

November 15, 1967

Dr. Jack Johnson
Professor Physiology
Department of Physiology
Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Jack

I would like to ask you for a great favor. I am writing a biography of Billroth - the surgeon. In the correspondence with Meissner - who discovered the end - organs, Billroth reports his observations in 1854-55 on the cross striation in his histological observations on muscle. It appears that he made some original observations which then Krause took over, after he confirmed Billroth's observations. Billroth however, felt that his observations were not conclusive enough, even though Johannes Muller wanted him to publish a preliminary report. I would like to make a point of it.

Some years ago I reviewed the material but unfortunately in moving I misplaced the material which is quite inaccessible for me over here. To my recollection Krause reported on these things only in 1860. Would it be possible to have someone in your surrounding verify the dates and Krause's earliest reference on muscle microscopy? You perhaps could "trick" a graduate student to make a report on this; I mean it in jest. I would be very thankful to you.

Please do send our greetings to your good wife! Please do stop by if your track should take you in this direction.

Sincerely

Karel B. Absolon, M.D.

KBA:bc