# 'Bramati, Gemaldo Grillo'

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BRAMATI, GEMALDO GRILLO; CALABRIA, ITALY

20/121

20 Ottobre 1910L

Gentilissimo Signor Dottore,

Mi preme ringraziarla assai cordialmente per la di Let cortese lettera del 7 corrente e ler le informazioni che ha avuto la bonta di communicarmi riguardo ai rimedii locali contro i morsi di vipere e contro la malaria. Il di Lei rapporto mi ha assai interessato, e se avesse la gentilezza di inviarmi una buona quantità dello specifico per le morsicature di vipere e di altri serpenti velenosi, come pure l'erba che si usa costi nella cura della malaria, li farei indagare accuratamente nei mici laboratorii di ricerche.

La ringrazio di tutto cuore per l'interesse che Ella ha mostrato per l'Esposizione Storico-Medica che avrà luogo a Londra nel 1913, qua d'quando il Congresso Medico Internazionale si unirà in questa città. Mi auguro che Ella possa venire a visitarla. Le accludo un prospetto della stessa e pure elcune piccole pubblicazioni, che forse potrebbero interessarla.

In attesa di una di Lei cortese communicazione, La prego di gradire i miei cortesi ossequi.

Suo devmo.

How. W.

Dottor Gemaldo Grillo Bramati, Ardoro Marina, Prov. di Reggio Calabria, I T A L I A.

20th October 1910.

Dear Sir,

I desire to thank you very cordially for your kind letter of 7th inst., and for the information you have been good enough to send me respecting the local cures for viper bites and malaria. I have been much interested in reading your report, and if you xxxx could send me a good supply of the drug used for the bites of vipers and poisonous snakes, and also the herb used in the treatment of malaria, I will have them properly investigated at my research laboratories.

I thank you very heartily for the interest you have taken in the Historical Medical Exhibition, which will be held in London in the year 1913, when the International Congress meets in this city. I trust you will be able to some to England to visit it. I enclose you a Syllabus of the same and also one or two small booklets which I trust will interest you.

Awaiting the favour of your further communication,

Yours very truly,

H.S. W.

Signor Gemaldo Grillo Bramati, Ardoro Marina, Prov. di Reggio Calabria, I T A L I A. 13 OCTISIS

MEMORANDUM

BURROUGHS WELLCOME & Co.

MILAN

Data 10th.October 1910.

To Burroughs Wellcome & Co.

LONDON

Reference No. 3678

Your Memo. Reference.

Re H.M.Exhibition.

Dated

We are handing you herewith a letter received by us addressed to Mr. Henry S. Wellcome, with which we would ask you to deal as you may see fit.

TRANSLATION. Bramati, 7/9/10.

Dear Sir.

Having you honoured me by sending your pamphlet announcing the large exhibition you are organizing, relating to the history of medicine and to the art of curing diseases, I believe you wi'l not be displeased to learn of certain remedies which are considered in this region of Calabria of certain success for some diseases. I there fore dare (venture) addressing you the present writing.

Since immemorable times in certain mountainous villages on the sides of Aspromonte, a specific is used with sure results against bites of vipers and other poisonous snakes. So that you should be we well informed of the efficacy of the mentioned remedy, I think it opportune to transcribe the report given one century ago (in 1810) by an erudite neapolitan physician, which I herewith enclose and of which I possess the autograph.

I believe it equally appropriate to inform you that here the neighbourhood constitutes a malaria infected zone which circumscribes my country, and people use with sure results, against inveterate cases of malaria, who are refractory to the action of quinine salts, adecotion of an indigenous grass, tought by someone who saw it used in Africa by the shepherds of Attante (Atlas?) mountain, the southern declivy of which is scattered with lakelets which spread malaria.

If you consider it appropriate I could dispatch to you the mentioned plant for il ustrations.

Should you think the above mentioned remedies of any use for your exhibition you may have from me the necessary informations.

Awaiting an answer whatever from you, I beg to present my respects with full esteem and grateful sentiment.

Ardoro Marina (Prov. di Reggio Calabria) Sept. 7th, 1910.

Yours devoted admiror, Gemaldo Grillo Bramati.

Dignor Henry S. SSelliom Agregio Signore avendoni Lei onorato dell'invis del puo opusolo di avviso per la grande esposizio ne che dei sta organizanto in relazio no alla storia della medicina Di quarire le malattie, execo non riefed fgradevole conoscere di taluni rimedi the ritingonfind questo lala bra regione ficuro fuccesso in talune prefente o a Tempi immemora bili in taluni willagi montani alle falle di Ofpromonto contro le morficature della Vipera ed al Tri rettili velenosi ji usa con ficuro Juccesso uno specifico. Ed ende tenerla to their to new opporte ersverle la relazione che ne ter

- en fech fatnel 1810) un dolla medico Na · poletano che le autino, in feno alla prefen to e she is poneggo autografo L'arimente credo opportino informarlo che qui nel mio paese, i un dintorne fotora no una zona molorica the lo esreoferine Wusa con ficuro puepo per le Tello moloriche inverepiale che sono repullo rie all arione dei fali di thining, Decollo di una pranto erleacea inosigeni integrato da un che la reser ufato in Africa dai parton del monte attan to il mi verfanto mendionale expor fo Di laghette the diffondono molaria Oreeler lo crevo opportuno potrei pe Virgli to remate prante per iller Me erederd utile her la pra espoposione i umati simeri hoche arecio da alichhortum'eriarimente, matte drungers qualfani ri frontio

