

**'Hooper, Dr David'**

**Publication/Creation**

1904-1913

**Persistent URL**

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/cmydt2sa>

**License and attribution**

Works in this archive created by or for Henry Wellcome or the Wellcome organisation are available under a CC-BY license. Please be aware that works in this archive created by other organisations and individuals are not covered under this license, and you should obtain any necessary permissions before copyright or adapting any such works.



Wellcome Collection  
183 Euston Road  
London NW1 2BE UK  
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722  
E [library@wellcomecollection.org](mailto:library@wellcomecollection.org)  
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

HOOPER, DR. DAVID

'04 / '13

346

May 2. 1906

Dear Mr. Hooper,

Very many thanks for the pictures which you have so kindly sent me of the deities of the various diseases which are mentioned by Crawford. I have been most interested in them, and send you my cordial thanks for the trouble you have taken.

I trust you will let me know of any expense which you have been put to in the matter, which I shall be most pleased to remit.

Again thanking you for your great kindness in sending me the same,

I am,

Yours very truly,

O. Hooper Esq.,  
Indian Museum,  
Industrial Section,  
1, Sudder Street,  
Calcutta,  
India.



376.

346

February 15. 1905.

Dear Mr Hooper,

I am going to venture to trouble you again to know if you could procure for me any coloured drawings of the following deities, which are mentioned by Crawford in his "History of the Hughli District" as being connected by the Hindoos with various diseases :-

Sitala	-	Goddess of Smallpox.
Olai Bibi	}	Presiding Deity of Cholera.
Olai Chandi		
Jagat Gauri	-	Cholera deity.
Manasa	-	Deity of snake bite.
Durga	-	Deity of epidemics.

If you could procure any coloured drawings of these Deities for me for the historical medical exhibition and let me have them soon, I should be greatly obliged.

I am sorry to trouble you in the matter.

Yours very truly,

David Hooper Esq.,  
Indian Museum,  
Industrial Section,  
1, Sudder Street,  
Calcutta,  
India.



376



346

August 24, 1934

Dear Mr Hooper,

Many thanks for your kind letters of June 22nd and July 7th which, owing to absence from town, I have been unable to reply to before.

I have been much interested in the description of the brass duplicate you have sent me of Jeora, the god of fever.

With respect to the Japanese picture, I am afraid it will be perhaps a little too broad for the purpose of my exhibition, but I shall be pleased if you will accept £1.0.0 (one pound) for it. I beg to enclose you a cheque value £3.0.0 (three pounds) for this and the brass god.

Again expressing my hearty thanks to you for your co-operation and the trouble you have taken for me in the matter,

I am,

Yours very truly,

P.S. Will you kindly acknowledge receipt of the cheque.

David Hooper Esq.,





Indian Museum.

INDUSTRIAL SECTION.

No. 1, SUDDER STREET, CALCUTTA.

April 5<sup>th</sup> 1905.

Dear Mr Wellcome,

I am sending you by  
this mail pictures of three  
of the deities you asked for  
in your letter of the 16<sup>th</sup> Feb.  
The peculiar deities mentioned  
in Crawford's 'History of the  
Hughli District' are not  
common in Bengal & no  
pictures of them are kept  
for sale in the shops. I  
have obtained the services  
of a pundit & between him



and the Museum

artist has been evolved a  
pictorial representation of  
Sitala, Manasa + Durga.

Sitala, the goddess of small-  
pox is represented as seated  
upon an ass, with a broom  
in her right hand, an  
earthen pot in her left &  
on her head a sieve.

Manasa, the deity of  
snake-bite, is seated upon  
a goose with a cobra in  
each hand and ring

snakes entwined around her  
body.

Raksha Kali or Durga, the  
deity of epidemics is stand-  
ing with the right foot  
upon a snake, the left foot  
upon a lotus, and a  
huge necklace of skulls

I will try and send  
pictures of the remaining  
two deities of cholera if  
I can get a clue to their  
appearance

Yours sincerely

David Hoopes



516

October 6. 1934

Dear Mr Hooper,

Very many thanks for your kind letter of the 14th September, and for sending me the sample of "Rasol" or extract of Barberry. I shall be very pleased to have a copy of your paper when you can find time to forward me one.

Again thanking you for your kindness,

I am,

Yours very truly,

David Hooper Esq.,  
Indian Museum,  
Industrial Section,  
No 1 Sudder Street,  
Calcutta.



Indian Museum.

INDUSTRIAL SECTION.

No. 1, SUDDER STREET, CALCUTTA.

Jan. 19<sup>th</sup> 1905.

Henry S. Wellcome Esq.

with compliments of

J. Hooper

376





Indian Museum.

INDUSTRIAL SECTION,

No. 1, SUDDER STREET, CALCUTTA.

Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> 1904.

Dear Mr Wellcome,

I have to acknowledge  
with thanks the receipt of  
your letter of the 24. August  
enclosing a cheque for £3  
in payment of the brass  
image of Jivra and the  
Japanese picture.

