

Cf. note on m.

CUSA17/123.60²⁹
NOTES FROM BOOKS
March 29th. 1917.

Human Temperaments by Chas. Mercier, M.D. F.R.C.P.

Letter Script.

Letter from C. Mercier.

To W. O.

Moorcroft,
Parkstone,
Dorset.
March 29. 1917.

My dear Sir William Osler,

? Really, you overpower me. You gave me a most memorable reception at Oxford, and now you heap Patim in Ossa. I believe tobacco has something to do with it, "it" being my ability to keep at it, it, again being writing more or less piffle, and if so I ought now to produce something stupendously gorgeous. Thank you a thousand times. I know not how to reciprocate, but I send you a certain quantity of piffle, that may amuse idle moments, if so busy a man ever has an idle moment.

Yours very gratefully, and always at your service.

Chas Mercier.

W. O.'s note on fly leaf.

or
and knobbed
? Mercier was (is) a remarkable man, with marked individuality and a keen brain. A good talker, an incisive writer he was the terror of careless correspondents and of half-baked theories. For the past three or four years he has been raking the psychoanalysts fore and aft. Some of his letters in the Lancet, have been rich reading. Poor fellow! he has had Rights Pigeon disease for some years and is now much crippled, with a large head (and knobbed) and greatly bowed spine. He was with us last night on a visit to Oxford, and was in fine form, telling good stories, and so keen about everything. In spite of the increasing disability, a stone in the bladder ^{very} frequent haematuria he insists that he is still in the ring and fit to do anything. He has had two operations for stone and says a third must kill him. He says he is going down with all flags flying. My respect for him, which has always been great, is enormously increased. (~~I sent him a box of cigars~~). The letter here appended is an acknowledgment of a box of cigars I sent him.

William Osler.

30. III. 17.