Sir William Osler

- First to be appointed “Pathologist to the Hospital” Montreal General Hospital (1876)
- Performed over 1,000 autopsies
- Would have the students compare their clinical diagnoses with subsequent findings at autopsy or surgery
Granulomatous Inflammation

- Definition: A distinctive pattern of chronic inflammation characterized by the focal accumulation of activated macrophages, which often develop an epithelioid (epithelial-like) appearance
Adrenals
Liver
Brain
Meninges
Acute pneumonia
Granulomatous Inflammation

- Tuberculosis- especially if there is caseous necrosis- (Ziehl-Neelsen stain)
- Sarcoidosis (Distributed along lymphatics)
- Fungi (histoplasmosis)- Methenamine Silver stain
- Foreign Material (Polarize)
- Leprosy (Ziehl-Neelsen stain), syphilis, cat-scratch disease (Silver stain), brucellosis (contact with animals ), berylliosis (exposure to beryllium )
Tuberculosis
Foreign Body Granuloma
This Case

Tuberculosis!
Cause of Death

- **Disseminated Tuberculosis** involving the lungs, adrenals, meninges, brain, kidneys, prostate, and liver
- Possible adrenal insufficiency
- Global hypoxic and ischemic changes in the brain
- Superimposed acute bronchopneumonia
Sir William Osler

- Bibliography- typhoid fever, pneumonia and tuberculosis
- Founded the Laennec Society for the study of tuberculosis (1900)
- Had two of his students follow tuberculous patients home from the clinic. They are shocked at the deplorable living conditions in which they lived.
- Osler became a strong advocate for public health measures to fight tuberculosis- “we know his three allies- poverty, bad housing, and drink”
- A number of his closest colleagues at Hopkins died of tuberculosis- Jack Hewetson, Meredith Reese
“The student tries to learn too much, and we teachers try to teach too much…the existing evils result from neglect on the part of the teacher…of the great fundamental principle laid down by Plato- that education is a life-long process. Perhaps happiness for the student and teacher will come with the abolition of examinations, which are one of the great stumbling blocks and rocks of offense in the pathway of the true student”
Sir William Osler

“The pity of all is that we should have made an intolerable burden of the study of one of the most attractive professions”