

(script)

re Edinburgh call.

CU5417/96.18

University Club,
EDINBURGH.

Feb. 20. 1900.

Private.

On February 20th Schäfer writes as follows in reply to his ^{note} of the 6th:

My dear Osler,

Nothing for a long time has given me so much pleasure as hearing that you would be willing to come here.

The gift is in the hands of the Curators of Patronage who are 7 in number: 4 appointed by the Town Council and 3 by the University Court: permanent appointments. I am working all I can to get them to invite you but everyone says it is useless as they have never done such a thing before - however I am making out a strong case and hope to be able to move them. Turner is the most influential man in this University and I believe I have enlisted him for you. The possibility of your coming here is being freely discussed and in spite of local interests I do not doubt that you will carry all before you from all that I can hear. In the meantime I have written to Clifford Allbutt, Sanderson, Foster, Lord Lister, Brunton, Pye Smith and am writing to others so that they may not pledge themselves to support any one else.

In the event of my being unable to induce the Curators to invite, and considering who they are it is unlikely they will do so, that I must admit, you must send in a formal application after the post is advertised, with a statement of your career and a list of published works. You do not of course want testimonials except as a matter of form but I would get all those people I have mentioned to write to the Curators and press your claim and any others you might think of.

I will write further and let you know how the matter progresses.

Yours ever,

E. A. SCHÄFER.

The Curators are

University Court Nominees. (Lord Robertson
(The Principal of the University
(Patrick Heron Watson

Town Council Nominees. (The Lord Provost
(Sir James Russell M.D.
(Mr Auldjo Jameson
(Col. Mackay.

Do you know any of them personally?

This he did two days later on February 22nd.