

LETTER NO. 77

From Dick Weekes, 10 and 12 June 1802

Hurst June 10th. 1802

Dear Brother —

We yesterday recd. your Letter and are much pleased with it. I have intended writing to you a long time but have been lately so busy. —

In primis loco my father was at Poynings at a Labor a few days ago. and at 12 Clock in the Night I was calld. up to go to Ashurst, that Heny. Holingdale Junr. had Dislocated the head of the Humerus, so I found it when I arrivd, and reduced it with the first extension, the Caput Humeri was dislocated forwards under the Pectoral Muscle like Hy. Martins you know, hence I made the extension backwards and downwards. —

I have been to 3 Labors in four Days. Viz. Hy. Ganders Wife Cobbs mill Henly's Widdow at Hurst. Reeves's Wife Keymer, and Miles's Wife Middleton before these. — so you see I am getting on a little in the Obstetric art. and have I think given up the name of dropping Dr. &c —

We recd. a Letter from Anne few days ago in wh. she says she is in good health and nothing more hardly.

We should like to know if Pearman's Wife of Plumpton is in St. Thos's, or Guy's Hospital or not. it is reported she has the Lues, and has been under cure by Hudson of Lewes, this half year or more, and he could not cure her, so has sent her to town either to Guy's or yours. do you enquire into the nature of the disorder and send us the particulars. Pearman has been once or twice to Town to see her.

We have had several patients with Dysentery and accompanyd with very high fever what is your method of cure? Chas. Goldsmith is dead. died of Typhus attendd. with Inflamn. of the Lungs he was ill only 15 Days.

Mrs. Stanford of Preston is a good patient of ours We send her 8 bark Draughts twice a Week with Pil. Hematox. of whh. we use great many. her complaint is hemorrhage from the Intestines unacompanied with Diarrhoea or Piles. the Medicines have been of service to her. so she continues taking of them.

Mrs. Bakers house is going to be sold by Auction. Let us know the exact method of sprading Emp. Adhaes.²⁵⁷ both on Linen and Paper, Blisters &cc —

And we wish for some pounds of your Emp. Adhaesiv. as can get none good. How do you make Emp. Vesicator? and spread Blisters. let us know. — and every thing else that is new or different in Medicine or Surgery from our method of practice. Campions house is not let. Constable is going to have a sale and leave Hurst. Dodsons house is empty Parson Tom thinks of leaving Hurst. so that it is quite a deserted place. — Where is the necessity for dividing the prostate Gland with the Scalpel? Why not use the cutting Gorget for that purpose? (debate that with your friends) What is fever? —

²⁵⁷ Adhesive plaster was preferred to suturing. "The needle should not be used if you can avoid it." (Cline's lectures, STHMS MS 33, p. 115.) Presumably, much sepsis was thereby prevented.

Letter No. 77

We think it not worth while to have the Certificate fram'd it can be done any when in the Country some time hence. —

Dont you mention a word about Mrs. Stanford to any one beshure — have you sold the Specimens? let me know. I have been to a Labor for Paulo a few days ago to St. Jno. Conn. Dame Dale, fair place. Paulo is poorly talks of giving up going to any more Labors.

Engram has taken Henfield Parish. Morgan and the Woods cannot agree. you know they are arbitrary.

Morgan a few Days ago had a Compd. Fratr. of the Arm and Leg of a Boy belongg. to Henfd. a Roller ran over him, he is doing well. —

Mrs. W. gets weaker every Day. — Richy. is well. Grace and we all desire our love to you and remence. to all acquaintance — Bull is a Fool — [. . .] Garden looks well and is in good order.

Tell us more in your Letters about the Hospital Shop. &ccc. and write oftener and smaller. —

Go to Satterleys and tell him he has made a mistake. we sent 13 Lancetts to be ground and when he sent down the Order he sent only seven. hence there are six more Lancetts to come. which do you get and send them the first oportunity. dont be put off. for I am shure of my hand. and they are all six nearly new Lancetts. NB. go immediately.

June 12th, — I like the Emp. Adhaesiv. & Roborans super linum very much. we use it to spread blisters on instead of Leather. as being handyer and cheaper. send us some more. plenty of each. and the price of it

For two days past we have had quite a leisure time. no one ill hardly. but to Day we have some fresh patients one at Hixtead & Ditchg. Poynings. Noakes's &c & Woodmancoat all wh. we have been to to Day. —

Where does the Transversalis Abdominis have its Origin & Insertion& You cannot answer me this question nor one of you except Cline Cooper and the Demonstrator. witht. looking into notes or books or something or other I know. — tell me Major in your next Letter wether you could or not. —

I have nothing more to say therefore shall conclude. Willm. Campion has been Ill. and the Gentlemen, have as usual lowrd. him so that he is oblig'd to be cary'd from one room to another. his Complaint is Dysentery as we have had several of it. they Vsctio him very much. — Jno. Newnham's going to keep Hounds. Campion has built his kennel —

I am &cccc

RWeekes Junr.

When do you go to Little Hampton?
write soon

LETTER NO. 78

To Dick Weekes, 17 June 1802

St. Thomas's June 17th. 1802

Dear Brother —

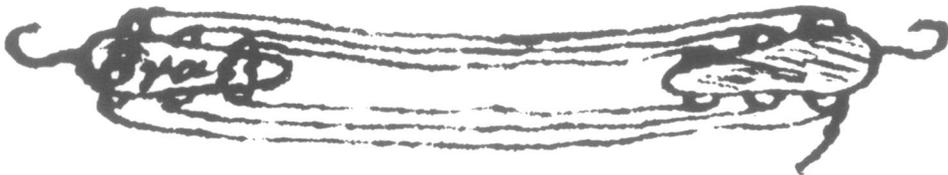
Yours only came to hand, & long as you conceived it was, It was but $\frac{1}{2}$ a Letter, for you neither write close nor small, You can dictate, tho: you cannot obey dictates like the rest of us; — I will first content myself with answering your Letter as well as I am able, & afterwards proceed with all ye. views I am able to afford you.

You ask me when I go to Evans's. I have received a Letter from him in wh. he said he had entirely altered his plan, & did not intend to come to Town, stating that there were many circumstances wh. prevented him, one of wh. was that all his business had to go thro: one pair of hands. But I do conceive there might be other more principal reasons for his not leaving Little Hampton.

The manner of your expressing yourself in one part of your Letter I really could not help smiling at, If you will give me leave I will quote ye. passage viz. "Mrs. W. gets weaker every day; Richy is well, Grace, & all desire our love to you and remembrance to all friends Bull is a fool," It was ye. last 4 sillables wh. drew a smile from me, Your speaking of Mrs. W's ill health. & desiring love to me &c after wh. the abrupt manner of introducing A Horse I thought was curious.

I am glad to hear you proceed so well in ye. obstetric art, & I do conceive you will one day make what my father has hoped for, I mean a double cleaver fellow, particularly if you entirely give up what you conceive you have a just right to, that is ye. nomination of dropping Dr., do not conceive that I am bestowing any criticism's upon you Dr. for I must confess you can have no right whatever to that appellation, now.

You certainly was very successful in Holindale's case of dislocation, for I am well persuaded that will not be the case in every attempt you will make. We make use here of Clines pullies for dislocations of ye. Os Humeri principally, (tho: they would do for ye. Hip &c, They are made of Brass with a large clock line running thro. them, I do not think you would like them. price 1.11.6. (too much money)

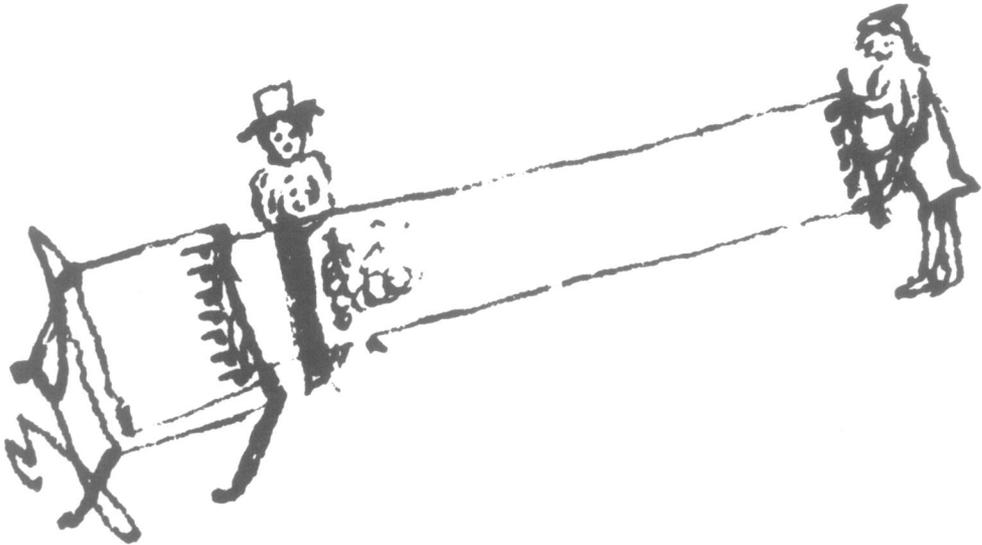


Letter No. 78

One hook is to be fixed to a napkin wh. is placed round ye. shoulder the other to a nail &c in any part, according to the direction wh. you want ye. extention to be made.

You speak of dysenteries as being prevalent, We have very few at present, & our mode of practice is ye. same as yours, (as you must suppose, as near as possible) We had lately two obstinate cases of dysentery contracted on board ship, & they were given, Rhaei, a grain of Opium twice a day Mint Julap with a grain of Ipicac three times a day, this last was left off & ye. Mint Julap with 2 or 3 ozs. of best Olive Oil & Tinct. Rhaei mixed, tho: this as you may suppose does not make a neat mixture with ye. oil swimming about at top, However this dysentery continued more or less for near 8 Weeks, so that I do not know if a cure is to be attributed to these medicines or not, judge of that as you please. In one case only since I have been here have we given ye. Extr. Haematox. 1 oz. three times a day & in this case there was a procidentia ani, & ye. pulvis Granati comp. was orderd to be applyed as follows, The recipe I will also send you Rx Pulveris petalis floris granati. Bol gallici á á [. . .] misce et Grana viginti in procidentia ani, partis extrusae bis quotidus inspergenda. But, with this ye. Haematoxilum $\frac{1}{2}$ a grain of Ipecac ter die in the Mint Julap &c had no good effect & the man left ye. Hospital hoping to get better in ye. country, So that you see we have no specific for this complaint, The man expressed generally a painful sensation after taking ye. logwood.

The Surgery man spreads ye. different plaisters very easy he makes one of ye. patients hold one end of a slip of old sheeting wh. is fixed to 10 or a 12 tenterhooks driven into a stick, ye. other end is fixd to a table (fit for nothing else) wh. has likewise 10 or 12 tenter hooks driven into it, So ye. melted plaister is poured on that end next ye. table & with a warm knife he pushes it towards ye. patient who is holding ye. other end (excuse this rude scetch but I hope it will convey ye. idea wh. I mean)



If I mistake not you told me some time ago that Chs. Goldsmith was dangerously ill, & now you tell me he died in 15 days of Typhus Fever accomanied with inflamn. of ye. lungs; Now I must confess that I think you have drawn this conclusion rather hastily For you put ye. question to me in a part of your Letter; "What is Fever? Now on this head has Dr. Fordyce been writing all his life time almost, & was almost ye. last thing he thought of when he died, He has writen 5 dissertations upon it, tho: ye. last is not come out yet; For me, to go at great length upon describing fever would occupy too much of this sheet, neither do I believe I can define it at all, I wish I could; What I have to say on it shall be in fine words.²⁵⁸

It is certainly a morbid action going on in ye. sistem; excited either by cold & moisture, or by putrid effluvia, First from either of these exciting causes, there seems to be a [. . .] during excitement, wh. will go on a greater or [. . .] time [. . .] during exhaustion of itself, or of ye. vital [. . .] And ye. opinion I entertain of genuine continued fever is that we never do cure it, & my opinion is strenghtend from what I heard Dr. Fordyce say in one of his Lectures some months ago when speaking on this head, He said "We may be prescribing ye. very best, or we may be prescribing ye. very worst of medicines, But says he a fever wears itself out; and we are very ready to attribute ye. cure to ye. Medicines prescribed," — At ye. same time Dr. Dick it will not do to say to ye. word as Morgan did, "that Medicine were of no use" I will agree with you that we must keep up ye. Farce.

But now of Goldsmiths case; You know Dr. it is not very comm. for two important diseases to rage at ye. same time in ye. Human frame; & I do concieve (tho: not positivly) that there was no Typhus fever present in him but nearly symptomatic fever wh. will attend inflamn. of ye. Lungs He has had more than one attack of Phthisis pulmonalis wh. certainly must have impaired his Lungs.

As to Fever; It appears quite arbitrary to form it into different Species, There is no just right so to do I think all ye. different species, are nearly varieties of one & ye. same thing, Fever is Fever; let it be diversified as it will

My time has expired of attending Cline's Lectures, for I only entered for 2 courses, so that if I pay 3 guineas I may attend an other course, So if my Father wishes me to it he will inform me certainly, I do not see the use of it myself. As to ye. Lectures on Medicine, Chemistry &c those I enter'd perpitual to. —

As to dissections I shd. concieve it was not necessary to repat that, But if my Father wishes it I shall go at it with as much ardour as ever I have, for I have been vastly fond of it I assure you, as I dare say you will.

Saterly is gone an excursion into Devonshire with his Lady, Mrs. W. the poor unfortunate has lately had a miscarriage. However I will go and enquire about ye. Lancets. — I have orderd some more plaister of both sorts spread on linnen also 2 rolls of our genuine Emp. Adhaesm.

Is old Snip, alias Jack, dead yet, old Jock's bird I mean? If he is & my Father chuses I will send him down a young cock Starling. 2s. 6d.

I have not done tho: I sign Hampton Weekes

²⁵⁸ The first part of George Fordyce's *Dissertations on fevers* was published in 1794, 1795, and 1798; the second part appeared in 1799 and 1802; and the fifth posthumously (edited by W.C. Wells) in 1803.

I now begin to proceed somewhat different from what I have done with any of my preceeding Letters,²⁵⁹ This is making ye. most of it as I dare say you will recommend my doing of every thing else I suppose.

There is one question more of yours, wh. I will not do as you have power to do (meaning by rote) You desire my own account of ye. origin & insertion of ye. transversalis abdoms. I shall say it arise from ye. cartilages of ye. last 5 ribs from ye. transverse processes of ye. lumbar vertebrae also from ye. internal labia of ye. whole crista of ye. Illium. & is going to be incerted into ye. whole length of ye. linea alba & cartilage ensiformis

Who do you think called on me on Tuesday last at ye. time that I was serving out, and did not know me when he saw me but asked for me as I was standing by him. He said to Mr. W. is Mr. Hampton Weekes here, Yes I said my name was Weekes so he looked me hard in ye. face & shook me by ye. hand, & that moment Whitfield said Mr. Weekes; there is no one in ye. parlour will you walk in there, so this gentleman & I we walked into ye. parlour & who do you think it could be, No one else than our relation John Weekes of Rochester,²⁶⁰ He first asked me when I had heard from home & how you all did & how many there were in family of us. He said his wifes friends lived in Town wh. led him here, I said I did myself the pleasure of writing to him some time ago, yes he said he was very Glad to hear from me. He looked very well, had just my Fathers eyes wh. I could not help looking at and just their colour almost; rather lighter if any thing; He said He shd. not like to hear my Father had been in his neighbourwood & not to make a short stay with him, I told him I was shure you would be very happy to call on him also to see him in Sussex, I asked after all his family, & he told me his Son & youngest daughter were in ill health & that he had sent them for a change of air for Rochester air was keen. I told him all about my situation here & he seemed very much to approve of it. What said he your Father likes ye. profession so well as to bring you both up to it, I told him, then I asked him if he had much business on shore, no he said, that government were now very strict & would not allow him to have any patients if they knew it, So that he was totally confined to his hospital Ship, &c &c. When we parted I shook him very cordially by ye. hand & thanked him much for calling upon me, when he said if he came to Town again he would certainly call upon me again, He said he had no shop in the front of his House now. He hoped to have the pleasure of seeing me at Rochester if ever I came that way, I told him I certainly shd. do myself the pleasure of calling. He has a very steady walk somewhat like old marshall alias Pod.

I went to the House of Commons yesterday were I stayed five hours & was very much entertained, The debate was upon the state of our Finances also of Ireland. I mean one day to go to the House of Lords

We have had a young Lady staying here from Huntingdon who has 15 or 20 thousand pound, she was very much pleased with my Toucan so I made her a present of it, But she gave me a drawing of it, she has been here more than a month. So that I have now only ye. Echine The one of Antimony & the Copper. My Father having been so good as to excuse my extravagance I shall go into no more depend upon it.

²⁵⁹ Hampton here starts writing longitudinally across the previous transverse script.

²⁶⁰ I.e., Hampton's uncle.

Letter No. 79

I want to beg his permission to let me have one or two summer waistcoats for mine are white ones wh. I cannot wear more than twice at most, & I pay 4d. each time for washing. Also a pair or two of Shoes from Randles for I really have as near as possible worn a pair out wh. cost me 10s.6d. I hope this request may be complied with. as to various other articles I will shift without.

Adieu I remain

yours truly,

HWeekes.

How do you like your Barometer?

Mrs. W. was so kind the other day to give me a Box ticket to Covent Garden so I goes down to W. Holmer to ask him if he wd. accompany me so we both went into ye. Pit with it. We saw ye. road to ruin & the deserter of Naples with ye. Ghost, Holmer thanked me & I thought I could not do better He & I are very intimate indeed he calls upon me frequently & I upon him. How does Fanny do? write soon & in this stile.

N.B. I have one thing more to say wh. is that one of our physicians are giving Phosphorous, 1st. one grain of stick Phosphorous pr. day dissolved in a menstruum of mint julap a little essential oil & gum arabic, & now he has encreased it to a grain & ½ a day in a disease called pemphigus a disorder very like that Hordell that was so long at ye. Ponds at ditchling but instead of that kind of eruption this is in great vissions, covering his whole body; but ye. Phosphorus does not appear to do any good he has been in the Hospl. almost three months & it continues to infest him.

LETTER NO. 79

To Richard Weekes, 21 June 1802

St. Thomas's June 21st. 1802

Dear Father —

This being ye. longest day I think I cannot with propriety, state that ye. want of time prevented me from not addressing a Letter to you.

But ye. purport of my writing is principally to inform you of my having been to Sir Jno. Hayes's I first called at his house last Thursday eveng. but he not being at home, (& I not being quite à la mode, having no cards in my pocket with my name) I desired ye. servant to let me leave my name on a piece of paper wh. he did immedy. — & I said I would call again; So ye. next day I was there ½ past 3, when I learnt he would be home in ½ an hour I was shewn into his study where I sat myself down & took up a treatise on ye. gout, In wh. I read Dr. Berkenant's complete confutation of Dr.

Letter No. 79

Cadogan's account of ye. origin & treatment of ye. Gout.²⁶¹ The Dr. has a very good collection of books; but now 4 o'clock came & a rap rap came with a ring at ye. door & in came the Dr. I shd. say Sir Jno. for he likes to be calld so; & so should I, —

He was very glad to see me shook me by ye. Hand, askd after you & family & I told him you desired I wd. make your respects to him, sit down Sir he said I am glad to see you how long have you been in Town, why have you not calld on me before? I told him I had been so busy &c. well says he if you will take pot luck with me you shall be very welcome, & every day in ye. year if you like, Sir says I I shall be very happy to it, So presently The servant came to say dinner was on table; says Sir Jno., is Lady Hayes come down? yes Sir, now I did not know before that he was married; however we walk'd into ye. dining room & I was introduced to Lady H. who seemd a good sort of a woman, had a very pleasing modest appearance indeed something like Mrs. Bridges junr. of Albourne, perfectly free & easy, she & I chated a good deal, by no means a dressy woman, There was a Mrs. White there staying, Sir Jno. & I chatted about ye. Newnhams, I told him that ye. Colonel wanted John to be a Parson, wh. made him laugh, Jno. a Parson he said a fine Parson &c. We had a nice dish of Mackarel, a fine piece of roast beef, wh. made the whole, he gave me some good wine wh. had been in bottle 13 years he said, we finished it for he wd. make me after wh. tea was announced, & after tea I politely wish Lady H. & Mrs. W. good evening & Sir Jno. & I came out together he was going to see a patient. I told him I had passed at Surgeons Hall have you says he, well ye. war is now over so that your prospect of going into ye. sea service must now cease, & indeed I do not know if you would like it being poked down in a Cock pit continually, He thought ye. army was a more gentele & advantageous thing, I thought that it was by far ye. most expencive, why if a man is steady & economyses well he may do very well. I told him your views with respect to my Brother that of your intending to send him at St. Thomas's about Christmas, well says he during ye. time that your Brother is in Town, you will be of infinite service to your Father, & says he when your Brother returns again for good, it will then be time enough for you to seak a situation either abroad or at home, & a great deal more talke we had about it, & he farther said if at any time he could be of any service to me he shd. be very glad to ye. oportunity, this he repeated more than once, & I thanked him kindly. I mean to call on him again some future time. ——— Pearman's Wife left Guys Hptl. a Week ago, I made enquiry about her & learnt she had been affected some months before she came wh. was in April, & that when she came she had a chancre or two about ye. labia pudenda & two ulcerated bubos one much worse than the other, however she was laid down for 6 Weeks, & sent out cured. —

Old Cripps called on me this morning, & I walkd with him to inspect some cases of his sons that had been wreck'd some where near seaford, [. . . .] lodged here under ye. care of ye. [. . .] And we found the contents in a shocking state manuscripts with every inscription washed out & coverd with dirt, young periwinkles &c &c ——— A large but very imperfect Statue of Ceres as he calls her but no emblems of that goddess, & features not one; & only one shoulder it weighs two Ton, Jm. C. means to

²⁶¹ William Cadogan (1711–97), *Dissertation on the gout and all chronic diseases, jointly considered as proceeding from the same causes*, London, J. Dodsley, 1st ed. 1771, 9th ed. 1772.

Letter No. 80

present it to ye. College of wh. he was at Cambridge; enclosed in two cases are ye. broken pieces of a common Tuscan pillar, each about 5 feet long, valuable only apparently for having come from Cairo or Alexandria, These three things He intends shall rest where they are awhile; but 8 other packing cases he intends sending immediately down by a Lewes waggon, In one case I saw several old coins, & other curious articles, also 3 or 4 Vase's; Old Cripps hopes ye. Dr. & you will come over to advise with him what he should do with them You will say it is a pitty when your Eye beholds it all, something considerable there will be to pay for ye. clearing of them at ye. customs, &c &c ——

I am going to walk with old Cripps Wednesday morning early to Hammersmith to see Lee & Kennedy's Botanical garden; He is going to see, ye. flowers that he may pitch upon those wh. he would wish them to send him ye. seeds of next Autumn, (I very seldom stir out)

Attree & I are going to Breakfast I believe with Mrs. Farncombe and Miss Harishan, of Standran in a day or two ——

I have not got a Charter yet but soon shall, I was recommended by ye. Secretary of ye. Surgeons company to buy a 2s.6d. pamphlet, written by Mr. Chevalier, on ye. Surgeons Bill, & as soon as I have read it I will send it you down He told me I shd. gain a good deal of information by it.

Mr. W. has asked me, to go to ye. anniversary dinner of ye. Governors of St. Thos.'s wh. will cost me nothing he says, he says, It is to be on ye. 28th. of July, at ye. London Tavern, I thanked him kindly, He said his Father always took one of his assistants, & it is very good of him to prefer me to Don Fixott.

Adieu

I remain yours dutify. HWeekes.

LETTER NO. 80

From Dick Weekes, 30 June 1802

Hurst June 30 1802

Dear Brother ——

We recd. your Letters and I write in answer to them. with some little news besides. wh: may not be very agreable to you

We are glad you have been to S. Jno. Hayes's. Are likewise obliged to you for the account of Pearmans Wife. I have had the flowers arrive wh. you bespoke and am going to pay Wm. Borrer for them in a few Days. they are Phlox's Verbascum's &c.

