

Special Article

Dr. William Willis and Dr. Kanehiro Takaki

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1. My first encounter with Dr. William Willis

In October 1978, my family and I arrived in Kagoshima after travelling by car for 2 days via Osaka, Hyuga and Miyazaki from my former university in Matsumoto. Several years earlier, we had also made a 3-day drive from Illinois, through Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, and North Carolina, to South Carolina when I changed jobs after the death of my first American boss. Although that trip was very pleasant, we were travelling through unknown territory and, therefore, had to be cautious. Our trip in Japan was easier apart from the many warning phones from the backside when we passed along the highway in Osaka. Our first full day in Kagoshima was a Sunday, and we enjoyed watching an elementary-school sports day from our hotel window. Many of the spectators were holding parasols despite the fine weather, but next morning I found that my windshield had been covered with a thick coat of ash falling from Mount Sakurajima the day before.

Dr. Mutsuo Yoshimura, an assistant professor, escorted me to Department of Anatomy, Kagoshima University. At the entrance of the basic science building, I noticed a statue of a foreign gentleman who I did not recognize. This was my first encounter with Dr. William Willis, who founded Kagoshima Medical School during the Meiji era. Fortunately, a comprehensive book about William Willis was written in 1968 by the late Professor Hachiro Sato, the former dean and chairman of the Second Department of Internal

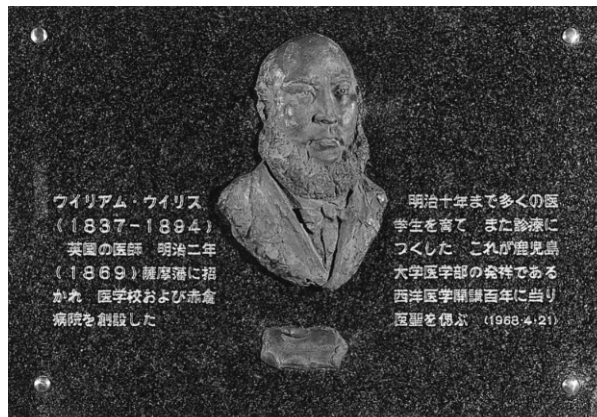


Fig. 1. Dr. William Willis (1837-1894), the founder of Kagoshima Medical School.

Medicine, Kagoshima University Faculty of Medicine. This book was written to mark the centenary of the introduction of modern medicine to Kagoshima. As I have a strong interest in medical history, I wasted no time in reading it and was able to find out more about William Willis. My interest in Willis has continued, and in 1995 I edited a special memorial issue of the Medical Journal of Kagoshima University to mark the centenary of his death.

2. Brief biography of William Willis from his birth to the Meiji Restoration

William Willis was born in 1839 at Maguire's Bridge, Florence Court, near Enniskillen, Northern Ireland, a rural area with many marshes and lakes. His family later moved to Moneen. He was the fifth

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Short biography of Dr. William Willis

May 1, 1837	Dr. William Willis was born at Maguire's Bridge near Enniskillen, Northern Ireland
1859	Dr. Willis graduated from the University of Edinburgh
May 1860 to October 1861	Dr. Willis worked as a physician's pupil at Middlesex Hospital, London
May 1862	Dr. Willis arrived in Nagasaki
Late May or early June 1862	Dr. Willis arrived in Yokohama as a member of legation of UK
September 1862	Dr. Willis was involved in the Namamugi Incident
August 1863	The Satsuma-UK war, expedition to Satsuma
January 1868	The Battle of Toba Fushimi
February 1868	Dr. Willis treated wounded Satsuma samurai at Yohgenin
October 1868	Expedition as a medical doctor of Hokuetsugun
1869	Dr. Willis became president of Tokyo Medical School and its affiliated hospital
May 1870	Dr. Willis founded Kagoshima Medical School
1877	Dr. Willis left Japan
1881	Dr. Willis visited Japan again
1885	Dr. Willis joined the UK legation in Thailand
1892	Dr. Willis returned to the UK
1892	A monument to Dr. Willis' contributions was erected in Kagoshima
1893	Dr. Willis died

of seven children born to George and Hannah Willis and had three older brothers, one older sister, and two younger sisters. The two oldest brothers became physicians after attending Glasgow University with the support of Lord Enniskillen; the third brother remained in Moneen and spent his life as a farmer. The Willis family was initially quite poor, but their situation improved once Dr. Willis and his two oldest brothers began to work. The family was eventually able to move to the so-called New House, which is now occupied by an unrelated family. This period coincided with the Great Potato Famine in Ireland of



