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NOTES FROM BOOKS Aug. 24th. 1919

Aequanimitas (Third impression) Sec. Ed. 1914. William Osler.

From A. A. Warden. To W. O.

11, Avenue du Bois de Boulogne  
Paris.

Dear Sir William Osler,

I am sending you a copy of Colas Brengnon—a sort of cheerful modern Rabelais—which I am sure you will enjoy if only for the chapter entitled "La Lecture de Plutarque". The hero breaks his leg and a friend rather grudgingly lends him his precious copy of "The Lives" and a new world opens before him.

*2nd ed. in french*

I picked up your Aequanimitas the other day and was struck anew with the emphasis, in the first few pages that you lay on the quality of Imperturbability. No doubt you know Walt Whitman's lines, and would have quoted them, tho' they hardly add to your description. Just on the odd chance that your all-detecting eye may have missed them, here are the beginning and the end:

"Me imperturbe, standing at ease in Nature,  
Master of all, or mistress of all—aplomb in the midst of  
irrational things, . . .

. . . .  
me, wherever my life is lived, O to be self-balanced for  
contingencies!

O to confront night, storms, hunger, ridicule, accidents, rebuffs,  
as the trees and animals do."

Pretty good, isn't it?

Yours sincerely,

A. A. Warden.

Hope you like Colas Brengnon. The author got the Nobel Literature Prize a few years ago.