

Report of the committee on observations by the licensing bodies, and on the reports of visitations of examinations.

Contributors

Committee on Observations by the Licensing Bodies, and on the Reports of Visitations of Examinations.

General Medical Council.

Royal College of Physicians of London

Publication/Creation

London : W.J. & S. Golbourn, 1868.

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General Medical Council

OBSERVATIONS

ON THE

REPORT

OF THE

COMMITTEE OF THE MEDICAL COUNCIL

ON THE

VISITATIONS OF EXAMINATIONS.

London:

PRINTED BY W. J. GOLBOURN, PRINCES STREET, COVENTRY STREET, W.

1868.

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ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS, LONDON, S.W.

November 4th, 1867.

SIR,

I am directed by the Royal College of Physicians of London to transmit to you, for the information of the General Medical Council, the accompanying Observations on the Report of the Committee of the General Medical Council on the Visitations of Examinations, as requested in your letter of 29th June last.

Copies of the Bye-Laws referred to are sent herewith.

I am, SIR,

Your obedient Servant,

HENRY A. PITMAN,

Registrar.

FRANCIS HAWKINS, M.D.,

Registrar of the General Medical Council.

OBSERVATIONS OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON.

1. With regard to the PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION, the General Medical Council having recommended in 1859 "That the examination in General Education be eventually left entirely to the Examining Boards of National Educational Bodies recognized by the Medical Council," the College has, in accordance with that recommendation, discontinued the Preliminary Examination, accepting in lieu thereof a testamur of proficiency in General Education given by any of the Bodies recognized by the Medical Council.

2. In reference to the paragraph at page 4, relative to the mode of conducting the PROFESSIONAL EXAMINATIONS, the College is of opinion that the Committee has been misled by the Report of the Visitors, printed at page 8 of the Reports for 1866-67, which states—"The examination of candidates by a single Examiner, without any colleague or assessor, appears to us to be open to obvious objection." The College desires to state that its examinations are not so conducted, but that every candidate is always examined on each subject by two Examiners; and the College is not satisfied that the suggestion of the Committee would be an improvement, viz., that the two Examiners should always be present at the same table.

3. The College has already made a change in the mode of conducting its ANATOMICAL EXAMINATIONS, and thus anticipated the suggestion of the Committee on this point.

4. As regards the recommendation of the Committee that separate decisions should be given in the WRITTEN, ORAL, and CLINICAL EXAMINATIONS, the College begs to state that the final decision in each case has always been framed with special reference

to the written, oral, and clinical examinations, and that a trial will be made of the plan recommended by the Committee that the decision on each part of the examinations should be expressed more distinctly.

5. In conclusion, the College begs leave to direct the attention of the General Medical Council to certain alterations in the course of study required to be undergone by candidates for the MEMBERSHIP and LICENCE, and in the mode of conducting the Examinations, and which alterations are briefly as follows :

In the course of study for the MEMBERSHIP, a knowledge of Surgery and Midwifery as well as of Medicine, is now required of all candidates for the Membership.

The period of study of CLINICAL MEDICINE and CLINICAL SURGERY is further extended.

In the course of study for the LICENCE, candidates are permitted to pass a certain portion of the required four years of Professional Studies, "receiving instruction as the pupil of a legally qualified Practitioner holding any public appointment which affords opportunities, satisfactory to the examiners, of imparting a practical knowledge of Medicine, Surgery, or Midwifery."

The requirements having reference to the study of SURGERY are now the same as those of the Royal College of Surgeons of England.

The period of study of CLINICAL MEDICINE is further extended.

In the examinations for the MEMBERSHIP and LICENCE, candidates for the Membership of the College, not being Graduates in Medicine of a University in the United Kingdom, nor otherwise specially exempted by the Bye Laws, are required to pass three examinations at stated intervals. The first two examinations are the same as those passed by candidates for the College Licence; the third, or pass examination for the Membership, is more comprehensive than heretofore, including "the Principles of Public Health," and "Psychological Medicine" as additional subjects of examination.

The Examinations, both for the MEMBERSHIP and LICENCE of the College, are now conducted to a considerable extent in a

practical manner; that on Anatomy and Physiology by Dissections and Preparations; that on Materia Medica by requiring candidates to describe specimens of Drugs, and Pharmaceutical Preparations; that on Chemistry by the application of tests and other modes of analysis; and in the examinations on Medicine and Surgery practical knowledge is tested in the Wards of an Hospital, and the candidates are required to describe morbid specimens and microscopic preparations.

HENRY A. PITMAN,

Registrar.

[1867.]

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON.

BYE-LAWS RELATING TO MEMBERS.

I.

The Members of the College, present and future, shall be alone eligible to the Fellowship. They shall have the use of the Library and Museum, subject to the Regulations relating thereto, and shall be admitted to all Lectures, and shall enjoy such further privileges as may from time to time be defined by the Bye-Laws; but they shall not be entitled to any share in the government, or to attend or vote at General Meetings, of the Corporation.

II.

All persons who have been admitted before February 16th, 1859, Licentiates of the College, shall be entitled to be admitted Members of the College, provided that they have, since their admission as Licentiates, obeyed the Bye-Laws, and do accept such Membership, and engage henceforth to obey the Bye-Laws of the College.

III.

Any Extra-Licentiate who shall have produced Testimonials as to character satisfactory to the Censors, and shall have assured the said Censors that he is not engaged in the practice of Pharmacy, and who shall comply with such other Regulations as are required by the Bye-Laws of the said Corporation, may be proposed to the College to be admitted a Member of the College.

IV.

Any person who shall have satisfied the College touching his acquirements in general Science and Literature, and his knowledge of Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery, and who shall comply with the Bye-Laws and Regulations of the College, may be proposed to the College to be admitted a Member of the College.

V.

Every candidate for the Membership of the College, under the last Bye-Law, who shall have commenced his Professional Studies after September 1861, shall satisfy the Censors' Board that previously to the commencement of his Professional Studies he has obtained a Degree in Arts from some University of the United Kingdom or of the Colonies, or from some other University specially recognized by the Medical Council, or that he has passed Examinations equivalent to those required for a Degree in Arts. All other candidates for Membership shall be examined on the subjects of General Education by the President and Censors of the College.

VI.

Every candidate for Membership shall furnish proof that he has attained the age of twenty-five years.

VII.

Every candidate shall produce a Testimonial from a Fellow or Member of the College, satisfactory to the Censors' Board, to the effect that, as regards moral character and conduct, he is a fit and proper person to be admitted a Member of the College.

VIII.

Every Candidate (*except such as shall be admissible under the provisions of Sections XV. and XVI.*) shall produce proof of his having been engaged in Professional Studies during a period of five years, of which four years at least shall have been passed at a Medical School or Schools, recognized by the College.

IX.

Every Candidate (*except such as shall be admissible under the provisions of Sections XV. and XVI.*) shall produce evidence, satisfactory to the Censors' Board, of his having studied the following subjects:—

ANATOMY (WITH DISSECTIONS)	During Two Winter Sessions.*
PHYSIOLOGY	Two Winter Sessions.
CHEMISTRY	Six Months.
PRACTICAL CHEMISTRY	Three Months.
MATERIA MEDICA	Three Months.
PRACTICAL PHARMACY	Three Months.

By Practical Pharmacy is meant Instruction in the Laboratory of a Registered Medical Practitioner, or of a Member of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, or of a Public Hospital or Dispensary recognized by the College.

BOTANY	Three Months.
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This Course of Lectures may be attended prior to the commencement of Professional Studies; and any candidate producing satisfactory evidence that Botany formed one of the subjects of his Preliminary Examination will be exempt from attendance on this Course.

MORBID ANATOMY	Six Months.
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This includes attendance and Instruction in the Post-Mortem Room during the period of Clinical Study.

PRINCIPLES & PRACTICE OF MEDICINE	Two Winter Sessions.
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It is required that the Principles of Public Health should be comprised in this Course of Lectures, or in the Course of Lectures on Forensic Medicine.

The attendance on these Lectures must not commence earlier than the second Winter Session at a recognized Medical School.

PRINCIPLES & PRACTICE OF SURGERY	Two Winter Sessions.
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The attendance on these Lectures must not commence earlier than the second Winter Session at a recognized Medical School.

CLINICAL MEDICINE	{ Three Winter Sessions and Three Summer Sessions.*
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The attendance on these Lectures must not commence earlier than the Second Winter Session at a recognized Medical School.

CLINICAL SURGERY	{ Two Winter Sessions and Two Summer Sessions.
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The attendance on these Lectures must not commence earlier than the second Winter Session at a recognized Medical School.

By Clinical Medicine and Clinical Surgery are meant special Study and Instruction at the bed-side, with Lectures on Cases.

MIDWIFERY & THE DISEASES PECULIAR TO WOMEN	{ Three Months.
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Certificates must also be produced of attendance on not less than twenty Labours, and of Instruction and Proficiency in Vaccination.

FORENSIC MEDICINE	Three Months.
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* The Winter Session comprises a period of six months, and the Summer Session a period of three months.

of having attended diligently during three Winter Sessions and three Summer Sessions the Medical Practice, *and during three Winter Sessions and two Summer Sessions the Surgical Practice*, of an Hospital containing at least 100 beds; of having been engaged during six months in the Clinical Study of Diseases peculiar to Women; and of having served the office of Clinical Clerk in the Medical Wards during at least six months.

[The requirements printed in italics apply to candidates who commenced their Professional Education in the United Kingdom on or after October 1st, 1867; and to candidates who commenced their Professional Education at a recognized Foreign or Colonial School on or after October 1st, 1868.]

X.

Every candidate who has prosecuted his studies abroad, whether in part or to the full extent required by the preceding Bye-Law (*except such as shall be admissible under the provisions of Section XVI.*), shall, nevertheless, bring proof of his having attended during at least twelve months, the Medical Practice of an Hospital in the United Kingdom containing at least 100 beds.

XI.

If the Censors' Board doubt the sufficiency of the Certificates and Testimonials produced by any candidate, or his fitness, in any respect, for admission to Examination, they may submit the case to a General Meeting of the Fellows.

XII.

No candidate shall be admitted to Examination who is engaged in trade; or who dispenses medicine, or makes any engagement with a Chemist, or any other person, for the supply of medicines; or who practises Medicine or Surgery in partnership, by deed or otherwise, so long as that partnership continues.

XIII.

No candidate shall be admitted to Examination who refuses to make known, when required by the President and Censors, the nature and composition of any remedy he uses.

XIV.

Every candidate (except in cases specially exempted), under Sections XV. & XVI., shall give proof of his acquirements by written answers to questions placed before him, and shall be examined *vivâ voce* at three separate Examinations, and shall be approved by the President and Censors, or by the major part of them.

XV.

Any candidate who has already obtained the Degree of Doctor or Bachelor of Medicine at a University in the United Kingdom, wherein the Courses of Study, and the Examinations to be undergone by the Students previously to graduation, shall have been adjudged by the Censors' Board to be entirely satisfactory, shall be exempt (if the Censors shall think fit) from all or any parts of the Examinations hereinbefore described, except such as relate to the Third or Pass Examination; the nature and extent of which Examination shall, in the case of each candidate, be determined by the Censors' Board. Every candidate for the Membership will, however, be required to translate into

English a passage from a Latin author, and he will have the opportunity of showing a knowledge of Greek, or of one or more of the modern European languages.

XVI.

If any candidate who has attained the age of forty years shall produce Testimonials not merely satisfactory as to his moral character and conduct, and his general and professional acquirements, but further showing that he has improved the art or extended the science of Medicine, or has at least distinguished himself highly as a Medical Practitioner; the Censors' Board, having well weighed and considered these Testimonials, may, if they see fit, submit them to the Fellows at a General Meeting, and it shall be determined by the votes of the Fellows present, or of the majority of them, taken by ballot, whether the candidate shall be admitted to Examination, which shall, in every such case, be as full and complete as the Censors may deem sufficient.

XVII.

Any candidate who shall produce satisfactory evidence of having passed an Examination on Anatomy and Physiology, conducted by any of the Bodies named in Schedule (A) to the Medical Act, and recognized by the College as requiring a Course of Study and an Examination satisfactory to the College, will be exempt from re-examination on the subjects of the Primary Examination.*

XVIII.

Any candidate who shall have obtained a Degree in Surgery, at a University in the United Kingdom, after a Course of Study and an Examination satisfactory to the College, will be exempt from re-examination on Surgical Anatomy, and the Principles and Practice of Surgery.

