

'BW&Co; Walton, JR, Representative'

Publication/Creation

1909-1910

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/tw7kjc22>

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
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

B.W. & CO. - WALTON. T. R., REPRESENTATIVE

89/10

19th November. 10.

Dear Sir.

I have duly received your letters. I regret that it has not been my good fortune to unearth anything of special interest for the H.M. Exhibition, and as my tour is now at an end, no other opportunity will present itself for obtaining any thing of interest.

It has been reported to me, that Dr W.J. Anson, until recently resident at Loanda, now to be found C/o Manager, London County & Westminster Bank. Chiswick. W. would be a very valuable man to get in touch with, re the proposed Exhibition.

F.E. Drummond-Hay Esq, H.B.M.'s Consul at Loanda, suggests that a special letter be addressed to him on the subject, he then would be in a position to obtain from the Government, assistance in obtaining suitable Medical and Surgical curios, from Angola.

A similar statement was made me by Gerald Campbell Esq, at Boma, where he is acting Consul. This latter Gents Station is at Stanleyville in the upper Congo, and upon his return to that station, he may prove useful.

Miss Deehan, of Mossamedes, has obtained a "Cupping horn" which I am bringing with me to England. This Lady has had long residence at Angola, and is conversant with the Native customs.

Miss Deehan thinks it will be difficult to obtain articles of genuine interest.

Mr Shields of the American Episcopal Mission, Loanda, will be pleased to assist, and as he travels a good deal into the interior he will do his best to obtain suitable exhibits.

From Brazzaville, I obtained only a Native Calabash Enema, this I am bringing with me.

Enquiries have been made by me re the Sales of Curios, that formerly took place at Brussels. No information concerning them could be obtained in the Belgian Congo. The general opinion is that these sales were made by some visitors returning from the Congo or Missionaries. There appears to be no regular business carried on in obtaining and selling Curios. Further enquiries elicit the fact that few visitors have been seen in the Congo of late. The Congo is too vast to attempt to go inland to endeavour to make a collection. A very considerable time would be required, and this would mean also a great expense.

I am,

Yours truly,

C.J. Thompson Esq.

Snow Hill.

*Dr. Storr - Chicago**J.R. Walcott*

B.W. & Co.

T.

27th July 1910.

Dear Sir,

Up to the last seven or eight months a considerable number of curios in the form of fetishes, idols, the dresses of medicine men and witch doctors, spears and other objects from the district in the neighbourhood of the Congo and the West Coast of Africa, were being shipped to England and also to Belgium for sale.

Within the last eight or nine months these objects have ceased to appear on the London market, and thinking it probable that the trade might have been diverted into another channel or country, I should be glad if, while you are on the coast, you could gather any information for me on the subject, and let me know.

Faithfully yours,

C. J. S. T.

T. R. Walton Esq.

18th June 1910.

Dear Mr Walton,

I have duly received your letter of May 23rd which I will bring before Mr Wellcome. I desire to thank you on his behalf for the trouble and interest you have taken in gathering objects for the B.M.E.

The three brass figures and native weights and two bells have duly come to hand and are very interesting although not connected with the medical art, but I hope to obtain some things of considerable interest from the various gentlemen whose names you have sent me.

I have communicated with the Revd.T.Barding, Revd. Father Friens, Mr A.Edun and Capt. Garvey mentioning your name and hope to have good results.

Thanking you for the trouble you have taken in the matter and trusting you will try and obtain us objects of interest, wherever you may come in contact with them,

I am,

Faithfully yours,

Mr T.R.Walton.

B W & Co.

22nd June 1910.

Dear Sir,

I have pleasure in acknowledging the box of West African native weights which you have kindly sent for the Historical Medical Exhibition. I will bring them before Mr. Wellcome at the earliest opportunity.

Thanking you for your continued interest in the matter,

I am,

Faithfully yours,

Mr, T. R. Walton.

C. J. S. T.

Burutu, 27th May 10.
R.A. Libreville. Congo Fr:

Dear Sir.

It is doubtful whether the contents of the case coming forward by this mail can be of interest for the H.M. Exhibition and in any case I would recommend extreme caution in handling the contents as they ought first to be fumigated.

// Captain F.W. Garvey of the Egba Government, Abeokuta, is the Police Commissioner, and suggested that the contents of the box should be of interest as shewing the "cuteness" of the native Fetish man in spreading disease and then advertising his knowledge and practising his charms.

