

'Lewis, T'

Publication/Creation

1913-1917

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LEWIS, T

'14/'17

H.M.M.

24 January 1917.

Dear Professor Lewis,

I see from a newspaper notice that your transcript and translation of the old Welsh MS. in our library has been published. You very kindly promised to send me a copy, which I shall be very glad to have, of your interesting book.

Thanking you in anticipation,

Faithfully yours,

C.J. S.T.

Lewis,

PROF.

H.M.M.

29 July 1915.

Dear Mr. Lewis,

I desire to thank you for your kind letter of the 27th inst. I am sorry I have been under a wrong impression; I thought you were about to publish a translation of the old leech-book which would have been very interesting from an historical medical point of view. Otherwise a reprint of the MS. would of course be of little utility to us.

I should very much like to have a copy of any drawings reproduced if your publisher would be good enough to let us have them. We never received any from him, but should be much obliged for the same.

Regretting to trouble you on the matter, and with many thanks for the trouble you have taken,

Faithfully yours,

C.J.S.T.

Denstone, Caradog Road,

ABERYSTWYTH.

27.VII.15.

Dear Mr Thompson,

Your kind letter of the 27th inst. came when I was away on my holidays and I trust you will therefore pardon the delay in answering it. I am not quite sure that I can recall exactly the conversation between us concerning the Old Leech Book. I had no doubt at all until I saw your letter. I remember quite well discussing it and my plans for the issue of it. I explained that my plan was to issue a text as faithful to the original as I could make it, and to compile a complete glossary to the words used, inasmuch as I was anxious to make it a contribution to Welsh scholarship more particularly Welsh Lexicography rather than to the history of Medicine in Wales, and that therefore no part of it was to be translated into English. I understood that you thought it would be, therefore, of no value to you inasmuch as it only reproduces the text of your MS. word for word. I had the impression that the only thing of interest to you were the drawings reproduced, and the publisher told me at the time that he had sent you copies so I was satisfied that all was well. I am exceedingly sorry of this unfortunate misunderstanding after your great kindness to me both in

in allowing me to consult your MS. and in your very great kindness to me personally the three days I was up there working. I had arranged with the publisher to give you a copy but after our conversation concerning the scope of the work and that no translation was to be included I told him that it was unnecessary. I should very much like to hear from you again whether you are anxious for a copy of the Text. I am not quite sure whether an Irish pupil of mine bought the last copy some months ago, but on hearing from you I will make further enquiries, for I should never forgive myself for being guilty of even apparent neglect towards one who was so kind to me.

With kindest regards,

Yours very sincerely,

Timothy Lewis.

Leeds.

Official

7 July 1915.

Dear Sir,

I should be glad to know if your translation of the old Welsh Leech book (the original of which we have in the library of this Museum) has yet been published. You kindly promised to let us have a copy of the same to put with the original. We should much appreciate your kindness if you could let us have one.

Faithfully yours,

C.J.S.T.

Professor Timothy Lewis,
The University,
Aberystwyth.

Lewis (P.S.T.)

0410101

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H. M. M.

6 April 1914.

Dear Mr. Lewis,

I regret the delay in replying to your letter of the 1st inst. owing to my absence from town.

With reference to your request, I do not think that Mr. Wellcome, to whom as you know the manuscript belongs, would have any objection to your reproducing it as an illustration in your book, on condition that you state beneath it that the copy-right is reserved, and that it is reproduced by permission of the Wellcome Historical Medical Museum.

Faithfully yours,

T. Lewis Esq., M.A.,
Denstone,
Caradog Road,
Aberystwyth.

Denstone, Carado Road,

ALLERYSTWYTH.

1.IV.14.

