

A letter to James Thomas Law, M.A., Chancellor of the Diocese of Lichfield, on the importance of establishing, in connection with the Birmingham Royal School of Medicine and Surgery, a clinical hospital / by William Sands Cox.

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Cox, William Sands, 1802-1875.
Law, James Thomas, 1790-1876.
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Publication/Creation

[Birmingham] : [Printed by Richard Davies], [1839]

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John Ferriey
Birmingham

A LETTER

TO

JAMES THOMAS LAW, M. A.

Chancellor of the Diocese of Lichfield,

ON THE IMPORTANCE OF ESTABLISHING, IN CONNECTION WITH THE

BIRMINGHAM

ROYAL SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY,

A

CLINICAL HOSPITAL.

BY WILLIAM SANDS COX, F.R.S.

*Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons, Membre Titulaire de la
Société Française Statistique Universelle; Lecturer on Anatomy and
Surgery at the Birmingham Royal School of Medicine, and
Surgeon to the General Dispensary.*

Homines enim ad deos nullà re proprius accedunt, quam salutem
hominibus dando: nihil habet nec fortuna tua majus quàm ut possis; nec
natura tua melius, quam ut velis, conservare quamplurimos.—CICERO.

BIRMINGHAM:

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A LETTER,

&c. &c.

MY DEAR SIR,

In consequence of a suggestion from yourself, when in a recent conversation you brought forward the idea of establishing a Clinical Infirmary, to be permanently connected with the Birmingham Royal School of Medicine and Surgery, I have been induced to give the subject some consideration and research, with a view to the expedience and feasibility of such a project. The liberal offer, on your part, of pecuniary aid, to accomplish the realization of this proposal, together with the many other weighty benefits which you have been continually imparting to the Institution, whether in the shape of direct contributions from your purse, or of wise counsel afterwards carried successfully into operation, has inspired me with the hope, that this measure may be attempted as propitiously as others which have preceded it, and that it may as advantageously be effected. Since the result of my own speculations, investigations, *applications*, and other exertions, tends to confirm these hopes; I venture, through you, to beg the attention of the Noble Patrons and Friends, and the Public in general; while I lay before them the importance and the practicability of such an undertaking.

Amongst the various causes of the rapid advancement of Medical education, which has taken place within the last few years, the institution of Clinical* (*κλινη*, a bed) instruction is one of the most obvious and valuable.

Benefits derived from Hospitals, two-fold.

Without entering into the details of the benefits, which the public must receive from every well regulated Medical charity, there are two especial grounds on which they are beneficial; the one, to relieve and provide for our fellow creatures afflicted with disease; the other, as Schools of Medicine, wherein the knowledge, acquired by observation and experience, might not only be rendered useful to the present, but perpetuated to future generations. Many philanthropic individuals no doubt have contributed to Hospitals, only from a benevolent disposition to relieve the miseries of the *poor* distressed, without ever thinking of any improvement in Medical and Surgical knowledge; but, it cannot

* "The regular application of clinical teaching in both departments of medicine, as an essential part of education, is but of yesterday. Systematic Lectures on diseases are excellent means of conveying to the mind of the Student the general truths or principles of Medicine. He may have attended the Lectures sedulously; read carefully on the subjects treated of in them; be able to pass even an examination thereon with credit; and yet, when brought to the bed-side, not know how to interrogate a patient. It is an imperative condition of the knowledge of our art, that it should be learned on the living body: there the great masters of it have acquired their skill. By merely following the visit of the Physician or Surgeon, (who is under no obligation to be communicative,) the Students would learn something by observing how he fulfilled his duty to the sick, but that only after the expenditure of a great deal of time and labour. Much of the duty of the Clinical teacher may be done at the bed side, as much as may be consistent with the comfort and welfare of the patient; but a great deal can be done, and properly done, elsewhere -- in the lecture-room, where we can speak more freely and fully; here, also, we can compare cases together, notice omissions or errors, if such have occurred, and discuss unsuccessful cases"---*Arnott's Address at King's College, on the Establishment of Clinical Hospitals.*

"Lectures alone will not teach a Physician or Surgeon to think, much less to think justly, but it will give him the elements of thinking. Every one desires to live as long as he can. Every one values health 'above all gold and treasure.' In the improvement of the Science, which has for its object the preservation of health and life, every individual, therefore, is deeply interested."---*Dr. Southwood Smith.*

be denied, that there are also many, and those of the most distinguished for humanity, who have given their support as much from a desire to benefit the sick and maimed *in general*, by the establishment of them into useful Schools of Physic.

the Edin-
burgh Clinic.

At Edinburgh, the Royal Infirmary accommodates three hundred patients, and its wards are divided into three great compartments; the Medical wards, the Surgical wards, and the Clinical wards. The Clinical wards receive about eighty patients. They are under the charge of the Professors of Clinical Medicine to the University. In the winter clinical course all four professors are engaged, two on duty the first three months; and in the next three months the other two are similarly employed. The Summer course of three months is also given in a similar manner, by two of these professors. Each professor on duty gives two lectures weekly, on different days. He explains the history, the seat, and cause of the affection; points out the probable course and termination of the disorder; and the principles of treatment, whether by diet, medicine, or general management. An exact register of the case is kept; a copy of which the students are permitted to take. A course of Clinical Lectures is also given by two of the ordinary Physicians, and one course by one of the Surgeons in Ordinary.

MEDICAL STAFF, AT THE ROYAL INFIRMARY, AT EDINBURGH.

