

The history of the General Hospital, Belfast, and the other medical institutions of the town : with chronological notes and biographical reminiscences connected with its rise and progress / [Andrew G. Malcolm].

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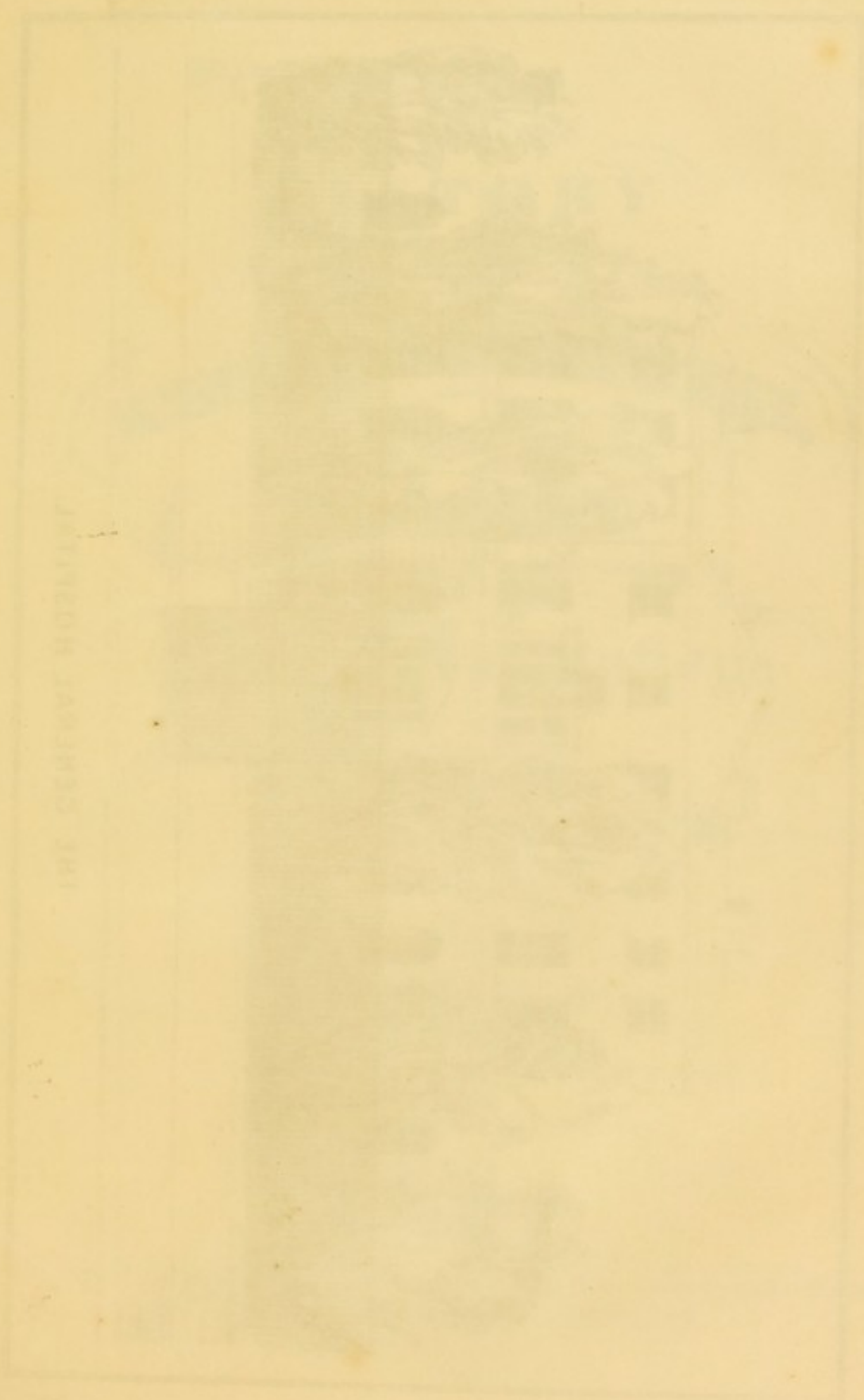
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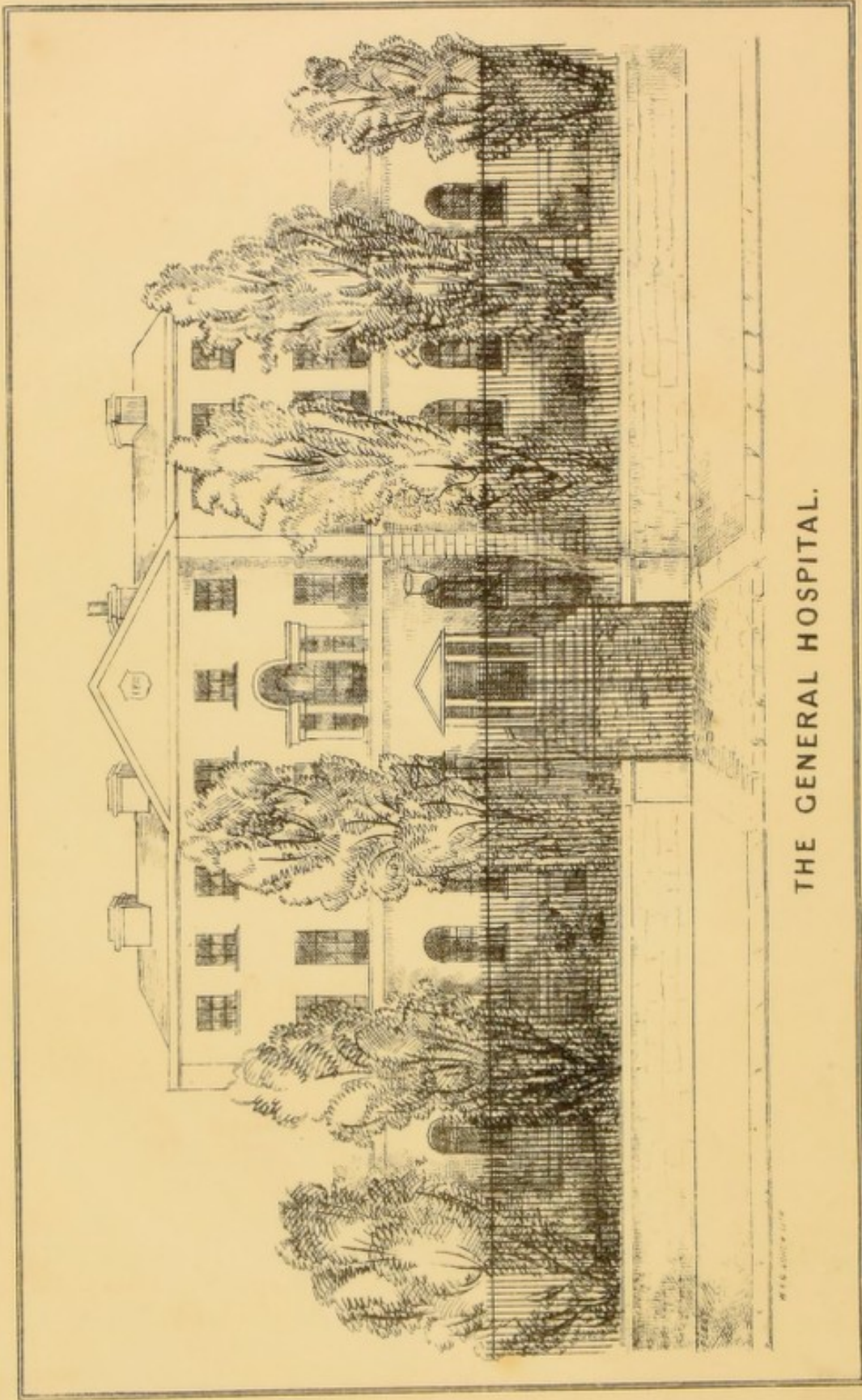
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THE GENERAL HOSPITAL.

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THE
HISTORY
OF THE
GENERAL HOSPITAL,
BELFAST,
and the other
Medical Institutions
OF THE TOWN:

*With Chronological Notes & Biographical Reminiscences
Connected with its Rise & Progress;*

by
A.G. MALCOLM, M.D.,

*One of the Attending Physicians of the Hospital,
&
Vice President of the Medical Society.*

BELFAST:
W. & G. AGNEW, LITHOGRAPHERS AND PRINTERS,
ARTHUR-SQUARE AND CASTLE-LANE.

1851.

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BELFAST: Hospitals

(2) CAF. 487, C



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TO
HIS EXCELLENCY THE EARL OF CLARENDON, K.G., G.C.B.,

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL AND GENERAL GOVERNOR OF IRELAND,

In Grateful acknowledgement of his deep Interest in the Prosperity of Belfast,
and his late Gracious Visit to its Principal Medical Charity.

The Belfast General Hospital;

TO
THE MOST NOBLE THE MARQUIS OF DONEGALL,
PRESIDENT;

TO THE
RIGHT REV. DR. KNOX, LORD BISHOP OF DOWN AND CONNOR AND DROMORE,

ANDREW MULHOLLAND, ESQ., J.P.,

AND THE OTHER VICE-PRESIDENTS;

TO
RICHARD DAVISON, ESQ., JOHN CLARKE, ESQ., AND THE OTHER
LIFE-GOVERNORS;

TO
ROBERT STEPHENSON, ESQ., M.D., AND MY COLLEAGUES
ON THE MEDICAL STAFF;

AND TO
GUSTAVUS HEYN, ESQ., TREASURER, AND THE MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE.

THE FOLLOWING HISTORY IS RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED,

BY THE AUTHOR.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
PREFACE,	5
INTRODUCTORY SKETCH OF THE EARLY HISTORY OF BELFAST,	9
Corporate History since 1792,	14
Notice of the Religious Institutions,	16
Educational and Literary Institutions,	18
Scientific Institutions,	20
The Press,	21
The Fine Arts,	22
Trades and Manufactures,	24
Progress of Trade and Commerce,	27
Societies for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Working Classes,	28
Poor Relief Institutions,	30
The Origin of the Belfast Dispensary,	33
Original Regulations,	36
First Elected Officers,	38
HISTORY OF THE LYING-IN HOSPITAL,	43
Origin of the Fever Hospital,	49
Revival of Do.,	54
HISTORY OF THE BELFAST MEDICAL SOCIETY,	58
The Charity receives the First County Grant,	63
The Laying of the First Stone of the New Hospital,	67
The Opening of the Hospital, and the Great Epidemic of 1817,	72
The Admission of Pupils,	75
Clinical Lectures Established,	81
HISTORY OF THE DESTITUTE SICK SOCIETY,	85
Origin of the Belfast Medical School,	87
HISTORY OF THE DISTRICT HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE,	90
THE CHAPEL-LANE DISPENSARY,	94
The Cholera Epidemic of 1832,	95
The Fever of 1836-7,	106
Dr. Forcade,	108
Dr. Tennent,	108
Arrangement with the Poor Law Guardians,	111
A Building Fund for a New Medical and Surgical Hospital originated,	114
"The Victoria Congratulation Fund,"	116
Rev. Dr. Bruce,	117
THE MEDICAL BENEVOLENT FUND SOCIETY OF IRELAND,	118
The Dispensary separated from the Charity, and placed under new arrangements,	120
THE UNION HOSPITAL FOR CONTAGIOUS DISEASES,	124
Doctor M'Donnell,	125
Doctor Sanders,	127
The Memorable Epidemic of 1847,	129
THE IRISH RELIEF FUND,	132
The Enlargement of the Hospital,	132
The Cholera of 1849,	133

CONTENTS.

THE SANITARY COMMITTEE,	PAGE
THE OPHTHALMIC INSTITUTION,	134
William Mulholland, Esq.,	135
Surgeon David Moore,	136
Doctor S. S. Thomson,	136
THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO BELFAST,	137

APPENDIX.

List of Officers of the General Hospital for 1850-51,	1
„ Vice-Presidents and Consulting Staff, from the foundation to the present time	2
„ Members of Committee of Management, do., do., ...	3
„ Medical Attendants, do., do., ...	6
„ Apothecaries and House-Surgeons,	7
The Government, Privileges, Duties, &c.,	8
The Regulations for the Attending Staff,	8
The Medical Duties of the House-Surgeon,	9
The Regulations for the Admission of Patients,	10
Do. for the Patients when admitted,	11
Do. for the Admission of Visitors,	11
Do. for the Nurses,	12
Do. for the Head Nurse,	13
The Dietary,	13
Original Subscribers towards the Building of the Fever Hospital,	14
Subscriptions toward the Building of a new Medical and Surgical Hospital, ...	15
Table of Annual Subscriptions and Charity Sermons,	16
Table of Bequests, Donations, &c.,	17
Table shewing Average Annual Subscription of each Subscriber,	20
The March of the Fever Epidemics since 1818,	21
The calculated Expense of Patients,	22
Table of Patients admitted from 1815,	22
Description of the General Hospital,	23
Dr. W. M'Gee's Cholera Return for 1832,	23
The March of Cholera in 1848-9,	24
Classified List of Surgical Cases,	25
Statistics of Fever,	25
Dr. Reid's Statistics of the Union Fever Hospital,	26
List of Officers of the Belfast Medical Society, &c.,	27
List of Officers, and Statistics of the General Dispensary,	28
Statistics of the District Hospital for the Insane,	29
Statistics of Lying-in Hospitals,	30
List of Medical Practitioners in Belfast,	31
List of Public Medical Appointments,	31
List of the Faculty of Medicine in Queen's College,	32

ERRATA.

- page 20, tenth line from bottom, "Andrews," omitted after "of "
" 39, seventh line from top, read "M'Cluney," for "M'Clune."
" 55, seventeenth line omitted, as follows: "£600, a large sum, when we reflect
that the average income only"
APPENDIX, page v, omitted the names of "Robert Wright," in 1843, and W. Bot-
tomley, merchant," in 1847.
page xxii, the sums in the first table, for 1850, are transposed. They should
read "For Diet, £512 16 2, Total, 1,096 8 10."
" " in second table, heading, for "1845," read "1815 "
" " " opposite 1843, the figures "70," in deaths column omitted,
and the two succeeding should be lowered one line.

PREFACE.

HOW many of the few hundreds who give their annual mite to the support of the BELFAST GENERAL HOSPITAL, are aware of the immense amount of relief which this Charity has afforded since the period of its foundation—of the existing invaluable benefits which are freely bestowed upon the town through its incessant operations—of the numbers of honest, hard-working artizans and toiling labourers, whose descent into the abyss of irreclaimable poverty, its friendly hand has timely prevented? “Few and far between,” we fear, are, indeed, those who can appreciate the almost boundless extent of its charity. Those who, like ourselves, have almost lived about it, may possess a fair idea of its never-ceasing utility; but the mass who may know at the most that there *is* such an Institution, how can they conceive of its paramount importance?

A few of its warm friends, upon our proposing to draw up a sketch of its history, with a view of supplying the desideratum referred to, and as an additional attraction to the approaching Fete, instituted in becoming commemoration of the most gracious consideration of our Queen, on the occasion of her memorable visit in 1849, most cordially accepted the proposal, and became responsible for its risk. Encouraged by this auspicious acceptance, we joyfully proceeded with the work—most laborious as it was—and though much pressed in consequence of our professional avocations, we had the satisfaction to witness its completion in time for the event with which it was originally associated.

Under these circumstances the work appears. We are conscious of many short-comings and many imperfections; but aiming at a plain instructive record of actual facts, rather than a complete and studied treatise, we have not invited criticism so much as sympathy with our object. At the same time, we trust the general, as well as the professional, reader will find matter to interest and improve, as well as to satisfy a pardonable curiosity.

Though confessedly a work purporting to be a history of the General Hospital and the principal Medical Institutions of the town, yet we have taken the liberty of incorporating with it a chronological record of interesting events, as illustrative of the progress and growing prosperity of Belfast from the earliest times. It is expected that to many, to whom Hospital affairs may seem dull and unprofitable, this feature will be looked upon with great interest. Many names among the bye-gone schemes and the departed worthies of the past will, doubtless, call up "the memory of other days," with a touching interest which no other event could so vividly revive. There is even a melancholy pleasure in contemplating the lives of those with whose names and deeds some stirring incidents or some memorable era is associated; and still more is this feeling enhanced, when we connect these names and events with the gradual development of a great city.

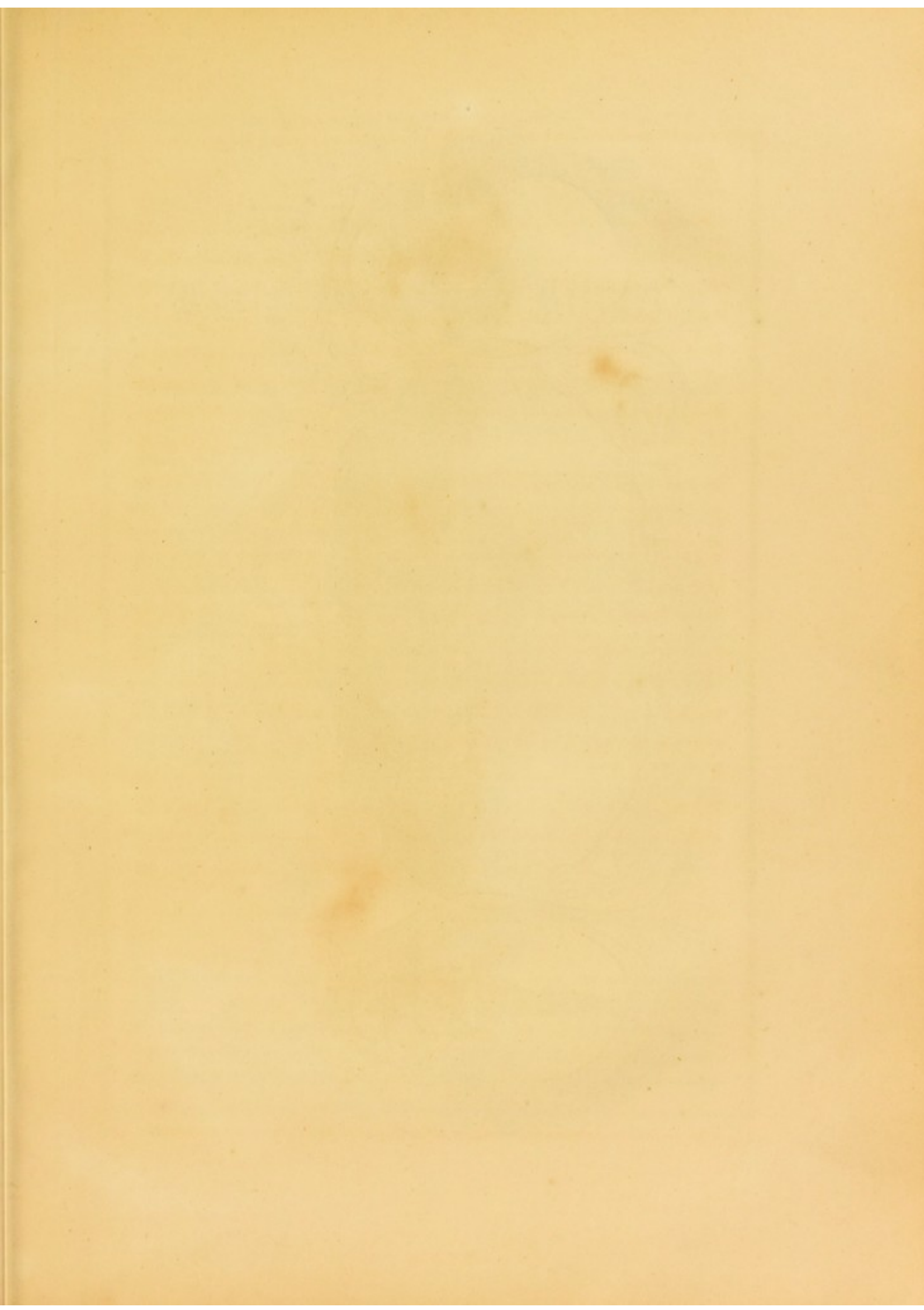
Inasmuch as the whole value of such a work as this, depends upon its strictly authentic character, we have spared no exertions to render it, in all respects, trustworthy. In the compilation of such a vast mass of materials, it would be strange, indeed, if several—nay, many—events (which to some may be deemed important) have been overlooked: nevertheless, we feel satisfied, from the result of a careful scrutiny, that no decidedly significant circumstance in connexion with our subject has been omitted.

The Engravings have been furnished by Mr. Thompson, Castle-Street, and

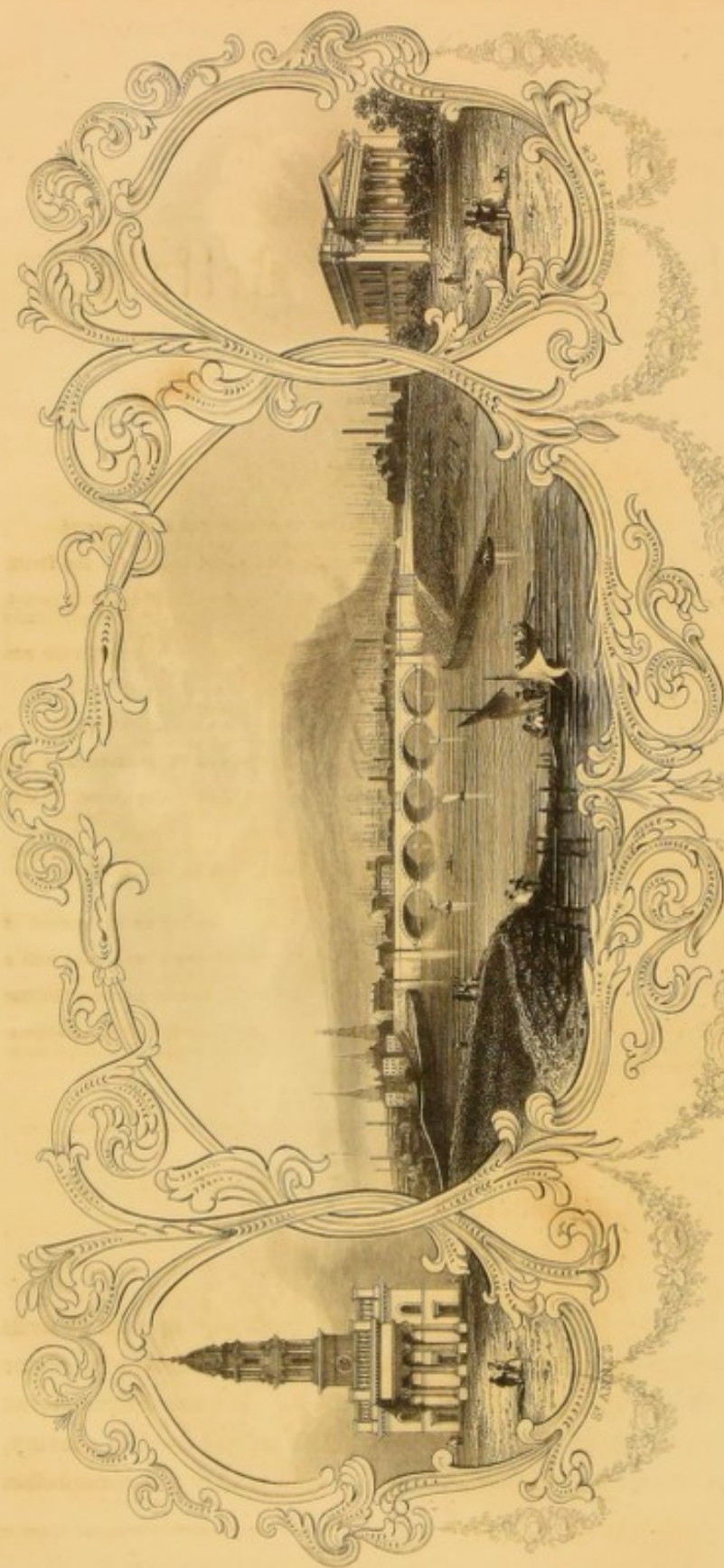
Mr. M'Comb, High-Street; and the Lithographs are from the establishments of Mr. William Beattie, Rosemary-Street, Messrs. Lamont, Donegall-Place, W. & G. Agnew, Arthur-Square, and Mr. W. Hall. They do great credit to the rising improvement of the town, in this particular branch of design; and it is worthy of mention, that, in consideration of the charitable object of the work, they have been supplied without the usual pecuniary profit. As regards the printing and binding of the volume, the work speaks for itself. Considering the limited time in which the book was got up, it is a remarkable example of Belfast energy, skill, and enterprise combined.

Having now sufficiently, it is hoped, explained the purpose and design of this work, it only remains for us to express a hope, that it may be conducive, even in a moderate degree, to draw an enlarged sympathy towards our chief Medical Charity, raise up supporters among *all* our respectable families, and gather around it such a phalanx of strength, that the Managing Committee and Medical Staff may never again have to complain of the apathy of the public. Apathy towards an Institution which carries blessings directly or indirectly to *every man's household*! Can such be said of noble, generous Belfast, whose philanthropy, ere now, was a world's theme? Alas! it is too true. Let it, then, be the duty of one and all to wipe away this foul stain upon our city's history, by rallying around this Charity, and establishing it, for the future, beyond all chance of neglect.





W. & A. LEITCH



PUBLISHED BY W. & A. LEITCH, EDINBURGH.

THE

Early History of Belfast,

UP TILL 1792.

MEMORABILIA ANNORUM.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1178 The Fort of Belfast destroyed by John De Courcy, from England. | 1641 The RAMPART constructed at this period. |
| 1210 King John marched an army to Belfast. | 1642 10000 Scotch land near Carrickfergus. |
| 1265 <i>The meeting of the first British Parliament.</i> | 1643 Charles I. grants £1,000 to improve the fortifications. |
| 1272 Irish linen mentioned in the history of the Irish Exchequer. | 1720 Houses in Bridge-street thatched at this period. |
| 1315 Edward Bruce destroys the Town of Belfast. | 1737 Barracks erected in Barrack-street, previously in Cooney's-court, off Ann-street. |
| 1330 Gunpowder invented. | 1742 Belfast and Dublin stage-coach makes the run in three days, with six horses. |
| 1440 Printing invented, by Faust of Strasburgh. | 1752 The first Banking Company established. |
| 1492 America discovered. | 1757 Houses, 1,779; Population, 8,549. |
| 1512 Earl Kildare, Lord Deputy of the English, takes the CASTLE of Belfast. | 1760 Thurot lands and reduces Carrickfergus. |
| 1530 <i>The Spinning-jenny invented, by Jurgens, at Brunswick.</i> | 1778 The first Volunteer Corps raised. |
| 1545 Earl Ormond marches to Belfast. | 1781 Ballymacarrett contains 96 Houses, and 419 Inhabitants. |
| 1550 <i>The first book printed.</i> | 1782 Houses in Belfast, 2,026; Population, 13,105; according to census of Mr. R. Hyndman. |
| 1552 The CASTLE of Belfast granted to a native chief, by Henry VIII. | — <i>Independence of America declared.</i> |
| 1555 Randolph Lane, governor of the Castle, afterwards Sir Thomas Smith, appointed by Queen Elizabeth. | 1784 The Irish Manufacture movement. Great meeting in Belfast; John C. White, M.D., Chairman. |
| 1573 Earl of Essex visits the fortress. | — Population, 15,000. |
| 1575 Lord Deputy Sydney encounters the Irish forces at Belfast. | 1785 William IV. entered the bay as Lieutenant of the <i>Hebe</i> . |
| 1601 Earl of Tyrone in possession of the country. | 1787 Lord Donegal presents the Corporation with a gold chain, to be worn by the Sovereign. |
| 1610 <i>The introduction of Ireland's present staple article of diet.</i> | 1788 The first mail coach started between Belfast and Dublin. |
| 1612 The town and estates granted to Sir Arthur Chichester, by James I. | 1791 Houses, 3,107; population, 18,320. Ballymacarrett contains 279 houses, and 1,208 inhabitants. |
| 1613 A Corporation granted. | |
| 1621 Markets regulated; one held every Friday, and two fairs in August and October annually. | |

Introductory Sketch.

PRIOR to the year 1300, it does not appear, from any ancient records to which we have had access, that any settlement deserving the name of *town* existed on the spot now known as BELFAST. We are informed that a fort was erected, in this locality, about the middle of the twelfth century, and that, most probably, a long time previously, some scanty accommodation

was provided for passengers travelling between the Counties of Down and Antrim. The passage was then made, and for three hundred years afterwards, by the ford at low water, and by ferry at high tide. It is a matter of doubt among antiquarians, whether the name "BELFAST" was derived from this circumstance, or from the swampy character of the vicinity.

From the first invasion of Ireland by the English, up till 1315, which includes a period of nearly 200 years, their sway gradually increased, though not without frequent repulses, especially along the Eastern shore, and had, at this time, reached a considerable portion of the North-Eastern Counties. Annoyed by these encroachments upon their native Province, the Ulster Chiefs endeavoured, but without success, to keep back the invading tide. In their extremity, they sought assistance from the Scotch, who readily accepted the invitation. Accordingly, on the 2d of May, 1315, Edward Bruce, the Scotch commander, landed, near Carrickfergus, with an army of 6,000 men, and at once proceeded, with the native forces, to devastate the Counties of Antrim and Down, including Belfast, which was then so considerable as to receive special mention as "a good town and stronghold." The English were driven within narrower limits, and the advantage thus gained was followed up, more particularly by the clan of O'Neill, who divided a large portion of the County Antrim amongst themselves, which they retained, without further molestation, up till the year 1603. During this interval, the celebrated Castle of Belfast was erected. At this time, another incursion of the English, under the Lord Deputy Gerald, Earl of Kildare, was successfully made, and the destruction of the Castle, for the first time, the chief result, as the natives soon again regained possession, and restored the Castle, which, however, was a second time destroyed, in a fresh invasion, in 1512.

This, also, was but a temporary victory; and it was not until Hugh MacNeill Oge, of the clan previously mentioned, submitted, and swore allegiance, in the year 1552, that quiet possession was given to the English. The Earl of Tyrone, however, another of the Irish Chieftains, having been irritated by the faithlessness of MacNeill, immediately encountered him in a desperate conflict, in which the Earl was unsuccessful; but his object was afterwards attained by the aid of a Scottish reinforcement, in a skirmish with which MacNeill was killed. His territory was now granted to other branches of the sept. Towards the close of the ensuing fifty years, in consequence of

the persevering efforts of the Earl of Tyrone to keep the country against the invader, Belfast was given up once more to the natives; and Newry, on the one side, and Carrickfergus on the other, marked the limits of the English Pale. The Earl was, however, eventually defeated, and a large tract of territory was, in consequence, granted to Sir Thomas Smith, by Queen Elizabeth, on certain conditions, which not being fulfilled, the entire estate was granted, in 1612, to the Lord Deputy, Sir Arthur Chichester, the wise and faithful Councillor of James I.

The territory of the new Governor included, among other possessions, the Castle or mansion-house, town and manor of Belfast, the districts of the Falls, Malone, Carnmoney, Carntall, Monksland, and the Rectory of Shankhill.—The footing of the English, now rendered secure, was considerably dependent on the favourite policy of James in introducing into his recent possessions English colonists. We find that, by his authority, a large body of natives of Devonshire, had been about this time brought over by Sir Arthur, a portion of which settled in Malone. Another colony, from Lancashire and Cheshire, likewise took up their residence near Belfast; while the Scots, with their first minister, Edward Bryce, planted themselves at Broadisland, and others in the County of Down, under the Hamiltons and Montgomerys. It will be observed, therefore, that Belfast and the country around was a distinct plantation; and that whatever amount of prosperity it has since attained, must be attributed to the improving habits of these first settlers. The town at this period was exceedingly insignificant: the castle, the Shankhill church, and a few scattered houses not more than deserved the appellation of “the village.” From this time forward, however, its history begins to assume a steadily improving aspect.

The charter granted to Belfast, by James I., and constituting Lord Chichester, the newly-created Baron, his heirs, &c., Lords of the Castle, authorised the formation of a corporation—a sovereign, twelve burgesses, and commonalty, with the privilege of sending two members to Parliament. Thomas Vesey was the first sovereign, and Sir John Blennerhasset, Baron of the Exchequer, and George Trevallian, Esq., were the first members. Under this government, the town continued to grow apace, both in wealth and commercial importance, until religious differences, and afterwards the conflict between the Parliament and Charles I., so occupied the inhabitants,

that business was, for a time, almost completely suspended. His Majesty, aware of the hostile feeling of the inhabitants, constituted Colonel Chichester, on whom he could depend, governor of Belfast, by special commission, under the title of Earl of Donegall, and at the same time, took measures to strengthen the town to the utmost. For this purpose, he granted £1000, which enabled the Colonel to raise a fortification, plant it with cannon, and otherwise improve the defences. Notwithstanding, the town was taken in 1644, by the Parliamentary army, under General Monroe, though rather by stratagem than force.

Having thus acquired possession, the General permitted the Colonel's company to remain in the castle, while the Colonel himself departed for England, to lay his grievances before the King. The General now removed the company to the neighbouring villages, a portion of which reached Newry to reinforce the loyalists there. Soon after the arrival of the Colonel in England, Monroe refused to give up possession until he had received directions from Scotland; and even after the arrival of Parliamentary Commissioners, who were instructed to bring both the Scotch and Royal party under the control of the Parliament, he still declined.

The opposition of Monroe was met by the Parliament, who appointed General Monk Commander of the Forces in Ulster. Having seized Monroe, he sent him to England, and the town was again reduced under the Parliamentary sway. By the death of Charles, in 1649, one of the articles of the covenant made between the English and Scotch, was broken; and, as the Parliamentary commanders had refused to acknowledge it, their power in Ulster diminished, and Belfast was retaken by the Royal party. Oliver Cromwell, seeing the condition of the North, about this time landed in Ireland, and sent Colonel Venables to reduce Belfast, and other places, which embraced the Royal interest. He had some difficulty in effecting his object, and it was only after a siege of four days, that a capitulation was made. From this time, upwards of forty years succeed, marked by no public event of importance. Business was once more resumed, and considerable trade had sprung up, as we find that, about the years 1683-6, there belonged to the port of Belfast sixty-seven vessels, with an aggregate burden of 3,307 tons.

At this time, it is also mentioned, that Belfast is, for the most part, "furnished with houses, little orchards, and gardens, besides a very fine park, belonging to the Donegall family, well stored with venison."

In 1688, a new charter was granted, by James II., which raised the number of burgesses to thirty-five, but, at the same time, greatly curtailed the privileges of the Corporation. The unfortunate policy of James began now soon to be felt, even in this remote district, and the spirit of intolerance therein exhibited was met, in all parts, by a firm and decided union of the Protestant party. It is recorded, that the Rev. Patrick Adair, Minister of the First Presbyterian Congregation, and the celebrated theologian, Abernethy, were despatched to the Prince of Orange, to express their satisfaction on his arrival. King William had been scarcely proclaimed, however, when the town had to yield to James's adherents, until the arrival of Duke Schomberg, who landed near Bangor, on 13th August, 1689, with an army of 10,000 men, and soon brought the whole district under his sway.

In the following year, one of William's Danish reinforcements arrived; and, on the 14th of June, his Majesty himself reached the town, and was received with the most laudatory demonstrations. He remained five nights in this town, and lodged in the house of Sir William Franklin. From this time, the blessings of peace were once more restored. The circulation of trade, which had been thus temporarily obstructed, again resumed its wonted liveliness—population steadily increased; and we find evidence of the merchant character of its inhabitants, in 1708, distinctly acknowledged.

During the reign of Queen Ann, and subsequently, the loyalty of the inhabitants was repeatedly expressed; and, by their prompt measures to repel the threatened invasions made, in the first instance, by the Pretender, and afterwards by the French, they exhibited an attachment to the constituted Government, without, at the same time, yielding their characteristic independence. It was at this period that the first Volunteers were incorporated. Thurot had landed, and reduced Carrickfergus, in 1760, and was only prevented from falling upon Belfast by the conflicting opinions of his colleagues; and time having been thus secured for the levying of troops, upwards of 5,000 men were soon enrolled, and marched upon Carrick, on which the enemy, in alarm, moved off.

In the year 1779, on the rumour of another French invasion, the Volunteers were again enrolled, to the number, at first, only of 340, and presented, when reviewed, in the following year, by the Earl of Charlemont, the appearance of a well-disciplined corps. Reviews were held, for several years, with amazing "pomp and circumstance;" the numbers greatly increased, and, in

1781, amounted to more than 5,000 men. This movement, it may be mentioned, was general throughout the country, and a most extraordinary political influence was gradually created, which exhibited itself in, first, relieving the restrictions on trade; afterwards, in the establishment of an independent House of Commons; and, in 1784, in the exclusive encouragement of Irish manufacture. The celebrated Northern Whig Club, promoted by the Earl of Charlemont, sprung out of the abuse of the liberty so suddenly acquired; but it does not appear to have, in any degree, stifled the call for universal freedom. The commemoration of the French Revolution was celebrated on the 14th of July, 1791, with expressions of immoderate joy, and was repeated in the following year with similar enthusiasm.

HISTORY SINCE 1792.

March, 1793, was the date of the extinction of the Volunteers, an event which closely followed the report of the Secret Committee of the House of Lords, which contained evidence of a wide-spread spirit of independence hostile to the English Government. The proclamation against armed associations now issued; yet the frequent arrests and penalties consequent thereon seemed to have made no impression, as we find it recorded that, on the 10th of May, 1795, representatives from seventy-two associations of United Irishmen met in this town, to complete their arrangements for action. Notwithstanding arrests for high treason were numerous in this and the following year, on the news of the French fleet being off Bantry Bay, on January 7, 1797, the larger proportion of the inhabitants agreed to arm in defence, and both Orange and Masonic Lodges embraced the opportunity of expressing their loyalty. Arrests, prosecutions, and seizures of arms nevertheless continued the order of the day; and in May, 1798, martial law was proclaimed. The rebellion broke out in earnest, and the yeomen of Belfast joined the troops on the 12th and 13th of June, at the Battle of Ballynahinch.

The dispersion of the disaffected immediately followed, and tranquillity was so far restored, that martial law was abolished in May, 1799; and, when on October 7th, Marquis Cornwallis visited Belfast, he received an address in favour of the Union; and, though a few arrests continued to be made for some time after, and an abortive rising took place in 1803, this unfortunate era was virtually at an end.

Upon the passing of the Act of Union, in 1800, a Bill received the

sanction of the Legislature, for the municipal government of Irish cities and towns. By this act the government of the town, though still vested in the sovereign and burgesses, established the appointment of Life Commissioners, and a Committee of Police, to be appointed annually, the former being authorized to regulate the paving, lighting, and cleansing of the town as well as other matters affecting the health, safety, and comfort of the inhabitants; and the latter to attend to the contracts, and the levying of taxes for the public expenses. John Brown, Esq., was the first Sovereign under these regulations. This *regime* continued in force forty years, and was succeeded in the year 1842, by the present Corporation, which, in conformity with the Municipal Act of 1841, consists of a Mayor, ten Aldermen, and thirty Councillors. George Dunbar, Esq., was honoured with the first mayoralty. Since the passing of the 40th George III., to the enactment of the 3rd and 4th Victoria; under which the present corporation is established, we observe that only one act intervenes, referring to the improvement of the town, namely, the 56th Geo. III. This only explained and amended a former act, but did not give any additional powers to effect any important improvements, which were reserved for the present authorities, who have, in the short space of five years, obtained, and in a great measure carried out, the very extensive powers of three local Acts. By these measures, a large portion of the town has been greatly improved; new, spacious, and handsome streets now take the place of the densely-crowded abodes of pestilence. Immense swamps have become substantial causeways. New and commodious markets have been constructed, and placed under special regulation, besides many other improvements touching the health and safety of the inhabitants.

The foregoing constitutes a rapid sketch of the principal public events chiefly connected with the early history of the town. The most interesting portion of the annals, however, are to be found within a comparatively recent period. Their number, variety, and significance, it would far exceed the capacity of several volumes fully to record. Our limited space will not even permit of a brief connected view, we are, therefore, obliged to dispose the principal occurrences associated with each great department of social and moral progress, in the simplest form of annals which we believe will be as convenient and useful for the reader, as it is suited to the prescribed limits of our work.

Religious Institutions.

THE origin of the old Established or Corporation Church is involved in obscurity. It was located, however, on the site of the present St. George's, and existed, though in a very dilapidated state, till 1774, when it was pulled down.

The history of the first Presbyterian house is also shadowed in tradition. For many years it and the old Corporation Church were the only places of public worship. Before St. Mary's was built, the Catholics worshipped for years at Friar's Bush, in the open air, and afterwards for a time in a house in Castle-street.

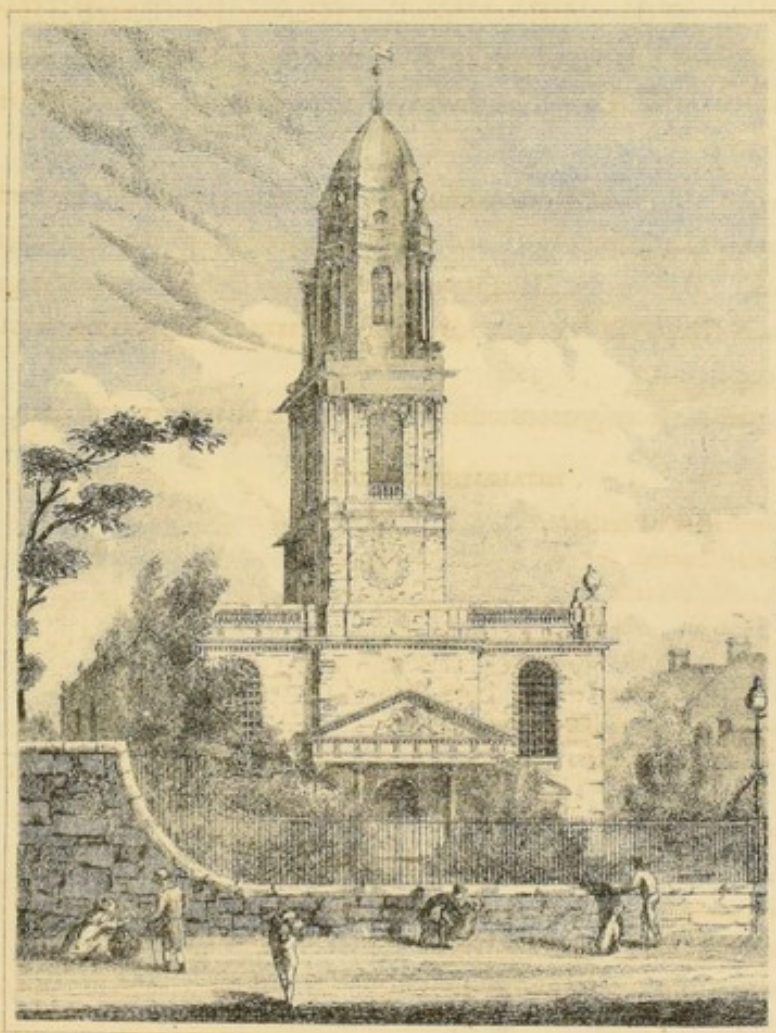
The other persuasions possess edifices of comparatively recent date.

ESTABLISHED CHURCH.

- 1645 Old Corporation Church.
- 1777 St. Anne's Church.
- 1811 St. George's Church.
- 1833 Christ Church.
- 1839 Magdalene Episcopal Church.
- Shankhill Church.
- Academy-street Chapel of Ease.
- Malone Chapel of Ease.
- 1842 Trinity Church.
- 1851 St. Paul's.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

- 1672 First (Unitarian) rebuilt, in 1717; rebuilt again in 1783.
- 1708 Second (Unitarian) rebuilt, in 1790.
- 1722 Rosemary-street Church, rebuilt in 1831.
- 1770 Berry-street Church (first original Seceding.)
- 1792 Donegall-street Church.
- 1804 Covenanters (Dublin Road).
- 1821 Alfred-street Church (second original Seceding, formed in Commercial-court, in 1821.
- 1827 Fisherwick-place Church).
- 1829 May-street Church.
- York-street Church (Primitive Seceding).



Engraved by J. Thompson, Dublin

ST ANN'S CHURCH

No.	Name	Rank	Regt.	Company
1	John A. Smith	Private	1st	A
2	James B. Jones	Private	1st	B
3	William C. Brown	Private	1st	C
4	Robert D. White	Private	1st	D
5	Thomas E. Black	Private	1st	E
6	Charles F. Green	Private	1st	F
7	Henry G. Hall	Private	1st	G
8	George H. King	Private	1st	H
9	Frank I. Lee	Private	1st	I
10	Edward J. Miller	Private	1st	J
11	John K. Davis	Private	1st	K
12	William L. Evans	Private	1st	L
13	Robert M. Foster	Private	1st	M
14	Thomas N. Gibson	Private	1st	N
15	Charles O. Hart	Private	1st	O
16	Henry P. Jackson	Private	1st	P
17	George Q. Adams	Private	1st	Q
18	Frank R. Nelson	Private	1st	R
19	Edward S. Phillips	Private	1st	S
20	John T. Turner	Private	1st	T
21	William U. Young	Private	1st	U
22	Robert V. Wright	Private	1st	V
23	Thomas W. Scott	Private	1st	W
24	Charles X. Walker	Private	1st	X
25	Henry Y. Hall	Private	1st	Y
26	George Z. King	Private	1st	Z
27	Frank A. Lee	Private	1st	A
28	Edward B. Miller	Private	1st	B
29	John C. Davis	Private	1st	C
30	William D. Evans	Private	1st	D
31	Robert E. Foster	Private	1st	E
32	Thomas F. Gibson	Private	1st	F
33	Charles G. Hart	Private	1st	G
34	Henry H. Jackson	Private	1st	H
35	George I. Adams	Private	1st	I
36	Frank J. Nelson	Private	1st	J
37	Edward K. Phillips	Private	1st	K
38	John L. Turner	Private	1st	L
39	William M. Young	Private	1st	M
40	Robert N. Wright	Private	1st	N
41	Thomas O. Scott	Private	1st	O
42	Charles P. Walker	Private	1st	P
43	Henry Q. Hall	Private	1st	Q
44	George R. King	Private	1st	R
45	Frank S. Lee	Private	1st	S
46	Edward T. Miller	Private	1st	T
47	John U. Davis	Private	1st	U
48	William V. Evans	Private	1st	V
49	Robert W. Foster	Private	1st	W
50	Thomas X. Gibson	Private	1st	X
51	Charles Y. Hart	Private	1st	Y
52	Henry Z. Jackson	Private	1st	Z
53	George A. Adams	Private	1st	A
54	Frank B. Nelson	Private	1st	B
55	Edward C. Phillips	Private	1st	C
56	John D. Turner	Private	1st	D
57	William E. Young	Private	1st	E
58	Robert F. Wright	Private	1st	F
59	Thomas G. Scott	Private	1st	G
60	Charles H. Walker	Private	1st	H
61	Henry I. Hall	Private	1st	I
62	George J. King	Private	1st	J
63	Frank K. Lee	Private	1st	K
64	Edward L. Miller	Private	1st	L
65	John M. Davis	Private	1st	M
66	William N. Evans	Private	1st	N
67	Robert O. Foster	Private	1st	O
68	Thomas P. Gibson	Private	1st	P
69	Charles Q. Hart	Private	1st	Q
70	Henry R. Jackson	Private	1st	R
71	George S. Adams	Private	1st	S
72	Frank T. Nelson	Private	1st	T
73	Edward U. Phillips	Private	1st	U
74	John V. Turner	Private	1st	V
75	William W. Young	Private	1st	W
76	Robert X. Wright	Private	1st	X
77	Thomas Y. Scott	Private	1st	Y
78	Charles Z. Walker	Private	1st	Z
79	Henry A. Hall	Private	1st	A
80	George B. King	Private	1st	B
81	Frank C. Lee	Private	1st	C
82	Edward D. Miller	Private	1st	D
83	John E. Davis	Private	1st	E
84	William F. Evans	Private	1st	F
85	Robert G. Foster	Private	1st	G
86	Thomas H. Gibson	Private	1st	H
87	Charles I. Hart	Private	1st	I
88	Henry J. Jackson	Private	1st	J
89	George K. Adams	Private	1st	K
90	Frank L. Nelson	Private	1st	L
91	Edward M. Phillips	Private	1st	M
92	John N. Turner	Private	1st	N
93	William O. Young	Private	1st	O
94	Robert P. Wright	Private	1st	P
95	Thomas Q. Scott	Private	1st	Q
96	Charles R. Walker	Private	1st	R
97	Henry S. Hall	Private	1st	S
98	George T. King	Private	1st	T
99	Frank U. Lee	Private	1st	U
100	Edward V. Miller	Private	1st	V

- 1835 Townsend-street Church.
 1836 Alfred-street Church.
 1837 Ballymacarrett Church.
 Malone Church.
 1838 Ballysillan Church.
 1839 York-street Church.
 Linen Hall-street Church.
 1840 York-street Church (Unitarian).
 1842 Great George's-street Church.
 1843 College-square Church (Scotch Secession, since purchased by General Assembly).
 Newtownbreda Church.
 Bethel Chapel.
 1851 Crumlin Road Church.

METHODISTS.

- 1805 Wesleyan Chapel, Donegall-square East (rebuilt in 1847, destroyed by fire in 1848, and again built in 1849).
 1816 Wesleyan Chapel, Cotton-court.
 1820 Wesleyan Chapel, Academy-street.
 1823 Primitive Wesleyan Chapel, York-street.
 1837 Wesleyan Chapel, Frederick-street.
 Wesleyan Chapel, Ballymacarrett.
 1842 Wesley-place Chapel.
 Primitive Wesleyan Chapel, Donegall-place.
 1844 Melbourne-street Chapel.

ROMAN CATHOLICS.

- 1783 St. Mary's Chapel.
 1811 St. Patrick's Chapel.
 — Ballymacarrett Chapel.
 1844 St. Malachy's Chapel.

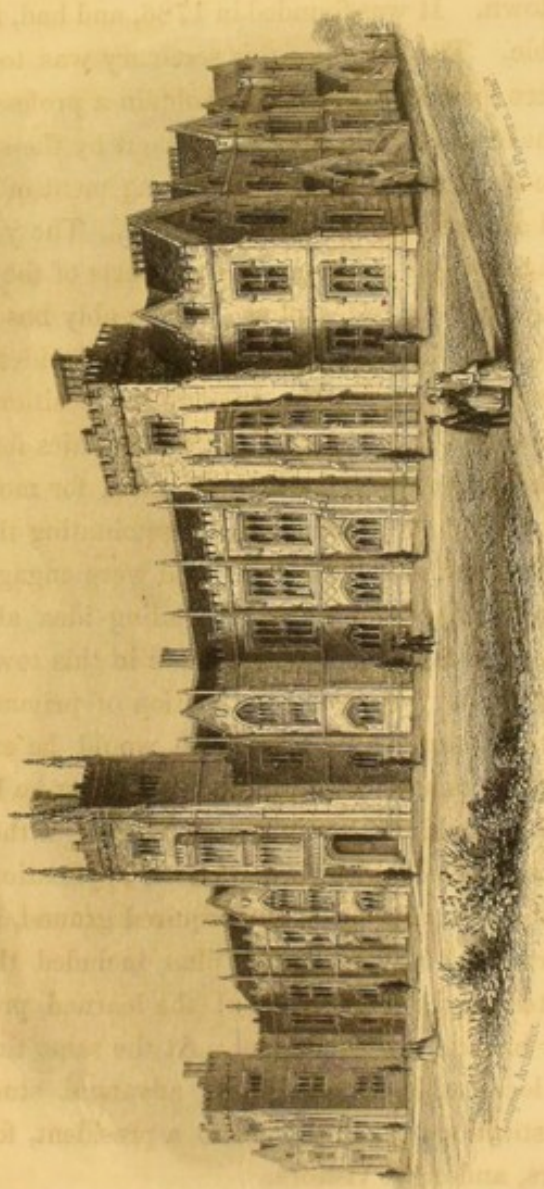
OTHER DENOMINATIONS.

