

Florence Nightingale (her letters are copies) concerning illness and death of Dr Parkes. Includes also-letter from Parkes to Longmore, 21 Feb 1876, and Longmore's case notes, with description of last conversation with Parkes

Publication/Creation

1876

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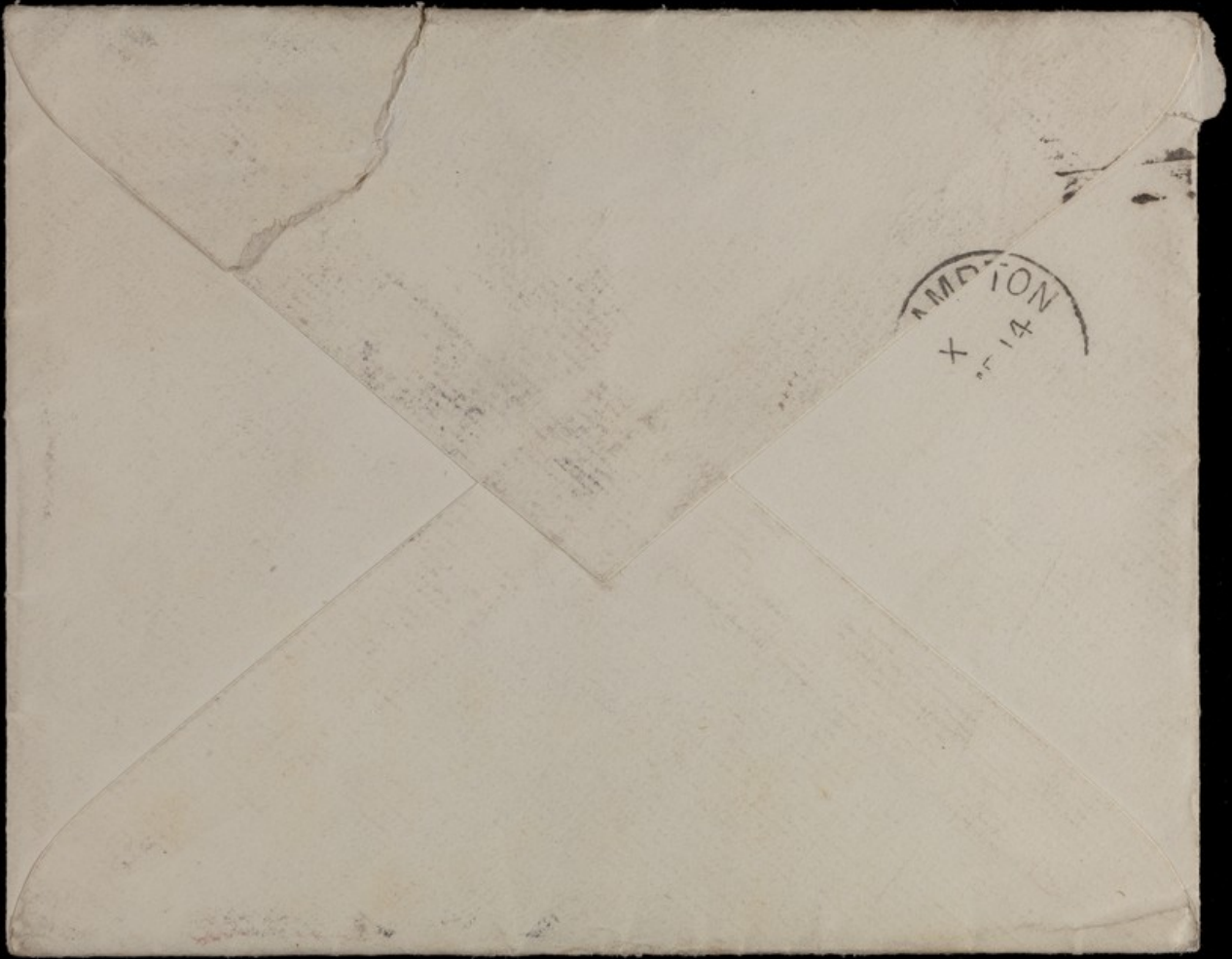
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LONDON W
X
MR 13
76



Professor Longmore
Woolstone
near Netley
(Southampton)