XIX.

Any candidate who shall have passed the Examination on Surgery conducted by the Royal College of Surgeons of England, or the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, or the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, after a Course of Study and an Examination satisfactory to the College, will be exempt from re-examination on Surgical Anatomy, and on the Principles and Practice of Surgery.

XX.

Every candidate approved by the Censors' Board shall be proposed, at the next General Meeting of Fellows, as qualified to become a Member of the College; and if the majority of the Fellows present shall consent, he shall, on complying with the Regulations prescribed by the Bye-Laws, be admitted a Member of the College.

XXI.

No one shall be admitted (*except such as shall be admissible under the provisions of Sections II. & III.*) a Member of the College, unless he shall give his assent to the following words, addressed to him by the President in the presence of the Fellows:—"You give your faith that you will observe and obey the Statutes, Bye-Laws, and Regulations of this

* See Regulations relating to the Examinations.

The President, addressing the person to be admitted, and taking him by the hand, shall say—"I, A. B., President, do admit you a Member of this College."

XVII.

SCIANT OMNES, NOS

Censoribus, {
Registrario, {

____ Registrar.
____ Member.

XVIII.

XXIV.

XXV.

Every official letter or notice which shall be sent by the Registrar or Bedell to any Fellow, Member, Extra-urbem Licentiate, or Licentiate of the College, addressed to him by his name, at his place of residence as entered on the College List, shall be considered to have reached him, and he shall be deemed to have sufficient notice of the contents of such letter or notice, and shall be bound and concluded thereby.

OF THE DUTIES AND CONDUCT OF FELLOWS, MEMBERS, AND LICENTIATES;
AND THE PENALTIES FOR NEGLECT OR INFRINGEMENT OF THE STATUTES,
BYE-LAWS, OR REGULATIONS.

No Fellow of the College shall be entitled to sue for professional aid rendered by him. (This Bye-Law is made pursuant to the 21st & 22nd Vict., c. 90, and does not extend to Members.)

No Fellow of the College shall divulge any of the proceedings of the Meeting held for the election of Censors, or other College Officers; or of Fellows or Members of the College; or of any Meeting, the proceedings of which he shall be required by the President to keep secret.

No Fellow of the College shall leave a Meeting (except by permission of the President), until the President shall have declared such Meeting to be dissolved.

No Fellow or Member of the College shall officiously, or under colour of a benevolent purpose, offer medical aid to, or prescribe for, any patient whom he knows to be under the care of another legally qualified Medical Practitioner.

Every Fellow or Member of the College, in prescribing for a patient, shall write on his prescription the date thereof, the name of the patient, and the initial letters of his own name.

If two or more Physicians, Fellows or Members of the College, be called in consultation, they shall confer together with the utmost forbearance, and no one of them shall prescribe, or even suggest, in the presence of the patient, or the patient's attendants, any opinion as to what ought to be done, before the method of treatment has been determined by the consultation of himself and his colleagues; and the Physician first called to a patient shall, unless he decline doing so, write the prescription for the medicines agreed upon, and shall sign the initials of the Physician or Physicians called in consultation, he placing his own initials the last. If any difference of opinion should arise, the greatest moderation and forbearance shall be observed, and the fact of such difference of opinion shall be communicated to the patient or the attendants by the Physician who was first in attendance, in order that it may distress the patient and his friends as little as possible.

No Fellow or Member of the College shall be engaged in trade; or dispense medicines, or make any engagement with a Chemist, or any other person, for the supply of medicines; or practise Medicine or Surgery in partnership, by deed or otherwise.

No Fellow, Member, or Licentiate of the College shall refuse to make known, when required by the President and Censors, the nature and composition of any remedy he uses.

No Fellow, Member, or Licentiate of the College shall assume the title of Doctor of Medicine, or use any other name, title, designation, or distinction implying that he is a Graduate in Medicine of a University, unless he be a Graduate in Medicine of a University.

Licentiates of this College shall not compound or dispense medicines, except for patients under their own care.

No Licentiate of this College shall, by virtue of his Licence, represent himself as being a Fellow or Member of a College of Physicians.

If it shall at any time hereafter appear, or be made known to the President and Censors, that any Fellow or Member of the College has

obtained admission into the College, or that any Licentiate of the College has obtained the Licence of the College, by fraud, false statement, or imposition, or that any Fellow, Member, or Licentiate, has been guilty of any great crime or public immorality, or has acted in any respect in a dishonourable or unprofessional manner, or has violated any Statute, Bye-Law, or Regulation of the College relating to Fellows, Members, or Licentiates, as the case may be, the President and Censors may call the Fellow, Member, or Licentiate, so offending, before the Censors' Board, and having investigated the case, may admonish, or reprimand, or inflict a fine not exceeding £10; or, if they deem the case of sufficient importance, may report the case to the College, and thereupon a majority of two-thirds of the Fellows present at a Meeting of the Fellows, which must be specially summoned for that purpose, may declare such Fellow to be no longer a Fellow, or a Member of the College, as the College shall determine; or such Member to be no longer a Member of the College; or such Licentiate to be no longer a Licentiate, and his Licence shall be revoked and withdrawn; and such Fellow, Member, or Licentiate shall forfeit all the rights and privileges which he does or may enjoy as a Fellow, or as a Member, or as a Licentiate, as the case may be; and his name shall be expunged from the list of Fellows, or from the list of Members, or from the list of Licentiates, as the case may be, accordingly.

[1867.]

 ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON.

 BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE EXAMINATION FOR THE MEMBERSHIP.

Every candidate for the Membership of the College (except such as shall be admissible under the provisions of Sections XV. and XVI. of the Bye-Laws) will be required to pass the following Examinations:

The FIRST EXAMINATION, on ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY, will be conducted on successive days, as follows:—

On the First day:

Evening, from Seven to Ten, by written questions.

On the Second day:

Evening, commencing at Seven o'clock, *vivâ voce*, on DISSECTIONS and PREPARATIONS.

The SECOND EXAMINATION will be conducted on successive days, as follows:—

On the First day:

Evening, from Seven to Ten, by written questions on SURGICAL ANATOMY, and on THE PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF SURGERY.

On the Second day :

Morning—The candidate's practical knowledge will be tested, either at the College or in the Surgical Wards of an Hospital.

Afternoon, from One to Four, on *Materia Medica*, and on *Chemistry in its applications to Pathology, Pharmacy, and Toxicology*.

This Examination will be conducted partly by written questions and partly in a practical manner.

Evening, commencing at Seven o'clock, by written questions on MIDWIFERY, and THE DISEASES PECULIAR TO WOMEN.

The THIRD or PASS EXAMINATION will be conducted on successive days, as follows :—

On the First day :

Afternoon, from Two to Six, by written questions on MEDICAL ANATOMY, and on THE PRINCIPLES OF MEDICINE.

On the Second day :

Afternoon, from Two to Six, by written questions on THE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE, including the *Principles of Public Health*, and on PSYCHOLOGICAL MEDICINE.

On the Third day :

The candidate's practical knowledge will be tested, either at the College or in the Medical Wards of an Hospital.

On the Fourth day :

Afternoon, commencing at Three o'clock, *vivâ voce*, on MEDICAL ANATOMY, and on THE PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF MEDICINE.

[The Regulations in italics apply to candidates who commenced their Professional Education in the United Kingdom on or after October 1st, 1865; and to candidates who commenced their Professional Education at a recognized Foreign or Colonial School on or after October 1st, 1866.]

Examination of Candidates for the Membership of the College will take place, commencing as follows :

1868.

FIRST EXAMINATION :—

Tuesday	...	...	February 4th.
Tuesday	...	...	April 7th.
Tuesday	...	...	July 7th.
Tuesday	...	...	October 6th.
Tuesday	...	...	December 1st

SECOND EXAMINATION :—

Tuesday	...	...	February 11th.
Tuesday	...	...	April 14th.
Tuesday	...	...	July 14th.
Tuesday	...	...	October 13th.
Tuesday	...	...	December 8th.

THIRD OR PASS EXAMINATION :—

Thursday	...	...	January 23rd.
Thursday	...	...	April 23rd.
Thursday	...	...	July 23rd.
Thursday	...	...	October 22nd.

Candidates will not be admitted to the First Examination until after the termination of the second Winter Session of Professional Study at a recognized Medical School, nor to the Second Examination until after the termination of four years of Professional Study, nor to the Third or Pass Examination until after the completion of the required Course of Professional Study.

Any candidate who shall be rejected at the First Examination, will not be re-admitted to Examination until after the lapse of Three months,

and will be required to produce a Certificate of the performance of Dissections, or other Professional Study satisfactory to the Examiners, during that time.

Any candidate who shall be rejected at the Second Examination, will not be re-admitted to Examination until after the lapse of Six months, and will be required to produce a Certificate of Attendance on the Practice of a recognized Hospital during that time, and also of Attendance on Clinical Lectures.

Any Candidate not approved by the Censors' Board at the Third or Pass Examination, will not (except by special permission of the College) be re-admitted to Examination, until after the lapse of a year.

Every candidate must give Fourteen days' notice in writing to the Registrar of the College, of his intention to present himself for Examination, at the same time transmitting the following Certificates:—*For the Primary Examination.*—Evidence of having passed an Arts Examination; of having been duly registered as a Medical Student; and of having completed the second Winter Session of Professional Study at a recognized Medical School. *For the Second Examination.*—Evidence of having completed four years of Professional Study; of having attained the age of twenty-one years; of Instruction and Proficiency in the Practice of Vaccination; and of having attended not less than twenty labours. *For the Pass Examination.*—Proof of having attained the age of twenty-five years; a Testimonial from a Fellow or Member of the College; evidence of having completed the required course of Professional Study.

Blank Forms of the required Certificates of attendance on Hospital Practice and on Lectures may be obtained on application at the College.*

Any candidate who shall produce satisfactory evidence of having passed an Examination on Anatomy and Physiology, conducted by any of the Bodies named in Schedule (A) to the Medical Act, and recognized by the College as requiring a Course of Study and an Examination satisfactory to the College, will be exempt from re-examination on the subjects of the Primary Examination.

Any candidate who shall have obtained a Degree in Surgery at a University in the United Kingdom, after a Course of Study and an Examination satisfactory to the College, will be exempt from re-examination on Surgical Anatomy, and on The Principles and Practice of Surgery.

Any candidate who shall have passed the Examination on Surgery conducted by the Royal College of Surgeons of England, or the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, or the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, after a Course of Study and an Examination satisfactory to the College, will be exempt from re-examination on Surgical Anatomy, and on the Principles and Practice of Surgery.

Any candidate who has already obtained the Degree of Doctor or Bachelor of Medicine at a University in the United Kingdom, wherein the Courses of Study, and the Examinations to be undergone by the Students previously to graduation, shall have been adjudged by the Censors' Board to be entirely satisfactory, shall be exempt (if the Censors shall think fit) from all or any parts of the Examinations hereinbefore described, except such as relate to the Third or Pass Examination; the

* Hours of Attendance, from Eleven, A.M. to Four, P.M.; Saturday, from Eleven, A.M. to Two P.M.

nature and extent of which shall, in the case of each candidate, be determined by the Censors' Board. Every candidate for the Membership will, however, be required to translate into English a passage from a Latin author, and he will have the opportunity of showing a knowledge of Greek, or of one or more of the modern European languages.

If any candidate who has attained the age of forty years shall produce Testimonials not merely satisfactory as to his moral character and conduct, and his general and professional requirements, but further showing that he has improved the art or extended the science of Medicine, or has at least distinguished himself highly as a Medical Practitioner; the Censors' Board, having well weighed and considered these Testimonials, may, if they see fit, submit them to the Fellows at a General Meeting, and it shall be determined by the votes of the Fellows present, or of the majority of them, taken by ballot, whether the candidate shall be admitted to Examination, which shall, in every such case, be as full and complete as the Censors may deem sufficient.

[1867.]

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON.

BYE-LAWS RELATING TO LICENTIATES.

