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Doak

cc

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

SAINT LOUIS

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL MEDICINE  
BARNES HOSPITAL  
600 SOUTH KINGSHIGHWAY



September 21, 1921.

*put with stethoscope w/le  
1886*

Doctor Harvey Cushing,  
Peter Bent Brigham Hospital,  
Boston, Mass.

Dear Doctor Cushing:

Please pardon the delay. I wish I could see you and talk about the work, but I fear I should not be able to give you very much that you have not already gathered up.

In regard to the stethoscope; the thing is a surprise to me. It happens that I was away at that time and getting back nearly two years later saw the stethoscope daily, but never heard of Osler's connection with it. Edwards was there at the time, teaching physical diagnosis and I see no reason to doubt any of the statements in his note. The slight changes are certainly useful and one; the individual ear tips, Hawksley used after that, but in speaking about it to me, did not mention the inventor's name. It is not strange that it should not have been called Osler's model because in Philadelphia at that time the straight stethoscopes in common use were spoken of as Pepper's and DaCosta's, although they were a good deal more alike than two apples and W.O. would naturally not care to get into such company.

Did I ever suggest to you to get in touch with Dr. M. Howard Fussell, 2035 Walnut St., Philadelphia? My classmate, Fussell, became Osler's assistant and saw more of him for the next two years than anybody else. Osler's opinion of him is shown in the statement in the introductory chapters in the first edition of Modern Medicine. If you have not already done so, I would by all means write to Fussell and get all you can out of him. He will be glad to do it, and probably can give you the exact facts about the stethoscope. Edwards, by the way, is still alive and in Los Angeles. I have not seen him for a number of years. He was a very able fellow and, had it not been for a serious infection, would no doubt have been an important man in Philadelphia.

With kind regards.

Yours sincerely,

*George Doak*