 40 Founder of Section on History of Medicine 40	38
Note written during Hebdomadal Council meeting	19	Letter of advice to go to J.H.H. for clinical work	41
Characteristic reading of catalogues while travelling Quotations from Prestre Bonnard on such.	20	Oxford Pageant Lord Curzon's Encænia; Kipling; Mark Twain 43, 45	42
Note on "Record Day at Sotheby's"	20	Offer of Chair of Medicine, Manchester Univ.	44
Death of Mrs. Oster, Sr.	22, 26	Letter on "Need of Reform at Oxford"	45
Collecting The Burton volumes at Christ Church (cf. also XXXII, 3)	23; 51-6; 54, 70	2 <sup>nd</sup> International Cong. of School Hygiene	47
John Mayow volumes	24	To Bude, Cornwall, for August Visit to Mrs Neville (cf. VI, 38)	52
		Plans attend Internat. Cong. Hygiene, Berlin	53

Enjoying The "Open Arms": garden, Tea, guests	54	Characteristic clinic at Radcliffe Infirmary Patient with Vaguez disease.	68
Address to students of St Mary's Hospital, London "Celtic siren, Sir Albroth Wright"	55	Medical Society of London: "Pneumococcal Injections"	69
Formation of Women's Health Association in Ireland W.O. gives inaugural address 56-60 Book episodes 56-7	55	'Examining' at Cambridge	69
Letter to J.Y.W. MacAlister on Medical library building (also p. 39)	61	'First Xmas in their own home'	70
Other addresses to medical students: (1) University College Hosp. Oct 16 <sup>th</sup> (2) St Thomas' Hospital Oct 31 <sup>st</sup> re-publishing of "exam. paper on Osler" 62 (cf. XX, 22)	61	Radcliffeau: proposed alterations (cf. also p. 26)	70
Visit of The German Emperor (also XXIX, 3)	63		

*The History of Medicine*  
Chapter XXVII  
1907

1  
Jan.  
1907  
Act. 57

51st  
The new year characteristically begins with a gift to a library, an obituary tribute to a physician, and a re-crossing of the Atlantic. It had become a saying in Oxford that the Oslers often spent their week-ends in America. This ~~appeared~~ <sup>promised</sup> to be true at least for their year-ends.

The Warrington Collection, which Mr. W. O. Marburg had purchased <sup>for the Johns Hopkins Medical School</sup> ~~at Oxford~~ <sup>School</sup> his solicitation, was formally presented to the Medical School on January 2nd, when Osler, Welch and the University Librarian Mr. Raney all made interesting addresses.\* Osler told the story of the acquisition

[\*Cf. The Johns Hopkins Bulletin, April 1907.]

of the books and of their previous habitat in the old Warrington Academy the educational centre of the Unitarians in England ~~of~~ of the Rev. John Aiken, of his son the doctor, and his granddaughter Lucy; of Joseph Priestly, and Thomas Percival whose work on "Medical Ethics" was the basis of the code of the American Medical Association. He spoke of what a library should stand for in the future development of the school: how it

Jan.  
1907

should coöperate with rather than compete with the other local libraries and how collections of this sort <sup>to be presented</sup> enhanced its usefulness, particularly on the historical side. "When a man devotes his life," he said, "to some particular branch of study, and accumulates, year by year, a more or less complete literature, it is very sad after his death to have such a library come under the hammer - almost the inevitable fate."

It has already been pointed out that the intrinsic value of that portion of the Warrington library <sup>which has been obtained</sup> ~~which he obtained~~ was not especially great, and to atone for this <sup>Order</sup> ~~he~~ had secured a few rare duplicates from the library of the Royal College of Physicians, and <sup>had</sup> added himself the volume of chief value.

In practical illustration of my remarks [he said] I beg to present to the Marburg collection an original edition of the "De Motu Cordis", 1628, perhaps the greatest single contribution to medicine ever made, and which did as much for physiology as the "Fabrica" of Vesalius did for anatomy. The "De Motu Cordis" has become an excessively rare book. I had been on the <sup>constant</sup> outlook for a copy for nearly ten years. It had not appeared in an auction catalogue since 1895. Then in August of last year a very much cut, stained and unbound copy was offered to me at a

lookout?

Jan.  
1907

very high figure. It had come from the library of Dr. Pettigrew, the author of a work on "Medical Biography." I had been waiting a long time for a copy, but this looked so shabby and dirty that I decided not to take it. Some months later the booksellers sent the copy back nicely cleansed and beautifully bound, and this time I succumbed. Within forty-eight hours the same dealers sent me another copy from the library of the late Professor Milne Edwards, of Paris, uncut and very nicely bound, which they offered at the same price. Naturally, I took the larger copy, and the other went to a friend in this country. The copy I here present to the library has been a little too energetically cleansed, so that the leaves are very tender and in places have had to be repaired. It came from the library of a physician in London and the Bibliographical data are found attached.

*The tribute to a physician was paid at two days later*

On ~~January 4th~~, shortly before his sailing, he ~~attended~~ <sup>when</sup> with many

*he attended*

others a memorial meeting held in New York in honour of Dr. Mary Putnam

Jacobi, the wife of his old friend, ~~and said~~ <sup>he said:</sup> In his brief address ~~on this~~

occasion:

For years I have been awaiting the advent of the modern Trotula, a woman in the profession with an intellect so commanding that she will rank with the Harveys, the Hunters, and Pasteurs, the Virchows, and the Listers. That she has not yet arisen is no reflection on the small band of women physicians who have joined our ranks in the last fifty years. Stars of

Jan.  
1907

the first magnitude are rare, but that such a one will arise among women physicians I have not the slightest doubt. And let us be thankful that when she comes she will not have to waste her precious energies in the worry of a struggle for recognition. She will be of the type of mind and training of Mary Putnam Jacobi; her victory will be not on the practical but on the scientific side in which many new avenues are open to women, much more attractive and suitable than in general or special practice to which heretofore they have been restricted.

<sup>They</sup> He sailed from New York on the 8th, and <sup>a week later</sup> ~~though he writes,~~ "We are off in a sweltering heat," <sup>reads:</sup> a postcard of the 15th to McCrae ~~tells of their arrival:~~

Wonderful trip: 5 days, 11 hours and a few seconds! No bad weather. Everything here in such confusion - workmen still in the house, but it looks very well and we live in hope. I am greatly pleased with the prospects of the System. By the way, do you like the name Modern Medicine? I do not - who selected it? I would prefer a System. Send you titles very soon. Love to Welch and all. Yours, W.O.

For six months they had been struggling with the necessary alterations to their new home. They had returned to find one side of the house open to the world, necessitating a sojourn of ten days at the King's Arms Hotel, and

Jan.  
1907

it was months after they moved in before the last of the workmen <sup>vanished</sup> moved out.

There may have been reasons for <sup>all</sup> this delay. There was encountered in <sup>Calu from</sup> ~~1920~~ at 13<sup>1/2</sup> Norham Gardens, a person <sup>on his back</sup> tinkering with some water-pipes who to atone for some mildly disparaging remarks <sup>he had uttered</sup> on the subject of American plumbing, said: "We loves to work 'ere for 'er Ladyship ever since we was first on the job in the 'ouse. There was 120 of us, hall told, many now dead with the Hoxford and Bucks in France, plumbers and painters and paper-angers and carpenters and masons - especially plumbers when Sir William an' 'er Ladyship was in America. When we were ~~all~~ through sometime in the Hautumn we found Dr. Osler - 'e wasn't Sir William then - 'ad left money for us to 'ave a big dinner and we 'ad it in the garden, foremen and all, and drank their 'ealths and 'ad our photograph taken and it 'angs in the hoffice today. There's always a good tip comes when we works 'ere."

Little wonder when they finally did get in that his account-book records:

"Jan. 27. In bed - schnupfen. Jan. 31. Out." And <sup>believe me</sup> ~~on the 30th~~ he writes:

"I am enjoying two days in bed with a cold. Such a mess here! Workmen everywhere but when they get out we will have a very comfortable house. We have had a cold spell just in time to test our new furnace & the water-heater."

Feb.  
1907To J. William White from W. O.13, Norham Gardens,  
Feb. 1st.

Dear J.W.W. I hope by this time you are back and in harness and happy.

~~Yours of the 27th Nov. did not catch us before we sailed (Nov. 29th).~~

We had a very nice trip - rather too short and hurried. It was nice to find Mitchell in such good form & the Trust Co is all the better - apparently - for the acute 'bust-up'. We got back two weeks ago, and have been trying to get settled in our new house, but it seems hopeless. We are living in two rooms and trying to drive the workmen out. It will

be very nice when finished. <sup>[there were also Baltimore Boston and Montreal rooms]</sup> The Phila rooms are at your disposal when

you come over next year. I hear from Mrs. Abbey that E. A. is much better

& has finished the reredos. <sup>also</sup> I hear from Baltimore that Sargents picture, which has just reached there, has captured the town. I wish there was a

decent place to hang it. I come out in April - for the Congress. If I

spend a night in Phila it will be at 1810. <sup>[Dr. White's]</sup> Love to your patient saviour

Sincerely yours,

W<sup>m</sup> Osler.

Another letter shows that he continued to take an interest in the subject with which he began his career:

To Prof. J.W. Robertson, Montreal.13, Norham Gardens,  
Feb. 3, 1907.

Dear Professor Robertson: When in Montreal a few weeks ago, I had a chat with Sir William <sup>[Macdonald]</sup> ~~[MacDonald]~~ and Mr. Peterson on the possibility of organizing, in connection with the Agricultural College, an extensive de-



Feb.  
1907

partment of medical zoology in which the whole subject of Parasitism should be considered. Sir William was anxious that I should see you, but I had only part of two days in Montreal. I promised him to get a schema from Stiles of Washington, who is certainly the leading expert on parasites in the English-speaking world. The department could be made a most important one and it has such close affiliations with disease that the same man could very well lecture on parasites in the medical school. There would be no lack of candidates for such a place, and there one or two very good men available, particularly Todd who has done so much good work on the Ticks. I should not be surprised, however, if such a position were thrown open, that Stiles himself might be a candidate. I have asked Stiles to prepare a memorandum which I will forward to you. Sincerely yours,

W<sup>m</sup> Osler.

On February 7th he was in Edinburgh as the guest of the Royal Medical Society and at their annual dinner made a most effective speech, ~~which was~~ subsequently published, ~~and~~ in which he dwelt particularly on the relations

[\*The Scottish Medical & Surgical Journal, March 1907.

of this, the oldest medical society in the English-speaking world, with the profession of the United States and Canada. "Looking over the list of

Feb.  
1907

members since 1737," he said, "I was prepared, of course, to find the names of many of the great men of the profession, but I did not expect to find a list of such extraordinary distinction. I doubt if there is any other society in the world, except perhaps the Royal Society of London, with such a roll of honour." And he went on to enumerate in his picturesque phraseology some of the more notable Scotchmen who had been members, particularly those who had so markedly influenced American medicine. He spoke, of course of the Edinburgh theses he had purchased five years before.

And let me in conclusion [he said], call to remembrance the memory of a man to whom we all owe a great debt. I hold in my hand a volume of the MSS. Notes of the Lectures of John Rutherford, who introduced clinical teaching into Edinburgh in 1747-48. It was my intention to leave this precious volume here, but to my joy I found this afternoon, in the Library of the Royal College of Physicians, the lectures of 1749-50, and in the same handwriting, curiously enough. This set <sup>was the</sup> ~~is the~~ of session of 1748-49, and as the introduction is the same, and there is the same description of his method, I decided very promptly not to leave the two sets in the same city. Possibly the first set may turn up. They are of great value as a record of the initiation of clinical teaching in the English-speaking schools; and what has been called the Edinburgh method dates from

Feb.  
1907

the introduction by Rutherford of practical classes in the Royal Infirmary. But we owe the method to the Dutch, who are our masters in this as in nearly all the advances in modern civilization. Rutherford and his colleagues, Plimmer, Sinclair and Innes, were pupils of Boerhaave, the Dutch Hippocrates, under whom the objective method of Sydenham reached its highest development, and out of which, when united to the 'anatomical thinking' of Morgagni, and the new methods of physical diagnosis, modern clinical medicine has evolved.

The following day was devoted to the students <sup>before</sup> whom he <sup>Spore</sup> addressed on the subject of Cerebrospinal Fever - a timely subject for there had been an outbreak of the disease in epidemic form in Glasgow, Edinburgh and elsewhere in Scotland. The lecture was to have been given in the largest theatre in the Infirmary, which proved inadequate to accommodate the crowd demanding admission, so it was transferred to McEwan Hall which was filled to overflowing, even to the platform. <sup>He had a</sup> ~~It was a~~ great reception, according to all reports. For dinner that evening the students had him as their particular guest, and like as not, in view of what happened the next year, some of them then and there said to themselves, "That's the kind of human being we should elect Lord Rector."

