

February 9, 1968

Dr. Rudolf Nissen
Professor of Surgery
Nounenweg 31
Basel, Switzerland

Dear Dr. Nissen

Enclosed is the reprint you requested. Could I ask you for the following information: (1) What happened to the case of bronchiectasis on whom you performed the first pneumonectomy? If I recall correctly you have used the tourniquet technique. (2) I am writing a biography of Billroth, not a small task - I must admit, but I assembled some good material - including T.B.'s originals and handwritten memorabilia, etc. I cannot put my hands on Billroth's thesis (Berlin 1852, De natura et causa pulmonum affectionis, etc.). Does the Basel library have it? Billroth might have sent a copy to His, and Basel might have absorbed his library. Could you ask someone to look it up? I would appreciate it very much. It is the only hiatus that I have in his bibliography.

Would you be interested to visit us and deliver one to two addresses to our Surgical Society on the topic of your choosing? You of course could dictate your conditions, and the conditions are a priori acceptable to us. The attendance at such meetings is approximately 200 people. The past lecturers were Dr's. Ochsner, Wangenstein, etc.

Very truly yours

Karel B. Absolon, M.D., Ph.D.

KBA:bc

Enc.