

**'Parry, Dr T Wilson'**

**Publication/Creation**

1913-1915

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PARRY, DR. T. WILSON

'13/'15

H.M.M.

6 January 1915.

Dear Dr. Parry,

Thanks for your letter of December 29th. I think it is scarcely worth while continuing the discussion, but I will forward your letter on to Mr. Wellecome who is at present travelling abroad, and will write you again on hearing from him.

Faithfully yours,

C.J.S.T.

7 November, 1914.

Received in good order and condition from Dr. T. Wilson Parry  
three aboriginal trepanned skulls, thirteen specimens of bone and  
implements.



DELMONT  
CROUCH END HILL, N.

Dec: 29. 1914.

Dear Mr. Thompson,

Ninety-nine out of every hundred persons, if asked the question, would state that the name of a surgical operation should be decided not by a physician (as Allbutt) or by an anthropologist (as Lusholtz) but by a surgeon.

The greatest living exponent of



the operation in question is *Sin Vector*  
*Horalecy* and I am quite certain he  
would never use so obsolete a word  
in connection with surgery, nor do  
I know of any up-to-date surgeon  
that would do so.

You have given me your reasons  
for altering the word I used to the one  
you have at heart and considering  
that I <sup>humbly</sup> objected to your doing so, I



do not hold that you have <sup>any</sup> justification  
in doing so.

If you still have not altered the  
labels and if you do not see your way  
to doing so, I must ask you to return  
<sup>the specimens</sup> ~~them~~ to me, as I do not intend that  
my name <sup>shall</sup> ~~should~~ be used <sup>in connection</sup> with so  
out-of-date a word.

With compliments,

I am,

Yrs truly

T. Wilson Parry.

We are dealing with present-day  
English phraseology and not with  
French: so your numerous references



to French Bibliograph carry no weight.  
They have no equivalent to our <sup>modern</sup> English  
word.

I shall be pleased if you will hand  
this letter to Mr. Wellcome himself  
and I leave it with him to make the  
decision.

Parsy.



W.H.M.M.

22 December 1914.

Dear Sir,

I must apologise for the unavoidable delay in replying to your letter of November 5th.

As you state I quite understood that you kindly presented the set of specimens of your trepanning experiments to the Wellcome Historical Medical Museum on the condition that you could borrow them at any time for the purpose of exhibiting them elsewhere. To this no objection was raised, and we have always lent you any specimens as desired.

You said some time ago you would be good enough to write new copy for the large descriptive card to be placed in the case to replace the present one in which the wording is so complicated, but till I had your letter of November 5th we had not received it from you.

I explained to you fully the last time you called why the wording of certain labels had been altered. When you furnished the first copy last year, the labels were printed exactly according to your manuscript. These labels were revised by you during the last



2.

twelve months more than once, and we made no alterations ourselves in your text until quite recently. The reason was as follows:-

When revising the labels in that section of the Museum a few weeks ago, my attention was called to the fact that the words "trepan" and "trephine" occurred on the labels indiscriminately. Therefore, to bring the whole of the labels into harmony, the word "trephine" was altered to "trepan".

We have discussed amicably several times the use of these words, and you are of course quite entitled to hold your opinion on the matter, but I am sorry we are unable to agree on the point.

In connection with the subject I think perhaps you may be interested in the details I enclose, which are taken from recent standard works of reference.

You say in your letter that "the word 'trepan' is only used nowadays in describing the old instrument, and it is never used by any surgeon or scientist", also that "it is a word only now used by ignorant novelists or unscientific people." I would point out that the word "trepan" is used by Sir Clifford Allbutt in his "System of Medicine" in 1899, who I think you will agree with me can hardly be placed in the above category.

Further with regard to the use of the word in connection with the operation performed among ancient and primitive peoples, the word "trepan" is used by Karl Lunholtz, the famous Scandinavian

scientist and anthropologist in his work published in 1903.

I admit you are quite entitled to use which word you like in describing your own specimens, especially as you feel so strongly on the matter. At the same time, I would like to point out that if you are still desirous of withdrawing your presentation of the objects to the Museum, you are quite at liberty to do so.

I am,

Faithfully yours,

C.J.S.T.

Dr. T. Wilson Parry,  
Belmont,  
Crouch End Hill, N.



Belmont,  
Crouch End Hill, N.

Nov: 5. 1914.

To the Curator,

C. T. S. Thompson Esq:

Hist. Med. Museum, Wigmore Street, W.