13/3/76

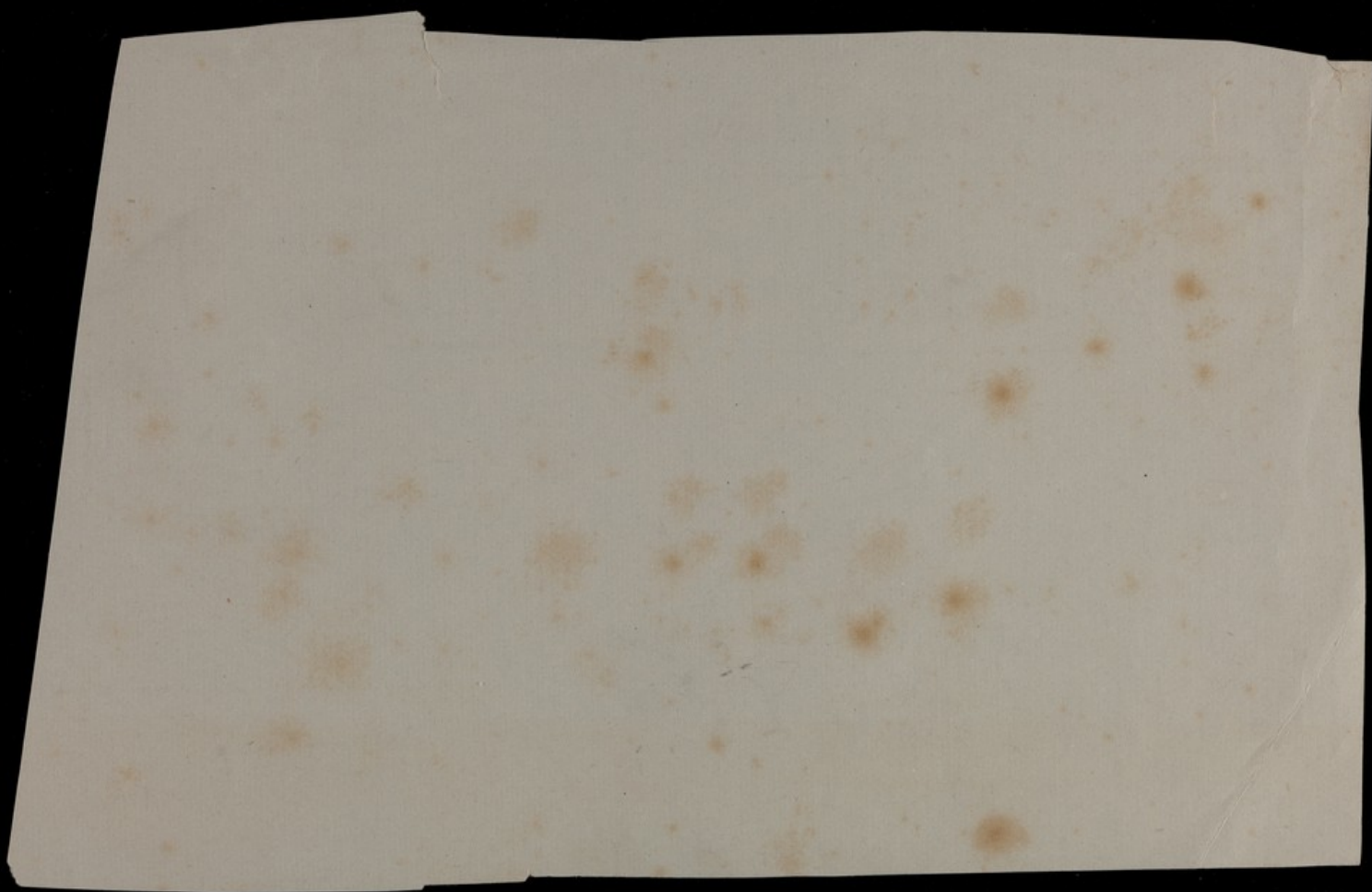


Private except to friends. T.L.

Last illness of Dr. Parkes.

Letters from Miss Nightingale, Sir Wm. Murray,
Sir W. Jenner &c - Some of my daily
notes of the illness & Dr. P's condition -

✓ With Jenner's correspondence ✓ With Hunt's correspondence
T.L.



LP. 53/1

Sydney Cottage,
Bitterne,
Southampton.

21. 2. 76

My dear Longmore

Russell Reynolds came here yesterday & after a very long examination solved the mystery of this fever. There is a little pneumonia at the base of the right lung, very characteristic crepitation was heard over a very limited area (2 inches or so in diam.)

There was dulness on percussion which I could hear distinctly. Reynolds thought the pneumonia had been very deep & only reached the surface a day or two ago; hence it was undetectable as the healthy vesicular murmur masked the crepitation. He thought

nothing of the absence of the ^{pneumonic} expectoration & the slight cough & said very truly that nothing brings up the temperature like a little pneumonia.

Perkins explains any symptoms: the short breathing on exertion, the little cough & the fever & quick pulse.

We have commenced some
fresh medicine & Reynolds

was very cheerful in his
views - He thinks it will
soon get better.

Osborn heard the reputation
most distinctly.

At present no change; last
night great fear; I find the
temp at no time gets as low
as 99 & is generally 100 in the
morning. With your let de Chamant
See this as it will save my writing
very truly
J. A. Parker

^{March}
Monday 13. Grasse brings note from Miss C. that Parker is
 making -

Telegram from Miss N. about nurse - Reply.

Sydney Cottage. Parker better again. Persuade family to have nurse

telegraphed for. Tel. to Miss N. to send nurse if poss. by 3:15 train - See Parker
 speak to him abt. impropriety of getting up - reason w. him - promises will not do
 so any more. See Watts - find he has only an inhaler for bed use - On way
 back go to Mr Adams & tell him to send up glass one -

Have arranged to go up about 6 - meet nurse from London - &
 then to introduce her to Parker as sent by Miss N.

