

**To Longmore from John S. Billings, Surgeon General's Office, War
Department, Washington**

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L 32/1
WAR DEPARTMENT.
SURGEON GENERAL'S OFFICE.
WASHINGTON.

August 8th/82.

Dear Genl Longmore.

Your letter of
July 14th, with enclosed, was
duly received and at a very
opportune moment, for the next
day your remarks were used
effectively in a discussion on
Appropriations, having been placed
in the hands of a Senator for that
purpose. You see that you
can claim powers of prophecy to a
considerable extent and you may

be sure that your friendly words
are highly appreciated. I have
much the same feeling that you express
in what I wrote about the Netley
School in the Article in the July
number of The United Service Journal
a copy of which I sent to ~~Mr. Markham~~
and yourself.

Congress has adjourned, - and at
the end of the session after a
long delay and much opposition
the Senate has confirmed General
Cane as Surgeon General. We
are all well pleased ^{with} ~~at~~ this
result. The third surgical volume
of The Med History of the war will be
finished by the end of this year.

Dr Woodward is sick and I fear it will be two or three years before the 3rd Medical volume is completed. In three or four weeks I shall begin to send out Vol III of the Index Catalogue and shall begin to send Vol IV to press in September.

The Librarian of Congress, who has an ambition to be a second Panizzi, wishes to have the Medical Library turned over to his charge and we must try to demonstrate the folly of such a move to our "Statesmen"! next winter. I don't think any great natural Library

has ever been very strong in scientific or medical
literature. However I won't weary you with
a discussion of the matter. Please present
my sincere respects & kind regards to your
Colleagues - if I can do anything for you or for
the School - command me without hesitation,
and believe me to be

Very sincerely yours
C. Milling.

L. 32/2

WAR DEPARTMENT,

SURGEON GENERAL'S OFFICE,

Washington, Dec 10, 1883,

Dear Prof Longmore,

Your note of Nov 26
is just received. I enclose a copy of
the outline figures referred to in the *Med
& Surg History* - They were lithographed
for the use of the Department only
and were not sold. After their
publication a much more complete
set of such figures was brought out in
Philadelphia (in 1875). I have this day
written to the publisher to know if any
are still for sale - and if I can
get a specimen I will forward it to

you. After a somewhat annoying delay the President has appointed the Senior Medical Officer of the Corps, Dr Robert Murray, as Surgeon General, and it was probably the best thing he could have done. At all events it gives general satisfaction in the Army - and may be taken as strongly confirming the precedent of promotion by seniority and keeping in the line of regular succession. I am myself perfectly satisfied with the result, and have no desire to be in any way a Candidate for this position.

It will require nearly ten years yet ~~for me~~ to complete the organization which I wish, and hope, to effect here and in

Baltimore, so that one Museum and Library on the one ~~bank~~^{side}, and the Medical Department of the Johns Hopkins University and the Johns Hopkins Hospital on the other shall clasp hands for good work, and for the benefit of our Medical Officers as one of the Special Objects. I have strong hopes that we can induce Congress to grant us this winter the means of erecting a commodious fire proof building for the Library & Museum, and if I can get that the rest will follow -.

Just now it seems probable that the Museum is to be placed under my general direction

and that some of the younger men are
to be sent to me to be trained in Library
and Museum work, but the new Surgeon
General has not quite made up his mind
on this point.

If this programme is
carried out I shall probably call on you
for advice in regard to some Museum
matters.

Please to present my
sincere respects and kindest regards to
Professors Maclean and de Charmonet, consider
this as bearing Christmas greetings to you
and yours, and believe me to be

Very sincerely yours

J. S. Billings

Prof. L. Longmore.

L. 32/3

WAR DEPARTMENT,
SURGEON GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON.

Dec 8 /84

Dear General Longmore,

Please accept my
very sincere thanks for the copy
of your introductory address
with which you have favored me,
and which I value for itself
as well as a token of your
kind remembrance.

The answers on vaccination are a
capital illustration of your
point.

The enclosed preliminary notice
will show you in part what I have
been doing lately. We shall
probably take two or three months

to complete the selection of Officers
for the Sections etc.

We have met at the very commence-
ment a great misfortune in the
death of one of the members of our
Committee of organization,
Dr. J. S. Thomas of Savannah,
who came on to attend our
meeting for organization - was
taken sick on the way and died
here of Acute lobar pneumonia
after an illness of just one
week. He literally

died in the Service of the Congress.

Vol VI of the Index
Catalogue is fairly well
way with the printers.