The spear heads are some of those actually used by the Fetish men in obtaining from the dead body of a Small Pox case hung from a tree the deadly exudation from the body previously punctured all over by these spears. This is collected in calabashes one at each foot, from the one they make an ointment and from the other a solution which they sprinkle about the market places by means of the swish enclosed, by this means the spread of small Pox occurred recently at Abeokuta. The Fetish man then sells the ointment as a preventive against small Pox, and the Fetish Viz, the decorated small band with the smaller attachments is a much prized article, and for which the Fetish man can collect a huge sum, as each part represents a token taken from the dead body of a small pox case, and the whole worn as a preventive against the disease, by the person paying the highest price for it.

All these things were captured by Captain Garvey recently

The cloak enclosed and the small stick with the bells attached is representative of the costumes worn by the Fetish Man when consulted for without the cloak and bells he is impotent. This was taken from a dangerous man in the Abeokuta district by Cap: Garvey. // Under separate cover I am sending the Ashanti Weights.

I shall keep a close look out up the Niger for interesting objects.

I am, Yours truly,

C. J. Thompson
Snow Hill

T. R. Walton

Smith, 27th May 1901.
A.A. Mervin, Esq. General.

Dear Sir,

It is doubtful whether the contents of the case contain
forward by this mail can be of interest for the H.M. Exhibition
and in any case I would recommend extreme caution in handling
the contents as they ought first to be fumigated.
Charles F. Harvey of the City Government, Auckland, is the
Police Commissioner, and has stated that the contents of the box
should be of interest as showing the "process" of the native
man in spreading disease and then advertising his knowledge and
practising his crime.

The report reads that some of these bones were used by the
Native man in obtaining from the body of a Native boy who was
killed from a tree the head of the body was previously
dissected off over by these bones. This is collected in a box
which was sent to the Police Commissioner and the bones were
found in a box which was sent to the Police Commissioner. The
bones of some of the skulls were found, by this means the bones of
a Native boy were found recently at Auckland. The Police Commissioner
states the contents as a preventive against smallpox, and the
Police Commissioner has been advised with the smallpox
is a most virulent disease, and for which the Native man has collected
a bone and a small representation of a bone from the head
body of a small Native, and the whole was as a preventive
against the disease, or the person paying the highest price for it.
All the bones were sent by Charles Harvey recently.

The bones are found and the small skull which was attached
is representative of the contents were by the Police Commissioner
consulted for the story and believe it is important. This
was taken from a Native man in the Auckland District of New
Zealand. Under separate cover I am sending the Auckland District
I shall keep a close look out for the story for interesting
objects. I am, Yours truly,

Walter (prep)

Walter
C. F. Harvey

Lagos. 23rd May 10.

*Abeokuta
S. Nigeria*

Dear Sir.

My visit to the big native towns on the railway from Lagos, has brought me in contact with several people interested in the proposed Historical Medical Exhibition, and who have expressed a willingness to assist as far as able.

The Rev: T. Harding of the C.M.S. at Ibadan. S. Nigeria, often becomes possessed of interesting objects when he persuades the heathen to embrace the Christian Faith and give up their Idols.

Mr Harding has promised to do what he can and will be glad to hear what is of most interest.

Father L Friess of Ibadan, is also very interested in the Exhibition, and will be pleased to look out for any objects of interest and will be pleased to hear direct from you.

One of the most able men met with is the Secretary to the "Egba Government" A. Edun, and this native gentleman of great influence will do what he can to collect any native surgical instruments, cupping instruments, enemas, Fetishes Etc, and I think that this gentleman followed up on these points should be able to send some genuinely interesting relics.

Captain F.W. Garvey, Commissioner of Police to the same Govt: was once possessed of the midwifery chair cut from the Tree trunk that would be of so much interest to the exhibition. He has kindly offered to keep a sharp look out for another and for any thing else of interest.

I have in my possession a witch doctors gown decorated with cowries and bells, which he throws over himself before consultation and the hand bells without which he is impotent. These are the gift of Captain Garvey.

The spear heads and swish together with the Fetish which is was taken by Captain Garvey from the offenders during the recent severe small pox epidemic, and the history of the use of it will be written. This latter should be handled cautiously as it may be more or less contaminated.

The Ashanti weights are now to hand and coming forward. Mr P. Palliser of Millers Ltd, of Coomassie is the donor.