Ordinary Physicians—Drs. Spens, Short, Cragie, and Borthwick; in charge of the ordinary wards.

Consulting Surgeons—Sir G. Ballingall, T. Campbell, and Sir C. Bell.

Ordinary Surgeons—Messrs. Syme, Watson, and Ferguson; in charge of the Surgical wards.

Professors of Clinical Medicine, in charge only of the Clinical wards—Drs. Graham, Alison, Home, and Christison.

Professor of Clinical Surgery, in charge of the Clinical Surgical ward—James Syme, Esq.

The ordinary Medical Officers are appointed to the Infirmary by the Governors, and the Clinical Professors by the University.

The Surgeons hold their office for a limited period; but may be re-elected. Their services are entirely gratuitous. Every Medical officer visits his patients once a day, from twelve o'clock until one. The fee for an Annual Ticket, £5. 7s. 0d. is devoted to the funds of the Hospital. The number of Students on the books, last year, exceeded six hundred.

For testimony to the value of the Edinburgh Clinic, even sixty years ago, I would appeal to the clinical clerk of the renowned James Gregory, Dr. Johnstone, the respected President of our School.

Dublin
Clinic.

Dublin justly boasts of her Clinical Hospitals. The Richmond Surgical Hospital, Steeven's Hospital, County of Dublin Infirmary, The Mercers' Hospital, and Sir Patrick Dunn's Hospital, are open, on the most liberal scale, to an unlimited number of Students. The latter Institution is attended every morning at eleven o'clock, by one of the Professors of Clinical Medicine to the University, who explains the principles of disease, on cases selected for treatment. The Physicians in Ordinary attend at the same hour throughout the year.

I had the gratification to visit the Schools of Dublin, Glasgow, and Edinburgh, in the year 1827, and can therefore speak of the system from personal observation.

London
Clinic.

Within the last few years, to all the great

London Hospitals, Medical Schools have been attached. The student has daily the opportunity of hearing Lectures from the Physicians, and of seeing the effects of Medicines and the operations and dressings of the Surgeons, at the patient's bed-side; as well as of copying from their records all cases worthy of remembrance in their future practice. At all the London Hospitals the day and hour of visit is fixed.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL SCHOOL.

Clinical Lectures, by Drs. Latham and Roupell; Mr. Lawrence, and Mr. Stanley.

ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL SCHOOL.

Clinical Lectures, by Drs. Williams, Roots, and Burton; Mr. Travers, Mr. Green, Mr. Tyrrell, and Mr. South.

ST. GEORGE'S HOSPITAL SCHOOL.

Clinical Lectures, by Drs. Seymour, Macleod, and Hope; Mr. Keate, Sir B. Brodie, Mr. Hawkins, and Mr. Babington.

LONDON HOSPITAL SCHOOL.

Clinical Lectures, by Drs. Gordon and Frampton; Mr. Scott and Mr. Luke.

MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL SCHOOL.

Clinical Lectures, by Drs. Hawkins, Watson, and Wilson; Mr. Mayo, Mr. Arnott, and Mr. Tuson.

GUY'S HOSPITAL SCHOOL.

The Clinical Wards will be open the first week in November; when Clinical Lectures will be delivered by the Physicians and Surgeons.

WESTMINSTER HOSPITAL SCHOOL.

Clinical Lectures, by Drs. Roe and Burn; Sir A. Carlisle, Mr. Guthrie, and Mr. Thompson.

CHARING CROSS HOSPITAL SCHOOL.

Clinical Lectures, occasionally, by the Medical Officers.

NORTH LONDON HOSPITAL.

Clinical Lectures, by Drs. Williams, Thomson, and Carswell; Mr. Cooper, Mr. Liston, and Mr. Quain.

KING'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL.

Hospital in progress of erection.

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ic.

In France, the Physicians and Surgeons make their visit daily, at a fixed hour; at six o'clock in the morning in the summer, and at

seven o'clock in the winter. They devote about two hours to the wards of the sick; and "après la visite," as it is termed, they retire to their respective theatres, and deliver one hour's lecture on the treatment of the most important cases in the wards.

At Paris, the following Hospitals are open to Students of every nation, without limitation; and I can speak from personal attendance, during the years 1824 and 1825, of the unequalled Clinical instruction given by each Physician and Surgeon.

The Hôtel Dieu, 1306 beds; Hôpital de la Pitié, 900 beds; Hôpital de la Charité, 530 beds; Hôpital de St. Louis, 700 beds; Hôpital Clinique de la Faculté, 140 beds; Hôpital de St. Antoine, 270 beds; Hôpital Cochin, 112 beds; Hôpital Necher, 140 beds; Hôpital des Enfants Malades, 560 beds; Hôpital Beaujon, 200 beds; Hôpital du Midi, 645 beds; Hôpital d'Accouchement, 430 beds. Two Hospitals for the old and infirm, Hospice de la Salpêtrière, and the Hospice de Bicêtre, total number of inmates at the former institution 7000, infirmary division, 400 beds. M. Cruveilhier has under his care at this institution, patients affected with cancerous disorder, generally to the amount of about 250. And at the latter 3200 beds; of which number 700 are occupied by insane. There are also two large Military Hospitals, to which Students are admitted under certain regulations; the Hôpital-du-val-de-Grace, 1500 beds; and the Hôpital Militaire, 1000 beds.

German
Clinic.