Dear Sir,

About three weeks ago I called at the Medical Museum and then mentioned that I had not yet made over my specimens to the Museum, though I had been thanked by Mr. Wellcome as if I had already done so. I then told you that I did not intend to present three framed cases of neolithic implements that you were exhibiting, but that the others I would make over conditionally. The main condition was that I could borrow them at any time for purposes of exhibiting elsewhere. It was also arranged (at your suggestion) that I should write another Case Card, as the then present description was not at all satisfactory. I agreed to this especially as you had altered my word "trephine" into "trepan", a <sup>word</sup> ~~which~~ to which I have great objection, and I mentioned at the time that I in no way wished you to alter the originally placed word "trephene" on the other labels.

To my great astonishment I found on visiting the Museum on Tuesday last that, in spite of what I had said, you had had all the labels reprinted and that very word altered.

The word "trepan" is only used nowadays in description of the old trepan instrument and is never used by any surgeon or scientist for the making of a hole, by surgical operation, in bone. Indeed in scientific circles a man who made use of such a term would be looked upon with surprise as it is a word only used now by ignorant novelists or unscientific people.

I do not intend that that word shall be used in connection with any experiments I may have carried out, so you can make the choice of either having it altered or of my withdrawing the specimens entirely from your Museum. I now withdraw, in writing, any verbal statement I may have made to you at any time with respect to presenting my specimens to the Historical Medical Museum.



Our relations hitherto have always been of the most cordial nature and I very much regret that your action, in spite of my special request, should have led to my having had to write this letter.

I am,

Dear Sir,

Yr faithfully,

T. Wilson Parry.

I enclose a card, which, tallying with my exhibits now in the Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons, would seem to represent exactly ~~what~~ what is exhibited in the case.

Parry.

# POST CARD

THIS SPACE MAY BE USED FOR PRINTED  
OR WRITTEN MATTER.

ONLY THE ADDRESS TO BE  
WRITTEN HERE.



To the Curator,

C.T.S. Thompson Esq

Historical Medical Museum,

54 A Wigmore Street,

W.

Perry

LONDON.W.

4. 15 PM

24 JUL 24

My best thanks for the reference  
received safely —

T. Wilson Parry

July 24. 1914.

Cornel End.



TREPAN.

Allbutt's "System of Medicine", vol. 7, page 240, "If the skull be trepanned during the condition of acute cerebral compression, the pulsation may be visibly increased." Published 1899.

"Unknown Mexico: a Record of Five Years' Exploration among the Tribes of the Western Sierra Madre" by Mr. Carl Lumholtz, Member of the Society of Sciences of Norway, Associe Etranger de la Societe de l'Anthropologie de Paris. "Can it be possible that this barbaric tribe, not particularly advanced in the arts, was capable of trepanning?"

"Horns of Honour" by F.T. Elworthy, page 95.

"Trepanning was first practised in primitive times as a cure for epilepsy with the intention and for the purpose of causing or permitting the demon which was believed to inhabit the head to come out."

Gavoy (E.) "Morphologie du cerveau, pour l'étude des localisations des centres excito-moteurs des hemispheres et de l'operation du trépan." 1879.

Lucas-Championniere (J.) "Etude historique et clinique sur la trépanation du crâne. La trépanation guidée par les localisations cerebrales." 1878.

Pous (F.) "De la réimplantation des rondelles osseuses apres la trépanation du crane." 1891.



de Baye (J.) "La trépanation préhistorique. Extrait  
de l'archéologie préhistorique." 1876.

Hospital (P.) "Quelques mots sur la trépanation préhis-  
torique." 1890.

Procédes de trépanation sur le vivant, et fabrication des  
rondelles crâniennes posthumes à l'époque néolithique.

Assoc. franc. pour l'avance. 1883.

*Hum*

13 July 1914.

Dear Sir,

I desire to acknowledge the receipt of your pamphlet on 'Prehistoric Man and his Early Attempts to Combat Disease', which you have kindly presented to Mr. Wellcome. I will bring your paper before him on his return to town and feel sure it will interest him greatly.

Again thanking you,

I am,

Yours faithfully,

*F.C.D.*

Secretary.

T. Wilson Parry Esq., M.D.,  
Belmont,  
Crouch End Hill, N.



Hume.

30 June 1914.

Dear Dr. Barry,

Very many thanks for so kindly sending me the Abstract of your address reprinted from "The Lancet", which I have read with great interest. I hope you will let me have a reprint of the address in full when you are able, as the whole subject is one of great interest to us in connection with the Museum.