*Yours truly
T. R. Waller*

C. J. Johnson Esq

Written

16 JUN 1910

Written

16 JUN 1910

Written

16 JUN 1910

Written

16 JUN 1910

Lagos. 10 May 10.

Dear Sir

By this mail I
am sending 2 or 3
little brass figures
of native manufacture.

I regret the "Ashanti
brights" and the fetishes
have miscarried.

The fetishes Spear
are completely lost. No
trace of them can be
found.

Will be on the look out
for more.

Two bells are enclosed
used at fetish dances.

I am

Yours truly

C. J. Thompson Esq
Freetown.

T. R. Walter

Walton (Rep)

Wa.

Lagos. 17th April 10.

Dear Sir.

I am obliged for your letter of the 24th of February.

The Fetishes you have received from Mr Branch for the H.M. Exhibition are presented by that Gentleman to Mr Wellcome for the exhibition if they are of the class that will be of interest.

My recent silence upon the subject of this proposed Exhibition must not be construed as denoting a waning interest but because until the past few weeks nothing of an interesting character has been found, or anyone sufficiently interested to be of use.

I had hoped that by this mail I should have been in a position to send to you something of genuine interest, but those upon whom I relied have failed me for the present.

I have in my possession at the moment, some native Brass work of a character that may be found interesting, but I relied upon being in a position to forward a complete set of "Ashanti Weights" which are of great interest, but these have not come forward as promised.

May I suggest that you communicate with the following Gentlemen who I am sure will be able to do much, and to them I am sending a list a copy of which is enclosed.

F.W.H. Nigeod. Esq. Sekondi. Gold Coast. who is an authority upon Native Languages and customs, and to G. Teaufert. Esq. of the firm of C Gedelt. Ouidah. Dahomey. This latter gentleman has presented me with two pieces of native Brass work that looks deeply interesting, together with some Fetishes, which my "Boy" omitted to bring from Porto Novo. The omission I believe was due to fear as they are dreadfully superstitious, and I was unable to be present to superintend the removal of my baggage at the time.

These are written for, if found they will be at once sent on.

Thanking you for your letter,

I am,

Yours faithfully,

C.J. Thompson. Esq.

J.R. Walton

Historical Medical Exhibition.

To be held in London in 1913.

If any of the following list of Historical Medical and Surgical Instruments etc, can be obtained and forwarded to Mr H S Wellcome, or his Secretary Mr C J S Thompson, at London Office Snow Hill E.C., for the purposes of the Exhibition, any expense incurred will be at once paid, and any assistance offered will be highly appreciated.

- Antient Native Drinking Cups, in wood or Ivory,
- ' Fetishes, wooden or Ivory figures,
- ' Native Surgical Instruments, of Flint, Glass,
- ' -- ' Obstetric Chairs, or Stools, cut by the natives
from the branches of
Trees,
- ' Costumes of Witch Doctors,
- ' Masks for Devil dances,
- ' Native Cupping Instruments, of Horns, Ivory, etc, used
for Bleeding, scarrifying
cupping, etc:
- ' -- ' Enemas, or Funnels, of Horn, Ivory,
- ' -- ' Cauterising instruments, Iron instrument,
- ' -- ' Circumcision Instruments, There are a variety
of these instruments, and from
these, the modern instruments
have originated.
- ' -- ' -- ' Huts, in which the native patient
remains for a period after
the operation of circumcision

Antient Medical equipment of any interest
Old Native carvings.

Old Native Carvings.
Ancient Medical Instruments of the
Tribes of the Interior of the
North American Continent.

--- -- -- --
The following are the names of the
instruments of the Interior of the
North American Continent.

--- -- -- --
The following are the names of the
instruments of the Interior of the
North American Continent.

--- -- -- --
The following are the names of the
instruments of the Interior of the
North American Continent.

--- -- -- --
The following are the names of the
instruments of the Interior of the
North American Continent.

--- -- -- --
The following are the names of the
instruments of the Interior of the
North American Continent.

To be held in London in 1813.

Historical Medical Exhibition.

Walton 172

February 24th, 1910.

Dear Sir,

I desire to thank you very cordially on Mr Wellcome's behalf for the trouble you have taken in obtaining objects of interest for the Historical Medical Exhibition, while you have been in the west coast of Africa. I will communicate with Major Armitage sometime in May, when he arrives here, and see him, if necessary.

