

Stannus Hughes
Council Chamber

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

IN IRELAND.

FIRST REPORT OF THE COUNCIL,

Presented to the College May 27th, 1844.

The Council beg leave to report, that since their election on the 16th day of January last, they have held 33 meetings, at which the number of attendances of each member of Council was as follows:

	MEETINGS.			
The President attended	28
The Vice-President,	32
Sir Philip Crampton,	15
Richard Carmichael,	28
Samuel Wilmot,	9
Alexander Read,	16
William Auchinleck,	25
James W. Cusack,	23
James Kerin,	32
Arthur Jacob,	31
William H. Porter,	23
Thomas Rumley,	20
William Tagert,	30
John Peebles,	30
Thomas E. Beatty,	26
William Hargrave,	32
Charles Benson,	32
John Houston,	32
Andrew Ellis,	32
Robert C. Williams,	32
Henry Maunsell,	31

N.B.—The President, Sir P. Crampton, and Messrs Wilmot and Read were prevented from attending several meetings by indisposition.

At the first meeting held on the 18th January, a Provisional Secretary was appointed, and the Council was organised for the transaction of business by the adoption of the following standing orders :

"Resolved—That at Meetings of the Council, the President, when present, shall take the Chair, or in his absence, the Vice-President, or in the absence of both, the Member of Council present, who may be senior on the College List of Fellows, and that business shall be transacted in the following order :

1. The Secretary shall read the proceedings of the previous Meeting.

2. The Chairman of the day shall sign the Minute Book.

3. Ordinary business shall be transacted.

4. Notices of Motion shall be discussed and determined upon.

5. Notices of Motions, for consideration at future Meetings, shall be received and filed."

"Resolved—That the following standing Sub-Committees shall be nominated :

1. A Treasury Committee, to consist of the President, or in his absence, the Vice-President, and two Councillors, whose names shall be returned to the Bank ; the duty of which committee shall be, to keep the Bank account with the College, and to sign checks for payment of accounts, when these shall have been passed by the Council, such signing to be done by three Members of the Committee, in the presence of each other.

2. A Committee of Economy, to consist of five Councillors, three of whom shall be competent to transact business ; the duty of which Committee shall be, to superintend the outlay of all moneys required for the service of the College, to examine all estimates, to audit all accounts, and to report to the Council upon every matter connected with the expenditure of the College.

3. A Committee of Inspection, to consist of five Councillors, three of whom shall be competent to transact business ; the duty of which Committee shall be, to investigate the claims of Candidates for Fellowship, or for the License of the College, and to

report to the Council thereon, previous to the issuing of orders for the examination of such Candidates."

As the abolition of the former modes of examination, by the provisions of the Supplemental Charter, had put a temporary stop to the admission of Licentiates, the Council lost no time in directing their attention to meet this exigency; accordingly, they immediately proceeded to draw up regulations for the election, duties and payment of Examiners, taking care in these to depart as slightly as possible from the plan previously in use. They determined; that there should be seven Examiners, viz. Three in Surgery and Medicine; two in Anatomy and Physiology; one in Chemistry, Materia Medica, and Medical Jurisprudence; and one in Midwifery; that the Examiners should be paid half a guinea each for the examination of each Candidate, and that they should be elected annually, from among the Fellows of the College.

Having thus set the regular machinery for the admission of Licentiates into the College at work, the Council proceeded to bring into operation the special temporary provisions of the Supplemental Charter, and with that view, on the 30th of January, they passed the following resolutions:

"Resolved—That all the present Licentiates of the College and all persons who may obtain Letters Testimonial under the By-laws now in force, in reference to education and examination, shall, upon application to the Council, be eligible to the rank of Fellowship, without additional examination, under the provisions of the Supplemental Charter, until the 10th day of Jan., 1845:

That Licentiates, whose Letters Testimonial bear date prior to January 1st, 1839,* shall, before being enrolled as Fellows, (if they reside in Dublin, or within ten miles thereof) pay to the College, a fee of £21; if they reside beyond ten miles from Dublin, a fee of £10 10s.

That Licentiates, whose Letters Testimonial bear date subsequent to January 1st, 1839, shall, before being enrolled as Fellows, (if they reside in Dublin) pay to the College, a fee of

* On the 1st January, 1839, the fee for Letters Testimonial was reduced from £31 10s. to £21.

Fellowship Fees
Provincial
Fellowship Fees
Provincial
£31 10s.; if they reside beyond ten miles from Dublin, a fee of £21

X That Licentiates who may be admitted to the Fellowship upon payment of the fees payable by persons residing more than ten miles from Dublin, shall be required to sign an undertaking to pay £10 10s. should they at any time place themselves in the class of Dublin Residents, by coming to reside in the City, or within ten miles thereof."

