

MINUTES  
OF THE  
BELFAST MEDICAL SOCIETY

1822 TO 1862

LESS

APRIL 1828 TO JULY 1842

A transcription can only approximate to the original. Any errors not in the original are mine.

J I Logan  
Belfast  
28 November 2016

## Minutes of the Ordinary Meetings

### **Fever Hospital**

**8 June, 1822**

At a meeting of the medical attendants of the Hospital, held to consider the propriety of adopting measures for the revival of the medical library, present Drs McDonnell, Forcade, R Stephenson and Mr Moore it was resolved

That one pound two and nine pence paid in advance of the first of May be the yearly subscription of each member.

That Dr Forcade be requested to act as Treasurer, Dr R Stephenson as Secretary and the apothecary of the Hospital as librarian to the Society.

That in the present state of our funds it is expedient to confine the collection of books to approved medical periodical publications.

That the Edinburgh Medical and Surgical Journal, the Medico-chirurgical Transactions, London Medical and Surgical Journal, Johnson's Medico-chirurgical Journal, Journal de Medicine et Chirurgie be ordered forthwith.

That members are to be elected by ballot and that one black bean in ten shall exclude the person proposed.

That the meetings of the society shall be held in the Hospital at eleven o'clock a.m. on the first Monday of every month.

A ballot having been taken for the admission of Messrs McCleery and Coffey, who were proposed, as members they were found duly elected.

R Stephenson, Secretary

**1 July, 1822**

Present, Dr McDonnell in the Chair - Drs Forcade, R Stephenson, Moore, Coffey, McCleery.

Resolved that the eighth number of Johnson's Journal be taken from Mr Coffey, and the succeeding numbers be ordered through the book-seller from London.

That the new publications shall circulate through the members in rotation having lain on the table for one week after having been received.

That each member may retain the number circulating for forty eight hours, and then transmit it to the next in succession on the list under a penalty of five pence if detained after the time appointed, and five pence for every succeeding day until it shall be forwarded.

That the property of the society shall not be alienated without the unanimous consent of the members, given at a meeting specially summoned for that purpose a month previously.

That country members be eligible, the member proposing being responsible that they will in all

respects conform to the existing laws of the Society.

That the new publications may be retained for one week by country members after having circulated among the members resident in town.

That every candidate proposed for admission into the society and every new publication be announced in a proposal book a fortnight before they can be admitted to ballot.

That thanks be given to Dr Stephenson for a copy of the Edinburgh Medical Essays presented by him to the Society.

A ballot having been taken for the admission of M.M. Bryson, and McKibbin they were declared duly elected.

R Stephenson, Secretary

**5 August, 1822**

Present, Mr McKibbin in the Chair - Dr R Stephenson, M.M. McCleery and Coffey.

Resolved that the first four numbers of Johnson's Journal, second series, be ordered through the bookseller immediately.

That the Treasurer be requested to order the XIII number of Johnson's quarterly journal of foreign Medicine and Surgery, and procure the succeeding numbers regularly in future.

Dr Halliday having been balloted for, was found duly elected.

Submitted for the consideration of next meeting, that all candidates and books recommended for admission shall be proposed at the meeting previous to that on which they can be admitted to ballot.

R Stephenson, Secretary

**2 September, 1822**

Present, Mr McCleery in the Chair - Dr Forcade, R Stephenson, Mr Moore.

The motion proposed at last meeting was negated.

Submitted by Mr Moore for the consideration of next meeting that members shall not be obliged under a penalty to forward the periodical publications on Sunday during their circulation.

R Stephenson, Secretary

**7 October, 1822**

Present, Mr Moore in the Chair - Drs McDonnell, Forcade, R Stephenson, Mr McKibbin, Coffey.

Resolved that Sunday be not counted one of the two days that members are allowed to keep the periodical publications.

Resolved that the Treasurer be requested to procure for the Society the New York Medical Repository.

R Stephenson, Secretary

## The Belfast Medical Society

### Monday 4 November, 1822

Present, Dr McDonnell in the Chair - Dr R Stephenson, Mr Coffey, Forcade.

Resolved that Mr Moore be requested to return thanks to Mr Wallace for the copies of his essays on the liver and the use of sulphureous vapour, presented by him to the Library.

Resolved that the first volume of Johnson's review be half bound before it can be lent.

Two cases on cynanche laryngea were read by Dr McDonnell and presented to the society by Mr Coffey - resolved that they be transcribed.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 2 December, 1822

Present, Mr Moore in the Chair - Dr Forcade, R Stephenson, McKibbin, Coffey.

Dr Young of Ballymena and Mr Mawhinney were balloted for and declared duly elected.

Resolved that the annals of Chemistry be purchased by the Treasurer commencing with the second series.

Resolved that Nos 5, 6 and 7 of Johnson's Medico-chirurgical Review be purchased immediately to complete the collection.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 6 January, 1823

Present, Mr McKibbin in the Chair - Dr Forcade, R Stephenson, Mr Mawhinney, Dr McDonnell.

Resolved that the annals of Chemistry ordered at last meeting be not continued.

Resolved that Drs McDonnell and Forcade be requested to procure a book for the insertion of cases presented to the Society.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 3 February

Present, Doctor McDonnell in the Chair - Dr R Stephenson, M.M. Coffey, Moore, Forcade.

A paper was read by Dr McDonnell being a commentary on the cases of cynanche presented by Mr Coffey, and it was resolved that it be accepted by the Society and that it be inserted in the records.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 3 March, 1823

Present, Mr Moore in the Chair - Dr R Stephenson, R Coffey, McDonnell, Forcade.

Resolved that the Treasurer be requested to close his account with Mr Hodgson on account of his irregularity unless he engage to procure the periodicals publications in three weeks, transferring the contract to such other bookseller as shall engage

to furnish them in the speediest manner and best terms.

Resolved that the case on Extra-uterine pregnancy read by Dr R Stephenson, and a case of crural hernia by Dr Forcade be copied into the records of the Society.

Mr Moore proposes to read a case of retention of urine with operation at next meeting.

That persons detaining books, that have circulated, longer than a month, pay a fine of two pence per day during the first week and afterwards of five pence daily.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 7 April, 1823

Present, Mr Mawhinney in the Chair - Dr Forcade, R Stephenson, R Coffey, Moore, McDonnell.

Resolved that the case presented by Moore be accepted and transcribed into the records.

Mr Mawhinney provides a case at next meeting on Hydrocephalus.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 5 May, 1823

Present, Mr Coffey in the Chair - Dr McDonnell, Forcade, R Stephenson, Mawhinney.

Balance in Treasurer's hands 2. 19. 0½

Resolved that the Treasurer and Secretary be requested to continue their services during the ensuing year.

Resolved that the case now read by Mr Mawhinney shall be accepted and copied into the records of the Society.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 2 June, 1823

Present, Dr Forcade in the Chair - R Stephenson, Coffey, Moore, Mawhinney.

Mr A<sup>n</sup>B Filson was elected by ballot.

That the case of Croup presented by Mr Coffey be accepted and transcribed into the records of the Society.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 7 July, 1823

Present, Mr Coffey in the Chair - Drs Forcade and R Stephenson and Mr McCleery.

Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 4 August, 1823

Present, Mr Moore in the Chair - Drs Forcade, R Stephenson, Mr McKibbin and Coffey.

The consideration of the Dublin Hospital reports deferred till next meeting.

R Stephenson, Secretary

## Minutes of the Ordinary Meetings

### Monday 1 September, 1823

Present, Mr Mawhinney in the Chair - Dr Forcade, R Stephenson, McKibbin, Moore.

That the Treasurer order Pare's legal medicine 3 vol. Octavo.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 6 October, 1823

Present, Doctor Forcade in the Chair - Dr R Stephenson, Mr Moore, Coffey, McKibbin.

Resolved that the members of the Society be enjoined to use every means to keep the books clean and free from abuses.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 3 November, 1823

Present, Doctor Forcade in the Chair - Dr R Stephenson, Coffey, Moore, McCleery, Dr McDonnell.

That an engagement be entered into with a porter on the best terms to circulate the monthly summons.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 1 December, 1823

Present, Mr Coffey in the Chair - Dr Forcade, R Stephenson, McKibbin, Mawhinney, McDonnell, Moore.

That Mr McKibbin be enjoined to make enquiries about the second volume of the Medical Jurisprudence which is missing on circulation. - *the above is found*

R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 5 January, 1824

Present, Doctor McDonnell in the Chair - Dr Forcade, R Stephenson.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 2 February, 1824

Present, Doctor Forcade in the Chair - Mr McKibbin, Mr Coffey, Doctor McDonnell.

for R Stephenson, Secretary

R Coffey

### Monday 1 March, 1824

Present, Doctor Forcade in the Chair - Mr McKibbin, Mr Moore, R Stephenson.

Resolved that the first and second volumes of the Dublin Hospital reports be procured by the Treasurer and Mason Good's study of medicine.

Resolved that the chairman request Dr McDonnell to return the manuscript notes of Hunter's lectures which cannot be removed from the Library.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 5 April, 1824

Present, Doctor McDonnell in the Chair - Dr Forcade, R Stephenson, Mr Coffey, Moore.

Resolved that Mr Coffey be requested to inquire if any member has infringed the law of 3<sup>d</sup> March 1823 since the first of May last and report the same to the Secretary before the 20 inst.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 1 [sic] May, 1824

Present, Mr McKibbin in the Chair - Mr Moore, Dr Forcade, R Stephenson, McDonnell, R Coffey, Dr McGowan.

Balance in hands of Treasurer £3. 8s. 10d

Resolved that the Treasurer and Secretary be requested to continue in office during the ensuing year.

Dr McGowan and Mr Birnie of Larne having been duly proposed and balloted for were elected members.

Resolved that no member, in town, shall remove more than one book from the Library, that country members be allowed two volumes at a time.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 7 June

Present, Mr Moore in the Chair - Mr McKibbin, Coffey, Dr Forcade, R Stephenson, McCleery.

Resolved that the Treasurer order the Medical Botany in two volumes octavo with plates 13s.

That any member having more volumes from the Library than specified in the regulations shall pay five pence for each offence and ten pence a week so long as each volume may be detained afterwards.

Resolved that Dr Forcade and Mr McKibbin make arrangements for the members meeting at dinner on Wednesday the 17 inst [sic] to commemorate the revival of the Library.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 5 July, 1824

Present, Mr Coffey in the Chair - Mr McKibbin, Dr R Stephenson, McCleery, Dr Forcade, Moore.

Resolved that the London Medical Repository a monthly Journal be ordered by the Treasurer.

Dr Thomson, Dr Millar, Mr Aicken, Mr Officer and Mr McClure, having been proposed, were elected by ballot members of the society.

Resolved that Mr McKibbin be requested to prepare a correct catalogue of the Books in the Library and have it with the existing regulations printed for the use of the members assisted by Mr Coffey.

R Stephenson, Secretary

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### Monday 2 August, 1824

Present, Doctor Thomson in the Chair - Dr Millar, R Stephenson, Coffey, Bryson, Moore.

Resolved that the printing of the laws and list of the books be deferred for the present.

Resolved that the Treasurer be requested to furnish to the Society a statement of the annual expense in consequence of periodical works ordered by the Society.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 6 September

Present, Mr Coffey in the Chair - Dr Forcade, R Stephenson, Mr Moore.

The Treasurer reports that the expenditure on the periodical publications, quarterly and monthly, amounts to ten pounds seventeen and sixpence.

Resolved that the Medical Botany shall not be removed from the Library by town members during this month.

Resolved that the members of the Society be specially summoned to take into consideration the expediency of demanding a deposit equal to the value of this work before any member can remove this or any works with plates from the Library.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 4 October, 1824

Present, Dr McDonnell in the Chair - Dr Forcade, R Stephenson, Coffey, McKibbin, Officer, Wm Aicken.

Resolved that members borrowing from the Library any book containing coloured plates must deposit with the apothecary the value of the volume as security for the safe return of the work so removed.

Resolved that the consideration of ordering Lizars' anatomical plates coloured or uncoloured be deferred till next meeting.

Robt Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 1 November, 1824

Present, Mr Coffey in the Chair - Dr Thomson, Dr Forcade, Messrs McKibbin, Coffey and Mawhinney, Mr Aicken, Mr Moore, Mr Officer, Dr R Stephenson.

Resolved that Bostock's Elements of Physiology be purchased immediately.

Burn's Anatomy of the head and neck edited by Professor Pathison be purchased.

Dr Wilson Philip on Indigestion and Nervous diseases be purchased.

The proposal of Mr Wm Aicken take precedence of Mr McKibbin's proposition.

The resolution passed last meeting requiring a deposit for coloured plates taken out by the members

be now rescinded.

That any proposition for the enactment of any new law, or for the repeal or alteration of any old law, must be confirmed at the meeting subsequent to that on which it is passed, not less than five members being present at such confirmation, previous to its becoming a law.

Resolved that the bookseller be requested to send a copy of Lizars' plates coloured and uncoloured on next day of meeting, and that Dr McDonnell's proposal be then determined after inspection of the work.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 6 December, 1824

Present, Mr Coffey in the Chair - Dr Forcade, R Stephenson, Mr Moore, Mr Officer, Mr Mawhinney, McCleery, Dr Thomson.

Resolved that the thanks of the society be presented to Mr Bryson for the attention with which he has met the wishes of the members in making arrangements for procuring the New York Medical Repository.

Resolved that the annals of Philosophy be discontinued on the completion of the current volume.

Resolved that the "Lancet" be ordered and procured regularly and Lizars' plates - coloured.

Robt Stephenson, Secretary

### 3 January, 1825

Present, Mr Officer in the Chair - Dr R Stephenson, Mr Coffey, Dr Thomson, Mr Moore, Forcade, McCleery.

Resolved that the fifth volume of the "Lancet" be completed and the "Chemist" be procured from the commencement of the current volume.

The consideration of procuring Paris on Medical Jurisprudence be deferred on account of the reduced state of the funds.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 7 February

Doctor Forcade in the Chair - Dr R Stephenson, Mr Coffey, Mr Moore, Dr Thomson, Mr McCleery, Mr Officer.

Resolved that Chapman's Elements of Materia Medica be purchased.

Resolved that Doctor Berwick be admitted.

That the Secretary call a meeting of the Society previous to the sale of Dr Haliday's library to consider of the propriety of making any addition to the Medical Library from that collection.

R Stephenson, Secretary

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### Monday 20 [sic] February, 1825

Present, Mr Moore in the Chair - Dr Forcade, Dr Berwick, Mr Coffey.

Resolved that Dr Berwick and Mr Moore be authorised purchase the undermentioned books if sold reasonable.

D Moore, Chairman

8/4	Hippocrates Greek and Latin 2 vol	
1/9	Copeland on Spinal Disease	
9/4	Hoffmanni opera 4 vol	
2/10	Ferriar Medical Histories 2 vol	
7/6	Van Swieten Commentarii 5 vol	
15/-	Morgagni by Cook 2 vol	
-/10	Baillies Morbid Anatomy	
2/2	Medical Communications 2 vol	
1/-	Beddoes Essays on Calculus	
6/6	Medical Observations and Enquiries 6 vol	
2/9	Burns on the Heart	
1/9	Sydenham's opera	
1/9	Cooper on diseases of the Joints	
1/11	Earle on diseases of the Spine	
	Total	£3. 8s. 0d. [sic]

R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 4 April, 1825

Dr Forcade in the Chair - Present, Dr Berwick, Dr R Stephenson.

Resolved that Dr Bryson be requested to continue to procure the New York Medical and Physical Journal.

Resolved that Dr Berwick be requested to draw out a catalogue of the books, belonging to the Society, to lie on the Library table.

Robt Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 2 May, 1825

Present, Mr McClure in the Chair - Dr Forcade, Dr R Stephenson, Mr Coffey, Mr Aicken, Dr Berwick, Dr Thomson.

Balance due Treasurer 3. 7. 5

Resolved that the thanks of the Meeting be given to Dr Forcade as Treasurer and Dr R Stephenson as Secretary, and that they be requested to continue in office during the ensuing year.

Dr McCabe, Surgeon McCullough, Surgeon Douglas and Dr Wilson were elected members by ballot.

Resolved that the next meeting of the Society be held on the thirtieth of May.

Resolved that all members detaining books circulating on Sunday shall be subject to the penalty of five pence.

That all persons who shall have subscribed

without interruption during Twenty years shall be members during life without incurring any further expense.

Geo McClure, Chairman  
R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 30 May, 1825

Present, Dr Forcade in the Chair - Dr Thomson, McDonnell, R Stephenson, Wilson, Berwick, McCabe, Mr Aicken, Moore, McCleery, McKibbin, McCullough, McClure, Mawhinney.

Resolved that it is expedient to admit honorary members into the Society.

Resolved that the election be made by ballot and that one black bean shall exclude the person proposed.

Dr Haliday be an honorary member of this Society.

The repeal of the law passed 7<sup>th</sup> October 1822 was confirmed.

Resolved that the members dine together on the eighth inst to commemorate the revival of the Library.

That Dr Forcade, Dr Thomson and Mr McKibbin be requested to act as stewards and make all the necessary arrangements in conjunction with the Secretary.

Mr Quin was admitted by ballot.

Resolved that the thanks of the Society be given to Dr Berwick for the care with which he has executed the catalogue of the Library.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 4 July, 1825

Present, Doctor Berwick in the Chair - Dr R Stephenson, Mr McCleery, Mr Officer, Mr McClure, Mr Coffey, Mr Aicken.

Moved that Mr Mawhinney's fine for April be remitted on account of his bad health.

Dr Stephenson was admitted an honorary member by ballot.

Resolved that the ballot on Mr Walkington's admission be deferred until it be ascertained that he is eligible as a qualified member of the profession.

Resolved that the Secretary apply to Dr McDonnell by writing and request that he return the cases that were read and presented to the Society by the members.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 1 August

Present, Dr Forcade in the Chair - Dr Berwick, Wilson, R Stephenson, Mr Officer, Mr Coffey, Mr Moore, Mr Aicken, Dr McDonnell.

That Dr Berwick and Mr Moore be requested to wait on Dr McDonnell and procure the papers belonging to the Society which have been for some

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time in his possession.

Mr Walkington was admitted by ballot.

Resolved that the first numbers of the Lancet be procured.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### 5 September, 1825

Mr Moore in the Chair - Present, Dr Berwick, Dr Forcade, Messrs McCleery, Quin, Officer, Aicken, Coffey, McKibbin, Mawhinney, Dr Wilson, Dr R Stephenson.

That any member having detained any Book or publication in the course of Circulation longer than a week, be fined 5d per day for a week, and that the members taking into their consideration the circumstances of the detention shall decide whether any and what further fine be imposed.

That in the future election of members it will be requisite that Candidates must have four white beans to one black one to entitle him to admission.

That Mr Thos. McClurkan be admitted a member of this Society.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### 3 October, 1825

Present, Mr Coffey in the Chair - Mr McCullough, Dr Forcade, Mr McCleery, Dr Thomson, Mr Quin, Mr Moore.

Mr Moore is requested to have shelving put in the case

Robert Coffey, Chairman  
R Stephenson, Secretary

### 7 November

Mr Moore in the Chair - Present, Dr Wilson, Mr Coffey, Mr Walkington, Dr Forcade, Mr McCleery, Dr R Stephenson, Mr McClurkan.

The regulations proposed on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sept were confirmed.

Resolved that Down's midwifery be purchased.

Dr Bailie's works edited by Wardrop.

Hunter's Plates of the Gravid Uterus with explanation.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 5 December

Present, Mr Coffey in the Chair - Dr Forcade, R Stephenson, Mr Walkington, McCleery, Dr Berwick, Mr Officer, Mr Moore, Dr McDonnell.

Resolved that the Medical Repository be discontinued as soon as the present volume be completed.

Mr Wethered was elected a member by ballot.

Resolved that the fine for detaining the circulating Journals be five pence after the fifth of January 1826.

Resolved that the Secretary return the thanks of the Society to Dr McGowan for Innes on the muscles, Falck on the Venereal and Cullen's Nosology which he has liberally presented to the Library.

Resolved that the Chemist be continued and that the numbers wanting be supplied.

Resolved that Drs Forcade and Berwick be requested to have the periodical journals completed and bound.

Robert Coffey, Chairman  
R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 2 January, 1826

Mr Quin in the Chair - Present, Mr McCleery, Mr Officer, Mr Coffey, Mr Walkington, Dr Forcade, Mr Mawhinney, Mr McClurkan, Dr Berwick, Mr Moore, Mr McClure, Dr Thomson.

Dr Cupples was elected by ballot.

Dr Ridley do. do.

Mr McBurney do. do.

Mr Quin, Chairman  
January 2<sup>nd</sup> 1826  
R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 6 February, 1826

Mr Coffey in the Chair - Dr Forcade, Millar, Thomson, Stephenson, Mr McBurney, Officer, Mr Aicken, Dr Ridley, McDonnell, Mr McCleery.

Resolved that the carrier of Journals and notices be allowed one shilling a month for his services.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 6 March, 1826

Dr Millar in the Chair - Dr Forcade, Berwick, R Stephenson, Ridley, Messrs McBurney, Moore.

Mr Scott of Dromore was admitted by ballot

### Monday 3 April, 1826

Mr Coffey in the Chair - Dr R Stephenson, Messrs McClure, Officer, McBurney, Moore, Dr Wilson, Dr Millar, Mr McCleery.

Resolved that Mr Coffey and Moore ascertain the fines incurred since May last by members detaining books out of the Library.

Resolved that Drs Forcade and Millar have a seat provided for the Chairman.

R Coffey Ch Man R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 1 May, 1826

Present, Mr Moore in the Chair - Dr Millar, Ridley, Wilson, R Stephenson, Berwick, Messrs McKibbin, Officer, McCleery, Coffey, McBurney, Mawhinney, Dr Forcade, Dr Cupples, Dr Thomson.

Resolved that the thanks of the meeting be given to Dr Forcade Treasurer and Dr R Stephenson the



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Secretary for their services during the past year and that they be requested to continue in office during the ensuing year.

Plumb on Cutaneous diseases was ordered.

That Mr Mawhinney's fine be reduced to 2/11 Irish currency

Balance in Treasurer's hand £8. 7. 0 Irish.

That the Society meet on the 29<sup>th</sup> instant to make arrangements to commemorate the revival of the Library and transact the usual business of the Society.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 29 May, 1826

Present, Mr McKibbin in the Chair - Dr Forcade, Dr R Stephenson, Mr Quin, Mr Officer, Dr Berwick, Mr McClure, Mr McBurney, Mr Coffey, Mr Mawhinney, Dr Thomson.

Mr Fitzmaurice, Mr Gowdy and Dr Latham were admitted by ballot.

That the books purchased by Dr Berwick at the late sale be not received.

That Dr Forcade, Mr McClure and Mr McKibbin be requested to act as stewards and make the necessary arrangements for the ensuing annual dinner to be held on the eighth of June.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 3 July

Mr Coffey in the Chair - Present, Drs Forcade, Wilson, Messrs McKibbin, Quin, Gowdy, McBurney, Aicken, Dr McDonnell, McCleery.

Resolved that the rules of the Society and the catalogue of the books be printed forthwith and each member furnished with a copy and also that an application book be provided by Mr Coffey, Forcade, McKibbin.

That members detaining books that have circulated, longer than one month, pay a fine of one penny daily until it be returned, which repeals the regulation of [3 March 1823].

That the New Edinburgh quarterly journal be ordered.

That Mr Grattan be elected member.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 7 August, 1826

Present, Dr Thomson in the Chair - Mr Coffey, McKibbin, Bryson, Moore, Aicken, Officer, McBurney, Mawhinney, Dr Forcade, R Stephenson.

Resolved that the proceedings of last meeting be confirmed.

Resolved that the Chairman of the meeting shall enjoy his right of voting as a member and in case of an equality he shall be entitled to a casting vote.

That the Treasurer order Dewees on the diseases

of Children, Rawlison on the Medicinal leech and Ric Price on the utility of Leeching.

Resolved that five members be appointed to revise the laws before having them printed and report to the Society, before putting them to the press, specially summoned.

That this committee consist of Dr Thomson, Dr Forcade, Mr McKibbin, Mr Coffey and Dr R Stephenson.

Dr Millar gave notice that he has withdrawn himself from the Society.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 4 September, 1826

Mr Coffey in the Chair - Dr Thomson, Forcade, R Stephenson, Mr Bryson, McKibbin, Grattan, Moore.

Mr Stewart of Moneyrea was elected by ballot.

Allan's Surgery was ordered.

Messrs McKibbin and Coffey are requested to have 100 copies of the Catalogue and rules of the Society, as now adopted,\* printed forthwith.

R Stephenson, Secretary

*\* This must embrace all the rules published in the Catalogue of September 1837 and marked "original" though many of these do not appear in any previous minutes of the Society.*

J M Sanders July 1841.

### Meeting 2 October, 1826

Doctor Thomson in the Chair - Present, Dr Thomson, Mr McKibbin, Mr McBurney, R Coffey.

Messrs McKibbin and Coffey report that the Printing of the Catalogue will be finished this week.

Resolved that Davis Operative Midwifery be ordered by the Treasurer.

R Coffey, Secretary Pro Temp

### Monday 6 November, 1826

Mr Coffey in the Chair - Dr Forcade, R Stephenson, Mr McKibbin, Aicken, Gowdy, Dr McDonnell, Mr McKibbin, Mr McCleery.

Resolved that the second volume of Johnson on the Leech, Abernethy's works and Cooper on Dislocations be purchased.

Dr Drummond is proposed as a member and seconded.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 4 December, 1826

Dr McDonnell in the Chair - Dr Forcade, R Stephenson, Mr Coffey, Mr Aicken, Mr McClurcan, Mr Grattan, Mr McBurney, Mr Moore.

Dr Drummond was admitted a member and Mr Strain of Newtownards and Mr Murray of Glenavy

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were proposed as members and seconded.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 1<sup>st</sup> January, 1827

Doctor Wilson in the Chair - Present, Dr Forcade, Messrs Moore, McBurney and R Coffey, Mr McCleery, Mr Goudy.

Mr Wm Strain of Newtownards and Mr Murry of Glenavy were admitted members by ballot.

Robert Coffey, Secretary pro temp

### Monday 5 February, 1827

Present, Mr Moore in the Chair - Dr Thomson, Forcade, R Stephenson, Drummond, Mr McBurney, McCleery, Dr McDonnell.

Surgeon James Campbell was admitted member by ballot.

Resolved that the Treasurer be requested to order Paris on Diet - Paris on Pharmaceutical chemistry, Cooper on Hernia, Cooke on Nervous diseases, Bell's Surgical works, Forbes Translation of Laennec.

Resolved that each member on proposing a work shall state the price in the proposal book at the same time.

Resolved that Lizar's plates and the explanations be bound as soon as possible.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 5 March, 1827

Present, Dr Wilson in the Chair - Dr Thomson, Berwick, R Stephenson, Mr Coffey, McKibbin, Forcade, McCleery, Aicken, Moore, Campbell.

Surgeon McMaster and Edwd Bryson of Antrim were admitted by ballot.

Resolved that the Treasurer be requested to order O'Halloran on Ophthalmia.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 2 April, 1827

Dr Wilson in the Chair - Dr Forcade, R Stephenson, Thomson, Mr Coffey, Officer, McCleery, Moore, Dr McDonnell.

Resolved that the Treasurer be requested to order Prichard on Nervous diseases, Venables on Diabetes.

That the Secretary be requested to return the thanks of the Society to Mr Wallace Esqr for his Treatise on Moxa.

That Mr McCleery be requested to inquire into the penalties incurred by members for detaining books from the Library during the last year and return the same to the Secretary before the next day of meeting.

Resolved that in consequence of Mr Officer's statement, the fine for delaying the "Lancet" circulating in September be remitted to 2/8.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### 1 May, 1827

Present, Dr Thomson in the Chair - Dr R Stephenson, Mr Coffey, Mr Gowdy, Mr Officer, Dr Forcade, Mr McKibbin, McCleery, Mr Moore.

The Treasurer be requested to order Lawrence's Lectures on Man, Coomb's Treatise on Phrenology, Charles Bell's System of Operative Surgery, Thomson on Inflammation, Ure's chemical Dictionary.

That Mr McCleery be requested to complete his report before next meeting.

That the Treasurer and Secretary be presented with the thanks of the Society and that they be requested to continue their services during the present year.

Balance in Treasurer's hand £6. 14. 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ .

That the Secretary be requested to furnish Mr Mawhinney with the arrear of his fines.

That the Secretary be directed to give notice to Dr Berwick that in consequence of violating rule fifteenth, he is subject to the usual penalty.

That the Society be summoned for the last Monday in May to make arrangements to commemorate the revival of the Library and transact the ordinary business.

Resolved that a ballot be taken for the election of Mr Henry Purdon at next meeting.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 28 May, 1827

Mr Coffey in the Chair - Dr Forcade, Dr R Stephenson, Mr McBurney, Mr Mawhinney, Mr Moore, Mr Grattan, Mr McKibbin, Dr Wilson, Mr McClure.

Resolved that Dr Wilson and Mr Grattan investigate the fine of Mr McBurney on the 19 of March and report on the next day of meeting.

Mr Henry Purdon be admitted a member.

That a ballot be taken for Dr Little at next meeting.

Resolved that the Society dine together on Friday the eight of June to commemorate the anniversary of the revival of the Society.

Resolved that Dr Forcade, Mr Grattan and Mr McClure be requested to make the necessary arrangements for dinner.

Resolved that the subcommittee be requested to invite Mr John Aickin the Librarian to dine with the Society on the eighth of June.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 2 July, 1827

Present, Dr Wilson in the Chair - Dr R Stephenson, Mr McKibbin, Coffey, Gowdy, Grattan, Dr McDonnell.

Resolved that under the present circumstances of the case that it is inexpedient to remit Mr McBurney's fine.

Dr Little was admitted a member by ballot.

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That the thanks of the Society be given to the stewards for their excellent arrangements on the eighth of June.

That the Treasurer be requested to order Brodie on diseases of the joints, Boyer on diseases of the bones and Crowther on White swelling.

That a ballot be taken at next meeting for Mr George Welsh of Ballycastle.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 6 August, 1827

Present, Mr McClurcan in the Chair - Mr McCleery, Mr McKibbin, Mr Coffey, Dr R Stephenson, Mr Moore, Mr Officer, Mr Gowdy, Dr Little, Mr Aicken, Dr Thomson, Dr McDonnell.

Mr George Welsh of Ballycastle was admitted by ballot and Mr Thos Wilson proposed for ballot.

That the Treasurer be requested to order the posthumous works of Dr Parry of Bath, Medical Logic by Sir Gilbert Blane, latest edition of Bell's operative surgery.

Resolved that a committee be appointed with powers to recall the books and report on the state of the Library to the next meeting of the society.

That Dr Thomson, Little and Mr Coffey be the Committee appointed for this purpose.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 3 September, 1827

Mr McCleery in the Chair - Present, Dr Forcade, Messrs Moore, Bryson, Coffey and McKibbin, Dr Little, Dr R Stephenson.

Mr Thos Wilson was elected by ballot.

The committee appointed to investigate the state of the Library report that the Books are correct and in good order.

That the thanks of the meeting be presented to the committee for their trouble and care in examining the Library.

That the committee with Drs Forcade and Stephenson be requested to have an additional book case for the Society.

That the chairman be directed to write to Mr McBurney requesting him to conform to the resolution of the 2 July and forward the fine to the Treasurer.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 1 October, 1827

Present, Mr Coffey in the Chair - Dr Forcade, R Stephenson, Mr McBurney, Moore, McKibbin, Dr Wilson.

Resolved that a ballot be taken at next meeting for Dr Stewart of Larne and Dr Duncan.

Resolved that the further consideration of

purchasing the Dictionnaire de Médecine be deferred till next meeting.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### 5 November, 1827

Mr Coffey in the Chair - Dr Forcade, Dr Thomson, Dr Little, Dr R Stephenson, Mr McKibbin, Mr Moore, Mr McCleery, Dr Wilson, McDonnell.

Dr Stewart and Dr Duncan were admitted by ballot.

Resolved that a ballot be taken at next meeting for Mr Wm Barrett.

Resolved that Dr Little be requested to inspect the state of the periodical publications and arrange and send those unbound to the stationers.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### 3 December, 1827

Mr McCleery in the Chair - Dr Forcade, R Stephenson, Little, Mr McKibbin, Coffey, Dr Thomson, Mr Officer, Quin.

Dr Little reports that the New York Journal wants in Vol VI No 3, 4; in Vol IV No 1, 2; in Vol III No 2, 3, 4; in Vol VIII No 1. Resolved that he be requested to have notice fixed in some conspicuous place requesting members of the Society to have these numbers returned.

Resolved that the Treasurer be requested to order Percival on Medical Ethics, Johnson on irritability of the Stomach and intestines.

Resolved that a ballot be taken at next meeting for Dr Kirkpatrick of Larne.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### Monday 7 January, 1828

Mr McCleery in the Chair - Dr Thomson, Forcade, R Stephenson, Coffey, McKibbin, Grattan, Moore, Dr Wilson.

Dr Kirkpatrick of Larne was admitted by ballot.

Resolved that the Treasurer be requested to settle Hasting's account for the book case on the best terms.

Resolved that Dr Thomson and Mr McCleery be requested to have the books labelled and arranged in the new book case making such arrangements as may be necessary.

R Stephenson, Secretary

### 4 February, 1828

Present, Mr Aicken in the Chair - Dr McCabe, Dr Little, Dr Thomson, Dr R Stephenson, Mr Coffey, Mr McCleery, Mr McKibbin, Dr Forcade.

Resolved that the Treasurer be requested to order Scudamore on Gout, Scudamore on the Mineral Waters of England, Blackall on Dropsy, Glasgow

Medical and Surgical Journal, Charles Bell's exposition of the Nervous System.

Resolved that Dr McCabe be allowed the benefit of one 12<sup>th</sup> reduction to his subscription for the year 1826.

R Stephenson, Secretary

**3 March, 1828**

Present, Mr McKibbin in the Chair - Dr Duncan, Dr Forcade, Dr R Stephenson, Mr Coffey.

R Stephenson, Secretary

**7 April, 1828**

Mr McCleery in the Chair - Present, Drs Thomson, Forcade, Little, Mr Coffey, Dr Duncan.

Resolved that a ballot be taken at next meeting for Drs Ridley and MacCormac.

That Shaw on Distortions of the Spine 8vo 10/6,  
Engravings to Ditto 1. 11. 6,

Travers on Constitutional Irritation,

Bateman's Delineations of Cutaneous Diseases  
with fo. coloured plates 12gs,

Barker and Cheyne's account of the Epidemic  
Fever in Ireland,

Abercrombie on Diseases of the Brain and Spinal  
Cord,

Bostock's Physiology third volume.

R Coffey, Secretary pro tempor

P.S. Resolved that Mr McCleery, Dr Thomson and  
Dr Duncan, be requested to have the books of the  
Library called in and examined before the first of May.

R Coffey, Secretary pro tempor

**THE MINUTE BOOK (OR BOOKS)  
FROM APRIL 1828 TO JULY 1842  
ARE NOW MISSING.**

**Hospital 1<sup>st</sup> August, 1842**

Present, Dr Dill in the Chair - Dr Moffat, Dr Read, Mr Clarke, Dr Bryce, Dr Sloane, Dr Burden, Dr Sanders, Dr H Stewart, Dr Stewart, Mr Officer, Mr McCleery.

That the Ballot for Dr Kirkpatrick of Larne and Mr McCulloch of Bangor be deferred till next meeting their Diplomas not having been seen.

That Leibig's Animal Chemistry 9/6 and Dr Elliotson's Physiology £2. 2/-, be ordered.

That Surgeon McEwan of Glenarm be balloted for at next meeting - proposed by Dr Moffat and seconded by Dr Sanders.

That Dr Jas Murray's resignation be received.

Also Mr Simpson's of Newtownards.

That Mr Taylor Veterinary Surgeon not having paid his subscription for the last two years be not considered any longer connected with the Library.

That Mr Trotter of Ballyatwood be noticed by the Secretary in accordance with Rule 10.

That the Library of Medicine price 10/6 each volume 6 volumes published be ordered.

J M Sanders, Secretary

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September, 1842**

Present, Dr Horatio Stewart in the Chair - Dr Sloane, Dr Moffat, Dr Stewart, Mr Clarke, Dr Bryce, Dr Sanders.

That Dr Kirkpatrick of Larne and Mr McCulloch of Bangor be now admitted, having been duly balloted for.

That the Ballot for Mr McEwan of Glenarm be deferred until next meeting his Diploma not having been seen.

That The Water Cure by Jas Wilson MD 4/6, The Climate of South Devon by Dr Shapter 7/6 and Dr MacCormac's Methodus Medendi, be ordered.

That no reply having been received from Mr Trotter the further consideration of his case be deferred until next meeting.

J M Sanders, Secretary

**Monday October 3, 1842**

Present, Dr Stewart in the Chair - Dr Burden, Dr Sloane, Dr McMechan, Mr Clarke, Dr Sanders, Mr John Quin, Dr Horatio Stewart, Dr Moffat, Dr Bryce.

That Mr Trotter be no longer considered a Member of the Society his subscription and fines, amounting to £3. 6. 10 remaining unpaid.

That Mr McEwan Surgeon of Glenarm Dispensary be admitted a Member having been duly balloted for.

That Brodie on the Urinary Organs 3<sup>d</sup> edition

Tait on Extent, Causes, etc. of Prostitution in  
Edinburgh and

Dr Graves' Clinical Lectures in the press  
be ordered.

## Minutes of the Ordinary Meetings

That Mr Anderson's account for printing Circulars since May 1841 amounting to £2. 12/- be paid

That Mr John Aickin's attention be called to the irregularity of taking out Books in the Librarian's absence which it appears he has been guilty of perhaps without being aware of the Law.

J M Sanders, Secretary

### Monday 7<sup>th</sup> Nov, 1842

Present, Dr Stephenson in the Chair - Dr Sloane, Dr Burden, Dr Stewart, Dr Sanders, Dr Adams, Dr Moffat, Mr Harkin, Dr Hunter, Dr Thomson, Dr Dill, Dr Bryce.

In relation to Mr Trotter, Dr Stephenson his proposer attended and explained that Mr Trotter was overcharged, which was found to be correct the amounts actually due being £1. 18/- and 2/10 = £2. 0. 10.

That Dr Malcolm be admitted a Member being duly balloted for.

Also Surgeon McHarg of Lisburn.

That the following books be ordered

A treatise on Man by Quetelet 3/-  
Human Physiology by Dr Carpenter £1  
General and Comparative D<sup>o</sup> by D<sup>o</sup> 18/-  
Curiosities Medical Experiences, Millingen 18/-  
Bell's Great Operations of Surgery 35/-  
St Hilaire Histoire des Anomalies 30/-  
Ryan on Prostitution 10/6  
Erichsen on Diseases of Scalp 6/-  
Carmichael on Venereal 10/-  
Amesbury on Deformities of Spine 31/6  
Amesbury on Fractures 2 vols 25/-.

J M Sanders, Secretary

### Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December, 1842

Present, Dr Hunter in the Chair - Dr Burden, Dr Thos Read, Dr Sloane, Dr Sanders, Mr Officer, Dr MacCormac, Dr H Stewart, Dr Stewart, Dr Dill.

No business

J M Sanders, Secretary

### Monday 2 January, 1843

Present, Mr Mulholland in the Chair - Dr Burden, Dr Sloan, Dr Hunter, Dr Stephenson, Dr H Stewart, Dr Adams, Mr McCleery, Dr Sanders, Dr Stewart, Mr Officer, Dr MacCormac.

That Surgeon Brown RN be admitted a Member of the Society having been duly balloted for.

That Clinical Midwifery by Dr Lee 4/6

Mullin's Physiology £2. 2/-

Syme's Surgery new edition 21/- be ordered.

The Treasurer having examined into some of the

accounts of Country Members who have left the Society has furnished the names this day to the proposers of said Members who are liable for their fines unpaid.

That Dr Burden be allowed the use of six volumes at a time instead of one for the purposes of his lectures until November next under the usual regulations.

J M Sanders

### Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February, 1843

Present, Dr Thos. Read in the Chair - Dr Moffat, Dr Dill, Mr Clarke, Dr Sloane, Dr Burden, Mr John Quin, Dr Sanders, Dr Bryson, Mr Harkin, Mr McBurney, Mr Mulholland, Mr Brown, Dr Stewart, Dr H Stewart, Mr Moore, Mr Grattan.

That the proposers of Country Members previous to the publication of the Law marked 2 in the new Catalogue for August 1841 shall not be held liable for the fines etc of the parties proposed that law not having been previously printed.

That the old fines levied against Dr Moffat amounting to ... be remitted, he having shewn to the satisfaction of meeting that they were incurred by the negligence of our former Librarian Mr Woods.

That Dr A Gordon of Upper Arthur St. and Surgeon Alfred Anderson of D<sup>o</sup> be admitted Members of the Society having been duly balloted for.

Resolved unanimously that an effort should be made to assist in promoting the objects of the "Medical Benevolent Fund Society" recently formed in Dublin, by the organizing of a branch for this town and neighbourhood, and that the profession generally should be called on by advertisement to meet for considering the matter on Friday the 17<sup>th</sup> Inst. in

That the chairman (Dr Read), Dr Moffat, Dr Stewart and the Secretary be appointed a Committee to have this carried into effect.

J M Sanders, Secretary

### Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March, 1843

Present, Dr Moffat in the Chair - Dr Bryson, Dr Sloane, Dr Dill, Dr Sanders, Dr Stewart, Dr Burden, Mr McCleery.

That the first proposition at last meeting be confirmed.

That the Life and Correspondence of Sir Astley Cooper by Bransby Cooper 21/-

Coulson on the Bladder

Thomson's Animal Chemistry 16/-

be purchased.

That Dr Knox's letter read by Dr Bryson be re-considered at next meeting after the accounts are examined.

J M Sanders, Secretary

## The Belfast Medical Society

### Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 1843

Present, Dr Moffat in the Chair - Dr Stephenson, Dr Dill, Dr Gordon, Mr McBurney, Dr Sanders, Dr Stewart, Mr Browne, Dr H Stewart.

That the Library be closed on 20<sup>th</sup> Inst. for one week under the usual regulations for examination and that Drs Moffat and H Stewart be requested to conduct the same and report

That McCleery and Dr Dill be requested to examine the annual fines and report at next meeting.

That Drs Stewart and Sanders be requested to audit the Bookseller's and Treasurer's accounts.

J M Sanders, Secretary

### Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May, 1843

Present, Mr McBurney in the Chair - Dr Burden, Mr Officer, Dr Gordon, Dr Sanders, Dr McMechan, Dr Moffat, Dr Mateer, Mr McHarg, Dr Rob. Bryce, Dr Thos Thompson, Dr Dill, Dr Read, Mr Moore, Dr Hunter.

That Dr J W Beck and Dr J S Reid be admitted Members of the Society having been duly balloted for.

That Dr Ashwell on Diseases of Females,  
Hind on Fractures,  
Wagner's Elements of Physiology  
be ordered.

That the thanks of the Society be given to Drs Moffat and H. Stewart for the care with which they have examined the Library and that their report be received shewing only one volume (Guy's Hospital Reports vol 4) deficient in addition to those formerly wanting.

That the thanks of the Society be given to Mr McCleery and Dr Dill for their examination of the fines and that their report be received.

That the Treasurer's report be received shewing a balance in favor of the Society of £53. 19. 11½, his and the Bookseller's accounts having been duly audited.

That the allowance to Ann Marshall be increased for the present year to 20/-.

That the thanks of the Society be given to Drs Burden and Sanders as Treasurer and Secretary for their services during the past year and that they be requested to continue in office.

That the members of the Society shall dine together as usual on the 8<sup>th</sup> of June the anniversary of the revival of the Library and that Drs Burden, McMechan and Sanders be requested to act as Stewards.

That the Secretary be requested to form a connection between this and the Sydenham Society and subscribe one guinea to the same forthwith per annum.

That Mr Lamont be invited to the annual dinner.

J M Sanders, Secretary

### Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June, 1843

Present, Dr Malcolm in the Chair - Mr Clarke, Dr Robt Bryce, Mr Mulholland, Dr Beck, Dr Bryson, Dr Mateer, Mr A. Anderson, Dr Burden, Dr Moffat, Dr Gordon, Dr Dill, Dr Sanders.

That Dr Donnelly be admitted a Member having been duly balloted for.

That Crolly's Irish Medical Directory be ordered.

That a fine of 5/9 against Mr Mulholland be remitted the book having been detained by the Porter of Hospital in the Dispensary.

That the Treasurer be authorised to pay Mr Ward's account for bookbinding amounting to £1. 13/- having been examined and found correct.

J M Sanders, Secretary

### Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 1843

Present, Dr Mateer in the Chair - Dr Moffat, Mr Browne, Dr Stewart, Dr Bryson, Dr Gordon, Dr Burden Dr Sanders, Dr Read.

That Dr J D Marshall and Dr W<sup>m</sup> Marshall Surgeon be admitted Members of the Society having been duly balloted for.

That the Zoist a quarterly journal of Mesmerism  
price 2/6

Todd's practical remarks on Gout Rheumatism etc  
price 7/6  
be ordered.

That Major Tullock's report on the invaliding etc. of the British Troops in Mediterranean etc. be ordered provided the price does not exceed £2 and that the proposer Dr Read be not able to obtain it from some Member of Parliament.

J M Sanders, Secretary

### Monday 7<sup>th</sup> of August, 1843

Present, Mr McCleery in Chair - Dr Stewart, Dr J D Marshall, Dr Burden, Dr Sanders, Dr Bryce, Dr Dill, Dr Moffat.

That the Life of Dr Hope price 7/- be ordered.

J M Sanders, Secretary

### Monday 4 September, 1843

Present - Dr Burden, Dr Malcolm, Dr R Stewart, Dr Moffat.

A Quorum not being in attendance the meeting was adjourned.

J Moffat, Sec. pro tem

### Monday 4 September, 1843

Present, Dr Read in the Chair - Dr Burden, Dr Malcolm, Dr R Stewart, Dr Moffat.

That Wilson's Statistical Reports of the Health of the Navy price 12/- be ordered.

That a treatise on Diseases of the Skin by Erasmus

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Wilson price 12/- and Austria, its Scientific and Medical Institutions by Mr R Wilde be ordered.

That the thanks of the Society be given to Dr Robert Stewart for his kindness in presenting a copy of the Report of the Lunatic Asylum for the past year, to the Library.

J Moffat, Sec. pro tem

### Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 1843

Present, Dr Hurst in the Chair - Dr Stewart, Dr Gordon, Dr Burden, Dr Sanders, Dr Read, Mr J<sup>n</sup> Clarke, Dr Beck, Dr Moffat, Dr Bryce, Mr McBurney.

That the late Parliamentary report on Irish Medical Charities,

Cheyne's Essays on partial derangement

Willis on mental derangement,

be ordered.

That Dr Cooke Surgeon be balloted for at next meeting being now proposed by Dr Stewart and seconded by Dr Hurst.

J M Sanders, Secretary

### Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November, 1843

Present, Dr Malcolm in the Chair - Dr Hunter, Dr J<sup>n</sup> Quin, Dr Moffat, Dr Sanders, Dr Stewart, Mr Mulholland, Dr Reid, Dr Bryce, Dr Burden.

That Dr Cooke be admitted a Member having been duly balloted for.