Parker would not have the order to wait on him last night. at 2 a.m.
 heard Watts sent for - Got up & sat to night chair - & -

6 P.M. Sydney Cottage. Miss N. telegraphed could not get nurse for

3:15 train. Another tel. to say nurse will come by mail train.

Find Miss C's, Mrs Dyer & in great bewilderment - Parker profiting
 in Chloral. Osborn sd? none to be given - thought it nearly killed him last night

7 go & see P. strange scene. quite delirium à potu - in the name
 of the living God I must have it - Osborn mistaken - I have horrors I can't explain to you
 now - dreadful visions - dreams - Chloral only thing that does me good - hand
 clutching for it. Tried to induce Watts to find it for him - I think it best to give him
 a little. Miss R. Challock driven off in my brougham to get O's consent - O. says 5 grs
 - I give about 3 grs, having put it into a bottle exactly to look like the 20 grs. dose -
 uncock the phial, & pour it out so that he may see it - he directs the quantity of water to be
 added to it - takes it contentedly - God bless you to me, & to his brother, before drinking it -

O. to come at 10 o'clock. Told this to P. before giving the chloral - he misunderstood me & thought
 I was not to give him the Chlor till O. came at 10 o'clock. - quite furiously he uttered - "go &
 fetch him at once" - When I told him I was going to give him the Chlor. at once & that O. was coming
 at 10 o'clock. to see its effect - he was charmed & begged me to lose no time - I fancy the delirium he
 referred to were partly due to fever - yet for a long time past he would not take the Chlor. till after
 he had done his work of taking the temp^{ts} while fever on, & when subsiding.

Took 20 grs of Chloral last evng - & 10 grs this morn, I am told.

5th March '76

LP. 53/3

Sunday Dec. 27 see P. after
church. He is up & dressed as usual. but
not able to talk much.

Monday 6th. Up as usual, Arthur sees
him.

Tuesday 7th. P. keeps in bed first time
to wait for Russell Reynolds - & keeps
it from this day. Writing today.

Wednesday 8th. I go up but do not see
him. Mrs. P. get w. him. Mrs. Reeves
C. arrives

Thursday 9th. A. & J. take leave of P.
Believe him to be almost moribund.
Sleep, Chloral. Rathy. Dr. Weber &
Dr. Gu. W. Jenner see him. Dictates
letter to Mrs. P.

Friday 10th March. Parker called
since yesterday. Still passed night alone -
lighting the match, & candle, to take his
need: as before. Would not have a light
kept. Mrs. C. went in at 11 P.M. to see about
the fire, Mrs. R. C. in middle of night thinking
his bell had rung

Moysh

~~W~~ Sholdham Esq

Staplefield Place

Crawley

Sussex

John Hall

Upton Cottage

Shirley

Perth²

"I am quite happy - I have no pain -
 I don't think I shall live through the
 night - God bless you - " "God bless
 you, & I am sure he will" "I have
 no fear - what errors I have committed

God will forgive me - " You will
 shortly be in a happier state I wish
 than you have most loved. " I believe

so - give my best love to Mrs

Longmore " Thank you - " I spoke

to Jenner about the school - I about

the retirement of the Professors - you

will have a friend in him "

And Miss Nightingale has written
to me, & she will be a friend too
"Yes - I wrote a letter to her" ✓
mustn't fatigue you more, dear
Parker - goodbye - "God bless you"
We shall meet again hereafter. "I
believe so, goodbye"

Noted down on my return 6 P. M.
Saty 11th March '76 - Did not seem able
to move. Voice speech broken, short, but utterance
not so feeble as when I saw him on ~~Thursday~~
~~Wednesday~~ Thursday last - Not taking any nourishment

Dear Miss K. I feel it is only due to you
 from the large share & interest you took in the estab-
 lishment of this A.M.S. to make you acquainted with the
 distress we are in about poor Dr. Parker - a distress
~~to~~ ^{in which} I know you will sympathize with us
 he is so ill & so extremely debilitated that
 I fear he cannot last much longer ^{even many days longer} among us.
 During the last five or six days even
 speaking for a few minutes ^{has} quite exhausted
 him. He is not yet 57 years of age,
 & I know nothing that has ever
 surprised me more sadly than the sight
 of such a valuable life ^{with its clear}
~~intelligence~~ ^{that could happen} fading away. To us all
 it is the greatest calamity. His clear
 intellect, his fine feelings, his large
 personal influence, were a great stay
 not merely to his colleagues but to the
 School itself. & he ^{help} would have been
 more than ever precious now that some
 are talking of economy requiring the school
 itself to be discontinued. I trust for the

1 sake of the public service that this last
blow will be averted. ^{do} I feel ~~quite~~
certain the present Director General will do
all he can to ward it off. I believe it
can be shown that the most that could be
saved in money if the school were extinguished
tomorrow would be under £3000. But I

am passing into ^{the office to pass} & I wrote only
^{about the 10 papers} to tell you of ~~the~~ ^{one who is actually a} condition, of ~~my own dear~~
friends ^{not to myself only but} ~~to~~ many others,
^{of me} but who to all has been a
greater benefactor of his works than
^{perhaps} is generally known.