In Germany, Medicine is taught with the same success; and the States contain upwards of twenty Universities. Each University comprises the four faculties of Theology, Law, Medicine, and Philosophy. The Clinic is usually conducted on the following plan.—A patient is introduced to the assembled Students. Two are then called upon by name, by the Physician or Surgeon. They are required to discover the nature of the disease. The Professor cross questions the Student, on the case; and then proceeds to explain his own views regarding it.

In the year 1830, I had the satisfaction to visit some of the principal Austrian and German Hospitals; and can bear testimony to their arrangements. At Berlin, there exists a Hospital entirely for children; where the Clinique of Dr. Barez is attended by an unusually large class of Students. Diseases of children are too little studied abroad, as well as at home. The Universities, where Medicine is taught, are Berlin, Göttingen, Wein, Halle, Leipsic, Heidelbergh, Bonn, Wurzburg, Breslaw, Tubingen, Konnisbergh, Prague, Jena, Giessen, Marburgh, Kiel, Rostock, Greifswalde, Freyburgh, Erlangen, Basle, Munich.

Austrian
Clinic.

In the Austrian States Medicine is clinically studied. There are four Universities, viz. at Vienna, Prague, Pesth, and Innspruch in the Tyrol. The number of Medical Students, at Vienna, amounts to nearly one thousand; and during the last two years of the Student's attendance, patients are treated by him, under the inspection of the Professor. He must make the diagnosis and prognosis, and write the history of the cases, with decursus. Besides its immense Hospitals, Vienna has many Stipendia or Bursaries, for Medical Students.

Milan, although without an University, possesses several Clinics. Of the Hospitals, the largest, the Spedale Maggiore, contains twenty eight wards, with upwards of 2,000 beds. To this Institution eighteen Physicians are attached; and the expenses are principally defrayed by contributions from the Milanese.

Want of
Clinical In-
struction in
Birmingham.

From the want of a Clinical Hospital in connection with the Birmingham Royal School of Medicine and Surgery hitherto, much inconvenience has resulted to the Student, although placed on the same footing by the accredited Medical authorities, as the pupil of the Metropolitan Schools. In consequence also of other circumstances involving the

efficiency of the Institution; viz. the recent enactments of the London University, which demands attendance on *Surgical Clinical instruction*; the regulations issued on the 20th of October, 1839, of the Royal College of Surgeons, which now requires attendance, during three years, on the practice of Surgery, at an Hospital; the great and probably increasing demand for Medical instruction in this town, from the rapid communication in all directions with surrounding districts; and, above all, the imperative obligation to render the system of instruction, pursued at the School, as perfect as possible—sound and stable, and at the same time perfectly keeping pace with the march of science; the establishment of a Clinical Infirmary is indispensably required.

Compare the system of education, existing a few years ago, with the extended system of the present day.

REGULATIONS OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, 1826.

Regulations,
1826.

Candidates will be required to bring proof,—

1. Of having attended three winter courses of Anatomical Lectures,* and also one or more winter courses of Chirurgical Lectures.
2. Of having performed dissections during two or more winter courses.
3. Of having attended during the term of at least one year, the Chirurgical practice of a Hospital.

Regulations issued October, 1839.

Regulations,
1839.

Candidates will be required, in addition to a Certificate of being not less than twenty-one years of age, to bring proof—

1. Of having been engaged in the acquirement of professional

* Two courses of Lectures were delivered in a winter.

knowledge during a period of *not less than four years*; six months of which shall have been occupied in the study of Practical Pharmacy, *six months* by attendance on the Practice of Physic, and *the remainder of the period on the Practice of Surgery*, at a recognised Hospital or Hospitals in the United Kingdom :—three months being allowed for a vacation in each year.

2. Of having studied Anatomy and Physiology, by attendance on Lectures and Demonstrations, and by Dissections, during three Anatomical Seasons or Sessions :*—and of having attended at least two Courses of Lectures on the Principles and Practice of Surgery, delivered in two distinct periods or seasons, each course comprising not less than 70 Lectures :—and one Course of not fewer than 70 Lectures, on each of the following subjects, viz. the Practice of Physic—Chemistry—Materia Medica—and Midwifery with Practical Instruction.

REGULATIONS OF THE SOCIETY OF APOTHECARIES, 1826.

Regulations,
1826.

Students will be required to produce testimonials of having attended—

- 1.—Two Courses of Lectures on Anatomy.
- 2.—Two Courses of Lectures on the Theory and Practice of Medicine.
- 3.—Six months—the Physician's Practice of a Hospital.

Course of Study, 1839.

Regulations,
1839.

Every Candidate whose attendance on Lectures commenced on or after the 1st of October, 1835, must have attended the following Lectures and Medical Practice during not less than three winter and two summer sessions : the winter session being understood to extend from the 1st of October to the middle of April, with a recess of fourteen days at Christmas ; and the summer session, from the 1st of May to the 31st of July.

<i>First</i>	}	Chemistry.
<i>Winter</i>		Anatomy and Physiology.
<i>Session.</i>		Anatomical Demonstrations. Materia Medica and Therapeutics.

<i>First</i>	}	Botany ;
<i>Summer</i>		And such other branches of study as may improve the
<i>Session.</i>		student's general education.

<i>Second</i>	}	Anatomy and Physiology.
<i>Winter</i>		Anatomical Demonstrations.
<i>Session.</i>		Dissections.
		Principles and Practice of Medicine.

