

Foreword

Sir Jeremy Farrar

When I joined the Wellcome Trust in 2013 I knew all about Henry Wellcome but little about the pharmaceutical firm Burroughs, Wellcome and Co. and nothing of its original founder, Silas Burroughs.

Happily, with this engaging biography no one can now remain ignorant of Wellcome's business partner, the American Silas Burroughs: the man whose name carried clout throughout the world and whose vision was crucial in establishing the firm.

The Trust was pleased to help the author during her research for this biography. As Archivist and Head of Research and Special Collections in the Wellcome Library, Julia Sheppard was well placed to undertake this task and has used the rich archival collections of the business partners and the firm which are held by the Wellcome Collection. We had previously assisted in the publication of a biography of Henry Wellcome and a history of the firm and supported the acquisition of Burroughs's personal papers.

Burroughs was a man whose dedication to his work was born of his faith and a passion to improve the health and welfare of all and not simply to make money. He would undoubtedly have been delighted to know that from the origins of his pharmaceutical company was created the charity the Wellcome Trust, which supports medical research around the world.

Readers will enjoy discovering more about this remarkable individual. Burroughs was a man overlooked by history and virtually forgotten. He deserves to be remembered.

Sir Jeremy Farrar
Director, Wellcome Trust