That Cormac's London and Edinburgh Monthly

Journal price 1/6 per number

A Treatise on Food and Diet by Jonathan Pereira MD price 16/-

A treatise on nature, causes and treatment of Erysipelas by Thos Nunneley of Leeds price 10/- be ordered.

That Dr George Simpson of Newtownards be balloted for at next meeting, being now proposed by J M Sanders and seconded by Dr Malcolm.

That owing to the peculiar circumstances of Mr McEwan's case late of Glenarm his proposer Dr Moffat be relieved from all responsibility.

(Dr Burden enters his protest against the foregoing resolution conceiving that it is contrary to the spirit of law 2.)

J M Sanders, Secretary

### Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December, 1843

Present, Dr Read in the Chair - Dr Cooke, Mr Browne, Mr Officer, Dr Hunter, Dr Malcolm, Dr Moffat, Mr Clarke, Dr Dill, Dr Sanders, Dr Stewart, Mr Grattan, Mr Mawhinney, Dr J S Reid, Dr Mateer.

The ballot for Dr G Simpson is postponed in consequence of his degree not having been seen by his proposer or seconder.

That the London Pharmaceutical Journal from the

commencement, price 1/- monthly.

Pritchards Natural History of Man 30/-

Warren's Surgical observations on Tumors price 16/-

Catalogue of preparations in Longstaff's Museum price 10/-

Watson's Lectures on Practice of Physic 2 vols

The British and Foreign Quarterly Medical Review from commencement

Tyrell Diseases of the Eye 2 vols

be ordered

That the resolution relating to Dr Moffat and Mr McEwan be confirmed.

That Mr Drummond Anderson's account for printing for last year be ordered to be paid.

J M Sanders, Secretary

### Monday 1<sup>st</sup> January, 1844

Present, Mr Jas Mawhinney in Chair - Dr Moffat, Mr Browne RN, Mr Officer, Dr Bryce, Dr Dill, Dr Sanders, Dr Stewart.

That Dr Catherwood of Donaghadee proposed by Mr Mawhinney be admitted a Member having been duly balloted for

J M Sanders, Secretary

### Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February, 1844

Present, Dr Stewart in the Chair - Dr Dill, Dr John Clarke, Dr Sanders, Dr Burden, Dr J S Reid, Dr Malcolm, Dr Read.

That Dr Forbes Manual of Select Medical Bibliography price 9/-

Curling on Diseases of Testis 16/-

Dr Gregory on the Eruptive Fevers 10/-

Dr Williams on Morbid Poisons 2 vols 28/-

be ordered

J M Sanders, Secretary

### Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March, 1844

Present, Dr Hunter in the Chair - Dr Burden, Mr Clarke, Dr Jas Reid, Dr Sanders, Dr Cooke, Dr Malcolm, Dr Stewart, Dr Bryce, Dr MacCormac.

That Mr Ward's account for binding some volumes lately (£1. 11. 6) be paid

J M Sanders, Secretary

### Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1844

Present, in the Chair, Dr Cooke - Mr Mulholland, Dr Stephenson, Dr Burden, Dr Sanders, Dr Read, Dr Stewart.

That the Library be closed under the usual regulations on the 20<sup>th</sup> Inst. for examination and that Dr Moffat and Dr Cooke be requested to conduct the same and report.

That Mr McCleery and Dr Dill be requested to

## The Belfast Medical Society

examine the annual fines and report to next meeting.

That Dr Stewart and Dr Sanders be requested to audit the Bookseller's and Treasurer's accounts.

That a Treasurer and Secretary be appointed at next meeting for ensuing year.

That Dr Burden's request to be allowed the use of six volumes at a time for six months from 1<sup>st</sup> May, be granted.

J M Sanders, Secretary

### Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May, 1844

Present, Mr McBurney in Chair - Mr John Quin, Dr Burden, Mr Clarke, Dr Gordon, Dr J D Marshall, Dr Moffat, Dr Sanders, Dr Stewart, Dr Bryce, Dr Dill, Mr Officer, Dr Kelso, Dr Thos Thomson.

That the warmest thanks of the Society be given to Drs Moffat and Cooke for their very careful and accurate report of the state of the Library and that the same be entered on the minutes. Also that owing to the large number of periodicals reported deficient a circular be addressed to each member with a list of the same requesting him to examine lest any of them should accidentally have remained in his possession after circulating.

That the thanks of the Society be also given to Mr McCleery and Dr Dill for their examination and report of the annual fines.

Drs Stewart and Sanders having audited the Bookseller's and Treasurer's accounts report as to the accuracy a balance of £47. 18. 5½ appearing in Treasurer's hands to credit of the Society.

That the thanks of the Society be given to Dr Burden as Treasurer and Dr Sanders as Secretary for their past services and that they be requested to continue in office for next year.

That Mr Jas Mawhinney's resignation now tendered be accepted of.

That the members shall dine together as usual on the 8<sup>th</sup> June, the anniversary of the Society, and that Drs Burden and J W Marshall be requested to act as Stewards.

That our Librarian Mr Lamont be invited as a guest.

J M Sanders, Secretary

[The list of Books and periodicals found wanting being entered in the proposal book at 1<sup>st</sup> May it is unnecessary to re-enter it here.]

### Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 1844.

Present, Dr J D Marshall in the Chair - Dr Read, Dr Moffat, Dr Gordon, Dr Stewart, Mr Clarke, Dr Dill, Dr Burden, Dr Sanders, Dr Malcolm, Mr Harkin, Dr Bryce.

That Granville's addenda to his work on German Spas 4/6

Lee's Lectures on Midwifery 15/-  
Lever on organic disease of Uterus 9/-  
Williams' Principals of Medicine 12/-  
Dendy on Cutaneous diseases of children 10/-  
and  
Williams on Diseases of Chest 14/-  
be ordered

A letter of resignation having been received from Dr Lynch, Treasurer states that he has already received Dr L's subscription for the current year, and that therefore the Secretary be instructed to intimate this to Dr L lest he should be under a mistake.

That owing to the anniversary dinner falling upon Saturday, the hour of meeting be *five* o'clock instead of six as formerly.

J M Sanders, Secretary

### Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July, 1844

Present, Dr Stewart in the Chair - Dr Burden, Mr Clarke, Mr John Quin, Dr Sanders, Dr Read, Dr Cooke, Dr J D Marshall.

That Dr Cooke's resignation be accepted.

That Sir Astley Cooper's work on non-malignant diseases of Female breast be replaced in the Library.

Also that Major Tulloch's report on the invaliding of the British Army be completed and continued.

J M Sanders, Secretary

### Monday August 5<sup>th</sup>, 1844

Present, Dr Moffat in the Chair - Dr Read, Dr Stewart, Dr Burden, Dr Gordon.

That Dr Russell of Portstewart proposed by Dr Read be admitted a Member having been duly balloted for.

That the deficient periodicals as proposed by Dr Moffat after the annual examination of the Library be ordered.

That the thanks of the Society be given to Dr McDonnell for the Parliamentary reports presented by him to the Library.

### Monday September 2, 1844

Present, Dr Moffat in the Chair - Dr Read, Dr Gordon, Dr Stewart, Dr Malcolm, Dr McBurney, Dr Sanders, Mr Grattan.

That Alfred Taylor's work on Medical Jurisprudence 5/-

Dr Boswell Reid on Ventilation 16/-

Morton's Crania Egyptiaca 21/-

Dr Hunt on Tic Douloureux 10/-

Chitty on Medical Jurisprudence 20/-

be ordered.

That Mr Ward's account for binding amounting to £3. 8/- be paid

J M Sanders, Secretary



## Minutes of the Ordinary Meetings

### Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October, 1844

Present, Dr Moffat in the Chair - Dr J D Marshall, Dr Malcolm, Dr Dill, Mr Clarke, Dr Sanders, Dr JS Reid.

That Metcalf on Heat

Marshall Hall's last Memoir on the Nervous System with Simpson's diagrams  
be ordered.

That an Appendix to the present Catalogue be now printed and distributed to the members; and continued annually.

That in addition to the present alphabetical arrangement of the books, the names of the authors including the date and place of publication be classified according to the subjects.

That a Committee consisting of Dr Malcolm and Dr Marshall be appointed for carrying out these proposals.

That Dr J D Marshall be allowed the privilege of four volumes at a time during the winter six months for the present year.

J M Sanders, Secretary

### Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November, 1844

Present, Dr Bryson in the Chair - Dr Burden, Dr Stewart, Mr Clarke, Mr Grattan, Dr Read, Dr Sanders, Dr Malcolm, Dr Moffat, Dr Dill.

That Anatomy of Female Breast by Sir A Cooper price £3. 3/- be ordered.

That Dr Burden's privilege of having six volumes at a time during the winter season be renewed.

J M Sanders, Secretary

### Monday December 2, 1844

Present, Dr J D Marshall in Chair - Dr Burden, Dr Beck, Dr Moffat, Dr Sanders, Dr Stewart, Mr John Quin, Mr Clarke, Dr Malcolm, Dr Dill, Mr McCleery, Dr Thos Read, Dr JS Reid.

That Scharling on Vesical Calculi with plates 7/6  
Millar's Principles of Surgery

Dr A Todd Thomson's Atlas of Delineations of  
Cutaneous Diseases

London Medical Times, new series commencing  
be ordered

Drs Malcolm and Marshall having completed the revision of the Catalogue and the publication of the appendix which is now on the Library table,

Resolved, That the warmest thanks of the Society be given to these gentleman for the trouble they have taken and the care and accuracy with which they have discharged the duty.

That Mr Anderson's account for printing circulars be paid if found correct amounting to £2. 3/-.

That hereafter the monthly meeting of the Medical Society be held at 7 pm instead of 11 am in the Library-room on the usual day and that in addition to

the routine business, communications from members upon Medical or Surgical topics and reports of cases should be received and discussed.

J M Sanders, Secretary

### Monday January 6, 1845

Present, Dr Stewart in Chair - Dr Moffat, Dr Malcolm, Dr Burden, Dr McBurney, Dr Sanders, Dr Dill, Mr Browne RN, Mr John Quin, Dr MacCormac, Dr J D Marshall, Dr Bryce, Mr Clarke.

Resolved, That the resolution with regard to change of hour of meeting etc. as proposed last day of meeting be now passed.

J M Sanders, Secretary

### Monday February 3, 1845

Present, Dr Stewart in Chair - Dr McBurney, Dr Dill, Dr Sloane, Mr Browne RN, Dr Bryce, Dr Moffat, Dr Sanders, Mr Murray, Dr Read, Mr John Quin, Dr Beck, Mr Clarke, Dr MacCormac, Dr Bryson.

Resolved, That Dr Marshall Hall's Goulstonian Lectures price 5/- be ordered. Also Dr Marshall Hall's Practical Facts and Observations in Medicine price 8/6.

That the resolution against change of hour of meeting be now confirmed

And that a subcommittee consisting of seven viz: Dr Read, Dr Stewart, Dr Moffat, Mr Browne, Dr McBurney, Dr Malcolm, Dr Burden [Dr Burden's name inserted later] and Dr Sanders be appointed for arranging the matter of proceeding.

Moved and carried as an amendment of Dr MacCormac's resolution proposing a change in the length of time for keeping the periodicals only 24 hours instead of 48, that the old rule should remain unaltered.

Resolved, That the periodicals hereafter be allowed to remain *one* month on the table of the Library before they are sent out for circulation.

That Dr Stewart and Dr Dill be requested to call on Mr Greer the Bookseller and ascertain whether he could not furnish the periodical publications *immediately* after their publication and whether he could not furnish each *weekly* periodical on the day of its publication.

That Mr Moore's account for publishing 150 copies of Appendix to Catalogue be ordered to be paid amounting to £2. 0. 0.

J M Sanders, Secretary

### Monday Evening March 3, 1845

Present, Mr Officer in Chair - Dr Bryson, Dr Donnelly, Dr Bryce, Mr Aickin, Mr Browne, Dr Sloane, Dr Dill, Dr Beck, Dr Stephenson, Dr Read, Dr McBurney, Dr Sanders, Mr Moore, Dr Gordon, Dr Malcolm, Dr

## The Belfast Medical Society

Moffat, Dr J D Marshall.

That the motion carried last meeting relating to the periodicals lying on Library table be not confirmed.

Dr Dill reports that Mr Greer sends the periodicals etc. as early as he possibly can and that he will continue to do so – any delay hitherto having been after they left his hands.

That Drs Dill, Moffat and Beck be appointed a committee to arrange a plan of getting the lists for the circulation printed.

That Mr Lamont as long as he remains our Librarian be considered a Member of the Medical Society and entitled to all the privileges of Membership.

That a special meeting of the Society be called on this night week at 7 o'clock for the purpose of considering the provisions of Sir Jas Graham's new Bill.

The subcommittee appointed at last meeting met on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February and submit the following report:-

Present, Dr Read in Chair - Dr Malcolm, Mr Browne, Dr Moffat, Dr Sanders.

1. That at the evening meeting the Chairman be appointed as formerly.
2. That the usual business of the Library take precedence of all other.
3. If a regular paper has been prepared by any Member it takes precedence of any oral communication and that one given notice of previously should come before any other – though such notice is not deemed imperative.
4. That after any communication, written or oral, the Chairman shall ask each member in rotation if he has any remarks to make, and each shall have the privilege of speaking once upon every new topic brought before the Society after which the member bringing such forward shall have the right of reply.
5. That at the close of each meeting the Chairman will ask whether any member has notice to give of any paper as communication for next meeting.
6. That the meetings in no instance be protracted after ten o'clock.
7. That in any part of the proceedings not provided for by these regulations the decision of the Chairman for the time being shall be final.

The subcommittee beg to suggest that a notice of the changes in the constitution of the Society be sent to every member, particularly those resident in the country from whom contributions ought to be gladly received and read at the meetings though they themselves might not be able to attend.

They also suggest that it would be expedient [if] a

brief notice of the principal topics embraced in each communication be recorded by the Secretary or any other member who may volunteer to undertake such office.

Signed ... Chairman

In accordance with the above regulations after the routine business of the Society was concluded, Dr Sanders gave a verbal account of a rare case of Haematocele occurring in Hospital, in which spontaneous cure took place after the fluid was drawn off by the trocar.

Dr Dill afterwards made a very interesting notice of a case of "Lupus with hypertrophy" occurring in an old gentleman of 80 years of age which terminated fatally by sudden effusion into Brain without any great change upon external disease. A very animated discussion ensued upon this case and gave the members great encouragement regarding the change in the constitution of the Society.

Mr Browne RN came prepared to give an epitome of Sir Jas Graham's Bill but was unfortunately called away.

J M Sanders, Secretary

N.B. Members separated at half-past 9.

### Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March, 1845

#### Special Meeting for consideration of Medical Bill

Mr Browne in Chair - Dr Dill, Dr Gordon, Mr Lamont, Dr J S Reid, Dr Sanders, Dr McBurney, Mr McCleery, Mr Mulholland, Mr Murray, Mr Officer, Dr J D Marshall, Dr Moffat, Dr T Thompson, Dr Bryce, Mr Moore.

Mr Browne having read Sir Jas Graham's Bill clause by clause a lengthened conversation ensued when it was resolved,

That a subcommittee of the following gentleman be appointed to consider more carefully the clauses of this Bill and to report at an adjourned meeting of the Medical Society to be held on this night week at 7 o'clock – Dr McBurney, Dr Dill, Dr J D Marshall, Dr Moffat, Mr Browne and Mr Lamont and that Mr Browne be requested to act as Secretary.

J M Sanders, Secretary

### Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April [sic], 1845

Present, Dr Moffat in Chair - Dr McBurney, Dr J D Marshall, Dr Dill, Mr Browne, Mr Clarke, Dr Beck, Dr Stephenson, Mr Murray, Mr Lamont, Mr Moore, Mr Officer, Dr Thos Read.

Report of subcommittee appointed at last special meeting was read and out of this arose the following resolutions

1. That a meeting of the Medical Practitioners of the

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North of Ireland be requested for the purpose of expressing their opinion respecting the Medical Bill recently introduced into Parliament by Sir Jas Graham, the meeting to take place on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> Inst. in the Commercial Buildings, Belfast, the Chair to be taken at 12 o'clock.

2. That Drs Moffat, McBurney and Mr Browne be appointed a subcommittee to frame resolutions and arrange for the meeting.

S Brown, Secretary pro tem

### Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April, 1845

Present, Dr Stephenson in the Chair - Mr Birnie, Dr Gordon, Dr Malcolm, Mr Clarke, Dr Dill, Mr Brown RN, Mr Lamont, Dr Sanders, Dr Read, Dr McBurney, Dr Bryce.

That The Duality of the Mind by A L Wigan MD  
The Dublin Hospital Gazette published fortnightly  
Criminal Jurisprudence by M B Sampson  
be ordered.

That Dr Moffat and Dr Malcolm be requested to have the Library closed and examined on the 20<sup>th</sup> Inst. under the usual regulations and to report on the same at next meeting.

That Mr McCleery and Dr Dill be requested to examine the annual fines and report to next meeting.

That Dr Stewart and Dr Sanders be requested to audit the Bookseller's and Treasurer's accounts.

That a Treasurer and Secretary be appointed at next meeting.

That Mr Ward's accounts for binding be now ordered to be paid amounting to £5. 12/- E.G. when examined by Secretary.

Dr Stephenson having left the Chair Dr Read was called thereto. When Dr Malcolm brought forward a very interesting paper on a case of Phthisis with specimens of the morbid parts obtained at the post mortem examination - the case terminated by pneumo-thorax produced by an opening from ulceration of posterior and middle part of right lung which took place about 72 hours prior to death. The thanks of the Society were unanimously voted to Dr Malcolm for the extreme care and accuracy with which he has brought this paper before the meeting.

Resolved, That the Medical Society, to show its respect for the memory of its oldest Member Dr McDonnell, do attend his funeral in procession on Wednesday morning next at 9 o'clock, to meet at the Linen Hall News-room a quarter before 9 - and that a circular be sent to each member intimating same.

J M Sanders, Secretary

### Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May, 1845

Present, Mr Browne RN in the Chair - Dr Gordon, Dr Burden, Dr Malcolm, Dr Beck, Dr Stewart, Dr

Marshall, Dr R Bryce, Dr Dill, Dr T Thompson, Mr McCleery, Mr Clarke, Dr Moffat, Mr Moore, Dr Thos Read.

That Quain on the Surgical Anatomy of the Arteries,

Riadore on Electricity and Galvanism  
be ordered.

That Dr Jas Moore be unanimously elected a Member of the Society having been duly balloted for and that he be noticed accordingly.

That the thanks of the Society be given to Drs Moffat and Malcolm for the great care and attention with which they have drawn up the report of the state of the Library and that the same be received and entered in a book to be kept for that purpose.

That all the Books mentioned by the Committee who examined the Library, as requiring to be bound, be referred to that Committee with authority to have the same bound as recommended.

That a Committee, to be called "The Library Committee" be appointed for the year to superintend the state of the Library as regards missing volumes and numbers of Periodicals and that the following members compose that Committee,

Dr Moffat, Dr Malcolm, Dr Dill, Dr Gordon and Mr Lamont, 3 to be a quorum.

That the thanks of the meeting be given to Drs Stewart and Sanders for their care in auditing the Bookseller's and Treasurer's accounts.

That the thanks of the meeting be given to the Treasurer Dr Burden and to Dr Sanders as Secretary for their efficient services during the past year and that they be requested to continue in office during the present year.

That thanks be given to Mr Lamont Librarian.

That the members of the Society shall dine together on Tuesday the 10<sup>th</sup> June, (the 8<sup>th</sup> falling on Sunday) and that Dr Burden and Dr J D Marshall be requested to act as Stewards on the occasion.

That the Librarian Mr Lamont be invited as a guest to the Dinner.

That the Medical Officers of the Garrison be invited as guests to the dinner.

That an abstract of the Proceedings of the Society be sent regularly to the Editor of the Dublin Hospital Gazette as the Proprietors have kindly offered to insert the same.

J M Sanders, Secretary

### Monday Evening June 2, 1845

Present, Dr Gordon in Chair - Dr Marshall, Dr Sloane, Mr Lamont, Dr Dill, Mr Brown, Dr Sanders, Mr Mulholland, Dr Read, Dr Bryson, Mr Birnie, Dr Bryce, Mr Moore, Dr Malcolm, Mr McCleery, Dr Moffat.

That the "General Medical Directory" price 5/6

Mr Collis's Lectures by McCoy 2 vols price 10/-  
Underwood on Diseases of Children revised by  
Marshall Hall 15/-  
be ordered.

That Dr Burden be allowed six volumes at a time  
instead of one during the summer from the Library.

That the recommendation of the Library  
Committee to have the Book-cases painted in grained  
oak and a Carpet procured for the Library, be  
approved of and the same Committee requested to  
have it carried into effect.

The business of the Society being completed Dr  
Thos Read gave a brief sketch of the history of the  
disease known under name of "Pott's Gangrene"  
which he illustrated by a number of cases which had  
occurred in his own practice. By reference to the  
works of some of the older as well as the modern  
surgeons shewed the difference of opinion existing at  
different times as to the best method of treatment.

J M Sanders

#### **Monday Evening 7<sup>th</sup> July, 1845**

Present, Dr Dill in the Chair - Mr Browne, Dr Sloane,  
Dr Stewart, Mr Lamont, Dr Malcolm.

Dr Hugh Pelan having been duly balloted for, was  
unanimously elected a Member of the Society.

Mr David Clarke having been duly balloted for, was  
unanimously elected a Member of the Society.

Resolved, That notices be sent to each of these  
gentleman of their election as Members of the  
Society.

Dr Malcolm stated that it was his intention to  
bring before the Society the case of Perforation of the  
stomach of a peculiar kind but owing to the small  
number of members present he deferred it till next  
evening.

J M Sanders, Secretary

#### **Monday August 4, 1845**

Present, Dr MacCormac in Chair - Mr Aickin, Mr  
Lamont, Dr Andrews, Mr Browne, Dr Dill, Dr Malcolm,  
Dr Sanders, Dr Sloane, Dr Pelan, Mr J<sup>n</sup> Quin, Dr Read,  
Dr Jas Moore.

That Dr John Pirrie having been duly balloted for  
be admitted a Member of the Society.

That Dr Latham's Lectures on Clinical Medicine 2  
vols at 8/- each and

Dr Knox on the Irish Watering Places 10/6  
be ordered.

That a committee of three Dr MacCormac, Dr  
Malcolm and Dr Dill be appointed to inquire into and  
arrange a plan for the formation of a Pathological  
Museum in connection with this Society including a  
statement of the requisite amount and mode of  
maintenance and of everything appertaining to its

establishment: and that they report at next meeting of  
the Society.

Dr Read wishes to know at next meeting the  
amount expended annually upon the purchase and  
binding of periodicals.

Dr Sanders gave a short sketch of a case of  
excision of elbow-joint performed two years ago after  
an injury of that joint, which terminated successfully  
and he now exhibited the patient (Coulon) to shew the  
remarkable freedom of motion and strength of false  
joint.

Dr Malcolm then read a very interesting paper on  
a case of perforation of the stomach remarkable for  
the length of time that elapsed between the  
symptoms of perforation and the death of the patient,  
explained on a post mortem examination by the  
opening being found to have taken place into a cavity  
bounded by left lung and diaphragm and inferiorly by  
liver and spleen, but not communicating either with  
the general cavities of abdomen or chest - there were  
in all three openings one as large as half-a-crown.

A lengthened conversation ensued in which many  
valuable facts bearing on the subject of perforation  
were stated by the different members present.

J M Sanders, Secretary

#### **Monday Evening, September 1, 1845**

Present, Mr Murray in the Chair - Mr Lamont, Mr  
Browne, Dr Gordon, Dr Sanders, Dr Malcolm, Dr  
Sloane, Dr Beck, Dr Moffat, Dr Pelan.

Dr Knox having been duly balloted for was  
admitted a Member of the Society.

Dr Malcolm having read a report from the  
Committee appointed at last meeting for considering  
the formation of a Pathological Museum, Resolved  
that the same be received and considered at a Special  
Meeting to be called next month, and that the thanks  
of the Society be given to those gentlemen.

The Secretary read a letter from Dr Read  
apologising for being unable to attend this evening  
and proposing in connection with his motion at last  
meeting that the Society should hereafter suspend  
the reception of *any* of the periodical publications  
and expend the amount upon standard books -

Resolved, That this subject also be deferred for  
consideration at next meeting when Dr Read may be  
present.

That Mr Hill's account for Carpet etc for Library  
amounting to £8. 0. 11 be ordered to be paid.

That Ferguson's Surgery be ordered.

Dr Gordon read a very interesting paper on a  
peculiar case of dislocation of the femur on the Pubis  
or rather on the Ilium where the head of the bone  
rested on the anterior inferior spinous process and  
the lesser trochanter occupied the Acetabulum. The

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case presented itself in the Dissecting room of the Belfast College and Dr Gordon exhibited the pelvis and femur and illustrated the case by drawings of several other cases of a somewhat similar nature yet still differing in several important particulars. He also proposed a plan of reducing dislocations on the pubis which certainly seems an improvement on that laid down by Sir A Cooper and other writers on the subject, by placing the limb and pelvis in such a position as to relax much more fully the muscles which must oppose the reduction.

Several of the members stated the pleasure they had derived from the excellent paper Dr Gordon had read and some discussion took place on several points connected with it. The paper will be published as usual in the Dublin Hospital Gazette.

J M Sanders, Secretary

### Monday Evening, October 6<sup>th</sup>, 1845

Present, Mr Browne in the Chair - Dr MacCormac, Dr Knox, Dr Moffat, Dr Marshall, Dr Mulholland, Dr Malcolm, Mr Lamont, Dr Moore, Mr Officer.

Resolved, That Simm's essay on the Thymus Gland be ordered.

Resolved, That Chelius' Surgery by South be ordered in vols as soon as the first volume is out.

Resolved, That the large folio volume of Anatomical Plates by Quain be not removed from the Library by members except on special leave from the Society.

Resolved, That Dr Marshall be allowed 6 volumes at a time, and Dr Gordon 3 volumes at a time, during the ensuing 6 months.

That a special meeting of the Society for the 20<sup>th</sup> October at the hour of 7 o'clock be called to consider the report of the Committee appointed to arrange the formation of a Pathological Museum in connection with this Society.

Resolved, That Mr McMillen's Account for Binding, amounting to £2. 19. 1, be paid.

J M Sanders, Secretary

### Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October, 1845

#### Special Meeting

Present, Dr Bryce in the Chair - Mr Browne RN, Mr Lamont, Dr Malcolm, Dr Read, Dr Stewart, Dr Sanders.

Resolved, That the Report of the Pathological Committee having met with the approval of the Society, the plan proposed by them be now carried into effect and that the said Committee be forthwith authorised to proceed with their operations - exercising at the same time the most rigid economy especially in the first outlay for fixtures etc.

That the Members now constituting the Library

and Pathological Committees be united into one under the title of the "Library and Museum Committee" three to form a quorum. The names are Drs Malcolm, Dill, MacCormac, Moffat, Gordon and Mr Lamont.

J M Sanders, Secretary

#### Copy of Report from Pathological Committee

"Your Committee in the first place would observe that they have made enquires respecting the best mode of putting up wet preparations and concerning other matters in the management of a Pathological Museum from an Edinburgh Medical Gentleman conversant with the subject by practical experience. Your Committee have also directed their attention to the plan of putting up preparations lately made known by Mr Goadby. This latter system though more difficult in carrying out your Committee consider of such importance that they would recommend its practical adoption.

From these data and with the additional information which their own experience has suggested your Committee beg to recommend the following scheme of a Pathological Museum to be established in connection with the Society.

1. That a Committee to be called the "Museum Committee" be appointed to consist of not fewer than three members whose duties will be to meet once a month, arrange the putting up of preparations, record the particulars connected with each specimen, to be kept in a book to be purchased for the purpose and to report from time to time to the Society.

2. That for the present two or three shelves be put up in the Library-room fitted with flap doors and otherwise furnished in keeping with the Library proper.

3. That a close lock-up press be purchased for containing the preparations before being put up and all the other necessary materials.

4. That the following articles be purchased viz:- glass jars of different sizes and shapes - a quantity of clear grain spirits, the several salts necessary for the preservative solutions, sundry different articles and instruments used in putting up preparations.

5. That the expenses of establishing the Museum be for the present defrayed out of the funds of the Society.

6. That a circular be addressed to all the members of the Society soliciting donations of pathological specimens recent or otherwise, and requesting them generally to assist in the formation of a Museum worthy of the Medical Profession of Belfast.

Your Committee would also recommend that the members of the Society whenever opportunity offers, bring forward recent specimens of morbid structures

## The Belfast Medical Society

at the regular meetings of the Society from which selections for the Museum might be regularly made. This practice your Committee have reason to think would be of high interest in forwarding the study of Pathology which the proposed Museum will more permanently encourage”.

Signed A G Malcolm  
R F Dill  
H MacCormac

### Monday November 3, 1845

Present, in the Chair Mr Officer - Mr Browne, Mr Lamont, Dr McBurney, Dr Pelan, Dr Read, Dr Mulholland, Dr Stewart, Dr Thomson, Dr Moffat, Dr J D Marshall, Dr Sanders, Dr Sloane, Dr Burden, Mr Clarke, Dr MacCormac, Dr Jas Moore.

That Mr Cunningham Mulholland Surgeon be admitted a Member of the Society having been duly balloted for.

An amendment having been moved and carried to Dr Read's proposition of discontinuing all the periodicals, to the effect that the number of such periodicals be diminished.

Resolved, That the following periodicals be discontinued as soon as the present volumes are completed.

Dublin Medical Press  
London Medical Times  
Johnston's Medico-Chirurgical Review  
Cormack's Journal  
Phrenological Journal  
Encyclographia des Sciences Medicales  
Zoist  
Annalen der Chemie

Resolved, That the fines on Dr Moore's Subscription be remitted owing to his having been abroad when notice of his election was forwarded.

J M Sanders

### Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December, 1845

Present, Dr Bryce in Chair - Mr Browne, Mr Lamont, Mr Mulholland, Dr Malcolm, Dr Kelso, Dr Sanders, Dr Moffat, Dr Pelan, Dr Read, Dr Moore, Dr J D Marshal.

That the motion passed at last meeting relative to the discontinuing of certain periodicals be now confirmed in regard to all named except "Cormack's Edinburgh Monthly Journal".

The Pathological Committee report that they have purchased two presses one a close one £1 and the other glazed for the Library £4.15/- and several other accessory apparatus for preserving of specimens. They suggest also that the names of the specimens and the diseases be inserted in the monthly circulars.

A paper was then read by Dr Kelso of Lisburn upon the recent epidemic of Scarletina which prevailed in that town and neighbourhood.

J M Sanders, Secretary

### Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January, 1846

Present, Mr Browne RN in Chair - Dr Gordon, Dr Mulholland, Mr C Mulholland, Mr Lamont, Dr Malcolm, Dr Dill, Dr Sanders, Dr Mateer, Dr Bryce, Dr Sloane.

That Morgan's Lectures on the Eye be purchased price 18/-.

Dr Malcolm read the monthly report of the Pathological Committee stating that the different presses for specimens were purchased and in their places, the expense of all including a small stock of spirits etc amounting to about £11.

He then exhibited some preparations many beautifully preserved and put up in jars. The following accounts were then passed -

Keane for glass jars -	8/11½
Do. for 5 gallons spirits -	£2. 2. 0.
Mr Ward for Book and paper	16. 0.
Alcorn for Pathological press	5. 0. 0.
Davis for 8 stone jars	10. 0.
Thos Bell for surgical instruments	1. 0. 4.
Dr Malcolm to Press, and other sundry articles	2. 11. 8.
	£12. 8. 11½

A paper read by Dr Mateer on the Complications of Continued Fever in which he illustrated his views on the subject by several cases selected [from] those treated in the Hospital. The paper excited some discussion in which the greater number of those present joined.

### Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 1846

Present, Dr Mateer in the Chair - Mr Browne RN, Dr Reid, Dr T Thompson, Dr Bryce, Dr Malcolm, Mr Lamont.

That the Medical Press be re-ordered.

That Budd on diseases of the Liver be ordered price 14/-.

That Burnett on inflammation and ulceration of the neck of the uterus, price 6/- be ordered.

That Dr Malcolm's account for Materials used in making preparations amounting to 11/- be paid.

J M Sanders

### Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 1846

Present, Dr Dill in the Chair - Dr R Bryce, Dr Donnelly, Dr Moffat, Mr Lamont, Dr Mateer, Dr Gordon, Dr Moore, Dr T Thompson.

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That W. H. Robertson's treatise on Gout price 10/6 be purchased for the Library.

Dr Garner of Belfast having been duly balloted for was admitted a Member of the Society.

Dr Moore gave a short history of the case of Tumor of the neck operated on by him some time previously.

J M Sanders

### Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April, 1846

Present, Mr Browne in Chair - Dr Gordon, Dr Mulholland, Dr Burden, Mr Lamont, Dr Sanders, Dr Bryce, Dr Read, Dr Moffat.

That Sir Astley Cooper on Diseases of the Female Breast 60/- and Sibson on the Relative Anatomy of the Viscera in Health and Disease 18/-.

That Mr Andrew's account for printing Circulars when examined and found correct be paid.

That the Library Committee be requested to have the Library closed and examined on the 20<sup>th</sup> Inst. under the usual regulations and report at next meeting.

That Mr McCleery and Dr Dill be requested to examine the annual fines and report to next meeting, sending a statement of the same prior to 20<sup>th</sup> Inst. to the Treasurer Dr Burden.

That Drs Stewart and Sanders be requested to audit the Bookseller's and Treasurer's accounts.

That a Treasurer and Secretary be appointed at next meeting.

Some morbid specimens exhibited one of large encysted tumor of scalp, one of gall-stone and one of Schirrous disease of uterus.

J M Sanders

### Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May, 1846

Present, Dr Dill in the Chair - Dr Malcolm, Dr Gordon, Dr Moffat, Dr Pirrie, Dr J D Marshall, Dr Mulholland, Dr Burden, Dr Thos Thomson, Surgeon Browne RN, Surgeon Lamont, Dr T Read, Dr Moore, Dr Mateer.

Resolved, That Dr Pirrie having been in Paris since his election and not having enjoyed any of the privileges of the Society during the past year, his fine amounting to 10/- be remitted.

That the sum of 9/- for advertising in the Chronicle the meeting of the Medical Profession held in March 1845 be paid.

That Dr Collins having been duly balloted for, be elected a Member of the Society and that he be noticed accordingly.

That the Treasurer's and Bookseller's accounts be examined by Dr Stewart and Mr Lamont and reported on at next meeting.

That the report of the Library Committee on the state of the Library as now read by Dr Malcolm be

approved of and entered on the records of the Society.

That the Library Committee be authorised to print the appendix and such portion of the report of the Society as may be judged proper by them.

A letter received from Dr Sanders requesting to have his name withdrawn as Secretary of the Society owing to his delicate state of health and proposing that Mr Lamont should be appointed in his stead.

That The Chairman be requested to write to Dr Sanders stating that Mr Lamont is appointed to act "pro tempore" and to state to him the sympathy which the Society feels in the delicate state of his health.

That the cordial thanks of the meeting be given to Dr Burden for his most valuable and efficient services as Treasurer during the past year and that he be requested to act for the present year.

That Thomas Shields be allowed £1. 1. 0 per year for distributing the circulars of the Society.

That Drs Burden, Marshall and Moffat be appointed Stewards for the Annual Dinner, to be held on Tuesday the 9<sup>th</sup> June.

That the thanks of the Society be given to Mr McCleery for his examination of the annual fines.

That Dr Gordon be allowed Quain's plates under the usual regulations.

That Surgeon Browne and Dr Jas Moore be added to the Library Committee.

### Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June, 1846

Present, Mr J Clarke in the Chair - Dr Dill, Dr J D Marshall, Dr Bryce, Dr Collins, Dr Stewart, Mr Mulholland, Dr Moore, Dr Gordon, Dr Pelan, Dr Collins, Dr Read.

Dr Stewart and Mr Lamont reported that they had examined the Treasurer's and Bookseller's account and that they were found correct with the exception of one book overcharged in the latter amounting to 3/6.

Dr Dill reported that he had written the letter to Dr Sanders directed by the Society.

Dr Marshall as one of the Stewards for the annual dinner reported that the dinner had been arranged to be held in the Commercial Hotel on the 8<sup>th</sup> Inst.

That the thanks of the Society be given to Mr Lamont for his efficient services as Librarian.

That Mr Anderson the new House Surgeon of the Hospital be appointed as Librarian.

That Surgeon Anderson be invited to dine with the Society on the 8<sup>th</sup> Inst.

That the Medical Officers of the Garrison be invited to dine with the Society on the 8<sup>th</sup> Inst. and that the Stewards be requested to invite them accordingly.

That Mr Lamont be invited as a guest to the Medical Dinner.

Dr Gordon read a paper on a peculiar form of Diseased Breast which had been operated on in the Hospital but which returned after excision and proved fatal. The characters of the disease did not in many respects resemble those of Fungoides Haematodes although on the whole they approached nearer that disease than any other.

That Dr Coffey be allowed 4 volumes at a time from the Library.

#### **Monday July 6, 1846**

Present, Dr Mulholland in the Chair - Dr Gordon, Dr J D Marshall, Dr Moffat, Mr C Mulholland, Dr Dill.

Dr Ewing having been balloted for was admitted a Member of the Society.

Mr Lamont having been balloted for was also admitted a Member of the Society.

#### **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> July, 1846**

Present, Dr Ewing in the Chair - Dr Dill, Dr J S Reid, Dr T Thompson, Dr Mateer, Dr Bryson, Dr Gordon, Surgeon Browne RN, Mr Lamont, Dr J D Marshall, Dr McBurney.

Resolved, That the members of this Society as a mark of respect for the memory of the late Dr Sanders and of the high estimation in which he was justly held for his professional acquirements and for his active and zealous services as their Secretary for many years, do walk in procession at his funeral on Saturday the first August next.

That on Saturday morning at eleven o'clock the Members of this Society do meet at Ormeau bridge for the purpose of walking in procession at the funeral of the late Dr Sanders.

Resolved, That the following members be constituted a subcommittee for the purpose of carrying out the arrangements of the procession and giving the members the requisite notice - Dr J D Marshall, Mr Lamont, Mr Browne RN, Mr Harkin.

#### **Monday August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1846**

Present, in the Chair, Dr MacCormac - Dr Moffat, Dr Dill, Dr Ewing, Mr Grattan, Mr Aickin, Mr Browne, Mr Lamont, Dr Moore, Dr Bryce.

Mr Lamont, having been proposed and seconded, was unanimously elected as Secretary to this Society.

Resolved, That Surgeon Halliday having been duly balloted for as a Member of the Society be elected.

That Mr Anderson, Surgeon having been duly balloted for, be elected a Member of the Society.

Proposed by Dr Dill and Seconded by Mr Grattan.

That a subscription list be opened for the purposes of shewing some mark of respect to the

memory of our late respected and lamented secretary Dr Sanders and that a meeting of the profession of the town be summoned for Friday 7<sup>th</sup> Inst. in order to carry out the object proposed.

That a committee composed of Mr Grattan, Dr Moffat, Mr Brown and Mr Lamont be formed in order to make the necessary arrangements.

A E Lamont, Secretary

#### **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September, 1846**

Present, Dr Browne RN in the Chair - Dr Burden, Dr Ewing, Dr MacCormac, Mr Anderson, Mr C Mulholland, Dr Moffat, Dr McBurney, Dr Malcolm, Mr Lamont.

Dr Drennan having been duly balloted for was admitted a Member of the Society.

Resolved, That Sir B Brodie's work on Pathology and Surgery be ordered - price 12/-.

That Dr Jacob's essays be ordered price 5/-.

Resolved, That the Transactions of the Medico-chirurgical Society of Hong-Kong presented by Dr Dill, be received and that the thanks of the Society be tendered to him for his valuable present.

Dr MacCormac related a singular case of a phosphorescent appearance observed in a child at Portaferry of 16 months old where the surface of the body exhibited that appearance and in which the phosphorescent matter could be removed on the hand. Dr MacCormac did not himself witness the case, but he was written to by the parents of the child in whom he has the utmost confidence. It was observed in 2 instances in the child but less distinctly in the latter instance. He mentioned that at another time a spark was observed to issue from the child, which however appeared electrical.

A E Lamont, Secretary

#### **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October, 1846**

Present, Dr Pirrie in the Chair - Dr Gordon, Mr Anderson, Dr Pelan, Dr Kelso, Dr Collins, Dr Dill, Dr Bryce, Dr Stewart, Dr Malcolm, Mr C Mulholland, Mr Lamont.

Dr Drummond having been duly balloted for was admitted a Member of the Society.

Dr Kelso read an excellent paper on Infantile Remittent Fever which he illustrated with several cases occurring in his practice at Lisburn.

Resolved, That Members living in the Country be allowed a week after the month is terminated to forward their books to the Library and that the fine of 1d per day be not levied until that time be completed.

Resolved, That the day of meeting of the Society be changed from the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday in the month to the last Monday in each month at 7 o'clock pm.

Notice of these 2 resolutions to be given in the



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circular for the next meeting when they are to be confirmed.

A E Lamont, Secretary

### Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 1846

Present, Dr Bryce in the Chair - Mr Browne RN, Dr Dill, Mr Anderson, Dr MacCormac, Dr Moore, Dr Stewart, Mr Lamont.

Surgeon Wheeler having been balloted for, was duly elected a Member of the Society.

The resolution with regard to the extension of time for country members in returning books having been read over for the purpose of being confirmed was unanimously negatived.

Resolved, That the confirmation of the resolution regarding the change of day for the monthly meetings of the Society be postponed until next meeting.

A E Lamont, Secretary

### Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December, 1846

Present, Dr Dill in the Chair - Dr Malcolm, Mr Browne RN, Dr Drennan, Mr Anderson, Mr Halliday, Dr Burden, Mr Lamont, Dr Bryce, Dr Sloane, Dr Read.

Resolved, That the resolution as follows (which was not entered on the minutes on the 7<sup>th</sup> September when it was passed) be now confirmed viz -

That the 3<sup>rd</sup> rule of the Society be rescinded and stand thus - Candidates for admission must be proposed and seconded at one regular monthly meeting of the Society, and balloted for at the next, "provided the subscription for the Current year be paid - 1 black bean in 5 to exclude - if excluded, the money to be returned".

Resolved, That the resolution respecting the change of day of meeting of the Society be now confirmed.

Dr Bryce detailed an interesting case where the patient was said to be 12 months pregnant and where flooding took place to a considerable extent followed by parturient efforts but without expulsion of the foetus. Death took place suddenly. A post mortem examination was obtained and the uterus was found placed with the cervix leaning forwards and to the right side over the right inguinal region, and the fundus turned downwards and backwards to the left side of the hollow of the sacrum. No liquor amnii found in the uterus. The abdominal parietes were very lax and belly pendulous.

The presentation would have been natural if the uterus had been in a natural position.

A E Lamont, Secretary

### Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January, 1847

Present, Dr Dill, Mr Brown RN, Dr Bryce, Mr

Anderson, Mr Lamont, Dr Mulholland, Dr Jas Moore, Dr Moffat, Dr Jas D Marshall.

Resolved, That Dr Marshall be allowed to have 6 volumes out of the Library at one time, during the winter session.

A E Lamont, Secretary

### Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February, 1847

Present, Dr Collins in the Chair - Dr Gordon, Mr Lamont, Dr Dill, Mr Browne RN, Mr Anderson, Dr Bryce, Dr J Moore.

Resolved, That Robinson on the Teeth price 10/6 be ordered.

That Hallsall's Microscopic Anatomy price 2/6 per part be ordered.

That J Wharton Jones' Manual of Ophthalmic Medicine and Surgery price 12/6 be ordered.

A letter read from Dr Read apologising for not being able to read his paper on Gangrene Senilis.

Mr Browne RN read a valuable paper on the use of nitrate of silver in different affections of the eye. He chiefly uses it in the solid form or 10 gr solution in psor-ophthalemia, acute and chronic conjunctivitis, catarrhal muco-purulent, gonorrhoeal, strumous, pustular and in all external ophthalmia - also in ulcers of the cornea applied in the solid form. He illustrated the subject by several cases selected from a vast number treated by him in the Eye Dispensary.

A E Lamont, Secretary

### 19<sup>th</sup> April, 1847

Present, Dr Read in the Chair - Dr Collins, Dr Dill, Mr Lamont, Mr Anderson, Dr Pelan Dr R Bryce.

Resolved, That Histoire De La Medicine par Renouard price 13/- be ordered.

That the Library Committee be requested to have the Library closed and examined according to the usual regulations. The books to be called in on or before the 10<sup>th</sup> May.

That Mr McCleery and Dr Dill be requested to examine the annual fines and report to the next meeting, sending a statement of the same prior to the annual meeting to the Treasurer Dr Burden.

That Dr Stewart and Mr Lamont be requested to audit the Treasurer's and Bookseller's accounts.

That a Treasurer and Secretary be appointed at next meeting.

Dr Read read a paper on Gangrene Senilis as a continuation to a paper on the same subject read by him at a previous meeting of the Society.

A E Lamont, Secretary

### Hospital 17<sup>th</sup> May, 1847

Present, Dr Thos Thomson in the Chair - Dr Burden,

## The Belfast Medical Society

Dr Malcolm, Dr Gordon, Mr Lamont, Dr Halliday, Dr McBurney, Dr Moore, Mr J Quin, Dr Moffat, Dr Kelso, Dr Bryce.

Owing to the confused state of the Hospital from the pressure of Fever, the Library could not be completely examined - to be completed before next meeting.

Dr Burden states that no return of the annual fines had been made to him consequently they have not been furnished by him to the members.

Resolved, That Mr Greer's account for Books and Periodicals amounting to £21. 16. 2 be paid.

That Drummond Anderson's account for printing circulars amounting to £2. 5. 0 be paid.

That Marcus Ward's account for printing (lithographic) circulars and binding in 1845 be paid - 12/-.

That Lamont, Brothers' account for Binding, Stationary etc amounting to £2. 14. 8 be paid.

That the Treasurer's account showing shewing a balance in favour of the Society of £28. 0. 2 being audited and found correct be approved of.

That the warmest thanks of the Society be given to Dr Burden for his valuable services as Treasurer and that he be requested to continue during the present year.

That the thanks of the Society be given to Mr Lamont as Secretary and he be requested to continue for the present year.

No report from the Library Committee on the state of the Library owing to the confused state of the Hospital.

That the Secretary be directed to write to Mr McCleery and Dr Dill to say that as an irregularity has occurred in furnishing the fines to members owing to the want of their report they be requested to furnish it to the next meeting.

That as a verbal resignation had been given in from Mr Anderson the Librarian through Dr Malcolm the same be accepted and the thanks of the Society be given to him for his services.

That the Apothecary Mr Ring be appointed as Librarian in room of Mr Anderson resigned and that Mr Lamont be requested to instruct him as to the duties of the office.

That a Deputation comprised of Dr Malcolm, Dr Burden and Dr Moffat be appointed to wait on the Linen-Hall Library Committee to ascertain on what terms they would allow the Library of this Society to be connected with theirs, report to next meeting.

That the Society dine together on Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> Inst, as heretofore

That Dr Burden, Dr Moffat and Dr Moore be appointed to act as Stewards.