Trusting you are well,

I am,

Faithfully yours,

C. T.



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BELMONT  
CROUCH END HILL, N.H.

May 11. 1914.

Dear Mr. Thompson,

You very kindly said you would have my specimens, together with the three beplined aboriginal skulls packed up for me ready to take when I called for them. Could you have them all ready to-morrow (Tuesday) so that I might call for them on Wednesday



THOMAS  
CROUCH END HILL  
I hardly like leaving it till Thursday  
to call for them as I may be prevented  
at the last moment. I will return  
them you on Friday.

Many thanks for the reference in  
the "Medical Press" which will be very  
useful.



Would you very kindly phone up to  
me (101 Hornsey) to-morrow <sup>before 11 a.m.</sup> (Tuesday)  
morning telling me you have received  
this letter and letting me know when  
the things will be ready —

kindest regards

Yr v. sincerely

T. Wilson Parry.



to m m

30 April 1914.

Dear Dr. Parry,

I have just come across the reference I mentioned concerning the skull trepanned in six places from New Ireland which we have in the Museum. It is included in a paper on "Primitive and Prehistoric Trepanning" which appeared in the "Medical Press" of 20 August 1902. You will find the whole paper very interesting, as it gives details of the operation as performed on the spot.

With kind regards,

I am,

Faithfully yours,

E. T.

Dr. F. Wilson Parry,  
'Belmont',  
Crouch End, N.



Hmm.

27 April 1914.

Dear Dr. Parry,

Very many thanks for so kindly sending the native protectors for the Museum. I am very pleased to have them as I believe we have some of a larger size promised to us. Every little helps, and your gift will be a useful addition to the Section on the Medicine of Primitive Man.

Again thanking you very cordially for your kindness,

I am,

Faithfully yours,

C. T.

Heuer

14 April 1914.

Dear Dr. Parry,

I have pleasure in enclosing you herewith some more  
prints of the bow-drill and shark's tooth implements.

Trusting these will answer your purpose,

I am,

Faithfully yours,

C. H. T.



Apr. 14 '84.

BELLONT  
CROUCH END HILL, N.

Dear W-Thompson,

Have you got those photographs finished yet? also the numbering & ~~post~~ printing of labels for my specimens?

I want one of the former especially as soon as possible as I am taking



my paper up to "The Lancet" to see  
if they will publish it in full  
with illustrations. I rather fear  
it is too long for them, but I will  
try anyway. Could you 'phone  
me up tomorrow early in answer



to this.

Kindest regards

Yr v. much

T. Wilson Parry.

---

H. H. H.

30 January 1914.

Dear Dr. Parry,

In reply to your kind note of the 29th inst., I have forwarded the prints to the people in the city who make our lantern slides instructing them to have nineteen slides made from the negatives as per prints enclosed. I have told them to return the prints and the lantern slides direct to you as soon as they are ready, as I expect I shall be away.

With many thanks for your good wishes.

I am,

Faithfully yours,

C. S. T.



TELEPHONE NO  
101 HORNEY.

BELMONT,  
CROUCH END HILL.

Jan 29. 1914.

Dear Mr. Thompson,

Answering to your kind suggestion  
I send nineteen photographs, which I shall  
be most grateful if you will kindly get  
lanten-slides made for me from the  
negatives. (You will let me have the photos back  
please) With kindest regards and  
wishing you "God-speed" on your  
journey. I am,

Yrs very sincerely

T. Wilson Parry.

H. M. M.

20th Jan., 1914.

Dear Dr. Parry,

The notes you left for the labels in the case are quite clear. When we have them printed in a month or two I will remember to have two copies made for you of each label, and will send them on.

Thanking you for the trouble you have taken in the matter,

I remain,

Faithfully yours,

C. J. S. T.

Dr. T. Wilson Parry,

Crouch End Hill, N.



POST CARD.

THE ADDRESS TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.



To the Curator, C.T.S. Thompson Esq.  
The Wellcome Historical Medical  
Museum.  
54 A. Wigmore Street,  
London - W.

CHONGH EID HILL  
BETKOLL



Thurs. 4.30

Jan 11. 1914.

BELMONT  
CROUCH END HILL N.

My best thanks for the two excellent  
photographs received. I cannot come  
on Wednesday, but could on Thursday  
next - if that will be convenient to  
you. Kindest regards.

F. J. O.

Yours sincerely

T. Wilson Parry.

Telephone - Am in till 10.30 a.m. every  
101 Hornsey morning if you want me.



