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William Osler1913

One of two things happens after sixty, when old age takes a fellow by the hand. Either the rascal takes charge as general factotum, and you in his grip body and soul; or you take him by the neck at the first encounter and after a good shaking make him go your way.

SubjectAging

ContributorNation, Earl F.

Source:Osler, William. In Fletcher R. One of men and books series. CMAJ . 1913; 3:227-8.

William Osler1905

I have two fixed ideas.... The first is the comparative uselessness of above forty years of age.... My second fixed idea is the uselessness men above sixty years of age, and the incalculable benefit it would be commercial, political and in professional life if, as a matter of course, stopped work at this age.

SubjectAging

ContributorSilverman, Mark E

Source:Osler, William. Fixed Period1905. In McGovern JP, Roland CG (eds)The Collected Essays of Sir William OslerBirmingham, AL:Classics of Medicine Library; 1985, pp. 397-9.

William Oslercirca 1900

There is no disease more conducive to clinical humility than aneurysm of the aorta.

SubjectAneurysm of the aorta

ContributorSilverman, Mark Stone, Marvin J

Source:Osler, William. In Bean RB, Bean SW (eds)William Osler: Aphorisms from His Bedside Teachings and Springfeld, IL: Charles C. Thomas; 1961, p. 138.

William Osler1892

It is not the delicate neurotic person who is prone to angina, but the robust, the vigorous in mind and body, the keen and ambitious man, the indicator of whose engines is always at "full speed ahead."

Subject:Angina pectoris

ContributorHuth, Edward J.

Source:Osler, William. The Lumieian lectures on angina pectoris. 1910; 1:697-702.

William Osler1909

One of the most interesting features of [endocarditis] and one to which very little attention has been paid is the occurrence of ephemeral spots a painful nodular erythema, chiefly in the skin of the hands and feet, nodositas cutaneas ~~ph~~ ~~me~~ ~~f~~ ~~the~~ French... The commonest situation is near the tip of the finger, which may be slightly swollen.

SubjectBacterial endocarditis

ContributorHaubrich, William ~~ant~~ ~~sl~~, Edward Silverman, Mark E

Source:Osler, William. Chronic infectious ~~endocarditis~~. 1909; 2:219-30 [As cited in Willus ~~Cardiac Classics~~ 809 (q.v.)].

William Osler1901

To study the phenomena of disease without books is to sail an uncharted sea, while to study books without patients is not to go to sea at all.

SubjectBooks

ContributorCheng, Tsung Golden, Richard ~~oland~~, Charles G. Silverman, Mark ~~Stone~~, Marvin J

Source:Osler, Will ~~Books and Men~~[Remarks made at the opening of the new building of the Boston Medical Library, January 12, 1901]. In Boston Med Surg J7 Jan 1901, p. 2.

William Osler1903

Record what you have seen; make a note at the time; do not wait.

SubjectCase records

ContributorStone, Marvin J

Source:Osler, William. In Bean RB, Bean ~~SB~~ (William Osler: Aphorisms from His Bedside Teachings and ~~New York~~: Henry Schuman; 1950, p. 55.

William Osler1897

At any rate, whether he goes abroad or not, let him early escape from besetting sin of the young ~~physicians~~ that intolerant attitude of mind, which brooks no regard for anything outside his own circle at his own school.

SubjectChauvinism

ContributorStone, Marvin J

Source:Osler, Will ~~Internal Medicine as a V~~ ~~Addresses~~ given at the New York Academy of Medicine, October 19, 1897]. [Reprinted in Aequanimitas, with Other Addresses to Medical Students, Nurses, and Practitioners of ~~Medicine~~. Philadelphia: Blakiston's Son; 1932, p. 135.

William Osler1903

There is no more difficult art to acquire than the art of observation, for some men it is quite as difficult to record an observation in brief plain language.

SubjectClinical observation

ContributorSilverman, Mark E

Source: Osler, William. On the educational value of the medical society
Boston Med Surg J 1903; 148:275-9.

William Osler 1894

The important thing is to make the lesson of each case tell on your education. The value of experience is not in seeing much, but in seeing wisely.

Subject: Clinical observation

Contributor: Barbero, Giulio and, Charles G.

Source: Osler, William. The Army Surgeon's Address given at the closing exercises of the Army Medical School, Washington, DC, February 28, 1894. [Reprint: Acquinitas, with Other Addresses to Medical Students, Nurses, and Practitioners. Birmingham, AL: Classics of Medicine Library; 1987, p. 111.

William Osler 1919

Learn to see, learn to hear, learn to feel, learn to smell, and know that practice alone can you become expert. Medicine is learned by the bedside and not in the classroom. Let not your conceptions of the manifestations of disease come from words heard in the lecture room or read from the book. See, and then reason and compare and control. But see first.

Subject: Clinical observation

Contributor: Silverman, Mark E

Source: Osler, William. In Thayer LS. Osler's Aphorisms.
Hosp Bull 1919; 30:198-200.

William Osler 1919

Always note and record the unusual. Keep and compare your observations. Communicate or publish short notes on anything that is striking or new.

Subject: Clinical observation

Contributor: Silverman, Mark E

Source: Osler, William. In Thayer LS. Osler's Aphorisms.
Hosp Bull 1919; 30:198-200.

William Osler circa 1900

Don't touch the patient--state first what you see; cultivate your power of observation.

Subject: Clinical observation

Contributor: Silverman, Mark E

Source: Osler, William. In Bean RB, Bean SW. William Osler: Aphorisms from His Bedside Teachings and Springfield, IL: Charles C. Thomas; 1961, p. 37.

William Osler 1903

Each case has its lesson--a lesson that may be, but is not always, learned for clinical wisdom is not the equivalent of experience. A man who has seen 500 cases of pneumonia may not have the understanding of the disease which comes with an intelligent study of a score of cases, so

different are knowledge and wisdom, which, as the poet truly says, "from being one have oft-times no connection."

Subject: Clinical observation

Contributor: Roland, Charles G.

Source: Osler, William. On the educational value of the medical society. Boston Med Surg J 1903; 148:275-9.

William Osler 1903

Half of us are blind, few of us feel, and we are all deaf.

Subject: Clinical observation

Contributor: Silverman, Mark E; Stone, Marvin J

Source: Osler, William. In Bean RB, Bean SW (eds) William Osler: Aphorisms from His Bedside Teachings and New York: Henry Schuman; 1950, p. 33.

William Osler 1891

In this country doctors are, as a rule, bad citizens, taking little or interest in civic, state or national politics. Let me...tell of one of us...who...has found time to serve his city and his country. For more than twenty years Virchow has sat in the Berlin City Council as an alderman and to no feature in his extraordinary life does the Berliner point with more justifiable pride. It is a combination of qualities only too rare that the learned professor can leave his laboratory and take his share in practical, municipal work.

Subject: Community life

Contributor: Roland, Charles G.

Source: Osler, William. Rudolph Virchow: the man and the student. Boston Med Surg J 1891; 125:425-7 [Reprinted in McGovern JP, Roland CG (eds) The Collected Essays of Sir William Osler. Birmingham, AL: Classics of Medicine Library; 1985, pp. 426-7].

William Osler circa 1900

The chief function of the consultant is to make a rectal examination that you have omitted.

Subject: Consultation

Contributor: Silverman, Mark E

Source: Osler, William. In Bean RB, Bean SW (eds) William Osler: Aphorisms from His Bedside Teachings and Springfield, IL: Charles C. Thomas; 1961, p. 104.

William Osler 1903

Advice is sought to confirm a position already taken.

Subject: Consultation

Contributor: Stone, Marvin J

Source: Osler, William. In Bean RB, Bean SW (eds) William Osler: Aphorisms from His Bedside Teachings and New York: Henry Schuman; 1950, p. 87.

William Osler 1903

We doctors do not "take stock" often enough, and are very apt to carry our shelves stale, out-of-date goods. The society helps to keep a man to the times," and enables him to refurbish his mental shop with the latest wares.... It keeps his mind open and receptive, and counteracts that tendency to premature senility, which is apt to overtake a man who lives in a routine.