I am by this mail sending  
you a packet of Rusot or  
extract of Barberry which is  
an ancient medicine used

in the East for eye diseases.  
An account of this medicine  
was read before the Asiatic  
Society of Bengal last month  
and I will send you a copy  
of the paper when published.  
A notice of it was also sent  
to the Editor of the "Pharma-  
ceutical Journal".

Yours sincerely

David Hooper.



Mr Fabian

Chas  
No 62109

H.M.E.

a cheque for

Will you please hand Miss Jones £3.0.0. (three pounds)  
To be charged to H.M.E. account. to be sent to Mr.

David Hooper of Calcutta for Mr. Williams' instructions

August 24. 1904

C.F.T.

make payable to David Hooper

H.M.E.

376)

Hooper-





376

Indian Museum.

INDUSTRIAL SECTION.

No. 1, SUDDER STREET, CALCUTTA.

July 7<sup>th</sup> 1904.

Dear Mr Wellcome,

At the meeting of the Asiatic Society of Bengal held last night the map of Jerra the food of fever was shown and described by Pandit Y. C. Shastri. I am sending you the description as it was read which will be printed in the Transactions.

The image shown  
was a fellow of the  
one made for you which  
is now exhibited in our  
section of the Museum.

Yours sincerely

David Hoopes

---





Indian Museum.

INDUSTRIAL SECTION.

No. 1, SUDDER STREET, CALCUTTA.

June 22<sup>nd</sup> 1904.

Dear Mr. Wellcome,

I am glad to hear  
that my exhibits for your  
Medical History display  
have arrived in London  
safely.

I wish you to under-  
stand that I do not  
require any of the objects  
to be returned. What I  
sent you here purposely

for your Exhibition, & knowing  
that you are personally  
interested in such things  
as deities ruling over medicine  
and disease I obtained  
the idol "Jhor" for you.

This is my only out of  
pocket expense connected  
with the specimens. I  
ordered two to be made,  
one for our Ethnology  
Court in the Museum



and one for you. I paid

Rs 30/ (about £2) for it.

So your specimen is no doubt

the only one in existence in

Europe. The deity is usually

made of clay, and destroyed

as soon as the fever has left

or the patient has died. It

is therefore unusual to have

a brass representation of it.

The pundit who gave the  
description to the modeller has

promised to read a paper

on the god before the Asiatic

Society of Bengal.

About the Japanese picture;  
it was given me by a visitor  
from Japan for some slight  
professional assistance I  
had rendered him during  
his stay in Calcutta. He  
said a member of the Tea  
Association had offered him  
Rs100/- for it, but he wished to  
give it to me. I do not value  
it at that price, and will  
let you have it for whatever  
sum you like to give for  
it.

Yours sincerely

David Hooper

Thank you  
D.H.



376

May 28. 1904

Dear Mr Hooper,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of the brass deity Juara and the interesting samples of drugs you have so kindly sent me for my forthcoming historical medical exhibition, and which have arrived in safety.

Owing to the magnitude of the work involved and the large number of exhibits promised, the date of the exhibition has not yet been finally fixed, and should you meet with anything in the meantime of interest, I should be most pleased to have it. I will return these articles to you at the close of the exhibition.

Again thanking you for your kind interest in the matter,

I am,

Yours very truly,

David Hooper Esq.,  
Indian Museum,  
No 1 Sutter Street,  
Calcutta,  
India.

376

April 29. 1904

Dear Mr Hooper,

Many thanks for your letters of the 17th ult., and 8th inst., which I regret owing to pressure of work I have been unable to reply to sooner.

The old Japanese picture you have kindly sent me has come safely to hand, and is extremely interesting. I shall be pleased to have it on loan for my forthcoming historical medical exhibition, and will take the greatest care of it and return it to you when the exhibition is over. I thank you also for sending the brass image of the god of fever and the other articles you mention, which have not yet come to hand. I will advise you directly the articles arrive.

Allow me again to thank you most cordially for the trouble and kind interest you have taken in this matter, and if you hear of anything further at a later date, I shall be glad to know.

I am,

Yours very truly,

Henry S. Wellcome,

per

David Hooper Esq.,  
Indian Museum,  
N° 1 Sutter Street,  
Calcutta.



346

March 30, 1904

Dear Mr Hooper,

Please accept my cordial thanks for your kindness in procuring the interesting objects you mention for my forthcoming historical medical exhibition. I shall be most pleased to have the two brass deities when they are ready, and if you will kindly send me a full description and particulars concerning them as you promise, it will greatly add to their interest. I shall also be glad to have the old Japanese print and any other objects you may have been able to collect in the meantime.

Will you please let me have an account for these articles including all expenses, carriage, etc. and I shall be glad to remit you a cheque for the same.

Again thanking you for the trouble you have taken in the matter,

I am,

Yours very truly,

*(signed by Mr. Wellcome personally)*

H. Hooper Esq.,  
Indian Museum, (Industrial Section),  
No 1 Sudder Street,  
Calcutta,



CT speak to  
next  
re their

Indian Museum.

INDUSTRIAL SECTION.

No. 1, SUDDER STREET, CALCUTTA,

March. 17. 1904.

376

Dear Mr Wellcome,

I am sending you by

to hand  
book post a peculiar Japan-  
ese picture advertisement  
of about 300 years ago.

