~~1028/68/20~~ CW5417/68.20

Montreal 6th Dec. '72

My dear Osler

You will have
rec.d by the mail which im-
mediately preceded this the
Deans reply to your letter
and although Botany may
not be as congenial a
subject to you as Practical
Physiology I hope you will
feel that the College is doing
what it can towards ad-
vancing yr interests &
securing for you some
official connexion with
the University — If I un-
derstand Dr Dawson
correctly he looks forward

not only by giving you above the Medical Class in Botany but – Ultimately the Art Class as well – which would of course make it pay more and if you felt – competent it appears to me probable that he would entrust Zoology as well to your care.

The University is so poor so needy that it has not the means of endowing a Chair in practical physiology and as a new professor has just entered upon the Chair of Institutes, it remains to be seen how far it may be necessary or convenient to establish between us practical physiology at present – While it is quite plain that you must qualify yourself for the just practice of your profession I am of opinion that you will be wise to cultivate those more scientific departments for which you have an aptitude & in which you have already done some work – It seems to me that two or three hours a day in a physiological laboratory would not prevent you from attending clinical wards of a good hospital & even

~~pour~~ pursuing your studies in Mich^l Anatomy. After you have finished your work in England, were I in y^r place I wd go to Germany & work under some of the great histologists Virchow, or Rindfleisch in Berlin or Bonn or Vienna.

Your scientific education will be one of yr best introductions to practice & will I have no doubt secure you a position as a teacher in a very short time in some one of the best Medical Schools in this country. On that point I have no

doubt — although, of course you must decide for yourself — and I will offer the advice which personal regard suggests — In this rapidly growing country — in which the medical schools are alive & enterprising, a man possessed of any scientific training beyond the average of his fellows is sure to make himself felt & more or less appreciated. The time must come when his services will be sought-

While then you take a dresser ship or a clerical clerk's place in some hospital & familiarise yr self with fractures & Ophthalmoscopes & Stethoscopes & what not, I would not omit working in the laboratory so many hours in the week, even altho: I saw no immediate prospect of teaching practical physiology — Moreover botany is so closely related to physiology & both to pathological histology that the time

given to the latter two will not altogether use less to the first: Dr Dawson indeed told me that scientific botany in England is not taught, & that you will have to resort to Germany for special instruction in it, just as is necessary for the thorough learning of practical physiology. Excuse this long & rambling letter, which you are only to regard as my own containing views for your consideration not guidance — I am glad to hear that you feel up to work & in good spirits —

Whose you have rec'd Dr Wright's order upon Trotter for the books. If you can spare the money & time, I wd advise you to run up to Edinbro. for the R.C.S. - which will cost only £5. & coming back here it will do you no harm to have a diploma for the "Old country" altho: not intrinsically worth more than if fairly obtained here.

Remember me kindly to Brown - drop me a line now & then when you can spare the time & let me know of yr. doings as I am interested in them.

With many wishes for a "happy Xmas" to yourself & Brown

I remain truly yours

R. Howard