Every Candidate for the College Licence (except when otherwise provided by the Bye-Laws) is required to produce satisfactory evidence to the following effect:—

- I.—Of having attained the age of twenty-one years.
- II.—Of moral character.
- III.—Of having passed, before the commencement of Professional Study, an Examination in the subjects of General Education recognized by the College.
- IV.—Of having been registered as a Medical Student in the manner prescribed by the General Medical Council.
- V.—Of having been engaged in Professional Studies during four years, of which at least three Winter Sessions and two Summer Sessions shall have been passed at a recognized Medical School or Schools, and one Winter Session and two Summer Sessions in one or other of the following ways:—
 1. Attending the Practice of a Hospital or other Institution recognized by the College for that purpose.
 2. Receiving instruction as the Pupil of a legally qualified Practitioner, holding any Public Appointment which affords opportunities, satisfactory to the Examiners, of imparting a practical knowledge of Medicine, Surgery, or Midwifery.
 3. Attending Lectures on any of the required subjects of Professional Study at a recognized place of instruction.

Professional Studies commenced *before* the Candidate shall have passed an Examination in the subjects of General Education will not be recognized by the College.

VI.—Of having attended, during three Winter Sessions and two Summer Sessions, the Medical and Surgical Practice at a recognized Hospital or Hospitals; and of having been engaged during six months in the Clinical Study of Diseases peculiar to Women.

VII.—Of having studied the following subjects:

ANATOMY (WITH DISSECTIONS)	During Two Winter Sessions.*
PHYSIOLOGY	Two Winter Sessions.
CHEMISTRY	Six Months.
PRACTICAL CHEMISTRY	Three Months.
MATERIA MEDICA	Three Months.
PRACTICAL PHARMACY	Three Months.

By Practical Pharmacy is meant Instruction in the Laboratory of a Registered Medical Practitioner, or of a Member of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, or of a Public Hospital or Dispensary recognized by the College.

BOTANY Three Months.

This Course of Lectures may be attended prior to the commencement of Professional Studies; and any candidate producing satisfactory evidence that Botany formed one of the subjects of his Preliminary Examination, will be exempt from attendance on this Course.

MORBID ANATOMY Six Months.

This includes attendance and instruction in the Post-Mortem Room during the period of Clinical Study.

PRINCIPLES & PRACTICE OF MEDICINE „ Two Winter Sessions.

It is required that the Principles of Public Health should be comprised in this Course of Lectures, or in the Course of Lectures on Forensic Medicine.

The attendance on these Lectures must not commence earlier than the second Winter Session at a recognized Medical School.

PRINCIPLES & PRACTICE OF SURGERY „ Two Winter Sessions.

The attendance on these Lectures must not commence earlier than the second Winter Session at a recognized Medical School.

CLINICAL MEDICINE { Two Winter Sessions
and Two Sum. Sess.*

The attendance on these Lectures must not commence until after the first Winter Session at a recognized Medical School.

CLINICAL SURGERY { Two Winter Sessions
and Two Sum. Sess.

The attendance on these Lectures must not commence until after the first Winter Session at a recognized Medical School.

By Clinical Medicine and Clinical Surgery are meant special Study and Instruction at the bed-side, with Lectures on Cases.

MIDWIFERY AND THE DISEASES
PECULIAR TO WOMEN Three Months.

Certificates must also be produced of attendance on not less than twenty Labours, and of Instruction and Proficiency in Vaccination.

FORENSIC MEDICINE Three Months.

VIII.—Of having passed the Professional Examinations.

The requirements printed in italics apply to candidates who commenced their Professional Education in the United Kingdom on or after October 1st, 1867; and to candidates who commenced their Professional Education at a recognized Foreign or Colonial School on or after October 1st, 1869.

* The Winter Session comprises a period of six months, and the Summer Session a period of three months.

Any candidate who shall produce satisfactory evidence of having passed an Examination on Anatomy and Physiology, conducted by any of the Bodies named in Schedule (A) to the Medical Act, and recognized by the College as requiring a course of Study and an Examination satisfactory to the College, shall be exempt from re-examination on the subjects of the Primary Examination.*

Any candidate who shall have obtained a degree in Surgery at a University in the United Kingdom, after a course of Study and an Examination satisfactory to the College, shall be exempt from re-examination on Surgical Anatomy, and on the Principles and Practice of Surgery.

Any candidate who shall have passed the Examination on Surgery, conducted by the Royal College of Surgeons of England, or the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, or the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, after a course of Study and an examination satisfactory to the College, shall be exempt from re-examination on Surgical Anatomy, and on the Principles and Practice of Surgery.

Any candidate, being a "Registered Medical Practitioner," whose Qualification or Qualifications shall have been obtained before the first day of January, 1861, having been, with the consent of the College, admitted a candidate for the Licence, will be examined on the Principles and Practice of Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery; but he will be exempted from such other parts of the Professional Examinations as his Qualifications may seem to the Examiners to render in his case unnecessary.

Every candidate before receiving the College Licence shall be required to pledge himself by subscribing his name to the following words:—"I faithfully promise to observe and obey the Statutes, Bye-Laws, and Regulations of the College relating to Licentiates, and to submit to such penalties as may be lawfully imposed for any neglect or infringement of them."

Each Licentiate shall have the following Form of Licence given to him, under the Seal of the Corporation, signed by the President and by the Examiners:—

"I, A. B., President of the Royal College of Physicians of London, with the consent of the Fellows of the same College, have, under the authority given to us by Royal Charter and Act of Parliament, granted to C. D., who has satisfied the College of his proficiency in the science and practice of Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery, our Licence under the said Charter, to practise Physic, so long as he shall continue to obey the Statutes, Bye-Laws, and Regulations of the College relating to Licentiates: in witness whereof, we have this day set our Seal and Signature. Dated at the College, the — day of — in the year of our Lord —."

Signed _____ President.

_____ } Examiners.

N.B.—This document shall be signed by the Licentiate with his usual signature, and by the Registrar, with the following words:—"I certify

* See Regulations relating to the Examinations.

that C. D., to whom this Licence has been granted by the College, and whose Signature is subjoined, has been duly admitted to practise Physic, as a Licentiate of the College."

Registrar.

Licentiate.

Licentiates of this College shall not compound or dispense medicines except for patients under their own care.

The Fee to be paid for the Licence to practise Physic as a Licentiate of the College shall be Fifteen Guineas.

The College List shall be considered as containing a correct list of all the Fellows, Members, Extra-urbem Licentiates, and Licentiates of the College, and it shall be incumbent on each one to ascertain that his name and residence are correctly entered thereon.

Every official letter or notice which shall be sent by the Registrar or Bedell to any Fellow, Member, Extra-urbem Licentiate, or Licentiate of the College, addressed to him by his name, at his place of residence as entered on the College List, shall be considered to have reached him, and he shall be deemed to have sufficient notice of the contents of such letter or notice, and shall be bound and concluded thereby.

OF THE DUTIES AND CONDUCT OF FELLOWS, MEMBERS, AND LICENTIATES;
AND THE PENALTIES FOR NEGLECT OR INFRINGEMENT OF THE STATUTES,
BYE-LAWS OR REGULATIONS.

No Fellow of the College shall be entitled to sue for professional aid rendered by him. (This Bye-Law is made pursuant to the 21st and 22nd Vict., c. 90, and does not extend to Members.)

No Fellow of the College shall divulge any of the proceedings of the Meeting held for the election of Censors, or other College Officers; or of Fellows or Members of the College; or of any Meeting, the proceedings of which he shall be required by the President to keep secret.

No Fellow of the College shall leave a Meeting (except by permission of the President), until the President shall have declared such Meeting to be dissolved.

No Fellow or Member of the College shall officiously, or under colour of a benevolent purpose, offer Medical aid to, or prescribe for, any patient whom he knows to be under the care of another legally qualified Medical Practitioner.

Every Fellow or Member of the College, in prescribing for a patient, shall write on his prescription the date thereof, the name of the patient, and the initial letters of his own name.

If two or more Physicians, Fellows or Members of the College, be called in consultation, they shall confer together with the utmost forbearance, and no one of them shall prescribe, or even suggest, in the presence of the patient, or the patient's attendants, any opinion as to what ought to be done, before the method of treatment has been determined by the consultation of himself and his colleagues; and the

Physician first called to a patient shall, unless he decline doing so, write the prescription for the medicines agreed upon, and shall sign the initials of the Physician or Physicians called in consultation, he placing his own initials the last. If any difference of opinion should arise, the greatest moderation and forbearance shall be observed, and the fact of such difference of opinion shall be communicated to the patient or the attendants by the Physician who was first in attendance, in order that it may distress the patient and his friends as little as possible.

No Fellow or Member of the College shall be engaged in trade; or dispense medicines, or make any engagement with a Chemist or any other person for the supply of medicines; or practise Medicine or Surgery in partnership, by deed or otherwise.

No Fellow, Member, or Licentiate of the College shall refuse to make known, when required by the President and Censors, the nature and composition of any remedy he uses.

No Fellow, Member, or Licentiate of the College shall assume the title of Doctor of Medicine, or use any other name, title, designation, or distinction implying that he is a Graduate in Medicine of a University, unless he be a Graduate in Medicine of a University.

Licentiates of this College shall not compound or dispense medicines, except for patients under their own care.

No Licentiate of this College shall, by virtue of his Licence, represent himself as being a Fellow or Member of a College of Physicians.

If it shall at any time hereafter appear, or be made known to the President and Censors, that any Fellow or Member of the College has obtained admission into the College, or that any Licentiate of the College has obtained the Licence of the College, by fraud, false statement, or imposition, or that any Fellow, Member, or Licentiate has been guilty of any great crime or public immorality, or has acted in any respect in a dishonourable or unprofessional manner, or has violated any Statute, Bye-Law, or Regulation of the College, relating to Fellows, Members, or Licentiates, as the case may be, the President and Censors may call the Fellow, Member, or Licentiate so offending before the Censors' Board, and, having investigated the case, may admonish, or reprimand, or inflict a fine not exceeding £10; or, if they deem the case of sufficient importance, may report the case to the College, and thereupon a majority of two-thirds of the Fellows present at a Meeting of the Fellows, which must be specially summoned for that purpose, may declare such Fellow to be no longer a Fellow, or a Member of the College, as the College shall determine; or such Member to be no longer a Member of the College; or such Licentiate to be no longer a Licentiate, and his Licence shall be revoked and withdrawn; and such Fellow, Member, or Licentiate shall forfeit all the rights and privileges which he does or may enjoy as a Fellow, or as a Member, or as a Licentiate, as the case may be; and his name shall be expunged from the List of Fellows, or from the List of Members, or from the List of Licentiates, as the case may be, accordingly.

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ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON.

BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE EXAMINATION FOR
THE LICENCE.

Every candidate for the College Licence, before he is admitted to Examination, will be required to sign a Declaration, stating whether he has or has not been rejected within Three months by any of the Examining Boards included in Schedule (A) to the Medical Act.

The FIRST Examination, on ANATOMY and PHYSIOLOGY, will be conducted on successive days, as follows:—

On the First day:

Evening, from Seven till Ten, by written questions.

On the Second day:

Evening, commencing at seven o'clock, *vivâ voce*, on DISSECTIONS and PREPARATIONS.

The SECOND or Pass Examination will be conducted on successive days, as follows:—

On the First day:

Evening, from Seven to Ten, by written questions on SURGICAL ANATOMY, and on THE PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF SURGERY.

On the Second day:

Morning—The candidate's practical knowledge will be tested, either at the College or in the Surgical Wards of an Hospital.
Afternoon, from One to Four, on *Materia Medica* and on *Chemistry, in its applications to Pathology, Pharmacy, and Toxicology*.*

This Examination will be conducted partly by written questions and partly in a practical manner.

Evening, commencing at Seven o'clock, by written questions on MIDWIFERY and THE DISEASES PECULIAR TO WOMEN.

On the Third day:

Evening, From Seven to Ten, by written questions on MEDICAL ANATOMY, and on THE PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF MEDICINE, including THE PRINCIPLES OF PUBLIC HEALTH.

* Candidates who shall have passed the First Examination for the Licence at this College before October 1st, 1867, are exempted from re-examination on *Materia Medica*, and on *Chemistry in its application to Pharmacy*.

Examinations of candidates for the College Licence will take place, commencing as follows:

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FIRST EXAMINATION:—

Tuesday October 1st.
Tuesday December 3rd.

SECOND OR PASS EXAMINATION:—

Tuesday October 8th.
Tuesday December 10th.

1868.

Tuesday February 4th.

Tuesday April 1st.

Tuesday July 1st.

Tuesday October 7th.

Tuesday December 2nd.

Tuesday February 11th.

Tuesday April 8th.

Tuesday July 8th.

Tuesday October 14th.

Tuesday December 9th.