It is to show the advantages  
of tea drinking although in  
a manner we do not appre-  
ciate at the present time.

The tea was supposed  
to stimulate the secretions



and increase the quality &  
quantity of the urine. In  
the picture the man who  
had been drinking tea  
meets a woman on her way  
to purchase her morning  
supply of milk. Finding  
out the object of her errand  
he tells her to place her  
bowl on the ground & the words  
give her all she required.

To her great astonishment  
he passes water of the  
clean nature of milk & in  
sufficient amount for her  
requirements.

X I do not want the print  
if you care to give £6  
the value offered to me by  
a tea merchant here, you  
may keep it for your  
collection.

I am also sending with  
it two papers on "Old Eastern



Medicines." Specimens of  
the medicines themselves  
will be sent you in the  
box of articles I am putting  
together for your Exhibit-  
ion of Medicine.

Yours sincerely

D. Hooper



(376)

Indian Museum.

INDUSTRIAL SECTION.

No. 1, SUDDER STREET, CALCUTTA.

Feb 10<sup>th</sup> 1904.

Dear Mr Wellcome,

I have not made a  
very large collection of  
articles for your Medical  
Exhibition but I hope  
in a week or two to be  
able to send off to London  
a few things of interest.  
I am having made  
two dieters one a  
god "Jhor" worshipped



for malarial fever, and

another Dhanavary

, an ancient god of medicine

I think these will be

useful in your perman-

ent exhibition in Snow

Hill as they are very

rare & have to be made

under the directions of a

Sanskrit pundit in

brass. The duties are

usually made of clay or  
mud and are thrown  
away when the illness  
has gone or the patient  
has died. The brass figures  
will last for ever & I  
will send you a full  
description of each. The  
maker is asking \$2  
each for moulding &  
polishing the figures.

I am also sending you  
an old Japanese print

to see if it will cover all expenses  
Remit cheque for these



showing the value of tea  
in promoting the quality  
& quantity of natural  
secretions, used as an  
advancement 300 years  
ago.

Yours sincerely

J. Hooper



376

Indian Museum.

INDUSTRIAL SECTION.

No. 1, SUDDER STREET, CALCUTTA,

April 6<sup>th</sup>

1904.

Dear Mr Wellcome,

I am sending you today  
by unpaid parcel delivery  
the following articles for your  
Medical Exhibition,

a brass image of Juara  
the god of fever.

The model has three head  
three legs & six arms. In the  
three  
~~first~~ right hands he holds :-

1.<sup>st</sup> a mace

2.<sup>nd</sup> Battleaxe

3.<sup>rd</sup> Arrow



in the three left hands: -

1<sup>st</sup> a bow

2<sup>nd</sup> a rope

3<sup>rd</sup> a brass pot

These six weapons are wrapped  
up separately.

In the same box I am  
sending you samples of

"AKAKIA" + "SILAJIT"

two Ancient Hindu medicines  
about which I have written  
descriptive articles before  
the Asiatic Society of Bengal.

A most remarkable medication consisting of the speracle of a sea urchin: Cidaris margaritifera, Sow. It is composed of calcium carbonate.

The fruits of Martynia diandra said to resemble the hind quarters of a scorpion + under the law of signature, supposed to be a remedy for scorpion stings. The drug is innocuous.

I hope these with the articles I sent you ~~spoken~~ last week will reach you



in time for the Exhibition  
and be of some interest.

Although I announced your  
exhibition in the local papers  
I am sorry to say I have  
not had a single response  
in the way of specimens.

Yours sincerely

J. Hooper

41. 0. 6. 5. 4. 1. 2

376

January 6, 1904

Dear Mr Hooper,

I think you may be interested to learn that I am organising an historical exhibition to be held in London in a few months' time, and enclosed I send you memo giving full particulars. I shall greatly value any help you can render in this matter, and you may feel sure that the greatest care will be taken of any objects you are willing to lend me.

I am particularly interested in plants, or parts of plants resembling the human form which are employed for medicinal purposes. If you know of any such used in native Indian medicine I should be grateful if you could kindly secure for me or lend me specimens.

Yours very sincerely,

To  
David Hooper Esq. F.R.C.S., F.O.S.  
Indian Museum,  
1 Sutter Street,  
Calcutta,  
India.





**BOTANICAL SURVEY OF INDIA,  
Office of Economic Botanist,  
INDIAN MUSEUM.**

Calcutta, the 14<sup>th</sup> Aug. 1913

Henry S. Wellcome Esq

Dear Mr Wellcome,

I was very pleased  
to receive a Handbook  
of the Historical Medical  
Museum you have so  
successfully organised.  
I thank you for it.

I notice on page 19

you have a figure of

Ironra the Hindu god of

fever. This is not

lent by me; it was

made for you and

think you sent the

money for it, so it is

your own property.

Yours sincerely  
J. Brown



9 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

Mr. C.J.S.Thompson,

re Letter from Botanical Survey of India  
Office of Economic Botanist, Indian Museum, Calcutta.

Mr. Wellcome wishes to speak with you about the  
attached letter from the above, on your return.

5th September, 1913

E. Maund