I want to obtain for
the Library a copy of the Revised

Rules for the examination of
Surgeons and Surgeons Major in
the English Army, referred to
in the Brit Med Jour of Nov 1/84,
and also a copy of the Army
Circular on the same subject
dated August 1st 1884, with
any other documents on the
same subject which is one of
much interest to us.

If you can aid me to
obtain these the favor will be
highly appreciated.

With best wishes and
kindest regards believe me
to be

Very truly & Truly Yours
J. S. Billings
Surgeon General T. S. S. S. S.

To send Billings

And Matt's Rep -

Appendix Catalogue, vol -
Surg. Museum

Le

WAR DEPARTMENT,
SURGEON GENERAL'S OFFICE,
ARMY MEDICAL MUSEUM AND LIBRARY,
WASHINGTON.

L. 32/4

Sept 17 /87

Dear Sir Thomas,

In transmitting
the formal receipt for the
copy of your address I
wish also to add my
personal thanks, and to
express my appreciation of
the sound practical sense
contained in your remarks.

Just at present I am
moving the Army Medical

Museum and Library into
the new fire proof building
which has been prepared for
their reception, and an illustration
of which I send you that you
may have some idea of our new
quarters. Of course there is
just now a good deal of confusion
but two months hence I hope
to have it all in good order
and I very much want you
to come over next year and
see for yourself how we are
getting along. On the first
of September 1888 there will be
a meeting in Washington of

the most prominent Physicians and Surgeons of
this Country and the occasion will be one of
much interest. I give you timely notice as I
sincerely hope that you will be present.
With great respect and best wishes I remain

Yours very sincerely
John S. Milling.

Sir Thomas Longmore
etc etc

L 32/5
WAR DEPARTMENT,
SURGEON GENERAL'S OFFICE,
ARMY MEDICAL MUSEUM AND LIBRARY,
WASHINGTON.

December 19 87

My dear Sir Thomas -

I have your very
kind letter of December 8th, for
which accept my sincere thanks.

I regret exceedingly to hear
that the abolition of the Netley
School has been recommended
by the Treasury, not that
I suppose that there is any danger
that the advice will be adopted,
but because it shows that those
who make it do not bear

popular opinion.

We have been very fortunate in securing our new building, a number of circumstances were favorable and the tide was taken on the flood.

I have the library moved and properly arranged in its new quarters. The Museum is about half moved.

I sincerely hope that you will pay us a visit next year. We shall have a meeting of the principle Special Medical Societies of the United States here in Washington in the latter part of September 1888 and we shall be very glad to see

you and any of your colleagues.
I should especially be glad to
see you here that I might obtain
from your advice or suggestions as
to certain points in the Museum
development concerning which
I am either doubtful or ignorant.

And I need not tell
you that you will meet with
a warm welcome from American

Suegens, I am quite

in earnest about your coming
next year, I hope that Sir

James Paget, Esq. Marsh, Volkman
and others will be with us
and I hope you will come

also. Present my best.

respects and kindest regards
to your colleagues and
accept my best wishes for a
Merry Xmas and a happy New
Year for yourself.

Yours very sincerely
John S Billings.

Sir Thos Longmore
etc etc.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
SURGEON GENERAL'S OFFICE,
ARMY MEDICAL MUSEUM AND LIBRARY,
WASHINGTON.

L 32/6

March 1 / 88

Dear Sir Thomas,

Accept my
sincere thanks for the examinations
papers which you have kindly
sent me. I have shown

them to Surgeon General Moore
who is much interested in
them and have placed them
in the Library for reference.

May we not hope to
see you and some of your colleagues
here next Autumn at the time
of the Congress of American
Physicians and Surgeons? I have

Mailed you a preliminary programme
for the three evening sessions. The
main work will be in the day time
in the Special Societies - the
programmes for these I will send
you in due time.

We should all be very glad to see
you, and I can promise that you
shall be well taken care of.

Very sincerely yours
J. S. Billings.

Sir Thomas Longmore
C. B. etc

WAR DEPARTMENT,
SURGEON GENERAL'S OFFICE,
ARMY MEDICAL MUSEUM AND LIBRARY,
WASHINGTON.

L. 32/7

July 18 / 88

Dear Sir Thomas,

Your letter of
June 30th is received and
I am very sorry to
learn that we must give
up all hope of having
you with us in September.

I fully appreciate
the force of your reasons
and shall not attempt to
urge you to come, but if it

should happen that you find
that you can come you will
be made very welcome.

The meeting will not
be a large one, there will
be a good deal of work in
the way of papers, discussions,
etc, and very little
banqueting.

I have finished and
sent to press Vol IX of the
Index Catalogue - which
I hope will be ready for
issue in about two

Months, and am preparing the MS
for Vol X. With much respect,
and best wishes, I am
Very sincerely, Yours
J S Billings.