Dear Mr. Thompson,

I am very sorry to give additional trouble to one who has already been so kind to me, but I beg you to grant me just one favour more if it is in any way possible. The whole of the letter-press of my book is now ready, but in order to make it as complete as possible I am exceedingly anxious to include a facsimile of your MS. and I am writing to ask you if you will kindly consent to my reproducing the photograph of the first page of the text which you so kindly sent me some time ago. Since writing last time I have found four MSS. which are possibly in the same hand, but all these are MSS. of poetry etc. and are now in the Llanstephan Collection in the National Library. If you could let me have a word in the course of this week I should be very grateful to you.

With kindest regards,

Yours very truly,

Timothy Lewis

Denstone, Caradog Road,

A B E R Y S T W Y T H.

2.III.14.

Dear Mr. Thompson,

I am very loth to trouble you again after your great kindness to me with regards to the old Welsh Medical Book.

I should be very glad to be able to reproduce the photograph of the first page of the old MS. in my forthcoming volume, and I am writing to ask you whether you could kindly grant me permission to do it. So far I have been quite unable to fix the hand writing, but if I were allowed to reproduce your plate in my book, it might help to discover the writer some day.

Should you feel able to grant me permission, I should of course state that the photograph belonged to you and was used with your kind permission.

With kindest regards,

Yours very truly,

Timothy Lewis.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF WALES,
ABERYSTWYTH.

23. 1. 14

Dear Sir

I am exceedingly grateful to you for your great kindness in sending me the two photographs of the Medical MS. in your possession. There is no longer any doubt that it is the original MS. whence my copy was taken and that my copy is an exact copy of it as far as I can judge from the photograph of fol. 1., even the words written above the line being so copied in my MS.

Inasmuch as there is a difficulty about taking a photographic copy of the MS.

which I can well appreciate,
I am going to try and take
advantage of your very kind
offer to let me compare the
original with my copy which
you were good enough to
make in your letter of Dec. 24.

I should be very grateful
to you if you could kindly
let me know by wire (prepaid
telegram form enclosed) if
it would be convenient for
you to let me see your MS.
on Monday next. If it
be convenient for you to let
me see it then, I should
come up by the Sunday

Very

night mail so that I
could be there by the time
you open Monday morning.

I sincerely apologize for
giving you so much trouble
but I hope you will kindly
forgive me under the peculiar
circumstances

Yours very sincerely

J. Lewis

Ham

22 January 1914.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 8th inst. I have pleasure in enclosing you two prints of the title page and the first folio of the text of the Welsh manuscript on medicine, which I trust will be of use to you. You will see the autograph of Richard Glym is quite plain on the title page. This should I think leave no doubt as to its being the original manuscript.

With reference to your suggestion about having the whole manuscript reproduced by the Photostat Process, I much regret I cannot accede to your request, as we should have to obtain special permission from the owner who is at present travelling in out-of-the-way places abroad before this could be done. I trust, however, you will be able to manage with the prints I enclose. You can postpone your personal inspection of the manuscript until a more convenient date.

Faithfully yours,

le T

T. Lewis Esq., M.A.,
Denstone,
Caradog Road,
Aberystwyth.

Denstone, Caradog Road,

A b e r y s t w y t h .

8.1.14.

Dear Sir,

When I wrote to you after receiving your very kind letter of Dec. 23 asking you if you would be good enough to give your permission to have your Welsh Medical MS. photographed, I had only just heard a few days previously of some new process which was much cheaper than the rotary process but equally good for ordinary purposes. Since then I have had some further particulars of this process which is known as the Photostat Process which I dare say is known long ago to you.

The Foulkes who made my copy was an old printer and made his copy with great care, but he has many times read an u as n and has several times missed the contraction marks and in two or three places he has read the peculiar p of the MS. as an x.

I think I have marked them all in the light of the Medical MSS. in the Collections of Cwrtmawr and the National Library, but I am very anxious to make absolutely sure. I had some specimens of the Photostat Process last week, and if you could grant your permission to have your MS. copied by this process it would answer my purpose quite well. I find it almost impossible to come to London to take advantage of your very kind permission to go through your MS. along with my text because of illness and circumstances at home, and as I understand the Photostat people can take a large number of

plates in a very short time so that it would save time for the both of us, while I could refer to my doubtful words without being in danger of overlooking some of them in a hurry.