Feb.  
1907To Thomas McCrae from W. O.

Feb. 16, 1907.

Dear Mac I am still a delinquent. I am struggling with that introduction [for the System of Medicine] and hope to get it off next week. I have the bulk of it done. They could go ahead as I have always urged and print my introduction with roman pagination as is the case with von Ziemssen and Nothnagel. It will not take a week to print my part and it need not come back. I have written to Poynton. I have not heard from Billings or perhaps he has written to you direct. I suppose we must accept the name Modern Medicine. I will write about the title page in which of course your name must come. I doubt if they will allow it on the back. What have you settled about the Mental section?

I have been knocked out with a cold but am better. My secretary's mother has been ill and is dead and she has been laid up with the grip - dry and wet. The house is still in possession of workmen but one by one we are ousting them. I had a most festive visit last week in Edinburgh. I was half dead with a cold but I lectured to <sup>the</sup> 900 students and had a great evening at the Royal Medical Society, at which they asked Rush, Shippen, Wistar, Bard, Hofsack, Sam L. Mitchell, the Moultries (Charleston) David Ramsay, Upton Scott (1st President, Medical & Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland) and a number of the old Colonial members to meet me. I wish Welch had been there. Yours,

W. O.

\* Vol I was issued by the publisher for distribution ~~in~~ April 22 1907

Feb.  
1907

The same day, on a postcard from Oxford he writes: "I am sending Vivisection Commission, 1st report. Starling's evidence is A. 1. He's a cracker-jack. I had a most festive visit in Edinburgh - such a nice lot of boys at the Royal Medical Society." This note refers to the hearings before a Royal Commission on the subject of vivisection; and as Huxley in 1876 had been the chief proponent of animal experimentation, so now Professor E. H. Starling was the most active agent in organizing the profession in its defence - and, it may be added, with much greater success. He had written Osler on October 16, 1906, asking him to give evidence and suggesting the outline of his précis, which the witness had to submit before being questioned. But although the hearings began on October 31st of 1906, it was not until October 23rd of this year that it came Osler's turn to be called upon.\*

\*The testimony, which was not completed until March 25, 1908, during which every aspect of medical and surgical progress and every shape that antivivisection is in any way presented by representatives of the two parties concerned, is contained in the five successive folio reports of the Royal Commission, giving the methods of evidence comprised in nearly 22,000 questions which, with their answers, will serve as a mine of information on the subject for all time.

minutes

of antivivisection

Feb.  
1907

Among the many unfinished articles and scraps of memoranda found among Osler's papers after his death there is one entitled "The College of the Book," to which the following <sup>extract of a</sup> letter <sup>of August 1906</sup> to <sup>D.C.</sup> ~~ex-President~~ Gilman, in all probability, refers:

To D. C. Gilman.

Feb. 19, 1907.

~~Dear Mr. Gilman:~~ Thank you very much for returning the manuscript and for your criticism. I think the name would have to be carefully considered. I doubt if the word College could be used. I will bring out more clearly the distinction you refer to between the requirements of a cataloguer or attendant and those of the men who wish to take up administration work. A big scheme might, of course, appeal to Mr. Carnegie, and the question is who would be the best person to present it if it was put together in an attractive form. I suppose, in this country, John Morley is as close or closer to him than anyone - what do you think? ~~With kindest regards to Mrs. Gilman, Sincerely yours, Wm Osler,~~

Shakerup  
et. Corp 37/p. 37 (1917)

Feb.  
1907

It was a novel project, of which Osler often spoke and one which, given a longer life he might have been able to launch in some <sup>manigable</sup> ~~workable~~ form. There are many pages of his notes on the subject, though none have come to light in sufficiently complete form to have been sent as a manuscript to Mr. Gilman. His idea, apparently, was that there should be established at Oxford in connection with the Clarendon Press and the Bodleian a training-ground for the large army of library workers <sup>throughout</sup> ~~in~~ Great Britain, whose experience now has to be acquired as apprentices in a most hap-hazard way without <sup>any actual</sup> ~~real~~ preliminary training other than that given in a general education.

*cf. Osler's  
address*

There should be [he says] a college where men could learn everything relating to the Book from the preparation of manuscript & the whole mystery of authorship to the art of binding; everything from the manufacture of paper to the type with which the book is printed; everything relating to the press and to the mart; everything about the history of printing from Gutenberg to Hoe; everything about the precursors of the printed book the papyrus, the rolls the parchment and the vellum, even about the old writing from the burnt bricks of Ninevah(?); everything about the care of books, the Library lore, how to stack & store books, how to catalogue how

Feb.  
1907

to distribute them, how to make them vital living units in a community; everything that the student should know about the use of books, his skilled tools in the building of his mind; that there should be such a College and that it should be at Oxford is evident to anyone who knows the Bodleian Library & the Clarendon Press. Here is a unique opportunity - let us see how it could be utilized.

And he goes on, on separate sheets, to speak of the four great departments of the College, (1) the School of library economics, (2) the School of bibliography, and apparently a School of publication, and of printing; but he gets lost in notes on the history of libraries and gives a lecture-list to cover four <sup>in perspective</sup> courses on libraries ancient and modern; and another on 'the book' itself and its make-up; and another to cover copyrighting, publication, reviewing, selling, auctions, etc. "To carry out a scheme of this ~~this~~ extent," he says, "would require a rearrangement of existing conditions at the Bodleian and the Press - changes which are urgently called for in both places - a separate fireproof building, in underground communication with the present, <sup>and</sup> ones which should be devoted to administration, reading-rooms,



Feb.  
1907

department-rooms and teaching-rooms. . . " No wonder he suggests that they may have to call upon Mr. Carnegie, for such a project would be be-

yond the reach of the University Endowment Fund.

During this Hilary term he was <sup>becked</sup> ~~becked~~ for a four-day examination of elua

*Sofar as Oxford is concerned, the letter*

*(July 31, 1917)*

*Aberystwyth, Wales  
came back  
to the same subject,  
and this plan found  
a more favorable soil.*

candidates for the Radcliffe Travelling Fellowship commencing February 26th, but in the midst of this he is found at Bath where he becomes much

interested in Bath 'Olivers' and where incidentally he read a paper before

the Bristol and Bath Branch of the <sup>Bristol Medical Association</sup> ~~B. M. A.~~, on the Early Diagnosis of

Cancer of the Stomach. In the course of this paper he said some unpala- table things about the training of English surgeons, yet had no hesitancy,

nevertheless, in urging early exploratory operations. These were days

before the X-ray had become the chief aid to early diagnosis. ¶ In a letter

to Mrs. Robert Brewster, written on his return, he says:

. . . Mrs. Osler has been crazy (almost) by the workmen here. Such a set of duffers! and the plumbers are past comprehension - such idiots! But we are getting settled gradually, and the garden will be such a pleasure. I have not <sup>yet</sup> got my books out ~~yet~~ as my library is unfinished. I have been seeing a good deal of the country since I got back - a delight-

Mar.  
1907

ful visit to Edinburgh with the students. I gave a talk to 1000 of them, and then we had a big dinner. Wonderful city! but I am glad I did not go there eight years ago when offered the chair of Medicine. I have just come back from Bath. I wish you could see the old furniture shops there. Why should not you and R. B. come over in June on a house furnishing expedition? . . .

He is still causing McCrae uneasiness, and on March 1st writes, "I hope to have that introduction off in a few days. 'Tis most mortifying to have been so slow about it but I have a sort of mental paresis about some things. What a job you must have found the index!" And the next day to J. William White who, since getting his degree at Aberdeen had been racketing about Europe and Africa <sup>which rebelled at before!</sup> with his accustomed vigour in search of health: ~~and the following day~~

March 2, 1907.

Dear White: I am delighted to have your letter announcing your safe return. A letter from Stengel states that you are in blooming health. It is delightful to hear of your reception. Do not rush it too much, please, and be careful not to overtax your bread-basket. Remember you have not the ostrich-like digestion of twenty-five years ago. The farm, I daresay, will be your salvation.\* We have got into our house and I

\*This was Dr. White's "Oh Hell" Farm, of which Agnes Repplier ~~writes~~ <sup>describes</sup> in her biography of him.

Mar.  
1907

think it will be very comfortable. At present we are trying to drive the workmen out. We have been having wonderful weather - such sunshine! I wish you could have seen the boat races here last week. They would have steadied your old pump as well as rejoiced it. One of the most satisfactory things in Oxford is the way they have settled the athletic problem. All the men are at exercise in some form every day, rain or shine, as a part of their regular routine. . . ~~With love to Mrs. White, Sincerely~~  
yours,

Wm Osler.

And <sup>as</sup> the following day ~~the following~~ to another Philadelphian <sup>he</sup> gives further

*rapidly accumulating details.*  
details of his busy life:

To S. Weir Mitchell from W. O.

13, Norham Gardens,  
March 3 [1907]

Dear Dr Mitchell      It was a great pleasure to have your nice long letter and to hear of your good health at 78. What a fortunate man you are to have had such an innings! How few score in the 8th decade! Your hand keeps its cunning, and the Red City, which we are reading with great interest, promises to be one of your best. It is interesting to note how many people here have read your stories. One doctor was greatly interested to learn that the author of Hugh Wynne and of the Weir Mitchell treatment were one & the same! By the way, will you remind J. K. of his promise to send a list of your writings. You gave me one, but it has been mislaid. I wish it for a purpose.\*

[\*Hon. Fellowship of the Royal Society.

Mar.  
1907

We are very comfortable in our new house - or rather rearranged house - and the life here is very interesting. I am beginning to get to the heart of the mystery of this old place. It is a bundle of paradoxes. For example this afternoon at one of the important Delegacies (committees which manage certain departments) a proposal to extend the geography school along German lines was declined but £100 a year for three years was voted to a Flemish priest (one of the most distinguished 13th century scholars) to enable him to come to Oxford to complete a bit of work. He had not a single claim on the University but the good work he has done and the friendship of a couple of scholars who are working on the same lines. I have become deeply interested in the University Press of which I am one of the managers. The meetings form a sort of literary seminar. and we really have great sport, particularly with the expert opinions sent in upon works which are offered. It is an immense business. We employ 700 people. The Bodleian too is a great pleasure and I am beginning to know my way about the shelves. We are in a hopeless arrears in cataloguing & could spend £500,000 in rearrangement, stacks, &c. I am in town a good deal. I am on the Council of the Royal College of Physicians & on the Library Committee & the same on the new Royal Medical Society & the British Medical Association. Last week I was elected one of the Radcliffe Trustees, the body in charge of the old Doctor's Estate - a most select group of eight comprising the Chancellor, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Duke of Bedford and Sir William Anson. The Trustees support the Radcliffe Library, the Camera, which is part of the Bodleian, the Observatory, & three Radcliffe Travelling Fellows who get £300 a year each for three years. Altogether I have got rather deeper than I could have wished into official business. We are beginning to see something of very nice county people. Did

18-b

Mar.  
1907

you see a life of Lord Wantage? an old Crimean hero? Lady W. has a wonderful estate near here - the largest single farm in Gt Britain - 12,000 acres under one management. She has been most kind & we have met some charming people there. Baden-Powell is a man after your own heart - such a keen fellow & as ready with pencil & pen as with sword & rifle. His Mafeeking sketches are wonderful. He had tea with us this week before his Scouting lecture. We have a succession of people - scarcely a day passes without someone of interest turning up. Old Dr. Windsor, who looked up Sanctorius for you & Billings spent last night - an encyclopedia of Bibliography We had a great evening together & I picked up a good deal from him. I buy a few good things now and again. I had a find last week. 140 original letters to Baglivi, 17th century - from Redi, Malpighi, Pitcairn, Bellini & the famous old Anatomists & physicians of the day. B's answers are with them. I got the collection at the Duc D'Altemps Sale at Rome. I am glad Keen did not see the catalogue! I give the new Linacre Lecture (recently organized at Cambridge) in May. Instead of the old lectureship which L. founded they have established <sup>[single]</sup> a lecture, and I have been asked to speak upon the Life & Works of Linacre.

I do hope you will come over this summer. It would be nice if you took a house for a few weeks in some good district - servants & all. It can be done easily. The difficulty is about the weather & the locality. Do you wish the sea or the mountains? There are lovely spots on the south coast. Dorset is splendid. Shall I make inquiries? You will be interested to know that we are having Harvey's Padua diploma reproduced in colours

Mar.  
1907

for the Fellows of the College. I shall certainly get a copy for you. With the fee from my Harveian Oration I had all the Harvey documents at the College put in order & bound. I have had no word yet from Scotland about licences to practise,

Give my love to Mrs Mitchell & Jack. Mrs Osler is very well, Revere thriving - waiting anxiously for the opening of the fishing season. Yours sincerely

W<sup>m</sup> Osler.