The map of UK and Dr. Willis' related cities

1. London
2. Gloucester
3. Monmouth
4. Birmingham
5. Manchester
6. Edinburgh
7. Glasgow
8. Belfast
9. Enniskillen
10. Dublin

Fig. 2. A map of the UK and Ireland showing cities related to Dr. Willis

the mid-1840s when more than one million people died of starvation and disease. The famine led many Irish to emigrate to the United States in an effort to improve their lives; during this time the Irish population decreased by one eighth.

None of William Willis' three sisters married, and his youngest sister Hannah is believed to have had psychiatric problems in later life. William was devoted to his mother but was never close to his father, who treated him violently as a boy. Willis' father worked mainly as a farmer on land borrowed from Lord Enniskillen but also worked as a tax collector and maintainer of the public peace (what we would now call a policeman). Although the Willis family worked hard, like most Irish at that time their living conditions were humble owing to the violent



Fig. 3. Enniskillen, Northern Ireland.

political, economic, and social changes and the resulting famine and disease. With the help of his eldest brother George, William graduated from Edinburgh University in 1855 via Glasgow University and spent about 2 years as a physician's pupil at London's Middlesex Hospital. At every opportunity, Willis wrote to and consulted George, a physician in Monmouth, Wales, where he later became mayor. Their home, "Oakhouse," is now as an annex of a municipal office. George and his wife Fanny were a warm-hearted couple who took good care of William. William stayed with them after he left Japan in 1877.

Another frequent visitor was Sir Ernest Satow, who was good friends with both William and George Willis. In fact, George's daughter visited Satow in August 1915 in an unsuccessful attempt to publish William Willis' biography.

William's second older brother Simon became a navy surgeon, but there is no record of a close relationship between the two brothers apart from a mention in William's will, in which £300 was bequeathed to Simon's daughter, for reasons that are unclear. In a letter to George, William also confessed to fathering a child with a young lady, Maria Fisk, while he was working at Middlesex Hospital from May 1860 to October 1861. The child, a boy, was adopted by George and Fanny.

William later had two more sons, George and

Albert, by Japanese mothers known as "Ochinosan" and Yae Kohka, respectively. Because more than 130 years have passed since Willis began to live in Yokohama, the identity of Ochinosan has been difficult. In his will, William stated that Ernest Satow knew who Ochinosan was. Albert (Japanese name, Yuhei Uri) was born in Kagoshima in 1873. His mother, Yae Kohka, was from a samurai family of the Satsuma domain (the former name for Kagoshima).

In 1861, William passed the examination to join the British Legation in Japan. Traveling via Shanghai and Nagasaki, he arrived in Yokohama in late May or early June 1862. The exact date of his arrival is unknown, but on May 11 he sent a letter from Nagasaki to his brother George in which he mentioned that Thomas Graver, the famous Scottish merchant, had kindly offered him care and assistance, and then sent his first letter from Yokohama on June 11. Willis worked in Yokohama as a member of the British Legation but also acted as a physician for foreigners in the Yokohama district. On September 14, 1862, he was involved in the Namamugi Incident, which occurred near Yokohama. This was an unfortunate accident that resulted from mutual misunderstandings between the Japanese and the British. Samurai of the Satsuma clan were arrogant to the point of killing persons they thought had violated social rules. The victims of the incident, C.R. Richar-

dson and two other British merchants, were unfamiliar with such Japanese social rules. When they behaved according to British custom, they were attacked by local samurai and Richardson was killed. Dr. Willis, together with a Dr. G.R. Jenkins, quickly arrived at the scene of the incident and treated the dying man.

