

1028/77/12

(in view of his constant attendance at meetings throughout)

It scarcely needs to be pointed out that Oller regards this ~~as of his professional life~~ throughout

a one of his ablest efforts, an able and more than he made a pleasure.

In later years when he could not go himself he would send some of his assistants

and pay their way so that his department or school would be represented in  
the program at least of the more important meetings

~~not only and usually by places outside program.~~ Name his name appears

very regularly among the names of those present at the Student-Society, at the various

forborements - meetings of the Med. Chi. Society, at the Natural History Society, various Dominion

and Provincial Meetings, the National and the International ~~Dominion~~

and monthly assemblies of the ~~Dominion~~ Society, annual gatherings of the profession of the

various months, at the Provincial Meetings, the National and the International ~~Dominion~~

and every four years or so. He was popular everywhere and

had a gift of remembering names and associations which can

be best described as being

written on ~~membrane~~ memory. (See Murdoch story)

The most notable and

successful of the great international Congresses was

held <sup>late</sup> during the summer of 1881 in London under the presidency of

Dr James Paget. ~~With~~ making Oller and P.P. Howard went to the meeting

together and sailed on the Allan Line S.S. "Parisien" for Singapore sometime in June. (over)

Quotations from Oller's account of this occasion in a letter to Rose may be found.

London August 10/81,

With thanks of the Good Medicine Society found.

He goes on to describe the workings of this great assembly, his own time having been  
~~Section Secretary~~

spent chiefly in the following ~~sections~~ Pathological, Physiological and Medical Sections

Pathological Section where "an animal discussion on Cervical Lymphatics took place

in which Galtz of Strasburg, Brown-Séquard, Farre and others participated; in the

Pathological Section where <sup>the members chiefly the</sup> discussion on Tuberle (Koch's discovery of the tubercle

bacillus was not till the next year) on Germe, on Lepra & renal disease; in the

Medical Section in which the anatomical papers by Stanley Shortling, - Jackson,

Brown-Séquard, Bizzardi, etc. had chiefly interested him. There at the Congress

too that Drs <sup>presented</sup> presented cases of myxoedema, and Johnathan

Hutchinson's demonstration <sup>very</sup> enthusiastically commented upon.

In the meeting on March 28th, 1881, Principal Dawson in the Chair,

it was agreed to recommend that the President, Dr. Hunt, Mr. Selwyn,

and Dr. Osler, be requested to attend the Cincinnati Meeting of the

A.M.A.,

Association, and to act as a delegation to promote the acceptance of

the invitation to meet in Montreal the last week of August, 1882.

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At the last meeting of the Med. Chi. Soc. before they founded June 10<sup>th</sup> 1860,  
a paper was read by Dr. Dawson on "Perityphlitis" describing a disease  
in which aneurysm of the cecum had been an access at the head of the  
cecum. In the discussion "Dr. Osler referred to the fact that no part  
of the body varied so much as the appendix vermiformis. It coils  
in various directions, and owing to its change situations may  
get inflamed." ~~Indeed the cecum itself changes, or increases  
and decreases, when there is an~~

"It evidently" was my main basis understanding of appendicular  
disease. This was ~~six~~ five years before Fitz gave his  
Clinical paper on perforation appendicitis.

[ Soon up ~~6:15~~ c. 10 - wet? ]

This almost became a disastrous affair as Cola did not frost.

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It was a most notable gathering and possibly the most important meeting the <sup>notable</sup> Society ever attended either by Stewart or Cade, the discussion on it so called "Sisterism" at the Surgical Section in which Spencer Wells, Marion Sims Volkmann the prominent female surgeon (the Richard Scander of German faculty). Sister was beginning to feel that word contamination of the air was less important than he had believed and he was in the act of abandoning the "carbolic spray" - this the physician could not understand for they could not fully grasp his views. Much merriment was provoked even reaching the <sup>big</sup> press. cf. The Ballad of the Boisterous in Punch.

Oh, merry Bacillus, no wonder you lay  
Quiescent and calm when at home in your bay;

June 2<sup>d</sup> 1881

(From a letter to the Editor of the Canada  
Med. & Surg. J. 1880-81, ix, 662.)

A characteristic letter to Ross on the occasion of W. O.'s attending  
the Ontario Medical Assoc. Meeting in Toronto, June 1 and 2, 1881.

"Many of the men who should set a good example in this respect persistently ignore both local and general societies. Where are many of the teachers at our medical schools on the occasion of these meetings? Too often conspicuous by their absence. Not a school in the country is free from these professional drones, who ought to be thoroughly ashamed of themselves. The ears of many of them must tingle, if there is any truth in the old adage. When men in their position systematically neglect such plain duties, how can fault be found with the overworked country practitioners, who have to make much greater sacrifices in order to attend the meetings."