Subject: Continuing education

Contributor: Silverman, Mark E

Source: Osler, William. On the educational value of the medical society. Boston Med Surg J 1903; 148:275-9.

William Osler 1900

If the license to practice meant the completion of his education how serious would be for the practitioner, how distressing to his patients! More than any other the physician should illustrate the truth of Plato's saying that education is a life-long process. The training of the medical school gives a man his direction, points him the way and furnishes a chart, if incomplete, for the voyage, but nothing more. Post-graduation study has always been a characteristic feature of our profession.

Subject: Continuing education

Contributor: Roland, Charles G.

Source: Osler, William. The importance of post-graduate study. 14 July 1900, p. 3.

William Osler 1910

What is angina pectoris?... A disease, characterised by paroxysmal attacks of pain, pectoral or extrapectoral, associated with changes in arterial walls, organic or functional.

Subject: Coronary artery disease

Contributor: Huth, Edward Silverman, Mark E

Source: Osler, William. The Lumleian lectures on angina pectoris. 1910; 1:697-702.

William Osler 1903

Angina pectoris may be precipitated by: muscular exertion, violent mental states, stomach upsets or cold weather.

Subject: Coronary artery disease

Contributor: Stone, Marvin J

Source: Osler, William. In Bean RB, Bean SW (eds) William Osler: Aphorisms from His Bedside Teachings and New York: Henry Schuman; 1950, p. 137.

William Osler 1910

Angina results from an alteration in the working of the muscle fibres in any part of the cardio-vascular system, whereby painful afferent stimuli are excited.... Spasm or narrowing of a coronary artery... may so modify the action... of the heart that it works with disturbed tension.

Subject: Coronary artery disease

ContributorHuth, Edward J.

Source:Osler, William. The Lumleian lectures on angina pectoris. 1910; 1:839-44.

William Osler1910

There is, indeed, a frame and facies at once suggestive of angina--the well "set" man of from 45 to 55 years of age, with military bearing, a grey hair, and florid complexion.... There are two primary features of disease, pain and sudden death--pain, paroxysmal, intense, peculiar, usually pectoral, and with the well-known lines of radiation--death in a higher percentage than any known disorder, and usually sudden.... A very large proportion of all of the cases show changes in these [coronary] vessels.

SubjectCoronary artery disease

ContributorHuth, Edward J.

Source:Osler, William. The Lumleian lectures on angina pectoris. 1910; 1:839-44.

William Osler1895

To confess ignorance is often wiser than to beat about the bush with a hypothetical diagnosis.

SubjectDiagnosis

ContributorHuth, Edward J.

Source:Osler, William. Epimerides 1895 [Reprinted in Montreal Med J 1896; 24:518-22].

William Osler1894

There are, in truth, no specialties in medicine, since to know fully the most important diseases a man must be familiar with their manifestations in many organs.

SubjectDiagnosis

ContributorSilverman, Mark E

Source:Osler, William. Address given at the closing exercises of the Army Medical School, Washington, DC, February 28, 1894. [Reprinted in Acquiritas, with Other Addresses to Medical Students, Nurses, and Practitioners. Birmingham, AL: Classics of Medicine Library; 1987, pp. 103-20.

William Oslercirca 1900

Absolute diagnoses are unsafe, and are made at the expense of the conscience.

SubjectDiagnosis

ContributorSilverman, Mark E

Source:Osler, William. In Bean RB, Bean SW (eds) William Osler: Aphorisms from His Bedside Teachings and Springfield, IL: Charles C. Thomas; 1961, p. 129.

William Osler1902

In the fight which we have to wage incessantly against ignorance and quackery among the masses and follies of all sorts among the classes, diagnosis ~~is not~~ ~~drugging~~ is our chief weapon of ~~defense~~ ~~confidence~~. systematic personal training in the methods of the recognition of disease leads to the misapplication of remedies, to long courses of treatment when treatment is useless, and so directly to that lack of confidence in our methods which is apt to place us in the eyes of the public on a level with empirics and quacks

Subject: ~~Diagnosis~~

Contributor: ~~Roland~~, Charles G.

Source: Osler, William. ~~The~~ ~~Army~~ ~~Surgeon~~ ~~General's~~ ~~Address~~ given at the closing exercises of the Army Medical School, Washington, DC, February 28, 1894. [Reprint ~~in~~ ~~Equanimitas~~, with Other Addresses to Medical Students, Nurses, and Practitioners of ~~Birmingham~~, AL: Classics of Medicine Library; 1987, p. 299.

William Osler 1919

Observe, record, tabulate, communicate. Use your five senses.

Subject: ~~Diagnosis~~

Contributor: ~~Silverman~~, Mark E

Source: Osler, William. In Thayer LS. Osler ~~Johns Hopkins~~ ~~University~~. Hosp Bull 1919; 30:198-200.

William Osler circa 1900

Probability is the rule of life, especially under the skin. Never make positive diagnosis.

Subject: ~~Diagnosis~~

Contributor: ~~Huth~~, Edward J.

Source: Osler, William. In Bean RB, Bean SW (eds) William Osler: Aphorisms from His Bedside Teachings and ~~Springfield~~ ~~Illinois~~. Charles C. Thomas; 1961, p. 127.

William Osler circa 1900

One finger in the throat and one in the rectum makes a good diagnostician

Subject: ~~Diagnostician~~

Contributor: ~~Cheng~~, Tsung O.

Source: Osler, William. In Bean RB, Bean SW (eds) William Osler: Aphorisms from His Bedside Teachings and ~~New York~~ ~~City~~. Henry Schuman; 1950, p 104.

William Osler 1903

Variability is the law of life, and as no two faces are the same, so bodies are alike, and no two individuals react alike and behave alike under the abnormal conditions which we know as disease.

Subject: ~~Disease~~

Contributor: ~~Stone~~, Marvin J

Source: Osler, William. On the educational value of the medical society Boston Med Surg J 1903; 148:275-9.

William Osler1909

We doctors have always been a simple, trusting folk! Did we not believe Galen implicitly for fifteen hundred years and Hippocrates for more than two thousand years?

Subject:Doctors

Contributor:Barbero, Giulio J.

Source:Osler, William. [Speech given to the Ontario Medical Association, Toronto, June 3, 1909]. *Canada Lancet* 1909; 42:899-912 [Reprinted In The Collected Essays of Sir William Osler, Birmingham, AL: Classics of Medicine Library; 1985, p. 364].

William Osler1906

There are only two sorts of doctors: those who practice with their brains and those who practice with their tongues.

Subject:Doctors

Contributor:Cheng, Tsung Murray, T. J.

Source:Osler, William. *Canons and Ideals: Speeches 1906* [Reprinted in Birmingham, AL: Classics of Medicine Library; 1985, p. 17]

William Osler1897

Beyond a modest competency the sensible doctor does not aspire, but in the profession of every State there is a third group, composed of a few men who, dry-nursed by us, sometimes by the public, have become prosperous, perhaps wealthy. Freely they have received, freely they should give.

Subject:Doctors

Contributor:Roland, Charles G.

Source:Osler, William. *Human Functions of a State* [President's address given at the 99th Annual Session, Baltimore, Md, April 27, 1897]. *Med J.* 15 May 1897 [Reprinted in McGovern JP, Roland CG (ed). *Collected Essays of Sir William Osler*. Birmingham, AL: Classics of Medicine Library; 1985, p. 131].

William Osler1902

To wrest from nature the secrets which have perplexed philosophers in all ages, to track to their sources the causes of diseases, to correlate vast stores of knowledge, that they may be quickly available for the prevention and cure of disease--these are our ambitions.

Subject:Doctors

Contributor:Silverman, Mark Stone, Marvin J

Source:Osler, William. *Clauvinism in Medicine* [Address given at the Canadian Medical Association, Montreal, September 17, 1902]. [Reprinted in *Aequanimitas, with Other Addresses to Medical Students, Nurses, and Practitioners of Medicine*. Philadelphia: Blakiston's Son; 1932, p. 267.

William Osler1902

The greater the ignorance, the greater the dogmatism.

Subject: Dogmatism

Contributor: Cheng, Tsung O.

