



Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland.

TENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

THE Council have to report that, since their election on the 7th day of June, 1852, they have held thirty-six meetings, at which the number of attendances of each member of Council, was as follows :—

MEETINGS.		MEETINGS.	
The President attended	.. 32	Mr. Colles,	... 32
The Vice-President	.. 32	Mr. Power,	.. 33
Sir Philip Crampton,	.. 11	Mr. Lipsett,	.. 30
Mr. Read,	.. 17	Mr. Macdonnell,	.. 30
Mr. Jacob,	.. 36	Mr. Stapleton,	.. 35
Mr. Tagert,	.. 34	Mr. Bevan,	.. 36
Mr. Beatty,	.. 26	Mr. Irvine,	.. 32
Mr. Ellis,	.. 27	Mr. Hughes,	.. 25
Mr. Williams,	.. 33	Mr. Pentland,	.. 22
Mr. Adams,	.. 23	Mr. Wilmot,	.. 30
Mr. Barker,	.. 33		

The Council have to report, that Five Candidates obtained the Fellowship, and 58 gentlemen were examined as Candidates for Letters Testimonial during the year ; of these latter, 51 were admitted Licentiates. Two Licentiates obtained the Diploma in Midwifery. Six Fellows and 12 Licentiates died since the date of the last Report, and the entire number now upon the Lists of the College amounts to 417 Fellows and 750 Licentiates.

The Council beg leave to submit an Abstract of Income and Expenditure for the year ending 5th May, 1853, and they place upon the table a detailed account of the particulars of Receipts and Disbursements during that period.

RCS/GOV/111/10

ABSTRACT of the Totals of Income and Expenditure under

Income.

To Balance from Account ending 5th April, 1852,	..	..	£835	16	3
Fees on Registration of 59 Pupils,	..	..	309	15	0
Ditto on Matriculation of 22 ditto,	..	..	5	10	0
Fees from 65 Candidates for Letters Testimonial and five ditto for Fellowship,	..	..	1470	0	0
Discount from W. Fry, on his account of £81 1 0	..	..	4	1	0
Dividend on £1000, 3¼ per cent. Stock,	..	..	32	10	0
One Year's Interest on Brinkley's Mortgage	..	..	400	0	0
			2221	16	0

CARMICHAEL FUND.

Lodged in Bank to credit of the College by Executor of the late R. Carmichael, Esq.	..	£3407	1	1
Paid for £3271 13s. 6d. invested in 3 per cent. Consols,	..	3300	0	0
Cash Balance to credit of Fund	..	£107	1	1

£3057 12 3

each head, from 6th April, 1852, to 5th April, 1853.

Expenditure.

Incidents,	£472	5	7
This item is composed of Fuel, Candles and Soap, Gaslight, Printing and Stationery, Painting, Glazing, Repairs, Servants' Clothing, &c.			
Taxes,	160	5	3
Library,	119	11	0
Museum, including gratuity to Curator, ..	136	18	3
School,	101	13	3
Insurance of Premises against Fire,	29	5	0
Surgical Society,	20	2	6
Remuneration to Examiners,	242	0	6
Repaid seven Candidates for Letters Testimonial, who had been rejected,	147	0	0
Secretary of Council, for expenses in London while employed on business of the College, ..	42	7	0
Expenses of Deputation to London on ditto, ..	76	17	0
Salary of Secretary of Council,	100	0	0
Ditto of Curator of Museum, 8 months, ..	40	0	0
Ditto of Registrar,	55	0	0
Ditto of Library Clerk	40	10	0
Wages of House Servants,	124	15	1
Superannuation allowance to Christopher Dixon, late dissecting-room Porter,	31	10	0
Total amount of Expenditure from 6th April, 1852, to 5th April, 1853,	£1940	0	5
Balance to credit of College, 5th April, 1853.	1117	11	10
	£3057	12	3

Museum Report of

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The Council have to report that 23 Journals and 172 other works, in all, 220 volumes, have been added to the Library during the year. A Catalogue of these Books is laid upon the table.

