

'WHMM translations; Chiang, HT'

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January 1st, 1908.

Dear Sir, The Chinese manuscript, concerning

January 1st, 1908.

Dear Sir,

The Chinese manuscript concerning which I wrote to you has now been returned to us by the restorer, who, as I mentioned in my letter of the 24th ult., has had it in hand.

Will you kindly let me know by return your permanent address, so that we may make arrangements about the translation of the same.

Faithfully yours,

Mr. H. T. Chiang,
c/o Willcox Edge, Esq.,
Huntley,
Wolstanton,
Stoke-on-Trent.

56 George Square
Edinburgh

Jan. 8th '08.

Dear Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt
of the Chinese manuscript on anatomy
which you sent me yesterday.

I will read it through at
my earliest convenience and will
send word to you whether I am
able to undertake it.

I am

Yours faithfully

H. J. Chiang

56 George Square
Edinburgh

Feb. 11th 1908

and
Dear Sir,

Many thanks for your kind letter of the 10th inst. which came to hand this morning. I am glad that the Chinese ms. with ~~a~~ short epitome of the text explaining the diagrams, has reached you safely.

As to the fee for the work done, please send me twelve shillings provided that you think it reasonable. In fact, this is my first time to do this sort of business. I charge it for the number of hours I have worked on it. If it is unreasonable, please

put it down to my ignorance of English rates for literary work.

I am

Faithfully yours

H. J. Chiang

December 21st, 1907.

Dear Sir,

Your name has been given to me by Mr. Stanley Sowton of the Wesleyan Missionary Society, who tells me that he thinks you may be willing to undertake for me the translation of an old manuscript on anatomy from Chinese into English.

I have also other translation work of a medical character, but more modern in type, that I might be able to put in your way if it is possible for you to undertake it.

Will you be in London at all during the next few days? If so, I will make an appointment to see you and explain the matter thoroughly. If not, I have no doubt that we can deal with in writing. I may say that there is no immediate hurry for the work to be done.

Awaiting the favour of your reply,

I am,

Faithfully yours,

Mr. H. P. Chiang.

Chiang

Huntly
Wolstation
Staffordshire

Dec. 23. 1907

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter of Dec. 21 which came to hand yesterday morning, I am glad to tell you that it is a great pleasure to me to undertake the work you referred to because it gives me a chance of refreshing both my knowledge of Chinese and English.

I am afraid that it is not possible for me to go to London this vacation.

I hope you will explain the matter more fully when you write next.

I am now spending my Xmas in Mr. Edge's house.

Wishing you a Merry Xmas.

I am

Yours faithfully

H. J. Chiang

Huntly
Wolstation
Staffordshire

Jan. 1st '08

Dear Sir,

Many thanks for your kind letter of 24th. insts which reached me last Thursday. I have been very busy with engagements lately or I should have answered you ere this.

I am leaving for Liverpool to-morrow morning and hope to be in Edinburgh on Jan. 8.

I will look the manuscript through when I receive it and will let you know if I am able to translate it.

My permanent address is:—
56 George Square, Edinburgh.

Wishing you a Happy New Year.

I am

Yours faithfully

H. J. Chiang.

December 24th, 1907.

Dear Sir,

I desire to thank you for your kind letter of the 23rd inst. and am pleased to know that you are willing to entertain the suggestion I made with respect to the translation of the old Chinese work on anatomy.

As the book in question was in such a battered condition, it is at present in the hands of a restorer, who will, I hope be able to preserve the leaves that have been partly destroyed. When he has finished it, which I expect will be in about ten days time I will forward it to you, if you will be good enough to let me know your permanent address and where I shall address it to.

I shall be glad if you will then look through it, and inform me if you are able to translate the book into English, and what honorarium you would expect to receive for the work done.

With best wishes and compliments of the season,

I am,

Faithfully yours,

Wm. H. P. Chiang.

January 7th, 1907.

Dear Sir,

I desire to thank you for your kind letter of the 1st inst., and enclose herewith the Chinese manuscript on anatomy. Will you kindly examine it, and let me know if you are able to make a translation of it? It is not necessary for me to have a full literal translation, but a complete epitome of the whole of the work, especially the parts descriptive of the anatomical drawings, will answer my purpose.

When you have examined the work, and decided whether you can undertake it, will you, if you find that you are able to do so, kindly let me know what you fee for so doing will be?

I am,

Faithfully yours,

Mr. H. T. Chiang,
56, George Square,
Edinburgh.

56 George Square
Edinburgh

January 21st 1908

Dear Sir,

I have been lately very busy with the class exams of the university or I would have read through, before this, the Chinese manuscript on anatomy which you sent me some time ago.

I am now in a position to express my opinion on it.

First of all, it is a collection of prescriptions from beginning to end of which the ~~drugs~~ are mostly non-official and some of them I have never seen or heard of. Secondly, the anatomical drawings illustrate what the writer calls 72 fossae in the human body. The book

deals largely with accidents
or injuries done to the body by
single combat or free fight.

The treatment depends entirely
on the kind of fossae injured.

The parts descriptive of the
anatomical drawings show
the writer's ignorance of anatomy.

For example, he puts the ~~heart~~,
the lung, and the stomach along the
sternum; ~~the~~ liver and pancreas
below the umbilical cord.

So you see, the drawings are
simply ridiculous.

After looking at the diagrams,
and reading the prescriptions, I
come to the conclusion that

the author must be a boxer
himself as well as a quack.

I have come across men
of this type travelling from
province to province, & from
city to city to seek their
fortune in China.

After all, ^{to my mind} it is waste of
money to get a translation of
the manuscript.