Source: Osler, William. Chauvinism in Medicine. Address given at the Canadian Medical Association, Montreal, September 17, 1902. In *Med J*. 1902; 31:684-99.

William Osler 1903

The young physician starts life with twenty drugs for each disease, and the old physician ends life with one drug for twenty diseases.

Subject: Drugs

Contributor: Barbero, Giulio; Haubrich, William; Stone, Marvin J

Source: Osler, William. In Bean RB, Bean SB (eds). *William Osler: Aphorisms from His Bedside Teachings and New Yorks*. Henry Schuman; 1950, p. 118.

William Osler 1903

Remember how much you do not know. Do not pour strange medicines into your patients.

Subject: Drugs

Contributor: Stone, Marvin J

Source: Osler, William. In Bean RB, Bean SB (eds). *William Osler: Aphorisms from His Bedside Teachings and New Yorks*. Henry Schuman; 1950, p. 102.

William Osler 1895

But know also, man has an inborn craving for medicine. Generations of heroic dosing have given his tissues such a thirst...for drugs. As I have before remarked, the desire to take medicine is one feature which distinguishes man, the animal, from his fellow creatures. It is really the most serious difficulties with which we have to contend. Even in minor ailments, which would yield to dieting or to simple home remedies the doctor's visit is not thought to be complete without the prescript

Subject: Drugs

Contributor: Roland, Charles; Silverman, Mark; Spilker, Bert; Stone, Marvin J

Source: Osler, William. *Teaching and Thinking*. 1895. [Reprinted in *Aequanimitas with Other Addresses to Medical Students, Nurses, and Practitioners of Medicine*. Philadelphia: Blakiston's Son; 1932, p. 125.

William Osler 1901

One should treat as many patients as possible with a new drug while it still has the power to heal.

Subject: Drugs

Contributor: Spilker, Bert

Source: Osler, William. *Medicine in the Nineteenth Century*. [Reprinted in McGovern JP, Roland C (eds). *The Collected Essays of Sir William Osler*. vol. III. Birmingham, AL: Classics of Medicine Library; 1990, pp. 227-76].

William Osler1897

"Cease then, and let me alone." For generations has not this been [the sick man's] immemorial privilege, a privilege with vested rights as a seated animal instinct--to turn his face to the wall, to sicken in peace if he so wishes, to die undisturbed.

Subject Dying

Contributor Huth, Edward J.

Source: Osler W. Nurse and patient. *Aequanimitas*. Blakiston's; 1932. p. 156.

William Osler1904

I have careful records of about five hundred death-beds... Ninety suffered bodily pain or distress of one kind or another, eleven showed mental apprehension, two positive terror, one expressed spiritual exaltation, one bitter remorse. The great majority gave no sign one way or the other; like their birth their death was a sleep and a forgetting.

Subject Dying

Contributor Huth, Edward J.

Source: Osler, William. A study of death [unpublished manuscript]. In: *Bibliotheca Cleriana* Montreal McGill Queens University Press; 969. Number 7644, p. 19. [As cited in Golden, RL. Sir William Osler: humanist thanatologist. *Omega: Journal of Death and Dying*; 36(3):241-58.

William Osler1905

When a simple, earnest spirit animates a college, there is no appreciable interval between the teacher and the taught--both are in the same class the one a little more advanced than the other.

Subject Education

Contributor Stone, Marvin J

Source: Osler, William. Student Life [farewell address given to American and Canadian Medical students, 1892]. [Reprinted in *Aequanimitas*, with Other Addresses to Medical Students, Nurses, and Practitioners of Medicine. Philadelphia: Blakiston's Son; 1932, p. 400.

William Osler1903

Things cannot always go your way. Learn to accept in silence the minor aggravations, cultivate the gift of taciturnity and consume your own smoke with an extra draught of hard work, so that those about you may not be annoyed with the dust and soot of your complaints.

Subject Equanimity

Contributor Barbero, Giulio Stone, Marvin J

Source: Osler, William. Master-word in Medicine [address given to undergraduates at the medical school of the University of Toronto, October 1, 1903]. [Reprinted in *Aequanimitas*, with Other Addresses to Medical Students, Nurses, and Practitioners of Medicine. Philadelphia: Blakiston's Son; 1932, p. 368.

William Osler1889

From its very nature this precious quality [imperturbability] is liable misinterpreted, and the general accusation of hardness, so often brought against the profession, has here its foundation.

Subject: Equanimity

Contributor: Stone, Marvin J

Source: Osler, William. *Aequanimitas*. Valedictory address given at the University of Pennsylvania, May 1, 1889. [Reprinted in *Other Addresses to Medical Students, Nurses, and Practitioners of Medicine* 3rd ed. Philadelphia: Blakiston's Son; 1932, p. 5.

William Osler 1889

One of the first essentials in securing a good-natured equanimity is not to expect too much of the people amongst whom you dwell.

Subject: Equanimity

Contributor: Stone, Marvin J

Source: Osler, William. *Aequanimitas*. Valedictory address given at the University of Pennsylvania, May 1, 1889. [Reprinted in *Other Addresses to Medical Students, Nurses, and Practitioners of Medicine* 3rd ed. Philadelphia: Blakiston's Son; 1932, p. 6.

William Osler 1892

Start out with the conviction that absolute truth is hard to reach in relating to our fellow creatures, healthy or diseased, that slips in observation are inevitable even with the best trained faculties, that in judgement must occur in the practice of an art which consists largely of balancing probabilities--start, I say, with this attitude of mind.... draw from your errors the very lessons which may enable you to avoid their repetition.

Subject: Errors

Contributor: Roland, Charles G.

Source: Osler, William. *Teacher and Student* 1892. [Reprinted in *Aequanimitas*, with *Other Addresses to Medical Students, Nurses, and Practitioners of Medicine* Birmingham, AL: Classics of Medicine Library; 1987, pp. 21-43.

William Osler 1894

In no way has biological science so widened the thoughts of men as in application to social problems. That throughout the ages, in the gradual evolution of life, one unceasing purpose runs; that progress comes through unceasing competition, through unceasing selection and rejection in a word, that evolution is the one great law controlling all living "the one divine event to which the whole creation moves," this concept has been the great gift of biology to the nineteenth century.

Subject: Evolution

Contributor: Roland, Charles G.

Source: Osler, William. *The Leaven of Science*. Address given at the opening of the Wistar Institute of Anatomy and Biology of the University of Pennsylvania, May 21, 1894. [Reprinted in *Aequanimitas*, with *Other Addresses to Medical Students, Nurses, and Practitioners of Medicine* 3rd ed. Philadelphia: Blakiston's Son; 1932, p. 95.

William Osler 1897

Of the altruistic instincts veneration is not the most highly developed present day, but I hold strongly with the statement that it is the sign of a dry age when the great men of the past are held in light esteem.

Subject: History of medicine

Contributor: Roland, Charles G.

Source: Osler, William. Functions of a State President's address given at the 99th Annual Session, Baltimore, April 27, 1897]. In McGovern JP, Roland CG (eds). Collected Essays of Sir William Osler vol. II. Birmingham, AL: Classics of Medicine Library; 1985, p. 1

William Osler 1901

By the historical method alone can many problems in medicine be approached profitably. For example, the student who dates his knowledge of tuberculosis from Koch may have a very correct, but he has a very incomplete, appreciation of the subject. Within a quarter of a century our libraries will have certain alcoves devoted to the historical consideration of the great diseases, which will give to the student the mental perspective which is so valuable an equipment in life. The past good nurse, as Lowell remarks, particularly for the weanlings of the :

Subject: History of medicine

Contributor: Roland, Charles G.

Source: Osler, William. Remarks made at the opening of the new building of the Boston Medical Library, January 12, 1901]. [Reprinted in Aequanimitas with Other Addresses to Medical Students, Nurses, and Practitioners of Medicine Philadelphia: Blakiston's Son; 1932, pp. 212-13.

William Osler 1902

Modern medicine is a product of the Greek intellect, and had its origin when that wonderful people created positive or rational science.

Subject: History of medicine

Contributor: Huth, Edward J.

Source: Osler, William. Chauvinism in Medicine [Address given at the Canadian Medical Association, Montreal, September 17, 1902]. In Med J. 1902; 31:684-99.

