Auchincloss Report to the Surgical Department

AUCHINCLOSS, HUGH, 1878-1947.  
“Report to the Surgical Department of Columbia University on a Trip taken in November and December 1915,” c.1916.  
1 v. (c. 80 p.)

SUMMARY: Report of a trip made by Auchincloss, Nov. 24-Dec. 23, 1915, to study hospital organization and surgical methods.  He visited Montreal (Royal Victoria & Montreal General); Toronto (Toronto General); Cleveland (Lakeside Hospital & Babies’ Dispensary); Chicago (most major hospitals and Rush Medical School); Rochester, Minn. (Mayo Clinic); St. Louis (Washington University); and Cincinnati (Cincinnati General).  He spent most of his journey at the Mayo Clinic.  He also describes a trip he made to Boston, previous to this journey, where he visited most of the major hospitals.  Besides noting many of the surgical techniques he witnessed, Auchincloss also writes of outpatient clinics, recordkeeping practices, social service work, and hospital design.

The volume also has several ink sketches in the margins, presumably by Auchincloss, as well as numerous reprints, largely about surgical procedures, tipped in.

In 1911, Columbia University and Presbyterian Hospital had signed an affiliation agreement to form what would become the Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center.  This report was probably meant to aid the Department of Surgery of the College of Physicians & Surgeons of Columbia University in planning for the new hospital.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE: Hugh Auchincloss was born Dec. 28, 1878 in New York City.  He was educated at Groton, was graduated from Yale in 1901, and received his medical degree from the College of Physicians and Surgeons (P&S), Columbia University, in 1905.  After surgical residencies at Presbyterian and Roosevelt Hospitals in New York, he began a long association with both Presbyterian Hospital and P&S, eventually becoming Chief of the Second Surgical Division of Presbyterian and Professor of Clinical Surgery at P&S.  He was best known for his skill in surgery of the hand and of the breast.

PROVENANCE: Gift of Mrs. Hugh Auchincloss, Jr. (Katherine L. Auchincloss), daughter-in-law of the author, 1997 (acc.# 98.04.08).

SUBJECTS

Mayo Clinic.
Hospitals – Administration – United States.
Surgery – Practice – United States.
Surgery, Operative – United States.