On the Fourth day :

Morning—The candidate's practical knowledge will be tested, either at the College or in the Medical Wards of an Hospital.

Evening, commencing at Seven o'clock, *viva voce*, on THE PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF MEDICINE, SURGERY, and MIDWIFERY.

Candidates will not be admitted to the First Examination until after the termination of the second Winter Session of Professional Study at a recognized Medical School, nor to the Second or Pass Examination until after the termination of four years of Professional Study.

After October 1870, the College will not admit to the Pass Examination any candidate (not exempted from Registration) whose name had not been entered in the Medical Students' Register at least four years previously.

Any candidate who shall be rejected at the First Examination, will not be re-admitted to Examination until after the lapse of Three months, and will be required to produce a Certificate of the performance of Dissections, or other Professional Study satisfactory to the Examiners, during that time.

Any candidate who shall be rejected at the Second or Pass Examination, will not be re-admitted to Examination until after the lapse of Six months, and will be required to produce a Certificate of Attendance on the Practice of a recognized Hospital during that time, and also of attendance on Clinical Lectures.

Every candidate intending to present himself for Examination, is required to give fourteen days' notice in writing to the Registrar of the College, at the same time transmitting the following Certificates:—*For the First Examination*.—Evidence of having passed an Arts Examination; of having been duly registered as a Medical Student; and of having completed the second Winter Session of Professional Study at a recognized Medical School. *For the Second or Pass Examination*.—Evidence of having completed four years of Professional Study; of having attained the age of twenty-one years; of Instruction and Proficiency in the Practice of Vaccination; and of having attended not less than twenty labours. A testimonial of moral character is required of every candidate.

Blank Forms of the required Certificates of attendance on Hospital Practice and on Lectures may be obtained on application at the College.*

Any candidate who shall produce satisfactory evidence of having passed an Examination on Anatomy and Physiology, conducted by any of the Bodies named in Schedule (A) to the Medical Act, and recognized by the College as requiring a Course of Study and an Examination satisfactory to the College, will be exempt from re-examination on the subjects of the First Examination.

Any candidate who shall have obtained a Degree in Surgery at a University in the United Kingdom, after a Course of Study and an Examination satisfactory to the College, will be exempt from re-examination on Surgical Anatomy, and on The Principles and Practice of Surgery.

Any candidate who shall have passed the Examination on Surgery conducted by the Royal College of Surgeons of England, or the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, or the Royal College of Surgeons in

* Hours of Attendance, from Eleven, A.M. to Four, P.M.; Saturday, from Eleven, A.M. to Two, P.M.

Ireland, after a Course of Study and an Examination satisfactory to the College, will be exempt from re-examination on Surgical Anatomy, and on The Principles and Practice of Surgery.

Any "Registered Medical Practitioner," whose Qualification or Qualifications shall have been obtained before the first day of January, 1861, having been, with the consent of the College, admitted a candidate for the Licence, will be examined on The Principles and Practice of Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery; but he will be exempted from such other parts of the Professional Examinations as his Qualifications may seem to the Examiners to render in his case unnecessary.*

The Fee for the College Licence is Fifteen Guineas,† of which Five Guineas are to be paid on admission to the First Examination, which Fee will not be returned to any candidate rejected at this Examination, but will be allowed in the Fee for the Licence, and he will be admitted to one subsequent First Examination without the payment of an additional Fee.

Any candidate who shall be rejected at the Second or pass Examination will have the Fee paid on admission to this Examination returned to him, less Three Guineas.

* Forms of Application may be obtained of the Registrar of the College.

† The Fee must be paid within Three days prior to the day on which the Examination commences.

The first part of the history of the United States is the history of the colonies. The colonies were founded by Englishmen who had come to America in search of a better life. They were at first dependent on England for everything they needed, but as they grew in number and power, they began to assert their independence. The second part of the history is the history of the American Revolution. The colonies had become so independent that they no longer wanted to be ruled by England. They fought a war to win their freedom, and in 1776 they declared their independence. The third part of the history is the history of the early years of the new nation. The United States was a young country, and it had many problems to solve. It had to build a government, and it had to defend itself against foreign enemies. The fourth part of the history is the history of the expansion of the United States. The United States had grown so large that it had to expand its territory. It fought wars with Mexico and Spain, and it acquired new lands. The fifth part of the history is the history of the Civil War. The United States was divided into two parts, the North and the South. The North wanted to keep slavery, and the South wanted to abolish it. They fought a war to decide which side was right, and in 1865 the North won. The sixth part of the history is the history of the Reconstruction period. The South had been defeated, and it had to be rebuilt. The North wanted to make sure that the South would never again be a threat to the Union. The seventh part of the history is the history of the Gilded Age. The United States was now a powerful country, and it was becoming more and more industrial. The eighth part of the history is the history of the Progressive Era. The United States was now a great power, and it was becoming more and more democratic. The ninth part of the history is the history of the World War period. The United States was now a world power, and it was becoming more and more influential. The tenth part of the history is the history of the present. The United States is now a great country, and it is becoming more and more powerful.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND,

December 20th, 1867.

SIR,

I have laid before the Council of this College your letter of the 29th of June last, "transmitting, by direction of the General Council of Medical Education and Registration, copies of the Report of a Committee of the Council appointed to consider the Reports of Visitations of Examinations made by Members of the Council during the last two years, together with a copy of those reports for 1866-67, of which another copy has been recently transmitted for the same purpose (copies of previous Reports of Visitations having been transmitted in like manner last year), stating that the Report of the Committee has not yet been considered by the Medical Council, and adding that, before the Council take it into consideration in their next Session, they would be glad to ascertain the opinions of the qualifying bodies regarding the suggestions contained in it."

I am desired to acquaint you that the Council of this College have carefully considered the several suggestions contained in the Report of the Committee; and, with a view to convenience of reference, I am directed to transmit to you, for the information of the General Council of Medical Education and Registration, an interleaved copy of such Report, containing the Resolutions of the Council of this College of the 19th ultimo, expressive of their opinion on the suggestions of the Committee, placed opposite to the suggestions to which they respectively relate.

I am, SIR,

Your obedient Servant,

EDWARD TRIMMER,

Secretary.

DR. HAWKINS,

*Registrar to the General Council of Medical
Education and Registration.*

OBSERVATIONS OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.

THE Committee, in terms of the reference to them by the Council*, having read over and carefully considered the whole of the Reports of the Visitations of Examinations for the last two years, beg now to make such suggestions, founded on the various Reports of the Visitors, as appear calculated—

1. To remedy defects in particular Examinations, and—
2. To improve generally the Examinations for the Licence to practise Medicine and Surgery.

The Committee will first make a few comments on the Reports of the Visitors, under the heads of the several Licensing Bodies, and will subsequently refer generally to some special matters which have arisen out of the consideration of the Reports.

SPECIAL SUGGESTIONS.

I.—THE ENGLISH LICENSING BODIES.

The Royal College of Physicians of London.

The Committee observe that this College have discontinued their own Preliminary Examination in Arts, and now require that every candidate for their Licence should produce evidence of his having

* Resolution passed by the General Council, May 31, 1867 :—" That the Reports of the Visitations of Examinations during the past two years be referred to a Committee, whose duty it shall be to go carefully through them, and to bring before the General Medical Council, during their present Session, a Report embodying such recommendations, founded on the various suggestions made by the Visitors, as may tend to improve generally the Examinations for the Licence to practise Medicine and Surgery, and to remedy the defects in particular Examinations which have been pointed out by the Visitors."

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.

Resolutions of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons of England of the 19th of November, 1867, in relation to the Report, dated June 1867, of the Committee of the General Council of Medical Education and Registration, on the Visitations of Examinations.

The Royal College of Surgeons of England.

Resolved,—

That the Examination in Surgical appliances, bandaging, &c., had been discussed and advocated in the Court of Examiners some time previous to the date at which the Visitors from the Medical Council entered on the discharge of their duties.

passed one of the Preliminary Examinations recognized by the Medical Council. It is probable that their example will be gradually followed by the other Licensing Bodies, other than Universities; if so, it will be necessary that the Medical Council, in this and in other similar cases, should take care to see that the recognized Examinations in Arts include all the subjects required by them, and are in other respects deserving of recognition. But this subject belongs rather to the Committee of the Council on Preliminary Examination than to this Committee.

The Committee observe that, in the Professional Examinations, at each table, only one Examiner, who may have been the teacher of the candidate, without any Assessor, examines the candidate on each subject, and forms his opinion separately, and not necessarily after consultation with any other Examiner. The Committee think it highly desirable, on all accounts, that there should always be present at each table, at least two Examiners, who may decide upon the merits of the candidate after consultation. The same remark applies to the Examination of some other Bodies.

It appears that the Anatomical Examinations are conducted without the aid of Anatomical dissections and preparations. Such an Examination cannot be an efficient test of the Anatomical knowledge of a candidate, and requires to be amended.

The Committee observe that no separate decisions are given in the written, the oral, and the Clinical Examinations. They consider it preferable that each should be judged separately.

The Royal College of Surgeons of England.

In the Report for last year the Visitors stated it as their opinion, that the College Examinations would be improved were the Physiological Examinations made more extensive, and were the Surgical Examinations to include a practical Examination in Surgical appliances, bandaging, &c. This year the Committee are glad to observe that the College have given effect to the recommendations of the Visitors. The Anatomical and Physiological Examinations seem now to be very efficient. The same may be said as to the Surgical

Practise Examination, though, perhaps, it is capable of being extended still further, by causing the candidate to trace on a living man the lines of incision in amputations, deligation of arteries, &c. It would be desirable, too, were it practicable, to introduce operations on the dead body. It would also be extremely desirable to have Clinical Surgical Examinations introduced into the College of Surgeons' Examinations, as is now the case with many of the Licensing Boards. A difficulty may be found in the large number of candidates to be examined; but in London, where the hospitals are large and numerous, some arrangement might possibly be made by which each candidate might be made to show, in one or more cases, his knowledge of diagnosis. The matter is worthy of the attention of the College of Surgeons; and as they have already introduced Clinical Examinations into their Fellowship Examinations, they will doubtless, when possible, extend them to the candidates for their licence.

Society of Apothecaries.

In the Reports of 1865-66 the Visitors made various suggestions, and the Committee find, from the Reports of 1866-67, that the Society have carried them out almost in their integrity. The Committee trust that the introduction of Clinical Medical Examinations will be also eventually adopted by the Society.

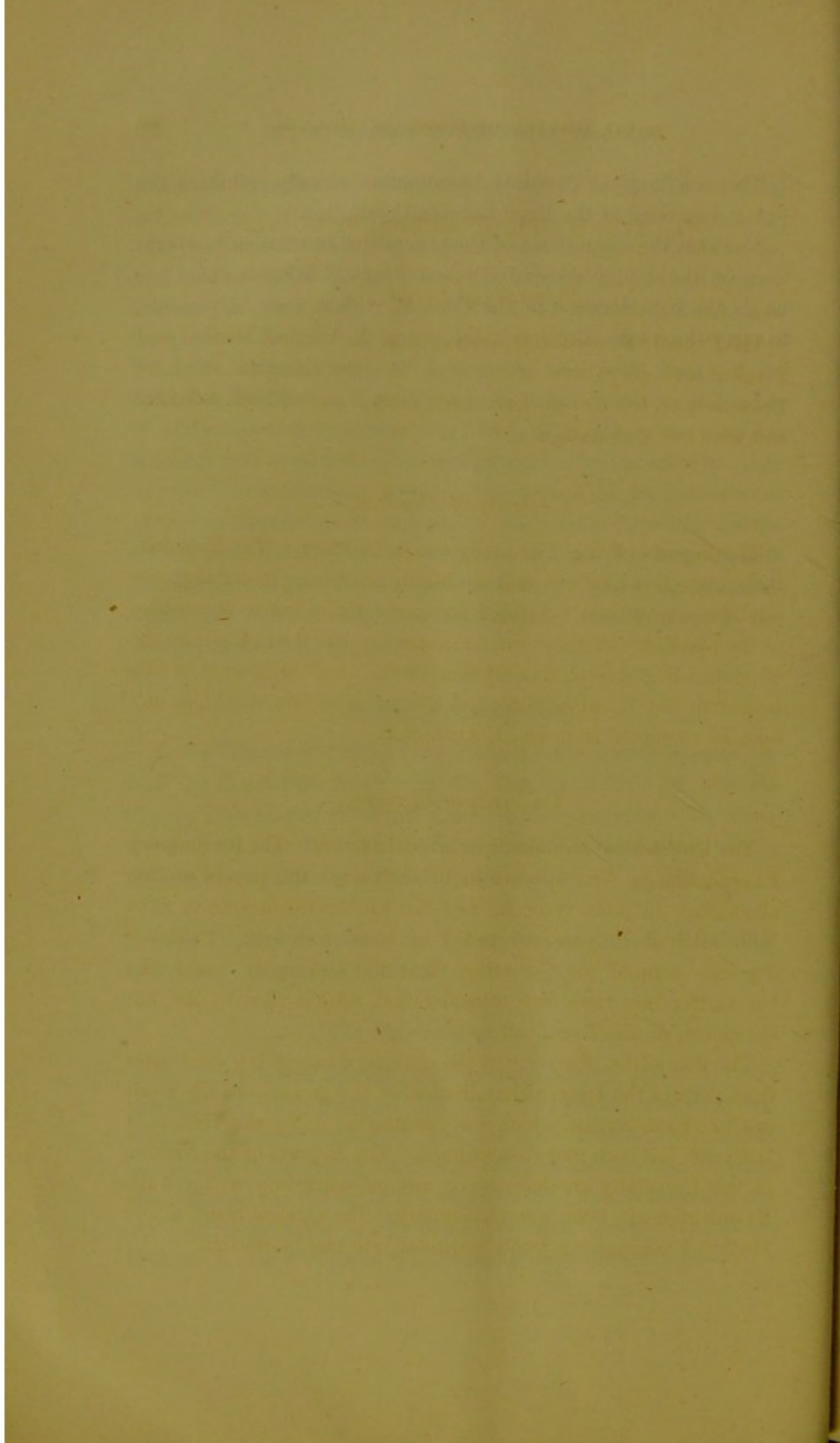
[*The Reports concerning the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge, and London* require no remarks.]