The first news of the Namamugi Incident appeared in *The Times* of London on November 17, 1862, almost 2 months after the event. Almost 1 year later, on August 15, 1863, British warships began shelling the Satsuma domain in retribution. Through this limited show of force, the people of the Satsuma clan realized the power of the West and modified their policies against foreigners. Subsequently, a close relationship developed between Satsuma and Britain, while France continued to support the established government of Japan. On January 27, 1868, civil war broke out between the established government and its opponents, whose leaders included the Satsuma and Choshu clans. Many samurai were killed or wounded in heavy fighting at Toba and Fushimi from January 27 through 29.

Yogenin, a temple in Kyoto, became the field hospital of the Satsuma Army, but Satsuma doctors did not know how to treat wounded soldiers, as their knowledge and experience were based only on traditional Chinese medicine. For this reason several young soldiers proposed that western physicians be invited to treat the Satsuma casualties. The leaders of the Satsuma clan wisely accepted this proposal, and Tomoatsu Godai and Tohzo Terashima were appointed to negotiate with the British Legation. Dr. Willis was appointed by the British Ambassador, Harry Parkes, and entered Kyoto with Ernest Satow to treat wounded Satsuma soldiers, including General Iwao Ohyama and Japanese Naval Minister Tsugumichi Saigo, the cousin and younger brother of Takamori Saigo. General Oyama was only slightly wounded, but Minister Saigo was in critical condition. However, with use of the latest western medical techniques by Willis, both men recovered. Their survival did much to burnish the reputation of both western medicine and Dr. Willis, who was offered leading role in the Meiji government. His techniques were those



Fig. 4. Yohgenin, a field hospital of Satsuma clan.

he had learned while training as a medical student at Edinburgh University and at Middlesex Hospital.

The three main medical centers in Europe in the 19th century were Edinburgh, Paris, and Vienna. Edinburgh had many excellent medical doctors, including Dr. James Syme (1799–1870), Sir James Young Simpson (1811–1870), and Sir Joseph Lister (1827–1912). Syme was a surgeon who pioneered new methods of amputation and resection, Simpson was a gynecologist who developed a method of anesthesia using chloroform, and Lister developed the concept of bacteria as a cause of infection and introduced phenol spray as a surgical antiseptic. In Edinburgh, Willis did not study under Lister, who at the time was still in Glasgow, but the techniques used in Kyoto by Willis



Fig. 5. A modified conjoined cartoon by the author showing Willis' enormous bulk. At the left is Sir Ernest Satow, at the center is Dr. W. Willis, and at the right is Sir H. Parkes. Dr. Willis was 190 cm tall and weighed more than 130 kg.

were new to Japan. Willis used these techniques to treat many of the wounded and became one of the leading surgeons of the civil war. Dr. Kanehiro Takaki was also active at this time, along with Drs. Ryosaku Ishigami, Senzo Kanmura, and Kohei Yamashita as supporting physicians for the Satsuma clan. However, Dr. Takaki was merely able to hold the hands of the dying, and were made to realize their lack of skill and experience.

The fighting spread from Kyoto to Edo (Tokyo), then to northeastern Honshu. The new government sent soldiers via three routes to attack the rebels, one of which passed through Echigo (Niigata) to Aizu. The rebel side resisted fiercely, and many soldiers were killed or wounded. The government army travelling by this route again asked for Dr. Willis' help. During his expedition, Willis treated 900 government soldiers and 700 Aizu soldiers. In Japan at that time there was no concept of compassion during war. For example, in one battle fought along the Echigo attack route, the rebels repulsed the government's initial attack, then slaughtered all wounded soldiers—including medical doctors. At other times during the campaign, the situation was undoubtedly reversed. Willis made a point of giving equal treatment to rebel and government soldiers. This was not the first time that Willis had treated Aizu soldiers; he had also treated them in Osaka. During the civil war, there were at least three hospitals for wounded soldiers in Kyoto, Yokohama, and Edo.

At this time, Dr. Kanehiro Takaki was serving as a field doctor under Dr. Kansai Seki accompanying Satsuma forces on the Pacific Ocean route. He again realized the low standard of treatment offered by doctors of the Satsuma clan when he overheard Ohmura doctors say there was "not a single medical doctor in the whole of Satsuma." These contemptuous words pained Dr. Takaki and prompted him to study medicine again after the war.

