

Warrant for charter of incorporation, notarial copy

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George R.



Our Sovereign Lord considering that an humble petition has been presented to his Majesty in the name of the Honorable William Smith Esq; Provost of the City of Glasgow for himself & the other contributors to the Glasgow Asylum for Females, setting forth that an Asylum for Females had been established in the City of Glasgow since the 1st day of December in the year 1814. That the said Institution was established at first by means of voluntary contribution alone, & since that time it has been supported partly in that manner & partly by the funds received for patients.

That it had been productive of extensive benefit, particularly among those persons in indigent circumstances, & the Officers & the other Directors of the said Institution, & the general body of the contributors to its funds, had been advised & do most firmly believe from the experience they had had, that it would tend essentially to the permanence & prosperity of the Institution & would render its operations still more extensively beneficial than heretofore, if a Royal Charter were granted for incorporating the Officers & such other persons as might hereafter become Contributors to the said Institution into one Body corporate &

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orporate & Politic, with a perpetual success.
-ion & power to hold & acquire heritable prop-
erty; to make Regulations & by laws for the
good government of the said Establishment, &
with such other powers & privileges as are
usually granted to other Bodies corporate
& Politic of the same nature, & therefore
humbly Praying that His Majesty would
be graciously pleased to grant a Royal
Charter for the above purposes by the name
Style & Title of "The Glasgow Royal Asylum
for Lunatics" in such terms, & under such
regulations as to His Majesty in His Royal
Wisdom should seem proper; & His Majesty
being willing to give every support & en-
couragement to an undertaking so very
laudable & useful, doth therefore obtain
a Patent or Charter to be passed & sealed
under the Great Seal appointed by the Treaty
of Union to be kept & used in Scotland
in place of the Great Seal formerly
used there, constituting, erecting & Incorpo-
rating, as His Majesty by His Prerogative
Royal & special Grant for himself & His
Royal Successors, hereby constitutes, erects
& Incorporates the said Honourable William
Smith Q

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Page Third

Smith, Doctor James Jeffrey Professor of Anatomy in
the College of Glasgow, Doctor Robert Freer Professor
of Medicine in the said College, & Doctor John Cal-
marano Physician in Glasgow & Physician to
the said Asylum & all others the Managers
of the said Institution, & those who have al-
ready contributed, or who shall afterwards
contribute to the Funds of the said institution
into a Body Politic & Corporate under the
name, Style & title of "The Glasgow Royal Asy-
lum for Lunatics" under which name they
shall have perpetual endurance & succession,
& the Power of using a Common Seal, & they
shall be legally entitled to hold & enjoy all
such Lands, Tenements & other hereditaments
as they have already purchased erected or ac-
quired or may hereafter purchase, erect or ac-
quire for the uses & purposes of the said institu-
tion or for better investing or securing the funds
& estate thereof, to receive legacies & donations, to
hold goods & chattels, & to invest money in the
public or government funds, or on other security
Personal or Real, releasing that all charters,
dispositions & heritable securities or other deeds
affecting heritable property to be granted to the
said institution shall be taken to it in its Cor-
porate Name - that is to "The Glasgow Royal
Asylum for Lunatics" without specifying the
name of the Directors or any of the office Bearers
or Contributors of the said Institution & that
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Page fourth

any Charters, Dispositions & Hentable Securities
or other Deeds to be granted by the said Institu-
tion shall be subscribed by the President & Sec-
retary, either by themselves, or along with such
other persons (being always of the Directors for
the time being) as shall be appointed for that
purpose in terms of the bye-laws & Regulations
of the Institution after having obtained the
consent of a general meeting of the said In-
stitution, such consent being entered in the
Minutes of the business of such meeting,
& that all Deeds so subscribed shall be e-
qually valid & sufficient as if the same had
been signed by the whole Directors office
Beavers & Seal-bearer of said Institution, &
further to sue & be sued in the same man-
ner as any other Body, Corporate & Politic,
to make & constitute such bye-laws, or
ordinances & Regulations for the Management
& Government of the affairs of the said Institution
as to them shall seem meet, providing the
same be not contrary to the true intent
& meaning hereof nor repugnant to the laws
of this Realm. And his Majesty doth hereby
Ratify, confirm & approve of the whole bye-
laws, ordinances, & Regulations of the said
Institution heretofore made in so far as the
same are at present in observance particu-
larly the Bye-laws, ordinances, & Regulations
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unanimously adopted at a general meeting of Contributors
generally called for the purpose on the 4th day of No-
vember 1823, & which were ordered to be carried into ef-
fect & have accordingly been carried into effect from
the commencement of the present year 1824 as the
established regulations of the Asylum in so far as the same
are conducive to the interest & welfare of the Institution
& not repugnant to the laws of the Realm, But notwith-
standing of this Ratification it shall be in the power of
the Contributors to said Institution at any of the annual
meetings hereafter appointed, or of the Directors (so far as it
is competent for the Directors) not only to alter or inno-
vate the said existing by-laws, ordinances or Regulations
or any of them, but even to rescind the same in toto
if they shall see good cause, & to substitute in their
place others which shall appear to be calculated to pro-
mote the interest & welfare of the Institution, & for better
managing the affairs of the said Institution, His Majesty
will hereby appoint & ordain that the same shall be
governed & directed by, & the ordinary management
of the affairs hereof shall be vested in twenty three Di-
rectors who shall be constituted as follows, viz. Five
ex officio viz. The Lord Provost of Glasgow, the Chief
Magistrate of Paisley, the Professor of Anatomy, & of
Medicine in the University of Glasgow, & the Physician
to the Asylum for the time being, Two to be returned by
Public ladies of the City viz. Two by the Town Council,
Two by the Merchants house, two by the Trades house,
Two by the General Session, & Two by the Faculty of Phys-
icians & Surgeons and eight to be elected by the general
Meeting in Manner after mentioned - Five Directors
shall form a Quorum, the Chairman shall be appointed,
& the Procedure shall be conducted in the same form
& manner as at General Meetings the Directors shall
be convened within five days after the annual general Meeting
for the purpose of electing by Ballot the following offices
Beavers for the year, viz. A weekly Committee, Presidents
&c