William Osler 1897

But by the neglect of the study of the humanities, which has been far general, the profession loses a very precious quality.

Subject: Humanities

Contributor: Stone, Marvin J

Source: Osler, William. British Medicine in Greater Britain [Reprinted in Aequanimitas, with Other Addresses to Medical Students, Nurses, and Practitioners of Medicine Philadelphia: Blakiston's Son; 1932, p. 168.

William Osler 1904

Curious, odd compounds are these fellow-creatures, at whose mercy you will be; full of fads and eccentricities, of whims and fancies; but more closely we study their little foibles of one sort and another in

inner life which we see, the more surely is the conviction borne in upon us of the likeness of their weaknesses to our own.

Subject: Humans

Contributor: Roland, Charles G.

Source: Osler, William. ~~Acquaintance~~ Valedictory address given at the University of Pennsylvania, May 1, 1889]. ~~Reprinted in~~ with Other Addresses to Medical Students, Nurses, and Practitioners of Medicine Philadelphia: P. Blackiston's Son, 1904, pp. 6-7 [Reprinted in Birmingham, AL: Classics of Medicine Library; 1987, pp. 6-7].

William Osler circa 1900

The hardest conviction to get into the mind of a beginner is that the education upon which he is engaged is not a college course, not a medical course, but a life course.

Subject: Learning

Contributor: Barbero, Giulio J.

Source: Osler, William. In Bean RB, Bean SW (eds) William Osler: Aphorisms from His Bedside Teachings and ~~Springfield, IL: Charles C. Thomas; 1961, p. 35.~~

William Osler 1897

The daily round of a busy practitioner tends to develop an egoism of a most intense kind, to which there is no antidote.... The mistakes are buried, and... successful work tends to make a man touchy, dogmatic, intolerant of correction and abominably self-centred.... The medical society is the best corrective, and a man misses a good part of his education who does not get knocked about a bit by his colleagues in discussions and criticisms.

Subject: Learning

Contributor: Roland, Charles G.

Source: Osler, William. ~~Then~~ Functions of a State ~~President's~~ address given at the 99th Annual Session, Baltimore, April 27, 1897]. ~~1~~ McGovern JP, Roland CG (eds) ~~Collected Essays of Sir William Osler~~ vol. II. Birmingham, AL: Classics of Medicine Library; 1985, p. 1

William Osler 1894

Experience in the true sense of the term does not come to all with years or with increasing opportunities. Growth in the acquisition of facts : necessarily associated with development. Many grow through life as the crystal, by simple accretion, and at fifty possess, to vary the figure, unicellular mental blastoderm with which they started.

Subject: Learning

Contributor: Roland, Charles G.

Source: Osler, William. ~~Then~~ Army Surgeon's Address given at the closing exercises of the Army Medical School, Washington, DC, February 28, 1894]. [Reprinted ~~Acquaintance~~, with Other Addresses to Medical Students, Nurses, and Practitioners. ~~Birmingham, AL: Classics of Medicine Library; 1987, pp. 111-2.~~

William Osler 1892

Get accustomed to test all sorts of book problems and statements for

yourself, and take as little as possible on trust. The Hunterian "Do not think, but try" attitude of mind is the important one to cultivate.

Subject Learning

Contributor Roland, Charles G.

Source: Osler, William. Student Life [farewell address given to American and Canadian Medical students, 1892]. In McGovern JP, Roland CG (ed) The Collected Essays of Sir William Osler Birmingham, AL: Classics of Medicine Library; 1985, p. 424.

William Osler 1899

While medicine is to be your vocation, or calling, see to it that you have also an avocation--some intellectual pastime which may serve to keep you in touch with the world of art, of science, or of letters. Begin the cultivation of some interest other than the purely professional. The difficulty is in a selection and the choice will be different according to your tastes and training. No matter what it is--but have an outside hobby. For the hard working medical student it is perhaps easiest to keep up an interest in literature.

Subject Literature

Contributor Roland, Charles G.

Source: Osler, William. After Twenty-five Years [Address given at the McGill University, September 21, 1899]. Reprinted in with Other Addresses to Medical Students, Nurses, and Practitioners of Medicine Birmingham, AL: Classics of Medicine Library; 1987, p. 213.

William Osler 1919

[Recommended literary works for medical students:] 1) Old and New Testament, 2) Shakespeare, 3) Montaigne, 4) Plutarch's Lives, 5) Marcus Aurelius, 6) Epictetus, 7) Religio Medici, 8) Don Quixote, 9) Emerson, Oliver Wendell Holmes' Breakfast Table Series.

Subject Literature

Contributor Silverman, Mark E

Source: Osler, William. A bed-side library for medical students. Hopkins Med Bull 1919; 341:217-18.

William Osler 1913

Now the way of life that I preach is a habit to be acquired gradually long and steady repetition. It is the practice of living for the day only for the day's work.

Subject Living

Contributor Stone, Marvin J

Source: Osler, William. A Way of Life and Selected Writings of Sir William Osler New York: Dover; 1958, p. 239.

William Osler 1905

Nothing will sustain you more potently than the power to recognize in your humdrum routine, as perhaps it may be thought, the true poetry of life-- the poetry of the commonplace, of the ordinary man, of the plain toil-worn woman, with their loves and their joys, their sorrows and their griefs.

Subject: Living

Contributor: Stone, Marvin J

Source: Osler, William. Student Life: A farewell address given to American and Canadian Medical students, 1892]. [Reprinted in *Aequanimitas, with Other Addresses to Medical Students, Nurses, and Practitioners of Medicine*. Philadelphia: Blakiston's Son; 1932, pp. 404-5

William Osler: 1905

It is more particularly on the younger men that I would urge the advantages of an early devotion to a peripatetic philosophy of life. J as soon as you have your second teeth think of a change; get away from the nurse, cut the apron strings of your old teachers, seek new ties : fresh environment, if possible, where you can have a certain measure of freedom and independence.

Subject: Living

Contributor: Roland, Charles G.

Source: Osler, William. *Valedictory address at Johns Hopkins University*. *JAMA*. 1905; 44:705-10.

William Osler: 1903

Pneumonia is the captain of the men of death and tuberculosis is the handmaid.

Subject: Lung disease

Contributor: Stone, Marvin J

Source: Osler, William. In *Bean RB, Bean SB (eds) William Osler: Aphorisms from His Bedside Teachings and New York: Henry Schuman; 1950, p. 137.*

William Osler: 1895

By exudative erythema is understood a disease of unknown etiology with polymorphic skin lesions--hyperaemia, oedema, and hemorrhage--arthritis occasionally, and a variable number of visceral manifestations, of which the most important are gastro-intestinal crises, endocarditis, pericard acute nephritis, and hemorrhage from the mucous surfaces. Recurrence is a special feature...and attacks may come on...even throughout a long period of years.

Subject: Lupus erythematosus

Contributor: Huth, Edward J.

Source: Osler, William. *On the visceral complication of erythema exudativum multiforme*. *J. Med. Sci* 1895; 110:629-46.

William Osler: 1895

Can anything be more doleful than a procession of four or five doctors into the sick man's room?

Subject: Medical care

Contributor: Barbero, Giulio J.

Source: Osler, William. *Epimerides* 1895 [Reprinted in *Montreal Med J* 1896; 24:518-22].

William Osler 1899

Care more particularly for the individual patient than for the special features of the disease.

Subject Medical care

Contributor Barbero, Giulio Silverman, Mark E

Source: Osler, William. In Bean RB, Bean SWB (eds) William Osler: Aphorisms from His Bedside Teachings and New York: Henry Schuman; 1950, p. 93.

William Osler 1903

The training of the medical school gives a man his direction, points his way, and furnishes him with a chart, fairly incomplete, for the voyage nothing more.

Subject Medical education

Contributor Stone, Marvin J

Source: Osler, William. In Bean RB, Bean SWB (eds) William Osler: Aphorisms from His Bedside Teachings and New York: Henry Schuman; 1950, p. 36.

William Osler 1903

The best teaching is that taught by the patient himself.