With respect to the Museum, the Council beg leave to submit the following Report from the Curator, who has been most assiduous and zealous in the discharge of his laborious duties since his appointment on the 2nd of August last:—

“ Royal College of Surgeons,
“ 6th May, 1853.

“ MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN,

“ Agreeably to the Bye-laws of the College, it becomes my duty to submit for your information, a statement of such duties as have been performed, and the alterations, repairs and preparations made by me during the past year.

“ I have accordingly to state, that since the 2nd day of August, 1852, 24 new Anatomical and 17 Pathological preparations have been added to your former collection in the Museum, and 47 Anatomical and 5 Pathological preparations have been replaced.

“ An estimate for painting the Museum having been tendered and agreed upon, it became my duty to make such arrangements for the protection and preservation of its contents, as the want of sufficient space for the removal of preparations would admit of, which object was attained by moving the preparations from shelf to shelf alternately as the work progressed; but a great amount of time and labour was nevertheless lost by not having a spare apartment at my disposal.

“ The painting being now completed, the Anatomical Museum is now arranged in such a manner, that visitors not previously acquainted with its valuable contents have within their reach, as I flatter myself, such information as will make them acquainted with the objects around, which facility is mainly due to the lettering of the different compartments of shelving, as also the additional space afforded by the erection of shelves under the north and south galleries.

“ The skeleton stands have been found inconveniently large and a carpenter was employed in reducing them, thereby giving more additional room and generally adding to the appearance of the Museum.

“ The skeletons have been cleaned and repaired, and the larger ones furnished with calico covers; these covers to be removed each visiting morning and replaced in the evening. The necessity for covers of this kind has been long felt; the dome light not being sufficiently well built to exclude the particles of dust and the admission of rain.

“ The improvements and arrangements, as well as the general appearance of your Museum, are principally attributable to the regular attendance of Members of your Museum Committee, and to the Finance Committee,

recognition of the Deeds by the Poor Law Commissioners 46
who placed from time to time certain sums of money in the hands of your Committee, greatly facilitating every transaction.

"Among the valuable additions made to the Museum during the late year, may be noticed those presented by the Royal Dublin Society and Sir Philip Crampton, Bart.

"The collection of Crustacea known as "Thomson's," has been handed over to the Director of the Royal Dublin Society's Museum.

"The duplicate Fossil Deer removed from your Museum, is at present placed in one of the vaults, and will fast go to destruction from the want of a proper apartment to place it in.

"Generally, I beg leave to report that I have devoted my whole time and attention in arranging the Museum in such a manner, and with the means within my power, as should sustain the high and honourable character of the Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland.

"I have the honor to be, Gentlemen,

"Your most obedient

"Humble Servant,

"WILLIAM CARTE, L.R.C.S.I.,

"Curator."

The Museum, hall, staircases, and passages have been painted throughout, and are now in a state, as to cleanliness and decoration, which the Council hope will be considered creditable to the Institution.

The Council have made another attempt to have the heavy burthen of local taxation, which presses upon the College funds, lightened, by an application to the Commissioner of Valuation, but have not yet been made acquainted with his determination respecting it.

In reference to the subject of the Diplomas in Surgery proposed to be issued by Trinity College, the Council have to report that a deputation waited upon the Poor Law Commissioners in June last, respecting which the President reported, that "he had been received by Mr. Power and Dr. Macdonnell, with whom a long conference was held, in the course of which Mr. Power stated, that he considered the question as to the recognition of the proposed Diploma of Trinity College, Dublin, to be one of practical consideration when it should arise; that if it came before the Commissioners, they would probably feel it their duty to take legal advice, as to whether there was really any authority for the issuing of such Diploma, he himself considering such authority to be properly an express recognition of the power in Charter or Statute, not merely the possibility of doing the thing without incurring legal penalty. Under the Irish Poor Law Order for medical relief, he thought the question still an open one and undecided; but under the order of the English Board of 1847, the recognition of Diplomas in Surgery from Universities in Ireland and Scotland was expressly given, and upon an opinion of the English law officers. This precedent, however, he said, the Irish Commission could not consider it absolutely necessary to follow, as the Acts constituting the Commissioners are distinct."