- 1812 Society of Friends, Frederick-street.
 1814 Independent Meeting House, Donegall-street.
 1819 Baptist Meeting House, King-street.
 Apostolic Church, Queen-street (since purchased by General Assembly).

EDUCATIONAL AND LITERARY INSTITUTIONS.

THE Belfast Academy was the first public school of any importance established in this town. It was founded in 1786, and had, for its first Principal, Dr. Abercrombie. The design of this seminary was to form a high school and college where the better classes could obtain a professional or a mercantile education. The idea has been ably carried out by the successive Principals, but it was more particularly during the management of the Rev. Dr. Bruce, that this school attained its greatest celebrity. The youth of the north of Ireland in particular, but also from various parts of the kingdom, flocked in great numbers to this seat of learning; and so ably has the Institution been since conducted, that, although surrounded on all sides by great competing interests, it continues to maintain an eminent position and the *prestige* of its ancient reputation. Notwithstanding the facilities for complete education which this establishment possessed, the demand for more extensive institutions, which would include provision for disseminating that species of knowledge so necessary for the lower classes who were engaged in manufactures, mechanics, or agriculture, became a prevailing idea about the year 1806, and first suggested to the friends of literature in this town the project of the Academical Institution. By this combination of primary and high schools, it was argued that the progress of science would be extended among the higher ranks, and a number of teachers would also be brought forward, at a cheap rate, who would diffuse information amongst the lower classes. In order to carry out these praiseworthy views, application was made to the Marquis of Donegal for a grant of the required ground, in perpetuity, which was at once agreed to. The original plan included the formation of two schools, one suited to the cultivation of the learned professions, the other for the ordinary branches of education. At the same time it was also purposed to found lectureships, for the more advanced student. The government of the Institution was intrusted to a president, four vice-presidents, twenty managers, and eight visitors.

So deep was the feeling in favour of this project, that upwards of £10,000 was subscribed in fourteen days, which was afterwards increased by large subscriptions from England, but especially India, through the exertions of the



Marquess of Hastings. In this way, £200,000 were collected; and the building was raised in 1810, when the proprietors became incorporated by Act of Parliament, and received a grant at first of £1,500, but afterwards, in 1834, it amounted to £3,500. In 1806 a Medical School was superseded. For many years, it continued to be the chief resort of the students of the North of Ireland, until the withdrawal of the patronage of the General Assembly. In 1810, the collegiate department was dissolved, having been replaced by the establishment of the Queen's College. It now mainly consists of a continuation of schools, under separate management, and is then situated in the same premises as the Academy.

The original school for the education of the Irish in the sciences was founded in 1811, and a valuable building was erected in 1812, at a cost of £2,000. It has been continued from its original site in the same premises. The Queen's College School, founded in 1815, and the National School, in 1817.

The first Sunday-School was established in 1802; but this system did not become general till 1821, when which period almost every Church in the city was engaged with this institution.

The education of the blind was carried out on a small scale for many years by Dr. Adam Johnson, who resigned the office in 1807. In 1811, when the education of a blind man, and a number of useful articles were introduced by the public. The original institution, however, dissolved, and we had no further mention of a revival till 1835, when a Society, which had been previously formed for the instruction of the deaf and dumb, commenced to receive the blind. The school was at first located in one of the rooms of the Institution, Market Street, Douglas Street, afterwards in King Street; and in 1842 a building was erected in College Street, specially for the school, which in 1845 was superseded by the present building situated in Malone.

The first Literary Society formed in the town dates as far back as 1778. It was named the Society for Promoting Knowledge. It is chiefly devoted to the acquisition of a library and the record of atmospheric phenomena. In 1801, the British Library Society was established, which met for the reading of papers on literary and scientific subjects. In 1811, the Historical Society was instituted for the study of general history and the British laws, but principally for the collection of antiquities. At this school, most of our

Marquis of Hastings. In this way, £30,000 were collected; and the building was raised in 1810, when the proprietors became incorporated by Act of Parliament, and received a grant, at first, of £1,500, but afterwards, in 1834, it amounted to £3,500. In 1836, a Medical School was superadded. For many years, it continued to be the chief resort of the students of the North of Ireland, until the withdrawal of the patronage of the General Assembly. In 1849, the collegiate department was dissolved, having been replaced by the establishment of the Queen's College. It now mainly consists of a combination of schools, under separate masters, and is thus similar in its arrangements to the Academy.

The principal school for the education of the labouring classes was founded in 1811, and a suitable building was erected in Frederick-street, at a cost of £2,000. It has been conducted, from its origin, on the plan of Mr. Lancaster. The Brown-Square School followed, in 1812, and the National Schools, in 1829.

The first Sunday-School was established in 1802; but this system did not become general till 1821, since which period, almost every Church is provided with this auxiliary.

The education of the blind was carried out on a small scale, for many years, by Dr. Alex. McDonnell, who originated the first school, in 1801. It was under the direction of a blind man, and a great number of useful articles were manufactured by the pupils. This excellent institution, however, declined; and we find no further mention of a revival till 1835, when a Society, which had been previously formed for the instruction of the deaf and dumb, commenced to receive the blind. The school was at first located in one of the rooms of the Independent Meeting-House, Donegall-street, afterwards in King-street; and, in 1836, a building was erected in College-street, especially for the school, which, in 1846, was superseded by the present beautiful structure in Malone.

The first Literary Society formed in this town dates as far back as 1778. It was named the Society for Promoting Knowledge. It is chiefly devoted to the accumulation of a library and the record of atmospheric phenomena.

In 1801, the Belfast Literary Society was established, which met for the reading of papers on literary and scientific subjects. In 1811, the Historic Society was instituted for the study of general history and the British laws, but principally for the cultivation of oratory. At this school, most of our

first public men were initiated in the necessary studies and qualifications for statesmen, and here greatest intellectual tournaments were enjoyed for many years. The Rhetorical Society succeeded in 1841, but never attained anything like the high position of its predecessor. The last Literary Society that has been formed in this town is the Essayist Club, which meets monthly for the reading of papers on literary subjects.

SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTIONS.

THE growth of science, as a special object of cultivation, may be said to date from the origin of the Literary Society, already noticed, which for many years did good service in the cause. The names of Stephenson, Drummond, Bruce, Richardson, and others who contributed a number of important philosophical transactions, which were published from time to time, will be long remembered.

In the year 1806, two philosophical societies were started, viz., "The Society for acquiring knowledge," which collected a library and philosophical apparatus, and met for several years in North-street, and the Galvanic Society, which was chiefly devoted to the cultivation of a knowledge of electricity and galvanism. This latter society merged, in 1808, into the Philosophical Society, which extended its views into a wider field of philosophical research. Of this society, Dr. Robert M'Gee was the first President. Most of these have, however, passed away, and it was reserved for the Natural History Society to foster that amount of scientific talent that at present obtains. Its exertions in this field have been already considerable, and the names of Thompson, Getty, Patterson, and MacAdam, will be sent down to posterity in honourable record. It is to be hoped that the recent establishment of the Queen's College may promote the cause which it has so ably and zealously begun.

The Botanic Garden proprietary and its off-shoot, the Horticultural Society, evidently sprung from the increased love of natural history which had thus arisen, and the application of Chemical science to Agriculture, which has lately assumed a systematic form, though originating in the success of the society for promoting the growth of flax in this country, must be viewed as one of the indications of scientific progress.

The Medical Society, since 1844, has directed more attention than formerly to the cultivation of the science of medicine. Interesting and valuable papers are discussed at its monthly meetings, and with its library and pathological museum, there is reason to hope for important results from its future labours.

THE PRESS.

IN the year 1696, the art of printing was introduced into Belfast, by James Blow and Patrick Neill, about 250 years after its invention by Faust. In 1704, they issued the first Bible ever printed in Ireland; and, in 1737, the first Belfast newspaper appears under the imprint of Henry and Francis Joy, at the sign of the "Peacock," Bridge-street, "where all manner of printing business was," (and is still, we presume,) "carefully done." The price of the paper was 4s. 4d. per annum, to Town subscribers; but much higher rates were demanded in the country. Since the period above-mentioned, twenty newspapers have seen the light; of these, but nine remain to the present day, including the original "*News-Letter*," which can now boast of an uninterrupted series for upwards of 100 years.

Belfast has never been very famous for its publishing enterprise; and, for many years, Simms & M'Intyre were the only firm capable of undertaking the larger volumes. Of late, however, a great number of publications have issued from the Belfast Press, and there is no doubt that it will soon equal metropolitan proficiency in this department. We append a list of

NEWSPAPERS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS.

- 1696 Printing introduced.
- 1704 First Bible.
- 1737 *News-Letter*.
- 1741 Public Weekly Register, or Weekly Magazine. (Printed in London, republished in this town).
- 1783 The Mercury.
- 1792 The Northern Star.
- 1803 First Belfast Almanac. Smyth & Lyons.
- 1805 The Commercial Chronicle.
- 1808 The Belfast Magazine.
- 1818 The Irishman.
- 1821 The Mercantile Register
- 1824 The Northern Whig.

- 1824 The Rushlight.
 1827 The Constitutional Guardian.
 1833 Northern Herald.
 1836 Ulster Times.
 1837 The Churchman.
 The Reformer.
 1838 Christian Patriot.
 1839 Vindicator.
 1841 Northern Advertiser.
 1842 Banner.
 1844 The Protestant Journal.
 1845 Ulster Conservative.
 1851 The Mercury.

THE FINE ARTS.

The cultivation of the Fine Arts in any community generally commences at a late period of civilization. Its delay in Belfast must be accounted for in a great measure by the state of society which prevailed, up till the period of the Union. Since then the arts of peace have superseded those of war.

The first indication of a taste for the graces of literature may be detected among the events of 1791; this year we notice that the Theatre was erected. Previously, it is true, theatrical performances were carried on for some years in the other parts of the town, but no special building was raised for the purpose until this year. By all accounts, Mr. Atkins, the first manager, was a man of considerable capacity, as is indeed evidenced by the admirable style and adaptation for histrionic exhibitions, which the theatre even now presents. The celebrated Mr. Talbot succeeded, and for many years rendered the place celebrated through all Britain. On these boards have the most distinguished performers appeared, and Belfast audiences have witnessed with delight the "*Lady Macbeth*" of Mrs. Siddons, the "*Hamlet*" of John Kemble; the "*Belvidera*" of Miss O'Neill, the "*Virginius*" of Macready, the "*Othello*" of Vandenhoff, &c., and not unfrequently the captivating strains of such vocalists as Mrs. Billington, Incledon, Miss Stephens, Braham, Adelaide Kemble, Miss Romer, Sims Reeves, &c.

We next notice a desire arise for the cultivation of instrumental music. The Irish Harp Society was formed in 1807, under the auspices of the late Dr. M'Donnell. The Earl O'Neill was, for a long time, President. Its principal

object was to preserve the national music; and, for many years, it was the means of instructing a number of blind harpers, several of whom remain to this day.

A wider field was selected by the Anacreontic Society, formed in 1814. With its origin, the name of the late Dr. S. S. Thomson is closely associated. For many years, this society devoted itself almost solely to instrumental music; but, since the junction with it of the "Catch and Glee Club," in 1834, both departments have been cultivated. At first, its meetings were held in the Savings-Bank, but, since 1839, in their new structure—the Music-Hall. Dr. Thomson was a most devoted member, and long its President. Its success was one of the great objects of his life; and now that he is gone, many years may elapse before the Society can replace him. Several concerts are held annually, which are frequently graced by the voices of the most distinguished British and Foreign vocalists, as well as instrumental performers. The Society has continued to flourish, and now numbers several hundred members and associates.

Besides these, a Choral Society, in 1838, for the cultivation of sacred music, and a Harmonic Society, for vocal practice, in 1841, have contributed to spread the musical taste, which, however, is yet by no means so general as is desirable.

An association of Artists, belonging to Belfast and neighbourhood, was formed, about the year 1836, for the purpose of instituting Exhibitions, and otherwise promoting a taste for Painting. Several of these were held, and contained some excellent specimens of Belfast talent; but sufficient encouragement not having been afforded, the Society dissolved; and it is only within the last year that any attempt has been made to revive the interest in the works of the pencil. This last Exhibition, however, was so creditable, and so well received, that there is every hope that a permanent society may be established.

A kindred association was formed in 1833, for the promotion of the Fine Arts in general. At its meetings papers are read, and works of art exhibited; and if zealously maintained, it may greatly contribute to the diffusion of a proper artistic taste.

The recent formation of the Government School of Design is calculated,

eventually, to be of incalculable service in the education of the eye, and the training of the hand, of the masses, which will do more to inculcate a love for the correct and beautiful than any previous provision. It is a fitting period and place for such an institution to exist. Design and manufacture, to prosper, must combine.

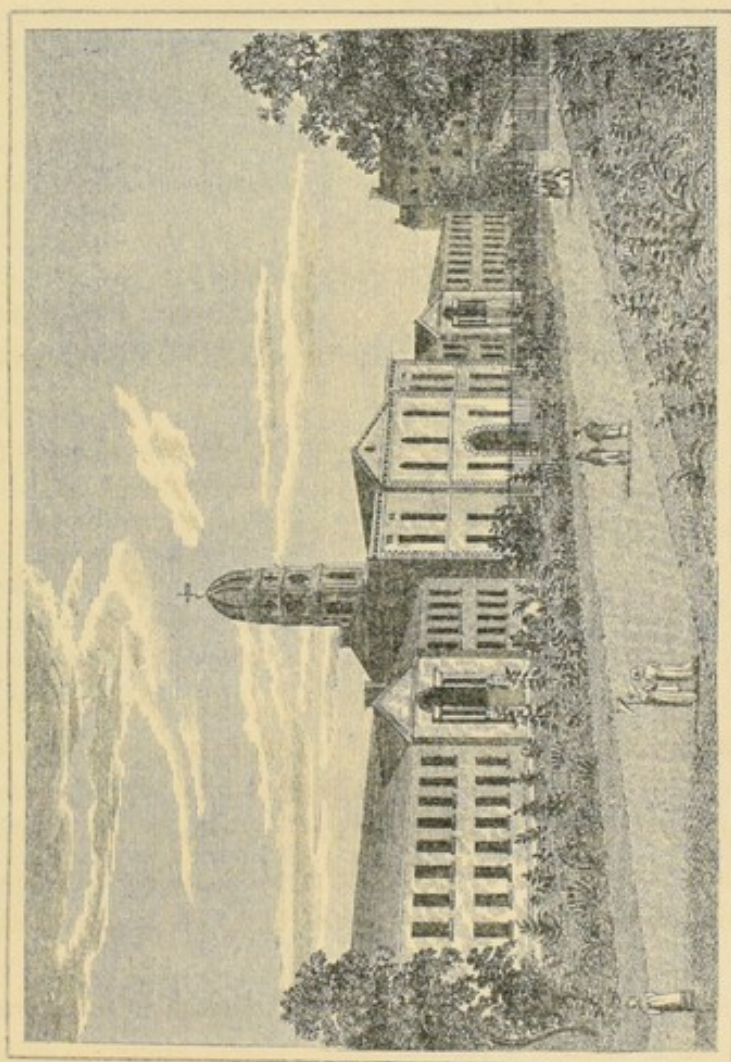
TRADES AND MANUFACTURERS.

THE manufacture of Linen in Ireland is of very ancient date, it having been mentioned as a national trade nearly 600 years ago. It was not, however, till 1699, that the trade was established in the North. The bleaching was a very primitive process till 1770, when Dr. James Ferguson, of Belfast, received a premium of £300 for his improvements. The establishment of the Linen Hall, in 1785, was the means of concentrating the business of the North in Belfast. Damask weaving was established at Ardoyne, in 1825, and soon acquired a high reputation, which it continues to hold. In 1830, a great era in the linen trade was commenced by the Messrs. Mulholland, who have ever since maintained the highest position among the flax-spinners of Ireland.

Cotton-spinning in Belfast, dates from 1777. Its introduction was effected by R. Joy and T. McCabe, members of the old Poor-house Committee, who had the process carried on for years by the inmates of that institution. But it was not till 1783, that the first cotton-spinning factory was erected by Nicholas Grimshaw, who had, about that period, settled at Whitehouse.

The Embroidered Muslin Trade was first introduced at Donaghadee, in 1829, since which period, upwards of forty firms have been located in Belfast.

The origin of Iron Founding in Belfast is obscure. Prior to 1798, there are some vague notices in the old *News-Letter* of Founding establishments of some antiquity. It is certain, however, that about the year last mentioned, the celebrated Lagan Foundry was commenced. Since this period, seven principal, besides several minor establishments, have been formed. Of these, the Soho, Belfast, York-street, Falls, and Cromac Works, deserve special mention. At these works the heaviest description of machinery, which a



WESTERN LUNEN HALL.

few years ago had to be imported, is now got up in a style equal to what the best English or Scotch houses can boast of. Other notions are wanted:

- 1772 First mention of Irish linen as a manufacture.
- 1773 Establishment of French linen.
- 1779 Linen trade established in Ireland by French refugees.
- 1781 House of Trenchard established.
- 1782 Establishing Machinery first commenced in Belfast.
- 1783 Foundation of Irish linen.
- 1785 Mr. T. Tay receives a grant from Parliament for improvements in the manufacture of paper.
- 1786 Linen used in clothing by the James Ferguson.
- 1787 Sulphuric acid used in bleaching.
- 1788 Linen discovered in America.
- 1789 Creation of linen linen.
- 1790 House and garden first manufactured by Mr. O'Connell.
- 1791 Great manufacturing industry.
- 1792 Cotton spinning commenced in Ireland by R. Tay and J. McCall.
- 1793 Great linen manufacture.
- 1794 Great linen weaving.
- 1795 White linen first woven.
- 1796 Linen first manufactured.
- 1797 Linen first manufactured at the Asylum for the Blind.
- 1798 Ayrton's Patent Manufacture.
- 1799 First establishment for manufacturing linen in Londonderry.
- 1800 Linen spinning first introduced by James McCallum.
- 1801 Linen on linen manufactured.
- 1802 Great linen factory established by Andrew McCallum, Esq.
- 1803 Linen first spinning mill (see).
- 1804 179,000 employed in the manufacture of linen in Ulster. Annual export of value £1,500,000; capital employed £2,000,000.
- 1805 In 1804 there were, this year, 20,000 spindles, 10,000 spinning machines in Ulster, and in 1805 the wool machine trade in Belfast, employing 150,000 persons.

THE HARBOUR.

The original Act for conducting the affairs of the Harbour was passed in 1788. New powers were given in 1801, and the recent improvements in the approach to the Quay, especially the making of the straight cut which has enabled vessels of the largest tonnage to come up close to the quay, having been done under the Act of 1841, not without of course a

few years ago had to be imported, is now got up in a style equal to what the first English or Scotch houses can boast of. Other notices are annexed :

- 1272 First mention of Irish linen as a manufacture.
- 1678 Prohibition on French linen.
- 1699 Linen trade established in Lisburn by French refugees.
- 1711 Board of Trustees established.
- 1725 Bleaching Machinery first constructed at Ballydrain.
- 1743 Bounties on Irish linen.
- 1749 Mr. F. Joy receives a grant from Parliament for improvements in the manufacture of paper.
- 1764 Lime used in bleaching, by Dr. James Ferguson.
- 1770 Sulphuric acid used in bleaching.
- 1780 Potass discovered ditto.
- 1795 Chloride of Lime ditto.
- 1758 Ropes and canvass first manufactured by M^cCracken.
- 1776 Glass manufacture introduced.
- 1777 Cotton-spinning originated in Poor-house by R. Joy and J. M^cCabe.
- 1773 Brown Linen Hall erected.
- 1785 Sail-canvass weaving.
- 1794 White Linen Hall erected.
- 1798 Vitriol first manufactured.
- 1810 Mats, &c., manufactured at the Asylum for the Blind.
- 1825 Ardoyne Damask Manufactory.
- 1829 First establishment for embroidered muslin at Donaghadee.
- 1830 Hemp-spinning first introduced by Messrs. Mulholland.
- 1833 Bounty on Linen discontinued.
- 1840 Royal Flax Society originated by Andrew Mulholland, Esq.
- 1841 Twenty-five Spinning Mills (flax).
- 1847 170,000 employed in the manufacture of Linen in Ulster. Annual amount of wages, £1,200,000; capital embarked, £5,000,000.
- 1849 In Belfast, there were, this year, 32 flax mills, with 312,000 spindles; 10 cotton-spinning factories in Ulster; and 40 firms in the sewed muslin trade in Belfast, employing 150,000 persons.

THE HARBOUR.

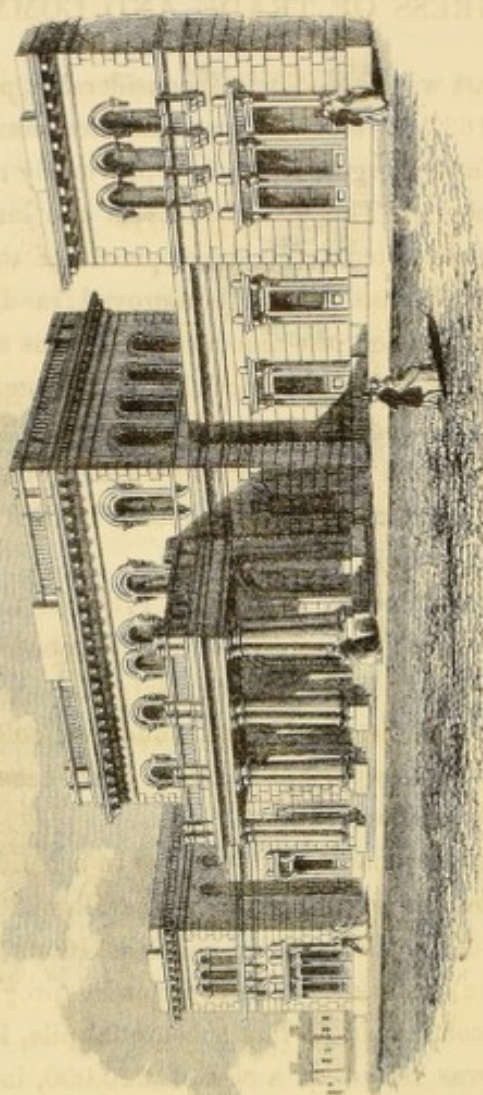
THE original Act for conducting the affairs of the Harbour was passed in 1785. New powers were given in 1831; and the recent improvements in the approach to the Quays, especially the making of the straight cuts, which has enabled vessels of the largest tonnage to come up close to the warehouses, have been made under the Act of 1841, not without, of course, a

very heavy outlay. Though some vessels were built, early in the eighteenth century, yet there was no regular Ship-yard till 1791. The increase has since been very remarkable, amounting to six or seven-fold, in the course of fifty years. There is now every accommodation for the building and repair of the largest vessels; and, lately, a vessel, of the heaviest tonnage ever built in Ireland was launched from the Belfast Ship-yard.

The Lagan Navigation was commenced so early as 1743, and placed under the Inland Navigation Corporation. In 1752, it was under Municipal authority, but, in 1780, fell into the possession of a Chartered Company. It extends from Belfast, through Lisburn, to Lough Neagh, in length 22 miles; and its construction cost upwards of £92,000.

For other items, we refer below:—

- 1785 Ballast Corporation, established by Act of Parliament, 25th George III. Profits to go to Charitable Society.
- 1791 Ship-building commenced in Belfast by William Ritchie and others.
- 1811 Twenty vessels trade exclusively between Belfast and England.
- 1816 Belfast Master Mariners' Association established.
- 1819 First Steamboat crossed the Channel from Liverpool to Belfast.
- 1820 Sail-making commenced in Belfast.
- 1826 Graving-Dock completed, at an expense of £26,000.
- 1831 Act obtained by the Harbour Commissioners, to purchase Quays and Grounds for the Improvement of the Harbour.
- 1832 Dunbar's-Dock completed, under an Act of Parliament obtained for the purpose, in 1829, by Messrs. Holmes & Dunbar, at a cost of £35,000.
- 1835 2,949 vessels entered inwards, from British ports, and 1,534 cleared outwards.
- 1840 New Cut, or Channel, opened, commencing at the reach below the Mile-Water, and extending to the entrance of Dunbar's-Dock. It has a depth of 10 feet at low water, and of 21 feet at high water, and cost £40,000.
- 1843 Harbour Receipts, £21,153; Expenditure, £29,572.
Queen's-Bridge opened to the public—cost £28,000.
- 1845 In the cross-channel trade, the number and tonnage of Sailing Vessels that entered the port, in this year, were 3,637; tonnage, 236,486. Steamers, 955; tonnage, 240,917. Sailing Vessels, outwards, during the same period, 874; tonnage, 50,081. Steamers, 969; tonnage, 242,452. Harbour Receipts, £24,756; Debt, £155,470; Pilotage, £3,376.



ULSTER RAILWAY TERMINUS, BELFAST.

T. and J. B. Brothers, Lithy.

PROGRESS OF TRADE AND COMMERCE.

THE trade of Belfast was exceedingly inconsiderable, prior to the 18th century, though, in 1637, it received material accession by the purchase of the privileges of Carrickfergus, which had previously rendered that port the favourite with shippers. The disturbances in the latter end of the 17th century, doubtless, prevented a full development of the trade of the port. However, since 1750, it has gradually improved; and, with the exception of a few years of depression, the amount of Customs and Excise has been steadily on the increase. This is especially true in regard to the number of vessels frequenting this port, which exceeds any other town in Ireland. Direct communication and business are now carried on with all parts of the civilized world, and some of the largest vessels in Britain have cleared the Belfast customs.

The Chamber of Commerce, founded, in 1783, for the protection of trade and forwarding measures of commercial utility, has been of essential service; and, since its revival in 1802, but particularly of late, it has become one of the most important Societies in Ireland; and, not solely confined to local interests, it has taken an important stand in every cause calculated to promote the prosperity of the country.

Prior to 1820, the merchants held 'Change in a building now occupied as the Belfast Bank, and originally erected by the Marquis of Donegall. Here all public meetings of the Corporation and inhabitants were held, as well as assemblies on festive occasions. The commercial progress of the town demanding greater accommodation, that substantial pile, known as the Commercial-Buildings, was raised, at a cost of £20,000, in 1820; but so rapid has been the growth of trade and commerce since, that even now the once spacious Newsroom is scarcely sufficiently capacious to accommodate, comfortably, the crowds of merchants who resort to it on 'Change days.

The transit of goods cross-channel, by steam, commenced in 1824; and, in the short space of twenty-six years, upwards of sixteen steamers now regularly ply from this port. A great accession to different departments of trade succeeded the opening of the various Railways, the first of which was laid from Belfast to Lisburn, in 1839; in short, the facilities of intercourse

and for the transit of merchandise are now so complete, that the town bids fair, in a little time, to rival the boasted commercial seats of the sister kingdoms. The annexed table presents a connected view of its progress in this respect :—

- 1637 The special privileges of Carrickfergus sold, whereby the Shipping Trade and Custom-House were transferred to Belfast.
- 1682 Tonnage, 3,307.
- 1690 The amount of Customs, this year, £20,000.
- 1740 A Trade opened with the West Indies.
- 1752 The first Bank opened.
- 1763 Customs, £32,900.
- 1769 The Exchange built; cost, £4,000.
- 1782 Fifteen Vessels trade to France.
- 1783 Chamber of Commerce established.
- 1784 Customs, £101,876.
- 1800 Amount of Customs, £150,558.
There are thirty-six Tan-Yards, at this period, at full work.
- 1802 The Meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, after eight years' suspension, resumed.
- 1810 Muslins and Cottons; export value, £36,628; seventy-nine vessels this year; Customs, £425,174.
Total value of Exports, £2,904,590.
- 1813 Amount of Customs, £250,498.
- 1820 Commercial-Buildings erected; cost, £20,000.
- 1824 Steamboat Trade regularly established, at first with Glasgow.
- 1827 Tonnage of Vessels, 21,557.
- 1830 Savings-Bank erected.
- 1835 Exports, £4,341,794.
- 1838 Fifty Steam-Engines at full work.
Tonnage, 32,545.
- 1839 Ulster Railway opened.
- 1840 Customs, £361,502.
- 1842 Tonnage of 250 vessels, 44,458, exceeding Cork and Dublin.
- 1844 Postage receipts, £4,802.
Customs receipts, £366,415.
- 1845 Customs, this year, £376,767.

SOCIETIES FOR THE AMELIORATION OF THE WORKING CLASSES.

THE concentration of the labouring population, in the large manufacturing towns where, in order to satisfy the giant demands of flourishing factories, house after house is raised, and street after street laid out without the

slightest regard to any proper accommodation, or the comforts of the poor man's home, has been one of the principal causes in bringing about that unfortunate state of the public health to which the first sanitary reformers, Smith, Arnott, Kay, and Chadwick, drew the attention of Government in 1838 and 1840. So much interest was immediately raised, that Commissioners were specially appointed by the authorities to inquire into the condition of the poorer classes of the community. The agitation soon spread over the length and breadth of the land, and early in the year 1845 the wave reached this town. It was on the 2nd January, on the installation of the Mayor, Andrew Mulholland, Esq., that he opened the subject before the assembled Council, and clearly explained the great benefits which would accrue to the working community, whose numbers so much predominate here. A general meeting of the inhabitants was the result, and the Society for the amelioration of the working classes formed.

Its first step was the establishment of Public Baths and Wash-houses, which was effected in 1847, not without considerable difficulty. The Institution has been since continued in efficient working order, and has contributed in a great degree to diffuse a taste for a very healthful recreation, as well as salutary custom.

It is but due to an old and highly respected inhabitant to state here, that Public Baths were established in this Town so early as 1805. With the suggestion, and under the patronage of the late Dr. Forsythe, did the establishment of Mr. Israel Millikin originate: and it is not a little remarkable, that among "the Doctor's" first patients in this new Institution was the late Marquis of Donegall. These auspices soon brought a large custom, and for many years the Peter's-hill baths were a famous place of resort for the respectable inhabitants, many of whom still continue to enjoy his 'sovereign remedy,' under his own careful superintendence and considerate attention. Old Israel, we are glad to mention, still enjoys "the spirit of other days", and, though an octogenarian, and somewhat stiffened by the pressure of time, his faculties are perfect, and his memories of the past continue to delight his more ancient visitors.

Early in 1846, a Society was formed among the Working Classes, for mutual improvement and advantage in literary culture. It sprung directly from the agitation connected with the Bath Institution. The exertions of its promoters happily eventuated in the early establishment of practical

measures, calculated to promote the cause of intellectual improvement. A very cheap News-room, accessible to the humblest artificer, was opened, on 22nd June, and has fully realized original expectations. To this was added, on 8th July, a small library, which has since increased considerably, and now numbers between two and three thousand volumes.

It should be mentioned that this last Society had its prototype in the Mechanics' Institute, which, originally formed in 1825, for a time gave great facilities to the working class, but the interest having declined, it ceased operations, and though revived in 1838, the reaction was but temporary, and it has now dwindled down to the dimensions of a common school.

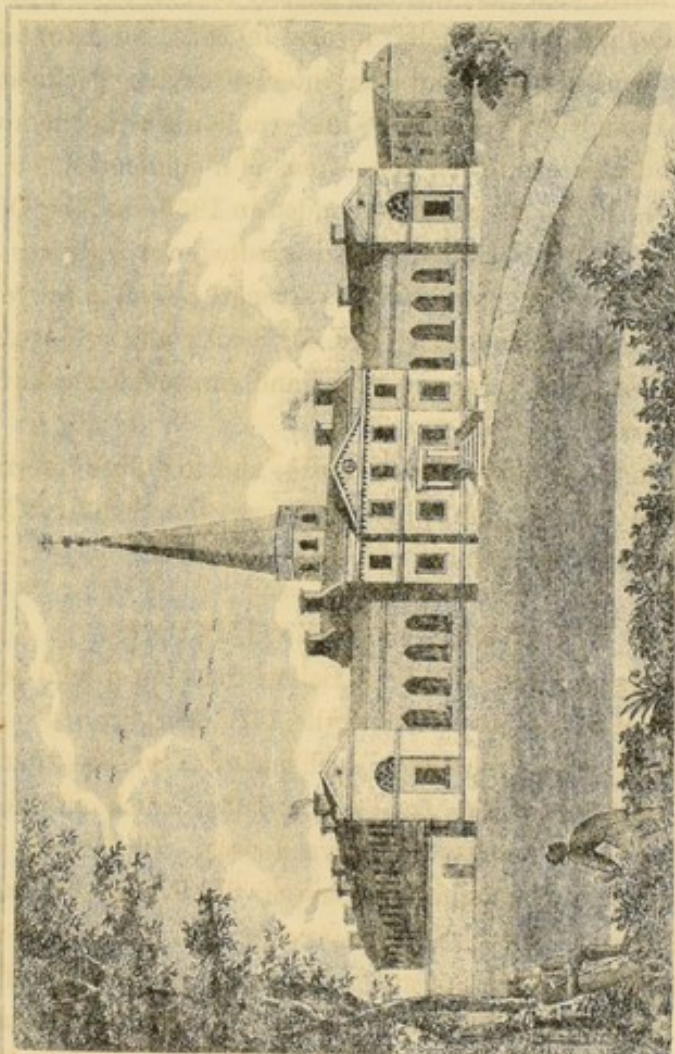
The Total Abstinence Association founded in 1836, and the Odd Fellows, Rechabites, and Friendly Societies, lately instituted, are evidences of a desire, on the part of the working population, to strengthen and improve their social position, and indicate a prudent regard for health and probity, which it is cheering to contemplate. Intemperance and improvidence have been too long the curse of our country.

To aid them in the preservation of health, and to diffuse information upon the best means of warding off epidemic disease, the Sanitary Committee of 1848-9 laboured with the utmost zeal and good effect.

POOR RELIEF INSTITUTIONS.

We do not observe in the History of Belfast that any special provision was made for the relief of the poor prior to the 17th century.

It appears from the old records of the Charitable Society, that an association with this object existed so far back as 1631, which afforded some description of relief to the poor at their own houses. In the year 1771, however, 1st of August, the foundation stone of the Poor-house and Infirmary was laid, by Stewart Banks, Esq., Sovereign. In due time it was erected, at a cost of £9,000, and the Society was incorporated by act of parliament, in 1774. It originally received its support mainly from annual subscriptions, but having by its act obtained special privileges, in regard to the supply of water to the town, and certain grants of ground, the proceeds therefrom, with the interest of donations, have made it of late years much less dependent on the contributions of the public. It provides intern relief to decayed persons of both sexes, besides many children who are instructed in useful avocations, and apprenticed afterwards in good situations.



POOR HOUSE.

The Union School, established in 1795, for the maintenance and education of destitute girls, was originated by the Ladies of Belfast, and forms the earliest type of the present Industrial School.

During a period of great distress, in 1826, the Clothing Society arose under similar auspices; and, with the Destitute Sick Society, continues to relieve the deserving poor, at a very moderate expense.

A most neglected, unpitied, and fallen class, have found true friends in the projectors of the Ulster Female Penitentiary of 1831, and the Magdalen of 1842; and for six years did the houseless wanderer receive comfort and shelter at the Night Asylum of 1841.

The wide-spread calamities of 1847 evoked a piercing cry, which rang through the length and breadth of the land, and touched every heart. Besides the General and Local Relief Societies, the Ladies of Belfast—be it to their eternal credit recorded—entered with unusual ardour into an extended scheme for bringing relief to the suffering thousands both at home and abroad. The ultimate result was the formation of a permanent Institution, which made a becoming conclusion to their noble and extraordinary exertions.

The Girls' Industrial School was duly formed, amidst the most auspicious circumstances, and the approving interest of all. Here upwards of 100 poor girls—many of them orphans—are fed and nourished; and, while trained to habits of industry, and protected during the day from the contaminating influence of those who would otherwise be their associates, they are permitted to retire to their homes every evening, and thus an opportunity is afforded of promoting indirectly, but not the less effectually, the improvement of their parents or guardians.

The Union Workhouse, opened in 1841, has since supported the great mass of the indigent, both young and old, by an established rate. Notwithstanding, we are far from imagining that the fountains of Charity are in danger of being dried up. There are, and always will be, many objects deserving succour and care—such as orphans or neglected children—whose condition, bad as it is, would be materially injured by becoming absorbed in the common lot of the Workhouse pauper, whose associations are necessarily degrading. For these, the Ladies of Belfast have in part nobly provided; and it was the ruling idea of the late Mr. W. Mulholland to carry relief into this hitherto neglected channel. His Day Asylum of 1847 was a crowning effort in the cause, and will render his name immortal.

We now approach the special subject of our work,—the History of our Town Hospital, and our other Medical Institutions. Prior to '92, there is little of medical interest in the annals: a few words, therefore, will suffice.

So far back as the year 1641, we meet with the record of an epidemic which raged in the North of Ireland. The districts of Belfast and Malone suffered so severely, that the enormous number of 5,000 persons died of it, in the space of four months. History is silent as to its nature or the means taken to treat the affected, and it is only in the year 1689, that we find the first mention of an Hospital in Belfast. It is noticed, that, about this time, another epidemic spread over the country, and thousands of the stricken were crowded in the "great Hospital, at Belfast," which, in the course of six months, became the grave of 3,762 victims. We observe no further notice of Medical transactions till the year 1774, when public Medical relief was given by the Charitable Society, for the first time, to the poor. That Society had built the present old Poor-House, for the accommodation of the destitute, and here, there received Medical care many hundreds annually. This, then, was the first and for a long time the only provision for affording Medical relief to the sick poor of the town.

In the progress of the History which is to follow, the reader will meet with sufficient details respecting our Medical Charities and institutions, to give him a tolerable idea of their extent, variety and importance. It will be found that Belfast wealth has not forgotten the Belfast poor—that though we shall have occasion to record intervals of apathy, indifference, or neglect, still the spirit of charity, when roused, burns ever brightly, and on extraordinary occasions completely redeems itself for past omissions. Would that it were ever so!—that the fountain of benevolence would ever flow free and unbidden, and that we should, one and all, deem it an honour and a privilege, as well as a duty, to support our public charities. To bring health and comfort to the sick man's home—to snatch the falling victim from almost certain ruin—to visit the neglected child of misery—are deeds worthy of divinity—deeds that will weigh in the balance against a world—deeds that assimilate man to his Creator!



1792.

MEMORABILIA ANNI.

—	The Rev. W. Bristow, Sovereign; Hon. H. Skeffington and Sir W. Godfrey, Members of Parliament for the Borough.		—	The Market-House was situated at the corner of High-street and Corn Market.	
January 4	The "Northern Star" appeared.		April . 13	Prospectus of the DISPENSARY issued.	
March 6	Died, Samuel Black, Esq., a Burgess, and several times Sovereign of the Borough.		April . 19	The first General Meeting.	
March 22	Died, Mr. David Manson, aged 65; nearly 40 years an eminent teacher of the English language in Belfast, and author of several popular educational works. To his industry and the versatility of his ingenuity the cotton manufacture and agriculture were alike indebted for many improvements.		May . 16	The Committee and Medical Officers appointed.	
			May . 19	The first Meeting of the Committee.	
			June . 19	Mr. Hull, the first apothecary, elected.	
			July . 14	A grand military review and procession took place, in celebration, the second time, of the French Revolution.	
			—	The first foundry established in Belfast.	
			—	The Fourth Presbyterian Congregational House elected in Donegall-street.	

Origin of the Belfast Dispensary.

THE reader of the Introductory Sketch must have observed that the sole Medical relief publicly afforded to the indigent of the town, prior to this date, was rendered through the instrumentality of the BELFAST CHARITABLE SOCIETY, and that this was necessarily limited to those of the poor who received shelter and sustenance within the walls of their Institution. The number, who obtained such aid, having been always proportionate, not only to the amount of funds at the disposal of the Society (which at this period were inconsiderable), but to other qualifying circumstances affecting the admission of applicants, could not have been at any time sufficient to obviate the necessity for additional means of medical assistance; and further, it is clear, that however extensive and complete the means of the Society, as regards internal accommodation, there must ever be a large number of necessitous individuals amongst the class of *labourers* and *artizans*, who, while moderately comfortable during the continuance of health, would be, in consequence of injury or disease, thrown out of employment, and rendered thereby totally unable to obtain proper medical attention, in the ordinary way, at *their own houses*. Indeed, the regulations of the Society, in many instances, acted as a bar to the admission of such cases; and we find consequently, in the records of that institution, continual notices of the rejection of applicants, founded upon the circumstance of their previous condition in life, or the shortness of their tenure within the parish of Belfast. Experience

of the system of relief pursued by this excellent Society, from time to time, fully satisfied many of its members of the hardship of the cases to which we have alluded, and of the propriety of establishing increased public medical accommodation, both as a measure of extended charity, and as a great preventive to beggary among the labouring population. At the present time it is impossible to give, with any degree of certainty, the names of the individuals with whom this idea originally arose; but it is most probable that the conviction was of gradual formation amongst a number of the then actively benevolent men, and must have increased in strength progressively with the growth of the town, during the twenty years that succeeded the founding of the Society's institution. Amongst this noble band of philanthropists, it cannot now be considered invidious to distinguish the name of one, who may, without exaggeration, be considered to have represented then, and throughout his active life, all the energy and zeal which animated and cherished this charitable movement—JAMES M'DONNELL, M.D., of whom it will be sufficient at present to state, that, in times of the greatest apathy towards his favourite project, and when almost unassisted by an encouraging hand, he continued to tend and watch over it with fostering care and unabated interest, until it had reached a vigorous maturity.

The earliest public notice of the idea of forming a General Dispensary, appears in the *Belfast Newsletter* of the 10th April, and on the 13th of the same month the following Prospectus was published. It will be observed, that the prevention of small-pox, and the recovery of persons apparently dead, were objects also contemplated in the plan.

“P R O S P E C T U S.

“The importance and utility of the industrious poor to a civilized and commercial nation are indisputable, yet little attention has been paid in this country to the preservation of their lives and healths. Besides the misfortune to which labourers and artists are liable in common with the rest of mankind, there are many peculiar to themselves—exposed to the inclemency of the seasons, living upon unwholesome food, and crowded into narrow habitations, they become a prey to various diseases; and, supporting the existence of to-day by the scanty produce of yesterday's labour, a short sickness reduces them to the utmost misery—and misery unknown even to the strolling beggar. Of all human situations theirs is the most distressing, and calls most loudly for relief, yet we have no institution at all adequate to the removal of this complicated kind of distress.

“We, therefore, beg leave to suggest, that the benevolent and affluent should add some portion, to what they already contribute to public charities, towards raising a fund for the relief of sick poor, of all descriptions, whether strangers or natives; that they may be supplied, *at their own habitations*, with such medicines, medical attendance, and necessaries of life, as may be fitted to the exigencies of their situations.

"It is presumed that such an institution would tend greatly to promote the interest of society at large, and particularly of the Belfast Charitable Society, by decreasing the number of common beggars; since, it is certain, that many complaints in themselves trivial, and admitting readily of cure, become confirmed by neglect, and the industrious artist, with his family, is speedily reduced to ruin.

"If the number of lives annually lost by the ravages of the small-pox, did not of itself point out the necessity of some association for the inoculation of the children of the poor, yet another inducement, of the most urgent nature, would be found in the frequent occurrence of blindness from the same cause among the lower classes. How many of our fellow-creatures are compelled, by this cruel malady, to wander over and disfigure the face of this flourishing country, whose useful labours might otherwise contribute to the support of families and the public good.

"The scheme of those societies which have been so generally and successfully adopted by all our neighbouring nations, for the recovery of persons apparently dead from suffocation, drowning, and other causes, might also be usefully united with this institution.

"In order to carry these humane views into effect, it is proposed, that as soon as the subscriptions shall have amounted to £50, the subscribers shall proceed to nominate an Apothecary, two Surgeons, and two Physicians, to conduct the business of their charity; and also such other officers as may tend to secure order, permanency, and utility to so laudable an undertaking.

"It may be necessary to mention, that of all charitable institutions hitherto established, none has been found, upon experience, so extensively beneficial, at so small an expense, as the scheme at present suggested; one hundred guineas being amply sufficient for the annual relief of above six hundred individuals, a circumstance which has been accurately ascertained by an examination of the accounts of a great number of similar establishments in England."

WILLIAM BRISTOW, Vicar and Sov.

A. HALLIDAY, M.D.

E. D. BOYD,

JOHN CAMPBELL,

WILLIAM BRUCE, D.D.

WAD. CUNNINGHAM,

RICHARD MEADE, Minister,

JOHN ALEXANDER,

THOMAS GREGG,

E. D. BOYD, Jun.

WILLIAM CLARK,

CHARLES BRETT,

HENRY JOY,

GEORGE JOY,

HILL WALLACE,

JAMES STEWART,

JOHN HOLMES,

JAMES FERGUSON,

N. BATT,

VALENTINE JONES,

B. FULLER, Surgeon,

JAMES M'DONNELL, M.D.

WILLIAM SINCLARE,

WILLIAM SEED,

ROBERT DAVIS,

JOHN M'CARTNEY,

S. SMITH,

C. GREGG,

ROBERT HOLMES,

R. M'CLELLAND, Surgeon,

JOHN EWING,

JOHN BROWN,

WILLIAM SEED,

R. WALLACE,

C. KINGSMILL,

CHRISTOPHER SALMON,

JOHN C. WHITE, M.D.

R. BRADSHAW,

P. VANCE, Minister.

It would appear that this Prospectus had no sooner been issued, than the small sum required for the starting of the Dispensary was immediately subscribed; for we find that on the 19th of April, only six days subsequently, the first general meeting of the subscribers was held at the Town-House, the Rev. Wm. Bristow, Sovereign, in the chair. The following resolutions were then adopted:—

1. That this establishment do consist of a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and a select Committee of Subscribers; with such other assistants as shall hereafter be agreed upon by the subscribers.
2. That John Campbell, Esq., Banker, be requested to act as Treasurer to this Society.
3. That it is our opinion that this Charitable Institution should embrace these several objects, viz; a scheme for the relief of sick poor, of all descriptions; a scheme for the promoting of the practice of inoculation; a scheme for the recovery of persons drowned, and apparently dead; a scheme for the relief of lying-in women.
4. It is hereby declared, that it is our determined purpose to co-operate with the Belfast Incorporated Charitable Society in every measure calculated to promote its welfare.

A meeting of the inhabitants, summoned by the Sovereign, for the purpose of considering the new scheme (to which the subscribers to this Charitable Society were invited, in order as it is reported to make better provision for poor housekeepers and for clearing the town of strolling beggars,) was held on the 26th of April, when it was expressed as the sense of the meeting, that the institution of a public Dispensary is highly necessary, and likely to prove extremely useful in this place, and that it be recommended to the support and patronage of the public.

On the 28th of April a second meeting of subscribers was held, which adopted the previous resolution, and appointed a Committee of five, to form the necessary regulations; namely, Rev. Wm. Bristow, Rev. Dr. Bruce, Dr. White, Dr. M'Donnell, and Mr. Fuller. Mr. Val. Jones, jun., was appointed to act as Secretary.

This Committee reported, on the 9th of May, to a general meeting of subscribers, who, having duly considered the proposed laws and regulations, adopted the following plan of the Belfast Charitable Dispensary:—

1. This charity to be conducted by a President, two Vice Presidents, a Treasurer, and Governors, with such offices as may be found necessary.
2. Donors of Ten Guineas, presented within the year, to be Governors for life, with the privilege of having two patients constantly on the books.
3. Donors of Twenty Guineas, presented within the year, to be Governors for life, with the privilege of having four patients constantly on the books.
4. A subscription of One or more Guineas per annum to constitute a Governor, with the privilege of having one patient constantly on the books for every Half-Guinea subscribed.

5. Subscribers of Half-a-Guinea per annum to be entitled to have one patient on the books at a time.
- 6, 7, 8. Minor regulations.
9. A general meeting of Governors to be held on the first Thursday in January, April, July, and October: fifteen to be a quorum.
- 10, 17. Rules for calling extraordinary meetings.
11. Any Resolution passed at a general meeting to be confirmed at a subsequent one before being entered as a rule, unless recommended by the Committee.
12. No officer of this charity to accept of any reward or gratuity, directly or indirectly, from any tradesman, patient, or others, on pain of immediate dismissal.
13. Election to be by ballot. The electors to be qualified three months before the vacancy, and to have paid his subscription prior to the day of election.
14. A Report to be published annually.
15. The Managing Committee to consist of twenty-one Governors; seven to retire, annually, by rotation. The President, Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, Medical Attendants, and life Governors to be eligible. The time of meeting to be every first and third Thursday: five to form a quorum.
16. Persons interested in any matter under debate, at any meeting or Committee, not entitled to vote.
18. Committee to report to the general meeting.
19. Rule in case of vacancies.
20. Committee to purchase medicines.
21. Treasurer to make no payment except by order of the Committee.
22. Secretary's duties. The Apothecary to act as Clerk to the Committee.
23. Secretary and Committee to collect subscriptions.
24. Two consulting and two attending Physicians to be appointed annually, by ballot, on the first Thursday in January.
25. Rule about attendance.
26. Two Surgeons to be appointed; and no important operation to be undertaken without a consultation of Physicians and Surgeons, unless in cases of urgent necessity.
27. The number of patients, if eligible, to be at the discretion of the Attendants.
28. Rule in case of absence of Medical Attendant.
29. In cases of urgency, the Attendant to have a discretionary power in purchasing medicines.
30. A Physician to attend at the Dispensary three days weekly, at half-past ten, a.m.
31. A Surgeon to attend in like manner. In both cases, afterwards to visit the home patients at their own houses.
32. The Apothecary to reside at the Dispensary; to compound and dispense the medicines prescribed; to keep a register of the patients; and to give his whole time to the business of the charity; to keep the current accounts; and not to absent himself one whole day and night without the sanction of the Committee.
33. To observe that no subscriber exceeds his privilege of recommending patients.
34. The objects of the charity to be confined to the really necessitous.
35. The Dispensary to be open from 9 o'clock in the morning till 3 in the afternoon.
36. Recommendatory letters to be sent to the Dispensary before 10 A.M.

37. The days of attendance at the Dispensary to be Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at 10 A.M. Patients absenting themselves for ten days successively, without sufficient reason, to be discharged.

38. Patients confined to their houses, to send notice to the Dispensary.

39. Patients resident beyond the boundaries, to send a Governor's recommendation.

40. Accidents to be attended to at all times.

41. Rule respecting the repetition of medicines.

42. Patients, if irregular or disobedient to the rules, to be discharged.

43. Patients, when cured, to present a letter of thanks to the Governor who recommended them.

44. The friends of patients deceased, to give immediate notice of the event to the Apothecary, and deliver deceased's ticket.

45. At a proper season, persons of all ages may be inoculated for the small-pox at the Dispensary.

46. Patients in the small-pox prohibited from coming to the Dispensary.

47. A proper apparatus, for the recovery of persons apparently dead from drowning, &c., to be always kept in readiness at the Dispensary, and a handsome gratuity to be given to the parties most active in taking up such unfortunate objects, and giving the first information.

48. The Apothecary to keep a register of such cases, and to give instant notice to the nearest medical attendant.

At the same meeting, the 16th of May was fixed upon, for the purpose of making *the first election of Officers*. It was further resolved to invite the members of the Belfast Incorporated Charitable Society to attend, to consider how far the two institutions should be united, and the best means of rendering their union conducive to the public good. Accordingly a meeting of subscribers was held on the 16th, when the following appointments were made:—

President.

THE MOST NOBLE THE MARQUIS OF DONEGALL.

Vice-Presidents.