The University of Durham.

The Professional Examinations are satisfactory, and to be noted especially for their practical character. The Preliminary Examination, as at present conducted, does not seem satisfactory. It does not include the requisite number of subjects, and in some instances the questions are not up to the standard the Council desires to see. Dr. EMBLETON stated to the Committee that he was sure that the University would improve this Examination before next year.

That the Surgical Practical Examination already embraces the points suggested in the Report of the Committee.

And that the suggestions of the Committee in relation to operations on the dead body and Clinical Surgical Examinations are under the consideration of the Council, with a view, if possible, to carry them into effect.



II.—THE SCOTTISH LICENSING BODIES.

University of Edinburgh.

The Committee need only observe that the Clinical Medical and Surgical tests, introduced of late years into the Examination of the University of Edinburgh, have been carried out without difficulty and with great advantage.

University of Aberdeen.

The Reports of this University are satisfactory. The Examinations are well carried out, and are highly practical. In certain cases candidates have been exempted from oral Examination on account of the excellence of their written answers; but the Committee are of opinion that the recommendation of the General Council in this matter should be adhered to, and that no candidate should, in any case, be exempted from oral Examination.

University of Glasgow.

The Professional Examinations are satisfactory. The Preliminary Examination in Arts appears to be defective; the papers are too elementary in some respects, and the candidates appear to have been allowed to pass too easily in some instances. Professor THOMSON assured the Committee that the University would take the matter into immediate consideration, with a view to the improvement of this Examination.

The Committee observe that the custom of exempting candidates from parts of the Degree Examination, on the ground of high merit in Class Examination, which was commented on by the Visitors of last year, has been now discontinued. The Reports of the Visitors on this University are defective in not including any notice of the Examinations in Botany and Chemistry. The Clinical Surgical and Medical Examinations, lately instituted, are highly efficient.

University of St. Andrew's.

No Report has been made on this University.

Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh.

The Committee regret that no Visitation of the Examinations for the Single Licence has yet been made ; but they hope the Scottish Branch Council will arrange that this omission shall not again occur. It is understood that there is no Practical Clinical Examination at present. The Committee trust that the College will take into consideration the propriety of following the example set them in this respect by so many other Licensing Bodies.

Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh.

The Examination for the Single Licence was only reported on last year, and even then not completely. Judging from that single Report, the number of written questions seems to have been too small ; but Dr. ANDREW WOOD stated to the Committee, that since last year the number of questions had been increased. The College have not hitherto instituted Practical and Clinical Surgical Examinations ; but the Committee are informed that arrangements have been made for commencing them at the Autumn Examinations, on a plan similar to that pursued at the University of Edinburgh.

Double Qualification of the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons of Edinburgh.

The Preliminary Examination and the Second Professional Examination have been reported on, and are satisfactory so far as they go ; but the Professional Examination, to be complete, requires that Practical Examinations in Medicine and Surgery shall be introduced. The first Professional Examination has not been reported on.

Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow.

No Report has been given of the Preliminary Examination in Arts. The Reports on the Professional Examination show them to be satisfactory so far as they go; but here also there is a want of Practical and Clinical Medical and Surgical Examinations.

III.—THE IRISH LICENSING BODIES.

In some respects the Reports of the Irish Examinations are defective, so that it is difficult for the Committee to make a sufficient Report on all of them. They trust the attention of the Irish Branch Council will be seriously directed to this matter.

University of Dublin.

The Committee observe that by Act of Parliament a Student may commence his Professional Study without a previous Examination in Arts: the occurrence is rare, but the Committee think attention should be called to it. The mode of carrying on the oral Examination is peculiar to this University. It is conducted in class, and the Committee believe cannot be so efficient as the ordinary method of examining each candidate apart. This Examination is conducted in public.

The Practical and Clinical Examinations in Surgery are excellent, and the Committee observe that operations on the dead body are required. There are no Clinical Examinations in Medicine. A Chemical Laboratory has recently been erected by the Provost and Board of Trinity College, for the instruction of the Students in Practical Chemistry; and Dr. APJOHN has informed the Committee that the Examinations in Chemistry will henceforward be so conducted as to test the acquirements of the Students in the practice as well as the theory of the science.

Queen's University in Ireland.

The Committee are informed that a Student may follow his Professional Studies for two years before passing his Preliminary Examination in Arts. The attention of the University should be directed to the evil of this, as permitting insufficiently educated persons to enter on Professional Studies.

The oral Examinations are reported by the Visitors to be too short. There are operations on the dead body, but there are no Clinical, Medical, or Surgical Examinations.

King and Queen's College of Physicians.

The Preliminary Examination in Arts is left to other Bodies. It would appear that there is no written Professional Examination, but from the unavoidable incompleteness of the Report, the Committee are unable to form any correct opinion of the Examinations of this Licensing Body. The Examinations are open to all the Fellows and Licentiates of the College.

Royal College of Surgeons.

There is no Report on the Preliminary Examinations. The number of written questions in the first Professional Examination is small; there are only two questions in Anatomy, one in Physiology, and one in Materia Medica, and one hour only is allowed for the answers. At the oral Examination it appears that there is only one Examiner at each table, and the decisions are given, without conference, by simple "yes" or "no." The Committee have learned from Mr. HARGRAVE that, since the Visitation, the decisions are made by marks, and that a Member of the Council sits at each table with the Examiner. The Second Professional Examination, in Surgery, Medicine, and Materia Medica, is conducted exactly in the same time and manner as the first. There is no mention of Practical and Clinical Medical or Surgical Examinations. No Teacher is allowed to be an Examiner.

Apothecaries' Hall of Ireland.

No Report has been made on the Examinations of this Body.

GENERAL SUGGESTIONS.

Combination of Licensing Bodies.

Referring to the number of Licences, the Committee are of opinion that the Council should strongly encourage every effort now being made, or about to be made, under Clause XIX. of the Medical Act, to combine the Examinations of the Licensing Boards,

Combination of Licensing Bodies.

That the Council are desirous and have recently been endeavouring to carry out, as far as the Charters of the College will permit, the combination here advocated, so as to diminish the number of examinations on the same subjects required of Candidates for Qualifications in Medicine and Surgery.

Practical Examinations.

That the Council concur that Examinations should, as far as possible, be made practical.

so as to secure that every practitioner whose name appears on the Register shall have been tested in all the branches of the Medical profession. It is of importance that the Licensing Bodies, at present too numerous, should be concentrated by such combinations. The Examinations would thus be more easily supervised, and there would be a better guarantee for efficiency.

Practical Examinations.

The Committee are of opinion that Practical Examinations are highly desirable in all the subjects in which they can be employed, and that in no other way can the Examinations in these subjects be made completely satisfactory.

Under the term "practical" would be included all the Examinations in which a candidate performs experiments or operations, or describes dissections or drugs, or performs *post-mortem* examinations, or examines with the microscope, or points of the like kind. It will be well, however, to illustrate by a Table more particularly what is meant.

<i>Subjects.</i>	<i>Practical Work.</i>
CHEMISTRY	Actual Laboratory work.
MATERIA MEDICA	Actual compounding of prescriptions; Pharmaceutical processes; naming and describing drugs.
BOTANY	Recognition and description of plants.
ANATOMY	Dissections and preparations.
MEDICINE & CLINICAL MEDICINE	Examination of patients; microscopic and chemical examinations; patho- logical specimens.
SURGERY & CLINICAL SURGERY .	Examination of patients; pathological specimens; bandaging, &c.; opera- tions on the dead body, &c., &c.
MIDWIFERY	Operative Midwifery on models.
FORENSIC MEDICINE	Laboratory work; microscopical and chemical examinations.

It is satisfactory to find that less difficulty has been experienced in arranging for such Examinations than had been anticipated. The methods employed by different bodies are somewhat different, but the results in each case have been satisfactory. While the Committee express their satisfaction at this improvement, and their hope that progress in this direction may continue, they do not advise that any rule should be laid down as to the mode of conducting these Practical Medical and Surgical Examinations, or as to the extent to which they should be carried. When the Reports of all the Visitations have been sent to the Licensing Bodies, the several methods now followed by some will be considered by all, and the best parts of each plan adopted.

The Written Questions.

The Committee have been impressed with the importance of having the questions put in the most precise manner, so that the candidate may understand exactly what he is required to answer, and may be able to give precise and concise replies. They refer to the mode in which the questions are put by Professor CHRISTISON (*vide* the Report on the University of Edinburgh, April, 1866), for examples of the plan which they think might be followed with advantage in many instances.

The attention of the Committee has been called to the necessity of preventing copying. Among other means, the arrangement of candidates by numbers or alphabetically has been found useful in detecting collusion.

The Committee have found it inconvenient not to have the questions attached to all the Reports of the Visitors, and they advise that this should be done, at any rate for next year, in order to afford data for judging of the amount and quality of the written tests.

The Oral Examination.

The Committee recommend that not less than two Examiners should be present at every oral Examination of a candidate. A decision should be based on the opinions of both Examiners after consultation.

The Written Questions.

That the Council agree that questions cannot be put too concisely or precisely, but are of opinion that the example quoted is not applicable to the Examinations at the College.

The Oral Examination.

That the recommendation accords with the long-established practice of the Court of Examiners of the College.

Uniform Standard of judging the results of Examination.

That in the opinion of the Council the proposed numerical method of estimating the results of Examination is neither required nor desirable in the Examinations of the College.

The uniform Standard of judging the results of Examination.

In several of the Reports, viz., on the Society of Apothecaries, London, on the College of Surgeons, England, and on the University of Aberdeen, reference is made by the Visitors to the advantage of some uniform standard. There may be difficulties in framing one which is free from objection; but there is no doubt that even an imperfect rule is better than none at all, and the Committee decided by a large majority that such a standard is desirable.

In making the following suggestions on such a standard, the Committee regard them as merely the means of eliciting the opinions of the Licensing Bodies on a matter of great importance. In placing a scheme before them, and entering into some detail, the Committee do so merely as a basis for discussion, and in the hope that it will lead, eventually, to a common action on the part of all the Licensing Bodies.

The numerical method of estimating the results of an Examination is the most accurate, and the most free from objections; it is now employed in all the Government Competitive Examinations, and is also used by the majority of the Medical Licensing Bodies. The mode of using it, however, is different in each case; but, as the principle has been admitted by so many Licensing Bodies, it is believed that they will raise no objection to making such alterations as may render the results of the Examinations comparable. Those Licensing Bodies which use such expressions as good, moderate, bad, or *optime, satis, bene*, &c., not resting on a numerical basis, will, we conceive, have no difficulty in fixing a corresponding numerical value.