Am glad you are going to the anniversary dinner, We hope you will soon send us a little parcel by the Carrier of all your things that you intend sending, and likewise

Letter No. 80

your Specimens. for if you cannot sell them to Attree you may as well send them down.

I have been to Dame Payne Standean and Geering St. Jno. Comn.. Mrs. Marshall of Edburton is delivered of a Son. — Anne comes to Hurst on the 21st of July I wrote to her on Sunday to that efect. and we want her at Home for we are very dull. Mrs. W. continues very ill. my Father thought she would die on Sunday last. but the Elix. Paregor. of wh. she takes five or six times in 24 hours keeps life on. she has a Cough still and we think she cannot live this week out. She is nothing but a Skelleton. you would be surprised. she has been quite confin'd to her bed for three Weeks. and at times has had facies Hypocratica intermitting pulse cold extremities &ccc — (it hurts my father's spirits)

Now I begin to answer you very long Letter we are glad to have seen Cousin Weekes. —

I see you could not relish that Paragraph of Bull is a fool. hence again I say Bull est Stultus. he has tumbled me down once. and Father twice. but not hurt either of us. and we have SOLD HIM to Campion of Danny for 45£ Hurrai Huzza yesterday. and are looking out for another. —

Bull was so shy that we could never pretend to ride him on the Cuckfield road hence he was of little use to us. Dont you mention a word of his tumbling or shyness —

I have bespoke 2 pair of Shoes and will send them in a few Days. you may get a Waistcoat or two for the Summer. — We like the Barrometer —

There is no necessity for your attending Cline's Lres. any more but stick close to the L: of Medicine Chemistry &ccc. I have very little more to say —

We are all well and write in good wishes to you. and Mrs. W. desires me to send her love to you. she says she shall never see you more. therefore she wishes you all the good wishes and Happyness this World can aford you. —

We rec'd a letter from Rugg & Co No. 90 Fleet St. Druggist in partnership with Chamberlain &cc

I am going to Steyning to Day in the Gig with Hannington —

I am &cc

RWeekes

(Write soon)
are very busy

LETTER NO. 81

To Dick Weekes, 2 July 1802

St Thomas's July 2d. 1802

Dear Brother. —

Yours duly I received, containing ye. disagreeable news of your having sold Bull, but disagreeable to me it was not, by any means, for I care little or nothing about it, But only wish you may get a better, & have no doubt but you will, & I think you must soon; if you have so much business as you say; or otherwise you will be unhorsed.

I yesterday dined with young Cline, at their House in Lincolns Inn fields, (his Father was not at Home) we had a very large Turbot, indeed, a forequarter of Lamb, some stewed giblets, green peas &c. There was Smith, who is as a sort of assistant to Mr. C. answers letters during Mr. Clines absence, as I am told (tho: not many perhaps) & visits some of his patients & so forth, A place wh. I should like; Smith does not live with him but often dines there; There was Fixott, & Mr. Parsons²⁶² who was dresser to Cline, & North Savary, ye. son of ye. chaplain to St. Thomas's, These made ye. whole of ye. visitors, Fixott, I, & Parsons came away just as cards were going to be introduced, little after nine oClock. (continue reading this side)

Fixott is going away next wednesday for good, and this day gives a dinner to a dosen of his friends including Crispin & myself. Crispin is a young man who is come to live here from Devonshire he has been an officer in ye. marines & was in ye. engagement at Copenhagen²⁶³ but did not get a wound. There has a mistake arisen with respect to him, His Guardian, (for he has no Father; he was a captain in ye. India service.) wrote to Stocker²⁶⁴ of Guys hospital to enquire what, Whitfields fees were for a lodger, & Stocker wrote word 80 guineas, Whitfield has told him since he has arrived he never means to take any young men as lodgers under 100Gs. nor an assistant under 80 any more I believe for Mr. W. told Crispin if he would assist him he shd. expect 80, but about this I will ask Mr. W. for it concerns you Dr. Dick you know: So I believe Crispin will not stay he has wrote to his guardian about it: He has between 30 and 40 pounds ½ pay annually. He knows nothing of Physic hardy has not thought of it this 4 years, since he has been in ye. sea service he was about ½ a year with his Guardian who is a medical man. A pretty chap to come to St. Thomas's Hospital. Young Cline & Smith²⁶⁵ are to be of ye. party to dine with Fixott to day. He has got a fine Turbot, piece of roast beef, three boild fowls & a Tongue, Peas, &c with a good desert, of strawberries, &c Mr. Whitfield has been so good as to leave him out ½ a dozen of Wine. Mr. & Mrs. W. went out of Town this mornig. to Denham to see their Children, that are staying at their Grandmamas Mr. W. returns Tuesday, so I am left again housekeeper for a few days; & Apothecary to ye. Hospital. Attree

²⁶² Francis Parsons, dresser to Cline from 15 October 1800.

²⁶³ The Battle of Copenhagen, 2 April 1801.

²⁶⁴ Apothecary to Guy's Hospital since 1793, when he succeeded Babington. He died in office in 1834.

²⁶⁵ William Smith, dresser to Cline since 2 October 1800.

Letter No. 81

is gone with Mr. & Mrs. W. & returns with Mr. W. Tuesday, Mrs. W. will stay 3 weeks or a month.

Mr. W. told me, if possible he could spare me I should go down to Denham for 2 or 3 days if I pleased, that his mother would be glad to see me, I thanked him. so I do not know how it will be.

You will have arrive by ye. waggon Saturday I believe, a box containing, some of our blister salve, two rolls, & some spread on linnen such as we use cut to ye. size required, This spread with a Spattula like your large one, or one larger: Some sedative Bolus, one of our sheet anchors, in dilirium arising from threatening mortification of a bad compound fracture, or other gangrenes, Given $\frac{1}{2}$ a dram or 2 oz. once in 6 hours more or less as old somebody used to say, I forget who it was I have heard my father say many a time: It is a good medicine I assure you & if it has not ye. good effect to relieve in 48 hours it will then fail sometimes. This & ye. blister salve I progd, it being ye. first time except, ye. pulvis Antimy. — You will also find, four rolls of Emp. Adhaesiv. Opt: some spread on old sheeting & some on paper, also some more Emp. roborans ready spread. cost 5s. — of ye. deputy Surgery Man

I shall send you a spattula knife for spreading plaisters like those you have had. Our sedative Bolus is made according to ye. old dispensatory with Mithridate, & not exactly as our new Pharmacopaeia directs.²⁶⁶

I went Monday last with W. Holmer junr. to ye. square opposite Ranelagh House to see the Air baloon go off, with Monsieur Garnerin, & Capn. Snowden & I was gratified very much indeed, I got upon a coach box, The green was as full & all ye. fields round about as possible almost, with people.²⁶⁷

I do not know what else to send you at present beside ye. specimens two in number & two Echinus shells, The green specimen is Malakites, or Carbonate of copper dentritical, I never saw so perfect & good one in my life I have seen larger, One there is at ye. European Museum one 20 or 30 times larger, valued at 1000 guineas this at least is worth a guinea, & I believe Mr. Cripps will not bring home a piece of that species so valuable if he does he will extall it to ye. skies, The [. . .] specimen is plumosed antimonial Ore almost as valuable as ye. preceeding. I do not give you my own opinion but that of Dr. Babington one of ye. best mineralogysts in this Metropolis. —

I do not know with respect to Whitfields meaning to have 80 guineas with ye. next assistant but am enclined to think it is true. but I will ask him some day.

July 3d. I was called this mornng. while at breakfast hastily into Mary's Ward, to ye. night nurse, who has for some months been taking medicines for the allovers &c, The Sister said make haste Sir for she certainly is in labour, & so she proved, for I found ye. head presenting natural & pressing hard against ye. Perinaeum, I was not present more than two pains before ye. caput Foetus, made its exit, & the next pain along

²⁶⁶ *Pharmacopoeia in usum Nosocomii Londinensis Sancti Thomae*, London, T. Bensley, 1800. See this volume for the preparation of the medicines Hampton mentions. The copy in STHMS library contains the bookplate of Richard Whitfield.

²⁶⁷ It was very windy when the hot-air balloon took off at five p.m. from Ranelagh. About an hour later, they had a very bumpy landing sixty miles away in fields near Colchester. *Annual Register*, 1802, p. 420.

Letter No. 82

came my gentleman who had occupied his habitation, to ye. full extent of his right, she having gone to her full period of gestation.

I have just finished serving all ye. House & out patients, by myself. Fixott being out of the way. He got very drunk last evening by himself for there was not any one of us in ye. same predicament. There was a woman aged 25 years brought into Guys Hptl. Thursday last with strangulated crural Hernia, wh. had been present 6 days, tho: it had previously been A reducable one, she had had all ye. symptoms attendg. such as vomiting &c costivness, as soon as she came in Mr. Cooper orderd her a Tobacco clyster directly wh. produced so violent a syncope that Mr. C. thought she would die, but after a time she did somewhat recover so as to speak when Mr. C. attempted ye. reduction & succeeded in 5 minutes, but in $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour or less she was seized with vomiting of faeces and soon died. It is strongly suspected she died from ye. narcotic. she was privately inspected but I have not known ye. result. — does my Father vote for Honeywood again?²⁶⁸ Adieu I remain Yours affectiony.

HWeekes.

I sincerely thank Mrs. W. for her good wishes towards me; And my wishes towards her are that she may enjoy the happiest state hereafter with all my heart
My Love to Grace & Fanny. Mr. Dick do write a longer Letter if you please for it is nothing. Have you cut your grass yet? what sort of a crop have you? Tell Grace I have expected a letter before this and a long one too.

LETTER NO. 82

To Dick Weekes, 7 July 1802

St. Thomas's July 7th. 1802

Dear Brother ———

Herewith, you will find a small phial of a powder that has the peculiar property of lighting a match, when plunged into it, in ye. space of $\frac{1}{4}$ of a minute; But there is one caution I wd. enjoin to you in using it, wh. is, that you do not overturn ye. Phial & thereby shed ye. powder, For if this accident shd. happen it will catch fire, by attracting ye. oxygen from ye. atmosphere, & there by consume that on wh. it shd. fall, For instance while I was making it, ye. stopper came out in my hand, with some of ye. powder wh. burnt my hand a little (wh. I pretty well cured in ye. space of 48 hours by ye. application of Extract: Saturnij.) previous to wh. I applyd Ol: Terebinth: as has been employ'd at St. Thomas's, & Bartholomews tho: very seldom; But it has been extalld to ye. skyes by some: But I found, that after it had been applied about a minute that ye. pain encreased very much; And by this is ye. cure

²⁶⁸ Parliament had been dissolved on 29 June.

brought about, say those who are such great advocates for it, They reason in this way (according to Dr. Brown; or ye. Brunonian system) that ye. application of Turpentine to burns or scalds, cures by exhaustion of excitability. How to explain this satisfactorily to you I do not know very well but I will try: This application at last; does bring about an alleviation of the pain; but previous to wh. it excites, or encreases ye. irritation, wh. continues for a greater or less time very violent, Then afterwards does it become easy; But who is to bare this violence of pain or aggravation of a malady so acute in itself as a burn or a scald. As I have before mentioned I could not with my little burn (altogether in diameter about an Inch & ½) & where ye. cuticle was not abraded. Therefore I do prefer a direct sedative as Lead, as an application in this affection, & I dare say you think as I do about ye. matter; This Turpentine has been made use of in ye. two Hospitals that I have spoken of not more than ½ a dozen times within this twelve month (& I believe I am correct from ye. enquirey wh. I have made). Verrells* Son of Newick is a strong advocate for this application, and wrote a long dissertation upon it, & stating some facts copy'd from a pamphlet written by some medical man at Bath, I forget his name, — But to return to ye. powder in ye. Phial; I dare say you wish to know how I made it; It was told to our class at a Chemical Lecture, & I thought that I would make some for, I know that, I had been troubled for sometime to strike a light with tinder wh. might be damp; or perhaps old Jock had not put any in ye. Box: But I believe the effect produced by this looses itself, I shd. say wears out tho: I do not know how soon

It is made as follows; two parts of quick Lime powderd, tho: not very fine, & one part of stick Phosphorous cut into bits, & this put into ye. phial alternately a bit of Phosph. & a little Lime, afterwards puting ye. stopper in & holding ye. phial near ye. fire by wh. means ye. phosphorous becomes melted, & mixes with ye. Lime. The phial I got of Satterleys man; & by your acceptance of it, you will oblige Your Affectionate Brother

Hampton Weekes

*He is gone to practice at Newhaven I am inform'd

N.B. In a screw paper you will find 6 little bones The two rather smaller than ye. other four I took out of ye. head of a Haddock, The other four from two Cods; They are situated somewhat perpendicular within ye. cranium, & I believe have a great deal to do in regulating ye. sense of hearing; I mean to get more of them. I would wish you to examine ye. contents of ye. Craniums of some of your larger species of fresh water Fish. —

I have finished one quarto volume of Clines Surgical Lectures²⁶⁹ (written fair) & half throu a 2d.: I do not mean to write any more of his anatomical Lectures than

²⁶⁹ Cline originally gave separate courses of lectures on anatomy (STHMS M29, M30, M31, M32) and surgery. Later, he shared the anatomical ones with Cooper (STHMS M34 contains the combined course of lectures for the winter session 1802/3). They then gave independent lectures on surgery (STHMS M33, M38, M39, M40). Both anatomy lecturers gave a great deal of practical surgical advice, as well as discussing comparative anatomy.

Letter No. 83

what I have sent you notes of, For ye. anatomy of Winslow & some others is certainly as good as his. ———

I think with you there is no necessity at all for attending any more of his Lectures. But attend as you may rely upon it I shall to ye. Lectures, on Physic, & Chemistry &c. (I continue to be what I was, in appearance &c, as when you saw me.)

LETTER NO. 83

To Richard Weekes, 10 July 1802

St. Thomas's July 10th. 1802

Dear Father ———

You must I concieve by this time discover that I am very fond of writing home otherwise I should not be writing so often ———

But ye. first piece of news I have to inform you is that young Cline is gone from St. Thomas's for a Week, & has solicited me during his absence to dress his patients every day, wh. I accepted with pleasure, They are altogether about 60, I find time for it very well & moreover like it much.

The election is now terminated in our great Boro: & ye. old members stand again viz: Thornton & Tierney, & to day have gone in procession all around ye. five parishes of St. Georges, St. Saviours, St. Johns, St. Olives, & St. Thomas's, And very grand it was with ye. Horses, & men with ribbands in their Hats & manes; Mr. Holmer espoused ye. part of Sir Thos. Turton, ye. other candidate; & of whom there were some very malicious things printed about, wh. is no uncommon circumstance at elections I fancy.²⁷⁰

Two days ago I recieved a Letter from J.M. Cripps dated Vienna June 10, in wh. He answers me several questions which I put to him in my Letter. One sentence in his Letter I will quote, viz: "As you are become fond of Mineralogy I have pleasure to say I have formed a small collection for you during my Travels."

After wh. He goes on to say; "I shall say nothing to you abt. my Collection, it is very great indeed; because I have embraced Mineralogy, Botany, Antiquities, Books, Maps, Prints & Medals. And after all perhaps know little or nothing of either — however I can study them now I have them."

Attree went by ye. Coach this morning to Brighton, & this afternoon Mr. W. is again gone to Uxbridge to his Wife & Children for to stay till Tuesday, so that I am solus entirely now, ———

²⁷⁰ Parliament had been dissolved on 29 June by the Prime Minister, Henry Addington. He was returned to power in the election on 31 August until 1804. The two sitting members for Southwark were Henry Thornton, chairman of the Sierra Leone Company and a banker, and George Tierney. John Watson Stewart, *The English Registry for 1803*, Dublin, 1803.

Letter No. 83

We have as many accidents now as in winter time & I have more time to attend to them, but ye. other day we had a Mason brought in, who had fallen 40 or 50 feet from a scaffolding upon ye. left Parietal bone, wh. however was not fractured, but ye. integuments. lacerated, & some of his brain forced out of ye. Ear on that side, Query; could this happen without ye. petrose portion of ye. Temporal bone being in part broken? could it pass thro: ye. internal Ear without? — The pupil of ye. right eye was widely dilated & that of ye. left wh. was ye. side ye. injury was recieved, was almost close contracted, wh. is a common occurrence; He died in 24 hours.

I feel very very disappointed that I have not recieved a long Letter from Grace ere now, I am sure she has forgotten me entirely — & as to Dick he writes on slips of paper, such as labels are written on, or ½ Letters; I wish to know how, many things go on besides what he touches on, however I do not care what it is so he fills his Letters, as many Physiological questions as he pleases. —

Attre was saying ye. other day that he had heard that Mr. Clements senr. had left Chichester very much in debt & gone abroad, He married a Miss Penfold of Steyning I believe.

I expect a Letter from Ann every day to inform me about her coming up from Gloucester, —

I have bought one of ye. Gentlemens Magazines for June for ye. very reason of Dr. Fordyce's life being written in it, so has Mr. W. it cost me 1s.6d. I will send it you in a week or two, I thought you would like it.

I hope all ye. contents of ye. box arrived safe, as did my shoes by Knowles, which please me very well. I have not been to Vauxhall yet for I am afraid of its rung. away with money wh. I do hold fast as possible. I shd. like to see Dick up here for a day or two, he could come up outside of the Coach for 7s. tho: I suppose you cannot spare him. The body of that woman at Guys who died having strangulated crural Hernia, was inspected, & extensive mortification was perceived to have taken place: but still it is fully believed that ye. immediate cause of her death was, ye. Tobacco clyster.

Tell Dick if you please I have not long ago called on two old school fellows, & boarders at Lords, Robt. Moss, & Stanley Stokes,²⁷¹ ye. first is in ye. Transport office, & Stokes is in Doctors commons, they were both very glad to see me — Also if you will; tell him I have no sort of wish particularly to come down to Hurst 'till Xmas, And when he comes I hope he will give more satisfaction, & pay more attention to his business than I have done.

I remain Dear Father Your dutiful Son

Hampton Weekes

I hope I am not writing too often; I took a walk the other day with old Cripps to Lee's at Hammersmith & back to dinner.

²⁷¹ Robert Moss attended Merchant Taylor's School 1789–95. Later, he was in charge of the Transport Office at Portsmouth Dockyard. Stanley Stokes was at the school 1790–99, and became a proctor in Doctors' Commons.

LETTER NO. 84

From Mary Ann Weekes, 11 July 1802. Continued by Dick Weekes; enclosure in Greek/Roman from Grace Weekes

Hurst July 11th. 1802

Dear Brother —

My Father and Dick are both gone out and I am just going to church therefore I will finish my letter when I come home — They are ringing the bells at a violent rate but I believe it is for some wedding as I don't see any body going to church — so I shall write on till church time²⁷² —

Grace has writ a parcel of Stuf so thought I wd. fill it up. In the first place I thank you for your most beautifull present which we received yesterday with other things for which my brother thanks you my Father says he thinks the drawing of the bird is much better than the bird itself and I am much pleased with it — Pray what is the young Lady's name that drew it is she an accomplished agreeable Lady? I will thank you to give me a little of her history — do this when you write to me in greek if it is not too much trouble — pray excuse my curiosity — Adieu till I come from church —

12 o. have been this Morn to Taylors Wife Street. Mrs. Taff was at the Labour — Old Deaf Tom Colt Breaker Poynings is dead died of Hernia Congenita Bubonicele he had had it many years. The Truss broke, he neglected it and so Mortification took place. we wd. have optd. but he would not consent. it was as large as double fist lived 6 Days

Mrs. Waller Hurst caught S. Pox is doing well and Niece is Inocd: in Hurst Pest House.

We have a Pyecomb Psh. Patt. S. Pox caught it is very full. see her to Day. is on the Turn. et doing well. she has 3 Childn. Inoc: with her at Nailards. Pey: Parish accompts

3 Hurst Ph. Pats. Inoc: in Pest House for they have been in danger

We are very busy indeed —

12 mo. began mow to Day. good grass.

[From Grace Weekes, in Greek/Roman characters on the same principles as the insertion in Letter 57, p. 143.]

Hurst July 11 1802

Dear Brother

You say you were disappointed in not receiving a letter from me before and that you think I have quite forgotten you but you are mistaken — that time shall never come, I will now make up for my negligence in writing you a long letter — Mr . Hall of

²⁷² There was a wedding at the church on 7 July between Thomas Pronger and Mary Poyney, but none on the 11th. ESRO Par 400 MF 346.

Letter No. 85

Brighton has drunk tea with us twice lately I think he is a v agreeable unaffected man The garden is now in the height of perfection, that flox avella that you brought home from Crawley goes on nicely (the blossom is white) but is now out of bloom there are a great many sweet williams, pinks, roses, and the Spanish broom, looks very pretty, we have a great many gooseberrys, more than we shall eat my father says, but I dont think so, there are not many pairs in the great old tree this year we have had a great many strawberries this year which is owing to their being covered with dung during the winter we have not cut cucumber yet, nor dont expect to it, till about the latter end of haying time, although they are blown, and seem to be very healthy plants, I believe I shall find some trouble in fullfilling my promise of writing a long letter as Hurst is so dull and there is no amusement going forward nothing but business here Young Brown and her mother have been staying at Westown some time but are now gone

from your affectionate sister

Grace Weekes

LETTER NO. 85

From Grace Weekes, 11 July 1802

Hurst July 11th. 1802

Dear Hampton —

I am just come from church and by the desire of my brother I write to acquaint you that my Father is in immediate want, of some Cow Pox matter, and wishes you to send it by the coach as soon as possible, he will thank you to get some thread infected, if you can, instead of a Lancett, and if you cannot get any thread infected to get some on a piece of glass — My Father and Brother are at present very busy — A few days ago the Small Pox broke out at Piecombe among some paupers three of whom belong to Hurst parish and they are gone to the parish pest House, I made a mistake, and the others are gone to Mstr. Nailard's — one of them is very full with it. — A few days before this, Mrs. Weller of Hurst failed with it my Father at first thought it was the Glasenbury pock — but it turned out to be a mild sort of Small pox she is going on very well and is in the pest House also Dick Inoculated her niece who is with her — My Brother will thank you to send some printed Labels with the Cow pox Matter such as you think we want — We yesterday received your box of &c's, and I thank you for your agreeable present which I will keep for your sake — my Father likes it better than the bird itself and I am much pleased with it — indeed I think I had rather have this than the bird for I can keep this as long as I live and the bird perchance might soon die — I will thank you when you write to me again in Greek (which I hope will be soon) to give me a little of the History of this young Lady who drew the bird —

Letter No. 86

she an accomplished agreeable young Lady what is her name is he handsome? and so on — Pray excuse and indulge my curiosity as far as you are able is she certain of the great fortune you talked of? there is the grand point. don't you think so? you remember how poor John Marshall of Edburton was tricked out of his wife's fortune, again I repeat you will have the goodness to excuse my curiosity, you need not answer any of these questions in my Father's or brothers Letters, defer that till you write to me again in Greek Mrs. Bakers sale was alst Tuesday and wednesday the first day Sally Borrer spent the day with me, and the second day Mrs. Marchant her daughter and the youngest of the miss Evans's drank tea here, Dick laid out nearly £4. at the sale he bought [. . .]

the garden roller an old water pipe &c, it is thought Mr. Hall of Brighton has bought the House by private contract before the sale began, but as it was advertised in the paper it was obliged to be put up by auction, so it was knocked down to Mr. Bennet High chimneys, for (I think it was) £415 but he was only a puffer; the house was sold in the evening of the first day — I expect the post every minute, therefore I can only say, that I will write to you soon in Greek, which I should have done sooner but have had no time, We received a letter last friday from Dr. Cooke, requesting the favor of my sister's longer stay at Tortworth, the Dr. begun the letter and Mrs. Cooke finished it — they wished her to stay a month longer, so my Father has written this morning to say that she may stay till the 15 of August —

Tomorrow I begin posting the book which I do every monday — Who do you think was auctioneer at Mrs. Bakers sale Mr. Turner the carpenter at Hurst — the first time exhibiting — I beg you will excuse all imperfections as this letter is written in so great a hurry again I thank you for your present and I remain your affectionate Sister —
Grace Weekes

LETTER NO. 86

From Grace Weekes, 13 July 1802

Tuesday July 13. 1802

Hampton —

I begin this Letter with telling you that Mrs. W. is no more. she paid that debt of nature wh. we must all sometime or other pay.