I think I told you the other day that my chief-Sir Edward Anwyl-is about to resign his post as professor at the College here and that they will be electing someone to succeed him in a couple of months. The Victoria University of Manchester has just published one book for me, and if I could get my Old Leech Book out by the end of February it might help me in my candidature for the post. If you can in any way find it possible, to let me have the photograph of the title page and the first page of the text as you very generously promised in your kind letter of Dec. 23 by Sunday I shall be exceedingly grateful to you because my time is so short and College opens on Wednesday next again.

Yours very sincerely,

Timothy Lewis

C.J.S. Thompson, Esq.,

Lewis

Q. G. Young, Jr., M.D.

Denstone, Caradog Road,
~~UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF WALES,~~
ABERYSTWYTH.

26. XII. 13

Dear Sir,

I am exceedingly grateful
to you for your very kind and
informing letter of the 23d. inst.

I shall be delighted to let you have
pulls of every illustration from my
forthcoming old leech Book as soon
as the plates are made and I
hope you will find some of them of
considerable interest.

From your description of the Welsh
Medical MS. in your collection I feel
quite convinced that it is the original
of my copy and I am very eagerly
looking forward to seeing the print
of the first page of the text which
you so kindly have promised to
send me.

I have just heard of some new process of photographing MS. by means of which the cost is reduced by 50% or more, and if your MS. turns out, as I sincerely trust it will, to be the original of mine would you be good enough to grant permission for a copy of it to be taken by this new process? I am not quite sure what it is like, but I should imagine it must be something on the same principle as the rotary process so it would do quite well for my purpose and I could then read my proofs at leisure side by side with the photographic copy.

Would three copies each of the illustrations be sufficient for your purpose?

With sincerest gratitude

Yours very truly

Timothy Lewis

W. H. H. H.

23 December 1913.

Dear Sir,

Since writing to you on the 22nd inst. Mr. D. S. Hughes, a book seller of Bole Street, Liverpool called at the Museum yesterday, and left for me a prospectus of the old Welsh Leech Book which you are translating and editing. On reading this through, I see it states that the original MS. in the possession of the late Mr. John Evans of Liverpool which is attributed to Sir Thomas Williams is no longer in existence, but that a copy of it was made by the late Isaac Broulkes from which I gather you are making your translation. I have just been looking at the Welsh MS. in our possession, and feel quite certain that the MS. we have is the original of Sir Thomas Williams of Trefru for the following reasons:-

On a fly leaf it bears the autograph of John Evans.

On the title and contents page which is in a later hand, probably 17th century than the MS. itself, there are the following words,

LHYFWR O FEDDEGINIAETH, A PHYSICWRIAETH. Underneath this is written in script in another hand 'Mr. Richard Glyms Booke.'

Lower down on this page is another signature of 'Rir: Glyn.'

So it appears that this title page was in all probability written

by a son or some descendant of the original Thomas Guelime, the author.

Another piece of corroborative evidence as to its being the original MS. occurs on some blank leaves at the end of the contents written in a hand of the late 18th or early 19th century, as follows, 'This Booke was being in the servise of the Reverend Edward Ffoulkes D.D., and Mr. Robert Ffoulkes, doctor of Physic in the county of Denbigh.'

I notice that your copy of the MS. is stated in the prospectus to have been made by one Ffoulkes. I think you will agree with me from the quotations I have given you, there is little doubt that the MS. in the Historical Medical Museum is the original one of Sir Thomas Williams.

Unfortunately the light in London during the last few days has been so bad, that it has been impossible to take any photographs, and as we are closing here until Monday of next week, I cannot send you a photograph as promised, but as soon as possible, I will have a photograph taken of the title page showing the signatures I have sent you, and also a print made of the

-3-

first page in the original text.