A copy of these resolutions was, on the 3rd February, transmitted by post to every Licentiate of the College.

On the 2nd of February, the plan for carrying out the special temporary provisions of the Charter was completed, by the adoption of the following resolutions :

"Resolved—That the Council will receive applications from Practitioners in Surgery desirous of being incorporated into the College under the provisions of the Supplemental Charter which authorise such incorporation, until the 10th day of January, 1845, and that the following shall be the conditions according to which such applications shall be made :

1. That Candidates for incorporation as Fellows of the College, shall lay before the Council evidence of their being qualified Practitioners or Commissioned Medical Officers in the Army, Navy, or East India Company's Service, of not less than seven years standing.

2 That the application of such Candidates shall be supported by the recommendation of at least three Fellows of the College.

3. That Candidates shall state to the Council their willingness, should they be admitted Fellows, to make and subscribe the declaration and affirmation required by the Charter.

That the following fees shall be payable to the College by Practitioners who may be incorporated as Fellows :

1. Practitioners or Medical Officers of twenty years standing and upwards, shall pay, if they reside in Dublin, or within 10 miles thereof, £21 ; if they reside beyond 10 miles from Dublin £10 10s.

2. Practitioners or Medical Officers of more than seven and less than twenty years standing, shall pay, if they reside in Dub-

lin, or within 10 miles thereof, £31 10s. ; if they reside beyond 10 miles from Dublin, £21.

3. That Practitioners who may be admitted to the Fellowship upon payment of the fees, payable by persons residing more than 10 miles from Dublin, shall be required to sign an undertaking to pay £10 10s. should they at any time become residents in Dublin or within 10 miles thereof."

As the Council had reason to believe that some misunderstanding prevailed, with respect to the purport and operation of these regulations, they subsequently published an explanatory statement, to the following extracts from which they now beg leave to call the attention of the College.

The Council of the College having been charged with the duty of carrying into effect the provisions of the Supplemental Charter, lately granted to the College by Her Majesty the Queen, feel called upon to lay before the Medical Profession of Ireland a brief statement of the objects in furtherance of which this Charter was granted, and of the organisation whereby these objects are proposed to be carried out.

In consequence of the anomalous state into which the Medical Profession has fallen, it was proposed some time since by the Secretary of State for the Home Department, to introduce a bill into the House of Commons for "regulating the practice of medicine and surgery;" and certain 'heads' were laid down, according to which the proposed bill was to be framed. The leading features of the measure were to be:

1. The establishment of a uniform minimum standard of education and examination of medical practitioners throughout the empire, without compliance with which, no individual should be permitted to hold any medical or surgical office in the army, navy, or East India service, or in any public hospital, infirmary, dispensary, work-house, or other public institution ; or should be entitled to the exemptions from serving on juries, &c. claimed by medical men ; or should be permitted to give certificates in any case in which by law the certificate of a medical man is required.

2. The encouragement of improvement in medicine and sur-

gery, by permitting such persons as might be desirous of extending their studies beyond the minimum standard, above referred to, to pass special examinations and take a higher rank in the Colleges of Physicians or Surgeons.

In order to facilitate the attainment of these ends, Supplemental Charters have already been granted to the Colleges of Surgeons of England and Ireland; the provisions of which are conformable with the objects of the proposed bill. By the Charter granted to this College, two orders of members have been constituted, viz.: Licentiates and Fellows.

1. The order of Licentiates is to be in future composed of those who may comply with the minimum standard of education only, who shall have no voice in the corporate affairs of the College; but who shall be eligible to professional appointments and entitled to professional privileges and exemptions.

2. The order of Fellows is to be in future composed of such persons as may prosecute their studies until the age of 25 years, and pass a special examination, either subsequently to their examination as Licentiates or without having entered that order. The Fellows are to enjoy all professional qualifications, privileges and exemptions, and in addition, are to constitute the corporate body of the College, from and by whom the executive council are to be elected. In order to preserve the character of the College as a scientific Surgical Institution, the Fellows are prohibited from direct or indirect connexion with the practice of Pharmacy. Licentiates of the age of 25 years may, at any time, attain the Fellowship of the College upon complying with the conditions as to education, examination, &c. referred to above.