<sup>already</sup> though ~~to have got~~ deeper than he could have wished in official business' he accepted at this time as ~~At about this time he was appointed a consulting physician on the~~ <sup>(must be)</sup>

staff of the new King Edward Sanatorium for tuberculosis at Midhurst,

Surrey, and soon after his first visit writes his <sup>American</sup> friends asking that they

send on their papers and reprints so that <sup>to help in building</sup> they may build up a proper library.

~~And it must not be forgotten,~~ <sup>Meanwhile,</sup> that he was doing his duty by his

university posts, though sometimes they might be irksome. He had been

re-elected, that is 'returned without opposition' as professional <sup>or</sup> repre-

sentative on the Hebdomadal Council, a time-consuming job in the course

of which he occasionally scribbled notes to his friends, as the following:

on March 18th:

Mar.  
1907*Hebdomadal Council*  
*March 18*

What do you think of geography in the civil service examinations?

That is the question we are debating at present in this august body. Not always interesting but a very interesting body of men. I am sandwiched in between the Warden of New (Spooner) & the Warden of Keble. Spooner has not made any slips yet but some of his spoonerisms are delicious. We are 21 including the V.C. and the two Proctors. We meet from 2 - ? every Monday. 'Tis 5 or 5.30 sometimes before we rise. All sorts of business. I am getting an education. †The house is still chaotic, - painters everywhere but it is for the last coat. My library will be very nice in oak - panelled. My treasures are still in boxes. A few at Ch Ch & at the Museum. It will be a great comfort to have them all together again. I am not doing much on the auction room, but I think I told you that I bought a fine 17th century very early Religio Medici MS - I pick up an occasional book - Yesterday Coste lecture in latin 1782 at Williamsburg Va on the Ancient learning adapted to the new world. C was a remarkable man - surgeon to the French forces - see Bayle - By the way have you a Bayle? a mine, a storehouse & treasury. I sail April 20th, rather a hurried visit but it will be nice to see you all again. Ike is well. A.G. with a cough - but not bad. The garden will be delightful, ~~etc.~~ Yours, W.O.

But he sometimes finds pleasanter things to do than sit at Council meetings, and on March 22-23 ~~he~~ does one of them. Wherever Osler went, ~~and~~ whether by train, tram or car, he usually carried with him a bundle of jour-

Mar.  
1907

<sup>interspersed with</sup> nals and ~~usually some~~ book catalogues or <sup>lists</sup> auction-sales, and the number of

these things that he could go through in a short time with the unerring

scent of the true collector was amazing. <sup>He had a rare nose for books and could trace his line</sup> Somewhere in his common-place-  
<sup>anything that turned in ~~hand~~ them.</sup>

book he has jotted down <sup>a number of</sup> some quotations from the sayings of Sylvestre

Bonnard, the character depicted by Anatole France (P). "I do not know any

reading more easy, more fascinating, more delightful than that of a cata-

logue," and "My old books are Me - I am just as old and thumb-worn as

they are." He notes too, that it is a good scene where Bonnard bids at

Hotel Bullion, Salle No. 4, for No. 42, "The Gold <sup>en</sup> Legend" <sup>an old Alexandrian manuscript.</sup> ~~en~~ <sup>Mrs.</sup> French name.

So it is not surprising to find, on the fly-leaf of the sale catalogue of the William C. van Antwerp portion of the Rofant Library, just now under the hammer, that he has scribbled in pencil, "A record day at Sothebys":

The final stages of that distressing malady of which John Ferriar sang in his well known poem Bibliomania, and so graphically described by Dibdin is found in the auction room. The unfortunate victim noting with envious eyes the precious volumes as they are handed about for inspection, or chuckling for joy as he hears the bids rise higher and higher for some



21  
 Mar.  
 1907

treasure already in his collection. Last symptom of all, not mentioned by Dibdin, and indicating a final enthralment is when auction catalogues become his favourite literature and when he no longer reads of the new arrivals of Mr. Murray or of Houghton, Mifflin Co., skips the advertising pages of the "Spectator", gives up his subscription to the "Book-Lovers" or to the "Times" Library, and devotes all his spare moments to the perusal of literature issued from the auction houses - Anderson of New York, Müller & Co., ~~and~~ Burgersdijk & Niermans of Holland, <sup>and</sup> Hodgson & Co. of London, but above all to the light yellow-covered pamphlets issued by Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge of Wellington Street, Strand. No longer a frequenter of stalls and bookshops, and eschewing as evil all dealings with the trade, nothing will tempt him to go into Dodd Mead & Co. or Ellis or Maggs or even Quaritch. I have watched his struggles on the Quai <sup>as</sup> he saw some coveted volume in the [illegible] and I have known him go for three days in succession [illegible], but once in the final stages of the disease he is like the secret drinker with the full bottle beside him <sup>when</sup> he indulges his passion alone and <sup>at</sup>

[volumes?]

Things must have grown too warm for him to continue with the scribble and really to <sup>describe</sup> ~~tell~~ about the record sale of this <sup>at the</sup> ~~following~~ day when, among treasures too numerous to mention, "Mr. Tom Hodgson could not conceal his excitement" a first folio Shakespeare was knocked down at £3600 "with

~~The~~ For a long and interesting description of an Antebellum sale of the  
 The Introduction to the Bibliotheca Carolina which contains an account of  
 the van Antwerp sale and a description of the sale. The sale began  
 suddenly and lasted up from the time these were made at the time.  
 these

Mar 23

Mar.  
1907

much applause," and a <sup>Complete</sup> Angler "one of the finest if not the finest copy known" at £1290 to Mr. Quaritch.

It was a curious quality that sometimes mystified people in regard to Osler, that he appeared outwardly to be so unemotional. This was particularly true in regard to his own personal sorrows: ~~and~~ reticence in regard to family matters is characteristic of his tribe. His mother had survived her one-hundredth birthday scarce three months, and in the following letter to J. William White he speaks of her death and, abruptly dismissing the subject, turns to chide White - doubtless 'to keep his mother out of his eyes.'

13, Norham Hardens,  
Sunday

Dear White Thanks for your kind note of sympathy. The cable was very unexpected as we had had only a day or two before a letter saying that she was keeping so well. A brother had been at death's door with acute gout & as he lives with her she had insisted upon going to his room very often & it worried her greatly. She had a fine even outlook on life - ohne Hast, ohne Rast - and even the vagaries of her sons did not disturb her tranquility. I hope you have killed your cook and settled down to

23

Apr.  
1907

a Chittenden diet - eating nothing you do not grow yourself and avoiding all roots, red meats, sweets, whiskey, champagne & tobacco. It is only in this way you can keep your purin-bases quiet & check the shaking of your glandular epiploicae. Love to your suffering companion. Yours

ever

W<sup>m</sup> Osler.

He writes early in April. "We have had a most extraordinary spring, weeks of sunshine and so mild. Our garden begins to look so bright with the crocuses and daffodils. The house is still unsettled but we are driving the workmen out by degrees - room by room. Mrs Osler is in despair they are so slow and pokey." Apparently, during this time he had been going through the Christ Church library, ~~volume by volume,~~ possibly <sup>on</sup> his first quest ~~of for~~ the books which had belonged to Burton; <sup>and he appears to have come</sup> thus he came upon a duplicate which found its way to his own shelves. The source of almost all of his books has been carefully noted and the provenance of this particular volume, though not an exceptionally rare one, may be given in illustration. It contains a postcard on which is written:

Apr.  
1907

Gotch tells me to tell you that we have found in our library a duplicate copy of John Mayow, Tractatus quinque medico-physici, Oxon. MDCLXXIV - without the portrait - frontispiece which some (I daresay all complete) copies have. I think the Library ought to present it you out of gratitude. I shall be back in Oxford tomorrow and arranging about clearing some duplicates out of the Lbr. Yrs. F. HAVERFIELD.

Then in Osler's writing:

John Mayow, Mayouwe or Mayo 1643-1679, Cornishman, Wadham College, Fellow of All Souls, Pupil of Willis, friend of Lower. Practised at Bath in summer. Sent to me from the Ch. Ch. Library as a duplicate by F. J. Haverfield April 5th, 1907. 1668 Mayo published (Oxford) Tractatus duo de Respiratione et de Rachitide. Republished at Leyden 1671 and an English translation of de Rachitide by Tury, Oxford 1685 under the title Ραχιτιδολογία. This book has the two essays and three additional. Re-published Hague 1681, as Op. Om. Geneva 1685. Translated into Dutch 1684, German 1799 and French 1840. Mayo's book seems to be very scarce. I have not seen one in the catalogues for years.

The following letter to Baltimore tells something of his plans, and indicates that the triennial revision of his Text-book is getting on his conscience:

25  
Apr.  
1907

To L. F. Barker from W. O.

13, Norham Gardens,  
April 6, 1907.

Dear Barker: I hope everything is going well with you and the family. I hope to see you all before long as I sail on the 20th. I shall go to Boston first and then round by Montreal and Toronto. I shall have rather a hurried visit, as I have to get back before the 20th of May. We have some very important business coming up in connection with the medical school here. They have agreed at last to put the Anatomical and Pathological departments on a sound financial basis, and we have also to get a new Professor of Pathology. I want an hour's chat with you about the Text-book. This new edition, <sup>[the VII<sup>th</sup>]</sup> due October 1908, will not be a very serious revision, as they will not break up the plates, but in the next edition we can do as we like. It would be very nice if you and Thayer came in with me as joint authors. It would be possible, I think, to arrange to have the work kept up as a Johns Hopkins Hospital Text-book of Medicine. I think some arrangement could be made with the publishers and some plan devised by which the head of the medical department would have ex-officio rights in it. In the ninth edition I would probably go out altogether and the book would appear from you and Thayer - perhaps, I retaining a small financial interest. I am just finishing the little paper on hereditary telangiectasis. You remember Crum's case, and I have a remarkable family in New York supposed to be hemophiliacs. I saw that remarkable man, High, at your clinic in January 1906. I had intended just to refer to him in the paper as an extraordinary case, but I think, if you will allow me, I will report it separately in the Bulletin, as Emerson has got me some very remarkable photographs. Sincerely yours,

W<sup>m</sup> Osler.

April  
1907.

On the 12th he writes to Mrs. Brewster, giving some picture of their  
life:

I have just been putting Revere to bed with a good romp. He has a tutor during this vacation as he is not quite up to the English boys in the Latin. They begin so early. He is having cricket lessons too & taking great interest in it. This is a splendid place for boys - such a wholesome life and so healthy. The stream of visitors on their way from the south has begun. We have had someone at luncheon every day this week, on their way to Liverpool. It makes the life very pleasant to see so much of our friends and we are beginning to get settled. We had tea outside every day last week and the garden begins to look so attractive. I wish you could see the place in June. Perhaps you and R. B. may come back with me & Uncle Ned on the 11th of May. I have to take the Etruria much to my sorrow. I have been in town today inspecting Lord Amherst's Library. Poor man! his solicitors invested nearly all his money in South African mines & it has gone so he has to sell his Library. Wonderful collection. 17 Caxtons! 11 of them perfect. I never saw such treasures. I wish Mr. Rockefeller or Carnegie would buy it for some American University. I am taking great interest in the Bodleian, and am beginning to know my way about; but dear me! they need so much rearrangement & a new catalogue is to be prepared but it will cost 50,000. . . . Thanks so much for your kind sympathy about Mothers death. I knew you would be thinking of us. We have had most touching letters from my sister - an ideal, peaceful ending. I must send you from Toronto one of her photographs taken in her armchair only a month before her death. . . .

April  
1907

The next morning The Times published the news of the burning of the McGill Medical School, with the museum which contained his old specimens - he seems to have been pursued by fire; - but he writes cheerfully to Dr. Abbott; "~~This is~~" sad news this morning about the burning of the school. I am afraid the loss in the museum is serious, <sup>but</sup> I hope it is not quite as bad as the newspapers state. In any case, a few years will put the museum in a much better condition than we could have hoped to see it in the old quarters, so ~~that~~, please, take courage."

He sailed, as he had planned, on April 20th, with no more luggage than his Oxford friends would have taken for a week-end visit. No wonder they thought he was crazy to run off to America in this fashion: but could they have seen a quiet man reading Pacton's Life of Lady May Montagne and making notes from it on the deck of the "Lucania," and thoroughly enjoying a week's rest, they would have fully understood. However, other things were in his mind, as the following indicates:

April  
1907

To Frederick T. Gates from W. O.