My Brother has left me to finish this mournfull letter, Poor Mrs. W. departed this life of misery, just 5 minutes before 9 in the evening of yesterday, My Father & Dick were with her but a minute before she died, — She gave us all her blessing in the afternoon when the nurse went down to tea, Bet went to sit with her, she then sent Bet down for Fanny and I, we went up directly, when she said to Fanny, God bless you, in a very faint whisper as she was not able to speak louder, she then took my hand and said to me God bless you Never no more I thanked her and prayed God to bless her, death was now in her face — after this I went and helped to move her and

that was the last time I ever saw her — Even writing her dying words draws tears from my eyes Poor Soul! I loved her and always had a great esteem for her — The day before she died (which was Sunday) she often enquired after Marianne and asked me if we had received a letter from her or you, I told her we had recived one from you, she did not say any thing — Instead of grieving for her loss we ought to thank God who has pleased to relieve her out of her misery for Poor Soul she was a great sufferer and had been for a long long time — We will thank you to write to acquaint my sister of Mrs. W.'s death — I have your letter before me in which is a little paragraph relative to her — I will quote the passage — viz. I cincerely thank Mrs. W. for her good wishes towards me and my wishes towards her are that she may enjoy the happiest state hereafter — with all my heart. — I read it to her and she said — Ah — Hampton was always a good boy and I thank him for his good wishes! this letter of yours was dated July 2d. — she was perfectly sensible to the last moment in a former part of my letter I told you that my Father and Dick were with her but a minute before she died when she said to them — I wish you would go down, and before they were got across the passage she was dead — my Father and Dick came down stairs and before they had been down 10 minutes nurse came and said — Mrs. is gone Sir — (now we were sitting round the kitchen fire, My Father Dick Fanny and I) — when nurse said so My Father said, is she indeed and Dick and he went upstairs directly — the words of the nurse struck me so forcibly, Mrs. is gone Sir — that all night long I was repeating them to myself, (I had but little sleep all night) and so I am to day I cannot get them out of my head I am sure I shall never forget them so long as I live —

she sent for Dame Bignel about an hour before she died who came directly and nurse and she laid her forth as soon as she was dead — I have been to see her this morning her face looks pale thin and very little, she is warn down to mere skeleton my Father says he never saw any body so thin in his life, and I am sure I never did — Fanny and my father are both going in mourning but nobody else, accept love from me Grace Weekes

I am very busy this morning clearing out the drawers and setting things to rights and besides I am housekeeper head in chief and find a plenty to do — I began writing this letter in Greek and meant it as a rough copy and was going to write it out in a proper letter till death came in to the house. I have not began posting the book yet as I told you I should in my last for really I have had no time.

Mrs. W. will be buried on Saturday with great decency on that spot of ground where my mother lies but not near her —²⁷³

My Father said he wished my sister had been at home but did not talk of sending for her or any thing of that sort —

Please excuse every thing that you find amiss in this letter as it is written in so great a hurry —

²⁷³ The burial place is now an entrance to the churchyard.

LETTER NO. 87

From Mary Ann Weekes, 15 July [1802]

Tortworth. July 15. 6 oclock AM.

Dear Hampton, —

I should have answered your Letter before this but I thought as I should soon want you to take a place, for me I would not write till then: but I must inform you that Mrs. Cooke acquainted me the day before yeasterday that Dr. C. & She, had written to my Father to beg him to allow me to stay a Month longer, & that they had receiv'd an answer from him wherein he allows me to stay till the 15th of August.²⁷⁴ this morning as I was at work in my room Mrs. C. Calls me down saying your Brother is come for you to go home, I did not believe her as you may imagine; however I went down and to my great astonishment, I saw John Dodson, and a Mr. Pakley with him, who are come to stay a day or two, Since I receiv'd your Letter I have been to Bristol, it is a very large Place: from whence we went to Clifton two miles from there, a most beautiful, romantic, Place I went to both the Pump-Rooms, & drank, some water it is soft & luke-warm, the week before last I spent five days at Gloucester at a Mr. Weavers a relation of Dr. C. I went to see the Cathedral, which is esteemed one of the first Buildings in the Kingdom the City itself stands on a very extensive piece of Ground, the Houses are badly built, that plant I mentioned to you is the hounds-toungue, we found it in Gerards herbal Dr. C. has all Leneas's botany, in Lattin which is of little use, if I had Withiren²⁷⁵ here I should get on, I found three plants yeasterday in Lord Darcies Park, which I was obliged to turn over for in Gerard to find out, they were the Pedicularis, septfoil, & the small creeping St. Johns wort, & Panax coloni, Lord D.. came down last Teusday evening he called here yeasterday, he is a tall Stout man, last Wednesday week we went to the Archers feast at Kingscot, eight miles from here, a Mrs. Austin took us in her Carriage, to a Public house, where it is held we walked on a lawn, a Short time when we went in, (about one oclock) to a Breakfast, which consisted of Tea, Caffee &&c and all kinds of Fruit, such as Pines, mellons, stanberies &&c. after that we went again on the lawn where we danced, to a fine Band of Music till four oclock, when we sat down 94, of us under an awning to dinner of Cold meats, shell fish, fruits, & we danced again went in to Tea & went home, this is an anual thing done by subscription by the Gentlemen, they pay but £3.3s. each for this year, & the next, it was a very pleasant day & the only fine one of the whole week there is a Mr. Taylor that lives at Wotton under edge a Surgeon, he is not famous for the cow Pox. I have found a fosil Stone, it is part of the old Roof of Dr. C.. house, it consists of Cockels muscles, Terebrachilas, and a kind of Oyster, I think it is a very beautiful spesimen, there is a deal of it lays about here, I intend takeing a bit home it is flat the shape of thick Tiling it [. . .] entirely of marine shells. henbane & [. . .] grow common here, give my love to Mr. Wood tell her I

²⁷⁴ I have been unable to trace the relationship between Mary Ann and the Cooke family.

²⁷⁵ William Withering (1741–91), *A botanical arrangement of all the vegetables naturally growing in Great Britain*, London, 1776.

Letter No. 88

thank her for her Letter, & I will answer it soon I fear my dear Hampton, I shall not be able to get a frank for you as Dr. C. goes by eleven o'clock to morrow by whom I intend To send this. we dined at five to day, which is an hour later than usual it is now half after eight & the Gentlemen are not come to tea, they set so long that I shall have time to finish my letter before they do come, Mrs. C. is going up, & down, Stairse, therefore I am sitting by my self it is a wet evening, & so dark I can hardly see. I shall now leave off & sign, direct, & Seal, my Letter to morrow. adieu till. 10. O'clock. Friday morn. the Gentlemen are all just gone to walk in the Park, which is very pretty, there is a Lake a mile long I went on it with a party who called here one morning, there are a great many rich persons live here chiefly Clothiers, tomorrow we dine at Wotton under edge, the Ladies here dress immoderately diamonds, quantities of Pearls, &c&c at common private dinners, the people here have bad taste enough to allow I am handsome, dont that make you laugh? I am not quite credulous enough to believe it, I am going to have a new gown they dress, & Visit so much here that I cannot do without it. I shall have but just money enough left to carry me to London. I remain dear Brother Yours Affectionately

Mary Ann Weekes.

Compliments to Mr. & Mrs. Whitfield I am glad to hear Mr. Atree's hand is better

LETTER NO. 88

From Richard Weekes, [19 July 1802]

Hampton

Grace recd. your Letter this Morning, we are all well & am glad you are so, I am much disappointed at not receiving the Cow Pock matter as we are much in want of it, have Inoculated some of Campions servants, & it does not take, therefore must have some immediately & I make no doubt, but if you go to the Office of Institution for Cow pock²⁷⁶ that you can procure a small piece of Cotton thread infected & send to me in a letter, if this cannot possibly be done you must buy two lancetts but not those narrow ones but the broad old fashioned ones, & send per Coach The Gentleman Grace meant was Mr. Hall I have nothing in particular to say to you only that I am glad you go on so well & take very opportunity of improving yourself and also recommending yourself to those about you that may possibly be of service to you if not now at some future period.

Let Sparrow & Holmers family know of the Death of Mrs. Weekes. Jemmy is here &

²⁷⁶ For detailed discussion of the origins of these threads and description of the current state of vaccination, see Derrick Baxby, *Jenner's smallpox vaccine*, London, Heinemann, 1981.

Letter No. 89

Harry is coming on Wednesday they are very well & the former desires to be remembered to you ——

Old Hodson has got a bad Fistula in Ano of a bad sort I wish I could see Cline, Ask him if he is coming to Brighton Shortly or Cowper ——

I this moment Ask Dick & Grace if they have any thing to say to you they say they dont know

I want a good Horse very much & dont know where to go for one, Dinner is this moment brought to table, a Quarter of Lamb & Collyflower Green peas Carrots &c &c ——

God bless you adieu

Yours Sincerely

R Weekes

here stands old Jock at my Elbow ——

LETTER NO. 89

To Richard Weekes, 19 July 1802

St. Thomas's July 19th. 1802

Dear Father ——

Yours I recieved, in which you stated your disappointment in not recievg. ye. Cow Pox Matter, wh. I am sorry for, & immediately that I had taken my dinner I poasted off into Golden Square to ye. Institution, & I have succeeded in getting some recently taken on Glass, There was some on cotton but it was two or three days older, This matter was taken Saturday last, & I was informed that it could not be depended on to inoculate more than two persons, a puncture in each of their arms.

The way he made use of it was to make a pirpendicular incision just thro: ye. cuticle then to infect ye. point of ye. Lancet, with ye. matter on ye. glass previously moistened, with a little luke warm water with ye. point of a Lancet, or for a moment or two hold ye. glass over, ye. steam of hot water not too close then as ye. water is evaporating to be mixing it with ye. Lancet.

The Matter shd. be taken about ye. 8th. day, not before or after if possible ——

Having paid ½ a guinea for it wh. was ye constant price, (never more nor less) I began putting some questions to him, how he distinguish'd ye. progress of ye. Spurious pustule from ye. genuine, " Oh that he would be bound to do, in any stage, Then he began saying that in ye. Spurious the areola, & viscication were preternaturally formed, & that that was ye. characteristic difference

But I said I had been informd with respect to this before; but I certainly had seen ye. Spurious make its progress, as similar to ye. genuine as possible, with ye. glands

Letter No. 89

in ye. Axilla inflamed &c &c (for instance in some of those in Bethlehem Street) — & one lately in St Thomas's, from wh. I was going to inoculate Mr. Jacksons Child, fortunately I did not; but I was very near it.

I then enquired of him respecting what you signafyed to me in a former Letter about some conveniency to convey the matter in; Ah says he I will tell you where to get such a thing, & is what I have recommended many to; It is my invention, And Parker ye. glass man in Fleet St. has ye. patent it will cost you ½ a crown,²⁷⁷ There is a little Spattula attached to ye. stopper, & Thread may be placed in ye. Bottle also; So I went and got one wh. I hope will please. (tho: it is too much money for it). —

Herewith I have sent ye. Magazine wh. contains ye. life of Dr. Fordyce; Also I have taken the liberty of sending down one of ye. numbers of ye. Medical Journal, wh. I do concieve may be of use to me, The reason is of the Three cases in it stated by cooper & to wh. I were an eye whitness to, & have often heard young Cline speak of that plan; wh. Cooper strongly objected to at first, before he had nearly lost a patient under his hands in ye. operating Theatre at Guys.²⁷⁸

Mr. C. senr. was here to day, & I had some considerable conversation with him on different subjects, but I did not have your Letter till he was gone from here. but when I again see him I will ask him of what you say.

I recieved a Letter from Ann to day, who writes in good spirits, she had not recieved my last Letter, when she wrote.

What with Letters, & many other &c's my last remittance is most gone, tho: I do assure you I have this time Husbanded it well, & will, inform you how I have expended it if you please, — I last night read over all my Letters to see if my account of money recieved from you tally'd, & I am almost ashamed to state ye. sum; But when all ye. deductions are made of ye. things paid for on your account it will be found much less enormous.

Dick very possibly may manage much better than I have done. I the other day asked Mr. Whitfield, if he expected an encrease of payment from me at ye. expiration of my twelvemonth; (mearly as a prelude to, what my Brother was to give,) no says he certainly not & as to your Brother, I shall not expect any more from him than what you now pay me, For I always said I would not (now this he never said to me before) Then he said I had not made my mind up at all when I took you, but said he I never will take an other assistant under 84£. beside your Brother — He then hinted at Fixotts age wh. he said was too young, more over very giddy, (The interpretation of wh. was, what sort of a fellow is Dick,) I soon made answer He wd. not find a Fixott in Dick Weekes, for he, I said was more attentive to business than I was, and as old in point of steadiness, & I was well persuaded he would find it so. (as to Fixott never was any one more absent from business than he was) I remain Dr. Father

Yours dutify.

HW —

²⁷⁷ Samuel Parker, Glass Manufacturer, 69 Fleet Street.

²⁷⁸ *Med. phys. J.*, July 1802, 8: 1. An account of three of Cooper's operations for aneurysm.

LETTER NO. 90

To Dick Weekes, 25 July 1802

St. Thomas's July 25th. 1802

Dear Brother —

Since you have so frequently solicited me to write often, I now again take up my Pen to comply with your request; I hope ye. Vaccine virus arrived safe, & farther hope it will prove effectual;

You have often told me Hurst is dull & you have nothing of a novel nature to write to me; but that, I cannot with propriety say, for here are daily occurrences, of one kind or another, wh. I wish I had the opportunity sometimes of communicating to you by word of mouth; Only Fryday last there was one quite new took place; I will begin stating as well as I can; The operation for ye. Stone is one that is done by each Surgeon quarterly & in rotation & on ye. Day just mentiond it became ye. turn of ye. senior (Mr. Chandler) Two Children were said to be going to be operated on; one 6 years the other 19 months, The first had been searched, & was brought on ye. table operated on & ye. Stone extracted, then along was brought ye. youngest, supposing only he had one also, for Mr. C. said he had had every symptom, so if they were satisfied that he had one, the operation was to be perform'd He was fix'd & Mr. C. proceeded to pass ye. Staff, The Child had almost a natural Phymosis, so much so that Mr. C. said he must slit up ye. Prepuce before ye. Staff could be introduced as ye. point of a probe only could be introdd. no, no, says Mr. Birch our 2d. Surgeon you need not do that you will presently get it into ye. Urethra; & so he did, & when it was in ye. Urethra, it passed into ye. Bladder very well, (I have I think in my last letter but one, or two, stated Mr. C. made rather hasty decisions in some cases) However this was no sooner done than he appeard quite satisfied that there was a Stone, & begd Mr. Birch to feel, & He after pausing a little seemd satisfied too, (Cline was not there, or he would have taken hold of ye. Staff, for this is a rule always; I regret that he was not) Mr. Lucas 2d. Surgeon of Guys also took hold, & after some time seemd also satisfied, & a French Surgeon, —

After wh. Mr. C. began & made a bold incision thro: ye. Cutis & cellular membrane at one incision, ye. cellular membe. was $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch in thickness, by and by he cut into ye. groove, & held ye. point of ye. knife there till ye. beak of ye. Gorget was fixed in it (which is always done here) Then forced ye. gorget into ye. Bladder when out gushed ye. Urine, The Staff immedy. drawn out & a pair of Forceps introduced, but not being able to take hold of ye. stone a pair whose blades shut closer together were introduced (& by ye. by without a blunt Gorget being previously introduced; What mal practice this!) However these forceps did not fix hold of ye. Stone, they were withdrawn, & Mr. C. then introduced his finger & turn'd it all around ye. vesica exclaiming there was no Stone, & he then bid Mr. Birch pass his Finger in, & said "your Finger is longer than mine Mr. B. ["] he brought his out stating ye. same fact, then Mr. Lucas,²⁷⁹ whose finger was longer than either, & who had more of ye. fortiter in re than ye. suaviter in modo by a vast deal; farther

Letter No. 90

corroborated ye. assertions of Mr. C. & B. when ye Child was taken to ye. Ward. now how were they to clear themselves; — There is sand always laid on ye. floor to absorb any blood that falls, this was cratched about by Mr. C. & B., & the latter picked up something however Mr. C. order ye. sand to be taken up & washed wh. was done, & a stone was picked out of it by one of them wh. was declared to ye. Pupils to be what must have been washed out of ye. bladder when ye. Urine gushed out — I will now just give you the sense of those who were spectators as well as myself, viz: that that stone & wh. was not small was not washd out in that, way, farther that there was no stone in ye. bladder — young Cline, [. . .] was not at ye. operation but came soon after and I stated it to him who I am inform'd communicated it to his Father, who laughed at ye. idea; For Mr. Smith his assistant called on me to ask if I was engaged to morrow, If not Mr. Cline was going to perform a Stone operation & wished me to come & assist, It was for a poor man at Mile end near white Chappel; I told him I would come with pleasure, — For things of this kind may insinuate me in old Clines favor: & I still go on to dress for young Cline & shall do for some time.

I will by and by ask old Cline about a situation if he could inform me of any such thing &c: For I begin much to want to be doing something for myself, for I think it is almost time; And I suppose my Father wd. put up with an assistant, during ye. time you are at St. Thomas's; rather than I should not accept of ye. first advantageous situation that may offer — Ask this of him if you please and give me an answer in full, As my Father some time ago stimulated me to be looking out for one, And I do not think it very unlikely that such a situation may be heard of ere long — It was by my Fathers recommendation that Evans sat himself down at Hampton; — I cannot say now that I am so sanguine about going abroad as I was; For it unhinges a Man I have heard my Father say; — I very frequently talk with Whitfield about a situation, & it was he that first gave me the idea of putting ye. question respecting an assistant.

What does my Father think of Steyning? —

July 26th. — 3 o Clock just returned from ye. operation wh. was not so neat as ye. one at Patcham being longer about, obliged to make use of two forceps, the first slipping off; I held ye. right leg, ye. man 65 from Kent

I remain Yours &c H Weekes

The Stone was 3 cornerd, with obtuse angles, ye. size of Scrases Sons, Mr. C had 1st. got hold of it Xways, was a long time introducing ye. Staff, made ye. urethra bleed: introdd. ye. forceps two or three times without a blunt gorget.²⁸⁰

Mr. Cline is not coming to Brighton that he knows of; Cooper is at Paris, returns soon

²⁷⁹ William Lucas jun. (d. 1824). Hampton's opinion of him was backed by South (op. cit., note 47 above, p. 52), who claimed that "his surgical acquirements were very small, his operations generally very badly performed, and accompanied by much bungling if not worse." Cooper called him "rash in the extreme, cutting among most important parts as if it were only skin, and making us always shudder from apprehension of his opening arteries or committing some other error." (Bransby Cooper, op. cit., note 124 above, vol. 1, p. 302.)

²⁸⁰ Cline was very proud of his operation for the stone. In his commonplace book he recorded that between 1785–97 he cut fifty-nine patients for the stone with only six deaths. STHMS M28 p. 261.

LETTER NO. 91

From Dick Weekes 26/29 July 1802^r

Hurst Julii 26to. 1802

Dear Brother —

I begin this Letter to Day but shall not finish it until the 28vo. Yesterday my Father was sent for in haste, to Albourne place to see one of (Mr. Scrace's Shephard) Maskall's Children the Child fell into the Petit and was Smothered and had been dead $\frac{3}{4}$ of an Hour before my Father arrived. the Stomach was distended with it. and he squeezed a good deal out of Mouth and Nose tried Warm bath & cc all of no kind of use.²⁸¹ Mr. S. is going to reside there report says. — The Cow Pock Mtr. arrived safe and to satisfaction Jno. Still is Inocd. & it takes. Our Small Pox Patients are all recovered

We are very full of business at present. We have a patient at Patcham Mr. Payne's Gardeners Wife with a bad leg owing to a deposit of Milk after lying in. with threatning Gangrene. Guy has attended her. we think her a little better. it will come to Supperation. since dead. I have been to Taylors Wife Street. Parsons's Wife Hixstead Parish account. —

Old Cripps slept here Saturday Night he is poorly he said he had seen you. —

Jno. Dodson is returned and is a little more chatty. Thos. Tabb Randildes²⁸² is dead died of Ptysis Pulmons. from Metastasis from his Leg I think. after his Leg was cured he enjoyd' very ill Health. —

Mrs. Welber Locks is dead. died of Idem. —

Dame Parsons Poynings is dead died Idem —

Mr. Major the Bistory you bought for me the other day & with which I operated on Mr. Hodson for Fistula in Ano (where the opening into the Rectum was about 2 Inches up the Sinus) broke just as I had about half finish'd the operation just like a piece of Glass I was for the moment much embarass'd but taking out my Forceps & having a piece of Twine at hand I tied the piece of Bistory tight within the blades of the forceps & finish'd dividing the Sphicter Ani Muscle, I did not press the point of it harder against my finger than was necessary to keep it steady, but it was too highly temperd & I think rather too slight, It shd. bend rather than break, I will send it up to you to be renewed Gratis I hope, What an unpleasant circumstance — The Wound now Contracts the discharge is abated and it will soon be well. —

We attend Thos. Coppards family of Park his Son has been very Ill with Crope but is now recovered we are to Inoculate his family with Small Pox next Spring at Nailards with one or two of the Holmans. We have a patient at Shipley beyond the Church. her disorder Nervose.

²⁸¹ "On Sunday a child, about two years old, was suffocated in the soil of a privy, into which it had accidentally fallen, at Albourne, near Hurstperpoint [sic]." *Weekly Advertiser and Lewes Journal*, 2 August 1802.

²⁸² A farm at Hurst.

Letter No. 91

Captain, Bob. & Jack, are all almost done over, they want rest, for they have, and do work confoundedly indeed. I say the same George Kemp —

and the Garden is in good order great number of

Plombes and Gosbereys indeed and Richard Workes them so much for Old Jock. We want 2 new Horses but dont know where to get one — I am much Obliged for the many Curious things you have sent me down —

The plasters and Blisters ready Spread are vastly Handy indeed. and some Cymin plaster ready Spread a Sheet or two you may send when you send the next parcel down —

We use no Leather now for Blisters but use Emp. Adhaes. super Linum instead

We have used Spt. Terebinth. in extensive burns but not with much advantage

We shall soon send Adcock a capital Order of 50 Articles I beleive, and principal ones too —

Fanny is at Home but is going to School soon she does not seem much affected by the Death of Mrs. W: is buried to the W. close under the Wall and N. ward of our Mother beyond the pavement. it was very decently and respectfully attended and conducted —

27mo. — We finished Haying the 22d Inst: the lower field was pastured so we have but a small rick and it caught some wet. there is a great deal of Grass to cut in this Neighbourhood. last year Haying was at least a Month sooner. The Corn of all sorts looks exceedingly well. and there is a great deal of it. and will be plenty of Straw. but Hay will be verry dear. — You have not sent the Starling?

My Father has been twice to Cuckfield to see one of Ansels pats. (with fever continuing after the Scarlatina) as Physician £1.1.0 a time. she is better — Is your Purging Electuary good.

We use great quantity of Cinchonae in Tinct: and Decoct: & Pulv. Antim. Nitros Basil Caryopa. and Pil. Deobst. Opium Ipecac. & Rhubarb. &cc (excellent Medicines)

Julii 29 We Recd your Letter and am surprised at the Blundering goings on of your Gentlemen —

Have altered my plan of sending this Letter by post & so shall send it next Saturday by Knowless

My Father has the Rheumeh. in his Shoulder so bad that he can get no rest for it and it makes him feverish & look poorly. he talks of taking Physic being Vsetio and using of the Emetic Ungsu. wh. is a good thing in all Rheumatic Affections —

July 29

I shall send up the broken Instrument of Whatelys for Optg. for Fistula in Ano. and do you tell them it is too brittle and too highly tempered. they ought to take it again and give you another new one.

