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(Chapter XV; p. 12-13)

S. BURT WOLBACH, M. D.  
PATHOLOGIST

July 15, 1922

Dr. E. E. Tyzzer,  
Harvard Medical School.

*May 1893*

Dear Tyzzer:

Will you let me know whether I am right in saying that Theobald Smith's discovery, made public in 1893, regarding Texas Cattle Fever, represented the first demonstration that a protozoal disease could be transmitted only by the agency of an intermediary host? I am a little dubious about this, and have added the following foot-note: "This statement possibly should be modified in favor of Manson's discovery in 1880 that the mosquito acts as the intermediary host in Filaria. I believe the only difference was that Manson did not prove the matter experimentally though the life-history of the parasite was clearly worked out and the fact that 'man is the definite host, the mosquito the intermediate host' was clearly stated."

It is all a little out of my bailiwick and I would like to have your O. K. as to where I am right and wrong.

Please, for my convenience as well as your own, put your reply on the bottom of this sheet.

Always sincerely yours,

*Harvey Cushing*

*protozoan is correctly used as an adjective. Protozoal*

*I am not sure of + should be verified. E.E.T.*

Dear Dr. Cushing:

It appears to me that your original statement with regard to Theobald Smith's demonstration of the protozoal disease transmitted through the agency of an intermediate host should stand without modification. Manson's discovery in Filariasis had to do with the transmission of a parasitic worm and parasitic worms have already long been known to have intermediate hosts.

I think you could make the statement even stronger by substituting "a pathogenic microorganism" in place of a protozoal disease."

The filarial worm is not a protozoan and cannot be classed as a microorganism because the mature form is of sufficient size to be seen with the naked eye.

Very truly yours,

*E. E. Tyzzer.*