3. *The mixed fortunes of Dr. Willis after the Meiji Restoration*

After the establishment of the new government, Dr. Willis began to work at Tokyo Medical School,

and on March 2, 1869, was appointed president of the school and its affiliated hospital. Drs. Tadanori Ishiguro, Toyo Sasaki, and Kensai Ikeda were Dr. Willis' students, and Willis used nurses to take care of wounded soldiers for the first time in Japan. However, his tenure was short-lived because the new government soon decided to adopt the German medical system for clinical and medical education on the recommendation of Drs. Tomoyasu Sagara and Atsumu Iwasa. Although many high-ranking government officers and several former feudal lords strongly supported Willis, he was forced to resign his post. Takamori Saigo and Toshimichi Ohkubo then proposed that a new medical school be established in Kagoshima and offered Willis the position of president. Willis accepted their offer and became the president of Kagoshima Medical School and its affiliated hospital. He was paid an exceptionally high salary by Kagoshima prefecture which surpassed that of the highest-ranking officials of the Japanese government.

4. *Dr. Willis in Kagoshima*

On January 8, 1870, Willis left Tokyo for Kagoshima with Dr. Ryosaku Ishigami. Dr. Takaki became the first student of the new medical school, which offered courses in medical theory (a regular 4-year course and a special 2-year course) and English and attracted students from all over Japan. Dr. Willis faced extremely difficult conditions, including inadequate equipment, a lack of textbooks, and shortage of cadavers for dissection. He also had to fight the strong opposition of doctors trained in Chinese medicine. To soften their resistance, Dr. Ryosaku Ishigami published a special statement in a newspaper about the need to invite Dr. Willis to Kagoshima.

The hospital was built of red brick and was therefore generally known as the Akakura (red warehouse). The Akakura is now gone, save for a few original bricks kept in the Reimeikan and a small monument marking the site. Takaki was an intelligent hard worker, and in Sir Hugh Cortazzi's book was referred to as one of the star pupils, along with Hajime Mitamura. Drs. Kohken Kagami and Hou-

shu Kawamura also studied there and later obtained high positions in the Japanese Navy. In 1872 Dr. Takaki left Kagoshima and became a naval doctor. Accordingly, his period of contact with Dr. Willis in Kagoshima was less than 2 years, but Willis clearly valued Takaki's diligence and his plain, masculine character. Takaki was appointed a teaching assistant in anatomy for the special 2-year course and thereafter continued to believe in the importance of anatomy in medical education. Willis also asked the Kagoshima authorities to raise Takaki's salary and advised Takaki to go abroad to study modern western medicine. Willis negotiated with the Kagoshima prefectural authorities to allow Takaki to study abroad and to support him financially, but these negotiations were not successful. Takaki was able to fulfill his dream of studying abroad only after he had become a naval doctor.

Medical doctors throughout Japan know about the great contributions made by Dr. Takaki to the study of beriberi, but I'd like to emphasize the importance of the epidemiologic method of investigation and concepts in medicine that he learned from Dr. Willis in Kagoshima. However, it is worth pointing out that Dr. Ryosaku Ishigami also admired Dr. Takaki and long supported him officially and privately. Although Ishigami's stay at Kagoshima Medical School was short because he became a high ranking officer in the Japanese Navy, he continued to support Dr. Takaki from Tokyo and also opened the way for him to study abroad. Sadly, Ishigami died only a few months before Takaki's departure for Britain.

Kagoshima Medical School developed quickly, and Dr. Willis' third son Albert was born there in 1873. Albert later obtained Japanese citizenship and took the name Yuhei Uri. After teaching English in many high schools and universities, Albert died during World War II; his children now live in the Kansai area. Albert's mother was William Willis' Japanese wife, Yae Kohka, who came from a Satsuma samurai family. For a while, Willis lived peacefully in Kagoshima with his wife and son. As mentioned earlier, Willis' two other sons were born to the housemaid Maria Fisk in London and to "Ochinosan" in Yokohama.

As president of Kagoshima Medical School, Willis made many proposals about clinical and epidemiological medicine and medical education. He began a program for regular examination of pregnant women, stressed the importance of preventive medicine, prohibited the eating of cattle that had died of injury or disease, prepared plans for waterworks and sewage channels, recommended dairy farming and the eating of dairy products in addition to sweet potatoes and rice, proposed the establishment of a charitable hospital for the poor, and special management for certain types of infectious diseases. Willis was a skilled ophthalmologic surgeon and, according to Dr. C. Samejima, performed the first iridectomy for glaucoma in Japan.