R.M.S. "Lucania",  
April 26, 1907.

Dear Mr. Gates You have of course noticed the hard whacks which my old alma mater McGill has had in these two big fires. No doubt Sir William Macdonald, who built the engineering Department, will restore it, but I am afraid from what I hear that the Medical faculty has been very hard hit by the loss of their fine buildings. Do you think it would be possible to interest Mr. Rockefeller to the extent of a couple of hundred thousand dollars? It would mean everything to them and would really encourage a group of men who have been doing splendid work for the community. I shall be in the country for a couple of weeks, ~~I shall be~~ in Montreal on Tuesday & Wednesday, at Dr. Shepherd's, 135 Mansfield Street. After that my address will be Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore. With kind regards,  
Sincerely yours,

W<sup>m</sup> Osler.

New York, Boston, Montreal, Toronto, Baltimore, Washington and Philadelphia - at least - and all in two weeks. He must have been relieved to find that his own specimens at McGill had not suffered greatly nor had the library. Nevertheless, they needed help, and from his brother's house in Toronto he writes a second letter in their behalf on May 2nd.

Craigleigh, Rosedale,  
2nd [May, 1907]

Dear Mr. Gates Thanks for your letter, which I received last evening, just before leaving Montreal. I have asked the Dean of the Faculty to prepare a statement of the research work which has been carried on lately at McGill in medicine. I think you will be surprised at its extent and



May  
1907

variety. An endowment of \$500,000 would enable them to further extend and carry on this work. To rebuild a thoroughly modern fireproof building will take all the moneys available & leave them hampered sadly for this advanced work, which they are really prepared to do, so far as the personnel of the faculty is concerned. I am sending you a couple of books which may interest you to look over, and Vol. I of my new system of medicine. With kind regards, Sincerely yours, Wm OSLER. I shall be at the Johns Hopkins Hospital all next week - I sail May 11th on the New York.

He did not let the matter rest with Mr. Gates alone but pushed it in other directions too, and it was not until three months later that he confesses in a letter to Adami: "I hear from Welch privately that the Rockefellers will not do anything for McGill at present towards the buildings but that after everything is settled they may be prepared to make some endowment for research."

The first of the three meetings he had gone over especially to attend was the third annual gathering of the National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis which met in Washington May 6th to 8th, together with many other societies comprising the Triennial Congress of American Physicians and Surgeons. The late Hermann M. Biggs of New York was President for the year, and three men seem to have been permanently set upon as honorary Vice-Presidents: Theodore Roosevelt, Grover Cleveland and William Osler. This society in its two years had grown apace to

May  
1907

1200 members, including many laymen, and already there had been a great impetus in the crusade against the disease. It was a most enthusiastic gathering.

Reginald Fitz of Boston was President of the Congress for this year, and in Osler's note to Barker of some months before he indicated that a symposium had been arranged at which he, Barker, Richard Cabot of Boston, and Alfred Stengel of Philadelphia were to <sup>discourse</sup> ~~spea~~k on the subject of the historical development and relative value of laboratory and clinical methods of diagnosis, ~~- a subject on which Osler was particularly fitted to~~ ~~spea~~k. He <sup>Osler</sup> chose as his title "The Evolution of the Idea of Experiment in Medicine" <sup>- a subject</sup> which must have been born of his Harveian Oration. "That man can interrogate," he began, "as well as observe nature, was a lesson slowly learned in his evolution," and he went on to say that "had the Greeks added to their genius for brilliant generalization and ample observation the capacity to design and carry out experiments, the history

May  
1907

of European thought would have been very different, but neither Plato nor Aristotle had any conception of the value of experiment as an instrument in the progress of knowledge." "One man alone <sup>he said,</sup> among the ancients [Claudius Galen] could walk into the physiological laboratories of today and feel at home."

And from this he went on to show by what stages and under what influences (and he has something to say of Descartes) we had come in the last half of the nineteenth century, into the real era of experimental medicine.

. . . No longer [he said] do physiologists, like Hunter, Bowman and Lister, become surgeons; chemists, like Frout and Bence-Jones, clinicians; and saddest of all, the chair of pathology is no longer a stepping-stone to the chair of medicine. The new conditions must be met if progress is to be maintained. In every country there will be found strong men, like Weir Mitchell, Mackenzie of Burnley, and Meltzer and Christian Herter, who find it possible to combine experimental work with practice, but we must recognize the pressing need of organization if internal medicine is to keep in close touch with the rapid advancement of the sciences. A glance at the programme of the Association of American Physicians' meeting indicates the dominance of experiment at the present day. . .

May  
1907

The American Physicians, indeed, were holding their 22nd annual meeting, and Osler's remarks <sup>Leads</sup> led one to look over their programme, an altogether admirable one, to be sure, albeit ~~that discussion of~~ <sup>in which</sup> the new opsonic blood-phenomenon was the chief matter for discussion. But perhaps of all the papers the only ~~one~~ which aroused no discussion was by Francis H. Williams on ~~X-ray examination for~~ <sup>by the X-ray</sup> the detection of early pulmonary tuberculosis. It has taken nearly two decades for physicians to lay aside the stethoscope in favour of this more exact method of diagnosis which may well enough be regarded as a laboratory procedure.

The other meeting was held May 10th and 11th in Philadelphia in celebration of the semi-centennial of the founding of the Pathological Society, of which for five years he had been such an active member. He is said to have given an address, though there is no printed record of it. Mayhap it was given at the dinner when Weir Mitchell, the only surviving member of the original group who started the society in 1857, ~~and of whom he~~ gave some reminiscences <sup>particularly</sup> of ~~these days and~~ of the 'bloody sixties' ~~of the~~

May  
1907

for most of them had participated in the Civil War. He ended in much lighter vein with some verses of 'pathologic nonsense about "Killing Time",' but this was an occupation in which Osler rarely engaged, and, having escaped from the dinner, late that night from the University Club in New York he sent a brief note to Mr. Henry Phipps, saying:

We had a rousing meeting in Washington this week - most enthusiastic & encouraging. The best men were there from all over the country. I have just got in - we sail in the morning, at 6. So sorry not to have seen you. <sup>[Tuberculosis]</sup> The Dispensary is doing so well - 180 patients in the past six weeks. ~~Give my kind regards to Mrs Phipps & Miss Phipps, of whose engagement I have just heard with much pleasure.~~

It had been a <sup>hurried</sup> brief visit, ~~to the States~~, and though two years were to elapse before his return, this could not have been his expectation for jotted down in the back of his day-book there is written, possibly during this crossing: Lectures for Baltimore 1908. (1) The Ewelme Hospital & Chapel. (2) The Bodleian. (3) Christ Church Oxford. (4) Gabriel Naudaeus. (5) Thomas Fuller. (6) Ulrich von Hutten. (7) The Anatomy of Melancholy.

May  
1907

During his brief absence some important things had been happening.

On May 2nd an announcement of the proposed Oxford University Appeal Fund signed by the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor was published in the newspapers, and on May 16th, two days before he landed, ~~there was~~ a public meeting <sup>was held</sup> at Burlington-gardens at which the Chancellor, Lord Curzon, presided. In his introductory remarks he said:

. . . I daresay that the ordinary University man, whose memories and affections are for the most part centred in the college of which he was once a member, hardly realizes what is the University as distinct from the college to which he formerly belonged. And yet it is the University - its governing body, its statutes, its institutions and buildings, its examinations and degrees, its professors and lecturers, its noble library, and its liberal Press - it is the University, even more than the colleges, which is the real air and spirit, the real guardian of the traditions of Oxford.

And he went on to say, in regard to the origin of the <sup>present</sup> movement,

. . . Five years ago the authorities of the University conducted a careful scrutiny into the educational requirements of Oxford at that time, and the results of that scrutiny can be seen in a printed report, which is accessible to those who desire to see it; but scrutiny is a very dif-

May  
1907

ferent thing from solution, and solution is not possible without funds. Then it was that, in a fortunate moment, Mr. Brassey (~~cheers~~), who had already shown himself a most liberal benefactor to Balliol, appeared on the scene and turned his active mind and his generous disposition to the relief of the larger needs of the parent University. The Vice-Chancellor of Oxford, Sir William Anson, Professor Miers, and Professor Osler joined hands with him. Together they sifted and collaborated the most urgent among the requirements of Oxford, of which I have spoken; and they drew up a scheme framed for the satisfaction of the principal among those needs for what I think may be considered a not unreasonable sum of money - a quarter of a million sterling.

There was much more of this, three columns, in fact, ~~in the Times, and~~

*cf.*  
\*The Times, *for* "The Needs of Oxford University - Important Meeting." Friday, May 17th, 1907, p. 12.

*a*  
~~the~~ resolution offered by Lord Curzon ~~and~~ *was* seconded by Mr. Asquith, ~~and~~ the Archbishop of Canterbury *made a proposal* ~~offered a motion~~ regarding the composition of the body of Trustees, which Lord Milner seconded; whereupon the Vice-Chancellor offered a *final* resolution regarding the appointment of a committee of twenty-three, Osler's name among them, to consider ways and means of raising the *suggested* ~~proposed~~ £250,000; *finally* whereupon the (then) Hon. T. A. Brassey proposed a vote

May  
1907

of thanks which the Chairman duly acknowledged. All thoroughly pre-arranged: all very formal: none of it what might be called inspiring nor the sort of talk that would stir people to empty their pocket-books. However, <sup>a</sup> preliminary announcements <sup>were</sup> ~~were~~ made of the donations so far promised, the list being headed with £10,000 from 'Mr. Brassey who started the scheme, ' and an equal sum from 'that most generous American gentleman, Mr. W. W. Astor,' a donation, it is safe to say, that was promised through the personal influence of <sup>a person not present at the meeting.</sup> ~~W. Osler~~

Osler was a man of action rather than words, and had he been present, listening to these addresses, he would probably have <sup>held</sup> had his <sup>in check</sup> ~~well concealed~~ patience by his habit of scribbling while he listened.

At least this is what he does a few days later when forced to sit through a Saturday afternoon meeting of the Bodleian Curators when 'a draft case of the opinion of counsel, received from the Hebdomadal Council <sup>of</sup> <sup>was a member</sup> ~~which he had also attended~~ was considered and amended,' and



May  
1907

when 'a letter from the solicitor of the Radcliffe Trustees [with whom he also sat] was read,' regarding 'a lease for the construction of an underground chamber between the Library and the Radcliffe <sup>Camera,</sup> ~~Com-~~men, and to ask him whether he would now obtain the views of the Trustees [of whom he was one] as to the length of the term, and the amount of rent' - and much more. Possibly a long discussion thus aroused, possibly memories of his recent visit to Toronto, possibly a new pen, may have made him cover the back of the printed 'Acta' with cobwebs and 'James Bovells.'

Though Osler had missed the Burlington-garden gathering, he was in time for the first annual meeting of the new Association of Physicians of Great Britain and Ireland to become the counterpart of the <sup>society to which</sup> ~~American Association of Physicians~~ which had just met in Washington for its 22nd successive year, and of which he had also been a founder. The meeting, which proved an unqualified success, was held in London in the rooms of the Royal Medical & Chirurgical Society on May 23rd.

and 24th. The question of the journal was discussed before the Executive Committee, and it was agreed that the proposal of the Clarendon Press was satisfactory, whereupon an editorial board with Osler as chief was appointed, together with a body of collaborators. The scientific session was fully attended; the programme was an excellent one, and many of the papers presented, Osler's included, found their way subsequently into print in the first volume of the new Quarterly Journal of Medicine, the name of which was not decided upon until June 6th when at a dinner in London he gathered together the collaborators.

On the heels of this came another meeting of which later on he writes: "We baptized the Royal ~~Medical~~ <sup>of Medicine</sup> Society the other afternoon and had a most satisfactory initial meeting." Something has already been told of the proposed amalgamation of the London societies, and of how Osler had dropped in at the right moment to encourage and enthuse the

June  
1907

greatly discouraged 'Amalgar.' By this time, through the activities of the Amalgamation Committee with Sir William Church as Chairman, the movement was well under way, and the first general meeting of the new society whose charter permitted it to be called the Royal Society of Medicine, was held on June 14th at 20, Hanover Square. Though the old London Medical Society held aloof, seventeen of the possible twenty societies were brought into effective coördination on this occasion, under the chairmanship of Sir Richard Powell, by-laws were adopted, and officers elected. The name of Sir William Church was proposed for President by Sir Thomas Smith, and in seconding the nomination Osler took the opportunity to remind the society that they must raise money <sup>would have to be raised</sup> both for a new building and for the development of the library and he wished to remind them that "He who asketh much getteth much." ¶ Osler subsequently threw himself wholeheartedly into the work of <sup>this new</sup> the society, almost invariably dropped in when in town, wrote countless letters to MacAlister and others regarding the library, —————→

June  
1907

arranging for speakers, giving dinners for guests before the meetings which he frequently attended, and was active in the movement for the new building at 1, Wimpole Street, which was to come three years later. Though offered high positions, indeed the presidency on one occasion, he refused ever to have his name submitted. However, he remained a member of the Council for the first three years, was on the Library Committee from this time until his death, and also founded in 1912 a new section on the History of Medicine, a branch not represented by any preëxisting society, and over this section he presided for its first three years, realizing that the new organization must be made a success. Having Osler in the chair was certain to draw a gathering.