A E Lamont, Secretary

### July 5<sup>th</sup>, 1847

Dr J S Reid in the Chair - Dr Dill, Surgeon Browne RN, Dr Mulholland, Dr Pelan.

Dr Bingham of Downpatrick proposed by Surgeon Browne RN seconded by Dr Dill as a Member of this Society - to be balloted for at next meeting.

Dr McLaughlin of Lurgan proposed by Dr S Reid and seconded by Dr Pelan as a Member - to be balloted for at next meeting.

Mr Anderson having assigned his reasons for having resigned the Librarianship of this Society and having also stated his willingness to again undertake the duties, provided that his assistant be permitted to take part in them - Resolved, That he be re-instated in his office and informed, that, he being responsible, his assistant be allowed to assist him in discharging the duties.

A E Lamont, Secretary

### July 26<sup>th</sup>, 1847

Present, Dr Bryce in the Chair - Dr Pelan, Dr Dill, Mr Anderson, Dr Gordon, Mr Lamont, Dr Mulholland, Mr Wheeler.

Dr Bingham of Downpatrick having been duly balloted for was elected a Member of the Society.

Resolved, That a subcommittee composed of Dr Moffat, Mr Lamont, Mr Anderson and Dr Dill, be appointed to arrange the Circulation of the Periodicals in a more correct manner.

A letter received from Thomas Shields the Porter of the Hospital requesting to be paid the 5/- formerly allowed him yearly in addition to the sum of £1. 1. 0 now given him for taking out the Circulars and Periodicals,

Resolved, That the consideration of Thomas Shields' application be deferred till next meeting.

A E Lamont, Secretary

### August 30<sup>th</sup>, 1847

Present, Mr Wheeler in the Chair - Mr Browne RN, Dr T Read, Dr Dill, Mr Lamont.

Dr McLaughlin of Lurgan having been duly balloted for was elected a Member of the Society.

A letter having been read by the Secretary from Dr Lynch stating his desire to withdraw from the Society,

Resolved, That Dr Lynch having participated in the benefits of the Society by having out books since the commencement of the year his resignation shall be received on the payment of his subscription and fines.

Mr McCleery of North Street was proposed as a Member by Mr Lamont and seconded by Mr Browne, to be balloted for at next meeting.

Resolved, That the Society consider the remuneration of £1. 1. 0 to Thomas Shields for his duties as Porter to the Society to be sufficient and

## Minutes of the Ordinary Meetings

that he be informed accordingly.

Proposed that Dr Henry Murney be balloted for at next meeting by Mr Anderson and seconded by Dr Moore.

Resolved, That the day of meetings of the Society be again changed to the original day viz the first Monday in the month.

That Mr Browne's name be added to the committee for improving the circulation of the Periodicals.

A E Lamont, Secretary

### 5<sup>th</sup> October, 1847

Present, Mr Browne RN, Dr J D Marshall, Dr Dill, Mr Lamont, Dr Malcolm, Dr T Read, Dr Bryce, Mr Officer, Dr Seaton Reid, Dr Patterson, Dr Halliday, Mr Mulholland, Dr T Thompson.

Dr T Read proposed and Dr Malcolm seconded Dr Ferguson Belfast as a Member of the Society, to be balloted for at next meeting.

Mr McCleery, North Street, having been duly balloted for was elected a Member of the Society.

Dr H Murney having been duly balloted for was elected a Member of the Society.

That the Library Committee be requested to examine the Library with a view to ascertaining the true amount of fines to be levied and to take the cases of Dr Hunter and others objecting on the ground of inaccuracy into consideration and report at next meeting.

A very excellent was read by Mr Browne on a case of Congenital Cataract followed by opacity of the capsule which required a second introduction of the needle by which he rolled up the thickened capsule and depressed it out of the axis of vision, which was followed by very excellent sight. In this case the cornea was particularly prominent.

A E Lamont, Secretary

### 1<sup>st</sup> November, 1847

Present, Dr Patterson in the Chair - Mr Browne RN, Dr Gordon, Dr Dill, Dr T Read, Dr Malcolm, Dr Mulholland, Dr Stewart, Mr C Mulholland, Mr Lamont, Dr Pelan, Dr Stephenson, Dr Thomson, Dr Beck, Dr Bryce.

Dr Ferguson of Belfast having been duly balloted for was elected a Member of the Society.

The following works having been duly proposed and seconded were ordered for the Library -

Cooper on near sight, aged sight etc 7/6

Williams on Anatomy, Physiology and Pathology of the ear 10/6

Brett on Cataract, Artificial Pupil and Strabismus 2/6

Smith on fractures and dislocations near joints 16/-

Hunt on diseases of Skin

Seymour on diseases of the Stomach.

Resolved, That Mr Ring be appointed Librarian under the regulations of the Society.

That a subcommittee composed of Mr Browne, Dr Malcolm, Dr Dill and Mr Lamont be appointed to draw up regulations for the Librarian.

No report from the Library Committee with regard to the fines struck against members. Requested to be furnished at next meeting.

The subcommittee appointed to improve the Circulation of the Periodicals proposed the adoption of a card to be kept by each member in which he shall enter each periodical as he receives it, which cards shall be examined by the Library Committee and reported on to the Society half yearly.

A E Lamont, Secretary

### 6<sup>th</sup> December, 1847

Present, Mr Mulholland in the Chair - Mr Browne, Dr Pirrie, Dr Dill, Dr Gordon, Dr Bryce, Mr Wheeler, Dr Patterson, Mr Lamont, Dr Halliday, Dr Read, Dr Moore.

Mr Washington Murphy having been duly balloted for was elected a Member of the Society.

The following works having been duly proposed and seconded, were ordered to be procured, viz

Harty on Epidemic Dysentery

British Monthly Record of Obstetrics, Medicine and Surgery 1/6 per number

Crisp on the Structure, diseases and injuries of Blood vessels 14/-

Dr McWilliams' Report on the Fever of Boa Vista presented to the House of Commons in 1847.

Resolved, That Mr Browne be allowed the privilege of having 4 volumes from the Library at the same time, as it is his intention to deliver a course of lectures on diseases of the eye.

Moved by Dr Read and seconded by Dr Pirrie that the report of the subcommittee with regard to the circulation of the periodicals and regulations for the Librarian be adopted and that the thanks of the Society be given to the subcommittee for the manner in which they have performed their duty.

Resolved, That Mr McMullan's account for labelling, numbering and regulating the books amounting to £2. 5. 0 be paid.

Resolved, That forms to fit the Library table, and 6 mahogany chairs as recommended by the subcommittee as well as 2 desks for the table, be purchased.

A E Lamont, Secretary

## The Belfast Medical Society

### 3<sup>rd</sup> January, 1848

Present, Dr McBurney in the Chair - Mr Browne RN, Mr Murphy, Dr Collins, Dr Pelan, Mr Wheeler, Dr Bryce, Dr Halliday, Dr MacCormac, Mr Lamont.

Resolved, That Todd and Bowman's Physiology and Physiological Anatomy of Man at 7/- per part be ordered.

That Syme's contribution to Pathology and Surgery be ordered price 12/-.

That a stand for containing all the large folio works at present kept in the lower part of one of the presses but which are inconveniently so placed be procured.

Resolved, That N & J Gray's account for chairs, forms, and desk for the Library amounting to £8. 11. 0 be ordered payment.

That H B Carr's account for repairing and stuffing sofa amounting to 16/8 be paid.

Resolved, That Lamont, Brothers account for Binding, Stationery etc amounting to £7. 9. 3 be paid.

A E Lamont, Secretary

### 7<sup>th</sup> February 1848

Present, Dr MacCormac in the Chair - Dr Dill, Mr Browne RN, Dr Drennan, Dr Hurst, Dr Mulholland, Dr Pirrie, Mr Wheeler, Dr Murney, Dr McBurney, Dr T Read, Dr Beck, Mr Lamont.

Resolved, That the following works be ordered for the library -

Report of the French Academy on Plague - 2 volumes

Akesios - A System of Medical Ethics 3/-

Quain and Wilson's System of Anatomical Plates price £13. 10. 0 - if it can be procured at a reduced price by Dr Browne within 6 months

Parks on Asiatic Cholera 6/-

Hardy and McClintock on Midwifry and Puerperal disease 12/-

Vincent's observations on Surgical practice 12/-

Lallemand on Spermatorrhea 12/-

Resolved, That a special summons be sent to Dr Burden the Treasurer to attend the next monthly meeting in order to explain respecting the list of fines, as many members object and that the names of those objecting be continued on the circulation till after that time.

Resolved, That the following accounts be paid -

Sloane for repairing a Chair 4/-

A. Douglas for varnishing Bookcases and painting presses etc - £1. 3. 6.

Gibbs and Brannigan for putting locks on all the bookcases and drawers £3. 0. 9.

Resolved, That as we are frequently called on by Assurance Companies to give our advice regarding certain patients without their enclosing any fee, the

matter be discussed at our next monthly meeting so that we may possibly have this evident injustice removed.

A E Lamont, Secretary

### 6<sup>th</sup> March 1848

Present, Dr Murney in the Chair - Mr Browne RN, Mr Wheeler, Dr Mulholland, Dr Burden, Dr Pirrie, Dr Collins, Mr Lamont, Dr Pelan, Dr McBurney, Dr Bryce, Dr Moffat, Dr Bryson.

Dr Burden the Treasurer attended and explained the nature of the fines struck against the several members.

The subject of the non-payment of fees to Medical Men by Assurance Companies having been discussed the following resolution was proposed by Mr Browne RN and seconded by Dr McBurney -

Resolved, That we the Members of the Medical Profession residing in Belfast having been frequently applied to by Insurance offices for our opinion respecting the eligibility of parties about to insure their lives to whom we are the ordinary medical attendants, do hereby resolve -

That in future we will not attend to any such application unless made to us *directly* by the Insurance agent enclosing the ordinary consultation fee and that a copy of this resolution be sent to each Insurance office in town.

Resolved, That Mr Browne and Mr Lamont be requested to procure the signatures of all the members of the profession who may be disposed to sign the document.

A paper having been read by Mr Browne from Dr O'Connor of Ballycastle on a peculiar fever which arose there after a soiree, and was confined to persons who had been present at that soiree.

Proposed by Dr Burden and seconded by Mr Lamont that the thanks of this meeting be transmitted through Mr Browne to Dr O'Connor for his valuable and interesting paper and that he be requested to furnish any further information he may be able to obtain on the subject.

A E Lamont, Secretary

### 3<sup>rd</sup> April 1848

Present, Dr Malcolm in the Chair - Dr Dill, Mr Browne RN, Dr Patterson, Dr Pelan, Mr Wheeler, Dr Pirrie, Dr Murney, Dr McBurney, Mr C Mulholland, Dr Bryce, Dr Halliday.

Resolved, That Labatt's essay on the use and abuse of restraint in the management of the insane be purchased - price 3/-.

Resolved, That a vote of thanks be given to Dr J W Beck for the faithful manner in which he vindicated the Rights of the Medical Profession in the recent

## Minutes of the Ordinary Meetings

case of "Beck versus Jackson" heard at the Spring assizes of County Antrim 1848.

That the Library Committee be requested to have the Library closed under the usual regulations and report thereon, after examination, to the next meeting.

That Dr Dill and Mr Lamont be appointed to examine the annual fines and make a report of the same to the May meeting.

That Dr Stewart and Mr Browne be appointed to examine the Treasurer's and Bookseller's accounts.

Mr Browne read a further communication from Dr O'Connor on the Fever of Ballycastle which however throws no more light on the cause of the epidemic.

Resolved, That Dr O'Connor be requested to publish his very interesting paper and Dr Browne convey to him this request with the opinions expressed by the members of the Society as to the origins of the Fever.

### May 1<sup>st</sup> 1848

Present, Mr Browne RN in the Chair - Dr Murney, Dr Bryce, Dr Stewart, Dr Dill, Mr Wheeler, Mr Murphy, Dr Halliday, Mr Lamont, Dr MacCormac, Dr Bryson.

The following gentleman were duly balloted for  
Dr Holmes elected unanimously

Dr Black                      Do  
Mr Hamilton                Do

A Report on the State of the Library, drawn up by the Library Committee was read by the Chairman and approved of.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Society be given to the Library Committee for their services during the past year and for the correct manner in which they have drawn up their report.

Report of the annual fines read by the Secretary, he and Dr Dill having drawn it up.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Society be given to Dr Dill and Mr Lamont for their report on the annual fines.

A letter read from Thomas Shields asking for increase to his salary owing to some extra duties which devolved upon him -

Resolved, That he be granted £1. 10. 0 for his services per annum.

Resolved, That owing to several books having been found missing in addition to those formally reported, which are not entered to any of the members, Mr Ring, the Librarian, be instructed to keep the Library locked and admit no persons in future but members of the Society as he will be considered responsible for any losses that may occur if not charged against members.

Resolved, That the warm thanks of the Society be given to Dr Burden for his valuable services as

Treasurer and that he be re-appointed for the ensuing year.

That the thanks of the Society be also given to our Secretary Mr Lamont for his efficient services and that he be now re-appointed for the ensuing year.

Proposed and seconded that the sum of £5 which would have been due to the late Mr Anderson as Librarian be placed to the credit of the Society.

Proposed as an amendment that the above sum be handed over to the executors of Mr Anderson.

The original motion was carried by a majority of 7 to 5.

Resolved, That a new catalogue of the Society's books be printed and that the arrangements and superintendence of it be left in the hands of the Library Committee.

Resolved, That the Library Committee of last year be re-appointed.

The Treasurer reported that the balance remaining in his hands amounts to £24. 0. 1.

The Treasurer was authorised to pay the following accounts

Mr Greer's account for Books and Periodicals	£20. 12. 7
Mr Wards account for Secretary's Desk	£1. 7. 0
Mr Andersons account for Printing	£3. 0. 0
Total	£24. 19. 7

Resolved, That Dr J D Marshall, Mr Browne RN and Dr Moore be appointed Stewards for the Annual Dinner to be held on the 8<sup>th</sup> Inst. as usual.

Resolved, That Dr Burden be requested to act as Chairman and Dr Thos Read as Vice Chairman at the Annual Dinner.

### 5<sup>th</sup> June 1848

Present, Dr Pirrie in the Chair - Mr Browne RN, Dr Dill, Mr Lamont, Dr Pelan, Dr McCleery, Dr Holmes, Dr Mulholland, Mr Mulholland, Dr McBurney, Mr Wheeler, Dr Murney, Dr Bryce, Dr Halliday, Dr S Reid, Dr T Read, Dr Malcolm, Dr Burden.

Resolved, That a new blank Catalogue be procured, to be filled up, and to lie on the table.

Resolved, That in future the list of toasts to be left to the arrangement of the Stewards appointed for the Annual Dinner and not to the Society generally.

That Pritchard's researches into the Physical history of mankind £4. 2. 0 be purchased.

That Lawrence on the eye, American edition by Dr Hays of Philadelphia be purchased price ...

Resolved, That Mr Charles Coffey RN be invited as a guest to the Annual Dinner.

That the Medical Officers of the Garrison be invited as guests to the Dinner.

That Mr Ring our Librarian be invited as a guest to

the Dinner.

That Dr Norman Chevers be invited as a guest to the Dinner.

That those Members who shall not return the circulation list of periodicals when called in be fined half a crown each in future.

A very interesting case on a peculiar disease of the Spleen shewing great enlargement with a cyst containing a large quantity of serous fluid – read by Dr Halliday.

Dr Moore having declined to act as a Steward at the Annual Dinner: resolved that Mr Lamont be appointed in his stead.

A E Lamont, Secretary

### 3<sup>rd</sup> July 1848

Present, Dr Collins in the Chair - Mr Browne RN, Mr C Mulholland, Dr Burden, Mr Lamont, Mr Murphy, Dr Hamilton, Dr Mulholland, Dr Halliday, Dr Pelan, Mr McCleery, Dr Black.

Resolved, That the minute regarding the fine of 2/6 to each member for not returning the Periodical list be now confirmed.

Surgeon Corry proposed as a Member of the Society, to be balloted for at next meeting.

Wilson's Portraits of diseases of the skin and Smith's Neuroma deferred from non-attendance of proposers and seconders.

An interesting paper read (in part) by Dr Burden on the different kinds of monstrosities which he promises to continue on next night of meeting.

### 7<sup>th</sup> August 1848

Present, Dr McBurney in the Chair - Dr Burden, Dr Hamilton, Mr Murney, Mr Lamont, Dr Read, Mr McCleery, Dr Malcolm.

Surgeon Corry having been balloted for was elected a Member of the Society.

Smith's Neuroma price £2. 2. 0, Wilson's Portraits of Diseases of the Skin 3 Fasciculi at 20/- each, ordered for the Library.

Resolved, That an account of Spirits, Jars etc for the Pathological Society amounting to £2. 15. 11 be paid.

That an account from Lamont, Brothers for binding, stationary etc be paid amounting to £5. 11. 6½

Resolved, That the Secretary be requested to confer with Dr Andrews respecting his fines, stating to him the amount as furnished by the Treasurer and ascertaining whether the statement be satisfactory to him, and report thereon at next meeting.

Dr Burden continued his paper on Monstrosities with many singular instances of the effect of the imagination on the pregnant woman in causing them.

To be concluded at next meeting.

### 4<sup>th</sup> September 1848

Present, Dr Malcolm in the Chair - Dr Burden, Mr Lamont, Dr Seaton Reid, Dr T Thomson, Dr Murney, Mr Murphy, Dr Patterson, Dr Read, Mr Officer, Dr Moore.

Dr Andrews' fines having been examined and a report made by Secretary thereon, the amount was reduced to 13/1.

Resolved, That Whitehead on Sterility and abortion price 12/- be ordered for the Library.

An account from Hugh McMullan for assisting the Librarian in regulating the Library amounting to 9/- examined, but not being considered justly due, was refused payment.

Dr Burden completed his paper on Monstrosities, which elicited several interesting remarks from members and were replied to by the reader of the paper.

Resolved, That the Porter be directed to remain at the gate till after the conclusion of the meetings.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> October 1848

Present, Dr Thos Read in the Chair - Dr Patterson, Mr Lamont, Dr Murney, Dr McBurney.

Resolved, That Dr Andrews be unanimously replaced in his proper status in the Society interrupted by the non-settlement of his fines, on condition that his subscriptions for the 2 intervening years be paid together with the amount of fines agreed to at the last meeting.

Resolved, That Mr Heburn and Mr Black of Belfast be balloted for at next meeting.

Dr Pelan before leaving Belfast for New Orleans having presented the Society with the works of Hildanus and the anatomical letters of Morgagni-

Resolved, That the warm thanks of the Society and its best wishes for his success be transmitted to Dr Pelan through the Secretary for his valuable present.

Resolved, That the account from the Banner of Ulster for the publishing of the Society's Catalogue amounting to £5- be paid.

### 6<sup>th</sup> November 1848

Present, Dr Dill in the Chair - Dr Malcolm, Mr Murphy, Dr Stewart, Mr Browne RN, Dr Mulholland, Mr Lamont, Dr McBurney, Mr Officer, Mr McCleery, Dr Patterson, Dr Halliday, Mr Corry, Dr Thos Read, Mr Wheeler, Dr Black.

Resolved, That the resolution regarding the Emplacement of Dr Andrews as a Member of this Society, was passed at last meeting (2<sup>nd</sup> October) be now confirmed, it being understood that the Society making this exception in his favour in consequence of

## Minutes of the Ordinary Meetings

the 15<sup>th</sup> fundamental law not having been carried out.

Mr Black having been duly balloted for, was elected a Member of the Society.

Resolved, That Taylor on Poisons be ordered

That Walker on the treatment of ulcers be ordered

Resolved, That on no occasion shall Wilson's large plates of diseases of the Skin be removed from the Library by members.

Dr Stewart having been kind enough to bring forward a case which occurred at the Lunatic Asylum and was considered by Drs Thomson, Stewart and Mulholland as a case of Asiatic Cholera the only doubt existing on the subject arising from the absence of the rice-water evacuations and the urine being regularly secreted.

Resolved, That the thanks of the meeting be given to Dr Stewart for his kindness in attending to report the above case and for the full and correct manner in which he has stated it.

Mr Heburn having been duly balloted for, was elected a Member of the Society.

That a subcommittee be appointed to report on next night of meeting as to the best established treatment of Asiatic Cholera and such other suggestions on the subject as may seem to them necessary.

That the committee be composed of Drs Thomson, MacCormac, Thos Read, McBurney and Malcolm, the latter to be convener.

Resolved, That Mr Lamont, Dr Patterson and Dr Malcolm form a deputation to wait on the Hospital Committee to arrange about appropriating a room in the New Wing for a Library and consulting room and report thereon at next meeting.

### 4<sup>th</sup> December 1848

Present, Dr Collins in the Chair – Mr Browne RN, Dr Malcolm, Dr Mulholland, Dr Dill, Dr Bryce, Dr Murney, Dr Black, Mr Officer, Dr Patterson, Dr McBurney, Mr Murphy, Mr McCleery, Dr Thos Read, Dr S Reid, Mr Wheeler.

The minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

No report from the subcommittee on Cholera.

No report from the Deputation to the General Hospital Committee on the change of the Library-room. To be reported on next meeting.

Mr John Steele Dixon having been duly balloted for was elected a Member of the Society.

Mr Jas Smith having been duly balloted for was elected a Member of the Society.

Dr Malcolm exhibited to the members a very interesting pathological specimen of aneurysm of the ascending aorta, which had pressed towards the right side of chest, the upper part of sternum being partially absorbed by the pressure of the tumor.

Patient, a female, 48 years old – death seemed to be caused by the pressure of the tumor causing great dyspnoea and finally suffocation. Tumor did not give way.

Dr Malcolm also exhibited a specimen of the Pathological appearances in a case of acute pleuro-pneumony combined with acute Pericarditis. Both lungs were partially in the first stage of Pneumonia and a very large effusion had taken place into both pleura but chiefly into the left. The whole surface of the pericardium was thickly coated with lymph and partial adhesions had formed between the two surfaces. Bleeding and mercury were used without effect. The patient was a labourer at the Docks under Mr Dargan æt 23 and was 17 days under treatment, died on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Inst.

Dr Reid reported a case of what was decidedly considered one of Asiatic Cholera occurring in a patient in the workhouse who came from Edinburgh.

The following books were ordered for the Library  
John Reid's physiological, anatomical and pathological researches, plates 18/-

J Risdon Bennett on Acute Hydrocephalus 8/-

Henry Robertson on the treatment of Gout 10/6.

### 1<sup>st</sup> January 1849

Present, Dr Patterson in the Chair – Mr Browne RN, Dr McMechan, Dr Dill, Dr Malcolm, Mr Dickson, Mr Lamont, Dr Moffat, Dr Bryce, Dr Pirrie, Mr Wheeler, Mr Mulholland, Dr Black, Mr Murphy, Mr Black, Mr Corry, Mr Smith, Mr Heburn, Dr S Reid, Dr Halliday, Mr McCleery, Dr Mulholland, Mr Officer.

The minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

The deputation to the Hospital Committee respecting the removal of the Library to the New Wing reported that the Committee had at once consented to the change.

Resolved, That the complete arrangements respecting the removal of the Book-cases etc and the necessary expense of fitting up the New Library-room be left in the hands of the Library Committee.

Resolved, That Peacock on Influenza of 1847-8 price 5/- be purchased.

That, The American Journal of Medical Science be ordered.

That Maclise's Surgical Anatomy illustrated, 5/- per fasciculus, be ordered.

That Hughes Bennett on Cancerous and Cancroid Growths, be ordered.

That the London Monthly Journal be ordered.

Dr Malcolm exhibited pathological specimens of

1<sup>st</sup> Heart and pericardium in acute pericarditis

2<sup>nd</sup> Small intestine in Asiatic Cholera

3<sup>rd</sup> Large intestine in Dysentery.

A paper read by Dr Malcolm being a review of the pathology, symptoms and treatment of cholera (Asiatic). The latter part, (the Treatment) not having been completed it was

Resolved, That a special meeting be called for Monday the 15<sup>th</sup> inst. in order to hear the conclusion of Dr Malcolm's paper and discuss the subject.

### Special Meeting

#### 22<sup>nd</sup> January 1849

Present, Dr McMechan in the Chair – Mr Browne RN, Dr Pirrie, Dr Collins, Dr Malcolm, Mr Murphy, Mr Wheeler, Mr Mulholland, Mr Smith, Mr Lamont, Dr T Thompson, Dr Halliday, Mr McCleery, Dr Bryce, Dr Black, Dr Thos Read, Dr Murney, Mr Officer, Dr McBurney, Dr Dill, Dr McGee Visitor, Dr Hamilton, Dr H Stewart Visitor, Dr Seaton Reid.

Owing to the illness of Dr Malcolm the meeting ordered for the 15<sup>th</sup> was postponed till this date.

Dr Malcolm then read the conclusion of his paper on cholera in which he detailed nearly all the modes of treatment which have been adopted here and in other countries both in the epidemic of 1832 and the present one.

The paper was highly approved of by the members and elicited many valuable remarks.

#### 5<sup>th</sup> February 1849

Present, Mr Black in the Chair – Dr Bryce, Dr Malcolm, Mr Murphy, Mr Lamont.

The minutes of last meeting read.

Resolved, That Knox on Cholera be purchased.

Dr Malcolm exhibited the following pathological specimens ...

#### 5<sup>th</sup> March 1849

Present, Mr Browne RN in the Chair – Dr Malcolm, Dr Mateer, Dr Patterson, Mr Heburn, Dr Pirrie, Dr Bryce, Mr Lamont, Dr MacCormac, Mr Wheeler, Dr Halliday, Mr Aickin, Dr Seaton Reid.

Dr McGee having been duly balloted for was unanimously elected a Member of the Society.

Dr H Stewart having been duly balloted for was unanimously elected.

A valuable present of Books received from Dr McGee consisting of the works of Haller complete in 28 volumes with a folio volume of plates and eleven other miscellaneous works.

Resolved, That the Secretary be directed to transmit to Dr McGee the warm thanks of this meeting for his very valuable present of Books, and for the interest he thereby evinces in the success of the Society.

Mr Browne detailed a very interesting case of disease of the eyes of a peculiar character owing to

disease of the third pair of nerves caused by the pressure of a tuberculous tumor about the size of a walnut imbedded in the right crus cerebri and pressing on the left crus so as to cause softening of it and of the corpus callosum.

Dr Pirrie presented to the Society a résumé of the cases of Cholera admitted to the General Hospital during the past month. Seventeen cases, of which 5 were fatal, 9 recovered and 3 remained under treatment.

Calomel, opium, turpentine internally and externally, and bleeding, with hot baths and stimulants in very small quantities, were the chief means of treatment used.

Dr Malcolm exhibited the following pathological specimens

- 1 Cirrhosis of the liver.
- 2 Kidney in a case of Asiatic Cholera with protracted suppression of urine.

The following accounts were examined and ordered to be paid

Messrs Lamont and Co	£2. 2. 2
Messrs Gibbs and Branigan	3. 4. 6
Smith and Ross	5. 0. 0
Thos Hardy	4.12. 6

### Medical Society

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> April 1849

Present, Dr Patterson in the Chair – Mr Browne, Mr Wheeler, Dr Seaton Reid, Dr H Stewart, Dr Pirrie, Dr Drennan, Dr Moffat, Dr Mateer, Dr Read, Mr Mulholland, Mr Lamont, Dr McBurney, Mr Heburn.

Resolved, That Smee's work on Electro-biology and Dr Mateer's outlines of Botany be purchased.

A vote of thanks was passed to Dr McGee for his valuable present of Books.

Resolved, That the sum of £500 be insured on the Books and Furniture in the Library, and that Drs Patterson and Pirrie be authorised and requested to effect the same on the best terms.

Resolved, That keys for the Library door be provided for such members of the Society as desire to have them on paying for them, but that the Librarian alone have the power to give out and enter books to members.

That Mr McCleery and Mr Lamont be appointed to examine the annual fines.

That Mr Browne and Dr Stewart be appointed to examine the Treasurer's and Bookseller's accounts.

That the Library be closed under the usual regulations, examined by the Library Committee, and reported on at the annual meeting.

Dr Mateer read a paper on the nature and



## Minutes of the Ordinary Meetings

treatment of Cholera illustrated by the cases treated in the General Hospital during the past month.

Resolved, That Bern<sup>d</sup> Fitzpatrick's account for Spirits, used in the preparation of pathological specimens, be ordered payment, amounting to 13/-.

### Special Meeting

1<sup>st</sup> May 1849

Called for the purpose of arranging to pay a tribute of respect to the memory of Dr Thomson by walking in procession at his funeral.

Present, Dr Marshall in the Chair – Dr McBurney, Dr Moffat, Dr McKibbin, Mr Black, Mr Murphy, Mr J Quin, Dr Collins, Mr Lamont, Mr Corry, Dr Pirrie, Dr Blizard, Dr Drennan, Dr Thomson, Mr Clarke, Dr McMechan, Dr H Stewart, Mr Officer, Dr Hamilton, Dr Mulholland, Dr Seaton Reid, Mr Harkin, Dr Lynch, Mr McCleery, Dr MacCormac, Mr Browne RN, Dr Murney, Dr Seeds, Dr Bryce, Dr Malcolm, Mr Grattan, Dr Halliday, Mr Smith, Dr Moore, Mr Wales, Dr C D Purdon.

Moved by Dr McKibbin, seconded by Dr Moffat, That instead of wearing scarves the members of the profession should walk in procession at the funeral wearing dark crape on the hat and black gloves.

Moved as an amendment by Dr Bryce that no mention of scarves should be made leaving it to the option of the friends to provide such if they thought proper but that deep crape should be worn on the hat.

The original motion was carried.

Resolved, That the Secretary be directed to issue circulars to the different members of the Medical Profession in town and immediate neighbourhood requesting them to meet at the Linen Hall on Friday morning at a quarter to 8 o'clock wearing deep crape on the hat and black gloves, and join in procession at the funeral of the late Dr Thomson.

### Annual Meeting

7<sup>th</sup> May, 1849

Present, Mr Browne RN in the Chair – Dr Bryce, Dr Pirrie, Dr H Stewart, Mr Black, Mr Lamont, Dr T Thompson, Dr Halliday, Mr C Mulholland, Dr Murney, Dr Patterson, Dr Burden, Mr McCleery.

Dr Pirrie stated that an insurance for £500 on the Books and furniture of the Library of the Medical Library had been effected at the rate of 2/6 percent and 3/- percent for duty.

Secretary stated that keys for the Library door had been procured for such numbers as might desire them.

Resolved, That the periodicals be completed to the end of 1847 and bound.

Mr Browne reported that he and Dr Stewart had

examined the Bookseller's and Treasurer's accounts and found them correct.

Mr McCleery and Mr Lamont handed in a statement of the annual fines.

A report on the state of the Library given in by the Library Committee.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Society be given to the Treasurer for his efficient services during the past year and that he be requested to continue for the present year.

That the thanks of the Society be given to the Secretary Mr Lamont for his efficient services during the past year, and that he be requested to continue during the present year.

That Mr Aickin's fines amounting to 9/8 be remitted, the books for which he was fined having been detained by mistake at the wrong place.

That Dr Patterson's fine for taking out two books at once amounting to 14/6 be remitted, he not having been aware that town members are fineable for having two books at one time.

Mr Rea, Surgeon, Belfast, was unanimously elected a Member of the Society.

Mr Wales, Surgeon, Belfast, was unanimously elected a Member of the Society.

Resolved, That in future the monthly and quarterly periodicals be allowed to lie for at least one week on the Library table before being circulated.

Dr Pirrie read a statistical report on the cases of Cholera admitted to the General Hospital during the past month.

Resolved, That this Society begs to record its deep sorrow on the lamented decease of Dr S S Thomson, one of its oldest members, a Gentleman, at the time of his death, holding the distinguished position of head of the Medical Profession here, a place to which he was justly entitled not only from seniority but also from his skill, worth, and integrity, and kindness and urbanity to his Juniors, and especially from his untiring zeal for, and the unswerving firmness with which, he ever upheld, the honor and interests of the profession; and that a letter signed by the Chairman and Secretary be written to Dr Thomson's relatives expressive of these sentiments and respectively offering the sincere condolence and sympathy of this Society on their melancholy bereavement.

The following is a copy of the letter which accompanied the above resolution;

Medical Society's Library  
8<sup>th</sup> May, 1849

Dear Sir

In conveying to you and his other relatives the preceding resolution, we feel that we but feebly express the united sentiments of the Medical body

## The Belfast Medical Society

here when we say, that in the demise of the late Dr Thomson not only has the Profession sustained an irreparable loss, but the entire Community has reason to deplore the removal of one who was an ornament to society, kind, gentle and unassuming; charitable from innate feelings of benevolence and generous without ostentation.

Long shall the many families of which he was the respected friend and trusted counsellor, long shall the various public bodies with which he was connected and in which he was so highly esteemed, feel, that by his death, a sad void has occurred in the private or social circle, a vacancy not to be easily filled up, in those associations where he was ever active in the Cause of Charity, or lending himself to promote, in delightful moments of relaxation, that kindly intercourse which softens, improves, and elevates the human heart.

May we beg you will receive and convey to his bereaved friends the sentiments which we have endeavoured to express in the name of the Belfast Medical Society – and permit us, Dear Sir, to remain  
your faithful and obedient Servants.

Sam. Browne, Chairman  
A E Lamont, Secretary

To J W Bristow Esq.

### 4<sup>th</sup> June, 1849

Present, Dr McBurney in the Chair – Dr Pirrie, Dr Halliday, Dr Mulholland, Dr Malcolm, Dr Lynch, Dr Murney, Mr Lamont, Mr Black, Mr Wales, Dr Collins, Dr Patterson, Dr Burden, Dr Bryce, Mr J Quin, Dr Hamilton.

Resolved, That Sir A Morrison's work on Insanity price £2. 1. 0 and Dalrymple's Pathology of the Eye in Fasciculi 20/- each be purchased.

Dr Lynch having been balloted for was unanimously elected a Member.

A very interesting and valuable paper read by Dr Burden on difficult parturition when he exhibited a new form of forceps for extracting after perforation and removal of the brain, which he had made by Mr Bill of this town according to a pattern suggested by himself.

The following is the copy of Mr Bristow's reply to the letter from this Society expressing their sympathy and condolence with the relatives of the late lamented Dr Thomson on the occasion of his death.

Bank Buildings  
Belfast, 14 May 1849

Dear Sir

May I request you will have the goodness to convey to the Belfast Medical Society the deep sense entertained by the relatives of the late Dr S Thomson,

of their kindness in communicating their resolution of 7<sup>th</sup> Inst. consequent to his lamented decease.

The uniform testimony borne to his worth by all the public bodies with whom he was connected must be to the survivors a source of the greatest comfort and consolation under so severe and sudden an affliction, but the very high terms in which his Professional Brethren have so kindly spoken of him, and the knowledge of the affection and respect with which he was always considered by them jointly and individually is to them the highest assurance of his merits from those most competent to judge, and is, I can assure you, highly appreciated on that account.

For the kind terms in which you have conveyed the Resolution of the Society please to accept my sincere acknowledgements, and believe me to be

Dear Sir  
Your most obedient Servant  
J W Bristow

Saml. Browne Esq. RN,  
Chairman etc

### 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 1849

Present, Mr Wales in the Chair – Dr McGee, Mr Browne RN, Mr Black, Mr Lamont, Dr Lynch.

The minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

Resolved, That Dendy's work on diseases of the Scalp price 12/- be purchased.

Resolved, That Gibbs & Branigan's account for sundries amounting to £2. 11. 2, and Christie's account for salt 1/4 be paid.

Resolved, That the arrangement respecting the painting of the Book-cases of the Library be referred to the Library Committee with power to have it carried out.

A very interesting case of schirrus of conjunctiva of the left eye in which extirpation of the eye was performed – related by Surgeon Browne RN and the pathological specimen exhibited.

### 30<sup>th</sup> July, 1849

At a meeting of the Medical Profession of Belfast and its vicinity, called by requisition to consider the propriety of addressing the Queen on her intended visit to Belfast,

Present, Dr Stephenson in the Chair – Dr Moffat, Dr McKibbin, Dr Marshall, Mr Wales, Dr Blizard, Dr Thompson, Dr Malcolm, Dr Campbell Lisburn, Dr Pirrie, Mr Walkington, Dr Bryce, Dr Kelso Lisburn, Mr Browne RN, Mr Corry, Mr Wheeler, Mr Smith, Mr McCleery, Dr Butler, Dr Seeds, Dr Murney, Dr Stewart Carrickfergus, Dr Murray Ballymacarrett, Mr Officer, Dr Gordon, Mr Dickson, Mr Murphy, Mr Mulholland, Dr Moore, Dr Lynch, Dr Read, Mr Lamont, Mr Bryson Senr., Dr Halliday.

## Minutes of the Ordinary Meetings

It was moved by Mr Wheeler, seconded by Mr Corry

That a Committee of five be appointed to draw up an address to her Majesty and that three should be appointed out of the Medical Profession generally – one from the Hospital attendants and one from the District attendants to present the address.

Moved as an amendment by Dr McKibbin and seconded by Dr Marshall –

That the Meeting considers it unusual to present an address to her Majesty on the hurried visit she is likely to pay to Belfast.

The amendment was carried by a large majority.

### 6<sup>th</sup> August, 1849

Present, Mr Browne RN in the Chair – Dr Patterson, Mr Lamont, Mr Wales, Mr Wheeler, Dr Dundee, Mr Murphy.

Dr Dundee and Dr McKibbin having severally balloted for were unanimously elected Members of the Society.

Resolved, That Meig on diseases of females price 15/-, Dr Collin's sketch of the life and practice of Dr Jos Clarke of Dublin price 8/-, Leibig's and Kopp's Annual Chemical Reports price 6/6, Journal of Public Health monthly price 6<sup>d</sup>, be ordered

That Dr Malcolm's paper on Asiatic Cholera be deferred until next meeting.

That the proposal to admit the Students of the Hospital be deferred until next meeting.

That Mr Gray's account for cabinet work be paid amounting to ...

### 6<sup>th</sup> September, 1849

Present, Dr Bryce in the Chair – Dr Patterson, Dr Malcolm, Dr MacCormac, Mr Wales, Dr Lynch, Mr McCleery, Dr Read, Dr Mulholland, Dr Pirrie.

Resolved, That Bennett on Inflammation of the Uterus and Lindley's botany illustrated 14/- and Medical Times 6/ monthly be ordered

Resolved, That the Secretary be requested to write to Mr Bristow acknowledging receipt of and thanking him for his very liberal and handsome present to the Society.

Resolved, That the Library Committee be requested to report to the Society on the best means of disposing of the Library of late Dr S S Thomson.

Dr Malcolm read an interesting statistical account of the cases of Asiatic Cholera treated in the General Hospital.

That Lamont, Brothers account for binding etc be paid also ... account for bladders for use of Museum.

### 1<sup>st</sup> October, 1849

Present, Mr Black in the Chair – Dr McBurney, Dr

Halliday, Mr Lamont, Dr Bryce, Mr Smith.

Minutes of last meeting read.

No report from the Library Committee on the arrangements of Dr Thomson's present of books.

### 5<sup>th</sup> November, 1849

Dr McBurney in the Chair – Mr Browne RN, Dr Bryce, Mr Wales, Dr Thompson, Mr Aickin.

The minutes of last meeting read.

Resolved, That the Physician's Holiday by Dr Forbes price 10/- be purchased and also the Physiognomy of Diseases by Dr Corfe with illustrations price 10/6.

Resolved, That the Library Committee be authorised to have a Bookcase of four shelves to be placed on the top of that placed on South side of the Library.

Resolved, That John Connor's account for Book Stand £1. 16. 8.

That William Clarke's account for repairing locks etc 2/-

be paid

### 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 1849

Present, Mr Browne RN in the Chair – Dr McBurney, Dr Pirrie, Dr Malcolm, Mr Aickin, Mr Smith, Dr Patterson, Dr Murney, Mr Black, Mr Lamont.

The minutes of last meeting read.

Surgeon John Smith having been duly balloted for was elected a Member of the Society.

Resolved, That Gairdner on Gout be purchased, price

Resolved, That this Meeting consider the subject of Medical Ethics is one of the greatest importance and interest to the Profession and worthy of being practically taken up by the Society, and that with this view a Committee be now appointed to consider the entire subject and draw up a code of rules for guidance in deciding Medico-Ethical questions and report generally as to the best method, either by connection with this Society or otherwise, of putting the matter on a practical footing among the Profession of Belfast.

Moved by Dr Malcolm, seconded by Mr Wheeler

That the following be the names of those comprising the Medical-Ethical committee

Dr Stephenson, Dr McBurney, Dr MacCormac, Dr Burden, Dr Moffat, Dr Patterson, Dr Thos Read, Dr Pirrie, Dr Collins, Dr Malcolm, Mr Wheeler, Mr Browne, Mr Lamont, Dr Seaton Reid, and that Dr Malcolm be requested to act as convener.

### 7<sup>th</sup> January, 1850

Present, Dr Halliday in the Chair – Dr Bryce, Dr McBurney, Dr Lynch, Mr Browne RN, Dr Pirrie, Dr

Patterson, Mr Lamont, Mr Smith.

Drs Blizard and Hodges of Belfast having been duly balloted for, were unanimously elected Members of the Society.

Resolved, That Quain's and Wilson's Anatomical Plates price £14 be purchased.

That an account for Binding and printing circulars etc from Messrs Lamont amounting to £4. 0. 6 be paid.

Resolved, That the decision on the plans and estimates for making new Book cases to contain Dr Thomson's Library be deferred till next meeting.

#### **February 4<sup>th</sup>, 1850**

Present, Dr Black in the Chair – Mr Browne RN, Dr Murney, Dr Moffat, Dr Malcolm, Mr Lamont, Dr McBurney, Mr McCleery.

The minutes of last meeting read.

Resolved, That Alison's Pathology and Practice of Medicine and Churchill on diseases of Children be purchased.

Resolved, That the Bookcases for Dr Thomson's Library be placed in the recesses of the windows on the north side of the Library and that Mr Arthur Purse's plan for making the same amounting to £7. 6. 6 be accepted.

Resolved, That Jas McNally's accounts for making out Index of Dr Thomson's and Dr McGee's Books amounting to £1. 1. 0 be paid.

Resolved, That Dr Pelan having been obliged to leave the country owing to ill health previous to the commencement of this year of the Society (still continuing a Member of the Society) on paying his subscription, the fines thereon shall be remitted.

Dr Malcolm having stated that a number of Pathological specimens and paintings are being forwarded to him for sale.

Resolved, That permission be given by the Society to exhibit them in the Library for some time, and that a subcommittee composed of Dr Moffat, Dr Pelan, Dr Murney, Dr Malcolm, Mr Lamont, and Mr Browne be appointed to examine them and select what they consider should be purchased by the Society, to be determined on at next meeting to be called for that purpose.

#### **4<sup>th</sup> March, 1850**

Present, Dr Malcolm in the Chair – Dr Mulholland, Dr Patterson, Mr Lamont, Mr Browne RN, Mr Wheeler, Dr Thompson, Dr Pelan, Dr Dill.

The minutes of last meeting read.

That a special meeting of this Society be called for Monday evening next at 7 o'clock for the purpose of considering the propriety of voting the sum of £10 for the purchase of Pathological Specimens and Paintings

for the Museum of the Society.

#### **Special Meeting**

##### **11<sup>th</sup> March, 1850**

Present, Dr Patterson in the Chair – Dr Collins, Dr McMechan, Dr Malcolm, Dr Pelan, Mr Browne RN, Dr Murney, Dr Bryce, Dr Pirrie.

The circular calling meeting having been read:

The Museum Selection Committee reported that they had selected specimens of Diseased Bone amounting to 36/- as follows ...

##### **1<sup>st</sup> April, 1850**

Present, Dr Lynch in the Chair – Mr Wheeler, Mr Lamont, Dr Malcolm, Dr Bryce.

The minutes of the Special Meeting read and confirmed.

Resolved, That Messrs McCleery and Lamont be appointed to examine the annual fines.

That Mr Browne and Dr Stewart be appointed to examine the Treasurer's and Bookseller's accounts.

That the Library be closed under the usual regulations, to be examined by the Library Committee and reported on at the Annual Meeting.

That Judd on Syphilis price 25/-

Stanley on the bones with atlas of plates price 10/6 and 31/6 be purchased

That Rynd on Strictures of the Urethra be purchased.

##### **May 6<sup>th</sup>, 1850**

#### **Annual Meeting**

Present, Surgeon John Smith in the Chair – Mr Wheeler, Dr Bryce, Dr Malcolm, Dr Murney, Dr Pelan, Dr Pirrie, Dr Read, Dr McGee, Dr McKibbin, Dr Stewart, Dr Thompson, Dr Burden, Dr Lynch, Mr McCleery, Mr Jas Smith, Mr Lamont.

The Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

Fines examined by Messrs McCleery and Lamont and returned to Treasurer.

Treasurer's and Bookseller's accounts examined and found correct by Drs Stewart and Browne.

Library Committee reported that owing to the new Book-cases for Dr Thomson's Library not having been completed, the report of the state of the Library is postponed until next meeting.

That Library Committee are requested to have an appendix to the present catalogue printed and circulated amongst the members.

That the Library Committee be requested to take into their serious consideration the best plan of circulating the periodicals.

Resolved, That the Medical Times, London Journal, Medico-Chirurgical Review, Edinburgh Journal, and the Pharmaceutical Journal be discontinued.

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Resolved, That the warm thanks of this Society be given to Dr Burden as Treasurer for the correct and regular manner in which the accounts have been kept by him, and that he be re-appointed.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Society be given to Mr Lamont for his valuable services as Secretary and that the Librarian be requested to circulate the Circulars and Periodicals in future - That Mr Lamont be re-appointed.

That Drs Browne, Malcolm, Lamont, Pirrie and Lynch be appointed Library Committee for the ensuing year.

The Treasurer states that the sum of £19. 11. 3 is due to him at this date by the Society.

Resolved, That Drs Pirrie, Lamont, and Murney be appointed as Stewards for the Annual Dinner with power to add to their numbers.

Resolved, That the Annual Dinner be held on Tuesday the 11<sup>th</sup> June instead of Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> as it is an inconvenient day.

### June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1850

Present, Dr Collins in the Chair - Dr Malcolm, Dr Read, Dr McKibbin, Dr Pirrie, Mr Lamont, Dr Lynch, Dr Halliday, Dr Gordon, Dr Burden, Dr Thompson, Dr MacCormac, Dr Bryce.

The Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

Dr Ferguson, Queen's College, unanimously elected a Member of the Society.

Resolved, That the Fine of 5/- due by Dr Dill for the retaining of a book beyond the date for examining the Library be remitted, owing to his not having received the regular notice as stated by him in his note.

Resolved, That our Librarian Mr Ring be invited to the dinner.

### No meeting in July

### August 5<sup>th</sup>, 1850

Present, Mr Corry in the Chair - Dr Burden, Dr Thompson, Mr Lamont, Dr Lynch, Dr Murney.

The Minutes of the last regular meeting read and confirmed.

Resolved, That instead of having all the Book-cases painted anew, those only which have not already been painted, be ordered to be completed.

Resolved, That Mr Purse's account for making new Book-cases be referred to the Library Committee for examination, before being paid.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 1850

Present, Surgeon Browne RN in the Chair - Drs Lynch, Dill, Smith, Burden, Patterson, Read, Gordon, Moffat, Pirrie, Lamont, McBurney, Malcolm,

MacCormac, Mulholland, Wheeler, Collins, Thompson RN, H Stewart.

