

an advertisement in the following number of the same paper (Thursday, July 18, 1877) says: "Mr. Austin Langworthy respectfully intimates ... that he has succeeded his father ... in the proprietorship and superintendence of the above old-established 'Lamotte Asylum' (Kingdom House). It mentions his long-continued experience in the management of the Longwood Asylum, near Bristol, and states that letters should be addressed to J. Park Street, Bristol, or 7, Pall Mall Street, Bath."

The latter was his son, who is also mentioned with him in 1829, 1829 and 1837. In 1836 he described in a note as 'suggested to the Kensington House Institute asylum', and in 1837 his Christian name are given as Robert Austin, (the 'A.A.' in 1824 was presumably a mistake). In 1841 and 1846 only the name of C.C.L. appears, and the Local Registrar has informed me that he died at 24 Crown on 26th June, 1847, aged 76.

I have been able to trace the following details about Charles Cunningham Longworth. Having previously lived in Bristol, he had moved to 11 Bond Street by 1798. His name first appears in Bath directories in 1805, and in that year and also in 1809 and 1812 he is mentioned as living at 43 New King Street. By 1819 he had moved to 15 Kensington Place, and from at least 1824 to the end of his life he lived at 24 Clarendon.

Dear Sir,

31st October, 1961.

[illegible]

Kingsdown House was at Box, Wiltshire, and Langworthy's book, in which you are interested, was published at Bristol in 1798, second edition at Bath in the same year. This library has a copy of the second edition which was printed for the author by Cruttwell, the well-known publisher of the 'Bath Chronicle'. There is also a copy in the British Museum.

I hope that these details will be useful to you.

Yours faithfully,

Director.

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Director.

Thank you for your letter of 10th October.

I have been able to trace the following details about Charles Langworthy. Having previously lived in Bristol, he had moved to 11 Bond Street in 1800. His name first appears in 1805, and in that year he was also in 1809 and 1812 he is mentioned as living at 11 Bond Street. In 1813 he had moved to 12 Kensington Place, and from at least 1814 to the end of his life he lived at St. Clements.

2/10/51

Two consecutive entries in the 1851 directory are as follows:

Langworthy, Dr. physician to Kingsdown House, Bath.
Langworthy, Dr. [sic] St. Clements.

Langworthy, A.A. Esq. member of the Royal College of Physicians, London, St. Clements.

The latter was his son, who is also mentioned with him in 1851, 1852 and 1853. In 1854 he is described in a note as 'Langworthy to the Kingsdown House, Bath'. In 1857 his Christian name is given as Robert Austin, and in 1858 was presumably a mistake. In 1861 and 1862 only the name 'A.A.' appears, and the local historian has informed me that he died at St. Clements on 30th June, 1867, aged 70.

An entry in the Bath Chronicle of Thursday, July 1, 1857, reads: 'Dr. Charles Langworthy, after a protracted illness, died at his residence, in the City, highly respected for his estimable qualities, and one of the objects of this city.'

An advertisement in the following number of the same paper (Thursday, July 8, 1857) says: 'Dr. Charles Langworthy respectfully intimates ... that he has succeeded the late Dr. [sic] in the proprietorship and management of the above establishment (Kingsdown House). It mentions his long and successful experience in the management of the Kingsdown Asylum, near Bristol, and states that it is now to be 'situated to 12 Kensington Place, Bristol, or 11 Bond Street, Bath.'

(continued overleaf)

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Westminster Medical School,
17 Horseferry Road,
London S.W.1.



26th October, 1964.

Dear Sir,

As the result of a letter I wrote to a Bath resident recently, it has been suggested you may be able to help me.

I am engaged in writing an article on Dr. Elisha Perkins of Plainfield, Connecticut, and his "metallic tractors", which were introduced to England at the end of the eighteenth century by his son Benjamin. Briefly, "metallic tractoration" was a spurious means of relieving pain based (somewhat misguidedly) on Galvani's theories of electricity, and enjoyed a popularity not unlike that of Mesmer's "animal magnetism" - also the same amount of ridicule.

In an article by Walter Steiner (full reference below*) mention is made of a Mr. Charles Cunningham Langworthy, with an apparent residence or surgery at 11 Bond Street, Bath. Although a surgeon, he seems to have made some money on the side selling "Perkins' Patent Tractors" at five guineas the pair. (They cost only a few pence to make!)

Some time after 1795, and probably before 1805 he wrote "A View of Perkinian Electricity, or an Enquiry Into the Influence of Metallic Tractors."

I understand from Mr. Cooke, who has a business at the present No. 11 Old Bond Street, that you have been doing some researches into Mr. Langworthy. If you could possibly shed

some more light onto his activities in Perkinian Electricity
etcetera, I should be really most grateful.

Yours sincerely,

T. Jardine Brown

As the result of a letter to Miss Brown recently, it has been ascertained that T. Jardine-Brown is

an American citizen, and is a resident of New York City. He is a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, and is a graduate of the University of California at Berkeley.