I notice in your prospectus that you are illustrating your translation with drawings from early Welsh MSS. illustrating the doctor's craft. We should be very glad if you could see your way to present the Museum with a series of pulls of these illustrations.

Thanking you in anticipation,

I am,

Faithfully yours,

Prof. T. Lewis.

Heim.

22 December 1913.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter I should be pleased to send you a photograph of the title page of the MS., and as soon as possible, I will have it carried out by a member of our staff attached to the Museum and will send you a print as early as I can. I am sorry not to comply with your request as to the loan, but it is an absolute rule of the Museum, and I cannot make any exception, or should have been pleased to have done so.

I am,

Faithfully yours,

C. J. St.

Prof. T. Lewis,
Denstone,
Caradog Road,
Aberystwyth.

Denstone, Caradog Road,

A b e r y s t w y t h.

21.XII.13.

Dear Sir,

I am inexpressibly grateful to you for your very kind letter of this morning with the news of the finding of the old Welsh Medical MS. in your Library. It came at a very opportune moment for my publisher was getting very impatient with me and would brook no more delay. I had finished with the ~~text~~ proof of my text last night and was going to send it to the printers tomorrow. It looks to me as fairly certain that your MS. is the original MS. whence my copy was taken in 1886, but to make it quite sure would it be possible to get the first page of it photographed? If you would be good enough to give your consent to get a page photographed I could write to Donald Macbeth who has been doing some work for me at the British Museum to take a page for me, unless you have someone attached to your staff who does this kind of work.

I am afraid that perhaps I gave you a wrong impression by asking for the loan of your MS. I have been so used to handling MSS. and have been so taught to know their value that I am sure I could not sleep if a MS. were in this house lest something should happen to it, and though I am very anxious to see it I could never accept it as a loan personally. I thought, perhaps, that you might be

willing to do as many Librarians^{do} in this country and particularly on the Continent, and that you would consent to deposit it in the National Library of Wales for a little while if the Chief Librarian gave you a bond for its safe custody and safe return. When I was in Manchester I had some MSS. deposited in the Rylands Library, and my chief there had several MSS. from Continental Libraries when he was preparing his Thesaurus Palaeohibernicus. This summer a big MS. of about 800 folios was deposited in the National Library for my use for several weeks. If you could see your way to do the same your MS. would be guarded more jealously even than their own unique collection of MSS., and no one else would be allowed to see it. If you could see your way to do this it would be a very great boon to me, for circumstances at home here make it very difficult for me to leave at present and I am exceedingly anxious to finish the work before the end of January.

I am loth to trouble you like this, but I am sure that you will realise what a difference it will make in the reliability of my text if I can compare it with the original MS. rather than sending it out like this, and in the circumstances your sympathy with such work will help you to pardon my importunity.

Yours very sincerely,

Timothy Lewis

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20 December 1913.

Dear Sir,

A few days ago we came across the Welsh manuscript for which I think you are enquiring. It is quarto size, contains 138 pages and was written in 1575.

Although I shall be very pleased for you to examine the manuscript here at the Museum any time you wish, I shall not be able to send it to you as you desire. It is contrary to our regulations to allow any manuscript to be taken out of the building.

Trusting this will meet with your requirements,

I am,

Faithfully yours,

T. Lewis Esq., M.A.,
Denstone,
Caradog Road,
Aberystwyth.

Lewis

U

8 December 1913.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your kind letter of the 7th inst., we should have been most pleased to have rendered you any assistance we possibly could in the matter of the old MS., but unfortunately at the present time we are unable to trace it. Our librarian has had the matter in hand, but it is not an easy matter to hunt one old MS. from among many thousands in a few weeks. We are doing all we can in the matter, and directly we come across it, I shall not fail to let you know, but up to the present time we have been quite unable to trace it at all. If we did purchase it, it is quite probable that it has been misplaced when our books were packed away some eighteen months ago, but you may be sure we shall do all we can to assist you in the matter.