THE HON. CHICHESTER SKEFFINGTON, M.P.

REV. WM. BRISTOW, SOVGN.

Committee.

DR. HALLIDAY,
REV. DR. BRUCE,
DR. M'DONNELL,
DR. APSLEY,
DR. WHITE,
MR. W. CUNNINGHAM,
MR. BRADSHAW,
MR. HENRY JOY,
MR. JOHN HOLMES,
MR. W. SINCLAIRE,
MR. H. WALLACE,

DR. MATTEAR,
REV. MR. MEADE,
REV. P. VANCE,
REV. MR. KELBURN,
SURGEON FULLER,
MR. M'ILVEEN,
MR. S. M'TIER,
MR. ROBERT HOLMES,
MR. EWING,
SURGEON J. BANKHEAD.

Consulting Physicians.

DR. HALLIDAY AND DR. MATTEAR.

Attending Physicians.

DR. M'DONNELL AND DR. WHITE.

Attending Surgeons.

MR. FULLER AND MR. M'CLELLAND.

Attending on July 30th,.....MR. M'CLUNE.

On May 19th, the Committee of Management held their *first meeting* at the Town-House. The Hon. C. Skeffington, V.P., presided. Drs. White and M'Donnell and Mr. M'Ilveen were deputed to take a house for the Dispensary. An advertisement for an Apothecary, at an annual salary of £40, with an additional sum according to merit, was ordered. The two attending surgeons were requested to dispense the medicines until the Apothecary would be regularly installed. At a special meeting of the Committee, held on the 19th June, pursuant to advertisement, and after an examination of the candidates by the Medical Attendants, the election of the *first Apothecary* was made, by ballot, when Mr. HULL was the successful candidate.

On the 30th of July, arrangements were entered into with the Charitable Society, whereby the Committee were to obtain the use of rooms for the accommodation of the Apothecary, medical officers, and patients, free of expense.

The above comprise the principal events relating to the founding of the Belfast Dispensary. Though unpretending in its machinery, we cannot but admire the high philanthropic spirit which, in a time of great political excitement, actuated the small but memorable band whose names we have recorded. All they asked for was the sum of £50 to initiate a scheme which was practically to supply prompt and efficient aid to the hitherto neglected artizan, in suffering and in trial—to mitigate the horrors of that loathsome scourge, whose devastations had been a world's theme for ages—to snatch the asphyxiated from, in many instances, impending death, and to bring relief to the destitute mother, in the hour of difficulty and danger. These were objects worthy of an enterprising and benevolent community, and worthily was their realization attempted. It was not to be expected that the insignificant sum called for would be sufficient to institute simultaneously these varied plans, though, to the honour of the profession, be it ever remembered, that body upon whom rested the entire success of every part of the scheme, warmly co-operated to carry out the undertaking, regardless of all trouble and the sacrifice of valu-

able time. The Committee, therefore, wisely restricted their exertions in the first instance, to the limited objects of a new Dispensary. And to this they devoted themselves with the utmost energy and ardour, as is clearly evidenced by the careful, elaborate, and provident manner in which was drawn up the excellent code of Rules, many of which are in full force at the present day.

It is also pleasing to observe with what unanimity the leading merchants and professional men laboured for the common good, and how parties of all ranks, and of all political and religious creeds, acted in harmony and mutual good-will—a circumstance which augured well both for the present stability of the project and for its ultimate prosperity. So far, the founders of this infant charity were blessed with every token of success, a circumstance which, no doubt, mainly contributed to foster that dauntless enthusiasm in the minds of a few, which enabled them subsequently, when the clouds of apathy and neglect fell around the Institution, to proceed steadily onwards, and ultimately surmount every obstacle.



1793-96.

MEMORABILIA ANNORUM.

1793.

January 4 Died Mr. Samuel Ferguson, tanner.
 March 9 Military riots and outrage in the town.
 March 11 Suppression of the Volunteers.

June 27 Died, in his 80th year, Wm. Macartney, Esq.,
 for many years one of the Representatives of the Borough.
 — A Discount Office established by Messrs.
 Gilbert M'Ilveen & Co.

1794.

— The Chamber of Commerce suspend their
 meetings.
 — A Society of the United Irishmen formed.
 January 3 Died Mr. Alexander Stevenson.
 Feb. 20 Belfast Lying-in Hospital opened at 25,
 Donegall-street.

March 10 Died Mr. John Henderson, merchant.
 May 10 Died Mr. Thomas Neilson, who was pro-
 minently connected with the political
 struggles of the period.
 Dec. 1 Died William Brown, Esq., an eminent
 merchant, and commander of the Volun-
 teer Company (blues).

1795.

March 23 All business suspended for this day, to
 express the general regret on the re-
 moval of the Lord Lieutenant, Earl
 Fitzwilliam.
 May 10 A delegate meeting of representatives
 from 72 societies of "United Irishmen"
 held.

August The Charitable Society support, at this date,
 90 aged and infirm poor, and 90 boys and
 girls on the premises; and, besides, af-
 ford out-door relief to 336 poor families.
 August 24 The Ladies of Belfast receive the special
 commendation of the Press, for their
 benevolent exertions in founding the
 Girls' Union School, at 43, Waring-
 street—the type of the present Girls'
 Industrial School.

1796.

January 23 An extraordinary high tide; boats plied
 all day in High-street.
 Sept. 29 John Brown, Esq., Peter's-hill, elected
 Sovereign, *vice* Rev. William Bristow.
 Sept. Several arrests of leading merchants and
 others, on the charge of high treason,
 took place at this period.

October 20 William M'Bride, a cotton spinner, assas-
 sinated in North-street.
 Dec. 31 A Town Meeting convened by the Sove-
 reign, in consequence of the news of
 the appearance of the French Fleet off
 Bantry Bay.

IN the period defined by the heading of this chapter, little of material interest appears to have occurred in the progress of the DISPENSARY. By a reference to the minutes of January 2, 1794, we find, that in the interval from the opening of the institution, 733 patients were attended by the medical officers—a number surprisingly small, when compared with the extensive returns of the present General Dispensary.

In order to carry out that department of the plan of the Dispensary which aimed at the recovery of persons apparently dead, a special apparatus for the

inflation of the lungs, with other suitable instruments, was ordered and received from the London Humane Society, about this time. It had been the intention of Dr. McDonnell and other members, who took an interest in this matter, as one of the promised advantages of the Dispensary, to have had this apparatus located in a place of public note, in the vicinity of the shipping, and to have carried out the object in a manner somewhat similar to the plan of Humane Societies in the large Sea-ports. This was never properly effected; and cases of the kind have been, and are now, restored by the means most convenient to the practitioner who may be first summoned. It is, however, a matter of regret, that a special society has not been long since formed, with this sole object in view, in this populous city.

In the latter part of 1795, on the resignation of Mr. Hull, Mr. Richard Devlin was duly elected in his place, as Apothecary to the Dispensary.

General meetings of subscribers, for the purpose of hearing the reports of the charity and electing officers, were held in the month of January 1793, 1794, and 1795. The changes which occurred on these occasions will be seen by referring to the Appendix.

In the year 1796, from some unexplained cause, no general meeting was held; and, on examination of the records, we notice that even the meetings of Committee ceased after the 2nd of June this year. A total want of interest seems to have prevailed at this time. The institution, consequently, fell into debt, and was in the most imminent danger of being completely abandoned.

It has frequently been remarked in the infancy of new undertakings, that a period of decline is sure to supervene upon even the most auspicious commencement. Such early struggles are doubtless salutary; they are a vivifying stimulus, calculated to render ultimate stability more certain and secure.

In the present instance such seems to have been the case, for not long after the lull of public interest in this unpretending charity, a re-action ensued—a new spirit was infused into its former supporters, and the most desponding felt that a favourable change had arrived.



The Lying-in Hospital.

IN the absence of interesting facts touching our subject, we shall request the attention of our readers on behalf of an old and a kindred medical charity, which was originated early in the year 1794. We allude to the the Lying-in Hospital. It will have been already noticed that it had been part of the design of the original promoters of the Dispensary, to institute a department for the relief of poor women, during the period of their confinement. It would appear, however, that this idea was not long retained, most probably in consequence of a movement, on the part of the ladies of Belfast, which shortly eventuated in the formation of the charity referred to.

The records of this institution inform us that, on the 23d of December, 1793, a very large meeting of the ladies of Belfast was held at the Linen Hall. Lady Harriet Skeffington presided. The object was to establish "THE HUMANE FEMALE SOCIETY," for the relief of poor lying-in women. The following ladies were appointed to conduct its affairs :

Patroness.

LADY HARRIET SKEFFINGTON.

Vice-Patroness.

MRS. CLARKE.

Treasurer.

MRS. BROWN.

Secretary.

MRS. M'TIER.

Committee.

MRS. BRISTOW.

MRS. HALIDAY.

MRS. MATTEAR.

MRS. WM. SINCLAIRE.

MRS. EWING.

MRS. HYDE.

MRS. MONTGOMERY.

At this meeting Drs. Mattear, Apsley, and M'Donnell, and the Rev. Mr. Clark, were requested to present an application to the CHARITABLE SOCIETY for suitable accommodation, and the physicians of the town were solicited to give their advice and assistance to forward the scheme. A code of rules was drawn up and adopted on the 30th following, arranging the privileges of subscribers, the duties of the managers, and the admission of patients. These differ but little from the regulations of the present management—

a circumstance which attests the care and foresight with which these benevolent ladies set about the establishment of the charity.

On January 4th, 1794, the Committee rented a house in Donegall-street, then No. 25, for the yearly sum of twelve guineas. In February, arrangements were made with Drs. Mattear, Apsley, J. Moore, Stephenson, and White, and Messrs. M'Clelland and Bankhead, whereby these gentlemen were engaged to attend the Hospital when required, in rotation, for a short period. On the 19th of this month a letter, in reply to an application, was received from the then Marchioness of Donegall, giving the handsome subscription of £50. This large sum she continued to give annually till the year 1799. On the 20th of this month the *first* patient was admitted into the Hospital.

The establishment was now regularly started on its benevolent mission. Up till the year 1800 the number of annual admissions was considerably under fifty, but afterwards they greatly increased; as we find that from this date till 1830, when the Hospital was temporarily removed to No. 11, Lancaster-street, the numbers annually relieved were considerably above 100.

In the year 1797, we notice that a project was initiated by this Society, to maintain and educate orphan girls, by means of funds arising from previous savings in the management of the charity. This happy idea was successfully realized; and ere this year had closed, upwards of twenty forsaken creatures had received the incalculable benefits of industrial training, and an almost parental care. Unfortunately this new feature did not long survive, as, in a short time, the records become silent as to its operations or existence. Another important circumstance in connexion with the charity, was the relief of poor women at their own houses, which was supplied for a number of years. Though not contemplated in the original plan, yet it was so strongly urged by Dr. McDonnell, that it eventually received the sanction of the Society; and, up till the year 1832, we find it recorded, that upwards of thirty-four were annually relieved at their own houses.

During this long period, the governing ladies, foreseeing that the inconvenient and imperfect arrangements of a hired dwelling-house would be ultimately superseded as the institution became more developed, had been gradually accumulating a fund over and above its annual support. This, in the year 1828, amounted to £550, a sum which was deemed sufficiently large to warrant them in taking immediate steps to provide better accommodation.

The building of a special hospital was not then immediately determined on, though long contemplated; for we find in the records that the only move then made, was to look out for a suitable mansion. On the 10th of May of this year, at a general meeting of subscribers, the Countess of Massareene in the chair, this duty was deputed to Drs. Samuel Thomson, Stephenson, and M'Cluney, and Rev. W. Bruce. This committee having reported their want of success, and having recommended a removal from the premises then occupied, they were requested, on the 2nd of June following, to consider a plan for the intended new Hospital, and to take such steps as they might find requisite. On the 12th of January, 1829, application was accordingly made to Lord Donegall, for a grant of ground. This application did not prove successful, as we observe, in the April succeeding, that the Charitable Society granted permission for the building of a Lying-in Hospital on their grounds, on certain conditions—mainly to prevent its being ever alienated to any other purpose. This having been satisfactorily arranged, the building was promptly commenced, agreeably to the design, and under the superintendence of Mr. W. Smith, the architect, by Mr. Andrew Moody, the contractor.

The new Hospital, which is a handsome square building on the Antrim road, and cost upwards of £1,200, was opened for the reception of patients in August, 1830. It is rather small, being calculated to accommodate but eighteen patients, and the resident officials and servants—an amount of accommodation much too limited for the numbers that continually apply. The interior is well regulated, and presents rather a neat appearance; and everything seems done that can be, to ensure the utmost cleanliness and salubrity.

The institution is still under the direction of a Patroness, a Vice-Patroness, and a Committee of twenty ladies, with a Treasurer and Secretary, who are *ex-officio* members. These managers meet monthly, for the transaction of business, and appoint weekly visitors. A general meeting of subscribers is summoned in the month of February, annually. The hospital is supported by the subscriptions of the public, collected annually, besides donations and bequests; which, however, have been as yet inconsiderable. The subscriptions have seldom reached £150, though in the present year they amounted to £167. Eligible patients are admitted on presenting a written recommendation of a subscriber, accompanied by a certificate of a respectable householder, as to the fact of her marriage; the recommendation to be countersigned by a member of the Committee. On leaving the hospital, a

supply of clothes for the infant is granted. Visitors can only be admitted on the order of the weekly orderly, or the Secretary. A registry is kept of all the patients—their religion, names, and residence; also of the births and sexes of the children.

It is gratifying to record, as strong evidence in favour of its general management—that no epidemic has ever appeared within its walls. On one occasion, indeed—June 1833—a single case of typhus appeared, infection having been received before admission; but, by proper restrictions and scrupulous care, was prevented from extending its contaminating influence.

The Committee of the charity have been peculiarly happy in securing the services of distinguished physicians to superintend the medical department. In addition to the physicians already mentioned, prior to 1822, Dr. S. S. Thomson, Dr. Robert M^cGee, and several others, were successively attached to the institution. At this date, Dr. Robert Stephenson was appointed, and held office for a period of fifteen years, at the expiration of which he retired, much to the regret of the Committee. Since this time, Dr. Burden, Professor of Midwifery in the Queen's College, has been in constant attendance.

The average number of patients, since the opening of the new house, has been 191 annually, who have been relieved at an average annual expense of £143, which is equal to 11s. 3d. per patient; by no means a large amount, when we consider that about nine days is the average stay of each patient in hospital. From an examination of the annual reports, several very interesting facts, considered in a medical point of view, may be elicited. Since 1830, the total number of patients admitted amounts to 3,832. The deaths of the mothers were 11 in number—a mortality of .259 per cent. The proportion of male to female births was as 100 to 80; 4.3 per cent. were still-births; and .92 per cent. were twin births. The highest female births, occurred in the years 1839, 1835, and 1832—the number for 1839 having been 31 per cent. above the average. The lowest we find in 1848, 1849, and 1850—the proportion for 1848 having been exactly 31 per cent. below the average. We thus observe that the female births had a range of 62 per cent., supposing the males to have remained stationary. On comparing this return with those of similar institutions elsewhere, we feel a gratification in recording that the mortality is a most favourable feature of this Hospital, as a reference to the data given in the Appendix will abundantly prove. This is matter for much congratulation; and adds another to

the many proofs afforded of the excellence of the management of the Charity, of which it is our sincere wish and our trusting hope, Belfast may long be proud.

It will be observed by the professional reader, that there is in this Institution a considerable field of practice, which might readily be made available for the purposes of Medical instruction. We think, indeed, the time has fully arrived when the question as to the propriety of increasing its accommodation and admitting pupils should be seriously discussed by the managers of this charity. We venture to affirm that there is no town in the three Kingdoms of the same extent and importance, so long enjoying a Medical School, in which similar obstetric provision is so entirely restricted to the merely benevolent views contemplated in its origin. We feel perfectly assured that the managers have no desire to curtail its usefulness, and indeed we understand that this very subject of opening its wards for the benefit of the Medical school, has already received some consideration at their Board; and we trust, therefore, that when the matter shall be regularly discussed they will take into account the very serious inconvenience to which both the Professor and his class are put under the present very imperfect arrangements, and consummate their hitherto invaluable exertions in the cause of charity by acceding to the views of the Medical Profession.

We cannot close this brief notice of one of our oldest charities without placing on record the names of its principal pecuniary benefactors and the more prominent amongst its benevolent members. On a board which is suspended over the mantle-piece of the committee-room, we notice the following honoured

List of Requests and Donations received at various times by this Charity.

1829. Mrs. Hyde, Bath, ...	£46	3	1	1845. Mrs. R. Montgomery, ...	£5	0	0
1832. Mrs. Penelope Rodgers, ...	50	0	0	" Mrs. Salmon, ...	25	0	0
1836. Robert Callwell, Esq., ...	25	0	0	1845. John Jameson, Esq., Dub-			
1842. Mrs. Callwell, ...	25	0	0	lin, ...	25	0	0
1843. Mrs. Batt, Purdy's-burn, ...	100	0	0	" Miss Patterson, ...	50	0	0
1844. Francis Glenfield, Esq., ...	50	0	0	1846. John Suffern, Esq., ...	20	0	0

In addition, we cannot omit recurring to the magnificent subscriptions of the late Dowager Marchioness of Donegall, to which the Society were indebted, in a great measure, for the realization of their plans. For more than ten years did she continue to uphold the Institution; and thus laid a foundation which the vicissitudes of fifty years were at no time sufficient to endanger.

The honoured name of Lady Harriet Skeffington will probably be longer remembered in connexion with its origin than that of any other individual. She was its first Patroness, and, for a series of years, continued to devote extraordinary attention to its every concern. Her influential interest, watchful care and zealous perseverance, were worthy of the benevolent object on which they were expended.

To the late Countess of Massareene, one of its later promoters, and for very many years Vice-Patroness, the charity is under lasting obligations. Her long and valuable services in its behalf, and the ardent interest which she ever evinced for its prosperity, were feelingly and publicly acknowledged on the 16th February, 1829, on the occasion of her resignation. The late Mrs. Batt, of Purdy's-burn, succeeded, and during a period of 14 years presided over the institution. She was strongly attached to the charity, and promoted its welfare by using her influence, and contributing her exertions and substantial aid.

Mrs. Blackiston Houston next assumed the honourable office, for a period of seven years; and though lately obliged to retire from the active duties connected with the charity, she continues to feel a warm interest in its progress. Mrs. Knox, the lady of the Lord Bishop of Down and Connor, has obligingly consented to give her name, her influence, and exertions, to promote the interest of the charity.

The following list will show who were the ladies on whom devolved the important duties connected with the every-day working of the charity, and upon whose untiring exertions and faithful stewardship rested its entire efficiency:—

Treasurers.		Secretaries.	
MRS. BROWN,	elected 1794	MRS. M'TIER,	elected 1794
MRS. SINCLAIRE,	„ 1798	MRS. HALLIDAY,	„ 1795
* * * * *		MRS. HARRISON,	„ 1796
		MRS. M'MANUS,	„ 1808
		* * * * *	
MRS. BRISTOW,	elected	MRS. A. HOLMES,	elected
MRS. BRADDELL,	„ 1830	MRS. T. HINCKS,	„ 1828
MRS. J. CUNNINGHAM,	„ 1836	MRS. OVENS,	„ 1832
MRS. T. J. ANDREWS,	„ 1839	MRS. T. HINCKS,	„ 1837
MRS. SMITH,	„ 1840	MRS. S. BRUCE,	„ 1839

Well may Belfast be proud, when the names of her matrons are to be found associated with deeds of benevolence, in every page of her history!

1797-98.

MEMORABILIA ANNORUM.

1797.

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| <p>— A large number of arrests on charges of sedition and high treason.</p> <p>— The Artillery Barracks in Ann-street, Cooney's-court.</p> <p>— <i>The Northern Star</i> suppressed.</p> <p>January 2 Great Town Meeting, in consequence of the French Fleet arriving in Bantry Bay.</p> <p>Feb. 16 A day of public thanksgiving for delivery from foreign invasion. The Sovereign and Corporation walked in procession to Church.</p> <p>April 14 The idea of an Hospital publicly adopted.</p> <p>April 24 Died, Dr. Thomas Irving, formerly Surgeon to H.M. 4th Regt. of Dragoons,</p> | <p>and, for twenty years, to the County Infirmary. His high character was established equally as a man, a scholar, and a Christian.</p> <p>April 27 The first Hospital in Ireland, for Fever, opened, with six beds, in Factory-row, Belfast.</p> <p>May 4 Dr. M'Donnell the first Physician to the Hospital.</p> <p>October 6 First appeal issued on behalf of the Hospital.</p> <p>Dec. 15 Died, Waddell Cunningham, Esq., aged 68, full of honours both as a public and private man.</p> |
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1798.

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| <p>— The Lagan Foundry established.</p> <p>— The manufacture of vitriol introduced.</p> <p>— Arrests of a vast number this year.</p> <p>January 2 A subscription of £209 collected in aid of the widows, orphans, &c., of the seamen killed in the British and Dutch engagement, on 11th October, 1797.</p> <p>January 7 The Battle of Antrim.</p> | <p>January 10 Died, Dr. William Seed, who practised in Belfast with considerable success.</p> <p>May 27 Martial law proclaimed in Belfast.</p> <p>June 4 General illumination in honour of the King's birth-day.</p> <p>June 12 Battle of Ballynahinch.</p> <p>Nov. 20 The south range of the Linen-Hall destroyed by fire.</p> |
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Origin of the Fever Hospital.

AFTER a period of six months, during which no meeting was held, we find that, on the 5th January this year, the following members assembled to take into consideration the necessary steps to revive the interest which had so unaccountably subsided, viz:—Val. Jones, jun. Esq., in the chair, Messrs. Francis Jordan, John Gregg, John Bankhead, and Dr. White. At this meeting it was resolved, that the subscribers should be called together, on an early day, to decide whether the Dispensary shall be continued or not; and, in the meantime, the collectors were urged to resume their labours. Accordingly, on the 19th January a meeting was held, Rev. W. Bristow in the chair, when a statement of the expenses incurred, the amount of subscriptions received, together with a report of the number of patients relieved for

the past years, were made, and the warm thanks of the meeting were given to Valentine Jones, jun., Esq., for his unremitting attention to the interests of the Charity.

These meetings, we must state, were miserably attended. Amidst the exciting political alarms which engrossed the public attention, the inhabitants, but particularly men of any note, had little leisure to devote to the concerns of the charity. In this desponding state, what was to be done? Something more than ordinary became absolutely necessary to arouse the general interest. It was a fortunate circumstance that the experience of the working of the Dispensary had prepared the way for the adoption of an idea that had been long entertained, but hitherto kept in abeyance. Fever was, besides, this year more than usually prevalent; and cases were continually occurring in the practice of the Dispensary attendants, which were with difficulty treated, in consequence of the filthy habits and wretched state of the dwellings of the poor; and even when, after long and considerable care, a successful issue was the result, the medical officers were obliged to witness the spread of this most infectious malady, without being able to arrest its progress. The desirability of an asylum whither the infected could be promptly borne, and where every attention that experience could devise, and public responsibility sanction, would be generously afforded, could not, under such circumstances, be questioned; and accordingly, though in difficulties, the few members, who still clung around the original institution, conceiving the object promising and the time auspicious, resolved to submit the project of establishing an Hospital for Fever cases, in connexion with the Dispensary, to the Subscribers. This was, therefore, done on the 14th of April, at a tolerably large meeting, and a unanimous resolution adopted, approving of the plan proposed, and placing the direction of the entire matter in the hands of the following committee:—Messrs William Clarke, M'Ilveen, Blackwood, A. M'Donnell, Jordan, R. Holmes, and Henry Joy, together with all the Medical Gentlemen and Clergy previously in connexion with the charity. Some money was immediately subscribed, and the very day following a sub-committee was appointed to look out for a suitable house. On the 17th of April they reported; and a dwelling, belonging to a Mr. Pollard, in FACTORY-ROW was taken for one year, at a rent of £20. Six bedsteads and the other requisites were ordered; a nurse was appointed; and, on the 27th of April, it was resolved, that the Physicians of the Dis-

pensary be applied to, to attend the new institution ; that Mr. Devlin, the apothecary be instructed to remove the Dispensary materials to the Hospital, and that patients be forthwith admitted on the recommendation of a subscriber, and the sanction of the medical attendants.

On the 4th of May, Dr. S. Stephenson and Dr. M'Donnell, as Physicians, and Messrs M'Clelland, Bankhead, and M'Cluney, entered upon the duties of the joint institution. Mr. Val. Jones was appointed Treasuer on the occasion of Mr. Campbell leaving the country. On the 1st June, it appears that ten patients had been received into the Hospital, cured, and discharged, and that seven patients remained in the house ; on the 27th of June, the admissions were restricted to this latter number, in consequence of the limited amount of subscriptions. An arrangement was at this time effected with the Charitable Society, wherby the medicines supplied to the Poor-house Infirmary would be paid for by the latter body, who declined, however, to grant the usual supplies of food, on the recommendations of the medical officers, at the request of the Committee. It appears that hitherto the articles of meal and barley had been regularly supplied to the necessitous patients of the Dispensary ; but, in consequence of the refusal of the Society, the Dispensary attendants were restricted for the future.

The new institution, under the title of the "BELFAST DISPENSARY AND FEVER HOSPITAL," was now in some degree established, and the principal parts of the original plan were brought into practical operation ; but though its development had been thus greatly extended, and though its usefulness to the poor, and indeed to all classes of the community, must have been apparent to every observer, yet increased funds were more than ever required, and extraordinary exertions, with that view, more than ever demanded. Towards the latter end of this year the finances of the charity became exhausted. An appeal was, for the first time, issued on its behalf. This important document was issued on the 6th October, and places in a clear light the origin, progress, and beneficial result of the joint charities. It states that there had been in all sixty patients admitted into the Hospital, of whom only one died ; the rest were restored to their families in comparative health, without any of those tedious chronic complaints which often follow such disorders when treated in the houses of the poor, where neither beds, cleanliness, fresh air, nor comfort of any kind can be procured. The document dwells strongly upon the utility of the Hospital in arresting infection,

and refers to the happy effects which may be derived to the Poor-house from a union of interest with that charity. Fever, it states, has frequently raged there to a very violent degree; and this might almost to a certainty be done away with, if the first person attacked by the complaint were immediately removed to any place of safety, entirely detached from the remaining poor. The younger branches of that institution were particularly subject to this disorder. We have known twenty-three cases to occur among them in one season; fifty-five in another; and continue in the house from eight months to a year without cessation.

It appears further, from this appeal, that the sum originally subscribed for the Hospital, amounted to £58. Nearly £53 had been expended on sixty patients—a proportion which, it is not out of place to remark, is very nearly the same that obtains at the present day.

Notwithstanding the solid and rational character of this appeal, and the strong claim of the charity which it so ably advocated, it would seem to have produced but little real effect, for we find that but two meetings of Committee were held after its publication up to the year 1799; and it would further appear, that both the Dispensary and Hospital had soon fallen into complete neglect.

The stirring events of the interval, which then reached a point of intense interest, must have absorbed every public feeling. And it may be considered, at the present day, more surprising how a small and, indeed, then insignificant institution should have survived this troubled period, rather than that it should have simply declined in public favour. This, then, was the second great trial and difficulty which this infant charity had to sustain; and though frequently in after years its struggles for maintenance were severe, yet none were so great as entirely to extinguish its existence. On this occasion, however, its usefulness would seem for a time suspended, as we find from the records that steps were taken, in the autumn of 1799, for the *renewal* of the institution.



1799-1803.

MEMORABILIA ANNORUM.

1799.

- A year of great distress amongst the poor.
A minor bazaar opened in Skipper-street, for their relief, by the young ladies of the town.
- John Brown, Esq., Sovereign.
- October 7 The Marquis of Cornwallis, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, visited Belfast, and was entertained at dinner by the principal merchants and gentry.
- Oct. 31 The Belfast Hospital and Dispensary located in West-street, corner of Smith-field.
- Dec. 17 Died, at Edinburgh, Joseph Black, M.D., aged 71, born at Bourdeaux. He received his classical education at Belfast, graduated in Arts at Glasgow, and in Medicine at Edinburgh. He was afterwards called to the Chair of Medi-

cine and Chemistry at Glasgow, vacated by Dr. Cullen, though then only twenty-eight years of age; and ten years afterwards was chosen Professor of Chemistry in Edinburgh. He soon became eminently distinguished by his discoveries in chemical science, especially of carbonic acid and latent heat. The celebrated Lavoisier, while sending a copy of his work on respiration, wrote to him as follows:—"It is just you should be one of the first to receive information of the progress made in a career which you yourself had opened, and in which we all consider ourselves your disciples." His grandfather was an eminent merchant in this town.

1800.

- The Municipal Act obtained, at a cost of £1,200.
- The Public Bakery opened.
- The Chamber of Commerce resumes its meetings after a suspension of eight years.
- Edward May, Esq., and John Congren, Esq., Members for the Borough.
- January 1 Died, Bartholomew Fuller, Esq., Surgeon to the 49th Regiment, and to the Belfast Dispensary. He long held an eminent position in his profession.
- March 6 Died, George Black, Esq., aged 75. He was for many years Sovereign of the town.

April 16 The Rev. John Clarke, native of the town, died at Oxford. Before the age of fourteen he distinguished himself in literature and the fine arts. He became assistant-curate of Belfast in his twenty-second year. His intensely studious disposition, and the laborious duties of his cure, impaired his health, and obliged him to resign and retire to the country. His zeal and virtuous enthusiasm in every public work of charity were remarkable. With the founders of the Dispensary, Lying-in and Fever Hospitals, he warmly co-operated.

1801.

- The Belfast Literary Society formed.
- Blind Asylum, or Industrial School, established, in Burgess-entry, off High-street, by Dr. Alexander McDonnell, and placed under the direction of Dennis Maguire, a blind man. Baskets, nets, cushions, mops, mats, &c., were manufactured by the pupils.
- January 1 The Union Flag hoisted at the Market-house, and a royal salute fired in celebration thereof.

- Fever prevails to a most alarming extent.
- Edward May, Esq., M.P. for the Borough.
- January 1 The Act of the Legislative Union came into operation this year.
- Feb. . A Soup Kitchen opened.
- July . A public Day School opened at No. 70, North-street.
- Nov. . 12 John Brown, Esq., Peter's-hill, died. He served as High Sheriff for the county, and for a number of years as Chief Magistrate for the town.

1802.

- The Hon. Arthur Chichester, Sovereign.
- Population, 19,001; and houses 3,197, this year's census.
- January 31 Weekly or Sunday School established, for the first time, No. 3, Ferguson's-entry.
- April . 1 Died, Stewart Banks, Esq., aged 77, universally regretted.

April 28 Died, Dr. Alexander Halliday. His popularity as a Physician extended through the entire province of Ulster; and he was no less distinguished for his elegant accomplishments, his patriotic spirit, and his moral worth.

1803.

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| <p>— Edward May, Esq., M.P., Sovereign.</p> <p>— Public Meeting of the inhabitants in consequence of an expected French invasion.</p> <p>January 21 Died, William Sharman, Esq., well known and respected in Ulster as an eminent leader of the Volunteers.</p> | <p>Sept. 4 Died, Arthur Bunting, Esq., aged 73.</p> <p>Dec. 20 Died, Captain John M'Cracken, aged 83.
He established the first Rope-walk Company in Belfast, in 1758.</p> |
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Revival of the Fever Hospital.

AFTER a lapse of nearly two years, during which the Hospital was closed, and even the affairs of the Dispensary were neglected, it is recorded that, on the 18th of September, the following members, who, it may now be seen, really constituted the very "bone and sinew" of the charity, met in the Coffee-room of the Exchange, for the purpose of reviving the institution, viz.:—Rev. William Bristow, Dr. M'Donnell, Messrs. Val. Jones, W. Clark, and R. Bradshaw. With funds derived principally from the proceeds of a sermon preached by the Rev. Mr. Bristow, which amounted to £113, and some collections made by Mr. Clark and Mr. Turnley, they were induced to proceed with spirit, to set matters once more in operation. The arrears incurred on account of the old establishment were discharged. A Committee of Management was appointed—Dr. M'Donnell as Physician, and Mr. Fuller as surgeon, were requested to undertake the medical duties; and, in default of an apothecary, the prescriptions of the attendants were to be taken by the patients to the shops in the town. Three houses, in WEST-STREET (then No. 12), corner of Smithfield, were almost immediately after rented; on the 19th November, Mr. Devlin was re-appointed apothecary; and in order to secure a more regular attendance of the Committee, the meetings were to be summoned, for the future, on Sunday, at two o'clock.

On the 2nd of March, 1800, was held the first meeting of the subscribers since the revival, for the purpose of electing a surgeon, in the room of Mr. Fuller, deceased. Three candidates offered, and, upon the ballot, Mr. M'Cluney was chosen by a considerable majority.

On the 11th January, 1801, Dr. S. S. Thomson (whose name now ap-

pears for the first time in connexion with this charity) was requested to act as one of the visiting Physicians.

About this time, in consequence of the increase of fever, arising, no doubt, in a great measure, from the prevalent scarcity of this and the previous years, strenuous exertions were made to raise funds. Amongst the means taken, was a concert, conducted by the celebrated Mr. BUNTING, which realised a handsome sum. Farther, an appeal was issued on behalf of the charity; and with a view of reducing the amount of beggary, the Committee co-operated with the Charitable Society, and managers of the Public Kitchen, to establish a Workhouse. Indeed, the great amount of disease and destitution prevailing at this period, called for the utmost labours of benevolence. The houses of the poor, especially those from which infected persons were removed, were cleansed, whitewashed, fumigated, and ventilated. By these resources, the Committee were at length enabled to cope with the epidemic; and they had the gratification of observing its decline at the close of this year. The expenses on this occasion reached £200 per annum; and had it not been for the extraordinary aid occasionally received from concerts, balls, and other entertainments, not even this amount would have been realised.

With the subsidence of the epidemic, so did the public interest in the charity decline. The expenses went on, and patients were received so long as any funds remained; and when, on the 7th of August in the following year, 1803, a special meeting of the Committee was held, at the desire of the Treasurer, to consider the financial position of the charity, rather than permit the institution again to sink into oblivion, a subscription of five guineas each was raised upon the spot. This noble act of pure philanthropy is worthy of enduring record.



1804-6.

MEMORABILIA ANNORUM.

1804.

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| <p>— The Independent Meeting-house built in Donegall-street.</p> <p>Sept. 6 Died, Gilbert McIlveen, Esq., principal of the Belfast Discount Company.</p> | <p>Sept. 19 Died, at London, Right Rev. J. Dickson, for 19 years Bishop of Down and Connor.</p> <p>Dec. 10 Died, John Campbell, Esq., aged 73, an eminent merchant and banker.</p> |
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1805.

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| <p>— The Wesleyan Methodist Chapel erected in Donegall-square East.</p> <p>— The <i>Commercial Chronicle</i> issued.</p> <p>Jan. 25 Died, Valentine Joyce, Esq., merchant; buried with military honours by the Belfast Cavalry, Merchants, Infantry, and Volunteer corps.</p> <p>March 22 Died, Valentine Jones, Esq., aged 94, a merchant of long standing and great respectability.</p> | <p>April 28 Died, at Whitehouse, Nicholas Grimsbaw, Esq., aged 57. He brought the cotton manufacture to a degree of perfection, formerly unknown in Ireland, and established the first spinning factory.</p> <p>May 20 Died, in Dublin, Anne, Countess Dowager of Massareene, in her 80th year.</p> |
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1806.

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| <p>— Royal Academical Institution first proposed.</p> <p>— Belfast Medical Society originated.</p> <p>— A Philosophical Society formed; rooms in North-street, afterwards Waring-street.</p> <p>Feb. 15 Died, J. Mattear, M.D., aged 79. He was a fellow-student and companion of Dr. Halliday—a steady friend to the town and its institutions.</p> | <p>Sept. 7 Mr. Bunting opened the new organ in the second Presbyterian Meeting-house. The sermon on this occasion was delivered by Mr. Drummond, for the benefit of the Hospital; the collection taken by Lord Castlereagh, and others of the nobility.</p> |
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Progress of the Charity.

THE opening of the year 1804 was occupied by the Committee in effecting arrangements with the Charitable Society for the treatment of such Poor-house inmates as the latter body would desire to send to the Hospital, on certain terms of agreement: namely, an adequate payment for maintenance; and on condition that sufficient room for fever patients should be preserved. This occasion naturally led to a retrospective examination of the amount of expenditure, in order to ascertain the average cost for maintenance of each patient. Mr. Jones made the calculation, and found it to amount to 30s. 6½d.; and as the stay in Hospital of each patient averaged forty days, the average cost *per diem* was, therefore, 9d. On comparing these results, as we shall afterwards find, with those derived from later returns,

we observe a higher average *per diem*, but considerably lower *per case*—a conclusion which is to be attributed principally to that diminished term of residence in Hospital which now obtains.

The preventive practice of cleansing the infected houses of the poor was carried on to a considerable extent this year; and that of vaccination was conducted, free of expense, under the direction of Mr. M'Cluney. We place these facts as parallels, because we consider them in many points similar. Ventilation and cleanliness are the only true disinfectants in the case of fever; and vaccination is certainly the only true preventive of small-pox; and it is not a little remarkable, that in both instances the acknowledgment of their utility has been but tardily conceded by the public voice. It is true that extraordinary exertions in sanitary matters have been usual on the approach, and during the existence, of epidemics, apparently under the conviction that sanitary means are then, and then only beneficial. Indeed, from the rapidity and energy with which such are brought into requisition on these occasions, it might be fairly imagined that they were possessed of some magic influence. A similar remark applies to the case of vaccination. Whenever small-pox is rife, the vaccine virus is resorted to at all hazards; but, in both instances, it seems totally forgotten that preventive means, to be used with effect, must be decided, extensive, and above all, unceasing in their application. The efforts at this time used, therefore, in this respect, cannot now be deemed to have been of any considerable utility; they were, however, in the right direction.

The years 1805 and 1806 include a period of little public interest in Hospital matters, as we find that the Committee were again obliged to resort to an extraordinary appeal in aid of the exhausted funds—a too common event in the history of the Hospital. This difficulty was not, however, insurmountable; funds were forthcoming. A charity sermon, delivered by the Rev. W. H. Drummond, of the second Presbyterian Congregation, under peculiar auspices, realised £137; and from this, and other means, the Committee found themselves, in the beginning of the year 1807, in a much better position than we have yet recorded.

Before entering upon the events of this year, we shall take this opportunity of relating some particulars in connexion with an institution, of high interest to the professional reader, which originated amongst the principal Medical practitioners of this period.

Belfast Medical Society.

THE Physicians and Surgeons of Belfast, in 1806, though only nineteen in number, were actuated by the same spirit for mutual improvement in their common profession, which has ever distinguished the most celebrated seats of medical science. We are proud to think that, at so remote a period, the practitioners of Belfast aimed at something more than independent efforts for professional distinction. When men unite, as they did, for the purpose of affording to *each* an equal opportunity of obtaining professional information, so far as it can be obtained from a re-union, by the contributions of *all*, the true spirit of professional advancement is theirs.

It is mentioned in the records of this date, that the most respectable physicians, surgeons, and apothecaries, not merely of the town, but of the vicinity likewise, soon became enrolled under the designation of "THE BELFAST MEDICAL SOCIETY." The annual subscription was fixed at one guinea, and the selection and purchase of books, &c., were entrusted to an elected Committee. It is to be remembered, as a feature of this early institution, that among the members, were included, by an original resolution, several gentlemen not belonging to the profession, who were nevertheless, desirous of expressing their approval of its objects. It was also an original intention to form a collection of anatomical preparations, as an additional attraction to the Library. The following members formed the *first* Committee :—

S. S. THOMSON, M.D., President,

WILLIAM HALLIDAY, M.D.

WILLIAM DRENNAN, M.D.

ROBERT M'GEE, M.D.

ROBERT M'CLUNEY, Surgeon.

ANDREW MARSHALL, Surgeon, Secretary and Treasurer.

A record of this Society is preserved up till the year 1814, during which Drs. Halliday, Thomson, Drennan, and M'Cluney were successively Presidents ; and Drs. M'Cluney, A. Marshall, R. M'Gee, and S. S. Thomson, in like manner, filled the united offices of Secretary and Treasurer. Subsequently, it would appear, the affairs became neglected, in consequence of serious diffe-

rences of opinion among the Hospital attendants, who were then the main supporters of the Society. The demon of discord invaded its ranks, and a dissolution soon ensued. It was, at first, contemplated to dispose of the property, which chiefly comprised valuable donations from Dr. Drennan, and Dr. William Halliday, among the members; but, this being over-ruled, the books were returned to the donors. After a little time, principally through the influence of the late Dr. Stephenson, the volumes were replaced; notwithstanding, for a period of four years after the Society ceased to exist. The original spirit which prompted to the formation of the Society, did not, however, entirely expire. The name of Dr. R. Stephenson is here associated with the revival of the Society, in 1822, in connexion with those of Dr. Forcade, Mr. Moore, R.N., and Dr. M'Donnell. These four—only one of whom, our respected President, survives at the present day—met together on the 8th of May of that year, and formed the nucleus of the present Medical Society. Before the year expired, the following gentlemen became enrolled as members, viz:—Mr. Bryson, Mr. M'Cleery, Dr. Coffey, Dr. M'Kibben, Dr. Halliday, Dr. Young, and Mr. Mawhinney. From this time forward there were continual accessions to its ranks, which have been gradually extending, up till the present day.

The unfortunate circumstance, to which we have briefly alluded above, must certainly be deemed a blot upon our medical annals; but it is consolatory to know, that one at least of the members of the original Society heartily co-operated with the projectors of the renewed Association, to wipe away the stain. We allude to the late Dr. S. S. Thomson, whose position among his professional brethren was ever so exalted and endearing, that we agreed, during the latter part of his active life, when his years also gave him a claim to the appellation, in designating him "the father of the profession."

The members of the revived Society, naturally apprehensive for its stability, from the experience of the original, set about rendering the basis of its regulations as secure as possible; and among others of less note, devised, in the year 1825, a most important rule, excepting those members, whose term of twenty years' uninterrupted subscription has expired, from further annual contributions. It is believed that this single measure has established a greater confidence in its permanent integrity than all the others combined.

Though the principal object in its foundation, and for many years after,

was the accumulation of standard medical works, usually above the resources of the majority of the profession individually to possess, yet it was found useful to introduce, from time to time, the discussion of topics, local or otherwise, of interest to the Profession. Accordingly, we find that in the year 1832, the subject of the medical school in connexion with the Royal Academical Institution and the Hospital, was freely discussed by the members. And again in 1841, the Medical Reform question, which was then agitating the Professional world, came under consideration; and communications were entered into with the Medical Association of Ireland. In 1843, the year after the formation of the Medical Benevolent Fund Society of Ireland (projected originally by Dr. Kingsly of Roscrea), the Belfast branch of this most valuable Institution was originated, under the auspices of the Society.

Sir James Graham's Medical Reform Bill of 1845 having attracted much interest, was prominently brought before the profession of the North of Ireland, through the instrumentality of this Society. A movement, relative to the demands of Insurance Companies upon the Medical Profession, originated among the members in 1849; and in the past year, the examination of medico-ethical points occurring in practice, was undertaken, for the first time, by this Society.

Early in the present year, the last public matter brought under discussion was the legislation on the Irish Medical Charities; and a general meeting of the medical practitioners of Ulster, summoned by the Society, was the result.

In 1844, the precedent, already formed, of introducing discussions into the usual business of the Society, assumed a systematic form, by the proposal of Dr. Sanders, at this time adopted: namely, that papers upon medical and surgical cases and subjects should be read and discussed at the monthly meetings. This arrangement has been since in effective operation, and, we feel assured, has been of vast benefit in promoting the objects of the Society. Up to the present time, upwards of forty papers, all on interesting subjects, have been submitted to discussion; and most of these afterwards published in the Medical Journals.

In extension of this excellent arrangement, it was proposed, in 1845, to sanction the introduction of Pathological preparations at the usual meeting, and afterwards, if approved of, to preserve them in a Museum under the

direction of the Society. This has been already carried out to a moderate extent; and a collection of highly interesting and valuable preparations, amounting to nearly 400 in number, has been accumulated, chiefly by the exertions of the medical staff of the General Hospital, in addition to a handsome donation from Dr. Robert Bryce, and purchases made by the Society. The Museum, with the Library, is located at the Hospital, and is available to the Members at all times.

The Society, upon its revival in 1822, did not contemplate having any other officers than a Secretary and Treasurer appointed annually, the Chairman of each meeting having been the fifth member entering the room. In 1844, it is true, a Library Committee was formed; but it was not until the past year that the necessity for a fully constituted and regularly representative body was generally acknowledged. Accordingly, in October ult., it was, for the first time, decided that there should be annually elected a President, two Vice-Presidents, and a Council of Six; these, with the Treasurer and Secretary, to constitute a Directory for superintending its affairs. The Society, at the present time, numbers sixty-four members, constituting the great majority of the profession in Belfast, and including six from the neighbouring counties.

In the long period of thirty years, death has made sad havoc among us. Of 175 successive members, 33 have paid the debt of nature! Space permits not a mention of all, but we cannot omit paying a passing tribute to the distinguished few: to the memory of Dr. Forcade, the original Treasurer, and the founder of the Annual Feast in commemoration of the revival of the association; Dr. Halliday, the first honorary member, and a large donor to the original Society; Dr. S. Stephenson, the second honorary member; Dr. M'Donnell and Mr. Moore, two of the memorable four to whom its revival is to be attributed; Dr. Sanders, for ten years its talented and universally lamented Secretary; and Dr. S. S. Thomson, long its acknowledged head, the Society has paid appropriate honours, and will ever continue to attach to their remembrance the most sincere admiration and the most affectionate respect.

The above brief description will sufficiently exhibit the objects which have occupied, and continue to engage the attention of the Society. It will be seen how varied and important these have been, and how conducive to the advancement of medical science, and medical interests generally, this institution

is calculated to be. It has long since surmounted the obstacles of its early career, and has reached a degree of stability which augurs a lasting and an increasing prosperity. It has passed, with success, that ordeal which attends every public undertaking, and seems secure from any of those disturbing causes which sapped its first foundation. Yet is there much room for improvement. We have members and zeal enough, but we are working under great disadvantages. Our Library is but limited, and our place of meeting can scarcely be called our own. This is not a state of things creditable to a large and learned body; and ill becomes the high position of members of a profession which, we believe, has single-handed accomplished more than any other to extend the domain of science, and augment the sum of human happiness in all ages and all countries.

We cannot here close this brief notice of our local Society more appropriately than by transcribing to our pages similar sentiments of our respected President, as they are expressed in his excellent Inaugural Address, delivered before the members last December :—

“There are many works connected with all the branches of the profession which are still wanted to complete the collection, and when these have been procured, funds are yet needed to raise a building to contain it, free from the interference of any other body, and to place it within the sole control of the profession, where the members might meet freely and take council, in a style worthy of their rank; and, like their brethren in other places of distinction, possess an edifice which would confirm the standing, and importance, and independence of the profession in Belfast.”

So say we; and we hope our worthy President may live to see the day when his aspirations shall be triumphantly realized. This would, indeed, be the appropriate climax in the life of one who witnessed the gradual development of the infant Society, and now ably presides over it in the pride of its maturity.



1807-9.

MEMORABILIA ANNORUM.

1807.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Rev. Edward May, Sovereign. — Proclamation issued by the King, directing the laws of quarantine to be put in force, and a Board of Health to be established, in consequence of the appearance of a most fatal epidemic on the shores of the Mediterranean. — The population of Belfast, 22,095; houses, 3,514. — 719 cotton, and 4 linen looms at work. — £16,000 subscribed towards the erection of the Royal Academical Institution. — The Irish Harp School, conducted by Mr. Bunting; Mr. Arthur O'Neill, teacher. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — The first county grant received for the Dispensary and Fever Hospital. Feb. Belfast Repository opened for receiving and selling the work of poor women, conducted by a committee of ladies, in Ann-street. Feb. 11 Died, William Sinclaire, an eminent linen merchant, universally and deservedly esteemed. Sept. 17 Died, Mr. Richard McClelland, Surgeon and Apothecary, and agent at this port for the sick and wounded seamen of the navy. He was one of the first Surgeons to the charity. |
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1808.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Belfast Bank, Donegall-square North. — Northern Bank, 5, Donegall-place. — Belfast Commercial Bank, Hercules-street. — Branch of the Hibernian Bible Society. — Belfast Insurance Company, 191, North-street. Oct. 26 Died, at Portpatrick, Val. Jones, Esq., aged 80; for many years Secretary to the Dispensary and Hospital—one of its most devoted supporters. Dec. 12 Died, Mr. Robert Stephenson, Surgeon; for 26 years a most active and zealous member of the Committee of the Charitable Society, to which he bequeathed the munificent sum of £1,000. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dec. 22 Died, Rev. William Bristow, aged 73, Rector of the Parish, and for many years Sovereign. No man more justly merited the character of an intelligent, active, and upright Magistrate; and his amiable qualities, and rare endowments, made him the delight of all who were privileged to know him. On the day of his death all the public marks of the deepest regret were exhibited; and his funeral procession was the most solemn and imposing spectacle which had been ever witnessed. |
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1809.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — The House of Industry, in Smithfield, opened. — Acheson and Lyons' famous Academy, Church-lane. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> May 10 Died, at London, Thomas J. Andrews, Esq., for many years an active Magistrate. Dec. 6 Died, the Rev. Robert Dobbs, a zealous philanthropist, to whom the principal charities were greatly indebted. |
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THE most important feature in our history, at this period, relates to the additional aid which the Charity was soon about to receive, in consequence of the passing of a recent Act, empowering Grand Juries of Counties in Ireland to grant certain sums towards the maintenance of Public Dispensaries and Fever Hospitals. Accordingly, on the 22nd February, 1807, the Committee resolved to keep a separate list of the Subscribers to each of the united Charities, in order that the forms of the Act referred to might be

preserved, with a view to the grant, which was received, for the first time, at the Summer Assizes this year, and amounted to £193 7s. 6d.

This event was a source of great congratulation amongst the friends of the still struggling institution, inasmuch as it gave them real encouragement in the prosecution of their object to develop its utility to the very utmost, and was felt to be an earnest of future stability.

Legislative provision, for establishing Dispensaries in Ireland, is first mentioned in the 45th Geo. III. This Act, which authorised Grand Juries to present £600 a-year for each county infirmary, further provides for the support of Dispensaries in Ireland. This latter provision was introduced in consequence of the circumstance that "the distance of many parts of each county from the infirmary therein established, does not allow to the poor of those parts the advantage of medical aid and advice, which such infirmary was proposed to afford." The 46th, 47th, and 49th Geo. III. are amendments upon the original. In 1807, the 47th Geo. III., c. 44, provides, "That wherever any fever hospital has been or shall be established, in any county, county of a city, or county of a town, in Ireland," it is lawful for the Grand Jury to present a sum of £100 at each assizes.

These were the powers by which the first grant mentioned above was received. Afterwards, in the 54th and 58th years of George III., these provisions were greatly extended, and were afterwards carried into wide operation in every part of the country.

Towards the latter end of this year, the affairs of the Charity seem to have been in a thriving condition, as we find that the Committee proposed to take a large unoccupied factory, which was then being auctioned, for the purpose of fitting it up as a fever hospital. Dr. M'Donnell and Mr. W. Clarke were authorised to bid as high as £800 on the occasion. The idea, however, was abandoned; and as fever was then scarcely to be met with, the Physicians and Surgeons were empowered to admit suitable cases of other diseases, at their own discretion.

On June 14th this year (1807), Mr. (now Dr.) ANDREW MARSHALL was solicited to act as Surgeon to the Charity; and on August 9th, Mr. (now Sir James) Murray, surgeon, was appointed Apothecary, to succeed Mr. Devlin, who had previously resigned.