Imperial Attendance on
Constabulary Prisoners

A communication having been received from Mr. Z. Johnson, one of the Fellows, complaining of insufficient remuneration having been awarded to him for medical services rendered to persons in custody of the constabulary force, a deputation from the Council waited upon the Under-Secretary at Dublin Castle, who subsequently addressed the following letter to the President :—

“ Dublin Castle, 9th June, 1852.

“ Sir,

“ With reference to the memorial of Mr. Zachariah Johnson, Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons, brought under the notice of Government through you, I have to acquaint you that the Lord Lieutenant having made enquiry, finds that the fee paid to Mr. Johnson on the occasion referred to, was awarded by the General Board of Health, according to the usual scale of remuneration adopted by that Board. Under these circumstances, his Excellency does not feel called upon to re-open the consideration of that particular case. His Excellency, however, is of opinion that more liberal remuneration should in future be allowed to Medical and Surgical practitioners for services of this nature, and will accordingly cause the necessary instructions to be given in the proper quarter for effecting that object.

“ I am, sir,

“ Your most obedient, humble servant,

“(Signed) JOHN WYNNE.”

In March of the present year, a letter was received from the President of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow, soliciting the co-operation of the Council in opposing a Bill for the regulation of the Medical Profession, proposed by the Provincial Medical Association of England, and submitted by that body to the Secretary of State for the Home Department ; and as upon an examination of the draft of the said bill, it was found to be subversive of the privileges and authority of the Medical Corporations, it was

“ Resolved—That the Council will join the Royal College of Surgeons of England and the Faculty of Glasgow in a deputation to wait on the Home Secretary, in reference to the Medical Bill proposed by the Provincial Medical Association, if such be deemed advisable upon consultation.”

No further steps have as yet been taken in the matter.

The attention of the Council having been directed to a conversation that took place in the House of Commons, between the Secretary at War and Sir De Lacy Evans, respecting the endowment of a Professorship of Military Surgery, it was :—

“ Resolved,—That a communication be forthwith made to the Right Hon. the Secretary at War, offering to co-operate with the Government in the establishment of such a Professorship in this College as the legitimate institution for such a foundation.”

In reply to this communication, the following letter was received :—

Military Professorship

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" War Office, 5th March, 1853.

" Sir,

" I am directed by the Secretary at War to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2nd inst., and to request that you will convey to the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons, his best thanks for the ready and cordial offer to co-operate with the Government in the establishment of a Professorship of Military Surgery at Dublin. Before, however, taking any steps towards establishing similar professorships in London or elsewhere, Mr. Sidney Herbert is anxious to ascertain what is the exact position of the Professorship of Military Surgery at Edinburgh, and what practical advantage has been derived from it to Her Majesty's Service."

" With this view Mr. Herbert has caused a communication to be made to the proper authorities in Edinburgh, and as soon as he is in possession of the information required he will not fail to communicate with the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland on the subject of your letter."

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

(Signed) GEORGE RAMSAY.

On the arrival of the Earl St. Germans in Dublin, the President and Council, accompanied by several Fellows, attended him with an address, which, with his answer, is subjoined:—

" To His Excellency, Edward Granville, Earl of St. Germans, Lord Lieutenant General, and General Governor of Ireland.

" May it please your Excellency,

" We, the President, Council and Fellows of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, beg leave to approach your Excellency, and to offer our congratulations on your arrival in Ireland, and assumption of the position of Representative of Her Majesty the Queen in this Kingdom.

