

'Cucalon, Dr Don C'

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CUCALON, DR. DON C.

GUAYBVIL, ECUADOR

1914

Translation of letter to Dr. C. Cucalon, Guayaquil, Ecuador, 18 March 1914.

Dear Sir,

I desire to thank you for your kind letter of the 10th ult. and for your appreciative remarks respecting the Wellcome Historical Medical Museum.

The three ancient figures of deities of healing that you have been so good as to present to the Museum are most interesting, and will form a valuable addition to the objects of the Incas period which we already have. It is most kind of you to have given them to us and they will, I am sure, excite the interest of all who visit the Museum.

Again thanking you very cordially on behalf of Mr. Wellcome and myself,

I am,
Faithfully yours,

Duplicate.

18 de Marzo de 1914.

Muy apreciable Sr:

Deseo hacerle presente mi agradecimiento por su amable carta del 10 del pasado y por sus observaciones apreciativas respecto al Museo Histórico Médico Wellcome.

Las tres figuras antiguas de deidades de la salud que Ud. ha tenido la bondad de regalar al Museo son altamente interesantes y formarán una valiosa edición á los objetos que ya poseemos, del periodo de los Incas. Ha sido una acción muy bondadosa de Ud. habérmolas regalado y, estoy seguro que despertarán el interés de todas las personas que visiten el Museo.

Agradeciéndole muy cordialmente una vez más en nombre del Sr. Wellcome y en el mio, me es grato repetirme de Ud.,

Su atento y S. S.,

Sr. Dr. Don C. Cucalon,
Guayaquil,
Ecuador.

RQG.

Trans. of letter from Dr. C. Cucalon, Guayaquil, Ecuador, S. America. 10, 2, 1914

The creation of the H.M.M. due to Mr. Wellcome is truly of the highest scientific interest. I therefore, seize the opportunity of collaborating on a small scale in so important a work. I send you as a humble offering for your museum, three figures made from a special volcanic stone, each statuette has existed from four to five centuries, therefore they are of the period of the Incas and Scyris (Kings of Peru and Quito) before the conquest 1,492.

Respecting the relation which they bear to Medicine: the statuettes represent dieties who had a curative influence upon Skin diseases; the natives bathed themselves in hot springs "sulphurus" which still exist today and the curative properties of which are due to the sulphurus alkalines, which an analysis of it has shown.

The natives had great faith in these gods and in the springs which were consecrated to them and repaired to them five centuries ago to be cured with the same perseverance as the civilized people of the present century have recourse to pilgrimages to Lourdes.

This is the history of the statuettes which I am sending to have placed in the Museum.

Three statuettes of the Inca period representing Indian gods ,
which had the power of curing certain diseases of the skin
in particular.

DR. CARLOS CUCALON I.
Médico y Cirujano



Guayaquil, Febrero10..... de 1914

A Mr el Conservador del

International Historical Medical Museum

Londres.

Muy Sr mio:

En mi poder vuestra atta carta circular, la misma que paso á responder en las ptes lineas.

Es verdaderamente de alto interes científico la creación de vuestro Museo Histórico Médico, debido al Sr Wellcome, así pues deseando colaborar en pequeña escala en obra tan importante, os envié en calidad de obsequio para vuestro Museo tres figurillas fabricadas con una piedra especial volcánica; cada estatuita de esas tiene cuatro ó cinco siglos de existencia, pues son del periodo de los Incas y Scyris (Reyes peruanos y quitus) antes de la conquista 1,492.

Respecto á la relación que con la Medicina (incaica) tienen es la sgte: las estatuas representan deidades teniendo influjo curativo sobre las enfermedades de la piel; los indigenas iban á bañarse á unas termas "sulfurosas" que aun existen hoy y cuyas propiedades curativas se deben á los sulfuros alcalinos, que el análisis en ellas há demostrado.

Los indigenas tenian gran fé en estos dioses y en las fuentes á ellos consagradas á las cuales ocurrían á curarse hacen cinco siglos con el mismo empeño "con que los civilizados del siglo actual acuden á Lourdes en peregrinación"

Tal es la historia of the estatuas que tengo el ^{placer de} enviar al Museo.

De Ud muy Atto y S. S.

Dr. C. Cucalon I.