

# **Unto the General Council of Medical Education and Registration, the memorial of William Mackenzie.**

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IV.—That what has not been needed on this point is as follows:—

Unto the General Council of Medical Education and Registration, the Memorial of WILLIAM MACKENZIE, M.D., Surgeon Oculist in Scotland in Ordinary to Her Majesty the Queen, Lecturer on the Eye in the University of Glasgow, and one of the Surgeons to the Glasgow Eye Infirmary,

Humbly Sheweth,

I.—That your Memorialist has been engaged for forty years, in teaching the Structure, Functions, and Diseases of the Eye to Medical Students.

II.—That the causes which have rendered the Eye and its Diseases a special object of Medical study, he has endeavoured to illustrate, in a printed "Introductory Discourse," a copy of which, along with "Outlines of Ophthalmology," has been transmitted to each member of the General Medical Council; from which "Discourse" and "Outlines," some idea may be formed of the importance and bearings of this branch of Medical Science.

III.—That he has often endeavoured in bygone years, to impress on the different Licensing Bodies in the three Kingdoms, the propriety of making attendance on a Course of Lectures on the Eye, and on the practice of an Eye Hospital, imperative on Candidates for a Medical or Surgical Diploma.



IV.—That what has as yet been acceded on this point is as follows :—

*First.* That all Candidates for appointments in the Medical Department of the Army, are expected to be particularly well acquainted with the Diseases of the Eye.

*Secondly.* That Candidates for admission into the service of the East India Company as Assistant Surgeons, must produce a Certificate of having attended, for three months, one of the institutions, or the wards of an hospital, especially devoted to the treatment of Ophthalmic disease ; or, if they have not been able to do so previously to offering themselves for examination, must, if successful in obtaining recommendation for appointments, produce a Certificate of having attended such practice during the interval between the examination and the time of proceeding to India.

*Thirdly.* That all Medical Students purposing to take a Diploma in Medicine or Surgery at the University of Glasgow, are recommended to attend the Lectures on the Eye, and the Infirmary for Diseases of the Eye.

*Fourthly.* That Candidates for the Diploma of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow, are required to attend the Practice of a General Hospital either for twenty-one months, or for eighteen months only, provided that, in addition to the latter period of time, they attend a three months' Course of Lectures on the Eye, along with six months' Practice of an Eye Hospital, having, at least, twelve beds for operation-cases.

THOSE gentlemen into whose hands Dr. MACKENZIE's Memorial on Ophthalmological Education may come, and who approve of its tenor, are requested to use their influence with the Members of the General Medical Council in its favour; or to memorialize the Council on the same subject, with such alterations or additional suggestions as may occur to them.

GLASGOW, *8th March*, 1859.



These gentlemen into whose hands the Manuscript's

to Ophthalmological Education they come, and who have

of the House, are requested to use their influence with the

Members of the Council, Medical Council, in the House, to do

recommend the Council on the subject with such other

point of additional suggestions as may occur to them.

Given under the Seal of the House, 1859.

V.—Your Memorialist thinks it important to state, that at Vienna, where, it is universally acknowledged that Ophthalmology has been cultivated with eminent success, the study of the Eye and its Diseases is imperatively required of all Candidates for a Degree in Medicine or Surgery, and from all who, without aspiring to such a Degree, purpose to perform surgical operations on the Eye. Candidates for the Degree of Doctor in Medicine must attend the Eye Clinique ten hours per week for a period of five months, and pass an examination in Ophthalmology. The same holds with regard to Candidates for the Degree of Doctor in Surgery, who have, in addition, to undergo an examination on the Operative Surgery of the Eye. A Magister Ophthalmiatriæ, who may practise as an operating oculist, without being a Doctor in Surgery, must attend the Eye Clinique ten hours per week for two periods of five months, and pass an examination on the Theory of Ophthalmology, and one on the Diagnosis and Treatment of Eye-cases presented to him, besides performing Eye-operations on the dead subject.

VI.—Your Memorialist shall not occupy the time of the Medical Council in insisting on the benefit likely to be derived by the Medical profession generally, and by the community at large, were all engaging in Medical practice, well acquainted with the nature and treatment of diseases, so frequent, so distressing, and, in their results, affecting so seriously the happiness of mankind, whether rich or poor, as those of the Eye. He takes the liberty, however, to say, that such a subject, involving the consideration of many minute particulars, can be but very imperfectly touched upon in any general Course of Lectures on Surgery or Medicine ; and that the very various Diseases of the Eye can be studied efficiently



only where numerous patients, labouring under such diseases, are submitted to minute and discriminating examination, and to careful and continued treatment. He thereupon prays that the Medical Council would take into their early consideration, the propriety of making the study of the Eye imperative on all Candidates applying to any of the Universities or Licensing Bodies of the three Kingdoms, for a Diploma in Medicine or Surgery; and he begs to state, as a conclusion derived from many years' experience as a Lecturer on the Eye, and as Surgeon to an extensive Eye Infirmary, that the Course of Lectures, embracing the Anatomy, Physiology, and Pathology of the Eye, should amount to not less than fifty, and the period of attendance on the Practice of an Eye Infirmary, or the Ophthalmic Wards of a General Hospital, having not less than twelve beds for operative cases, should not be less than six months.

GLASGOW, 8th March, 1859.