" We desire to assure you of the wish of this body to co-operate cordially with the Government in all measures calculated to advance the public service in its relations with our particular department, and to request your favourable consideration for such efforts as we may find it necessary, and have it in our power to make for the improvement of Surgical education and the advancement of the welfare and utility of the department committed to our charge.

" While we feel pride and pleasure in publicly recording the fact, that this College has always abstained from interference in questions of a party or political nature, we feel that it is not exceeding the proper limits of our position, to assure your Excellency that we have seen, with sentiments of great satisfaction, your Excellency's declaration in reference to two points of social policy, which have been specially brought under your notice. In common with the great majority of Her Majesty's Irish subjects we believe that the abolition of the office of Lord Lieutenant would be highly inexp-

Address - Earl St. Germans

dient, and that the discontinuance or even the diminution of the grants which Parliament has made for the support of the Hospitals in this City is much to be deprecated.

“EDWARD HUTTON, President.

“ALEXANDER READ, Secretary.”

“Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland,
“February 14th, 1853.”

“Dublin Castle, February 14, 1853.

“Gentlemen,

“Your congratulations on my arrival in Ireland as the representative of Her Majesty, are very acceptable to me. I shall at all times be ready to consider with attention any plans which you may think fit to submit to me, for the improvement of Surgical Education, or for the advancement of the science of Surgery in this country.

“The Royal College of Surgeons abstain, I know, in general from interfering in matters of a political or party nature. From the line of conduct which they usually pursue in this respect, they deviate, I think, but little in expressing to me the satisfaction with which they have heard that I object to the abolition of the office of Lord Lieutenant, and that I earnestly hope that the grants hitherto made by Parliament for the support of the Hospitals of this City, will not be discontinued, or even diminished.

“I shall always take a lively interest in the prosperity of a body, which has done so much for the interests of humanity.”

Four Essays were submitted in competition for the Sugden Prize, from among which, the Committee appointed to make the award selected one, found to be written by Mr. JOSEPH WILLIAMS, a Licentiate of the College.

The Council have the satisfaction to state that the executor of the late Mr. CARMICHAEL has paid in to the account of the College the sum of £3407 1s. 1d., as the principal of Mr. CARMICHAEL's bequest, and interest thereon, from the date of one year after his lamented death. Three thousand three hundred pounds of this money has been invested in the purchase of £3271 13s. 6d. 3 per cent. Consols, and notices to the following effect are in course of being issued:—

“The late RICHARD CARMICHAEL, Esq. having bequeathed to the College a sum of money, for the purpose of founding prizes for Essays upon certain subjects specified by him, the President and Council hereby give notice that on the first Monday in May, in the year 1855, they will proceed to adjudge a Prize of

TWO HUNDRED POUNDS

for the best Essay, and a Prize of

ONE HUNDRED POUNDS

for the second best Essay that may be presented to them in accordance with the following instructions prescribed by Mr. CARMICHAEL:—

2nd Chancellor Prize

"1st—The state of the Medical Profession in its different departments of Physic, Surgery and Pharmacy in Great Britain and Ireland, at the time of the writing of these Prize Essays.

"2nd—The state of the Hospitals and Schools of Medicine, Surgery and Pharmacy.

"3rd—The state and mode of examination, or of testing the qualifications of candidates of the different Licensing Colleges or Corporations in Medicine, Surgery and Pharmacy.

"Under these three heads, the authors will please to make such suggestions as may occur to them, respecting the improvement of the profession, with the view of rendering it more useful to the public, and a more respectable body than it is at present. In these suggestions the authors will please to consider the preliminary and moral education of Medical and Surgical Students, as well as the best mode of conducting their professional studies.

"In considering the 3rd head or mode of testing the qualifications of candidates by the licensing bodies, the authors will please to consider the most practicable mode of rendering the examinations as demonstrative as possible—*i. e.*—in Anatomy, by having the dead subject placed before the candidate—in Chemistry, Botany and Pharmacy, specimens of minerals, plants and pharmaceutical preparations placed before him; and in the practice of Physic and Surgery, the candidate to be placed before the patients in the wards of an hospital, as the testator is certain that this will afford the most certain and only true mode of ascertaining the qualifications of candidates."

