

CUS417/9.14

Memorandum for H. C.

Make notes here and there about the way he eluded bores - not always successfully, for once standing at a hotel desk with some letters in his hand he was accosted by someone who said, "Isn't this Dr. Osler?" and he replied, "Sorry, you have made a mistake, but I am often taken for him. My name is Davis." At which juncture the clerk puts another letter down which he has just found, bearing the name of William Osler, so he has to own up.

Egerton Y Davis, therefore, was not entirely a help to him except that when his mind was turning particularly somersaults he liked to ascribe them to some other person than his real self. Anyone who is familiar with James R. Barrie's Inaugural Address as Rector of Aberdeen will remember that he, too, confesses to having a second self he calls Maconichie, a person who is apt to give the otherwise staid Mr. Barrie from time to time a great deal of trouble.

*used*