In 1808, the funds received considerable augmentation by the receipt of a legacy from the late Mr. Cairns, the largest bequest as yet received. We

mention it for the purpose of showing how much the Charity was gaining in public favour.

Dr. STOTT was elected Physician on March 6th, but continued in office only for a few months: on leaving, he received the warm thanks of the Committee. Mr. Murray resigned in October, this year, and was succeeded by Mr. Harrison. In December, Dr. S. S. Thomson, after seven years, arduous services, desired to be relieved, which was acceded to with the greatest regret, and a cordial vote of thanks was passed by the Committee, and subsequently published. After some time, however, he was induced to resume duty, in conjunction with Dr. S. Stephenson.

The year 1809 is memorable, in the history of the Hospital, for the occurrence of the death of the REV. WILLIAM BRISTOW, one whom the reader will have observed to have been devotedly attached to this Charity, and who had watched and cherished, with most affectionate solicitude, its earliest movements. In times of apathy and the greatest difficulties, he was one of the trusting few, who, inspired with an indomitable zeal which no amount of public indifference could chill or abate, and possessed of the strongest faith in its ultimate prosperity, still toiled on, and at last had the gratification to witness the fulfilment of their long cherished hope. It is refreshing to contemplate the excellence of such a man; and had we space, we would take delight in recording on this page his many estimable virtues, as a magistrate, a pastor, a philanthropist, and a man. No colouring could be too strong to emblazon his character, as an example for all time. The rich and the poor—men of all creeds, political and religious—felt that a void was created by his departing breath; and the most imposing emblems which a city's love and honour could suggest, were displayed on the melancholy occasion of his burial. He is gone!—but so long as a spark of public spirit and charitable feeling continues to burn in the human breast, so long must Belfast citizens remember the honoured name of BRISTOW.



1810-15.

MEMORABILIA ANNORUM.

1810.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — First idea of building an Hospital publicly adopted. — Royal Belfast Academical Institution incorporated by Act of Parliament, and foundation laid. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Earl of O'Neill, President; J. McDonnell, M.D., Vice-President; John Riddell, Treasurer; John M'Adam, Secretary; officers of Harp Society this year. March 19 Died, Daniel Blow, Esq., one of the earliest and most extensive paper manufacturers. Sept. 14 Died, Charles Boaden, Surgeon to the County Down Infirmary. |
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1811.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Rev. Edward May, Sovereign. — Lancasterian School-house built, at a cost of £2,000, collected by a lottery and subscriptions. — The Historic Society established. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Chapel erected. — Belfast Foundry, Donegall-street, established. — Cosmographical Society instituted. — New Sunday-school Society formed. |
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1812.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Thomas Verner, Esq., Sovereign. — St. George's Church erected on the site of the "Corporation" Church. — Reformed Presbyterian Covenanter's Meeting-house, Linen-hall Road, erected. — A Market constructed by Sir E. May. — Brown-street School-house raised by subscriptions, at a cost of £1,500. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Friends' Meeting-house, in Frederick-street, erected. — Old Market-house pulled down. — Branch of Atlas Fire Insurance Company opened. Aug. 26 Subscriptions to erect the Commercial Buildings commenced; Robert Callwell, Treasurer; James Luke, Secretary. |
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1813.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Montgomery's Market opened. — Population, 27,832; houses, 4,415. April 27 Rev. Mr. Hanna's sermon in behalf of the Hospital—afterwards published. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> May 12 Died, William Stevenson, Esq., aged 55, a distinguished merchant. |
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1814.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Died, Mr. Sampson Clark, aged 65, a most useful member of society. — Sir Stephen May, M.P. for the Borough. — Possession given of the Hospital ground. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Royal Academical Institution receives a grant from Parliament. — The Anacreontic Society instituted. |
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1815.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Branch of Sun Fire-office opened. June 5 First stone of the new Hospital laid by the Marquis of Donegall. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nov. 1 Linen-hall News-room opened, with 105 members; R. Callwell, Treasurer. |
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The Laying of the First Stone.

ON this interval we notice the addition of a few new names to the list of previous Medical Officers. On the 29th October 1810, Mr. JOHN BLAKELY was elected Apothecary, in the room of Mr. Harrison, resigned; and he, in his turn, was succeeded by Mr. WILLIAM DALZELL, on 23d August 1812. On 24th July, 1814, Dr. J. L. DRUMMOND became, for the first time, connected with the Charity, first as Dispensary Physician, and soon afterwards in the capacity of Hospital Attendant, in conjunction with Dr. M'DONNELL and Dr. S. S. THOMSON.

Our history here reaches a period of unusual interest. The charity has now become fully acknowledged as one of the necessary and established Institutions of the town. The meetings of Committee were regular and well attended; and even the annual gathering of the subscribers had become invested with unusual attraction. A hopeful spirit pervaded all its affairs, and every one at all interested, looked forward with bright anticipations to the assumption of a larger field, wherein the peculiar blessings of the Charity would be more widely experienced. The unsuitableness of the imperfect and limited accommodation which it had hitherto afforded for the treatment of accident and disease became the abiding conviction of the Committee. The idea of raising a suitable structure had, indeed, been casually entertained two years before, as we find in the handwriting of the late Dr. S. S. Thomson, the report of a meeting, at which the propriety of reserving the legacy of the late Mr. Cairns, for the nucleus of a Building Fund, was considered. No practical step, however, was taken in this matter till the year 1810, when, on January 9th, an application to the Marquis of Donegall was resolved upon, to solicit a grant of ground in Smithfield, or other appropriate locality, for the erection of an Hospital, inasmuch as the lease of the houses at present occupied had nearly expired. A very strong resolution of the subscribers was carried, on the 9th of May, empowering the Committee to take such steps as might appear to them most proper for raising a fund to

erect an Hospital, adequate to the population and demands of the town; and, at the same meeting, a unanimous vote of thanks was given to the Marquis for his very liberal promise of a lot of ground, such as the intended buildings were likely to require. Messrs. Wm. Clarke, C. M^cG. Skinner, and Dr. M^cDonnell, on 21st May, were deputed to arrange the taking out of a lease from his Lordship. The ground was soon afterwards selected in Frederick-street, where the present Hospital now stands; and the donation of £100, contributed at this time by Wm. M^cCann, Esq., was invested as the commencement of the Building Fund. In October, the deputation above-mentioned received from Mr. May, Sovereign, written authority to take possession of the ground. In the following year, it was resolved to enclose and set it for grazing, until such time as sufficient funds would be forthcoming. At a meeting of Committee, 23rd February, 1812, the members statedly pledged themselves to use every exertion to collect contributions towards the Building Fund. In this, they fortunately received the valuable co-operation of the Committees of the Charitable Society and House of Industry, which bodies publicly expressed, on 21st March, 1813, their conviction of the indispensable necessity for the erection of a proper building for an Hospital. Mr. Robert Callwell, was appointed Treasurer to this Collecting Committee; and the Medical Attendants were requested to consider a plan for the intended Hospital, commensurate with the wants of the town. A charity sermon, preached about this time by the Rev. Samuel Hanna (now D.D.), was published, and attracted much attention, from the excellent manner in which it set forth the numerous claims of the charity, and the necessity for increased accommodation. The general meeting of this year strongly recommended the new Committee to take active steps to commence the building, which was followed up in the beginning of the next year, by the appointment of Messrs. R. M^cGee, A. Bayley, T. J. Andrews, and A. Marshall, as a sub-committee, to procure plans and take the other preliminary steps for the erection of the Hospital.

The appeal of the collectors was at once responded to with the greatest readiness. Every man thought it an honour to assume a high position on the subscription roll; and bankers, merchants, and professional men vied with each other in contributing to this great work of mercy; and each felt a pride in knowing that he was co-operating with his fellow-citizens, and them, almost *alone*, in the raising of an edifice, to be devoted to the sacred

name of charity. We have not space here to enumerate a tenth part of the long list of benefactors; but we cannot omit subjoining a few of the more prominent, reserving the remainder for our Appendix:—

The Belfast Banking Company,	...	...	...	...	£113 15 0
The Commercial Banking Company,	...	...	...	...	113 15 0
The Northern do.	...	...	...	...	113 15 0
Francis Turnley, Esq., Richmond Lodge,	...	...	...	...	70 0 0
Earl Massareene,	...	...	...	...	50 0 0
Robert Bateson, Belvoir Park,	...	...	...	...	50 0 0
John Turnley, Rockport,	...	...	...	...	50 0 0
William Clarke,	...	...	...	...	50 0 0
Mrs. Clarke,	...	...	...	...	50 0 0
Dr. M'Donnell,	...	...	...	...	50 0 0
John Alexander & Company,	...	...	...	...	50 0 0
George Langtry,	...	...	...	...	50 0 0

Thus fortified, the Committee felt themselves urged to proceed with the work without delay.

The first intention was to provide accommodation for 70 medical and surgical, and 30 fever cases. Several plans were considered, but one, by Mr. Blain, was eventually adopted, May 18th, 1815; and Mr. M'Cutcheon's estimate thereon was approved of. The lease was perfected and signed on the 4th of June, and deposited in the Commercial Bank; and, on the following day, the first stone of the new building was laid by the Marquis of Donegall, with more than ordinary formality. His Lordship was attended on this interesting occasion, by the Municipal Corporation, the Clergy of all denominations, the Medical Faculty, the Committees of the principal Societies, and a large number of the subscribers and friends of the Institution.

In the centre of the stone were deposited the following various articles, emblematic of the civilization of the period, viz.:—A piece of pottery of exquisite workmanship; several silver and copper coins of the reign of George III.; a copper Jubilee Medal; a Belfast Almanac, and map of the town; a small quantity of linen yarn, of 100 hanks to the lb.; impressions from the seals of the Town and the Academical Institution; a small Bible, about two inches square; a specimen of letterpress printing; a M.S., in the Irish character, and the subjoined inscription:—

HOC NOSOCOMIUM
AEGROTIS ET ARTI MEDICÆ
SACRUM;

IN SALUTEM PUBLICAM,
 IN MORBORUM MEDELAM,
 IN MISERORUM SOLAMEN,
 ET IN MEDICINÆ ET CHIRURGIE
 USUS;
 CIVES BELFASTIENSES
 POSUERE,
 AUSPICIIS SECUNDIS;
 INTER MAGNAM CONCORDIAM PLAUSUSQUE,
 POPULI ET FACULTATIS MEDICINÆ
 AEDIFICII
 LAPIDEM PRIMUM
 PONENTE
 PRÆNOBILI VIRO GEORGIO AUGUSTO MARCHIONE DE
 DONEGALL, ETC., ETC.,
 NON. JUN.
 ANNO DOMINI, 1815,
 ET REGNI GEORGII III, REGIS LV.

We can well imagine with what glowing interest the proceedings of this memorable day were witnessed by the friends of the Charity, and more particularly by those who had for years previously been spectators of its progress. We can readily contemplate them, as they watched with keen, expectant eye the lowering of that first stone into its resting place, looking forward to a time when a noble structure would grace that vacant spot, extending all around the blessings of the purest charity, and, above all, recognized, in the hearts of the people, as the temple of the "good Samaritan." At this time we may well envy them these prophetic visions; we, who are now daily witnesses of the comforts it supplies to the wretched sufferer, of the restoration to health of the wounded or stricken artizan, and the alleviation of those countless forms of disease by which death preludes its fatal stroke.

Were there no other event in the Hospital records of the year 1810, the one we are now about to mention would serve to impart to it, peculiar distinction. On the 5th of August, of this year, among the patients who waited on the Committee to hear their decision on their application for admission, was a young woman, named Anne Marshall. After considering her case, she was permitted to enter the wards for two weeks. Not having quite recovered on the expiration of this time, she was continued under treatment. During the progress of her recovery, however, she made herself so useful, in various ways, to the house-keeper and head nurse, that her departure was

indefinitely postponed. We observe, that on January 12th, 1812, she was publicly rewarded by the Committee for her services and good conduct, and became regularly installed as assistant nurse. Some years after she reached the position of full nurse, and eventually attained her present situation of chief in this department of the Hospital. For many years past she regularly paid her annual subscription of one guinea; and in the year 1849, a period of considerable depression in the Hospital funds, she voluntarily came forward and paid in to the Treasurer the munificent donation of £61! which was really, in her case, the accumulation of a lifetime. The reader can now understand the significance of this event, which betokened the most devoted attachment to the Charity, and the most trusting reliance on the management.

This old and respected gentlewoman, after the lapse of 41 years of unremitting servitude, still enjoys a wonderful share of health. She may be seen, by the visitor, making her daily rounds amongst the wards, and, with anxious solicitude and a homely care, rendering her little offices to comfort the distressed and the forsaken.

Yes, the world may deem them little, but in the words of the dramatist, though

"It is a *little* thing to speak a phrase
Of common comfort, which by daily use
Has almost lost its sense; yet on the ear
Of him who thought to die unmourned will fall
Like choicest music: fill the glazing eye
With gentle tears; * * *
And shed on the departing soul a sense
More precious than the benison of friends
About the honoured death-bed of the rich,
To him who else were lonely, that another
Of the great family is near and feels."

In consequence of the very limited accommodation afforded in the houses in West-street, notwithstanding the better financial position of the Charity, the amount of intern relief was still very inconsiderable. We find that during the year ending 1st May 1815, only 224 patients received the benefits of the Hospital and 1245 that of extern aid. A change, however, was at hand—appalling in its magnitude—startling in its contrast, which, when viewed in comparison with the previous history of the Hospital, must be contemplated as a special era in these annals, to this day remembered by many with the freshness of yesterday.

1816-17.

MEMORABILIA ANNORUM.

1816.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Rev. Edward May, Sovereign. — First stipendiary Magistrate appointed. — The grant to the Academical Institution withdrawn. — Master Mariners' Association formed. — A Branch of the Norwich Insurance Association opened. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Wesleyan Methodists' Chapel, Cotton-court, erected. January 5 A Savings Bank opened in the House of Industry. July 9 Died, at Dublin, W. B. Joy, Esq., of this town. |
|---|--|

1817.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Thomas Ludford Stewart, Esq., Sovereign. — The Hospital completed, and opened 1st August. — The House of Correction, commenced in 1814, completed this year. R.M'Cluney, Surgeon. — Great Dearth. Fever prevails to an unprecedented extent. — The Poor-house provides for 430 paupers, at a cost of £3,750 this year. — The House of Industry expends \$5,000 per annum in relief of 1,200 families. — London Union Assurance, instituted 1714, opened a branch at No. 8, Donegall-street. Thomas Walsh, agent. — Royal Exchange Assurance opens a branch. A. & R. Gordon, agents. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Commercial News-room, Waring-street, opened. Charles Thomson, Treasurer. — Savings Bank incorporated by Act of Parliament. — An Act passed giving further powers to the Charitable Society to supply the town with water. Sept. 17 Died, Robert Orr, Esq., an eminent Barrister and political writer. Nov. 29 Died, George Hincks, Esq., Surgeon to the 92nd Highlanders, a victim to the contagious malady of this period. Dec. 31 Died, Mr. Francis Johnson, another sacrifice to the prevailing distemper. He was devoted to the manufacturing interests of the country; and his death was deeply and generally regretted. |
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THE enthusiasm which we have seen characterize the proceedings, at the close of the previous year, continued, now rather to increase; and was carried to the highest degree of feverish excitement, on the appearance of that memorable epidemic which raged through these countries in the years 1816 and 1817.

About the beginning of November, in the former year, the first signs of the impending storm began to attract the attention of the Committee. Fresh cases of the disease were appearing simultaneously, in numerous parts of the town. The limited accommodation of the West-street Hospital, was tested to the utmost. An order prohibiting the admission of all cases, but Fever, was of little avail. The forces were gathering thicker

and thicker daily, and each new case that was denied immediate admission, became the nucleus of many. Though confined to the poorer ranks, the infectious blast threatened the highest, and every one looked with anxious expectation to the new edifice, now in course of construction, as the means in God's Providence to arrest the march of the angel of death.

But, notwithstanding the large sum received up till this time, from the private subscriptions referred to in the last chapter, which reached upwards of £1,700, still this, though it may have warranted the Committee in commencing the edifice, was but a fraction of the amount required. The Corporation were applied to, through the Marquis of Donegall, and pressed by the urgency of the case on the 9th March, 1817, they gave the liberal grant of £400; grants were likewise received from the Lord Lieutenant, £200; donations from the Ballast Corporation, £300; donations from the Relief Fund, amounting to £285; from the proprietors of the Linen Hall, £300; from the Sovereign and Burgesses of the town, £400, besides bequests, £256; collections at charity sermons, above £800; proceeds of amateur entertainments, £317; and other sources, which raised the entire fund to an amount nearly equal to the sum required for completing the buildings. The Hospital when finished was calculated to have thus cost upwards of £5,000.

These extraordinary contributions enabled the committee to push on the work with the utmost speed; and, though the walls were wet and the staircase scarcely secure, rather than delay a single day unnecessarily, they transferred the patients from the old Hospital to the new, on the 1ST DAY OF AUGUST, 1817. Patients were now hurried in, and every available spot became the recipient of the victims. At one time the number of interns reached 212; but it is gratifying to mention in connexion, that at no time, during this remarkable epidemic, was any application either from town or country for a moment rejected. The new building was indeed severely tried, for the march of the pestilence was not completely checked, till the expiration of three years; during which, no fewer than 3527 Patients were admitted within its walls.

The reader, in his contemplation of the events of this period, as thus briefly indicated, has been, doubtless, struck with the singular coincidence of the erection of the Hospital and the outbreak of fever; for it must be remembered, that the first steps in the raising of the edifice were taken long

before even the threatenings of the epidemic had been recognised. In this point of view, therefore, is this period strikingly attractive; and if we look again to the manner in which the pestilence was met, the influence of this invaluable charity in arresting the disease will be observed to have been peculiarly powerful. It is plain that the system of isolation, if rigorously carried out, would soon crush the power of the mightiest epidemic; and to make it truly irresistible, sufficient means are alone wanting to convey the stricken, the moment they become affected, from their confined and filthy homes to the spacious wards of the Hospital; in fact, the preventive agency of the Hospital relief is only limited by the degree of inspection used to ascertain the existence of fresh cases, on the moment of attack; and we believe that this will, in a great measure, explain why, in subsequent times, a much more dreadful epidemic yielded to the preventive measures adopted, in one-half the time.

The only draw-back to the utility of the Hospital, in this epidemic, was the want of convalescent wards, to which the patients, soon after the crisis, might be removed, and remain from one to three weeks, as the case might be. This is a provision of great importance in the management of fever on a large scale. The Medical Attendants and Committee alike appreciated it, and meetings were called, and the hiring of special accommodation for the purpose was talked of; but the epidemic had spent its force ere anything practical was accomplished.

The Press at this date, as might naturally be expected, teems with the affairs of the different public charities. The times called for the votaries of benevolence, and nobly did they answer. The Poor House relieved its 430 paupers—the House of Industry spent its £5,000 per annum, in sustaining 1,200 families—the Clothing Society, Soup Kitchens and Relief Committees, severally ministered to thousands of the destitute; and, altogether, Belfast, at this period presented a glorious spectacle of philanthropy, deserving the admiration of the world. The prosperity of her later years is doubly blessed by the reflection, that when but in the infancy of her strength, she drained her dearest resources to help the desolate and afflicted—to dry the orphans' and the widows' tears—"to feed the hungry and clothe the naked," and rescue a myriad host from impending destruction.



1818-21.

MEMORABILIA ANNORUM.

1818.

- Commercial Buildings contracted for.
- *The Irishman*, a weekly newspaper, issued. Proprietor, Mr. John Lawless.

May 20 Died, Mrs. Johnston, for eight years Housekeeper of the Hospital. She was highly respected, and her funeral was attended by the Hospital authorities and a large number of the subscribers.

1819.

- First steam-boat arrived at Belfast; having crossed from Liverpool.
- Thomas Verner, Esq., Sovereign.
- Ulster Female Penitentiary opened, in York-lane. Physicians, Drs. Stephenson and Thomson; Surgeon, R. McCluney, Esq.
- March 17 Foundation stone laid of the Commercial Buildings.
- Aug. 20 Died, Mr. William Dalzell, Apothecary to the Hospital.

June 15 Died, at London, William Thomson, Esq., Donegall-square.
 Sept. 17 Died, Robert Bradshaw, Esq., President of the Chamber of Commerce.
 Oct. 22 Died, at Pisa, Rev. E. May, Vicar, and several times Sovereign of Belfast; possessed of high and varied talents.
 Nov. 15 Died, at Orangefield, Hugh Crawford, Esq., an extensive merchant and banker.

1820.

- Earl of Belfast, Sovereign.
- Female Society for clothing the poor formed.
- Sail-making commenced in Belfast.
- The Irish Harp Society revived. Mr. Ward, Secretary.
- Belfast Fishing Company organized.
- Public Baths opened, by Israel Millikin, Peter's-hill.
- Feb. 5 Died, William Drennan, Esq., M.D., aged 45. A patriot in the truest sense. A man of the highest integrity, and splen-

did talents; not even his enemies could conceal their admiration of his genius and character.
 Oct. 29 As the collection plate was passed round, after the delivery of Dr. Hanna's sermon, in aid of the Poor-house, a person unknown placed upon it two Bank of Ireland notes, to the value of £1,000!
 Nov. 1 Commercial Buildings opened, with News-room, &c.

1821.

- Sabbath-school Union formed.
- Belfast Insurance Company, 34, North-street.
- *Mercantile Register* issued.
- The Globe Insurance Company opened. Samuel Bruce, jun., agent.
- Imperial Fire Assurance Company opened, Donegall-Quay. W. T. Harvey, agent.
- The second Seceding Presbyterian house opened. Rev. John Edgar, first minister.
- April A branch of the National Institution for the Deaf and Dumb formed. Treasurer, R. McCluney; Secretary, Rev. W. Bruce.

April 26 Died, Dr. Neilson, aged 46, Professor of Latin, Greek, and Hebrew; Head Master of the Royal Belfast Academical Institution; an eminent teacher of the Irish language.
 June 1 Natural History Society established.
 Sept. 18 Died, Charles Valentine Joyce, Esq., Donegall-street, High Constable.
 Sept. 20 Died, at Malone House, William Legge, Esq.
 Dec. 21 Wm. W. Bingham, first registered pupil of the Hospital.

The Admission of Pupils.

THE great epidemic which formed the subject of the previous chapter, though now shorn of much of its virulence, could not be said to have ceased till the year 1819. On a rough calculation, it may be considered that, including Hospital patients, upwards of 7,400 inhabitants must have been infected during the past years; a proportion nearly equal to one-fourth of the entire population. Little wonder, then, it engrossed public attention to an exciting extent, and every means supposed to have preventive influence was brought into active requisition. Among these, the sanitary measures adopted on a former occasion were now most extensively employed. The houses of the poor were cleansed in hundreds, and straw bedding was supplied to thousands. The Dispensary visitors were to be found everywhere, discovering the earliest symptoms, and transferring the stricken at once to Hospital. In the course of these inspections, it was generally observed—and indeed the fact is universal, and fully borne out by all experience since—that “when the inhabitants are above penury, and clean in their person and houses, their residences have, with very few exceptions, been exempt; while, streets occupied by the indigent and slothful, and those especially containing dirty close entries, produce the greatest number of patients.” The experience of this epidemic proved, to the fullest extent, the contagious nature of the fever, and corroborated the views already entertained by the friends of the Hospital, as to the incalculable utility of such an asylum. One circumstance is specially recorded, in illustration of this fact. It appeared that, in 1820, 18 boys were all admitted from one cotton printing shop, in which 44 were employed; of these, 15 had been working on one side of the room. It was ascertained that the infection was communicated, by a convalescent, to a youth near the door, in the first instance, and afterwards to proceed progressively from one individual to another along the one side of the room, in preference to the other, as the ventilating current principally moved in the former direction. It is also interesting to observe, that two months elapsed

between the infection of the first and last of these 18 persons. Facts like these, derived as they are from practical experience, are deserving of all attention; and were their indications always acted upon, in conjunction with sanitary measures, the fever pestilence would cease to be the plague of Ireland.

The Charity had now been receiving county aid since the year 1807. At the present time it amounted to upwards of £500, the subscriptions having greatly increased in consequence of the alarming increase of disease. In consideration, therefore, of the increased resources of the Charity, and the express intention of the legislature in granting support from the county at large, taken in connexion with the fact that such intention was rightly interpreted in all other counties where Dispensaries and Fever Hospitals existed, Mr. Clarke, Treasurer, was induced to bring the subject of granting salaries to the Medical Attendants of the Dispensary and Hospital before the Committee, on the 28th September, 1818. The project was received favourably by a very large meeting, Adam M'Clean in the chair; and it was resolved to summon a general board of Subscribers, specially for the purpose of considering the propriety of adopting the suggestion. Prior to the meeting, several letters on the subject, *pro* and *con*, appeared in the newspapers, and public feeling was thereby excited to a considerable pitch. The profession itself was divided; and two parties ranged themselves under the respective leadership of Dr. S. S. Thomson and Dr. J. M'Donnell. The meeting alluded to was held on the 6th October, when the opinion appeared to be, that in the then anxious and excited state of the public mind, it was better to let the matter drop. This resolution, however, did not in any degree abate the ardour of the struggle. Letters and pamphlets, for months after, distracted the public attention, and the controversy was only closed by the final retirement from the duties of the Hospital of Dr. S. S. and Dr. J. Drummond. It is not our intention, in this place to do more than recal these events to the memory of the reader. We have our own opinion, and have publicly expressed, and publicly acted upon it, and we consider, therefore, that a discussion of this disputed point would be altogether digressive and superfluous. Suffice it to say, that the spark thus kindled was not at this time extinguished; for some years it smouldered, it is true, but only in the end to create a flame so strong, that nothing has since been able to quench it.

An important feature of the interval above indicated is the stated recog-

dition, by the Committee, *for the first time*, of the propriety of admitting pupils to see the practice of the Hospital. The resolution alluded to is dated 16th January, 1820, and is to the effect: first, that it is the opinion of the Committee, that it is safe and proper to admit pupils into this Hospital; and, secondly, it is resolved, that each of the Medical Attendants may introduce one pupil approved of by the Committee, to see his practice, and to act as Clerk or Dresser, for whose conduct the gentleman by whom he is introduced shall be responsible; and, thirdly, the pupil so admitted is prohibited from visiting the patients of any other Physician or Surgeon without his permission, or in any case to prescribe for any patient in the Hospital, or otherwise interfere with the medical or surgical treatment, or with the duties of the Apothecary. It would appear that the idea thus expressed arose out of the suggestion of a sub-committee, appointed in 1817, to audit the accounts of the Charity. Among other matters, they devote a paragraph strongly recommending the admission of pupils, which puts their claims so well that we cannot omit its quotation:—

“There is another circumstance,” it states, “which not flowing directly from our duty, yet, as connected with the general interests of the Institution, we beg leave to submit to the consideration of the Committee. The Hospital, we trust, has now attained such a state of permanence, and promises to be conducted on such an extensive scale, that the advantages flowing from it should not be confined to the mere objects who are relieved within its walls. The Physicians and Surgeons of Belfast should be invited to place their pupils there, to acquire experience by observing its practice; and in the course of a few years it might become a school of Physic and Surgery, of no trifling importance to the young medical students of this neighbourhood and the province of Ulster. Exclusive of this general purpose, and even if no immediate emolument would be derived by the Hospital from this plan, still so much assistance might be obtained by it to your Apothecary, both in the shop and in his attendance in the Hospital, that the labours of these departments might be greatly facilitated to him, and the various duties by them better and more regularly performed. (Signed,)

“ROBERT TENNENT.

“ROBERT M'GEE.

“Belfast, 25th August, 1817.”

Were we to go still farther back, we might point to the inscription de-

posited in the first stone of the building, in 1815, to show that the Hospital was dedicated to the advancement of medical science, as well as to the relief of the distressed.

HOC NOSOCOMION
ÆGROTIS ET ARTI MEDICÆ
SACRUM.

The idea was, therefore, generally entertained, in connexion with the founding of this Hospital; but it was not until the year above mentioned, that the admission of pupils was regularly authorized, and more than a year elapsed before the *first registered pupil* formally entered the Hospital. His name was Mr. W. Bingham, afterwards many years practitioner in Downpatrick, where he died, in 1848. Since this period, we have a list of above 400 names that have been successively recorded, up till the present time. In examining into the history of this long roll of noviciates, it is not a little curious to observe the varied changes which their after lives present:—some, after a brief trial, entirely abandon the profession, and assume some other avocation,—some, having proceeded steadily in the march of knowledge, have been suddenly removed by the touch of death,—some having passed the ordeal, commenced the duties of professional life, and not succeeding to their expectations, “have thrown physic to the dogs,” and entered upon a new existence in another sphere;—the majority are scattered abroad on sea or land, and in all countries, where the British flag is acknowledged.

What a gratification must the friends of this Charity have in the reflection, that the blessings which this Hospital has been the means of affording, may be disseminated a thousand-fold in all time, and in all parts of the habitable globe. We can conceive of no higher source of earthly pleasure than the contemplation of this vast result—it lives in the past, in the present, and the future.

In this period of four years, several new names appear in connexion with the Hospital. In June 21st, 1819, Samuel Bruce, jun., Esq., was appointed Secretary in the room of Mr. Dobbs; in July 24th following, J. Barnett was elected Treasurer; and in September 12th, Mr. ABSALOM MARTIN was elected Apothecary, in the room of Mr. Dalzell, deceased. Among the Medical Attendants, we observe that Dr. H. PURDON, Dr. FORCADE, and Mr. D. MOORE, were appointed, in 1820, for the first time. Among these internal changes we cannot refrain from particular mention of the death of Mrs.

Johnston, the highly-respected housekeeper. For a period of eight years she managed the domestic arrangements in a manner most gratifying to the Committee, who testified their admiration of her many good qualities by attending in a body on the occasion of her funeral. This circumstance, though apparently trifling, is one of much significance, and will redound to the high credit of the managing body, so long as these annals shall exist.



1822-26.

MEMORABILIA ANNORUM.

1822.

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|---|---|--|----|--|------|----|--|------|----|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Medical Society revived. — British Commercial Insurance. J. Cramsie, agent. — The Ladies' Clothing Society and Bible Association united. — Albion Insurance Office. William Newsam, agent. — Population, 37,117; houses, 5,932. | <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Jan.</td> <td>13</td> <td>Died, A. Martin, Apothecary to the Hospital.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nov.</td> <td>17</td> <td>Died, in Dublin, James Ramsey, Esq., an eminent Solicitor, practising in Belfast for a long series of years.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dec.</td> <td>26</td> <td>Died, Hugh Wilson, Esq., aged 76; one of the oldest merchants of his day.</td> </tr> </table> | Jan. | 13 | Died, A. Martin, Apothecary to the Hospital. | Nov. | 17 | Died, in Dublin, James Ramsey, Esq., an eminent Solicitor, practising in Belfast for a long series of years. | Dec. | 26 | Died, Hugh Wilson, Esq., aged 76; one of the oldest merchants of his day. |
| Jan. | 13 | Died, A. Martin, Apothecary to the Hospital. | | | | | | | | |
| Nov. | 17 | Died, in Dublin, James Ramsey, Esq., an eminent Solicitor, practising in Belfast for a long series of years. | | | | | | | | |
| Dec. | 26 | Died, Hugh Wilson, Esq., aged 76; one of the oldest merchants of his day. | | | | | | | | |

1823.

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|---|--|---|----|---|------|----|------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — The National Assurance Company. J. Harrison, agent. Aug. 26 Died, Mr. Arrott, Surgeon. Aug. 30 The town lighted with gas. Sept. 29 Died, Thomas Ferguson, Esq., one of the oldest and most respectable inhabitants; a zealous co-operator with the founders of the Poor-house and Infirmary. | <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Nov.</td> <td>10</td> <td>Died, Rev. Josias Alexander, aged 41, pastor of the Reformed Presbyterian congregation, and teacher of mathematics in the Belfast Academy. His funeral was attended by a vast concourse of people. In the procession were the Medical gentlemen, the professors in the Institution, the teachers and scholars of the Academy, &c.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dec.</td> <td>16</td> <td>Died, Hugh Carson, Esq., merchant.</td> </tr> </table> | Nov. | 10 | Died, Rev. Josias Alexander, aged 41, pastor of the Reformed Presbyterian congregation, and teacher of mathematics in the Belfast Academy. His funeral was attended by a vast concourse of people. In the procession were the Medical gentlemen, the professors in the Institution, the teachers and scholars of the Academy, &c. | Dec. | 16 | Died, Hugh Carson, Esq., merchant. |
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1824.

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|---|---|---|--|---|--|---|---|-------|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — John Agnew, Esq., Sovereign. — <i>Northern Whig</i> issued; office, Corn-Market. — West of England Insurance. J. Kane, agent. — St. Patrick's Assurance. G. & T.M. Tear, agents. — Shamrock Insurance Company. J. Cramsie, agent. | <table border="0"> <tr> <td>—</td> <td>J. Goddard, agent for Westminster Life Office.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>—</td> <td><i>The Rushlight</i>, a weekly newspaper, issued. Clarke and Hope, proprietors.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>—</td> <td>Seaman's Friend Society and Bethel Union.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>May 6</td> <td>Died, John Thomson, Esq., Jennymount, aged 58.</td> </tr> </table> | — | J. Goddard, agent for Westminster Life Office. | — | <i>The Rushlight</i> , a weekly newspaper, issued. Clarke and Hope, proprietors. | — | Seaman's Friend Society and Bethel Union. | May 6 | Died, John Thomson, Esq., Jennymount, aged 58. |
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| May 6 | Died, John Thomson, Esq., Jennymount, aged 58. | | | | | | | | |

1825.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Manchester Assurance. G. & H. Hyndman, agents. — Nelson Club House, Donegall-place. — Northern Yacht Club. Secretary, Robert Thomson, Esq., Jennymount. — Steam-boat trade regularly commenced. — Wash Mills first constructed at Ballydrain. — The Ardoyne Damask manufactory commenced. May Mechanics' Institute founded. John M'Canee, W. Tennent, Robert Grimshaw, Jos. Stevenson, Robt. Barnett, Trustees. July 24 Thomas Vance, Esq., on leaving town for Mexico, was presented with an address and a piece of plate, by the Chamber of Commerce and other principal inhabitants. | <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Sept. 1</td> <td>Died, John Holmes, Esq., aged 80, an eminent merchant, and banker for upwards of half a century.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sept. 22</td> <td>Died, Mr. James Baker; the first to introduce the muslin manufacture into Belfast.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nov. 26</td> <td>Died, John Gregg, Esq., aged 72. "To him, we have strong reasons to believe, the poor of this town are indebted for the munificent donation of £1000, which was dropped into the poor-box, at the charitable collection in Dr. Hanna's Meeting-house, 29th October, 1820." <i>News-Letter</i>.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dec. 15</td> <td>Died, at Malone, John Templeton, Esq., aged 60; highly distinguished in science and natural history.</td> </tr> </table> | Sept. 1 | Died, John Holmes, Esq., aged 80, an eminent merchant, and banker for upwards of half a century. | Sept. 22 | Died, Mr. James Baker; the first to introduce the muslin manufacture into Belfast. | Nov. 26 | Died, John Gregg, Esq., aged 72. "To him, we have strong reasons to believe, the poor of this town are indebted for the munificent donation of £1000, which was dropped into the poor-box, at the charitable collection in Dr. Hanna's Meeting-house, 29th October, 1820." <i>News-Letter</i> . | Dec. 15 | Died, at Malone, John Templeton, Esq., aged 60; highly distinguished in science and natural history. |
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1826.

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|---|---|---|--|---------|---|---------|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — The Provincial Bank branch opened. — Graving docks formed by the Harbour Commissioners. — Society for the relief of the Destitute Sick, originated by Francis Spalding, Esq., of Edinburgh. — Ladies' Clothing Society for the poor formed | <table border="0"> <tr> <td>—</td> <td>Typhus epidemic in the Poor-house this year.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Oct. 13</td> <td>Died, Mr. Arthur Johnston Crawford, of Crawfordsburn.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nov. 14</td> <td>Died, of typhus fever, Dr. Benjamin Thompson; a worthy member of the Belfast Historic Society, and Physician to the Hospital.</td> </tr> </table> | — | Typhus epidemic in the Poor-house this year. | Oct. 13 | Died, Mr. Arthur Johnston Crawford, of Crawfordsburn. | Nov. 14 | Died, of typhus fever, Dr. Benjamin Thompson; a worthy member of the Belfast Historic Society, and Physician to the Hospital. |
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Clinical Lectures Established.

THE Hospital annals of this period notice the prevalence of small-pox, in 1822 and 1824, and a revival of the Fever epidemic, in the Autumn of 1826. In this latter year, a second subscription was called for, to meet the increased expenses arising from the epidemic. The report for this year refers with great satisfaction to the gradual increase of the Charity in utility and in public estimation. It cannot be concealed, however, that a material agency in the augmentation of funds was the very prevalent dread of fever. There cannot be a doubt, that charity is greatly stimulated, to say the least, by the strong feeling of self-defence. The Hospital was looked upon, universally, as the safety-valve which prevented the general explosion of the epidemic; and this view was ever strongly impressed upon the minds of the public, both by the reports of the Committee and the frequent instances of infection observed by the Medical Officers. The County grant, also, continued to assist very materially—between £400 and £600 having been regularly received annually. In this way, and with the addition of numerous donations, bequests, and judicial fines, the income at this time reached an average, of about £1500, which presents a striking contrast to the limited means in the earlier parts of the history.

We observe, in this period, several new appointments and changes in the Medical department. On the 7th of May, 1822, Mr. WALKER was appointed Apothecary, in the room of Mr. Martin, deceased; and was succeeded by Mr. JOHN AICKIN, in May, 1821. In August, 1824, Dr. S. S. THOMSON again appears to resume duty at the Hospital; and, in October 1826, Dr. ROBERT STEPHENSON and Dr. BENJAMIN THOMPSON were elected Attending Physicians. The latter, however, was seized with fever, a few months subsequent to his appointment, and died much honoured and lamented. In that brief interval he gained the highest respect for his zeal and assiduity, and by the poor was especially beloved. In December, Dr. W. M. WILSON was elected in his stead.

Among the events of note for which this period is distinguished, none possesses greater claims upon our attention than the formal introduction of

Clinical instruction, as a part of the duties of the Medical Attendants of the Charity. We have seen that the Hospital had been already opened to pupils, for the purpose of diffusing instruction from the practice of the Attendants. The imparting of a knowledge of disease, as it actually occurs, in a *systematic* form, would seem a matter of necessary consequence upon the recognition of the principle of making the Hospital an educational institution; yet, it appears, that it was not till the latter end of 1826, that any steps were taken by the Committee to regulate clinical instruction.

The first notice of the subject, in the records of the Hospital, occurs in the month of December of this year. Two letters addressed to the Committee and the Joint Board of Managers and Visitors of the Institution, by Dr. J. L. Drummond, had appeared previously in the columns of the public papers, in which the setting apart of special cases of disease for clinical purposes, and the regular delivery of clinical lectures by teachers in a Medical School, are strongly recommended, as measures highly conducive to the interests both of the school and the Hospital. A special meeting of the Committee was summoned to consider these propositions; and the Medical Staff were, in the mean time, requested to give their opinion thereon. Their report, which was signed by Drs. McDonnell, Thomson, Stephenson, Forcade, Wilson, and Mr. Moore, very properly, and on very adequate grounds, took objection to the plan proposed by Dr. Drummond; but, at the same time stated, that, should it be deemed advisable, clinical lectures in the Hospital, either at the present or any future day, might be undertaken by one or more of the Medical Attendants, in their respective departments, without being liable to the objections to which they referred. This report having been duly considered, in connexion with Dr. Drummond's proposal, it was resolved, on the 4th of March, 1827, to refer the expediency of establishing medical Lectures in the Hospital to a further meeting of the Attendants. The matter was afterwards (1st May) submitted to a general meeting of subscribers, on which occasion the Committee were formally instructed to give every encouragement for the delivery of clinical lectures, on select cases, in the Medical and Surgical departments, and to facilitate the attendance of pupils at these lectures, and on the general practice of the Hospital. The principle having been thus regularly adopted, it was left to the Medical Attendants to carry out the details. Accordingly, on the 3rd of June, arrangements were finally made for the delivery of the *first clinical lecture*, which

Dr. M'Donnell was requested to give. He was followed up by Dr. Wilson, Mr. Moore, and others of the staff; and, up till the present time, this invaluable regulation has been carried out with the greatest success.

It was not to be expected that this extra duty would be performed satisfactorily to all parties concerned, without some mutual encouragement; and we therefore observe, in the report of the minutes of 13th October, this year, a resolution of the Committee, ruling that the money received from pupils for attending lectures, &c., in the Hospital, be handed over to the lecturers, for the purpose of providing books, and otherwise promoting the advantage of the pupils. It must be here mentioned, that the pupils' fee for attending the practice of the Hospital, first fixed in 1823, at one guinea per annum, had been hitherto appropriated to the common support of the Hospital. This arrangement established the principle of devoting the fees of the pupils to providing clinical instruction—a principle which, had it been always acted upon, would have greatly conduced to have established the Hospital, ere this, as an attractive resort for the students of medicine.

To render such an asylum available to the utmost, for the diffusion of medical instruction—to make the vast field there afforded of the highest value to the young beginner—to serve the cause of science in the abode of Charity, an amount of labour, and zeal, and talent, is required, which demand all the encouragement that the managers have it in their power to bestow.

Clinical instruction is not to be imparted by a careless walk through the wards. The pupil must be regularly taught to examine and distinguish disease for himself—to apply the necessary means of cure—to set the fracture, to dress the sore, and perform the minor operations, with his own hands—to watch, under close superintendence the effects of remedies—the knife of the operator, and to inspect the traces which nature, in disease, has left upon the human frame. These are matters which no routine, or hurried, or superficial attendance is calculated to realize; but, on the contrary, the most patient, assiduous, vigilant, zealous, and unceasing labour on the part of the teacher, and the most rigid attendance on the part of the pupil, are absolutely necessary to develope the educational resources of an Hospital. It will not be thought that we attach too much importance to this subject, when it is remembered, that, after all—after the most elaborate teaching which the systematic schools and colleges can supply—the student must, at last, sit down at the bedside of disease, and, in all humility, inquire of nature herself

as to her secret workings. After all, he must appeal to her decision in every case of difficulty ; and, frequently, he will experience the sad truth that man is often fonder of proving his own fancies, than humbly recording the simple answers of nature—the touchstone of truth. And further, when we reflect what may be the amount of happiness or misery which may flow from a right or a wrong interpretation of her physical works, as they are displayed to us in the wards of an hospital, the importance of extreme care, vigilance and perseverance, in the teaching of her ways, to those who are subsequently to bring these teachings to the test of practice, cannot be too strongly enforced. We maintain, then, that the governors of hospitals, act under a peculiarly high responsibility, which can only be satisfied when the voice of conscience tells them that they have afforded every possible means to ensure the end referred to,—that they have given every possible encouragement to promote it, and that they have convinced themselves that such end is, in every instance, attained.

Our readers will pardon us for here diverging a little from the regular course of our subject, in order to introduce to their notice the claims of a most excellent association, which was founded at this time.

It happened, at the close of this epoch, that a stranger, a native of Edinburgh, visited this town, on matters of business. Dysentery and fever were abroad ; an unprecedented depression sunk deeply on almost every extensive branch of trade and manufactures ; famine visited the abode of the labourer, and destitution and disease went hand in hand together. This stranger possessed a heart susceptible of the tenderest feelings, and the cry of distress sounded imploringly on his ear. He determined to visit the abodes of that misery, to see for himself how the masses existed. The narrative of his inspections, were it told in all its integrity, would be incredible to the ordinary reader. They lived and died in penury, in sickness, in wretchedness, and woe, unpitied—nay, unknown. His feelings were powerfully impressed ; and, though only on a visit, he found it impossible to withdraw himself from those appalling scenes without an effort, however feeble, for their amelioration. He could not leave without devising means to reach those creatures of misery, and bring them sympathy and relief. He immediately communicated with a friend, and poured out his soul before him. A flame of charity burned brightly within them. The idea of sending out

ministering angels among these forsaken victims, sprung from the conference, and the

“SOCIETY FOR THE RELIEF OF THE DESTITUTE SICK,”

was the memorable result. The name of the stranger was Mr. Spalding—that of his friend, the Rev. Dr. Edgar. Only six years elapsed until death removed its benevolent founder. He sowed the seed, however, in good soil. “He that laid the foundation stone has gone to his reward, but his work still lived: the principle of benevolence on which it was based made it immortal; the benefits which it conferred stretched into eternity.”

Such was the beginning of this excellent Society. It was founded in love and the purest charity, and, though comparatively overlooked amidst the engrossing pursuits of a worldly age, this small and unpretending Union has silently done its work of benevolence, in the very heart of the city, unnoticed, scarcely known. Its machinery is simple; its objects being carried out by a visiting committee of ladies and gentlemen; yet its collective operations have now an imposing magnitude, and include, since its formation, the relief of 17,859 cases of distress, at the comparatively small cost of £6,323 16s. 9d. For its practical management, as might naturally be expected, commendation is especially due to the lady visitants. Regardless of trouble, difficulties, and even dangers, these fair messengers of mercy seek out the deserving sufferers in their miserable hovels—speak the healing words of comfort—hand the cup of nourishment to the weary convalescent, or smooth the pillow of the bed of death. These are offices which the purest philanthropy alone could suggest—the true exemplification of Him who “went about continually doing good;” and of that true religion, which enjoins us to “visit the fatherless and the widow in their affliction.”



1827-30.

MEMORABILIA ANNORUM.

1827.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Royal Botanic Garden formed. — Fisherwick-place Presbyterian Meeting-house erected; cost about £6,000. — <i>The Guardian</i> issued. | <table border="0"> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p>Feb. 20</p> </td> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p>Died, John Crawford, Esq., of Crawfordsburn, in his 84th year; a Magistrate, Grand Juror, and highly philanthropic gentleman.</p> </td> </tr> </table> | <p>Feb. 20</p> | <p>Died, John Crawford, Esq., of Crawfordsburn, in his 84th year; a Magistrate, Grand Juror, and highly philanthropic gentleman.</p> | <table border="0"> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p>Oct. 1</p> </td> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p>Chapel-lane Dispensary opened.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p>Oct. 16</p> </td> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p>Died, William Magee, Esq., in his 79th year. Having lived in Bridge-street, much respected, for above half a century, the shops in that street were all closed on the day of his funeral.</p> </td> </tr> </table> | <p>Oct. 1</p> | <p>Chapel-lane Dispensary opened.</p> | <p>Oct. 16</p> | <p>Died, William Magee, Esq., in his 79th year. Having lived in Bridge-street, much respected, for above half a century, the shops in that street were all closed on the day of his funeral.</p> |
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1828.

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|--|---|--------------|---|--|---------------|--|----------------|--|----------------|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Sir Stephen May, Sovereign. — May-street Presbyterian Meeting-house opened. — Debtors first sent to the County gaol. | <table border="0"> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p>May 9</p> </td> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p>Died, at his residence, Greenmount, John Bell, a member of the Society of Friends, one of the most extensive cotton spinners in Ireland.</p> </td> </tr> </table> | <p>May 9</p> | <p>Died, at his residence, Greenmount, John Bell, a member of the Society of Friends, one of the most extensive cotton spinners in Ireland.</p> | <table border="0"> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p>July 4</p> </td> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p>Died, John Campbell, Esq., Surgeon.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p>July 15</p> </td> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p>Died, Rev. W. D. H. M'Ewen, aged 41. The shops were closed through which the procession passed, and every solemnity marked his immense funeral.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p>Nov. 25</p> </td> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p>Died, Thos. MacCabe, Esq., M.D., aged 37, Physician to the Fever Hospital.</p> </td> </tr> </table> | <p>July 4</p> | <p>Died, John Campbell, Esq., Surgeon.</p> | <p>July 15</p> | <p>Died, Rev. W. D. H. M'Ewen, aged 41. The shops were closed through which the procession passed, and every solemnity marked his immense funeral.</p> | <p>Nov. 25</p> | <p>Died, Thos. MacCabe, Esq., M.D., aged 37, Physician to the Fever Hospital.</p> |
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1829.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Lunatic Asylum erected, at a cost of £30,000. — Donegall-street National School, founded by the Right Rev. Dr. Crolly, R. C. Bishop of Down and Connor. | <table border="0"> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p>April 18</p> </td> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p>A most valuable service of plate presented to James M'Donnell, M.D., by the principal nobility and gentry of Belfast and its vicinity.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p>May 9</p> </td> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p>Died, John Young, L.L.D., Professor of Moral Philosophy in the Belfast College, from 1815.</p> </td> </tr> </table> | <p>April 18</p> | <p>A most valuable service of plate presented to James M'Donnell, M.D., by the principal nobility and gentry of Belfast and its vicinity.</p> | <p>May 9</p> | <p>Died, John Young, L.L.D., Professor of Moral Philosophy in the Belfast College, from 1815.</p> |
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1830.

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|---|---|----------------|---|--|--------------|---|---------------|--|---------------|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Savings Bank built, at a cost of £1,400. — The machine-spinning of linen yarn introduced by Messrs. Mulholland. — The Lying-In-Hospital, Antrim Road, erected, at a cost of £1,200. | <table border="0"> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p>April 8</p> </td> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p>Died, Cunningham Gregg, Esq., at Ballymenoch, County Down, in his 68th year.</p> </td> </tr> </table> | <p>April 8</p> | <p>Died, Cunningham Gregg, Esq., at Ballymenoch, County Down, in his 68th year.</p> | <table border="0"> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p>May 4</p> </td> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p>Foundation stone laid of the Natural History Museum, College-square.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p>May 24</p> </td> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p>Died, W. Napier, Esq., aged 75; an inhabitant of Belfast for upwards of half a century.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p>Dec. 9</p> </td> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p>Died, Isaac Harrison, Esq., merchant, aged 70.</p> </td> </tr> </table> | <p>May 4</p> | <p>Foundation stone laid of the Natural History Museum, College-square.</p> | <p>May 24</p> | <p>Died, W. Napier, Esq., aged 75; an inhabitant of Belfast for upwards of half a century.</p> | <p>Dec. 9</p> | <p>Died, Isaac Harrison, Esq., merchant, aged 70.</p> |
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NEVER since the adoption of the plan of clinical instruction, to which we have drawn attention in the preceding chapter, the idea of the foundation of a Medical School, in connexion with the Academical Institution, continued to grow more and more in favour, both amongst the profession and the friends of the Hospital.

On the 15th of November, 1829, a conference was held, composed of the Committee, the entire Medical Staff, and a deputation from the Institution, to take this matter into consideration. The subject was further specially considered by the Medical Attendants, whose report formed the object of a special meeting of Committee, held 29th November, James Campbell, Esq., in the chair. On this occasion, it was unanimously resolved, "That this

Committee fully concur in the expediency of the establishment of a Medical School, and are ready to co-operate with the Joint Boards of the Institution in any measure for the attainment of so desirable an object, that may be consistent with the welfare and interests of the Hospital." So far, then, the Hospital authorities did what they could to forward the movements, and whatever obstacles delayed the regular establishment of the School for some five years after, cannot be laid at the door of the Committee, or of the Medical Officers of the Charity. For some years, courses of Lectures on Anatomy and Chemistry had been regularly delivered, the former by Dr. J. L. Drummond, who was elected Professor for life. These were, it is true, of a popular cast; and students not destined for the profession formed the majority of the classes.

