



# BETWEEN THE COVERS RARE BOOKS

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St. Vincent's Hospital  
Jacksonville, Florida

Wednesday aft.

Dearest sweetheart,  
your little gift today and your  
sweet letter yesterday reminded  
me that I had something to  
celebrate. I'm so happy that you  
remembered me and I would  
love to see you. I try to  
be as merry for you as I can  
- just because I love you so  
much. I'll be there for you  
again - just as it did  
before. I'll be there for you  
again - just as it did  
before. I'll be there for you  
again - just as it did  
before.



St. Vincent's Hospital  
Jacksonville, Florida

Miss Marie M. Lane  
Albion  
S.C.

Thursday evening  
the way I'm in  
I was called but  
far on my way  
I'm on call  
my night's

St. Vincent's Hospital  
Jacksonville, Florida

had forgotten all about it -  
until your letter last Tuesday  
you said you were sending a little  
gift. Yesterday at dinner - the  
sisters sent me the nicest coconut  
cake, candles and every thing - and  
more ice cream than twelve people  
could eat and feel good about it.  
So we three boys just had a  
dinner you often dream about.  
The nurse carrying the dinner  
trays found out that the cake was  
for me and at supper they slipped  
me several little boxes of candy to be  
for me. I'll be there for you  
again - just as it did  
before.

St. Vincent's Hospital  
Jacksonville, Florida

went anyway - and she was going  
for the night - and that is  
what has kept me - and that is  
duty tonight. I did all I could, but  
that wasn't enough.  
Dearest, how I would love to  
have you tonight - just for  
a few minutes. I'm in  
Jacksonville for a lot  
of time.

St. Vincent's Hospital  
Jacksonville, Florida

Miss Marie M. Lane  
All-gay Hotel  
Bluffton  
S.C.



## **“George”**

### *[Archive]: Medical Student Letters*

Jacksonville, Florida: June - August 1930

\$950

An archive of 14 letters totaling 44 pages, plus one postcard. Near fine letters with envelopes with tears from opening.

A collection of letters written by a medical student who was interning for the summer in the emergency room at St. Vincent’s Memorial Hospital in Jacksonville, Florida. The author of the letters, a young man named George, writes to his sweetheart Miss Marie Mclean, in Aiken and Bluffton, South Carolina. His lengthy letters alternate between his affection for Marie, his guilt and anguish at not being able to see her, and detailed, sometimes graphic, descriptions of his work at the hospital. One letter reads, “I wonder if you have a date tonight – and with whom. Every night I think of that – and wish that I could be the one with you. There is no one within 200 miles I care to see – but you.” He describes hectic nights where he sees mangled bodies from car wrecks on the beach writing “There were six people from an automobile wreck at the beach...needless to say there was quite a bit of stitching to be done – and another fractured skull to care for. When all had been done for them a drunk delirium tremens was brought in – we had a free for all fight with him – it took three of us and an orderly to strap him in bed.” And again in another he writes, “Another beach wreck and mangled bodies to put together. One died little while ago – the father of two little boys – one of whom probably won’t live long...a policeman was brought in with a shot wound in his head.” In another letter he tells about taking on an attempted suicide case all by himself and later assists with ten surgeries. He writes, “I’m so proud of myself...I had to handle the would be suicide all by myself...she had taken bichloride and mercury lucky for me that I’ve had a very good course in toxicology...together we stitched up the four accident cases – but one of them – a little boy has a fractured skull and he isn’t doing so well.” Throughout, we get a sense of the pride and exhilaration George feels at the hospital, along with the stress and exhaustion the job creates.

A wonderful collection of letters detailing a medical student’s internship at a Florida Hospital in 1930. [\[BTC#423687\]](#)