The Minutes of last meeting read.

A letter having been read by the Secretary from Mr Bates, Town Clerk, requesting the Society's "Co-operation in receiving the Lord Lieutenant with the respect and attention due to his Excellency".

Resolved, That the Secretary be directed to return the following reply to the communication from the Town Council :

Sir

On behalf of the Medical Society I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Ult. and am instructed to say that the Society will have pleasure in joining in any demonstration of respect to his Excellency; and will be happy to receive any suggestion from the Council.

I am Sir  
your obedient servant  
A E Lamont, Secretary

John Bates Esquire  
Town Clerk

Proposed, That all members of the Society who have paid annual subscriptions for a total period of 25 years, be entitled hereafter to all the privileges of the Society without further subscription.

This proposition was negatived

### 7<sup>th</sup> October, 1850

Present, Dr McBurney in the Chair - Drs Malcolm, Browne RN, John Smith, Gordon, Bryce, Patterson, Lamont, Officer, Moffat, Lynch, Collins, McGee, Thos Read, Wheeler, Smith, H Stewart, Pelan, McCleery, Pirrie, Harkin.

The Minutes of last meeting read.

Resolved, That all persons who shall have continued members during 20 years without intermission, shall be considered members during life without further subscription. Gentleman in the Army, Navy or other members who may have been obliged to withdraw from the Society be entitled to this privilege after the payment of 20 years subscription, provided always that just grounds for the withdrawal be placed before the Society on re-election.

Resolved after a lengthened discussion -

Seeing the necessity there is for some recognised head in this body, it is resolved that a member be annually elected by ballot to act for the year as President of the Medical Society.

Resolved, That two Vice-Presidents be elected annually.

Resolved, That the Society proceed to the election of a President and two Vice-Presidents at the next

## The Belfast Medical Society

meeting in case the above resolutions be confirmed, and that those appointed continue in office until the Annual Meeting in May 1851.

Dr Bryce having presented a valuable collection of 198 Pathological Specimens and Drawings to the Museum of the Society –

Resolved, That the warm thanks of the Society be given to Dr Bryce for the highly valuable present of Pathological Specimens with which he has so generously presented the Society, and that the Secretary be directed to communicate this resolution to Dr Bryce.

A lengthened and valuable report read of the different classes of Pathological Specimens and Drawings contained in the Museum of the Society, by Dr Malcolm.

Resolved, That Peter Manley's account for Carpenter work done in the Museum be paid, amounting to £1. 8. 7.

Resolved, That John Briggs' account for painting done in the Museum amounting to £1 be paid.

### 4<sup>th</sup> November, 1850

Present, Mr Wheeler in the Chair – Dr Ferguson, Mr Browne RN, Dr McGee, Dr Patterson, Dr Pirrie, Mr Lamont, Dr Lynch, Mr C Mulholland, Dr Bryce, Dr Halliday, Mr R Black, Dr Pelan, Mr Harkin, Dr Stewart, Dr Collins, Dr Dill, Dr Seaton Reid, Dr Black, Dr Malcolm.

Resolved, That the Minutes of last meeting as now read, be confirmed.

Resolved unanimously that Dr Stephenson be elected President of this Society, to continue in office till May 1851.

Resolved, That Drs McGee and Malcolm be elected Vice-Presidents of this Society for the same period.

Proposed and seconded, That in addition to the President and Vice-presidents six members be annually elected, who shall constitute the Council of the Society, the Treasurer and Secretary for the time being to be ex-officio members thereof.

That Dr Ferguson and Dr Collins be requested to co-operate with the Library Committee to draw up a code of duties for the proposed Council, to be submitted to the Society at its next monthly meeting.

Mr McNeice, Surgeon, Belfast, having been duly balloted for was elected a Member of the Society.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 1850

Present, Dr Stephenson, President, in the Chair – Drs McNeice, Malcolm, Collins, McGee, Patterson, Dill, Pirrie, Lamont, Rea, Drennan, Mr Grattan, Drs Stewart, Clarke, Murney, Browne RN, Halliday, Lynch, Smith, McCleery, H Stewart, Moffat, J Smith,

Thompson, Ferguson, Wheeler, Thos Read.

The Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

Resolved unanimously that the President do now read the inaugural address.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Society be given to our President Dr Stephenson for his very valuable address and that he be requested to allow it to be recorded on the minutes of the Society.

A ballot having been taken for Six members of Council the following were elected in the order here laid down

Surgeon Browne RN, Dr Ferguson, Dr Moffat, Dr Pirrie, Dr H Stewart and Dr Halliday.

Resolved, That a special meeting of the Society be called for Monday next, the 9<sup>th</sup> Inst, when Mr Grattan is requested to read his paper on the new Dublin Pharmacopœia, postponed tonight owing to the lateness of the hour.

Resolved, That our Librarian be instructed to place the Periodicals on the Library table immediately on receiving them from the Secretary, and that he have instruction, on no account to remove them till they have lain on the table the certain period enjoined by the rules of the Society.

William Magee, Chairman  
6<sup>th</sup> January, '51

### Special Meeting

#### 9<sup>th</sup> December, 1850

Present, The President in the Chair – Drs McGee, Browne, Patterson, Rea, Aickin, Smith, Moffat, McCleery, Halliday, McNeice, Dill, Grattan, Mulholland MD, Ferguson, Thos Read, Dundee, Malcolm, Pelan, Mr Grattan Dentist, Visitor.

Mr Grattan read a very excellent paper on the new Dublin Pharmacopœia, in which he showed the very many improvements which had been introduced in it, in various of its formulæ, and he also pointed out several parts where the compilers or authors had neglected to avail themselves of improvements which might have been put forth.

A lengthened conversation followed in which the members generally approved of Mr Grattan's views and requested him to have his observations published in some of the periodicals. Mr Grattan also exhibited Mr Alsop's minim-graduated tube or syringe and the facility it affords for measuring the smallest quantity of fluid. He also shewed the best method of testing the specific gravity of Hydro-cyanic acid. At the close a vote of thanks was moved in the following terms, and passed unanimously.

That the best thanks of the Belfast Medical Society be offered to Mr Grattan for his valuable paper on the new Dublin Pharmacopœia.

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Proposed by Professor Ferguson, seconded by Dr Moffat

William Magee, Chairman  
6<sup>th</sup> January, '51

### 6<sup>th</sup> January, 1851

Present, Dr McGee, VP in the Chair – Drs Lynch, Pirrie, Rea, Thompson, Halliday, Patterson, Ferguson, Browne RN, Dill, McNeice, Lamont, McCleery, Wheeler, Moffat, Malcolm. Chair afterwards taken by the President Dr Stephenson.

The Minutes of last ordinary meeting and the special meeting having been read and confirmed.

Mr Thos Mawhinney, having been balloted for, was unanimously elected a Member of the Society.

Resolved, That the further consideration of the Medical Charities Bill be deferred until after the result of the interview with the Lord Lieutenant on the subject appointed to take place on the 8<sup>th</sup> Inst. has been ascertained.

Resolved, That in all adjudications on matter of etiquette, a specific report, embracing principles, and directed to abstract points of importance, be returned by the Council to the Society at its next meeting. Proposed by Dr Ferguson and seconded by Dr Dill.

Dr McGee read a very valuable statistical paper on Cholera as it appeared in Belfast during the epidemics of 1832 and 1849.

Resolved, That a vote of thanks be passed to Dr McGee for the very elaborate statistical report now read on Cholera as it appeared in Belfast during the years 1832 and 1849, and that he be requested to publish it in such a form as may be available to the members of this Society and of the profession generally.

### Special Meeting

#### 17<sup>th</sup> January, 1851

Present, Dr McGee VP in the Chair – Dr Malcolm VP, Dr H Stewart, Dr Collins, Mr Browne RN, Dr Moffat, Mr Lamont, Dr Hamilton, Dr Burden, Dr Patterson, Dr Halliday, Dr Drummond, Mr Wheeler, Mr Clarke, Dr Thompson.

Mr Browne read a report from the Council on the Medical Charities Bill approving of the general features of the Bill of last session, and recommending that a Meeting of the Profession in the North of Ireland should be called for Friday next to thank the Lord Lieutenant and Sir William Somerville for their promises to bring forward a bill similar in its provisions to the last, and request them to urge forward the measure in the coming session as quickly as possible.

The several clauses in the bill of last session which

the Council considered requiring alteration or amendment were then read over serially and having been duly discussed were passed as follows

Resolved, That in 1<sup>st</sup> Clause, *three* Medical Commissioners be recommended instead of *two*.

In 2<sup>nd</sup> Clause, That to constitute a quorum, one Medical Commissioner should be present.

In 10<sup>th</sup> Clause, Recommended that the elections of Dispensary Medical attendants be in the hands of the Dispensing Local Committees instead of the Boards of Guardians.

In 20<sup>th</sup> Clause, Recommended that Dispensary attendants should have power to admit cases to Hospitals, and that the Medical officers of Hospitals should have power to refuse admission to improper cases, and to dismiss such when admitted.

On the 28<sup>th</sup> Clause being read, it was proposed by Dr Moffat and passed.

That Clause twenty-eight be either rescinded or revised for the following reasons –

1<sup>st</sup>. The attendance on, and certifying for, dangerous lunatics, being a most responsible and onerous Medical Duty, should be paid for.

2<sup>nd</sup>. The attendance on Bridewells and Houses of Correction provided for by the Clause, may interfere with existing interests, and will certainly be productive of much confusion from the succession of Medical Men attending. A Medical Man should be specially appointed to each Bridewell.

3<sup>rd</sup>. The remuneration for such extraordinary services should not be left optional, but should be imperative on the Board.

Resolved, That the Council be requested and authorised to draw up a Memorial to the Lord Lieutenant on the subject of the proposed Medical Charities Bill embodying the alterations on the Bill of last session now suggested to be forwarded to his Excellency in such manner as the Council may think fit.

That a Public Meeting of the Medical Practitioners of Ulster be called by advertisement and circular to meet in the Library of the Society on Friday next, the 24<sup>th</sup> instant at one o'clock pm to determine on the steps to taken for securing the passing of an efficient Medical Charities Bill.

### General Meeting of the Practitioners of Ulster Convened by public advertisement and circular and held in the Library on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January 1851.

Present, Professor Ferguson in the Chair – Drs McGee RN; Browne RN; Pirrie; Malcolm; Peden, Ballyclare; Moffat; Hamilton, Newtownbreda; H Stewart; Moore; Shaw, Lurgan; W Murphy; Kelly, Holywood; Gribbin; John Smith; MacCaldin, Coleraine; Breden, Portadown; Vesey, Magherafelt; Thos H Babington,

Coleraine; Joseph Clarke, Kilrea; McLoughlin, Portadown; J Quin; Lynch; Mulholland; Jas Smith; Dill; Hall and McComb, Antrim; Clarke; Wheeler; Hood; Dundee, Carnmoney; McCleery; Ross; Patterson; Seaton Reid; McNeice; T Mawhinney; Armstrong; Stewart, Carrickfergus; Thompson; Gausson, Crumlin; Croker, Hillsborough; Halliday, Lamont.

Letters of apology for non-attendance received from Drs Knox, Strangford; Morrison, Newry; Warke, Newtownlimavady; Motherell, Castlederg; Barr, Maghera; Deverell, Dromore; Robinson, Ballybay; Henry, Newbliss; and McKee, Randalstown; all approving of the bill of last session and some offering suggestions for the guidance of the meeting.

On the Motion of Dr MacCaldin, Coleraine, seconded by Dr Lynch, Professor Ferguson was called to the Chair.

Resolved, That Surgeons Browne and Lamont do act as secretaries to the meeting –

**1<sup>st</sup> Resolution**

Proposed by Dr Babington, Coleraine,  
Seconded by Dr Malcolm, Belfast,

Resolved, That further parliamentary legislation for the support and management of the Medical Charities of Ireland has been long and urgently demanded in consequence of the unsettled state of the Grand Jury laws, and the decline of the voluntary contributions upon which they have hitherto in a great measure depended, whereby in many parts of the country the sick poor have been neglected, or indifferently provided for, the charitable imposed on, and the interests of our profession overlooked; and this meeting therefore regret that the Medical Charities Bill of last session which (as amended by the Commons) was well calculated to remove the evils complained of, was withdrawn, more especially as the anticipated passing of that measure has since tended most materially to increase those evils.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Resolution**

Proposed by Dr McGee, Belfast,  
Seconded by Surgeon Browne, Belfast,

Resolved, That we are now gratified to observe that the Members of Her Majesty's government in Ireland have publicly notified their intention to introduce, on the re-opening of Parliament, a bill identical in its principals and main features with the Medical Charities Bill of last session, which received our approval, in as much as it provided for the Compulsory support of all such Charities – their general superintendence by a Board composed, at least in part, of Medical Commissioners, and the supervision by a staff of paid Medical inspectors – preserved to a great extent the existing interests of the present Medical officers, and generally contained provisions calculated to ensure the efficient and

economical working of these Charities, and to meet alike the interests of the sick poor, the rate-payers, and the Medical profession.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Resolution**

Proposed by Dr Moffat, Belfast,  
Seconded by Dr Vesey, Magherafelt,

Resolved, That while the meeting feel great pleasure in thus generally approving of the leading provisions of the Medical Charities Bill of last session as it reached the House of Lords, they would beg respectfully to call the attention of the Irish Government to the following objections to certain clauses.

In Section 1, We strongly recommend that if it be not expedient to have the central Board composed entirely of Medical Men, the number of Medical Commissioners should be, at least, three, and that no quorum of such Board should be formed without the presence of one such Medical Commissioner, in order that the great medical questions involved in the working of the proposed Bill may be properly carried out.

Section 3. Being of opinion that the number of Inspectors here stated will be found too few to carry out efficiently the intentions of the Bill, we respectfully suggest that they should at least equal in number the Poor-Law Inspectors.

Section 10. We further recommend that the elections of the Dispensary Medical attendants be vested in the Dispensary Committees, and not in the Boards of Guardians.

Section 20. We here recommend that the Dispensary Medical officers should have the privilege of admitting fit cases for Hospital relief.

Section 28. We strongly object to this Clause, in as much as it would impose a very responsible and onerous duty on Medical officers without any fixed remuneration, and is calculated to affect injuriously the interest of the Medical profession and the sick poor. We recommend, therefore, either its entire withdrawal, or such a revision as would clear it of its objectionable spirit.

**4<sup>th</sup> Resolution**

Proposed by Dr Breden, Portadown,  
Seconded by Dr Joseph Clarke, Kilrea,

Resolved, That the best thanks of this meeting are hereby tendered to His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant and Sir William Somerville, the Secretary for Ireland, for the assurance which they have publicly given of the speedy introduction, in the ensuing session of Parliament, of a measure identical in its main provisions with the Medical Charities Bill of last session, and that our Chairman be requested to convey the same together with copies of this day's proceedings to His Excellency and Sir William



## Minutes of the Ordinary Meetings

Somerville.

### 5<sup>th</sup> Resolution

Proposed by Dr H Stewart, Belfast,  
Seconded by Dr Halliday, Belfast,

Resolved, That petitions praying Parliament to sanction such a measure when introduced, be drawn up and forwarded to the Members for the Borough, and the Marquis of Clanricarde, for presentation to both Houses of Parliament.

### 6<sup>th</sup> Resolution

Proposed by Dr Dill, Belfast,  
Seconded by Dr Seaton Reid, Belfast,

Resolved, That copies of the foregoing resolutions, and the report of this Meeting be forwarded to the Members of Parliament for Ulster, with a respectful request, that they will support the speedy passing of the measure referred to.

### 7<sup>th</sup> Resolution

Proposed by Dr Gausson, Crumlin,  
Seconded by Dr Croker, Hillsborough,

Resolved, That a standing Committee be now appointed for the purpose of watching the introduction of the proposed Medical Charities Bill, and using their best exertion to forward the passing of the measure, and otherwise carrying out the views of this meeting; the Committee to be composed of the Council of the Medical Society, with Drs Gausson, Crumlin; Stewart, Carrickfergus; Croker, Hillsborough; and Dundee, Carnmoney.

### 8<sup>th</sup> Resolution

Proposed by Dr Lynch, Belfast,  
Seconded by Dr Peden, Ballyclare,

Resolved, That each member of this meeting do now contribute the sum of three shillings to meet the necessary expenses connected with the holding of this meeting and the carrying out of the foregoing resolutions, and that Dr Burden be requested to act as Treasurer for this purpose.

### 9<sup>th</sup> Resolution

Proposed by Dr Babington, Coleraine,  
Seconded by Dr Breden, Portadown,

Resolved, That the thanks of this meeting be given to the Medical Society of Belfast, for originating this meeting and for all their active exertions connected therewith.

### 10<sup>th</sup> Resolution

Proposed by Surgeon Browne RN,  
Seconded by Dr Malcolm,

Resolved, That Professor Ferguson be now requested to leave the Chair and that Dr Stewart of Carrickfergus do take it.

### 11<sup>th</sup> Resolution

Proposed by Dr Moore, Belfast,  
Seconded by Surgeon Lamont, D<sup>o</sup>,

Resolved, That the warm thanks of this meeting be

given to Professor Ferguson for the dignified and efficient manner in which he presided on this occasion.

R Stephenson, Chairman  
3 February 1851

### 3 February, 1851

Present, Dr Stephenson, President, in the Chair – Surgeon Browne RN, Dr Patterson, Dr Malcolm, Dr Lynch, Dr Pirrie, Mr Lamont, Dr Thompson, Dr Dill, Dr Halliday, Dr Burnie.

The Minutes of last monthly meeting and of the special and general meetings were read and confirmed.

Dr Burden gave notice that he will resign the Treasurership at the 1<sup>st</sup> May.

Mr Lamont gave notice that he will resign the office of Secretary at the 1<sup>st</sup> May.

Dr Malcolm read a report on a number of Pathological specimens of disease received since 1<sup>st</sup> November 1850. Four specimens of disease affecting the Brain, 2 cases of apoplectic clot of large size, 3<sup>rd</sup> Red ramollissement, 4<sup>th</sup> White ramollissement. Two specimens of diseased lung, tubercular. A case of purulent deposit in the spleen occurring in Fever. A case of diseased aortic valves. A case of great dilatation of left ventricle with diseased aortic valves. A case of mitral disease. A case of apoplexy of the lung. A case of sanguineous pleuritic effusion. A case of Pneumonia, various stages. A case of Medullary Tumor of orbit.

A case of Polypus of ear.

Polypus of Uterus

Exfoliation of lower jaw

Skull of an Idiot

Synovial lesion

Cyrrhosis of liver

The Brain in a case of Typhus

Stricture of Colon

Normal fœtus

A skeleton thorax.

Resolved, That Lamont, Brothers account for stationary etc amounting to £1. 14. 2 be paid.

Some Conversation having taken place respecting the sale of Quack Medicines and the use of secret remedies by the profession, the subject was referred to the consideration of the Council which was requested to report thereon at next meeting.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 1851

Present, Dr H Stewart in the Chair – Mr Mawhinney, Mr Smith, Dr Patterson, Dr Dill, Dr Halliday, Mr Lamont, Dr Thompson, Mr McNeice, Mr Rea, Dr Gordon, Dr Bryce.

The Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

A report read from the Council on the subject of Quack Medicines in which they recommended that it would be injudicious to interfere in the matter for them, at present, than to express their disapproval of the whole system of secret remedies.

Resolved, That Brigg's account for putting up pathological specimens, painting etc amounting to 10/- be paid.

Moved by Dr Patterson and seconded by Mr Mawhinney.

Resolved, That no book be purchased until the Treasurer forward to the Society a statement of the funds.

Resolved, That the Council be requested to lay before the Society at next meeting the sum which has been expended annually on the Pathological Museum from its commencement till the present time.

A G Malcolm MD  
Chairman.

#### 7<sup>th</sup> April, 1851

Present, Dr Malcolm, VP, in the Chair - Dr Dill, Dr Gordon, Dr Lynch, Dr Patterson, Mr Lamont, Dr Collins, Mr Rea, Dr Ferguson, Surgeon Browne RN, Dr Murney, Mr Wheeler, Dr Halliday, Dr Bryce, Mr Jas Smith.

Resolved, That the consideration of the books proposed be deferred "*sine dei*".

Resolved, That all bills due on the score of the Pathological Museum be forthwith discharged (proposed by Professor Ferguson and seconded by Surgeon Browne RN).

Resolved, That the Society grants to the Professional staff of the General Hospital for the purposes of Medical instruction, the use of their Pathological Museum and suggest to the Medical Staff the necessity of employing every available means of securing its support and enlargement.

Resolved, That Messrs McCleery and Lamont be appointed to examine the annual fines of the Society.

That Mr Browne and Dr R Stewart be appointed auditors of the Bookseller's and Treasurer's accounts.

That Drs Malcolm and Moffat be appointed to examine the Library and report to the meeting in May.

A report made by the Council on a case of Medical Etiquette embodying the following resolution

"That the Council would earnestly impress upon their brethren the propriety in all cases where misunderstandings arise between members on professional matters, of first seeking a mutual explanation, before the subject is submitted to the Council as it is evidently inconvenient to have unimportant matters brought before them."

#### Annual Meeting

##### 5<sup>th</sup> May, 1851

Present, Dr Stephenson, President, in the Chair - Drs Burden, Patterson, Lynch, Pirrie, Malcolm, Moffat, Drennan, C Black, Lamont, Rea, McGee, Browne, McNeice, Dill, Gordon, Collins, Bryce, McCleery, Wheeler, Murney, Jas Smith, R Black, Mulholland, C Mulholland, Halliday, J Quin, John Smith, Thompson, Corry, T Mawhinney, McNeice.

Resolved, That the thanks of the meeting be given Drs Moffat and Malcolm for their excellent report on the state of the Library, and that the suggestions therein stated, be considered at next meeting of Society.

Messrs McCleery and Lamont gave in a report on the annual fines of the Society.

Surgeon Hood, Belfast, having been duly balloted for, was elected a Member of the Society.

Dr Gordon having intimated to the Secretary that he would appeal to the Society against a decision of the Council of the 12<sup>th</sup> April on a Circular issued by him to the Electors of the General Hospital, and intimation thereof having been given to the members of the Society in calling the meeting.

Dr Gordon stated his objections to the resolution of the Council denying that there was anything objectionable in the Circular, or that he had any intention to depreciate the professional standing of his brethren.

After a lengthened and somewhat warm discussion, during which several propositions were made by different members, it was finally agreed to drop the subject.

On an election of President for the ensuing year taking place Dr Stephenson was re-elected by acclamation.

The Treasurer Dr Burden read the statement of accounts for the past year, which had been audited and found correct, and having tendered his resignation the following resolution was adopted by acclamation,

Resolved, That the best thanks of this Society be given to Dr Burden for his unvaried and most valuable services as our Treasurer during seventeen years.

A ballot having been taken for Treasurer for the ensuing year Dr Patterson was elected by a large majority.

That the thanks of the Society be given to Mr Lamont for his services as Secretary and that he be requested to continue for another year.

That owing to the increased duty devolving upon the Secretary since the appointment of a Council, Dr Drennan be unanimously appointed as joint secretary with Mr Lamont.

A ballot having been taken for two

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Vice-presidents, Drs McGee and Malcolm were again appointed.

Six members of Council were then appointed as follows

Drs Browne, Pirrie, Ferguson, Murney, Moffat, and Gordon.

Resolved, That the Annual Dinner be held on the 10<sup>th</sup> June as the 8<sup>th</sup> falls on Sunday.

That Drs Patterson, Moffat and Browne be appointed Stewards to the Annual Dinner.

R Stephenson, C. Man  
June 2

### June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1851

Present, Dr Stephenson in the Chair – Drs Patterson, Ferguson, Malcolm, McGee, Stewart, Dill, Smyth, Browne, Black, Wheeler, Lynch, McCleery, Murney.

Dr McCaldin of Coleraine was unanimously elected a Member of the Society.

Dr Russell of Bangor was balloted for and unanimously elected a Member of the Society.

The re-election of Dr Moore deferred in consequence of the absence of his seconder Dr Pirrie.

Surgeon Armstrong of Belfast balloted for and unanimously elected a Member of the Society.

A proposal brought forward by Dr Malcolm that the Medical Society of Belfast should co-operate with the other Public Bodies of the town in inviting, and receiving, the British Association at their Meeting in 1852, was considered by the Society, and unanimously adopted.

That a Committee be appointed for the purpose of carrying out the foregoing resolution.

That the Council be requested to act as the Committee on this occasion.

That the Council be requested to send to each member a list of the missing Volumes and Numbers, in order that any stray volumes or numbers in their possession may be sent to the Librarian as donations to the Library.

That a Special Meeting be summoned for the 6<sup>th</sup> July to consider the propriety of disposing of 105 volumes and 71 parts of duplicates now in the Library on the recommendation of the Library Examination Report.

That all the unlabelled volumes be labelled and catalogued by the Librarian.

That the Librarian be invited to the annual dinner.

Mr Wheeler read the report of a case of "Hepatic Abscess," and an interesting discussion ensued.

R Stephenson, Chairman

### 7<sup>th</sup> July, 1851

Present, Dr Stephenson, President, in the Chair – Dr Collins, Dr Malcolm, Mr Hood, Dr Drennan, Dr

Halliday, Dr Beck, Dr Patterson, Mr Lamont, Dr Ferguson, Dr Thos Read, Dr Murney, Mr J Smith, Mr McCleery, Dr Dill, Mr Armstrong.

The Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

Resolved, That the proposition of the Council to sell the duplicate volumes (numbering 105) and duplicate numbers (71) be agreed to, and that the manner of disposing of them be referred to the Council at its next meeting.

Dr Moore's re-election deferred, his fines and subscription not having been paid.

Dr B\_\_\_, according to a previous intimation, laid before the Society an extremely interesting case of syphilis occurring in his own person, and apparently produced by attending a case of midwifery where the patient had been affected by that disease.

The attack commenced on one of the fingers by a small pustule or vesicle which soon took on an unhealthy appearance followed by sores of a phagedenic character on various parts of the body, one particularly covering the greater part of the left thigh, ham, and part of the leg, of an extremely irritable character and to which the application of local remedies was attended at all times with great pain and without any beneficial effect. Dr \_\_\_ stated mercury was tried in almost every form but in every instance with injurious effects. The various mineral acids were also used but without any advantages, and the only medicine which checked the progress of the disease and to which he attributes the saving of his life was Iodide of Potassium, and even this he had at first very great difficulty in becoming inured to the use of, owing to the very unpleasant irritation of the mucous membranes with symptoms of salivation etc which he experienced but he persisted in the use of it, gradually increasing the dose from half a grain to 5 or 6 grains 3 times a day, in sweet milk, which he found the best menstruum he could use. After being confined for about 18 months to the house, the greater part of that time to his back in bed, he is now so far recovered as to be able to walk with the aid of a crutch, and all the symptoms are rapidly subsiding – the immense ulcer on the thigh nearly healed and the nodes, [rubria?] etc all gone.

The case elicited various questions from the members to all of which Dr B\_\_\_ readily and satisfactorily replied. It also raised a short discussion on the use of mercury in syphilis, some members stating in their opinion that it was neither necessary nor in most cases advisable and others considering it (and they seemed the greater number) as a specific in most forms of the disease.

All concurred, however, in awarding to Dr B\_\_\_ their hearty thanks for his very valuable case and the liberal spirit in which it was brought forward.

Dr Dill then proposed to pay Dr Moore's subscription and ten shillings as an equivalent for the amount of his fines in order that the ballot for his admission might proceed.

It was proposed as an amendment, however, that Drs Read, Malcolm, and Burden be appointed a subcommittee to examine Dr Moore's fines and report thereon at next meeting. The amendment was carried.

R Stephenson, Chairman

#### August 4<sup>th</sup>, 1851

Present, Dr Stephenson, President, in the Chair – Drs Pirrie, Malcolm, Patterson, Ferguson, Thos Read, Dill, Stewart, Moffat, Murney, Drennan, Messrs Armstrong, McCleery.

The thanks of the Society were presented to the subcommittee for considering Dr Moore's application and their report was received and adopted.

Dr James Moore was balloted for and elected a Member of the Society.

The proposing of Dr Shiel was postponed in consequence of his diploma not having been inspected.

It was resolved that the thanks of the Society be transmitted through Dr Marshall to Dr Lee for the "Memoirs on the Ganglia and Nerves of the Heart and Uterus" presented by the latter to the Library.

The proposition of the Council for the sale of the duplicate Volumes and Numbers was adopted, and the sale proceeded with accordingly.

The following volumes were sold at the annexed prices, and the sale of the remainder was then postponed until the next night of meeting.

London Medical Gazette 27 volumes at 1/3 per volume

Edinburgh Medical and Surgical Journal 57 volumes at 1/6

Medico-Chirurgical Review 7 volumes at 1/4

D<sup>o</sup> D<sup>o</sup> volume 3<sup>rd</sup> (odd number) 1/4

Transactions of Queen's College of Physicians 5 volumes at 2/1

D<sup>o</sup> Medical of College of Physicians 3 volumes at /8d

Dublin Journal 12 volumes at 3/3

Medical Transactions 3 volumes at /8d

Medical Commentaries 10 volumes bound 1/-

D<sup>o</sup> D<sup>o</sup> 9 volumes unbound 1/-

Annals of Medicine 8 volumes at /4d

R Stephenson, Chairman

#### September 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851

Present, Drs Stephenson, Patterson, McGee, Collins, Gordon, Wheeler, Mulholland, Moffat, Stewart, Moore, Ferguson, McCleery, Drennan.

The Minutes of last meeting read.

Resolved, That the accounts of the Messrs Lamont be audited by Dr Drennan.

Mr Browne read the account of a case of Cleft Palate, in which he had performed the operation of Staphyloraphy with complete success. This result had been exhibited in the person of the Patient (a young woman æt 24) to the Members of the Society at their previous meeting.

The defect implicated the soft palate alone, and there were two points connected with the operation to which the Author of the Paper directed special attention as materially facilitating its performance.

1<sup>st</sup> the method adopted of securing the sutures by the employment of doubled ligatures, of which one of the free ends was passed through the "bight" or duplication of the thread on the opposite side of the fissure, and then connected with its fellow. The apposition of the cut surfaces Browne conceived to be thus more effectively secured than by the use of a single ligature, and the risk of tearing or cutting through the intervening soft parts to be less.

2<sup>nd</sup> the division of the muscular structures of the Palate (performed in this case after the sutures had been applied), was effected by oblique incisions extending from the bony palate to within half an inch of the arches of the velum, and included the levatores and tensores palati alone, the palato-glossi and palato-pharyngei being left entire. The tension on the sutures, and the forcible elevation of the palate towards the nares previously existing was thereby completely obviated.

A short discussion ensued after the reading of a Paper, as to the history and modes of staphyloraphy.

The sale of the remaining duplicate volumes was then proceeded with, and the following were sold at the annexed prices

London Medical Review 8d per volume

Medical Observations 7d per volume

Memoirs of Medical Society 7d D<sup>o</sup> D<sup>o</sup>

London Medical Gazette 3s D<sup>o</sup> D<sup>o</sup>

Edinburgh Journal 8s for the lot

Southwell's Medical Essays 3d

R Stephenson, Chairman

#### October 6<sup>th</sup>, 1851

Present, Drs Stephenson, Pirrie, Moffat, McGee, Drennan, Mulholland, Lynch, Messrs Smith, Browne, Armstrong.

Resolved, That the Messrs Lamonts' account, having been found correct, be ordered payment.

Dr G H Young was balloted for and unanimously elected a Member of the Society; his admission to date from the period of the payment of his

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subscription.

R Stephenson, Chairman

### November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1851

Present, Drs Stephenson, McGee, Malcolm, Lynch, Patterson, Drennan, Gordon, Dill, Pirrie, Wheeler, Mr Browne, etc.

The Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

The Treasurer reported that when the subscriptions and fines now due shall be paid, he will have £40 in hand, to the credit of the Society.

Moved by Dr McGee and seconded by Mr Browne, and resolved, that Drs Bryce and Halliday be applied to for payments of their Library fines on pain of having their names struck off the List of Members.

Dr Shiels of Bangor, Mr Posnett of Belfast and Mr McMullan of Belfast were successively balloted for, and unanimously elected Members of the Society.

A discussion took place with reference to the reading of Papers, and it was resolved that, in order to secure a more regular supply, application should be made to the Members in rotation and that Drs MacCormac, McMechan, J Bryson, and Thos Thompson should be the next applied to for such communications.

Professor Gordon read an interesting Paper on Dislocation (backwards) of the Thumb, with reference especially to the agencies that oppose its reduction. After recapitulating the views of Sir A Cooper, Liston, Hey, Sir C Bell and others on the subject, the writer stated his own opinion to be that "the impediments to reduction resulted not from muscular action, nor from new locking of the bones, but from the torn fibrous tissue "on the palmar surface of the joint, being first interposed, and then, when extension downwards and forwards is included, dragged in between the bones."

In attempting reduction, therefore, he recommended "that the dislocated phalanx should be bent or extended backwards, and its base pressed forwards and downwards," the fibrous tissue being thus, as it were, held out of the way, and the reduction, in consequence, being effected without difficulty.

In the discussion that followed, the mode of manipulation recommended by Dr Gordon was generally approved of, but its success attributed rather to the relaxation of the lateral ligaments thereby effected, than to the cause which he assigned.

A motion made by Dr Patterson with reference to the collecting of the outstanding debts connected with the Medical Charities Bill was lost on a division.

Dr Malcolm brought under the notice of the Society an application for subscriptions which he had

received from the Secretary of the Jenner Testimonial. A subscription list was opened, and Dr Dill consented to act as Treasurer.

R Stephenson, Chairman

### December 1<sup>st</sup>, 1851

Present, Drs Stephenson, MacCormac, Pirrie, Malcolm, Patterson, McGee, Halliday, Drennan, Clarke, Collins, Ferguson, Moffat, Rea, Hamilton, etc

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

Dr Babington was unanimously elected a Member of the Society.

Wardrop on Disease of the Heart was ordered for the Library.

Dr MacCormac read a very interesting and instructive Paper on Ventilation which elicited considerable discussion.

Mr Coyle's account for arranging and cataloguing the books left to the Library by the late Dr Thomson was referred for examination to Dr Malcolm and Mr Browne, and ordered to be paid on their approval.

Dr Stephenson brought forward his propositions for the formation of a fund for the establishment of a Hall for the Society's accommodation. After some discussion, the subject was adjourned for consideration until the next night of meeting.

Drs Patterson and Dill were appointed Stewards for making arrangements for the next Society's supper.

Mr Warwick's election was deferred from the absence of his proposer and seconder, who should have certified that they had seen his Diploma.

R Stephenson, Chairman

### January 5<sup>th</sup>, 1852

Present, Drs Stephenson, Patterson, Gordon, Malcolm, Pirrie, Drennan, Wheeler, Murney, Browne, Black, Lynch, Smith, Jas Smith, Bryce, Seaton Reid, etc etc.

The Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

That the Messrs Lamonts' account be paid by the Treasurer.

That arrangements be made by the Council with the next Printer of the Society, as to the rate of charges for circulars etc.

That the delay in the receipt of Guy's Hospital Reports be referred, for inquiry, to the Council.

Dr Stephenson having left the Chair and Dr Malcolm being called thereto, Dr Stephenson again brought before the Society his propositions as to the obtaining of a Hall or apartments centrally situated, for its meetings; and, after a prolonged discussion, the following resolutions on the subject were adopted.

## The Belfast Medical Society

1<sup>st</sup> That it is desirable that this Society should have a central place of meeting.

2<sup>nd</sup> That measures should now be taken to obtain the funds necessary for effecting that object.

3<sup>rd</sup> That the proper steps be adopted for raising the sum of £300 from the members, in order to entitle the Society to Dr Stephenson's donation of £50.

4<sup>th</sup> That the Treasurer of the Society be also Treasurer to this Fund.

5<sup>th</sup> That the admission fee shall in future be £2 · 2 · 0, which sum shall include the first year's subscription.

6<sup>th</sup> That the proceeds, including entrance fees, be funded, and that the interest thereon be allowed to accumulate until a sufficient sum be obtained to effect the contemplated purpose.

7<sup>th</sup> That the following Members be a Committee for carrying out the foregoing resolutions

Drs McGee, Patterson, MacCormac, Gordon, Malcolm, Lynch, Halliday.

The Committee (Dr McGee and Messrs Browne and Lamont) appointed at a former Meeting to inquire about rooms for the Society, are requested to report, at the next Meeting, the result of their researches.

That the Council takes measures for the preparation of a new and complete Catalogue of the Library, and that a complete copy of the Society's regulations, with a list of its existing members, be incorporated therewith.

That the catalogue be arranged both alphabetically, and according to the subject of the works.

R Stephenson, Chairman

### February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1852

Present, Drs Stephenson, Malcolm, Rea, Lynch, Halliday, Moore, Pirrie, Mulholland, Dill, McGee, Wheeler, Bryce, Clarke, Drennan etc.

Mr Warwick of Belfast was balloted for, and unanimously elected a Member of the Society.

Dr Heeny of Belfast was also unanimously elected a Member.

Dr Kidd's nomination was deferred until his diploma had been inspected.

The following works were ordered for the Library.

Walshe on Diseases of the Heart and Lungs

Professor Owen's Lectures on Comparative Anatomy, and his

Archetype and Homologies of the Human Skeleton.

Guy's Hospital Reports were ordered to be completed.

The resolutions on Dr Stephenson's proposition with reference to the obtaining of a Hall for the Society were confirmed.

The admission fee mentioned in the 5<sup>th</sup>, is to be understood as applying to entrances on and after May 1<sup>st</sup> 1852.

Dr Patterson's proposition "that each Member, Honorary as well as Ordinary, residing in Town, pay 10/6 annually towards renting a suitable room in a central locality for the use of the Society," was adopted.

Dr Malcolm then brought before the Society a very interesting and instructive Paper on "the Reasons for modifying the classification of diseases of the Skin".

After specifying his objections to previous systems as founded to exclusively either upon anatomical considerations or on the sensible qualities of cutaneous affections, the writer selected, in preference, pathological relations as the basis of his first general division, and arranged all skin diseases under the 2 primary heads or orders of Functional and Organic.

The former class he subdivides according to the tissues or structures of which the functions are altered; and the organic order he arranges under 4 pathological genera according as they are the result of common irritation, of animal poisons, of constitutional specific disease, or consist of malformations and other vicious developments.

The practical reasons for considering Skin Diseases with reference to their morbid causes, and in their pathological relations, were strongly enforced at the conclusion of the Paper; and in the remarks which it elicited, seemed to meet with the full concurrence of the other members of the Society. The Essay was illustrated by engravings and very beautiful models of cutaneous diseases.

Samuel Browne

### March 1<sup>st</sup>, 1852

Present, Dr Malcolm, Vice-president, in the Chair – Drs Patterson, Lynch, Dill, Collins, Halliday, McGee, Ferguson, Rea, Bryce, Armstrong, Drennan, Wheeler, MacCormac, Hood, Browne VP.

Dr Kidd was balloted for and unanimously elected a Member of the Society.

Dr Patterson read an instructive Essay "On Emetics" in reference chiefly to their therapeutic uses. A number of practical observations were elicited on the subject in the discussion which followed; and two of the members present (Drs Bryce and Halliday), among other remarks, mentioned the injurious influence exerted upon them by the emanations from Ipecacuanha. The treatment of Phthisis by Emetics seemed by the Society to be regarded with little favour, although a few cases were cited where decided benefit was apparently produced by their

## Minutes of the Ordinary Meetings

administration.

Dr Patterson's proposition brought forward at the proceeding meeting, was, with the consent of the proposer, referred to the Committee appointed on the 5<sup>th</sup> January last, for their consideration, and it was resolved that in case it be hereafter submitted for the Society's adoption, previous notice thereof be given in the monthly Circular.

R Stephenson, Chairman

### April 5<sup>th</sup>, 1852

Present, Dr Stephenson in the Chair – Drs Patterson, McGee, Dill, Armstrong, Posnett, Rea, McCleery, Browne, Hood, Halliday, Warwick, Malcolm, Murney, Gordon, Drennan etc etc.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

Dr Dill and Mr McCleery were appointed to examine the annual fines of the Society.

Dr R Stewart and Mr Browne were nominated auditors of accounts.

The examination of the Library was referred to the Council.

The usual Circular for the annual meeting of the Society was directed to be issued.

The following works were ordered for the Library.

Jenner on the Typhoid and Typhus Fevers 4/6

Jenner on the causes of Typhus, Typhoid and Relapsing Fevers 4/6

The Treasurer was authorised to procure printed Receipt-forms.

Mr Browne read an interesting case of Aneurysm by Anastomosis, or Cirroid Aneurysm, in which deligation of the Common Carotid was performed as presenting the only practicable means of cure. The patient died of secondary haemorrhage on the 8<sup>th</sup> day. A lengthened discussion ensued, in which it appeared to be the opinion of the majority that the proceeding adopted by Mr Browne, though not crowned with success, was the best of which the case admitted.

A report was received from the subcommittee appointed to consider the best measure for enabling the Society to obtain a central place of meeting; and it was resolved that a special meeting of the Council and said Committee be summoned for Thursday the 8<sup>th</sup> Inst. to re-consider the subject, and report thereon at the next meeting of the Society.

It was resolved that a deputation consisting of the President and Vice-Presidents, Drs Patterson, Browne and Drennan, be deputed to wait on the Candidates for the representation of the Borough of Belfast, to obtain from them an assurance that, in case of their election, they will as Members of the Legislature give their aid in procuring for Naval Assistant Surgeons a

full measure of relief from their present disabilities.

R Stephenson, Chairman

### Special Meeting

#### April 29<sup>th</sup>, 1852

At this meeting convened for the purpose of considering the best mode of testifying respect to the memory of the late Dr Moffat,

Present, Dr McGee VP in the Chair – Drs Malcolm, McKibbin, Ferguson, Halliday, Lynch, Jas Marshall, Mulholland, H Stewart, J W Smith, Dill, Browne, Pirrie, Drennan, Rea, Beck, Armstrong, Hood.

It was resolved, That the Members of the Society attend the funeral of Dr Moffat wearing crape of half-depth on their hats, and black gloves; and that the other members of the Profession be likewise invited by circular to accompany the Procession.

That the attending Hospital Staff be a committee to carry out the necessary arrangements.

That this Committee draw up a letter of condolence to Mrs Moffat, and submit it for confirmation to the Society at its next meeting.

R Stephenson, Chairman

### Annual Meeting

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 1852

Present, Dr Stephenson, President, in the Chair – Drs McGee, Pirrie, Gordon, Lynch, Malcolm, T Thompson, Dill, Patterson, McCleery, Rea, Armstrong, Ferguson, Smyth, Murney, Mulholland, Drennan etc etc.

Minutes of last monthly Meeting read and confirmed, and Minutes of last Annual Meeting read.

Drs Dill and McCleery gave in a report on the annual fines.

A report from the Auditors, Dr R Stewart and Mr Browne was received, according to which the amount of subscriptions received during the past year was £71 · 9 · 4; disbursements £68 · 18 · 1 – leaving a balance of £2 · 11 · 3 in favour of the Society.

Thanks were voted to the authors of the foregoing reports.

Dr Malcolm read a Report from the Council detailing the proceedings of the Society during the past year, and submitting some suggestions for its future management. An amendment was carried for the omission of that portion which recommended the reading of monthly retrospects of the Medical Sciences at the meetings of the Society; and the Report was then adopted.

It was resolved that a list of the Volumes and Numbers of Journals requisite to complete the works in the Library be appended to the printed Catalogue.

That a list of the duplicate Volumes which are still in the Library be laid before the Society at their next meeting.

## The Belfast Medical Society

A Report was read from the "Hall" Committee, exhibiting the amount of subscriptions tendered for its acquisition, viz £157 · 12 · 0.

Drs Malcolm and Pirrie were nominated to carry out the recommendation of Committee appointed at Special Meeting of April 29<sup>th</sup>, by drawing up a letter of condolence to Mrs Moffat.

The Election of Officers of the Society for the ensuing year was then proceeded with, and the following members were appointed.

President	Dr Stephenson
Vice Presidents	Drs McGee and Malcolm
Council	Mr Browne, Drs Ferguson, Dill, Gordon, Pirrie and C Black.

Thanks were voted to Dr Patterson as Treasurer, and he was requested to retain his office for the ensuing year.

It being understood that Mr Lamont was desirous to resign the Secretaryship, the thanks of the Society were voted to him for his services during the past year, and Dr Drennan was appointed to that office.

It was resolved that Drs Pirrie, Patterson and Browne be a Committee to arrange for annual Dinner on Tuesday the 8<sup>th</sup> June.

The consideration of Rules 15 and 25 was deferred.

R Stephenson, Chairman

### Special Meeting

**May 8<sup>th</sup>, 1852**

Present, Dr McGee, V.P. in the Chair – Drs Patterson, Dill, Pirrie, Young, Hood, Drennan, Clarke, Thos Read, Murney, Wheeler, McCleery, Warwick, Browne RN, Lynch, Lamont, J W Smith.

Resolved, That the Members of the Society walk in procession (with crape and black gloves) at the funeral of the late lamented Dr Collins, and that the other members of the Profession be invited to attend.

That a letter of condolence be presented on the part of the Society to Mrs Collins, and that the Council be a Committee to draw up the same.

William Magee, Chairman

**May [sic] 7<sup>th</sup>, 1852**

Present, Dr Stephenson in the Chair – Drs Patterson, Dill, Halliday, Lamont, Armstrong, Drennan, Warwick, McMechan, J Smith, Rea, Hood, Lynch, T Thompson, Thos. Read, J Ferguson, McCleery, S Read, Wheeler, Bryce, Malcolm, Young, McGee.

Dr Fryer of Belfast was balloted for and unanimously elected a Member of the Society.

Mr Gray's account for repairing table and sundries, amounting to 11/6 was ordered to be paid.

Dr Patterson detailed to the Society the symptoms, mode of treatment, and other circumstances connected with the malady of the late Dr Collins, from its first obvious commencement until its fatal termination. Dr Murney gave the results of a necroscopic examination very carefully conducted, which amply confirmed the diagnosis of hypertrophied heart that had been repeatedly made during life. The walls of both ventricles were twice their normal thickness, and the weight of the entire organ amounted to oz. 15¾. Its valves were healthy. The arch and descending portion of aorta were considerably dilated. The spleen and kidneys were both enlarged, and the latter affected with "Bright's disease".

An interesting discussion ensued on the reading of these reports.

Dr Malcolm afterwards exhibited a specimen of Cancer of the Liver, taken from a female who had died in Hospital. The viscus was enormously enlarged, reached 13lbs in weight, and presented white tubercles, of various sizes, disseminated through its substance.

Samuel Browne, Chairman

**July 5<sup>th</sup>, 1852**

Present, Mr Browne in the Chair – Drs McGee, R Stewart, Patterson, Wheeler, Halliday, Smith, Murney, T Read, Armstrong, Dill, Hood, Malcolm, Officer, Russell.

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

The consideration of the Council's recommendation in reference to the appointment of a Committee for the procuring of rare works was deferred.

The Secretary was directed to convey to Mr J P Hudson the thanks of the Society for his donation of the Board of Health's "Second report on Quarantine".

