

September 26, 1967

Dr. Erna Lesky, Professor  
History of Medicine  
Wahringer Strabe 25  
Vienna, Austria

Dear Dr. Lesky

I thank you sincerely for your nice letter of September 19, 1967. I of course have most of Billroth publications and publications on Billroth, either in my possession or available, and of course your nice publication. Enclosed is a short work on Billroth's school. I certainly appreciate the invitation to spend time in Vienna and I will certainly plan to do so at an appropriate time. Are the letters available in your institute the published Billroth - Brahms - Meissner letters, edited by Fischer or Otto Gottlieb-Billroth, etc., or do they include some unpublished letters?

I visited your institute two years ago and you can well imagine how impressed I was by your wonderful work, and the tremendous collections! Could you tell me why Billroth, who was so active in antiseptis, even though sometimes controversial, never mentions Semmelweis? Do you have in your library P. v. Gebhardt's Familiengeschichtliche Blätter, Vol. 27, 1929, which contains Billroth's genealogy? It is not available in the Library of Congress or Natl. Library of Medicine in Washington.

Many thanks!

Sincerely

Karel B. Absolon, M.D.

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