"Each Essay is to be distinguished by a device or motto, and accompanied by a sealed packet, containing the name and address of the author, also distinguished by the same device or motto. The Essays are to be lodged at the College on or before the first day of February, 1855.

"The President and Council will not consider themselves bound to award the Prizes should any of the Essays not appear to them to possess sufficient merit."

Considering that a tribute of respect was due by the College to the memory of Mr. CARMICHAEL, the Council have directed that measures be taken to procure a Bust of that gentleman, to be set up in a proper place in the College.

The circumstances detailed in the last Annual Report and its Appendix, combined with other indications of designs to disturb the existing arrangements and status of the Medical Corporations, and of the profession generally, influenced the Council, at an early period after their election, to take the position of the College into very careful and serious consideration. Aggressions attempted upon this body, in common with the other Colleges of Surgeons of England and Scotland, and encroachments upon the privileges of the profession threatened in various quarters, warned the Council that the common safety of the profession, and the public interest, pointed out the propriety and necessity of cordially reciprocating the good feeling evinced by the College of Surgeons of England towards this body, and of taking all suitable measures for strengthening that disposition, and for removing any ob-

Carmichael Order

stacles that might stand in the way of a consistent and effective co-operation between the two institutions, in support of the interests of their respective members. At the same time, the advanced position taken up by the English College in fixing the standard of education and qualification of its Fellows and Members, and the extent to which it has liberalised its constitution, required that this College should be very careful to leave no room for a charge of illiberality or slowness being brought against it in those directions. It was also thought that the crisis was favourable for strengthening the College from within as well as from without; for rendering its machinery as perfect as possible; for extending the privileges of its Members to the utmost legitimate extent; and for removing restrictions from their capability of usefully serving it. Acting upon these views, the Council appointed a Committee to consider the whole subject, and upon their Report, some modifications of the present system (chiefly in the nature of restorations of former arrangements) have been, after very mature deliberation, agreed to.

It will be in the recollection of the College, that upon the acceptance of the Supplemental Charter, a year was allowed within which Licentiates who had passed previous to that date might be admitted to the Fellowship without examination. To this privilege those gentlemen were unquestionably entitled, under the conditions upon which they obtained their Letters Testimonial; but as it was lost by some of them, through absence from the country and other causes, it seems to be no more than an act of justice to endeavour to reinstate them in their former position. It was determined, therefore, that in the event of any new powers being sought from the Crown, the power of admitting to the Fellowship, without examination, gentlemen who became Licentiates before the year 1844 should be asked for.

Under the first and second Charters, the Constitution of the College being purely democratic, all its Members were capable of serving in any of its offices, and the President and Censors were annually chosen by and out of the whole body, as at once an Executive Committee and a Court of Examiners. This system will be generally admitted to have worked well, so far as related to the constitution of the Examining body; it was changed only in compliance with the wishes of the Government of the day, and in order to accommodate the system of this College to the new and more comprehensive arrangements which it was then supposed would have been sanctioned by Parliament in Sir James Graham's Bill. In the course of the changes made the Examiners were separated from, and made subordinate to, the Executive Council, and the Members of the latter, including the President, were rendered incapable of serving the College in the important though less distinguished function of admitting new Members into the body, and protecting the public by a due exercise of the Licensing power. Professors, Lecturers, and Teachers—excepting only Hospital Surgeons, Teachers of Clinical Surgery—were likewise excluded from the office of Examiner, and thus a large portion of the Fellows were deprived of their original privileges, and the College was greatly restricted in the choice of its officers in a direction which, above all others, requires the greatest possible freedom and the widest available circle of selection. The Committee

accordingly recommended the removal of all these restrictions, and the restoration to every Fellow of his full privilege of being elected to any office in the Corporation. They also proposed that the authoritative and dignified character with which the Court of Examiners was invested, under the Original Charters, should be restored; and that, with that view, the President, or in his absence, the Vice-President should, by right of office, be a Member of the Court, and of course preside at its meetings, as was formerly the practice. The Council adopted these recommendations, although not without much discussion and some difference of opinion.

