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Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland.

EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

THE Council have to report, that since their election, on the 3rd day of June, 1850, they have held forty meetings, at which the number of attendances, of each Member of Council, was as follows :—

MEETINGS.		MEETINGS.	
The President attended	.. 38	Mr. Barker,	.. 36
The Vice-President	.. 35	Mr. Colles,	.. 32
Sir Philip Crampton,	.. 7	Mr. Power,	.. 31
Mr. Read,	.. 19	Mr. Lipsett,	.. 35
Mr. Cusack,	.. 13	Mr. Macdonnell,	.. 35
Mr. Jacob,	.. 37	Mr. Corr,	.. 33
Mr. Tagert,	.. 39	Mr. Stapleton,	.. 37
Mr. Williams,	.. 27	Mr. Bevan,	.. 36
Mr. Harrison,	.. 19	Mr. Irvine,	.. 32
Mr. Rynd,	.. 25	Mr. Hughes,	.. 34
Mr Adams,	.. 21		

THE Council have to report, that they elected HENRY FRANKLIN, Esq., Inspector General of Military Hospitals, an Honorary Fellow of the College. Forty-eight gentlemen were examined as Candidates for Letters Testimonial, of whom forty-five were admitted Licentiates, and three were rejected or withdrew. Ten Licentiates obtained the Diploma in Midwifery. Six Fellows and four Licentiates died during the year, and the entire number now upon the lists of the College, amounts to 422 Fellows, 671 Licentiates, and ten Honorary Fellows.

The Council beg leave to submit an Abstract of Income and Expenditure for the year ending 5th April, 1851; and they place upon the table a detailed account of the particulars of Receipts and Disbursements during that period. It gives the Council pleasure to call attention to the fact, that under both heads the financial state of the College is satisfactory. The incomings have increased by the sum of £145, while the outgoings have, at the same time, diminished to the extent of £112 15s. 11d. The death of Mr. O'Keefe, the late Registrar, which took place on the 3rd of April, will further relieve the funds, by the discontinuance of his superannuation allowance of £80.

The local taxation incident upon the College Buildings has continued to engage the attention of the Council. An application for exemption, under the provisions of 6 & 7 Vic. c. 36, has been made to the proper officer, and having been rejected by him, the Council have, under legal advice, appealed to the Quarter Sessions, but no decision has, as yet, been given in the matter.

255/60/11/18

*Manuscript of the
College*

ABSTRACT of the Totals of Income and Expenditure under

Income.

To Balance from Account ending 5th April, 1850,	...	£495 18 5
Fees on Registration of 39 Pupils,	204 15 0	
Ditto on Matriculation of 17 ditto,	4 5 0	
Fees from 48 Candidates for Letters Testimonial and one ditto for Fellowship,	1029 0 0	
Additional fee from Dr. James Barlow, on coming to reside in Dublin,	10 10 0	
Dividend on Stock,	32 10 0	
One Year's Interest on Brinkley's Mortgage,	400 0 0	
Total Amount of Income from 6th April, 1850 to 5th April, 1851,		£1681 0 0
Error in Accounts ending April, 1849, in favor of the College,		46 7 7

each head, from 6th April, 1850, to 5th April, 1851.

Expenditure.

Incidents,	£229 11 6
This item is composed of Fuel, Candles and Soap, Gaslight, Printing and Stationery, Painting, Cleansing, Glazing, Repairs, Servants' Clothing, &c.	
Taxes,	108 13 6
Library,	33 17 6
Museum, including gratuities to Curator, ..	107 18 5
School, --	98 11 8
Insurance of Premises against Fire, ..	29 5 0
Surgical Society,	20 10 0
Remuneration to Examiners,	191 8 1
Ditto to Professor of Chemistry for a course of Lectures delivered to the Registered Pupils, ..	100 0 0
Secretary of Council, for expenses in London while em- ployed on business of the College, ...	122 17 0
Repaid to three Candidates for Letters Testimonial, who had been rejected,	63 0 0
Salary of Secretary of Council,	100 0 0
Ditto of Curator of Museum,	50 0 0
Ditto of Registrar,	55 0 0
Retiring allowance to Mr. O'Keefe,	80 0 0
Wages of House Servants,	134 3 0
Superannuation allowance to Christopher Dixon, late dissecting-room Porter,	31 10 0
Total Amount of Expenditure from 6th April, 1850, to 5th April, 1851, £1556 5 8	
Balance to credit of College, 5th April, 1851, ..	667 0 4
	£2223 6 0