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Such Committees of management as may be deemed expedient, a Physician, Surgeon, Superintendent & Apothecary, Matron, Chaplain, Treasurer & Secretary Porter, & such other office bearers as may be required. The Directors shall likewise meet every quarter on the first Tuesday of April, July, October & January for the dispatch of ordinary business: A Pro ~~re~~ regular meeting of Directors may at any time be called by the Lord Provost, by the weekly Committee or by any three of the Directors, for which purpose a Resolution shall be addressed to the Secretary with which he shall be bound to comply, & to give due intimation of such meetings by Printed or written notices left on the day preceding at the House or place of business of each Director, specifying the time, place & object of such meeting. The Directors shall have the power of enacting such rules for the conduct of the officers & servants & of making from time to time such alterations of, or additions to the same as may appear best calculated to promote the welfare of the institution, but no such alterations or additions shall be adopted till they have been submitted to the consideration of the Directors for one month at least, & have been thereafter approved of by two thirds of a meeting called for the express purpose of deciding on the same. The general meeting shall be composed of subscribers to the extent of at least five guineas, or annual subscribers to the extent of at least one guinea. The Lord Provost of Glasgow shall preside, & in his absence a chairman shall be elected. All matters of debate shall be determined by a majority & in case of an equality, the chairman shall be entitled to a casting vote in addition to his own as a member of the meeting. A general meeting shall be held annually on the Thursday after the first Tuesday of January, for the purpose of considering the Report of the Directors.

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Page seventh

during the preceding year, & of choosing by Ballot
sixt of their own number as Directors for the current
year. A pro re nata meeting may at any time be
called by the Lord Provost, by three of the Directors
or by six of the qualified subscribers or subscribers;
intimation of the time, place & purpose of such meet-
ing being always given by public advertisement
in two or more of the Glasgow Newspapers at least
one week previously. It shall be competent for
all General Meetings to revise, direct & control
the whole affairs & management of the Institution.
If at any future period the persons qualified
according to the first Regulation shall be reduced
below twelve in number, all General Meetings shall
therefore cease, & in that event the number of
the Directors to be chosen from the community
shall be returned as follows. Two by the Bur-
gh Council, two by the Merchants House, two by the
Trades House, two by the General Session, & two
by the Faculty of Physicians & Surgeons, none of
whom shall be members of the public body by
whom they may be elected. And His Majesty for
himself & his Royal Successors declares that these
his Majestys Letters Patent shall be in, & by all
things valid & effectual in law according to the true in-
tent & meaning of the same & shall be taken, construed
& adjudged in the most favorable & beneficial man-
ner for the best advantage of the said Incorporation, not-
withstanding any misrule, defect, uncertainty
or imperfection in these his Majestys Letters Pa-
tent, & his Majesty doth for himself & his Royal
Successors, covenant, warrant & agree to & with the said
Incorporation, as Body Politic & their Successors, that
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Page Eighth

His Majesty his heirs & successors shall & will from
time to time & at all times hereafter upon the
humble suit & request of the said incorporation &
their successors, give & grant unto them all such
further & other privileges, authorities, matter &
things for rendering more effectual His Majesty's
grants according to the true intent & meaning of these
present, which he or they can or may lawfully
grant & shall be reasonably advised & devised by
counsel learned in the law of the said corporation
for the time being, & shall be approved of by the
Lord Advocate & Solicitor General in Scotland
of His Majesty, His heirs & successors in his or
their behalf; & His Majesty attains the said
charter to be passed under the aforesaid seal for
Salmon & without passing any other seal, for
which these presents shall be to the Director
of His Majesty's Chancery as well as to the keepers
of the said Seal, a sufficient warrant.

Given at His Majesty's Court at
Carlton House the ninth day of December 1824
in the fifth year of His Majesty's reign.

By His Majesty's Command
(Signed) Rob. Peel

Edinburgh the sixteenth day of February eighteen hundred
and twenty five. I Adam Gibbles Notary Public
duly admitted hereby certify that what is contained on
this and the seven preceding pages of stamped paper is a
true copy of the warrant by his majesty in favor of the
Glasgow Royal Asylum for Lunatics, for a charter of in
corporation. Having compared the same with the ori
ginal Veritas A.G. M.C. N.P.

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