Received Saty Mfg. March 11th 9 a.m.

LP. 53/8

Dear Mr. Longmore,

The night has been
quite comfortable,
but he looks more
washed this morning.

His brother came
& stayed the night -
he is now talking
of him - I was with
him till 3^o when

he asked for a
little water - &
begged me to go
to bed, so I left
him - & he rang
the bell himself
for Wals, ^{who was sitting up down stairs} at 5 -
he has been up
again just now -
& he told him

not to leave the
house - & he thought
him much altered
in such
a way very
T. C. Chubb

March 16th -
Still the same
calm happy
state

LP. 53/14 35 South So.
Park Lane W.
March 17/76

My dear Sir

It is a painful comfort: but a very real
one: to know that, had dear Dr. Parkes' life
been prolonged, it could only have been to
^{incurably till death} suffer: & that his death ^{was} was a merciful one.
I thank you for telling me this:

Yours ever sincerely

J. Nightingale

Would you be so kind as to let me know anything you
hear about the future of the School? I am doing all

I can; but it is better to treat so fatal a step
as that feared as a mere rumour, as long as
it is not announced.

I will keep Genl. Glyn's letter a day longer,
please.

Professor Longmore

T. Downmore Esq

35 South So. - 2P. 53/11
Park Lane W.

March 13/76

My dear Sir

How I thank God that there is even a rally:
- & am thankful that you have been so successful
in persuading him to have a Nurse.

I did not wait for your Telegram (in reply to
mine) to send to Sir William Jenner: I tell him
what I had telegraphed to you: that we might
be ready in case he would send down a Nurse
with his persuasions as soon as we had your
reply. Unfortunately he did not know of a good

to us so precious a life -

In the two notes I have had from Sir W. Lennet,
he does not speak hopelessly of our dear Patient:
but "thought a rally quite possible"

He however expressed himself as hopeless of inducing
Dr Parker to have a Nurse: So you have done
wonders.

I cannot be sufficiently thankful to you for writing to
me. I shall be most eager to hear again:

Will you kindly thank Mrs. Paine for her most interesting
letter: Dr Parker dictated to me the most touching note
I ever saw in my life.

I only want to add now: if the Nurse does not suit (which
God forbid!) or if she is too expensive, you must allow me to
pay for her.

ever yours sincerely

F. Nightingale

Nurse: Your Telegram reached me at 1.10.

I sent again at once to Sir W. Jenner:

he did not ^{either} know of any: [We, I am sorry to say, are strictly limited to Nurses for Hospitals & the poor: & I had racked my brains in vain for one of ours who might be now unemployed.] - it was, then, impossible to find & send a Nurse down by 3.15. And I telegraphed this to Mrs. Paget

[Till your letter of this morning, I had no idea that he had no Nurse; or that Mrs. Paget: - was not she at Renkiv? - was not the best of all Head Nurses.]

I sent about immediately to all the places where (private) trained Nurses are to be had: & have been fortunate enough to find a ^{trained} Nurse at the very place Sir W. Jenner most wished: University Coll. Hosp! "trained by the All Saints Sisters": they write to me: "thoroughly dependable: now working on her own account: but all her own Nurses are out:" I gave the Sup^{ts} Dr. Parker's address: & she was to telegraph as soon as she knew the train ^{the Nurse} she goes by (this afternoon) that she may be met at Northam. May God bless this & all the means used for restoring

