



Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland.

SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

THE Council have to report that since their election, on the 4th day of June, 1849, they have held forty-two meetings, at which the number of attendances, of each Member of the Council, was as follows:—

MEETINGS.		MEETINGS.	
The President attended...	38	Mr. Rynd,	... 21
The Vice-President ...	24	Mr. Adams,	... 27
Sir P. Crampton,	... 16	Mr. Barker,	... 38
Mr. Reid,	... 28	Mr. Colles,	... 33
Mr. Cusack,	... 15	Mr. Power,	... 35
Mr. Jacob,	... 38	Mr. Lipsett,	... 28
Mr. Porter,	... 13	Mr. Macdonnell,	... 37
Mr. Tagert,	... 37	Mr. Corr,	... 36
Mr. Williams,	... 26	Mr. Stapleton,	... 38
Mr. Armstrong,	... 9	Mr. P. Bevan,	... 37
Mr. Trant,	... 31		

THE Council have to report that one candidate obtained the Fellowship of the College during the past year, and that they elected Sir David Pitcarin, Chief of the Medical Department of the Army in Ireland, an Honorary Fellow. Forty-six gentlemen were examined as candidates for Letters Testimonial, of whom forty-five were admitted Licentiates, and one rejected. Five Licentiates obtained the Diploma in Midwifery. Nine Fellows and four Licentiates died during the year, and the entire number now upon the lists of the College amounts to 434 Fellows, 602 Licentiates, and nine Honorary Fellows.

The Council beg leave to submit an Abstract of Income and Expenditure for the year ending the 5th of April, 1849; and they place upon the table a detailed account of the particulars of Receipts and Disbursements for that period. It will be seen that the general depression of the country has not failed to influence the finances of the College, a result which could not be unexpected, and which the Council endeavoured to meet by the strictest attention to economy; and they have the satisfaction of stating that, notwithstanding a considerable extraordinary outlay for repairs and painting, for the Renny Monument, and for Illuminations at the time of the Queen's visit, the expenditure during the year has been £175 less than that of the preceding year.

ABSTRACT of the Totals of Income and Expenditure, under

Income.

To Balance from Accounts, ending 5th April, 1849	£629 0 1
Fees on Registration of 42 Pupils	£220 0 0
Ditto on Matriculation of 6 ditto	1 10 0
Fees from 42 Candidates for Letters Testimonial ..	882 0 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, 1849, to 5th April, 1850, £1536 0 0

The Council beg leave to submit an Abstract of Income and Expenditure for the year ending the 5th of April, 1849; and they place upon the table a detailed account of the particulars of Receipts and Disbursements for that period. It will be seen that the general depression of the country has not failed to influence the finances of the College, a result which could not be unexpected, and which the Council endeavoured to meet by the strictest attention to economy; and they have the satisfaction of stating that, notwithstanding a considerable extraordinary outlay for repairs and painting for the Henry Monument, and for Illuminations at the time of the Queen's visit, the expenditure during the year has been £175 less than that of the preceding year.

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each head, from 6th April, 1849, to 5th April, 1850.

Expenditure.

Incidents	£269	1	10
This item is composed of Fuel, Candles, and Soap; Gas-light, Printing, and Stationery; Painting, Cleaning, Glazing, Repairs, Servants' Clothing, &c.			
Rent and Taxes	212	1	5
Library	128	15	11
Museum, including gratuities to Curator	135	4	0½
School	92	11	3
Insurance of Premises against Fire	29	5	0
Surgical Society	13	10	0
Remuneration to Examiners	151	14	6
Ditto to Professor of Chemistry for a Course of Lectures delivered to the Registered Pupils	100	0	0
Ditto to Secretary of Council for expenses in London while employed on business of the College	17	17	0
Repaid one Candidate for Letters Testimonial, who had been rejected	21	0	0
Testimonial to the late Dr. Renny, in Christ Church Cathedral, and Fees to Chapter on ditto	36	10	0
Salary of Secretary of Council	100	0	0
Ditto of Curator of Museum	50	0	0
Ditto of Registrar, and Superannuation allowance to Mr. O'Keefe	80	0	0
Ditto of Library Clerk	55	0	0
Wages of House Servants	145	0	8
Superannuation allowance to Christopher Dixon, late Dissecting room Porter	31	10	0
Total Amount of Expenditure from 6th April, 1849, to 5th April, 1850, £1669	1	7½	
Balance to credit of College, 5th April, 1850.	495	18	5½
	£2165	0	1

Queens Visit to Ireland

Periodical meetings of the College, in accordance with the resolution of the Council to that effect, were held in September and January last; and the Council now beg leave to place upon record the substance of the reports made by them upon those occasions.

