

Hotel de la Ville, Milan.

20th B Jacobs & Bulmer

(April 2nd, 1909) [copy]

Dear Jacobs:-

I am so sorry to hear that you have been knocked out. I hope the voyage has put you to rights. I have changed my plans. Some matters came up about our proposed new laboratories & clinique & rooms at the Radcliffe, which it is important for me to try to settle before the end of next term. An old cove called Briscoe, aged 88, formerly surgeon to the Hospital, surprised every one by leaving £80,000 to it. The managers have agreed to put up laboratories, but there is a hitch about the land, & I may be able to induce the Trustees of the Radcliffe Fund to give a bit of land next the Infirmary. We had a splendid month in Florence. Wonderful city! I picked up a few treasures. Oelschki has the best antiquariat outside Germany - & I suppose for Incunabula the best in Europe. From him, Henry Walters bought his collection en masse - 900. In Venice I got a fine School of Salerum 1480, one of the earliest editions. Altogether I have had some fine hauls - particularly of the good old Italians. Bologna & Padua were quite up to my expectations. Padua is perhaps a bit disappointing - the Aula is wonderful. We had nearly a week in Venice and three glorious days. I saw the unique, 1538, six plates of Vesal - very interesting in comparison with his 1543 work as the drawings, though done by Calcar, are much inferior. Many years ago, Sir Herbert Maxwell had them reproduced, but his copy is very rare. I shall get an estimate from the Press - they would be worth reproducing. The Italians are very up to date in Library work - the catalogues are excellent.

We spent the day at Verona - not much there except the amphitheatre. They had not even a copy of Fracastorius poems in the Library. I saw the Spedatè Magguire here this A.M. greatly changed internally since John Morgan's

description in 1759. It is one of the largest in Europe. I am going to see Golgi at Ravia tomorrow.

I have written to Chatard about the date of the meeting, as I now shall be out by the 22nd, but I suppose they may as well keep the one already fixed. I am sorry to have disarranged unnecessarily their arrangements, but I did not know until a week ago that I would have to go to back to England.

I am glad to see that Kinnicutt is with you; I am sending him a line as I hope to catch him in London. Do let us have a line and say how you are. We leave here Sunday night and will be at the Grand Hotel, Trafalgar Square Monday night.

With love to Mrs. Jacobs.

Sincerely yours,

Wm. Osler.

Two days later, the day before their departure, he says in a p.c.

*Nothing more
fairies*