Visitors of Queen's Colleges

The Report of the periodical meeting held in September, 1850, having been printed and circulated among the Fellows, it will be unnecessary to include in this Report, a notice of occurrences previous to the date of that meeting. At the periodical meeting in January the Council reported as follows:—

“ Resuming the statement of their proceedings from the period of the presentation of their last Report, on the First Monday in September, the Council have to state, that on the 18th of the same month the following letter was received and entered upon their Minutes:—

“ Dublin Castle,
“ 3rd September, 1850.

“ Sir,

“ I am directed by the Lord Lieutenant to inform you, that the Queen has been pleased, by Warrants under her Majesty's sign manual, to appoint you to be a visitor of the Queen's Colleges, Belfast, Cork, and Galway. A list of the Visitors appointed for each of the Colleges, is annexed for your information.

“ According to the Statutes of the College, the ordinary visitation of each College is to be held triennially, at some time in the College Session, to be fixed by the Board of Visitors, with the concurrence of the President; and, in Her Majesty's Warrants it is provided, that any three or more of the Visitors may exercise all visitorial power, and that at all visitations, or meetings of the Visitors, the act of the majority shall be deemed sufficient.

“ I have the honor to be,

“ Sir,

“ Your most obedient humble Servant,
“ T. N. REDINGTON.

“ To the President of the
“ Royal College of Surgeons.”

“ Upon the important subject of the Medical Charities and contemplated measures for their settlement, the Council have had communications with several Fellows and Licentiates, and also with members of the medical profession generally, to the substance of which they beg leave to call the attention of the College. On the 6th of November, they were requested by Dr. Kingsley, on behalf of upwards of forty medical attendants of Dispensaries and Fever Hospitals, to transmit the following letter to Sir William Somerville:—

“ To the Right Hon. Sir William Somerville, Bart., M. P., Chief
Secretary for Ireland, &c.

“ Sir,

“ We the undersigned Physicians and Surgeons, Superintendents of Fever Hospitals and Dispensaries in the county of Tipperary, King's and Queen's Counties, beg leave to offer to you our best thanks for your assiduous exertions to promote the welfare of the Medical Charities of

Medical Charities Bill

Ireland, and for your endeavours to uphold the respectability of the medical profession; and while we much regret that the Medical Charities' Bill has not passed into a law, we would earnestly solicit a continuance of your influence during the next Session of Parliament, feeling, as we do, that the existing laws for the regulation of the Medical Charities are inadequate for the purpose; that the provisions of the Poor Law for the same object, are still more deficient and unpopular; that unless some Bill of the kind be procured, the Medical Institutions cannot be preserved in an effective state, and that much mischief must result to all classes, by leaving them in their present unsettled state.

“WILLIAM KINGSLEY, M. D.,
“Hon. Secretary.

“November 12th, 1850.”

“The Council having transmitted this letter through their Secretary, Sir William Somerville replied in the following terms:—

“Dublin Castle,
“Nov. 22nd, 1850.

“SIR,

“I have received with much gratification the Memorial from the Physicians and Surgeons, Superintendents of Fever Hospitals and Dispensaries in the County of Tipperary, King's and Queen's Counties, which you lately did me the honor to place in my hands, and I shall feel much obliged, if you will assure Doctor Kingsley, that I feel very grateful to the gentlemen who have signed it, for the very kind manner in which they have been pleased to express themselves towards me, and that I am deeply impressed with the importance of the subject to which it refers.

“I remain, Sir,

“Your obedient Servant,

“W. M. SOMERVILLE.

“H. Maunsell, Esq., M. D.”