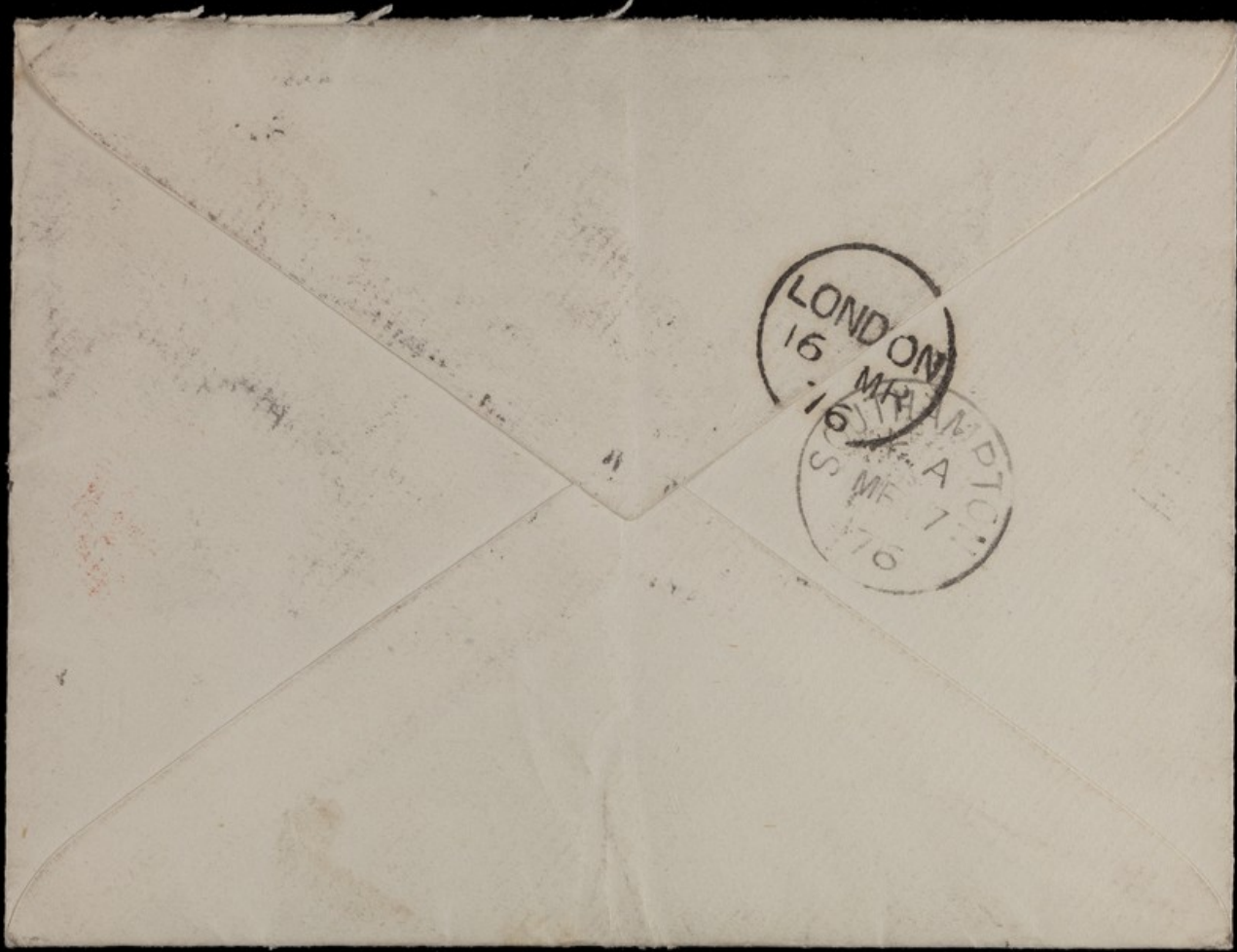
LONDON-W
Z
MR IE
74



Professor Longmore
Woolston
near Netley

16/3/76

(Hants)



LONDON
16 MAR
1876

S M F A D T C
1876

Copy - Original sent to Miss Nightingale ^{LP. 53/9}
10th March 76
^{1/2 p. O. A. M.}

Dear Mr Longmore

I have just been into his room & found him sleeping comfortably & he looked I thought not worse than yesterday. He went through all the excitement of yesterday really wonderfully. Dr Weber came first & talked to him some little time & then Sir W. Jenner - he was so pleased to see them - They urged him to try to take a little food & he consented to try some milk but could not take more than a few drops - he has a little water occasionally & with his chloral about $\frac{1}{2}$ a small tumbler but it is taken with great effort I fear I am keeping you mespage but I know you like to know all I can tell you - he heard Miss Nightingale's letter read in the afternoon & dictated an answer! The Queen sent him a kind message by Sir W Jenner wth pleased him much - she said "be sure you tell Dr P. how sorry I am to hear of his illness" Y^{rs} truly F. C. Chattout.

Sunday Mfg. 12th March 76

LP. 53/10

Dear Mr. Longmore
We have had
a disturbed night
in some respects -
I have not seen
the dear patient
this morning - but
Watts tells me he
is about the same
no better - His

voice however he
thinks a little
stronger & he
has taken several
teaspoonfuls of
milk - *G. W. W.*
F. C. Chester

March 12th

1 P.M. Just returned from Dr Parker's. Saw him
while sleeping. Temp. 20. Complexion more natural
than circulation. Face does not seem so much.

Write to Mrs Seible explaining matters - ask
her to select efficient orderly - send letter by Sergt Turner

Watts who was sitting up last night tells me

at 1/2 p 11 P.M. Dr Parker got up himself
unaided - got the chamber pot - & put it by his
bedside - He was heard moving & Watts went in

about 2 A.M. He did the same thing -
no fainting followed.

At 4 A.M. Wanted to go to the night chair -
~~was~~ very poor Watts - Watts had difficulty in getting
him out of bed, but got him to the chair - where he
sat for 1/2 an hour - suffered very great pain in passing
his motion - seems to have been partly faint when
Watts was getting him down again.

Dr Parker tells me his voice is stronger
& that at last he has consented to allow an orderly
to come to him for the night. I went to urge Mrs
Seible being allowed to be in attendance - but they all
say it would not expedite him to perform it & that he would
never consent to a female nurse. I cannot understand
his having got up.

From Florence Nightingale
Telegram

LONDON
X
MR 17
76



Professor Longmore
Woolston
near Netley

17/3/76

(Hants)



LP. 53/12

35 South St
Park Lane W

March 16/76

My dear Sir

I felt overwhelmed to hear of his death:
Revised hopes make me, I was going to say,
feel it the more: yet how can I say, the more,
or, the less? - his loss is unspeakable.