Subject Medical education

Contributor Cheng, Tsung O.

Source: Osler, William. On the need of a radical reform in our methods of teaching senior students. *Med News*. 1903; 82:49-53.

William Osler 1911

No bubble is so iridescent or floats longer than that blown by the successful teacher.

Subject Medical education

Contributor Stone, Marvin J

Source: Osler, William. In Cheng, Tsung O. *Life of Sir William Osler*. Oxford, England: Clarendon Press; 1926, p. 295.

William Osler 1899

Perfect happiness for student and teacher will come with the abolition of examinations, which are stumbling blocks and rocks of offence in the pathway of the true student.

Subject Medical education

Contributor Roland, Charles G.

Source: Osler, William. *After Twenty-five Years*. Address given at the McGill University, September 21, 1899. Reprinted in *Other Addresses to Medical Students, Nurses, and Practitioners of Medicine* Birmingham, AL: Classics of Medicine Library; 1987, pp. 210-1.

William Osler[1902]
The practitioner needs culture as well as learning.

SubjectMedical education

ContributorHuth, Edward J.

Source:Osler, William. Chauvinism in Medicine [Address given at the Canadian Medical Association, Montreal, September 1902].
Med J. 1902; 31:684-99.

William Osler[1903]
The student begins with the patient, continues with the patient, and ends his studies with the patient, using books and lectures as tools, as means to an end.

SubjectMedical education

ContributorDeBakey, Lois

Source:Osler, William. The Hospital as a College. [Reprinted in Aequanimitas, with Other Addresses to Medical Students, Nurses, and Practitioners of Medicine Birmingham, AL: Classics of Medicine Library; 1987, p. 331.

William Osler[1905]
Pirogoff's comment...has always appealed to me very strongly: "There are in everyone's practice moments in which his vision is holden so tight that even an experienced man cannot see what is nevertheless perfectly clear. At least, I have noticed this in my own case. An overweening self-confidence, a preconceived opinion, vanity, and weariness are the causes of these astounding mistakes."

SubjectMedical error

ContributorSilverman, Mark E

Source:Osler, William. Aneurysm of the abdominal aorta. 1905; 2:1089-96.

William Osler[1849-1919]
Never let your tongue say a slighting word of a colleague.

SubjectMedical ethics

ContributorSilverman, Mark E

Source:Osler, William. In Bean RB, Bean SWB (eds) William Osler: Aphorisms from His Bedside Teachings and New York: Henry Schuman; 1950, p. 85.

William Osler[1849-1919]
Do not judge your confreres by the reports of patients, well meaning, perhaps, but often strangely and sadly misrepresenting.

SubjectMedical ethics

ContributorSilverman, Mark E

Source:Osler, William. In Bean RB, Bean SWB (eds) William Osler: Aphorisms from His Bedside Teachings and New York: Henry Schuman; 1950, p. 86.

William Osler¹⁹⁰³

Palpitation of the heart in a medical student may be the result of a late salad the night before or the girl he left behind.

Subject: Medical histories

Contributor: Barbero, Giulio J.

Source: Osler, William. In Bean RB, Beans WE (eds) William Osler: Aphorisms from His Bedside Teachings and New York: Henry Schuman; 1950, p. 143.

William Osler¹⁹⁰³

In taking histories follow each line of thought; ask no leading questions; never suggest. Give the patient's own words in the complaint.

Subject: Medical histories

Contributor: Silverman, Mark Stone, Marvin J

Source: Osler, William. In Bean RB, Beans WE (eds) William Osler: Aphorisms from His Bedside Teachings and New York: Henry Schuman; 1950, p. 37.

William Osler¹⁹⁰¹

By the historical method alone can many problems in medicine be approached profitably.

Subject: Medical histories

Contributor: Stone, Marvin J

Source: Osler, William. In Brooks and Menzies (eds) Remarks made at the opening of the new building of the Boston Medical Library, January 12, 1901. [Reprinted in Acquinitas, with Other Addresses to Medical Students, Nurses, and Practitioners of Medicine Philadelphia: Blakiston's Son; 1932, pp. 212-3.

William Osler¹⁹⁰⁵

I wish I had time to speak of the value of note-taking. You can do nothing as a student in practice without it. Carry a small notebook which will fit into your waistcoat pocket, and never ask a new patient a question without notebook and pencil in hand.

Subject: Medical histories

Contributor: Roland, Charles G.

Source: Osler, William. In Student Life [farewell address given to American and Canadian Medical students, 1892]. In McGovern JP, Roland CG (ed) The Collected Essays of Sir William Osler Birmingham, AL: Classics of Medicine Library; 1985. p. 431.

William Osler¹⁹⁰³

The problems of disease are more complicated and difficult than any others with which the trained mind has to grapple; the conditions in a given case may be unlike those in any other; each case, indeed, may have its own problem.

Subject: Medical practice

Contributor: Roland, Charles G.

Source: Osler, William. On the educational value of the medical society
Boston Med Surg J 1903; 148:275-9.

William Osler 1903

The practice of medicine is an art, not a trade, a calling, not a business
calling in which your heart will be exercised equally with your head.

Subject: Medical practice

Contributors: Barbero, Giulio, Fred, Herber, Haubrich, William S.
Stone, Marvin J

Source: Osler, William. Master-word in Medicine. Address given to
undergraduates at the medical school of the University of Toronto,
October 1, 1903. The Master-word in Medicine. Baltimore: John
Murphy; 1903, pp. 29-30.

William Osler 1901

It is astonishing with how little reading a doctor can practise medicine
it is not astonishing how badly he may do it.

Subject: Medical practice

Contributors: Cheng, Tsung, Silverman, Mark E, Stone, Marvin J

Source: Osler, William. Books and Men. Remarks made at the opening of
the new building of the Boston Medical Library, January 12, 1901].
[Reprinted in Equanimity, with Other Addresses to Medical Students,
Nurses, and Practitioners of Medicine. Birmingham, AL: Classics of
Medicine Library; 1987, p. 221.

William Osler 1919

The art of the practice of medicine is to be learned only by experience
not an inheritance; it cannot be revealed.

Subject: Medical practice

Contributors: Silverman, Mark E

Source: Osler, William. In Thayer LS. Osler's Lectures.
Hosp Bull 1919; 30:198-200.

William Osler 1902

But there is a still greater sacrifice which many of us make, heedless
and thoughtlessly forgetting that "Man does not live by bread alone." (We
cannot practice medicine alone and practice it early and late, as so many
of us have to do, and hope to escape the malign influences of a routine
life. The incessant concentration of thought upon one subject, however
interesting, tethers a man's mind in a narrow field. The practitioner's
culture as well as learning.

Subject: Medical practice

Contributors: Roland, Charles G.

Source: Osler, William. Chauvinism in Medicine. Address given at the
Canadian Medical Association, Montreal, September 17, 1902]. In
McGovern JP, Roland CG (eds). Collected Essays of Sir William
Osler vol. 1. Birmingham, AL: Classics of Medicine Library; 1985, p. 30

William Osler 1903

Think not to light a light to shine before men that they may see your works; contrariwise, you belong to the great army of quiet workers, physicians and priests, sisters and nurses, all over the world, the members of which strive not neither do they cry, nor are their voices heard in the streets, but to them is given the ministry of consolation sorrow, need, and sickness.

Subject: Medical profession

Contributor: Haubrich, William S.

Source: Osler, William. Master-word in Medicine Address given to undergraduates at the medical school of the University of Toronto, October 1, 1903]. [Reprinted in *Arctura*, with Other Addresses to Medical Students, Nurses, and Practitioners *Brief Medicine* AL: Classics of Medicine Library; 1987, p. 387.

William Osler 1905

I have had three personal ideals. One to do the day's work well and not bother about tomorrow.... The second ideal has been to act the Golden Rule, as far as in me lay, towards my professional brethren and towards the patients committed to my care. And the third has been to cultivate such a measure of equanimity as would enable me to bear success with humility, the affection of my friends without pride and to be ready when the day of sorrow and grief came to meet it with the courage befitting man.