However, if you still wish
for a translation of it, I will do
my best for you. If not, kindly
let me know - I will return
the manuscript to you.

I am

Yours faithfully
H. S. Chiang

January 23rd, 1908.

Dear Sir,

I desire to thank you for your kind and interesting letter with reference to the Chinese MS. which you have in hand.

I am much obliged to you for informing me of the character of the book, of which, of course, I was unable to form an opinion. The main feature of interest to us in the book is its age, and I shall be glad if you will kindly inform me if you think the MS. is an old one, or merely modern, and at about what period of our era it was written.

In any case, from what you say, a short epitome of the descriptions of the anatomical drawings would answer our purpose, which would be to show the advance in anatomical knowledge in China.

I shall be glad if you will kindly make me such an epitome and return it to me with the manuscript.

Thanking you for the trouble you have taken on my behalf,

I am,

Faithfully yours,

Mr. H. T. Chiang,
56, George Square,
Edinburgh.

Chiang

56 George Square
Edinburgh

Feb 2nd 1908

Answered

Feb 10/08

Dear Sir,

I send you herewith the MS and a short translation of the parts descriptive of anatomical drawings which I fear, will not be of any value to you. It does not teach you anything scientific but gives you some idea of the primitive and imperfect knowledge of anatomy on the part of Chinese quacks.

The MS does not say when and by whom it was written, so I can not tell you anything exactly about its age.

However, by its diction and tattered condition, I can judge that it must be a good many years old.

With kind regards

Yours faithfully

H. J. Chiang

27th November, 1908.

Dear Sir,

I am pleased to have your letter of the 22nd inst., and to hear that you have recovered from your illness.

If it is not troubling you too much, I should be glad if you would write to China, as you suggest, for particulars as to the use of ergot in ancient times, and the early practice of anaesthesia in your country. I should be very glad to have further information on the subject.

I enclose you a little treatise on anaesthetics which may perhaps interest you, and with thanks for your letter,

Faithfully yours,

Mr H. T. Chiang,
56, George Square,
Edinburgh, N.B.

Chiang
J

Copy of Postcard.

27th October, 1908.

Dear Sir,

Your letter reached me in due course. As I have been ill with diphtheria for three weeks Doctor does not allow me to write letters yet. I will do all I can to answer your questions when I am well. In the meantime, will you write asking Dr Huang, a friend of mine, who is a physician in the Chinese Legation in London if he could give any information on the subject you are investigating. Dr Huang knows English and has a thorough knowledge of Chinese medicine.

H.T. Chiang.

56 George Square
Edinburgh
Feb. 13. '08

Dear Sir,

I beg to acknowledge with
thanks the receipt of your cheque
for twelve shillings.

I enclose you receipt endorsed.

I shall be grateful if you
recommend me any more work
of translation either from Chinese
into English or vice versa.

I am

Faithfully yours

H. J. Chiang

56 George Square

Edinburgh

Dec. 13. 1908

Dear Sir,

Many thanks for
sending me a copy of the
treatise on anaesthetics.

I was fully
occupied with exams
during the last few
days or I should
have answered yours
ere this.

I have written home

to make inquiries about
the use of anaesthetics
and the use of ergot in
China. I expect to
hear from home by
the end of January.

I hope this interval
of time would not
inconvenience you.

With kind regards

I remain

Yours faithfully

N. S. Chiang

Snow Hill Buildings.

23rd October, 1908.

Dear Sir,

I shall be very much obliged if you would kindly inform me if you know of any record of anaesthetics being used before surgical operations in early Chinese medical history. Cannabis indica, or Indian hemp, is recorded to have been used by Hindu surgeons of a very early period; it is quite probable that it was used in China. As I am investigating this matter at the present time, I should much appreciate your kindness if you could give me any information on the subject; also if you know anything of anaesthesia as practised by the Japanese in early times. Miss Isabella Bird, who travelled in China, states that, when visiting the Lung-Wah Hospital at Hong Kong, the native surgeons did not use anaesthetics in operations, but that they possessed drugs which threw patients into a profound sleep. One of them showed her a bottle containing a dark brown powder which produced the result. Do you know anything of this drug, or could you put me into communication with anyone who would be likely to know of it?

There is another matter of which I am anxious to obtain details and in which you may be able to give me assistance, and that is, the use of ergot in China. Can you tell me if it was known to the Chinese in early times, and if so, for what purpose they used it? Was it known to give rise to any epidemics or diseases recognised at the present time as ergotism?

Awaiting your reply,

Faithfully yours,

(Signed) C. J. S. T.

Mr H. T. Chiang,
66, George Square,
Edinburgh.

Chiang.

56 George Square
Edinburgh

Nov. 22. 1908



Dear Sir,

I think I have told
you that I have been
laid up in bed with
diphtheria for some time.

There is no need to say
that the accumulation of
work through my illness
has filled up all my
time since I returned home
from hospital, or I should
have replied to your
letter of Oct. 23rd ere this.

As far as I know, and
hear from other resources, the
local anaesthetics in common
use in China before surgical
operations are plasters
of which the principal
ingredients are belladonna
and opium. Chinese
beer or wine when warmed
is extensively used as
counter-irritant.

Things like Chloroform, &
ether were unknown to
our surgeons of old.

I never heard of any other than the local anaesthetics just referred to.

I do not know anything of anaesthesia as practised by the Japanese in early times. I hear

Ergot is administered in case of labour in China. I could not tell you its history. But vinegar is largely used in Chinese obstetrics.

I can write home to get details concerning the use of anaesthetics & ergot, if you do not mind waiting for them.

Yours faithfully

H. J. Chiang.

Chiang