

(Handwriting)

~~10 28/19/27~~

(To Dr. H. V. Ogden from Miss Osler, the
"Auntie of the other letters - She was
an older sister of Mrs. Francis)

66 McGill Coll. Ave., Montreal

July 13th, 1883.

CUS417/79.25

Dear Dr. Ogden

Of course I know that there is a popular prejudice against a young unmarried lady opening a correspondence, wfor the pleasure of it, with an attractive young bachelor, but as I am old enough to be your mother you will probably hold me excused. I found today a letter addressed to you in May's handwriting, but she had written the Avenue of the long & curious name. I remembered telling her at the time that you were not living there & that she had better get the new address from Mr. Cantley; this she must have failed to do, and, lest you should think her neglectful, I enclose the tardy epistle & make her apologies by proxy. You have been often in my mind of late, not that our kind and pleasant friend is ever long forgotten, but the fact that Mrs. Francis with the two sometime "Diphtherites" as the Doctor used to call them, are now staying with the Molsons at Lake Memphremagog, has brought you more vividly to mind. Do you remember the scramble up Owl's Head with me & the children?

Mrs. Francis has not been very well for the last four months; she has touches of gout or rheumatism or both, & her right hand is, at times, almost helpless. She seems better already from her week of country air, & the children are wildly happy over the boating & bathing & other delights. Poor Grant finds that he is still too tender to wear a belt & I had made him a lace-up boating shirt too, which was his joy & pride, but even at the Lake, braces as an outside garment are not admissible, so the laddie is forced, but not fain, to wear his

City clothing. May is growing a great tall girl with far less love for books & school & far more vim & vigour than of old; perhaps, remembering the way in which she used to leap from the sofa into your arms, you may think this change a doubtful improvement; but I am glad to see her somewhat of a tomboy now, she will make a finer woman for it bye & bye. Gwendolyn is the promise of that sort of flirt who loses half her own heart to every nice young fellow she meets. She is strikingly pretty & very coquettish, & cares for no one so much as for her "darling, darling boys" who trot her round with them wherever they go. Baby is a frail pale Atom, & Uncle Willie's chief pet, the three little boys grow & develop but do not alter. Grant came out in the character of a patient, unselfish little hero all through his terrible illness & slow recovery to the surprise of those who thought they knew him best. Percy is growing more reconciled to Toronto, he comes home soon for a holiday. Willie is well; he goes to Como tomorrow to spend Sunday with the Shepherds. Mr. Cantley was here tonight & talked of you; he misses you sorely yet, & so indeed do we all. I hope you will come to Montreal again some day.

You will think I am showing one of the chief signs of old age if I write any more, so, with kind regards, I will conclude.

Believe me,

Yours very truly
Jennette Osler