

(Typewritten)

(To Drs. Thayer, McCrae and Fitcher)

FROM THE REGIUS PROFESSOR OF MEDICINE, OXFORD.

October 27, 1919.

Dear "Thayer & Mac & Fitcher,"

A joint letter to save me time. I dare say you will have heard rumours of my illness - here is the story.

I got back from Jersey in fine form, having regained my pre-war weight - lbs. 154, and feeling unusually fit. Following the presentation, July 12th, I had a sharp attack of bronchitis, slight fever, cough, etc, but no physical signs, and it all cleared before August 1st.

On September 23rd I went to Glasgow to see one of those remarkable Erythema cases (all sorts of skin lesions and for three months on and off consolidation of both lower lobes). I went on to Edinboro to see Gulland, and returning, got held up at Newcastle by the strike. A friend got a motor, but it took me part of two days to get through. I was well wrapped up and the weather was fine, but I must have taken cold. I stayed in bed on 29th and 30th - with ordinary cold in head, and seemed all right though a bit husky on 1st, 2nd and 3rd. On 4th I began to cough and felt feverish. Then for ten days, until about the 15th, fever to 102.5-103^o, not infrequent slight sweats, and cough of three types - (1) short, dry pairs, almost incessant on several days; (2) a series, leading up to the expectoration of a tenacious mucous, never blood-tinged, and (3) paroxysms of maximum intensity, regular Tussis convulsiva, with the spasm but no whoop. Three or four of the last daily, and very exhausting. Nothing gave the slightest relief but codein or morphia. No fever since the 16th, but the cough persists and an occasional paroxysm. No. 3 Pneumococcus and M. catarrhalis - the organisms. Practically no physical signs - a little impairment of resonance at bases but no râles or tubular breathing.

I am still in bed - no fever, but an occasional paroxysm - and the tightness and the short coughs on any effort.

The attack resembles a little the one I had in Baltimore but more severe, and the convulsive paroxysms knocked me out badly. I am mending now and should be up within the week. The uselessness of all measures but opium has been the outstanding therapeutic feature.

Sincerely yours,

W^m Osler.

(Handwriting):

I have sent this