“On the 22nd of November the Council received a Deputation from a Meeting of Surgeons of County Infirmaries, which, by their permission was held in the College, who presented the following resolutions:—

“That the Meeting desires to convey to the Council of the College of Surgeons the earnest wish entertained to maintain a close alliance with the College, and to urge upon the Council the great importance to the College, of sustaining the County Infirmaries as provincial Hospitals, in which their Licentiates or Fellows shall enjoy opportunities of upholding the character of the College, while engaged in the service of the Sick Poor, and extending to all classes the advantage of that high class of surgical education which the College affords.

“That the Meeting being unanimously of opinion, that it is in the highest degree desirable to have County Infirmaries excluded from the operation of the Medical Charities' Bill, as has been provided in respect to certain Hospitals of Dublin, by the 12th clause, earnestly solicits the aid

Infirmaries Inquiries

of the Council towards accomplishing such object, the Meeting being desirous to impress on the Council, that a change of constitution of the Infirmaries, as proposed by the Bill, is likely to prove highly detrimental to the Institutions, unjust to the Governors, prejudicial to the interests of the Sick amongst the poorer members of the industrious classes, and calculated to lower the *Status* of the Medical Profession in general throughout Ireland.

“That the Meeting is of opinion, that the Surgeons of the Infirmaries have an equitable claim on the College and the Council, to have close attention bestowed on their interests, in any communication which may take place between parties deputed by the College and the Legislature or the Government, it being the wish of the Meeting to maintain the closest alliance with the College, and to obtain its protection.

“That the Meeting abstains from entering at present into details of all objections entertained against the Bill, but will make provision for repeated communications with the Council, should the latter body consider that such is desirable to be done.

“GEORGE ROE, Chairman.”

“A similar permission to meet in the College was also granted to Medical Attendants of Fever Hospitals and Dispensaries throughout Ireland, and a Meeting was accordingly held on the 7th January, the proceedings at which have been made known through the medium of the public Journals. The following resolution was, on the 8th of January, presented to the Council by a Deputation from that Meeting:—

“Resolved—That the thanks of the Meeting are hereby given to the Council and Secretary of the Royal College of Surgeons in Dublin, for their strenuous and persevering endeavours to have the Medical Charities' Bill amended and passed in the last session of Parliament; and also for the permission so readily accorded us to hold our Meeting in the College; and that they be respectfully requested to continue their efforts for the passing and enactment of the Bill in the ensuing session, affecting as it does the interests of a numerous body of their own Fellows and Licentiates. It is further resolved, that a Deputation be appointed to convey to them, at their Meeting on the 8th inst., this vote of thanks, and to confer generally with them on the subject.”

“In consequence of a correspondence begun by the Board of Trinity College, upon the subject of Medical Education, the Council, on the 4th of December, unanimously adopted the following resolution which they hope will be a means of establishing a better understanding than has heretofore existed between this College and the University of Dublin.

“Resolved—That this Council being anxious to encourage liberal education among Candidates for their Fellowship and Letters Testimonial, in future all Graduates in Arts of the University of Dublin, being regis-

*Univ. of Dub. -
Occupation of School of Physic*

tered Pupils of the College of Surgeons, shall be admitted to the examinations for Fellowship and Letters Testimonial, provided they produce the Certificates of Surgical Education required by the Bye-Laws; and of such course of education the several Certificates of the School of Physic now required by the "Regulations of the University," to be produced by Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Medicine, shall be received as part."

"The Council have to report that they have added the following clauses to the 1st section of the Bye-Laws :—

" It shall not be lawful to make any dividend, gift, division, or bonus in money, unto or between any of the Fellows.

" No Fellow in arrear shall be permitted to vote or speak at the Meetings of the Colledge."

Also that they have re-enacted the 3rd clause of the 2nd section in the following terms :—

Qualifications of Candidates for the Fellowship.