Hamm

8 January 1914.

Dear Dr. Parry,

I am enclosing herewith prints of the two trepanned skulls which were unsatisfactory last time. I think the results now obtained are better and trust they will please you.

The new case for your specimens is now ready and they can be transferred to it at any time. If you can give me a call on Wednesday afternoon next week if convenient to you I will have everything ready. Kindly let me know/if this day will suit you.

Wishing you a happy New Year,

I am,

Faithfully yours,

CIST

Dr. T. Wilson Parry,  
Belmont,  
Crouch End, N.



POST CARD.

THE ADDRESS TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.



To the Curator,  
C.J. S. Thompson Esq:  
Wellcome Historical Med. Mus.  
54 A Wigmore Street  
London - W.

BEFONDIT

ENOUGH END FIFTY



Sat. Jan. 17. 1944

BELMONT  
CROUCH END HILL, N.

Hope you were able to make out  
the notes I left in the case.

Would you very kindly let me have  
a couple of copies of each of the  
printed labels you are making -  
it will be no trouble for your printer  
when the type is set up.

Sincerely  
T. Wilson Parry



*Wm*

11 December 1913.

Dear Dr. Parry,

Very many thanks for so kindly sending the specimens of the small flint knives. They will answer admirably for our evolution lancet card, and I am very much obliged to you for presenting them to us.

Trusting that you received the photographs safely and that they were satisfactory,

I am,

Faithfully yours,

*C J ST*

*Dr Wilson Parry  
Belmont  
Cronel End. N.*



52

BEERONT  
CROUCH END HILL N

Dec: 10. 1913.

Dear W-Thompson,

My very best thanks for the  
photographs which are all most excellent.  
They have quite put three other rather  
important ones into the shade and I  
see you have written behind one of them  
as regards the back-ground. Could I  
venture to pass on your exceptional  
good nature as <sup>to</sup> request three others <sup>in their stead</sup>?  
I know it is fearfully bare-faced of me



to ask!

I got some small pointed flint-flakes  
for you from Ireland. The three I send are  
the best of the bunch. You will remember  
you wanted one, a flint lancet, to take  
its place in your Evolution set. I think  
the light-colored one would be the best  
for you and it doesn't look unlike an  
old-fashioned vaccinating lancet though  
a bit thick!



Your manager won't have anything to do  
with my clinical thermometer. Neither I,  
nor Mr. Cooper have time to push it and  
it seems a thousand pities that some  
enterprising man should not take it up.

I feel sure there is good money in it.  
Every patient of mine pronounces on its  
comfort and its efficiency, on scientific  
principles, will stand for itself. Do you  
know any practical man that would  
be likely to take it up?

I expect the glass-shelf has not  
arrived yet. I am very busy now, but



will make a point of coming over some  
time to arrange the specimens when I hear  
from you that it is ready.

I am so glad Hensley found the  
specimens useful.

Kindest regards,

Very sincerely,

J. Wilson Parry.

---

Wm Parry



*Hum*

9 December 1913.

Dear Dr. Parry,

I am enclosing herewith twelve prints of the photos taken of the specimens in the Museum which you wished to have. I trust you will find them more successful than the last, and that they will answer your purpose.

Sir Victor Horsley called last week and selected several of your specimens for his lecture, and I also lent him the trepanned skull from Australia. He brought these back quite safely yesterday and seemed very pleased to have had the loan of them. He said his lecture was a great success and appeared to be much appreciated.

Faithfully yours,

*C. J. S. T.*

*Dr Wilson - Parry  
Belmont  
Crouch End, N.*



26 November 1913.

Dear Dr. Parry,

I am very sorry that there has been such a long delay in forwarding you the remainder of the photographs of the trophined skulls, but I have been away for a short holiday and only returned on Monday. The rest of your prints, which I enclose herewith, were delivered by the photographer while I was away. I trust they will be satisfactory for your purpose.

With reference to the clinical thermometer, I understood from Mr. Wellcome before his departure three weeks ago that he had left the matter in the hands of his General Manager. If you will kindly address a letter to him at Snow Hill Buildings, he will, I am sure, let you know exactly how the matter stands.

I am hoping every day that the man will bring the glass shelf for the case I am having prepared for your specimens, but he has not done so yet. I will write and let you know as soon as the case is ready, when I hope to have your kind assistance in arranging the objects.

Trusting you are well and with kind regards,

I am,  
Faithfully yours,



BELMONT  
CROUCH END HILL, N

Nov. 25. 1913.