Thus he is back and forth from London several times a week, and yet there was much to be done in Oxford particularly at this time, for a pathologist had to be chosen to succeed James Ritchie had who accepted a call elsewhere. What is more, examinations were in progress and the responsibilities relating thereto weighed upon him far more heavily than the

June  
1907

examinees realized, if one may judge from the recollections sent by

A. S. MacNalty who was one of them.

In 1907 when up for my final M. B. examination at Oxford - the examination lasts a fortnight and is always a time of anxiety for the victims - Sir William's <sup>[then Dr. Osler]</sup> innate kindness cheered us through the wastes of written papers, practicals and orals. Every one of the candidates felt that Sir ~~William~~ <sup>he</sup> was as anxious for each one of us to do well as if he had been a personal relative. The smile, the jest and the inquiry as to how we had got on helped us greatly. Bending over a heart-case on which a full clinical report was asked for, unexpectedly, the candidate would find the Regius Professor at his elbow and a hand laid on the patient's praecordia - "A good thrill that - that's a nice case to have," would be the comment and Sir ~~William~~ <sup>he</sup> passed on. British examinations too often are rigid and formal. Sir William lightened them to the candidates by the 'human touch.'

*no habitually, then put himself on the student level  
One would think a man of this type, one ~~man~~ who ~~was~~ ~~himself~~ ~~by~~ ~~of~~ ~~his~~ ~~own~~, was  
eagerly consultative for his advice as to their careers by ambitious young men in  
many places who would have been glad to learn under him - most of whom would  
have been glad to learn in his environment;*

June  
1907

~~give ambitious young men at this time, is evident from the following.~~

To G. L. Rowntree.

13, Norham Gardens,  
May 31, 1907.

Dear Dr. Rowntree: The place for you to go to is the Hopkins. If you could arrange to work for six years and wish to really get at the roots of things, attach yourself to Dr. Barker's clinic and gradually work into line. The clinical advantages here are slight and you could not begin to do the sort of work with me that you could with Dr. Barker at the Johns Hopkins. Of course, it means a great sacrifice for you, but you have youth, and probably brains, and if, attached to these, you have the necessary perseverance with enough cash to keep you floating, six years of hard clinical work should put you in a first-class position in the profession. With kind regards and best wishes, Sincerely yours,

Wm Osler.

*In some months Oxford, I am and soon, had been besting herself with preparation on a large scale for a*  
*The contribution he had solicited from Henry*      *The contribution he had solicited*  
It was at this time that he had received the donation from Henry  
*come at this time*      *great feature, to raise the university*      *wish you*  
*celebration.*

~~Phipps for the Endowment Fund, and, shortly after, Mr. Phipps writes to~~

say: "I have bespoken two tickets for the banquet to be given to Mark

Twain by the Pilgrims Society, at the Savoy Hotel, June 25th at one

o'clock in the afternoon, and hope you can come with me if you can spare

~~the time." A few days later Osler says in one of his letters, "I wish" then in~~

*the latter part of the same June*  
*could be seen with Osler June 25th for the next evening's festivities" says Osler*

June  
1907

~~you could be here for the next week's festivities. There is going to~~  
 be a great circus. The pageant is wonderful. I sent a programme last  
 week." <sup>the following appeared</sup> ~~Many years later a note in the Oxford Magazine:~~

The Pageant in 1907 [June 27-July 3] and the Roger Bacon Commemoration in 1914 temporarily awakened public interest in the history of Oxford. The former was eminently spectacular, finer in fact than any theatrical display could be, from the possibilities due to the immense size of the stage. Captain Rowell's ride, in a Charles I scene, was a quarter of a mile in extent, and he thundered over the temporary bridge as no actor could ever dream of doing. The whole pageant was finely carried through, and we can almost believe Mark Twain's account of it, in which he relates that he met that greatest of widowers, Henry VIII, in the streets, and found him a much more pleasant personage to talk to than he expected. But all this is past and gone, though the whole literature, down to the picture postcards, is in the Bodleian, available for reference, let us hope, for all time.

Held in Christ Church meadows with literally thousands of participants, <sup>both town & gown</sup> ~~from town and gown~~, it was perhaps the most notable of many notable pageants; and much has been written of it. The Book of Words, 'price two

June  
1907

two shillings' which enumerates the scenes, from the eighth century of Saint Frideswide to the visit of 'farmer George' in the eighteenth, ends with an effort <sup>at</sup> Quiller-Couch to explain 'the secret of Oxford', a secret which looks easy but grows harder as one begins to understand it, and which is really the secret of youth despite her disguise that consists in looking old.

Tower tall, city wall,  
A river running past;  
Youth played when each was made,  
And shall them all outlast.

On the 26th, the day before the pageant opened, was held Lord Curzon's first Encænna, and there was an unprecedented turnout of the Oxford populace to see the academic procession, perhaps because of Kipling, and <sup>another popular author</sup> ~~Mark Twain~~ <sup>made part of it:</sup> ~~and the~~ <sup>later</sup> old Sheldonian Theatre presented an unusually brilliant scene. To quell the usual boisterousness of the <sup>undergraduates</sup> ~~students~~ they were scattered about in small groups, but even this did not make them spare the Regius Professor of Greek who was seen but not heard presenting his thirty-



py 1888

which lasted for the week of June 24 to July 3rd

The joyful discovery is said to have been <sup>the</sup> finely carried through and that we can almost believe Mass Juvani's account of it, as in which he relates that he met that greatest of widowers, Henry VIII, in the streets, and found him a much more pleasant personage to talk to than he had expected! But all this is put and gone though the whole literature down to the future first cards, is in the Bodleian available for reference for all time.

It needs no saying that the 13 Northern judges, meanwhile was dispiriting its usual <sup>and that</sup> <sup>was pleasantly interrupted =</sup> <sup>the usual person of the household = even then</sup> <sup>understanding a person on Pudd & Pook's Hill</sup> <sup>so understanding a person =</sup> <sup>the author of the first to them =</sup> <sup>was for more</sup> <sup>of course, for to go on parables with</sup> <sup>the author of the first to them =</sup> <sup>was for more</sup>

including those the mounting of butterflies and the stuffing of moths, just near the main reception in life. It found this ends abruptly and the

The day of the joyful ~~triumph~~ <sup>triumph</sup> found also in fair distribution

Sand your Birth, our Soil our Pride,  
For whose dear sake our fathers' died;  
O Motherland, we pledge to thee,  
Head, heart, and hand through the years to be!

A common type of collegiate Chauvinism is manifest in the narrow spirit too often displayed in filling appointments. The professoriate of the profession, the most mobile column of its great army, should be recruited with a most zealous regard to fitness, irrespective of local conditions that are apt to influence the selection. In-breeding is as hurtful to colleges as to cattle. The interchange of men, particularly of young men, is most stimulating, and the complete emancipation of the chairs which has taken place in most of our universities should extend to the medical schools. Nothing, perhaps, has done more to place German Medicine in the forefront to-day than a peripatetic professoriate owing allegiance only to the profession at large, regardless of civic, sometimes, indeed, of national limitations and restrictions.\* We acknow-

\*He may have had Virchow in mind, for Virchow had died September 10th, just seven days before the address was given.

ledge the principle in the case of the scientific chairs, and with increasing frequency act upon it, but an attempt to extend it to other chairs may be the signal for display of rank parochialism...

Another unpleasant manifestation of collegiate Chauvinism is the outcome, perhaps, of the very keen competition which at present exists in scientific circles. Instead of a generous appreciation of the work done in other places, there is a settled hostility and a narrowness of judgement but little in keeping with the true spirit of science. Worse still, is the 'lock and key' laboratory in which suspicion and distrust reign, and everyone is jealous and fearful lest the other should know of or find out about his work. Thank God! this base and bastard spirit is not much seen, but it is about, and I would earnestly entreat any young

June  
1907

four candidates for degrees, and he was told from the gallery 'not to wake  
 the baby'; <sup>and that</sup> 'it was bad manners to whisper in public.' <sup>and to say I've recorded too than the</sup> The <sup>receptions</sup> were  
 all cordial, 'some strikingly warm' - that for the Lord Chancellor, the  
 Prime Minister, the American Ambassador, Sir Evelyn Wood, Auguste Rodin,  
 Sir William Perkin, etc., etc.; but those for "General" Booth, the vener-  
 able Archbishop of Armagh, Kipling and "Mark Twain" were 'most vociferous  
 of all.'

*To the great day*

*met by.*

*See notes in my notebook*

~~On the day after the Pageant Osler was in town again, distributing~~  
 prizes at the London School of Medicine for Women, when he made an ad-  
 dress on the avenues open to women in the profession and advised them to  
 hold, as their philosophy of life, that they were in the world not to get  
 what they could out of it but to do what they could for the happiness of  
 others - advice he was accustomed to give to all graduates in medicine.  
 At this time, too, pressure was brought to bear on him to accept the Chair  
 of Medicine at Manchester University to succeed Professor Dreschfeld, the  
 chief inducement being <sup>the its</sup> ~~its~~ better clinical opportunities, <sup>in view of the at the time,</sup> but he could

July  
1907  
Aet. 58.

hardly have considered the matter seriously. On July 19th he wrote to

Mrs. Brewster:

We have had such a busy summer, so many people coming & going. I sent you a paper with an account of the Encaenia & the reception to Mark Twain and Kipling. The latter stopped with us - such a jolly fellow, so full of fun and with an extraordinary interest in everything. Mrs. K. is very bright, and we fell in love with them both. Mark Twain was most enthusiastic about Kipling. It was delightful to hear them joking together. Our garden is thriving. Mrs. Osler has just come in with a huge armful of sweet-peas, and our roses are - for the first year - splendid. After months of winter we have had a week of bright sunshine. Revere's school is over today. He lives such a happy life and is becoming an A.1. cricketer. We go to Scotland for a month - to Colonsay I hope & for ten days to Glenquoitch with Mr Phipps. I am sending today Jowett's introduction to Plato - much of which will interest you.

But Osler was not doing what he threatened in 1905 - enjoying his garden, his friends and his family, and making a sinecure of his position. This is evident from a letter to The Times of July 24th, on the "Need of Reform at Oxford," signed by himself and fifteen others, to the effect that 'the constitution and machinery of Oxford, both legislative and executive, needed revision, that the relation between the University and its colleges, both con-

July  
1907

stitutional and financial, required modification,' and:

That the studies of the Universities are themselves too narrow in scope and that fresh endowments of various branches of study are necessary, and especially that a greater encouragement should be given to research, which at Oxford is probably to a larger extent divorced from teaching than in any other great University.

<sup>with H.A.S. Fisher and others were</sup>  
- Osler ~~was~~ prominent in the reform party which protested that the only practical ways of carrying out the necessary changes would be through a Royal Commission and legislation by the King in Council; but Lord Curzon who received the memorialists put a damper on the movement and no immediate result followed.\*

\*The war with its sequel of high prices brought about a new situation, and both Oxford and Cambridge found themselves compelled to apply for State assistance. This led to a Royal Commission under the chairmanship of Mr. Asquith, which in 1922 recommended many of the changes which the Reformers of 1907 had in view, and a Commission is now engaged in giving statutory effect to ~~the new~~ <sup>these</sup> recommendations.

On July 25th he writes J. William White:

Only the other day I said to Mrs. Osler, "I suppose the Whites will be over if they can leave the chickens." I am so glad to have your letter and wish we could have you here for Sunday, but the house is full. Miss Woolley, two nieces, one with a husband, and Drs. McCrae and Boggs of the Johns Hopkins Hospital are here. I am going to Exeter on Monday to the B.M.A. I shall be in London on my way there and shall be delighted to lunch with you and Mrs. White. I have not heard anything of the Abbeyes this summer. We must see you here. I shall be at the Exeter meeting until Friday.