Faithfully yours,

Prof. T. Lewis.

University College of Wales,

ABERYSTWYTH.

7.XII.13.

Dear Sir,

I pray you to pardon me my importunity in writing you once more concerning the old Medical Book in your Library which you were good enough to promise to let me see some time ago. Since then circumstances have undergone a very sudden and unexpected change, and I hope you will kindly forgive me for appealing to you to let me see your MS. for a few days if it is in any way possible.

My chief here, Sir Edward Anwyl, is about to resign his post, and the Council of the University will in about ten weeks time proceed to appoint his successor, and naturally I am a candidate. On the 15th. of this month the Victoria University of Manchester are publishing a big book for me, and it would help me immensely in my candidature if I can make my Old Medical Book as substantial a contribution to scholarship as possible, and as you can see my text would gain in authority if I could compare it with yours; and moreover I am unable to say anything definite concerning the authorship without seeing the handwriting.

The whole of my text is in type, and if it were possible for me to see the MS. during the next week and the following I could print it off and get the whole thing done by the end of February

fer I should be able to devote the whole of my Christmas vacation to it. I shall be very glad if you will let me pay one of your assistants to look for the MS. and any other expense incidental to finding it I shall be only too happy to defray for I should be very sorry to put you to any unnecessary trouble .

Valuable posts of this kind come but very seldom in my branch of studies and I am very anxious to do every thing in my power to qualify for this one, and as this may mean so very much for me in my future I sincerely trust that you will be good enough to pardon me in begging you in this way to let me look at your MS. for a few days.

Yours very sincerely

Timothy Lewis

let I should be able to vote the whole of my Christmas
vacation to it. I shall be very glad if you will let me
be one of your assistants for the year and any other
expense incidental to living at I shall be only too ready
to defray for I should be very sorry to put you to any
unnecessary trouble.
Valuable posts of this kind come but very seldom in my
branch of studies and I am very anxious to do every thing in my
power to qualify for it is one, and as this is such a
good for me in my future I almost if I think that you will
be so good as to pardon me in saying you in this way to let me
thank you for a few days.

Yours
James

Yours very sincerely

James

(41c)

University College of Wales,

ABERY TWYTH.

Dear Sir,

You may possibly recollect how I wrote you some time ago concerning an old Welsh Manuscript which I understood was in your possession; but inasmuch as you had stowed away all your MSS. to make room for your Medical Exhibition you were unable to find it at the time and you were good enough to invite me to write you again in the Autumn.

If it is the MS. whence my copy was taken it should contain about 137 pages (or folios ?) written in a late xvj Cent. hand with an Index or List of Contents of 12 folios in a later hand.

The size would be about 8 by 6 by 1 1/4; and I understand it was sold direct to you on Dec. 19. 1907.

My book was to appear early in the year, but I delayed the printing in the hope of seeing your MS. for the copyist of my MS. has evidently mis-copied several words and if you could see your way clear to deposit it at the Library of the University College for a short time (it would be kept safely in the fireproof strong room) I should feel profoundly grateful to you.

Yours very sincerely,

C.J. Thompson, Esq.,

Timothy Lewis.

*Ms 11460 Alchemical
MS on vellum.
Size 8x6x1 1/4.
Dec 19. 07.*

H.M.M.

24 February 1913.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 22nd inst. to hand this morning, I am very sorry not to be able to find the MS. at the present moment, but among many thousands of books and MSS. it is a difficult matter to find one without fuller details than you have given me. In any case, however, the Library will be closed until the Historical Medical Exhibition is over, so I shall be unable to have access to the MSS. until the autumn. Had you told me of it two or three months ago, at the same time giving me full particulars, I should have been able to find it.

I do not know if you have come across a little brochure which I wrote some years ago on "Cymric Medicine". It may be of some assistance to your friend in his research work on the early history of medicine in Wales, so I enclose a copy.