As a specialist involved in the teaching of anatomy at a medical school, I cannot overemphasize the importance of Dr. Willis' recognition of the need for dissection as part of medical training. Japan now has a national association for the donation of cadavers to medical institutions, but 130 years ago no such association existed. Willis, therefore, often had to use animals instead of human cadavers for teaching anatomy, and Dr. Takaki was said to have used the bodies of executed criminals for observation or study. Even those days, some people are opposed to the use of cadavers, but the strong-willed Takaki was unmoved by such criticism. Medical ethics at that time were completely different from those of today and remained undeveloped for much of the 19th century; only recently have there been pioneering approaches like those of Dr. Takaki. In 1875, Takaki went to Britain to study western medicine at St. Thomas' Medical College, London, and Dr. Willis also took a leave of absence from Kagoshima. The two men met in London and re-established their working relationship and friendship. Thereafter, however, their paths diverged. Takaki went on to strengthen his reputation, while Willis was forced to walk a less fortunate path. After becoming Surgeon-General of the Japanese Navy, Takaki overcame severe resistance to found Jikei Medical School, continued to study beriberi, and finally became a baron. Willis lived in Kagoshima until 1879, when the start of the Seinan Civil War forced him to leave. Willis was a great



Fig. 6. The Kakuryokaikan alumni association hall.

admirer of Takamori Saigo and had decided to serve as a doctor in Saigo's army but ultimately did not take part and left Japan without his wife Yae Kohka. His changes of heart in serving during the civil war were objectively analyzed by N. Hagihara in his book *Toi Gake* (Distant Cliffs). In addition, C.R.S. Manders, former consul at the British Embassy in Japan stated at the centennial ceremony in Kagoshima: "I have been a professor and know that a stage comes when the sensible teacher steps back and lets the pupils take over, adding to the subject something of their personalities and something from their understanding of the national and local background conditions. By 1881 Willis undoubtedly saw that the time had come for him to step back." This is an acceptable and understandable opinion.

When Willis returned to Britain in 1877, two decades had passed since his graduation from Edinburgh University; he noticed that many of his medical techniques had become outdated during that time. In 1880 Willis returned to Japan, but his stay was short and he soon left with his son. This was the last time



Fig. 7. The largest room of the alumni association is the William Willis Hall.



Fig. 8. The monument to Dr. Willis' medical contributions in Kagoshima. This monument is now in the hall courtyard.

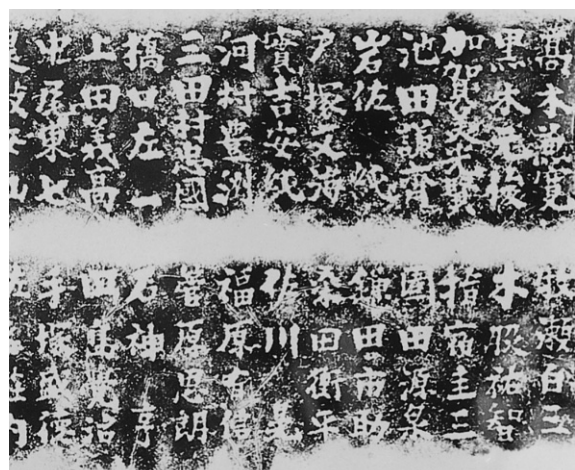


Fig. 9. The back side of the monument bears the names of the many contributors. The name furthest to the right on the first row is that of Dr. Kanehiro Takaki.

he was to see his wife Yae Kohka. Through the support of Ernest Satow, in 1885 Willis obtained a new position in Bangkok, Thailand, where he worked until 1892. In December 1892 he returned to Britain and died on February 15, 1894. According to *The Lancet*, no. 507, February 24, 1894, Willis died on February 14 1894, but his gravestone and the official church record show he died on February 15. In August 1894, 6 months before his death, a monument recognizing his contribution to medicine was erected in Kagoshima. The front of the monument states that Dr. Willis was admired as a great British medical doctor, while the back lists the names of the many contributors. The name furthest to the right on the first row is that of

Dr. Kanehiro Takaki. This monument was moved to the east side of the new campus of the Kagoshima University Faculty of Medicine. In 1997, the monument was moved again to the courtyard of the new hall of the alumni association. Within the hall, there is a special chamber called the Willis Hall.