Aug.  
1907

Presumably his former Hopkins assistant accompanied him to the

*British Medical Association meeting,*

B.M.A., and as both of them had bibliophilic tendencies they found their

way, between the scientific sessions of the meeting, into the old book-

*shops.* At all events he adds to his own collection *the dates in* two or three inter-  
 esting volumes *in the library, bear witness in this direction.* ~~evidently secured at this time.~~

The Exeter meeting over, the week of August 5th was given up to the

*(the first was held in Nuremberg)*

sessions of the second International Congress of School Hygiene held under

Royal patronage at the University of London. Sir Lauder Brunton was

President of the Congress and Osler President of *that* one of its eleven sub-

divisions *which dealt* with medical and hygienic inspection in schools. In

these days of an organized and highly endowed movement toward preventive

medicine, with *nobly* endowed schools for the education of public-health

officers, one is apt to forget that the physicians of a few decades ago

were earnestly attacking many of these problems. There were delegates,

lay and medical, to this meeting, 2000 in all, from many countries, and

the subjects for discussion covered every aspect of school sanitation,

Aug.  
1907

provision for defective children, the maintenance of the health of the others by medical inspection - even the question of military drill.

The Congress was opened by the Earl of Crewe and many other notables participated. Osler in his presidential address stated that Great Britain so far as systematic methods of school inspection were concerned was far behind most of the Continental nations. ~~the~~ <sup>though the</sup> question, he said, admittedly bristled with difficulties, sociological and economic, <sup>mouthless</sup> He referred, as he had so often done before, to the general neglect of the teeth, and said it would take a good dentist many weeks to put the teeth of the children in one small elementary school in proper order, and that there were scores of villages and small towns without a resident dentist within five miles. He spoke of another simple subject, much neglected, namely mouth-breathing, <sup>saying</sup> and said there were more mouth-breathers to the acre in England than in any other country in the world, and that it was rare for mouth-breathers to have much mental snap or

Aug.  
1907

~~energy. But in spite of all the existing difficulties~~ the ideal conditions were easily defined, and he recommended a separate department at the Board of Education, to supervise and coördinate the work throughout the country, proposing that there should be a trained nurse for each school, who should carry out observations at intervals and should assist a visiting doctor in all matters relating to school hygiene; and that a school dentist should make a quarterly inspection of the children's teeth.\*

\*While the Peace Congress was sitting at the Hague, this Congress in London was proposing to wage war against all causes that tended toward the deterioration of the health of the people. The full account of this most important meeting which first aroused the sanitary conscience of the people is given in the successive numbers of the British Medical Journal for 1907. Sir Victor Horsley proposed a resolution which was finally passed in this form: "That the principles and practice of hygiene should form a part of the education of every citizen." And as an outcome of the meeting a bill for the medical inspection of schools was promptly introduced in the House of Commons.



Aug.  
1907

Easily aroused to a participation in campaigns of this kind, Osler had other personal matters to attend to, and he was meanwhile busy not only with his own long section written with John W. Churchman for the third volume of the System of Medicine, but with the revision of manuscripts submitted by others. These were giving him trouble, as is indicated by the following admonition to one of the contributors.

I am sorry about the condition of the plethora in your article. I am afraid we must agree to the Leas' request and cut it down to as near as possible the space they assign. I know how hard it is to do this, but it is surprising how much may be done by cutting out redundant words and sentences. For example, I cut out nearly four lines to the printed page from one edition of my text-book simply by condensation. It is, of course, a great aggravation and it is often harder to boil down than to write.

The first two volumes of this important work, to which at an inopportune moment he had obligated himself to Lea Brothers & Company, had already appeared, and preceding letters have shown that he had agonized a good deal over his introduction to the first volume, ~~which he finally entitled "The Evolution of Internal Medicine."~~ ~~Indeed the volume had actually gone to~~

(ii) Vol II was issued by the publisher June 20 1907

Aug.  
1907

~~press so that the introductory chapter had to receive a separate Roman  
 There was no other way to cope with some papers  
 pagination.~~

In this introduction, in which a rapid and picturesque survey is  
 given, he points out <sup>as</sup> an illustration of how the last great System of  
 Medicine, that by William Pepper, had already become antiquated, <sup>he called attention, in the introductory chapter, to</sup> the  
 fact that <sup>among the early chapters</sup> the first chapters to follow were on subjects that could  
 hardly have been touched upon twenty years before. And one only needs  
 to turn the pages of this volume, in which appears Chittenden's impor-  
 tant <sup>article</sup> chapter on metabolism, to take a single example, to realize how  
 quickly these <sup>encyclopedic publications</sup> great systems of Medicine become out of date, <sup>for</sup> when today  
<sup>many a</sup> most physicians even have <sup>the</sup> a calorimeter in their offices; when today a  
 knowledge of vitamins has revolutionized the question of rickets and  
 scurvy; and the discovery of insulin that of diabetes; and the X-ray <sup>in its relation to</sup>  
<sup>medicine,</sup> dismissed with three or four pages, now would take a volume in itself.

1907

There were many other things to engage him besides the System of Medicine, some of which he mentions in an undated letter addressed to C. N. B. Camac at Caribou Cottage, Pointe-à-Pic, where they had spent a number of summers together. Camac was just preparing to issue a volume entitled "Epoch-making Contributions to Medicine" with comments upon which Olser opens his letter:

13, Norham Gardens,  
[no date]

Dear Camac I am so glad to hear that you have made final arrangements with Saunders. Would it not be helpful to have the title-pages of some of the books reproduced - just as in my Browne article - by the new process - it is not expensive. The De Motu Cordis, Laennec 1st edition &c would add greatly to the interest of the work. You will have hard work to keep within the limits of 400 pages. I am sorry in a way that you did not come over & try the Press. Let me know if I can be of any help in getting pictures &c. What title? all important, consult Welch. I knew you would like the Charaka men - Dana is a trump and it is a good group. I wish we had a club like it over here.

The Press is issuing for us a new Quarterly Jr. of Med. in connection with our new assoc. of British Physicians, both hobbies of mine which I hope may stir up clinical study. I will send you a copy next month. <sup>Dan</sup>~~I am~~ delighted to hear about Harding and will write him at once. - He deserves

1907

his success. We have had a very <sup>busy</sup> big summer. T. McCrae, Fitcher, Baker, Boggs & others have been with us. McCrae has lost his heart to one of my nieces Miss Amy Gwyn. We are all delighted. Counsels & Ideals seem to keep up a good sale here. I do not think a photo would help. I would have liked that profile of the medallion by Vernon but Jacobs does not wish it "popularized" I am trying to get my biographical essays together in a companion vol to Aequanimitas - under this title "An Alabama Student & others" &c. The Press will take it.

I have given two lectures this summer in the Extension Course one on Early <sup>Medical</sup> Mediaeval Work in Oxford dealing with the scholastic and renaissance periods the other "An Introduction to the Study of the Anatomy of Melancholy" The former I must still work on as part of a study of the whole subject of Oxford Med. (in 4 periods - Scholastic, Renaissance, Caroline & Victorian) the latter I have nearly ready. We have got out the Burton books at Ch Ch. 480 I am having them all put together & am collecting all the editions to put under a copy of the Brasenose picture which will be an insert among the books. Love to Mrs Camac & the bairns, to the McCaggs, the Bowditches - tap your rt. ventricle when you meet Margie B. for me & your left when you meet Lois S. Mrs Osler sends love Yours

W<sup>m</sup> Osler.

Having had such a busy summer that they felt they would prefer 'a few weeks of seclusion,'\* they changed their minds about Scotland and settled upon a cottage at Bude, near Boscastle on the 'picturesque and iron-bound north

Aug.  
1907

coast' of Cornwall, of which he says in a letter of August 29th: "It is something like Bar Harbour in its superb freshness and greenness but the rocks are bolder and the headlands very striking. We were at Morwenstow yesterday where there is a cliff almost perpendicular - 500 feet in height. The bathing & the golf are excellent but my young friend Issac Walton hasn't caught any fish."

There were walks on the cliffs, and excursions to Tintagel, Clovelly and Bideford; and indeed on one occasion he and Revere went still farther afield as the following scribble sent on a picture-postcard indicates. "Isaac & I went off together for a trip - to see the Roman remains at Bath & Glastonbury. The ruins are magnificent and we met King Arthur & Guinevere late in the eve at Joseph of Aramathea's. Love to the darlings." On this expedition, too, they paid a visit to the Mrs. Neville whose son it was, so many years before in Montreal days, that had died of smallpox under Osler's care. And on still another expedition they must have gone across the Bristol Channel to Swansea, the home of the 'Uncle Edward' Osler, of whose writings and hymns the parsonage at Bond Head used to be so proud. While there he visited the local hospital

Sept.  
1907

of course, <sup>for</sup> where 'Uncle Edward' had been house surgeon <sup>11 yrs</sup> in 1819; and a Dr.

Florence Price (she of subsequent letters) took him into the wards where he discovered the case of ochronosis subsequently shown at a meeting of the Royal Society of Medicine.

On September 4th he writes H. B. Jacobs:

We miss Colonsay and I am sorry not to have ten days with Mr. Phipps but this is a delightful spot, the bathing excellent & the golf links very good. I have put Revere into the hands of the Pro and we are now playing nine holes every afternoon. The fishing is very good, Isaac says, but the fish do not bite! Tom McCrae's lapse is sad, but he has got a good girl and they seem very happy. I am sweating at articles for the system - the first two volumes look very well. The Oxford Press is issuing the work here & I have T. McC.'s name on the outside and have called it "A System of Medicine." We must stir up the brethren about the [International Tuberculosis] Congress next year. I hope Fulton will come over. I could arrange a series of meetings for him & if Magnin did the same in Paris & His Jr. in Berlin or Leyden it would stir up interest. . . . I have promised to go to the <sup>[International]</sup> Congress of Hygiene at Berlin leaving Saturday the 22nd. Nuttall, Manson, and a number of friends are going out and I thought it would be a good opportunity to see the new medical side of the place. They say the Virchow Hospital is wonderful. His Jr. has been called to succeed Leyden, a first class appointment. We are having a very good time here. . . .

~~They were back by September 15th, and not long after he writes that they~~

~~They were back by September 15th, and not long after he writes that they~~

*Apparently he did not go. Dr. Miller Nuttall. Says he is quite sure W. O. did not go.*

Sept.  
1907*To "we have"*

had had a good holiday and <sup>are</sup> were back to glorious weather, <sup>he writes from Oxford later in the month.</sup> "The garden is

a great delight. We have had tea on the terrace every afternoon for the

past fortnight. The 'hotel' is opened & we have had a succession of old

friends. <sup>"But"</sup> & last Sunday Dr Jacobs & his wife. Mrs Osler goes to Boston

about October 20 for a short visit."

Despite the goings-on at the 'hotel', <sup>coming to be</sup> commonly known as the "Open Arms", <sup>How does it?</sup>

<sup>he confers in a letter of October 7th</sup> he writes C. P. Howard on October 7th: "Everything here is still in the

peaceful inter-term state - the University seniors never think of returning

until the last moment. Not a soul dining at Ch. Ch. last eve! I am sending

you No. 1 of the New Jr. which Garrod, Rolleston & Co. are editing." It was

a good time <sup>for</sup> <sup>- this inter-term period:</sup> to work, his own books were being got on their shelves; those

which had once belonged to Burton he was reassembling at Christ Church

where permission had been given him to have them installed in one of the

rooms off the art gallery; there were probably trips to Ewelme which was

now accessible because of a motor car; and

Oct.  
1907

altogether there was plenty to do. ~~in this inter-term state.~~ He had

*Rylands? etc.*  
been, meanwhile, in Glasgow, for a meeting of the Library Association: ~~also~~

~~and~~ on October 3<sup>rd</sup> was at St. Mary's Hospital <sup>in London,</sup> to open the winter ses-

sion ~~to~~ <sup>and</sup> make an address to the students, <sup>in the course of which</sup> ~~distribute their prizes, and~~

He is reported to have advised them 'to stop their ears against the wiles

of that Celtic siren, Sir Almroth Wright who would abolish Harley Street

and all that it represented, though there is still much virtue left in

that long unlovely street.' And it may be mentioned that the two had

an amusing and friendly tilt at the dinner subsequently, when in all

certainly the 'Celtic siren' got the better even of Osler.

As a result of the growing interest in all countries in public-health measures, this year of 1907 saw formed in Ireland a Women's Na-

tional Health Association, of which the Countess of Aberdeen <sup>was</sup> ~~had been~~

~~chosen~~ President, and it was apparent that some effort to stay the appal-

ling ravages of tuberculosis among the Irish would be one of its foremost



\*Osler had written and completed an article on "The Nervousness of American Woman" for Mr. Bok's journal. It is an excellent article written in manuscript on note-paper of the S. S. "~~New York~~" (?- 1907) and is among the unpublished MSS. in Osler's library.

Have written Bill to  
ask about this?