The number of medical pupils in attendance was observed, however, to increase, and this circumstance formed the chief claim on which Dr. Drummond rested his appeal to the Boards. These two classes were, of course, insufficient; others were wanting to form what could properly be called a Medical School. These were not established for some years afterwards, and then, chiefly on the proposal of a number of Medical Attendants of the Hospital and Dispensary, who first framed a systematic plan of a complete medical course of instruction, and agreed to initiate the necessary lectures, for a time, without other aid than that derived from the fees of the students. They submitted this proposal, in all due form, to the Joint Boards of Managers and Visitors, who, though not immediately desirous of acceding to their wishes, gave them a pledge that the formation of a complete Medical School would be forthwith entered upon. It was not, however, until the 4th August, 1835, that the establishment of a medical department in the Royal Belfast Academical Institution was regularly adopted at the Joint Boards. The chairs of Anatomy, Theory of Physic, Surgery, Practice of Physic, Chemistry, Materia Medica and Pharmacy, Midwifery and Botany, were occupied in November of that year.

The professors were at first dependent on the fees of their students, but afterwards small salaries were affixed, in addition. They were to hold office five years from the date of their appointment; this period to be extended at the discretion of the Board. A special rule, however, was made to meet the case of Dr. Drummond, who, in consequence of his having been some time previously elected Professor of Anatomy for life, and being actually in the performance of the duties, and in the receipt of a salary as such, was con-

tinued a life member of the Medical Faculty without election, and the rules of the Board respecting term of services and emoluments were suspended in his case. The School thus opened under the direction of the following professors, viz. :—

Dr. J. L. Drummond,	...	...	Original Professor of Anatomy and Physiology.
Dr. Andrews,	...	...	Professor of Chemistry.
Dr. John M'Donnell,	...	...	Professor of Surgery.
Dr. Little,	...	...	Professor of Midwifery.
Dr. Marshall,	...	...	Professor of Materia Medica and Pharmacy.

In 1836, DR. WILLIAM MATEER was appointed to the chair of Botany, and DR. M'CORMAC to the chair of the Practice of Physic; and in 1840, DR. HURST commenced a course of Lectures on Medical Jurisprudence. The chair of Surgery was occupied successively by DR. THOMAS FERRAR, appointed in 1836; DR. COFFEY, 1837; and DR. GORDON, in 1847. In 1840, DR. BURDEN was chosen to occupy the Midwifery chair, vacant by the resignation of DR. LITTLE. These Professors conducted their different departments with much success till the year 1849, when the school itself was dissolved, to be replaced by the Medical Faculty of Queen's College. Drs. Andrews, Burden, and Gordon, were re-appointed under the new arrangements.

Although the former school was continued under great disadvantages, it is gratifying to record the fact, that it occasionally attracted as many as 60 or 70 pupils, and that it steadily advanced, during its progress, in public estimation. Its vigour, indeed, formed a striking contrast to the stunted growth of the Southern Provincial School; and now, with increased resources and new auspices, it continues to take the lead in the Provincial Colleges; and there is no doubt will ultimately fully realize the expectations of its most ardent friends.

It must not be overlooked, that one of the chief sources of its early prosperity is to be looked for in the recognition then given of the attendance of pupils on the practice of the Hospital, by the different examining Medical Boards, whereby the student was enabled to make up one or more years of his curriculum in this town; but, independent of this recognition, the very existence of the Hospital in connexion with the Medical School, must have had, more or less, considerable influence in attracting pupils. The Hospital must be admitted to be the very life of a Medical School; without incorpo-

ration with which, no college, however inherently distinguished, can ever hope to flourish as a seat of medical instruction; and we cannot consider it as otherwise than an oversight in the establishment of the Queen's Colleges that medical interests had not been better attended to, and especially the principle of associating clinical with theoretic instruction.

Hospital for the Insane.

A MOST important event in the Medical History of Belfast, is the founding, about this time, of the District Hospital, for the treatment of the Insane. In November, 1825, we find that a deputation from the Committee was appointed to co-operate with the Committees of the Charitable Society and House of Industry, to act in the most effective manner to induce the government—then carrying out the provisions of the 1st and 2nd George IV.—to fix on Belfast as the most proper site for the new Lunatic Asylum. Previously to the passing of this Act, the only provision for the lunatic poor of Ireland was one asylum in Dublin, and one in Cork, and such support as Grand Juries were enabled to grant to any asylum connected with a House of Industry, by means of the 46th George III., and the aid granted by the 57th George III., c. 56, which latter may be considered the first Act for *establishing* Lunatic Asylums. These, however, were very inefficient for the purpose; and, hence, the enactment, first mentioned, which makes ample provision for every lunatic pauper in Ireland. It empowers the Lord Lieutenant to order the erection of any number of necessary asylums in the different Districts: the funds to be provided, in all cases, by the Grand Juries of the Counties within their Districts. The Board of Management, and the principal Officers, are in his immediate appointment; as also a General Board of Control, who conduct the superintendence of the asylums at large, and initiate new ones. Further legislation has provided for the due inspection of their discipline, management, and internal economy.

Whether or not the efforts of the joint committees above alluded to had any influence in directing the site of the Belfast Asylum, we cannot now say. Certain it is, it was considered an eligible situation, and accordingly the necessary buildings were raised, and the Hospital opened for the admission of

patients on the 20th May, 1829. On the same date, was held the first meeting of the Local Board of Governors, which was attended by the following members, all of whom are now dead, except the Rev. Thomas D. Hincks, LL.D., viz. :—

The MARQUIS OF DONEGALL in the Chair.
The Right Rev. DR. SAURIN, Lord Bishop of Dromore.
The Right Rev. DR. MANT, Lord Bishop of Down and Connor.
Rev. A. C. MACARTNEY, Vicar of Belfast.
Rev. THOMAS D. HINCKS, Curate of Belfast.
WILLIAM CLARKE, Esq., J.P., Belfast.
JOSEPH STEVENSON, Esq., Springfield.
JOHN SUFFERN, Esq., Belfast.

Mr. CUMING was the first superintendent. He resigned in 1835, and was then succeeded by the present Resident Physician, Dr. ROBERT STEWART. Dr. JAMES M'DONNELL was the first Visiting Physician; in consequence of ill health he resigned in February, 1837. Dr. S. S. THOMSON was then appointed to the vacancy, and held office till his death in 1849, when he was succeeded by the present Visiting Physician, Dr. M'CORMAC. The duties of Surgeon and Apothecary were performed, at the opening of the Hospital up till 1836, by Messrs. M'BURNEY and MULHOLLAND; then, till 1839, by Surgeon WALES, and since by Dr. J. S. MULHOLLAND.

This Asylum was at first calculated to hold about 100 patients, but from additions which have been made, from time to time, the average number of inmates of the Hospital has risen to nearly 300. All cases, of the various forms of insanity and epilepsy are admissible, when certified for as being dangerous, and an affidavit made, that there are not means to meet the expense of a private asylum.

The progress of this institution has been particularly gratifying in several points of view, independent of the general management, which has been always admirable, even in its details.

We have great gratification in knowing that it was here the first movement was made on the subject of *separate Criminal Lunatic Asylums*. It was commenced on the occasion of the admission of that notorious paricide, John Lynn, who, in the autumn of 1832, committed the awful deed, was tried at the March assizes, 1833, and having been acquitted on the plea of insanity, was shortly afterwards admitted into this Asylum. His insanity

having been here proved to be groundless, he was again removed to gaol, but afterwards returned to the Asylum, from which he escaped in 1835. He was re-taken in August, 1836, tried in 1838, for a gaol conspiracy, and sentenced to seven years' transportation. Stimulated by the circumstances of this and similar subsequent cases, the governors, year after year, carried on the agitation, in order to prevail upon the government to provide for criminal lunatics, and at last had the happiness of seeing the evil remedied by the passing of a special Act (the 8th and 9th Victoria, 1845), for the establishment of a central Asylum for insane persons charged with offences in Ireland. This important measure, thus consummated, after a struggle of twelve years, has been of the greatest consequence, not only in affording additional accommodation for proper and curable cases in the District Asylums, but has facilitated recovery in both instances.

Another important feature connected with this Asylum, is the carrying out, from its commencement, the principle of *non-restraint*, by which we mean, not that there is an entire omission of any means of restraining the violent and dangerously-inclined, but that this, when necessary, is applied in such a manner as to give the least possible inconvenience; and that the general treatment, that is, of 98 or 99 per cent., is conducted by moral means—by constant occupation, by considerate kindness, by the most punctual regularity, and the most vigilant attention. On this subject, the reports of the Resident Physician, for 1840 and 1841, are particularly satisfactory; and as it may be interesting to the reader to know the opinion of one, in every way, so experienced as Dr. STEWART, on this formerly much-disputed question, we take the liberty of making the following quotation:—

“It may with truth be affirmed, that non-restraint is the *rule*, and restraint the *exception*, in this establishment; but it would be want of candour to state, that the former could be practised, or is practised, every day in the year, with every case in the house; no, it would be folly in the extreme to say so; and in those reports which have emanated from total abolition Asylums, something in the shape of mechanical restraint is still, even in them or, at least, some of them, found unavoidable, though, at the same time, the impression is endeavoured to be made, that nothing whatever of the kind is used. It would be much more creditable, at once to admit, that a mild form of correction, with vicious and unruly inmates, was called into operation, instead of thus playing upon terms; and honestly to avow that judicious restraint will not unfrequently be found a most powerful engine in the moral treatment of insanity; and farther, that cases do occasionally occur, in which it is impossible to dispense with it, without exposing the patient to imminent danger.”

A subject of great moment in the management of hospitals for the insane, is the necessity for Resident *Medical* Superintendents. Formerly it was the custom for governors of asylums to be very generally selected from non-professional persons. The change in the system of supplying this situation, we believe, first took place in Belfast, on the appointment of the present resident, in 1835, which has been followed up in other places by similar appointments. It seems strange, at the present day, that the idea of placing the daily and hourly treatment of the insane, in many instances labouring under disease, under the direction of a lay manager, should ever have been adopted, not to say acted upon; for it is useless to argue, that however satisfactory it is for these asylums to have the advantage of the advice and care of a *visiting* physician, that his visits will compensate for that ever-vigilant and minute attention, which the insane so peculiarly require, and a highly educated professional man only can give.

In closing this short notice of a deeply interesting Institution, on which, we regret, our space will not permit us to expatiate, we feel constrained to express a hope, that these establishments may be made, to some extent, to contribute to the improvement of Medical Science. There are many dark and mysterious points in connexion with cerebral physiology and psychology, which we can only expect to be elucidated by the labours of some attentive student in the wards of the insane. The subject is of deep interest, not merely to the physician, but to the philosopher and the teacher of youth; and its study, it is not too much to anticipate, may be instrumental in yet unfolding that hidden bond which connects mind with matter—the body with the soul.

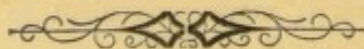
Amongst the elections of Medical Attendants, at this time, we particularly notice the appointment of Dr. MACABE, on the 11th of May, 1828. He had been two years previously a member of the Medical Society, and had now but just entered upon his Hospital duties, when the hand of death arrested him in the midst of his usefulness. A number of new names we might here record, as having entered on the duties of the Districts and the Hospital, but we deem it more convenient to refer the reader to the Appendix for their enumeration, and all subsequent appointments.

In addition to the subjects mentioned, which engaged the attention of the Committee, we may here merely mention, that they entered into a careful in-

vestigation on the dietary of the Hospital, and on the laws relating to the election of the Medical Attendants. They also effected an arrangement for the attendance of a Dispensary Physician and Surgeon at the Hospital, at certain times, to prescribe for such Dispensary patients as might attend. Dr. M'MECHAN and Surgeon WALES were the first to undertake this duty, which they discharged most efficiently for several years.

The meetings of Committee, which had been hitherto held on the Sabbath, were, in 1830, changed to Saturday, for the future.

On the 1st of October, 1827, an Auxiliary Medical Charity was instituted, for the treatment of diseases of children, and diseases of the eye, and for giving advice to such patients as were able to purchase medicine only. This Dispensary was located in Chapel-lane, and was supported, in the first instance, by voluntary contributions. It appears to have been originated principally by Dr. Wm. Duncan, with whom Mr. Jas. Campbell acted as Surgeon. A county grant, and a portion of the judicial fines of the petty court, were afterwards secured to it. It continued in flourishing existence till 1839, when, although the number of patients was never previously so large—amounting to 9,649—the failure of funds necessitated its close. Dr. Duncan and Dr. Henry Purdon, attended till 1835, when they were succeeded by Dr. Wm. Johnson, whom Dr. Maffet joined in 1836. Dr. M'Calden attended in 1837, and Dr. R. Boyce the following years, till its dissolution. In the space of rather more than eleven years, we find that this Charity supplied medicine and advice to 74,228 patients; and lest our readers might think this figure an exaggeration, we shall state that no patient's name was entered oftener than once, although frequently treated for several diseases in that time. The practice was attended, for several years, by medical students; and, there is no doubt, it contributed, in no small degree, to relieve the regular Dispensary Attendants of much of their (at that time) unremunerated labours.



1831-34.

MEMORABILIA ANNORUM.

1831.

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| — | New Harbour Corporation formed. | — | Third Presbyterian Meeting-house rebuilt, at an outlay of £10,000. |
| — | School for the instruction of the Deaf and Dumb opened, Donegall-street. | May 10 | A Lying-in Dispensary opened in William-street. |
| — | St. Anne's Church Schools opened. | June 16 | Died, John Sloan, Esq. |
| — | Population, 53,737; houses, 8,710. | | |

1832.

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|------|--|----------|--|
| — | May's Bridge completed over the Lagan. | Feb. 14 | Town meeting for the same purpose. |
| — | The bounty on the exportation of linen discontinued. | Feb. 29 | Cholera first appears in Quay-lane. |
| — | Died, at Cookstown, of cholera, Thomas Akenhead, Esq., a citizen of Belfast. | April 22 | Died, Charles Lepper, Esq., Laurel Lodge. |
| Feb. | Committee and subscribers of the Hospital meet to concert measures for checking the Asiatic cholera, should it reach the town. | July 20 | Died, William Tennent, Esq., banker, of cholera. |
| | | July 20 | Died, E. Haughton, Esq., of cholera. |

1833.

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|----------|---|--------|--|
| — | R. C. Diocesan Seminary opened, Donegall-street. | June 2 | Died, at Clarence-place, Arthur Crawford, Esq., in his 85th year. |
| Jan. 13 | Died, S. M. Stephenson, M.D. | July | Christ Church completed. |
| March 3 | Died, John S. Ferguson, Esq., aged 72. | Aug. 6 | Rev. William Mulligan, Professor of Mathematics in Belfast College, was drowned at Loughbrickland. |
| March 17 | Died, at Isle of Man, John Burden, Esq., late of the Falls. | | |

1834.

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|---------|---|---------|---|
| — | Chapel of Ease Daily School opened. | June 27 | Services of plate presented to Drs. M' Cormac and Kidley, for their zeal and efficiency during the cholera. |
| — | The Government Grant to the Academical Institution increased to £3,500. | July 30 | Died, Robert Delap, Esq., in his 79th year. |
| Feb. 9 | Died, at Locust Lodge, in the prime of life, John Montgomery, Esq. | Dec. 13 | Died, in London, Robert Stevenson, Esq., aged 49. |
| April 1 | Died, at Greenock, John M'Cracken, Esq., one of the oldest and most extensive cotton-spinners in Ireland. | Dec. 24 | Dr. S. S. Thomson presented with a gold snuff-box, by thirty-five Physicians and Surgeons, in testimony of their admiration and esteem. |
| May 21 | Died, Dr. B. Murray, Surgeon, aged 35. | | |

The Asiatic Cholera.

THE year 1831 is memorable for the occurrence of the most extensive epidemic of fever since the year 1817. It reached its acme in the month of June; and upwards of 1,200 patients were admitted into the Hospital during its continuance—about a period of 18 months. The malady, however, in no wise differed from that of ordinary years, and therefore calls

for little remark; and it was met in the same manner as that adopted in previous epidemics.

Just when the disease was at its height, there arose another epidemic with peculiar characters—we mean the influenza, or epidemic catarrh—an affection principally of the respiratory passages, which had repeatedly traversed different parts of Europe, and presented features readily distinguishable. It may be considered the most perfect example we know, of a pure epidemic; that is, a disease which fastens simultaneously on large masses of people, over an extensive tract of country; attacking its victims without warning, and prostrating at once the aged and the young. Its phenomena and history lead the mind to the conclusion, that the agency in its propagation must be atmospheric, of the nature of which it is not given us to know; and that this was really the case in the present instance, may be corroborated by the event which followed.

These incidents in the history of this period were, it would appear, but the prelude to an overwhelming calamity, which the following year was destined to usher in. Though seldom a decade of years ever elapsed without bringing an epidemic of some description in its train, yet, for nearly two centuries, none had been so appalling in its rapidity or fatality, as to inspire horror or produce despair. The giant pestilences of former days were deemed but the imagery of history, and never again likely to be realized; and a feeling of security—of immunity, from the fearful times of the black death and the plague prevailed.

In the autumn of 1830, intelligence reached these shores, that the Asiatic Cholera had crossed the Russian frontier, and was steadily marching in a westward direction. Even then, and when this news was confirmed by subsequent accounts of its appearance in Poland, Austria, and Prussia, the public mind in these countries was scarcely roused to any degree of excitement. The death-winged enemy came, however, marching on, still westward; and in the month of May, 1831, it had reached the cities of Riga and Dantzic, and soon afterwards the chief cities of Europe. As the accounts of its steady advance arrived, day by day, heightened also with reminiscences of its onslaught in India, in 1817, and subsequent years, an anxious concern, at length, began to be felt for the safety of these realms. The general cry was—"It comes!—it comes!"

The interest in the Cholera news-columns now fearfully increased, and

when, at length, in the month of October, the enemy suddenly appeared at Sunderland, a sense of impending danger sank into every heart. In a very few months it spread rapidly over different parts, both north and south, of Great Britain; and on the 29th of February, 1832, the first case in this town appeared.

On the outbreak of the disease in England, the authorities in London immediately set about bringing into operation, on the most extensive scale, the different means of prevention then supposed to be most effectual. The laws of quarantine were rigidly enforced, Boards of Health were created wherever there was a single case, asylums for the stricken started into life, and sanitary measures for cleansing towns and purifying the very air resorted to, with impatient intrepidity. Printed instructions for the regulation of diet and living, and the arrest of the first symptoms, were poured forth in hundreds of thousands, and the medical journals, and the daily press, were filled, even to satiety, with all manner of news touching the all-engrossing topic of the times. The very magnitude of these Herculean efforts contributed not a little to augment the general excitement, and every one seemed possessed of the truth of, at least, two points, viz: its high infectious influence and its unprecedented fatality.

Under circumstances such as these, did the first case, in this town, arise.

A Board of Health, under the provisions of the 58th Geo. III., had been previously appointed, on the 22nd November. This body endeavoured, and with great success, to arouse the different authorities in the town, with a view to set everything in order, and to strengthen all the defences in proper time. The cleansing of the streets and lanes was scrupulously performed; a general inspection of the localities of the poor was instituted; and, so convinced was the Board as to the highly infectious nature of the disease, that steps were taken to isolate any case, wherever it might occur, on the moment of its discovery. To do this effectually it was necessary to remove the sick, at once, to an appropriate building; and, where one of a family would be attacked, to remove the others to a lazaretto. There being no accommodation to meet these objects, the Committee deemed it necessary to call a special meeting, for the purpose of providing the requisite buildings. At first, the hiring of houses was thought of; but, this not being deemed practicable, a subsequent meeting strongly approved of a special erection, for Cholera patients. This meeting was held on the 14th of February. Upwards

of £700 were soon raised; and the Cholera wards were immediately afterwards raised, on a site, at the rear of the Fever Hospital. Accommodation was thus speedily provided for upwards of 50 patients; and, about the same time, a large building, in Lancaster-street, was rented, to be used for the seclusion of persons who were exposed to the influence of the disease, or who laboured under doubtful or premonitory symptoms. In addition, two houses were taken in different parts of the town, to be used as night-stations, for the supply of medicine on the moment of attack, and the keeping of palanquins for the removal of patients to Hospital. The Hospital was placed under the charge of Dr. Duncan, in the first instance, and afterwards of Dr. M'Cormac; and the inspection of the different districts was intrusted to the different Medical Attendants.

Thus prepared—and we believe that no town of the same magnitude in the three kingdoms was placed in more effective defence,—and after waiting for fully four months, the first case at length made its appearance in Quay-Lane, on the day above-mentioned, in the person of Bernard Murtagh, a cooper. He was first visited by Surgeon M'Burney, and afterwards by a large number of other practitioners. The case was one of complete collapse. He died in about nineteen hours, without the slightest reaction. No trace of contagion could be ascertained in its origin. Though the symptoms at this time, from the novelty of the case, were deemed by the majority of the Medical attendants only highly suspicious, the Board of Health immediately acted upon the presumption of its genuineness. The inmates of the house were placed under quarantine—all ingress or egress being prevented by a guard of sworn constables; the bedding of the sick person was burnt—all washing articles scoured, and the house thoroughly cleansed, fumigated, and white-washed. Notwithstanding these precautions, the Board believed that all the cases that occurred up to the 18th of March—six in number, were traceable to this source.

The second case occurred in an old, frail man, named M'Nally, who was seized on the 6th March, and died in 20 hours. A third, in Johnny's-entry, Talbot-street, took ill, on the 13th of March; a fourth, on the 14th, and two others on the 17th, also from the same quarter. Only one of these last, out of the whole number, recovered. The utmost exertions were now used by the Board to check the spread of the disease, and, it would seem, with success, as no other case was discovered until the 15th of April following.

The next case occurred in Orr's-entry, off High-street, where three of one family shortly died. Another, soon afterwards, in George's-place, in the person of a sailor, who had arrived from Greenock four days previously. The next, a woman, resident in Corr's-lane, who had dressed the corpse of the latter, was seized in seven days, and her husband in ten days afterwards. The latter died on the 26th of April, from which, till the 14th of May, no new case appeared. On this day a woman, in Quay-lane, was attacked, and died; and, on the 18th, a soldier of the 29th Regiment, stationed in the town, was the last case at this time. The Board, in their report of these cases, to the Lord Lieutenant, strongly insisted upon the contagious nature of the disease, and rested their opinion upon the presumed unbroken chain which the series of cases presented, and upon the apparent efficiency of the means employed to check its extension. It would be inappropriate, in a work like this, to occupy its columns, devoted to historical detail, with a controversy on the nature of cholera: but we may be justified in remarking, that the case of the contagionists, though plausible on the occasion of this first out-break, it must be admitted, received but little weight from the character of the succeeding invasion, which, in the months of June, July, and August especially, swept simultaneously over different parts of the town, with a rapidity which nothing but a general cause could explain.

A few general points, which distinguish this epidemic, it may be useful to keep in remembrance. Its duration extended to a period of forty-six weeks, during which there were two culminating points: one in the month of March, and the second in July, which dates, it is worthy of notice, corresponded exactly to the thermometrical maxima of the year—a circumstance which was recently exactly parallel, on the return of the epidemic in 1849. The mortality was, as nearly as possible, 16 per cent.—a proportion which contrasted most favourably with the returns from all other towns of similar magnitude. The form of the malady was, for the most part, spasmodic; the collapse cases were few, and the opiate and a stringent practice generally proved successful;—nearly always so in the early stage. Dr. Hawthorne, who was about this time Physician to the Charity, was a strong advocate of this practice; and, while acting in several of the country districts, acquired an extraordinary reputation for its bold and successful employment. The Indian mode of treatment was also adopted, specially by Dr. M'Cormac, with also a large share of success. In many cases copious bleeding was resorted to, but with

doubtful benefit. Other remedial agencies were used by different practitioners; and, indeed, when we take the rapid mortality of the disease into account, it is not remarkable, that almost every remedy reported as efficacious, in the hands of practitioners elsewhere, received a trial on this occasion.

Now that we can calmly examine these circumstances, after the lapse of twenty years—a period sufficiently long to bury all envious feeling that might have once existed among the now living contemporaries of that day—we can afford to smile (albeit a grave subject) upon the amount of animosity and ill-feeling displayed by rival advocates of different modes of treatment;—to think what fearful denunciations, what effusions of spleen, what sallies of sarcasm, what boastful pretensions were thought and spoken—nay, published to the world—when it is now universally admitted, being based on incontrovertible data, that the most opposite lines of treatment have had each a partial success, but not one complete. No, no!—we must acknowledge the truth, however humbling it may be to the boasted intellect of the present era—there is no cure, no specific, for the confirmed victim of Asiatic cholera: yet he may recover, and with only a cup of cold water to quench his burning thirst.

Are we, then, to be understood that medicine or medical appliances are useless in this disease? Far from it. Ere the malady acquires its mature condition, there *is* every hope that promptitude will avail—this stage past, the hope is past likewise. Death *then* claims his sixty, eighty—ay, at times, his hundred per cent. Each practitioner may have his own favourite plan, by which he fondly imagines the arrow of death may be averted. We have no need, therefore, to quarrel with our brethren for assuming their own views, so long as there is no orthodox standard.

In looking over the list of localities in which Cholera occurred, and comparing it with the favourite regions of Fever, we are struck with the coincidence of the prevailing seats of both maladies; and further, we shall observe, that these localities were peculiarly the instances of sanitary neglect. The connexion between filth, humidity, bad drainage, overcrowding,—and the spread of both fever and cholera, is proved beyond all doubt. Whenever and wherever the former conditions are aggravated, exactly in a similar proportion will you have an increase of disease. In fact, as Dr. Southwood Smith well remarks, even from the mere inspection of a map of the drainage of any locality, we can, with surprising accuracy, state,

a priori, where the disease is to be found. Facts like these are pregnant with important meaning, which Town Councils and Officers of Health would do well to study. It has been too much the custom for Boards of Health, on the occasion of epidemics, to rely solely, or in a great measure, upon means calculated only to prevent infection. We do not deny that infection is a material agent in the propagation of fever, for example; but what is it that promotes or determines infection? Is it not the atmospheric condition which surrounds both the diseased and the healthy, and which acts as a favourable medium for the dissemination of the poison? There cannot be a question as to the efficacy of isolation; but it is almost equalled in its present, and surpassed in its future, results by the combined effects of cleanliness and ventilation.

Continuing our history of this epidemic, we find that the disease completely subsided in December, 1832; and, on the 16th of this month, the Cholera Hospital was closed. For ten months there was no trace of the disease. It appeared to have completely gone; and all the measures which were at first so energetically put in operation, gradually subsided. Cases, however, were still occurring in the country districts; and the more acute and cautious were by no means satisfied that the disease had spent itself. Their suspicions were indeed realised; for, on the 29th of September, 1833, a fresh case was reported to the Committee; and early in 1834, the Cholera Hospital was re-opened, under the charge of its former Attendant, Dr. M'Cormac. The disease again abated and disappeared, but returned on the 14th October; and though the cases now appear to have been few—apparently only the straggling rear-guard of the enemy's forces—yet it was deemed advisable to appoint Inspectors to secure the immediate discovery of the first symptoms. Their labours were but of short duration, as the disease soon entirely disappeared, for the last time on that occasion.

When we reflect, in reference to this epidemic, that 2,870 persons, out of a population of 54,000, were seized with the illness—that the mortality was but one in six, and that the march of the disease was, for a time, completely arrested, it will not be deemed the expression of flattery to record our admiration of the prompt, bold, and decisive measures which were then adopted. The men who fought the battle of the town on that memorable occasion, of whom the Rev. Dr. COOKE is the only living representative, should be remem-

bered, had they no other claims upon the public commendation. Their important services then, will serve as a lasting example for similar emergencies here or elsewhere.

At this period, incongruous as the circumstances may now appear, the old agitation touching the salary question, to which we briefly referred on a previous epoch, was revived with augmented interest. It would be supposed that, at a time when the dreadful epidemic absorbed every one's attention, there would be little room for excitement on any other subject. Strange as it may appear, however, it did for a considerable time occupy a large portion of the public concern; and, accordingly, as being an essential part of our history, we cannot omit stating, though in brief terms, the chief circumstances respecting this question. It would appear that, in 1832, the desire for occupying the situation of District Attendant, formerly prevalent among the junior members of the profession, began greatly to subside, and much difficulty was experienced by the Committee in supplying the districts. The matter was long and earnestly discussed, and a deliberate resolution was come to, recommending to the subscribers, for adoption, the proposition, "that, in future, no physician or surgeon be appointed to attend the patients, within the Hospital, unless those who have already given their services there, or those who have had charge of a district, at least two years." This resolution was brought forward at the subsequent general meeting of subscribers, on the 2nd of May, 1833; and, in the interim, meetings of the District Attendants were held, at which the majority strongly approved of a change from the gratuitous system of attendance. A letter based thereon was forwarded to the Committee, who appointed a sub-committee to inquire as to the prevailing practice in other towns in Great Britain and Ireland. Nothing, however, sprung from this movement, until the date of the general meeting just alluded to, when the question was brought forward in the report of the Committee, who adhered to their original views of Dispensary management. No decision was entered into on this occasion, but the further discussion of the matter was postponed, in order to give other subscribers due notice thereof. The adjourned meeting was held on the 16th of May. Dr. S. S. Thomson here resumed his former position, as the advocate of salaries, and read a letter signed by thirty practitioners, expressive of their concurrence with the previously recorded opinion of the district attendance, which was to the effect, that an efficient attendance on the poor of the town,

at their own houses, cannot be obtained except by granting a pecuniary remuneration to the Medical gentlemen employed.

In accordance with this view, it was proposed, at this meeting, that the present system be discontinued, and that two salaried medical officers be appointed, to devote their whole time and attention to the visiting and care of the sick poor. The meeting again adjourned, without coming to a decision; and, on the 30th of the same month, the subject was once more brought under discussion, with nearly a similar result; as, when the original motion, containing the views of the Committee against salaries, was put from the chair, an amendment of adjournment, *sine die*, was carried, a previous amendment, embodying Dr. Thomson's views, having been lost. Although the matter was, in some measure, thus set at rest, unfortunately it became a source of great annoyance and division between the Committee and the Medical Staff, for a considerable time afterwards, and letters and pamphlets appeared on the subject so late as 1834. The whole affair made a great impression upon the faculty, who, with very few exceptions, were so sensible of the great exertions of Dr. S. S. Thomson, performed with so much gentlemanly feeling, and with such heroic devotion to their cause, that they presented him, in December of this year, with an appropriate and costly mark of their admiration and esteem. Since this period, the recollection of this touching event contributed not a little to place him in that exalted position among his brethren, which he held, with honour and dignity, till the last days of his life. We have only here to repeat what we mentioned in reference to a similar unsuccessful movement, that though the spirit of the agitation was for a time suppressed, it was not dead, but, phoenix-like, sprung into renewed vigour, upon a later and more auspicious occasion.

Among the minor events of this epoch, we cannot omit referring to a very pleasing act on the part of the pupils of the Royal Belfast Academical Institution, creditable alike to them and to the management of the Hospital. In the course of the epidemic, then subsiding, a considerable number of students of the College had been seized with the malady, and had been removed from their lodgings to the Hospital for treatment. They were all restored to their friends and fellow-collegians, with a single exception. Under feelings of the deepest gratitude, they penned the following epistle, which deserves this special record:—

TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE BELFAST FEVER HOSPITAL.

GENTLEMEN,—We, the students of the Belfast College, beg leave to return you our sincere thanks, for the many obligations which your repeated kindnesses have conferred upon us, by receiving into your establishment our fellow-students, when labouring under fever, assigning large and commodious rooms exclusively to themselves; providing for them every comfort and convenience which their situation required, and insuring the advice and attendance of the best medical practitioners.

Impressed as we are, gentlemen, with a firm belief, that to your benevolent provision, under God, the recovery of many of our fellow-students is owing, we consider it our duty publicly to express our gratitude; and, even more, when it has pleased God to afflict us by the loss of one of the best beloved, as well as the most talented, of our companions, we feel comfort in remembering, and pleasure in acknowledging, that, by your attention, nothing was omitted that either humanity or skill could do in his behalf.

(Signed, in the name and by the order of the students),

JAMES GLASGOW, Chairman.

THOMAS LOWRY, Secretary.

College, 18th February, 1832.



1835-39.

MEMORABILIA ANNORUM.

1835.

- John Agnew, Esq., Sovereign.
- Townsend-street Presbyterian Meeting-house built.
- Soho Foundry established.
- Exports of linen, £3,730,854.
- Ulster Horticultural Society formed.
- Ulster Railway originated.
- Jan. 23 Died, Henry Joy Holmes, Esq., aged 45.
- Jan. 23 Died, John M'Connell, Esq., aged 70.
- Feb. 20 Died, Thomas Ferguson, Esq., Newforge-green, aged 83.
- Feb. 24 Died, Francis Turnley Batt, Esq.
- March 19 Died, John Barnett, Esq., aged 65, a most valuable member of society.
- April 14 Died, Henry Joy, Esq., in his 81st year; a gentleman of highly cultivated understanding, and benevolent disposition. One of the best of citizens.
- May 2 Died, Henry Rowan, Esq., aged 80; an active co-operator in all useful public movements.
- July 22 Died, H. Forcade, Esq., M.D., Staff Surgeon, aged 50.
- Aug. 11 Died, at London, John M'Cance, Esq., one of the Members for the Borough; a most active and zealous representative, and universally esteemed.
- Oct. 22 Lord Lieutenant visited the Hospital.
- Nov. 17 Died, at Cuba, Mr. James Drummond; an indefatigable botanist. The first curator of the Belfast Botanic Garden. "He accomplished enough by his zeal and researches, to secure him a lasting name throughout the botanical world."—*Gardener's Magazine*.
- Dec. 1 Died, the Rev. Samuel John M'Clean, F.T.C.D., aged 30, son of Adam M'Clean, Esq. Having received the elementary portion of his education at the Belfast Institution, his funeral was attended by the Managers, Visitors, Faculty, and Students.

1836.

- The Ulster Bank established.
- Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals formed.
- The Institution for the Education of the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind opened, in College-street.
- A Society formed for rewarding good servants.
- Belfast Total Abstinence Society established.
- Belfast Association of Artists founded. Hugh Frazer, R.A.H.A., President.
- Oratorical Society established.
- *Ulster Times* issued. Isaac Butt, Esq., editor.
- January 6 Died, Francis Moore, Esq., nephew to the Right Honourable Isaac Corry, Chancellor of the Irish Exchequer. After serving in the Peninsular Campaigns, he settled in this town, and became distinguished for active benevolence.
- Jan. 25 Died, Robert Gamble, Esq., an old and much-respected merchant, a warm friend to the public charities.
- April 13 Died, George Sloane, Esq.
- April 24 Died, Alexander Orr, Esq., merchant, aged 51.
- June 3 Died, near Holywood, William Halliday, Esq., M.D.
- August 14 Died, at Lismoyne, Robert Callwell, Esq., in the 73rd year of his age.
- Sept. 6 The first Exhibition of the Association of Artists.
- Oct. 20 Died, Mr. John C. Bell, House-Surgeon to the Hospital, a victim to Typhus.
- Dec. 9 Died, at Ballymacarrett, John Ward, Esq., aged 60; a much-respected citizen.

1837.

- Act of Harbour Commissioners obtained.
- Malone Meeting-house erected.
- Frederick-street Methodist Meeting-house built.
- *The Reformer* issued, by F. D. Finlay.
- Jan. 6 Died, Henry Ferguson, Esq., aged 61.
- Jan. 13 Died, at Springfield, Joseph Stevenson, Esq., aged 73.
- Jan. 19 Died, Dr. Robert Tennent, a man of most exalted wisdom and goodness.
- Jan. 21 Died, Robert M'Cluney, Esq., Surgeon, aged 69, for many years Surgeon to the Hospital.
- Jan. 25 Died, Robert Elliot, Esq., aged 75.
- Jan. 27 Samuel H. Batt, Esq., aged 67.
- Feb. 3 Died, George Black, Esq., Strandmillis, in his 74th year.
- March 2 Died, at Florida, County Down, David Gordon, in the 78th year of his age.
- March 5 Died, Thomas Garrett, Esq., an eminent solicitor, aged 73.
- May 10 Died, George Bristow, Esq.
- July 17 Died, Mr. T. G. Jacob. To him the Female Penitentiary owed its principal support.
- Aug. 19 Died, Adam Duffin, Esq., formerly of Oaklands.

1833.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — The Mechanics' Institute revived. — The number of steam engines at work, in and about town, had this year arisen to fifty, averaging each 25 horse power. — Officers of Health appointed this year. — Alfred-place Meeting-house built. — Salem Methodist Chapel built. | <table border="0"> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feb. 20 Died, W. Charley, Esq., Seymour Hill, extensive linen bleacher; every charitable institution was familiar with his bounty. March 30 Statistical Society of Ulster established. Sept. 20 Died, at Abbeyville, Thomas Sinclair, Esq., aged 84. Sept. 24 Died, John Stewart, Esq., Surgeon. </td> </tr> </table> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feb. 20 Died, W. Charley, Esq., Seymour Hill, extensive linen bleacher; every charitable institution was familiar with his bounty. March 30 Statistical Society of Ulster established. Sept. 20 Died, at Abbeyville, Thomas Sinclair, Esq., aged 84. Sept. 24 Died, John Stewart, Esq., Surgeon. |
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1833.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Mont de Piete and Loan Fund Society established. — <i>Vindicator</i> issued. Mr. Gavan Duffy, editor. — The Northern Sunday-School Association formed. — Ulster Railway opened to Lisburn. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Berry-street Meeting-house re-opened. — Music Hall built. — York-st. Assembly Meeting-house opened. — Ulster Female Penitentiary established in Brunswick-street. January 6 The memorable hurricane. |
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The Epidemics of 1836-37.

WE have now, again, to record one of those outbursts of disease for which these annals have already become remarkable. Ever since the foundation of the Hospital, fever, which may be called, emphatically, the Irish Plague, became regularly endemic. Not a week—nay, not a day passed, without the discovery of fresh cases, originating, in a great measure, in infection, but, we apprehend, in a much greater degree, connected with the sanitary condition of the localities of the poor—a cause sufficiently extensive and powerful, and one, also, which no spasmodic efforts, however temporarily effective, can destroy. If we reflect for a moment, that the atmospheric contamination of the localities referred to, is in constant formation; and, if concentrated, is of itself sufficient to induce fever; and that this effect, frequently, only needs a certain condition of temperature or density, to develop itself in the shape of an epidemic, we shall have a proper idea of the march of disease in large towns. Now, is this state of things necessarily permanent—is it a condition of society—a law in vital statistics, which no human influence can alter or amend? Are cities like Belfast to become, in proportion as they grow larger, more and more under the shadow of the wings of pestilence? As sanitary reformers, we confidently reply, no! We are induced to believe, that an immensity of power is vouchsafed to a civilized community, if it only act with unanimity and vigour. The experience, incontrovertible and plain, derived from the labours of private individuals,

especially of the medical profession, of local associations, and of Royal Commissions, on this interesting subject, has long since established the principle, that most of the inroads upon the public health originate within ourselves, as communities, and are amenable to a persevering and strenuous application of sanitary measures. Unfortunately, these truths have assumed, as yet, but the form of sentiment, in the public mind—they have not leavened the mass with a truly working spirit. The principle of fear may, and does, occasionally induce a paroxysmal, practical acknowledgment of their importance, but their *universal and daily application* is a desideratum, as yet, in all large communities. Hence it is, that many, many years, must doubtless elapse ere the press will cease to record the occurrence of epidemics, such as the one to which we shall now allude.

About the month of August, 1836, the admissions into the Hospital of fever cases began perceptibly to increase, and continued without intermission to augment, until the middle of June, 1837, from which date they gradually abated in the summer of the following year. In this long period there could not have been less than 4,000 patients stricken with the disease. When at the highest point, the number of recipients averaged eleven per day. To accommodate this large number, which exceeded that of any epidemic hitherto recorded, it was necessary to bring into requisition the old Barracks, belonging to the Royal Academical Institution, which was at once granted; and the additional support needed was raised by an extraordinary appeal, which was nobly responded to by the inhabitants, in addition to the very large grant of £1,600 from the Grand Jury. These resources enabled the Committee to meet the trying time with success.

It is not a little remarkable that Influenza prevailed very generally, co-existent with the earlier period of the epidemic. In fact, it did not appear in any way to influence its course, as might have been expected; but, on the contrary, the number of fever cases rather increased than diminished. Though generally, not a very severe or fatal disorder, yet when it attacked the aged and infirm, and especially convalescents from fever, the mortality assumed a serious aspect. While this disorder was subsiding, its place was supplied for a time by epidemic Erysipelas—a most alarming disease when it gets into our wards, and attacks patients in the progress of recovery. Cases were not unfrequent, which, after reaching a favourable convalescence, were rapidly carried off by its malignant touch.

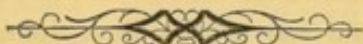
In the course of our History, we do not render an obituary record among our medical brethren deserving of more particular notice than that of the late DR. HENRY FORCADE, and DR. ROBERT TENNENT.

DR. FORCADE was an Army Surgeon when he returned to this town. He had accompanied "the Duke" through all the Peninsular Campaigns, and so distinguished himself in his department, as to receive the old General's particular commendation. He thus arrived under most favourable auspices, and in a very short time acquired the esteem of his brethren and townsmen. It was not long ere he became connected with the different medical institutions—the Dispensary and Hospital in 1819; and he formed one of that memorable meeting which revived the Medical Society, to which he was Treasurer up till the date of his decease. For his long and most assiduous services, in connexion with that Society, we must all hold his memory in the most affectionate regard. No man combined more of the social and friendly offices of society with the business habits of public life. Few names have reached us, even at the present day, which will be longer or more honourably remembered.

DR. TENNENT was the son of the Rev. John Tennent, Presbyterian Minister of Roseyards, near Ballymoney. He was born 9th of August, 1765. He was educated for the medical profession; and, after having graduated, he went out to the West Indies, with the intention of practising his profession, but having here become connected with several properties, as agent, he was induced to remain there, more in the character of a civilian. It appears that he afterwards, in June, 1793, embarked in the Navy, as Surgeon, in which service he continued till 1800, when he returned to his native country. In 1802, he regularly settled in this town, from which period, up till his death, he devoted himself with uncommon zeal, and most disinterested concern to the affairs of our public Charities, more especially to the Fever Hospital and the House of Industry. To the former he was, for many years, a most active Treasurer. He does not appear to have regularly practised his profession, which is rendered most likely from his incessant assiduity to promote the interests of his beloved Charities. His benevolent spirit, amiable disposition, and eminent piety, combined to make him deeply and generally respected. His life has long since past, but his deeds remain in the memory of many.

In the Medical History of this period, we notice, that about the year 1835,

that Dr. Murray, the present efficient Medical Officer of the Ballymacarrett Dispensary was elected. This Charity, which was established chiefly for the purpose of supplying the poor of the locality with advice and medicine, was originated by Mr. GREGG, a resident of that neighbourhood. The institution was opened about the year 1810, under the management of a Committee of subscribers, with Mr. Heron as Attendant. Mr. M'Clure succeeded, and, in his turn, was followed by Dr. Scott, and Dr. Hawthorn.



1840-44.

MEMORABILLIA ANNORUM.

1840.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Act passed for supplying the town with spring water, carried out by nine commissioners. — The Water Works constructed. — Royal Flax Society organized. C. M'G. Skinner, secretary. — St. Patrick's Orphan Society established. — Belfast Rhetorical Society formed. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feb. 1 Died, John Wales, Esq., Surgeon to the Hospital. Feb. 10 "Victoria Congratulation Fund;" the cost of a proposed illumination handed to the Treasurer of the Hospital. March 26 First Grand Concert in the Music Hall. April 4 Died, Thomas Mawhinney, Esq., Surgeon. May 28 Died, James Montgomery, Esq., aged 79. Oct. 24 Died, at Hastings, Henry Joy Tomb, Esq. Nov. 10 Ulster Lodge of Oddfellows first established. |
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- Jan. 24 Died, Richard Dobbs, Esq., of Castle Dobbs, aged 87.
- Jan. 27 Died, at Purdysburn, N. Batt, Esq., aged 74.

1841.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Thomas Verner, jun., Esq., Sovereign. — 25 Flax Spinning Mills at work in town. — Population within the boundary, 70,447. — Foundation laid of Queen's Bridge. — The Night Asylum opened. — Poor Law Union Workhouse built. — The Belfast Harmonic Society. Robert S. MacAdam, Esq., Secretary. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — eminent; and, till his last illness, his studies were never discontinued. June 27 Died, James Rowan, Esq., Surgeon, aged 31. Sept. 21 Died, in the 48th year of his age, Edward Charley, Esq., merchant. Oct. 19 Died, George Buchanan, Esq., Surgeon of the County Infirmary. Nov. 5 Died, John Miller, Esq., aged 74. In his death the poor lost along and tried friend. Dec. 20 Died, at Seaview Cottage, David Simms, Esq., aged 70. |
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- Feb. 27 Died, the Rev. William Bruce, D.D., in his 84th year. He was a direct descendant of the Bruce of Bannockburn. In the literary world he was amongst the most

1842.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — T. Verner, jun., Esq., the last Sovereign. — Malone Church consecrated. — Great George's-street Presbyterian Meeting-house built. — Wesleyan Methodist Chapel built in Donegal-place. — The Banner of Ulster issued. — The Railway extended to Lurgan. — Northern Irish Art Union instituted. Dr. Drummond, secretary. — Unitarian Society for the diffusion of christian knowledge. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feb. 22 Died, at Macedon, John Cunningham, Esq., aged 91. His munificence, whether public or private, was proverbial. July 13 Died, Robert M'Gee, Esq., M.D., in his 76th year, one of the best friends to the Charity. Nov. 1 First Meeting of the New Corporation. Dec. 27 Died, Francis M'Cracken, Esq., a highly esteemed merchant; and the last survivor of the Belfast Volunteers, enrolled 26th March, 1788. His maternal grandfather, Francis Joy, Esq., established the <i>News-Letter</i>, 1737. |
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- Jan. 3 Died, Cortland M'G. Skinner, Esq., J.P.

1843.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — George Dunbar, Esq., the first Mayor of Belfast. — Queen's Bridge finished; cost £28,000. — Trinity Church consecrated. — Scottish United Secession Church, College-square, built. — The Bethel Chapel opened. — Newtownbreda-road Meeting-house opened. — The Fine Arts Society instituted. — Northern Rowing Club. C. G. Skinner, secretary. — Belfast Cricket Club. S. N. MacAdam, Esq., secretary. — Union Club established. Geo. K. Smith, Esq., secretary. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Deaf and Dumb Institute erected, Malone. — Fine Arts Society formed. William Bottomley, Esq., secretary. Jan. 17 Died, at Fortbrea, William Boyd, Esq., J.P., aged 70. Feb. Branch of Medical Benevolent Fund of Ireland established. March 7 Died, at the Abbey, William Getty, Esq. May 16 Died, Rev. A. C. Macartney, the much-lamented Vicar. July 23 Died, Robert Simms, Esq., aged 83, upwards of thirty years Assistant-Secretary to the Institution. Sept. 11 Died, Dr. Henry Purdon, aged 79, one of the most successful practitioners. Dec. 21 Died, William M'Clure, Esq., aged 86. |
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1844.

—	John Clarke, Esq., second Mayor.	July 27	Died, Charles Connell, aged 72, ship-builder.
—	St. Ma'lachy's Chapel consecrated.	Oct. 5	Died, George Augustus, the Marquis of Donegall, aged 76. To his liberality, as a landlord, many of our charitable institutions are much indebted.
—	<i>Protestant Journal</i> issued.	Nov. 7	Died, Alexander Mackay, Esq., aged 81, principal proprietor of the <i>News-Letter</i> for nearly half a century.
—	Deaf and Dumb Institution opened at Malone.		
Jan. 12	Died, Samuel Arrott, Esq., Surgeon, aged 67.		
June 1	Died, William McConnell, Esq.		

Arrangement with Poor Law Authorities.

SCARCELY a year elapsed, since the abatement of the last epidemic, till another, fully as lengthened and severe, began to make its appearance. In July, 1839, the number of admissions was considerably above 100. From November till the March following, it was occasionally above 200 per month; and it was not till the close of 1841, that the ordinary standard was regained. Under this state of things, a Board of Health was again asked for, and appointed by the Lord Lieutenant. The College Hospital was opened in 1840, and all the usual preventive measures put in operation. The experience of this epidemic brought into bold relief two important points, which were agitated by the Committee and Subscribers during the whole of this period, namely, the inadequacy of the Hospital for the accommodation of fever, and the great want that was felt for a separate Hospital for Medical and Surgical cases. Hitherto, the Grand Jury of the County Antrim had presented large sums, from time to time, for the support of the Hospital, without having made any special inquiry as to the description of cases received. Early in 1840, however, they passed a resolution, which they forwarded to the Committee, declining to present should any other cases than fever be admitted into the Hospital.

Under these circumstances, it was necessary to separate the Fever from the Medical and Surgical Hospital. And, in consequence of the total want of funds for the support of the latter, all cases, medical or surgical, excepting accidents, were, for a time, refused; and steps were taken to appeal to the inhabitants for special aid. A town meeting was held, on 26th March, 1840, and a resolution passed, authorizing the Committee to appropriate so much of the funds as might be collected at charity sermons for the benefit of the

Medical and Surgical Hospital. On the 21st April following, a general meeting of subscribers instituted a special subscription, for the first time, in aid of the separated Hospital, which, however, was totally inadequate to supply the necessary relief. It was, indeed, with exceeding difficulty that the Committee were enabled to give admission, even to all the severe surgical cases which constantly applied, during this and several following years; and, as for medical cases, some 30 or 40 patients annually, labouring under the most urgent forms of disease, could alone receive accommodation. The public could not be roused into the conviction of the necessity for a General Hospital. Nothing seemed to influence the general mind but the dread of fever—the fear of infection—the apprehension that, if the Fever Hospital were not kept wide open, the malady would soon spread into the ranks of the middle and upper classes. It was most probably this reflection that induced Dr. S. S. Thomson, in June, 1841, to suggest the building of a new Fever Hospital, in the hope that the inhabitants might supply additional funds.

It was fortunate that, some time after this, a correspondence was commenced on the part of the Poor Law Guardians, who requested permission to send to the Hospital any fever cases which might occur in the Workhouse. This application was, in the first instance, refused by the Committee, on the grounds that such fever patients were not legally admissible, inasmuch as the Fever Hospital was supported by Grand Jury assessment, and could therefore only receive patients from the County of Antrim; and further, on the impression that the Poor Law Act might provide for such patients in proper wards of the Workhouse. The application was renewed in February, 1843, whereupon the Committee determined to take the advice of the Grand Jury, who gave it as their opinion, that if the Guardians paid for all fever patients received from the Workhouse, they should be admitted into the Hospital; but if this should not be agreed to, the Committee would not be justifiable in receiving such patients. The Guardians, wishing to act in conformity with this opinion, consulted the Poor Law Commissioners, who positively declared that no payment could legally be made, or allowed out of the poor-rate for the maintenance of any inmates of the Fever Hospital.

No further proceedings were taken in this matter for several months. In the mean time, the cases of fever began steadily to increase, so that, in

October, a special meeting was called, to take into consideration the alarming state of disease, and of making immediate arrangements for providing further accommodation. At this meeting, it was resolved to send a deputation to the Board of Guardians, to confer on this point. The conference was unsatisfactory, and the Committee were thrown upon their usual resources. A fever shed was erected on the Hospital grounds, capable of containing 60 beds. Even this additional accommodation was insufficient to keep pace with the epidemic, as, on the 4th of November, the house contained 319 patients; a number which exceeded, by 100, what could be safely and advantageously accommodated. An amendment of the Poor Law Act having just then received the sanction of Parliament, it was considered a fitting opportunity to ascertain from the Commissioners, what the Guardians were authorized to do for the relief of pauper fever patients, in an emergency like the present. This was supported by a resolution, stating, that in consideration of the overcrowded and dangerous condition of the Hospital, and the very low state of the funds, the Committee would not feel justified in admitting any further patients, except under peculiar circumstances. The result of this step was the appointment, by the guardians, of a deputation, to confer as to the extent of accommodation required to meet the exigency, and under the sanction of the Commissioners to direct the erection of a temporary but sufficient building, on the workhouse grounds, or to hire buildings convertible into an Hospital. The Committee, in a short time, were then prepared to state the number which the Hospital could conveniently accommodate; and an order was passed, prohibiting any further cases until the number in the Hospital would be reduced below 250.

