

OSLER'S

NOTES

The pharynx is the garbage dump.

The pharynx is the garbage dump of the bronchial tubes and nasal passages. The street sweepers (ciliated epithelial cells) are constantly on duty and especially busy at night removing the debris from the air passages to be carried away the next morning.

(Source: Bean WB. Sir William Osler: Aphorisms, 134-5.)

Varicose veins are hereditary.

Varicose veins are the result of an improper selection of grandparents.

(Source: Bean WB. Sir William Osler: Aphorisms, 146.)

The pain of peptic ulcer is distinctive.

Pain is perhaps the most constant and distinctive feature of [peptic] ulcer. It varies greatly in character; it may be only a gnawing or burning sensation, which is particularly felt when the stomach is empty, and is relieved by taking food, but the more characteristic form comes on in paroxysms of the most intense gastralgia, in which the pain is not only felt in the epigastrium, but radiates to the back and to the sides.

(Source: The Principles and Practice of Medicine, 371.)