At the meeting in September the Council reported as follows :—

“The visit of the Queen to Ireland afforded the opportunity of presenting complimentary addresses to her Majesty and her Royal Consort, which were presented to the Queen, at levee, by the President, Vice-President, Honorary Secretary, and the Senior Members of Council; and to the Prince Albert in the usual manner, through his Secretary, from whom the following answer was received :—

“Vice Regal Lodge,
“August 8th, 1849.

“SIR,

“I have not failed to present to His Royal Highness the Prince Albert, the Address from the President, Councillors, and Fellows of the Royal College of Surgeons, which accompanied your letter of yesterday's date.

“I have been commanded to request that you will communicate to the Members of this body His Royal Highness' best thanks.

“I have the honor to be,

“Sir,

“Your most obedient humble servant,

“C. B. PHIPPS.

“ANDREW ELLIS, Esq.”

His Royal Highness was pleased to visit the College, attended by his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, when the Prince expressed himself much gratified with the Museum and other parts of the institution, and condescended to inscribe his name in the visitors' book.

The Council take this, the first suitable occasion for putting upon record, in the proceedings of the College, their deep sense of regret at the sudden and melancholy death of their late respected associate, Mr. Richard Carmichael, and of stating their satisfaction at the promptitude and kindly feeling with which the Fellows and Licentiates responded to their invitation to pay the last tribute of respect to that gentleman, and of sympathy to his family, by attending in public procession at his funeral.

At the meeting in January the Council again had occasion to advert to the respected name of Mr. Carmichael, in calling the attention of the College to a munificent proof of that gentleman's regard for the welfare of the body, and of the medical profession, afforded by his bequest of £3000, to be employed in the manner directed in the following instructions :—

Carmichael ⁵ *Reich. Will*

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE DISPOSAL OF MY BEQUEST TO THE COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.

R. C.

"In my will dated 11th of February, 1849, I bequeathed three thousand pounds to the College of Surgeons in Ireland, the interest arising from which sum is to be disposed of in the following manner:—

"Every fourth year after the investment of this sum in the funds of the College, a premium of two hundred pounds, to be adjudged by the Council of the College for the best essay, and one hundred pounds for the second best essay on the following subjects:—

"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,

"The Council of the College (if they agree to act on this proposal), will please to give one year's notice in the public papers and medical journals, and that all competitors for the prizes offered, shall send in their essays three months before the day, (the first Monday in May, every fourth year,) upon which day the Council shall pronounce their judgment.

"The name and address of each author, with a device corresponding to that on his essay, to be enclosed in a sealed letter, in the manner generally adopted for all prize questions.

"The successful essays, or (if too long), portions of them to be read to the assembled College, at which meeting its Licentiate and all Medical Students shall be permitted to attend.

Queen's University Foundation of

"Should the Council not deem any of the essays worthy of a reward, they are at liberty and authorized to postpone the grant of premium until the termination of the next four years; and as at this period, the interest of the capital will be doubled, the reward of the two best essays may also be doubled—i.e.—four hundred pounds for the best, and two hundred pounds for the second best.

"On handing the sum mentioned of three thousand pounds to the College, my Trustees will please to have a legal guarantee, that the provisions above stated will be carried into effect, as well as the publications of both of the prize essays to the extent, each of 700 copies, to be disposed of in the following manner:—Copies to be sent free of expense to the Presidents, Vice-Presidents, Councillors, or Governing Members of all the Medical Colleges or Corporations of the United Kingdom. The authors of the successful essays to be entitled to 25 copies each. The remainder to be sold, the produce of which to go to the premium fund. Copies should also be sent to all Cabinet Ministers and Members of the Privy Councils in both countries.

