

NOTES FROM BOOKS Jan 26th, 1917.First and Last contd.Letter from Dr. H. C. Wood.To W. O.

(Letter Typewritten (Dictated))

4107 Chester Avenue,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Jan. 26th. 1917.

Dear Dr. Osler:

Whether I ever told you I do not remember, but Dr. George B. Wood got the idea that he had the attributes of a great poet, but was afraid to risk his medical reputation on the strength of his literary judgment of himself; and so he went to England and had three copies of the book printed there; then returned and told his secret to J. B. Lippincott, so that no one in the place knew his work was being printed; and the edition was destroyed when it failed to placate reviewers or find favor with the public. I as executor could only get hold of one or two copies of the book; and do not remember giving one to you, but it was certainly a very strong testimony of the high esteem I had for you. I do not believe there is another copy extant in the world.

It was not I, but my daughter, who went to California. I am here in the most damnable winter I ever saw. One night last week we had five inches of snow; the next day and night it poured furiously; the next day was cloudy; the next clear, but that night we had another snow storm. And so it goes, and I am in bed or hammock all the time, torn with the internal swirl of Scylla and Charybdis of pain.

I pray that your son may escape; and that Kaiser the accursed of God and man, as well as the President of the United States equally accursed only more of a fool, may soon perish from the earth. What tears my heart to pieces is to read his gabble commented upon seriously in American and English editorials.

I came to my majority in the days of Lincoln, and one phrase of his Gettysburg speech is in the mouth of all America today, namely: "that the Government of the people, by the people and for the people shall not perish from the earth." The only words of the unmitigated slop of Wilson that are or will be remembered are "Too proud to fight". God help the Anglo Saxon race.

Yours truly,

H. C. Wood.

Wilson was reelected because there are about a million German votes in the ^{country} as many more cowards, and the labor troubles, and above all the Devil to keep his own.

P.T.O.

Note on back of letter by W. W. F.

Letter from Dr. H. D. Wood.

Lady Osler remarks on hearing this letter, "This man was born a good Quaker".

Jan. 23rd. 1817.

Dear Dr. Osler:

Whether I ever told you I do not remember, but Dr. George B. Wood got the idea that he had the attributes of a great poet, but was afraid to risk his medical reputation on the strength of his literary judgment of himself; and so he went to England and had three copies of the book printed there; then returned and told his secret to J. B. Hippocott, so that no one in the place knew his work was being printed; and the edition was destroyed when it failed to please reviewers or kind favor with the public. I as an executor could only get hold of one or two copies of the book; and do not remember giving one to you, but it was certainly a very strong testimony of the high esteem I had for you. I do not believe there is another copy extant in the world.

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I pray that your son may escape; and that Kaiser the accursed of God and man, as well as the president of the United States equally accursed may soon perish from the earth. What tears my heart to pieces is to read his Gables commented upon seriously in American and English editorials.

I came to my majority in the days of Lincoln, and one phrase of his Gettysburg speech is in the mouth of all America today, namely: "that the Government of the people, by the people and for the people shall not perish from the earth." The only words of the unmitigated slip of Wilton that are or will be remembered are "The good to light." God help the Anglo Saxon race.

Yours truly,

H. D. Wood.

Wilton was rejected because there are about a million German votes in the as many more cowards, and the labor troubles and above all the devil to keep the war.