My Father is gone to Mrs. Martins filia Godshiae Cowfold. has been ever since 2. this Mornng. has been gone 12 Hours not yet returnd, her filia is pregnant by some one & she is not married poor girl dont you remember her at Mrs. Sopers Henfield (Housekeeper there)

Anne returns Augst. 15. —

LETTER NO. 92

To Dick Weekes, 28 July 1802

St Thomas's July 28th.. 1802

Richardus —

This is ye. day on wh. ye. anniversary dinner of ye. Gouvernners of St Thomas's Hospital is held at ye. London Tavern, And I told you some time ago that I shd. make one, All ye. officers of ye. Hospital go, But all ye. Governors are not there not half I understand,²⁸³ I shall conclude this Letter with some observations respecting it, I only hope I do not make you pay too much postage —

I had a Letter in answer to one I wrote the other day from W. Borrer Junr. in wh. He gave me an account of ye. plants, wh. were arrived for me; Also of your neglect in not sowing ye. seeds wh. I was surprised at. — He writes a very good Letter, wh. I know you are not surprised at; He concluded with sayg. We all join in desireg: a place in your remembre. & I remain Your obliged. W. Borrer junr.

I will now relate a circumstance wh. occurred to me only yesterday, & ye. like I never knew before among poor people; A woman called at ye. Shop Monday last, with a message from ye. wife of one of our out patients who died Saturday ye. 24th. instant; He had got a petition only ye. Thursday before, & was so unwell that he could not stop to be written for by ye. Physician, of St. Thomas's.

The message was, that her Husband might be inspected, For that all ye. medical men that he had applyd to were mistaken in his disorder; He had first of all applyd to St. Bartholoms. to be an inpatient & there he was informed that he was foul and that he must get a foul petition that he had (they said a venereal Ulcer in ye. Throat) So he came home & told his wife to whom he had been married upwards of 20 years, That he was a lost man on account of ye. Doctors being mistaken in his disorder; He then applyd to Guy's, & they signified ye. same to him, And so it was at St Thomas's all thinking it was a foul ulcer.

The symptoms, and attack were as follows; He has been a soldier for some years, also a Watchman for years, was attacked with the Scarlet fever 3 months ago, wh. he got ye. better of & being so much out a nights his wife tells me, that he caught cold, wh. fell to his throat, & very soon after follwd a great difficulty of inspiration, & such a noise he made at each inspiration, (like an ox bellowing; was ye. wives simile) that he might be heard at a considerable distance; So that this was a symptom characterising Cynanche Trachealis, was it not? well Sir, ye. mans dying solicitation to his mother & wife was that he might be opened, for he was well persuaded that it was no foul complaint, now had he had any suspicion or been concious that that gave rise to it, wd. he have made such a solicitation? I told the woman, who came disiring I would come that I would be there to morrow mornng. 9 oclock, told her to wax some cotton & get ready, a worsted needle or two some rags & water; — I called on ye. assistant at Guys asking him if he wd. accompany me on ye. occasion, who was very

²⁸³ In 1800 there were 316 governors. GLRO H1/ST/A64/4.

ready (his name is Hibbert a very nice young Man) well Sir we went, it was up at ye. top of a house 3 pair of stairs a little way down ye. Mint opposite St. Georges Church, He was in his coffin & had his shroud on; so I drew down his shroud & we began makg. an incision from his Chin to his Umbilicus & detached ye. Cutis from ye. Sternum & cartilages of ye. Costae; then cutting thro: ye. cartilages, (this is ye. modern way & by far ye. neatest,) we exa[. . .] ye. Lungs, Pericardium, Cor, &c, & found no [. . .]action going on there (neither expecting much from his symptoms) we then took out ye. [. . .]riud Cartilage with os Hyoides, & portion of the Larynx nicely, And in my attempt to pass my little finger thro: I found that ye. orifice was almost closed, wh. accounted for ye. difficulty in inspiration, then ye. query was ye. cause of this; then with my sizars cut thro; ye. back of it and found an abscess situated wh. extended round to ye. front between ye. Thyroid & Cricoid, The Thyroid Glands were quite sound. The whole quantity of matter wh. looked very white was about ½ an ounce not more, or quite so much; The mucose membrane of ye. Trachea was not at all inflamed, (in that man whose bones I sent home who died from suffocation, & was operated on by Cooper for Broncotomy, ye. membrane was as red as blood,) Hibbert very much wanted ye. Larynx & wd. give me another he said, no, no, said I my boy I keep that; wh. I value very much.

There was no exit for ye. matter into the Trachea, neither had there been that I could find tho: his wife said he had spit up matter, often, but wether it was so I cannot say; He had had medicines from ye. Surry dispensary,²⁸⁴ “Fumigations, Mercury, inwardly & outwardly &c, &c, —

I told his wife we had ascertained what he died of, that it was an abscess, at ye upper part of his windpipe; They then wanted to know if it was an uncomn. disorder, I said it was, they were then satisfied; we sowed him up neatly & came away.

Now wether it really did arise, from application of cold to the part affected after Scarlet fever; or if ye. hypothesis of ye. wise ones was right; I leave you to determine

29th. We sat down 86 aldm. Newnham our presidt. in ye. Chair,²⁸⁵ I got close to a Haunch of venison, but it stunk so that no one wd. eat but one gentleman & myself, they wd. have it sent away; There was two cources & a very nice desert with Ice’s &c; about tea time I went up to ye. president who at 1st. did not know me but after telling my name He shook me by ye. Hand & immediaty. introduced me to our Treasurer,²⁸⁶ & spoke in high terms of my Father, as being a Man of high repute in his profession in Sussex, & hoped I shd. make as good; ask’d me were I was, how long I had been there; Then I talkd to him about J. Newnham & his Mother who he could not help calling Mrs. Newnham he said; he was very chatty with me indeed, & said if he could do any thing for me he shd. be very happy

I remain yours &c. HW —

²⁸⁴ The Surrey Dispensary was in Union Street, Southwark.

²⁸⁵ Alderman Nathaniel Newnham lived in Gray’s Inn Square and represented Vintry ward in the City of London. He was also vice-president of the City of London Lying-in Hospital, and on the boards of the General Dispensary for the Relief of the Poor, the City Dispensary, and the Masonic Benefit Society.

²⁸⁶ Abel Chapman, Treasurer of St Thomas’s 1800–43.

LETTER NO. 93

To Richard Weekes, 31 July 1802

St. Thomas's July 31st. 1802

Dear Father,

I believe this is the first week that I have transmitted three Letters, but if you do not think too often, I feel a pleasure in writing, ——

The first important step in this address is to petition you for more money; wh. petition I have delayed sending until I have but a very few shillings left; A few little debts I have to pay, wh. I shall not feel quite comfortable till I have discharged, They are as follow, Shoe maker for soaling healing & goloshing a pair of Boots; Laundry for ye. spreading knife, & Cox for two quarto writing Books for Clines Lectures, wh. I have finished, —— I want to go once to Vauxhall if you have no objection; When I recieved Ye. waistcoats from Keating, I took ye. liberty of writing for a pair of Kersemere Breeches, because I could not manage to wear two pair of Nankin Breeches a fortnight This I did without your permission certainly, but I trust you will think I was not presuming too much; —— I informed, Holmers family, & Mr. Sparrow of ye. death of Mrs. Weeks. Mr. S. talk'd, he thought it not unlikely that he might take a run down to Brighton for a fortnight, & wd. if he did take a bed with you.

Mr. Cooper called here yesterday – wrote a note for Mr. Whitfield, who showed it me, the contents of wh. was “Dr. Sir If your rooms are not engaged for next winter, shd. be glad if you wd. take ye. Son of Mr. Long of Hailsham Sussex, Mr. W. wrote him that he had a vacancy for a lodger, and for an assistant, The terms for ye. firs 100 guineas, for ye. las 80, & begd an answer soon, for he had had two applications & shd. close with ye. first that made up his mind.

Mr. W. went into ye. country this morning directly after breakfast, to his wife & Children & does not return 'till Tuesday, so I am again left sold proprietor of ye. Physic at St. Thomas's Hospital; —— Mr. Chandler, who I informd you sometime ago promised ye. Charter, & Bye Laws of ye. Corporation of Surgeons, gratified me with them to day wh. I thanked him for kindly.

½ past 3 oClock am just going to sit down to dinner by myself & some wine wh. Mr. W. always gives me ye. Key of, also Tea sugar &c &c ——

4 oClock have just partook of a mackarell, cold mutton & plumb pudding swiming in butter wh. you wd. not have liked, It is no news to inform you that they do not know how to Make puddings here: Pyes we manage very well, we had a fine Pike 2 feet 5 or 6 inches long quite spoiled almost by our Cook, & Whitfield made use of ye. old expression respecting Cooks & meat.

Little Grip as Dr. Dick calls her made a strange mistake in concieving ye. Toucan to be alive, for it was dead & stuffed; And as to ye. beauties of Miss Hopkins ye. young lady who drew ye. Bird is as ugly as any Girl I ever saw, altogether a most excentric being & a pretender to all siences, but a more full account may be had from Ann when she arrives at Hurst. ——

I think if Whitfield can spare me of taking a trip down to see you about, ye. middle

Letter No. 94

of September, if you have no objection. —

I shd. very much like if I could to send Whiteman a fish or wait & send him a barrel of oysters in september, For he gave me several Birds, at different times.

We have just got a very bad compound fracture come in here, so much so that they have just for ye. Surgeon, An extensive laceration of integuments, &c —

W. Holmer junr. called in just now as he often does, He and I are going to see the new docks soon,²⁸⁷ —

I have taken ye. cases down of every Physicians patient since October, & trust I may benefit by it some time or other —

Cooper is just returned from Paris, where I should have no objection of going²⁸⁸

Foster²⁸⁹ is at Brighton I believe; but he is no Surgeon, to consult on ye. case of old Hudson, —

The Post is now going

I remain

Dr. Sir

Yours dutifully

HWeekes

LETTER NO. 94

To Richard Weekes, 5 August 1801 [*sic* = 1802]

St. Thomas's Augt. 5 1801

Dear Father,

Am just favord with your remittance of 5£ for wh. I return you my most sincere thanks, also with ye. instrument for Fistula wh. I will go to Evans with, & hear what he says;

I am to day exceeding busy it being taking in day & young Clines turn as dresser, He continues in Town for about a fortnight, & then goes into Burkshire to hunt ye. ground over to find where the game is a little he says, that he may make ye. better out shooting, means to have a fortnight or 3 weeks of it, & I am then to take his Box again, The principal to day is ulcerated Legs among ye. Surgeons patients, one Hydrocele, a case of Catarract, a Finger to be amputated & very little else, —

²⁸⁷ The London docks were being extended at Blackwall.

²⁸⁸ Astley Cooper had radical political ideas as a young man with sympathy for the French republican political ideals. He had to renouce them to be appointed to the staff at Guy's Hospital. See R.C. Brock, *The life and work of Astley Cooper*, London, Livingstone, 1952, ch. 3; and Bransby Cooper, *op. cit.*, note 124 above, ch. 12.

²⁸⁹ Presumably Thompson Forster, senior surgeon at Guy's.

The Child I spoke of, that ye. calculus was washd out of ye. Bladder, died yesterday morning. It continued exceeding well till ye. eighth day when it was attackd with irritative Fever pulse becomg. 130, The Father said when it came in, he believ'd it had two of its gums swelled, & thought it was only cutting teeth, But on the mornng. of ye. 11th. ye. Sister discoverd ye. abdomen to be tumified, when Leeches were applyd, afterward a Blister, [. . .] Grains of Calomel, to be taken directly & [. . .] drops of [. . .] once in 6th. horio However, tho: ye. abdomen appeard to be softer & ye. Urine to be evacuated thro. ye. Penis, & also thro. ye. wound, yet symptoms of irritation (from inflammation of Peritoneum, as conjecture lead us to suppose & I believe correctly, tho. it was unusually long after an operation of that kind.) — To be sure Chandler, Birch, & Lucas, might have excited some degree of irritation by the fortiter in re mode of examining ye. bladder with their fingers (particularly ye. last gentleman) but if so why did not bad symptoms arise before ye. 8th. day. The other Child goes on very well Yesterday evening about 9 o Clock, a patient with brain fever, suddenly jumped out of bed, & leaped out of a two pair of stairs window down into one of ye. squares, that was strewed with small gravel, he fortunately saved himself by first falling upon a projecting lead, & broke no bone or otherwise much bruised himself. This was at Guys Hospital. — We have some important cases which I am noteing down, now in St. Thomas's, One Man was brought in 1 o Clock this mornng. with a bad fracture with depression immediately over ye. left frontal Sinus & communicating with it, It was done by a fall down between two vessels at Billingsgate getting after Oysters (it being ye. first day for them,) however he was drunk. Untill 7 o Clock was able to give rational answers, Pulse 100 very soon after was attackd with nausea and vomiting of blood, & strong convulsive fit for ye. first time, these continued to return at intervals of a $\frac{1}{4}$ of an hour, after each frothing at ye. mouth very much. (Mr. Birch was sent for when the Man was 1st. brought in, & at that time I have before said ye. violent symptoms had not come on, however ye. answer of Mr. B. was that he wd. come & operate $\frac{1}{2}$ past nine in the morning.) such an answer from a country Surgeon to his patient I think wd. not do? — His pulse had risen at ye. attack of ye. violent symptoms to 125, having a clammy pirspiration. He was operated on at ye. time appointed, There was good deal of extravasation upon ye. dura mater, also under it For I could percieve a laceration of ye. dura mater & blood under it, so I am afraid we shall not save him: I have just been upto see him & find he had only two fits after ye. operation wh. was 5 hours ago, & he now again is capable of giving a rational answer I asked him if he was in much pain no [. . .] he only my head & my loins, calls for drink, & puts his tongue out when I askd him. (20 ounces of blood was taken from ye. arm upon ye. attack of bad symptoms.) — I will now just mention a few lines, on ye. absorption of matter producing Hectic fever, & ye. opinion respecting which I inherited from you I must confess I feel it to be a little shaken, since I have perused Jno Hunter on Inflammation²⁹⁰ & its effects, I will quote a passage page 499 "Altho: ye. Hectic Fever arises from some incurable local disease of a vital part, or of a common part when of some magnitude, yet it is possible for it to be an original disease in ye. constitution: The constitution

²⁹⁰ John Hunter, *A treatise on the blood, inflammation and gun-shot wounds*, London, 1794.

Letter No. 95

may fall into ye. same mode of action without any local cause whatever, at least that we know of. Then he says "This disease has been, and is still in general laid to ye. charge of absorption of puss into ye. constitution from a sore; But I have long imagin'd that an absorption of Puss has been too much blamed as ye. cause of many of the bad symptoms wh. frequently attack people who have sores.

"I very much doubt ye. fact of absorption going on more in one sore than in another; & if ever it does I think it is of no consequence. I am much more enclined to believe that this Hectic disposition arises from ye. effect wh. irritation of a vital part, or some other parts such as Joints etc (being either incurable in themselves, or being so to the constitution for a time) have on ye. constitution ——

"The Hectic appears to depend on ye. parts being stimulated to produce an effect wh. is beyond their power that this stimulus is sooner or later in taking place & that ye. constitution becomes affected by it. I remain Yours dutifully Hampton Weekes

Tell Dick he is quite mistaken, with respect to a deposition of Milk after a lying-in There is no such thing: It is a defect nearly in the absorbent system, & said to arise more from unusual injury recieved by ye. Sciatic nerve or perhaps ye. crural, by pressure from the Foetus, The query is how is Milk to get there?

LETTER NO. 95

From Dick Weekes, 6 August 1802. Continued by Richard Weekes

Hurst Augst. 6th. 1802 P.M.

Dear Brother

We recd. your Letter this Day, and being at leisure this Afternoon, thought I would write a letter to you. The first piece of news is this. that you may come to Hurst with Miss Weekes. which I suppose will be in a fortnight from this time. Miss Anne will arrive in Town about the 17 or 18th, —— My Father, Grace, and Your Hbl Servt, all wish to see you and Anne again. the sooner the better. suppose Miss A: will stay a few days in Town and then she and you will start together and do you write us word when you see Anne what Day you will be at Hurst. for we will come to Stonepound Gate and meet you ——

You mind and come as soon as ever you can and dont stay longer in Town than there is real occasion for. after Anne arrives. We have been talkg. the matter over. and Father thinks it a pretty opportunity for you to come down with Sister. ——

In 12 days we have had 11 Labor's 6 of wh. I have been to Vist. Jeffery Senr. St. Jno. Comn. Warner. Clayton Stevens. Plumpton Emsley Mrs. Street. & Bingham Clayton. some of wh. you are already informd of. if I judge right. —— There is little else to do but to keep their spirits up as well as one can —— and that is no easy matter often times —— How long have the College of Surgeons been instituted as such.? and where is the Act for so doing? let us see it. with the Charters &c when you arrive

Letter No. 96

— We are in want of Hematox; and some Emp. Simp. for what we get of the Druggist is good for nothing. all these and all other things do you get ready and bring down with you — My Father wishes you to call on Mr. Jos. Lowdell Queen Street Borough with his Comps. Mr. L. was a Physician in Hampshire and used a farm there. but soon got tired of it and return'd again to Town and took his old business again —

he is to speak the annual Oration fore the Medical Society next Year. so he is a clever fellow. and do you call on him —

I wish you to get me a ring to use instead of tying my Neckcloth —

I think you are mistaken about the Nerves being pressd upon shd. occasion the extremities to swell after hard Labour. instead of deposit of Milk. I know it is not that. neither is it from your vain supposition of the pressure of the Nerves. but it is not from pressure of the Lymphatic Vessels against the Margin of the Pelvis. in hard or Lingering Labor. and wre. the Child is large. but then the Query is why that disease was not evident sooner. one wd. immagine it would make it appearance in 2. weeks at farthest. but in this case it was nine weeks before the disease in question (after Lying in) made its appearance. How do you account for that Sir? — I enclose you three pound of Graces Money to help to Miss W. to get some Gowns for Grace I believe —

We have great many ripe Gooseburys and ripe Pairs and if you make expedition perhaps you will arrive before they are all consumed. —

Go to Cox's Medical Library and look his Labels over & if you see any that will suit us bring some down with you. such as Aq. Cinnam. Elix. Salutis. & anything else in the modern way.

Hampton I understand Dick has wrote for you to come down with Mary Ann but by no means leave Cline's box so as to put him to inconvenience neither Mr. Whitfield because it makes no difference to me wether you come with her or 10 or 20 days after —

I shd. like a Roll of good Mercurial plaister such as will stick, we cannot get any that is good I suppose Mary will write for you to meet her at the Inn in London when she comes from Glostershire be there in time as she is a poor creature. —

LETTER NO. 96

From Mary Ann Weekes, 11 August 1802

Tortworth August 11th 1802

My dear Hampton

I receivd your excellent Letter which does honor to you & for which you are raised much higher in my esteem I will do every thing in my power to make our only friend (as you truely say) happy, & comfortable. if he should marry again & have a family

what will be our situation? we must prevent it viz: by our attention, & by doing our duty.²⁹¹ I received a Letter from Grace last Sunday, from a Letter from Mrs. Clarke, to Mrs. Cooke I understand Mrs. Wood of Wantley is dead, all our Friends in & about Hurst die off I think Mrs. Cooke has had a Swelled face for more than a fortnight, & in consequence we have not dined at Lord Darcie's since that time but have had repeated invitations I have dined there three times at which times there were staying there Lord Hotham brother to Mr. Baron Hotham the Judge a Great Naval character & an Admiral Holloway, both pleasant men, we were invited the other day to meet Lord & Lady Berkly one of the first families in the Kingdom we did not go because of this face I was sorry, but I did not express it Lady Francis Moreton, Lord Darcie's daughter in Law is down now she is the daughter of Lord Canarvon, I saw her at Church last Sunday, she is a condescending pleasant Woman Lord D. introduced me to her they are as different from the Campions as possible Mrs. Cooke was not at Church. Lady Frances said to me after bowing & scraping, Mrs. Cooke does not venture out yet does she. Grace told me in her Letter that my Father has bought an horse of Ward the Mason, a bay colourd, a little higher than Captain, I hope he has not sold that beautifull creature Bull, he cannot intend to keep 5 horses she tells me also as a piece of news that Richard Monkhouse is married which I saw some time ago in the Newspaper. to Miss Minchell Dick went one day to the Races & dined at Mr. Tiltsons, Fanny & my Father only go in mourning. Have you been informed that Mrs. W. was buried the oppisite side of the gate from my Mother, very near the wall, I leave this place on Monday Dr. Cooke drives me to Gloucester but weather I can get a place in the Coach on that day or the next I cannot yet tell before I finish this Letter I wish ask Dr. Cooke where the Coach puts up in London, I am going to confide a Secret to you; which you are not, if you wish my peace of Mind, to reveal which is that there are no coaches that do not go in the night to London which my Father has a great dislike to, but rest assured that if there are no Ladies in the coach on the day I intend going I shall wait till there are, & if I set off from Gloucester about 12 oclock on Monday, I shall be in London by 10 or 12 on Tuesday. I do not at all think I shall set off from Gloucester before teusday, I shall be at a Mrs. Weavers where Mrs. Cooke, & I, were staying when we were at Gloucester. very civil kind of People (relations of Dr. Cooke) she was [. . .] & stay two or three days with them in my road Home Grace says my Father said I should stay three or four days in town in my journey home I must stay a day or two because I have got two Gowns, & a Bonnet, to buy for Grace. she is to send you three 1£ notes for me to buy them with. I must now wait till I have asked Dr. Cooke about the Coaches. adieu till then. Saturday Morning ——— I have asked Dr. Cooke. he does not know where the Coaches put up in London, I have no fears about going in a hackney Coach from the Inn to Sun Street by my self. I shall certainly be in Town on Wednesday morning by 12 oclock Lord & Lady Romney from Kent & a Large party are now at Lord Darcies I am affraid we shall not dine there again before I go, as Mrs. C. face is not yet well, I shall see them however at Church to morrow, I have written to Mrs. Wood informing her of my intended arrival in Town on Wednesday I shall go in to Sussex, on Saturday

²⁹¹ The letter has not survived. Their father did not remarry.

Letter No. 97

certainly. if you write home you may inform them of it. but say nothing else. My Compliments to Mr. & Mrs. Whitfield. Yours Sincerely

Mary Anne Weekes.

LETTER NO. 97

To Richard Weekes, 17 August [1802]

St Thomas's Augt. 17th.

Dear Father

Mr. Foakes arrived here this morning while I was very busy dressg. my patients, enquiring if he could see Mr. Cline by your desire, old Cline is at ye. Hospital only every wednesday (rarely ever else) except when he takes in, So I told him if he wd. call on me $\frac{1}{2}$ after 4 oClock in the afternoon, I wd. go with him to Mr. Clines, for that was ye. only time to catch him at home, — Poor fellow I suppose he little thinks of ye. termination of his complaint! —

I had a Letter from Ann yesterday saying she shd. be in Town Wednesday and return to Hurst Saturday for wh. I am going to take a place for her at Laurence, or Lad Lane,

I am going to morrow morning to make a short stay at Uxbridge at a Mr. Osbornes Mr. W.'s brother in Law, who has given me repeated invitations, & Mr. Whitfield who arrived from there this mornng. says he expects me to morrow, — It is by no means that I have a strong desire to go & leave my Box, but when I have paid the visit I shall not have to do it again, —

I was at Mr. Woods yesterday eveng. & Mrs. W. inform'd me Ann had that day written to her to the same effect that she had to me —

Old Cripps has this mornng. written to me from Rottingdean, asking me to be at ye. trouble of sending down his Sons Boxes, calling at ye. Customs enquiring if any thing more is arrived to have this Box open, and that, &c &c a commission that I am affraid my time will by no means admit of it might do for an idle man however when I return from Uxbridge I will do what I can, But upon My word I do not like it,

I hope ye. Dr. arrived safe, my love to all at home,

I remain
Yours
Dutifully

HWeekes

(excuse bad writing, for I really am in haste.)

