

August 31, 1967

Professor Dr. Ernie Lesky
Dept. History of Medicine
Vienna, Austria

Dear Dr. Lesky

I am writing a biography on Theodor Billroth. I wonder whether I could receive any pertinent information and certain documents concerning him. (1) Where his parents were born; from which part of Sweden his ancestors arrived in Bergen, Rügen. (2) Whether there would be available copies of photographs of his parents, any interesting available documents on Billroth in your archives, such as his birth certificate, gymnasium certificates, photographs, etc. I of course would be obliged if you could charge me with any expense in connection with this work.

Even though I never met you I of course visited your nice institute in Vienna. My great-grandfather Dr. Heinrich Wankel "Father of Austrian Archeology" you may know gave his important collections to the Hofmuseum in Vienna. My mother Mrs. Absolon from Brno, Czechoslovakia an archeologist, would be glad to come to Vienna to help assemble some of the Billroth data, if this should be desirable. I would be thankful for any advise and cooperation. Even though I have a fair collection on Billroth I of course lack many personal data, etc.

Many thanks!

Very truly yours

Karel B. Absolon, M.D.

KBA:bc