Dr Thos Longmore, K.C.B. &c -

Billings

L. 32/8

WAR DEPARTMENT,
SURGEON GENERAL'S OFFICE,
ARMY MEDICAL MUSEUM AND LIBRARY,
WASHINGTON.

Oct 28 /88

Dear Sir Thomas.

Your very kind
letter of Oct 15th is just
received, and I appreciate
highly your commendation of
my Address.

I thank you very sincerely
for your offer of a copy
of the "Montefiore Medal" which
will be a most interesting
and valuable addition to
our Collection.

Yrs

Messrs. Trenchard & Co, 57 Ludgate
Hill London send a parcel
to this Library every fortnight,
by steamer, if you will
send the Medal to them addressed
to me as Creator of the Army
Medical Museum Washington
D.C. it will be promptly
and safely forwarded.

Before this reaches you I
hope you will have received Vol
IX of the Index Catalogue. I
am just beginning to send
Vol X to press.

I still hope that at no
distant day you will come

over and see what we are doing.

I observe with very great regret that there is some talk
of discontaining the Army Medical School at Netley,
and I sincerely hope it will prove to be vox et
practerea nihil. With great respect and best wishes

I remain

Very sincerely Yours

John S Killings

Sir Thomas Longmore KCB

Surgeon General etc

L 32/9

WAR DEPARTMENT,
LIBRARY OF THE SURGEON GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

April 14 /91

My dear Sir Thomas,

I have your kind letter of March 28th, with enclosures, for all which please accept my very sincere thanks. The portrait of Wiseman

is most interesting, - I have placed it in the library, and gladly accept your kind offer of another for myself.

The Copy of your personal record is also most interesting and suggestive. It makes me feel that I am quite a callow youth although 52 years old now.

By accident of position I have been able to do a little - but my record

is, and will be, a short and small one as compared with yours.

Your work has been the sowing of seed, and you have seen many of the fruits already, not only in the work of the Medical men whom you have personally instructed but in the work of Army Surgeons of all countries.

I am sorry to hear that you have concluded to retire from teaching - and can only hope that you will use some of the time thus gained in writing. I hope you have a volume or two of personal Reminiscences in course of preparation.

Our New Surgeon General is Dr Charles Sutherland, a very worthy and excellent gentleman who, I am sorry to say has only about two years to serve

before he will be retired on account of age. There are twenty surgeons who are senior to me on the register, and if I remain in the service I should not probably become Surgeon General in less than ten years. I do not however

crave the position in the least, and I shall probably ask to be retired in the course of three years - as soon as I have finished the Index Catalogue and one or two other pieces of work which I have in hand.

I am supervising the construction of a large and well fitted laboratory of Hygiene at the University of Pennsylvania - and it is likely that I shall end my days as Director of that Institution in getting it fairly at work. The future is very

uncertain however.

With great respect and best wishes
believe me to be

Yours very sincerely

J S Billings.

Jr. to
Sir Thomas Longmore

Sur General etc

L 32/10

WAR DEPARTMENT,
SURGEON GENERAL'S OFFICE,
ARMY MEDICAL MUSEUM AND LIBRARY,
WASHINGTON.

August 13/92

My dear Sir Thomas

I have your kind
note of August 1st, and also
the list of questions, for both
which I beg to return thanks.

I am sorry to hear of the conditions
of the Netley School - I saw
some reference to the difficulties
in securing suitable professors
for it in the columns of the Lancet
or Brit Med Jour - but I had hoped
that these difficulties would
be overcome. It will be
a great pity - and a great

Shame if the Netley School
is allowed to retrograde.

I have just returned from
a flying trip to England, little
more than a sail over and
back, so that I could not
get down to see you as
I should have liked to have
done. I was not well

when I started and am
not quite well now but
much better than when I
went away. It has been

exhaustingly hot here for
three weeks - 95° to 103° in
the shade - which is not
conducive to energy.

I note your promise to have

Sent to this Library after your
death the two folio volumes of the
Correspondence of the Army Med
Dept in reference to the Crimean
war and thank you sincerely
for it. Coming from you they
will be a most valuable gift
but I hope it will be long
before the occasion arises to
send them.

I do not intend to leave here
until the Index Catalogue
is completed if I can help
it. But that depends on
the Action of the Surgeon General,
and we shall have a new
one next year - whose views
are doubtful. I have finished
my 30 years service - and can

ask to be retired if the necessity
arises. With great respect, and
best wishes I remain

Yours very sincerely
John S Billings

Sir Thomas Engmore

Alice - 11 or 20!