LETTER NO. 98

From Richard Weekes, [n.d. — August 1802]

Dear Hampton

Your Letter is just arriv'd, Dick came home safe & well he had not been at home two minutes before I pack'd him off to a Labor at Twineham Green where he stayd all night & all next Day however he did the Job as he say'd he is not at home now is gone to Henfield about Cow pock making a sort of trading Voyage & to call on many patients in that quarter & draw a tooth for Mrs. Woods Mother Chestern a Lady worth 14 Hundred a Year so he thinks he shall get half a Guinea at least —

I am very glad you go on so famously and get so popular at the Hospital, I hope Mr. Fokes paid Mr. Cline his fee as I did not send him on the score of Charity, if he has not tell Mr. Cline so, as Fokes is a man of some property at Cuckfield, I am affraid it is a sort of noli me tangere — take care of Ann & she shd. invite Miss Sparrow to Hurst most cordially. Tillstone & his Niece Miss Monkhouse dind with me on Sunday he sayd Sparrow was angry with you for not calling on him oftener tell him I say his Daughter must come down to Hurst for a few weeks — & make my Compts. to them all, Grace & I am just come from Withdean in the Gig, from Mr. Scrase's Wm. Jenner has taken Mrs. Brands house & land — Dr. Marchant is just Dead died of concussion of the Brain,²⁹² in consequence of being overturnd in his chaise at Offham the last race day, I saw him two days ago with Dr. Blair & Crockford. —

The Post is waiting so I must conclude believe shall send up my Porter barrel to be fill'd soon see Saturley & ask him where I shall send it to. —

I am Yours sincerely

RWeekes

Hurst Wednesday

2 o'Clock

N.B. I am going to see old Cripps to Morrow hear he is very poorly —

LETTER NO. 99

To Richard Weekes, 25 August 1802

St. Thomas's Augt. 25th. 1802

Dear Father

Agreeable to your desire I have waited on Satterley enquiring of him where the Porter was had, & having learnt, I went into Fenchurch Street to a Mr. Hebden Wine Merchant No. 101 where you will direct the cask & send it by the next return of

Knowles, when Mr. Hebden will prefer sending for it to ye. Inn, The 18 Gallons will be charged to you 1.7.0 — & will be equally as good as before: Be so good as to direct on ye. Cask to be left till called for.

I hope Ann arrived safe on Saturday afternoon; I am sorry I was prevented from being in Town before she sat out for Hurst, but trust it made no material difference, also that I shall have the pleasure of seeing her, & you about ye. 17th. or 19th. of next month, if nothing unforeseen prevents me.

I returned, Sunday last from Uxbridge, where I passed a very pleasant Week with a Brother in Law of Mr. Whitfields a coal Merchant & very pleasant fellow; Uxbridge is situated part in Middlesex & part in Bucks. I wrode with him in his Gig to see the Country, went to Watford in Hertfordshire; & to see Windsor Castle in Berkshire; afterward thro. Eaton, I was gratified beyond measure, with ye. paintings &c &c in Windsor Castle, & walking on ye. Terrace one of ye. finest prospects I ever saw; A flat country entirely surrounding it; I also went to ye. Duke of Portlands Park, at Bullstrode, so named from one of ye. Roman Emperors stryding a Bull in ye. field of Battle there is the vestage of a Roman encampment, We walked over all ye. pleasure grounds wrode throughout ye. park; Osborne & I bathed two mornings in one of the sweetest waters I ever saw called ye. River Colne. — My expences came to about a dozen shillings; I came up by a Gloucester Stage, there being no Uxbridge stages on Sundays. I learnt that the same stage wh. sets out at Gloucester comes no farther than Oxford & there they change stages & sup, about 12 o Clock at night, & this stage got into Town about 12 o Clock on Sunday. — Round about Uxbridge is a very great corn Country there are 5 large water Mills round ye. place, wh. grind flour & send to Town, being only 15 Miles from Tyburn Turnpike.

I have written to old Cripps informg. him of my having orderd ye. manuscripts to be sent to Lewes this Week; The whole of ye. contents of ye. cases are in a shocking state indeed, I am afraid he will not recover ye. writing by his blotting paper process, The warfage and Landing ye. goods comes to 9 or 10 pound, wh. appears to be a great deal more than it is all worth as you will find.

I have learnt from Satterley, that Cline charged 36. 15. 0. for ye. operation for ye. Stone to that man where Dick was present He keeps a little, delf & China Shop: He is going on very well indeed.

I yesterday spent a very pleasant evening at Mr. Josh. Lowdells in Queen Street, who did not know me at first as you may suppose, But as soon as I had inform'd him who I was he told me if I wd. walk up stairs he wd. introduce me to somebody I knew wh. was his Father,²⁹³ who looked rather older than he did but very well in health, & He me & Josh. L. talked over all ye. people in Sussex whom they knew almost; & after a little time, in came ye. old Gentlemans Wife, when he said my dear shall we walk & call upon somebody I forget Who, when Mrs. Josh. said you will be back to tea Mam; yes we shall answerd ye. old Gentleman, who is grown deaf, His wife Is

²⁹² Thomas Marchant of Little Park, Hurst, aged seventy-one. He was described as "surgeon". *Sussex Archaeological Collecions*, 1873, 25: 163. In the *Medical Register*, 1783, Weekes and Marchant were the apothecaries of Hurst.

²⁹³ Stephen Lowdell and his father, J.C. Lowdell, were surgeons of Queen Street, Borough.

Letter No. 100

older than I expected she was. Whilst they were gone I found out Mrs. Josh. was a concolgys & had got some good shells, Also some nice minerals, wh. I took a pleasure in looking over, — Their eldest Son about 22 is still an Apprentice in Pall Mall & will have completed his last & 8th year in February next when he comes to St. Thomas's, They have one other Son about 14 at Winchester, who was then at home & seems a cleaver sensible fellow; & a daught between ye. Sons who playd to me on ye. Harpsicord, They begd I wd. call again, and while I was there ye. elder Son came in. Adieu HWeekes

Young Cline sets out on his excursion into Buckinghamshire ye. day after to morrow, not to return till [. .] so I am to continue his Box till new dressers come.

I wd. have you be cautious how you sell, retail articles, after ye. 1st. of September, ye. penalty £20.

We yesterday had an operation for Popliteal Aneurism by Cooper, with apparan good success.

LETTER NO. 100

To Dick Weekes, 30 August 1802

St. Thomas's Augt. 30th. 1802,

Dear Brother,

This Letter I have dated the 30th. not meang. to send it to ye. Post till then, Though this is Saturday I am commeng. my Letter to you, And a very busy Saturday it has been to me, For all Mr. Clines patients are solely under my care, as Jacobi²⁹⁴ is not yet returned from Germany, I have had but one accident since Thursday my first taking in, Mr. C. has been round with me to day telling me what shd. be done to this & that patient, (only ye. new patients I mean) when I took an opportunity of asking him respecting Foakes case if it was not of a cancerous nature "No said He I believe not, Ulcerations of that kind not unfrequently form about ye. Nose & I have known them cured, He also said ye. yellow wash was a very good application also, wh. is one grain of Hydrarg: Muriat: to 1 fl. oz. of Aq. Calcis, as an application 2 or 3 times a day or oftener, I then ask'd him if sometimes those species of Ulcers, did not descend into confirmed cancer when he said they did. —

We have within these 4 or 5 days had persons attackd with diarrhoea coming on spontaneously, I believe in consequence of ye. sudden transition from heat to cold, (but to say confidently how such a sudden transition shd. cause it, I am not able; great diversity of opinion exists on that head.) however I shd. like to hear your Hurst theory in answer to this before I advance my own ———

Mr. W. is gone to day I believe for ye. last time to see his Wife for he intends

²⁹⁴ Maximilian Jacobi, dresser to Cline. Entered 20 May 1802.

Letter No. 100

bringing her back with him on Monday, when he will be more settled, & I shall be better able to come & see you

But Dr., mind your promise, for what with going to Uxbridge, sending Whiteman a Salmon & Mr. Whitfield who has bought me 3 pair of white cotton stockings where he was acquainted I shall break before ye. 17th. of next month; Evans sent ye. instrument the other day with 5s. mark'd upon ye. paper it was rapp'd up in, & upon looking at ye. instrumt. found if anything it was slighter than before, when I instantly went to his house, & stated to him how much surprized I was to see any charge made moreover ye. new blade did not at all please me, when Mr. E. himself began to remonstrate with me telling me that many were made slighter & so forth; when I told him if he meant to make such as I desired it was very well; & He said I certainly shd. have a new one to my order & good deal stronger, & there shd. be charged 3s. for it.

We have another young Man named Aldridge has been Apprenticed at Mitcham, He comes next wednesday & is to pay Whitfield 100 guineas a year, He is to dress under Birch, who recommended him here; Mr. Bingham from Shropshire is not arrived yet;²⁹⁵ _____

I am very much pleased with ye. idea of dressing all Mr. Clines patients, also of havg. a taking in to myself. _____

Just as I had done serving ye. out patients today & was standg. by ye. serving table, Dr. Wells came pass.d, & bow'd & I bow'd, when he said "what is your Brother gone home Sir? yes I said, "why he seem'd a very smart young man, & seemed to have attended to his profession, by his conversation," he also ask'd if you had been much in London before; I said you were at Merchant Taylors School as well as myself, "ah was he! said he that is a good school, I also told him my Father had endeavour'd to make you as conversant with disease as possible, _____

The Tic douloureux Man finds himself very little relieved by ye. operation; that part of ye. Chin where ye. dental nerve came to be spread is certainly relieved of ye. complaint but it is [. . .]quent as ever about ye. lower part of Os Mala where ye. inferior orbitory, nerve, is distributed, also toward ye. Ear affecting ye. [. . .] of ye. auditory. _____

The days become very much shortend here indeed, appearing much more so than in the Country; this has been a warm day but we have had several very cold. _____ I do hope you have attended to ye. Bones of my intended Skeleton

I think I have pretty well done with Cripps's business for I have sent them very near all to Stantons, where you may see them. _____

We have had several cases of acute Rheumatism lately, but in wh. we give only ye. Saline Mixture wh. was old Fordyce's plan laterally & when ye. disease had nearly woren itself out, He recruited ye. constitution with Bark. _____

Nine oClock, & a bad simple fracture of ye. Tibia & Fibula I have just go come in, he is a coalheaver & very much in liquor, so I have only applyd a cold Linseed meal vinegar poultice to it, Till morng. when he is sober; It is an Inch & ½ above ye. internal maleolus that ye. Tibia is fractured with a piece of ye. bone distinctly

²⁹⁵ Charles Aldrich. Entered 4 September. Francis Bangham entered as pupil to Whitfield on 25 September.

Letter No. 101

detached and pressing against ye. skin, (& wether by its stimulus like an extraneous substance, wh. it may almost justly be called, it will produce suppurative inflamn. & come away, if so ye. simple fracture will then become compound I do not know, perhaps not; The Fibula is simply broken higher up 4 inches above ye. external Maleolus. The man has had this prevailing diarrhoea for 3 or 4 days: I have taken 10oz of blood from him.

I hear cousin Weekes has taken out a deploma,

Monday Mornng. 9 oClock, am just come down from doing up my fracture; have kept ye. poultice on till now having had ye. meal moistend, with squeasing a sponge of white wash upon it, The effect has been very good preventing tension in a very great degree (Query, why might this not always be ye. plan for ye. 1st 48 hours, when there was no abrasion of cuticle) The lifting up the Leg once to put under ye. soap plaister and bandage gave no pain.

Do you want any Ungm. Nitratum, or Ungm. Citrinum as .. old pharmacopoeia calls it (you took mine home with you) or any Sarsaparilla . . .? ——— I here conclude with Love to all, hoping ever to remain Yours Fraternally

HW.

Augt. 30 Have just recieved yours containing 5£ The Porter & Barrels will exceed that sum by 5s. as ye. barrels are 12s. each, so that I myself shall not have more than 5 shillings left, & will thank you for 2£.

LETTER NO. 101

To Dick Weekes, 14 September 1802

St. Thomas's Sept. 14th. '02

Dr. Brother

The time being now become very short before I intend setting out for my native place, I have consequently not this time began my Letter to you in long Paper;

First be so good to tell Ann that, I was desired to deliver a message to her from a young Lady by ye. name of [. .]

I trust Dr. you have got ye. Surgery papered all complete; and various other little &cs done; against I am able to take a general survey upon my arrival; you must make old strike jump about a little more particularly now ye. cold weather is fast advancing; Or I fear ye. lubricating fluid in this old joints will freeze.

Query; shall I be able to make a total reform in your present mode of practice of Physic & Surgery? hey Dr. hey?

Mrs. W. read me a letter yesterday from her Brother at Brighton, and ye. poorfellows account of himself was very indifferent indeed; He stated that you and your sister dined at Attrees Wednesday and gave him a warm sollicitation to come to

Letter No. 102

Hurst, But he then goes on to say he hopes to be in Town this Week.

I asked Whitfield if I might stay at Hurst 10 days a day or two ago, he just thought a moment or two to himself & said yes if you please. He wants me back again pretty soon for Bangham is not arrived yet.

I went yesterday to Surgeons Hall for a country and a Town list of ye. members of ye. college, And in ye. first, are nominated several of my cotempories with that of your very Humble. servant

HWeekes.

P.S. Dr. you will excuse my taking the liberty of applying my right hand to your left Ear and there by cause a gentle concussion of your Brain, In case you have not obeyed my dictates and acted up to your promised intention of macerating my B——s?

I hope to have ye. happiness of being able to find my Father, yourself, Ann, Grace, and Fanny, all in good health upon my arrival. ———
has my Father made up his mind for me to attend Dr. Wells? I think it of — no use.

LETTER NO. 102

To Richard Weekes, 5 October 1802

St. Thomas's Oct. 5th. 1802

Dear Father

I have taken this opportunity of writing to you, having been commissiond by Miss B. to get her some Songs, wh. I have here with transmitted, ye. whole of wh. I gave 17s. for, wh. I dare say they will pay to Dick, or my Sisters.

Mr. Bangham is arrived, who is 20 years of age, not quite so tall as I am and thinner, seems a steady young man, & has began to attend this first course of Clines, so that Dick will be able to attend ye. 2d. course entire.

To my surprise Mr. Whitfield has taken an other young man as lodger, from warm solicitation of his friends tho: he had hardly any room in his house to lodge him and as it is he must sleep in a closet wh. is going to be enlarged. His name is Compton²⁹⁶ about 20 was three years in an English college in Normandy and speaks very good French, (tho: ranks with most of our other young men; knows little of Physic) is a very genteele young man indeed; shorter than Bangham.

Mr. W. thanked me very kindly for the Hare & birds, & I am well persuaded it was the best present he has had this year.

I have been to Edgar's & Co,²⁹⁷ also to Hebdens, whom I have paid and got a reciept for both, & Mr. Blaker I have written to enclosing his reciept.

²⁹⁶ Arthur Compton. Entered 4 October 1802.

²⁹⁷ Edgar and Briggs, Wine Merchants, 1 Hammond's Court, Mincing Lane.

Letter No. 103

I got to Town very well indeed and arrived at W's about 5 o'clock, where I found Jno. Attree taking his wine, We have vast many young men come up; Richison²⁹⁸ has call'd on me who was with Penfold tho: first with Allen Chatfield, he seems a steady fellow. ———

We yesterday had 3 operations by Mr. Cooper at Guys ye. 1st. a cancer of the breast in a woman, 2d. a Child 6 years old from Brighton for a stone wh. was larger than ye. Boy's at Withdean 3d. we had a cancer of ye. Lip like Mr. Newnham's, during ye. 1st operation one of ye. new pupils drop'd completely down, and upon geting up again looke as you may suppose without my taking up your time by describing.

Just 8 o'clock Wednesday morning & I must run to the Elephant and Castle, or I shall be too late for ye. coaches, So I will conclude with love to you all being myself in good health and remaing. yours dutifully

HW.

LETTER NO. 103

To Richard Weekes, 18 October 1802

St. Thomas's Octr. 18th. 1802

Dear Father

Having at length got throroughly settled, I have again taken up my pen to address a Letter of somewhat greater length than my last;

The 1st. piece of information is, that I intend to send by Knowles's next return to Sussex, the few articles wh. you desired me, & there will arrive some lace for Ann & a Letter from Miss Holmer, whom I accompanyd to Mr. Pears's Lecture ye. other day; also her Brother who told me he had pass'd a very agreeable [. . .] three days with you at Hurst, wh. I was [. . .] He ridicules & detests ye. pride of ye. D's [. . .] neighbours, particularly of ye. young Lady whom he saw he said; Mr. P's Lecture was on Dropsy, Gout, Rheumatism, & Scurvy; & There were present 18 or 20 Ladies & 8 or 10 Gentlemen.

I have it in my mind to send you a barrel of Oysters this week, wh. I wd. advise you to eat the Evening they arrive; & I have to tell you after this, & after having paid my necessary expences a guinea to my washerwomn. £2 for my boots, & W. Holmer 10s. 6d. wh. I was indebted to him, I find I shall have 3. 3. 0. remaining, more over I should inform you that our servants have given up cleaning our Boots & Shoes any longer unless we will each of us advance them 5s. a quarter, wh. measure we were obliged to come into.

I mearly State this account that you may not be sending me commissions that I shall not be able to exicute, I have been to no place of amusement nor have I spent a 6d.

²⁹⁸ Robert Richardson had been a pupil at the hospital since October 1801.

unnecessarily. ——— Having been about to accompany young Holmer to Godstone some Saturday & back again Monday I do not know but I may go ere long, & that will be ye. first expence I shall have incurd since my return to Town. unnecessary perhaps; ———

Vast numbers of colds have been caught in Town since ye. alteration in ye. temperature of ye. atmosphere, indeed I have not escaped one my self, tho: it is at present by no means a severe one; — As I [. . .] into Queen street yesterday afternoon [. . .] a cup of Tea with Mr. J. Lowdel, who [. . .] I meet but W. Jenner & Hannington, ye. former told me he was going out of Town in a day or two there other that he was going to make a longer stay & that he wd. give me a call; Mr. Lowdel desired I wd. make his complts. to you when I wrote, Mrs. L. is an exceeding pleasant woman indeed, we had a good deal of chat she playd a few Hymn's tho: she does not sing.

I calld at Sparrow's House in Smithfd. one day but no body was at home, the day I arrived in Town, ye. eveng. of wh. I took ye. birds to Wood, Mrs. S. & her daughter were playing at Whist, & I at that moment wished I had some birds or a Hare to have presented Mrs. S. with;

Is young Cripps come home? I have not heard. Dr. Dick need not fear to be at all outvied by any of ye. Whitfieldites when he arrives, viz: in ye. obstetric art, Anatomy, in either of its branches &c&c, altho: one has been 3 years in a university in France and is a cleaver, polite young man; he knows nothing of ye. minutiae of Anatomy. And as to Bangham ye. assistant he does not possess in ye. slightest degree politeness or good breeding, he has 3 brothers his Father living at bridge north in Shropshire is a [. . .] in Hops, clover seed, & a variety of [. . .] &c I suspect in no very [. . .] way [. . .] business; He is attending this course of Clines Lectures so that when ye. Dr. comes up he will have nothing to do with serving out; but to attend close to Lectures, & ye. practice of ye. Hospital, now this is what I hoped wd. be ye. case exactly; And as this is ye. case there will be no occasion for ye. Dr. to come up before I return, now ye. 2d. course in my opinion is by far ye. best, as in ye. 2d. & not in ye. first, are 4 Lectures on ye. gravid uterus, 6 on comparative anatomy (and wh. are highly entertaining) also 6 or 7 on diseases of ye. Bones. ———

What was ye. event of Brown's case at Cowfold? Jno. Nailard, & ye. Man at Bolney comn.? How is Jno. Newnham?

We have heard nothing of W. Attree sometime, and wether he is spending his time to ye. best advantage at Brighton I confess I have some reason to doubt.

It is at this time raining very hard here wh. makes our Square looks very dull; I have been expecting a Letter from you or ye. Dr. for some days past I like to recieve your Letters as much as you do mine; I do expect when Ann addresses me to hear how W.H. has let ye. cat out of ye. bag.

We have more pupils this year than last; but very many of them come for 6 months only; wh. I think should not be allowed. ———

Wade is now staying here, & Cline has seen him & orderd what you hinted, viz: a tight bandage up to ye. Knee & strapings of adhaesive plaister on ye. ulcerations wh. has done a vast deal of good & they are very near well; The cellular membrane is distended above his Knees by night a good deal.

Letter No. 104

I understand your Phials are at last arrived, in a greater plenty that you had any wish for. I now conclude with best love to all, & remain Dr. Sir

Yours dutifully

HW.

LETTER NO. 104

From Dick Weekes, 19 October 1802. Continued by Richard and Mary Ann Weekes

Hurst Oct. 19 1802

Dear Hampton

I begin this Letter in great haste to acquaint you the annexed present of a Hare is at your own disposal. it was kil'd on Saturday Evening therefore you will send it directly it arrives to Holmer Sparrow or who you please.

J.M. Cripps arriv'd the same day you left Hurst. I have not yet seen him my Father dined there last Sunday & thinks him much improved. he asked after you and me. I am to dine with him next Sunday Week 4 o Clock he has sent all his packages to Uckfield to be unpackd. at Clarks House he talks of building up a suit of rooms at Stantons. ———

Wm. Holmers short stay at Hurst we endeavour'd to make as agreable as we could he is a nice young Man. ———

You must have got a house full of young Men now and it must be very comfortable. my respects to Mr. Whitfield Attree &c. How is young Cline. ———

I am now learning all the Nerves of the Human Body by Heart. I can say perfectly all of the Head upper Extremity and lower at two Lessons and have only one more Lesson to Learn then I begin the breviary of Arteries and Veins to learn by Heart. and lastly to finish off (just before I arrive at the Dissecting room of St Thomass) with Osteology and Myology. we have very little business at present nor have we had for this last Week. ———

Hannington Jno. Ellis & Jenner are all in Town perhaps they will call on you. be civil to them ———

You must answer this Letter soon The Music arrived safe at West Town ———

Ann is tormented with the Toothache Mrs. Wood of Ockly is broought a bed. ——— There is arrived at Danny a Son an Heir Yesterdy²⁹⁹ ——— Does Attree stick close to business. send me a letter when you send my Father one and tell me about Attree and the rest of them. ———

I am &c RW. Junr.

²⁹⁹ Henry Campion (1802–09).

Letter No. 105

Hampton

Old Cripps & his Wife & John Cripps Junr. are coming to Town in abt. a fortnight. She is going to consult Blizard³⁰⁰ abt. her breast. I advised her to consult Cline & the better way would be to let him take it out & if they would take Lodging's in the Borough you could attend her which she would prefer ———

Louisa Newnham is Ill & I think dangerous, I see her 2 or 3 times a Day with Dr. Hayes ——— what think you of another War., Our old friend Mr. Blaker sent us the Hare ———

Dear Hampton,

I take up my Pen to write a few lines to beg you will if you possibly can send the Lace by Hannington. when you see Miss Holmer tell her I have expected to hear from her some time past. be sure you give her the three pound Notes it is so cold I want my cloak now, love to Mrs. Wood, Sparrows, &c &c Yours affectionately

M A Weekes.

LETTER NO. 105

To Dick Weekes, [n.d. — October 1802]

I here with transmit you the receipt of Edgar Weed & Co, also ye. Porter Pot, & very little else this time,

Octr. 20th. This mornng. I recieved ye. Hare, upon wh. I judged I could not dispose of it better than to go with it to Mr. Holmer with my Compts., so that ye. next present of ye. like kind I will (if such you are able to procure,) give to Jonn. Sparrow; ———

As to what foreign power, we are likely to commence an other War with; I confess my ignorance of; I think ye. whole territory of Switzerland is groaning under French tyranny excessively.

Be assured I am not put in ye. same power of becoming a politician that you are now in possession of, For not once a Week have I an opportunity of viewing Mr. W.'s paper; tho: to a certainty at any Coffee House I could do such a thing as peruse a paper; but this cant. be done without incurring expence Dr.; ———

I have sent you part of our new Sillabus of Chhemstry, tho: I have been put in possession of one wh. is now completed.³⁰¹ I think when you have any spare time, that you shd. just look it over, that you may become somewhat familiar with ye. heads of it.

I suppose I shall see J.M. Cripps during his stay in Town; I wish Mrs. C. wd. consent to allow Cline to amputate her breast; for I shd. like much to see ye.

³⁰⁰ Sir William Blizard (1743–1825). Surgeon to the London Hospital.

³⁰¹ William Babington and William Allen, *A syllabus of a course of lectures read at Guy's Hospital*, London, W. Phillips, 1802.