5. *Investigators of Dr. Willis' studies in Japan*

A book written by Professor Hachiro Sato gave me much information about Dr. Willis. Professor Shogo Otsuji, formerly professor in the department of laboratory investigation, Kagoshima University Faculty of Medicine, assisted with the publication of Professor Sato's book. Professor Otsuji originally belonged to the Second Department of Internal Medicine and worked with Professor Sato before he was appointed chairman of the department of laboratory investigation. He visited the birthplace of William Willis and other places associated with him in the UK and uncovered much information about Willis, including his thesis written at the University of Edinburgh and his will. However, the most detailed study of Willis, *Toi Gake*, was written by the famous commentator Dr. Nobutoshi Hagihara. It was serialized in 1974 parts from 1976 through 1990 in the *Asahi Shimbun*, a prominent Japanese newspaper. That study is now being published as a series of books by the same newspaper company. The last of 14 volumes will be published by the end of this 2001. Hagihara's main intention was not to write a biography of Willis, but to describe the political, economic, social, and cultural climate in the late Edo and Meiji periods using information supplied by foreign diplomats, with special reference to the records of Sir Ernest Satow. Satow and Willis were very close friends and confided totally in each other. Hagihara's study gives very precise descriptions based on an exhaustive reading of Satow's writings, the huge amount of official diplomatic records available in the UK, and information provided by Willis' relatives. Mrs. Frances Willis, granddaughter of Dr. Willis' eldest brother George, sent an enormous amount of material to Hagihara in 1976. In fact, Frances' mother had wanted to produce a biography of Willis and had visited Satow on August

24, 1915 for this reason. However, Willis' other relatives had blocked publication. Frances kept the records gathered by her mother until 1976, and these formed the basis of Hagihara's detailed study. After completing his study, Dr. Hagihara decided that the best place to which to donate the material provided by Willis' relatives and his own writings was the *Reimeikan* of Kagoshima prefecture, the cultural center of Kagoshima prefecture and the place where Willis spent 10 years as president of Kagoshima Medical School and its affiliated hospital about 130 years ago. As a citizen of Kagoshima City, I am grateful to Dr. Hagihara for his thoughtful decision. I know that some scholars and students of liberal arts at Kagoshima University have found these records a valuable resource. As a devotee of medical history, I feel a duty to inform the medical students of Kagoshima University about these records so that they will not lie unused in the *Reimeikan*. I have been sorting through the list of papers donated by Dr. Hagihara and have found several pieces of correspondence between Dr. Willis and Dr. Takaki. I intend to report the details elsewhere.

Although I consider Dr. Hagihara's study of Willis to be complete except for details of his stay in Thailand, I think readers should be introduced to one of Willis' earliest biographers: the late Dr. Chikaji Samejima (referred to incorrectly by Sir Hugh Cortazzi as "Kinji Samejima"), who was born in Kagoshima and first heard about Dr. Willis in elementary school. After graduating from Kumamoto Medical College, he became an ophthalmologist, and until nearly the end of World War II, ran a private clinic in Shibasa-



Fig. 10. *Toi Gake*, written Dr. N. Hagiwara. An additional last 14th volume will soon be published.

kuragawa-cho, Minato Ward, Tokyo, near Jikei Medical University. In 1945 he was forced to evacuate from his private clinic to Gunma Prefecture. After the war, he reopened his clinic in Shinjuku Ward, Tokyo, where he continued to work until his death in 1969. He had wished to publish a book about Dr. Willis, but his busy life as an ophthalmologist prevented this. After his death, the book was published by his wife, Sen, and his son Tatsuya (professor of the School of Science, Aoyama Gakuin University) in 1978. This book is not a study of Willis in the strict sense, because it consists of two parts—a description of Willis' studies and essays written by Dr. Chikaji Samejima—but it does contain much new and interesting information about Dr. Willis. In fact, it is fair to say that the book published by Professor Hachiro Sato in 1968 owes much to the information provided by Dr. Samejima. Dr. Samejima's dormant interest in Willis was rekindled in 1933 when he was hospitalized for a kidney ailment. While convalescing, he read an article written by Professor Tatsukichi Irisawa and later located and met Willis' third son, Albert (known later by his Japanese name, Yuhei Uri) in Kansai during World War II. Samejima's book contains details of the communication between these two men. Although Samejima published many studies about Willis, his pioneering work was not published because of the dire economic conditions and shortages in Japan during the war. After the war, Samejima resumed his study of Willis, but the collected items were not preserved systematically. Although I had a chance to talk with Samejima's son, he showed no interest in Dr. Willis or any enthusiasm about preserving the material collected by his father.