~~Steiner, Walter R. Dr. Elmer Perkins of Plainfield, Conn.,
and his metallic tractors. Bull. Soc. Med. Hist. Chicago~~

1923-25. 3, 79-95.
The same amount of ridicule.

In an article by Walter Steiner (full reference below) mention is made of a Mr. Charles Cunningham Langworthy, with an apparent residence on Waverly Street, Bath, England. Although a surgeon, he seems to have made some money on the side selling "Perkins' Patent Tractors" or "Live Animals".

The Reference Library,
18 Queen Square,
Bath,
Somerset.

I have been from time to time, who has a business at the present time. It is a business which has been going on for some time, and it is a business which is not a business at all.

185/1 1966

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LANGWORTHY, Dr Charles
Cunningham
Westminster Medical School,
17 Horseferry Road,
London S.W.1.



Indexed 1965-66

Your ref: R185/1/1704

2nd November, 1964.

Dear Sir,

Thank you very much for your letter of 31st October.
~~I am most grateful for all the trouble you have taken in tracing~~
the details of Mr. Cunningham. They are most valuable in
completing the picture.

With all the other activities - clinical and literary -
heaped on my plate at the moment, it will I fear be at least
six months before the article finally appears in print. I shall
be delighted to send you a copy of the journal when it is published

Yours faithfully,

T. Jardine Brown

T. Jardine-Brown.

Peter Pagan Esq., B.A., F.L.A.,
The Reference Library,
Queen Square,
Bath,
Somerset.

LANG WORTHY, Charles G
Cunningham (Dr.)

Wiltshire County Offices, Trowbridge, may be able to help you.
Yours faithfully,

403 R185/1

2nd March, 1960.

Richard A. Hunter, Esq., MD, MRCP,
54 Porchester Gate,
London W.2.

Dear Sir,

Re Charles Cunningham Langworthy

Further to your letter of 25th February regarding the above, we possess a copy of the second edition of "A view" (etc.), while the local directories, although published irregularly during his lifetime, give some details of his residence in Bath.

His name first appears in 1805, and in that year and also in 1809 and 1812 he is mentioned as living at 43 New King Street. By 1819 he had moved to 15 Kensington Place, and from at least 1824 to the end of his life he lived at 24 Circus.

Two consecutive entries in the 1824 directory run as follows:
Langworthy, Dr. physician to Kingsdown-house Lunatic Assylum [sic]
24, Circus.

Langworthy, A.A. esq. member of the Royal College of Surgeons, London,
24, Circus.

The latter was his son, who is also mentioned with him in 1826, 1829 and 1837. In 1826 he described in a MS. note as 'Surgeon to the Kingsdown House Lunatic Assylum', and in 1837 his Christian name are given as Robert Austin, (the 'A.A.' in 1824 was presumably a mistake). In 1841 and 1846 only the name of C.C.L. appears, and the Local Registrar has informed me that he died at 24 Circus on 28 June 1847, aged 76.

An entry in the Bath Chronicle of Thursday, July 1, 1847 runs: 'June 28, at his house, in the Circus, after a protracted illness, Dr. Charles Cunningham Langworthy, highly respected for his estimable qualities, and one of the oldest practitioners of this city'.

An advertisement in the following number of the same paper (Thursday July 8, 1847) says: 'Dr. Austen Langworthy respectfully intimates ... that he has succeeded his father ... in the proprietorship and superintendence of the above old-established Lunatic Assylum' (Kingsdown House). It mentions his lengthened experience in the management of the Longwoods Assylum, near Bristol', and states that letters should be 'addressed to 3, Park Street, Bristol, or 7, Pulteney Street, Bath'.

I regret that I am unable to trace any other details. As you suggest, the Wiltshire County Archivist, Mr. M.G. Rathbone, A.L.A.,

Yours faithfully,

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Director.

C.J.

NOV 1961

[illegible]

BAYSWATER 6136.

26/2/60
ref
26.2.60 R18571
The Reference Librarian
Bath

8
54, PORCHESTER GATE,

LONDON, W. 2.

25 February 1960

Dear Sir,

Re Charles Cunningham Langworthy

I should be most grateful for any information you can give me about the above-mentioned. In 1798 he published A view of the Perkinsonian Electricity (Bristol; second edition Bath, 1798) in which he describes himself as 'Surgeon, of Bath'. He is next noticed in the Parliamentary Enquiry into Madhouses, 1815, p.21 as 'Dr. Langworthy of Kingsdown House, Box, Wiltshire' and owner of a private lunatic asylum there. In the 1844 Report of the Metropolitan Commissioners in Lunacy he is described as 'Langworthy, C.C. (M.D.)' and of the same address. I presume these last two refer to the same Dr. Langworthy.

I am referring to him in a history of psychiatry and am anxious to include some biographical material. If you think it worthwhile I should be grateful also if you would transmit this request to the Wiltshire County Archivist or I will write ~~to~~ direct if you so advise.

Thank you very much for your trouble,

Yours truly,

Richard A. Hunter

Richard A. Hunter, MD, MRCP.