" Every registered Pupil or Licentiate, shall be admitted to examination for the Fellowship, if he shall have laid before the Council the following document :—

" A receipt showing that he has lodged in the Bank of Ireland, for the use of the Colledge, if he be a Licentiate, Ten Guineas, or an undertaking that, in case he shall be elected, he will pay Two Guineas on the first day of May in each year to the Funds of the Colledge; or if he be a registered Pupil, a receipt for Twenty-five Guineas, or a receipt for Fifteen Guineas and an undertaking that, in case he shall be elected, he will pay Two Guineas on the first day of May in each year to the Funds of the Colledge; provided in either case he intends to reside beyond ten miles from Dublin. Should the Candidate intend to reside in Dublin or within ten miles thereof, he shall lodge, if he be a Licentiate, Twenty Guineas, or Ten Guineas and an undertaking that, in case he shall be elected, he will pay Two Guineas on the First day of May in each year to the Funds of the Colledge; or if he be a registered pupil, Thirty-five Guineas, or Twenty-five Guineas and an undertaking that, in case he shall be elected, he will pay Two Guineas on the First day of May in each year, to the Funds of the Colledge. Fellows entering on the country list, who may subsequently settle as practitioners in Dublin, or within ten miles thereof, shall pay to the Funds of the Colledge Ten Guineas, in a single sum, or Two Guineas on the First day of May in each year, during the time they shall practise in Dublin."

" These alterations having been approved of by the Queen, and Her Majesty's approval certified by the Right Hon. Sir George Grey, the

Notwithstanding the above

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Fellowship Bye-laws*

Council have directed the Charters, Bye-Laws, and Ordinances, to be reprinted, which is now in course of being done."

The work here referred to has been since completed, and copies are ready for delivery to such of the Fellows as may be desirous of obtaining them.

Immediately subsequent to the January meeting, the Council received a memorial from the Medical Practitioners of Cork, requesting their interference in reference to an appointment of an unqualified person to a medical charge in the Ordnance Department, made by the Master General, in compliance with which the Council directed a respectful letter to be written to the Marquis of Anglesey, requesting a revision of the matter. A reply was received, stating that the appointment was cancelled by His Lordship.

On the 31st March the Council received a letter from Sir William Somerville, accompanying copies of his Medical Charities' Bill; and at the same time, a request was made by the Committee of Medical Officers of Dispensaries and Fever Hospitals, that the Council would send an agent to London to watch the progress of the Bill, and to forward its enactment with such amendments as might be required. As the Bill appeared to the Council to be good in principle, and to be favorable to the interests of the medical profession, as well as to those of the sick poor, they complied with this request, and despatched their Secretary to London, where he has since been in attendance whenever the Bill has been expected to be under consideration of the House of Commons.

By order of the Council,

H. MAUNSELL,

SECRETARY.

May 17, 1851.

The Medical Charities' Bill

and Recognition of Apothecaries



Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL,

PRESENTED AT THE PERIODICAL MEETING OF THE COLLEGE
IN SEPTEMBER, 1850.

IN meeting the College upon the present occasion, the Council, taking into consideration the important transactions respecting the Medical Charities Bill, that have occurred since the date of their Annual Report, think it right to depart from the usual custom, and to submit to the Fellows a short narrative of their transactions in a printed form.

The second edition of the Medical Charities Bill, amended in several particulars, according to the suggestions of the Council, having been re-committed in the House of Commons, notices of further amendments were given by several members, and among them, one by Mr. JOHN REYNOLDS, one of the representatives of the city of Dublin, which would have had the effect of qualifying the Licentiates of the Apothecaries' Company for appointments to all Medical and Surgical offices under the Bill. Feeling that this would be a serious encroachment upon the privileges of the Fellows and Licentiates of this College, the Council determined upon giving this movement the most strenuous opposition; and with that view, they directed their Secretary to proceed to London on the 12th of May. The fullest assurances were then received from Sir WILLIAM SOMERVILLE that the government would not sanction any such invasion of the just rights of the Medical profession: but various circumstances interrupted the progress of the Bill, and the Secretary was directed to return to Dublin on the 29th of the same month.

On the 17th of June, a resolution agreed to at a numerous meeting of Fellows, held in the College Hall, was presented to the Council, requesting them "to support the Medical Charities Bill by all means in their power," and it was therefore Resolved—"That the Secretary do proceed forthwith to London, to carry out the views expressed in that resolution, and to support the amendments introduced into the Bill at the suggestion of the Council."

Further delays, however, occurred in the progress of the Bill through Committee, and the Secretary having returned, he was again sent to London on the 27th of July. On the 5th of August the following resolution was passed :—

“ Royal College of Surgeons, August 5, 1850.

