
Here is a large and interesting collection of information about Sir William Osler (1849-1919), one of the country’s best-known nineteenth-century figures, whose fame and reputation as a teacher, friend, and inspiration to English-speaking physicians has hardly diminished since his death nearly sixty years ago. With what must have been enormous labour, Doctors Nation, Roland, and McGovern have gathered together and
annotated citations to articles and books about Osler. Their efforts will ease the work and further the interest of the many people drawn to him.

The scope of the checklist is admirably wide. It includes citations to articles and books, selected news stories (including many published in Osler's lifetime), at least one novel, an appearance on a journal cover, a crossword puzzle, book reviews, articles and books about Osler's students and followers, and articles about McGill University's Osler Library. I do miss, however, W.W. Francis: Tributes from His Friends on the Occasion of the 35th Anniversary of the Osler Society of McGill University (1956) and reviews of Osler's magnum opus, *The Principles and Practice of Medicine* (1892).

Although the checklist is concerned with works about Osler (reference bibliography), the inclusion of books by Osler (Appendix 1) would seem to indicate an intent to produce at least a partial physical bibliography, an undertaking of quite another sort. The book is arranged in alphabetical order by author. I would be interested to know why this arrangement was chosen rather than a chronological or classified one, which would have been a more obvious choice. I am also puzzled by the abbreviation, *N.A.P.T. Bull.*, in entry 101.

With its citations and annotations, the checklist will be helpful for a long time. Indeed, extensive use of it in the Osler Library has already proved it so. In addition, it is full of interesting facts, for example that Osler was 5 feet 4 inches tall; and of good humour, as in this ghost (1033): E.Y. Walker, 'An Idol Fallen: William Osler', *Ann. Roy. Hibern. Hagiog. Soc.*, 70:18-49, 1919.

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The first volume of the reminiscences of the two partners of the well-known New York firm of Leona Rostenberg Rare Books, Leona Rostenberg and Madeleine B. Stern, was reviewed in volume xiv (1975) of the *Papers of the BSC*. Published in 1974 under the title *Old & Rare: Thirty Years in the Book Business* (New York: Abner Schram; London: George Prior), it described the beginnings of the firm, the partners' experiences on buying trips to Europe, their encounters with people and books. In *Between Boards: New Thoughts on Old Books*, Mmes Rostenberg and Stern continue to enlighten and entertain us with their bibliographical activities and 'adventures'. They discourse learnedly on the books and pamphlets they have handled, and again offer us many reflections on their chosen profession which, over the years, has brought them 'a summa of joy in the endless world of books'. They prove again that the antiquarian book trade is 'incorrectly regarded as a serene sedentary profession' and that it can lead those who exercise it into many 'perils and pitfalls' in the unceasing search for books for stock and clients. While of course most of the episodes are based on the authors' personal experiences, one of the highlights of the book is the brilliant imaginary account of the peregrinations of a rare edition of one of Erasmus' works from owner to owner, from the 16th to the 20th century ('Mistress Folly's Life Cycle'). An entertaining chapter deals with books that for