The subject of Mr Mawhinney's fines was referred to the Council to be reported on.

Dr McGee exhibited some fibrinous or polypoid accretions taken from the aorta and pulmonary artery of a young man, who had expired suddenly after a short illness; and narrated the case to the Society.

His patient was of intemperate habits with some hereditary tendency to gout. Three days before his death he was attacked with vomiting and purging, tenderness over epigastrium and flying pains in the limbs. Considerable debility soon supervened, with pallor of lips and countenance but without coldness of surface. The tongue was white and furred, and of normal temperature. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> day, about an hour before his death, when Dr McGee first saw him, his pulse was 110-130, irregular, unequal, and intermittent, suggesting heart-disease. (Edema of



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face had been observed some days previously, but was not then present. The heart was higher and more to the right than natural, and a reduplication of the 2<sup>nd</sup> sound with a churning, but no friction sound, was heard over it. There was pain on pressure over both hypochondria. Apices of both lungs were unnaturally resonant on percussion and the respiration was of a bronchial character.

Notwithstanding the administration of remedies, the gastric and intestinal disturbance persisted and death took place very suddenly. The respiratory action was observed to continue sometime after the heart's pulsation had become imperceptible.

A Post-mortem examination disclosed extensive hypertrophy and congestion of liver, which was estimated to weigh 16lbs, and rose as high, on right side, as 3<sup>rd</sup> rib. The gastric mucous membrane was congested, and exhibited stellated spots of inflammation, with inflammatory exudations. Lungs were congested – otherwise healthy. The heart was hypertrophied; the wall of left ventricle 10 lines in thickness, and of a denser consistence than usual; that of the right, 7½ lines thick, and flaccid. The endocardial membrane presented manifest tokens of inflammation, being of a deep red colour in patches, with fibrinous exudations, more especially about semilunar valves.

Polypoid accretions were found in ventricles, and extending into aorta and pulmonary artery, composed externally of a softer substance which disappeared on being kept in alcohol, leaving tough and firm fibrinous cords behind. These coagula were branched and adherent to the auriculo-ventricular valves, and interlaced with the corda tendinae and columna carnaeae; and to their presence the Reporter attributed the sudden dissolution of his patient.

A short discussion followed the reading of this interesting paper.

Dr Thomas Read called the attention of the Society to certain alleged abuses in the management of its Library, and a Committee consisting of Dr Read, Dr Patterson, Dr R Stewart, Mr Browne, Dr Murney, and the Secretary, were nominated to investigate and report on the subject at the next monthly meeting of the Society.

R Stephenson, Chairman

### August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1852

Present, Dr Stephenson, President, in the Chair – Drs T Read, McGee, R Stewart, T Thompson, Patterson, Drennan, Young, Pirrie, Browne, Murney, Hood.

The recommendation of the Council for the reduction of Mr Mawhinney's fines to 5/- was adopted.

The Committee appointed to wait on the

candidates for the representation in Parliament of the County and Borough on the subject of the Naval Medical Officer's claims, reported favourable replies from them all, and the Secretary was directed to have the steps taken in the matter, by the Society, notified to the Medical Periodicals.

Surgeon Thompson's nomination as a Member was deferred from absence of his proposer.

Dr Holland's "Chapter on Mental Physiologies" and Erasmus Wilson "on Syphilis and Syphilitic Eruptions" were ordered for the Library.

The Secretary was instructed to inform the Medical Officers of the Garrison of Belfast that they are considered as Privileged Members of the Society, during their sojourn in Belfast.

The Council's recommendation "of the appointment of a Committee with authority to expend a sum not exceeding £5 annually, in the purchase of works of merit, not being *new* publications," was adopted and Drs Gordon, McGee, Ferguson, T Read, and Murney were nominated said Committee.

Messrs Agnew's account, amounting to £2 · 13 · 10 was ordered payment.

The Committee appointed at last meeting to investigate the state of the Library, reported that they had examined, "Wilson's Portraits of Skin Diseases and found them much soiled and torn; and they recommended that the Plates should be set apart from further use until they should be cleaned and bound; and also that the attention of the members of the Society should be particularly called to rule 32."

The report was adopted, and the thanks of the Society were given to Dr T Read for calling their attention to the subject.

Drs Patterson, Murney, and Drennan were appointed to consider and carry out measures for the better security of the Books.

The Council were requested to report at next meeting on the subject of the circulation of the Periodicals.

The Council were authorised to have the Catalogue of the Library printed.

Dr Robert Stewart's "Report of the Belfast District Asylum for the Insane" for the year 1852, was presented to the Society.

R Stephenson, Chairman

### Officers of the Society for the year 1852 – 3

#### President.

Dr Stephenson.

#### Vice-Presidents.

Dr McGee, Dr Malcolm.

## The Belfast Medical Society

### **Council.**

Mr Browne, Drs Ferguson, Dill, Gordon, Pirrie, C Black.

### **Treasurer.**

Dr Patterson.

### **Secretary.**

Dr Drennan.

### **Librarian.**

Mr Ring.

### **August 30th, 1852**

Present, Dr Stephenson, President in the Chair - Drs Patterson, Dill, R Stewart, Drennan, Hamilton, Browne, Armstrong, Young, Malcolm, Lynch, Mulholland, C Black, Pirrie, McCleery, Hood, Warwick.

The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

Mr Henry Thompson of Ballylesson was balloted for, and unanimously elected a Member of the Society.

Dr Johnston's Work on "Diseases of the Kidney" was ordered for the Library.

Dr Dill laid before the Society the report of the committee appointed at last meeting to consider the subject of the circulation of the periodicals. The report recommended the discontinuance of the "London Monthly Journal", and that a messenger should in future be employed to transfer each of the retained periodicals from Member to Member at an interval of 2 days, until its circulation among all the Members should be completed. The report was adopted, and the thanks of the Society were given to the committee.

Dr Patterson reported as to the measures which had been adopted for securing the books of the Library.

The estimates for printing the Library Catalogue were read, and the subject was referred again to the committee who were authorized to close with the printer who, in their opinion, offered the most advantageous terms.

Dr Pirrie brought before the Society the report of a case of Glanders or Farcy affecting the human subject, and terminating fatally in the General Hospital. The patient who had been at first seen by Dr C Black, by whom the nature of the malady had been ascertained. "He was a strong man in the prime of life, had been working with a diseased horse, and had received the infection without any apparent cut or abrasion of skin or mucous membrane. For a fortnight he suffered under symptoms similar to those observed in acute Rheumatism, then tubercular abscesses appeared in various parts of the body, and after a few days, the case shewed itself to be one of true Glanders, as evidenced by the discharge from the

nostrils, and the pustules appearing on the surface of the body. The most important phenomena observed in the post-mortem examination were a peculiar chancrous-looking ulceration on the pulmonary pleura, and a softened diffuent condition of the spleen. Dr P. directed attention to the absence (both during life and after death) of the peculiar white areola surrounding the tubicles, and supposed by Dr Hutton to be pathognomonic of the disease". A short discussion followed the reading of this interesting paper.

The President, Vice-Presidents and Secretary were deputed to attend the Vice-Regal Procession on the following day, and the Secretary was instructed to communicate their intention of so doing to the Town Clerk, in order that a proper place might be assigned to them.

A discussion took place as to entertaining the Medical Members of the "British Association for the advancement of Science", at present visitors of Belfast, but no determination was at the time come to.

James Patterson Chairman

### **Special Meeting**

#### **September 1st, 1852.**

Present, Dr Stephenson in the Chair - Drs Read, Patterson, Malcolm, Browne, Pirrie, R Stewart, Lynch, Drennan, Mulholland, McCormac, Dill, Bryson.

This meeting was held on the requisition of the President and several of the Members to consider whether some mark of attention and respect should not be offered by the Society to such of the Members of the Medical Profession from other localities, as are at present attending the Meeting of the British Association. After a short discussion it was unanimously Resolved that, in case the sentiments of the absent Members of the Society should appear on inquiry to be in accordance with the views of this Meeting, the Medical Members of the British Association at present visitors in Belfast, be invited by the Society to a Public Breakfast on Saturday 4th Inst.

That the following gentlemen be Stewards for making the necessary preliminary arrangements - Drs R Stewart, Malcolm, Patterson, Mulholland, Browne, Dill [convenor], Lynch and Drennan.

A form of invitation was also agreed on.

James Patterson Chairman Pro Temp.

In conformity with the forgoing resolution, cards of invitation, in the President's and members names were forwarded to between 40 and 50 visitors of distinction, and of these 25 favoured the Society with their company. Among the guests were Sir Henry ?, Dr Hutton [?], President of the College of Surgeons, Professor Harrison, Drs Neligan, Assjohn, Nugent,

## Minutes of the Ordinary Meetings

Lankester, J MacDonnell, Norton Shaw, M Hamilton, H H Stewart, Stenger, Port Natal; Bofsey, Woolidge; J Barker, Dublin; Hase, London; Davies, Chester; Drs Duncan, Dublin; Tyler, Dublin; Rogan, Derry; K Alexander, London; Mollan, Hughes, Dublin; while the members of the Society present amounted to nearly 50. After an excellent breakfast, provided by Mrs Gardner, had been disposed of, a number of toasts were suitably proposed and acknowledged, and the company separated, in consequence of other engagements at a comparatively early hour, with many expressions on the part both of the entertainers and their guests of the pleasure they had derived from so agreeable an occasion.

### October 4th, 1852

Present, Dr Patterson, Chairman - Drs Pirrie, C Black, J Smith, Bryce, Dill, Stephenson, Drennan.

Minutes of last monthly meeting and of special meeting read and confirmed.

Note from Dr Babbington of Coleraine, explaining his absence from the Public Breakfast, on the ground of the too short notice he had received, read; and the Secretary directed to inform the Doctor of the circumstances of the case, and express the regret of the Society for his absence.

Dr Patterson reported the printing of the Library Catalogue to be considerably advanced but to be stopped at present in consequence of the absence of Dr Malcolm who had undertaken to revise classificatory portion.

The report of the committee on the circulation of the periodicals was confirmed, and they were authorised to make the necessary arrangements for carrying out the plan they had recommended.

The Treasurer was instructed to repay Dr McGee the £2 advanced by him to Dr Nottingham for the exhibition to the Society of a [supposed] hemaphrodite.

Mr Hewett of London, introduced by Dr Pirrie, submitted to the Society a new form of Truss [newson's patent ?] of which he is Patentee, and explained its advantage over those of the ordinary construction.

R Stephenson Chairman.

### November 1st, 1852

Present, Drs Stephenson, Dill, J Smyth, McCormac, Halliday, Malcolm, Hamilton, Bryce, Drennan, Hood, Pirrie.

Dr Granville's 2 volumes on the "Watering Places of England", price 16/s, were ordered for the Library.

Messrs Lamont's account for Proposition Book and Circular, amounting to 4/6, was ordered payment.

Dr McCormac presented to the Society a copy of

his Paper "on the Connection of Atmospheric Impurity with Disease", read before the Statistical Section of the British Association at its recent meeting, and the thanks of the Society were given to the author.

Dr Young read a Paper on a case of Guinea Worm which came under his observation lately. It occurred in a young sailor who had been in Bombay in the autumn of 1851, and at Mobile in February of the previous year. The lad was stout and healthy when the worm first showed itself in the left ankle. His left leg was soon covered with ulcers from the great toe up to the calf, in number 17. These ulcers were almost all produced by destruction of cellular tissue from the formation of abscesses, some of which were very large. 2 worms were in the left leg, of which one, 3 feet in length was with great care and difficulty extracted. There were 2 more in the right foot, the cellular tissue of which was at one time quite detached from the fascia and subjacent tendons. The boy's constitution was seriously affected by the profuse discharge of pus, and irritative fever of a very alarming kind was soon set up. The topical treatment consisted in the application of large linseed-meal poultices, which served to loosen the attachment of the worms, and encourage their exit; in making incisions where ever fluctuation could be felt; in using cautious and gentle traction; and in healing the ulcers in the ordinary way. The patient's strength was supported through the whole course of the affection by the most nutritious diet, with porter and wine. ["] one of the worms was exhibited and presented by Dr Young to the Museum. The thanks of the Society were presented to the writer of this interesting Paper.

The Librarian was directed to send Monthly Circulars to the Country as well as to the Town Members of the Society.

R Stephenson, Chairman

### December 6th, 1852

Present, Dr Stephenson, Mr Browne, Drs Pirrie, Dill, Malcolm, Patterson, Halliday, Warwick, Bryce, Smyth, McGee, Hamilton, Drennan.

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. Dr John Graham was balloted for and elected a Member of the Society.

"Ansell on Tuberculosis" was ordered for the Library. The consideration of Millar's Practical Surgery [new ed] was postponed, in consequence of the absence of proposer and seconder.

"The History of General Hospital" and an Essay "on the Sanitary Condition of Belfast", the latter of which had been read before the Statistical Section of the British Association, were presented by the author, Dr Malcolm, to the Society; and the thanks of the Society

given for the same.

It was resolved that the cash price of 6d should be charged to each member for every number, above 1, he should obtain of the Library Catalogue.

That the Bookseller be directed to procure for the Library the wanting Nos of Guy's Hospital Reports.

The Messrs Agnew's account amounting to £8. 7. 4½, for printing of Catalogue, Circular, etc was ordered payment.

A vote of congratulation to Dr McGee on his nomination as Mayor of Belfast for the ensuing year, was moved by Mr Browne, seconded by Dr Malcolm, and unanimously passed, Dr McGee appropriately acknowledging the compliment.

It was also resolved that Dr McGee, previously to entering on the duties of his Mayoralty, be invited by the Society to a Supper. The 20th Inst was the date fixed for the occasion, and Drs Malcolm, Dill and Pirrie were nominated Stewards for making the necessary arrangements.

R Stephenson, Chairman

### January 3rd, 1853

Present, Drs Stephenson, Malcolm, Patterson, Armstrong, McCleery, Drennan, Pirrie, Rea, Dill, Young, McCormac, Graham, Browne, Murray, Ferguson, Warwick, Halliday, Heaney.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Dr McCormac presented a copy of his book entitled "Moral-Sanitary Economy", and received the thanks of the Society for this donation to their Library.

The Secretary was directed to request the attendance of the proposer and seconder of Mr Dyas as a Member of the Society, on the next night of meeting.

The 2nd Edition of Millar's Practice of Surgery was ordered for the Library.

Dr Malcolm read a Paper on "Difficulties in Diagnosis", in which, after referring generally to the principal sources of fallacy in the discrimination of disease, he proceeded to illustrate the object by a detailed report of 7 cases occurring in his own practice. These comprehended various maladies of the head, chest, and abdomen; together with a case of external cancer, in all of which, from the absence of ordinary symptoms, or the ambiguity or complexity of those which were present, more or less difficulty was experienced in arriving at a correct conclusion as to the pathology and appropriate treatment. The writer concluded his interesting Essay with some remarks as to the vital importance of correctness in diagnosis, and the duty incumbent on those who possess the opportunities necessary for acquiring it, of

communicating the result of their observations to their less experienced brethren. A short conversation followed the reading of the Paper.

A case of Melanosis Oculi, in which the disease had progressed to far to render operation warrantable, was exhibited to the Society by Mr Browne.

R Stephenson, Chairman

### February 1853

Present Drs Stephenson, R Stewart, Patterson, Graham, Warwick, Drennan, Halliday, Malcolm, Dill, Pirrie, Rea, Hood, Ferguson, Moore, Seaton Reid.

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

Dr McLaughlin of Lurgan was balloted for and unanimously admitted a Member of the Society.

Dr Dixon was also admitted a Member.

Mr Dyas was balloted for and admitted a Member of the Society unanimously.

The 4th Edition of Dr Carpenter's Human Physiology was ordered for the Library.

It was moved by Dr Ferguson, seconded by Dr Moore and unanimously resolved "that Drs Stephenson, Patterson, McGee, Malcolm and Pirrie be nominated a Committee with full power to secure to the Society Rooms for the Meetings and Library on such terms as they may deem suitable to our means and wants".

R Stephenson, Chairman

### 7th March, 1853

Present Dr Stephenson, Patterson, Pirrie, Dill, Malcolm, Young, Graham, Browne, Murray, Ferguson, R Stewart, Armstrong, Bryce, Wheeler, Moore, J [W] Smith, Smyth.

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

Walton's "Operative Ophthalmic Surgery" was ordered for the Library.

Mr Browne presented Dr Chever's work on "Vital Statistics", and the Society proposed a vote of thanks to that gentleman for the same.

Resolved that the resolution of last meeting appointing a subcommittee with full power to secure to the Society rooms for their meetings etc be now confirmed.

The said subcommittee reported that suitable rooms can be obtained for from £20 to £30 per annum, and, considering that it would be an infringement of the rules of the Society to apply to other purposes the present Library funds, they recommended that a Subscription List be opened to meet such additional expenditure.

Their report was received and adopted, and they were requested to continue their exertions.

Resolved "that all Town Members of the Society

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shall in future pay 10/6 per annum towards the cost of suitable rooms, and that it be optional with Country Members to avail themselves of the advantages of the central reading room, on payment of the above additional subscription”.

Dr Malcolm as local Secretary to the Central Committee for erecting a monument to Genre, detailed the steps which have been taken for carrying out the project since it was first entertained in the summer of 1851. The Memorial intended is a bronze statue of colossal dimensions to be erected in some public situation in London, and Mr Calder Marshall is the sculptor to be employed in its construction. A Central Committee composed of 177 influential members representing all the chief countries of Europe, together with the United States, Brazil, and India, and local subcommittees have been organised to promulgate the design, and obtain means for its execution. The estimated cost of the monument is about £4000, while the contributions, at the last statements, were under £600, of which the largest portion was from the United States. No doubt however is entertained that the required sum will be ultimately raised. From this locality the subscriptions are as yet of small amount, and the Reporter concluded by recommending the formation of a local committee to adopt further measures on the subject. It was resolved that the Society approve of the recommendations of the “Genre Testimonial” Committee (Drs Malcolm and Dill) respecting exertions being made to raise further subscriptions and that a Committee consisting of Drs Malcolm, Dill and Smyth, be now appointed to carry out such recommendations.

R Stephenson, Chairman

### April 4th, 1853

Present Drs Stephenson, Patterson, Dill, Gordon, Young, Halliday, Malcolm, R Black, Warwick, Drennan, McGee, Moore, Browne, R Stewart, McCormac, Heaney, Hood, Wheeler, J Smith, Rea, Armstrong, Lamont, Clarke, W J Smyth, Murney, McCleery.

The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

Dr McGee brought before the Society the question, in its medical relations, of the appointment of Chaplains to Lunatic Asylums. After some preliminary remarks, he referred to the system of religious ministrations hitherto pursued in the Belfast Asylum as having been found perfectly suitable and adequate to the requirements of its inmates; and strongly objected to the substitution of regular chaplaincies as likely to excite discord, entail injury on the patient’s themselves and interference with the proper functions of the medical superintendents in

support of his opinions he cited the evidence of experienced governors and physicians, and added instances of the injurious effects on the insane, of exciting theological discourses. He concluded by moving a resolution embodying his sentiments on the subject.

An amendment was moved by Dr Dill in favour of allowing the recent appointments in the Belfast Asylum to be tested by their effects. He complained that the question had not been sufficiently limited by the previous speaker to its medical bearings, and maintained that, in that point of view, considerable differences of opinion existed among the members of the medical profession. He quoted counter testimony in prove of the benefits derived from the system of regularly commissioned chaplains, and established religious ordinances; and advocated the introduction of that system into the Belfast Asylum, to be carried out “with the advice and direction” of the resident and visiting physician. His amendment was not seconded.

Other amendments of a character less opposed to that of the original motion were brought forward in the course of the subsequent discussion, but they were either afterwards withdrawn or negated. While some difference of opinion was expressed as to the mode and agency by which religious influences could best be brought to bear on the minds of lunatics, it appeared to be unanimously held that the application of these should in all cases be subject to the sanction and approval of the Medical Advisors. After a somewhat prolonged debate the following resolution proposed by Dr Malcolm, and seconded by Mr Lamont was, with the consent of the mover and seconder of the original one, substituted for it; and, on being put from the chair, was carried by a very large majority.

Resolved That the appointment of Chaplains to Lunatic Asylums as at present made it inexpedient, as such appointments must necessarily interfere with the functions and privileges of the medical men entrusted with the medical charge of Lunatic Asylums, who from their position and alone competent to regulate the times and circumstances most advisable for religious ministrations.

On the motion of Professor Ferguson, seconded by Mr J Smyth, the resolution passed at last meeting for the increasing of the annual subscription of all town members of the Society by 10/6 was formally confirmed.

Dr Dill and MrCleery were appointed to examine the fines incurred by Members during the past year, and report thereon at the next Meeting. Dr R Stewart and Mr Browne were nominated auditors of accounts.

The Council were requested to appoint 3 of their members for the annual examination of the Library,

and the Secretary was instructed to have Rules 28 and 29 carried out.

A letter was read from Dr Stephenson, intimating his intention of resigning the chair of President at the Annual Meeting in May.

R Stephenson, Chairman

#### **Officers of the Society for the year 1853-4.**

##### **President.**

Dr McGee.

##### **Vice Presidents.**

Professor Ferguson\* and Mr Browne.

##### **Council.**

Drs Pirrie\*\*, Moore, Lamont, Malcolm, H Stewart, C Black.

##### **Treasurer.**

Dr Patterson.

##### **Secretary.**

Dr Drennan.

##### **Librarian.**

Mr Ring.

\*Resigned June 6th and Dr Pirrie appointed in his place on 1st August.

\*\*Dr Dill elected in the [place?] of Dr Pirrie on 1st August.

#### **Annual Meeting, May 2nd, 1853.**

Present, Drs Stephenson, McGee, Malcolm, Dill, Ferguson, Black, Patterson, Mr Browne, Drs Beck, Young, McCleery, Pirrie, Hood, Halliday, Graham, J Smith, Lamont, Wheeler, Bryson, Murney, H Stewart, Mulholland (2), Rea, T Thompson, Bryce, McCormac, Officer, S Read, ? Stewart, Dyas, McMullan, Moore, Rea, Hamilton, Smith, Thompson, Corry, Drennan.

Minutes of last annual meeting read and those of last monthly meeting read and confirmed.

Dr Dill and Mr McCleery reported on the fines incurred during the past year. Only two members had rendered themselves liable to the imposition of such penalties, and in their case the Reporters recommended a suspension of the fines in consequence of the violated rule having been hitherto very laxly enforced by the Librarian. Their recommendation was adopted and the Librarian was directed in future to carry out strictly the rule in question (No 40).

Mr Browne read the report of the auditors of accounts from which it appeared that the receipts of the Society during the past year had been £63. 7. 10; its disbursements £57. 3. 5½; and that the balance in hand is £5. 17. 5½.

Dr Malcolm, as one of the 3 Examiners of the Library appointed by the Council, read a detailed

report of its present condition. The number of volumes is at present 2262, with 32 missing. 2 Quarterly, 2 Monthly, and 3 weekly Journal were received during the past year at an expense of £8. 18. 8. Of these 61 Nos. costing the sum of £2. 4. 7 have been lost. Since the new system of circulating the Periodicals was adopted in November last, no further loss of this kind has been sustained. The London Monthly having ceased, 6 Periodicals only are now received by the Society at an expense of £7. 14. 8 per annum, or about 2/4 for each member. 16 works, including pamphlets, have been added to the Library during the year. Of these 6 were donations from Drs McCormac, R Stewart, Malcolm, and Browne. The remainder were purchased for the sum of £7. 17. 6. The Report concluded with recommendations that a Committee should be appointed to draw up a list of the useless and duplicate works to be submitted to the Society, with a view to them being disposed of; and that valuable works of reference, and such only, should in future be purchased for the Library.

Thanks were voted to the authors of the foregoing reports, and a Committee consisting of Drs McCormac, H Stewart, Malcolm, Lamont and Dill, was nominated to carry out the recommendation of the Library Committee.

Dr Stephenson's letter intimating his intention of retiring from the office of President of the Society was again read, and the thanks of the Society for the manner in which he had promoted its interest and dignity during the period he had occupied its Chair, were voted to him by acclamation.

The election of officers for the ensuing year was then proceeded with, and at the termination of the balloting, the scrutineers, Dr Pirrie and Mr Browne, declared the following appointments.

President, Dr McGee.

Vice Presidents, Professor Ferguson and Mr Browne.

Council, Drs Pirrie, Moore, Lamont, Malcolm, H Stewart

and C Black.

Drs Patterson and Drennan were re-appointed respectively

Treasurer and Secretary without a ballot.

On the motion of Dr Patterson the Minutes of a Special Meeting of Council held April 18th 1853 were read, from which it appeared that the "Central Rooms" Committee had been instructed by the Council to engage the apartments of Mr Tully McKenny in Arthur Street for the use of the Society. They consist of 2 Drawing Rooms, and a small one adjoining, and are offered, free of taxes, for £25 per annum. Mr Agnew offered to act as caretaker and

## Minutes of the Ordinary Meetings

Librarian, and to send out the Circular, Periodicals, etc for the sum of £10 per annum, while it is estimated that £5 will pay the yearly cost of fire and gas Dr Patterson now reported to the Society that these rooms had been taken from August next, on the foregoing terms.

A long and somewhat desultory conversation followed, in which objections were stated by several members to the proposed change of locality, and to the additional amount of the annual subscription thereby necessarily entailed. A Memorial, forwarded through the Secretary, was also read, embodying the chief grounds of opposition, and intimating the immediate withdrawal from the Society in case the intended removal were persevered in, of the following gentleman, who had subscribed Remonstrance viz Dr Horatio Stewart, Mr Corry, Mr J Clarke, Mr McMullan, Mr J D Marshall, Mr Armstrong, Mr Hood, Mr Heaney, Mr Warwick, Mr Rea, Dr C Mulholland, Mr Posnett, Dr Moore, Mr Officer (14).

Separate communications of the same purport were also received from Messrs Lamont, Warwick, and McMullan.

Dr Moore gave notice that on the next night of Meeting he would move "that the books of the Society be allowed to remain in the present Library, and that the new rooms taken be used merely for the reading of the Periodicals, and their circulation there from".

Dr Malcolm, on the part of the Council, read a statement of the proceedings of the Society during the past year, arranging them under the heads of "Paper read", "Questions of General Medical Interest", "Public Entertainments", "Proposed removal of the Library", "Professional Conduct" on which, since last annual report, no question had been referred to the council, "New Retired and deceased Members" – including to one of the latter of whom the late Mr Bryson, who had assisted in founding the present Society in 1822, the Reporter made some highly eulogistic remarks, "Circulation of the Periodicals", and "New Library Catalogue".

The report was adopted and directed to be inserted in the Minutes.

As however the proceedings which it recapitulates have already been fully recorded there, it will perhaps meet the wishes of the Society if this, and other detailed annual summaries, be (after they have been read), deposited and preserved in its archives, where they shall always be at hand for ready reference.

Drs Pirrie, Patterson, and Dill were nominated Stewards for the annual Dinner of the Society.

John C Ferguson, Vice President.

### June 6th, 1853.

Present, Dr Ferguson, V.P. in the Chair, Mr Browne

V.P., Drs Young, McMeekin, Moore, Hurst, Armstrong, Hamilton, Halliday, Drennan, H Stewart, Lamont, Clarke, T Thompson, Mulholland, (2) Rea, Dill, Wheeler, Officer, Bryce, Heaney, Black (R), Murney, Stephenson, Smyth, Patterson, Smith, McMullan, McCormac, Bryson, R Stewart, Lynch, S Reid, McCleery, Hood, Corry, Dixon, Kelso, McLaughlin, Graham.

Minutes of Annual Meeting read and confirmed.

Letters were read from Drs Mateer and Kidd; that of the former gentleman protesting against any alteration of rule 11 as to the payment of life-members; and Dr Kidd's intimating his withdrawal from the Society on account of his distance from Belfast.

A printed Circular from Dr Kingsley of Roscrea, in reference to the formation of a new Association of the Medical Profession in Ireland, and a meeting to be held in Dublin on the 7th Inst, for the purpose of founding it, was brought under the Society's notice.

An application from the Hospital Committee for the use of the Library to hold their weekly meetings therein was unanimously granted, and the Secretary directed to communicate the Society's consent to the Committee.

It was proposed by Dr Moore, seconded by Dr Beck, "That the books of the Society be allowed to remain in the present Library, and that the new rooms taken to be used merely for the reading of the Periodicals, and their circulation there from".

Dr Hurst moved as an amendment "That this Society is decidedly opposed to any change being made involving either the removal of the Library from the premises at present occupied in the General Hospital, or an increase of the annual subscription, as we consider either one or other would be detrimental to the interest of the Society, and that the fact of several members of the Society having received no notice whatever of the contemplated change, render any proceedings lately adopted relative thereto altogether irregular and invalid".

In moving his amendment Dr Hurst took occasion to read a series of resolutions in conformity with its purport which had been adopted by a Meeting of Members of the Society held elsewhere; and also signatures attached to it (exceeding 30) of those who approved of its contents. Dr H Stewart seconded this amendment.

Another amendment was moved by Dr Dill, and seconded by Dr Pirrie to the effect that the rooms taken should be employed for the Meetings of the Society as well as for the other purposes specified in Dr Moore's resolution.

After a prolonged discussion this latter amendment was put from the Chair and negated by a

majority of 26 to 17.

The Chairman expressed his opinion that Dr Hurst's amendment could not then be regularly submitted to the Society, in as much as, having for its object to rescind previous resolution of the Society that had been formally adopted and confirmed, due notice for its discussion had not been given. On the opinion of the Meeting however appearing to accord with a motion proposed by Dr Stephenson and seconded by Dr Mulholland that the amendment should be put from the Chair, it was so put accordingly, and carried by a large majority.

Some further discussion as to the proper order of the Society's proceedings ensued, in the course of which the Chairman conceiving he was improperly dictated to as to his conduct in the Chair, vacated it, and soon after left the room, having placed in the Secretary's hands a note communicating his resignation of the office of Vice President, and his withdrawal from the Society. Mr Browne V.P. was then moved into the Chair, and on the motion of Dr Dill, seconded by Dr Drennan the following proposition of Dr Malcolm (who was himself unable to attend) was unanimously adopted. "That in future every new proposition affecting the interests, pecuniary or otherwise, of the Society, shall be inserted in the Proposal Book, and announced in the printed Circular, before being discussed at the Meetings of the Society".

Some conservation took place as to the steps necessary for the adoption and ratification of the Society's resolutions.

Dr Dixon then moved the following resolution, previously suggested by Dr Pirrie - "That a Committee consisting of Drs Moore, Hurst, Halliday and Pirrie be appointed and empowered to take steps to free the Society from the responsibility incurred by the taking of the room in Arthur Street, on the best terms they can make for the Society".

Dr Bryce seconded this resolution which was carried, and the Meeting then separated.

William McGee, President.

#### **July 4th, 1853**

Present, Dr McGee, President, in the chair - Drs Patteson, Dill, Pirrie, Hurst, Bryson, H Stewart, Lamont, Moore, R Stewart, Drennan, Hamilton, Armstrong, Young, Halliday, Hood, McCormac, Rea, Clarke, Dixon, Murney, Bryce, Smyth, Beck, Smith, Heaney, Graham, Corry.

The minutes of last meeting were read, and the resolutions therein confirmed.

The Secretary reported that he has communicated to the Hospital Committee the Society's permission to use the Library as their place of meeting.

Some discussion took place as to the modifying of certain expressions in Dr Hurst's amendment as passed at last meeting, but no resolution was adopted on the subject.

Drs Moore and Hurst reported the proceedings of the Committee appointed to exonerate the Society from their engagement to Mr P McKenny for the rooms in Arthur Street. They had offered him £10 to be rid of the bargain, but he had refused to accept it. They were authorised to continue their negotiations.

The President called on the Librarian to explain why on a recent occasion he had found the Library door open and the Periodicals removed from the table. Mr King stated that the Periodicals had been placed in a drawer in consequence of the meeting of the Hospital Committee on that morning in the room; and that the door had been inadvertently left open by the House Surgeon. His explanation was considered satisfactory.

It was resolved that a list of the Periodicals which had not been returned from circulation during the past year should be inserted in the next Monthly Circular.

A letter was read from Dr Ferguson, late Vice-President of the Society, explaining the grounds of his withdrawal from further connection with it. After a few brief remarks from some of the members, the Meeting decided on proceeding to other business.

A Petition to Parliament in favor of raising the standard of professional education for the medical officers of the Navy, and improving their position as to rank and pay to an equality with that of army surgeons, was brought before the Society by the President; and after it had obtained the signatures of many of the members, it was resolved that it should be entrusted for presentation to the House of Commons to the Member of the Borough.

Dr Pirrie moved, and it was unanimously resolved "that it be referred to the Council to take the necessary steps to make the Periodicals accessible in the Library to the Members of the Society".

It was resolved on the motion of Dr Beck "that Dr Malcolm's resolution of the June Meeting be now confirmed and printed as a rule of the Society". Dr Moore proposed, and it was resolved, that at next Meeting the vacancy in the office of Vice-President, and also that in the Council (should the latter then occur), be filled up; and that notice of such intended elections be given in the Monthly Circular.

Dr Robert Stewart's "Annual Report of the Belfast District Hospital for the Insane" was presented to the Society by the author, and thanks were returned for the same.

It was resolved that the deficiency, if any, in the British Association Medical Breakfast should be



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defrayed out of the funds of the Society.

William McGee, Chairman, 1st August, 53.

### August 1st, 1853

Present, Dr McGee, President - Drs Patterson, Malcolm, Dill, Moore, Drennan, Browne, Wheeler, Pirrie, R Stewart, Hood, Smith, Beck, Smyth, Hamilton, Young.

Minutes of previous meeting read and signed.

The President reported that the Memorial on behalf of the Naval Medical Officers had been forwarded to the Borough Members, and that he had received from them an assurance that it should be duly presented.

An account furnished by the present messenger for wages since his appointment in June was ordered payment. As their rate of 2/6 a week was considered much too high, and he had refused to accept a lower one, it was resolved that he should be dismissed, and that £2 per annum should be added to the Librarian's salary, on the condition that the Periodicals should in future be distributed at his expense and on his responsibility. On this proposal being made to Mr Ring, he consented to act upon it, as an experiment, during the ensuing month; and to transmit the Journals himself, if allowed to call for them in the evening.

Dr Moore reported that Mr T McKenna had agreed to release the Society from its engagement as to the Arthur Street rooms, in consideration of the payment of £10; and the Treasurer was authorised to pay said some to Mr McKenna accordingly.

The last report of the Medical Benevolent Fund Society was presented by the local Secretary, Dr R Stewart.

The Treasurer reported that the deficit in the subscriptions for the Society's Public Breakfast of last September, had been paid out of the general funds of the Society.

A ballot was held for the admission of Dr Snoddon as a Member of the Society, but the proportion of black beans amounting to 1 in 5, he was not admitted.

A Vice-President, in place of Dr J C Ferguson resigned, was balloted for, and Dr Pirrie declared duly elected.

Dr Dill was elected a Member of Council in the room of Dr Pirrie.

The President suggested to the Society the propriety of revising its Laws, especially those relating to fines; and the Council were nominated a Committee to consider the subject, and report to a subsequent Meeting as to what changes might be deemed advisable.

The question of Fines in Mr Hood's and similar cases was also referred to the Council to be reported

on.

The Treasurer was authorised to transfer to the Society's funds the balance remaining of a subscription raised for defraying the expenses of a Meeting of the Profession held in 1851, in reference to the Medical Charities Bill then contemplated.

Dr Malcolm read a Paper "on the treatment adopted in the epidemic dysentery of 1852"; and after a few remarks by Mr Smyth, the further discussion of the subject was postponed until the next night of Meeting.

William McGee, President, Chairman, 5th September, 1853.

### September 5th, 1853

Present Dr McGee, President - Drs Dill, Browne, Graham, Smyth, Drennan, R Stewart, Bryson.

Minutes of last Meeting read and signed.

Mr Ring reported that he had hired a messenger for the distribution of the Periodicals at the rate of 1/s a week, and engaged to be responsible for them if that rate of payment were agreed to by the Society. His proposal was accepted, and the addition to his salary as Librarian raised accordingly from £2 to £2, 12 shillings.

The Council stated that they were not yet prepared to report on the laws of the Society, and they were authorised to continue their consideration of these with a view to their amendment.

They also reported that Mr Hood's fine, for delay in payment of his annual subscription, had been withheld from an apprehension that changes in the constitution of the Society might be adopted, which must have determined his withdrawal there from; and they recommended the remission of Mr Hood's fine, and others similarly discussed. To this the Society assented.

Dr Pirrie presented the numbers for January and May 1852 of the Monthly Journal, to replace those lost by the Library during the past year, and the thanks of the Society were given for their donation.

William McGee, Chairman, 3rd October, 53.

### October 3rd, 1853

Present, Drs McGee, Patterson, Dill, Armstrong, Drennan, Dick, 12th Regiment, Graham, Browne, Beck, Pirrie, R Stewart, Officer.

Minutes of last Meeting read and signed.

The Rules as proposed by the Council to be amended, were read, and it was resolved that they should be printed and circulated among the Members of the Society previous to their consideration at a subsequent meeting.

Mr Ring was directed to apply to Mr Lamont for the keys of the Library formally provided for the use

## The Belfast Medical Society

of the Members.

The Secretary was authorised to order the missing numbers of the Periodicals from the bookseller.

Robert Stewart, Chairman.

### November 7th, 1853

Present, Dr R Stewart in the Chair – Drs Patterson, Dick (12th Regiment), Lynch, Young, Halliday, Armstrong, Rea, McCleery, Graham, Bryce, Dill (secretary pro temp).

Minutes of last Meeting read and confirmed.

A letter from Mr J Hood was read in which he stated that he was about to leave for Melbourne, and must consequently cease being a Member of the Society.

An address to Mr Hood on his departure was read by Dr Patterson, adopted by the Society, signed by the President, and ordered to be forwarded to Mr Hood before leaving Liverpool.

The Paper furnished to the Officers of the Medical Society in reference to the Income Tax was directed to be filled up by the Secretary, and returned to A A Hamel.

Skoda's Work on Auscultation was ordered for the Library.

The consideration of the Revised Rules of the Society was deferred until a future meeting.

Dr Dick brought the subject of the Aztec children under the notice of the Members, and after reading extracts from some published works and papers regarding their probable origin, and advancing some arguments, was disposed to conclude that they were brought from Central America, that they spring from a distinct race, and that they are neither dwarves nor idiots. Among other works Dr Dick referred to "Incidents of Travel in Gucata?" by John L Stephens, published in 1843, which exhibited prints very like the Aztec children. Dr Lynch was of opinion that the boy is 14 years of age, and all his parts well formed, while his animal propensities are said to be strong. From the circumstances of the children falling down before the crucifix in the Dublin Exhibition, he would conclude that they are of Spanish origin. Dr Halliday read an article from the "Dublin Medical Press" copied from an American journal which suggested the idea that the children were born in Santa Anna, State of San Salvador, in Central America, and that they are not stunted in growth, nor idiots but spring from parents of a distinct race.

Dr Young raised a vote of thanks to Dr Dick for the able and interesting manner in which he had brought the subject before the Society. This was passed unanimously, and the meeting separated.

Samuel Brown, Vice-President.

### December 5th, 1853

Present, Mr Browne in the Chair, Drs Dill, Patterson, Halliday, Pirrie, Rea, Dick (12th Regiment), R Stewart, Bryce, Drennan.

Minutes of last Meeting read and signed.

The "Psychological Journal" was ordered for the Library, - to commence with the volume for the current year.

An application for increase of Salary from Lawrence May the messenger, was read, but not deemed worthy of consideration.

The revised Rules of the Society were put ? from the Chair and after a few amendments, unanimously adopted. 100 copies were ordered to be printed for distribution among the Members.

Dr Dill gave notice that he would move at the next monthly Meeting that the state of the Museum be enquired in to.

William McGee, Chairman, 2nd January, 54.

### January 2nd, 1854

Present, Dr McGee in the Chair – Drs Stephenson, Heaney, Dill, Patterson, Browne, Gordon, R Stewart, Bryce, Lynch.

Minutes of last Meeting read and confirmed.

With reference to the Psychological Journal, it was resolved that Mr Browne be directed to procure the work from the commencement at a reduced rate.

Drs Dill, Bryce, and Mr Browne were nominated a committee to enquire into the state of the Museum, and report to next meeting.

A ballot for Dr Deverell as Member of the Society was deferred, in consequence of that gentleman's name not having been duly inserted in the monthly circular; and the Secretary was requested to write to Dr Deverell stating his regret that such an oversight had occurred, and that the ballot would take place at the meeting in February.

William McGee, Chairman, 6th February, 54.

### February 6th, 1854

Present, Dr McGee in the Chair – Drs Patterson, Heaney, Stephenson, Gordon, Dill, Bryce, R Stewart, Malcolm, Beck, Hamilton, Drennan.

Minutes read and signed.

Dr Dill on the part of the Committee nominated at last Meeting reported that there are about 400 casts, specimens and portraits of disease in the Society's pathological collection; and that a few others have been added to these by the Pathological Society. The latter body not having yet made any definite proposal for the transference to them of the collection, the committee recommend that the Medical Society should take no further steps at present on the subject. The report was received, and the Committee

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requested to consider and report on any offer that the Pathological Society may make before the next night of meeting.

Dr Deverell of Dromore was balloted for and unanimously elected a Member of the Society.

The following Works were ordered for the Library. Stokes on Disease of the Heart and Aorta 18/s. Paget's Lectures on Surgical Pathology 28/s. The Dublin Hospital Gazette from the commencement.

Drs Patterson and R Stewart gave notice that they proposed, on the next night of Meeting, to bring the subject of Mr Gay's dismissal from the Free Hospital, London, under the notice of the Society.

Dr Beck announced that at the same meeting he would move "that the Council be instructed by the Society to draw up a List of such Works as are only to be taken from the Library on special application to the Society at one of its Meetings, and to distinguish such Works in the Catalogue".

Dr Beck also applied for the loan of the second volume of "Quain and Wilson's Surgical Anatomy of Arteries" which was granted.

Samuel Browne, Vice-President, Chairman.

### March 6th, 1854

Present, Drs Gordon, Dill, Dixon, Browne VP in the Chair, Patterson, Beck, Heaney, Smyth, Pirrie, McGee, ?pt Read, Halliday, Moore, Hamilton, S Reid, R Stewart, Drennan.

Minutes of last meeting read and signed.

Dr Dill reported that he had been unable to get admission to the Pathological Museum, but that he expected to be able to furnish a correct List of its contents before next Meeting. It was resolved that Dr Malcolm be nominated a member of the Museum Committee, and it was requested to continue its inquiries.

Dr Patterson brought before the Society the subject of Mr Gay's dismissal from the Surgeoncy of the Royal Free Hospital, London; and after detailing the chief circumstances of the case as given in the Medical Times and Gazette, moved the following resolution - "That we disapprove of the treatment which Mr Gay received, and warmly sympathize with him on the occasion". Dr Beck seconded the Resolution.

Drs Drennan and Pirrie while regarding Mr Gay's dismissal by the Hospital Committee as an act of undue severity, considered his own conduct in reference to the publication of the personal memoir in the Medical Circular deserving of grave reprehension. The President, the Chairman, Dr Moore and other members did not hold Mr Gay responsible for the objectionable fact of the article in question. On the motion of the President the following

additional Resolution was adopted. "We further express our surprise and regret that any Member of the Profession would have lent himself to the injury of a Medical Brother", and the Committee consisting of Drs McGee, T Read, Patterson and Browne, was appointed to convey the sentiments contained in the foregoing resolutions in an appropriate form.

Dr Beck's proposition as to restricted Books, announced at last Meeting, was put and carried; and the Council were requested to make out a list of Works for restricted circulation.

The President laid before the Society a Copy of the proposed "Bill for the Registration of Medical Practitioners", and after some remarks by the Members on its provisions, it was resolved that for the further consideration of these a Special Meeting of the Society should be summoned for Monday, the 13th Inst. The Secretary was directed to convey the acknowledgement of the Society to Richard Davidson esquire MP for his attention in forwarding a copy of the Bill.

Dr Hamilton detailed a very interesting case of Fracture at the base of Skull occurring in a female at an advanced period of pregnancy. The principal primary symptoms were contusion over left parietal bone; profuse haemorrhage from nose and left ear; shakiness, and dilatation of pupil of left eye; laboured breathing; inability to swallow; and general insensibility. These were succeeded in about 34 hours by signs of reaction, when V.S. was practiced and mercurial inunction actively employed. Premature labour which threatened on third day was averted by an opiate enema. On the fourth the comatose and paralytic condition was less marked, but hemiplegia of left side and obtuseness to impressions still continued. On the following day mercurial action was maintained, and was soon succeeded by an abatement of the paralysis, and increased sensibility. Some uterine disturbance recurring on the seventh day, an opiate given to check it, seemed to induce a febrile condition, with considerable cerebral excitement, characterised among other things, by excessive obscenity of language. Leeches to the temples and cold lotions, and afterwards a blister to occiput, with antimonials, and inunction at longer intervals were prescribed with good effect, and by the end of the second week recovery had made such progress that the woman was able to dress and walk with ease. Some weeks after she was safely delivered of a healthy child born at the regular period.

Several interesting remarks were elicited by the Paper - more especially in reference to the distinguishing features of the accident in question - the administration of mercurials during pregnancy, and the comparative power of opiates when given in

enemata.

William McGee ? President, Chairman, 3rd April, 1854

**Special Meeting, March 13th, 1854**

Present, Drs McGee, Patterson, Dill, Browne, Pirrie, Armstrong, Drennan,

This meeting was called in conformity with the Resolution passed on the 6th Inst. for the consideration of the Bill at present before parliament for the registration of Medical Practitioners; and after its several clauses had been discussed seriatim, it was Resolved, That the following petition in favour of the Bill be adopted by the Society, signed by the President, Vice-Presidents and Council, and forwarded to Richard Davidson esquire MP with a request to present and support the same.

To the Right Honourable and Honourable the Knights, Citizens and Burghers in the Commons House of Parliament, assembled. The petition of the President, Vice-Presidents, and Council of the Belfast Medical Society humbly sheweth

That a Bill is now before your Honourable House entitled a Bill for the Registration of Qualified Practitioners, and for amending the Law relating to the Practice of Medicine in Great Britain and Ireland. That your Petitioners approving of the provisions of the aforesaid Bill, which they consider calculated to effect much good, pray that the same may speedily pass into Law, and your Petitioners As in duty bound, will ever pray. It was also resolved That a similar Petition be submitted for the signature of Members of the Medical Profession in Belfast and its vicinity.

William McGee, President, Chairman, 3rd April 54

**April 3rd, 1854**

Present, Dr McGee in the Chair; Drs Patterson, Browne, Gordon, Graham, Hamilton, Dill, Halliday, Heaney, Pirrie, T Read, Drennan.

Minutes of last Monthly Meeting, and of Special Meeting, read and signed.

Mr Browne stated that in accordance with the resolution passed at last Monthly Meeting, the sentiment of the Society on the subject of Mr Gay's dismissal from the Royal Free Hospital, had been conveyed to that gentleman in an appropriate form; and the following reply from Mr Gay was read, and ordered to be entered on the Minutes.