Letter No. 106

operation. ———

Our Clinical Society has again met; and Aldrich; Compton and Bangham are each become Members but neither of them yet rise to speak, tho: I myself generally do.

Last night we had a case given in of very bad compd. fracture of both bones going to form the Elbow joint with a discharge of sinovia when ye. accident happend amputation was immedy. recommendd. by Mr. Cooper but ye. man wd. not consent to it, And to the great surprize, it did vastly well and there was consequently only partial Anchylosis. — I have sent you a pint of essence of Anchovy ——— And I am reduced to 2. 17.0. & remain

Yours &c

H. W.

Dick, there is one thing I beg ye. favor of you to do, some few months hence, wh. is to cut off carefully ye. cartilages from ye. extremeties of ye. bones of ye. subject wh. I intend for a Skeleton, & at ye. same time change ye. water, for that shd. be done once twice or thrice during ye. time, wh. they are macerating

Also at ye. time you are doing this to separate each falange, Carpus, Tarsus, Metatarsus & Metacarpal bones, & put them into a wooden bowl, or ye. old brass bason & again put them into ye. lag with ye. rest of ye. Bones, All this that they may not be lost, The vertebrae shd. be separated,

If I were at home I should do this, for I am inform'd it shd. be done; therefore I trust you will not think it too much trouble or too filthy a job.

They are a complete & good sett, & every thing that ought to be done should be done.

They must be macerating a twelve month. ———

LETTER NO. 106

To Richard Weekes, 27 October 1802

St. Thomas's Octr. 27th. '02

Dear Father

Yesterday arrived ye. Hare & Letter tho: I was not at home at ye. time; but staying at Godstone at Mr. Holmers where I went on Saturday about 2 oClock, & returned this morning by ye. same conveyance, wh. was in ye. Charriott, and a very pleasant time I passed with them, for William who was my companion endeavoured all he could that ye. time shd. pass away well, We went on a large piece of water behind ye. House wh. Gream's Father used to live in; walked over & took tea with Hitchens & his wife, went up on ye. top of Tilbester Hill where I could see ye. high beeches in ye. forest, also ye. monument on Leith Hill and many other beautiful prospects,

Letter No. 106

Mr. H. has got a very dashing red hunting coat & black cap, & goes Fox hunting 2 or 3 times a Week, got one of ye. pads on ye. Saturday I went down, was out again Monday, got three brushes last year, and many pads, all of wh. are nail'd against Stable door.

I have just now sent off ye. Hare to Jonn. Sparrow & a note with my Compts. beging his acceptance of it. ———

As to Foakes's Pheasant I have never seen; so conclude he did not direct it right, or wherever it arrived they have retaind it; But if I have information given me where it was sent, I will make the necessary enquiry respecting it. ———

I hope your Oysters proved good; and your neighbour Crosskey's who I also sent a Barrel of ye. same kind to; as he always was a good fellow. ———

Tell Hannington he is a shabby fellow for ye. first day I saw him with Jenner he told me he wd. call upon me, But never did; I am glad to hear you go on so well with ye. small Pox. ———

The tummyfaction of Graims's Son's Thigh arose no doubt from obstructn. of ye. absorbents; but what gave rise to ye. obstruction? was it by their division from ye. knife just before they enter ye. inguinal Glands, or induced from their obstruction by consequent inflammation, The consequence has been very bad in a Man now in Guys Hptl. who it was supposed wounded ye. Crural Artery by a knife on board Ship, however at first it appeared to heal by first intention but about a fortnight after a tumor arose wh. pulsated & wh. proved to be false aneurism, & good deal of inflamn. came on & ulceration, & at intervals severe haemorrhage, Mr. Cooper has tyed ye. Artery above & below ye. Ulcer, & wh. he was obliged to repeat for haemorg. came on two or three days after ye. first operation, But this Mans accident happend about ye. middle of ye. Thigh. ———

Dick I think is determined not to write small or close; I am very confident he left sufficient room for his 2d. Sister to [. . .] written a vast deal betwixt every [. . .] of his lines, I hope she & her little family are in good health; Is Franco gone to School? I want to see some lines from her, but not written à la Rhichard. ———

With your permission I will soon order me one more pair of Hessian boots, and a Hat; for both articles will add to my respectability of appearance, wh. strikes me will not be a miss just before I make my final sortie from St. Thomas's.

I believe I shall walk to Rivington's³⁰² to morrow for your books, wh. will be in my road to Bartholomews where we are informd there is an operation by Mr. Abernethy. — Lane of Arundel called on Whitfield to day, I do not know for what.

Mr. Holmer desired I wd. make his compts. to you when I wrote, He is a very pleasant good natured fellow, The house he resides in at Godstone, with 10 acres of Lane, is ye. property of Gream my old School fellow Mr. H. has it at a pretty easy rent; sometimes thinks of purchasing it. ———

Octr. 28th. I was last night elected one of ye. committe of ye. Clinical Society.

Inform Ann if you please, that I will make her compts. & thanks to Miss Holmer for geting ye. Lace for her; I did press her to come an stay at hurst; which I believe she

³⁰² F. and C. Rivington, Booksellers, 62 St Paul's Churchyard.

Letter No. 107

will; — My time begins to wax short so that I must make ye. best use of my time: The present course terminates about ye. 16th. of Jany. — Mr. W. has just suggested to me that if Dick does not stay longer than 16 months wh. will be till ye. end of ye. 3d. course & latter end of May twelvemonth next, it will place him in an awkward predicament; For he may not be able to provide himself with another assistant he says before ye. following October, So you see Mr. W. wishes Dick to stay a 2d. Summer.

Mr. W. desired I wd. state this to you.

Adieu — I remain

Yours dutifully

H.W —

I last Week saw Othello; at Covent Garden, one of Shakespears excellent Tragedy's.

LETTER NO. 107

From Mary Ann and Dick Weekes, 27 October 1802

Hurst Oct 27th 1802.

Dear Hampton,

I herewith, Enclose two 5.£ Notes. we Shall send up by the next return of the Waggon. 2 Porter Barrels, one for Crosskey, & the other for us; (desire them to be filled & sent down immediately.) they must send for them from. the Inn. Grace begs you also to get Mrs. Whitfield, or to buy it yourself a Muff for her: she desires not to have a Black, one. as they are too common you are not to exceed a Guinea. in the price. & to send it, by the waggon. I like my Lace very much indeed. & I shall write to Miss Holmer, either by this Post, or the next. My Father, I, and Grace, went to Brighton last Saturday in our Carriage, we called on the Attrees &c &c Mrs. Davis of Patcham has bought Mrs. Ba[. .] House so I suppose we shall soon have them for a Neighbour. You are to Pay for the Porter

Your affectionate Sister

M.A. Weekes —

Dear Hampton —

I suppose you will desire Hebden to send to the Cathe. Wheel after the Porter Barrels and pay him for both & send a bill when you send us down any future parcel.

Letter No. 108

What I write to you for is this. to enquire of what Cloaths I am in want of against I come to Town. my present Stock consists of as follows Blue Coat Cassumere Brs. and two White & a coloured Waistcoat and red Do. plenty of Shirts and Stockings and the rest of common Cloaths I shall wear out before I arrive. send me an account of all you think necessary to make me appear a smart fellow when I arrive. I have a pr. of Black Silk's Brs. Tho: I forgot to mention. write soon & much.

— The Surgery is fitting up in Capital Stile.

— We like the Porter Pot &c much. —

— The Oysters provd. exceeding good indeed —

— We sent Satterley a good Order a few days back

— I have all the Nerves and ramifications of them and their Plexus's at my Tongue's extremity

— Myology & Osteology is my next persuit

I am &c

RWeekes Junr.

acknowledge the Rect. of the Notes

Do you know the description of Pav Vagum without referring to any Book or Notes?

Answer me this Question

LETTER NO. 108

To Mary Ann Weekes, 28 October 1802

St. Thomas's Octr. 28th. '02

Dear Sister —

I write in answer to yours to say that I have just, safely recieved ye. two 5 pound notes, wh. arrived unexpectedy. all that I was in possession of before their arrival was 1.1.0. wh. will purchase ye. Muff for miss G.; The Porter will come to 2.14.0., So I need not inform you what will be remaining.

Mr. W. has just been informing me that ye. young man who was in ye. shop just now wants to come directly as an Apprentice for 3 years & half now Mr. W. can accommodate him in my Room by placing a 3d. bed, wh. Mr. W. has been asking me if I have no objection, now I could not say I had, tho: to be sure two in a Room is enough his Father lives at Rederif is an Apothecary, The young man seems very genteele; must more so than Bangham (who appears evidently not to have been very genteelly brought up) and Aldrich myself, or Compton neither of us like him much:

— Mr. W. says he will take no more assistants after Dick; —

There will be six of us when attree comes, That is too many; tho: not so many by one as Mr. Stocker Apothecary to Guys has got —

Letter No. 109

Ann, you must know that I am not a little pleased to find I am of so much consequence here, I am every day having Surgical & Physical questions put to me by Mr. A. Mr. B. & Mr. C. — Tell ye. Dr. that He will make them stare when he comes among them; I think if ye. Dr. orders a blue or black coat, and a pair of blue pantaloons, also a winter waistcoat or two that will wash well such as yellow kersemere with black stripe or orange ground instead of yellow, made shortish & not so long as he has had, it will all do very well & to let Hessian boots alone until he gets into St. Thos's. Street, where he may have a pair made directly he arrives

I have just recieved a Note from W. Holmer to ask me to Tea this Evening at 6 oClock. I like him very much and all ye. family indeed.

This mornng. took two books for my Father to go by ye. Brighton Coach & therewith a Letter, wh. I shd. suppose has arrived ere now.

I must now conclude with love to you all & remain Yours affecy.

Hampton Weekes.

(Pantaloons & Hessn. Boots are worn here entirely almost)

Do desire Dick to pay some attention to that bloodvessel subject of mine in ye. Granary, For I wd. not take ten guineas for it. ———

LETTER NO. 109

From Grace Weekes, [n.d. — October 1802]

Mon cher Frere,

Supposant que vous entendez tout à fait la langue francoise, J'vous écris dans cette langue, a present j'accomplirai ma promesse de vous écrire une lettre fort longue, et commencerai en vous dirant le fort petit nouveaux de Hurst — Nous dinames hier sur une faisande que Mr. Cunstable l'artisan, nous a présenté, c'étoit fort bonne je vous assure ——— Je crois que Dick en sa lettre, oublia de vous dire que nous avons averti pour un apprenti, ce que vous pouvez savoir en regardant dans le papier de Lewis ———

Petit Richy est fort bien, aussi beau que jamais, et chante beaucoup en-veritt, je lui ai cherché en bas dans la Salle, parcequ'il faisoit trop froid pour lui, dans ma chambre, Je n'ai pas acheté aucune graine, depuis que vous vous en allates, mais il faut bientôt, parcequ'il a la derniere parcelle dans son Auge, il mange beaucoup de Plantain qui sauve la graine ———

Quonny est aussi tres bien, & j'ai dans le jardin un petit Rouge-Gorge, qui vient toutes les fois que j'aile sous le Poirier, et qui j'appelle Bob Bob (il n'y a point de francois pour Bob c'est pourquoi il faut le metre en englois) et ramasse les Miettes que je lui jette, je crois qu'il sera bien plus apprivoisé quand la niege couvre la terre.

Octobre 31st. Il faut savoir que cette Lettre fut écrit hier, mais comme je n'avois pas le tems de le finir donc, je le ferai aujourd'hui ——— Il est a present justament

Letter No. 109

midi, et demi, et ma Seur me tourmente d'aller promener avec elle, ainsi je crois-qu'il faut aller, elle parle de promener de coté et d'autre de la chaussée, ce que je haie, mais je le ferai pour lui plaire, Adieu jusqua ce que je viens de promener — Je me suis justement venu de ma Promenade, il est salle et venteaux, par consequent non pas fort agreable —

Vous ne pouvez pas penser avec quelle Plaisir nous lirons vos Lettres, et avec quelle Empressement nous courons a Monseur le Post en Esperances de recevoir une Lettre de vous,

Mon Pere me souhaite de vous dire, que votre derniere Lettre etoit la plus sensible, et escrit, la meilleure que nous avons recu Je crois qu'on dit qu'il y a dans votre lettre, un mot mal épelle, mais je ne sais pas, ce que c'est, ainsi je ne pretenderai pas dire, mais si vous avez toujours une Dictionaire, au pres de vous comme vous devez quand vous ecrivez une Lettre j'ose dire que vous n'epellerez pas mal, N'oubliez pas d'avoir une dictionaire aupres de vous quand vous ecrivez une Lettre, car vous savez que l'appellage, est de bien plus consequence que l'écriture, je souhaite que vous ecrierez toujours une telle Lettre, que la derniere, c'etoit une Lettre de tres sensible, je vous assure, il nous plaisoit beaucoup —

Improvez vous autant qu'il est possible dans la Langue Francoise, pensez en vous meme quelle occasion d'or vous avez a present, et qu'il vous sera de grande utilité dans le Monde, Je souhaite que j'avois une telle occasion, avec quel ardeur voudroient quelque gens se pressent pour une telle situation que vous avez a present, il ne faut pas dire plus de cette Sujet, Je suis dans le chirurgie tout seul, il est a present 7 heure passe — Tur, & Ned, sont dans la salle jouant aux cartes je crois, mais je ne sais pas je n'irai pas voir jusqua ce que j'ai fini ma Lettre, Ne croyez vous pas que j'ai ete bien bonne de vous ecrire une telle Lettre longue, et en Francois aussi, j'espere que vous la repondrez en Francois, car cela improvera vous & moi tout deux je suis presque fatigue de l'écriture, ainsi il faut que je vous dis adieu, ou plutot bonsoir —

Je reste votre Seure plein d'affection

Grace Weekes

P.S. j'etois beaucoup flatte par ces lignes, dans votre dernier Lettre relatif a moi, je crains que vous ne dirai pas le meme [. . .] lettre — Prenez garde de votre santé — Nous commencons a porter nos robes d'etoffe demain pour la premiere fois — Dick me souhaite de vous dire que Mde Groves est morte, et M. Lurey, de Keymer; tout deux de la fievre, Adieu une autre fois mon cher frere, excusez la mal écriture car je suis a la hate — Je suis justement venu en bas et je suis dans la grande salle et Tur & Ned, & Mr. Hannington sont dans le petit salle les deux premier jouent aux cartes avec Ma Seure & frere & M. Hannington smoking a pipe with Papa, je n'ai pas le dictionaire in bas ainsi vous m'excuserez, c'est un nuit fort humide & venteaux, — M.H. va a Londres et vous portera cette Lettre —

Bonsoir, a present jirai jouer aux cartes avec eux —

LETTER NO. 110

To Grace Weekes, 1 November 1802. Postscript to Dick Weekes

St. Thomas's Novr. 1st. 1802

Dr. Sister Grace;

Having ask'd Mrs. Holmer & Mrs. Wood where was ye. best shop to apply for a Muff, I was answer'd by each, that, opposite ye. Mansion House at Brunswick's³⁰³ where I have just now returnd from,

Also I shd. have said that ye. prizes of Muffs They each inform'd me where from one Guinea to ten,

So I have taken ye. liberty of going as far as one guinea & ½ And at this prise there was thicker fur'd ones than the one sent, But then they where black ones wh. colour you objected to, tho: certainly a black one I shd. have sent if you had not objected, merely from the furs being so much thicker, —— It shall arrive by Knowles Saturday next; ——

Also a barrel of Oysters for Mr. Blaker if my Father likes. —— I did on Saturday last recieve a Pheasant from Mr. Foakes and very fresh it was, Mr. Cline was at that time in ye. Hptl. so I gave it him & reciev'd his thanks for it, He ask'd after my Father.

Mrs. Holmer, myself, & W.H. went Friday last to ye. Medical Lecture, where we met 30 people ½ of whom where Ladies: The Lecture was on diet & regimen; my time draws near to return again Grace, adieu Dr. Sister, I remain
Your loving Brother Hampton Weekes

Dick ——

ask my Father what is ye. best mode of treatg. Puerperal Fever in ye. first attack again, if he ever saw a woman recover when there was a severe attack of it, —— one of our young Men have just lost a young Woman on ye. 3d. day after Parturition & she is to be inspected

LETTER NO. 111

From Richard Weekes, 5 November 1802. Continued by Dick Weekes

Nov. 5. 1802 Hurst.

Hampton

This being a dark dull morning & we not very busy I have taken the opportunity of answering your Letters of the 28 Ultimo & 1st. instant, & first you may inform Mr. Whitfield that he may depend on it that he shall not be placed in any inconvenience

³⁰³ Brunswick & Co., Furriers, 2 Mansion House Street.

by Dick's leaving the Hospital in the spring of the year for if he is not provided with another to take his place he shall stay the Summer, Your blood Vessel subject is now admitted into the Surgery is cleand & placed in the new Mus: Anatomica cupboard the disagreeable smell is gone & altogether with what we had before & Dicks arrangement of them it looks very respectable, your question respecting Hydrocephalus I answer by saying I have had several cases of it and seen more, If the Hydrocephalic fever does not terminate fatally in the first 10 days or fortnight the fever abates the patient most commonly gets blind, the pupils of the eyes very much enlarged, with considerable debility but at length the stupor & loss of sight is gradually reliev'd and two girls out of three which I had under my care at nearly the same time completely recovered the other had frequent fitts of Epilepsy lived a year or two and died of Epilepsy, I recollect while I was an Apprentice three young men nearly at the same time dying of Hydrocephalic fever, I treat these cases in the beginning by bleeding & other evacuants, together with blistering the head & back, after which perhaps the bark & mercury is the most to be depended on, the Digitalis is now much looked up too, but between you & I, I have seen medicines fail so often & nature do so much, that I hold it to be a matter of great niceness to discriminate between the operation of medicine & the natural cure, in short I do not look up to medicines as I used to do. being satisfied we no nothing of the animal oeconomy — in what a deviation from health consists nor what it is that constitutes the cure, Your next Question is in respect of Puerpural fever, here I have my doubts again I have seen many cases of great disorder in the System after Parturision as I suppose during the eight & twenty years that I have been in business I have been with between 2 & 3 thousand women in Labour, in some cases I have thought the Lancett has been necessary in others gentle Laxatives to clear the stomach & intestines, in others strong doses of Chamomile tea drank often whereby perspiration has been excited particularly where there has been suppression of the lochia, with formentatives, Opiates &c [. . .] these things at times apparently has been service [. . .] at other times nothing has done any good whatever. I lost two young women of puerpural fever last year they had both very easy & natural labors, & where in good health before delivery but the wheather was exceeding hot & in consequence every thing about the women more inclind to be putrid & offensive my opinion is that the attack of puerpural fever is exactly like the attack of any other continued fever called remittent & originates from the same cause & that parturision has nothing more to do with it than rendering the patient irritable & predisposed to fever that the affection of the peritoneal vicera is not constant, sometimes not at all at other times, it is the Omentum is principally affected with inflamation at other times the peritoneal coat of the intestines, sometimes the affection is altogether confined to the Uterus wch. usually I believe ends in mortification & the whole mass of blood becomes putrid, the milk is no longer secreted by the Mammae but is I believe excreted by other glandular bodies hence when it is accompanied with Diarrhoea the stools are often white as if milk was mixed with it — but I consider all this as simple continued fever, & I have known it commence before delivery where the case has been lingering beginning as it always does with a rigor & usually observing the tertian type with considerable remissions. —

Letter No. 112

Majorca. —

Your breviary of Arterys as you Humbly call it, is as it were written, by another Winslow, Hence I shall address you, by the Title of Winslow the 2d., and shall have you recorded, in the Hurstonian Annals of Phylosophy, & Literature. — Winslow Secundus. (I am making a Breviary, from your most elaborate, & excellent Treatise of Arterys.

There is to be a great display of sky rockets to night by Messrs. Weekes Ellis Borrer & Marshall Juniors on the Church green they have bought as many as came to £0. 12.6 John Newnham has just had a horse die in the Stable value £80. The schoolemaster is not come yet to Campions house in Town. Madam Clark has been to see us to Tea, (Wonders)

Dick has got all the Nerves by heart & is now writing a breviary of the Arterys after which he gets them by heart then goes over the whole of Osteology Myology &c &c when I mean to pack him up for the Hospital as soon after Xmas as possible abt. a week at least before you come down ——— send me down soon a Tub of the very best butter from Town I fancy the Cambridge butter is the best but make enquiry a Tub of abt. 60 pound if you can get one enquire about it I am in no great hurry, have you made the necessary enquries among your friends about a situation speak of it to all of them let them know that you shd. be glad of a good situation in Town or Country, perhaps something may turn up within their knowledge er'e long when they may think of you, dont forget to go to Old Cline & tell him if he is in want of a demonstrator by & by, you will be glad to assist him or if he shd. wish to take a partner so as to take a 3d. or 4th. of his business I would give him an adequate premium

This night I am going to send a little Messenger to the upper regions to enquire whether Gavrieraine has been there lately or not.

Miss G. says she will write to you soon. we are all well. Are Pantaloons much wore? How is young Cline? — Is young Day come up yet. I heard his father makes 3000 pound a year of his business the first business in the County of Kent. Keeps. a Chariot. Chaise 5. Horses 2 assistants & Apprentice but is or was in partnership. (perhaps so) I am &c. R Weekes Junr.

NB. a Woman at Ditchl. faild with fever scarlet 3 days. after delivery it went on and apeard like puerperal. she was very dangerous, but at last is now recoverd

LETTER NO. 112

To Richard Weekes, 8 November 1802

St. Thomas's Nov 8th. 1802

Dear Father,

Your Letter of ye. 5th. instt. gave me great pleasure on its perusal, and from the several matters of fact wh. it containd shall esteem it the most valuable addition to my

stock of manuscript information,

I must confess that I am totally unacquainted how to treat Hydrocephalus practically, for I do not remember ever to have seen a case of it, neither is there (as I think) any characteristic symptom in the early stage of ye. disease by wh. we may be sure of its presence;

How, mercury, being introduced into ye. system in ye. early stage of ye. complaint, as recommendd. by some, and before any extravasation is supposed to have taken place denominating either the one or the other species, is to produce any good effect; For I believe the first symptoms are purely inflamy. and mercury wd. certainly by its stimulus tend to increase that inflamn. As it is clearly seen to do in venereal inflamn.

You confess you do not look up to medicine as you used to do; neither did Dr. Fordyce lately I am well persuaded, But it will not do for me to become a Sceptic in medicine so early in life, For it appears pretty plain that this has been one of ye. principal rocks wh. Chs. Morgan has split upon hitherto. ———

The case of Puerpural Fever (as I conceive it was) the symptoms however I will relate in a cursory way, viz: A young woman of Plethoric habit, twin case tho: a very good time & no preternatural evacuation after, was attack'd 24 hours after delivery with rigor and succession of heat, Pulse becomg. in a very short time upwards of 100 very little pain tho: tension of ye. abdomen Lochia not suppressed, great irritation in ye. system, She was blooded to oz. xij gentle laxatives &c vast depression of strength followd & 36 hours after ye. attack of rigor she expired; I did not see her myself tho: was present upon inspection when therke appeard no organic defect that we could discover, Intestinal canal not looking inflamed neither the peritoneal covering of any of ye. viscera, There was a whiteish red extravasated fluid, the quantity of about a pint in ye. abdomn: The Uterus was contracted to ye. size of your double fist, this we extirpated and upon cutting thro: ye. whole length of it, it presented a very dark red surface with coagulums lying loose upon it, And this very florid appearance was not confined alone to ye. Uterus, but extending throughout ye. Vagina; This appearance struck me to be a high state of inflammation But, then there arises a question; what is the usual appearance of a Uterus the 3d. or 4th. day after parturition? wd. it not be like this, I have just described? ———

I have taken in ye. Medl. Journal for this month on account of a Dr. Michaelis of Hannover, having treated it successfully by large doses of Opium & Valerian, and laying aside ye. Lancet; Dr. M. says that by bleedg. in ye. 1st. instance if you do not suppress ye. inflamy. symptoms by so doing, ye. fever runs on to exhaust ye. patient and you then wish you had taken no blood away, wh. appeard to be ye. case in W. [. . .] wife; Tho: with due respect to Dr. M. [. . .] not place any confidence in his Opium and Valerian; neither will you I believe.³⁰⁴

I shall now proceed on another head, & first I will send ye. butter good pretty soon after havg. been inform'd respecting it; Dr. Dick begd to be inform'd how young Cline was & if Jno. Day was return'd, They are both of them here and dissecting, ye.