In the last Annual Report the Council informed the College that a Draft of a Supplemental Charter proposed to be obtained by the College of Surgeons of England had been submitted to them by the Council of that body. That instrument has since received the assent of the Crown, and in it has been included a provision of a very liberal character, empowering the Council of the English College "to admit without examination to the Membership or Fellowship of the said College, on such conditions, and on the payment of such respective fees, as the Council shall by bye-law determine, the Fellows, Members, and Licentiates respectively of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, and the Faculty of the Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow; provided such Fellows, Members, and Licentiates shall be, at the time of their application for admission, in the *bona fide* practice of the profession of a Surgeon in England or Wales, and shall have obtained their respective Diplomas or Licences after examination." This power of obtaining *ad eundem* admission to all corporate rights and privileges of the profession in England being attended with great advantages to the Members of this College who have settled in considerable numbers, or who may wish to settle, in that part of the United Kingdom, it was thought by the Committee that it would be becoming to act in accordance with the spirit of wise liberality in which it was adopted, and they accordingly recommended that a reciprocal power to admit to a participation in our rights and privileges, such Fellows and Members of the English College as might be thought worthy of that distinction, should be sought for. The recommendation was, however, but partially adopted by the Council, in so far only as relates to the Fellows of the College of Surgeons of England, in favour of whom it was resolved to seek a power of admission to the Fellowship of this College without examination, on such conditions and on the payment of such fees as shall be determined by bye-law, and provided such Fellows shall be, at the time of their application for admission, in the *bona fide* practice of a Surgeon in Ireland, and shall have obtained their Diplomas, after Examination equal to that to which the Fellows of this College are subjected—such power of election of course in every instance to be exercised at the discretion of the Council, and its propriety to be determined upon according to the circumstances of each individual case.

In order to effect these changes, a short Supplemental Charter or Queen's Letter will be required, but the expense attending the procuring of the latter, the Council are informed, will be very inconsiderable.

Some other amendments have been adopted, which can be carried out

by an alteration in the bye-laws, or by a simple Ordinance of the Council. One of these is the constitution of a separate body of Examiners for the Diploma in Midwifery, and consequent upon that is the abolishing of the practice of electing distinct Examiners for the several subjects of Examination. The Council have accordingly amended the 12th clause of the 1st section of the Bye-Laws, by omitting the words—

“Three Examiners in Medicine and Surgery,
Two Examiners in Anatomy and Physiology,
One Examiner in Chemistry, Materia Medica, and Medical
Jurisprudence.”

And by substituting therefor, the words—

“Seven Examiners to Examine Candidates for Fellowship and
Letters Testimonial ; and

Three Examiners to Examine Candidates for the Diploma in
Midwifery.”

They have also amended paragraph c of the 5th clause, 2nd section, of the Bye-Laws, by substituting the word “Examiners” for the word “Examiner” in the second line, and by omitting the words, “and the Examiners in Anatomy and Physiology.” in the second and third lines.

These amendments, and also an amendment in the 10th clause, 1st section of the Bye Laws, authorising the foundation of a Professorship of Logic, have received the approval of the Queen and been certified by the Secretary of State for the Home Department.

It having been found inconvenient to call the College together, and, in practice, impossible to procure a considerable attendance of the Fellows residing at a distance from Dublin, in order to elect to casual vacancies in the Council, it has been determined that Elections to fill up such vacancies shall not be held except at the period of the Annual Election, unless at any time the number of Councillors shall be reduced below three-fourths of the full number. This change of practice can be carried out without any alteration either in Bye-Law or Charter.

Casual Elections to
Council Discontinued

By order of the Council,

H. MAUNSELL,

SECRETARY.

18th May, 1853.