I would gladly have parted with my poor
small remnant of a life, if it could have been
accepted for his:

but let us, as he went to the sacrifice of
himself. with joy & praise: like the heroes of old:

so part with him.

He died like a true Christian hero
"at his post": & with the great simplicity
of one - His death reads like a resurrection.

We can bid him 'farewell': & he will
fare well: but he can hardly bid us
'farewell': for but ill we shall fare
without him.

But let us try to save what he
would have saved.

I rejoiced that you were with him to the
last. Among many friends, there were
few or none he valued like you -

I am grateful to you for having written
to me so much about him.

Will you add to your kindness by ^{giving} telling
Mrs Pater & his family a message from me
& saying that I will write?

Pray believe me, yours ever sincerely

Florence Nightingale

Professor Anshmore

[I will return Feb. 29's important
letter.]

35 South So. 2P. 53/7
Park Lane W. 7
March 8/76

My dear Sir

I am truly thankful to you for writing to me about our dear friend, Dr Parkes. I only heard yesterday of his illness: & almost in the same breath of his great danger.

I cannot but hope & trust that his valuable life may yet be spared: but I will not trouble you who know all with the hopes & fears of me who know nothing.

His loss would be irreparable.

how few there are, how very few, who remain from
what I would fain call: the good old time -
I venture to trouble you with a note ^{to forward} for him: I do
not like at such a time to give him no sign
of warm feeling. But I will ask you to open
& read it, & if his state is, alas! such as to render
it unsuitable, to destroy it.

Excuse pencil: I should be truly obliged
if you would let me hear again about him:
I pray believe me

Believe me most truly
Florence Nightingale

I can hardly believe that they mean to discontinue
the Netley School, after the untold good it
has done: & is doing. Indeed, I do not believe
it.

Yrs.

Professor Longmore

35 South St. ^{LP. 53/15}
Park Lane W.
Ap 21/77

My dear Sir

I am always glad to see your hand writing:
I have no doubt that the life of our dear friend,
Dr. Parkes, is best expressed by what you say:
viz. extending "the competition for the prize essay
to the Medical Officers of all three branches of
the public service".

[Tho' not exactly a parallel case, I suppose no
one cause has so raised the usefulness of Oxford
as making open scholarships, exhibitions &
fellowships.]

Indeed you may well say that we feel the
loss of Dr. Parkes more & more every day.

Will you kindly thank Dr. Dobson for me
for the retype portrait

I pray believe me

Ever sincerely yours

Florence Nightingale

Thos Longmore Esq
Esq

Copy

35 South St LP. 53/6

Park Lane W

March 2^d/76

My dear Dr Parker

I heard only this morning (& last night)
of your illness: & it causes me sorrow & anxiety
beyond what I can express.

But I will not believe but that God will
spare to us so valuable a life

We have summer before us: & not winter: May the
Spring bring a new spring of health to you is
all that I can say!

I look back to the past 20 years: during
which I have always been able, - if not to see, -
to think of, to know, & to rejoice in thinking
of & knowing your great & useful career:

as I hope to look forward to it during the
next 20 years -

To me it is bound up with all that
was & is dearest to me in life.

And while thus looking back &

& forward, I think I can neither see nor
imagine any usefulness greater than yours
has been & will be, in teaching
those laws of health & life & death
which concern not only life but civilization &
all that makes life precious. & which
spread from you wherever (& beyond) the
English language is spoken. For from
you they come out not as from a teacher:
but winged by all those qualities which
make you a benefactor & a friend.

I would say as Genl Lee wrote to
Genl Jackson when he was wounded:

I have wrestled more in prayer for you
with God this night than I ever did for
myself:

but that we know our Heavenly

Father needs no 'wrestling with':
and into His hands I commend
your Spirit & body: yours & my own.

May God bless you, & He will bless
you - yours ever sincerely

Florence Nightingale

I wish that you could know how we make
your 'Practical Hygiene' the Text-book in
all our Training-Schools for Nurses:
- including now that of the London District
Nurses - who are gentlemen - for the sick
poor at home: & from them it spreads its
light to some of the poor & 'Parish
Doctors': & many others. F.N.

The original of this was sent for
me to read & to give to Dr Parker
if he were able to receive it

F. L.



Professor Longmore

—

Woolston

near Netley

Hants

8/3/76





POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS.

2P. 53/13

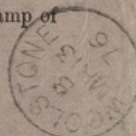
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N.B.—This Form should accompany any inquiry made respecting this Telegram.

Charges to pay £.....s.....d.



53

Handed in at the

South Audley St. 5

Office at

Received here at 1030 .M.

Delivering Office.

From

To

Florence Highingale
35 South St
Park Lane London

Professor Longmore
Woolston
Notley Dorset

Do you think Sir William
Sennar could persuade Dr Parkes
to have a trained nurse
and would send one today
to him if you telegraph
Mrs. shall I write to
Sir William Sennar



POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS.

No. of Message

If the amount of this Telegram is doubtful, it will be returned on receipt of payment of half the amount originally paid for its transmission; and if found to be incorrect, the amount paid for repetition will be returned. When the cost of a reply to a Telegram has been prepaid, and the number of words in the reply is in excess of the number so paid for, the sender of the reply must pay for such excess. Telegrams may be directed from town to town at an extra charge of one-half the ordinary inland rate. Functions of International Telegrams are not in such cases they must have been prepaid.