The above will sufficiently explain the circumstances connected with the introduction of fever cases from the town into the Workhouse; a proceeding which sprung directly from the pressing importunity of the Hospital Committee, although it was not till some years afterwards that a regular Hospital was built in connexion with the workhouse; yet, the guardians continued to provide for the treatment of a considerable number, from the date of the conference referred to.

During the greater part of this period, the Medical and Surgical Hospital, now located in the old Cholera Buildings, was well nigh neglected. The funds for its support, in fact, were quite exhausted: the supplies for the fever epidemic absorbed, for a time, the charity of the town, and little hope was

felt, even by the most sanguine, as to the probability of the inhabitants ever adequately supporting a General Hospital.

Most happily for the fortunes of this department of the Charity, a movement was initiated, by RICHARD DAVISON, Esq., to revive the failing interest, and, if possible, to set the institution for medical and surgical cases, upon a thoroughly new basis, by the erection of a separate and complete building, to be designated "THE BELFAST GENERAL HOSPITAL." To ordinary observers the time seemed peculiarly inauspicious. Fever was raging; funds were demanded with an imperious cry; and public attention seemed completely engrossed by the prevailing calamity; but, amidst this storm, the voice of distress from the wounded artizan sounded in the ears of a few benevolent individuals, to whom Mr. Davison made his first application. Encouraged by this good omen, he proceeded vigorously to take the necessary steps to rouse the town, from one end to the other, on the subject of the "New Hospital." The mighty lever of the press was put in operation, and the impoverished condition of the means for affording relief to the numerous accidents and cases of urgent disease, amongst the labouring population of this wealthy manufacturing town, was descanted upon, in terms that forced their way into every heart. Thus prepared, a public meeting was called, by a most influential requisition, a mere glance at which was enough to convince the most incredulous or desponding that the people were up and in earnest. The meeting was held at the Assembly-Rooms, on the 30th November, 1843; the first Mayor most appropriately presided. The greatest enthusiasm prevailed. The overwhelming statements of Mr. Davison made the most powerful impression, which resulted in some of the largest private subscriptions ever previously given for any charitable purpose. We here annex a few of the more prominent, by way of instancing the degree of excitement which the occasion had induced:—

Andrew Mulholland,	...	...	...	...	...	£100	0	0
S. K. Mulholland,	...	...	...	...	...	100	0	0
Thomas Ferguson,	...	...	...	...	...	100	0	0
T. H. Purdon, M.D.,	...	...	...	...	...	100	0	0
S. S. Thomson, M.D.,	...	...	...	...	...	50	0	0
Richard Davison,	...	...	...	...	...	50	0	0
Robert Montgomery,	...	...	...	...	...	50	0	0
John Mackenzie & Co.,	...	...	...	...	...	50	0	0
John Murphy & Co.,	...	...	...	...	...	50	0	0

Coates & Young,	£50	0	0
Gas-Light Company,	50	0	0
J. F. Ferguson,	50	0	0
William Gray,	50	0	0
John Cunningham,	50	0	0
Falls Mills Company,	50	0	0
R. B. B. Houston,	50	0	0
John G. Richardson,	50	0	0

In the long list of Subscribers, for which we must refer our readers to the Appendix, almost every name of any note in the town will be found recorded; and, so liberally did the contributions pour in, that, in the course of a very few weeks, upwards of £3,000 were subscribed. The success, therefore, of the projected Hospital was no longer ideal. The means were now afforded, in all abundance, to raise an establishment worthy of the town. At the meeting referred to, a Committee was appointed to make the necessary arrangements for preparing plans, selecting site, and otherwise setting about the new erection. While so occupied, the year 1844 passed over, and no further step was taken at this time to bring into requisition the large sum which had been raised. The reason of this delay our readers will have already surmised from the result of the correspondence with the Poor Law authorities. It will have been seen, that powers had been recently invested in the hands of the Guardians, to receive cases of fever from the town; and, though they could not have accommodation ready for a considerable time, yet the arrangements to that effect were completed; and the Committee referred to, foreseeing that the town Hospital would be no longer required for fever cases, as soon as a Fever Hospital could be built in connexion with the Workhouse, wisely delayed the appropriation of the Funds entrusted to their charge. To their ultimate destination, as well as the opening of the Union Hospital, we shall prominently allude in the succeeding chapter.

A local circumstance, connected with the memorable day on which our Most Gracious Queen was married (10th February, 1840), cannot well be omitted, as, indeed, it forms a sort of era in these annals. It is the custom, in most towns, on the occurrence of such an event, to illuminate, by way of testifying a loyal feeling. This is, no doubt, very praiseworthy and proper, but is attended with both inconvenience and expense. Now, it so happened that, on the 8th—two days previously—a Town meeting had been

summoned by John Agnew, Esq., then Sovereign, for the purpose of memorializing the Lord Lieutenant to form a Board of Health during the prevalence of the epidemic, which had then reached an alarming extent. The necessary resolutions to this end having been passed, the Rev. John Scott Porter requested to know from the Magistrates present, whether they had come to any resolution respecting the propriety of sanctioning an illumination, in celebration of the Queen's marriage. This having been replied to in the negative, Mr. Porter then proposed the following resolution, which was carried unanimously :—

“Resolved—That, in the opinion of this meeting, it would be highly desirable that the Magistrates should issue a Proclamation to the inhabitants, stating, in effect, that although the community are most anxious to testify publicly the pleasure they feel at the auspicious event of the marriage of her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, yet, under the circumstances of the inclemency of the season, and the contagious fever now raging among us, it would be highly expedient for the inhabitants to abstain from a public illumination ; and further recommend, that the money which would be expended in this mode of testifying joy should be given to the Treasurer of the Fever Hospital for the benefit of that Charity. This, in the opinion of the meeting, would be a more rational, as well as a more humane, mode of testifying public joy, at a time of so much private affliction.

This novel, but eminently happy, proposition, was hailed with the utmost enthusiasm. A list was immediately opened for receiving from all parties willing to contribute to what was appropriately called the “Victoria Congratulation fund,” and Mr. Porter was appointed its Treasurer. The Magistrates entered most heartily into the views of the Meeting, and a proclamation was forthwith issued, under the signatures of nine of their number. Thus heralded, the object received increased favour, as the news spread among the populace ; and, in a few hours, a handsome sum, eventually reaching £178, was received. We conceive that the mere mention of this incident brings with it its highest praise ; and that no mode of testifying a city's loyalty could, under the circumstances, be more tenderly appropriate than one so consonant with the proverbial charity of our beloved Queen.

We had occasion, in the preceding chapter, to notice the death of two worthies of our own profession. It is not a little strange, that in the present period, the departure of two eminent and highly esteemed Divines, both intimately connected with the charity, should await our particular mention in this. We allude to the late Rev. DR. BRUCE, and Rev. A.C. MACARTNEY.

DR. BRUCE claimed an illustrious ancestry, the Irish branch of the family being descended from John de Bruce, third son of Robert, Lord of Annandale, who was competitor with John de Baliol for the crown of Scotland, in 1290, and whose grandson, Robert, afterwards became King. His grandfather was Presbyterian Minister of Holywood, and brother of William Bruce, Esq., a Merchant, in Dublin, who originated the Widow's Fund. His father was the Rev. Samuel Bruce, of Strand-street Congregation, Dublin. After graduating in Trinity College, and a sojourn at the Warrington Academy, he was ordained, at Lisburn, in the year 1779, which he left in three years, for Dublin; and, in the year 1790, accepted a unanimous call from the First Presbyterian Congregation of this town. He had not long arrived when he was unanimously appointed Principal of the Belfast Academy, which situation he held for a number of years, and contributed, by his distinguished reputation, and classical and literary attainments, to stamp it the first Seminary in the North of Ireland. It might have been supposed, from this devotion to the interests of the Academy, that he would have injured his Ministerial charge; on the contrary, however, this never was more flourishing. The congregation vastly increased; the galleries had to be enlarged, to suit the thronging multitude; and, for many years, until declining age and infirmity had impaired his activity and usefulness, he was a leading spirit, not merely to his own persuasion, but to the community at large. He was a most industrious scholar; history, literature, science, and theology, point to his labours with admiration, in their respective departments. To him the Belfast Literary Society owes its origin; and, as evidence of the power and discipline of his mind even in his 84th year, it is recorded that he furnished a criticism upon a scriptural passage, which had previously elicited disputation, a week or two before his death. He was a member of the old Volunteer Association, and sat, as delegate from the town of Carrickfergus, in 1783. His principles were steady and sound, which enabled him to preserve and enjoin with effect the cause of law, liberty, and good government, in times of great difficulty and danger. The charities of Belfast received his cordial interest and attention, more particularly the Dispensary and Fever Hospital, at the foundation of which he zealously laboured.—He died, 27th February, 1841, surrounded with the profound respect of the whole people, and the sorrowing lamentations of his relatives and friends.

We have left ourselves little space to speak of his contemporary, the Rev.

A. C. MACARTNEY, many years Vicar of the Parish. From his position, Mr. MACARTNEY was much called on to promote the different charitable institutions of the town; but with him this was a labour of love. His unbounded and unostentatious charity was proverbial; when *he* was near, the needy never cried in vain. He never wearied in well-doing, but felt a conscious pride in advancing every good work, and promoting the happiness of his fellow-creatures. By his consistent course of active benevolence, his kindly disposition and his universal liberality, he gained the love and esteem of the great and good of his day; and, when he departed, the recollection of his many endearing qualities was so general and so vivid, that a great public meeting was held to testify the admiration and respect in which his life was universally held. This meeting was attended by the best and most influential of all parties and of all sects. The handsome sum of £430 was subscribed on the spot, which, instead of being appropriated to some vain ornament, to perpetuate his memory, was happily transferred to his afflicted family.

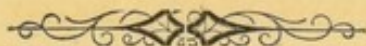
We cannot close this period, without noticing a benevolent institution in connexion with our profession, which was originated in 1842. The 26th of May was the first day of its existence, for which we are indebted to the vigorous and untiring exertions of Dr. Kingsley, of Roscrea, who named it the

MEDICAL BENEVOLENT FUND SOCIETY OF IRELAND.

One year had scarcely elapsed, when many members of the Belfast Medical Society became convinced of its importance; and, accordingly, on the suggestion of the late Dr. Sanders, in February, 1843, a Branch was formed in this town. The object of the Fund is the "relief of Medical men, under severe and urgent distress, occasioned by sickness, accident, or any other calamity." Under circumstances of peculiar emergency, relief may also be afforded to the Widows and Orphans of Medical Practitioners.

Based upon these simple views, the Society, from possessing on the close of the first year only the small sum of £360, can now boast of having funded £2,648 besides having an annual income of above £300; and in addition, the late Mr. Carmichael has bequeathed, in reversion, the munificent sum of £4,500. Other Branches have already been formed at Armagh, Cork, and Newry. Within the last 12 months, 47 families, consisting of five medical men, with their wives and children, 32 widows, and 119 orphans, have been relieved; and, when it is

understood that, amongst the suppliants, are found the relations of men who once held the highest rank in the profession, the necessity for this noble institution must be apparent to the least reflecting mind. Indeed, there is no profession—no calling in which life is so precarious as ours, and no where is this truth more deeply confirmed than in this very country, where the fever-plague is constantly creeping about, “seeking whom it may devour.” This Society, therefore, deserves well, not merely of the entire profession, but of the public at large; and, it may be desirable to state, that the aid of non-professional friends is gratefully acknowledged. Eulogy, however, is not wanting here. Its annual operations carry with them their own justification and their own claims. Let it suffice to say, in the touching language of Scripture:—“It has delivered the poor that cried; the fatherless and him that had none to help;” and has caused “the widow’s heart to sing for joy.”



1845-46.

MEMORABILIA ANNORUM.

1845.

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|---------|--|----------|---|
| — | Andrew Mulholland, Esq., Mayor. | April 24 | Died, Mr. Alex. Montgomery, solicitor. |
| — | Queen's Quay foundation laid. | May 7 | Died, at Thorndale, Samuel Bruce, Esq., in the 56th year of his age. |
| — | Working - Classes' Amelioration Society formed. | Oct. | Died, Wm. Byrre, Esq., M.D. He served in the eventful campaigns of Spain and Portugal. The descendant of an old Belfast family, who had for generations occupied high places in connection with the corporation and principal institutions; his active philanthropy, on returning to his native town, proved him in nothing degenerate, and earned for him the highest respect of his fellow-citizens |
| — | Public Baths projected. | | |
| — | Ulster Teachers' Association formed. Rev. Dr. Bryce, president. | | |
| — | The New Deaf and Dumb Institute opened. | | |
| — | Crumlin Road Gaol Prison completed. | | |
| — | New Belfast Bank built. | | |
| April 5 | James M'Donnell, Esq., M.D., expired, at his residence, Donegall-place, in the 82nd year of his age. | | |

1846.

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|---------|---|---------|--|
| — | John Kane, Mayor. | April 3 | Died, Robert Workman, Esq., aged 70, a merchant of Belfast, for 38 years. |
| — | New Fever Hospital erected, Malone. | May 23 | Died, at Fortfield, Robert Wright, Esq., in the 65th year of his age. |
| — | The General Dispensary, hitherto connected with the Hospital, now placed under separate management. | June 18 | Died, at Fortwilliam, Geo. Langtry, Esq. He was the first to establish steam communication between this and other ports. |
| — | Queen's Quay formed. | July 26 | Died, Jas. M. Sanders, Esq., M.D., aged 32. |
| — | "Belfast Working Classes' Association" formed. | Sept. 5 | Died, at Ballywalter, Fortescue Gregg, Esq. |
| — | Ulster Temperance Society originated by Dr. Edgar. | Dec. 7 | Died, Thomas MacLurcan, Esq., surgeon. |
| — | Belfast Reform Club established. | — | The County Down Railway incorporated. |
| March 6 | Died, in Dublin, Henry Joy, Esq., formerly of this town. | | |

TRUTH is strong and must prevail. Though ever so long shrouded in the mists of prejudice, it eventually bursts forth, to illumine the general mind.

The agitation on the subject of providing salaries for the District Attendants, though unsuccessful, on two successive occasions, was destined to receive a happy consummation in the year 1845. In the beginning of June this year, a small number of the District Medical Attendants, having been thoroughly convinced, from actual experience, of the defects of the gratuitous system of Medical relief in the dwellings of the poor, earnestly conceived the idea of bringing about a reform. Some glaring instances of the insufficiency of the system, having recently come under their notice, gave a fresh impetus to the project; and, though the time was far from being auspicious, they embarked upon their enterprize with a determination and

a zeal, which almost commanded success ; they relied upon the goodness of their cause for its due appreciation by the public, when properly expounded ; and they were not mistaken, as the event will show.

In order to give an opportunity to the Medical Profession at large to express its opinion, a public meeting was requested by the Provisional Committee, which was held on the 22nd July. A very large and influential attendance was the result ; the greatest unanimity prevailed, and even among those who formerly were to be found ranged under the gratuitous standard, several joined cordially in the present movement ; and we believe, that no call for redress ever received stronger confirmation than on this occasion.

Dr. S. S. Thomson was most appropriately called to the chair, and took occasion to remark, that, while on a former day, he had taken an active part in a similar movement, he had no share in originating the present agitation ; but, nevertheless, his former opinion, respecting District Medical Attendance, remained entirely unchanged.

Four resolutions were successively introduced, and unanimously adopted, stating, in effect, that the mode of procuring Medical Attendance hitherto in operation, had been found, by experience, totally inadequate to realize the object of the Dispensary, and that the sole cause of this defect was the want of sufficient inducement to encourage Medical men to labour energetically in the Districts ; and strongly urging upon the subscribers to reform the basis of the institution, and remove its objections, by appointing salaried officers ; and while doing this, the meeting distinctly disclaimed any reference to the mode of appointment of the Medical Staff of the Hospital, believing that such a situation carried with it its own reward. Encouraged by the countenance of the Profession, thus warmly given, a proposition, embodying the new views, was submitted to the Committee of the Dispensary, who objected coming to any formal decision, until further particulars and statistics should be laid before them, with respect to the practice adopted in other populous towns. This was at once acceded to, and documentary evidence was shortly procured from other parts of Ireland, and from England and Scotland, as to the practice of supplying Medical Attendance in public Dispensaries ; and further, the opinion of the principal clergy of this town, both as to the working of the system hitherto pursued—so far as they could judge from their personal experience in their visits among the poor—and as to the merits of the abstract question, was most willingly afforded.

In this way, the Provisional Committee accumulated a vast amount of most conclusive data, which having been digested into the form of a report, was formally laid before the Managing Committee. This document was duly considered by a Sub-committee, specially appointed, who reported, on the 22nd of November, to the effect, that they considered the plan suggested to be then utterly impracticable, inasmuch as its realization would require an additional expenditure of at least £700 per annum; while, far from having any surplus to dispose of, the Dispensary was then deeply in debt to the Treasurer, and no means whatever within their power existed to raise funds sufficient, even partially, to realize the views suggested. They were further of opinion, that the necessary funds could not be raised, save by the interference of the legislature. Under these circumstances, they declined to discuss the question as regards the principle involved, or in its application to the Dispensary; but they considered the report deserving the attention of the Committee, with a view to discussion on a future day, under more favourable circumstances.

In order to testify their sincerity in holding the views they did, now that their application for redress was ignored—most of the District Attendants immediately sent in their resignation, expressing, at the same time, their regret, that a matter which so deeply involved the interest of the Charity, should have been allowed to drop. In taking this decisive step, they considerably determined, however, to continue their services till some satisfactory measure would be adopted. The Committee, seeing the determined position of the Medical Officers, immediately requested the Mayor to summon, at his convenience, a meeting of the Inhabitants, to take into consideration the exhausted state of the funds of the Dispensary, and a new mode of attending the district poor, suggested by the District Attendants. This meeting was held on the 18th of December, Andrew Mulholland Esq., Mayor, in the chair.

The new system, contrary to the expectations of many, was unanimously adopted: an influential Committee was appointed, to frame a constitution, based on the principles agreed to; also, to raise necessary funds to accomplish its formation, and liquidate the debt of the old Dispensary. This Committee reported on the 26th of March, 1846, to a very large meeting of Subscribers. Two Dispensary stations were agreed to be established, in addition to the Hospital Dispensary. The town was divided into six Districts: one Medical Attendant to be appointed to each, and one Apothecary to each station; the salary of each Attendant to be £50; of each

Apothecary not less than £60. In accordance with the constitution now adopted, an election of six Medical Officers was held, on the 11th of April following, from which time to the present, the Charity has been carried on with regularity and efficiency, and has fully realized the best anticipations of its early promoters. We may here mention, that a recent enactment will most probably place this institution on a more satisfactory footing, as regards its means of support. Hitherto, having depended upon private subscriptions, and a county grant combined, it was liable to considerable fluctuation in the amount annually raised, which might occasionally interfere with its usefulness. This danger, there is reason to hope, will soon be entirely removed, as, under the new law, the establishment will be supported by the Union rate. And we have great gratification in reflecting, that, on the occasion of this change, the system which we had the happiness of contributing, in some degree, to originate, has been the means of raising the professional standing of its Attendants—a circumstance which cannot but be advantageous in any new arrangements.

The delay, alluded to in the previous chapter, in appropriating the funds raised for the NEW GENERAL HOSPITAL, continued throughout the year 1845, during which the greater portion of the money was lodged in bank. To carry on the Medical and Surgical Department in the old building, even on the most insignificant scale, so completely exhausted was the treasury of the Committee, that they were constrained to solicit advances from the Building Fund. On this account, £400 were withdrawn before steps were taken to place that department on a more satisfactory footing. The completion of the New Fever Hospital, on the Workhouse premises, seemed to present a fitting opportunity for effecting the proposed views. Fever cases were now provided with accommodation in the new Hospital. The town Hospital was, therefore, available for being re-modelled, so as to suit the design of the projectors of the Building Fund. The necessity for raising a new erection had departed. A conference was, accordingly, held, to take into consideration such measures as would render more effective Surgical and Medical aid to the poor of the town than could then be afforded, on account of the exhausted state of the funds; and to make the old Fever Hospital available for the purpose of a General Hospital, which the Committee of the Building Fund would have in their power to accomplish. Accordingly, on the 10th September, a joint meeting was held, of the contributors

and subscribers to the old Charity and to the new Fund, when a regular transfer was made by the representatives of the last surviving Trustee, of the present Hospital buildings and grounds, to new Trustees, to be appointed for carrying into effect the trust in the original lease. The new Hospital then formally received the title of the "BELFAST GENERAL HOSPITAL." A President, Vice-Presidents, Life-Governors, and a Managing Committee were appointed, and instructions were given to prepare the deed of transfer, to be handed over to Andrew Mulholland, John Clarke, and Richard Davison, Esqrs., the new Trustees.

The money collected at this time, which amounted to £2,807, was transferred to the Governors and Committee, for expenditure by them, in remodelling the present buildings, and adapting them to the purpose of the new institution, the balance to be invested by them as an Endowment Fund. Sub-committees were further appointed to revise the regulations, and examine and report on the necessary alterations which the buildings required; and, to crown this prosperous termination of a long-delayed scheme, the thanks of the entire meeting were most appropriately given to Mr. Davison, for the successful issue to which he had brought his great undertaking, and also for his general services to the interests of the town, wherever they could be usefully applied.

While these interesting proceedings were going forward, the NEW UNION HOSPITAL had been relieving fever patients, for some time, under the able direction of Dr. J. S. Reid, who was previously appointed Physician by the Board of Guardians.

In the erection of this new building, the greatest possible amount of care was bestowed to render it one, in every way, suited to its object, and equal to the expectations which the advancement of scientific means for insuring ventilation, so necessary in fever Hospitals, had raised. In short, the ingenuity of the designers was taxed to the utmost, to make it a model of Hospital architecture. It is estimated to accommodate between 300 and 400 patients. The wards are lofty, spacious, of uniform temperature, and scrupulously clean. In addition to the natural ventilation by large open fires and fire-places, there is a very efficient mechanical contrivance to remove the ascending air continually from the wards; and, in order to prevent the possibility of infection from the clothes of the patients, on leaving the Hospital they are steamed, washed, and thoroughly dried immediately after admission. Not

less complete are the clinical arrangements. And already has the Physician put on record a large amount of the result of his vast experience—a result that has contributed to place, in their proper differential positions, the numerous types of fever—a view of which may be gleaned from the tables of the Appendix. We notice this matter particularly, because it is exceedingly rare to find a Union Attendant devoting so much of his time and talent to the cause of medical science.

The reader cannot fail to notice, that the most important events connected with our history have been chronicled in this period—events which have, in a great measure, transformed the original machinery of the Charity. The Dispensary—the most ancient department, we have seen severed from the associations of half a century, and transferred to new. Another provision is at this time about to supersede the long-established mode of relief for the fever-stricken, and a new and more imposing institution is to occupy its place.

Important as are the events which distinguish the period we are now closing, none, we feel assured, will strike the reader with more interest than the demise of Doctor M'DONNELL.

It is not a little remarkable that, while those sweeping revolutions in the affairs of the Charity, to which we have referred, were on the eve of completion, that master-mind, which conceived the earliest idea of the Institution, was summoned hence. He who had watched with almost paternal anxiety its slow and difficult developement—whose every thought glowed with high anticipations of its ultimate extended utility—who saw it rise from the obscurity of an insignificant retreat, to take the most prominent position among the many excellent institutions of the town, was now called away. His work was done. The aspirations of his lifetime had been realized, and a new era was dawning upon the charity.

The Doctor was the second son of Michael M'Donnell, Esq., Cushendun, whose family is one of the most ancient in the North of Ireland. He received his early education in this town, where he attended the school of the eminent David Manson, whose death we have recorded in the year of the foundation of the Charity. In classics, he was instructed by Mr. Garnett; and, after passing through the necessary studies, he graduated in Medicine, in the University of Edinburgh, at the age of twenty-two, and shortly afterwards settled in Belfast. His varied literary attainments, combined

with his devotion to his profession, contributed to raise him rapidly in the estimation of the public. Friends flocked around him, in admiration of his talent; and, long before the ordinary period of professional fame, he became celebrated as one of the first physicians, not alone in Belfast, but, in the whole country around. It has been happily observed, that Dr. M'Donnell "was long the Nestor of science in Belfast." He gathered around him the great spirits of the age, and no contemporary of any note in Britain was ignorant of his profound learning and distinguished name. It would seem, indeed, that so great and varied was his intellectual capacity, that he was enabled, almost single-handed, to stamp a literary fame upon the entire locality—a reputation which, however appropriate to the individual, we very much fear was far from being so to the mass. His memory was of the highest order; and no subject of any importance, past or present, in any age or country, seemed beyond his grasp. But we desire rather to look upon his character in a moral point of view. As a man of the loftiest benevolence, he shone conspicuously amongst his contemporaries. He spared neither his time, his pocket, nor his labour, in his devotion to the Charitable Institutions of the town; and, to the very latest period of his protracted life, his heart was filled with that love that wearies not in well-doing. The Dispensary and the Fever Hospital were peculiarly the objects of his unceasing care. So long as health permitted was he to be seen, night and day, working in the Districts like a very slave, or toiling in the Wards for hours. He seemed, indeed, actuated by some unusually powerful motive, which no circumstance, however untoward, could damp. It is recorded, that his devotion to the poor occasionally interfered with his attention to the solicitations of the rich; but, however this may be, while he gained the gratitude of the one, he lost not the respect nor admiration of the other. The principle of active benevolence, which formed an inherent portion of his original character, he was disposed to think was equally enjoyed by his brethren; and this led him to imagine that what formed with him the happiest return for days and nights of anxious exertion, in bringing relief to the sick couch of poverty, should equally sustain the spirits of all other men in similar circumstances; and, to the last, this ruling idea continued its deep impression. This trait was frequently unfortunate in its results; and, on several occasions, he became estranged from his brethren. These shadows, so to speak, on an otherwise brilliant picture, serve only to heighten

the colouring, and to relieve, with greater effect, the richness of his general character; for, whether we view Dr. M'Donnell as a philanthropist, a scholar, or a physician, we cannot but award him the highest place among the memorable of the land. His fellow-citizens bore striking testimony of their respect. The largest procession followed his remains, comprising the highest dignitaries of the Corporation and the Clergy, the entire body of his Medical brethren, and an immense concourse of the wealthy and the poor.

In the following year, July 26, 1846, another kindred spirit, after a brief but brilliant career, was called to his fathers. The name of Dr. J. M. SANDERS will long stand high in that distinguished roll which Belfast citizens will ever love to honour. None, probably, at his early age, ever before enjoyed so high a place in the public mind. He was born 24th April 1814. Ere he was four years old, he was deprived of both his parents, whose place, however, was amply filled by his paternal uncle and aunt, who watched and tended his early years with a fondness and a care which the peculiar circumstances under which he became their charge contributed greatly to enhance. He received a portion of his education at Glasgow; but, when 12 years old, he was removed with the family to Belfast, and immediately became a pupil of the Royal Academical Institution, where he continued till May, 1830, having made a character already, for industry and talent; and, above all, upright integrity of principle. Having selected the medical profession, he at once entered upon its study; and, having received a preliminary portion of his professional education here, he visited successively Dublin, Glasgow, and Edinburgh, and finally graduated in the latter place, in 1835; soon after which he commenced practising in this town, where, with the exception of a temporary absence, in the charge of the Ardglass Dispensary, in 1837, he remained till within a short time of his death. The delicacy of his constitution early betrayed itself; but, regardless of all personal inconvenience and even danger, his ardent temperament stimulated him to labour without ceasing, and induced him to listen to every call of distress. The arduous duties of a yearly-increasing practice told upon his frame, in 1846; and that fatal malady, which has at all times carried off so many of the bright and good of the earth, became developed in his system, and in a few months, hurried him to the grave. His estimable character called forth the touching eloquence of his pastor, who, most appropriately chose

for his text on the occasion the title of the tender Luke, "the beloved physician."

The life thus prematurely closed, presents many points of great interest both to the professional and ordinary reader. As an example, however, for those who are just entering the portals of medicine, it must be peculiarly interesting. It were a pleasing, though, at the same time, a mournful task, to sift the motives and impulses of that mind whose constant concern was to spread widely those blessings with which he was intrusted; and in this service he literally wore out. His extraordinary exertions, which engrossed almost every moment of his time, were one element in his success; his kindness of manner and gentleness of deportment, combined with an excellent education and the strictest moral and religious principles, contributed to establish and to enhance that success to an unusual degree. While viewing him in his professional capacity, no man in the short space of eleven years, ever acquired so much of the confidence of the public or the respect and admiration of his brethren. There is a monument over his grave, which will, better than any eulogy, inform the visitor how deeply and how widely he was beloved.



1847-50.

MEMORABILIA ANNORUM.

1847.

—	John Harrison, Esq., Mayor.	May	22	Public Baths and Wash-houses opened; cost of erection, £3,500.	
—	Ballymena Railway opened.	May	27	Died, Francis Lepper, Esq., one of the oldest and most respected inhabitants.	
—	Wesleyan Methodists' Chapel, Donegall-square, rebuilt.	May	29	Died, of the prevailing epidemic, Surgeon Murray, High-street, aged 56.	
Jan.	5	Died, Robert Coffey, Esq., M.D., Professor of Surgery in the Royal Academical Institution.	July	20	Died, Mathew Black, Esq., an eminent and worthy merchant.
March	13	"The Swatara" emigrant vessel puts in, with fever on board.	Sept	6	Died, at the Grove, Robert Simms, Esq., greatly regretted.
April	12	Day Asylum opened.	Oct.	9	Died, Mr. Alfred Anderson, of typhus, caught in the discharge of his arduous duties as House Surgeon of the Hospital.
May	9	Died, John Kane, Esq., in the 58th year of his age, late Mayor.			
May	11	Died, W. Mulholland, Esq., founder of the Day Asylum.			

1848.

—	George Suffern, Esq., Mayor.				for upwards of 30 years, in the 'Royal Academical Institution.
—	The Queen's College built.	June	2	Died, Thomas Hughes, Esq., long known as one of the wealthiest inhabitants.	
—	Belfast and County Down Railway opened to Holywood.	June	12	Died, Hill Charley, Esq., aged 43, for many years an active and highly respected merchant.	
April	22	Died, in his 84th year, Rev. Dr. Cairns, Professor of Logic and Belles Lettres,			

1849.

—	Sir W. Johnson, Mayor.	June	12	Died, aged 93, James Forsythe, Esq., M.D.	
April	6	Died, Rev. Dr. Crolly, Roman Catholic Primate, aged 68. He was the founder of the R. C. College and the unfinished Cathedral of Armagh; eminently distinguished as a philanthropist, he was member of the Committee of the Hospital, and took a most active part in all its proceedings.	July	20	Died, Drummond Anderson, Esq., aged 73; proprietor of the <i>Commercial Chronicle</i> since its commencement in 1805.
		Aug.	11	The Queen's visit to Belfast.	
		—		The Lord Lieutenant presents to the Hospital a donation of £300 from Her Majesty.	
April	31	Died, Dr. S. S. Thomson, aged 72, the father of the Medical Profession in this town, and promoter of every good and charitable work.	Aug.	13	Died, Geo. Suffern, Esq., ex-Mayor, in the 59th year of his age.
		Aug.	13	Died, Adam McClean, Esq., in his 83rd year.	
		Dec.	20	The inauguration of Queen's College.	

1850.

—	James Stirling, Esq., Mayor.	Sept.	15	Died, aged 68, William Arthur, Esq., one of the oldest Linen Merchants in the North of Ireland.	
April	27	Died, Alexander Kendal, Esq., Staff Surgeon.	Sept.	22	Died, Alexander Turnley, Esq., aged 75.
Aug.	11	First Fete in commemoration of her Majesty's visit, for the benefit of the Hospital, which realized £277.	Dec.	19	Died, William Gray, Esq. He was extensively connected with the Linen trade of Ulster.
Sept.	11	The Lord Lieutenant visits Belfast.			

THE beginning of 1847 was marked by the prevalence of small-pox and dysentery among the poor, and several hundred cases of these diseases were transferred from the Workhouse to the General Hospital. Both maladies assumed a grave type; and the subjects of dysentery, in particular, were specimens of the worst form we ever witnessed. Whether there was

any connexion between this event and the fearful times that were about to follow, it is difficult to say; but we rather incline to the opinion, that the same atmospheric condition was evinced thus early, more especially when we remember the calamitous effect upon the vegetable creation, in the instance of Ireland's staple article of diet. However this may be, it is not a little remarkable that the very first indications of the devastating plague, in comparison with which all previous epidemics were trivial and insignificant, should make its appearance in the hold of an emigrant vessel, bound for America.

"*The Swatara*" had sailed from Liverpool, with several hundred passengers, and was many days out on her passage before the disease commenced to appear. At this very time, the winds were so contrary, that the vessel could not make further way, and the captain was obliged to return without delay. He put into this port in a very shattered condition, with several sick, and the passengers generally in a sad plight, in consequence of the scarcity of provisions. The sick passengers were landed, and after having recruited, the captain again put to sea, but had not proceeded far when she was obliged to run into Derry, in consequence this time, however, of the spread of the fever amongst the passengers. After some delay, she was once more under way, but was obliged to retrace her course for the third time. On this occasion she returned to Belfast, with a large proportion of her passengers attacked. They were removed to the General Hospital at once. The fever in the town now began to increase, and in a very short period, the Hospital was so full that the Board of Guardians were urged to give more extended relief. The numbers increased, however, so rapidly that even this could have been of little avail. Much greater accommodation was wanting to contend with an epidemic which was beginning to exhibit unprecedented strength.

Accordingly, the inhabitants were called together, on April 27th, to petition for a Board of Health, which was immediately granted. The Board was in operation on the 6th of May, and proceeded, with the greatest energy, to provide sufficient accommodation, and to carry out, upon the most extensive scale, those sanitary operations which produced such good results on former occasions. The Union infirmary was enlarged by nearly 90 beds, and a shed was erected on the grounds of the General Hospital. The old Cholera buildings, and, in short, every available spot, were filled with patients. Still it was

not enough. The plague was striking down its victims, at the rate of 50 per day, and, with the addition of the College Hospital, which was now opened, the total number of cases on the 29th of May was 1,149—a number very nearly twice the annual average of previous ordinary years.

It was not, however, till the middle of July, that the epidemic reached its height—the weekly admissions having risen to 660, and the number in Hospital, at one time, above 2000.

Fortunately, the weather was most favourable, which permitted the erection of canvass tents, on the workhouse grounds, capable of holding 700 patients. These were appropriated to convalescents, and very much relieved the Hospitals. Indeed, had it not been for this provision, it is questionable whether the epidemic could have been mastered, without the occurrence of those appalling scenes which disgraced, for a time, the Dublin relief authorities. Even, as it was, with all this immense accommodation, many patients had to remain for hours awaiting admission, at the gates of the Hospital.

From the date last mentioned, a gradual subsidence of the epidemic ensued. Each successive month showed diminishing numbers; and, on the 13th of November, the General Hospital ceased to receive patients. The Barrack-Street Hospital was closed in December, the Workhouse accommodation having been then sufficient. Taking the aggregate of the three Hospitals, the total number of admissions from the beginning of the epidemic till the end of December, 1847, was 13,676! to which, if we add a fair proportion for private cases; we shall have some idea of the enormous extent of this memorable pestilence. It may be safely affirmed, that one out of every five persons in Belfast was attacked during this year.

It will be readily concluded, that such a vast amount of disease must have had a corresponding influential cause. We have already alluded to the probable atmospheric condition, which, no doubt, existed; but we must not forget the prevalent state of destitution which this and the previous year witnessed, throughout the length and breadth of the land. We well remember the aspect of the hordes of poor who thronged into the town, from all parts. Famine was depicted in the look, in the hue, in the voice, and the gait. The food of a nation had been cut off; the physical strength of a whole people was reduced; and this condition, highly favourable to the impression of the plague-breath, resulted in the most terrible epidemic that this Island ever experienced.

While referring to this period we cannot with propriety omit all reference to the noble position which Belfast assumed on this memorable occasion. On the 6th of January, a requisition was presented to the Mayor, by a number of the most influential merchants and professional men, to call a public meeting to take steps for alleviating the distress in Ireland, without restriction to any locality, and to do so on a scale commensurate with the enormous demand. The requisitionists had previously raised about £2,700, as a commencement. The meeting was held (one of the greatest, and most enthusiastic,) on the 15th of January, and a subscription list at once opened, which was very soon filled with some of the largest subscriptions ever received, —Andrew Mulholland & Son, and Richardson, Brothers, & Co., heading the list with £200 each; and, before the sheet was closed, the amount raised reached upwards of £7,000. With this, applications received from (with a single exception) every County in Ireland, were, in a large proportion, happily relieved.

This great movement well became the capital of the North. It was the crowning act in her History, and made her, for a time, an example for the world. Well may she boast of her prosperity, when she can point to such noble deeds, to show, that, in the midst of her increasing wealth, she has preserved intact the purity of the christian virtues!

The great commotion and excitement of the year 1847 was followed by a period of calm, which enabled the Committee to carry out the instructions of the Subscribers, in reference to the remodelling of the Hospital. Accordingly, the Medical Staff having reported as to the additional accomodation and improvements necessary to form a complete General Hospital, an appropriate design was made out by the Architect, Charles Lanyon, Esq., and an estimate thereon duly accepted from Messrs. Smith and Ross. These alterations and improvements principally included the construction of an Operating Theatre, Accident wards, and Bath-rooms, all which were in due time completed; and the General Hospital may now be considered in every respect commensurate with the wants of the town and the requirements of the patients. Those of our readers who are not conversant with the internal arrangements of this Hospital, we beg to refer to the accompanying sketch and plans, which will supply every requisite information: but to those who may have the opportunity, we strongly reccommend a personal inspection, which will

supply a more definite and satisfactory conception of the internal economy, and, more especially, of its never-ceasing utility, than the most elaborate description.

The opening of 1849 strongly recalls to our memory the early period of 1832. On both occasions the town had been reposing after an arduous struggle with disease, when the vanguard of a new enemy made its appearance. In neither case, however, could it be said to be unexpected; for, during an early period in 1848, we confidently expressed our anticipation of a visitation from the Asiatic Cholera (which, during the previous year, had entered the European territories), from its original endemic locality, and was then extending itself through the principal towns and districts on the Continent.

On the 1st of October, the first case in England occurred at Hull, just as in the former epidemic; and, soon after, we find it reported from Leith, Edinburgh, London, and Glasgow, besides many smaller places in both countries. Judging from the steadiness of its onward progress, and from the manner in which it visited this country, in 1832, we were not surprised at hearing of a case of this disease in this town on the 1st of November. It occurred in the Lunatic Asylum, and was for upwards of a month the only case. The second occurred in the person of a pauper, imported from Edinburgh, who had contracted the disease four days before his admission into the Union Hospital, on the 4th of December. Soon, additional cases arose, and were at first confined to the latter building, but afterwards appeared in various localities in town and suburbs. On comparison with the epidemic, of 1832, we observe several points of similarity. Thus, there were two culminating points, one in March and the other, the maximum, in July. The duration was also very similar, being about 46 weeks in the former and 50 weeks in the latter; while the main differences were limited to the number of cases, proportionately to the existing population, and to the number of deaths in proportion to the cases observed. In the former epidemic there were 2,870 cases, in a population of 54,000—making a ratio of rather better than 5 per cent.; whereas, now, with a population nearly double, the total number of cases in the districts amounted only to 2,057; which gives a ratio of scarcely 2 per cent.: and, even, if we take the entire Union, the proportion would only be 3 per cent.; and, as to the amount of mortality, in 1832

it was estimated at 16 per cent., whereas, on the latter visitation, it amounted as nearly as possible to 33 per cent. This mortality is thus double what obtained in 1832, both relatively and absolutely, a circumstance which was, however, by no means peculiar to this locality. For further information, as to its march in the districts, we must refer to our Appendix.

The measures adopted during this epidemic, towards preventing the spread of the disease, were, we believe, very effective. The general arrangements were placed in the hands of the Guardians, under the Contagious Diseases Act. The Dispensary Attendants, with others, were formed into a Visiting Staff. One station, at the Old House of Correction, Howard-Street, was kept open night and day. A Medical Attendant was constantly on the spot; horses were ready to convey him, with the greatest despatch, to the sufferer, at any part of the town; and, for the neighbouring districts of the Union, special officers were appointed, with similar duties. The General Hospital was again engaged to receive cases, from a certain division of the town, the other portion being supplied by the Union Hospital. In addition to these admirable arrangements, for treating the disease at the earliest moment, sanitary measures were largely and simultaneously employed.

And here we cannot let pass this opportunity of referring to the exertions of a very useful Society, which was in full operation at the time; we mean the

“BELFAST SANITARY COMMITTEE,”

which was formed at a Town meeting, on the 2nd March, 1848. On this occasion a report on the sanitary condition of Belfast was submitted, as a basis for the formation of the Committee. This report exhibited some startling facts, with regard to the state of the poorer localities, and the comparative sanitary position of the town itself; and especial comment is made upon the relation which the presence of fever holds to the circumstances under which we live.

The interesting points brought forward, and which we regret our limited space obliges us to omit, made a deep impression on the meeting; and a Committee of the inhabitants was forthwith appointed, for the purpose of carrying out the recommendations in the report. This Committee, early anticipating the advent of the Cholera, issued a general notice on the 24th July, on the importance and necessity of cleanliness and ventilation, and, in September following, commenced holding a series of district meetings, to

which all classes, but particularly the poor, were invited, for the purpose of disseminating information in connection with the health of the town, suited to the apprehended visitation, and pointing out the most salutary means for speedy adoption under the circumstances referred to. On the 9th October, in imitation of a system pursued in 1832, and then found to realize much good, both in facilitating the application of necessary preventive measures, and in familiarizing the public with the utility of sanitary operations, from 8 to 13 persons were appointed to each district as Health Visitors. About 33 acted; and, through their recommendations, most of the house-cleansing operations were accomplished. A large number of copies of directions, as to the best established preventive treatment, were circulated amongst the poor. In this way the Committee were enabled materially to improve the condition of the town, and, at the same time, to thoroughly instruct the inhabitants on the nature of the coming epidemic, a considerable period before the occurrence of a single case. In addition to the Cholera, the Committee devoted their attention to various other matters, respecting the public health of the town, which, had they been persevered in, might have resulted in very important improvements; but with the subsidence of the epidemic so did the public interest abate; and the committee were necessitated to close their labours early in the past year. We trust it may be long, but unfortunately we cannot build upon the hope, ere a time shall arrive, when it may be a subject of deep regret to the town, that they did not hold out sufficient encouragement to the Committee to persevere in their useful labours.

An application was at this time received by the Committee, from Samuel Browne, Esq., Surgeon to the Ophthalmic Dispensary, requesting permission to treat severe cases of Ophthalmia (such as require confinement and peculiar care) in the wards of the Hospital. With the approval of the Medical Staff, the solicitation was granted. As reference has thus been made to a Medical Charity not hitherto noticed, we shall request the reader's attention to some of the particulars connected with it.

An attempt was made to originate an EYE DISPENSARY, so far back as the year 1816, but evidently without success, as we can find no record of it ever having been established. The next notice we meet with of Ophthalmic public practice is on the formation of the Chapel-lane (or as it was then

called the *General* Dispensary, in 1827. Amongst its benevolent objects, the diseases of the Eye claimed especial attention, and their management formed one of its leading features. After its dissolution in 1839, we observe no further note of any special provision till the year 1845, when Mr. Browne, with the aid and encouragement of a few benevolent individuals, set about the establishment of an Ophthalmic Institution, which, while chiefly devoted to the treatment of the Eye, would likewise include that of the ear. A house was taken at No. 35, Mill-street, simply fitted up with requisites, and opened on 9th April, 1846; since which, it has been the means of affording relief to 6,450 cases, or about 1,000 annually, of which there is a proportion of about 2 per cent. of that interesting form, *cataract*, which has admitted of permanent relief in about 60 per cent. The ear cases numbered 405, in the space of three years. The expense of each patient being only 8d. per annum, (which is less by 4d. than the average cost of a recipient of Dispensary Relief), the reader can be at no loss to understand the great value of this Charity, which restores, in many instances, a most useful—nay, indispensable organ—for a comparative trifle. The Committee, in granting Mr. Browne's request, only expressed in so many terms that they duly appreciated the services rendered by this unpretending institution. We deem it but just to add, that already has its reputation spread far and wide over the Province—a due compliment to its deserving management.

Few words must serve in commemoration of the worthies who departed at this period. We cannot particularize all, but the names of Dr. S. S. Thomson, Surgeon David Moore, and Mr. W. Mulholland, stand out in such bold relief that it were unpardonable to omit mention of their meritorious lives and lamented death.

Mr. MULHOLLAND closed his years, in the midst of benevolent exertions, in the eventful period of 1847. While ministering to the wants of hundreds of the poor, daily gathered together in that Asylum which owned him for its founder,—the touch of the malignant pestilence hurried him to the grave.

Mr. MOORE departed, full of years. His long life was one scene of active exertions, in the practice of his profession. In early life he was engaged in the Royal Navy, as surgeon; and, during the remainder, some five-and-thirty years, he was connected with the Hospital, first as Attending and

latterly as Consulting Surgeon. He was devotedly attached to the Charity, and took every possible occasion to promote its interests. His practice was large and of the best class, and solely by his own exertions did he raise to himself a character and a name of which his family may well be proud..

The year 1849 was not memorable for any event of more importance than the death of Dr. S. S. THOMSON. No man more firmly held the combined respect and love of the profession; and a closer acquaintance only enhanced the feeling. Though he did not attain what is generally called a successful position in his profession, until a comparatively late period, yet, when once he had reached it, he grew more and more ever afterwards in public estimation. He possessed a most cultivated mind, enjoyed a rich store of classical learning, and was well read in the whole range of medical literature; his manners were most pleasing, his diction harmonious, and his bearing dignified. But it was in his relation to his junior brethren that we delight to contemplate him. He held their interests dear to his heart; he was their companion—their adviser—their friend; and, in the endearing appellation of “Father of the Profession,” his true character was beautifully delineated. We mourn his loss—we look around—but where “shall we look upon his like again?”

In closing this History of our principal public Charity, we feel it a grateful pleasure to record a crowning memorable event in connexion therewith. It will be remembered that, on the 11th of August, 1849, her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen honoured this city with her first visit. On this occasion, she was received with the greatest demonstrations of loyalty and respect, such only as Irish hearts can feel and express. Her Majesty did not forget the enthusiastic reception, for, in a short time after, the Treasury of the General Hospital was augmented by the handsome donation of £300, for which the Charity is indebted to her gracious liberality.

Last year, as may be well remembered, her excellent Viceroy, Earl of CLARENDON, also paid this town the distinguished compliment of visiting, among other institutions, this Charity, and expressed himself in the highest terms as to the completeness of the arrangements. Encouraged by these repeated evidences of Royal favour, we would consider ourselves, one and all, undeserving the high honour conferred upon the town, and the General Hospital in particular, were we not right heartily to keep in perpetual remembrance the visit of our beloved Queen.

THE following LINES, from the pen of a respected citizen, being the PRIZE POEM in celebration of the "VICTORIA FETE" of last year, form a fitting conclusion to the History of an Hospital which has received such distinguished proofs of Royal regard :—

The Victoria Fete on Queen's Island.

COMMEMORATIVE OF THE QUEEN'S VISIT.

I

THE big clouds hung dark on the old Hill of Caves,
There was mist on the mountains, and storm on the waves,
And many an eye
Gazed that morn on the sky,
When sudden the sun in his glory was seen
Coming forth in his chariot to welcome the Queen !

II.

No sceptre she held in her fair hand that day,
When her flag floated high o'er our beautiful bay ;
In the midst of acclaim
All dove-like she came,
And peacefully weilded her olive-branch wand
O'er the green fields of Ulster—our dear fatherland.

III.

There was joy on that high day in every breast,
The striving of love who could love her the best ;
On all as she smiled,
So benignant and mild,
Each eye beamed with gladness, as if it could trace
A smile to itself in the glance of her face.

IV.

She came in the grace of her womanly love,
The Irishman's ardent affections to move ;
 His *Cushla machree*
 Filled her heart with such glee,
That oft, to her ALBERT, she said with delight—
“ His head may be wrong, but his heart's in the right,”

V.

She came in the might of her motherly charms,
Her husband her armour—her children her arms ;
 With these by her side,
 She may roam far and wide ;
Her armies may go to contend with her foes :
Her guards are her subjects, wherever she goes.

VI.

She came in the warmth of her generous breast ;
She heard of the wounded—the sick—the distressed :
 All freely she sent
 To the funds nearly spent,
A boon to our *Hospital*, worthy the name
Of VICTORIA—humanity—charity—fame.

VII.

Hurrah for the Queen ! may posterity see
Each year on this island a grand jubilee :
 May Minstrels arise
 To contend for the prize ;
And bards, yet unborn, sing the joys of the past—
Of VICTORIA, and ALBERT, and loyal Belfast.

APPENDIX

BELFAST GENERAL HOSPITAL

LIST OF OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 1850-51

President

THE RIGHT HONORABLE THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Treasurer

James M. Thompson	James M. Thompson
James M. Thompson	James M. Thompson
James M. Thompson	James M. Thompson
James M. Thompson	James M. Thompson

Committee of Management

James M. Thompson	James M. Thompson	James M. Thompson
James M. Thompson	James M. Thompson	James M. Thompson
James M. Thompson	James M. Thompson	James M. Thompson
James M. Thompson	James M. Thompson	James M. Thompson

Committee of Finance

James M. Thompson	James M. Thompson
James M. Thompson	James M. Thompson

Committee of Building

James M. Thompson	James M. Thompson
James M. Thompson	James M. Thompson

Committee of Discharge

James M. Thompson	James M. Thompson
James M. Thompson	James M. Thompson

Committee of Reception

James M. Thompson	James M. Thompson
James M. Thompson	James M. Thompson

Committee of Discharge

James M. Thompson	James M. Thompson
James M. Thompson	James M. Thompson

Committee of Reception

James M. Thompson	James M. Thompson
James M. Thompson	James M. Thompson

Committee of Discharge

James M. Thompson	James M. Thompson
James M. Thompson	James M. Thompson

APPENDIX.

BELFAST GENERAL HOSPITAL.

LIST OF OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 1850-51

President.

THE MOST NOBLE THE MARQUIS OF DONEGALL.

Vice-Presidents.

Mayor of Belfast.
Lord Bishop of Down and Connor.
Roman Catholic Bishop.
Moderator of Belfast Presbytery.
Moderator of Presbytery of Antrim.

Senior of the Wesleyan Methodists.
President of the Queen's College.
Lord Chichester, M.P.
R. J. Tennent, Esq., M.P.

A. Mulholland, Esq., J.P.
T. H. Purdon, Esq., M.D.
Thomas Ferguson, Esq.
S. K. Mulholland, Esq. J.P.

Life-Governors.

Viscount Massareene.
Sir Robert Bateson.
Robert Montgomery, Esq.
R. B. B. Houston, Esq., J.P.
Richard Davison, Esq.

S. G. Fenton, Esq., J.P.
J. G. Richardson, Esq.
William Gray, Esq.
Alexander Shaw, Esq.

John Hynd, Esq.
John Turnley, Esq.
Alexander M'Donnell, Esq.
John Clarke, Esq.
Robert Langtry, Esq.