³⁰⁴ Dr Michaelis of Harbourg in the Electorate of Hanover. 'On the puerperal fever and an explanation of the mode of treating it', *Med. phys. J.*, November/December 1802, 8: 437, 510.

Letter No. 113

1st. for ye. nerves of ye. head & neck, ye. 2d. has just got a subject with an other young man they are dissg. for muscles. — I was in ye. dissecting Room the other day & Saunders had just began ye. muscles of ye. foot, & he said to me Mr. W. will you be so good to go on with this for me if you please, I know you disst. these muscles famously; Sir said I I will do every endeavour, Now these muscles where for demonstration ye. followg. day; when he said this there were several young men round me,

The next day he observed he was very much obliged to me. — When ye. origin & insertion of muscles are known nothing is so easy.

I shall disst. a little more for nerves I believe & then I think I shall do pretty well.

I heard a very long discussion Saturday Eveng. at ye. Physical society on Lues, by very able Men and not young theorists; The operation of the virus on ye. system I believe is by no means thoroughly understood. Also what the peculiarity of those constitutions are in whom Mercury operates so very powerfully on is I believe less known. — I yesterday met B. Tiltstone & Wigney they were very well. I am glad to hear ye. Dr. is so cleaver, tell him pantaloons are much worn. I remain Dr. Sir Yours dutifully

Hampton Weekes

Aldrich & I went yesterday to ye. Church Dick was confirmed at. — Mr. Holmer has already given up Banking business it being too much confinement.

I drank tea with Mac Satterley ye. other evening [. .] what objection have you to My [. .] taking ye. same trip to Oxford as you did.

LETTER NO. 113

To Dick Weekes, 14 November 1802

St. Thomas's Novr. 14th. 1802

Dr. Richardus,

having yesterday recd. your Letter in part tho: principally Miss Fanny's, I must first of all write a few lines in answer to hers, First she says do not go by Preston without callg. on her, wh. she may depend upon it, I shall not do, she next & last of all informs me she has been very industrious, wh. I was extremely pleased to hear, And one thing more I have to observe wh. is that Fanny is so much improved in her writing that I shd. not have known at all who had written it, if the name had not been subscribed, indeed I do not know if Ann, or Grace, could write better, I am sure not more neat.

Do inform Miss Grace that I feel highly obliged by her few lines, particularly in as much as related to her Muff wh. I am very glad pleased her, I must confess I think she acted rightly in keeping it herself.

I believe the account of ye. Queen's death is without foundation, I heard she was affected with severe erysipalous, from our Apprentice who has been here 2 or 3 days, is to continue 3 years & half gives W. 300 guineas is 17 years of age his name is Bungey³⁰⁵ a very smart young fellow something like Raikes, has not long lost his father who was in ye. profession at Redcrif he had a partner who carries on ye. business, B. has only one sister, older than himself, I shall now have not so much to do quite; Our Foreman is very dangerously ill of Typhus with very profuse evacuation of blood from ye. intestines, wh. I think is too much in excess to produce a favorable crisis, He is dilyrious also at times; Pulse 120,

Young Cline & I have been dissecting every day for ye. Muscles for Lecture, & to morrow is the last day we finish with ye. muscles of ye. Arm I was finishing ye. Tensor Vagino Femoris the day before yesterday after havg. removed the cutis & cellular membrane to show the Fascia coverin ye. whole extremity, Mr. Saunders just came in & saw me when he said, I think you are ye. neatest dissector I ever saw; ———

A.B.C. & myself were all at Drury the other night to see Hamlet with of age to morrow, I was very much pleased indeed tho: shd. have been more so to have seen Kemble in Hamlet.

Mr. Whitfield now begins to find that each of us taking two glasses of Wine after dinner makes way with a good deal, & he address'd us this mornng. altogether that after to morrow we must find our own Wine, moreover that he cd. not sit up two nights in ye. Week for us to go to ye. play. now it is only two plays that I have been to this season, moreover we have taken ye. opportunity of going altogether because we wd. not inconvenience him; indeed we shd. not have gone so often as twice in a Week but only Hamlet being acted. ———

Our young men are not thoroughly satisfied all of them, They concieve they do not enjoy ye. privileges that ye. young men at ye. Apothecaris of Guys do; However let a government be what it will there will arise in ye. breasts of some individuals a Spirit of discontent, & I believe it is a universally recieved opinion that "few men know when they are well off ———

I am well persuaded ye. Situation is not so good now as when we were fewer in number for while one is at a book ye. other is singg. &c.

We have been two of us this mornng. to Cornhill to St. Michaels where we heard a very good sermon But it was there as at several other Church I have been to, there was but a small congregation. But where there is an extempory Preacher you will see ye. Church filled. But there, as ye. Clergyman to day observed the people do not go to pray themselves, but to hear an other pray.

Mr. Compton is a Roman catholic, but [. . .] goes to chapel, is a very nice young Man.

I just hinted in my Fathers Letter, "what does he think of my taking a trip to Oxford on a Saturday & up again on Monday, now Aldrich [. . .] talk so to, This is what my Father did, & [. . .] have no objection. ——— Dr. Dick when you come up I dont think we shall have room here to lodge you, nor indeed, as to eating and drinking here I do not know what you think of it. If you where to remain with Satterly

³⁰⁵ Bungey does not appear in the registers.

Letter No. 113

for ye. time I continue here perhaps wd. be more consistent; any intrusion where a person is not quite welcome is what I detest exceedingly; for I am possessed of a certain degree of spirit wh. I am sure wd. prevent my doing any thing of ye. kind; let it be where it wd.

I have at length sent you down some excellent cambridge butter 1 shilling pr. pound such as I hope will give satisfaction I have tasted it, There is 60 pounds of it, it will be found excellent for toast or dry toast, it is such as we have at Mr. Whitfields.

I had it of Argles³⁰⁶ in ye. boro: an intimate of Clines young Cline & Day go & play Billiards with him he has got a table; & he ask'd me to accompany young Cline some days

I have now remaining in Cash about 2.10.0. after paying for ye. butter. — Monday Mornng. I am very busy compounding as I have that almost all upon my hands now Joseph is so ill; I have been making 1 gallon Lot: Mureum 2 of Mist. Card. Bol. Rhab. & Bol. Rhab. C. à Hy &c &c

If I was you Dick I wd. have a black coat & a black silk waistcoat or two made short waisted, & blue pantaloons, Aldrich, Bangham & Bungey have each black coats; but please your self. — I hope you will dissect a good deal, it does strengthen your memory so much; I am very fond of it. adieu

I am Yours &c H Weekes.

Dick, you may ask my Father if there is any particular branch in ye. profession wh. he wishes me more immedy. to turn my attention to during ye. remaing. two months I concieve I have possessed myself of rather [. .] a general knowledge of all its branches.

½ past two oClock & ye. young men are just coming out from ye. anatomical Lecture, & I dare say they know a great deal about the muscles of ye. fore Arm; I meant to have gone to day to Bartholomews to have heard Abernethy Lecture but I was too busy.

Dr., mind you come up with plenty of sang froid, but then at the same time dont loose sight of ye. suaviter in modo, I think that our young Men will be somewhat jelous of your abilitys in ye. different branches of your anatomical knowledge even ye. great Attree when he comes.

I wish when you write again you would endeavour to say more, for I do assure you 6d. is by far too much for what is containd in what is termed a Letter. — I have taken the liberty of ordering a Coat & a pair of Pantaloons as it gets too cold for nankins; my Coat I have orderd blue.

Cripps has not calld on me as yet but suppose he will before he returns into Sussex. Have you seen ye. small collection wh. he promised me in his Letter. Having been engaged in dissn. I partook of a bottle of Port to day with Compton & Davis when I saw in ye. paper that Dennett, Margesson & a 3d. were nomd. for sherriffs, I wish Dennett may be pricked.³⁰⁷

³⁰⁶ Edward Argles, Cheesemonger, 193 and 194 Borough.

³⁰⁷ He was.

LETTER NO. 114

From Dick Weekes, 27 November 1802. Continued by Richard Weekes

Hurst Novr. 27th. 1802

Dear Brother ———

I have intended writing to you for some time past, I now begin, first by acquainting you that we rec'd a Letter from Guest & co. Glassmen 164 Clerkenwell St Jno. Street. desiring a remittance of the Money for the Vials, therefore we have wrote to him this Day desiring him to call on you for payment, & requesting a Deductn. of 2 x ½ pr. Cent for the Money being paid before the usual time of payment, whc: we have mention'd to him in our Letter. the Bill is £11.12.0. hence the Deduct: will bring it to £11.6.6 whc. you have to pay him taking a Receipt — The Butter suppose will arrive this Day. dont know but it may prove a dear bargain. as Salt Butter sells here at 10d. ½ lb without any Carriage but then it is poor stuff. — I write very small because I & my Father have a deal to tell you. he is gone to Henfield to see a Girl who had an abscess opened' a few Days ago under the Musc. Cutaneus Fems: on the upper side the Thigh. it is not a Lumbar Abscess I believe. 1 Quart Curdled Pus evacuated from the Incision. — I have a patient with Diabetes West Grinsted Parish Account (swallows well ha ha ha), has been my patt. for nearly this 12 Month at times. I have given him Emetics, Laxat. Anodynes, Flannell Waist: & Shirts, Pil. Myrrh.cu ferro, Julaps, Decocts., & very strong Electuaries, of Bark, Colombo & Cinnamon, Tinct. Digitalis, Amar, &c & he has bathed in the Sea. and was better, but I am now giving him Tinct. Canthar. & Bals. Capiv. ā ozi take Coch. parv. mane & Nocte. with a Quart of Bark & vi grs. blue Vitriol in it to take a Glass three times a Day. with powders of Chamom: Pulv. Arom. & Rhaei take one three times a Day. he is rather better but he has not been here now nearly a Week. I think of Blistring his Abdomen next as possibly there may be Inflammation of the Vesicae. but most probably of the Kidneys. he has at one time drank as much as 5 Gallons a Day and Eat in proportion. I have given him Calomell. & am of opinion no Medicine will be of any service to him. — The next thing is, you are to gett us a Carpet for the Best Parlour, one that will not show the Dirt, much, a strong and neat one, with a (Rug 5 foot Long & about 2 wide) the Carrpet in Length so that it will quite cover the Room 14 feet & ½. Width 11 feet & ½ — this you may get as soon as you please & send pr. Knowles the Carpet must be 14 Feet & ½ by 11 & ½ exactly. Young Kitchenor of Friars Oak being out of his time in London came home with two or there young bucks and gave a little Ball about 9 Couple at Friars Oak I was there & spent a very agreeable Night the Ladies were 2 Miss Krs. Miss Whiteman 2 Miss Pierpoints very Handsome Girls 3 or 4 more with a few young men of my acquaintance completed the party. since which I have been to a Ball at Lindfield Assembly Room 36 Couples a very agreeable party danced till seven in the Morning I kissed all the Ladies in the Room. I hope this wont alarm you. there were some very handsome ones there I assure you. — We have but few Patients Ill at present — The Butter is just arriv'd.

Letter No. 114

Majorca I have enclosed Notes Value £25 so that you will have 5 or 6 pounds left I suppose, We have two patients with abscesses begining under the great Trochanter what is the present practice with respect to such abscesses do they recommend opening them early sift this to the bottom, the boys at Pyecomb has been opened this fortnight runs considerably & complains of tenderness up as high as the hip joint but I dont believe it is Psoas Abscess altho. he complains of pain in his back just now, it is certainly Scrofulous & has a nother forming abt. the wrist Bowles daughter at Henfield dont fill again it shut by granulations directly & seems as if it would adhere by pressure, Old Madam Pill appears to me to have a Cancerous affection in the rectum has been coming some 3 or 5 months a good deal of Mucus comes away just like the white of Egg & sometimes tinged wth. blood is any Injection of use besides the Injecto Amylo cum Opium, Grace can say all our Breviary of the Nerves by heart at one lesson Dick is hammering over the Arterys cant say them all by heart yet, What think you I have wrote a preface to our Breviary of Osteology Myology Neurology & Arteriology & talk of Publishing it & dedicating it to Mr. Cline. Bravo. Bravo.)? Old Bob Haynes is dead a good Patient dick has worked him up with Draughts very well I have a Lady which has considerable Haemorrhage from the Hemorrhoidal Vessels almost daily she menstruates altho: what is the best means of removing it it has been of some months standing tell me all the means that shd. be used would Astringent Injections be of use & what intervals we have used the Hematoxilon in pills Pil Myrrhus cum Ferri &c. We talk of Publishing our Breviary & adopting Innes names of the Muscles. is that preferable? — I think I could make a good thing of it & make some money of it suppose you offer it to Cox the bookseller. would Cline patronise it, Our Trantum is an excellent Horse goes well & wants working every day never tires, We are all alive Ann is staying with Miss Bethell a Week, our bill at Tilts. is now more than £50 shall send it in at Christmas took 20 Guineas of Old Hodson for curing him of Fistula in Ano, we have divided one of the Shop Draws into 2 Divisions and are filling him wth. Pills it will hold 50 Thousand, Dennett is to be Sheriff. We are going to hold a meeting at Ditchling on Monday for the making a Turnpike from Ditchling to Offam I shall attend [. .] We are getting in at Henfield a good deal, there is no part of the profession that I wish you more particularly to attend to tho: I know you know best what you are deficient in Do you understand anything of natural & experimental Philosophy I attended 12 Lectures of Martins in fleet street at 1s. each have you spoke to old Cline about what I told you look back to my former letters abt. a situation or a partnership and to other people also. Remember me to old Sparrow, & family I shd. like to have an old fashioned Gold Watch for Grace secondhand with white enamelled Face it must be, perhaps Mr. Wood can easily get one for old Gold from 6 to 8 Guineas [. .]10.

Keep in with Mr. Whitfield be shure & keep him in good humour Dick can sleep at Saturleys or Holmers. — Have the Cripp's's calld on you, young Will. Borrer is in Town, I wish you to attend to the Church constantly every Sunday & shame some of your Fellows, invite young Cline to Hurst keep in with him treat him with Oysters Porter & Port make him promise to Correspond with you you are in the track of it as old Borrer said. — I have no objection to your going to Oxford but dont take to great libertys with Mr. Whitfield he has behaved very friendly. —

Letter No. 115

I think we want a Stand for a Chamberpot with a green curtain to draw before it & to put the candlestick on the top the same as they have several at newtimber they are strong made & of Mahogany perhaps you can get such a thing at the Cabinetmakers reasonable to stand by the bedside, & we want another night chair or close stool for the best Chamber that is neat & shuts up close. ———

We shall want some more Antimonial Powder soon if you shd. send a package down, if the whole of our order had come down as we had as many more at same time from Pinman it would have come to £25 I wonder if any of your cotemparys at Whitfields Fathers order have come to as much I have exhausted all my stock of intelligence I think now & therefore shall conclude with all our good wishes and expecting you to write in a post or two conclude

Yours Sincerely

R Weekes

NB. Pray send us down a Butter Stand same as Whitfield has.

LETTER NO. 115

To Richard Weekes, 29 November 1802

St. Thomas's Novr 29th. 1802

Dr. Father.

Your Letter of ye. 27th. I this mornng. recieved containing 25 pounds, with wh. I will execute your commands as early as possible.

I have a great deal to say & do not know where to begin but shall first of all answer your Letter

I do not place any dependance upon old Cline as to his doing any thing for me or hardly recommendg. me. For Mr. Saunders inform'd me that he thought of settleing at Liverpool, so he calld on Mr. C. entreating him for a Letter of recommendation to ye. celebrated Dr. Currie there; But Mr. C. made answer that he was not acquainted with him but he wd. get a Letter ready if Mr. S. wd. call again, wh. he did & found a Letter; something happened to prevent his going to Liverpool upon wh. S. opened ye. Letter & saw very little said to recommend him only that he had for a considerable time dissected for his class &c (Cline is not ye. Man for any thing of ye. kind) however I will speak to ye. effect wh. you wish. — Satterley sent for me ye. other day to inform me of a situation at Bracknall in Berkshire, That a Mr. Reeve did business of 1000 a year there as was wanting to give it up; But what premium he expected S. could not tell me but wd. write & ask him, S. inform'd me among many other things that he thought it wd. suit me that it was a desirable situation; & if I had any serious thoughts

he wd. go down with me to see it at any time; when I have his answer I will write & inform you more of ye. particulars to learn if it meets with your approbation; Mr. S. told me he thought he was not immedy. wishing to give it up.

With respect to abscess about ye. hip wether arising from Scrophula or at ye. critical termination of Fever or from external injury we treat them nearly all alike opening them at a period when they feel tense (for when under ye. Fascia they seldom ever point externally) evacuate ye. contents as entirely as we can & then by making pressure they either heal by first intention or very soon, On the other hand where there is a bad habit of body ye. thin discharge will continue very long and we recomd. country air not knowg. what to do with them any longer: Sometimes seatons have been passed thro: ye. tumor but these are very shortly taken out again for they only encourage a greater discharge.

As to ye. cancerous affection of the rectum I am afraid little can be done but to palliate however some opportunity or other I will touch Cline upon it stating ye. symptoms to him. I shd. like to know ye. habit of body of the Lady with intestinal haemorrhage what her age is, if you have any reason to support it arterial haemore. or venous, if an elderly woman ye. latter I shd. support but if on ye. contrary ye. former, For an increase in ye. diameter of ye. vains takes place after ye. age of 40, not only in their diamr. but in their contents & therefore it is more likely they shd. rupture.

Is it not from partial plethora; what do you think of small bleedg. from ye. anus; setting up an inflamn. in ye. vicinity. I wd. inject from two to four grains of Opium dissolved in warm water every other night both in this case, and old Mrs. Pill's. I wd. also try a grain of Calomel every night as that is our sheet anchor. But dont let it purge.

I wish very much to see your preface and all ye. work together, I think it is all perfect except ye. neuerology wh. is too concise not describing accurately ye. principal nerves, I do assure you we have a very many works of that kind here some in wh. ye. accounts of muscles is quite as short as that, we have Hoopers vade Mecum Murray's Arteries, Jno. Bell on Arteries &c. &c.

I shall take ye. liberty of bringg. down with me 3 or 4 good works that have been recommended to me, viz. Dr. Cullen's first lines,³⁰⁸ Denman's Midwifery Hamilton, Jno. Bell on Wounds, & Currie's work of Liverpool. all wh. will be of great use to me. — I hope Dr. Dick is not going to compare my butter with Mack's Salt Butter?

³⁰⁸ Robert Hooper, *The anatomist's vade mecum*, London, Murray & Highley, 3rd ed., 1800. There was a 4th ed. in 1802. Adolphus Murray, *A description of the arteries of the human body*, Edinburgh, J. Brown, 1801. William Cullen, *First lines of the practice of physic*, latest ed., Dublin, W. Gilbert, 1796, although there was a new edition from Reid & Scott, Edinburgh, 1802. John Bell, *Engravings of the arteries, illustrating the second volume of the "Anatomy of the human body"*, serving as an introduction to the *surgery of the arteries*, London, Longman, 1801. Alexander Hamilton (1739–1802) — the book could have been *A treatise of midwifery*, London, J. Murray, 1781; *A treatise on the management of female complaints and of children in early infancy*, London, J. Murray, 1792; or *Outlines of the theory and practice of midwifery*, edited by E. Elliott, 1787. Alternatively, the author could have been James Hamilton (1767–1839), *A collection of engravings designed to facilitate the study of midwifery*, London, S.G. & J. Robinson, 1796. Thomas Denman, *An introduction to the practice of midwifery*, 3rd ed., London, for J. Johnson, 1801. John Bell, *Discourses on the nature and cure of wounds*, Edinburgh, 1795. James Currie (1756–1805), *Medical reports on the effects of water, cold and warm, as a remedy in fever, and febrile diseases*, Liverpool, J. McCreery, for Cadell & Davies, London, 1797.

Letter No. 116

Young Wade is now likely to survive a very short time, he is become anasarca all [.] abdomen very much enlarged, has [. . .] mercury into his addomn. every night, [. . .] los. to stimulate ye. absorpts. as Digitalis has no effect, in ye. doses that have been given however, for they are affraid to administer it in large doses, (as ye. complaint at bottom is some disease about ye. heart,) to impede ye. circulation too much wd. directly kill very likely. (I have seen men die under ye. effect of Digitalis) Dr. Wells relates a curious fact, as far as his knowledge or practice goes he says, that Digits. does not act as a diuretic where there is no dropsical effusion any where.

I am just got acquainted with a nephew of one of ye. great professors in Edinborough named Wardop, The firm is B. Bell, Wardop, & Keepel. he is a very cleaver anatomist & good dissector.³⁰⁹ I have drank tea with him, & I must treat him with a bottle of Port some day, he is ye. only genteele Scotch man I ever saw I think; He is very intimate with Cooper. — I dined at old Clines with 3 or 4 of ye. pupils ye. other day. — I tell all ye. pupils who ask when I leave Town, that Dick is comg. up,

I am now writing Theory with practice, am perusing some of ye. best authors. ———

Jno. Dennett's becomg. Sheriff I suppose will make a bustle again in your neighbourhood, I hope it will have this good effect, of opening their Hearts & making them see more than an Inch before their noses. I have not seen or heard anything of ye. Cripps's yet. I am glad Dick informs me he has been dancing, & rendring gentle kindnesses to ye. Ladies, wh. I am shure they were not averse to. ———

Yesterday we had a blind idiott brought here about 16 years of age who ruminated like a sheep, swallowd Bread very fast & wd. eat an astonishg. deal if you gave it him, His mother (as she calld herself) was taken up the other day she was begg. about ye. streets with him had 38£ in her pocket, & is going to be tried. I remain yours dutifully
H. Weekes.

We had a large sarcomatous tumor exterpated from ye. forehead larger than my fist; & hair lip operation; both by Cooper. [.] fainted and one or two more [.] Theatre was crowded.

LETTER NO. 116

To Richard Weekes, 9 December 1802

St. Thomas's Decr. 9th. 1802

Dear Sir

I have first of all to inform you that Mr. Guest,³¹⁰ waited on me Monday Mornng. to

³⁰⁹ James Wardrop (1782–1869), pupil of Astley Cooper, who continued his work on arterial surgery by being the first man to tie the carotid artery distal to an aneurysm.

³¹⁰ Guest & Co., Potters and Glass-sellers, 164 St John's Street.

discharge his bill, he brot. a stamp with him & made the deduction wh. you suggested, & away he went.

I have also proceeded to the Carpet Warehouse where Mr. Sparrow before recommended me, & gave orders for one 14½ by 11½ But from the followg. cause you will have it arrive just 3 inches wider than you directed owing to its being a pitty to take off from a breadth so small a matter.

I expect it will arrive Saturday ye. 11th. instt. by Knowles. ———

In the next place I have been at 3 or 4 Shops in Moorefields for the convenient pieces of furniture you thought you were in want of, And one of them namely the largest I have bought & likewise sent by Knowles; It seems very complete, cost 1.11.6. I made him through of 10.6.

The other convenience for a Pot de Chambre I was ask'd 23, 26, 28 shillings for at different places so if you like that.

We have nearly given up the idea of going to Oxford, & mean to give a little dinner to a few of our friends instead, next Monday, I have invited Cline junr. & mean to invite Stokes with 5 or 6 of our most respectable pupils. Aldrich & I, are to share the affair between us, It will be the last freak of the kind I shall have before I leave for good the walls of St. Thomas.

I calld upon the Sparrows the other day, they are all well, & desired to be rememberd to you. I also calld upon Wood³¹¹ & spoke about an old gold watch, But he inform'd me they never had any other than cases brought to them & never any complete Watches.

I spoke to old Cline the other day respecting those cases of haemorrhage, & mucose discharge of old Mrs. Pills; In ye. 1st. case Mr. C. said he recommended about ozij of a Solutn. of Zincum Vitriolatum to be thrown up every night, the strength of 5 or 6 grains — In the latter case ozij or ozij of Ol. Linc. S. I. to be injected every night.