S.S. Empress of Britain 1909  
my home sailed from  
arrived in London

duties. The success in the United States of the itinerant tuberculosis  
 'Exhibition' as an educational measure had become known, and with the  
 object of organizing something similar, advantage was taken of the Inter-  
 national Exhibition being held in Dublin to open, in the Home Industries  
 Subsection of this exhibition, a tuberculosis exhibit, subsequently to  
 be taken about the country. A special Committee was formed, a course  
 of lectures arranged, and Osler consented to give the inaugural address *planned for*  
~~an~~ Friday evening, October 12th, in the lecture-hall of the Royal Dublin  
 Society. There had been several excellent papers read earlier in the  
 meeting, the salient features of which Osler assembled into a <sup>brief</sup> hard-hitting  
<sup>address</sup> 'lay sermon' of extraordinary effectiveness - a 'trumpet call' as the  
 Lord Lieutenant subsequently described it.\* *on the following day the*

*It ended with this prophetic paragraph:  
 He sat down in his closing paragraph: [In his lecture a  
 pt. address.  
 Jones.]*

*in fact*  
 \*There was a very curious aftermath of this address which  
 bears internal evidence of having been extemporaneous - the  
 more effective for that reason: *but* Together with the other ad-  
 dresses it was published in Dublin in 1908 in a booklet en-  
 titled "Ireland's Crusade against Tuberculosis," edited by the *Osler*  
 Countess of Aberdeen. *Soon after he had gone to England, [date] Edward*  
 Bok had written to Osler begging him to write a popular article  
*wanted upon [Osler] with the proposal that he write an article on "The American*  
*woman's Health" for which the Curtis Publishing Company were prepared to offer a large price.*

*Dr. M. Edward  
 The Lancet Home Journal*

*during his visit to the  
 Sept 1909*

Oct. 1907

<sup>Servis</sup> ~~Osler~~ <sup>and</sup> ~~was~~ <sup>believing</sup> ~~to~~ <sup>is</sup> ~~part~~ <sup>of</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>profession</sup> ~~and~~ <sup>to</sup> ~~write~~ <sup>to</sup> ~~write~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~article~~ <sup>and</sup> ~~was~~ <sup>while</sup> ~~on~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~steamer~~

~~Osler~~ <sup>was</sup> ~~not~~ <sup>making</sup> ~~any~~ <sup>in</sup> ~~this~~ <sup>and</sup> ~~believing~~ <sup>it</sup> ~~was~~ <sup>his</sup> ~~professional~~ <sup>duty</sup> ~~to~~ <sup>educate</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>public</sup> ~~in~~ <sup>a</sup> ~~professional~~ <sup>duty</sup> ~~to~~ <sup>accept</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>formal</sup> ~~proposal~~ <sup>and</sup> ~~write~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~article~~ <sup>and</sup> ~~was~~ <sup>while</sup> ~~on~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~steamer~~

~~Subsequently~~ <sup>he</sup> ~~withdrew~~ <sup>from</sup> ~~this~~ <sup>agreement</sup>

in fact

'at his own price', on some aspect of medicine, and though Osler saw nothing wrong in this, and needed the money, he refused (on the grounds that such <sup>a paper</sup> ~~an~~ <sup>written for</sup> ~~article~~ <sup>in</sup> ~~a~~ <sup>lay</sup> ~~magazine~~ <sup>by</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>Regius</sup> ~~might~~ <sup>be</sup> ~~misunderstood~~ <sup>in</sup> ~~England~~ <sup>and</sup> ~~he~~ <sup>consequently</sup> ~~sent~~ <sup>his</sup> ~~regrets~~ <sup>and</sup> ~~he~~ <sup>is</sup> ~~known~~ <sup>as</sup> ~~a~~ <sup>literary</sup> ~~broker~~ <sup>-</sup> ~~a~~ <sup>person</sup> ~~who~~ <sup>collects</sup> ~~unprotected~~ <sup>articles</sup> ~~and~~ <sup>sells</sup> ~~them~~ <sup>to</sup> ~~journals~~ <sup>and</sup> ~~since~~ <sup>Lady</sup> ~~Aberdeen's~~ <sup>volume</sup> ~~was~~ <sup>not</sup> ~~copyrighted~~ <sup>Osler's</sup> ~~address~~ <sup>was</sup> ~~was~~ <sup>pilfered</sup> ~~therefrom~~ <sup>and</sup> ~~reprinted~~ <sup>as</sup> ~~an~~ <sup>original</sup> ~~article~~ <sup>in</sup> ~~an~~ <sup>American</sup> ~~magazine~~ <sup>There</sup> ~~Mr.~~ <sup>Bok</sup> ~~saw~~ <sup>it</sup> ~~and~~ <sup>in</sup> ~~his~~ <sup>indignation</sup> ~~wrote~~ <sup>a</sup> ~~letter~~ <sup>of</sup> ~~warm~~ <sup>expostulation</sup> ~~to~~ <sup>Osler</sup> ~~who~~ <sup>up</sup> ~~to~~ <sup>that</sup> ~~moment~~ <sup>was</sup> ~~unaware~~ <sup>even</sup> ~~that~~ <sup>Lady</sup> ~~Aberdeen~~ <sup>had</sup> ~~published~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~address~~ <sup>Though</sup> ~~its~~ <sup>earlier</sup> ~~state~~ <sup>does</sup> ~~not~~ <sup>appear</sup> ~~in~~ <sup>Miss</sup> ~~Biagg's~~ <sup>bibliography</sup> ~~The~~ <sup>address</sup> ~~was~~ <sup>subsequently</sup> ~~published~~ <sup>in</sup> ~~1908~~ <sup>by</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>Irish</sup> ~~Association~~ <sup>in</sup> ~~pamphlet~~ <sup>form</sup> ~~for~~ <sup>distribution</sup> ~~in~~ <sup>Ireland</sup> ~~again~~ <sup>in</sup> ~~Oxford~~ <sup>for</sup> ~~use~~ <sup>in</sup> ~~connection~~ <sup>with</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>conferences</sup> ~~of~~ <sup>1909</sup> ~~and~~ <sup>in</sup> ~~1920~~ <sup>at</sup> ~~Lady~~ <sup>Osler's</sup> ~~permission~~ <sup>for</sup> ~~distribution~~ <sup>by</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>Oxfordshire</sup> ~~Branch~~ <sup>of</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>National</sup> ~~Association~~ <sup>for</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>Prevention</sup> ~~of~~ <sup>Tuberculosis</sup> ~~a~~ <sup>local</sup> ~~society~~ <sup>to</sup> ~~whose~~ <sup>projects</sup> ~~for~~ <sup>many</sup> ~~years~~ <sup>he</sup> ~~gave~~ <sup>unsparingly</sup> ~~of~~ <sup>his</sup> ~~time~~

appears to have been

Thomas Mann

# On the following day the

exhibit was formally opened. Lord Aberdeen presided, read a message of

stet

commendation from the King, called on Augustine Birrell the Chief Secretary for Ireland who spoke, and then, <sup>as</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>chief</sup> ~~guest~~ <sup>his</sup> ~~im-~~

promptu remarks <sup>Osler</sup> ~~said~~ <sup>in</sup> ~~part~~

<sup>By saying:</sup> ~~Osler~~ ~~said~~ ~~in~~ ~~part~~

. . . It may not be known to many, or to any of you, that it was in this city that a strong public health movement was first inaugurated by that remarkable man, Sir William Petty, whose studies on the public health of Dublin I commend to all ~~of~~ ~~you~~ ~~who~~ ~~are~~ ~~interested~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~ques-~~ ~~tion~~ ~~or~~ ~~in~~ ~~antiquarian~~ ~~research~~. I was particularly pleased to see in your little pamphlet the motto of his friend, and I think possibly his

Oct.  
1907

instructor in public health matters, John Locke. There is a manuscript book of Locke's in the Bedeleian Library which shows that he was interested in the public health of Dublin, and there are letters from Sir Patrick Dun and the Molyneuxes, and from other friends, relating to the investigations which Dun and Petty had instituted in this city as far back as 1683 dealing with the very same issue which we have been discussing here to-day - namely, the proper notification of disease. . .

Your Excellencies, much has been spoken here with reference to Government help. Now, this is not a Government battle, it is a people's battle. You cannot expect the Government to do everything. Your work here is work that must be done by yourselves, and I would urge particularly that wealthy people should be asked to contribute, and to contribute largely, to ~~the Women's National Health Association~~ <sup>this</sup> Association with a view to enable this Exhibition to visit many districts, and to enable literature to be spread broadcast in connection with a popular educational movement. The working people, too, should be made to realise through their associations that this is a battle in which they are interested most deeply. . . ~~Those of you who have read Professor McWeeney's report know how much has been done in that respect in Germany - in getting the working people themselves to take part in the movement.~~ After all, the most serious obstacle to the cure of the disease about which we have met here to-day is the presence of another one - that referred to by the Chief Secretary - a disease until the extirpation of

# And he went on to say it was ~~not~~ a Government battle but a people's battle <sup>and</sup> that the most serious obstacle to the ~~eradication~~ eradication of the disease was public apathy. Lady Aberdeen had asked him to comment on ~~something~~ <sup>something</sup> about the Irish climate - 'a very sensitive subject'. This he did as follows:

Oct.  
1907

which has been successfully accomplished, tuberculosis will exist, and that is apathy - public apathy. This Exhibition will have one important result - it will do more to cure that disease than anything else that possibly could have been devised. And it is particularly in this connection that we wish this work God-speed, feeling convinced that the greatest possible good will come from the influence this Exhibition will have in rousing the whole country. Lady Aberdeen has reminded me to say something about the climate. I know this ~~is a very sensitive subject.~~ People say sometimes that on this side of the Atlantic we have only weather and no climate. But peripatetic as I have been, living in many places, I have always regarded climate and weather as two of the non-essentials, and I think the people who take that view of both climate and weather are the only happy ones in life. But there is no reason whatever for you here in Ireland to growl about the weather. It is quite good enough for you. And it is a first-rate climate for consumptives. It is not a bit more moist in any part of Ireland than it is in that tail-end of England - Cornwall. Yet in no climate do consumptives do better. I do not know where this idea that Ireland is a bad climate for consumptives comes from; certainly I do not think it comes from the profession. It is one of those fads that possibly women have encouraged. ~~But at any rate it is not at all the case that a damp climate is bad for consumptives. All over the world consumptives do well in moist climates.~~

Oct.  
1907

There is, indeed, another view about sunshine. Surgeon Woodroff, of the United States Army, has written what many will regard as a very dangerous book, in which he has instituted a crusade against sunshine. He claims that the climates with the maximum degree of sunshine have the maximum deathrate from tuberculosis. I asked him, in reply to a letter the other day, had he considered Ireland in that connection, and I have not yet got his reply. Sunshine is not an essential for the cure of the disease. The things that are essential are fresh air, good food, good houses, and hope."

Though his <sup>trumpet call!</sup> ~~picturesque and authoritative address~~ <sup>presence</sup> ~~was~~ <sup>of the evening before</sup> doubtless

much needed to launch <sup>this</sup> ~~this~~ crusade in Ireland, ~~he~~ <sup>it</sup> ~~was~~ <sup>needed</sup> none the less

~~greatly missed~~ the following Sunday afternoon <sup>at Oxford when occurred the</sup> ~~to help entertain the~~

usual influx of visitors, which may account for the following from

13, Norham Gardens, that evening: "W. O. is momentarily expected from

Dublin where he and Lady Aberdeen have been fussing over tuberculosis."

Unquestionably there was a ~~good deal of~~ <sup>time spent over it</sup> which might have been devoted to pleasant things, ~~One need not be surprised; nor was he deterred by this sentiment, for~~ <sup>But as he had said there were two</sup> ~~but he persisted nevertheless~~ <sup>indispensable factors</sup> ~~enthusiasm for~~ <sup>the work and perseverance: and very shortly he writes Mr. Phipps -</sup>

Oct.  
1907

I was very sorry to miss you in London as I hoped we might make one or two little excursions together to the new Tuberculosis Hospitals. How gratified you must feel that the work at the Phipps Hospital has been so successful. Flick and his staff really deserve the greatest possible credit for the way in which they have worked. I only heard this week of your last donation to the Phipps Dispensary at the Johns Hopkins Hospital. Thank you so much. I sent you last week a newspaper clipping about tuberculosis in Ireland. I found the conditions there shocking beyond description, but I think Lady Aberdeen's crusade should bear good fruit.

On October 16th he was again addressing medical students in London on matters of their education, this time at University College Hospital with Sir Thomas Barlow in the chair; and while in town must as usual have called on the 'Amalgar' to whom he soon writes:

To Dr. [now Sir] J. Y. W. MacAlister.