* An Anatomical Season is understood to extend from October to April inclusive, and to comprise at least 140 Lectures on Anatomy and Physiology, occupying not less than one hour each, given on separate days; and at least 100 Demonstrations of the like duration, given in a similar manner; exclusive of Dissections, of which distinct Certificates are required.

<i>Second Summer Session.</i>	{	Botany, if not attended during the First Summer Session.
		Forensic Medicine.
<i>Third Winter Session.</i>	{	Dissections.
		Principles and Practice of Medicine.

Midwifery.

MIDWIFERY, and the DISEASES OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN, two Courses of Sixty Lectures each, in separate Sessions, and subsequent to the termination of the first Summer Session.

PRACTICAL MIDWIFERY, at any time after the conclusion of the first Course of Midwifery Lectures.

Medical Practice.

The Student must attend Medical Practice during the full term of eighteen months; the first twelve months, i. e., from the commencement of the second Winter Session, to the commencement of the third Winter Session, at a recognised hospital; and the remaining six months either at a recognised hospital, or a recognised dispensary.

The Lectures on Botany may be attended during any Summer Session, either previous or subsequent to the first Winter Session.

The sessional course of instruction in each subject of study, is to consist of not less than the following number of Lectures, viz. :—

One hundred on Chemistry.

One hundred on Materia Medica and Therapeutics.

One hundred on the Principles and Practice of Medicine.

Sixty on Midwifery, and the Diseases of Women and Children.

Fifty on Forensic Medicine.

Fifty on Botany.

The number of Lectures on Anatomy and Physiology, and of Anatomical Demonstrations, must be in conformity with the regulations of the Royal College of Surgeons of London, on these subjects.

The Lectures required in each course must be given on separate days. An examination of an hour's duration will be deemed equivalent to a Lecture.

Students, when they present themselves for examination, must bring testimonials of having received instruction in Practical Chemistry, either in a separate course on that subject, or during their attendance upon the Lectures on Chemistry, Materia Medica, or Forensic Medicine; and also of having attended a full course of Clinical Lectures, and such instruction in Morbid Anatomy, as may be afforded them during their attendance at an Hospital.

Every Student will be required to bring a testimonial of having dissected the whole of the human body once at least.

The above course of study may be extended over a longer period than three Winter and two Summer Sessions, provided the Lectures and Medical Practice are attended in the prescribed order, and in the required sessions.

REGULATIONS OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS,
EDINBURGH.

Professional Instruction.

The candidate must have been engaged in attending the following *separate* and *distinct* Courses of Lectures during a period of not less than twenty-seven months; in which must have been included three Winter Sessions of six month's duration each.

Anatomy	2 Courses,	Six months each.
Practical Anatomy		Twelve months.
Chemistry	1 do., ...	Six months.
Practical Chemistry	} 1 do.,... {	Three months.
The number of Pupils in each class being limited to 25		
Materia Medica and Pharmacy	1 do.,....	Six months.
Practical Pharmacy	1 do.,....	Six months.
Institutions of Medicine, or Physiology	1 do.'....	Six months.
Practice of Medicine	1 do.,....	Six months.
Clinical Medicine	1 or 2 Courses.	{ Six months. Three months each

during the period of attendance at the Hospital where they are delivered.

Principles and Practice of Surgery	} 2 Courses.	Six months each.
Or Principles and Practice of Surgery, and Military Surgery		
Clinical Surgery	1 Course.	{ Six months each.
	1 do.	
Clinical Surgery	1 or 2 Courses.	{ Six months. Three months each

during the period of attendance at the Hospital where they are delivered.

Midwifery and Diseases of Women and Children	} 1 Course.	Three months.
Medical Jurisprudence		
Medical Jurisprudence	1 do.	Three months.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION FOR BACHELOR OF MEDICINE,
UNIVERSITY, LONDON.—FIRST EXAMINATION.

<i>Examination.</i>	<i>Examination for Honours.</i>	<i>Rewards.</i>
Anatomy, Physiology, Chemistry, Structural and Physiological Botany. Materia Medica and Pharmacy.	Anatomy and Physiology. Chemistry. Materia Medica and Pharmaceutical Chemistry.	An Exhibition of £30. per annum for Two years and two Gold Medals of the value of Five Pounds in each subject.

SECOND EXAMINATION.

<i>Examination.</i>	<i>Examination for Honours.</i>	<i>Rewards.</i>
Physiology. General Pathology. General Therapeutics. Hygiene. Surgery. Medicine. Midwifery. Forensic Medicine.	Physiology & Comparative Anatomy. Surgery. Medicine. Midwifery. Structural and Physiological Botany.	An Exhibition of £50. per annum for Two Years, with the style of UNIVERSITY MEDICAL SCHOLAR, and two Gold Medals of the value of Five Pounds, in each of the first three subjects, and one Gold Medal of the value of Five Pounds in each of the last two subjects.

Certificates to be produced of having attended—

Clinical Instruction in Medicine.—That the Pupil attended the Surgical Practice of this Hospital, and the Course of Lectures on Clinical Surgery, consisting of Lectures, from _____ to _____

Clinical Instruction in Medicine.—That the Pupil attended the Medical Practice of this Hospital, and the Course of Lectures on Clinical Medicine, consisting of Lectures, from _____ to _____

Practical Medicine.—That the Pupil attended _____ to _____ Practical Medicine at _____, and was intrusted with the treatment of Patients under _____ superintendence, from _____ to _____

Certificates on this subject will be received from any legally-qualified Practitioner having the care of the poor of a parish.