N.B.—This form should accompany any inquiry made respecting this Telegram.

Charge to paye.....d.

Handed in at the Office of Mr. Received here at M. Delivering Office.

From	To

Parkes.

„He made the world much richer by his life,
much poorer by his death!“ Russell Reynolds.

Die vorangestellten Worte des berühmten Lehrers am „University College“ in London, mit welchen derselbe, zu Ehren Parkes sprechend, am vorletzten Freitag seine Zuhörerschaft apostrophierte, schildern einfach und zutreffend den grossen Verlust, welchen die Menschheit durch den vorfrühen Tod eines Mannes erlitt, von dem seine Kollegen und Schüler einstimmig zu sagen gewohnt waren: „Parkes has but one fault — if fault it may be called — that he cannot believe that there is anyone in this world not as good as himself!“¹⁾

Ein Mann ernst, ehrlich und genial in seinen Forschungen die Wahrheit zu enthüllen, nur um ihres Erfolges wegen und zum Heile der Menschheit; unermüdet fleissig, unübertroffen in Geschicklichkeit, ob es galt Neues zu entdecken oder alte Methoden zu verwerthen und zu verbessern; geduldig als Forscher und genau bei Wiedergabe des Resultirenden; mit stets offenen Augen für jeden neuen Lichtstrahl, mit einem reich begabten Geiste alles der Vergangenheit angehörige Wissen festzuhalten, ob es dem Inlande oder den fremden Ländern seinen Ursprung verdankte; so diente, so lebte Parkes der Welt, seinem Vaterlande und seinem Stande, Werke hinterlassend, welche überdauern werden kommende Jahrhunderte!

Longmore, der 16 volle Jahre mit ihm an der militärärztlichen Schule zuerst im Fort Pitt (Chatham), dann zu Netley gelehrt hat, pflegt von ihm zu sagen: „He was nearer to perfection than any man I ever met with!“ Ein Ausspruch, den ich — der ich das Glück hatte, sein eifriger Zuhörer gewesen zu sein — meistens gerne bestätigte und bei diesem Anlasse, auf den lebenden Sprecher und Freund „gleich anwendbar“ zu erklären keinen Anstand nehme.

Als Lehrer war Parkes wahrlich bewundernswürdig, klar, praktisch und seine Zuhörer fesselnd, sowie zur Erkenntnis und zum Festhalten des Gesagten hinweisend. Er war ein annehmlicher gewandter Redner, voll Anstand und Bescheidenheit. In Netley galt er unter seinen Kollegen und den militärärztlichen Kandidaten als der „Erste!“ Sein persönlicher Einfluss auf die Studenten und Militärärzte war einzig in seiner Art, in der That, er war allgemein beliebt und geschätzt von Jung und Alt. — Sein Scheiden wird, wie sein Leben und Wirken, unvergessen bleiben!

Sir William Jenner, der (nebst den Doktoren Walsh, Reynolds und Herrn. Weber) während seiner vier Monate andauernden letzten Krankheit (akute Tuberkulose) ihn gepflegt hatte, schreibt über Parkes so rührend schöne Worte, dass wir sie hier zu wiederholen nicht unterlassen dürfen: „The desire to possess his esteem has been that which has encouraged me from my earliest student days . . . He taught me as a student to desire knowledge for itself, to desire to be good in itself and for itself and not for any thing which might follow it.“²⁾

Edmund Alexander Parkes war am 30. März 1819 in Warwick geboren und starb kinderlos zu Bitterne (Hants) am 15. März 4. J. im 56. Jahre seines Alters. Er ruht zu Southill bei Birmingham an der Seite seiner erst jüngst ihm in den Tod vorangegangenen Frau.

In London zuerst an der Bluecoat-School, dann am University-College erzogen, war er durch Talent sowie Fleiss der hervorragendste Schüler seines Onkels Dr. Antony Todd-Thomson, in dessen Laboratorien er sich die Geschicklichkeit zu chemischen Forschungen erwarb, die er später so meisterhaft ausführte. — 1841 an der Londoner Universität zum M. B. promovirt, ging er im April 1842 als Assistent Surgeon des 84. (York & Lancaster) Regiments nach Indien, wo er drei Jahre meist in Madras und Mulmein verbrachte und seine praktischen Studien über Krankheiten in den Tropenländern begann; diese legten den Grund zu seinen bekanntesten Arbeiten über Dysenterie, He-

patitis, algide Cholera, Cholera in London (1847 und 1848). 1849 veröffentlichte er seine Aufsätze über „Herzkrankheiten“ in der Medical Times und im selben Jahre wurde er, der schon 1846 als M. D. graduirte war, Professor der klinischen Medicin am University College und Arzt am Spital derselben Lehranstalt. 1851 publicirte er eine neue Auflage von Thomson's „Handkrankheiten“ und war bis zu seinem Ende einer der thätigsten Mitarbeiter der Medical Times, später Gazette, der Lancet etc. Einige Zeit war er auch der Herausgeber der British and Foreign Medico-Chirurgical Review.