Subject: Medical profession

Contributor: Stone, Marvin J

Source: Osler, William. L'Envoi. 1905. *Arctura*, with Other Addresses to Medical Students, Nurses, and Practitioners of Medicine 3rd ed. Philadelphia: Blakiston's Son; 1932, pp. 450-1.

William Osler 1903

From the day you begin practice never under any circumstances listen to a tale told to the detriment of a brother practitioner. And when any joy or trouble does arise, go frankly, ere sunset, and talk the matter over which way you may gain a brother and a friend.

Subject: Medical profession

Contributor: Roland, Charles G.

Source: Osler, William. Master-word in Medicine Address given to undergraduates at the medical school of the University of Toronto, October 1, 1903]. [Reprinted in *Arctura*, with Other Addresses to Medical Students, Nurses, and Practitioners *Brief Medicine* AL: Classics of Medicine Library; 1987, p. 387.

William Osler 1902

A rare and precious gift is the Art of Detachment, by which a man may separate himself from a life-long environment as to take a panoramic view of the conditions under which he has lived and moved: it frees him from Plato's den long enough to see the realities as they are, the shadows they appear. Could a physician attain to such an art he would find in state of his profession a theme calling as well for the exercise of the highest faculties of description and imagination as for the deepest philosophic insight.

Subject: Medical profession

Contributor: Roland, Charles G.

Source: Osler, William. ~~Clavinism~~ ~~in Medicine~~ ~~Address given at the~~ Canadian Medical Association, Montreal, September 17, 1902]. In McGovern JP, Roland CG (eds). ~~Collected Essays of Sir William Osler~~ vol. I. Birmingham, AL: Classics of Medicine Library; 1985, p. 2'

William Osler 1902

The philosophies of one age have become the absurdities of the next, and the foolishness of yesterday has become the wisdom of tomorrow.

Subject: Medical progress

Contributor: Stone, Marvin J

Source: Osler, William. ~~Clavinism~~ ~~in Medicine~~ ~~Address given at the~~ Canadian Medical Association, Montreal, September 17, 1902]. [Reprinted in ~~Aequanimitas~~, with Other Addresses to Medical Students, Nurses, and Practitioners of ~~Medicine~~. Philadelphia: Blakiston's Son; 1932, p. 266.

William Osler circa 1900

Modern science has made to almost everyone of you the present of a few years.

Subject: Medical science

Contributor: Barbero, Giulio J.

Source: Osler, William. In Bean RB, Bean SW (eds). ~~William Osler: Aphorisms from His Bedside Teachings and Writings~~. Springfield, IL: Charles C. Thomas; 1961, p. 111.

William Osler 1894

You cannot afford to stand aloof from your professional colleagues in any place. Join their associations, mingle in their meetings, giving of best of your talents, gathering here, scattering there; but everywhere showing that you are at all times faithful students, as willing to be taught.

Subject: Medical societies

Contributor: Roland, Charles G.

Source: Osler, William. ~~His Army Surgeon~~ ~~Address given at the closing~~ exercises of the Army Medical School, Washington, DC, February 28, 1894]. [Reprinted in ~~Aequanimitas~~, with Other Addresses to Medical Students, Nurses, and Practitioners of ~~Medicine~~. Birmingham, AL: Classics of Medicine Library; 1987, p. 117.

William Osler 1905

The student often resembles the poet--he is born, not made.

Subject: Medical students

Contributor: John Walton

Source: Osler, William. ~~His~~ ~~Student Life~~ ~~farewell address given to~~ American and Canadian Medical students, 1892]. [Reprinted in ~~Aequanimitas~~, with other addresses to medical students, nurses and practitioners of ~~medicine~~. New York: Blakiston; 1932.

William Osler 1907

The old art cannot possibly be replaced by, but must be absorbed in, the

new science.

Subject Medicine

Contributor Stone, Marvin J

Source: Osler, William. The reserves of life. *Osler's Medical Gazette* 1907; 13:95-98.

William Osler 1902

The critical sense and sceptical attitude of the Hippocratic school laid the foundations of modern medicine on broad lines, and we owe emancipation of medicine from the shackles of priestcraft and of caste secondly the conception of medicine as an art based on accurate observation, and as a science, an integral part of the science of man of nature, thirdly the high moral ideals, expressed in that most "memorable of human documents" (Gomprez), the Hippocratic oath; and fourthly the conception and realization of medicine as the profession of cultivated gentleman.

Subject Medicine

Contributor McInerney, Owen

Source: Osler, William. Chauvinism in Medicine. Address given at the Canadian Medical Association, Montreal, September 17, 1902]. [Reprinted In McGovern JP, Roland CG (eds) *Collected Essays of Sir William Osler* vol. 1. Birmingham, AL: Classics of Medicine Library; 1985, p. 1!

William Osler 1902

Breathes there a man with soul so dead that it does not glow at the thought of what the men of his blood have done and suffered to make his country what it is? There is room, plenty of room, for proper pride of and birth. What I inveigh against is a cursed spirit of intolerance, conceived in distrust and bred in ignorance, that makes the mental attitude perennially antagonistic, even bitterly antagonistic, to everything that subordinates everywhere the race to the nation, forgetting the high claims of human brotherhood.

Subject Nationalism

Contributor Roland, Charles G.

Source: Osler, William. Chauvinism in Medicine. Address given to the Canadian Medical Association, Montreal, Canada, September 17, 1902]. [Reprinted *Aequanimitas, with Other Addresses to Medical Students, Nurses, and Practitioners of Medicine* Birmingham, AL: Classics of Medicine Library; 1987, p. 286.

William Osler 1903

A patient with a written list of symptoms--neurasthenia.

Subject Neurasthenia

Contributor Stone, Marvin J

Source: Osler, William. In Bean RB, Bean SWB (eds) *William Osler: Aphorisms from His Bedside Teachings and New York*: Henry Schuman; 1950, p. 136.

William Osler circa 1900

The trained nurse has become one of the great blessings of humanity, taking a place beside the physician and the priest, and not inferior to

either in her mission.

Subject:Nurses

Contributor:Barbero, Giulio J.

Source:Osler, William. Nurse and Patient 1900 [Reprinted in Aequanimitas, with Other Addresses to Medical Students, Nurses, and Practitioners of Medicine. Birmingham, AL: Classics of Medicine Library; 1987, p. 163].

William Osler: circa 1903

One swallow does not make a summer, but one tophus makes gout and one crescent malaria.

Subject:Pathognomonic evidence

Contributor:Stone, Marvin J

Source:Osler, William. In Bean RB, Bean SWB (eds) William Osler: Aphorisms from His Bedside Teachings and New York: Henry Schuman; 1950, p. 134.

William Osler: 1905

To many of a somber and sour disposition it is hard to maintain good spirits amid the trials and tribulations of the day, and yet it is an unpardonable mistake to go about among patients with a long face.

Subject:Patient-physician relations

Contributor:Haubrich, William S. Stone, Marvin J

Source:Osler, William. Man. Student Life: Farewell address given to American and Canadian Medical students, 1892]. [Reprinted in Aequanimitas, with Other Addresses to Medical Students, Nurses, and Practitioners of Medicine. Philadelphia: Blakiston's Son; 1932, p. 405].

William Osler: circa 1900

Taking a lady's hand gives her confidence in her physician.

Subject:Patient-physician relations

Contributor:Barbero, Giulio J.

Source:Osler, William. In Bean RB, Bean SWB (eds) William Osler: Aphorisms from His Bedside Teachings and Springfield, IL: Charles C. Thomas; 1961, p. 130.

William Osler: 1889

Imperturbability.... It is the quality which is most appreciated by the though often misunderstood by them; and the physician who has the misfortune to be without it, who betrays indecision and worry, and who shows that he is flustered and flurried in ordinary emergencies, loses rapidly the confidence of his patients.

Subject:Patient-physician relations

Contributor:Haubrich, William S.

Source:Osler, William. Aequanimitas: Valedictory address given at the University of Pennsylvania, May 1, 1889]. [Reprinted in with Other Addresses to Medical Students, Nurses, and Practitioners of

Medicine Birmingham, AL: Classics of Medicine Library; 1987, p. 4].