The method usually followed when a numerical standard is used, is to assign to each subject a certain number of marks, which represents the total number which a candidate can gain in that subject if he answers the questions as perfectly as possible in the time.

But there are advantages in another plan—viz., fixing the number of marks according to the time during which the Examination is carried on, so that the total number of marks indicates at once the length of time the candidate is under examination, as well as the character of the answers.

The advantage of this, for the purpose of the Medical Council, will be best seen by an example.

Supposing the first plan to be adopted, and on the subject of Surgery for example, a total of 1000 marks is allowed by all the Licensing Bodies, no comparison is still possible between the results; for one body may give the whole 1000 marks to an oral Examination only; another may distribute them among a written, an oral, and a practical Examination. In the record, however, as presented to the Medical Council, the candidates from each body may appear to have gained an equal number of marks, although the Examinations have been widely different in severity.

This is avoided by the system of marks for time.

Supposing 100 marks are given for every hour of written Examination in Surgery, 200 for every hour (or in proportion for less periods) of oral, and 200 for every hour of practical Examination; the numerical record of such Examination will at once show the nature of the Examination, and its different parts will be comparable with each other, no matter what the respective arrangements of the two Licensing Bodies may be.

For example, one Licensing Body may choose to give on a particular subject three hours of written, and fifteen minutes of oral Examination. The records of its marks would show 300 for the former and 50 for the latter. Another body might give two hours' written, fifteen minutes' oral, and half an hour's practical Examination, the marks being 200, 50, and 100 marks, or the same as in the former case, only differently distributed. The parts of the two Examinations are then comparable.

The plan will in fact be found to show not only the standard of proficiency, but the differences of the Examinations; and it has the advantage of not fettering too much the opinions and methods of Examination of the different Licensing Bodies.

The number of marks to be assigned to a particular time is a matter of importance. They should not be too few, or the wide difference of different candidates will not be properly indicated; they should not be too many, or they become unwieldy.

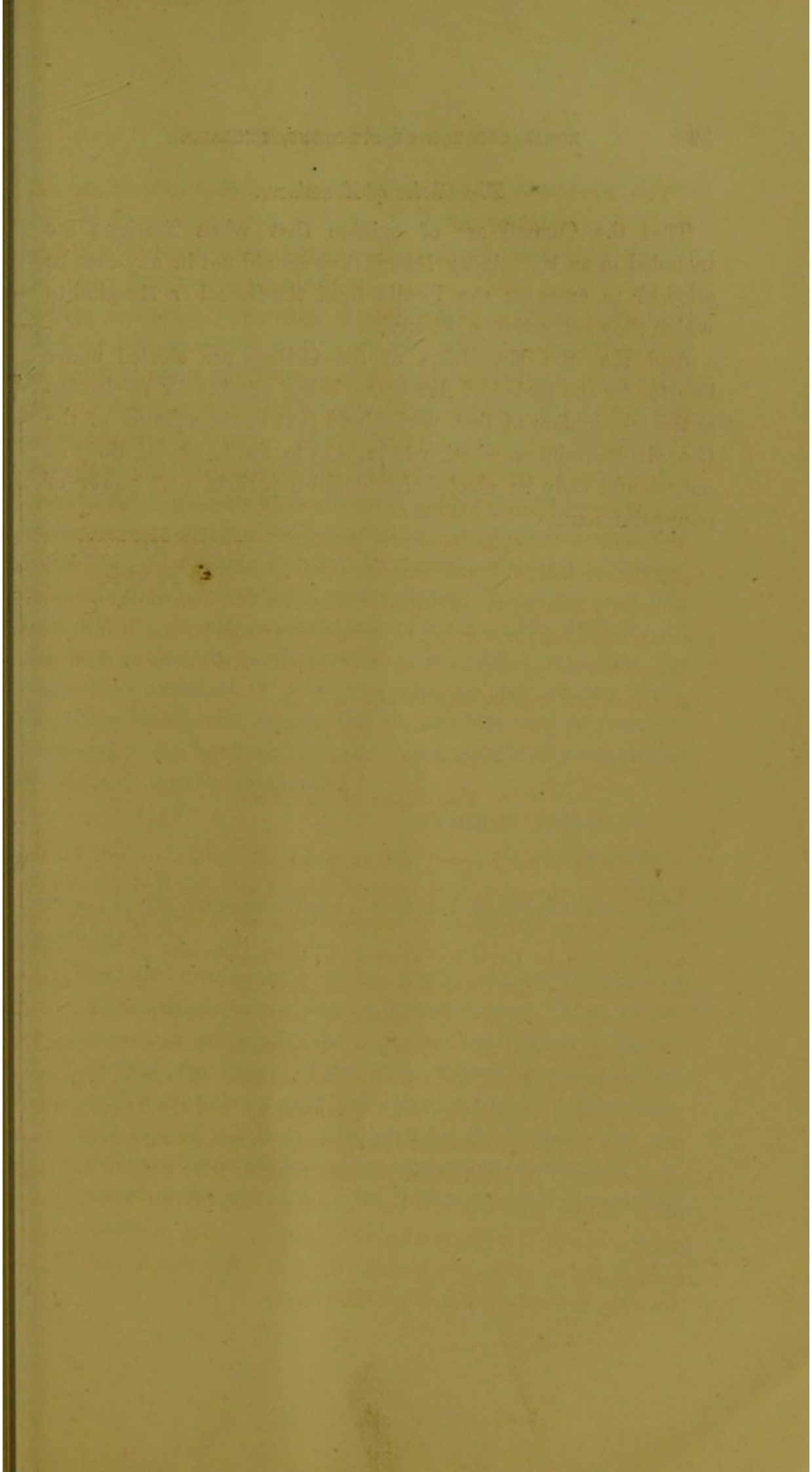
This record would show at once both the kind of subjects and the time occupied in each.

With regard to the minimum per centage of marks qualifying for the Licence, whatever numerical method may be adopted, the Committee consider it desirable to ascertain the opinion of the Licensing Bodies.

It may be objected to the plan now submitted for consideration, that different Examiners will assign different values to answers. This objection is inseparable from the system of Examinations, and applies to all modes of expressing results. But the mere fact of an Examiner having to keep a fixed numerical value before him, will be found to be of the greatest use to himself, and after practice, it will be found that the opinions of good Examiners are singularly accordant. If also, in all cases, two Examiners examine every candidate, and come to independent conclusions before final judgment, the system will soon be found to work with accuracy, and to afford trustworthy results.

The Choice of Examiners.

There is a very great diversity in the mode in which the Examiners are selected by the different Licensing Bodies. Sometimes they are persons unconnected with the Licensing Body, but chosen by it to serve for a specified time, from one to five years. In other cases, the Professors of a University either examine alone or with the assistance of Examiners who are not Professors. In other instances again a Corporation appoints Examiners from its own body, and those serve for various periods. There is, in fact, a great diversity in the modes of appointment, and the Examiners of different bodies are necessarily persons of very varying capacity and experience. To attempt an alteration in one body without altering all would be invidious, and the Committee refrain from offering any suggestion to any particular Corporation. But the Committee believe that, when practicable, the following points should be attended to in the selection of Examiners:



The Choice of Examiners.

That the Council are of opinion that when Teachers are included in an Examining Board, they should not in any case be allowed to examine the Pupils from the School or Hospital to which they respectively belong.

And that the Examiners of the College are elected under Charter for the period of five years, being eligible for re-election at the termination of that period, and that in the opinion of the Council, Examiners, whether belonging to the Licensing Body or not, should only be elected for definite periods, with power of re-appointment.

JOHN HILTON,

President.

1. There should be some Teachers in every Examining Board.
2. The appointments of those Examiners who do not belong to the Licensing Body should be for a definite period, with power of re-appointment.

The Committee have only, in conclusion, to express the hope that the Reports of the Visitors for next year, together with those of previous years, will be such as to place before the Council a full view of the system of Examination in all its branches pursued by all the Licensing Boards. That progress has already been made in the improvement of some of the Examinations since the commencement of the Visitations by the Medical Council is obvious; and it is no less obvious that much still remains to be accomplished, especially in the way of extending Practical Examinations in all departments.

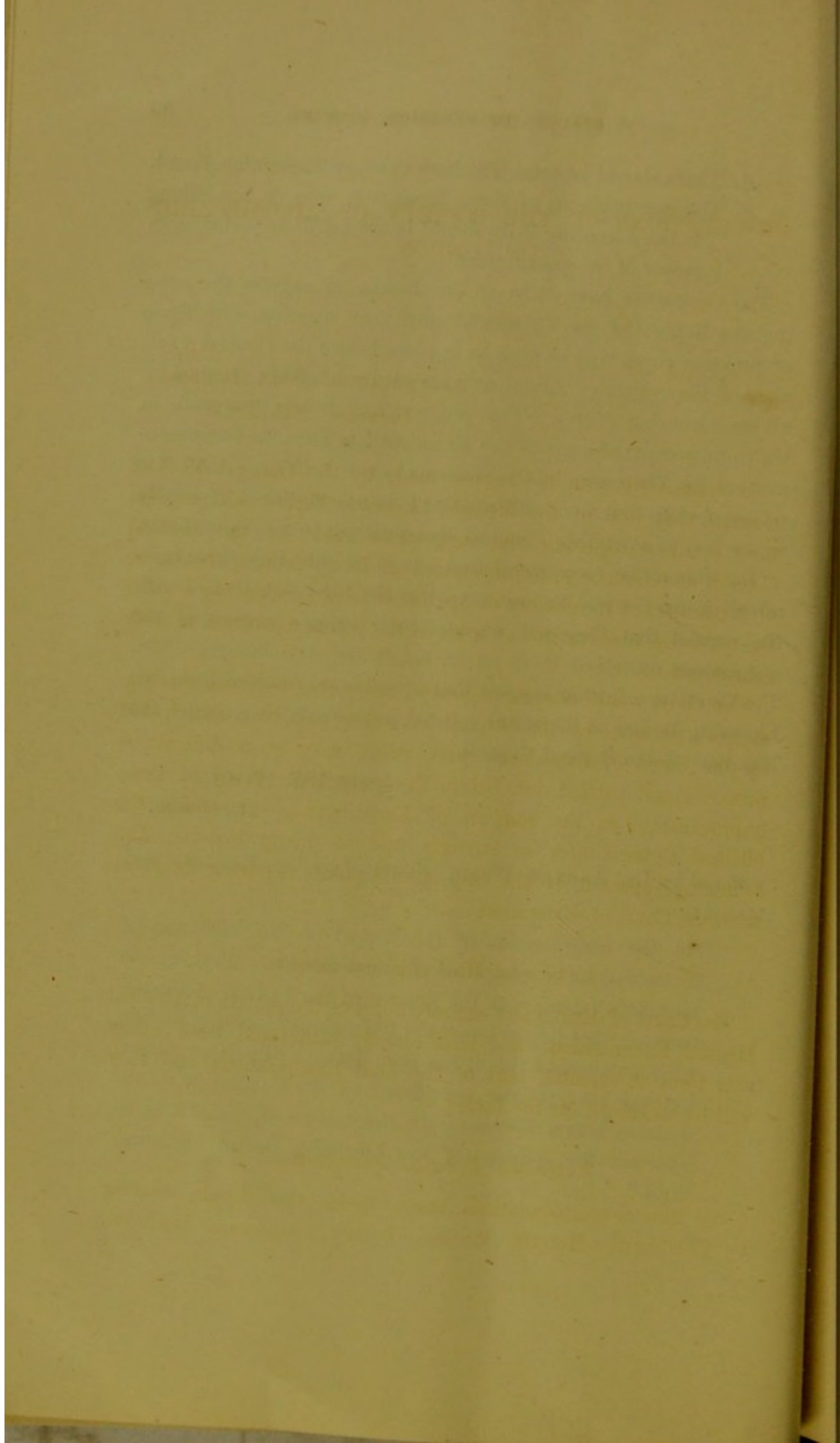
The Committee recommend that a copy of this Report, as submitted to the Council, be sent to each of the Licensing Bodies, with the request that they will express their opinion regarding the suggestions contained in it on or before the 1st January 1868. The Committee further suggest that the answers received from the Licensing Bodies be thereafter printed and circulated amongst the Members of the General Council.

ANDREW WOOD,

Chairman.