“ At a meeting of Council, held this day, it was ordered that Dr. MAUNSELL be instructed to wait on Sir WILLIAM SOMERVILLE without delay, and to express to him the great regret and disappointment of the Council on account of the rumours which prevail respecting the uncertainty of the passing of the Medical Charities Bill. The Council can see no other means by which the Dispensaries or Fever Hospitals can be properly maintained with safety to the sick poor, and due protection and support to the Medical attendants. They feel that the existing laws for the regulation of the Medical Charities are inadequate for the purpose, and that the provisions of the Poor Law for the same object are equally deficient. They, therefore, wish Dr. MAUNSELL to entreat SIR WILLIAM SOMERVILLE to exert his influence to have the Bill passed this Session, convinced that if this opportunity be allowed to escape, such another may never again arise.”

On the 6th of August the Bill was passed through Committee in the House of Commons, when the amendment respecting the Parliamentary qualification of Apothecaries as Physicians and Surgeons was proposed by Mr. REYNOLDS, and being ably opposed by Sir WILLIAM SOMERVILLE, was rejected by a majority of 46 to 23. The Council regret to be obliged to state, in reference to this subject, that one of the representatives of the University of Dublin, Mr. NAPIER, left the house without voting upon the question, and the other, Mr. GEORGE ALEXANDER HAMILTON, supported Mr. REYNOLDS' motion, and acted with that gentleman as teller in the division upon it. The Council, therefore, felt called upon to adopt the following resolution, which has been transmitted to both the gentlemen named in it :—

Resolved—“ That this College observe with the utmost surprise and regret the motion made by Mr. REYNOLDS to place apothecaries on a level with physicians and surgeons as attendants to Hospitals and Dispensaries in Ireland, was supported by Mr. G. A. HAMILTON, one of the members for the University, and was not opposed by Mr. Napier, the other member for the same University. The Council are of opinion that no measure could be adopted more calculated to lower the Medical and Surgical profession in public opinion than that thus supported by these two gentlemen; and they, therefore, hereby express their unequivocal disapprobation of the attempt to carry it into effect.”

Having taken this step in the exercise of their duty as guardians of the rights and interests of the Fellows and Licentiates, the Council think it right to recommend the further consideration of this very important subject to the attention of the College. In the lists of both classes of

members of our body, there are several hundred electors, and persons entitled to be electors of the University of Dublin; and the Council are of opinion that at future elections measures should be taken to secure representatives who will pay due regard to the interests of the Graduates of the University, and to the just rights of the Medical and Surgical professions. The occasion is a suitable one for asserting the claims of medical men to due attention on the part of the Legislature, and the Council respectfully submit that it ought to be improved.

On the 9th of August the Bill passed the House of Commons, and on the 12th it was read a second time in the House of Lords, when, owing to the lateness of the session, it was withdrawn on the understanding that it should be reintroduced next year, with the advantage of its principle having been affirmed by both Houses.

In conclusion, the Council desire to express their regret at the present failure of a measure which they believe to have been considered by the great majority of the Fellows and Licentiates to have been calculated to produce much benefit to the medical charities, the profession, and the public. Unless some bill of the kind be passed into law, the Council see no ground for hoping that the medical institutions can be preserved in an effective condition, and they see much prospective mischief to all classes in the country, from the abandonment of a mode of relieving the sick poor which has been for a very long period successful and popular. They would, therefore, press upon the College, and upon the entire body of the profession, the propriety of commencing, from the present moment, active and united exertions to recover the ground that has just been lost. Minor differences ought to be reconciled, and minor interests sacrificed to obtain the great advantage of placing the medical service of the public in a secure and useful position

The Council have further to report that Sir BENJAMIN BRODIE having lately paid a visit to Dublin, they thought it right to pay him the compliment of entertaining him at a public dinner, which was accordingly done.

By order of the Council,

H. MAUNSELL,
Secretary.

August 28th, 1850.

Sir B. Brodie. Dinner

Periodical Meetings of the College were held in
September 1851. and Jan. 1852. but no printed
Reports made by Council to these meetings are
extant.