I have now a piece of news of a different kind to acquaint you with viz. That poor Wade died last monday mornng. 4 oClock; having become anasarcous from head to foot.

Mr. Satterley wrote to Mr. Reeve respecting the premium for his business; and the first of the inclosed Letters was his answer; upon the recieval of wh. I was going to write to you but then in a day or two came the 2d. wh. I gave a direct answer to that I shd. give up all thoughts of succeeding to the business as I was not able to step into it immediately.

I have got ye. most concise and the best account of Arteries that you ever saw, by Professor Murray just translated into English.

Should I send Ann down, Fordyce [. . .] in a very small duodecimo cost 3s. 6d. or look into some secondhand shop for a neat & complete set of them? in full size octavo; also of Blairs Sermons

I never was in better health than I am now & I think stouter, I was going to say never so stout: But I recollect you said at 18 months old I was not a little fellow of my age.

³¹¹ Jacob Wood, gold refiner.

Letter No. 117

The numerous acquaintance that I have made among the young men I hope will be of use to me let fortune place me where she will in the world. immedy. that W. died Mrs. & Mr. W. with Miss Wade set off into the country & left me house keeper. Mr. Bangham & I are sitting very comfortably by the fire taking our Tea. — Mr. W. return's to morrow 12 oClock. I have not told you that I orderd also a very good Rugg the dimensions wh. Dick spoke of. ——— I last night gave in a paper to our society, on false aneurism wh. produced great deal of discussion.

I have not forgotten the Butter Stand wh. Dr. Dick hinted; but will send it as soon as I can make up a few &c's in a little Box.

I wrote to Attree junr. Monday last by disire of Mr. W. to acquaint him with the news wh. I have before related. ———

I dare say you are sitting very comfortable by your fire sides these long evenings, & will be more so when you have got the Carpet & Rugg. I will now conclude with love to all, & remain Dr. Sir your dutifull Son

H. Weekes.

LETTER NO. 117

From Dick Weekes, 12 December 1802

Hurst Decr. 12. 1802

Dear Brother ———

I know not what Subject first to exercise my Pen, as having so much and so many Concerns of some little importance to acquaint you with. The first and most important one, is, that we are all thro: Gods Blessing, in good Health. ———

I dont know wheter you have seen an account in the London & Lewes Paper of one Jno. Webber or not. It is as follows, Mst. Webbers Eldest Son at Locks in this Parish Smugler was returning unladen from Patcham met Robt. Bagnall Junr. of Clayton when an affray took place between this Smuglers and Bagnall in consequence of wh: this Bagnall, who was employd' by the Hurst Excise Man as his Assistant Shot young Webber with a Pistol the Ball enter'd a little to the left of the Rectus Abdominis Mus: in a line with the Umbilicus lacerating the Colon passed out just over the Os. Illium grazing the Christa of that Bone ——— He lived a Week with symptoms exactly resembling Strangulated Hernia and Died of Mortification of the intestines Omentum & parts adjacent. the Body was inspected by my Father and Wm. Attree Junr. I was not there in consequence of being at a Labor wh. I was very sorry for. the jury Brought in a Verdict of Wilfull Murder therefore Bagnall will be tried at Horsham but am inclined to think he will not be Hanged but possibly Transported. We attended Webber.³¹² ———

³¹² Referred to in the *Brighton Daily Gazette*, 1861; and Albert Gregory, *Mid-Sussex through the ages*, Haywards Heath, C. Clarke, 1938. There was a brisk smuggling trade along the Sussex coast, mainly in brandy from France.

I wish you when you make a package to gett me Hj of Copell Varnish as have used all we had. likewise some genuine cow Pox Matter. — We have written out all the Crristmas Bills in short. hence we finished them in a few Days. The Night Chair arrived Saturday to our Satisfaction but the Carpet is not yet arrived. —

I have been to five more Labours lately and by the time I arrive in Town shall have been to between 50. & 60. in all —

Would you advise me to have a pair of Buckskins or not? —

Jno. Dodson is gone to Oxford — The generall Topic of Conversion is the Death of the poor unfortunate Jno. Webber — The Enema's we gave him passed out of the Wound at the Hip — & so did the Liquid's taken by the Mouth. he had Violent Sickness wth. Hiccough

We are not in want of that other piece of furniture we spoke of in our last Letter. this Night Chair answering a double purpose. — We are glad you wrote such a positive answer to Mr. Reeve about taking his business.

Was young Cline at your feast? and did any of you get a little too much Wine aboard, or not? —

Our Cloe is gone away, went Yesterday, and so now we are looking out for a new one, her behaviour to my Sisters was got to be intolerable. — I suppose Wm. Attree will come to Town about the same time I shall. —

If you do get Blairs Sermons gett it in large Octavo Volumes with good Type.

Wm. Attree was very shy indeed at the Inspection wh. my Father of Jno. Webber, in fact my Father did it all for Attree would hardly touch him. But tis not to be sonder'd at. my Father in sewing him up pricke'd his Thumb with the Needle it fester'd but now seems to be getting well. —

It is my Fathers intention to lay the Nursery & great Parlour into one fine room and have a handsome Celeret where the fire place in the great Parlour now is. — & have the Garrett Stairs to go up from the Pantry. —

In the state at present it is very inconvenient owing to the great thoroughfare thro: the room. —

15th. Decr. Our Patient with Hemorrhoidal Complaint is great deal better has taken a vast many Bark Drts and is now taking of them. — Mrs. Pill is a little better she uses the Enema ex Amylo with Tinct. Opii in it wh. releives her very considerably. — We all drank Tea with Mrs. Clark the other Day, and are about to receive great many Visits shortly. In fact we Visit all that are worth Visiting in the Neighbourhood. except the Ds. We are at present very busy Washing and Fanny Gracy & Mary are all extremely busy. owing to Cloe's being gone away. The House is vastly more comfortable now she is gone. and there are plenty of Hands. Lydia Herriott De. Jenner, De. Langridge. De. Begnall George & William who is a very good Groom & Servant. —

Wm. Campions Hounds just gone thro: Hurst to Day he was mounted on Bull. & he looks nicely indeed. — but between you and I. he is, was, and ever will be, a fool. & I had rather he had him than We.

Our Bill on W. Cn. Er.³¹³ is 12£ I believe but the Servants have not been Ill neither

³¹³ William Campion Esq.

Letter No. 118

I think but I. have took care and Charged him tolerably — as have all the rest this Xmas ———

You may if you Please, or I should say. You may si vous Plait, send me down a Cocoa Nut in your next Package with a little A [. . .] Powder. ——— Great many People ask after you, and the Borrers I believe intend having a Ball, but I think they say they will defer it till you arrive at Hurst. because they have a particular regard for you, somehow or other. ———

Miss Foster is going to be married shortly to one of the Gregorys of Henfield. ——— There is no talk of Miss Borrers having any intended. & I believe you would be readily received and Cordially too. ———

Have you looked out yourself or me any Lady of a Plumb or even 20.000£ fortune if you have I should be glad to strike a Bargain with her. ———

I remain dear Brother

Yours most Respectfully. RWeekes Junr.

LETTER NO. 118

To Richard Weekes, 19 December [1802]

St. Thomas's Decr. 19th.

Dear Father

I suppose 'ere this you have recieved the Carpet and Rug wh. I hope gave satisfaction; I calld the other Day & paid for it, but Mrs. Legg could not allow me any discount as they sold at such a very low price: It came to £10.1s.0d I made her throw off the 1s. & I took a reciept.

I am affraid almost to say what I have got left, after treating Cline, Day, Stokes, Sherwood, Wardop, Smith, Bloxom, Davis, Goakman, Hibbert, Turner, Ansford, Coke, Compton, & Aldrich wh. last went me halves; However in short it cost us £4.4.0 each, We all parted at a very good hour each having his sences, & very merry we where. — I do hope for the last time in such a cause you will not say I have very much over sep'd the mark ———

I have taken the liberty to order me a pair of riding Breeches, & winter Waistcoat, This is all the clothes I owe for in Town; and Cox for a few Books which our Physicians recommended me to take into the Country when I went. & last of all my washerwoman 17 or 18 shillings.

I trust your goodness will excuse this extravagance as it is the last very near that I shall incur during my stay at St. Thos's.

The 2d. course begins the 20th. of Jany. next, The present course terminating 2 or 3 days before.

Letter No. 118

I have had a very bad cold with partial sore throat & pain in the back of my head like what I had once at home; But by wearing flannel round my Neck & taking again to my flanel Waistcoat I am pretty well recoverd.

Mr. Whitfield has not been at home this day or two, returns to morrow with his Wife & Children, Mrs. W's Sister in Law, & the Revd. Thos. Whitfield who is comg. to stay a day or two; so we shall have a complete house full.

I advice Dick not to get any Buckskins, as London is not the place to wear them — The cheapest wear, is Black coat, & waistcoat, with Pantaloons & Hessian Boots, indeed it is the wear of almost all the young Men here.

Our Foreman Joseph whom Dick remembers aged 28 is dead, after an illness of 10 Weeks of fever with relapses, twice apparently, But yesterday by desire of Dr. Wells who was his Physician we inspected him when we found the internal villous coat of the intestinal Canal to have ulcerations in it in various parts, The avarage diameter of each was about the size of a 6d. some larger, each having thick edges, none in the Stomach but a partial degree of inflammation — These were the whole morbid appearances wh. presented,

He had been addicted to dram drinking & principally Rum, after wh. he was invariably subject to pinching of the bowels & it went off with diarrhoea, Now this was a predisposing cause certainly, if not the principal exciting cause — The progress of the disease was very like common Thphus Fever, with delirium, furred Tongue, & great depression of Strength, was attacked with rigor &c ———

We have just got a case of violent Diabetis like what Dick was informg. me of, & I am employd daily in evaporating the Urine to the concistence of Honey wh. is very saccharine to the taste — We are giving her no particular medicine at present, she is 56 years old has had the complaint for 18 months ever since the last appearance of the Catamenia, voids 8 or 9 pts. during the night. ———

As to Cowpox Matter I am affraid I cannot get any without going to the institution, but I will try — I yesterday recievd an invitation to partake of a Xmas day dinner with Adcock Leadenhall Street, wh. I mean to attend. ———

I had heard from two or three people respecting Webber, — I hope B-----I may be hung & that his body may be brot. to Hurst for dissection, for I think he wd. make a good Skeleton — wh. is all that he is good for.

I have been very busy to day cutting Pills with the Machine, wh. was Joseph's business — Bangham has not assisted me at all this quarter, therefore do you mind Dick that you have nothing to do his quarter but stick close to Lectures, dissections, & ye. practice of the Hospital — I have not accepted of any offers of assistance from him on your account, that you may have the more time to attend the dissecting Room &c.

Dr. Dick, should let his hair grow long on the top of his Head in order to have it turned & combed back.

I am very glad Cloe is discharged as she was too bad. I wrote to Attree to inform him when the next course begins by his desire — I have heard he is going to be married — I was not surprised at his shyness at the inspection, moreover I believe he is thoroughly disgusted with anatomy, and why? because he knows nothing about it; as is the case with our chaps here, Bangham has dissected 3 or 4 subjects, but

Letter No. 119

knows very little about it, because he never was grounded. ———

Is Sir Jno. Hayes in Town? if he is I will call on him before I leave Town. I have seen nothing of Cripps's — I was treated to the opera the other night where I saw & heard Viganoni, Mrs. Billington, Mr. St. Piére, Signior & Signiora Labori, Rovidino, Ic, &c, &c,

You cannot concieve the number of varieties which are every Day presenting in the Arterial System, I this day saw a large artery going to supply the Liver from the Superior Mesenteric; still the Hepatic was comg. from ye. Celiac

The Supernumary Artery going from the Mesenteric was as large as the Hepatic from the Celiac — I also saw the Haemorhoedalis media, going along the whole length of the dorsum Poe--s, wh. was very curious

I remain Dr. Father

Yours dutifully

H. Weekes.

LETTER NO. 119

To Richard Weekes, 2 January 1803

St. Thomas's Jany. 2d. 1803

Dear Father.

Yours, containing a Note of £10, arived safe; for which I return you my most gracious thanks; But, I am very sorry to inform you it is not quite sufficient to discharge all my debts, wh. I will here transmit you an account of.³¹⁴

To Cox, for Books and binding.	5. 1. 6
To Clinch, for Boots.	2. 2. 0
To Barber, for Gloves and cleang. leathr. Bs.	0. 7. 0
To Parks, for draws, small Clothes & Waistcoat.	4.18. 0
	<hr/>
	12. 8. 6

³¹⁴ Thomas Cox had been publishing books and selling stationery in St Thomas's Street since 1793. Specimens of the labels for medicine bottles mentioned as being available from Cox' Medical Library in Letter 95, are in the Wellcome Institute Library. Thomas Clinch, Boot and Shoemaker, 16 St Thomas's Street. J. and J. Barber, Men's mercer, 103 Borough. Thomas Parks, Tailor and Habit-maker, 143 Crown Court, Borough.

Letter No. 119

To W. Holmer Junr.	2. 2. 0
To Mrs. Cage for washing.	1. 4. 0
To Hair dresser.	0.12. 6
To Servants ———	0.10. 6
	—————
	[sic] £ 4. 8. 0
	12. 8. 6
	—————

Such being the statement, £10 will not be sufficient, but as I have but very recently incur'd some of the expences, particularly Parks's Bill, there is no very immediate hurry to discharge his account, tho: I feel as much pleasure in paying Bills as in recieving the several articles wh. form them.

I shall arrive at Hurst Saturday the 22d. instant or the day before so that Dick shd. be in Town, The Tuesday preceeding viz. the 18th. And the sum of money immediately requisite for him to bring, will be, as follows, viz. — For Mr. Cline & Cooper's anatomy & dissts. 16. 16. 0, Hospital Pupil, 26. 6. 0, For Dr. Babington Dr. Currey & Allens Lectures on Chemistry Materia Medica & Practice of Physic 13. 13. 0 — Mr. Coopers evening Surgical Lecturs, Haightons Midwifry, & Physiology, Fox, on the Teeth, Thorntons, Botany &c, these I have never attended, neither will you think it worth Dick's while perhaps. ———

Mr. & Mrs. W. & Myself are on very good terms, and I dare say we shall part so, I can also say that such has continued ever since my arrival here; Mrs. Whitfield is a very pleasing Woman & I am very sure Dick will find himself very happy with them both ———

I hope you will not have cause to regret the exchange of one Son for another; I do not at all suppose I shall render greater satisfaction to yourself & the circle of patients at large, than Dick has done; If I can please as universally, at the same time by my exertions give you no cause to complain; I shall desire no more, but rest perfectly content by so doing. ———

As Dick has provided himself with Coat Waistcoat & Pantaloons &c, it will do very well.

Dick had better bring up a couple of Lancets unless I can get some cowpock matter before. I will call on Dr. Hayes the first opportunity.

I yesterday, being newyears day dined with Mr. Josh. Lowdell, he has five children 3 Boys & two Girls the youngest of wh. is very poorly with diarrhoea after Measles; — Mr. L. says he will take me some eveng. to the London Medical society — He desired I wd. ask you if you remember going to Cobham & supping there 12 oClock at night & you taking out your Pistolls & laying them upon the table that the servants might see them: He shall never forget it he said, if there had been any robbery on the road that night, the people of the house wd. have supposed you had been concerned from you Pistolls. ———

Letter No. 119

I have acquainted all the Pupils that I am intimate with, where my place of residence is, what my plan is &c & talk'd it over with the rest of my friends spoke to Cline ye. other day when I dined with him, & he said very little but if he heard of any thing he wd. certainly give me information of it — If I settle at Brighton I must then write to my friends as you suggest. Old Cline is very intimate with Newnham who has often patients from him wh. I dare say I should have sometimes if I was there also.

I am glad to hear you visit most people and are upon good terms with every body for that contributes greatly to individual happiness. — I have been to the Play two or three times lately with Satterley & his Niece also a young lady staying there, but they are going before Dick comes up. —

Bungey, the young Man who we all supposed was comg. as an apprentice, had been here six weeks tho: never sleepd here, is not coming at all wh. has disappointed him —

½ past 5 oClock & I am just going with Aldrich to Grovnor Chapel to hear a most excellent sermon — But disappointment, for there was no service, we then took our tea at A's cousins and home we came. and I have now only two Sundays more to stay —

I saw in the Lewes paper the other day Mrs. Bull was no more; and the account of Cripps & Clark. You will be suppien'd to give evidence on the appearances upon inspection of Webber shall you not? when the trial comes on.

I have written an other Letter to Dick answering his anatomical & Surgical queries, wh. I was surprised to see, in some measure, tho: glad of it.

The weather is the most mild that I ever knew at this season of the Year; I am informd there was just such a season 18 or 20 years ago.

I shall pay all my friends a farewell call now very soon.

Monday Mornng. & I have just been & paid Holmer, Cox, and Clinch, and have enough to pay Mrs. Cage ye. Washerwoman, & the Breeches maker. —

I am very busy to day making pills of Cicuta. made many thousand Ammoniacal pill last Week. I hope the Dr. will have great many pills ready made by the time I arrive.

The articles in Parks's bill are only one pair of small clothes 2 pair drawers, one waistcoat & a little mending. I beg pardon If I have been more extravagant than I ought, & humbly subscribe myself, yours dutifully,

Hampton Weekes.

I am very glad the Carpet pleased, but was surprised at its being too long, as I particularly directed it shd. accord with your admeasurement of the Room; In width I said it wd. exceed 3 inches.

LETTER NO. 120

To Dick Weekes, 2 January 1803

St. Thomas's Jany. 3d. 1803.

Dear Brother,

I shall proceed to answer your Surgical & Physiological queries in as regular form as I read them, and as well as I am able; — First as to the operation of Tic Doloieux I do conceive myself capable of performing. that operation in any part of the Face wh. is the usual seat of the disease, and I very much doubt if it is ever seated in any other part, Tho: as you are a very reading Man, perhaps you have meet with it in other parts. However, Kerswell, the Man in Isaac's Ward has the complaint gradually returning again. the Dental or inferior Maxillary of the fifth pair was first divided immediately as it comes out of the foramen, wh. mittigated the complaint in that part; The inferior orbitary was then divided as soon as it passes out of that foramen, wh. appeard to cure the disease, But partial union of the nerves (I conceive has taken place) & they are gradually recovering their tone, & the complaint is also returning tho: in a very slight degree — Do you suppose there to be a peculiar morbid action going on in these nerves? or did it arrise from a common cause of cold being applyed in the 1st. instance, & afterwards a disposition set up in the part occasiong. the frequent recurrence of the complaint?

As to Lythotomy I wd. not hesitate a moment or any other operation wh. I have seen perform'd. as to embarrasment, such a thing might be possible, for practice makes perfectness, (wh. I have not had much of) But with good arrangement of matters before I began an operation, & with suaveter in modo, I shd. never despair of success. —

In Trismus, Mr. Cooper has proceeded to divide the Musculi Pterygoidei, with partial success, but never the Masseter. I cannot conceive these two Muscles could be divided without at the same time dividg. the inferior Maxillary nerve wh. is running between them — This disorder either arises from application of cold, Or from injury done to remote parts of the body as a bruise recieved of a finger or Toe (even very slight) or from excessive irritation being set up in the system, as was the case the other day in a woman in Queens Ward who had had her breast almost eaten off by some female cancer curer havg. applyd a strong solution of Arsenic; She died very soon after the attack of Trismus Pulse 140 solf & weak.

It is a well known fact that if the principal nerve be divided going to a part, as the finger (wh. from injury reciev'd there might give rise to Trismus) wd. not remove the complaint when once set up.

I never could observe that the Masseter Muscles where rigidly or particularly contracted in Trismus.

I conceive that no Hydropsical enlargement can arise without, general debility, or some obstruction in the Venous, or absorbent, system; Why does diseased Liver produce anasarca? — Debility either directly or indirectly induced, will be sufficient cause for the want of action in the Venous, or lymphatic System, & this may be either

Letter No. 121

general or partial. — My Father is very right when he says “vitality is certainly derived from the air” But I wd. ask him how? what part of Atmospheric Air? why I answer oxygen Gas, or pure air wh. operates upon the Arterial system in a wonderful manner — Experiments fully demonstrate that the pure part of the air is materially altered by respiration. The capacity of this for heat far exceeds that of the expired Gasses, from wh. it is evident that a considerable portion of heat has been, in some manner, disposed of, during the contact of the inspired air with the membrane wh. lines the air cells of the lungs. — The blood is form’d from animal or vegetable matter, or from both, & like each of them, abounds in Hydrogen & carbon; both these bodies have a strong affinity for the basis of oxygen Gas, and when they combine with it, caloric, is always extricated. According to Dr. Crawford³¹⁵ nearly one sixth of the oxygen Gas inspired, contributes to form aqueous vapour; the remaining five sixths enter into the composition of the expired carbonic acid Gas. (wh. if you blow thro: a straw into Lime water you will perceive is the case.) —

The source of animal heat I will farther explain when I come home. It is very curious indeed.

LETTER NO. 121

From Richard Weekes, [n.d. — 3 January 1803]. Continued by Dick Weekes

Hampton

I have sent you up another £10 Note & I am not a little joyous that this is the last for we think that you begin to loose all recollection of the trouble of getting it, but we will fag you well to Bolney on foot, up to your knees in dirt where you will earn five shillings. Send us some Cow Pock matter down directly as we cannot wait longer, send it on Glass from the Cow Pock institution, you had better pay your Guinea & become a subscriber then Dick can get it when we want, We have got Mr. Falconers family another of 7 or 8 at Cuckfield & some at Cowfold to inoculate so send as much as you can — send it by the Coach to Stonepound, in haste, Dick will come up Monday the 17th instant you should pack up your all’s & send by the Waggon or you will be obliged to wait a Week before your things will arrive. — We are all going to a Ball at Albourn place this Evening, & one at West Town next Wednesday. Have you been to Dr. Hunters Museum in Windmill street near the Haymarket it is worth seeing for a Surgeon as I understand it consists principally of Anatomical preparations it is to be seen Gratis, & Dr. Lettsoms house at Camberwell with his collection of natural curiosities is well worth seeing but I dont know how you are to make friends to see it. — Mrs. Bookers Sister late of Bolney is taken much in the

³¹⁵ Adair Crawford (1748–95), physician to St Thomas’s Hospital. He was interested in chemistry and animal heat.

Letter No. 121

same way as she that died of Bronchocele or Aneurism. She is very much swelled in the Neck on both sides flushed in the face very great Dyspnoea and soreness all down the Trachoea as tho: there were Inflammation of the Mucose Membrane with quick and full Pulse and all the Symptoms of Cynanche. We only have seen her Yesterday took away a large dose of Blood & Left her an Emetic. and if she is not better we mean to Blister the Throat and lastly operate for that easy operation, Bronchotomy
Now Dear Sir ———

Give me leave to address you on the Subject of extravagance which I think by this time, you must be well versed in. this may seem very strange to you as coming from a younger Brother. but this is my excuse, if ever I should split on the same Rock, I will not only give you leave to address me on the Subject. but shall think it a duty incumbent on you, and shall receive your animadversions on the Subject with an inward Pleasure. ———

The Ladys in this Neiberhood all very much regret your absence and put off the Balls as long as possible in hopes of the pleasure of your Company. ———

NB. Send down all your Old Cloaths and every thing that I shall not want, as Old George will be glad of it ———

I think I shall take up my Lodgings with Satterley and shall take a place inside of the Coach. you may come to some of the places where the Coaches put up at. and if you cant meet with me I shall go immediately to Satterleys. you may conclude.

If the weather is bad dick shall go within side the Coach as he will have no change till his clothes comes up by the Waggon, & I think you had better take an inside place in the Coach as your great coat is thin & very likely you will take Cold especially coming out of London — wrap yourself up warm & take a good inside lineing coming down to keep the cold out — call at Mr. Holmers & bring down the Certificate with you for Stock bought in as I suppose it will be ready by the time you come down, Remember me respectfully to Sparrows family & tell them I shall be glad to see them in the Summer. Mr. Holmers also begin packing up early. I can think of nothing more to say but only to take care of the one thing needful I mean l'argent

I am Yours truly

R Weekes

Hurstperpoint
Jany. 7 1803