Moved by Dr. ANDREW WOOD; Seconded by Dr. PARKES; and Agreed to:—

“That the consideration of the Report of the Visitation of Examinations be postponed till next Session. That, in the meantime (along with the Reports of the Visitors of Examinations), that Report be sent to the various Licensing Bodies, with a statement that it has been drawn up by a Committee, but has not yet been considered by the Council, who are desirous, before discussing the suggestions contained in it, to ascertain the opinions of the Licensing Bodies regarding them.”



OBSERVATIONS OF THE SOCIETY OF APOTHECARIES
OF LONDON.

APOTHECARIES' HALL, LONDON.

December 26th, 1867.

In conformity with the request made by the General Medical Council, that each of the Medical Licensing Bodies will express their opinions regarding the suggestions made by the Medical Council in reference to improvements in Examinations, the Court of Examiners of the Society of Apothecaries of London beg to offer the following observations on some of the points submitted to their consideration.

The Court would remark in general terms that very many of the suggestions made by the Council have long ago been anticipated by the Court of Examiners, who, under very great difficulties, proposed and carried out, before the year 1858, many of those improvements in the conduct of Examinations, on which the Medical Council now so strongly and so justly insists. The following appear to be the only special points requiring comment from the Court of Examiners:—

1. Clinical Medical Examinations.

The Court of Examiners entirely approve the system of Clinical Medical Examinations, and have already introduced them; they now form an essential part of the final Examinations, and they will be continued for the future.

2. General Practical Examinations.

All the recommendations made under this head, relating to Chemistry, Materia Medica, Botany, Anatomy, Medicine,

Clinical Medicine, and Forensic Medicine, have been already carried out to a considerable extent, and the Court are now devising means for making the Practical Examinations still more efficient. It is intended also to introduce models in the Examinations on Practical Midwifery.

3. Uniform Standard of judging the result of Examinations.

The Court of Examiners coincide with the Medical Council as to the propriety of affixing a numerical value to the answers given by candidates under examination, whether written, oral, or practical. They are doubtful, however, as to the advantage of fixing the number of marks according to the time during which the Examination is carried on; because the time occupied in Examination must necessarily vary at different Examining Boards, and no test of the kind sketched by the Committee of the Medical Council could afford any information as to the relative value of the questions given, or as to the real character of the Examination. The Court therefore submit that such a plan would offer a very fallacious criterion of the relative merits of candidates at different Examining Boards, or even at the same Boards on different occasions.

On a few points referred to by the Medical Council, the Court of Examiners are precluded from offering any opinion, as the questions proposed are entirely beyond their province to discuss; and on others the Court think it unnecessary to offer any remarks, because, as they have already observed, the suggestions made by the Medical Council have not only been adopted, but have been anticipated by the Court.

Signed on behalf of the Court of Examiners,

ROBERT NORTON,

Chairman pro. tem.

TO THE GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL
OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

OBSERVATIONS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.

*REPLY by the Medical Faculty of the University of Edinburgh
to the Suggestions made by the General Council of Medical
Education and Registration in their Report of June 8th, 1867.*

The Medical Faculty of the University of Edinburgh have taken into consideration the suggestions made by the General Medical Council in 1867, and beg to submit the following reply:—

1. Combination of Licensing Bodies.

On this subject the Medical Faculty do not venture to make any remarks. The Examinations in the University of Edinburgh embrace both Medicine and Surgery. The Medical Examinations are conducted by the Medical Staff of the University, and the Surgical Examinations by the Surgical Staff; and they are supervised by three non-professional Examiners, who are elected annually by the University Court, and who are present at all the Examinations, and take part in them.

2. Practical Examinations.

The Faculty highly approve of practical Examinations, and they have carried them out fully for many years.

In Botany and Natural History the candidates are examined on fresh and dried specimens, and on models placed before them, as well as on structures exhibited under microscopes, and they are required to give descriptions of fresh specimens put before them.

In Chemistry, every candidate has to undergo a practical Examination in the Laboratory, besides producing a Certificate of attendance on Practical Chemistry.

In Materia Medica, drugs and specimens are used in the Examinations. As regards the compounding of prescriptions, this is required to be taken in the Laboratory of an Hospital, or a Dispensary, or in the shop of a Druggist, and a Certificate is required of actual attendance and work.

In Anatomy, recent dissections and preparations are used in all cases, and a Certificate is required to the effect that the candidate has attended Practical Anatomy, and has carefully dissected the various parts of the human body.

In Midwifery, models are used in order to ascertain the candidate's operative powers, and a Certificate is required of his having attended a certain number of cases, under proper superintendence.

In Forensic Medicine, a practical Examination is given on the detection of poisons, and in Microscopical and Chemical testing.

In Surgery, and Clinical Surgery, the candidate is examined on Pathological specimens, and bandaging; in Surgical operation, so far as practicable, and on cases in the wards of the Royal Infirmary.

In Medicine, and Clinical Medicine, there are written and oral Examinations on cases in the wards of the Royal Infirmary.

Prescriptions. The candidate's power of prescribing and writing prescriptions are also tested.

Thus in every department of the Examination for Degrees, this University insists upon practical knowledge.

3. The Written Questions.

This University has adopted, as far as possible, a precise manner of putting questions. In some departments, as in the Natural Sciences, Chemistry, Anatomy, Materia Medica, and Forensic Medicine, this method can be carried out fully. In other departments, it is not so easily accomplished. The Faculty, however, are

satisfied of the importance of having well-defined questions given, calling for precise and concise replies. The Faculty are glad to find that the written papers issued by their Professor of Materia Medica have received special commendation.

The Faculty have long been impressed with the importance of taking all due care to prevent copying among candidates. They have been enabled to accomplish this by having a large hall for examination, which allows the separation of candidates — by arranging the candidates alphabetically, and by having a large staff of Examiners present during the whole of the written Examinations. Any Examiner who is absent at the specified time is fined, and his place is taken by the Dean.

4. *The Oral Examinations.*

The Medical Faculty carry out the plan of having two Examiners present at each oral Examination, and both Examiners give their opinion as to the merits of the candidate.

5. *Uniform Standard of judging the results of Examinations.*

As to this point there is great difficulty, and the Faculty do not think that the plan suggested by the Council will work well. The system adopted by the Faculty is shown in the accompanying printed paper. It will be seen that certain marks are fixed upon, and that numerical values are attached to each of them. The plan has been found satisfactory upon an extended trial. To give the marks in reference to time will not, in the opinion of the Faculty, secure the object which the Council have in view. The element of time will not necessarily indicate the nature of the Examination, either as regards laxity or severity.

It is no doubt of importance, in comparing results, to have, as far as possible, a uniform standard; but the practical accomplishment of this appears to the Faculty to be a very difficult matter.

6. *Choice of Examiners.*

The Faculty agree in thinking that Teachers, and gentlemen not engaged in teaching, should act simultaneously as Examiners. In this University there are three non-teaching Examiners attached to the Medical Faculty, and they take an active part in all the Examinations. The Examiners are elected annually by the University Court.

J. W. BALFOUR, M.D., F.R.S.,

*Dean of the Medical Faculty of the
University of Edinburgh.*

31st December, 1867.

EXAMINATION FOR MEDICAL DEGREES.

MARKS TO BE USED FOR THE EXERCISES AND
ORAL EXAMINATIONS.*Value.*

76 to 100 B.—Good, above average. All the questions answered well.

51 to 75 S. B.—Satisfactory. Two-thirds of the questions answered well.

31 to 50 V. S. B.—Scarcely satisfactory. One-third of the questions answered well. An Oral Examination in certain circumstances.

All below 30 N. S. B.—Decidedly unsatisfactory. None of the questions answered well, or one entirely omitted. Another Written Examination on the subject so marked.

An average of 60 entitles to pass the Written Examination.

In all cases, two-thirds below the average rejects.

N.B.—Such marks as +, −, *barely*, &c., to be altogether disregarded.

FIRST EXAMINATION.

BOTANY, NATURAL HISTORY AND CHEMISTRY.

Written and Oral Examination (6 Marks).

6 B.—Pass with honours, as a preliminary for Science Degrees.

5 B. + 1 S. B.—Pass with distinction.

4 B. + 2 S. B.—Pass with credit.

Written Examination only.

1 V. S. B. + 2 S. B.—May be allowed an Oral Examination. If marks continue the same, may pass with admonition.

1 N. S. B. + 1 V. S. B. + 1 B.—May be allowed an Oral Examination on the subjects marked B. and V. S. B. Must undergo another Written Examination on that marked N. S. B.

1 N. S. B. + 2 S. B.—May be allowed an Oral Examination on the subjects marked S. B. Must undergo another Written Examination in that marked N. S. B.

The following, and all below them, remitted, and the candidate required to undergo another Written Examination on all the subjects.

2 V. S. B. + 1 S. B.

1 N. S. B. + 1 V. S. B. + 1 S. B.

SECOND EXAMINATION.

ANATOMY, INSTITUTES OF MEDICINE, MATERIA MEDICA,
AND PATHOLOGY.

Written and Oral Examination (8 Marks).

7 B. + 1 S. B.—Pass with distinction.

6 B. + 2 S. B.—Pass with credit.

Written Examination only.

2 V. S. B. + 2 S. B.—May be allowed an Oral Examination. If marks continue the same, may pass with admonition.

1 N. S. B. + 2 V. S. B. + 1 B.—May be allowed an Oral Examination on the subjects marked B. and V. S. B. Must undergo another Written Examination on that marked N. S. B.

1 N. S. B. + 3 S. B.—May be allowed an Oral Examination on the subjects marked S. B. Must undergo another Written Examination on that marked N. S. B.

2 N. S. B. + 2 S. B.—Must pass a satisfactory Written Examination on the subjects marked N. S. B. before being admitted to an Oral Examination on any of the subjects.

The following, and all below them, remitted, and the candidate required to undergo another Written Examination on all the subjects.

3 V. S. B. + 1 S. B.

1 N. S. B. + 2 V. S. B. + 1 S. B.

2 N. S. B. + 1 V. S. B. + 1 S. B.

FINAL EXAMINATION.

SURGERY, MIDWIFERY, PRACTICE OF PHYSIC, MEDICAL JURISPRUDENCE,
AND PRESCRIPTIONS.

Written and Oral Examination (9 Marks).

8 B. + 1 S. B.—Pass with distinction.

7 B. + 2 S. B.—Pass with credit.

Written Exercises only.

2 V. S. B. + 3 S. B.—May be allowed an Oral Examination. If marks continue the same, may pass with admonition.

1 N. S. B. + 2 V. S. B. + 2 B.—May be allowed an Oral Examination on the subjects marked B. and V. S. B. Must undergo another Written Examination on that marked N. S. B.

2 N. S. B. + 3 S. B.—May be allowed to pass an Oral Examination on the subjects marked S. B. Must undergo another Written Examination on those marked N. S. B.

The following, and all below them, remitted, and the candidate required to undergo another Written Examination on all the subjects.