The details of the Supplemental Charter are framed with the view of carrying out these arrangements, and so of adapting the constitution of this College to take a part in working out the contemplated general measure, whereby a uniform minimum standard of education and examination, and consequent equalization of privileges, is to be established in the Medical Profession throughout the three kingdoms. At the same time that provisions were made to effect this object, the government took advantage of the

opportunity to enable the College to constitute itself into a really national body, such as should be fitted to represent and protect the interests of the entire surgical profession of Ireland. It is well known that, owing to many causes, an important and highly respectable portion of the surgical practitioners of this kingdom are not now alumni of the National College; while many of those gentlemen enjoy a standing and position before the public, which would prevent the possibility of their seeking admission into our ranks by the ordinary mode of examination. To meet this case, a power has been given to the Council, for one year, to incorporate, as Fellows, such practitioners in surgery as they may think entitled to the honor by their personal respectability and professional rank; and in order to make this power effective, the following resolutions have been already agreed to:

(See Resolutions as recited in page 4.)

By acting upon these resolutions cautiously and judiciously, but in the liberal spirit of the Charter, the Council hope that every reasonable ground of disunion will be removed, and that, at the same time, the College, as a truly national institution, will be placed in a position to unite together for the defence and advancement of professional interests, the great mass of the practitioners of Ireland.

During the negotiations for the settlement of the Charter, the members of the College were not unmindful of the interests of the present Licentiates, in favor of whom, they reserved eligibility to the Fellowship, without examination, until the 10th of Jan., 1845. In accordance with this provision, the Council have made such regulations as will enable these gentlemen to be elected Fellows, and to enjoy all corporate privileges, upon payment of a fee considerably lower than that paid by those who, being members at the time of the granting of the Charter, were then constituted original Fellows.

In addition to that provision of the New Charter which permits the incorporation of Practitioners as Fellows, there is also a power given to admit Licentiates, without examination, during one year. The Council have not thought it necessary as yet

71 Fellow
Co-opted. 1871
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to frame any regulations with a view of rendering this provision operative, as it appears to them that persons who do not hold such a professional rank and standing as to entitle them to admission to the Fellowship, are not suffering any hardship by being required to enter the College by the ordinary way of examination.

71 Feb
Co-opted

In accordance with the provisions of the Charter and with the regulations just referred to, the Council have, up to the present time, elected seventy-one Fellows, whereof forty-two were Licentiates, and twenty-nine were qualified Practitioners in Surgery. The names and residences of all the newly admitted Fellows are subjoined in the order of their election, viz.:

Charles Neilson,	Killala
Michael H. Stapleton,	Dublin
Harward O'Farrell,	Boyle
Richard Cranfield,	Enniscorthy
John Hamilton,	Dublin
Edward A. Stoker,	Dublin
Thomas R. Mitchell,	Dublin
Henry White,	Knock, Co. Clare
Richard S. Ireland,	Dublin
David Wright,	Arklow
John Lentaigue,	Monaghan
Samuel L. Bigger,	Dublin,
William Kingsley,	Roscrea
Robert Johns,	Dublin
William Magill,	Cookstown
Charles C. King,	Dublin
John I. Crawford,	Royal Navy
Daniel F. Brady,	Dublin
Robert Cane,	Kilkenny
Gerald Osbrey,	Dublin
Richard M'Clelland,	Dublin
Michael J. Moorhead,	Tullamore
Nisbett S. Heffernan,	Bray

Alexander Marks,	Dublin
Philip Brabazon,	Downpatrick
Frederick Kirkpatrick	Dublin
Richard Verling,	Kingstown
Charles Staunton,	Royal Artillery
John K. Forrest,	Dublin
Robert D. Speedy,	Dublin
William R. Wilde,	Dublin
Robert H. Moore,	Dublin
Henry Thompson,	Dublin
John A. Orr,	Dublin
Charles E. Ross,	Castlecomer
Alexander Skipton,	Londonderry
John Dunn,	Drumsna
James Hunter,	Castlewellan
Auly P. Banon,	Dublin
Francis Battersby,	Dublin
Robert B. Todd,	London
William L. Kidd,	Armagh
James N. Walsh,	Ballinakill
Thomas Dillon,	Castlebar
William N. Heath,	Baltinglass
John McCrystall,	Listowel
Patrick M. Cullinan,	Ennis
Thomas Bouchier Lane,	Wexford
Thomas Bagot Lane,	Churchill, Co. Donegal
William Heighington,	Dunlavin
Patrick O'Callaghan,	11th Hussars
Samuel L. Hardy,	Dublin
Thomas Galloghly,	Clogheen
Farrell O'Reilly,	Mullingar
James Cavet,	Waterford
James J. Stoney,	Borrisokane
Richard G. H. Butcher,	Dublin
John Frederick Meekings,	Ballymoate
Edward Ellis,	Longford
George A. Stephenson,	3rd Dragoon Guards

Arthur Auchmuty,	Drumsna
O'Neill Ferguson	Royal Navy
William Campbell,	Fermoy
Owen Daly,	Mullingar
George Hetherington,	Athlone
Robert Burnett,	Tullow
Peter Shannon,	Dublin
William Chamberlain Hood,	London
Richard Dunscombe Alleyne,	Newcastle, Co. Limerick.
Robert Battersby,	47th Regiment
George W. Hatchell,	Dublin

*2 Licent's.
Admitted
for Exam* The Council have also granted Letters Testimonial to twelve gentlemen who underwent examination; but they have not thought it advisable to apply the special provisions of the Charter to the admission of persons to the class of Licentiates without examination.