William Osler circa 1900

The four points of a medical student's compass are: Inspection, Palpation, Percussion, and Auscultation.

Subject Physical examination

Contributor Silverman, Mark E

Source: Osler, William. In Bean RB, Bean SW (eds) William Osler: Aphorisms from His Bedside Teachings and Springfield, IL: Charles C. Thomas; 1961, p. 103.

William Osler circa 1900

Failure to examine the throat is a glaring sin of omission, especially children. One finger in the throat and one in the rectum makes a good diagnostician.

Subject Physical examination

Contributor Silverman, Mark E

Source: Osler, William. In Bean RB, Bean SW (eds) William Osler: Aphorisms from His Bedside Teachings and Springfield, IL: Charles C. Thomas; 1961, p. 104.

William Osler circa 1900

Make a thorough inspection. Never forget to look at the back of a patient. Always look at the feet. Looking at a woman's legs has often saved her life.

Subject Physical examination

Contributor Silverman, Mark E

Source: Osler, William. In Bean RB, Bean SW (eds) William Osler: Aphorisms from His Bedside Teachings and Springfield, IL: Charles C. Thomas; 1961, p. 104.

William Osler 1897

No class of men needs friction so much as physicians; no class gets less. The daily round of a busy practitioner tends to develop an egotism of a most intense kind The few setbacks are forgotten, the mistakes are often buried. . . . To this mental attitude the medical society is the corrective, and a man misses a good part of his education who does not get knocked about a bit by his colleagues in discussions and criticism.

Subject Physicians

Contributor Haubrich, William S.

Source: Osler, William. In *The Functions of a State* [President's address given at the 99th Annual Session, Baltimore, April 27, 1897]. [Reprinted in *Cushman's Life of Sir William Osler*. Oxford, England: Clarendon Press; 1925, p. 447].

William Osler circa 1900

A physician who treats himself has a fool for a patient.

Subject Physicians

Contributor: Stone, Marvin J

Source: Osler, William. In Bean RB, Bean SWB (eds) William Osler: Aphorisms from His Bedside Teachings and New York: Henry Schuman; 1950, p. 49.

William Osler 1897

In the life of every successful physician there comes the temptation with the Delilah of the press--daily and otherwise. There are times when she may be courted with satisfaction, but beware! sooner or later she is sure to play the harlot, and has left many a man shorn of his strength viz., the confidence of his professional brethren.

Subject: Physicians and the press

Contributor: Roland, Charles G.

Source: Osler, William. Internal Medicine as a Vocation given at the New York Academy of Medicine, October 19, 1897]. [Reprinted in McGovern JP, Roland CG (eds). Collected Essays of Sir William Osler vol. II. Birmingham, AL: Classics of Medicine Library; 1985, p.

William Osler 1903

[The cyanosis] is most marked about the face and hands...but in both of my patients the skin of the entire body was of a dusky blue.... The viscosity [of the blood] is greatly increased. All observers have remarked not only upon the unusually dark, but upon the thick and sticky character of the blood drop. An extraordinary polycythaemia is a special feature of the affection.... In seven of the nine cases the spleen was enlarged. In four of these the enlargement may be termed great, reaching nearly to the navel.

Subject: Polycythemia

Contributor: Huth, Edward J.

Source: Osler, William. Chronic cyanosis, with polycythemia and enlarged spleen: a new clinical entity. *Am J Med Sci* 1903; 126:187-201.

William Osler circa 1903

Should your assistant make an important observation, let him publish it. Through your students and your disciples will come your greatest honor.

Subject: Publishing

Contributor: Roland, Charles G. Stone, Marvin J

Source: Osler, William. In Bean RB, Bean SWB (eds) William Osler: Aphorisms from His Bedside Teachings and New York: Henry Schuman; 1950, pp. 67-8.

William Osler circa 1903

In science the credit goes to the man who convinces the world, not to the man to whom the idea first occurs.

Subject: Publishing

Contributor: Stone, Marvin J

Source: Osler, William. In Bean RB, Bean SWB (eds) William Osler: Aphorisms from His Bedside Teachings and New York: Henry Schuman; 1950, p. 108.

William Osler 1909

With half an hour's reading in bed every night as a steady practice, the busiest man can get a fair education before the plasma sets in the periganglionic spaces of his grey cortex.

Subject Reading

Contributor Stone, Marvin J

Source: Osler, William. The medical library in postgraduate work. J. 1909; 2:925-28.

William Osler 1901

An old writer says that there are four sorts of readers: "Sponges which attract all without distinguishing; Howre-glasses which receive and pour out as fast; Bagges which only retain the dregges of the spices and let the wine escape, and Sives [Sieves] which retain the best only." A man wastes a great many years before he reaches the "sive" stage.

Subject Reading

Contributor Roland, Charles G.

Source: Osler, William. Remarks and Men. Remarks made at the opening of the new building of the Boston Medical Library, January 12, 1901. [Reprinted Boston Med Surg J 7 Jan 1901, p. 3].

William Osler 1901

For the general practitioner a well-used library is one of the few correctives of the premature senility which is so apt to overtake him. Self-centred, self-taught, he leads a solitary life, and unless his experience is controlled by careful reading or by the attrition of a wide society it soon ceases to be of the slightest value and becomes a mere accretion of isolated facts, without correlation.

Subject Reading

Contributor Roland, Charles G.

Source: Osler, William. Remarks and Men. Remarks made at the opening of the new building of the Boston Medical Library, January 12, 1901. [Reprinted Boston Med Surg J 7 Jan 1901, p. 3].

William Osler 1909

It is easier to buy books than to read them and easier to read them than to absorb them.

Subject Reading

Contributor Stone, Marvin J

Source: Osler, William. The medical library in postgraduate work. J. 1909; 2:925-28.

William Osler 1903

Start at once a bed-side library and spend the last half hour of the day in communion with the saints of humanity.

Subject Reading

Contributor Roland, Charles G.

Source: Osler, William. Master-word in Medicine. Address given to undergraduates at the medical school of the University of Toronto, October 1, 1903. [Reprinted in *Ante-nimittas, with Other Addresses to Medical Students, Nurses, and Practitioners of Medicine*. Birmingham, AL: Classics of Medicine Library; 1987, p. 384].

William Osler 1894

To the physician particularly, a scientific discipline is an incalculable which leavens his whole life, giving exactness to habits of thought and tempering the mind with that judicious faculty of distrust which can amid the uncertainties of practice, make him wise unto salvation. For perdition inevitably awaits the mind of the practitioner who has never the full inoculation with the leaven, who has never grasped clearly the relations of science to his art, and who knows nothing and perhaps cares less, for the limitations of either.

Subject: Science

Contributor: Sakula, Alex

Source: Osler, William. Leaven of Science. Address given at the opening of the Wistar Institute of Anatomy and Biology of the University of Pennsylvania, May 21, 1894. [Reprinted in McGovern JP, Roland CG (eds) *The Collected Essays of Sir William Osler*. Birmingham, AL: Classics of Medicine Library; 1985, p. 61].

William Osler 1898

In its more aggravated forms diffuse scleroderma is one of the most terrible of all human ills. Like Tithonus to "wither slowly" and like Iphigeneia "beaten down and marred and wasted" until one is literally a mummy, encased in an evershrinking, slowly contracting skin of steel, is a figure pictured in any tragedy, ancient or modern.

Subject: Scleroderma

Contributor: Silverman, Mark E

Source: Osler, William. On diffuse scleroderma. *Genitourin Dis* 1898; 16:49 [As cited in Silverman ME, Huchinsdale B. *Ills for Adult Primary Care*. Philadelphia: Lippincott-Raven Publishers; 1996, p. 191].

William Osler 1892

No more dangerous members of our profession exist than those born into it, so to speak, as specialists. Without any broad foundation in physiology or pathology, and ignorant of the great processes of disease, no amount of technical skill can hide from the keen eyes of colleagues defects which too often require the arts of the charlatan to screen from the public.

Subject: Specialization

Contributor: Sakula, Alex

Source: Osler, William. Remarks on Specialists. 1892. In Camac CNB (ed) *Counsels and Ideals and Selected Aphorisms*. New York: Houton, Mifflin; 1905, p. 183 [Reprinted in Birmingham, AL: Classics of Medicine Library; 1985, p. 183].