Consulting Physicians.

Robert Stephenson, M.D.
Henry M'Cormac, M.D.

Thomas Thompson, M.D.
Thomas Andrews, M.D.

J. Seaton Reid, M.D.
William Mateer, M.D.

Consulting Surgeon.

Andrew Marshall, M.D.

Treasurer.

GUSTAVUS HEYN, ESQ., PRUSSIAN CONSUL, &c.

Committee of Management.

Vacate 1851.
Rev. T. F. Miller.
Dr. Andrews.
William D. Henderson.
Robert Roddy.
Rev. W. Bruce.
Samuel Boyd.
James Kennedy.

Vacate 1852.
Right Rev. Dr. Denvir.
John Hind.
A. Mulholland, J.P.
A. J. Macrory.
Gustavus Heyn.
Robert Montgomery.
John Clarke, J.P.

Vacate 1853.
Samuel Archer.
Henry Murney.
Gordon Thompson.
Dr. Stevelly, LL.D.
Dr. Thomas Read.
Alexander Brenan, Esqrs.

Attending Staff.

PHYSICIANS.
William Moffat, M.D.
A. G. Malcolm, M.D.
J. M. Pirrie, M.D., *Secretary*.
Patrick Lynch, M.D.

SURGEONS.
James Moore, M.D.
Horatio Stewart, M.D.
Æ. Lamont, F.R.C.S.I.
Samuel Browne, R.N.

HOUSE-SURGEON—Mr. W. Murphy.

APOTHECARY—Mr. Ring.

ASSISTANT HOUSE-SURGEON—Mr. J. Breaky.

II.

BELFAST GENERAL HOSPITAL.

LIST OF VICE-PRESIDENTS AND CONSULTING STAFF,
FROM THE FOUNDATION TO THE PRESENT TIME.

Year of Appointment.	Vice-Presidents.	Cons. Physicians.	Cons. Surgeons.
1792	Hon. Chichester Skeffington, M.P.	Dr. Halliday.	
	Rev. William Bristow, Sovereign.	Dr. S. M'Tier.	
1809	Rev. Edward May. ...	Dr. S. Stephenson.	
1810	... ..	Dr. Drennan.	
1812	Earl of Massereene. ...	—	
	Francis Turnley, Esq. ...	—	
1816	George Bristow, Esq. ...	—	
1819	... ..	Dr. Kennedy.	
1821	Thomas Verner, Esq. ...	—	
1822	... ..	Dr. H. Purdon.	
1824	John M'Cance, Esq., M.P. ...	—	
1825	John Rowan, Esq. ...	—	
1828	Sir Stephen May. ...	Dr. J. M'Donnell.	Mr. M'Cluney.
	... ..	... ..	Mr. Marshall.
	... ..	... ..	Dr. Forcade.
1829	... ..	... ..	Mr. Moore.
1830	... ..	Dr. S. S. Thomson.	
1831	William Tennent, Esq. ...	Dr. R. Stephenson.	
1832	W. W. Legge, Esq. ...	—	
1834	... ..	Dr. W. Duncan. ...	Mr. Quin.
1835	John M'Cance, Esq. ...	Dr. Little. ...	Mr. Moore.
	John M'Neile, Esq. ...	—	
	George M'Cartney, Esq. ...	—	
1836	Robert Thomson, Esq. ...	Dr. M'Cormac. ...	Mr. Coffey.
1841	... ..	Dr. Ts. Thompson.	
1846	Mayor of Belfast. ...	Dr. Andrews. ...	Mr. Moore.
1848	Lord Bishop of Down & Connor	Dr. J. S. Reid.	
1850	Roman Catholic Bishop. ...	Dr. W. Mateer.	
	Moderator of Belfast Presbytery.	—	
	Moderator of Presbytery of Antrim.	—	
	Senior of the Wesleyan Methodists.	—	
	President of the Queen's College.	—	
	Lord Chichester M.P. ...	—	
	R. J. Tennent, Esq., M.P. ...	—	
	A. Mulholland, Esq., J.P. ...	—	
	T. H. Purdon, Esq., M.D. ...	—	
	Thomas Ferguson, Esq. ...	—	
	S. K. Mulholland, Esq., J.P. ...	—	

AUTOGRAPHS OF DECEASED CHAIRMEN OF THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT.
COPIED BY W. HALL

Medington La. Luke. John Bayly S. Arnold John Gugg Thomas L. Stewart
 James M. Donnell Bedgroves A. Drummond W. John Smith. Shaw Thomson James Young
 Wm. Bristow S. M. Stephenson R. Mearns George Thompson Geo. Glenhead
 Robt. Fowler John Martine Adam Bellan George Saffern Robert Coffey Tho. Wallace
 Val Jones Lawson Annesley A. Bradshaw D. Moore John Saffern William Cairns
 W. Bruce H. Corradi William Tennant Matthew Walsh J. Orr James Thomsons
 Wm. Clarke Robt. C. Dobbs Pop Jett W. Crolley Saml. Hunter John Young John Chaine
 P. Vance Peter Cassidy John Young John Chaine William Dunn
 J. McNamee Robt. Mace John Young John Chaine William Dunn
 W. Brown C. McKinnon John Young John Chaine William Dunn
 Wm. W. Wilson Thomas Dr. Andrew McShannon Drummond Anderson John Milford
 Robert Linnert Donagall John W. Fee Robt. Cullinell Thomas Mulholland J. Gray
 Robt. M. Fleming John Bannett H. Thomson John Marshall W. Mulholland
 W. Auchincloss J. W. A. Mackay John Marshall William Marshall Robert Marshall
 John Agnew John Dales Robert Marshall

III.

BELFAST GENERAL HOSPITAL.

LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT
FROM THE FOUNDATION TO THE PRESENT TIME.

(The names of the members of the Committee are given in italics.)

Year	Members of the Committee	Year	Members of the Committee
1791	<i>James Wilson, Esq.</i>	1811	<i>James Wilson, Esq.</i>
1792	<i>James Wilson, Esq.</i>	1812	<i>James Wilson, Esq.</i>
1793	<i>James Wilson, Esq.</i>	1813	<i>James Wilson, Esq.</i>
1794	<i>James Wilson, Esq.</i>	1814	<i>James Wilson, Esq.</i>
1795	<i>James Wilson, Esq.</i>	1815	<i>James Wilson, Esq.</i>
1796	<i>James Wilson, Esq.</i>	1816	<i>James Wilson, Esq.</i>
1797	<i>James Wilson, Esq.</i>	1817	<i>James Wilson, Esq.</i>
1798	<i>James Wilson, Esq.</i>	1818	<i>James Wilson, Esq.</i>
1799	<i>James Wilson, Esq.</i>	1819	<i>James Wilson, Esq.</i>
1800	<i>James Wilson, Esq.</i>	1820	<i>James Wilson, Esq.</i>
1801	<i>James Wilson, Esq.</i>	1821	<i>James Wilson, Esq.</i>
1802	<i>James Wilson, Esq.</i>	1822	<i>James Wilson, Esq.</i>
1803	<i>James Wilson, Esq.</i>	1823	<i>James Wilson, Esq.</i>
1804	<i>James Wilson, Esq.</i>	1824	<i>James Wilson, Esq.</i>
1805	<i>James Wilson, Esq.</i>	1825	<i>James Wilson, Esq.</i>
1806	<i>James Wilson, Esq.</i>	1826	<i>James Wilson, Esq.</i>
1807	<i>James Wilson, Esq.</i>	1827	<i>James Wilson, Esq.</i>
1808	<i>James Wilson, Esq.</i>	1828	<i>James Wilson, Esq.</i>
1809	<i>James Wilson, Esq.</i>	1829	<i>James Wilson, Esq.</i>
1810	<i>James Wilson, Esq.</i>	1830	<i>James Wilson, Esq.</i>

III.

BELFAST GENERAL HOSPITAL.

LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT,
FROM THE FOUNDATION TO THE PRESENT TIME.

[The names marked thus (*) are those of deceased Members.]

Date of Appointment.	NAMES AND AVOCATIONS.	Date of Appointment.	NAMES AND AVOCATIONS.
1792	*Rev. Dr. Bruce, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Congregation. *Rev. S. Kelburn, Pastor of the third Presbyterian Congregation *Rev. R. Meade, Minister of the Established Church. *Rev. P. Vance, Minister of the Second Presbyterian Congregation. *James M'Donnell, M. D. *William Halliday, M. D. *Dr. Apsley. *Dr. White. *Dr. S. Mateer. *Surgeon J. Bankhead. *Surgeon B. Fuller. *JOHN CAMPBELL, <i>first Treasurer</i> . *Waddell Cunningham, Merchant. *J. Holmes, Banker. *Gilbert M'Ilveen, of Discount Office. *William Sinclair, Linen Merchant. *John Ewing, Banker. *Robert Holmes, Merchant. *R. Bradshaw, of Discount Office. *Henry Joy, Paper Manufacturer. *Hill Wallace. *S. M'Tier, Merchant.	1794	*J. Ferguson, Linen Merchant. *Geo. Joy, of Wine-cellar Company Rev. William Batt. 1797 *VAL. JONES, <i>second Treasurer</i> . 1799 *Rev. William Bristow, Vicar. *Rev. R. Dobbs, Curate. *Valentine Jones, Merchant. *J. D. Turnley, Merchant. *WM. CLARKE, <i>third Treasurer</i> . 1800 *Dr. Halliday. 1801 *Surgeon M'Cluney. 1802 *ROBT. DOBBS, <i>second Secretary</i> . *John Gregg. *Thomas M'Donnell, Grocer. 1806 *Rev. W. A. Holmes, Curate. 1809 *James Orr, Northern Bank. *Dr. R. TENNENT, <i>fourth Treasurer</i> . *Thomas, Vance, Merchant. *John Whittle, Woollendraper. 1810 *John M'Cracken, Cotton-spinner. *Archer Bayley. *C. M'G. Skinner, Police Magistrate *Rev. E. Groves, Estab. Church. Jas. Standfield, Grocer. *W. Aughinleek, Notary. *D. Armstrong, Woollendraper. *Lawson Annesley, Bleacher. *Jas. Luke, Merchant. *John Ward, Paper manufacturer. 1811 *Rev. S. Hanna, D.D. *Rev. P. Cassidy, Roman Catholic Curate. *Rev. Ross Jebb, Curate of the Established Church. 1812 *Thos. J. Andrews, Linen Merchant.
1794	*VAL. JONES, <i>first Secretary</i> *Rev. J. Clark, Curate of Established Church. *W. Seed, Merchant. *Surgeon M'Clelland. *Alex. Orr, Merchant. *Major R. Wallace, Army. *G. Madden.		

Date of Appointment.	NAMES AND AVOCATIONS.	Date of Appointment.	NAMES AND AVOCATIONS.
1812	*J. T. Kennedy, Merchant. *ROBERT CALWELL, Banker, <i>Treasurer to the Building Fund.</i> *William Tennent, Banker. *Dr. Robert M'Gee.	1826	*Rev. A. C. Macartney, Vicar. *William Napier, Merchant. *Thomas Mulholland, first Flax-spinner in Belfast. Robt. Workman, Muslin Manufacturer. James Orr. James M'Cleery, Lagan Navigation Company. Edward J. Smyth, Linen Merchant
1813	Rev. William Bruce, First Presbyterian Congregation. *Rev. Dr. Crolly, R. C. Primate.	1827	Rev. T. D. Hincks, Professor of Hebrew. Henry Black, Merchant. William Pirrie, Merchant. John Hind, Flax-spinner.
1815	*Adam M'Clean, Merchant. *Rev. W. H. Drummond, Second Presbyterian Congregation.	1828	*James Thomson, Professor of Mathematics in Belfast, and afterwards in Glasgow. J. A. O'Reilly. William Turner. *Thomas Wallace, Woollendrapier. Robert M'Clure.
1816	Michael Andrews, Damask Manufacturer. *Rev. J. W. Fea, First Incumbent of St. George's Church. A. B. White. *Rev. J. Brown, Curate.	1829	*John Milford, Cotton-spinner. *William Cairns, J.P. JOHN CLARKE, J.P., <i>sixth Treas.</i> John Lamb, Linendrapier and Traveller. Rev. John Chaine, Dean. James Campbell, Cotton, then Flax-spinner. *James Young, Woollendrapier.
1817	*Rev. W. H. M'Ewen, Second Presbyterian Congregation. *Samuel Bruce, Notary.	1830	*Thomas Akenhead, Rope Manufacturer. Rev. H. Cooke, D.D. Rev. John Porter.
1818	*John Suffern, Tobacconist.	1831	*Robert Gamble, Merchant. *John Marshall, Woollendrapier. Robert M'Gee. James Andrews, jun., Solicitor. Andrew Mulholland, J. P., Flax-spinner.
1819	*Alex. Mackay, Proprietor of the <i>News-Letter.</i> *JOHN BARNETT, Tanner, <i>fifth Treasurer.</i> A. J. Barnett. *Drummond Anderson, Proprietor of the <i>Commercial Chronicle.</i> J. B. Shannon, Vitriol Manufacturer.	1832	Edmund Getty, Secretary to the Harbour Commissioners. Robert Gamble, junior. Robert Gordon, Merchant. Rev. J. S. Porter, First Presbyterian Congregation. A. J. Macrory, Solicitor.
1820	George Ash, Merchant. *Dr. Samuel Arrott.	1833	*John Gray, Hosier. J. Stevelly, L.L.D., Professor of Natural Philosophy. William Thomson.
1821	*George Suffern, Mayor in 1848. *Samuel Hunter. *Matthew Black, Woollendrapier. *Rev. W. St. John Smyth, Curate. *Arthur Gamble, Merchant. John Hunter, Merchant. William M'Connell, Merchant. Charles Thomson, Merchant. Robert Getty, Merchant. Surgeon (now Dr.) M'Kibbin.	1834	S. G. Fenton, J.P., Linen Merchant. James Mateer. Adam Hill, Treasurer to the Town Council.
1823	*Dr. Robert Coffey, Professor of Surgery. *Professor J. Young, L.L.D., Moral Philosophy Chair.		
1824	Rev. W. Bland, Incumbent of St. George's. Henderson Black.		
1825	*Dr. G. J. Berwick.		
1826	*Rev. Gorman Gregg, Established Church. *Henry Joy Holmes, Merchant. *John Dunville, Merchant. John Riddell, Merchant. *William Ritchie, Ship-builder. *Henry Rowan, Distiller.		

Appendix.

V

Date of Appointment.	NAMES AND AVOCATIONS.
1834	*Thomas Bell, junior, Provision Merchant.
1835	*Hugh Halliday, Woollendraper. *Dr. Forcade, Army Surgeon.
1836	James Lemon. James Stirling, the present Mayor. R. Montgomery, Sandy-Mount. William Carson, Grocer. William Thompson, Grocer.
1837	James T. Tennent, present High Sheriff. John Sinclair, Provision Merch.
	*Joseph Gillis, Provision Merchant.
1838	*A. K. Miller, Vitriol Manufacturer. *Dr. Byrt, Army Surgeon. James Crawford, Wine Merchant.
1839	*John Stott.
1840	*Rev. T. Walker, Vicar. *James Blair.
1842	Murray Suffern.
1843	*Thomas Major.
1844	Frs. McCracken, Cotton-spinner. William Lepper, Do. GUSTAVUS HEYN, Prussian Consul, present Treasurer.
1845	Charles Duffin, Flax-spinner, &c. *William Mulholland, Flax-spinner William Dunville, Merchant.
1846	Alex. Brennan. Do.

Date of Appointment.	NAMES AND AVOCATIONS.
1846	*Rev. Thomas Walker, Vicar. James Mateer, *David Moore, Surgeon. Samuel Archer, Paper-manufacturer. James M'Intyre, Publisher.
1847	Dr. Andrews, V. P. of Queen's College. Dr. Thomas Reid. E. Walkington, Druggist. Charles Lanyon, Architect. Thos. M'Cammon, Tanner. Rev. Dr. Morgan. R. Patterson, Hardware Merch.
1848	H. Murney, Merchant. Rev. T. F. Miller, Vicar. John C. Anderson, Proprietor of the <i>Commercial Chronicle</i> . William Valentine, Merchant. John Getty, Merchant. John Dunn, Shipowner. Robt. S. Lepper, Cotton-spinners, and Town Councillor. W. D. Henderson, Merchant.
1849	Robert Roddy, Linen Merchant. Thos. Sinclair, Provision Merch.
	James Kennedy, Muslin Manu.
1850	Gordon Thompson. Samuel Browne, R.N.



IV.

LIST OF THE MEDICAL ATTENDANTS,

Date of Appointment.	TO DISTRICTS.	HOSPITAL.	
		Physicians.	Surgeons.
1792	Dr. McDonnell.	...	
	Dr. White.	...	
	Mr. Fuller.	...	
	Mr. M'Clelland.	...	
	Mr. M'Cluney.	...	
1794	Mr. J. Bankhead.	...	
	Dr. Apsley.	...	
1796	Dr. Samuel Stephenson.	...	
1797	...	Dr. McDonnell.	
1800	...	Dr. S. M. Stephenson.	
1801	Dr. S. S. Thomson	...	Mr. M'Cluney.
1807	Dr. Ferguson	...	Mr. Marshall.
1808	Dr. Stott,	...	
1809	Mr. Bell	...	
1810	...	Dr. S. S. Thomson.	
1814	Dr. Drummond	Dr. Drummond.	
1818	...	Dr. R. Stephenson.	
1819	Dr. R. Stephenson.	...	
1820	Dr. Forcade.	...	Dr. Forcade.
	Mr. Arrott	...	
1821	Mr. Moore.	...	Mr. Moore.
	...	...	
1822	Mr. M'Cleery.	...	
	Mr. Coffey.	...	
1824	Dr. Millar.	...	
	Mr. Aickin.	...	
1825	Mr. M'Cabe.	...	
1826	Dr. B. Thompson.	...	
	Dr. Wilson	Dr. B. Thompson	Mr. Coffey.
1827	Dr. Kidley	S. Wilson	Mr. M'Kibben.
	Dr. T. H. Purdon.	...	
	Dr. Berwick	Dr. M'Cabe	Mr. M'Cleery.
1828	Dr. Little.	...	
	Dr. M'Cormac.	...	
1829	Dr. M'Dowell	Dr. Duncan	Mr. W. Quin.
	Dr. W. M'Gee	Dr. Little.	
1830	Dr. J. Bryson.	...	
	Dr. Murray.	...	
	Mr. M'Burney.	S. M'Cormac.	
1831	Mr. Officer	Dr. M'Mechan.	
1832	Dr. M'Mechan.	...	
	Mr. Wales.	Dr. Hawthorne	
1833	Dr. W. Mateer	...	Dr. J. Bryson.
	Mr. Kendall.	...	
	Dr. Lynch.	...	
	Mr. Murray.	...	
1834	Dr. Johnson	Dr. W. Mateer	Dr. T. H. Purdon.
1835	Dr. Rattledge...	Dr. Johnson	Mr. Wales.
	Dr. J. S. Mulholland...	Dr. T. Thompson.	
1886	Dr. T. Thompson.		

Appendix.

vii

Year of Appointment.	TO DISTRICTS.	TO HOSPITAL.	
		Physician.	Physicians.
1836	Dr. Sanders. Dr. Adams. Dr. S. Bryson.		
1837	Dr. Andrews.		
1838	Dr J. D. Marshall ...	Dr. Andrews ...	Dr. Sanders.
	Dr. R. Bryce.		
1839	Mr. W. Johnston. Mr. Rowan. Dr. James Reid. Dr. Hunter.		
1840	Dr. Moffat. Dr. Sheils. Mr. Large. Mr. F. O'Neill.		
	Mr. Aickin ...	Dr. James S. Reid ...	
1841	Dr. Beck ...	Dr. Sheil ...	Dr. Hunter.
	Mr. Clarke ...	Dr. Moffat.	
1842	Dr. Charles Purdon ... Dr. Gordon. Mr. Mawhinuey. Dr. Dill. Dr. H. Stewart. Mr. Harkin.		
1843	Dr. Malcolm. Dr. J. Moore. Dr. Donnelly.		
1844	Mr. Anderson.		
1846	Connexion between Dispensary and Hospital ceased.	Dr. Malcolm ...	Dr. J. Moore.
1847	...	...	Dr. Gordon.
1848	...	Dr. Pirrie ...	Dr. H. Stewart.
1849	...	Dr. Lynch ...	Mr. Lamont.
1851	...	...	Mr. Browne.

V.

LIST OF APOTHECARIES AND HOUSE SURGEONS.

Date of Appointment.	Apothecary.	House Surgeon.
1722	Mr. Hull. ...	—
1795	Mr. Devlin. ...	—
1807	Mr. Murray. ...	—
1808	Mr. Harrison. ...	—
1810	Mr. J. Blakely. ...	—
1812	Mr. W. Dalzell. ...	—
1819	Mr. A. Martin. ...	—
1822	Mr. Walker. ...	—
1824	Mr. John Aickin ...	—
1833	Mr. W. J. Thompson. ...	—
1836	Mr. J. C. Bell. ...	—
1837	Mr. Lamont. ...	—
1838	...	Mr. W. Johnston.
1839	Mr. E. Ring. ...	Mr. Lamont.
1847	...	Mr. A. Anderson.
1848	...	Mr. J. W. Murphy.

VI.

GOVERNMENT, PRIVILEGES, DUTIES, &c.

THE GOVERNMENT.

THE Charity is under the direction of a PRESIDENT, elected for life.

VICE-PRESIDENT—Number not defined, elected for life, being original Subscribers of £100 and upwards, or appointed as Honorary.

LIFE-GOVERNORS, or Donors of £50.—Number, at present, 15.

THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT, consisting of 21 Members and a Treasurer, elected by the Subscribers of One Guinea and upwards, Seven retire annually, but are re-eligible.

A CONSULTING STAFF of Physicians and Surgeons, appointed after eight or more years' service as Attendants.

THE ATTENDING STAFF of four Physicians and four Surgeons, elected by the Subscribers of One Guinea and upwards. One Physician and one Surgeon retire annually, but are re-eligible.

PRIVILEGES.

THE President, Vice-Presidents, Life Governors, and Consulting Staff, the Senior Attending Physician, and Surgeon, are *ex*

officio Members of Committee, and may vote at their meetings.

Subscribers of One Guinea and upwards, only, have votes at the election of Members of Committee and the Medical Officers.

The Attending Staff of Physicians and Surgeons, superintend such affairs of the Hospital, as relate to the treatment of the patients, for whose care they are responsible. The Committee of Management elect all the subordinate officers, and direct the general management of the Hospital.

DUTIES

OF THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT.

To meet once a week, on a stated day, for the hearing of petitions for admission, &c., and the Reports of the House Surgeon—to raise annual supplies for the support of the Hospital—to attend to the wants of the resident officials—to keep the Hospital in every requisite—to pass the accounts—to appoint one of their number as weekly Orderly, and generally consider any matters touching the management or interests of the Hospital, which may be submitted to them.

VII.

REGULATIONS OF THE ATTENDING STAFF.

DUTIES.

To give every necessary attention to the care of the Patients entrusted to their charge; to exercise complete control over all the officials who are engaged in carrying out their instructions, as regards dietary, medicines, and all Medical and Surgical appliances.

To visit the Wards at stated days and hours, and deliver Clinical Lectures each Session to the Pupils, and generally attend to their instruction and behaviour on all occasions.

RULES FOR ELECTION.

THE STAFF of Acting Medical Attendants, to consist of four Physicians and four Surgeons, to be elected according to the following regulations:—

1. The Candidates for the Office of Physician, to be eligible for election, must be Graduates of the University of Dublin, London, Edinburgh, or Glasgow.

2. The candidates for the office of Surgeon, to be eligible for election, must be Members, or Licentiates, or Fellows of the Royal College of Surgeons, Dublin, London, or Edinburgh.

2. They must have been qualified as practitioners, from one or other of these Colleges, in Belfast, for at least five years; or, elsewhere, for at least ten years; or have previously held office on the Attending Staff. Two years' practice in the Belfast General Hospital, as House-Surgeon, to be considered equivalent to one year's practice in Town; and such House-Surgeon must have a Degree or Diploma, as the case may require, two years prior to date of election.

3. There shall be an election every year, for one Physician and one Surgeon, in the room of those who have had priority on the poll at the first election, and who retire annually in this order, but are re-eligible.

4. Of the four Physicians and four Surgeons elected, at the first General Election, not more than *one* of each to be a junior, *i.e.*, one who has not acted as Physician or Surgeon to this Hospital for one year.

5. The Candidates for the office of Physician or Surgeon shall not keep a shop, nor vend drugs, directly or indirectly, except those who, on the faith of a former law, gave their gratuitous services to the Hospital or Dispensary, for two or more years.

6. In the event of a vacancy, arising by death or resignation, the person temporarily elected, shall vacate at the time when the period of office of the person vacating would otherwise have expired; and such vacancies shall be filled by those who were highest on the list, among the unsuccessful candidates.

7. After an attendance of eight years, any Physician or Surgeon shall be entitled to be placed on the consultation list; and also no Physician or Surgeon shall hold office for longer than twenty-four years.

VIII.

REGULATIONS RESPECTING THE MEDICAL DUTIES OF THE HOUSE-SURGEON.

1. The House-Surgeon, or, in his absence, his Assistant, to be in constant attendance at the Hospital, to receive and attend to all accidents and cases, admitted night or day; but it is understood that it is his imperative duty to be as much as possible in close attendance at the Hospital.

2. On the admission of every urgent case, he, or his Assistant, is to report, in writing, immediately to the attending Physician or Surgeon.

3. At the daily visits of the attending Physician or Surgeon, he, or his Assistant, is required to report to them the state of their respective patients, and such change as may have taken place during the interim of their visits.

4. For the better fulfilment of this duty, he, or his Assistant, shall visit such patients each night and each morning. In the event of there being no Clinical Clerk or Dresser appointed, or present, he, or his Assistant,

is required to accompany the attending Physician or Surgeon, and to act in the above capacities when it is required.

5. On the admission of every case, he is required to note down in the Case Book the history, symptoms, and previous treatment, for the information of the attending Physician or Surgeon; also to place a card over the bed-head of each patient, with the number of the bed, on which he shall inscribe the name, age, time of admission, how long ill, name of Medical Attendant, and scale of diet. This card to be signed by the Medical Attendant on the day of admission, and the day of discharge or death, noting the disease, and returned to the House Surgeon for entry in the Register.

6. He is required to keep an accurate daily register of the patients dietary, admission, deaths, and dismissals, according to the printed forms now in use.

7. He shall give notice to each Member of the attending Staff of all operations, and

shall be in attendance and give such assistance as may be required.

8. He shall, under the direction of one of the Medical Attendants, perform all *post mortem* examinations that may be required.

9. He shall have charge of all the surgical instruments and apparatus, and keep same in good order for immediate use, and submit same to the inspection of the Staff, at their monthly meeting, together with the Registry of all Cases, for examination and confirmation.

10. He is to observe that no patient leave the Hospital without the permission of the Medical Attendant, or the express order of the Committee.

11. He shall have charge over all the Nurses and other subordinates, and shall have the power of fining or dismissing them for neglect or impropriety of conduct, with

the concurrence of the Orderly or one of the Medical Staff; and, in every such case, he shall report the whole circumstance to the next meeting of the Committee.

12. He shall exercise supervision of the conduct of the Pupils while visiting the Hospital, and report every instance of impropriety to the Medical Staff and to the Committee.

13. It shall be his duty to see that the interior of the Hospital and premises are kept in as clean and wholesome a condition as possible, and make such suggestions for improvement to the Medical Staff and Committee as may occur to him.

14. The Assistant shall be under the immediate directions of the House Surgeon; and shall discharge all such duties as he may require, with the exception of those which the House Surgeon is enjoined personally to perform.

IX.

REGULATIONS FOR THE ADMISSION OF PATIENTS.

Two kinds of Relief are afforded by this Charity:—

I.—INTERN; OR THE TREATMENT OF PATIENTS IN THE HOSPITAL WARDS:

1. Patients of this class ordinarily receive admission, on written recommendations of a Guinea Subscriber, approved of by the Medical Staff and the Committee, who examine such certificates* at the weekly Board

2. *Urgent* cases of Accident receive *instant admission*, at all times, day or night, without any recommendation.

3 *Urgent* cases of illness properly certified† by any of the Attending Staff, receive admission at all times, in like manner.

4. Pay-Patients, in *Fever*, attended on certificate of any Medical Practitioner, for the weekly sum of 7s.; One Guinea paid in advance. Pay-Patients, ill of other diseases, admitted by certificate of Medical Staff, approved of by Committee, for sums varying according to circumstances.

II.—EXTERN:

1. Cases of minor Accidents are attended to every morning at 10 o'clock.

* BELFAST GENERAL HOSPITAL.

We know the Bearer residing at _____ and recommend _____ as
a fit object to be admitted to the GENERAL HOSPITAL; and believe _____ to be _____ to
pay _____ towards _____ support while there _____

(Signed),

} Two Subscribers of One Guinea
and upwards.

I have examined the above Patient, who is affected with _____

and consider it a fit case for admission.

(Signed)

Belfast,

185

COMMITTEE ROOM,

185

Admit the above _____

} Chairman of
Committee.

+ Belfast,

185

Please admit into the _____

day of _____

Ward of the Hospital

affected with _____

now residing at _____

I certify that this case is urgent, requiring immediate attention, and will not admit of delay, in order to come before the Committee on Tuesday next, without serious danger to the patient. Signed,

2. Cases of disease are examined and receive advice, on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings, at 11 o'clock. No recommendation required.

3. Patients requiring medicinal Baths receive such at the Hospital, on producing the Certificate of a Medical Practitioner; on payment (if able) of a small sum.

X.

REGULATIONS FOR THE PATIENTS.

1. Every Patient, upon being received into the Hospital, shall be immediately undressed, have the head, face, hands and feet thoroughly cleansed, and, after being supplied with the house clothing, shall be put into the Ward and Bed allotted by the HOUSE SURGEON.

2. There shall not be any loud *talking*, *whistling*, or other *unseemly noise* made in any of the Wards; and the Nurses are strictly enjoined forthwith to report every such disturbance to the HOUSE SURGEON or the ASSISTANT HOUSE SURGEON, that such steps may be adopted as the case may require.

3. *Smoking* in the Hospital is strictly prohibited; and every Patient found smoking, dirtying the Wards, or in any way injuring the property of the Hospital, shall be reported to the HOUSE SURGEON or the ASSISTANT HOUSE SURGEON, to be dealt with as the Medical Attendant may direct.

4. No Patient is on any account to go about the Wards, or along the Lobbies, either undressed or with any of the bed-clothes as a covering, but shall wear the

dress-gown provided; and this dress is only to be worn when visiting the water-closet.

5. Convalescents, while they may, by the permission of the Medical Attendant, have their own clothing to wear, shall not, on any account be permitted to stroll into the other Wards or along the Lobbies, save for the purpose of visiting the water-closet.

6. Male Patients shall not, on any pretence whatever, visit the female Wards, nor enter the Nurse's rooms, kitchen or wash-houses; and any such Patient so transgressing shall, for the first offence, be admonished, and for the second, be forthwith dismissed the Hospital.

7. All patients in the Hospital are required to pay strict attention to the orders of the HOUSE SURGEON and the ASSISTANT HOUSE SURGEON; and every Patient guilty of disobeying such orders shall, if persisting in that disobedience, be dismissed the Hospital.

NOTE—The above Rules shall be read to every Patient, on being admitted.

XI.

ADMISSION OF VISITERS.

VISITORS shall be admitted to the Patients in this Institution only on Sundays, at Two o'clock, except in cases of emergency. They will be allowed to remain one hour.

Any Visitor detected bringing in any article, such as Whiskey, Tobacco, Fruit, &c., shall be liable to *Expulsion*, and will not gain admission on any future occasion.

1. The Porter shall not on any account permit any person not connected with the Hospital to pass through the gates without first acquainting either the House Surgeon or the Assistant House Surgeon. For this

purpose either he or a trustworthy substitute shall be constantly in the Porter's Lodge, from 7 A. M. till 9 P. M., daily.

1. On the days when Patients attend the extern Department, strict care shall be taken that none of them enter the Wards, unless by the direct sanction of the House Surgeon or the Assistant House Surgeon.

3. On no account shall any gratuity be received by the Porter or any other Servant within the establishment, on pain of Dismissal; and Visitors are specially requested not to offer such.

XII.

REGULATIONS AND DUTIES FOR NURSES.

It is requisite that each Nurse, as well as each Assistant, must be able to read and write.

No person can fill the office of Nurse, without having served as Assistant.

Every Nurse is entitled to leave of absence two evenings in each week—Sunday and also on Tuesday or Thursday Evening, and must return at a quarter past Nine o'clock in Winter, from 1st October till 31st March, and a Quarter till Ten in Summer, from 1st April till 30th September.

Any Nurse or other Servant trespassing the above Regulations, will, for the first offence be fined—for the second, dismissed.

No Nurse will be allowed out of the Hospital any day till after the visit of the Physician or Surgeon in attendance.

Every Nurse is expected to rise at Seven o'clock in the morning.

The duty of each will be :—

To receive from the Night Nurse a correct history of the Patient during the night, marking well any change or other important circumstance which may have occurred to any Patient during the night.

To see as accurately as possible that Wine, Nourishment, and Medicine, have been delivered to each Patient as was ordered.

To have the face and hands of each Patient washed thoroughly every morning, and to give notice to the Porter when any may require to be shaved.

To superintend and assist in the regulation of the Wards, and also in the distribution of food.

To have the Prescription and Case Books as well as pens and ink in their proper place, and be dressed, ready to attend the Physician or Surgeon in his visit to the Wards. As soon as the visit is over, she shall at once proceed to carry out the instructions of the Medical Attendant, and give every assistance to the Clinical Clerks, and Dresser of the Wards.

During the remainder of the day she will be as much as possible in the Wards, administering the Medicines, Nourishment, &c. which may have been ordered.

When the Night Nurse comes on duty, at Ten o'clock, she will take her round the Wards, and point out to her each par-

ticular case, and give those directions and instructions which may tend to the comfort and welfare of the Patients during the night.

Each Nurse shall be held accountable for the negligence or want of attention in any of her Assistants; also, for the state of the Wards over which she has charge.

Each Assistant Nurse is expected to rise every morning at Six o'clock.

Her duties are—To obey the directions of the Nurse under whom she is placed.

To wash and thoroughly cleanse each Ward and Lobby daily, as well as the stairs leading from those Lobbies.

To empty all slops or other nuisances, and to properly wash the vessels containing such.

She will carry up the food and give it to the Patients, always under the guidance of the Nurse; after meals she shall immediately have all such vessels washed and put in their proper place, as were required for such food.

The Night Nurse is expected to come on duty at Ten o'clock, at which time she will at once proceed to receive from the Day Nurse the directions and instructions which each Patient may require. To see that she has received proper supplies of Nurishment, Drinks, and Medicines, during the night—and to give immediate notice to the Resident Medical Officer, of any bad symptom or change which may occur to any Patient. In the morning she will relate to the Day Nurse anything of importance which may have occurred in the Wards during the night. She will make up the beds and place them in a settled state.

N. B.—The infringement of any of the above Rules, will, for the first two offences, be visited with a fine—for the third, dismissal.

No Nurse or Assistant is allowed, on any account, to punish any Patient of this Hospital, for disobedience or misbehaviour in the Wards, by stopping their supplies of food or otherwise. She is expected to treat them all with kindness and tenderness: and if any Patient should happen to become ungovernable, she will at once report the circumstance.

XIII.

DUTIES OF HEAD NURSE.

1. To receive all Patients admitted into the Hospital; to see that they are thoroughly washed and clean, and supplied with clean linen and bedding, and their clothes immediately ticketed and stored.
2. To see that the beds are made, and the Wards well cleaned out and aired, every morning.
3. To see that the Patients are kept clean at all times.
4. To see that they are supplied with their possets, and that they are properly and comfortably supplied with their rations.
5. To have the sole charge of all the clothing and furniture in the Hospital, bed and bedding, and to make up and mend when required.
6. To have charge of the Wash-house, the washing of the clothes, and the forwarding to and receiving from the Wash-house of all clothes; and to see that they are returned in proper order.
7. To have charge of all the nurses, night and day medicine nurses and assistants, and look after all articles of clothing &c., entrusted to them.
8. To know when the nurses go out and return, and to look strictly after their conduct, and report to the House-Surgeon any impropriety or misconduct.
9. To visit all the Wards, on all opportunities; to look particularly after the state of the beds, bedding, and the wards generally, and to see that both day and night-nurses are always at their posts.

XIV.

DIETARY.

FULL DIET.

BREAKFAST.—8 oz. bread and 1 pint tea.
 DINNER.—8 oz. beef and 8oz. bread, or $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. potatoes and 4oz. bread.
 SUPPER.—6oz. meal and 1 pint buttermilk.

HALF DIET.

BREAKFAST.—8oz. bread and 1 pint tea.
 DINNER.—4oz. bread, 4oz. beef, and 1 pint broth.
 SUPPER.—4oz. meal and 1 pint buttermilk.

LOW DIET.

BREAKFAST.—4oz. bread and 1 pint sweet milk.

DINNER.—4oz. bread and 1 pint broth.
 SUPPER.—4oz. meal and 1 pint sweet milk.

SPOON DIET.

BREAKFAST.—4oz. bread and 1 pint tea.
 DINNER.—1 pint sweet and 1 pint buttermilk.
 SUPPER.—4oz. bread and 1 pint tea.

N.B.—When extras, such as eggs, arrow-root, &c., are ordered by the Medical Attendants, such patients shall not be on any scale of diet above low diet.

BELFAST GENERAL HOSPITAL.

ORIGINAL SUBSCRIBERS OF £10 AND UPWARDS TOWARDS THE BUILDING OF THE FEVER HOSPITAL, 1813-17-19.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Belfast Banking Co. ...	113	15	0	Samuel Campbell, ...	11	7	6
Commercial Do. ...	113	15	0	Berwick & Ash, ...	11	7	6
Northern Do. ...	113	15	0	Blow, Ward, & Co., ...	11	7	6
Francis Turnley, ...	70	0	0	Robert Tennent M.D., ...	11	7	6
Earl Massereene, ...	50	0	0	W. Thomson, ...	11	7	6
Robert Bateson, ...	50	0	0	M'Cammon, Milford, & Bayley, ...	11	7	6
John Turnley, ...	50	0	0	W. Simms, ...	11	7	6
William Clarke, ...	50	0	0	J. S. Ferguson, ...	11	7	6
Mrs. Clarke, ...	50	0	0	Tennent & M'Connell, ...	11	7	6
James M'Donnell M.D., ...	50	0	0	John Getty, ...	11	7	6
John Alexander, & Co., ...	50	0	0	Ramsay & Garrett, ...	11	7	6
George Langtry, ...	50	0	0	S. S. Thomson M.D., ...	11	7	6
Thomas Lyle, ...	25	0	0	W. Halliday M.D., ...	11	7	6
John M'Kenzie & Co., ...	25	0	0	Tomb & Holmes, ...	11	7	6
Hugh Kennedy, ...	25	0	0	John Vance, ...	11	7	6
James T. Kennedy, ...	25	0	0	T. J. Andrews, & Co., ...	11	7	6
Cunningham Gregg, ...	25	0	0	R. & A. Gordon, ...	11	7	6
W. & Jos. Stevenson, ...	25	0	0	Samuel Gibson, ...	11	7	6
Montgomery, Staples & Co., ...	25	0	0	James Luke, ...	11	7	6
Hill Hamilton, ...	25	0	0	H. Joy, ...	11	7	6
John Bell & Co., ...	25	0	0	W. Park, ...	11	7	6
John M'Cracken, ...	25	0	0	Andrew Marshall, Surgeon, ...	11	7	6
A Friend, ...	25	0	0	Robert M'Cluney, Surgeon, ...	11	7	5
Holmes, and Barklie, ...	25	0	0	John Barnett, ...	11	7	6
Cortland M'G. Skinner, ...	22	15	5	W. Watt, ...	11	7	6
John M'Canee, ...	20	0	0	Samuel Smith, ...	11	7	6
Hugh M'Calmont, ...	20	0	0	Adam M'Clean, ...	11	7	6
Crawford, and Wallace, ...	15	0	0	John Martin, ...	11	7	6
James Boomer, ...	15	0	0	John Cunningham, ...	11	7	6
Alexander Mackay, ...	14	1	6	J. & W. Suffern, ...	10	0	0
Thomas Batt, ...	11	7	6	T. Verner, ...	10	0	0
J. & T. Cunningham, ...	11	7	6	W. Cairns, ...	10	0	0
James Cunningham, ...	11	7	6	L. Annesley, ...	10	0	0
John M'Crum, ...	11	7	6				

SUBSCRIBERS OF £10 AND UPWARDS TOWARDS THE BUILDING OF A NEW MEDICAL AND SURGICAL HOSPITAL, 1843-44.

THE greater portion of the sum subscribed, afterwards appropriated to the Enlargement and Improvement of the original building, to form the present General Hospital, 1848.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Andrew Mulholland, ...	100	0	0	Richard Davison, ...	50	0	0
S. K. Mulholland, ...	100	0	0	William Gray, ...	50	0	0
Thomas Ferguson, ...	100	0	0	Robert Montgomery, ...	50	0	0
Henry Purdon, M.D. ...	100	0	0	J. Cunningham, ...	50	0	0
S. S. Thomson, M.D. ...	50	0	0	John M'Kenzie & Co., ...	50	0	0
J. F. Ferguson, ...	50	0	0	Samuel G. Fenton, ...	50	0	0

Appendix.

XV

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Falls Mill Co., ...	50	0	0	Andrew Marshall, M.D., ...	10	0	0
John Murphy & Co., ...	50	0	0	John Bates, ...	10	0	0
John Hind, ...	50	0	0	W. Cairns, ...	10	0	0
Coates & Young, ...	50	0	0	William Bottomley, ...	10	0	0
R. B. B. Houston ...	50	0	0	Mrs. Ashmore, ...	10	0	0
John Grubb Richardson, ...	50	0	0	A. H. Halliday, ...	10	0	0
Gas Company, ...	50	0	0	Mrs. Halliday, ...	10	0	0
Sir R. Bateson, Bart., ...	25	0	0	Capt. W. R. Halliday, ...	10	0	0
John G. Dunbar, ...	25	0	0	James Bristow, ...	10	0	0
George Dunbar, ...	25	0	0	Hull, Wilson & Co. ...	10	0	0
Thomas Corbitt, ...	25	0	0	Miss E. Montgomery, ...	10	0	0
Hugh Montgomery, ...	25	0	0	Miss Smith, ...	10	0	0
John Bottomley, ...	21	0	0	Edward Walkington, ...	10	0	0
James Crawford, ...	21	0	0	Edward Coey, ...	10	0	0
William Boyd & Sons, ...	21	0	0	Stewart & McClelland, ...	10	0	0
John Owden, ...	20	0	0	John Bottomley, jun., ...	10	0	0
John Dunville & Co. ...	20	0	0	William Browne, ...	10	0	0
John Clarke, ...	20	0	0	Joseph Bristow, ...	10	0	0
John Boyd, ...	20	0	0	Edward O'Rorke, ...	10	0	0
John Charley, ...	20	0	0	Forsythe & Orr, ...	10	0	0
Robert Grimshaw, ...	20	0	0	James Goddard, ...	10	0	0
George Langtry, ...	20	0	0	D. Anderson & Son., ...	10	0	0
Langtrys & Herdman, ...	20	0	0	Robert Simms, ...	10	0	0
John Rowan, ...	20	0	0	R. & D. Patterson, ...	10	0	0
John McNeile, Parkmount, ...	20	0	0	John Godwin, ...	10	0	0
Hill Hamilton, ...	20	0	0	Thomas Andrews, M.D., ...	10	0	0
The Executors of T. Hughes, jun., ...	20	0	0	J. E. Tennent, M.P., ...	10	10	0
John Alexander, Carlow, ...	20	0	0	A. L. Anderson, ...	10	0	0
Robert & John Getty, ...	20	0	0	J. McDonnell, M.D., ...	10	0	0
Representatives of the late H. Joy, ...	20	0	0	Sir A. Chichester, ...	10	0	0
Provincial Bank of Ireland, ...	20	0	0	Mrs. Clealand, ...	10	0	0
R. Thomson, Jennymount, ...	20	0	0	Dr. Forsythe, ...	10	0	0
F. McCracken, ...	10	0	0	T. G. Batt, ...	10	0	0
Miss Getty, ...	10	0	0	George T. Mitchell, ...	10	0	0
Jane Green, ...	10	0	0	Messrs. Stevenson, ...	10	0	0
James Grimshaw, ...	10	0	0	Rev. W. Batt, ...	10	0	0
Charles Duffin, ...	10	0	0	R. F. Gordon, ...	10	0	0
Henry Sneyd, ...	10	0	0	Dr. McKibbin, ...	10	0	0
R. M. Sneyd, ...	10	0	0	Charles Lanyon, ...	10	0	0
Thomas Batt, ...	10	0	0	J. & T. Sinclair, ...	10	0	0
Mathew Black, ...	10	0	0	Crawford & Russell, ...	10	0	0
Thomas McCammon, ...	10	0	0	W. Cowant & Co., ...	10	0	0
Rev. R. W. Bland, ...	10	0	0	Mrs. Thompson, ...	10	0	0
Miss Bland, ...	10	0	0	Richard Thompson, ...	10	0	0
John McNeale, jun., ...	10	0	0	Robert Thompson, ...	10	0	0
Rev. A. Orr, ...	10	0	0	Francis Turnley, ...	10	0	0
Adam J. Macrory, ...	10	0	0	Robert Callwell, ...	10	0	0
William Pirrie, ...	10	0	0	Thomas Ludford Stewart, ...	10	0	0
John Herdman, ...	10	0	0	Lord & Lady Chichester, ...	10	0	0
A. W. Craig, ...	10	0	0	Valentine Whittla, ...	10	0	0
Alexander McLaine, ...	10	0	0	Mrs. & Miss McCalmont, ...	10	0	0
Mrs. Cunningham, ...	10	0	0	Marquis of Downshire, ...	10	0	0
A. McDonnell, Dublin, ...	10	0	0	George Calwell, ...	10	0	0
Rev. W. Bruce, ...	10	0	0	Robert Workman, ...	10	0	0
Samuel Bruce, ...	10	0	0	Thomas Hughes, ...	10	0	0
John Kane, ...	10	0	0	John Harrison, ...	10	0	0
Col. Thompson, R. E. (& £3 3s. per year), ...	10	0	0	E. Grimshaw, ...	10	0	0

TABLE OF SUBSCRIPTIONS AND PROCEEDS OF CHARITY SERMONS IN
AID OF THE DISPENSARY AND FEVER HOSPITAL,
FROM THE OPENING OF THE HOSPITAL TILL 1834.

Date.	Dispensary and Fever Hospital.					
	Subscriptions.			Charity Sermons.		
	£	s.	d.		£	s. d.
1799	...	...	...	By Rev. Mr. Bristow.....	0	0 0
1800	...	...	...	Rev. Dr. Drummond.....	0	0 0
1806	...	...	...	Rev. Dr. Drummond.....	137	0 0
1808	...	...	...	Rev. Dr. Bruce.....	178	0 0
1809	...	...	...	Rev. Mr. Holmes,	165	0 0
1810	...	...	...	Dr. Drummond.....	147	0 0
1813	...	...	...	Rev. Dr. Hanna.....	168	0 0
1814	...	...	...	Rev. Dr. Bruce.....	172	0 0
1815	...	...	...	Rev. R. O. Beirne.....	127	0 0
1818	596	0	0	Rev. J. Fea.....	177	0 0
1819	438	0	0	Rev. Dr. Neilson,	211	0 0
1820	...	...	...	Rev. W. McEwen,	170	0 0
1821	526	0	0	Rev. Dr. Bruce,	225	0 0
1822	534	0	0	Rev. A. Macartney,	117	0 0
1823	471	0	0	St. George's,	106	0 0
1824	484	0	0	Rev. Dr. Bruce,	132	0 0
1825	517	0	0	Rev. Dr. Hanna,	139	0 0
1826	522	0	0	Rev. R. Bland,	103	0 0
1827	859	0	0	Rev. W. McEwen,	144	0 0
1828	503	0	0	Rev. Dr. Bruce.....	145	0 0
1829	629	0	0	Rev. Mr. Carlisle,	136	0 0
1830	569	0	0	Rev. Mr. Chaine,	129	0 0
1831	540	0	0	Rev. Dr. Cooke.....	149	0 0
1832	563	0	0	Several,	423	0 0
1833	535	0	0	Do.,	310	0 0
1834	413	0	0	Do.,	259	0 0

TABLE OF SUBSCRIPTIONS AND PROCEEDS OF CHARITY SERMONS,
IN AID OF THE CHARITY, FROM 1834 TILL 1850.

Year.	Dispensary.	FEVER HOSPITAL.		GENERAL HOSPITAL.	
	Subscriptions.	Subscriptions.	Charity Sermons	Subscriptions.	Charity Ser.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1835	£36 0 0	£418 0 0	£51 0 0		
1836	70 0 0	551 0 0	216 0 0		
1837	99 0 0	1033 0 0	476 0 0		
1838	89 0 0	584 0 0	229 0 0		
1839	83 0 0	496 0 0	234 0 0		
1840	60 0 0	1272 0 0	258 0 0		
1841	78 0 0	502 0 0	...	158 0 0	271 0 0
1842	115 0 0	436 0 0	...	133 0 0	152 0 0
1843	114 0 0	391 0 0	...	13 0 0	87 0 0
1844	107 0 0	359 0 0	57 0 0	50 0 0	44 0 0
1845	86 1 0	776 9 6	46 7 6	36 4 0	144 12 2
1846	115 0 0	401 0 0	...	42 0 0	
1847	Dispensary ceases to be connected with the Hospital. See General Dispensary Returns.	...	...	388 0 0	
1848		...	...	441 0 0	108 0 0
1849		...	...	592 0 0	59 0 0
1850		...	...		

TABLE OF BEQUESTS, &c.

Year.	Bequests.	County Grants, and Donations per Public Bodies.	Private Donations.	Extraordinary aid, as from Entertainments, &c.
1801 ...	...	...	J. Cunningham, 11s 7s 6d.	Concert by Mr. Bunting, Mr. Parker, of Circus, 47l. 12s 9d.
...	...	...	J. Turnley, 11l. 7s 6d.	
...	...	...	F. Turnley, 11l. 7s 6d.	
1805 ...	...	...	F. Turnley, 50l.	
1806 ...	...	...	A well-wisher, 23l. 5s 6d.	
1807 ...	...	Grand Jury, 195l. 7s 6d.		Mr. Davison's Lecture.
1808	Mr. Cairns, 100l.			
1810 ...	...	Grand Jury, no record of amount.	Mr. M'Cann, 100l. Nucleus of the Building Fund.	
1811 ...	...	Grand Jury, no record....	See list of Subscription to First Building Fund.	Officers of Derry Militia, 41l.
1813 ...	...	Grand Jury, no record....		Mr. Finaigle's Lecture, 11l. 4s.
1815 ...	...	Grand Jury, no record....		Officers at Thea- tre, 102l. 1s 4d.
1817	W. Stevenson, } 56l. 17s 6d. } Thos. M'Connell, 100l. Miss Cairns, 50l. } Sam. Woolsey, 50l. }	The Corporation of the Borough, 400l. ... Provision Fund, 284l. 6s 2d. ... Proprietors of Linen- Hall, 100l. ... Lord Lieutenant, 100l. ... Harbour Commis- sioners, 300l. ...		Proprietor of Wax Works, 13l. 15s 9d. Two Amateur Plays, 215l. 19s 10d.
1818	Mrs. Lyons, 30l. ...	Lord Lieutenant, 100l. ...	R. Ker, Red- Hall, 10l.	
1819	N. Magee, 100l. ...	Grand Jury, 200l. ...	Lieut.-Gen. Mi- chel, 50l.	
1820	Jas. Boomer, 50l. ... Miss Brown, 50l. ...	Grand Jury, 581l. 3s 8d. Grand Jury, 435l. 8s 6d. Lord Lieutenant, 100l.	F. Turnley, 30l. 15s. R. Ker, 21l. 7s 6d. D. Gordon, 20l. T. Sinclair and Miss Bland, 20l. John James, 13l. 14s 2d.	
1822	J. M. Stoupe, 100l. ...	Grand Jury, two years, 963l. 17s 9d. ...		
1823	Hugh Wilson, 50l.			
1824	Mrs. Houston, 50l. ... Mrs. Lamont, 5l. ...	Grand Jury, two years, 976l. 15s 11d. ...		
1825	Miss Cairns, 50l.	Grand Jury, 520l. 16s 3d.		
1826	...	Grand Jury, 508l. 12s 5d.		