Nach kurzer Praxis in London, in welcher Zeit er zweimal schwer erkrankte, wurde derselbe wenige Tage nach seinen epochemachenden Goulstonian-Lectures über „Pyrexia“ 1855 durch die Regierung nach der Türkei berufen, um ein Spital zu errichten; dieses ward bald von ihm geschaffen und zwar an der asiatischen Seite der Dardanellen zu Renkoi. Die offiziellen Berichte, welche nach dem Schlusse des Krimfeldzuges über die Heilresultate dieser Anstalt erschienen sind, waren voll Lobes für Parkes.

Von 1855 an war er schon Prüfer der ärztlichen Kandidaten für die indische Armee und 1860 wurde er als Professor der Hygiene an die militärärztliche Schule berufen, in welcher Eigenschaft er bis zu seinem Ableben verblieb. Im selben Jahre, 1860, veröffentlichte er sein Werk „über die Composition des Urins bei Geunnden und Kranken“. Bei seinem Abschied von London schrie ihm das Universitäts-Kollegium, indem dasselbe seine Büste in Marmor in seinem Laboratorium aufstellte und ihn zum Professor emeritus ernannte. Im Jahre 1863 war die militärärztliche Schule von Port Pitt nach Netley übersiedelt und schon 1864 erschien sein weltberühmtes Buch „Manual of Practical Hygiene“, das erste rationale Werk einer Gesundheitslehre, welches 4 Auflagen erlebte.

Mitglied der bekannten Kommissionen, welche das 1863 von Sir Ch. Hastings gegründete General-Medical-Council bildeten, war er schon früher unter dem humanen Kriegessekretär Sidney Herbert einer der eifrigsten Förderer der Reformen und der Errichtung der militärärztlichen Schule. Mit General Eyre in Gemeinschaft ist Parkes der Erfinder des neuen Tornisters, welcher der englischen Armee so viel Erleichterung brachte. 1865 und 1868 erschienen in der Lancet seine markanten Briefe „über den medicin. Unterricht und Erziehung“. Seit 1861 war Parkes F. R. S. und 1871 hielt er die auch in der Lancet veröffentlichten „Croonian Lectures on Nitrogenous Elimination.“ 1874 schrieb er über den Effect des Alkohols auf den menschlichen Körper und über Ernährung durch Konserven, namentlich im Kriege mit den Asiantes.

In den Einzelbüchern finden wir aus seiner trefflichen Feder stammend, die durch Sir James Gibson schon 1862 angeregten jährlichen Rapporte über die Fortschritte in der Hygiene. Er war einer der eifrigsten Verfechter der Contagious Diseases-Act. Parkes war Mitglied des Senates der Londoner Universität und des Council of Royal Society.

„Dass solch ein Mann die Welt verlassen konnte ohne jede sichtliche Ehre oder Anzeichnung von Seite des Staates, dem er so treu und erfolgreich gedient, kann, — sagt einer seiner Biographen, — uns nicht Wunder nehmen, wenn wir bedenken, wie wenig die Menschen überhaupt und namentlich wie gar nicht die offizielle Welt sich um jene kümmern, die das Beste für die Allgemeinheit leisten, wenn sie nicht falsche Profeten sind.“

Parkes war von hoher schlanker Statur mit angenehmen, etwas melancholisch blickenden Augen und freundlichen Gesichtszügen, in Formen und Wesen ein echter Gentleman. Alle, die ihn kannten, wiederholen von ihm des grossen englischen Dichters Worte, dass „Amuth und Licht“ seine Person umstrahlten.

In die freudigen Jubelklänge, die mit vollem Rechte eben den ältesten und besten Militärarzt und Kriegschirurgen Deutschlands umranchen, schwirrt der Mistsen über den Verlust jenes Mannes, den vor allen auch Stromeyer gekannt und hoch geschätzt hat. Alle Armeen des Kontinents sollten am Paradeplatze die umfönten Standarten, wenn auch nur für einen Augenblick zur Erde senken, denn der Gründer und beste Lehrer der Militär-Gesundheitspflege unserer Tage, aller Krieger Freund und Wohltbäter, Edmund Parkes ist nicht mehr!

J. Mundy.

Wies, Ende März 1876.

¹⁾ Er bereicherte die Welt gar sehr durch sein Leben und machte sie viel ärmer durch seinen Tod.

²⁾ Parkes hat nur einen Fehler — wenn es ein Fehler genannt werden kann — nicht glauben zu können, dass irgend Jemand in dieser Welt nicht eben so gut sei als er es selbst ist.

³⁾ Er war näher der Vollkommenheit, denn je ein Mann, den ich kennen gelernt habe.

⁴⁾ Der Wunsch, seine Achtung zu besitzen, hat mich mit meiner frühesten Studienzeit besesselt . . . Er lehrte mich als Student, die Wissenschaft ihrer selbst wegen zu suchen, gut zu sein durch sich selbst, bloss des Guten wegen und nicht für etwas, was darauf folgen mag.