William Osler 1897

Louis introduced what is known as the Numerical Method, a plan which we use every day, though the phrase is not now very often on our lips. To get an accurate knowledge of any disease it is necessary to study a large series of cases and to go into all the particulars--the conditions

under which it is met, the subjects specially liable, the various symptoms, the pathological changes, the effects of drugs. This method, so simple and self-evident, we owe largely to Louis.

Subject: Statistics

Contributor: Roland, Charles G.

Source: Osler, William. Influence of Louis on American Medicine 1897. In McGovern JP, Roland CG, eds. Collected Essays of Sir William Osler. vol. III. Birmingham, AL: Classics of Medicine Library; 1987. p. 193.

Maxwell Finland, Elias Strauss, Osler L, Peterson OL. Sulfadiazine was used in the treatment of 446 patients with various infections. It appeared to be highly effective in the treatment of...pneumococcal, staphylococcal and...pneumonias; meningococcal infections; acute infections of the upper respiratory tract including sinusitis; erysipelas; acute infections of the urinary tract, particularly those associated with Escherichia coli bacteriuria, and acute gonorrhea arthritis.... Toxic effects...were relatively mild and infrequent.

Subject: Sulfonamides

Contributor: Huth, Edward J.

Source: Finland M, Strauss E, Peterson OL. Sulfadiazine: therapeutic evaluation and toxic effects on four hundred and forty-six patients. JAMA. 1941; 116:2641-7. [2647]

William Osler 1895

The very best instructor for students may have no conception of the higher lines of work in his branch, and contrariwise, how many brilliant investigators have been wretched teachers?

Subject: Teachers

Contributor: Stone, Marvin J

Source: Osler, William. Teaching and Thinking 1895. [Reprinted in Aequanimitas, with Other Addresses to Medical Students, Nurses, and Practitioners of Medicine. Philadelphia: Blakiston's Son; 1932, p. 128].

William Osler 1905

The teacher's life should have three periods--study until 25, investigation until 40, profession until 60, at which age I would have him retired on double allowance.

Subject: Teachers

Contributor: Roland, Charles G.

Source: Osler, William. Valedictory address given at Johns Hopkins University. JAMA. 1905; 44:705-10.

William Osler 1892

The function of the teacher is to teach and to propagate the best that is known and taught in the world. To teach the current knowledge of the subject he professes--sifting, analyzing, assorting, laying down principles. To propagate, i.e., to multiply, facts on which to base principles--experimenting, searching, testing.

Subject Teachers

Contributor John Walton

Source: Osler, William. Teacher and Student 1892. [Reprinted in McGovern JP, Roland CG (eds). Collected Essays of Sir William Osler vol. II. Birmingham, AL: Classics of Medicine Library; 1985, p. 7

William Osler 1874

Careful investigation of the blood proves that, in addition to the usual elements, there exist pale granular masses, which on closer inspection present a corpuscular appearance. In size they vary greatly from half quarter that of a white blood-corpuscle, to enormous masses.... They have a compact solid look...while in specimens examined without any reagents the filaments of fibrin adhere to them.

Subject Thrombocytes (blood platelets)

Contributor Haubrich, William L., Edward J.

Source: Osler, William. An account of certain organisms occurring in the liquor sanguinis. R Socond. 1874; 22:391-8 [As cited in Talbott JH. A Biographical History of Medicine (q.v.)].

William Osler 1897

The all-important matter is to get breadth of view as early as possible this is difficult without travel.

Subject Travel

Contributor Stone, Marvin J

Source: Osler, William. Internal Medicine as a Vocation given at the New York Academy of Medicine, October 19, 1897]. [Reprinted in Aequanimitas, with Other Addresses to Medical Students, Nurses, and Practitioners of Medicine. Philadelphia: Blakiston's Son; 1932, p. 136].

William Osler circa 1900

The physician without physiology and chemistry practices a sort of popgun pharmacy, hitting now the malady and again the patient, he himself not knowing which.

Subject Treatment

Contributor Silverman, Mark E

Source: Osler, William. In Bean RB, Bean SW (eds) William Osler: Aphorisms from His Bedside Teachings and Springfeld, IL: Charles C. Thomas; 1961, p. 53.

William Osler 1905

No human being is constituted to know the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth; and even the best of men must be content with fragments, with partial glimpses, never the full fruition.

Subject Truth

Contributor Spilker, Bert

Source: Osler, William. Student Life farewell address given to American and Canadian Medical students, 1892]. [Reprinted in McGovern JP, Roland CG (eds). Collected Essays of Sir William Osler

Birmingham, AL: Classics of Medicine Library; 1985, p. 258].

William Osler 1889

In seeking absolute truth we aim at the unattainable, and must be content with finding broken portions.

Subject: Truth

Contributor: Barbero, Giulio J.

Source: Osler, William. *Annuaire*. Valedictory address given at the University of Pennsylvania, May 1, 1889. [Reprinted in McGovern JP, Roland CG (eds) *The Collected Essays of Sir William Osler*. 1. Birmingham, AL: Classics of Medicine Library; 1985, p. 7].

William Osler circa 1900

Common-sense nerve fibers are seldom medullated before forty--they are never seen even with a microscope before twenty.

Subject: Wisdom

Contributor: Barbero, Giulio J.

Source: Osler, William. In Bean RB, Bean SW (eds) *William Osler: Aphorisms from His Bedside Teachings and Springfields*. IL: Charles C. Thomas; 1961, p. 283.

William Osler 1894

I come here today, with...sorrow at my heart, to tell you that coeducation has proved an absolute failure, from our standpoint. When I tell you that 33.3 per cent of the ladies, students, admitted to Johns Hopkins Hospital at the end of our short session are to be married, then I tell you that coeducation is a failure. If 33.3 per cent fall victims at the end of a session, what will happen at the end of the fourth?

Subject: Women in medicine

Contributor: Huth, Edward J.

Source: Osler, William. Harvard Medical Association: annual dinner. Boston Med Surg J 1894; 136-42.

William Osler 1903

The master-word looms large in meaning. It is the open sesame to every portal, the great equalizer in the world, the true philosopher's stone which transmutes all the base metal of humanity into gold... It is directly responsible for all advances in medicine during the past twenty-five centuries.... Not only has it been the touchstone of progress, but it is a measure of success in every-day life.... And the master-word is Work.

Subject: Work

Contributors: Cheng, Tsung; Gaubrich, William; Stone, Marvin J

Source: Osler, William. *The Master-word in Medicine*. Address given to undergraduates at the medical school of the University of Toronto, October 1, 1903. [Reprinted in *Annuaire*, with Other Addresses to Medical Students, Nurses, and Practitioners of Medicine. Philadelphia: Blakiston's Son; 1932, pp. 356-7].

William Osler 1905

Men will not take time to get to the heart of a matter. After all, concentration is the price the modern student pays for success. Thoroughness is the most difficult habit to acquire, but it is the great price, worth all the worry and trouble of the search. The dilettante lives an easy, butterfly life, knowing nothing of the toil and labor which the treasures of knowledge are dug out of the past, or wrung by patient research in the laboratories.

Subject: Work

Contributor: Stone, Marvin J

Source: Osler, William. Student Life: A farewell address given to American and Canadian Medical students, 1892]. [Reprinted in Aequanimitas, with Other Addresses to Medical Students, Nurses, and Practitioners of Medicine. Philadelphia: Blakiston's Son; 1932, pp. 400-1].

William Osler 1899

As to your method of work, I have a single bit of advice, which I give with the earnest conviction of its paramount influence in any success which may have attended my efforts. Take life as it comes. Live neither in the past nor in the future, but let each day's work at your entire energies, and satisfy your widest ambition.

Subject: Work

Contributor: Barbero, Giulio Roland, Charles G.

Source: Osler, William. After Twenty-five Years: Address given at the McGill University, September 21, 1899]. [Reprinted in Aequanimitas, with Other Addresses to Medical Students, Nurses, and Practitioners of Medicine Birmingham, AL: Classics of Medicine Library; 1987, p. 213].

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