3 V. S. B. + 2 S. B.

1 N. S. B. + 2 V. S. B. + 2 S. B.

2 N. S. B. + 1 V. S. B. + 2 S. B.

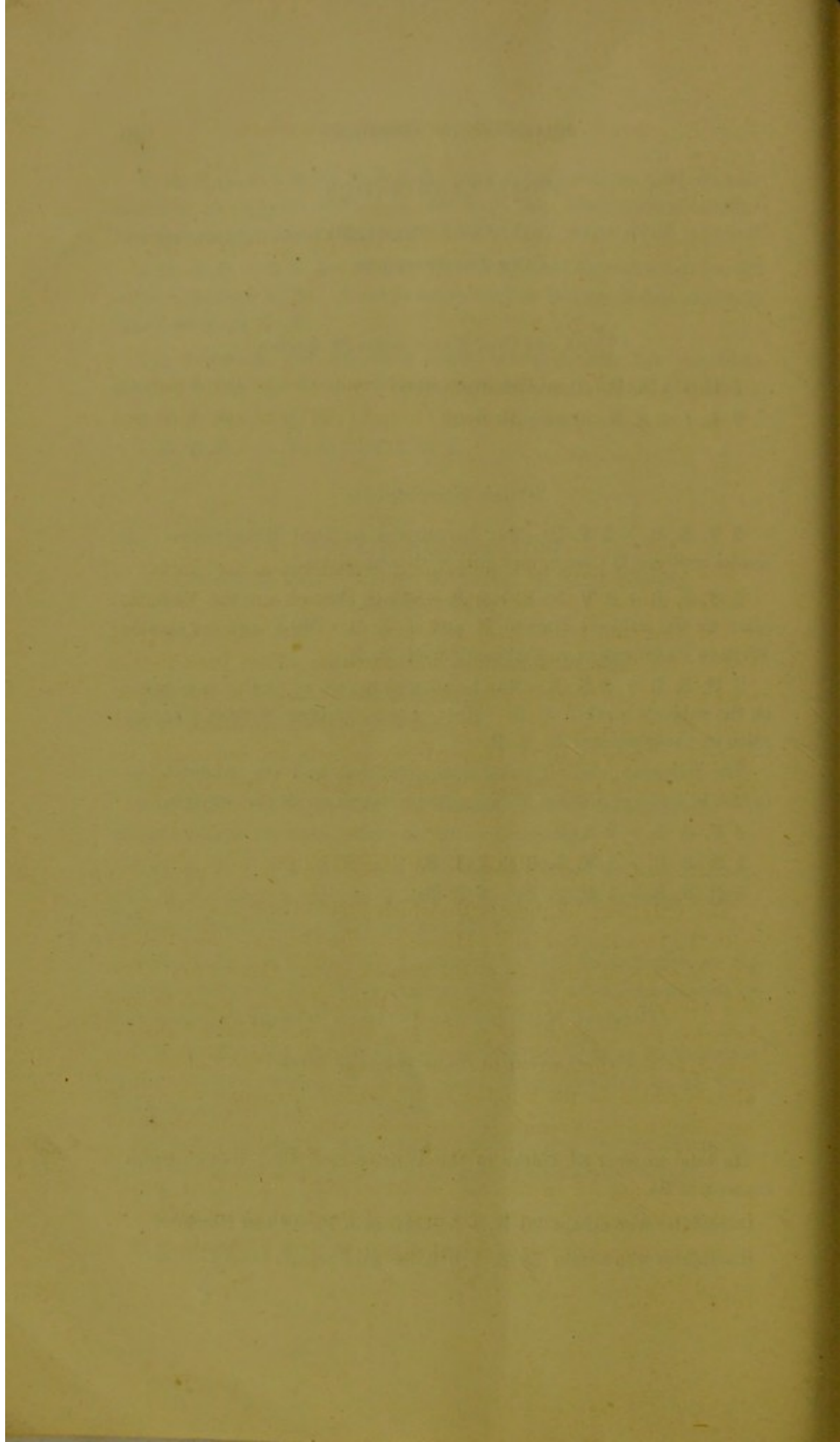
CLINICAL MEDICINE AND CLINICAL SURGERY.

Written and Oral Examination (2 Marks).

The total number of Marks in the Written and Oral Examinations amounts to 25.

Candidates who obtain 20 B. + 5 S. B. gain First Class Honours.

Candidates who obtain 16 B. + 9 S. B. gain Second Class Honours.



ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF EDINBURGH.

OBSERVATIONS on the Suggestions contained in the Report of the Committee of the Medical Council (1867), on the Visitation of Examinations.

The College have had under their consideration the Report of the Committee of the General Medical Council on the Visitation of Examinations transmitted to them, as to the other Licensing Bodies, for their consideration and remarks. They have now to state their views regarding the suggestions contained in that Report under the two heads of—I. Special Suggestions applicable to each Licensing Body; and II. General Suggestions for improving the Examinations for the Licence to practise Medicine and Surgery.

I.—SPECIAL SUGGESTIONS.

The only part of these with which this College have to do, is with the remarks specially addressed to the College. The College have to state, in reference to the remark of the Committee, "that the number of written questions for their Diploma seems to have been too small, according to the Report of the Visitors," that, as stated to the Committee by their representative, the College had already added to the number of the written questions, as will be perceived by the Visitors for the present year. It is the desire of the College to make their written Examinations efficient tests of the proficiency of candidates, as far as they go. They prefer, however, rather to trust to the oral and Practical Examinations, as more searching, and as more calculated to prevent Students from

mere cram; and therefore they would deprecate any considerable extension of written Examinations, even if it were possible without great inconvenience to find time for it.

The College have been for some time maturing a scheme for carrying out Practical and Clinical Surgical Examinations. This will be enforced at all Examinations for their Diplomas after this date (November, 1867), and will include testing in Surgical appliances, bandages, tourniquets, splints, &c., on the lay figure or living man, and the Examination of Cases at the bed-side in the hospital.

II.—GENERAL SUGGESTIONS.

1. *The Combination of Licensing Bodies.*

The College, as the Council are aware, have for years past, under Clause XIX of the Medical Act, combined with the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, for the purpose of giving, by means of a joint series of Examinations, a complete Licence to practise Medicine and Surgery. This joint Examination has been largely taken advantage of by Students, who thus avoid the irksomeness of undergoing several Examinations on the same subjects. The College have, with the view of carrying out further this desirable movement, taken *ad eundem* of their first Professional Examination on Anatomy, Physiology, and Chemistry, the Examination on these subjects of other Licensing Bodies, and have required candidates so qualified only to pass their Practical Examination on Surgery, Medicine, Midwifery, Materia Medica, and Medical Jurisprudence. The College believe that if similar combinations were carried out in other parts of the kingdom, the Examinations for Licences would be rendered more uniform, and would be more easily supervised.

2. *Practical Examinations.*

The College are strongly impressed with the desirability of having as much Practical Examination as possible in all subjects

which admit of it. The College consider this test as most important, and are prepared to carry it out as far as circumstances will permit.

- a. The College approve of candidates being required to apply some *Chemical tests*. These of course, at first, cannot be pushed very far; but there seems no difficulty in requiring, for example, that each candidate should test a compound body containing an acid and a base.
- b. In their Examinations on *Materia Medica*, the College require candidates to name and describe drugs, and they require certificates of their having actually compounded prescriptions in a laboratory. It would be inconvenient and unnecessary, the College think, to require more than this.
- c. The College, in their *Anatomical Examinations*, employ dissections and preparations. They do not consider that any Anatomical Examination should be held to be sufficient where these are not employed.
- d. *Medicine and Clinical Medicine*.—As the College are a Surgical College, they do not, in examining for their single qualification, exact Practical and Clinical Examinations in Medicine; but as regards their double qualification, they have every reason to believe that the College of Physicians with whom they are associated, will immediately institute such Practical and Clinical Examinations in Medicine which seem to the College to be most desirable, nay, indispensable.
- e. *Surgery and Clinical Surgery*.—In these Examinations the College use pathological specimens, and, as already explained, Practical and Clinical Surgical Examinations. The carrying out of operations on the dead body is a matter of more difficulty, and could hardly be insisted on under existing circumstances.

f. Midwifery.—This College require certificates from candidates of their having attended six cases of Midwifery. They approve of further rendering the Midwifery Examination practical by the use of models, instruments, &c., and they propose to introduce them in their own Examinations.

g. Forensic Medicine.—It would not be convenient to carry out Laboratory work very far in their Examinations on this subject; yet it might be desirable to require the testing of some of the poisons.

3. *The Written Questions.*

The College quite concur with the Committee of the Medical Council on the expediency of the written questions being put in a precise manner, so that candidates may not only understand what they are required to answer, but may be enabled to give concise and precise answers. The Examiners of this College, in preparing their questions, have kept this desideratum in view, and have acted accordingly.

The College by careful supervision endeavour, and as they believe successfully, to prevent copying or collusion of any kind. They believe it to be an excellent plan to arrange candidates in their seats alphabetically, so as to facilitate detection where any underhand practices are suspected.

4. *The Oral Examinations.*

The College are of opinion that, in every instance, not less than two Examiners should be present at the oral Examination of each candidate on each subject, and that the decision should be based on the opinions of both Examiners after consultation. It is only in this way that there can be satisfaction as well to candidates as to Examiners. This College have always acted on this plan, and consider that it should be made imperative on all Examining Boards.

5. *The uniform Standard of judging the results of Examinations.*

The College consider that it is more easy to be convinced of the desirability of a uniform standard than to fix on one. In fact, whatever standard may be chosen, there are so many disturbing elements that it is impossible to secure mathematical precision in a matter not admitting of it. The College have no hesitation in objecting to the proposal of the Committee of the Medical Council, as, in their opinion, complicated and unworkable. With regard to estimating value by time, that may be rendered fallacious by the action of candidates themselves. The College prefer a simple numerical scale on each subject, such as they use themselves, in which the numbers range from 1 to 100, with a minimum pass of 50. This plan gives more variety of judgment than the mere use of letters, as B. (bene), S. B. (satis bene), V. S. B. (vix satis bene), N. S. B. (non satis bene), or M. (male). No scale, however, can be devised which can secure perfect uniformity, seeing that different Boards and different individual Examiners will always have different standards of merit. One point the College hold—that where a candidate fails distinctly in any one branch, even a high average on other branches ought not to pass him.

6. *The Choice of Examiners.*

The practice of this College has always been to elect their Examiners annually by ballot of the Fellows who are the electors. This leaves it in the power of the electors to change the Examining Board whenever they think it right. Formerly, the College excluded Teachers from the Board, but now, for many years they have been eligible, and there has always been a certain proportion (at present one-third) of Teachers on the Board. Such an arrangement the College considers to have worked well. A Board composed of Teachers alone they would deprecate, as they consider that the presence of a certain number of men actively engaged in general practice, along with Teachers, the best guarantee for such

Practical Examination as candidates for a Licence to practise should possess. The College have hitherto appointed Examiners only from their own Fellows, but they agree with the Committee of the Medical Council, that Examiners, whether belonging to Licensing Bodies, or Experts brought in from without, should not be elected for an indefinite period.

JAMES SPENCE,

President.

Edinburgh, 21st December, 1867.

OBSERVATIONS OF THE KING AND QUEEN'S COLLEGE
OF PHYSICIANS IN IRELAND.

KING AND QUEEN'S COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS IN IRELAND.

Dublin, 26th December, 1867.

SIR,

I am directed to inform you that the President and Fellows of the King and Queen's College of Physicians in Ireland, in reply to Dr. Hawkins' letter of the 29th June, 1867, requesting for the General Medical Council the opinion of this College on the "Suggestions" contained in the Report of the Committee of the General Medical Council on the Visitations of Examinations, have directed me to convey to you the following:—

SUGGESTION 1.

Combination of Licensing Bodies.

Opinion:—That although the College recognizes the existence of evils arising from the great number of Licensing Bodies in the United Kingdom, it does not feel itself at present in a position to enter on the consideration of the measure proposed in the suggestion.

SUGGESTION 2.

Practical Examinations.

Opinion:—It is self-evident that every care should be taken so to conduct the Examinations that the practical knowledge of the candidate shall be fairly tested.

SUGGESTION 3.

The Written Questions.

Opinion:—The College, of course, concurs in the suggestion that written Examinations should be conducted with care and precision; but is further of opinion that the plan of Professor Christison, founded on the practice in mathematical examinations, cannot be carried out to the extent he proposes in Medical Science.

SUGGESTION 4.

The Oral Examination.

Opinion:—The College approves this suggestion, which is in conformity with the practice of this College.

SUGGESTION 5.

Uniform Standard of judging the Results of Examination.

Opinion:—The College has not sufficient data before it for entering on the consideration of the establishment of an uniform standard for all the Licensing Bodies, and therefore does not feel itself authorized to give an opinion, at present, on more than the question of the per centage of marks; and on this the College is of opinion that the minimum per centage of marks should not be less than one-third on each subject.

SUGGESTION 6.

The Choice of Examiners.

Opinion:—The College, in reference to this heading, declines to make any observation with regard to other Licensing Bodies; but thinks it right to state the following particulars in reference to its own regulations. The Examiners for the Licences of this College are elected from amongst the Fellows by Ballot, and are selected

with special regard to the subjects of Examination: they are elected annually, and, as a rule, hold office for not more than two years.

Summonses are issued to all Fellows of the College, notifying the day and hour of each Examination, and requesting their attendance. A public notice is also posted in the College, announcing that the Examinations are open to all its Licentiates. In this way is secured the presence of persons most competent to judge of the nature and extent of each examination; who, moreover, have the strongest interest in seeing that a sufficient standard of examination is maintained, that thereby their own Qualification and the position of their College may continue to command confidence and respect: and the College desires, in concluding, to express its opinion that this is the best form of "Visitation of Examinations" that has, as yet, been devised.

I have the honor to be,

Your obedient Servant,

LOMBE ATTHILL,

Fellow and Registrar.

To DR. HAWKINS,

Registrar to the General Medical Council.