Practical Midwifery.—That the Pupil conducted _____ Labours under his superintendence.

Any legally-qualified Practitioner shall be competent to give this Certificate.

Want of a second Hospital in the town.

In this important central metropolitan district; far exceeding in wealth, population, and extent, many of the continental states; embracing within its range upwards of a million and a-half of people, employed amidst the pestilential effluvia of manufactures, hourly exposed

to various accidents from powerful machinery assisting the labour of man, and from mining operations extensively increased within the last few years, *only one Hospital exists*; and by the laws of that Institution, the number of apprentices or dressers is limited to *four to each Surgeon*;* while the number of students of the School, to whom it is absolutely essential to attend hospital practice, considerably exceeds the provision of this regulation, and it is not unknown that there exists in the minds of the Committee a determination not to make any increase.

The following number of students have registered since the 1st of October, 1831. The majority have already obtained their diplomas at the Royal College of Surgeons and Society of Apothecaries. At the present time thirty-eight Students REQUIRE HOSPITAL SURGICAL PRACTICE:—

Warwickshire	85	Plymouth and	227
Staffordshire	64	Barnstaple, Devonshire..	3
Worcestershire.. ..	36	Overton, Flintshire ..	1
Gloucestershire	5	Wrexham, Cheshire ..	1
Shropshire	12	Banbury, Oxon	1
Derbyshire	8	Righton, Yorkshire ..	1
Leicestershire	5	Westbury, Wiltshire ..	1
Nottinghamshire	3	North Brecon, S. Wales	2
Bedfordshire	2	Treffgarn, Pembrokeshire	1
Northamptonshire	4	Demerara	1
Herefordshire	3	Jersey	1
		Gibraltar.. ..	1
	Up 227		Total 241

* In justice to the Physicians of the General Hospital, especial thanks are due to Dr. Male, Dr. James Johnstone, and Dr. Eccles, for their valuable clinical instruction to the limited number of Students; and like acknowledgments are due to the late Physician, Dr. Booth, who has recorded his opinion on the value of Clinical Instruction. "The stimulus," said Dr. Booth, "of pupillary observation, animates the Physician to redoubled diligence and vigilance, while the consciousness of the obligation devolving upon him, of expounding the motives of his practice, leads him to be circumspect and anxious at each step of his treatment. My experience at the Hospital leads me highly to appreciate the admission of Students." Nor can I pass over in silence the important oral instruction conveyed to the Students during a long series of years, by that accomplished Physician, the late Dr. John Johnstone, Vice-President of our School.

The establishment of a second Infirmary, in another quarter of the town, is therefore imperatively called for.

At Liverpool, three Hospitals have been erected in different situations, exclusively of the General Infirmary.

At Bristol there are two large Hospitals, besides St. Peter's Hospital, which is connected with the Poor House.

At Bath, two Hospitals; viz. the Bath Hospital, and the United Hospital formed by the coalition of the Bath City Infirmary, the Dispensary, and the Casualty Hospital.

At Sheffield, six months ago, an additional Infirmary was proposed; and at the first meeting, *six thousand pounds* were subscribed.

A few months ago, the establishment of a Clinical Hospital, in connection with the Medical department of King's College, London, (although this College is within the range of the great St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and Charing Cross Hospital) was brought forward, and ably advocated by the Primate of England and the Bishop of London; and the amount of donations, already presented, exceeds *eight thousand pounds*.

Suggestions
as to the Plan
of a Clinical
Hospital, on
the most eco-
nomical scale.

Not insensible to the difficulties of the present times, and to the numerous and repeated calls on the benevolence of the Noblemen, Clergy and Gentlemen, of this and circumjacent

counties, and on the merchants and inhabitants of this great town, I am aware that in such an undertaking, every means should be considered, in order to form a plan on the most economical scale.

Towards defraying the expenses, and to extend the benefits of the Institution as far as possible, I would propose to combine with it the advantages of a Dispensary. Thus it might be considered part of the duties of the Physicians and Surgeons, to attend on *fixed* days and on *fixed* hours; for the purpose of being consulted in cases of difficulty, by Out-patients, who, under certain limitations, might be visited *at their own homes*. Hospitals are, in a majority of cases, an imperfect substitute for the nursing and medical attendance which patients might receive in the bosoms of their families.

To prevent any doubts or discussion respecting the punctual attendance of Medical Officers, and to obviate the necessity of frequently interrogating the patients, "*a Medical Officer's attendance book*" shall be kept in the board room, in which each Physician or Surgeon, on returning from the wards, shall sign his name against the previously written or printed day of the month.—*Kent and Canterbury Hospital*.

Connected with the Royal Infirmary at Manchester is a large Dispensary; and, according to the last report, 3,864 Patients were visited at their homes, and 1,009 as out-district Home Patients. The number of Out Patients amounted to 15,175.

The Patients are visited, under the following law:—

That the Physicians' Clerks and Surgeons' senior Pupils, upon receiving the recommendations for Home-patients, shall visit every Patient immediately; and shall report every *urgent* or *important* case to the Physicians and Surgeons under whom they act, by one o'clock on the same day, in order that such Patient may be visited by a Physician or Surgeon, without delay; that the Physicians and Surgeons shall be required to

visit every other case on the following day, or at their earliest possible convenience.—*Manchester Royal Infirmary.*

At the United Hospital at Bath, "Out-patients, who cannot attend, are visited at home."

