

COPY OF NOTE FROM SIR WM. OSLER TO  
DR. H. A. McCALLUM, LONDON, ONTARIO.

*Wm.*

COS417/129.153 1/2

13. IX. 19.

13, Norham Gardens,  
Oxford.

*Here in the letter  
Prof. Atkinson*

Dear McCallum

You gave me great pleasure with those two pictures - both so good. Currie was a great man. I am glad to know that he was Wm. MacLure. I wonder how Watson knew of him. I told you about C.'s letters etc. Have you a copy of his life and letters? If not I could easily pick up one for you.

All well here. The country in the usual sequelae of a great world fever; but we shall pull through safely.

Ever yours,

Wm. Osler.

*MacCallum says Dr. James Currie of Liverpool (a friend of Osler and the Editor of his Journal) who first introduced the cold bath treatment for typhoid was the prototype of Dr. Osler's machine in the Rev. John Watson (John MacLure) "Beneath the Prairie Bush"*

*Dr. Watson claimed he took his description of the cold bath treatment from James Watson in the book from a letter of Currie's. <sup>The</sup> matter he had learned as a surgeon on board ship where surgeons treated their sick patients by desking their heads with water upon them.*

380 QUEENS AVENUE  
LONDON, ONTARIO.

May 6th, 1920.

My Dear Doctor,

I am enclosing the original letters (and type of each.)

I would be greatly obliged to you if the originals were returned.

Just a word of explanation of these letters. Letter of 1912 was in answer to an invitation given him to deliver the address in medicine at the Canadian Medical Association. The card and letter of 1919 were acknowledgement of a small engraving of Dr. James Currie of Liverpool, (a friend of Burns and the editor of his poems) who first introduced the cold bath treatment for Typhoid Fever. I called Sir William's attention to a statement made by the late Rev. John Watson (Ian MacLaren, the author of "Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush") that Dr. James Currie of Liverpool was the prototype of Dr. William MacLure. Rev. John Watson was stationed at Liverpool during the writing of "Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush". This will explain Sir W. William's remarks in his last letter.

I Am Yours Sincerely.

H. A. W. Callum

PS  
Watson. Claimed to took his descriptions of the cold water treatment of fever patent in his book from a letter of Currie's. It certainly was Currie's first method which he had learned as a surgeon on board ship:— seeing sailors treat their sick enteric comrades by dashing pails of cold sea water on their

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