13, Norham Gardens,  
Oct. 23, 1907.

Dear MacAlister: I would like to have a talk with you when I get the details I have asked for about the other Medical Library buildings. I thought it would be useful to present to the Council a brief statement, with lantern slides, illustrating just what has been done elsewhere. Of course the Hanover Square building represents a large amount of good, solid effort, but it is quite evident that the building is not adapted to so large and important a Society, and it will be wholly inadequate as the

Oct.  
1907

library grows. ~~I should say~~ <sup>A</sup> plan of campaign should be carried out - first, in the profession: a committee in each section of the Society actively taking up the work; secondly, the families of notable old members, who might not only subscribe, but would help fit up certain rooms in the building; thirdly, the public at large; and lastly, I feel quite certain that if we go to Mr. Carnegie with a statement of what has been done and show the position the library holds, he will put down a lump sum just as he has done for the new building at Philadelphia. Sincerely yours,

W<sup>m</sup> Osler.

The last day of the month <sup>finds him once more</sup> ~~he was again~~ in town <sup>lecturing to</sup> ~~addressing~~ medical <sup>meeting in audience</sup> students, this time at St. Thomas's Hospital\* when he spoke on "The Medi-

\*Cf. St. Thomas's Hospital Gazette, 1907, xvii, p. 195, which contains not only an account of the amusing "Examination Paper on Osler" first published in the Gazette in 1902, but adds a new type of parody, a tale built up of lines taken from the Text-book and pieced together: "The notorious Duchess of Cleveland met/ my good friend Evans/ in a farmhouse so constructed as to shut out the sunlight, etc."

cal Student's Library." He without doubt, greatly enjoyed these meetings, <sup>for</sup>

no less than ~~at~~ <sup>the students,</sup> the students, <sup>together with</sup> ~~for among them~~ he was at his very best and

the daily contact with a large <sup>Student</sup> group was the one thing above all others <sup>which</sup>

he missed in the life at Oxford.



Nov.  
1907

The mid-week of November ~~14~~<sup>13</sup>th saw the well remembered visit of the German Emperor and Empress to England as the guests of King Edward and Queen Alexandra. Though 'not political' there was much flurry excited thereby on both sides of the Channel lest the Entente Cordiale - the fancied anti-German combination engineered by the King - be thereby affected. ~~But~~ they were most graciously received by both press and <sup>even though the</sup> public. The new German naval programme was announced almost on the same day that the Kaiser made his famous peace speech in the Guildhall; but this made no difference and "Deutschland über Alles" and "God Save the King" were cordially commingled. On November 15th Oxford honoured him with her highest degree, and of this <sup>function held at London</sup> occasion Osler has left a pencilled note which reads as follows:

Nov. 15th, '07. The deputation consisted of the Chancellor, the V. C., the Proctors, the Regius Professors, Sir William Anson and the Registrar. ~~[The Times list gives many others]~~. We had a special carriage and a room was arranged at the White Hart for robing. At 4.45 carriages were sent from the Castle and we drove to the state entrance. The Master of Ceremonies took us up to one of the reception rooms which

Nov.  
1907

was hung with pictures by Van Dyke, chiefly of Charles II. Lord Curzon came in with the faithful Moore holding up his train. We were arranged in a semi-circle in order of precedence, the Chancellor in the middle and a little in front of us. The Emperor came in with a staff of 11, among whom <sup>were</sup> ~~was~~ [the German Ambassador and] Lord Roberts. He looked a little nervous and did not know ~~at first~~ just how far away from the Chancellor he should stand. At first he did not look at all happy - as if bored or tired - and he seemed fagged and worried. Lord C. made a singularly felicitous speech, extempore. Only he said it was the Degree of Common, instead of Civil Law. And he made a cold shiver pass round the semi-circle when he said, "and you remember Sir the telegram you sent." Everyone felt that it might be an awful break but was relieved when the Ch. added, "about the aquatic contests on the Thames," referring to some incident in the races years ago.

One interesting reminiscence of this occasion was subsequently mentioned.

When the deputation was returning to Oxford after the brief ceremony a discussion arose. <sup>That under</sup> Under his red gown of an Oxford D.C.L. the Kaiser had worn the uniform of a British Field-Marshal all agreed, but whether in turning the pages of the address which he had read he had thumbed them over or had turned them with his left could not be clearly remembered - an example of <sup>the</sup> faultiness of observation as it can affect human <sup>witness</sup> testimony.

Nov.  
1907

On November 20th Osler gave his testimony before the Royal Commission on Vivisection\* to which reference has already been made. It was not his

\*This may be found in the Appendix to the Fourth Report of the Commissioners. Minutes of Evidence. Oct. to Dec. 1907, pp. 157-67. It was also given in full in the British Medical Journal for November 7, 1908, et seq., and was subsequently reprinted, as was Lord Justice Moulton's testimony, in pamphlet form for distribution by the Research Defence Society, <sup>then called</sup> with Lord Cromer as its President and Stephen Paget its Secretary, ~~which~~ held its first meeting in June of 1908, with the object of disseminating information to offset antivivisection propaganda.

first experience, for he has already been seen giving somewhat heated testimony before a U. S. Senator when another inquiry was being held, though on that occasion ignorance and prejudice presided, whereas a British Parliamentary hearing is of a different calibre. In his précis he had chosen to dwell upon three things which had not previously been dwelt upon in the evidence. The first was the story of yellow fever and the experiments which Walter Reed had conducted on human volunteers - experiments which had extensively influenced the commercial relations of nations, revolutionized life in the tropics, and had saved thousands of lives and millions of pounds annually. Secondly, he took up the story of cretinism and myxoedema; and lastly, he defended the use of animals, as was being practised in the Hunterian Laboratory of the Johns Hopkins Hospital, for the training of young men in surgical technique. Some of the 272 questions and answers taken in the course of his testimony when it came to cross-questioning him, may be given:

16607. You think that we might trust implicitly to the humanity of the physiologists? - Absolutely. I know these men; they are just as humanè as any other men; and to place these vexatious restrictions upon them is an insult, I think.

16608. Referring to the special cases which you have brought under our knowledge, I understood that in the case of yellow fever the recent experiments have been on man? - Yes, definitely, with the specific consent of these individuals, who went into this camp voluntarily. They were volunteers, just like 'forlorn hope' volunteers.

16609. We were told by a witness yesterday that, in his opinion, to experiment upon man with possible ill-result was immoral. Would that be your view? - It is always immoral, without a definite, specific statement from the individual himself, with a full knowledge of the circumstances. Under those circumstances any man, I think, is at liberty to submit himself to experiments.

16610. Given a voluntary consent, you think that entirely changes the question of morality or otherwise? - Entirely.

16675. You saw the introduction of what is popularly called Listerism?  
- Yes.

16676. You have watched the effects of it? - Yes. I started in pre-Listerian days in the old Montreal general hospital, where amputations nearly always suppurated, and a great many cases, of course, died.

16677. A great many gangrened and died? - Yes.

16678. After a severe operation in those days did you rather expect bad symptoms? - We always expected trouble after nearly every operation. A case that healed by first intention, we all looked at with great surprise.

Nov.  
1907

16679. And now? - Now a case that does not heal by first intention we all look at with great surprise - exactly the reverse condition.

16681. We were told by a witness the other day who has had considerable surgical experience, that Listerism is now broken down and discredited? - Where did you produce that gentleman from - Hanwell?

16682. I will not mention his hospital, but he said that the antiseptic treatment had been absolutely discarded, and that the aseptic treatment was a reversion to the old pre-Listerian days? - It is the difference between Tweedledum and Tweedledee. The antiseptic surgeons practised aseptic surgery, and it is aseptic surgery.

16683. They are both applications of the same principle? - Yes.

16684. There being a slight difference in the one, due to increased knowledge? - Yes, it does not make any real difference.

16685. The witness, Dr. Bantock, also denied that the bacilli or protozoa which are found in inseparable connection with certain diseases have any causative effect, and he put his view rather strikingly. Perhaps I might read you some words of his? - I think you might spare me. I decline to listen to twaddle of that sort. I would not answer a question of that kind.

16689. Does his opinion represent anything of what might be called a school of medical thought? - Not at all.

16690. Or is it a merely individual eccentricity? - It represents the school of the back numbers.

† *Irregular questions were asked and answered but this is enough to register*  
From this, his small though effective part in what historically is an

Nov.  
1907

important episode in the history of experimental medicine. <sup>One in fact to</sup> ~~one may~~ turn to the  
 Radcliffe Infirmary where <sup>a vera Palei</sup> ~~on November 28th~~ he <sup>is found sitting</sup> ~~gives one of~~ his regular Tuesday  
 afternoon clinics <sup>so</sup> largely attended by the country doctors of Oxfordshire. On  
 this occasion he showed a patient\* with a rare disease which had come to be as-

\*"A Clinical Lecture on Erythraemia (Polycythaemia with Cyanosis, Maladie de Vaquez)." Lancet, Jan. 18, 1908.

sociated with his name, a distinction which he disclaims in the following  
 paragraph:

A word about the name, always a difficulty in connection with a new  
 disease. The choice lies between an eponymic, an anatomical, or a sympto-  
 matic name. The one suggested by Parkes Weber - splenomegalic polycy-  
 thaemia - has been adopted in this country. In France it has been called  
 maladie de Vaquez, or Vaquez-Osler, and in the United States some of my  
 friends have been kind enough to associate my name with it. But the pri-  
 ority of description rests with Vaquez and if a name is to be associated  
 with the disease it should be that of our distinguished French colleague.

And one may be sure that at the close of the clinic most of the visiting  
 doctors are carted off to 13, Norham Gardens, for tea at which Mrs. Osler again  
 presides, after a month's absence for a visit with her mother in Canton, <sup>Mass.</sup>

Dec.  
1907

In like fashion December is passed. He opens a discussion on pneumonic infections on December 9th before the Medical Society of London, and on the 13th at the new Royal Society of Medicine he talks again on Vaquez' disease; and from the 16th to the 18th was in Cambridge, examining, a function he seems to have enjoyed to judge from the following note to

McCrae:

20th [Dec., 1907]

Dear Mac Cable this week from the Leas!! We are hurrying. Gibson has had a hard term and not many spare minutes, but he is working hard & we hope to have the whole MS. ready within a fortnight. I have been examining in Cambridge and having a very jolly time.

I found yours of the 8th on my return. 1. Yes, I think Lymphatics might come in with circulation. It would be a short section. The only difficulty would be separating the glands which would sometimes be involved. What does Galen tertius think? 2. Certainly the thymus should go in with the ductless in Volume VI. Is everything in for Volume IV? I see the proofs are coming fast. Yours ever, W. O.

And <sup>near</sup> at the close of the year, ~~on Friday the 28th~~, he sends the following <sup>letter</sup> to

~~Daniel G. Gilman~~, which tells something more of his doings:

<sup>released June 13 1908.</sup>  
<sup>Volume III of the System had been revised by the publishers on Dec. 29th and the next volume, which was to be the 4th, was to be the 4th.</sup>  
~~For this Volume IV of Modern Medicine Osler had written the chapter on Acute Endocarditis, on Diseases of the Arteries, on Aneurysm, and, in collaboration with Dr. A. G. Gibson the chapter on Diseases of the Valves of the Heart, for which the publishers had been pressing him. "Galen tertius" doubtless means Prof. Welch with whom McCrae was living at 807 St Paul St. at this time in Baltimore.~~

Dec.  
1907*To Daniel C. Gilman from W. O.*13, Norham Gardens,  
Friday 28th.

Dear Mr. Gilman I am so distressed to hear that you have not been well. Do ask Mrs. Gilman to send me a line if even a postal card. Someone mentioned it in a letter to Mrs. Osler, but we have heard nothing first hand, and it would be such a satisfaction. I sent you a little Xmas reminder - which I hope reached you in time. We have had a very busy Xmas - the first we have spent in our own home. We had a party of 16 to dinner, chiefly waifs & wanderers among them four Rhodes scholars. We are very comfortable in our house. I have at last got my books about me. I am seeing a great deal of the Bodleian and am chairman of the Committee for the proposed alterations. But such difficulties to overcome! I wish you were 50 and here as President, - how we would make this old place hum! There are such possibilities, and it is such a delightful spot, that it seems hard to have essential changes blocked by antiquated machinery. I have had old Burtons books picked out at Christ Church and have had the Brazenose portrait copied to be inserted among them, with the editions, old and new, above & below it. You will have read of Lord Kelvins death & funeral. I went to the Abbey - a most impressive ceremony & a remarkable gathering. Give my (our) love to Mrs. Gilman & to all old friends. The boy keeps well - not a student but interested in butterflies & fish.

Most sincerely yours,

W<sup>m</sup> Osler.