The fetishes from Mr H.C. Branch have duly arrived, and are of a very interesting character. I am not quite clear whether these are presented to Mr Wellcome, or whether Mr Branch is loaning them for the Exhibition only. I shall be glad if you will let me have an answer on this point.

Thanking you in anticipation,

I am,

Yours faithfully,

T. R. Walton Esq.,

Mr. C. J. S. Thompson.

Below I give you a copy of Mr. Walton's letter dated from Coomassie, Jan. 17th 1910. No Wa 105.

Re H.M. Exhibition.

Major C. H. Armitage D.S.O. the Provincial Commissioner of Obuasi, via Sekondi, is probably the greatest authority upon the Ashantis and has a wonderful collection of Fetishes, Amulets, etc., including a rare collection of genuine Ashanti weights. Major Armitage will be most pleased to do anything he can for the purpose of the above exhibition and will be willing to assist by lending some of his rareties, though in May next he leaves for England.

During his residence in England his address is 76, German St., London, and he will be glad to hear from Mr. Wellcome concerning the exhibition, though Rep. has placed in Major Armitage's hands a prospectus of the proposed exhibition. Major A. has been pleased in the past to lend, and to give to Museums etc., many relics of great interest.

Mr. H. C. Branch the D.C. of Dunkwa, G.C. is giving to Rep. a few Fetishes, recently taken by him from a Native Fetish Man, that had been giving a lot of trouble lately in his District. The special feature about them as seen by Rep. is that they are filthy, but this is a peculiarity of the Fetish, and no doubt that many lives have been lost on account of this same Fetish man and his Fetishes. These will be shipped by Rep. when he reaches Sekondi, and Mr. Branch has promised a written statement to accompany each article. This Fetish may or may not be useful, but the help that Major Armitage can give cannot be over estimated, he having 17 years service in Ashanti behind him.

Feb. 9th 1910.


N.W.

Walton (Rep)

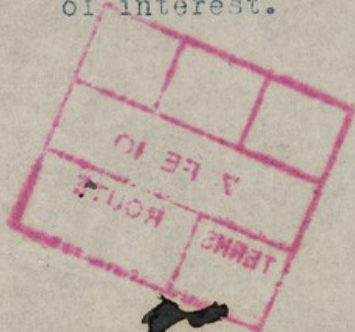
100.Wa.

Tarkwa, via Sekondi. Gold Coast. 9th Jan: 10.
R.A. Lagos.

Re H.M.Exhibition.

Please follow up Dr D.Burrows, of Free Town, Sierra Leone. and Dr C.H.D.Ralph, of Sekondi, concerning the promised Fetishes Etc, for the purposes of the above Exhibition.

Up to the present your Rep: has failed to unearth anything for the exhibition, though he keeps a careful look out for anything of interest. The two Doctors named have relics of interest.



J.R. Walton

ST. 001

CL: FBI 119. JESUS LION. Imposed etc. etc. etc.
about A.P.

FOOTLOCKT.M.H. 57

has. good article, not sent to, even though G. to G. Kelly's office
via assistant reception and to the office, through to, through G.H.O. to
with the office, not to be sent to, even though G. to G. Kelly's office
with the office, not to be sent to, even though G. to G. Kelly's office
with the office, not to be sent to, even though G. to G. Kelly's office

W. J. Kelly

7 FE 10	
TERMS	ROUTE

2nd July, 1909.

B.W. & CO.

Dear Sir,

Mr Wellcome wishes me to ask you to please thank Mr R. T. Walton on his behalf for his kindness in sending the funnel of Uganda black pottery for his collection. Mr Wellcome is always glad to receive any curious specimens of native manufacture connected with medicine, surgery and pharmacy which may be met with.

I am,

Faithfully yours,

(signed) C.J.S. THOMPSON.

To

A. E. Bertie-Smith, Esq.,

Entebbe,

Uganda.

Memorandum from
THE HEAD OFFICE,
A. E. BERTIE-SMITH,
MERCHANT,
AND
OFFICIAL BROKER,

ENTEBBE.
TELEGRAMS—"EXCELSIOR."

Entebbe, and at Jinja,
Uganda.

May 20th 1909

To Messrs Burroughs & Wellcome
& Co

Sir

This piece of Uganda
black pottery a
Funnel is sent by
Mr J. R. Walton for
Mr Wellcomes collection.

This pottery is made in
imitation of European
designs and its outer
polishing colour is Flambago

— Trust it will reach you
— in good condition

Yours faithfully

A Bertie-Smith