At the West Sussex Hospital, "Out-patients, who are not able to attend, are visited."

Independent
Out-patients.

To encourage a spirit of *independence* and *self-respect*, by enabling the provident and the industrious to procure for themselves the benefit of regular medical and surgical advice; the artizan, the labourer, and the servant, on the recommendation of a subscriber or his employer, might be admitted as an *independent* out-patient, on the payment of a certain sum.

Any mechanic, labourer, servant, or other poor person, being unable to pay a Surgeon or Apothecary for attendance, may be admitted as an *independent* out-patient, on producing a recommendation from a Subscriber, or from two House-keepers, and, on the payment of three shillings and sixpence, he shall be entitled to receive advice and medicines for six successive weeks.—*Bristol General Hospital: Established 1832.*

Stipendiary
Ward.

An independent or stipendiary ward, as exists at the recently established Hospital at Bristol, might be set apart for Patients, who may be willing to pay on their admission a certain sum, and a like sum at the end of every week, as long as they remain in the establishment.

That one ward in the Hospital be set apart for the reception of female servants, and other females specially recommended, who shall be willing to pay on their admission, the sum of seven shillings, and the like sum at the end of every week, as long as they remain in the house.—*Bristol General Hospital: Established 1832.*

At the *Maison Royale de Santé*, at Paris, Patients are visited at their own homes; if admitted, pay two francs, ten sous a day. The Hospital is most pleasantly situated, and has attached to it very extensive gardens and promenades for the benefit of Patients.

At the Chester General Infirmary, a shilling a day is paid with all fever Patients; or, if paupers, by the parish.

of the ad-
mission of
students.

With respect to the admission of Physicians' Clerks and Surgeons' Dressers, all fees paid by them, (as is the case at the North London Hospital, a Clinical Institution erected four years ago, in connection with University College; and at the Royal Infirmary at Edinburgh) might be devoted to the funds of the Charity; by which means a considerable revenue would be obtained.

Every Student should, on his admission to the Medical and Surgical Practice, *pay to the funds of the Hospital*;—for the first year, eighteen guineas; second year, twelve guineas; third year, ten guineas.

Every Student should be introduced to the Committee, by his Physician and Surgeon; should subscribe to a declaration, that he would diligently observe the Rules of the Institution; and should be entitled to receive, on the expiration of his term, a testimonial of approbation from the Committee.

“That each Pupil or Apprentice, having been first proposed and approved, shall be personally introduced to the Committee by his principal, who must certify that he is a young man of good moral character; and duly qualified, by previous Education, for the profession of Medicine; also, at his entrance, he shall subscribe the following declaration in conformity a charge, with which shall be delivered to him by the Chairman of the Committee.”

Declaration.

“I now admitted a _____ in this Infirmary, do promise to conduct myself conformably to what is required in the above charge; and, in case of my exclusion for misbehaviour, I agree to forfeit the consideration-money paid at my admission.”—*The Bristol Infirmary: Established 1737.*

Clergymen
and other Mi-
nisters of Re-
ligion to enjoy
certain privi-
leges.

I would earnestly appeal to the Clergy and other Ministers of Religion, to advocate the plan with their respective congregations, being convinced that there are many individuals who, though they may not feel themselves in a situation to become regular subscribers, would cheerfully contribute their mite occasionally. I would introduce a *new principle*, by granting them in and out-patients' tickets, for the sick of their respective congregations, in proportion to the amount collected. Thus the Clergyman, in his benevolent visit to the distressed, would be oftentimes enabled to recommend the deserving for medical relief. In furtherance of this idea, all Clergy and other Ministers of Religion might be *members of the committee, ex-officio*.*

Qualifications
of Physicians
and Surgeons.

With respect to the qualifications of your Physicians and Surgeons to raise the standard of your Hospital, I would adopt the regulations of the London Hospitals and Liverpool Infirmary.

No Physician shall be eligible who shall not have graduated at Oxford, Cambridge, Dublin, Edinburgh, Glasgow, or London; or who practices, or within six calendar months shall have practiced, Surgery or Pharmacy.

That no Surgeon shall be eligible who is not a member of the College of Surgeons, either of London, Dublin, or Edinburgh; and that no Surgeon shall hold his appointment at the Hospital who practices Pharmacy, or is connected in business with any person in such practice.—*Liverpool Infirmary*.

* The establishment of a new Hospital naturally creates a desire to know something of their origin. "We are indebted, for the origin of Hospitals, to the promulgation of Christianity, that religion which it is one of the main objects of this College to encourage and support.

"Before the introduction of Christianity Hospitals were unknown. Among the most polished nations of antiquity, the Greeks and the Romans, it is in vain to seek, either in their annals or in the remains of their once proud cities, for a trace not only of Hospitals, but of any charitable institution for the reception of the poor and sick. After the introduction of that religion which looks upon all men as equal, and which inculcates charity as a duty, its disciples contrived a scheme, at an early period, for the assistance of their necessitous brethren. As the pure and benevolent system of ethics which they taught and practiced became more extensively and firmly implanted in the minds of men, these charitable institutions increased in number by the piety and bounty of individuals, especially of the earlier Christian Emperors, and by the earnest and powerful exertion of the clergy."

Arnott's Address, King's College, London.

Privileges of
Benefactors
& Subscribers.
as.