"Should the Council neglect to comply with the above provisions, so as not to carry into effect, the object and spirit of the testator in making this bequest, it is his will and pleasure that the interest thus accumulated, shall be handed to the Medical Benevolent Fund of Ireland, and his Trustees will take special care, that on giving the principal sum to the College, legal provision shall be made to carry this arrangement into effect.

"RICHARD CARMICHAEL."

At the same meeting the Council acquainted the College with the fact, that proceedings were on foot for the establishment of a new University in Ireland, and that they were in communication with the Lord Lieutenant upon the subject. Since then His Excellency communicated to the Council a draft of the charter proposed to be granted to that institution, in reference to which the following correspondence took place:—

"To His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, &c. &c."

"MY LORD,

"The President and Council of the Royal College of Surgeons are desirous of conveying to your Excellency the deep sense they entertain of your Excellency's kindness in furnishing them with an opportunity of perusing and considering the charter of the Queen's University before it had been completed and received the royal assent.

"The Council are the more grateful for the favour they have received in this matter at your Excellency's hands, as they have reason to believe it is an unusual one.

"It is with feelings of the utmost satisfaction that the Council have to state to your Excellency that they found nothing in the charter of the Queen's University which interferes with the rights and privileges of the College of Surgeons, or which is at all likely to impair its usefulness. It

is true that the competition which must result from the foundation of three additional Schools of Medicine in connexion with the three Provincial Colleges, may, in the first instance, prove injurious to the interests of the College of Surgeons; but the Council are strongly impressed with the opinion that the injury (if such should occur), will be but temporary, while the benefits to science, and to the public, which must result from a generous emulation, will be permanent. The College of Surgeons feel that, in common with every educational body in the kingdom, they must have their full share in the benefits of every impulse that is given to sound education, and that the more diffused this impulse is—the more it penetrates into the depths of the population, the greater will be the advantage to every institution connected with education, and, by a necessary consequence, to society at large.

“(Signed),

“A. ELLIS, *President*.

“Royal College of Surgeons,
“April 9th, 1850.”

“Dublin Castle, 13th April, 1850.

“SIR,

“I am directed by the Lord Lieutenant to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th instant, transmitting a communication from the President and Council of the Royal College of Surgeons; and I am to request that you will convey to that distinguished body the great satisfaction which His Excellency has received from the expression of their opinion upon the proposed charter of the Queen's University in Ireland, which the Lord Lieutenant had deemed it proper that they should have an opportunity of considering.

“I have the honor to be,

“Sir,

“Your most obedient servant,

“(Signed) T. N. REDINGTON.

“MAURICE, CORR, M.D.,
“Willow-place, Booterstown.”

Shortly after the opening of the session of Parliament rumours reached the Council that a Medical Charities' Bill was in preparation by the government, the provisions of which were likely to affect, in an important manner, the interests of the Medical Profession. As it was found impossible to procure accurate information upon the subject here, the Council, before the Easter recess, despatched their Secretary to London to make inquiries respecting it. These were promptly and courteously replied to by Sir William Somerville, who listened, with the most considerate attention to every suggestion offered by the Council. The result has been the production of a second edition of the bill, which, if not in every respect satisfactory, is certainly, in the opinion of the Council, calculated to be productive of much benefit to the medical charities, the profession, and the

Med. Charities Bill

public. The circumstances of the country, and the manifest effects of these circumstances upon the medical institutions, have forced on the necessity of abandoning the old system of providing funds for the relief of the sick poor by voluntary contributions and county assessments, and have rendered a recourse to the poor-rate unavoidable. The Council regret that this necessity should exist; but they see in the structure of the bill, as it at present stands, much to mitigate the evil that would necessarily follow a surrender of the business of medical relief to the unchecked control of the poor-law authorities.

By order of the Council,

H. MAUNSELL,

Secretary.

("Signed")

"A. ELLIS, President.

May, 1851.

"Sir, I am directed by the Lord Lieutenant to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th instant, transmitting a communication from the President and Council of the Royal College of Surgeons; and I am to request that you will convey to that distinguished body the great satisfaction which His Excellency has received from the expression of their opinion upon the proposed charter of the Queen's University in Ireland, which the Lord Lieutenant had deemed it proper that they should have an opportunity of considering.

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