Another early study about Willis was written by Tetsuro Nakasuga, a teacher of English and vice principal of Kinjo High School in Tokyo, who translated a book written by Sir Hugh Cortazzi into Japanese. Cortazzi's book, entitled *Dr. Willis in Japan* (Athlone Press, 1985), is to date the only book about Willis written in English. William Willis' niece had attempted to publish his in 1915 but was unsuccessful. Cortazzi, who owes most of his description to information from Dr. Nobutoshi Hagihara, spent many years in Japan as a diplomat, including his final

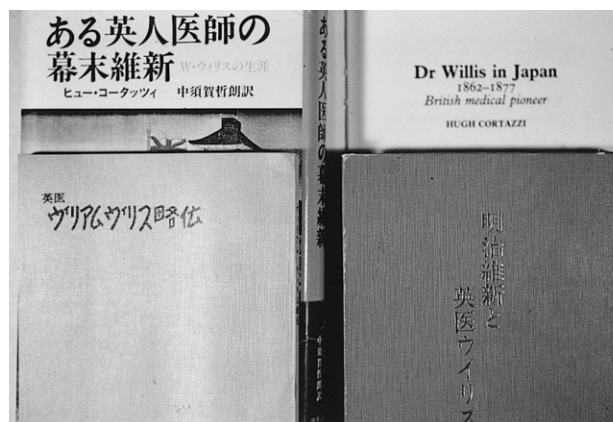


Fig. 11. Four books on Dr. Willis. Top left is the Japanese translation of Sir H. Cortazzi's book. Top right is the original English edition of Sir H. Cortazzi's book. Bottom left is the book of Professor Sato and bottom right is the book of Dr. C. Samejima.

post as British ambassador to Japan. Although Cortazzi can speak Japanese fluently, he made several minor errors in his book, including his erroneous transliteration of the name Kinji Samejima, as mentioned above. Jikei University is referred to as "Jisei," and the surname of Dr. Willis' wife is given as "Enatsu" instead of Kohka, but such minor errors do not decrease the book's value. Through his examination of many Japanese sources, Cortazzi has written a good book on Dr. Willis, and in fact has also produced two other very interesting books in Japanese. Jikei University's Professor Emeritus Makoto Matsuda has written books and an article from which the reader can get a sense of Dr. Takaki's view of his relationship with Dr. Willis. Also worth mentioning are Drs. Yoshitake Oka and Takashi Ishii, who have written about Willis from the viewpoints of political history and history, respectively.

6. Relationship between Jikei University and Kagoshima University Faculty of Medicine

In 1968, Kagoshima Medical School celebrated the centenary of its founding by Dr. Willis and the introduction of modern western medicine in Kagoshima; as mentioned earlier, Dr. Sato's book was published to mark this event. Actually, there were two main reasons Kagoshima Medical School was

closed by the Kagoshima authorities during the Meiji era. One reason was the financial difficulties of the time, and the other reason was the feelings of hostility towards Kagoshima prefecture and the medical school by the Japanese government after the civil war. Kagoshima University was rebuilt as a prefectural medical school in 1943 and was transferred to the Japanese government and became a national university in 1955. Since that time our school has continued to develop as a medical center serving southernmost Kyushu.

For the centenary ceremony in 1968, Dr. Kazushige Higuchi, then president of Jikei University, came from Tokyo to recognize the close relationships between Dr. Willis, Dr. Takaki, and the two universities. More than 30 years have passed since then, and we now have an opportunity to emphasize our special relationship by looking back to the Meiji era and also looking ahead to future opportunities.

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