I would suggest that Subscribers and Benefactors shall have the privilege of recommending patients annually, according to the following scale:—

Benefactors. Guineas.	Subscribers.			Home.	In.	
	£.	s.	d.			
5 —	10	6	—	3		
15 —	1	1	0	—	6	1
20 —	2	2	0	—	12	2
30 —	3	3	0	—	18	3
40 —	4	4	0	—	24	4
50 —	5	5	0	—	30	5
60 —	6	6	0	—	36	6
70 —	7	7	0	—	42	7
80 —	8	8	0	—	48	8
90 —	9	9	0	—	54	9
100 —	10	10	0	—	60	10

} Benefactors of 20
Guineas & upwards,
and Subscribers of
2 Guineas and up-
wards, may vary their
recommendations, by
substituting 6 Out for
1 In, or 1 In for 6
Out.

And so on after the same rate for any further sum.

Every Annual Subscriber of one guinea or upwards shall be a Trustee, so long as the subscription shall continue to be paid.
—*Liverpool Northern Hospital: Established 1834.*

Privileges of Trustees.

Every Trustee shall have the privilege of recommending Patients, and of Voting at Elections and all General Meetings.—
Liverpool Northern Hospital.

Every Subscriber of one guinea annually, shall be entitled to recommend one in-patient and four out, or ten out-patients and no in-patients.—*Leicester County Infirmary.*

The Exhibition of the Museum of Natural History, purchased by the munificence of the Noble Patrons and Friends of the School, might annually prove another source of revenue.

The public places of amusement in France pay a tax of 10 per cent. on their receipts towards the support of the Hospitals.

ladies'
committee.

As a source of economy, to aid the Matron with their advice, and to superintend the management of the female wards, I would appoint a ladies' committee, as exists at the Bristol Infirmary.

Of the Ladies' Committee.

“That Ladies, being themselves subscribers, or belonging to the families of subscribers, shall be invited to offer their services to the Institution; and, on such offers being accepted, shall be requested to form themselves into a committee, with a secretary of their own choice; and to adopt a plan of attendance at the Hospital, for the purpose of superintending the management of the female wards in all those points which relate to the health, comfort, and good conduct of the Patients, as well as the qualifications and proper behaviour of the nurses and servants; also, to aid the Matron with their counsel and assistance, whenever she may desire it, in the direction of household affairs; and to observe generally whether the rules of the House are properly attended to as regards the wards under their inspection.”—*Bristol Infirmary.*

I would suggest that the Physicians and Surgeons, respectively, should meet on the Saturday preceding the first Monday in every month; to consult on the propriety of continuing such of their patients as have been in the Institution six weeks, and report to the Committee accordingly.

That the Physicians and Surgeons, respectively, meet on the Saturday preceding the first Wednesday in every Month, at One o'clock, and consult on the propriety of continuing such of their Patients as shall have been in the House three calendar months, and report those whom they wish to be continued to the Committee.—*Bristol Infirmary; Established 1737.*

Lastly, to render the Institution in every way complete, I would connect with it a Lying-in Charity, as exists at Guy's Hospital and the North London; and on the plan of the Manchester Charity, under the charge of Physicians; of Consulting Surgeons; of Surgeons; and of Out-District Surgeons.

The Manchester Lying-in Institution is under the care of one Physician, three Consulting Surgeons, three Surgeons, and

three Out-District Surgeons. *The expenditure in twelve months amounted only to £134. 10s. 10d.* The class of patients at this Hospital are home-patients; those attended at their own homes in labour, out-patients; women affected with diseases peculiar to females; and children under two years of age; who attend at the Hospital twice a week.

Admitted, May 2, 1837, to May 2, 1838.—Remaining on the books, 1837, 158. Home-patients, Admitted since, 3326.—Women delivered and discharged, amongst whom were 64 twin cases, 3219; remaining on the books, 1838, 265. Out-patients. Remaining on the books, 1837, 35. Admitted since, 41; cured, 49; remaining, 49. Inoculated for cow-pock, 330. Total patients this year, 3697.

With respect to the expense; commencing with 100 beds; (the number required by the medical authorities;) I have reason to believe, that a most complete building may be erected and furnished, for the sum of £5000; and that the annual expenditure, with strict economy, would not exceed £1500.*

It has been proved that a small Hospital is better adapted for instruction than a larger one.

In the year, 1834, I had the honour to be examined by a select Committee of the House of Commons, on Medical Education. It was given in evidence by Mr. Wardrop, Surgeon to his late Majesty, "that, in his opinion, the crowd of Students, and the multitude and variety of cases in a large London Hospital, are calculated to distract a Student's attention; whereas a Hospital in the Provinces, where the Patients and Pupils were much fewer, would afford him the necessary opportunities of observing with accuracy, and would be calculated to encourage a habit of fixing the attention in the symptoms of each particular case."

In the Medical and Surgical Observations published by the distinguished Richter, of the University of Göttingen, the following remarkable passage occurs:—

*At a numerous Meeting, held on Tuesday, November 5th, in the theatre of the Library and Scientific Institution, London, Dr. Arnott in the chair, to consider the propriety of erecting an Hospital for the middle classes. It was stated by Mr. Stacey, that the establishment could be put into operation, with about 100 beds, at an expense of about £3000.

X. "There are only fifteen beds in the Clinical Hospital of this place, and I do not wish for more. I have permission, and the opportunity to choose my Patients, and of course I make choice of such as promise to be more particularly important and instructive. Indeed, I do not think that the experienced practitioner is formed by the number of patients. Experience is the result, not of seeing merely, but of reflecting. It is not eating alone, but digestion that gives strength. A Physician who tells us that he visits 150 and even a greater number of sick persons daily, has, in my opinion, so little pretensions to the title of an experienced practitioner, that I would even deny he had any experience at all.