*Bye-laws.
Repealed* Preparatory to a general revision of the Bye-laws of the College, the Council thought it right to ascertain the progress made in educational arrangements by the College of Surgeons of England, and also the provisions likely to be introduced into the Bill for the regulation of the Medical Profession, known to be in preparation by Sir James Graham. As it was found to be impossible to effect these objects without personal communication, the Secretary of the Council was directed to proceed to London, which he accordingly did, and after an absence of ten days returned with the required information. The Council then proceeded to revise the bye-laws, and on the 2nd of April a draft of a new code was brought up by the Secretary, read and ordered to be printed. The consideration and correction of this draft occupied the Council during six meetings, after which it was reprinted, and having been circulated among the Fellows, was submitted to the College on the 9th of May. On the 14th, four Fellows attended the Council, and put in written suggestions for the alteration of certain portions of the proposed bye-laws. Suggestions with a similar object, were at the same time received in writing, from two other Fellows, and the whole were carefully considered

on the 16th. Some of these suggestions were agreed to ; others were thought to be unnecessary or injudicious, and the grounds upon which the Council arrived at this opinion having been communicated to the Fellows concerned, the code of bye-laws was directed to be engrossed for the purpose of its being transmitted to the Secretary of State for his approval. A copy of the bye-laws as finally adopted is now laid on the table.

With respect to the state of the funds of the College, the Council have to report that at the termination of the last year, a balance of £318 19s. 6d. remained to the credit of the College ; that in the succeeding quarter, ending 31st March, 1844, a sum of £941 10s. was received, and £321 16s. disbursed, leaving at the last mentioned date, a floating balance of £938 13s. 6d. in the Bank of Ireland, in favor of the College. On the 30th April, a sum of £826 19s. 6. was applied to the purchase of Stock, (£800) by which the funded property of the College was increased from £6500 to £7300, $3\frac{1}{4}$ per cent.

A detailed statement of the income and expenditure, from the 1st of January, to the 31st March, 1844, is laid on the table.

The Council have further to inform the College, that in consequence of a representation which they made to Government, His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant was pleased to recommend to the several public Departments, the remission of such portion of the fees payable on the Supplemental Charter, as should be brought to the public credit; and the Attorney and Solicitor General having relinquished the fees to which they were entitled on this occasion, the actual expense of the Charter was reduced from £220 to £94 17s. 3d.

The Council have also much pleasure in informing the College that the Lord Chancellor has announced his intention of giving a prize of ten guineas, annually, during the next ten years, for the best Essay on a subject connected with the treatment of mental disease ; and that he has requested the Council to undertake the arrangement of the conditions, and the adjudication of the prize, every second year, in alternation with the College of Physicians.

The Council having thus briefly adverted to the special matters which, in addition to the ordinary affairs of the College, have very

*Finance
of Col*

*Fees on
Charter*

*Prize by
Lord
Chancellor*

fully occupied their time during the period of four months and a half that has elapsed since their election, beg leave to remark that much still remains to be done, in order to complete the organisation of the College, and to adapt it to its new constitution. As yet it has not been in the power of the Council to set about regulating the Library and Museum in such a way as to afford the greatest possible accommodation to the Fellows; neither have they been able to take up the subject of the studentships, for the establishment of which, liberal encouragement has been offered by the heads of the medical departments of the army and navy. The present system of conducting the examinations must also be looked upon in the light of an experiment, and one that will require to be carefully watched and regulated before the best mode of conducting this important department of the Collegiate business can be definitively settled. These and many other matters of great consequence will call for a laborious and careful consideration from the Council about to be elected, which must also be prepared to enter into the more general questions that will hang upon the expected legislative regulation of the medical profession, and to watch attentively over the interests of the College and of medical men generally in Ireland. In a word, and without entering into more minute details, the College will see that medical affairs in general and those of this body in particular are at the present time placed in a difficult and critical position, and demand the exercise of much prudence and a sound judgment in their management. At the same time, the Council are of opinion, that if the occasion be wisely made use of, the result will be a consolidation of the strength and resources, and an advancement of the reputation of this national institution, such as cannot fail of operating to the advantage and satisfaction of all parties concerned.

By order of the Council,

H. MAUNSELL,
Provisional Sec.