"My dear sir,

I beg you to accept and to do me the favour to present on my behalf to the Members of the Belfast Medical Society generally, my heartfelt thanks for their support and sympathy under the painful circumstances in which the recent doings at the Free

Hospital have placed me. My obligations to the profession at large for the attitude assumed on this occasion are unbounded, but whatever I feel for myself, I can say honestly, I feel still more for the cause that was outraged and perilled by these doings; viz. that of professional independence, and rejoice most sincerely that the Profession have shown the most unmistakable determination that this cause shall not be violated even in the right of one of the humblest of its Members.

For the kind manner in which you have conveyed the Copy of the Resolution referred to, to me, I beg you also to accept my best thanks. And believe me to remain my dear Sir, Yours faithfully

John Gay"

Samuel Browne esquire

The following note from Richard Davidson esquire MP to the Secretary, was also ordered to be inserted.

"Library, House of Commons  
20th March 1854.

Dear Sir,

I had the honour of presenting the Petition from the President, Vice-Presidents, and Council of the Belfast Medical Society, in favour of the Medical Registration Bill, this evening to the House. The Bill seems to meet with general approval, and I shall have great pleasure in giving it my humble support. I am, dear Sir, very truly yours

R Davidson".

Dr Drennan esquire MD

The Council submitted a List of Works which, from their great value or rarity, they recommended should not be lend out, but consulted exclusively in the Library; and of others to be issued only on special application. The list was ordered to be revised and brought before a subsequent meeting.

The proposal of Drs Moore and Patterson "That the "Lancet", having forfeited the confidence of the Society, should be excluded from the Library", was taken into consideration; and after a short discussion the following amendment proposed by Dr Gordon, seconded by Dr Pirrie, was put from the Chair and carried. "That notwithstanding the line of conduct lately pursued by the Proprietor of the Lancet, this Society, taking into consideration the former service rendered to Medical Science by the Lancet will for the present continue to take it into its Library.

The account of Messrs Green and Agnew, amounting severally to £25. 1. 6; and £4. 5. 5 having been audited by the Secretary and Librarian, were ordered payment.

Dr Dill read the report of a case of "Complicated

## Minutes of the Ordinary Meetings

Labour" occurring during the fourth accouchement of a strong healthy woman aet. 32. The pains, after continuing for 3½ hours having suddenly ceased, while the os uterus ? and passages remained fully dilated, and the head rested on the perineum; ergot of rye was, after an interval of 9 hours, administered without effect. Symptoms of weakness with general pains supervening on the mother's part, while the child was ascertained to be dead, it was deemed advisable to accomplish delivery by means of the perforator; but on the application of the instrument the child receded beyond its reach and to quarts of fluid and clotted blood were discharged from the uterus. Turning was then resorted to, and effected the delivery of a dead but full sized and apparently healthily organised infant followed immediately by the placenta presumed to have been previously attached. For the succeeding fortnight the woman remained in a low feverish condition, with no marked pain of abdomen, and the uterine discharges appearing natural. She then, for a couple of days, seemed somewhat to improve. After this period a painful swelling 2 inches to right of umbilicus, made its appearance; and on the 19th day simulated an abscess. This was punctured, but nothing escaped but fedid air. It soon became a sloughing sore, and a second sore of the same kind having formed 2 inches below the umbilicus, fatal symptoms supervened, and the woman expired on the 26th day. A Post-Mortem examination was not allowed. The Reporter concluded his interesting Paper by an analysis of the case, and without attempting to account for all the anomalous circumstances it presented, he expressed his conviction that the fatal result was mainly attributable to the poisonous influence of the filthy locality and noxious vapour in which his patient resided.

A discussion followed, in which the cause of the detachment of the Placenta, with the consequent death of the child, and haemorrhage; the connection of the uterine symptoms with the sloughing abdominal sores; and the respective merits of the Forceps and Perforator in such cases as the proceeding; afforded the chief occasions for remarks.

Dr R Stewart and Mr Browne were nominated auditors of accounts. The Council were requested to examine and report upon the Library at the Annual Meeting of the Society.

Samuel Browne VP Chairman.

### Annual General Meeting

May 1st, 1854

Present, Mr Browne VP in the Chair – Drs Patterson, Dill, McCleery, Beck, Halliday, Heaney, Gordon, ? Rea, Bryce, T Read, Malcolm, Hamilton, R Stewart, Pirrie, H

Stewart, Hurst, Moore, Corry, Drennan.

The minutes of the last Annual and Monthly Meetings were read.

Dr Robert Stewart on the part of the auditors of Accounts reported that the Receipts of the Society during the past year had been £58. 11. 4½; its disbursements £56. 14. 4; leaving £1. 17. 0½ Balance in the Treasurer's hands.

Dr Malcolm read a Report of the present state of the Library. The number of volumes it contains is 2266, properly labelled and in good order. Of the 32 volumes missing at the period of last year's Report, but 1 has been restored. 3 volumes of journals have been lost in the course of circulation. The Psychological Journal of London, and the Dublin Hospital Gazette have been added to the list of Periodicals, which now includes 9, at an annual cost of £10.

Thanks were voted to Dr Malcolm for his Report, which the Secretary was directed to preserve.

It was also resolved that some volumes mentioned in the report as missing should be ordered from the Bookseller, and that the titles of the 3 volumes of journals lost during the year, should be inserted, with a view to their recovery, in the next Monthly Circular.

An abstract of the proceedings of the Society and Council during the past year was read by the Secretary.

Dr Dill reported that no fines had been incurred in the circulation of the Periodicals.

Dr Stronge was balloted for and elected a Member of the Society.

The appointment of officers for the ensuing year was then proceeded with, Drs Dill and R Stewart acting as scrutineers, and the following gentleman were elected by ballot to their respective offices.

**President**, Dr Thomas Read

**Vice-Presidents**, Dr Robert Stewart and Mr Browne

**Council**, Dr McGee (as ex-President), Drs Dill, Malcolm, Gordon, Horatio Stewart, Pirrie, Moore.

Drs Patterson and Drennan received the thanks of the Society for their services as Treasurer and Secretary during the past year, and were requested to continue in the occupation of their several offices.

Drs Patterson, R Stewart, and Pirrie were nominated Stewards for the Annual Dinner to be held on 8th June.

Robert Stewart, Chairman

June 5th, 1854

Present, Drs Reade, Patterson, Wheeler, Gordon, Drennan, Browne, R Stewart, Young, Dill.

Minutes of last Meeting read and signed.

## The Belfast Medical Society

The Secretary was directed to convey the thanks of the Society to the Cerisus Commissioners for their kindness in transmitting a copy of their Report on the "Status of Disease".

Dr Patterson reported that 18 names had been given in for attendance at the Annual Dinner; and that the cost of a ticket had been fixed at 10/6.

Dr Gordon read a portion of a Paper on "Foreign bodies in the alimentary canal", in which he detailed a multitude of cases selected from the first volume of the memoir of the French Royal Academy of Surgery, and a number of other publications. Some remarks were afterwards made on the same subject by the members present, and it was decided that the reading of the Essay should be proceeded with on the next night of Meeting.

Robert Stewart, Chairman, July 3, 1854

### July 3rd, 1854

Present, Dr R Stewart VP in the Chair – Mr Browne, Drs Gordon, Patterson, Smyth, Drennan.

Minutes read and signed.

"Erichson's Surgery" ordered for the Library.

An application from the messenger for increase of salary was referred to the Council.

"The 24th Annual Report of the Belfast District Hospital for the Insane" was presented by Dr Stewart, and thanks given to him for the same. Few members being present in consequence of the wetness of the evening, Dr Gordon consented to postpone the further reading of his Paper until the next night of Meeting.

Thomas Reade

### August 7th, 1854

Present, Drs T Read, Patterson, Gordon, Malcolm, Rea, McGee, R Stewart, Browne, Heaney.

Minutes read and signed.

Council's Report on increase of salary to messenger (from £2. 12. 0 to £3. 3. 0) confirmed.

The President proceeded according to notice to read a paper, being extracted from Statistical Results of the Irish Censuses of 1851, part third, and remarks thereon.

Robert Stewart, Chairman, September 4 '54

### September 4th, 1854

Present, Drs Patterson, Browne, Dill, Heaney, Drennan, R Stewart Chairman, Gordon.

Minutes read and signed.

A missing Number of the Zoist (number 9) was ordered to complete the Work for binding.

Dr Gordon proceeded with the reading of his Paper on Foreign bodies in the alimentary canal, confining his report of such cases to those found in

the rectum.

The Meeting then separated.

? Chairman

### October 2nd, 1854

Present, Drs T Reade President, Browne, Gordon, Drennan, R Stewart, Patterson, Bryce. Minutes read and signed.

Dr Gordon proceeded to read another portion of his Paper "on foreign bodies in the alimentary canal", and detailed a variety of cases occurring chiefly in the practice of French Surgeons. The conclusion of the Essay was followed by some complimentary observations from the Members present, and the thanks of the Society were presented to the author for the labour and research he had expended in its compilation.

Samuel Browne VP Chairman

### November 6th, 1854

Present, Mr Browne VP in the Chair – Dr Patterson, Mr McMullan, Dr Heaney, Dr R Stewart, Dr Dixon, Drs Gordon, Halliday.

Minutes of last meeting read and signed.

The Chairman on the part of the Council brought before the Society the subject of a Code of Medical Etiquette, and suggested the expediency of having such a code drawn up for the guidance of the Members of the Society in their professional relations with each other. The Rules of the Huddersfield Medico-Ethical Society, a copy of which had been procured by the Secretary, were read and commented on; and various incidents and circumstances exhibiting the necessity of a body of ethical regulations to guide the conduct of medical practitioners, were cited by the members present as suggested by their own experience.

On the Motion of Dr Heaney it was resolved that the Council, together with Drs Stephenson, McCormac, Seaton Reid, Heaney, Bryce, Dixon, and Halliday, be a Committee to draw up an ethico-medical code, and that Dr Halliday be the Secretary and convenor of said Committee.

Samuel Browne VP Chairman

### December 6th, 1854

Present, Mr Browne in the Chair – Dr Heaney, Dr Dixon, Mr ? Frame of Comber, visitor; Drs Halliday, Patterson, Dill, McMullan, Beck, Moore, McCormac, Reade, ? Bryce, Murney, Drennan.

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

Surgeon Harkin was balloted for and unanimously elected a Member of the Society.

Dr Drennan read the Report of a case which he had seen with Mr Frame of Comber, in which fatal

## Minutes of the Ordinary Meetings

Peritonitis ensued on the impaction of a concretion in the appendix vermiformis of the Caecum. The patient, a young man of 23, was attacked 7 days previous to death, with what at first seemed ordinary Colic; there were repeated and prolonged intermissions of abdominal pain; several of the usual concomitant symptoms of Inflammation were throughout wanting; and those present were of a singularly subacute character. Mercurial action was induced easily without any obvious effect on the progress of the malady, and death took place in what resembled an epileptic fit. On a post-mortem examination a large quantity of turbid serum was found in the abdominal cavity; coaguable lymph of soft consistence was smeared over and around the folds of intestine in the ileo-caecal region; the vermicular appendix was of a dark red colour and contained a nodular mass, hard and gritty externally, of the size of a nut, by which it was distended, but not perforated. The chemical analysis of this substance proved it to consist chiefly of phosphatic earths, with some vegetable matter, which had probably formed its nucleus.

The Reporter concluded his Paper by some remarks on the chief features of interest in the case, and afterwards read a letter he had received from Dr Brabazon of Downpatrick referring to others of a similar description, more especially to one under his own care in which a piece of eggshell had become impacted in the appendix, and, after an uncertain interval, induced fatal Peritonitis by its perforation.

A short discussion took place on this form of accident, in the course of which Dr Murney stated that he had not infrequently, in the dissecting room, observed dietetic substances of various kinds loose in the appendix, without evidence of any ill-effects from their presence.

The thanks of the Society were given to Dr Drennan and Mr Frame for the interesting report they had furnished.

Some conversation took place in reference to the query gift of the late Dr S Thompson, and the most suitable position for it to occupy, and Mr Browne and Dr Moore were appointed a Committee to consider and report on the subject.

Robert Stewart, Chairman, January 1st 1855

### January 1st, 1855

Present, Dr R Stewart VP in the Chair – Mr Browne and Dr Dixon.

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

Mr Browne reported that he and Dr Moore were considering the best means of having a cast of the late Dr Thompson from the mould piece in the possession of the Society.

Robert Stewart VP Chairman

### January 5th, 1855

Present, Drs R Stewart, Patterson, Malcolm, Heaney, Drennan.

Minutes of last meeting read and signed.

Mr William Galgey was balloted for, and unanimously elected a Member of the Society.

The Messrs Agnew's account for printing Circulars etc amounting to £1. 15. 3, was ordered payment.

Robert Stewart VP Chairman, 5th March '55

### March 5th, 1855

Present, Drs Dixon, Patterson, Halliday, Browne, R Stewart, Dill, Drennan.

Minutes of last meeting read and signed.

Dr Dill, as one of the Committee of the Jenner Testimonial, appointed March 5th 1853, was requested to ascertain the proceedings of the Central Committee since that period, and the present position of the project; and to report to the Society at their next meeting.

The Committee, appointed November 6th 1854, to draw up a medico-ethical code, were requested to report at next meeting.

Thomas Reade President

### April 2nd, 1855

Present, Dr Reade in the Chair – Drs Gordon, Patterson, Dill, Malcolm, Wheeler, Drennan, R Stewart, Rea, Graham, Dixon, Browne.

Minutes were read and signed.

The account of the Messrs Agnew for printing amounting to £1. 10. 6, was ordered payment; as was also Mr Greer's of £17. 15. 0 for books, periodicals and book binding, on being found correct by the Secretary. The Annual Premium on £500, assurance of the Society's property, was likewise directed to be paid. Dr Malcolm read a portion of a correspondence he had had with the Honorary Secretary of the Central Committee for the Jenner Testimonial, from which it appeared that Mr Calder Marshall had undertaken to complete the Testimonial for the amount of subscriptions raised, which was at present but £1500, being £500 under the estimated cost. A receipt from the Secretary, Mr G K ? Irving, for £2, the sum forwarded from Belfast, was handed to the Treasurer.

On the part of the Medico-Ethical Committee Dr Malcolm reported that their proceedings had been hitherto delayed by the want of copies of the Rules of other Societies, which they conceived would assist them in drawing up regulations for their own. These however they were likely soon to obtain. The Committee were requested to continue their deliberations, and to report again.

Mr Browne stated that casts of the bust of the late

Dr Thompson would, he found, be procurable at 15s a piece.

Dr R Stewart and Mr Browne were appointed auditors of the annual accounts, the Council were requested to have the Library examined and to report on its condition; and Drs Dill and McCleery were nominated to enquire into the fines incurred during the past year.

Mr Browne read a Paper "on Sympathetic" or as he preferred designating the disorder - "Irritative Inflammation of the Eye" of this very serious form of ophthalmia he had seen numerous cases, arising after the loss of the eye primarily affected, by sporadic disease, as well as its destruction by injury, and his observations applied to the malady of either origin. He had found it supervene at various intervals from 4 or 6 weeks to as many years; and he attributed it to the presence of a low "smouldering" inflammatory action in the vascular tissues of the affected eye, induced by a sympathetic irritation communicated from the one that has been lost, through the nerves of common sensation and nutrition. The character and course of the disease were graphically traced and the most advisable plan of treatment, as suggested by a consideration of the general and local symptoms, and approved by experience, was afterwards detailed in full. This, based upon his views of the asthenic nature of the affection, and in opposition to the opinions of eminent ophthalmic authorities, Mr Browne maintains should be mainly of a query toxic and invigorating character. Should one treatment of the primary injury or disease, and the prophylactic means to be afterwards adopted (both of which were considered), have proved ineffectual and this secondary inflammation has supervened, it is not to be subdued by depleting or antiphlogistic measures; but by improving the general health which is "below power", and allaying or diverting the morbid action by local applications. The first of these objects is, Mr Browne conceives, best effected by means of nutritious diet, cold bathing, dry friction of the skin, and tonic medicines, especially the salts of Iron, of which he preferred the sulphate and ammonio-chloride. The second, by the use of Belladonna ointment, sedative lotions and fomentations, and counter irritants or derivatives, suitably applied. Special attention he remarks should be at the same time directed to the injured or atrophied eye so as to allay as speedily as possible, all irritation in it. Reference was made in conclusion to the place of laying open the eye of which the vision is destroyed, in order to protect or relieve the other, as recommended by Messrs Wardrop and Baxter.

A short discussion followed the reading of this very interesting Essay.

The Report of a Case of "Night-Blindness", accompanied by some general considerations on the disease, was brought before the Society by Mr Dixon. His patient was a lad of 18, employed in carrying heavy burdens of yarn up and down the stairs of a mill on his neck and shoulders. The complaint was slight at first, but for the last 10 days vision had been lost after sunset. The pupils were dilated, and very slightly contractile; the expression vacant and staring; nothing else obviously abnormal in the eyes. The general health was unaffected. An aperient, with blisters to the nape, followed by mild mercurials, were first prescribed, and proved temporarily successful. The disease however recurred, and was then finally and speedily removed by the administration, night and morning, in moderate doses, of castor oil and turpentine. There was no appearance of voided worms in the evacuations. A case was quoted from the Dublin Medical Press of May 10th 1843, occurring in the practice of Dr C Kidd, which presented similar symptoms, and was cured by the same remedy. The Writer then referred at some length to the character, history, and mode of treatment of the malady as presented by Lawrence, Scarpa, ? Bampffield, etc; and concluded by stating his own views as to the proximate and remote causes. The former he conceives may be found in a deficiency of tone or partial paralysis of the Iris; while he attributes the occurrence of this condition either to a disordered state of the digestive organs, or the debilitating effects of excessive light. Authorities were cited in evidence of each of these agencies, and the case of his own patient was referred, by Dr Dixon, to the former.

In the remarks made after the reading of this instructive Paper, the Retina, in this disorder, was the part considered chiefly affected and the disease itself regarded as a modified form of Amaurosis.

? Chairman

### **Annual Meeting**

**May 7th, 1855**

Present, Drs Patterson, Wheeler, Moore, Dixon, Gordon, Rea, Dill, McGee, Browne, McCleery, R Stewart, Halliday, Reade S, Bryce, Pirrie, Smith, Malcolm, Harkin, Drennan.

The minutes of last Annual and Monthly Meetings were read.

The Report of the Council as to the position of the Society and its proceedings during the last year was read by the Secretary. Mr Browne expressed his desire that some suggestion had been introduced into it, to secure for the future the more regular reading of Papers before the Society, and after some remarks by the President and others, it was Resolved, on the motion of Dr McGee, seconded by Mr Browne, that



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the subject of measures for securing such regular reading should be recommended to the attentive consideration of the incoming Council. The Report was then adopted.

Dr Malcolm on the part of the Library Committee reported that no book or Periodical had been lost during the past year. He also moved that the new Council be instructed to make a selection of such Works as it may be considered desirable to dispose of, with the view of laying out the proceeds on the purchase of more eligible Publications. Objections were made to this proposal as involving a breach of the laws relating to the property of the Society, and the discussion of the matter was ultimately dropped, as not having been brought regularly before the Meeting.

A question having arisen as to the meaning of the term "current" in the 11th Rule, it was decided that it applied therein to the year commencing with, and including, the first Monday in May.

Mr Browne, on the part of the auditors, reported that the balance in hand amounted to £12. 13. 11½.

Dr Dill stated that no fines had been incurred during the past year.

The Society then proceeded to the election of Officers and the following appointments were made.

**President**, Professor Gordon

**Vice-Presidents**, Drs Pirrie and Dill

**Council**, Mr Browne, Drs R Stewart, Halliday, McGee, Wheeler, WTC Smith

**Treasurer**, Dr Patterson

**Secretary**, Dr Drennan

The 2 latter gentleman were nominated by acclamation and received the thanks of the Society for their official services.

Dr Reade then left the Chair which was taken by Dr Gordon as President, and the latter gentleman expressed his acknowledgement for the honour which the Society had done him.

On the motion of Dr Pirrie, seconded by Dr Bryce, a vote of thanks was passed to the retiring President.

Drs Patterson, R Stewart, and Pirrie were nominated Stewards for the Society's Annual Dinner on Thursday 7th June; and they were authorised to invite to it the Medical Officers of the Belfast Garrison.

Alexander Gordon, President

### June 4th, 1855

Present, Drs Patteson, Bryce, Dill, Graham, Drennan, Gordon, President. Galgey, Dixon, R Stewart, Browne, Pirrie, WTC Smith, Rea, Wheeler.

Minutes read and signed.

Mr William Kennedy of Comber was balloted for, and unanimously elected a Member of the Society.

A note was read from Mr John Clarke intimating his withdrawal from the Society.

It was resolved that the British and Foreign Medico-Chirurgical Review be added to the list of Journal taken by the Society, and the Council were requested to take measures to procure the part numbers which had been published during the present Editorship.

Dr R Stewart brought before the Society the subject of the official regulation affecting Naval Medical Officers, with a view to obtain its cooperation in the measures being at present taken for their amendment. After stating the nature of these, and enforcing the reasons for the Profession's interference in the matter he suggested the adoption of a Petition to the Legislature in favour of the necessary reform.

Mr Dixon read a correspondence which he had had with the Secretary of the "Naval Medical Reform Association", accepting his services as local Secretary; and suggesting the presentation of Petitions with the support of Parliamentary Representatives, as affording the best means of forwarding the association's objects.

Mr Browne recommended that a similar course should be pursued as on a previous occasion when the question had engaged the Society's attention; and after a short discussion it was

Resolved, that Dr Stewart and Messrs Browne and Dixon be a Committee to draw up Petitions and have them duly signed, presented and supported.

A subscription list was opened to defray the necessary expenses, with the understanding that the balance if any, should be remitted to the Generic Committee in London for the use of the Association.

J M Pirrie Vice-President, 6th August, 1855

### July 2nd, 1855

Present, Drs Patterson, Kennedy, Drennan, R Stewart.

No meeting for want of a quorum.

J M Pirrie VP, 6th August 1855

### August 6th, 1855

Present, Dr Pirrie VP in the Chair - Drs Halliday, Heaney, Wheeler, Bryce, Dill, and Messrs Browne, Officer and Dyas.

Minutes of the Meeting of June 4th were read and confirmed. There had been no meeting since for want of a quorum.

A letter from the Secretary of the "Irish Medical Association" was read, and it was resolved that Dr Halliday on part of their Society write to the Secretary of the "Irish Medical Society" for further

information, and report to next Meeting.

Copies of Reports of the Hospital for the Insane and of the "Benevolent Fund Society" were presented by Dr R Stewart, and the thanks of the Society were presented to him.

Dr Halliday then read a system of rules and suggestions from the Medico-Ethical Committee remarking that the report was merely the first draught. It was then Resolved that the consideration of the Report now read be deferred till the September Meeting; but in the meantime the ME Committee are directed to print and send a copy of the rough draught to each member of the Society at least a week before the next meeting. It was also resolved that notice of this matter being brought forward, should be inserted in the Circular calling the next Meeting.

JM Pirrie VP, 3rd September 1855

### September 3rd, 1855

Present, Dr Pirrie in the Chair – Mr Browne, Drs Halliday, R Stewart, Drennan, Heaney, Galgey, Wheeler, McCormac, Bryce.

Minutes read and signed.

Dr Halliday communicated a correspondence he had, since last meeting with the Secretary of the "Irish Medical Association", and it was Resolved, that the question of the Society joining the Association should be discussed at the next Monthly Meeting, due notice of the proposal being given in the Book for such purpose, and inserted in the monthly Circular. The Secretary was also instructed to write to Dr Quinan for further particulars as to the subscription.

The reading of Dr Young's Paper was deferred in consequence of the Writer's absence. Also that of Dr Patterson.

A consideration of the Rules recommended for adoption by the Medico-Ethical Committee was entered upon and completed; and it was resolved that, in their revised state, they should be again submitted to the Society.

Samuel Browne Chairman

### October 1st, 1855

Present Drs Patterson, Halliday, Browne (Chairman), Heaney, McCormac, Young, Drennan.

Minutes of last meeting read and signed.

The Secretary stated that he had ascertained from Dr Quinan that the subscription to the "Irish Medical Association" is £1. 1. 0, paid annually in advance on the 1st of March and accompanied, each year, in the case of subscribing Societies, with a list of their members. On the proposal of Dr Halliday, it was Resolved that the Society should join the Association on these terms, and that the Secretary should

transmit 1 guinea to Dr Quinan as its subscription for the current year.

Seven volumes of Parliamentary Reports and other documents connected with medical subjects were presented to the Society by Richard Davidson Esquire MP, and the Secretary was directed to convey their thanks to that gentleman for his valuable donation, and intimate the gratification with which they would receive all similar additions to their Library.

Dr Young of Hollywood read the report of a case of diseased Prostate with peculiar complications and terminating fatally. His patient was an old gentleman of 78 who had previously enjoyed good health, and suffered no inconvenience connected with the urinary organs except some degree of irritability of bladder. He was suddenly seized with retention of urine, and after the ineffectual employment of those means for his relief by another practitioner, Dr Young succeeded with considerable difficulty in passing a catheter, and drawing off a pint of dark and alkaline urine of muco-purulent character. Before the instrument could be passed, it was found necessary to reduce an enormous Prolapsus Ani, and for this purpose an enema-tube afforded the most efficient agency. In the course of a few days, under the administration of Anodynes, mild aperience, a mixture of ??, Tinct: Hyoscianii ? and Liq: Potaws., together with light nutritious diet, the pulse fell from 120 to 84, the tongue cleared, and the water became clear. The bladder however never regained its power, and the use of the catheter had consequently to be persisted in. It was periodically introduced, as its continuance in the bladder could not be borne, and on withdrawing it on the 5th day it was observed to be blackened at the point. On the 7th day the patient had passed a restless night; his pulse was quick and full, and a "bruit was found to accompany the first heart sound". A diffused, hard and tender swelling had also made its appearance in the right iliac region. This was not diminished by evacuation of the bladder, and the existence of an abscess was diagnosed. The typhoid symptoms became aggravated, and death occurred on the 4th day from there invasion ?. A post-mortem examination revealed fatty degeneration and dilatation of the heart, with ossific vegetations on the semi-lunar valves, in the right iliac region the soft parts were extensively gangrenous, the gangrene involving the septum between the prostate and rectum, which however presented no appearance of perforation. The coats of the bladder were ¼ inch thick; its lining membrane highly vascular, and covered in patches with a phosphatic deposit. The Prostate was the size of an orange – the middle lobe being specially enlarged – and the canal of the urethra through it extremely tortuous.

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In conclusion Dr Young directed attention to the fact that with a prostate of such increased size, and a bladder chronically diseased, his patient had suffered so little inconvenience till the period of the final attack. The Proplapsus Ani he considered the “?” as inducing an irritative and inflamed condition of the adjacent parts; whilst the weakened and diseased heart was also, in his opinion, specially influential in determining the gangrenous form of inflammation under which his patient sank.

An interesting discussion of some length followed the reading of this instructive Paper.

The revised rules of the Medico-Ethical Committee were read and adopted, and Dr Halliday was authorised to arrange with Mr Wallace for the printing of the requisite number of copies.

The Secretary was instructed to order for the Library the Medical Directories of the Three Kingdoms for the year 1856.

J M Pirrie VP, 5th November 1855

### November 5th, 1855

Present, Drs Heaney, Dill, Pirrie (Chairman), Drennan, Young, Malcolm, Browne, Corry, Beck.

Minutes of last meeting read and signed.

The Secretary reported that he had transmitted the subscription of the Society to the Secretary of the “Irish Medical Association”, and had also conveyed its thanks to Mr Davidson for his gifts of Parliamentary Reports.

A conversation took place as to the means to be adopted for securing the reading of Papers before the Society. Dr Dill proposed that a certain number of members should be previously engaged to furnish the adequate amount of such contributions. It was suggested by Dr Malcolm that a regular system should be organised for procuring the reading of periodical Reports on matters of interest to the Medical Profession in its several relations and departments. Of these latter he propounded what he conceived an eligible division, and after ably enforcing the advantages of the proposed plan, he concluded by giving a formal notice of his intention to submit it to the Society on the next night of meeting.

A desultory conversation followed as to the character of the Papers to be brought before the Society, the desirability of obtaining a more central place of meeting, etc.

A document emanating from a newly-formed Society entitled the “Ulster Medical Defence Association” was brought forward with some remarks by Drs Heaney and Corry with the view of eliciting the Society’s sentiments as to the association’s principles and purpose and line of action; but after a short discussion, it was not deemed advisable to adopt any

resolution on the subject.

J M Pirrie VP, ? December 1855

### December 3rd, 1855

Present, Dr Pirrie VP in the Chair – Drs Patterson, McMullan, Bryce, Malcolm, R Stewart, Wheeler, Heaney, Dixon, Beck, Smythe, Officer, Browne, Corry, Moore.

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

Dr McCormac’s Work “on Pulmonary Consumption” was presented to the Society by the author, and a vote of thanks unanimously passed for the donation.

Jones and Sieveking’s “Pathological Anatomy” was ordered for the Library.

The following propositions previously circulated in the Monthly Notice, were then brought before the Society and strongly advocated by Dr Malcolm.

“One” with a view to ensure a regular supply of interesting material for discussion at the Monthly Meetings and to keep the Members in general conversant with the leading events in the Medical annals, it is proposed that 3 Members be appointed, whose duty it shall be to report, from time to time during the year “at least once a quarter”, any important items in the Medical Literature and news of the day, according to the following arrangements:-

1. Reporter to report on anything important in “State Medicine and Medical Education, including Sanitary and Hygienic Medicine, and Medical Regulations of the Public Services, Civil and otherwise, and the curricular of Educational and Examining Boards. A second, on Medical Practice, public and private, including the subject of Fees and Salaries, and Medical Relations of Coroners and other Law Courts, Hospital, Dispensary, and other Medical Charities. And a third, on Medical Science, including Notices of inventions and Discoveries, and important original inquiries”.

2. “That in order to facilitate the carrying out of these objects, the Reporters be privileged to receive the Journals and New Books of the Societies, the first on the list of Members”.

3. “That each Reporter be provided with proper Books for entering the Reports; and that these Reports (which it is intended should be the briefest notices), when approved of, be signed by the President, and become the property of the Society”.

Dr Wheeler seconded the foregoing proposals, several other members spoke in their favour and it was ultimately Resolved on the motion of Dr Patterson, seconded by Mr McMullan, that a Committee consisting of Drs Malcolm, Wheeler, Heaney, Mr Browne, Dr Beck, and the Secretary, be appointed to consider the best mode of carrying out

the proposed plan, and report there suggestions at the next monthly meeting.

Signed Alexander Gordon, President

### January 7th, 1856

Present, Dr Gordon in the Chair - Drs Patterson, Heaney, Drennan, Malcolm, Beck, Dill, Browne, Dixon, McCormac, Bryce, Wheeler, McMullan, Young.

Minutes read and signed.

Dr Malcolm stated that the Committee appointed at last meeting to report on the propositions he had then brought forward had met, but not proceeded to business in consequence of his unavoidable absence. He now proposed that the names of Drs McCormac, McGee, Pirrie, Murney, and the President be added to the list of the Committee.

Dr McCormac declined being nominated as he considered the project could not be effectively carried out by the Society, and was of opinion that each member should note the advance of Medical Science for himself. Dr Malcolm recapitulated the particulars of his plan, Dr Dill restated the one which he preferred, and after a prolonged conversation the proposition of Dr Malcolm to add the foregoing members of the Committee was seconded by Dr Patterson and adopted.

A Paper "on certain affections of the Cornea" was then read by Mr Browne. He professed his essay by an exposition of the five different layers or structures of which this part consists, maintaining that a knowledge of these is indispensable to a correct appreciation of its pathological changes; and classifying, accordingly, such of the latter as he detailed according to the particular tissue affected. The first morbid affection to which he referred was "chronic inflammation of the anterior epithelial layer", generally originating in some form of conjunctival inflammation, and accompanied by "granular lid", though occasionally existing as a simply injected state of the epithelium covering of the cornea, which, in an aggravated degree, is termed "Pannus". In its early stage it obscures vision, and it may extend to the subjacent tissue or "anterior elastic lamina". If dependent on a thickened condition of the palpebral conjunctiva, the removal of this should be our first object, and for this purpose the free and repeated application of Sulphate of Copper to the lids, with the introduction of red precipitate ointment at bedtime, and the use of astringent collyria are advisable as local remedies. Regarding the affection as of an asthenic character, Mr Browne dissuades from depletory measures, unless active inflammation should supervene; and limits its general treatment to the exhibition of alterative and tonic medicines, and strict attention to the hygienic condition of the

patient. The eye-dush in some of these cases, is of great service. So managed, the disease in its simplest form will be found very generally, though perhaps slowly, remediable.

The next lesion of the Cornea treated of was, "ulceration of any or all of its component structures". Points of ulceration in the preceding tissue are frequently met with. These may present a formidable appearance, but readily yield to one or two touches of the nitrate of silver, an astringent collyrium, alterative aperience, and tonics. The seriousness of the affection however, and its possible implication of vision increase with, and in proportion to, the depth of the ulcer. Where this is limited to the "anterior elastic lamina", it presents a level bottom, and sharp edges, and looks deeper than it really is from the thickening of the epithelial layer. Such an ulcer may in general be readily healed without leaving any trace, by the application of a saturated solution of lunar caustic, with the use of alterative and tonic medicines. If the ulcerative processes have extended to the next or "laminated structure" of the Cornea, the bottom of the sore will present a very irregular surface until healing commences. Opacity is not the necessary cause of the penetration of the "anterior elastic lamina", but where the ulceration extends into the cellular tissue of the "laminated" site is generally endangered by the effusion therein of lymph or pus, or by sloughing. Local depletion and the application of caustic in conjunction with tonic medicines are the remedies suitable to such a case. The use of mercury is to be deprecated when there is the least tendency to sloughing, except perhaps in alterative doses of the bichloride in combination with ?, but that ? is of a special service in removing the consequent opacities of the cornea. Pus, if effaced, cannot be evacuated by operation, which would only aggravate the inflammatory action. Mr Browne maintains that opacity of the cornea - the ordinary cause of blindness, where there originates in purulent gonorrhoeal or variolous inflammation, may be almost certainly averted by the timely and judicious application of nitrate of silver. For the removal of "Pannus", in addition to more ordinary modes of treatment, he has tried the place of cutting of the vascular supplies of the thickened epithelium, by ligaturing the circumjacent conjunctiva with its included vessels.

In perforating ulcers of the Cornea where the Iris falls forwards into the aperture, one may endeavour to disengage it by means of a fine probe, and then maintain its reduction by effecting dilatation or contraction of the pupil - in the one case by Belladonna and Atropine, in the other by means of a strong light - according as the ulcerated opening

## Minutes of the Ordinary Meetings

occupies the centre or circumference of the cornea. The application of lunar caustic to the ulcer itself is also of essential service, and should be made as soon as possible.

A peculiar disease of the Cornea occurring generally in young persons of strumous habits was next referred to. With slight previous vascularity the membrane suddenly assumes a milky hue, the opacity depending, Mr Browne conjectures, on effusion into the laminated structure, while the epithelial layer is unaffected. Marked intolerance of light attends the affection, and is pathognomonic of its character. If not arrested at first, well marked inflammatory action supervenes, and coaguable lymph is thrown out. The second eye is certain to take on the same diseased action sooner or later. Local depletion may here be practiced freely and repeatedly, and mercury given to gently affect the system. Afterwards the Iodide of Potash and small doses of the bichloride of mercury expedite the case, and when all inflammatory action have ceased, local stimulants are of service.

Mr Browne concluded his very able and interesting essay with some remarks on the dangerous character of inflammation of the "posterior elastic lamina", and "membrane of Descemet", and the active treatment which it requires.

A discussion of some length followed, in which a concurrence in Mr Browne's views of the pathology and therapeutics of the foregoing forms of ophthalmia was generally expressed.

Dr McCormac narrated a case of Insanity associated with hallucinations. After some observations as to the intimate connection which subsists between mind and body, he stated that in the present instance his patient heard or conceived he heard himself constantly addressed in the French language. This hallucination caused him great annoyance and was ultimately followed by decided insanity.

Signed Alexander Gordon, President

### February 4th, 1856

Present, Dr Gordon, President - Drs Heaney, Malcolm, Browne, Halliday, Dill, Patterson, Corry, Moore, Drennan.

After the minutes of last meeting had been read, Surgeon Alexander was balloted for, and unanimously elected a Member of the Society.

Dr Malcolm communicated a statement he had received in reference to the Jenner Testimonial, from which it appeared that the statue was completed, but that additional funds were required to defray the cost of the pedestal, and expenses of erection. Subscriptions were received by him from most of the

members present.

On the part of the "Medical Reports" Committee, Dr Malcolm informed the Society that Dr Heaney had undertaken the department connected with professional interests and public medicine, and would furnish a Report for next meeting. Other members had also agreed to act as reporters, and he expected each branch of enquiry would soon have its representative, and the plan be in complete working order. The Committee were requested to continue their operations.

? Dill, Vice-President

### March 3rd, 1856

Present, Dr Dill, Chairman - Mr Browne, Drs Gordon, R Stewart, Drennan, Halliday, Wheeler, Heaney, Dixon, Murney.

Minutes of last meeting read and signed.

A copy of Mr ? Heaslam's "Medical Profession" Bill was brought under the notice of the Society by Mr Browne, and after it had been partially read and discussed, a Committee consisting of the Chairman, Mr Browne, Dr Dixon, Dr Heaney, Dr R Stewart, Dr Wheeler and the Secretary were appointed to consider the proposed Bill and report to a special meeting of the Society.

Dr Gordon read a portion of a Paper on extra-capsular fracture of the cervix femoris, and after discussing the anatomical characters and relations of parts in this form of accident according to Malgaigne and R Swift ?, he proceeded to describe the modes of its occurrence, its causes, symptoms, diagnosis, etc. The further reading of the Essay was deferred till the next night of meeting.

### Special Meeting

#### March 8th, 1856

Convened to receive and consider the Report of the Committee appointed at last Monthly Meeting to report on Mr Heaslam's "Medical Profession" Bill.

Present, Mr Browne, Chairman - Drs Heaney, Dixon, McMullan, Drennan, Halliday, Malcolm, H Stewart, Murney.

The Report of the Committee was read, and on the motion of Dr Dixon, seconded by Dr Malcolm, received and adopted; and after some observations by Mr Dixon and other members it was Resolved that a Petition to the Legislature be forwarded in favour of the Bill.

On the motion of Dr Halliday seconded by Dr McMullan it was resolved that a form of Petition be drawn up, and after receiving the signatures of the Members of the Society and other Practitioners, forwarded for presentation.

Dr Malcolm moved and Dr Horatio Stewart

seconded the motion, and it was Resolved that the proceedings of the Society in reference to this measure be communicated to the Preventional Medical Association of England as a mark of courtesy to them as the originators of the Bill.

It was Resolved that the Members of the Borough be requested to take charge of the Petition to the House of Commons, and that the President, Dr McGee, Mr Browne, Dr H Stewart and Secretary be a deputation for the Society to communicate with them on the subject.

Signed A Gordon, President

#### April 7th, 1856

Present Dr Gordon in Chair – Drs Heaney, Moore, Bryce, Patterson, Halliday, Browne, Young, Wheeler.

Minutes of last meeting read and signed.

Mr Browne and Dr R Stewart were nominated auditors of accounts for the past year, and Dr Dill and Mr McCleery were appointed to examine the fines of the same period.

Drs Heaney, Bryce, Malcolm and Halliday were appointed to examine the Library.

Accounts viz Greers for £18. 13. 0; Agnews assignees for £2. 10. 3; and Wallace's for £2. 12. 0 were examined and ordered to be paid.

Mr Ring was directed to send out the Annual Circular calling in the Books as usual before the 20th Inst.

The Secretary was directed to issue the usual Circular for Annual Meeting in May.

Dr R Stewart gave notice that at next Meeting, being the Annual Meeting, he would move that the Annual Dinner be held early in September, instead of in June as hitherto.

Letters were read from the Secretary and from Dr Quinan on the part of the "Irish Medical Association" with a form of Petition. This latter was referred to the Dispensary Officers, Drs Halliday and Young, to bring it before their colleagues, and to communicate the result to the Secretary of this Society.

Dr Gordon continued the reading of his paper "on extra-capsular fractures of cervix femoris" going particularly into the errors of diagnosis and also the treatment recommended by Malgaigne which he approved of, as also that of Dupytren and others of which he did not approve. He detailed some experiments made by Malgaigne on the dead body to shew the injury that might and would occur by making forceable extension. The Paper was highly approved of, and a vote of thanks to Dr Gordon for his able and instructive Essay was moved by Dr Patterson and passed by acclamation.

Signed Alexander Gordon MD, President

#### Annual Meeting

##### May 5th, 1856

Present, Dr Gordon, President – Drs Stephenson, Patterson, Dill, Heaney, Beck, Rea, Halliday, Pirrie, Drennan, Browne, Wheeler, W T Smith, Dixon, Harkin, McMullan, Corry, Officer, Murney, Moore, Young, R Stewart, H Stewart, McCleery, Bryce.

Minutes of last Annual and Monthly Meetings read and the latter received and adopted.

The Secretary read a Report of the proceedings of the Society during the past year, presented by the Council; and after some observations from Mr Browne as to certain of the statements contained in it, it was approved of and adopted.

A Report from the Treasurer duly audited was given in, from which it appeared that the Receipts during the past year had been £56. 14. 11½; the Expenditure £44. 12. .2; leaving a balance in hand of £12. 2. 9½.

There was no Report from the Library Committee, but a statement was received from the Librarian that no books had been lost. The review of the Library was referred back to the Committee to report on at next meeting.

Dr Dill stated that no fines had been incurred since last Annual Meeting.

Dr Patterson read a letter from Dr Lynch claiming an exemption from further payment of subscriptions, and his application was referred to the incoming Council to report on to the next meeting of the Society.

Dr R Stewart moved that the Anniversary Dinner should in future be held on the first Wednesday in September, instead of in June as heretofore. After some discussion, it was moved by Dr Murney as an amendment that the period should remain unchanged; and on a division taking place, Dr Murney's resolution was carried by a considerable majority.

Drs Patterson, Dill and R Stewart were nominated Stewards for the Dinner, to be held on the 10th June.

The Society then proceeded to ballot for the officers of the ensuing year, and, Drs Dill and Dixon acting as scrutineers, the result of the votes were declared to be as follows:- President, Dr R Stewart; Vice-Presidents, Mr Browne and Dr Bryce; Council, Drs Murney, Pirrie, Moore, Halliday, Smith and Corry. Drs Patterson and Drennan were re-appointed by acclamation to the offices of Librarian and Secretary respectively.

The Chair was then vacated by Dr Gordon and taken by the newly elected President, Dr R Stewart, who in appropriate terms acknowledged the compliment that had been paid him.

Mr Browne moved, and Dr Dill seconded, a vote of

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thanks to Dr Gordon for his services as President during his term of office, and Dr Gordon returned thanks.

A suggestion thrown out by Dr Dill as to some mode of cooperation and interchange of privileges, more especially in regard to their respective libraries, between the Members of the Society and the Medical Professors of Queens College, elicited some conversation, and the subject was ultimately referred for further inquiry and elucidation to the Council.

Robert Stewart, President, Chairman  
June 2nd, 1856

### June 2nd, 1856

Present, Dr Stewart, President in the Chair – Drs Wheeler, Dill, Dixon, Gordon, Halliday, Heaney, McMullan, Patterson, Bryce, Corry, Browne.

Minutes read and signed.

Mr Browne brought before the Society a case of death from rupture of the heart. The man had been received into Hospital on the 20th ult. for disease of the hand after injury. Some discussion followed, but the case will be further illustrated by members of the Society at next meeting.

Dr Cuming of Belfast was balloted for and unanimously elected a Member of the Society.

Dr W Aickin presented a copy of "Observations on Cholera" by Thomas Aickin MD of Dublin. The thanks of the Society were voted to Dr Aickin for the donation, and the Secretary was requested to convey the same.

Relative to the Council's report on Dr Lynch's application for exemption from further payments to the Society, it was resolved that his request be complied with on the conditions suggested by the Council.

A letter from Dr Quinan was read relative to the meeting of the Irish Medical Council to be held in the Royal College of Surgeons on the 2nd June. Dr Halliday reported that no person had gone as a deputation to the meeting.

It was resolved that Mr Mould, assistant surgeon of the Londonderry Militia should be invited as a guest to the Annual Dinner on the 10th Inst.

R Stewart, Chairman, 7th July 56

### July 7th, 1856

Present, Dr R Stewart, President and Chairman – Drs McGee, Patterson, Corry, Bryce, Cuming, Dixon, Murney, Drennan, Heaney.

Minutes read and signed.

The Secretary reported that Dr Quinan had transmitted 6 copies of the Annual Report of the "Irish Medical Association" to the Society. Thanks

were voted to Dr Quinan, and it was Resolved that the Society's subscription to the Association for the current year should be forwarded by the Secretary.

The last edition of Pereira's *Materia Medica* was ordered for the Library.

Some conversation took place as to the reading of the Periodical Medical Reports, and Dr Heaney indicated that he would be prepared with one on Medical Practise in its social and legal relations for the next night of Meeting.

The reading of Mr Browne's case of Rupture of the Heart was postponed in consequence of that gentleman's absence.

The Council were authorised to have the Library and Bookcases cleaned and painted at an expense not exceeding 5 guineas.

Robert Bryce

### August 4th, 1856

Present, Dr Bryce VP in the Chair – Mr Browne, Drs Patterson, Heaney, Cuming.

Mr Hanna was balloted for and unanimously elected a Member of the Society.

Mr Irvine's estimate for painting the Library at £4.10 was taken; and the work desired to be proceeded with.

In consequence of the small attendance, and notice of Dr Heaney's Paper not having been inserted in the Circular, it was deemed advisable to postpone the reading of said Paper to next meeting of the Society.

Robert Stewart, President, Chairman  
September 1, 1856

### September 1, 1856

Present, Dr Stewart, President – Drs Dill, Bryce, Patterson, Heaney, Halliday, Pirrie Secretary pro. tem, T Read, and Dr Young.

Dr Heaney read his Paper on the Practice of Medicine in its public relations, complaining of the manner in which the Profession is usually treated by the Poor-Law Guardians, Coroners and other official authorities.

It was moved by Dr T Read, and seconded by Dr Young that Drs Heaney, Dill and McGee be appointed a Committee to ascertain what are the legal rights of Medical Practitioners as to fees in the various Law Courts.

Dr Murney exhibited a ruptured kidney and a large clot that had been effaced on the brain external to the *Dura Mater*, caused by the fall of a boy some 12 feet. The lad remained sensible for 50 hours and died in about 4 hours after becoming insensible.

Robert Stewart, President, Chairman  
October 6th, 1856

## The Belfast Medical Society

### October 6th, 1856

Present, Dr Stewart, President – Drs Patterson, Pirrie, Wheeler, Young, Hamilton, Officer, Browne Secretary pro.tem.

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed; also special minutes.

“Ricord on the Venereal Disease” price 16/- was ordered for the Library.

Mr Irvine’s account amounting to £4. 10. 0 for painting Library was passed and payment ordered.