Dello spesspio contro la morpiationa della Vipera e Raja Offisi op duna lunga prolupione Jul veleno Vella rispera, e dei rimedi pernulla efficaci Tinora ufati un dollo medico Rapoletono I fecolo passalo espone il fequente ca fo , Brausale Di anni Ao, Di temperamento cal , levico biliono, di forto cortituzione, padre , Ditre figle il giorno di lafqua Vellamo , 1810 alle ore 20 Malia (verfo le 4 p.m. , onde far mortro d'pro coraggio nelle " prendere con le fue moni alune sispere , the fi portanono per undere ad un forma , with sperufa Vella gelationa di nipera , in usa in medicina come nutritiva " Fir arvertito del pro persiolo ed egli bra , vando da santoggio, uminico anfi as " ithigave irettili; Sovi quali ne sports " Le morficature, due nel ésto medés della , mano finistra ed una nell'anulare, e la y quarla nella wella della flessa mana

: Le morfication furono orrecato da due " ripere, Deominiorono le Jevito a Lor fonque " the tosto vennero puchi ato dal Bracion , te flesso. Sprimi fintomy delle confequence , Sil veleno Jurono, il vomito del cros efisten , To nello sto maco, il gonfrow delle dito esto 11 manes d'ella boua; oue forte esisteria 11 qualite foligione di worth nuco, e colle fupione , ha Sound dai linfatori aportirifi porte de 11 veleno misto cof fanque. Indi Pallore I Tel wello, ablattemento generale diferse " in i jeanono gio la granta della avuelena , mento d'effetto del quale fingigonti no , fempre più, Il gan piore progredino Mer , le ore jerotine i polfi firefero intermittento " la prespirio del corpo tutto fred da allo " cuefia, appena poteno profferire quelle , thono dinace inarticola to; niuno , ajulo tolland. Il tempo panano il male Johnanancana le Forto Refla , natura, Nelle on del Mottino i polfi 1) imperellitibili annilimento estremo. Mojort

endarario Esendolinfermo gia prino Difenzi fi penso pi penso a propinarali la poluere spession . On la la la miena prima oftinutomente simpato di prendore , Hon potour però la vetta poluere epere in , tro dotto attefo il grande gonfiere delle ). Janii lon una cannula ad un fixone p fi juppli al difetto di Reglutizione le , Survolle la propinazione & , Two forprendente d'infermo ju faluo " Jerza altro ajuto medico. Come la pradi 1) oriosa policere fil nello stomaco, i protomi , tassici minosarono. De ne replicó anco , for und tesso wolld l'ujo temendo she Tella operate Tope porfione fond anda " differ for i' made di propinarla payiente pinimise nel pro eque y bira generale di jorge, alle ferite paper , Cofuppurazione Juero il worfo ordina , rio lame pure un certo gon siere simo He per pero altro tempo trogionario alle

moni elabora Ilonehinde il medio. augurondofi the per la vienca De tale fluipio la fenolo medico Shops etano polio nontore un nolinte simelio contro le morpialuro dei retti que lena Germa Trattandeli Di un antidato as releno animale forto she quello che inocula il hauth virgola nell'inte fino uma no producentoil where now a pure un releno animale che moni fertos consumato atapia generale ce ce foreble Eggello di riplersione effenmente

ma o grato animo Por Marina (Prov. D' Reggio Colabrio) 7 1101910 Of the remedy against bites of viper and Naja aspide.

After a long prolusion on the poison of the viper, and on the remedies up to now by no means efficaciously employed, an emidite neapolitan physician of the preceeding century exposes the following case.

### CLINICAL.

"Braniali, aged 40, of cho'eric-bi'ious temperament, of strong constitution, father of three children, to show off his courage on Easter of the year 1810 at 20 o'clok Italian hour (about 4 pm.) he wonted to touch with his hands some vipers which were taken to be sold to a chemist for the use of the viper's gelatine used in m medicine as mutrient. He was warned of the peril but boasting eversomore, he even began to excite the reptiles, from which he received four bites, two on the middle finger of the left hand and one the ring finger and on the fourth in the palm of the same hand.

"Two vipers had bitten him, and blood was soon flowing from them, Braniali endeavoured to imbibe it. The first symptoms of the poison's consequences were manifested by the vomiting of undigested food, swelling of the fingers, hands and mouth; where very likery there was a wound and in sucking part of the poison mixed with blood must have been absorbed by the lymphatics.

There followed paleness on the face, general depression already of strength which indicated the seriousness of the poisoning the effect of which increased considerably and constantly, the

swelling also progressed. Towards night the puls became intermittent, the surface of the body was thoroughout cold at the touch, the patient could hardly utter few inarticulated sounds, no help from the art (of therapy?).

"The time passed and the evil was overwhelming nature's strengh.

"In the morning hours the pulse was unperceivable, abatement was extreem, the face cadaveric.

"Being the patient deprived of his senses it was thought of administering the <u>specific drug</u> which he had previously obstinately refused to take. The drug could not be administered on account of the considerable swelling of the fauces. With a tube and a syphon the defect of deglutition was overcome. That same morning the drug was twice administered. The effect was surprising, and the patient was saved with no further medical attendance.

"As soon as the drug reached the stomach the toxic symptoms diminished. For a third time the drug was administrated for fear that the exact dosis might partly have been dispersed by the method administration and the patient returned into his usual balance of forces.

"The wounds suppurated and the body bacame normal as well as the swelling of the fingers, hands and lips which only remained stationary for a short period."

The physician coholudes hoping that for the research of this specific the neapolitan medical school may boast of a valuable remedy against bites of poisonous reptiles.

Being here the question of an antidote to the an animal poison, possibly that (?) which immodulates the comma bacillus in the human intestine giving rise to cholera; be not also an animal poison manifesting general ataxia &c., &c. this might be the object of consideration and of experiments.