

CUS 417/103.59 '13
Bound volumes *Student reports*
Oct. 30th.
BOOKS, 1905.

In coll. papers of the Grad. of the J.H.H. Med. School,
1897-1904. (vol. I, I-XLIX.)

We, the graduates of the Johns Hopkins Medical School, present to you this collection of our published papers on the occasion of your withdrawal from the Professorship of the Principles and Practice of Medicine in the Johns Hopkins University to accept the Regius Professorship of Medicine at Oxford.

We wish at this time to record our debt of gratitude to you for the influence you exerted on us while we were your students.

We consider it a rare privilege early in our medical work to have had the inspiration of your presence, your precept and your example.

We have learned to esteem you as a teacher and to love you as a man.

You have been an exponent to us of the highest ideals in the science and practice of medicine.

You taught us the importance of careful observation, the necessity for the application of exact methods, and the advantage of the closest relationship between the laboratory and the clinic.

You have inspired us with the desire to contribute, in so far as we are able, to the advancement of medical knowledge.

It is with deepest regret that we see you leave Johns Hopkins University, but we are certain that the influence exerted by you during your sojourn there will continue as a great force in the upbuilding of American Medicine.

We give you Godspeed, rejoicing that we could have been your pupils.

May 1st, 1905.

W.O.'s reply in "A Letter to the Graduates of the Johns Hopkins Medical School". (J.H.H. Bull., Dec. '05).

Christ Church, Oxford.
October 30, 1905.

My dear students:-

Last evening I was told that a box had arrived from America, and in a few minutes there was brought in a handsome quarto volume with an inscription on the back - "Collected Papers of the Graduates of the Johns Hopkins Medical School". Naturally, I was delighted, and in a few minutes was deep in the contents of the volume,, filled with gratitude that you had so kindly remembered me. When, a few moments later, the man came in and asked if he should bring me the others, I looked more carefully at the back and found that I was reading

Letter to J.H.H. Graduates (continued).

only one of a series of twelve superbly bound quarto volumes, furnished with a good index, and each one with a table of contents.

Many pleasant incidents have happened in the course of more than thirty years' teaching, but I do not remember ever to have been so completely overwhelmed, so to speak, by the character of the gift. Of course I was well aware that, in the few years that had elapsed since its foundation, much good work had been done by the members of the school. No small part, indeed, of your education consisted in helping you to reach the state in which you could become contributors to science, and for this your careful preliminary training, and your course in the medical school had fitted you. But that in so short a period of eight years you should have been able to accomplish so much, is a matter not less of astonishment than of pride. Among the 465 separate contributions an extraordinary range of subjects is considered - anatomy, physiology, pathology, bacteriology, hygiene, general medicine, surgery, pharmacology, clinical chemistry, gynecology, obstetrics, and medical literature. It is encouraging to see that the practical aspects of medicine and surgery have engaged your attention quite as much as the scientific.

The establishment of the Johns Hopkins Medical School was in the nature of a large experiment in medical education. To insure success three conditions had to be fulfilled: - (1) The students had to possess a thorough training in the sciences upon which medicine is based, in addition to a general education befitting men who were to be members of a learned profession. (2) Well-equipped laboratories had to be organized, in which the sciences of anatomy, physiology, pathology, pharmacology, and physiological chemistry would be taught by men who were investigators as well as teachers; and (3) lastly, a hospital to be to the senior students what the laboratories of anatomy, physiology, etc. were to the juniors, a place in which the phenomena of disease, with all their human interests, should be studied under skilled supervision.

These splendid volumes are a striking testimony to the success of an undertaking, which we all feel has already passed the experimental stage.

Two things remain - on your part, to keep up the high standard you have set with the steady energy of men who have faith in the scientific-future of medicine scientific medicine and faith in their own powers to help in its progress. By your enthusiasm and unselfish devotion to the best interests of the profession you should stimulate the production of good work elsewhere. What you have done in Baltimore may be done by other students - many of them your own - and by other teachers. The record you have made is unique in the history of medicine in America., but it should not be so for long. In equipment, in methods, and in results, foundations equal to those made by Johns Hopkins are possible in places animated with the spirit of scientific research.

BOOKS, 1905.

Letter to J.H.H. Grads. (continued).

On the part of the trustees and the faculties of the two great institutions, linked together by the Johns Hopkins Medical School, there is the bounden duty to maintain an incessant watchfulness lest complacency beget indifference, or lest local interests should be permitted to narrow the influence of a trust which exists for the good of the whole country.

Though absent in the body, my thoughts are constantly with the school to which I owe so much, and in the progress of which I take so much pride. I hope to be able to return every session for a brief period, and in this way keep in touch with the hospital and of the medical school.

Believe me, my dear students, to be,
Yours faithfully,

WM OSLER.