Mr Browne then in accordance with notice on the face of the Circular gave a brief detail of the features and progress of the last illness of Dr Malcolm. After a just testimony and tribute to that lamented gentleman’s worth, he gave a brief résumé of his various labours for the benefit of the Profession and the Public, and then drew attention to the nature of the disease which terminated his useful career. From this it appeared that Dr Malcolm had been labouring under heart disease for some time, together with structural change of liver; that about the middle of August urgent symptoms set in for which he was under treatment in Dublin; that about the 10th September the urgency of the complaint seemed to yield, as considerable improvement took place for several days; but that about the 15th, having caught cold, the symptoms returned with increased severity, and that effusion into the pericardium having taken place, he died somewhat suddenly on the morning of the 19th September.

A conversation then took place in which there was but one sentiment, namely, an expression of sincere sorrow for his premature decease along with profound respect for his memory.

The following Resolution was then moved by Mr Brown, seconded by Dr Pirrie, and unanimously adopted.

“That the Belfast Medical Society cannot separate upon this the first Meeting after the lamented decease of our much esteemed co-member Dr Malcolm without expressing the deepest sorrow for the irreplaceable loss which this Society, the Profession at large, and the Public have sustained in the removal by death from amongst us, of one who was such a valuable citizen, so honoured and so estimable in every respect. And while we would thus express our unfeigned regret and record our sentiments regarding departed excellence, we would beg most respectfully to tender our deep sympathy and condolences to his sorrowing widow and afflicted family”.

Resolved that a copy of the proceeding Resolution, signed by the President and Secretary be sent

together with a letter of condolence to Mrs A G Malcolm.

Robert Stewart, President and Chairman  
1 December, 1856

### November 3rd, 1856

Drs Stewart, Heaney, Bryce and Browne only being present there was no meeting for want of a quorum.

### December 1st, 1856

Present, Dr Stewart, President – Drs Heaney, Wheeler, Patterson, Drennan, Browne.

Minutes read and signed.

Mr Browne reported that the President and he had conveyed to Mrs Malcolm the Resolution past at last meeting of Society.

The 26th Report of the Belfast District Asylum for the Insane was presented by Dr Stewart to the Library.

Samuel Browne VP, Chairman

### January 5th, 1857

Present, Mr Browne VP, Chairman – Drs Heaney, Patterson, Wheeler, Drennan, Dixon, R Stewart (President), Mr Grattan, Dr Moore.

Dr John Moore was balloted for, and duly elected a Member of the Society.

The “Crania Britannica” by Dr Davis and Thurnam was ordered for the Library.

Dr Dixon suggested that the subject of Medical Reform was a proper one for the consideration of the Society, and assented to a wish of the Members present that he should read a Paper thereon on the next night of Meeting.

Robert Stewart, President, Chairman  
February 2nd, 1857

### February 2nd, 1857

Present, Dr Stewart, President in Chair – Drs Hamilton, Patterson, Moore, Halliday, Dixon, Bryce.

Mr Hugh Moore was unanimously elected a Member of the Society.

Dr Dixon stated that he had been prevented by illness from preparing a Paper on the subject of Medical Reform, but that he would have one to read to the Society on the next night of Meeting.

Dr Bryce announced that he would read a Paper on Ergot of Rye at the first meeting in April.

Robert Stewart MD, President  
March 2/57

### March 2nd, 1857

Present, Dr Stewart, President – Drs Dixon, Moore (John), Patterson, Moore (James), Halliday, Drennan.

Minutes of last Meeting read and signed.



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The Secretary read a letter from Dr Elliott of Waterford, Secretary of the South Eastern Medical Association requesting the cooperation of the Society in procuring certain amendments in the Medical Charities Act, and it was Resolved, that a Meeting of the Medical Profession of Belfast should be summoned for the 16th Inst. at 2 o'clock pm for the consideration of the subject, and that the Secretary should previously apply to Dr Elliott for any additional information he could furnish with respect to it.

A Committee consisting of the President, Secretary, Drs Dixon, Halliday, Browne, John Moore, and James Moore, with Dr John Moore as its Secretary, was nominated to make the necessary preliminary arrangements for such Meeting.

Dr Dixon read a Paper on the subject of Medical Reform. After adverting to the want at present experienced by the Profession of representative body for the expression of its wishes, and the promotion of its common interests, Dr Dixon proceeded to advocate the establishment by legislative enactment of a Medical Council for the discharge of these functions. Such a Council he maintained would represent the Profession before the Government and the Country; would unite its apparently discordant elements, and give expression to its wants; and either conjointly, or actually amalgamated, with the Board of Health, would concentrate and develop sanitary measures. Its duties would be to ascertain and publish an authoritative list of qualified Medical Practitioners from year to year; to supervise medical education, and maintain it on a liberal plan; and to exclude from the Profession persons of disreputable character, or insufficient qualifications. As to the constitution of the Council, Dr Dixon considered that the Crown, the Medical Corporations, and the Profession at large should have each of them, the nomination of a third of its members.

"Nature and Art in the Cure of Disease" by Sir J Forbes; and the Medical Directory of Ireland for the current year were ordered for the Library.

Robert Stewart, President, Chairman  
April 6th, 1857

### April 6th, 1857

Present, Dr Stewart, President – Drs Moore (John), Patterson, Dill, Heaney, Browne, Bryce, Drennan, Dixon, Halliday, Cumings.

Dr John Moore reported that no legislative measures for Medical Reform being at present before the Profession in consequence of the recent sudden disillusion of Parliament, the Committee appointed at last meeting had deemed it inadvisable to act on the instructions then given to them. After some observations from Dr Dixon in reference to certain

late proceedings of the Society of Apothecaries in Ireland which he considered of an obnoxious character, the Committee, on the motion of Dr Dixon, seconded by Dr Dill were re-appointed, with instructions to observe and report on the steps hereafter taken by that Society, and other matters affecting the interests of the Profession at large.

Mr Greer's account was directed to be referred back to him for explanation of the period it was intended to cover.

Drs Heaney, Bryce, Halliday and Cuming were appointed to examine the Library previous to the Annual Meeting.

The former Auditors, Mr Browne, and the President, were re-appointed; as were also the Examiners of fines, Drs Dill and McCleery.

Dr Bryce read a Paper on the *Secale Cornutum*, in reference chiefly to its action on the parturient uterus.

In explaining his views on this subject which differ from those generally entertained, he began by adverting to the confirmation and structure of the uterus, as composed of body, cervix, and os, and consisting of 2 sets of muscular fibres – the longitudinal and circular. The former effect the dilatation of the os; the latter the expulsion of the uterine contents, and they operate therefore respectively during the first and the second stage of labour. It is on the longitudinal or dilating fibres Dr Bryce conceives the Ergot primarily to act. The pains which it excites are, he maintains, always slight, but nonetheless very effective in removing the obstacle presented by the contracted cervix and os. It is therefore while these parts are contracted, that Dr Bryce differs from other practitioners in advocating the administration of the Ergot. The effects induced by it on the expulsive fibres is, he conceives, of an indirect kind; and is due to the circumstance that by the relaxation of the dilators, they are placed, on mechanical principles, in a position to act with greater advantage.

Dr Bryce has administered the Ergot in nearly 100 cases, and several instances of its utility were adduced from his private practice. He has never observed any ill-effects on the child from its use in an early period of labour. For checking haemorrhage he considers it an inefficient agent.

Considerable discussion followed the reading of this interesting Paper, in the course of which, while the author was complimented on the ability with which he had maintained his original views, these views themselves, and the practice founded on them, were generally dissented from.

Robert Stewart, President, Chairman  
May 4th, 1857

### Annual Meeting

May 4th, 1857

Present, Dr R Stewart, President in the Chair – Drs Halliday, Heaney, Rea, Wheeler, Dixon, McGee, Patterson, Moore (James), Lamont, McCleery, Murney, Dill, Hanna, Corry, Bryce, Moore (John), Drennan.

Minutes of last Annual and Monthly Meetings read and confirmed.

The Councils report of the Society's proceedings during the past year was read and adopted. Among other particulars it stated that five new members had within that period joined the Society, and that its funds were at present in a favourable position – a balance of above £12 remaining in the hands of the Treasurer.

The Library Committee reported that having examined the Books and Periodicals they found none missing, and all in good order.

The Auditors reported that Mr Greer had amended his account, having previously omitted to include in it the cost of the Stamped Publications received by Post. It now amounted to £18. 10. 10 and was ordered to be paid.

Dr Smiley of Ballycarry was then balloted for and unanimously elected a Member of the Society.

The election of the Officers of the Society for the ensuing year was then proceeded with, and the following appointments were made.

President, Mr Browne RN

Vice-Presidents, Drs Heaney and Wheeler

Council, Drs Halliday, Lamont, McCleery, Pirrie, Rea, Dixon.

Treasurer, Dr Patterson

Secretary, Dr Drennan

The latter gentleman having intimated his desire to withdraw from the Secretaryship was requested to continue in its occupancy for the present, and on the motion of Dr McGee, seconded by Dr Dill, the thanks of the Society were voted to the Treasurer and to him for their past services.

The retiring President was then moved from the Chair which was taken by Mr Browne, who acknowledged the honour conferred upon him.

On the motion of Dr Bryce, seconded by Dr Dixon, the thanks of the Society were then voted by acclamation to the late President, Dr Stewart, and that gentleman suitably responded. Drs Pattenon, R Stewart and Dill were nominated Stewards for the Annual Dinner of the Society, and it was Resolved that at least 8 days notice be required for the withdrawal from the Dinner List of the name of any member who has signified his intention of being present on that occasion.

Samuel Browne, President

June 1st, 1857

Present, Mr Browne, President in the Chair – Mr Dixon, Drs Heaney, Murney, Moore (John), Wheeler, Dill, Lamont, Bryce, Patterson, McCleery, Stewart, Halliday, Drennan.

Minutes of Annual Meeting read and signed.

A letter from Dr Quinan was read, in which, as Secretary of the Irish Medical Association, he invited the cooperation of the Medical Officers of Poor Law Unions, and their attendance at the Annual Meeting of the Association; but no resolution was come to by the Society on the subject.

The President read his Inaugural Address. After referring to the primary objects of the Society, and the merits of several of its former more distinguished Members, especially the three whom it had lately lost – Dr Malcolm, Mr McMullan, and Dr Horatio Stewart, he adverted to certain points which, in his opinion, accounted for the comparative decline of interest in its proceedings, and urged upon the members the necessity of a more general and active cooperation in the preparation of Papers for reading at the Monthly Meetings. Notice of these, he suggested, should be given a week previously, to secure there more satisfactory discussion, and their subsequent publication would come, he conceived, raise the status of the Society, and greatly increase its utility. Mr Browne proceeded to enforce some general ethical principles which should actuate Medical Men in their intercourse with each other, and direct the conduct of the Public in its relations with the Profession. He concluded his excellent address by urging the expediency of a union of the Medical and Clinico-Pathological Societies – the preliminary consideration of this, as of the other measures previously recommended, being left to the Council.

On the motion of Dr Patterson the President's address was, with the consent of the author, directed to be published in the Newspapers.

It was moved by Dr Murney, seconded by Dr Dixon, and Resolved "That the propriety of the President's suggestion as to the union of the Medical and Pathological Societies be referred for consideration to the Council, who will report to a future Meeting".

Dr Murney read the report of a case of Popliteal Aneurysm. The patient was a young man who had served as a soldier in the Crimea, and afterwards worked in a foundry. The tumour had enlarged in the space of 8 weeks to the size of the third of a cricket ball, and presented on his admission to Hospital a pulsating prominence with well marked bruit de soufflet. He had been for some time subject to fainting fits. Pulse 96, hard and vibratory. Insomnia from pain of limb. Sedatives were administered, and

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in two days Carte's compressors were applied with bandaging. Dullness over sternum with bruit at base of heart were noted, and these symptoms were followed, after an interval of some days, by the development of a pulsating tumour under the sternal 'fourchette' the swelling in the ? became gradually firmer, and its impulse less. Its size however continued the same, the pain and tension, although temporarily relieved by a warm spirit lotion, were very distressing, and the oedema great. On the 14th day from the commencement of compression, the pulsation ceased, returned for a time, but finally disappeared on the 16th. The man's appearance however had by this time greatly changed for the worse; his face was sallow and sunken, and there were ? bullae on his leg and instep. From these bloody serum was afterwards discharged. The pain of the limb continued great; its warmth was preserved, but there was extraordinary sensitiveness to external cold. The condition of the patient both general and local continued gradually to deteriorate for another week, when he suddenly screamed, and died from bursting of the popliteal tumour, and rupture of the artery above the sac. A Post Mortem examination was not allowed, but the coats of the artery were ascertained to be atheromatous. The very large coagulum that occupied the sac was exhibited to the Society.

An interesting discussion followed the reading of Dr Murney's instructive paper, the mode of rupture of the aneurysmal tumour, and its connection with the more general disease of the circulatory system being the chief subjects of remarks.

The President, on the part of the Council, presented a verbal Report of their views on Mr Headlam's and Lord Elcho's Bills for Medical Reform at present before Parliament, and it was Resolved, that petitions in favour of the former Bill should be prepared for the signature of Members of the Society, and others, previous to the Annual Dinner.

The Secretary was instructed to draw up a letter of condolence to be signed by the President, and forwarded in the name of the Society, to the widow of the late Dr Horatio Stewart.

Samuel Browne, President

### July 6th, 1857

Present, Mr Browne, President in the Chair - Dr Heaney, Mr Lamont, Mr McCleery, Wheeler, Dr Murney, Dr Patterson, Dr Stewart, Dr Dill, Mr Dixon, Dr Young, Dr Drennan.

Minutes read and signed.

The President reported that he had forwarded the Petition of the Society in favour of Mr Headlam's Bill to Mr Davidson and Lord Clarendon, and that Mr

Davidson had apprised him of the presentation of that to the House of Commons on the 15th June.

It was moved by Dr Stewart, seconded by Mr Lamont, and Resolved that the proceedings of the Society be reported through the Secretary for publication in the Dublin Quarterly Journal of Medicine.

The Secretary reported that, in compliance with the request of Dr Quinan, he had forwarded a list of the members of the Society for publication in the Annual Report of the Irish Medical Association.

Mr Archibald Dunlop, Union Hospital, Belfast, and Mr Henry Johnson, Belfast, were balloted for and unanimously elected Members of the Society.

The President read the report of a case of Melanosis Oculi, in which he had removed the eye, and Dr Wheeler related a case of diseased knee-joint in which amputation was resorted to. The diseased parts were exhibited and interesting discussions elicited. The Papers will be published in the Dublin Quarterly Journal of Medical Science.

The President also exhibited the tibia and fibula of a woman in whom fracture had extended to the knee-joint; and abscess formed up the back of the thigh necessitating amputation. He also narrated a case in which Syme's operation had been practised after injury of foot from crush by steam carriage, and symptoms of pyaemia had supervened, but had disappeared under the use of mercury.

Francis Heaney, Vice-President

### August 3rd, 1857

Present, Dr Heaney VP in the Chair - Dr Stewart, Dr Patterson, Dr Johnson, Dr Dill, Mr Lamont, Mr McCleery, Drs Corry and Dixon, Dr Drennan, Dr Halliday, Dr Young, Dr Murney.

The minutes of last Meeting read and signed.

An apology was read from the President for his compulsory absence.

Essays on State Medicine by W.H. Rumsey, Price 10/6, Budd on Diseases of the Stomach, Price 9/5, and Montgomery on the Signs of Pregnancy, last edition, Price 9/6 were ordered for the Library.

Dr Corry related to the Society a case of Tetanus occurring in a man of intemperate habits, aet 35, in consequence of a wound in his foot received 10 days previously from a broken bottle. Trismus continued throughout, but there was a cessation of the tetanic spasms during the first night and greater part of the second day of Dr Corry's attendance. They returned however with increased violence and he expired in one of five minutes duration about 48 hours after the development of the disorder. The treatment consisted chiefly, after free purgation, of the employment of mercurial inunction to salivation, and the internal

administration of chloroform, with the use of counter irritants to the spine. Opiates and the inhalation of chloroform were also used, the latter with temporary relief.

A short discussion followed the reading of Dr Corry's interesting Paper.

Samuel Browne

### September 7th, 1857

Present, Mr Browne, President, in the Chair – Dr Patterson, Dr Murney, Mr Lamont, Drs Wheeler, Drennan, Halliday, Dill, Stewart, Heaney.

Minutes read and signed.

The 27th Annual Report of the Belfast District Asylum for the Insane was presented by Dr Stewart.

Dr William Aickin was balloted for and unanimously elected a Member of the Society.

The President read Reports of three cases of Gunshot Wound, and one of Tumour of Neck. Two of the former occurred in boys shot each by the same discharge through the left leg. In one both bones were much shattered at the junction of their middle and inferior third, and it being likewise surmised that the fracture extended to the ankle joint, primary amputation was performed. In the other the wound was higher up; a portion of the bone was driven backwards by the bullet, but the boy is recovering with trifling exfoliation. The third case was of a girl shot through right eye by, as is conjectured, a slug which remains imbedded in the spongy bones. Vomiting of a pint and a half of extravasated blood was consequent on the accident. The tumour of neck had existed two years, increasing rapidly during the last. It was of a fibrous nature, weighing when excised more than a pound, and the operation presented great difficulties from its bulk and extent, the closeness of its attachment to the acromial end of clavicle and vertebral processes, and the haemorrhage consequent on its necessarily peace meal removal. Chloroform was administered, but its advantages were somewhat questionable.

Dr Murney read the report of a case of fatal injury to the spine consequent on a fall on the back from a height of 22 feet. After the accident, the patient, a young man aged 22 walked to an adjoining house, lay down and slept for a short time. Numbness affected the feet within an hour, rapidly extended upwards, and had reached the arms before his admission to Hospital. The pulse when Dr Murney saw him at 1am of the following day was 96. Respiration 21 and abdominal. There was priapism and retention of urine. No inequality of level in the vertebrae was to be detected, and haemorrhage into the spinal theca was diagnosed. V.S. ad ??? was practised. Mercury administered both by the mouth, the skin, and per

anum; and the catheter passed night and morning – the urine not being alkaline, but reported on one occasion to be much colder than natural. The pulse never rose above 100, and sank to 60 becoming also weak before death, which occurred on the 5th day after the accident. A Post Mortem examination which was instituted a few hours after death disclosed fracture of the lamina of the 5th, 6th and 7th cervical vertebrae, the bones being fissured without depression. Clots of blood were observable on the surface of the medulla at the cauda equina, and about its central portion. The medulla itself was soft and pulpy, presenting the appearance of red ramollissement from the 4th cervical to the 2nd dorsal vertebrae. During the dissection blood was ? milked “per saltum” from a divided artery – a phenomenon attributable to the retention by the arterial coats of their tonic contractility.

The President in the ensuing discussion detailed a case of spinal injury occurring in a Hospital patient, which presented strong analogy with the foregoing.

Fuller reports of the proceeding interesting cases will appear in the Dublin Quarterly Journal of Medical Science.

Samuel Browne, President

### October 5th, 1857

Present, Dr Heaney VP – Mr Rea, Dr Patterson, Dr Stewart, Mr Browne President in the Chair, Dr Bryce, Dr Drennan.

Minutes read and signed.

The Society resolved, on the suggestion of the President, that copies of its Transactions as reported in the Dublin Quarterly Journal of Medical Science should be procured for the Members.

Acton on Diseases of the Rectum, and the Transactions for 1856-7 of the Cork Medical Society were presented to the Library, and the thanks of the Society voted for the donations.

A correspondence was read between Mr Greer and Mr Davis in reference to the non-receipt by the Society of the second Decade of the “Crania Britannica” edited by the latter gentleman; and the Secretary was directed to make further inquiries on the subject and report to the next Meeting.

? Fuller on Rheumatism and Gout 2nd Edition, Price 12/6 and Chambers “on Digestion and its disorders”, Price 10/6 were ordered for the Library.

Samuel Browne, President

### November 2nd, 1857

Present, Mr Browne RN, President – Dr Heaney, Dr Stewart, Dr Pirrie, Dr Young, Mr Lamont, Dr Murney, Mr Rea, Dr Bryce, Dr Patterson, Mr Johnson, Dr Drennan.

## Minutes of the Ordinary Meetings

The Secretary was directed to desire Mr Greer to obtain the missing copy of "Crania Britannica".

The President read the report of a case of sub-conjunctival tumours of a peculiar kind occurring in a young lad age 17. They were four in number and of cartilaginous, semi-cartilaginous, and osseous consistence. One occupied the angle of reflection of the conjunctiva, everting and protruding the lower eyelid; a second was adherent to the sclerotic coat; a third to the margin of the cornea; whilst the fourth, a bony pediculated excrescence, grew from behind, and pressed upon, the lacrimal sac, causing epiphora. The three former, after incision of the conjunctiva, were dissected out, the removal of that attached to the sclerotic being followed by considerable haemorrhage. The exostosis was nipped off by a fine-pointed bone-forceps, and the patency of the lacrimal passage thus restored. These tumours were supposed by Mr Browne to be congenital, enlarging at puberty; and he had neither seen nor heard of others of a precisely similar description; though an instance of cartilaginous growth about the size of a split pea at the margin of the cornea had previously come under his observation.

Mr Browne also related a case of Cancer Scroti, in which the Penis also presented points of indurated structure; and nodules of dense carbonaceous matter were contained in the cutaneous follicles.

He concluded by exhibiting an Ophthalmoscope, and illustrating its use and advantages.

7th December, 1857  
Samuel Browne, President

### December 7th, 1857

Present, Mr Browne, President in the Chair - Drs Stewarts, Patterson, Dill, Drennan, Mr Rea, Mr Dunlop, Drs Halliday, Murney, Heaney.

After the reading of the Minutes, a letter from the Editor of the *Crania Britannica* to Mr Greer in reference to the missing Decade of that work was read, and on the motion of Dr Patterson, seconded by Mr Rea, it was Resolved that the Society should continue to take the Publication, and the President and Secretary were requested to communicate with Mr Davis as to the missing No.

On the application of Mr Dunlop for the loan of Quain and Wilson's anatomical plates from the Library, his request was complied with pending the decision of the Council on the subject of lending out such books; but it was Resolved on the motion of Dr Stewart, seconded by Dr Patterson, That the Council should be requested to take up the question of the Circulation of the books at the point where it was left at the Meeting of April 1854, and report upon it at the next Meeting of the Society.

Surgeon Breeze of Saintfield was balloted for and unanimously elected a Member.

Wilde's Aural Surgery, Price 12/s was ordered for the Library.

The Secretary was instructed to thank Mr Streatfield for the Copy he had presented of the first No of the Royal Ophthalmic Hospital Reports.

The President was authorised to request Mr Gill to ? form and forthwith the published proceedings of the Society.

Dr Murney narrated a case of fatal injury to the Spine which had been recently under his care. His patient was a young man who had fallen from a height of 60 feet, striking 2 platforms in his descent and alighting upon his shoulders. When Dr Murney saw him, within half an hour after the accident, his surface was cold; Pulse weak; pain with great tenderness were complained of about the third dorsal vertebra; sensation was unaffected over trunk and upper extremities, but there was partial paralysis of both arms, and priapism. The urine was drawn off, and mercury administered by mouth and inunction. On the second day, no evacuation of the bowels having taken place, free dejections were obtained by the use of enemata. Sensation ceased on this day; there was some motive power over upper limbs throughout; the respiration continued diaphragmatic and slow; the skin cool; the pulse was never hard, nor the urine alkaline. Death took place on the fifth day. Neither in this, nor in the former instance of spinal injury which Dr Murney had brought before the Society, could mercurialisation be induced, as it is not uncommon he observed, in serious affections of the nervous system.

An animated discussion followed, more especially as to the mode of treatment of spinal injuries; the cause of the difficulty in mercurialising, and the best means of assessing it; the question of trephining etc; and much interesting matter was elicited from the various speakers.

Samuel Browne, President

### January 4th, 1858

Present, the President in the Chair - Drs Stewart, Pirrie, Patterson, Rea, McCleery, Dunlop, Harkin, Johnson, Lamont, Heaney, and Bryce.

After the Minutes were read and confirmed, it was stated that the subject of lending out Books with prints had not been discussed by the Council owing to a full meeting not having taken place.

Resolved that "Adam's on Rheumatic Gout" 21/s be ordered for the Library; and that "The Distribution of Health and Disease" be deferred till Mr Rea and Dr Patterson with Dr Drennan inquire from Greer as to the price of the whole Work.

Moved by Dr Patterson and seconded by Dr Pirrie that the Psychological Journal be continued.

Moved as an amendment by Dr Heaney, That the Quarterly Journal of Mental Science be taken instead of the Psychological – not seconded.

Resolved That the Quarterly Journal of Mental Science be taken in addition to the Psychological Journal.

A valuable Paper was read by Dr Pirrie “On Puerperal Convulsions”, in which he objected to the treatment by bleeding as generally recommended, considering these cases depending on and accompanied by symptoms of Anaemia and recommending Benzoic acid with acid drinks of Tartaric or Citric acid, and the use of Chloroform with occasional active purgation – at the same time inducing as soon as possible evacuation of the Uterus by Labour. The application of ice or cold wash to the head was also recommended.

Remarks were made by the President, Mr Johnson, and others in favour of the foregoing plan of treatment, and by Dr Harkin in favour of bleeding, which Dr Heaney also recommended whenever the convulsions do not arise from the anaemic state mentioned. Dr Bryce stated that he had not thought right to bleed in any case which had occurred in his practice; though he would not refrain from depletion in such as appeared to him likely to be benefited by it.

The question of change of hour of Council Meeting was referred to next meeting of Council.

Samuel Browne, President

#### **February 1st, 1858**

Present, Mr Browne, President, in the Chair – Dr Heaney, Dr McCleery, Dr Lynch, Dr Drennan, Dr Stewart, Dr Bryce, Dr Halliday.

Minutes read and signed.

“The Distribution of Health and Disease” from Johnson’s Physical Atlas was ordered for the Library.

Dr Heaney read a Paper on Spermatorrhoea after some remarks as to the importance of the subject, and the propriety of qualified practitioners rescuing the subjects of this infirmity from the hands of mercenary quacks, he proceeded to say that he considered its etiology had been unduly extended and many circumstances assigned as causes which had nothing to do with its production. Its only official cause he considered to be ? Onanisia. He adverted to the moral consequences and diagnostic symptoms of this vice, among the latter of which he laid particular stress on the peculiar physiognomical expression it induces. Great patience and perseverance, he observed, are essential for the cure both of the degrading habit and the physical evils it entails. The first case he referred to was of 8 months duration,

and characterised by pains in the back and loins, constipation, dyspepsia, and debility. Vegetable and mineral tonics were administered without benefit; blisters to the perineum were equally inefficacious and at length Lallemand’s caustic plan of treatment was resorted to. This caused great irritation of the urinary organs, with the discharge of blood “per urethrum”. When these effects had subsided, a large catheter was introduced into and left in the urethra during the night, with the effect of causing a complete cessation of the seminal emissions; and in 2 other cases the same mode of treatment had been followed by equally favourable results. It was to this novel plan of cure in cases of general debility, and where the facts about the ? may be conceived to be in a state of chronic irritation and relaxation, that Dr Heaney begged to direct the attention of the Society. As to diurnal emissions he considered them generally attributable to Stricture, and the mucous discharge that sometimes attends evacuation of the bowels he did not regard as seminal at all. For the cure of such cases tonics and astringents, general and local are the means to be adopted.

A conversation of some length ensued, in which Dr Heaney was complimented on his new and ingenious plan of treatment.

Samuel Browne, President

#### **March 1st, 1858**

Present, Mr Browne, President in Chair – Drs Heaney, Stewart, Cumming, Halliday, Pirrie, Bryce, Drennan, Mr McCleery, Mr Harkin, Drs Patterson, Lynch, Gordon, Mr Johnson, Drs Moore, Dill, and Murney.

After the minutes had been read, Mayne’s “Expository Lexicon of Medical Terms” was ordered for the Library.

Resolved that a Special Meeting of the Council be summoned for Thursday week to consider the question of restricting the circulation of certain Works in the Library.

Professor Gordon gave in one of the Society’s books (“Alison’s outlines of Physiology”), which he had found on a stall, and was ordered repayment for the same.

Dr Bryce read a Paper on Uterine Haemorrhage. After alluding to the enlarged state of the vascular system of the womb which takes place during pregnancy, and the consequent necessity for contraction of its muscular substance in order to prevent “post-partum” haemorrhage, he proceeded to classify the several forms and causes of this accident, as connected first with non-contraction, and second with irregular contraction of the Uterus. Under the first head he considered haemorrhages dependent either upon simple non-contraction from defect of

## Minutes of the Ordinary Meetings

muscular action; or upon mechanical causes, ? among the latter, Retention of the placenta, the presence of Hydatids, and the existence of clots of blood. Cases were cited in illustration of each of these sources. Irregular contraction he treated of under the various forms it presents, as the Hour Glass; the Roll or Turban-shaped; of which the Coco-nut is a variety; the Helmet; and, what may be considered an aggravation of some of these, inversion of the Uterus. Of these forms also examples were quoted. Dr Bryce then proceeded to consider the treatment of post-partum uterine haemorrhage. In the form dependent on simple relaxation external pressure suffices but cold affusion may occasionally be of service. Where ? is threatened external pressure should be avoided, and in irregular contractions, cold affusion is absolutely injurious, as relaxation is here the thing desiderated, and this is the effect which loss of blood tends to induce. The introduction of the hand, and its mode of action in arresting uterine haemorrhage were points also referred to by Dr Bryce.

A discussion followed the reading of his interesting Paper, in which most of the Members present took part, and severally expressed their opinion of the various measures to be adopted for the suppression of this formidable form of haemorrhage.

Samuel Browne, President

### April 5th, 1858

Present, Mr Brown, President, in the Chair - Dr Halliday, Dr Patterson, Dr Dill, Dr Gordon, Mr McCleery, Dr Murney, Dr Cuming, Dr Drennan, Mr Johnson, Mr Harkin, Dr J Smith.

After the Minutes of preceding Meeting had been read, the Council gave in a list of Works the circulation of which they considered should be restricted either absolutely, or within certain limitations: and after some discussion it was moved by Dr Murney, seconded by Dr Patterson, that the following List as proposed by the Council should be received, adopted, and entered in the Minutes.

To be absolutely restricted:

Cruvellier's Pathological Anatomy.  
Rayer on Diseases of the Skin.  
Hunter on the Gravid Uterus (original copy).  
Cooper on Abdominal Hernia.  
Moreau's Icones Obstetrica.  
Bell's Great Operations (1 copy).  
Rayer on Diseases of the Kidneys.  
Quain's Anatomy of the Arteries.  
Hind's Fractures of the Extremities.  
Lassar's Anatomical Plates.  
Cooper on the Breast.  
Carswell's Pathological Anatomy.

Acton's Atlas of Venereal Diseases.  
Cooper on Diseases of the Testis.  
Stanley's Plates of Diseases of Bones.  
Quain and Wilson's Anatomical Plates.  
Dilrymple on the Eye.  
MacLise's Surgical Anatomy.  
Smith's Treatise on Neuroma.  
Wilson on Diseases of the Skin.  
Albinus's Anatomical Plates.  
Fascicules of Anatomical Drawings (Army Medical Department).  
Distribution of Health and Disease (Johnson's Physical Atlas).

To be issued on permission.

Shaw on the Spine.

Seymour's Plates of the Ovarium.

Amesbury's Deformities of Spine and Chest.

Morton's Crania Americana.

Morton's Crania Aegyptiaca.

Davis's Crania Britannica.

Adam's Plates of Rheumatica Arthritis.

Bell's Great Operations (on coloured copy).

Hunter's Gravid Uterus (Sydenham Society).

Dr Cuming proposed that no Work should be absolutely restricted, but that it should be competent to the Council to permit the loan of any book on such conditions as they think desirable. The Motion was seconded by Dr Gordon, but on being put from the Chair as an amendment, was lost, and the original motion was then carried.

Drs Heaney, Bryce, Halliday and Cuming were appointed to examine the Library previous to the Annual Meeting.

The President and Dr Stewart were nominated Auditors, and Drs Dill and McCleery Examiners of Fines.

The account for printing of Circulars in connection with the late Dr Stewart's funeral as furnished by Dr Murney was ordered payment.

Payment was likewise ordered of Mr Wallace's account for circular (£3. 10. 0), and of Mr Greer's Book and Binding account for the past year, £20. 0. 0.

Letters were read from Dr MacKeasy and Quinan in reference to certain modifications in the proposed Medical Charities (Ireland) Amendment Act. They invited the Society to cooperate with a Deputation which had been appointed to wait on the Irish Secretary, Lord Naas, on the subject; and after some discussion, it was Resolved, on the motion of Dr Patterson, seconded by Dr Murney, That the President be deputed, as the Representative of the Society, to join the Deputation to Lord Naas on Wednesday next, and that his travelling expenses be

defrayed by the Society. Mr Harkin was requested to join Mr Brown on the deputation.

The President gave the particulars of a case of diseased femur in which he had performed amputation at the hip-joint. All the circumstances will be fully explained in the Dublin Quarterly Journal. Difference of opinion existed both before and after the operation as to the precise nature of the disease, and the propriety of removing the limb; and in the discussion which followed the reading of the Paper, while the Reporter and Dr Murney (under the care of both of whom the case had been), regarded the osseous malady as non-malignant and its removal by amputation as affording the sole chance of life, Professor Gordon maintained an opposite opinion on both points of pathology and practice.

Samuel Browne, President

### Special Meeting

April 19th, 1858

Present, Mr Browne, President, in the Chair – Drs Moore, Patterson, T Reade, Halliday, Heaney, Bryce, Drennan.

The President stated that the Meeting had been convened at his request in order to afford Members an opportunity of considering the provisions of Mr Cowper's Medical Profession Bill; and of conveying, through Dr McGee, who was on the eve of departure for London, their views in regard to it.

After a cursory consideration of the several clauses, it was moved by Dr Heaney, seconded by Dr Patterson, and Resolved that a petition from the Society in favour of the Bill be forwarded for presentation to the Members for the Borough.

It was moved by Dr Halliday and seconded by Dr Moore, That our Members be requested to endeavour to obtain the omission or modification of the following portion of Clause 23 – “provided always that the name of no person shall be erased from the register on the ground of his adoption of any theory in the practice of medicine or surgery”.

Drs Heaney and Drennan considered opposition to this particular provision in expedient; but on a division Dr Halliday's motion was carried, they alone dissenting.

The President was requested to communicate to Dr McGee the sentiment of the Society in regard to the Bill, and to solicit him to represent them in the proper quarters.

Samuel Browne

### Annual Meeting

May 3rd, 1858

Present, Mr Browne, President, in the Chair – Dr Patterson, Dr Stephenson, Dr Heaney, Dr Gordon, Dr

Drennan, Mr Rea, Dr WTC Smith, Dr Pirrie, Dr Dunlop, Dr Moore, Dr Bryce, Dr Murney, Dr Reade, Dr Aickin, Dr Halliday, Dr Wheeler, Dr Corry, Mr Johnson.

Minutes of last Annual and Monthly Meetings and of Special Meeting read and signed.

The Council's Report for the past year was read by the Secretary, adopted, and ordered to be preserved. Among other particulars it stated that 5 new Members had joined the Society; and that the balance in the Treasurer's hands amounted to £17. 7. 1.

Dr Halliday reported that no book was missing from the Library, and Dr Pirrie that no fines had been incurred. On the part of the Auditors the President reports that the accounts had been examined and found correct.

A ballot then took place for the officers of the Society for the coming year, and the following gentleman were declared duly elected.

**President**, Dr Pirrie.

**Vice-Presidents**, Dr Murney, Dr Bryce.

**Council**, Dr WTC Smith, Mr Johnson, Dr Halliday, Mr Rea, Dr Heaney, Dr Corry.

**Treasurer**, Dr Patterson ? Appointed by nomination.

**Secretary**, Dr Drennan ? and thanked for their services.

Mr Browne in vacating the Chair expressed the gratification he had derived from the proceedings of the Society during his year of office, and augured well for its prosperity under the Presidency of his successor. He alluded in respectful terms to the death of Mr Officer, one of its oldest members, since last Annual Meeting. He referred also to the secession of another member from the ranks of regular Practitioners, and suggested that the rules of the Society should be so modified as to exclude all persons whose conduct tended to its discredit.

Dr Pirrie then took the Chair as President, and on the motion of Dr Murney, seconded by Dr Heaney, a vote of thanks to the retiring President was passed by acclamation.

Mr Browne acknowledged the compliment, and Dr Pirrie, as President, expressed his sense of the honour done him by the Society. A note was read by the Secretary from Dr Young requesting the Periodicals to be sent to him as a Town-Member; and, on the motion of Dr Smith seconded by Mr Rea, it was proposed “That in case Dr Young offer his subscription for the current year, the Treasurer be authorised to refuse it”.

Dr Bryce moved as an amendment, and Dr Halliday seconded, “That the Treasurer accept the subscription under protest pending the result of the Society's deliberation on the subject”.



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On being put from the Chair, the original motion was carried.

An application from Dr Dunlop of Hollywood, to have the Journals sent for him to an address in town, was complied with.

Drs Stewart, Patterson and Pirrie were appointed Stewards for the Annual Dinner on Tuesday June 8th.

F Heaney

### June 8th, 1858

Present, Dr Heaney in the Chair – Dr Patterson, Dr Gordon, Dr Wheeler, Mr Browne, Dr Stewart, Mr Grattan, Dr Bryce, Dr Drennan.

The Minutes of Annual Meeting were read and signed.

The Secretary read a letter from Dr Quinan inviting the Society to send a representative to the Annual Meeting of the Irish Medical Association, and was directed to reply to it.

Mr Henry Whitaker, Belfast, was balloted for and unanimously elected a Member of the Society.

Billingham “on Diseases of the Heart”; Richardson “on the Coagulation of the Blood”; and Bennett’s “Clinical Lectures on the Principles and Practice of Medicine”, were ordered for the Library.

A letter having been read from Dr Young insisting upon his right of Membership, and requesting the use of the Library, it was resolved “That the Society refer Dr Young to Rules 1 and 15 of the Belfast Medical Society, under which it is manifest that the Society cannot comply with the request contained in his letter”. The Secretary was instructed to communicate the foregoing resolution to Dr Young.

On the motion of Professor Gordon, seconded by Dr Wheeler, the following resolution, being a modification of one on the notice paper, was put from the Chair and unanimously passed. “As the Medical Society believes that Homeopathy is founded in error, a delusion on the part of the practitioner; a deception on the Public; and as it is one of the main objects of this Society to defend the interests of the Public and Profession; – it therefore cannot permit or sanction any person professing or practising the empirical system of Homeopathy or Hydropathy to be or continue a Member of the Society”.

J M Pirrie, President

### July 5th, 1858

Dr Pirrie, President. Drs Heaney, Dunlop, Wheeler, Murney, Mr Browne, Drs Patterson, Dixon, Drennan, Stewart, Halliday, Smyth (JWT), Mr Johnston.

The Minutes of last Meeting were read and signed.

The Resolution therein recorded in reference to Homeopathy was modified, and directed to be

inserted on the Minutes in the following form. “As the Medical Society believes that Homeopathy is founded in error, a delusion on the part of the Practitioner, and a deception on the Public, and as it is one of the main objects of this Society to defend the interests of the Public and Profession, it therefore cannot permit any person professing or practising Homeopathy to be or continue a Member of the Society. The same rule will be applied to any person practising exclusively Hydropathy or any other system of Quackery”.

The New Sydenham Society’s Publications (£1. 1. 0 per annum); and Davey on the Ganglionic Nervous System were ordered for the Library.

Letters from Dr Quinan and Sir Hugh ? Cairns in reference to the Vaccination Bill were read; and also a communication from Dr Haussett as to the Quinan Testimonial”, and after some discussion it was determined that the latter subject should be considered on the next night of meeting.

It was Resolved on the motion of Dr Murney that a Committee of the Members then present, together with the Council, should meet on the following day at 1 o’clock pm to take into consideration the provision of the Medical Bill at present before Parliament.

H Murney, Vice-President

### August 2nd, 1858

Present, Dr Murney, Vice-President, Chairman – Drs Patterson, Dixon, Stewart, Browne, Drennan.

The Minutes of the Committee-Meeting as to the provision of the Medical Bill were read. A letter was read from Dr Young in reference to the Resolution as to Homeopathy passed June 8th, and confirmed at last Meeting of the Society, and the Secretary was instructed merely to acknowledge the receipt of Dr Young’s communication.

Five Reviews on Insanity and Lunatic Asylums from the Dublin Quarterly Journal, and the Annual Report of the Belfast District Asylum for the Insane were presented by Dr Stewart, who received the thanks of the Society for the donation.

The Secretary was directed to return the thanks of the Society to Dr Quinan for 12 copies of the Annual Report of the Irish Medical Association.

On the motion of Dr Stewart, seconded by Mr Browne, it was resolved that the Society contribute £5 to the “Quinan Testimonial” fund.

A recommendation of the Council for the printing of an appendix to the Library Catalogue, with revised list of Members, and a list of restricted books, was adopted, and the Council were authorised to carry out their suggestion.

J M Pirrie, President

**September 6th, 1858**

Present, Dr Pirrie, President in the Chair – Drs Patterson, Heaney, Drennan, Mr Browne.

After the Minutes had been read, the Secretary reported that he had forwarded the Society's subscription to the "Quinan Testimonial Fund", and received a letter of acknowledgement, and receipt, from Dr Faussett.

Two copies of the New Medical Act were ordered for the use of the Society.

An account for printing the Transactions of the Society, as furnished by Mr Gill, was given in by Mr Browne; and the amount of £2. 3. 3 was ordered payment by the Treasurer.

Dr Michael McGee was balloted for and unanimously elected a Member of the Society.

The consideration of Watson's Lectures 4th edition for the Library, was postponed in the absence of proposer and from non-statement of price.

Samuel Browne, Chairman

**October 4th, 1858**

Present, Mr Browne, Vice-President, in the Chair – Dr Dixon, Mr McCleery, Drs Dill, Halliday, Patterson, Heaney, Moore, Bryce, Drennan, Mr McGee.

After the Minutes had been read and signed, the 4th edition of Watson's Lectures on the Practice of Physic was ordered for the Library.

Dr Moore gave the notes of a case of Tracheostomy performed on a boy, aged 9, who had swallowed a plumb stone. On auscultation no respiratory murmur was audible in left lung, and less than natural in right. Reversal of the patient (as in Brunel's case) was first tried, and on this failing to evacuate the foreign body, and the boy becoming apparently asphyxiated, the trachea was hastily opened. A blunt probe detected the stone in the upper part of the larynx but a forceps failed to extract it. The introduction of the latter was, however, immediately followed by an act of deglutition in which, it is presumed, the stone was swallowed, although it has not been discovered in the stools.

Dr Moore also detailed the history of a fracture by railway carriage of both legs, the left being almost entirely severed, while the right foot was severely lacerated and dislocated. Great shock was the consequence. Reaction was induced by the administration of whiskey and milk, and after removing the almost separated limb, Dr Moore had the young man transported to Hospital, and performed amputation of both legs. Chloroform was given for the operation; it raised the pulse, and probably saved the patient's life. He went on well till yesterday (the 5th) when he had a rigor, and a slight erysipelatous flush was observable this morning on

the surface.

The case of a boy who had swallowed a halfpenny a fortnight ago was also reported by Dr Moore, its presence in the oesophagus was ascertained by a metallic sound, but the ordinary instruments had failed to extract it. Slight oedema of the supra-sternal space was observable. It was ultimately removed by a blunt silver hook attached to a flexible handle lent by Dr H Purdon for the purpose.

The Council were authorised to attend to the carrying out of the Registration Clause of Medical Act.

J M Pirrie, President

**November 1st, 1858**

Present, Dr Pirrie, President – Dr Moore, Dr Patterson, Mr McCleery, Mr Dixon, Drs Dill, Drennan, Stewart, Heaney, Smith, Murney.

After the Minutes had been read Dr O'Hare of Belfast was balloted for and unanimously elected a Member of the Society.

A communication was read from Dr Mackery ? of Waterford enclosing a Resolution of the Medical Association of Ireland in reference to representation of the Medical Profession in Parliament; and the Secretary was desired to acknowledge the same.

Dr Murney brought under notice of the Society the circumstances which had led to the removal of Dr McLaughlin of Lurgan from his office of Medical Officer to its Union Hospital. He proposed that the Society should forward a Resolution to that gentleman expressing of their opinion of the harsh treatment he had received. After some remarks from Drs Patterson, Dixon, and Stewart in coincidence with Dr Murney's, a sub-committee was appointed consisting of the President, and Drs Murney, Patterson and Dill to draw up and read to Dr McLaughlin a Resolution of the kind suggested.

Dr Murney, on part of the Council, reported that progress was being made in the preparation of the appendix to the Library Catalogue.

J M Pirrie, President

6th December 1858

**December 6th, 1858**

Present, Dr Pirrie, in the Chair – Drs Reade, Browne, Cuming, Dill, Murney (secretary pro temp), McCormac, Moore, Stewart, Bryce, Dixon.

A letter was read from Dr McLaughlin of Lurgan thanking the Society for the resolution forwarded to him by the Sub-Committee appointed at last Meeting.

Communication read from Dr Quinan relative to Bill about to be introduced by Lord Naas, proposing additional clauses.

Sinclair and Johnston's Practical Midwifery was ordered for the Library.

## Minutes of the Ordinary Meetings

Letter read from Dr Kelso of Lisburn as to the propriety of establishing a Medical Registration Association.

Mr Dixon proposed and Dr Bryce seconded That the Secretary be instructed to write to the Registrar for Ireland requesting information as to the steps to be taken by Members of the Profession in effecting Registration.

That the Secretary be instructed to call a Meeting of the Society as soon as he receives any information on the subject.

Resolved on the motion of Dr Moore seconded by Dr Dill "That in future the qualifications of all candidates proposed as Members of this Society be laid on the table previous to balloting".

Henry McCormac, MD

### Special Meeting

#### December 16th, 1858

Society met to consider a communication from Dr Maunsell, Registrar and Secretary of the Branch Medical Council for Ireland, in reference to registration. Present Dr Bryce, Vice-President, in Chair - Mr Browne, Drs Dill, Heaney, Rea, Hamilton, Patterson, Dixon (secretary pro temp), Galgey, M McGee, Corry, Halliday, Stewart, Grattan, McCormac, (W) Smith, Read.

A desultory conversation arose as to the propriety of taking a united step in registering, when it appeared to be the mind of the Meeting that each one should act for himself.

Henry McCormac, MD

#### January 3rd, 1859

Present, Dr McCormac in the Chair - Drs Ross, Dill, Corry, Moore, Drennan, Mulholland.

Minutes of last Monthly, and of Special Meeting read and signed.

An application was received from Dr William Aickin for the loan of "Wilson's Plates on Diseases of the Skin", and the Secretary was instructed to direct Dr Aickin's attention to the Rule preceding its issue from the Library.

J M Pirrie, MD, President

#### February 7th, 1859

Present, Dr Pirrie, President, in the Chair - Dr Patterson, Mr Browne, Dr Dixon, Dr Dill, Dr Drennan, Drs Stewart, Harkin, Bryce, Moore, Johnson.

Minutes read and signed.

"A Manual of Psychological Medicine" by Drs Buckmill and Tuke, price 15/s was ordered for the Library.

Dr Harkin read a Paper "on the Treatment of Mammary Abscess", in which he strongly advocated

the employment of Tartar Emetic for the arrest of the inflammation.