Important
facts.

The following opinion was expressed by the eminent Surgeon of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, William Lawrence, Esq. After mentioning the name of Scarpa, he says; "The Hospital which has enabled him to render those important services to our science, contains, I believe, about 20 beds." Richter, the contemporary of Haller, in the University of Göttingen, celebrated throughout Europe for his judgment and practical skill, as well as for the clearness and good sense of his writings, had an Hospital of 15 beds. The same Institution, now under the care of Professor Langenbech, an accomplished anatomist and very dexterous operator, does not contain more than 25 beds. The Medical Clinic, in the General Hospital of Vienna, consists of two wards, each containing 12 beds; and that of the illustrious T. P. Frank, at Pavia, did not contain more than 20. The Surgical Clinic, at Vienna, consists of 14 beds; eight for males, and six for females; and that for diseases of the eye. Thus, the great men whom I have cited, (and the annals of our profession contain no names more deservedly venerated than those of Richter, Scarpa, Von Hildenbrand, Frank, and Beer) instead of estimating the advantage of the student, in direct ratio to the number of patients submitted to his observation, have considered it most conducive to his instruction, to limit his attention to a few cases.

X. I would render it imperative upon the Medical Officers gratuitously to deliver Clinical Instruction.

The Physicians and Surgeons will be deemed to confer a public benefit upon the pupils, and entitled to the grateful acknowledgments of the Governors, if they shall from time to time deliver Clinical Lectures upon cases of interest to the Medical Student.—*Kent and Canterbury Hospital*.

It would be irrelevant to the subject; but were space allowed me, I would gladly embrace the

opportunity to point out the advantages, in a moral point of view, of a provincial school. The facilities of pursuing a vicious course, with impunity, is greater in the Metropolis than in the Provinces. And here I must recal to your mind, the establishment of the Warneford Prize, to encourage moral and religious attainments, so ably explained by that accomplished scholar and learned divine, the Rev. Vaughan Thomas.* Nor can I pass over in silence, the Jephson Prize, or the projected arrangement, to afford to the Student religious instruction on the Sunday, so kindly and generously offered by that eminent scholar, the Head Master of the Grammar School, the Rev J. P. Lee, in addition to his important proposal, to conduct annually a classical examination.

THE WARNEFORD PRIZE.

TRUSTEES.

Earl of Dartmouth	The Rev. Chancellor Law
Earl of Bradford	The Rev. Vaughan Thomas
Lord Calthorpe	James Taylor, Esq.
	Edward Johnstone, M.D.

(THE REV. DR. WARNEFORD'S INSTRUCTIONS.)

“The interest of one thousand pounds to be applied for ever for
 “the institution of two prizes in the Birmingham Royal School
 “of Medicine and Surgery, either in equal or unequal amount,
 “as may seem to the Trustees most likely to advance the great
 “ends I have in view, which are to combine religious with
 “scientific studies and pursuits, to make medical and surgical
 “students good christians, as well as able practitioners in

* An Address, delivered at the Birmingham Royal School of Medicine and Surgery, at the Third Anniversary Meeting, August 29, 1838, by Vaughan Thomas, B.D. formerly Fellow and Tutor of Corpus Christi College, Oxford. *Parker, Oxford.*

“medicine and surgery, and for the more effectual advancement of these purposes, it is my farther wish that the compositions written for these prizes may be of a religious as well as scientific nature, and that the subject of them be taken out of any branch of Anatomical, Physiological and Pathological Science, and that they may be handled in a practical and professional manner, and according to those evidences of facts and phenomena which Anatomy, Physiology, and Pathology so abundantly supply, but always and especially with a view to exemplify or set forth by instance or example, the wisdom, power, and goodness of God, as revealed and declared in Holy Writ.”

THE JEPHSON PRIZE.

Twenty guineas are offered by Dr. Jephson to the Student who may pass the best public examination in all the branches of medicine and surgery, in August, 1840, and who can also produce testimonials of *good conduct, regularity, and diligence*. Dr. Jephson has most handsomely stated his intention to continue this prize.

In conclusion; the Institution would aim not at rivalry with any other; but believing that the sphere which demands the interposition of human benevolence, in behalf of an innumerable multitude of our unfortunate fellow creatures, suffering under the calamities of disease and accident, is yet too large to be adequately provided for by existing establishments; it would claim to enlist itself in the honorable service; and whilst its primary object must be to afford relief to the sick and maimed poor, it would become the storehouse of authenticated medical facts; would extend the boundaries of medical science; would advance the welfare and happiness of mankind; would give to the parent the means of educating his son for a Physician or Surgeon,

beneath his own eye; and in connection with the Grammar School, by drawing to the town families for the purpose of professional education, it would indirectly promote our prosperity; while we should thus be prepared to see eventually realized, the prophetic and expanded views of our venerated and esteemed President, expressed at the anniversary dinner, June 4th, 1831, that "BIRMINGHAM WILL BECOME THE SEAT OF A CENTRAL UNIVERSITY."

With every sentiment of respect and esteem,

Believe me ever to remain,

My dear Sir,

Your obliged, grateful, and humble Servant,

WILLIAM SANDS COX.

Temple Row, Birmingham,

November 11th, 1839.

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