Dear Mr Thompson,

I have been waiting and waiting  
for the photographs to turn up & it is  
many weeks now since they were taken  
so I think they must be ready if they  
have not been put aside altogether  
and been forgotten.

Will you also kindly ask Mr.  
Wellcome to make me an offer for



the thermometer. I am quite certain  
Mr-Crope has no time to give to it  
whatever and I am willing to accept  
any reasonable offer.

With kind regards

I am.

Sincerely V<sup>2</sup>

T-Wilson Parry.

---



H. W. H.

20 October 1913.

Dear Dr. Parry,

Many thanks for your letter of the 19th inst. and for so kindly sending me your poem, which I shall read with great interest.

I am so glad to know you like the prints of the photographs. and the remainder shall be done as you suggest with a light background. Mr. Amoroso will, I am sure, see that they turn out better than those you already have, and you shall have them as soon as we can get them done. We are very busy just now photographing various loans before they are returned. When we photograph the trephined skulls we have from Australia you shall have prints of them to include in your paper.

I am sorry to hear you were disappointed as regards the skull at Northampton. A great many of the so-called trephined skulls are, no doubt, open to serious question.

We hope to have the pleasure of a visit from Sir Victor Horsley



2.

and yourself when you can find time to call.

Again thanking you very cordially for your kindness,

I am,

Faithfully yours,

Dr. T. Wilson Parry,  
Belmont,  
Crouch End Hill, N.



BELMONT  
CROUCH END HILL N.

Oct. 19. 1913.

Dear Mr. Thompson,

My best thanks for the proofs.

Sir Victor Huxley was extremely interested.

I quite agree with you. It would be

better to have a light background for  
the bow-drill and also <sup>in</sup> the ~~the~~ partially

cut out "nondelle" in the Shark-tooth

specimen it would be better to see

daylight through the part that has been



freed. Otherwise the photographs are  
most excellent. Please tell Mr.  
Amoroso this. I am impatient to  
see the rest!

I wonder if you would mind having  
those referred skulls of yours (Aboriginal  
Australian, Permian etc) photographed  
to  $\frac{1}{8}$ " size. I should so like to have  
pictures of these and would, if you



permitted it, introduce them into my  
paper.

With kindest regards -

I am -

Yrs very sincerely

T. Wilson Perry -

That was a very nice notice of  
the Hist. med. Exhibition in "The Lancet"  
of last week. Sir Victor & I journeyed  
by motor to Northampton yesterday to see  
the beheaded skull in the Museum there.

S.P. to



I was awfully disappointed. There were  
three small holes, (as diagram below)  
that had certainly been made post mortem



and I should think had been made  
to string up the skull on a post outside  
the ichneumon warrior's habitation!

The specimen is of very little worth.  
Vick Horsley photographed it and I will  
show you the copy when I get it.



Humm

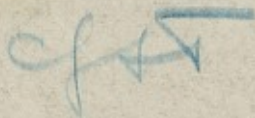
17 October 1913.

Dear Sir,

I have pleasure in enclosing you the prints from  
the photographs already made.

I am,

Faithfully yours,



Dr. Wilson Barry,



W. W.

Amos

9 May 1913.

Dear Sir,

Your letter of the 8th inst., addressed to Mr. Wellcome, duly to hand. He is at present travelling abroad, and will probably not return to London for some time. I will, however, bring your letter before him at the first opportunity.

Faithfully yours,

C. J. S. T.

Dr. T. Wilson Parry,  
Belmont,  
Crouch End Hill, N.



BELMONT  
CROUCH END HILL, N.

May 8. 1913

Dear Mr. Wellcome,

I am collecting material  
for a paper on Neolithic Medicine  
and Surgery and would be grateful  
to you if you could give me any  
information respecting Prehistoric  
Medicine or Surgery. It seems to  
me probable that in getting together  
your valuable relics of Early Historical



Medicine & Surgery, you may also have  
touched the fringe of the Prehistoric.

I should be most indebted to you  
if you could help me in this matter,

With compliments,

I am,

Yr very truly

T. Wilson Parry.

{ M.A., M.D. Cantab Etc.  
{ F.G.S.



# POST CARD

This space may be used for printed or  
written matter.

The address only  
written here.



To the Director

- Thompson Esq;

Wellcome Exhibition

54 A Weymouth Street,

London - W.

BELOW

James

Sunday - Sept 14 - 1913.

BELMONT,  
CROUCH END HILL, N.

Hope to call in and see you  
tomorrow afternoon. Bringing some  
things with me. Hope you will be in.

T. Wilson Parry.

(Telephone 101 Hornsey)