J M Pirrie, President

#### March 2nd, 1859

Present, Dr Stewart, Dr Patterson, Dr Cuming, Dr Gordon, Dr Heaney, Dr M McGee, Dr Halliday.

No meeting in consequence of the Library being closed by a mistake of the Librarian.

J M Pirrie, President

#### April 4th, 1859

Present, Dr Pirrie, President - Drs Patterson, Wheeler, Whitaker, M McGee, Drennan, Dill.

Secretary was authorised to get Todd's Cyclopedia bound.

Wallace's account for printing of Circulars amounting to £3. 7. 6; and Greer's account for the last 15 months amounting to £35 net, were ordered payment.

Dr Stewart and Mr Browne were appointed Auditors, and Drs Dill, Murney, McCleery, Smith, and Cuming were nominated Examiners of the Library and of Fines, for the past year.

Dr Wheeler read a Paper on Purpural Convulsions in support of Dr Browne's principles of treatment.

Dr Patterson gave notice of his intention to resign the office of Treasurer to the Society at ensuing Annual Meeting.

J M Pirrie, President

#### Annual Meeting

##### May 2nd, 1859

Present, Dr Pirrie, President, in the Chair - Dr Patterson, Dr Gordon, Mr Hanna, Dr Wheeler, Dr Drennan, Mr Browne, Dr Halliday, Dr Moore, Dr Smith, Mr Whitaker, Mr Mulholland, Mr Rea, Dr Murney, Dr Cuming, Dr McGee, Dr Dixon.

Minutes of last Monthly and Annual Meetings read and signed.

The Council's Report for the past year was read by the Secretary. It stated that 4 new members had joined the Society; and that its financial position might be considered a satisfactory one, in as much as although there was a trifling balance due to the Treasurer, this was in consequence of the Bookseller's account extending over a period of 15 months, instead of, as on former occasions, but 1 year; and there having been also an extra item of expenditure in the Society's contribution of £5 to the Quinan Testimonial. A considerable number of standard works had been added to the Library, but there had been a lamentable deficiency of original Papers read at the Monthly Meetings. The Report suggested the desirability of a ? cooperation in future on the part of

## The Belfast Medical Society

the Society with other associations for the advancement of the general interests of the Profession. It concluded with an expression of the Council's regret for the retirement of the Treasurer, Dr Patterson.

After some remarks from Dr McGee as to the defect of communications brought before the Society, the Report was, on his motion, received and adopted.

Dr Halliday suggested the formation of a sub-committee to consider matters connected with the public interests of the Profession; but after a short discussion it was Resolved that in future subjects of this sort should in the first place be referred to the Council, to be, by them, if necessary reported onto the Society. The Secretary was accordingly directed to lay communications which he has lately received from Drs MacKesy and Quinan in reference to points of Medical Legislation before the incoming Council who would instruct him what to reply.

The Report of the Auditors of Accounts was given in by Mr Browne who concluded his statement by moving the best thanks of the Society to Dr Patterson for his long service as Treasurer. The Motion was seconded by Dr Moore and carried unanimously, Dr Patterson acknowledging the compliment.

Dr Murney proposed and Dr Patterson seconded the nomination of Dr Smith as Treasurer, and it was carried by acclamation.

The Meeting then proceeded to ballot for officers of the Society for the ensuing year, and the following gentleman were appointed:

*President*, Dr Patterson

*Vice-Presidents*, Drs Wheeler and Dill

*Council*, Dr Halliday, Dr Moore, Mr Mulholland, Dr Stewart, Mr Rea, Dr Murney.

The thanks of the Society were given to the Secretary.

On the motion of Dr Bryce, seconded by Dr Moore, it was Resolved that in future the President and Vice-Presidents of the Society shall in future be respectively the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Annual Dinner.

Drs Stewart, Pirrie, and Smith were named Stewards for the Dinner of this year.

Mr Browne proposed the thanks of the Society to their late President, Dr Pirrie. The motion was carried unanimously by acclamation, and Dr Pirrie returned thanks.

A communication was read by the President addressed by Mr South of London to Professor Gordon in reference to the contemplated statue to John Hunter, and it was decided that application for

subscriptions be made to the Members individually, Dr Moore, consenting to act as joint treasurer of the fund with Dr Gordon.

James Patterson, President

### June 6th, 1859

Present, Dr Patterson, President – Dr Heaney, Dr Moore, Dr Halliday, Dr McGee (M), Dr Stewart, Dr Drennan, Dr Wheeler, Mr Whitaker, Dr Pirrie, Dr Smith.

After the Minutes of Annual Meeting had been read and signed, the Secretary reported that in accordance with the instructions of the Council, he had communicated to the Secretary of the Irish Medical Association, and to the President of the South Eastern Medical Association of Ireland, that this Society is disposed to act in concert with these Bodies for the objects specified in their printed circulars. Other communications had since been received from Drs MacKesy and Quinan requesting that the Belfast Medical Society would send a representative to the Annual Meeting of the Irish Medical Association, and, also inviting its President and Secretary to the Annual Dinner of the Association. This invitation they had been obliged to decline, but Mr Browne, who had consented to act as delegate of the Medical Officers of our local Poor Law Unions, would also be an efficient representative of the Society at the foregoing Meetings.

A ballot for Dr Clark of Newcastle was postponed in consequence of his professional credentials not having been seen by his proposer.

The President read his Inaugural Address on the subject of Experience in Medicine, and on the motion of Dr Stewart, seconded by Dr Pirrie, the thanks of the Society were given to him for his excellent discourse which he was requested to have published.

It was Resolved that the Librarian be invited to the Annual Dinner of the Society.

James Patterson, President

### July 4th, 1859

Present, Dr Patterson, President, in Chair – Drs Stewart, Pirrie, Heaney, Dunlop, Browne, Murney.

The ballot for Dr Clark was again postponed in consequence of the absence of his proposer.

“Basham on Dropsy”, and “Brinton on Diseases of the Stomach” were ordered for the Library.

A letter was read from Dr Lightburne of Brookboro' relative to the formation of an Annuity Society. The discussion of the subject was postponed until next Meeting, when it was suggested that Dr McCormac should be requested to attend, as he had, on several occasions, expressed some special views on this matter.

## Minutes of the Ordinary Meetings

Dr Murney having brought forward the subject of amalgamating the Medical and Pathological Societies, it was directed that a Special Meeting of the Council be called to consider the subject, and to report to the Society when prepared.

It was ordered that a Copy of the New Medical Registry be procured as soon as possible.

Dr Gordon sent a letter stating his inability to attend to read his promised Paper.

James Patterson, President

### August 1st, 1859

Present, Dr Patterson, President – Drs Gordon, Moore, Drennan, Heaney, Halliday, Aickin, Aickin, W Browne, Bryce, Dill, Mulholland, M McGee, Stewart, McCormac, Murney, Dunlop, Pirrie, Smyth, McCleery, Ross.

After the Minutes had been read, some discussion took place as to whether the balloting for Dr Clark should then be proceeded with, and it was ultimately determined that it should be deferred until the Rules for the admission of Member should be modified or rescinded.

Dr Lightburne's letter in reference to an Annuity Society for the Widows of Medical Men was read, and the Secretary was instructed to inform him that the Society did not consider itself in possession of sufficient details to express any opinion as to the merits of his project. Two other plans of Insurance were brought under notice by Drs McCormac and Heaney, and the latter gentleman was requested to obtain further information as to the principles and operation of the Medical Provident and Benevolent Society.

Dr Murney reported that in consequence of an insufficient attendance of Members, the subject of an amalgamation of the Medical and Pathological Societies had not yet been brought under the consideration of the Council.

The thanks of the Society were given to Dr Stewart for his presentation of Reports and reviews on the subject of Insanity.

Professor Gordon read a Paper on Fractures of the Clavicle and lower extremity of radius, in which he proposed several new views as to the mechanism of the consequent deformities, and mode of rectifying them. He also exhibited a new form of splint for application in the latter accident. After a short discussion, the President returned the thanks of the Society to Dr Gordon for his very interesting and original paper.

A short Paper was read by Dr McCormac on "revivalism in its medical aspects" the present religious epidemic was regarded by him as strictly analogous to a great number of others occurring in

different ages and countries, and like them, as mainly dependent on physical causes and the spirit of invitation. In the animated discussion which followed, while the nervous or hysteric element in the phenomena was freely admitted, there essentially religious origin and character were also, by many of the speakers strenuously maintained.

Mr Browne brought before the Society a proposal for presenting a Testimonial to Dr Jacob of Dublin for the services he had rendered to the Medical Profession as conductor of the Dublin Medical Press.

James Patterson, President

### September 5th, 1859

Present, Dr Patterson, President, in Chair – Drs Stewart, Murney, Dill, M McGee, Dixon, Browne.

Minutes of last Meeting read and confirmed.

Resolved "That the words – 'with the exception of those whose names appear upon the Medical Register' shall be added to the Rule of December 1858, regarding the qualifications of Candidates".

Dr Murney read a Paper on a case of Popliteal Aneurysm.

James Patterson, President

### October 3rd, 1859

Present, Dr Patterson in the Chair – Drs Stewart, Lynch, Heaney, Mr Browne, Drs Moore, Murney, Dixon, Drennan.

After the Minutes of last Meeting had been read and confirmed, Dr Dixon brought under the notice of the Society the frequency of failure observable of late in the operation for vaccination, as also numerous anomalies in the formation of the vesicles. Other members confirmed his remarks, and it was agreed that the subject should be further discussed at next Meeting.

Mr Browne read the report of a case of "chronic or dry gangrene", and Dr Murney stated the post-mortem appearances. These very interesting Papers will be published in full in next N<sup>o</sup>. of Dublin Quarterly Journal of Medical Science. They gave rise to an animated discussion.

James Patterson, President

### November 7th, 1859

Present, Dr Patterson, President – Mr Browne, Mr Hanna, Dr Bryce, Dr Dill, Dr Stewart, Dr Dixon, Dr Drennan, Dr Halliday, Dr Corry.

Minutes read and signed.

Dr William Hanna was balloted for and unanimously elected a Member of the Society.

Dr Bryce read a Paper on Vaccination, and some of the causes which interfere with the efficiency of the operation. After an interesting discussion of the

## The Belfast Medical Society

subject, it was Resolved on the motion of Dr Dixon, that a Committee of the Society should be nominated on the next night of Meeting to make fuller enquires and report the results.

James Patterson, President

### December 5th, 1859

Present, Dr Patterson, President, in the Chair – Dr Heaney, Dr Dixon, Mr Browne, Drs Stewart, Bryce, Lynch, Drennan, Mr McCleery.

After the minutes of last Meeting had been read and confirmed, Mr Pring was balloted for and elected a Member of the Society. Mr Savage also was unanimously elected a Member.

Dr Stewart received the thanks of the Society for his Review of Insanity, and the Reports of the Benevolent Medical Society presented to the Library.

A copy of the new Library Catalogue was laid on the table, and the thanks of the Society were given to the Council, and specially to Drs Murney and Smith for their labours in compiling the same.

Dr Dixon, after some remarks on the importance of the subject of Vaccination, and the special reasons for instituting some inquires with regard to it at the present time, proposed as a Committee for that purpose Mr Browne and Drs Bryce, Harkin, Halliday, Lynch, Burden, Pirrie, Dill, and the Secretary. Dr Stewart seconded the resolution, and the gentleman were nominated accordingly.

Mr Browne before the Society a young woman in whom he had operated successfully for cleft palate, and afterwards detailed the case, and the various steps of the operation as he now performed it. A paper by him on the subject will appear in the next No of the Dublin Quarterly Journal of Medical Science.

F Heaney, Chairman pro temp

### January 2nd, 1860

Present, Dr Heaney, in the Chair – Drs Stewart, Gordon, Dixon, Whitaker and Mr Savage.

After the minutes of last meeting had been read and confirmed, Dr Stewart moved, and Professor Gordon seconded, the following Resolution which passed unanimously; That this Society having now heard with deep regret of the domestic bereavement lately sustained by Dr Drennan, their much respected Secretary, desire to sympathise with, and to offer him their sincere condolence upon so melancholy and distressing an occasion. That a copy of the foregoing Resolution be transmitted to Dr Drennan.

Dr Gordon brought before the Society a case of compound dislocation of the metacarpal bone of the thumb, in which he reduce the dislocation by removing the head of the bone; and made some remarks on the difficulty of reducing same with his

views on the subject.

He next brought forward the case of a working man having a sanguineous cystic tumour in inferior triangle of the neck which he cured by successive tapings and made some remarks on the diagnosis and treatment of such tumours.

He also made some remarks on extra capsular fracture of the cervix femoris, a case of which he brought forward in which no shortening of the femur took place, and showed specimens of the femur which had been so fractured.

Mr Wallace's account for printing amounting to £6. 8. 0 was ordered payment.

The following books were ordered for the Library

–  
Lyttle on Deformities  
Thompson and Craigie's Life of Cullen  
Garrard on Gout and Rheumatic Gout  
Nightingale's Notes on Hospitals

James Patterson, President

### February 6th, 1860

Present, Dr Patterson, President in the Chair – Drs Moore, Smith, Cuming, Halliday, Dixon, Bryce, Ross, Whitaker, Mr Hanna, and Mr Savage.

After the minutes of last meeting had been read and confirmed, Dr Patterson, the President, read the following letter from Dr Drennan –

Comber, January 5th, 1860

My dear Dr Patterson,

I beg you will accept yourself, and convey to the Members of our Society, my grateful acknowledgements for the sympathy expressed resolution of the 2nd Inst.

I am, my dear Dr Patterson,  
yours very sincerely,

John S Drennan

Dr Patterson President of the Belfast Medical Society.

Dr Ross read a Paper on affections of the brain in which he brought under the notice of the Society his views regarding the origin, course, and mode of treatment of these diseases, illustrating them with several interesting cases which had occurred to him in practice. He also stated what divisions he would make of them, and called attention to the diagnosis and prognosis of the different forms.

James Patterson, President

### March 5th, 1860

Present, Dr Patterson, President, in Chair – Drs Stewart, Wheeler, Dill, Pirrie, Dixon, Browne, McCormac, Bryce, Corry, Rea.

## Minutes of the Ordinary Meetings

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

Todd's Clinical Lectures (3 volumes) were ordered for the Library.

Dr Pirrie read a Paper on the treatment of purpural convulsions. After referring to his former paper in which he stated the usual standard depletory measures, quoting the various authorities for such a course, he went on to read his very interesting observations regarding this subject; concluding with the following principles – first Convulsions are not caused by plethora or congestion of the brain, but by anaemia or defective nutrition. Second depletion aggravates the tendency to convulsions. Third the cases of true Purpural Eclampsia are associated with or caused by albuminuria. Fourth this albuminuria is most probably caused by renal congestion, the effect of direct pressure.

The indications for the rational treatment are – first to relieve pressure, the cause of congestion; second to eliminate noxious matter from the circulation; third to stimulate the kidney to healthy secretion.

A very interesting discussion followed.

James Patterson, President

### April 2nd, 1860

Present, Dr Patterson, President, in Chair – Drs Browne, Dill, Whitaker, Moore, Smith, Drennan, Pirrie, Wheeler, Dunlop, Savage.

Minutes read and signed.

A copy of Dr McCormac's Work entitled "Aspirations from the Inner, the Spiritual Life" having been offered as a donation to the Library, the proposal for its purchase was not adopted.

The Accounts of Messrs Greer and Wallace, amounting respectively to £ and £ were ordered payment on being revised and audited by the Secretary and Librarian.

Dr Halliday read a case of presumed Pyæmia, and Mr Browne a Paper on Epiphora, and certain modifications in its treatment. Both communications were of a highly interesting character, and elicited instructive remarks from the Members present.

The same Auditors of Accounts, and Examiners of the Library, as officiated last year were again nominated.

James Patterson, President

### Annual Meeting, May 7th, 1860

Present, Dr Patterson, President, in Chair – Dr Burden, H Moore, Wheeler, Browne, Moore (Jas), Pirrie, Drennan, McCleery, Gordon, McGee, Stronge, Halliday, Whitaker, Mulholland, Bryce, Corry, Rea, Hanna (H), Hanna (W), Ross, Aickin (W), Harkin.

Minutes of last Annual and Monthly Meetings read

and confirmed.

The Report of the Council for the past year was read by the Secretary, and on the motion of Dr McGee, seconded by Dr Mulholland, it was received and adopted. Three new members, it stated, had joined the Society since last Annual Meeting, one had retired, and several had become free of further payments. From the expense incurred in printing the new Library Catalogue there was a balance against the Society in the Treasurer's account of above £10. There had been a considerable number of new works of merit added to the Library, and Papers of interest read regularly in the Monthly Meetings. No breach of professional decorum had been brought under the notice of the Council. The formation of the Ulster Protective Association was referred to with satisfaction.

No report was given in by the Examiners of the Library, but from the Librarian's statement it appeared that no books or Periodicals had been lost during the past year.

Mr Browne read the Report of Auditors of Accounts. The receipts had been £39.14.6; the expenditure 49. ". ". He suggested that the number of journals should be diminished, and their cost be expended on Works of more permanent value. Dr Ross suggested the purchase of some French Periodicals in lieu of some of the English. These proposals were referred to the incoming Council who were requested to report early on the subject. The Auditors Report was then adopted.

The balloting for Officers of the Society for the ensuing year was then proceeded with, and the following appointments made;

President, Dr Murney

Vice-Presidents, Drs Halliday and Corry

Council, Drs Wheeler, Harkin, Mulholland, Bryce, Ross and McCleery

Treasurer, Dr Smith

Secretaries, Dr Drennan was reappointed Secretary and Dr Whitaker associated with him.

On the motion of Dr Pirrie, seconded by Dr Stewart, the thanks of the Society were given to Dr Patterson for the very efficient manner in which he had acted as President during the past year, and Dr Patterson acknowledged the compliment.

Drs Stewart, Pirrie, Smith, and Patterson were appointed Stewards of the Annual Dinner.

Henry Murney, President

### June 4th, 1860

Present, Dr Murney, President, in the Chair – Drs Patterson, Wheeler, Dixon, Corry, Aickin, Stewart, Mr

Pring, Drs Cuming, Smith, Whitaker (Secretary).

Dr Murney having taken the Chair returned thanks to the Members of the Society for his appointment as President and hoped that those present as well as their absent brethren would support him during his year of office more especially by bringing before the notice of the Society any interesting cases which may occur.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, a desultory conversation ensued after which Dr Corry brought under the notice of the Society a case of Tetanus successfully treated by Conium which he administered in the form of extract - 5 grain doses every 3 hours. He also referred to the use of the Woorara, and gave an interesting account of the various remedies lately proposed for this disease with his opinion as to their relative advantages.

Henry Murney, President

#### July 2nd, 1860

Present, Dr Murney, President, in the Chair - Drs Smith, Wheeler, Stewart, Dixon, Mulholland, Drennan, McGee (?) and Whitaker.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

A note from Dr O'Hare, having been received by Dr Drennan (Secretary), tendering his resignation of membership, same was accepted.

Dr Davidson was unanimously elected a Member of the Society.

The 30th annual report of the Belfast District Asylum for the Insane, was presented to the Society by Dr Stewart.

An account for printing the transactions of the Society, as furnished by Mr Gill, was handed in by the President and amount £2. 17. 11 ordered payment by the Treasurer.

The President brought forward the following proposition from the Council, viz That the Subscriptions to the New York Medical and Physical Journal (quarterly) and Quarterly Journal of Mental Science be discontinued.

The President then brought under the notice of the Meeting a case of imperforate vagina, occurring in a girl 16 years of age in whom the vagina about 2 inches deep, terminated in a cul-de-sac, closed by a thick membrane behind which the menstrual secretions appeared to have accumulated; an opening having been made through the membrane by means of a cannula and trochar, and the girl having been placed in a warm bath, was much relieved by a discharge through the opening of the thickened secretion. The President then detailed the treatment adopted by him which gave great relief to the patient,

although he was precluded from further operative interference by his discovering on careful examination that a communication existed between the vagina and bladder owing to the non-closure of the posterior wall of the latter.

Henry Murney

#### August 6th, 1860

Present, Dr Murney, President, in the Chair - Drs Patterson, Bryce, Pirrie, Harkin, Stewart, and Whitaker.

The Minutes of last meeting having been read and confirmed, Dr Harkin moved and Dr Patterson seconded the following resolution which passed unanimously. That the arrangement with regard to the Circulation of the Journals, as proposed by the President, be carried out, and that Mr Pring be directed to keep a memorandum of the gentleman to whom each journal Respectively is forwarded on its first leaving the Library.

Dr Harkin brought before the notice of the Meeting a case of Uterine Hydatid occurring in a patient of his who, had, from time to time been troubled with uterine haemorrhage, often to a large extent. After one of these attacks, a mass of Hydatid came away, which having been cleansed from the clotted blood which surrounded them, were preserved by Dr Harkin and shown to the Meeting.

Dr Harkin stated that on examination, having found the os patulous, he removed the remainder of the Hydatids, many of them being adherent to the walls of the uterus, and the patient has since then enjoyed good health. He then made some remarks as to the origin and progress of such cases, which gave rise to a short conversation; after which, Dr Bryce having brought before the Meeting one or two instances in which improper and untrue remarks had been written after the name of a Member in the list of names attached to the circulating journals, a conversation ensued, and a strong feeling of indignation was expressed by the Members present, after which it was resolved That the Members of the Society be requested not to make any remarks, or writing, on the slip in front of the Circulating Journals containing the list of names, except the days of receipt and departure of same and their initials.

Henry Murney, President

#### September 3rd, 1860

Present, Dr Murney, President, in the Chair - Drs Pirrie, Patterson, McGee (Michael) and Whitaker.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

Mr Henry Burden was unanimously elected a Member of the Society.



## Minutes of the Ordinary Meetings

Herick's Atlas on Diseases of the Liver was ordered for the Library, subject to its price not exceeding £1. /. /.

It was unanimously resolved that the subscriptions to the New York Medical and Physical Journal, and Journal of Mental Science, respectively, be discontinued at termination of current year.

A short conversation ensued, after which, it was resolved "That on the next night of meeting, the propriety of discontinuing the subscription to the Pharmaceutical Journal Be brought before the Society".

Henry Murney, President

### October 1st, 1860

Present, Dr Murney, President, in the Chair - Drs Patterson, Corry, Wheeler, Aickin, and Whitaker.

A conversation took place relative to the propriety of discontinuing the Pharmaceutical Journal, some Members having expressed their wish to have same retained, it was unanimously resolved that subscription to it be continued.

It was proposed by Dr Patterson, seconded by Dr Aickin, and passed unanimously That the Subscription to the Dublin Hospital Gazette and Dublin Medical Press, respectively, be discontinued at termination of current year.

Robert Stewart, Chairman, 5th November, 1860

### November 5th, 1860

Present, Dr Stewart, Chairman, - Drs Smith, Wheeler, Dill, McGee (Michael), Patterson, and Whitaker.

The resolution relative to the discontinuance of the subscription to the Dublin Hospital Gazette and Dublin Medical Press, passed at last Monthly Meeting was confirmed. A conversation relative to the circulation of the journals having ensued, it was proposed by Dr Patterson, seconded by Dr Wheeler, and passed unanimously That a Committee, consisting of the President, Drs Patterson, Drennan, and Whitaker, be appointed to take into consideration the circulation of the journals and the means of continuing same.

Henry Murney, President

### December 3rd, 1860

Present, Dr Murney, President, in the Chair - Drs Pirrie, Stewart, Halliday and Whitaker.

Dr Murney brought before the notice of the Meeting, a case of diseased knee joint, upon which he had lately performed the operation of excision; and stated the history of the case, a synopsis of which is as follows. A few days ago, a little girl, 9 years of age, was admitted into Hospital suffering from diseased knee joint, the first appearance of which occurred

some 4 years ago, when considerable pain was felt therein which passed off and gradual swelling recovered. When admitted, the joint was free from pain except when the limb was moved, the leg was greatly flexed, the joint entirely useless and she lay on her left side to avoid the great pain which the least motion of the part induced.

On consideration and consultation it was determined to endeavour to ease the limb by excising the joint which accordingly was performed by the President who detailed the different steps of the operation and his reasons for adopting same; he stated that he made his transverse incision above the patella with the view of having that bone retained in situ by its ligament, instead of as when performed lower down, its being drawn upwards by the muscle attached to its upper border, otherwise the operation was performed in the usual manner.

The President concluded his interesting remarks by stating his views as to the general expediency of the operation and the success which had hitherto attended it.

Drs Pirrie and Halliday having stated their opinions on the subject, a conversation ensued, after which the President brought forward a beautiful specimen of an Ovum, with the membranes surrounding it, and made some observations as to the history of the woman from whom it had been obtained who aborted while under treatment for ulcers on the legs, supposed to be of syphilitic origin.

Henry Murney, President

### 7th January, 1861

Present, Dr Murney, President, in the Chair - Drs Browne, Pirrie, Cuming, Patterson, Moore, Dill, Hanna, and Whitaker.

The minutes of last meeting having been read and confirmed, the President stated that the result of the operation for excision of the knee joint, brought before the Society on last night of meeting was unfavourable as the little girl gradually sank and died in about a month after the operation.

The President then made some remarks on ? Wutzer's operation for the radical cure of Inguinal Hernia, detailing the steps of the operation and the points to be observed in performing it; he also stated the great success which had hitherto attended it; and after calling attention to its usefulness and hoping that it would receive a fair and extensive trial from the Surgeons of this Country, produced a patient upon whom he had operated. An interesting conversation ensued, in which most of the members present joined, and thanks to the President for the trouble he had taken in bringing the matter before their notice.

Dr Pirrie brought forward a report of case of premature labour induced for deformed pelvis, and stated that the patient was 28 years of age, and pregnant with her third child. She was, when admitted into hospital, in her eighth month; in both former deliveries craniotomy had to be performed. At first, injections of warm water were used, and a ? sponge tent introduced, electric shocks were tried but as the patient complained of them, their application was discontinued. Pills of Croton Oil and mixtures of Dec Uba Uesi and Borax were administered. A bougie was then introduced between the membrane and the wall of the uterus and cut short and an air pessary was introduced and inflated; by these means labour pains, occurring every half hour, were induced, the head was found presenting, turning was then effected, and the child readily came away until the head reached the brim, where it became jammed owing to the projection of the promontory of the sacrum and required considerable force to bring the child, which was still born, passed it.

Dr Pirrie then stated his opinion that the bougie and the pessary were the best means of inducing labour, as thereby the uterine action was hastened, while the membranes remained unruptured until the os was fully dilated, and concluded his interesting paper by stating that the patient was too far advanced in her pregnancy when admitted into hospital to give birth to a living child, and by making some general remarks which gave rise to a desultory conversation among the members present.

Henry Murney, President

#### 4th February, 1861

Present, Dr Murney, President, in the Chair – Browne, Pirrie, Stewart, McCormac, Drennan, Moore, Smith, Corry, Hanna, McGee (Michael) and Whitaker.

The Minutes of last meeting having been read and confirmed, the President brought before the notice of the Meeting the subject of the fees payable by Life Insurance Companies members of the profession, and expressed his opinion that the distinction made by some Insurance Companies as regards amount of fee and which is regulated by the sum for which the person examined his about to insure is wrong in principle as the same care and trouble has to be taken by the Medical Examiner be the amount large or small, and that in each case, when an Insurance Company applies to a Medical Man, not officially connected with it, for information regarding a person about to have his life insured, the fee for same should be a uniform one of £1. 1. /. entirely irrespective of the amount to be insured.

Some conversation having ensued; Dr Browne

moved, and Dr Drennan seconded, That the best thanks of the Society be given to the President for having brought the subject of the fees payable in life insurance cases before the Meeting, and that a notice regarding same be inserted in the Circular for next Monthly Meeting so that the matter may then be fully discussed.

Dr Stewart presented to the Library a review on "Insanity and Hospitals for the Insane", for which the thanks of the Society were voted to him.

Dr Hanna then brought forward a paper on "man, his Confirmation and Physical and Mental Development", in which he alluded to the peculiar characteristics by which man is distinguished from the lower animals, and after detailing his development both mentally and corporeally, concluded his paper by referring, seriatim, to the different races of mankind at present in existence, and giving an interesting ethnological account of their native countries, and their admixtures.

A conversation then ensued, in which several of the Members present took part, and discussed several of the points brought forward in Dr Hanna's paper.

The President then brought forward the notice of a case in which he had performed ? priogoff's operation, and stated his reasons for preferring it, in many cases, to that of Syme, one reason being the greater ease with which the former is performed, another, the better leg which is left in this operation, 1½ - 2 inches longer than in the latter. He also referred to an accidental complication occurring in this case, viz the secondary haemorrhage which broke out on 5-6 occasions and was with some difficulty restrained. The President finished his interesting paper by stating that the patient was doing well and that he had no doubt the operation would be entirely successful.

Henry Murney, President

#### 4th March, 1861

Present, Dr Murney, President, in the Chair – Drs McCormac, Moore, Patterson, Dill, McCormac (?) a visitor, Drennan, Pirrie, and Whitaker.

The Minutes of last meeting having been read and confirmed, Dr McCormac read a paper entitled "? Metanoia, a plea for the Insane", in which he entered into the question as to the different causes of Insanity, stated that large towns were not more ? to it, proportionally, than country districts, gave statistics of the number of persons who annually became insane, entirely disapproved of the idea that insanity is hereditary, stated his opinion that the soundness of the mind is entirely different from and independent of that of the brain, to a great extent, and after stating that the Insane were so, because they could not be

## Minutes of the Ordinary Meetings

conscious of their own unconsciousness, finished his interesting paper by making some remarks on the treatment which he thought best adopted for such cases and which he held should always be of a moral character.

Henry Murney, President

### 1st April, 1861

Present, Dr Murney, President, in the Chair – Drs Pirrie, Browne, Dill, Cuming, Bryce, and Whitaker.

The Minutes of last meeting have been read and confirmed, Dr Cuming brought before the Society a paper entitled “Notes on Medical Electricity” in which he referred to the different forms under which Electricity had been applied to Medical purposes, and having given one or two instances of the dangers which have ensued from its incautious use, related two cases occurring in his own practice in each of which the patient derived great benefit from its use.

In the first case a man troubled with frequent attacks of lumbago, was much relieved by the application for five minutes of the Metallic brush to the skin, previously dried and dusted, and in four days there was an entire cessation of pain.

The second case was one of paralysis of the extensor muscles of the hand without any anaesthesia. In three weeks the patient was quite relieved and able to use his hand.

Dr Cuming then stated that in his opinion the Voltaic was of more use than the Magnetic Electricity, and stated his reasons for arriving at that conclusion, and having exhibited the Metallic brush, and stated the mode in which he had applied it, finished his interesting paper by making some remarks on the different amounts of muscular contraction which occurs upon the application of the current, and stating that in many cases, the irritability present would preclude its useful administration.

The President having then called the attention of the Society to the following resolution adopted by the Members of the Profession in Belfast on the 20th April 1848 and suggested that same should be more explicit.

Dr Browne moved and Dr Pirrie seconded the addition to the resolution of the words enclosed in parenthesis, and amended it now reads

We, the undersigned members of the Medical Profession, resident in Belfast, disapproving of the principle and the practice usually adopted by Assurance Offices in requiring our opinion respecting the eligibility of parties about to assure their life's, to whom we are the ordinary Medical Attendants; and, also, impressed with the deep responsibility which attaches to the opinion, we may feel it our duty to express an opinion of great importance to the

Assurance Company, and which may subsequently involve us in serious litigation, do hereby resolve, that in future, we will not attend to any such application, unless made directly to ourselves by the Assurance Agent or Company, enclosing the ordinary Consultation fee (of One Guinea).

Passed unanimously and the President and Dr Browne were requested to procure signatures to same.

The President brought forward the subject of the Assurance against Fire of the Property of the Society, and after some discussion he was authorised to effect a new policy for £300, the old one for £500 being about to expire.

Drs Pirrie, Cuming, and McCleery, were appointed Examiners of the Library, and Drs Stewart and Browne, Auditors of Accounts.

Henry Murney, President

### Annual Meeting

#### 6th May, 1861

Present, Dr Murney, President, in the Chair – Drs Dill, Beck, Moore, Wheeler, Burden H, Patterson, Cuming, Stephenson, Browne, Rea, Drennan, Dixon, McGee (Michael), Bryce, Pirrie, Harkin, Reade (Thomas), Corry, Stronge, Warwick, Aickin W, Smith, Moore (Hugh), and Whitaker.

The President stated that in compliance with the wish of the Society, he had made arrangements with the Insurance Company's Agent and as he found that there was no rise in the premium payable for insurance against fire, has continued the policy for £500.

The Minutes of last Annual and Monthly Meetings were confirmed.

The report of Council for the past year was then read by the Secretary, Dr Drennan, and on the motion of Dr Browne, seconded by Dr Patterson, it was received, adopted and entered on the Minutes. It expressed the regret of the Council that the affairs of the Society were not in a more flourishing condition, in as much as but one new member had joined during the past year, while one had died, another retired and three others would become free members during the ensuing year, but hoped that the measures taken during the year to better the financial affairs of the Society would be successful. The report of the Treasurer was then read. The receipts were £39. 18. /. and the expenditure £50. 18. 8½ leaving a balance still due Treasurer £11. 0. 8½.

Dr Warnock was unanimously elected a Member of the Society.

The balloting for Office Bearers having then taken place, the following gentleman were respectively elected:

## The Belfast Medical Society

President, Dr McCormac

Vice-Presidents, Drs Wheeler and Stronge

Council, Drs Browne, Dill, Harkin, Rea, Dixon and Drennan

Treasurer, Dr Smith

Secretary, Dr Whitaker

Dr Dixon proposed a vote of thanks to the late Secretary Dr Drennan and took occasion to remark concerning the ready courtesy which he had always displayed towards the members of the Society, and the zeal and attention which he had bestowed on its affairs during his Secretaryship – a period of 8 years. Dr Pirrie seconded the motion which was passed by acclamation. Dr Drennan having suitably acknowledged the compliment.

Dr Patterson then moved that Dr Stephenson do take the chair which having been done, he also moved and Dr Dixon seconded a vote of thanks to the retiring president, Dr Murney for his courteous and dignified conduct in the chair, and for the very efficient manner in which he had acted as president during the past year. Dr Murney thanked the Society for their kindness.

Drs Patterson, Browne and Pirrie with the Treasurer were appointed stewards of the Annual Dinner.

Henry McCormac, President

### 3rd June, 1861

Present, Dr McCormac, President, in the Chair – Drs Patterson, Stewart, Rea, Wheeler, Burden H, Cuming, McGee (Michael), Harkin, Moore, Drennan, Pirrie, Smith, Bryce, McCormac ? Moore (David), and Whitaker.

Dr Murray, Falls Road, was unanimously elected a Member of the Society.

The President then delivered his inaugural address, which was listened to throughout with marked attention. In it he called attention to the conservatism of the great bulk of mankind, and how they disliked the setting forth of any idea which might ? with their preconceived notions. He dwelt upon the difficulty with which innovators had to contend in making way against popular prejudice, and referred to the case of Jenner and other benefactors of mankind in support of his thesis ?. He then went on to refer to the necessity of a constant supply of fresh air for the healthy mammal, stated that air, in which four percent CO<sub>2</sub> was present was unable to support combustion and showed an interesting experiment to prove that air once breathed would not do so either, and finished his address by stating that tubercle was effete tissue and that it was produced by imperfect oxidation of the air entering into the lungs.

Robert Stewart, Chairman, 1st July, 1861

### July 1st, 1861

Present, Dr Stewart, in the Chair – Drs Patterson, Smith, Moore, McGee (Michael), Murray, and Whitaker.

The Minutes of last meeting having been read and confirmed, Drs David Moore, William McCormac and Brian Smith were unanimously elected members of the Society.

As there was no further business to be transacted, Dr Moore brought before the notice of the Meeting, a case of intracranial neuralgia in which he had given large doses (say 15 grains) of Iod Potass with complete success, and made some general remarks on the treatment of such cases which gave rise to some discussion among the members present.

A desultory yet interesting conversation then ensued in which Medical and other subjects, especially Medical Topography were ably discussed.

Henry McCormac, MD

### August 5th, 1861

Present, Dr McCormac, President, in the Chair – Drs Stewart, Bryce, Dixon, Smith, Bryce, Smyth, David Moore, and Whitaker.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed, and as there was no further business to be transacted, the meeting separated after some general conversation among the members present.

Robert Stewart, Chairman, 2nd September, 1861

### September 2nd, 1861

Present, Dr Stewart, in the Chair – Drs Moore, Bryce, Smyth, Patterson, Browne, Dill, McGee (Michael), Corry, Rea, David Moore, and Whitaker.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

A copy of "Churchill's Medical Directory" was ordered for the Library.

Communications were read from Dr ? Kidd, Editor of Dublin Quarterly Journal relative to the reports of the papers read at the Society's meetings; and from Dr O'Rourke relative to the fees payable by Life Insurance Companies to Medical Men. The Secretary was directed to take the necessary steps in the former, and answer the latter communication.

A discussion then took place relative to the advisability of amalgamating the Medical and Pathological Societies, a notice calling attention to same having been placed on the Monthly Paper, when after the greater part of the Members present had expressed their opinion, Dr Browne moved, and Dr Pirrie seconded the following motion which was passed unanimously. That the Matter be referred to the Council to confer with the Council of the Pathological Society and prepare a plan to be laid

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before the next monthly meeting of the Medical Society.

7th October, 1861, ? Dill, Chairman P.T

### October 7th, 1861

Present, Drs Dill, Murray, Harkin, Dixon, Moore, and Whitaker.

In the absence of the President and Vice-Presidents Dr Dill was called to the Chair.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

Dr Harkin read a most interesting paper on the use of Chlorate of Potash in the treatment of tuberculous and scrofulous diseases. After referring to the views regarding the nature of tubercle which have been laterally put forward by the President (Dr McCormac) and supporting same, he proceeded to bring forward a number of cases in which the use of Chlorate of Potash had been attended with marked benefit, and after stating that he did not put it forward as a panacea for all stages of phthisis, he concluded by stating his view of the rational of its action.

Dr Harkin then exhibited patients who had been under treatment and to whose cases he had referred in his paper.

Henry McCormac

### 4th November, 1861

Present, Dr McCormac, President, in the Chair – Drs Moore, Stewart, Dill, Moore (David), and Whitaker.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

Dr Moore brought forward a case of Femoral Hernia, in which he had operated, recurring in an old woman, 60 years of age, and after giving an account of same from which it appeared that the hernia had been irreducible from Wednesday last, that strangulation had ensued, and that the patient refused to permit of operative interference previously to today; stated that although the pulse was favourable and the strength pretty good, he was afraid that the gut was too far gone to recover itself.

Dr Moore then stated that ? you would scarcely ever find the layers of fascia covering the sac alike, and finished his remarks by stating the after treatment to be adopted in such cases.

Henry McCormac

### 2nd December, 1861

Present, Drs McCormac, Patterson, Browne, Bryce, Stewart, and Whitaker.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

Surgeon A Haldane Cooke was unanimously

elected a Member of the Society.

Dr Stewart kindly presented to the Society a review entitled "Insanity and Hospitals for the Insane".

Robert Stewart, Chairman, 6th January, 1862

### 6th January, 1862

Present, Dr Stewart, in the Chair – Drs Cuming, McGee (Michael), Moore, Bryce Smyth, Moore (David), and Whitaker.

Dr Wilberforce Arnold was unanimously elected a Member of the Society.

There being no further business to be transacted, at the request of some of the Members, Dr Moore related the result of the operation for hernia, noticed by him at the November Meeting and stated that it had been entirely successful.

Henry McCormac

### 3rd February, 1862

Present, Dr McCormac, President, in the Chair – Drs Patterson, Stewart, Moore D, Browne, Wheeler, Bryce Smyth, Michael McGee, William McCormac and Whitaker.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

Dr Browne made some remarks as to the changes proposed to be effected in the Society which led to some discussion.

The Secretary was desired to write to the Treasurer and ask him to attend the next Monthly Meeting in order to give some information regarding the financial position of the Society.

The subscription to the Dublin Medical Press was ordered to be recontinued, and the numbers published since its discontinuance to be obtained in order to complete the set of Volumes. The Secretary was directed to obtain a statement of the terms of subscription to Lewis' Medical Library, and to give notice that the propriety of subscribing to same would be brought before the next Monthly Meeting.

Robert Stewart, Chairman, 3rd March, 1862

### 3rd March, 1862

Present, Dr Stewart (Chairman), Browne, Dill, Moore, Smith, Bryce Smyth, and Whitaker.

The Minutes of last meeting have been read and confirmed, the Treasurer gave a rather unfavourable report of the financial condition of the Society.

The report from Council regarding the advisability of amalgamating this Society with the Pathological, strongly approving of same was read by the Secretary. The report also referred to the terms upon which the amalgamation should be effected.

The Chairman, Drs Browne and Dill having expressed their views on the subject, the report was

## The Belfast Medical Society

remitted to Council with directions to have a Special Meeting called to consider same.

James Patterson

### 21st March, 1862

#### Special Meeting

Present, Drs Murney (Chairman), Thomas Reade, Browne, Pirrie, Bryce, Smith, Moore (David), Dill, McCormac (William) and Whitaker.

The Chairman brought forward the subject of the amalgamation of the Society to determine this Special Meeting had been called, and entered very fully into the subject, explaining the object and aims of the Combined Society as also the terms of subscription and minor matters of detail. He also dwelt upon the advantages of having a central reading room and making the Meetings of the Society more interesting.

An animated discussion then ensued in which all present joined, and the general feeling being in favour of the project, Dr Dill moved and Dr Browne seconded "That a Committee be appointed to make the necessary Enquiries for a central room; to consist of the following gentleman – the President, Drs Murney, Pirrie, Browne, William McCormac, and Dill, with the Treasurer and Secretary.

James Patterson, Chairman

### April 7th, 1862

Present, Drs Patterson (Chair), Moore, Smith, Smyth, Dee, Stewart, Warnock, and Whitaker.

The Minutes of last special meeting having been read and confirmed, report from Committee appointed at special meeting to make the necessary enquiries for a central room was then read. It recommended that two rooms, with water closet attached, be taken in the house No.33 High Street at the rent of £12. 10. /. per annum, ? included. Also, that a careful reconsideration of the expenses of the Society be gone into. And, finally, that one of the Bookcases filled with the most readable books, at present the property of the Society, be removed to the Central Room.

Dr Stewart moved and Dr Smith seconded, That the report be received and laid on the table, and that the Committee reconsider same, and bring it forward at a Special Meeting to be called on Thursday next, at 3 o'clock pm to consider same.

Drs Pirrie, Cuming, and McCleery were appointed Examiners of Library and Drs Stewart and Browne, Auditors of Accounts.

### April 10th, 1862

#### Special Meeting

Present, Dr Stewart (Chairman), Murney, Patterson, David Moore, Murray, William MacCormac.

Meeting specially summoned to receive a report from the Committee appointed to procure a central room, and to decide thereon definitely.

Dr Murney read the report recommending the taking of a central room, the careful consideration of the expenditure, and the removal of one of the bookcases to this room if taken.

Moved by Dr Murney, seconded by Dr W MacCormac and passed unanimously that the report now read be adopted.

Resolved, That a special meeting of the Medical Society be summoned for Saturday next (12th Inst) at 4 o'clock to confirm the resolution of today relative to the adoption of the report.

Resolved, That a meeting of Committee be summoned for tomorrow (Friday) at 3pm to revise the rules of the Society in order that a suitable recommendation to that effect be made to the meeting on Saturday.

### 12th April, 1862

A special meeting held to confirm the resolution passed at the special meeting of the 10th Inst relative to the adoption of the report from Committee, present:

Drs Murney (Chair), Patterson, Stewart, Dill, Browne, Reid, Mulholland, Moore (David), Smith (Jas), Moore (J), Aickin, Arnold ?, Murray, William MacCormac, and Whitaker.

The report as adopted at the meeting of the 10th Inst was received, taken up serialive ? and confirmed, it was as follows:

The Committee appointed at the Special General Meeting of the Society, held on Friday 28th Ult to seek for eligible rooms in a central situation, to consider the question of union of the Medical and Clinical and Pathological Societies, and to report thereon at the regular meeting of the Society on the first Monday in April beg to suggest;

That having examined various rooms in High Street, Castle Place and Donegal Place, they recommend the Society to take two rooms, a large and small one, with water closet attached, in the house No.33 High Street, at the rent of £12. 10. /. per annum taxes included.

They recommend a careful reconsideration of the expenditure of the Medical Society as at present constituted.

They also suggest that if the rooms be taken for the Society one or two of the Bookcases be removed from the Library to the Reading Room and furnished with a selection of the most valuable books at present the property of the Society.

The proposed rules of the new Society were then gone over. Each rule being considered separately,

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after some discussion and trifling alterations had been made they were unanimously adopted.

### **23rd April, 1862**

Special Meeting, held to meet the Members of the Belfast Clinical and Pathological Society with a view to the union of the two Societies, under the title of the "Ulster Medical Society".

Present, Dr Stewart (Chair), Murney, Drennan, Mulholland, Patterson, McGee M, Cuming, Halliday, Moore ?, Moore David, Smyth Bryce, Wheeler, Browne, Whitaker.

Dr Stewart having taken the Chair, Dr Murney read two communications he had received, one from Dr Scott, Aghnacloy, the other from Dr McBride, Gilford, suggesting alterations in some of the Rules, the difference between their views and the rules at laid down being either trivial or arising from misconception, the Meeting did not act in the matter, but requested Dr Murney to write to the gentleman thanking them for their communications and explaining the reasons for the rules referred to.

Dr Patterson having then enquired as to whether circulars had been issued to all the Members of the Society, the Librarian was called in, when it appeared each had not been done, the Secretary was therefore directed, personally, to send a circular ? per post summoning each Member of the Society to a Special Meeting to be held on Saturday 26th Inst at 2pm to make the final arrangements for amalgamating this Society, with the Pathological under the title of the "Ulster Medical Society".

### **26th April, 1862**

#### **Special Meeting**

Present, Dr Stewart (Chair), Browne, Patterson, MacCormac W, Arnold, B Smyth, Moore David, and Whitaker.

Dr Browne made a short statement in which he reviewed, seriatim, the steps which had already been taken to amalgamate the two Societies, and stated the reasons which had, heretofore, occurred to prevent same, moved the following resolution, which was seconded by Dr Patterson and passed unanimously.

"That this Meeting having heard the report of the previous proceedings of the Society, and having read the alterations about to be made its rules, hereby approve of the proposed changes and desire to unite this Society with the Pathological under the title of the "Ulster Medical Society".

It was then agreed that a Special Meeting of the Society should be called for Wednesday 30th Inst at 3pm to confirm the union of the two bodies and that the Pathological Society be requested to call a Meeting of their body at same time and place.

### **30th April, 1862**

#### **Special Meeting Medical and Pathological Societies**

Present, Dr Stewart, Chairman, Browne, Smyth B, Cuming, Ferguson (P), Wheeler, Patterson, Murney, MacCormac, Moore D, Johnston (P) and Whitaker. (Those marked P. are members of Pathological Society only).

Dr Browne moved and Dr Patterson seconded the following resolution - "That this Meeting approve of the proceedings already undertaken for the amalgamation of the Medical and Pathological Societies, and hereby declare the union of the respective bodies under the title of the "Ulster Medical Society".