I am,

Faithfully yours,

Professor I. Lewis,
Mansel Villa,
North Road,
Aberystwyth.

MANSEL VILLA

NORTH ROAD

ABERYSTWYTH

22ii 13

Dear Sir :

I am much obliged to you for your kind letter. I am very grieved to think that I have been guilty of troubling you at at such a very busy time. The unavoidable circumstances have caused me too a very keen disappointment. My text and glossary have just been put in the printers, hands; and I am afraid the news in your kind letter means that there is now little hope of throwing any additional light on some of the obscure passages in my MS. If there is any hope of your finding it within about two months, I should be exceedingly grateful to you for your MS. and mine be long to about the same age and district; and I might be of some assistance to Mr. Fellows in his search for light on the early history of Medicine in this country.

Yours very sincerely

J. Lewis

Library.

18 February 1913.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 14th inst., I have not yet been able to trace the MS. to which you refer.

As far as I can say we have nothing under the title you give. In any case I am afraid I shall have to postpone the search, as, owing to our requiring the premises for Museum purposes, the books in the Library are at present being packed and stored.

If, when the Library is re-opened, you will communicate with me again giving me the title of the MS., I shall do my best to find it.

I am,

Faithfully yours,

Professor Timothy Lewis, M.A.
University College of Wales,
Aberystwyth.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF WALES,
ABERYSTWYTH.

14. 11. 13

Dear Sir.

I am exceedingly grateful
to you for your kind letter bearing
the date of the 10th. inst.

I have just learnt some further
particulars concerning the Medical MS.

I am told that it was bought
by you on Dec. 19. 1907. It is an
octavo vol. of about 250 pages.

If it is really by one of the Salesbury's
it should belong to the last half
of the XVI Century.

I haven't been able to learn the exact
title but I gather it is something
like this "Llyfr (or Llyor) o Hen
Fesegumaeth "

The discription given to me this morning may be incorrect in details but I have never seen the book myself and have to depend on hearsay. I trust, however, that this imperfect description will enable you to identify it and I shall be inexpressibly grateful to you if you can see your way to deposit it at either of the two libraries here.

Yours very sincerely

Timothy Lewis

10 February 1913.

Dear Sir,

Your letter addressed to Mr. Henry S. Wellcome, who is at present travelling abroad, has been forwarded to me. In reply, I should be glad if you would kindly give me further particulars about the MS. on medicine by one of the Salesburys, as I have not been able to trace such a MS. in our Library.

If you will let me know the title and the period in which it was written, I will do my best to help you.

Faithfully yours,

Timothy Lewis Esq., M.A.

Lewis (Timothy)

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF WALES,

ABERYSTWYTH.

5.11.13

Recd.
7 FEB 1913

H.S. Wellcome Esq.

Dear Sir

I hope you will be good enough
to pardon my writing to you.

I have been for some time working
at an old Welsh medical Book interested
more particularly in the linguistic
rather than the medical side

Your very interesting essay on *Hen
Fesygymaeth Kynwric* issued as a souvenir
of the B.M.A.'s meeting at Swansea 1903
shows that you too are deeply interested
in the subject. I have just been
informed that a MS. book of
Medicine by one of the Salesbury's
is in your possession and I
am writing to ask you if you



UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF WALES.

ABERYSTWYTH.

could deposit your MS. either at the University Library or the National Library of Wales for a couple of weeks for the sake of comparison with another text. I am editing a text supposed to be by Sir Thomas Williams and the text together with a complete glossary is finished. There are, however, many words that are obscure to me and the Medical MSS. at the National Library throw no light on them and I should feel exceedingly grateful to you if you could do me the favour of depositing your MS. for a short time.

The Librarian of the National Library would give you a guarantee of safe keeping and if a reference would give you greater security. Sir John Williams R.B.V.O or Sir Edward Anwyl might be referred to.

Yours very sincerely

Timothy Lewis (M.A. Lecturer
in Welsh
Literature)

61. Lewis
(Timothy)