TABLE OF BEQUESTS, &c.

Year.	bequests	County grants, and Donations per public bodies.	Private Donations.	Extraordinary aid, as from Entertainments &c.
1827	John Gregg, 100 <i>l.</i> ...	Grand Jury, 458 <i>l.</i> 12s 11d.		Bachelor's Ball, 50 <i>l.</i>
	Mr. Moreland, 45 <i>l.</i>			
1828	Mrs. Hyde, 46 <i>l.</i> 3s 1d.			
	— Clarke, 61 <i>l.</i> 11s 6d.			
1829	... ..	Grand Jury, 868 <i>l.</i> 9s 11d.	Col. Pakenham, 16 <i>l.</i>	
		Committee of Supply, 20 <i>l.</i>		
1830	Miss Stoupe, 50 <i>l.</i> ...	Grand Jury, 619 <i>l.</i> 13s 5d.	C. R. Dobbs 10 <i>l.</i>	
	Miss Atkinson, 10 <i>l.</i> ...			
1831	W. Magee, 46 <i>l.</i> 3s 8d.	Grand Jury, 573 <i>l.</i> 16s 8d.		
1832	Mr. Yates, 46 <i>l.</i> 11s 3d.	Grand Jury, 1,088 <i>l.</i> 4s 6d.		Mr. Gallagher's Exhibition, 11 <i>l.</i> 2s 6d.
	Miss Brown, 21 <i>l.</i>	Belfast Butchery Society, 10 <i>l.</i> 4s 6d.		
	Patrick Davis, 10 <i>l.</i> ...			
1833	Miss Stevenson, 50 <i>l.</i> ...	Grand Jury, 593 <i>l.</i> 13s 4d.	R. Thomson, 7 <i>l.</i>	
	Miss Roger, 50 <i>l.</i> ...	... ..	D. Woods, 5 <i>l.</i>	
	J. Trail Kennedy, 50 <i>l.</i>			
	J. Getty, 50 <i>l.</i> ...			
1834	J. Getty, 50 <i>l.</i> ...			
	W. Tennent, 100 <i>l.</i> ...			
	T. Akenhead, 100 <i>l.</i> ...			
	Misses Kennedy, } 46 <i>l.</i> 3s 1d. }			
1835	John Cordukes, 20 <i>l.</i> , F.	Grand Jury, 33 <i>l.</i> 4s, Dis.		
		" 483 <i>l.</i> 8s 4d, Hos.		
1837	... ..	" 70 <i>l.</i> 2s 6d, Dis.		Officers 46th Re- giment give a Benefit, 42 <i>l.</i> 1s 6d.
		" 99 <i>l.</i> 2s 6d, Dis.		
		" 1,002 <i>l.</i> 0s 8d, Hos.		Belfast Amateur Band, 20 <i>l.</i> 1s 6d
1838	Dr. M'Cluney, 100 <i>l.</i> , F.	" 194 <i>l.</i> 17s 2d, Dis.		
	Mrs. Simms, 40 <i>l.</i> , F. ...	" 1,600 <i>l.</i> 0s 0d, Hos.		
1839	Miss Havern, Arthur- street, 50 <i>l.</i> , F. ...	" 89 <i>l.</i> 12s 6d, Dis.		
	Miss Smith, 50 <i>l.</i> , F. ...	" 439 <i>l.</i> 6s 9d, Hos.		
	Captain Griffith, 50 <i>l.</i> , F.			
	R. Mathews, } 42 <i>l.</i> 12s 3d, F. }			
	Miss S. Craig, 10 <i>l.</i> , F.			
1840	W. Johnston, Fortfield, 46 <i>l.</i> 3s 1d, F. ...	" 600 <i>l.</i> 0s 0d, Hos.	F. Turnley, 25 <i>l.</i>	
		" 61 <i>l.</i> 10s 6d, Dis.		
1841	J. Montgomery 50 <i>l.</i> , F.	" 77 <i>l.</i> 1s 6d, Dis.		Circus, 18 <i>l.</i> 6s 6d
	Miss J. Lyons, 100 <i>l.</i> , F.			Wax Works, 5 <i>l.</i> 3s.
	Mrs. D. Shaw, } 23 <i>l.</i> 0s 10d, F. }	" 1,503 <i>l.</i> 17s 0d, F.S.		
	H. J. Tomb, 10 <i>l.</i> , F. ...		[5 <i>l.</i> , F.	
1842	J. Turnley, 200 <i>l.</i> , F. ...	" 114 <i>l.</i> 8s 0d, Dis.	Hon. Mr. Ward,	
		" 600 <i>l.</i> 0s 0d, Hos.	Hon. Mrs. Ward,	
	J. Cunningham, } 100 <i>l.</i> , F. }	[53 <i>l.</i> 2s 9d, S.	5 <i>l.</i> , S.	
	Walter Roberts, 10 <i>l.</i> , F.	Late House of Industry,	J. Turnley, 10 <i>l.</i> , S.	

TABLE OF REQUESTS, &c.

Year.	Requests.	County grants, and Donations per public bodies.	Private, Donations.	Extraordinary aid, as from Entertainments, &c.
1843	J. Cunningham, } 100 <i>l.</i> , S. }	Weavers' Relief C., 20 <i>l.</i> , S.	(See List of Sub- scribers to second Building Fund.)	
	Mrs. A. Dinsmore, } 10 <i>l.</i> , F. }	Grand Jury, 402 <i>l.</i> , F.		
	Miss Harrison, 10 <i>l.</i> , F.	" 116 <i>l.</i> 18 <i>s.</i> , D.		
	Mrs. M. Lynd, 5 <i>l.</i> , F....	" 107 <i>l.</i> 4 <i>s.</i> , D.		
1844	W. Simms, 50 <i>l.</i> , F. ...			
	F. Jordan, 50 <i>l.</i> , F. ...			
	Miss Lyons, } 38 <i>l.</i> 15 <i>s.</i> 1 <i>d.</i> , D. }			
1845	J. H. Houston, 50 <i>l.</i> , F	" 600 <i>l.</i> , F.	Miss Halliday, 5 <i>l.</i>	
	Miss Lyons, } 38 <i>l.</i> 15 <i>s.</i> 1 <i>d.</i> , F. }	" 86 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> , D.		
	J. H. Houston, 50 <i>l.</i> , S	Loan Fund, 50 <i>l.</i> , S.	T. Ferguson, 5 <i>l.</i>	
	F. Glenfield, 50 <i>l.</i> , F. ...			
	C. Salmon, 46 <i>l.</i> 3 <i>s.</i> 1 <i>d.</i> , F.			
	Mrs. " 50 <i>l.</i> , F.			
1846	Mrs. Small, } 109 <i>l.</i> 8 <i>s.</i> 11 <i>d.</i> , F. }	Grand Jury, 752 <i>l.</i> 3 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> , F.	Rep. of late Mrs. Montgomery, 10 <i>l.</i> , S.	Royal Hibernian Ball, 5 <i>l.</i>
	Miss Patterson, } 46 <i>l.</i> 2 <i>s.</i> 1 <i>d.</i> , F. }			
	J. Jamieson, 25 <i>l.</i> , S. ...			
1847	...	Ulster Railway, 10 <i>l.</i>		
1848	Miss Getty, 97 <i>l.</i>	Ulster Railway, 20 <i>l.</i> ...		
	R. Simms, 50 <i>l.</i> ...	Board of Guardians, 618 <i>l.</i> 3 <i>s.</i>		Officers of 3d Regt. Buffs, 39 <i>l.</i> 12 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>
	R. Simms, 40 <i>l.</i> ...	Board of Health, 4,284 <i>l.</i> 17 <i>s.</i> 5 <i>d.</i>		
1849	Mrs. M'Cormac, 30 <i>l.</i> ...	THE QUEEN, 300 <i>l.</i> ...	R. B. B. Hous- ton, 5 <i>l.</i> , G.	
		QUEEN'S VISIT, 163 <i>l.</i> 5 <i>s.</i> 2 <i>d.</i>		
1850	Dr. S. S. Thomson, } 100 <i>l.</i> }	Ballymena Railway, 5 <i>l.</i>	R. Thomson, Wolf-hill, 10 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i>	VICTORIA FETE, £277 3 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i>
		R. Montgomery, 5 <i>l.</i>		
		Relief Committee, 30 <i>l.</i>		
		Lord Lieutenant, 52 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i>		

NOTE.—D. after a sum, denotes "for Dispensary."
F. do. do. "for Fever Hospital."
S. do. do. "for General Hospital."

TABLE SHEWING PROPORTION OF SUBSCRIPTION PAID ANNUALLY BY EACH SUBSCRIBER, AND THE GENERAL AVERAGES.

Year.	Number of Subscribers.	Amount.	Average per Subscriber.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1818 — 19	562	438 0 0	0 15 7
1820 — 21	549	426 0 0	0 15 7
1821 — 22	577	534 0 0	0 18 6
1822 — 23	733	471 0 0	0 12 10
1823 — 24	720	484 0 0	0 13 5
1824 — 25	777	517 0 0	0 13 0
1825 — 26	790	522 0 0	0 13 2
1826 — 27	774	859 0 0	1 2 0
1827 — 28	831	508 0 0	0 12 1
1828 — 29	984	629 0 0	0 12 7
1829 — 30	914	569 0 0	0 12 5
1830 — 31	730	540 0 0	0 14 9
1831 — 32	847	563 0 0	0 12 3
1832 — 33	846	535 0 0	0 12 8
1833 — 34	884	413 0 0	0 9 4
1834 — 35	836	520 0 0	0 12 5
1835 — 36	949	621 0 0	0 13 1
1836 — 37	*2023	1132 0 0	0 11 2
1837 — 38	*1467	673 0 0	0 9 2
1838 — 39	959	580 0 0	0 12 1
1839 — 40	*1786	1332 0 0	0 14 4
1840 — 41	*1054	579 0 0	0 10 11
1841 — 42	*1063	551 0 0	0 10 4
1842 — 43	760	506 0 0	0 13 2
1843 — 44	584	515 0 0	0 15 6
1844 — 45	*1097	812 0 0	0 14 9
1845 — 46	*1054	517 0 0	0 9 10
1846 — 47	...	...	...
1847 — 48	532	388 0 0	0 14 7
1848 — 49	694	441 0 0	0 12 7
1849 — 50	582	536 0 0	0 18 4
Annual average,.....	26958	17,706 0 0	0 13 1
	898	590 0 0	

Fractions omitted.

* Subscribers called on twice these years.

REV. DR. HINCK'S CALCULATION.—1835.

TABLE shewing the ANNUAL AVERAGE RECEIPTS and EXPENDITURE, for Ten Years.

RECEIPTS.	EXPENDITURE.	CASES ADMITTED.
Subscriptions,..... £564 15 2½	Food, £650 0 7	Fever, 534½
County Treasurer,... 564 17 0½	Wine and Spirits, ... 85 16 4	
Charity Sermons, ... 175 14 4	Drugs and Medical	
Admission of patients 60 6 5	Instruments, 185 2 0½	Medical 147.7-10
Other sources as Be-	Coals, soap & candles 90 2 7	
quests, Fines, &c., 111 19 7	Building and repairs 76 18 11	
	Furniture, bedding,	
	and clothing, 92 10 0½	Surgical 225.3-5
	Salaries, wages, &c., 150 16 3½	
	Rent, Advertising,	
	Stationery, and	
	miscellaneous, ... 76 8 6	
Total,..... £1477 12 7	Total,..... £1407 15 3	Total, ...908

From the above it appears that the average cost of each case (taking the average of cases at 908 per annum) is rather less than 14s. 4d. each for diet, and about £1 11s., including all expenses. No calculation can be made respecting the medicine, as the account has not been kept separate.

MONTHLY ADMISSIONS, IN THE FEVER EPIDEMICS, SINCE 1817.

Months.	YEARS.											
	1818	1819	1824	1825	1826	1827	1828	1830	1831	1832	1835	1837
January ...	...	...	40	72	...	67	44	...	*52	78	...	...
February ...	...	...	54	61	...	70	53	...	65	76	...	...
March ...	...	...	39	73	45	43	41	...	57	84	...	...
April ...	...	...	58	75	45	108	41	...	57	100	...	...
May...	...	...	66	41	55	72	53	...	64	68	...	...
June ...	...	...	64	...	43	35	38	...	105	58	...	...
July ...	...	...	55	...	78	45	50	...	38	117	...	...
August ...	...	...	55	...	105	32	42	...	55	72	...	...
September ...	...	...	52	...	94	40	48	...	43	74	...	...
October ...	...	...	57	...	108	84	...	...	62	81	...	...
November ...	...	...	46	...	90	50	...	...	46	105	...	...
December ...	...	...	46	...	70	60	...	...	52	88	...	...
Total ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Monthly returns not given in the abstract records.

* Asiatic Cholera immediately followed the decline of the epidemic.

* These columns refer to lunar months.

† Asiatic Cholera immediately followed the decline of the epidemic.

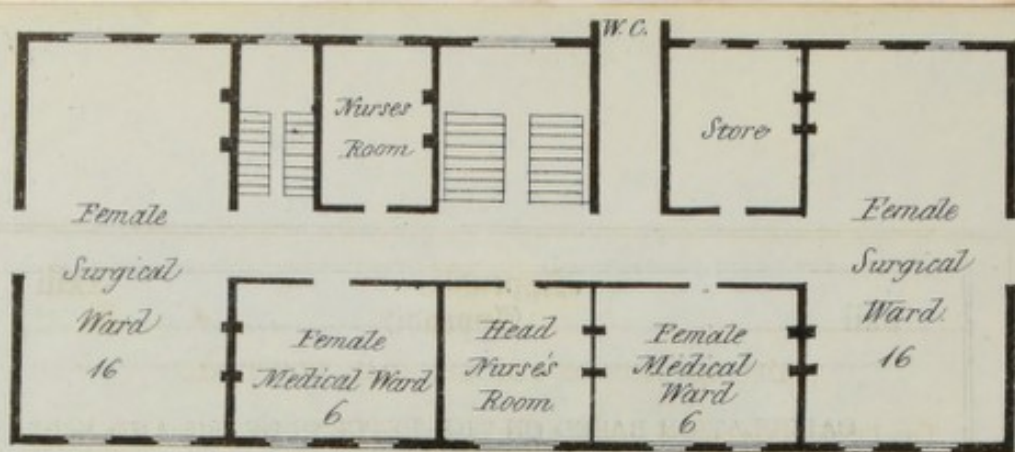
CALCULATION BASED ON THE RETURNS OF 1849 AND 1850.

EXPENDITURE.				CASES ADMITTED.			
1849, For Diet,	...	...	£487 10 0	1849,	...	...	498
Total,	...	...	977 2 1				
1850, For Diet,	...	...	109 8 10	1850,	...	...	675
Total,	...	...	512 16 2				

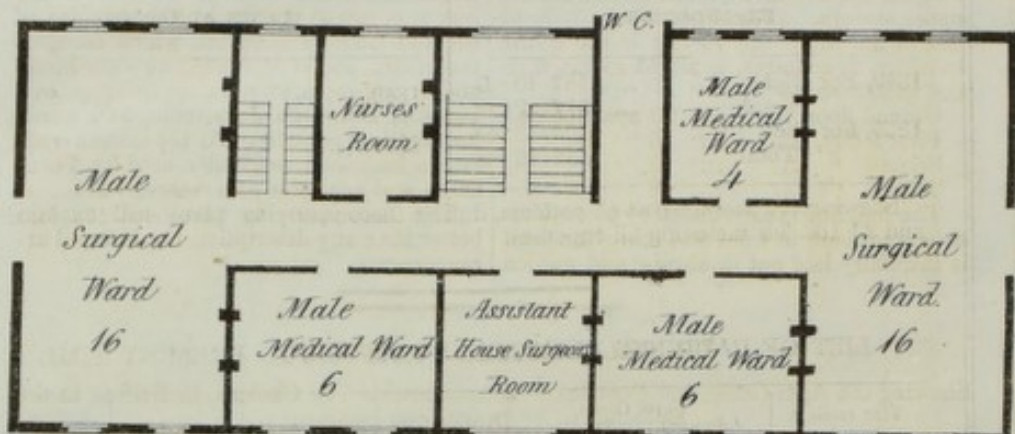
Shewing the average cost of patients, during these years, to have been 17s. for diet, and £1 15s. 3d. including all expenses.

LIST OF PATIENTS ADMITTED FROM 1845 TO PRESENT TIME.

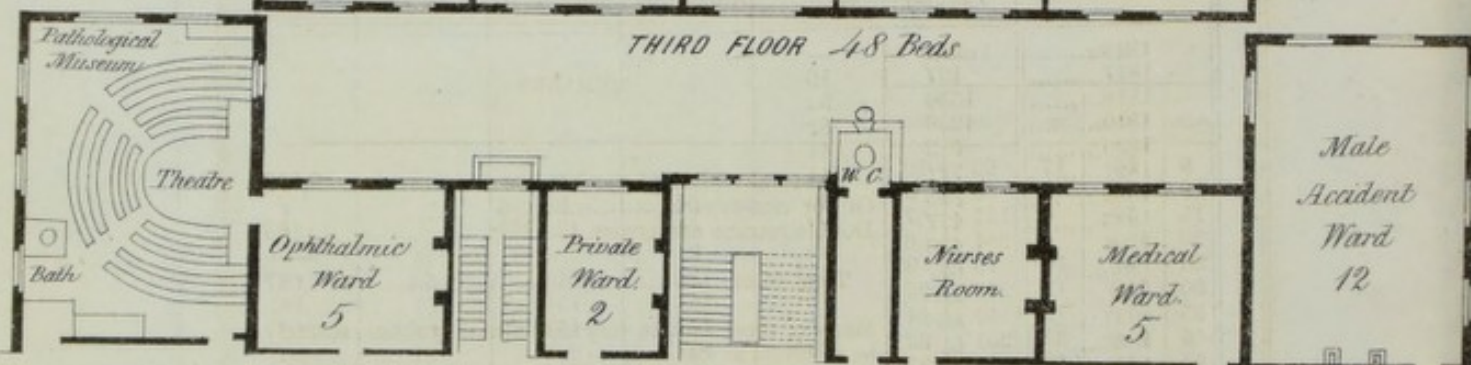
Year ending.	Fever Cases.		Medical Cases	Surgical Cases	Accidents.	Surgical Deaths.
	Admitted.	Deaths.				
1815.....	224	—				
1817.....	197	10				
1818.....	1530	93				
1819.....	1258	62				
1820.....	682	41				
1821.....	727	41				
1822....	395	19	54	82		7
1823.....	477	27	46	126		4
1824.....	410	21	94	123	41	9
1825.....	677	21	139	148	59	13
1826.....	288	19	144	154	61	14
1827.....	868	52	137	153	61	12
1828.....	659	29	131	215	94	30
1829.....	484	20	195	226	81	18
1830.....	207	10	195	322	84	16
1831.....	569	40	188	329	94	19
1832.....	1014	73	97	268	90	19
1833.....	546	53	123	271	107	28
1834.....	477	43	170	413	119	23
1835.....	691	68	201	368	120	24
1836.....	528	48	166	387	161	30
1837.....	1878	181	94	255	100	26
1838.....	3187	402	28	232	—	32
1839.....	1067	113	170	353	134	46
1840.....	1738	214	113	297	116	20
1841.....	1709	173	—	281	143	36
1842.....	1162	126	17	285	131	24
1843.....	635	133	33	257	92	16
1844.....	2284	126	25	266	109	16
1845.....	1666		33	297	123	19
1846.....	646	65	44	347	156	36
1847.....	—					
1848.....	5153	693	38	378	155	37
1849.....			106	329	124	23
1850.....			257	418	175	—



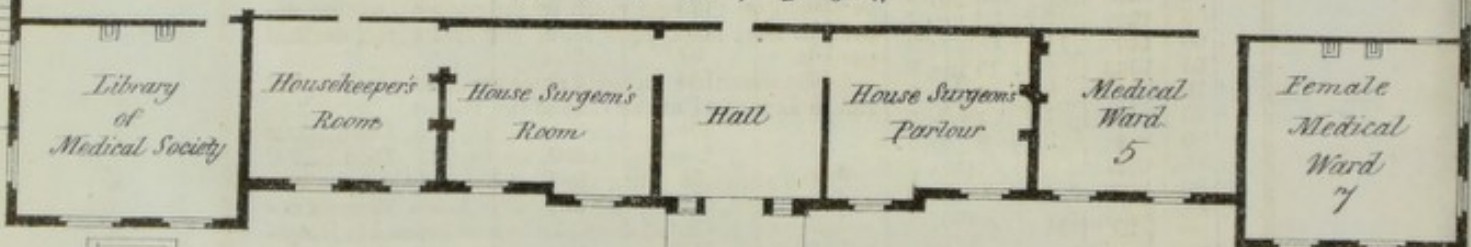
FOURTH FLOOR 44 Beds



THIRD FLOOR 48 Beds



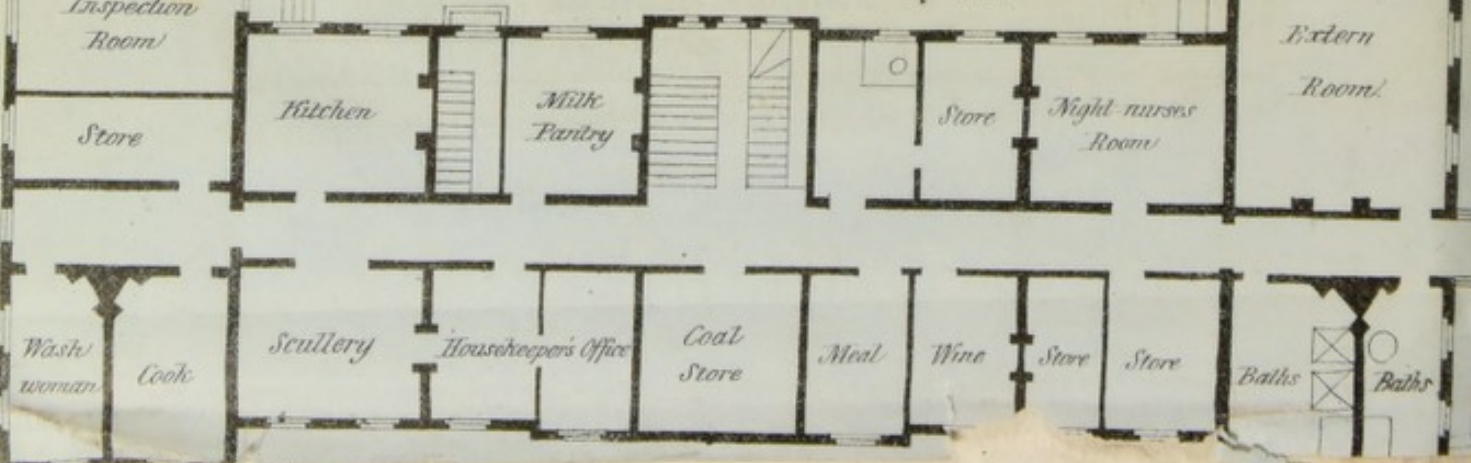
CORRIDOR



GROUND PLAN 36 Beds

Total Beds 128

Plan of General Hospital.



DESCRIPTION OF THE GENERAL HOSPITAL.

THE Building, the ground plan of which is of the usual H shape, is about 160 feet long for the first two floors, and 104 for the upper storeys. From front to rear it is 64 feet in the wings and 45 feet in the centre building. It contains, in all, 51 rooms, divided as follows:—

Ground floor,...	...	20	apartments.
First lobby, ...	...	15	do.
Second " ...	...	8	do.
Third, " ...	...	8	do.

The building is surrounded by a considerable area, both in front and rear: the front is tastefully laid out in shrubs and garden

plants, and is flanked on one side by the Dispensary-rooms, and the other, by the Committee-room and porter-lodge; the rear is occupied mainly by the remains of the old Cholera Hospital, which occupies the centre, and is now used as wash-house and drying-room, store-rooms for linen, and bedding, Coroner's Jury-room, and wards for maniacal patients. At the eastern wall, runs a long shed, originally used for Fever cases, and kept now as a reserve ward.

The accompanying plans will explain better than any description the internal arrangements.

DR. WILLIAM M'GEE'S RETURN,

Shewing the Ages (Male and Female) of persons attacked by Cholera, in Belfast, in the Epidemic of 1832, with the Deaths.

Male.		Female.		REMARKS.
Age.	Cases.	Death.	Cases.	Death.
5	56	17	50	10
10	48	9	60	8
15	70	6	125	7
20	109	5	284	8
25	91	16	210	9
30	112	17	252	23
35	77	13	149	14
40	110	32	201	32
45	44	13	95	21
50	55	16	103	13
55	29	12	35	7
60	37	14	68	22
65	14	4	19	8
70	17	8	16	7
75	9	7	7	5
80	4	2	8	5
85	0	0	1	1
90	3	3	2	2
Age not given	29	11	48	16
	914	205	1733	219
Total cases,.....		2649		
Deaths,		424		

The total registered number was 2,833
 Off for non-reports,..... 5
 Double returns and errors, ... 181

Total cases, 2,647

Many of these were so very mild that they should scarcely be returned as Cholera.

It will be evident, also, that no great dependence can be placed on the ages given by the patients, as they appear to have made rests at, or just under, the decimal periods.

In the above are included cases remaining in Hospital and in Lazaretto, at the date of the Report.

Hospital cases..... 23, Died..... 2

Lazaretto cases, ... 18, Died..... 6

In the streets in which the Hospital and the Lazaretto were situated, and in the adjoining lanes, 75 cases occurred. Of the 2,647 cases, 1,158 were treated in Hospital, of whom died 282. Bleeding was freely tried in Hospital, there having been bled—

Males..... 85, of whom died 8

Females, 199, of whom died 2

It is rather remarkable that from the 30th September till 28th October, 92 cases were admitted into Hospital, none of whom were bled; of these 41 died.

The register does not give any available information as to the trades of the patients.

MARCH OF ASIATIC CHOLERA,

IN 1848-9, IN THE DISPENSARY DISTRICTS.

Weeks ending.	Total cases	Dock.	Hospital.	Shankhill.	Smithfield.	College.	Cromac.
Dec. 23, 1848,	1	...	...	1	...	...	...
" 30 "	6	1	...	1	2	2	...
Jan. 6 1849,	2	...	...	...	1	1	...
" 13 "	11	1	...	2	3	5	...
" 20 "	17	3	...	3	3	8	...
" 27 "	15	1	...	3	2	9	...
Feb. 3 "	35	1	...	5	7	19	3
" 10 "	62	1	3	21	28	7	2
" 17 "	75	1	3	14	37	13	7
" 24 "	70	3	3	15	23	24	2
March 3 "	63	2	2	22	18	16	3
" 12 "	124	3	...	50	4	63	4
" 19 "	58	1	...	15	14	26	2
" 26 "	36	11	4	15	6	...	...
April 2 "	48	5	3	9	11	12	8
" 9 "	35	1	2	8	9	9	6
" 16 "	67	5	17	13	15	13	4
" 23 "	41	7	3	9	12	6	4
" 30 "	42	1	5	17	14	...	5
May 7 "	18	2	3	2	4	7	...
" 14 "	36	5	10	7	11	2	1
" 21 "	42	7	9	10	10	4	2
" 28 "	38	5	10	12	7	4	...
June 4 "	64	9	14	21	13	5	2
" 11 "	59	6	15	15	6	9	8
" 18 "	58	5	14	10	9	14	6
" 25 "	63	5	11	8	9	18	12
July 2 "	60	15	12	6	14	7	6
" 9 "	80	11	14	5	15	7	28
" 16 "	86	16	7	6	20	8	29
" 23 "	202	18	16	29	33	17	89
" 30 "	105	10	9	20	17	27	22
Aug. 6 "	126	5	8	10	23	10	70
" 13 "	41	3	3	9	10	13	3
" 20 "	55	10	6	5	5	10	19
" 27 "	23	...	4	4	8	3	4
Sept. 5 "	27	...	2	4	18	3	...
" 10 "	14	...	3	4	5	2	...
" 17 "	24	...	5	7	9	...	3
" 24 "	6	...	...	5	...	...	1
Oct. 1 "	3	...	1	1	...	...	1
" 8 "	9	1	1	2	1	4	...
" 15 "	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
" 22 "	3	...	1	...	2	...	...
" 29 "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nov. 5 "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" 12 "	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
" 19 "	2	...	1	...	...	1	...
" 26 "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dec. 3 "	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
" 10 "	2	...	1	...	...	1	...
Total,	1,700	168	214	338	334	306	340

LIST OF SURGICAL CASES, CLASSIFIED FOR TWENTY YEARS.

NAME.	CASES.	DEATHS.	Annual average of Cases.
Aneurism,	15	2	
Burns	275	108	13 $\frac{3}{4}$
Cataract,	51	1	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Delirium Tremens,	6	1	
Erysipelas,.....	96	15	4 $\frac{3}{4}$
Fractures (compound).....	118	19	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
Fistula,	53	2	2 $\frac{3}{8}$
Gangrene,	40	13	2
Hernia,	51	11	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Joints, Diseases of	243	16	12
Injuries of Head,	156	38	7 $\frac{3}{4}$
Rupture of Viscera,	6	4	
Stone in Bladder,.....	3	2	
Syphilis,.....	1044	20	52 1-5
Tetanus,.....	5	4	

STATISTICS OF FEVER.

TABLE SHEWING THE MORTALITY AT THE DIFFERENT AGES.

Age.	No. of Cases.	Age.	Per Cent.
1 — 5	160	10	6.2 per cent.
5 — 10	500	5	1.0 "
10 — 15	730	15	2.0 "
15 — 20	811	25	3.0 "
20 — 25	562	21	3.7 "
25 — 30	432	32	7.4 "
30 — 35	274	23	8.7 "
35 — 40	335	33	9.8 "
40 — 45	198	18	9.1 "
45 — 50	166	28	16.9 "
50 — 55	106	21	19.8 "
55 — 60	75	12	16.0 "
60 — 65	50	10	20.0 "
65 — 70	22	5	22.7 "
70 — 76	20	5	25.0 "
75 — 80	6	4	66.6 "
	4,437	267	Av. 6.0 per cent.

DR. S. REID'S STATISTICS OF THE UNION FEVER HOSPITAL.

1847.

Months.	Mac Typhus.	Doubt Typhus.	Variola.	Rubeola.	Synocha Relapsing.	Synochus.	Febricula.	Contagion traced in.
Jan.,	22	2	11	...	36	6	30	38
Feb.,	41	4	20	...	52	10	23	92
March, ...	81	2	31	1	105	28	52	170
April, ...	101	16	4	...	146	68	158	239
May,	56	6	9	4	89	90	90	148
June,	101	12	5	...	103	90	148	301
July,	113	10	5	...	137	92	109	329
August, ...	67	16	...	...	71	87	66	218
Sept.,	51	4	...	...	53	44	39	140
Oct.,	45	9	1	...	34	37	48	130
Nov.,	131	10	1	1	50	47	75	248
Dec.,	66	3	...	...	24	57	54	170
Officers, ...	14	1	...	...	5	4	2	
Total,	889	95	87	6	905	660	894	2,223
Mortality,	176	5	20	1	64	69	18	

1848.

Months.	Mac Typhus.	Doubt Typhus.	Variola.	Rubeola.	Synocha Relapsing.	Synochus.	Febricula.	Contagion traced in.
Jan.,	94	34		1	26	48	66	119
Feb.,	84	12	2	...	28	37	39	89
March, ..	75	17	1	...	27	34	26	84
April, ..	53	10	1	1	5	31	30	59
May,	39	4	...	1	6	32	43	35
June, ..	28	1	1	...	3	37	33	23
July,	30	2	4	...	2	16	22	30
August, ..	32	4	8	...	3	12	15	23
Sept.,	15	...	1	1	3	17	18	11
October, ..	13	...	1	...	...	8	21	10
Nov.	8	...	2	2	5	14	17	12
Dec.,	3	1	3	3	1	24	13	13
Officers, ..	3	0	1	...	1			
Total, ..	477	85	27	9	109	310	344	508
Mortality,	82	4	4	0	10	20	5 Total, 2731*	

* Out of a total of 4,601 Patients observed.

FACTS ASCERTAINED ON THE NATURE OF RELAPSING SYNOCHA.

1st.—146 out of 385 cases had the first crisis, after the first rigor, on the 5th day.

2nd.—98 out of 385 cases had the second rigor on the 14th day.

3rd.—122, second crisis, after the second rigor, on the 2nd day.

BELFAST MEDICAL SOCIETY.

LIST OF OFFICERS FOR 1851.

President.

R. STEPHENSON, M.D.

Vice-Presidents.

W. M'GEE, M.D., A. G. MALCOLM, M.D.

Council.

S. BROWNE, R.N., J. M. PIRRIE, M.D., J. C. FERGUSON, M.D., W. MOFFAT, M.D.,
H. MURNEY, M.D., A. GORDON, M.D.

Treasurer.

J. PATTERSON, M.D.

Secretaries.

Æ. LAMONT, F.R.C.S.I., AND J. L. DRENNAN, M.D.

E. RING, LIBRARIAN.

OBITUARY LIST.

Dr. M'Cabe,	elected 1825,	Died 1828.
Dr. Stewart,	" 1827,	" "
Mr. Barnett,	" 1832,	" 1832.
Dr. S. Stephenson, Honorary,	" 1825,	" 1833.
Dr. Foreade,	original member,	" 1835.
Dr. Halliday, Honorary,	elected 1822,	" 1836.
Mr. Shaw, Newtownards,	" 1827,	" "
Dr. Rutledge,	" 1835,	" 1836.
Mr. William Aickin,	" 1824,	" 1837.
Mr. M'Cluney,	" 1834,	" "
Dr. M'Cullough, Newtownards,	" 1836,	" "
Mr. Wales,	" 1839,	" 1839.
Mr. Mawhinney,	" 1822,	" 1840.
Mr. Taggart, Honorary,	" 1830,	" "
Mr. Rowan,	" 1839,	" "
Mr. Douglas, Lurgan,	" 1825,	" 1842.
Dr. Wethered, Lisburn,	" 1825,	" "
Mr. W. M'Cullough, Bangor,	" 1842,	" 1843.
Dr. M'Donnell,	original member,	" 1845.
Mr. Birnie, R.N.,	elected 1824,	" "
Dr. Coffey,	" 1822,	" 1846.
Mr. Maclurean,	" 1825,	" "
Dr. Sanders, Secretary since 1838,	" 1836,	" "
Mr. Moore, R.N.,	original member,	" 1847.
Mr. M'Cleery,	elected 1822,	" "
Mr. D. Murray,	" 1836,	" "
Mr. A. Anderson,	" 1843,	" "
Dr. R. Cooke,	" 1843,	" "
Dr. Irving,	" 1846,	" "
Dr. Bingham, Downpatrick,	" 1847,	" 1844.
Dr. S. S. Thomson,	" 1824,	" 1849.
Mr. W. Quin,	" 1839,	" "
Dr. M'Burney,	" 1826,	" 1850.

BELFAST GENERAL DISPENSARY, REFORMED 1846.

LIST OF OFFICERS.

Medical Attendants.	Treasurers.	Secretaries.	Apothecaries.
1846. Mr. Lamont	Mr. Wright ...	*Dr. Moffat.	
Mr. J. Clarke	Mr. Mulholland.	*Mr. M'Intyre.	
Dr. J. S. Reid ... ..	... ..	... ..	*Mr. Ring.
Dr. J. Moore.			
Mr. Harkin ... ..	... ..	... ..	*Mr. Rea.
Dr. Malcolm ... ..	... ..	... ..	Mr. Armstrong.
*Dr. Black.			
Mr. Browne.			
Dr. Dill.			
1847. Dr. M'Burney	*Mr. Coleman.		
*Dr. Halliday.			
Mr. Wheeler.			
1848. *Mr. Corry			
*Mr. Smith.			
1850. *Mr. Ross			
1851. *Mr. Armstrong			

* Those now in office.

BELFAST GENERAL DISPENSARY.

Year.	Cases.	Visits.	Prescriptions.	Removed to Hospital.
8 Mos. 1846	9,226	5827	21,151	451
1847	24,214	17,350	53,835	3932
1848	16,518	7406	35,169	1195
1849	17,690	8896	38,168	1097
1850	22,091	10,226	44,910	1144
	89,739	49,705	193,233	7819
Annual average, 20,127		10,969	43,020	1842

9.1 per cent. are removed to Hospital.

CALCULATED COST OF MEDICAL RELIEF.

Year.	Total Expenditure.	Cases.	Average per head.
1846	£698 8 7	9226	£0 1 6
1847	1,061 19 7	21,214	0 0 11½
1848	925 4 3	16,518	0 1 1½
1849	884 10 5	17,690	0 1 0
1850	940 10 0	19,737	0 0 11½
	£4,510 12 10	84,385	0 1 1½

Omitting the year 1846, the average for the four years is exactly One Shilling per patient; but it is even less, as medicines supplied to the Hospital, are included in the expenditure.

STATISTICS OF THE DISTRICT HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE,

OPENED IN JUNE, 1829.

(Extracted and calculated from the Resident Physician's Annual Reports.)

Year.	Average Number in Asylum.	Mania.	Monomania.	Dementia.	Others.	Deaths per Cent.	Suicidal and Homicidal Cases.	Criminals.
1830	49							
1831	103							
1832	132							
1833	131							
1834	139							
1835	156							
1836	163							
1837	166							
1838	178							
1839	194	...	...	...	...	8.24	12	12
1840	217	...	...	...	...	12.88	7	7
1841	244	61	17	3	31	9.80	22	—
1842	246	77	5	3	31	10.94	14	10
1843	249	79	6	3	35	7.21	—	—
1844	253	80	32	2	...	8.29	12	1
1845	258	83	23	7	...	15.50	30	—
1846	252	60	6	12	29	9.51	17	—
1847	254	69	9	5	30	10.58	27	2
1848	262	82	4	7	47	17.90	32	4
1849	271	66	3	8	43	11.05	27	2
1850	267	67	8	8	37	16.07	30	4
1851	271	71	59	10		10.69	23	—
						av. 11.43		

DIETARY.

BREAKFAST.

One quart stirabout, and three-fourths of a pint mixed milk,	Males.	} Every Morning.
One-and-a-half pint stirabout, and one-half pint mixed milk,	Females.	

DINNER.

One-half pound loaf bread (or 3 lbs. potatoes), six ounces solid meat, and one pint soup,	Males & Females.	} One day a-week.
One-half pound loaf bread (or 3 lbs. potatoes), and one quart soup (made with ox heads, vegetables, oatmeal, barley, and pease),	Males.	
One-half pound loaf bread (or 3 lbs. potatoes), and one-and-half-pint soup,	Females.	} Five days a-week.
Three-fourths of a pound loaf bread (or 3½ lbs. potatoes), and one pint mixed milk,	Males.	
One-half pound loaf bread (or 3 lbs. potatoes), and one pint mixed milk,	Females.	} One day a-week.

SUPPER.

One-half pound loaf bread, and three-fourths of a pint mixed milk,	Males.	} Summer 6 months
One-half-pound loaf bread, and one-half-pint mixed milk, ..	Females.	

One quart stirabout, and three-fourths of a pint new milk,	Males.	} Winter 6 months.
One-and-half-pint stirabout, and one half-pint new milk,...	Females.	

. Convalescent Patients who are actively employed, are allowed a portion of meat, in addition to the soup, five days in the week. When the state of the patients' health requires it, the diet is changed accordingly, and any other substituted that may be considered requisite by the Medical Officers.

OCCUPATION IN ASYLUM.

MALES.—Cultivating the ground, weaving, winding, and warping. Making and repairing shoes, pumping water, tailoring, smith-work, painting, basket-making.

FEMALES.—Spinning, knitting, making and repairing clothing, bedding, &c. Embroidering, quilting, washing in laundry, assisting servants.

CAUSES OF INSANITY.

MORAL CAUSES—Domestic misfortune, grief, apprehensions relating to a future state; jealousy, loss of property, pride, poverty, and remorse. Fright, fear of want, reverses, religious excitement and enthusiasm. Disappointed affections, domestic quarrels, over application to business, over study, irregular habits, remorse of conscience, seduction.

PHYSICAL CAUSES.—Abuse of mercury and other medicines, bodily debility, puerperal affections, intemperance, effects of fever, epilepsy, disease of the uterus, injury on the head, effect of cold, indigestion, paralysis, sedentary employment, severe beatings, want of employment, unknown or hereditary complaints.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

General debility, dysentery, disease of the chest, epilepsy, disease of brain, maniacal exhaustion, disease of liver, delirium tremens, apoplexy, inanition, paralysis, atrophy, uterine disease, typhus, disease of heart, old age, cancer, suicide, dropsy, rheumatism, lumbar abscess, enteritis.

AGES OF ADMISSIONS FOR ELEVEN YEARS.

Under 20,...	...	...	98	From 50 to 60, ...	...	150
From 20 to 30, ...	...	...	305	From 60 to 70, ...	...	56
From 30 to 40, ...	...	...	286	From 70 to 80, ...	...	9
From 40 to 50, ...	...	...	273	...	...	...

EDUCATION OF ADMISSIONS FOR TEN YEARS.

Well educated, ...	...	49	Can read only, ...	...	290
Can read and write, ...	...	565	Totally uneducated, ...	...	160

STATISTICS OF LYING-IN HOSPITALS, SHEWING THE MORTALITY OF THE MOTHER.

I.—RETURNS OF THE GLASGOW MATERNITY HOSPITAL (FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT.)

Intern Cases in 1848—312, and 4 deaths; or 1·2 per cent.

Extern cases—293, and 2 deaths; or, 0·7 per cent.

Total—605 cases, and 6 deaths; or, nearly 1 per cent.

II.—RETURNS OF THE LYING-IN HOSPITAL, DUBLIN (UNDER THE LATE DR. JOSEPH CLARKE.)

Interns, from 1st January, 1787, till 1st October, 1791—No. 10,387, deaths, 125, or, 1·2 per cent.

III.—RETURNS OF MIDWIFERY PRACTICE, BY A. M. ADAMS, M.D., Glasgow: Published 1844.

Number of cases, 628; deaths, 5; or, 0·8 per cent. nearly.

LIST OF MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS IN BELFAST.

General Hospital Physicians, now or formerly.	General Hospital Surgeons, now or formerly.	Physicians and Surgeons in private practice.	General practitioners who keep shop or supply medicines.
R. Stephenson, M.D. †H. M'Cormac, M.D. Thos. Thomson, M.D. †Thos. Andrews, M.D. J. S. Reid, M.D. W. Moffat, M.D. A. G. Malcolm, M.D. J. M. Pirrie, M.D. P. Lynch, M.D.	A. Marshall, M.D. H. Purdon, M.D. R. M'Kibbin, M.D. Joseph Bryson, M.D. Samuel Hunter, M.D. †A. Gordon, M.D. James Moore, M.D. †H. Stewart, M.D. E. Lamont, F.R.C.S.I. Samuel Browne, R.N.	*W. M'Gee, M.D.R.N. *Thos. Read, M.D. *†W. Burden, M.D. *†J.C.Ferguson, M.D. *R. Stewart, M.D. *John Aickin. *John Quin. H. Ferguson, M.D. *R. F. Dill, M.D. J. Patterson, M.D. J. Collins, M.D. *C. D. Purdon, M.D. J. Kennedy M.D. J. Drennan M.D. *C. Black, M.D. *J. Halliday, M.D. J. Blizard M.D. H. Murney, M.D. J. Armstrong. *J. W. Smith. *H. Ross. J. Patrick. Snodden.	*S. Bryson, M.D. *A. Officer. *J.S.Mulholland, M.D. *J. Murray, M.D. *R. Bryce, M.D. *H Moore. E. Dorrian. *A. Harkin. *J. W. Beck, M.D. *W. Johnston. G. Quin. *J. Clarke, *J. Mawhinney. *C. Mulholland. *T. Wheeler. *T. C. S. Corry. J. Alexander. W. Heburn. S. Rea. J. Fryer, M.D. *Moreland, M.D. J. Gelston. D. Murray. W. J. M'Niece. G. Wales. J. Smith. E. Gribben. J. Hood. *J. M'Cleery. *J. Dickson. T. Mawhinney.
Apothecaries & Chemists. J. Grattan & Co. J. D. Marshall. W. Marshall. Thos. Aickin. E. Walkington. J. M'Adam. J. Curran. W. Dobbin. Blackburn & Co.	Dentists. J. Barnett. T. Grattan. J. Davis. R. Barnett.		

* These are, or have been, engaged in public practice in other Hospitals, or as Dispensary Attendants, or Medical Officers of Relief-Societies and Medical Institutions, here or elsewhere.
 † Professors of Queen's College. ‡ Professor formerly of Royal College.

PUBLIC MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS IN BELFAST.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE—Eight Professors,	8
GENERAL HOSPITAL—Four Physicians, four Surgeons, House-Surgeon and Apothecary, in all,	10
DISTRICT HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE—Visiting Physician, Resident Do., Surgeon-Apothecary,	3
UNION HOSPITAL—Two Physicians, and House-Surgeon,	3
LYING-IN-HOSPITAL—Physician,	1
COURT-BRIDEWELL—Physician,	1
OPHTHALMIC INSTITUTION—Surgeon and Assistant,	2

GENERAL DISPENSARY—Six District Attendants, and two Apothecaries,	8
CHARITABLE SOCIETY—Two Physicians,	2
DEAF AND DUMB INSTITUTE—Physician,	1
ULSTER FEMALE PENITENTIARY—	1
MAGDALEN ASYLUM—Physician,	1
ST. PATRICK'S ORPHAN SOCIETY—Physician,	1
LIFE INSURANCE OFFICES—Medical Referees,	40
EMIGRATION OFFICE AND QUARANTINE—Medical Inspector,	1
SEAMENS' FUND—Medical Inspector,	1
MARINE BOARD—Medical Inspector,	1
FACTORIES—Inspectors,	2
POLICE FORCE—Medical Officer,	1
LOCAL CONSTABLES—Medical Officer,	1
ODDFELLOWS—Three Lodges—Medical Officers,	3
FOUNDRIES—Medical Officers,	4
FRIENDLY SOCIETIES—Medical Officers,	6
RAILWAYS—	
OFFICERS OF HEALTH—	

QUEEN'S COLLEGE, BELFAST.

LIST OF THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE, 1851.

HUGH CARLISLE, M.D.,	Professor of Anatomy, Physiology, and Practical Anatomy.
ALEX. GORDON, M.D.	Professor of Surgery.
JOHN C. FERGUSON, A.M., M.D.	Professor of Medicine.
HORATIO STEWART, M.D.,	Professor of Materia Medica.
WILLIAM BURDEN, M.D.,	Professor of Midwifery.
THOMAS ANDREWS, M.D., V.P.,	Professor of Chemistry.
GEORGE DICKIE, M.D.,	Professor of Natural History.
J. F. HODGES, M.D.,	Professor of Medical Jurisprudence.

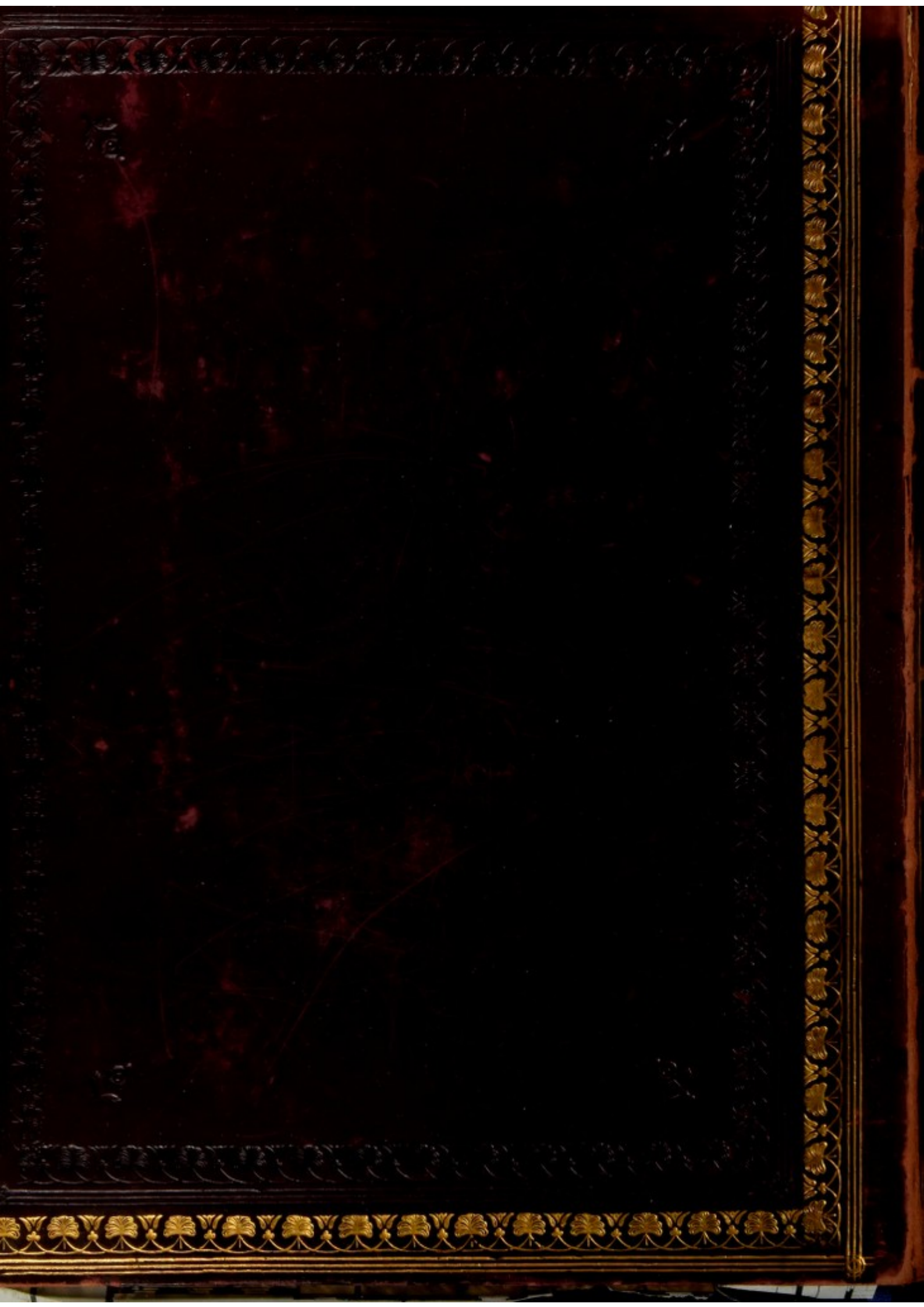
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