Testimonials in favour of Arch. K. Chalmers.

Contributors

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Lanarksbire County Council.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

TESTIMONIALS

IN FAVOUR OF

ARCH. K. CHALMERS.

M.D., D.P.H. (Camb.),

Medical Officer, Summerlee and Mossend Iron and Steel Company, Mossend,
Lanarkshire. Formerly Resident Assistant-Physician, City of Glasgow
Fever Hospital, Belvidere, and Medical Superintendent, Joint
(Fever) Hospital for the Burghs of Partick, Hillhead,
and Maryhill.

UNIVERSITY QUALIFICATIONS.

M.B., C.M., with High Commendation, 1879.
M.D., Commended for Thesis, 1887.
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STATEMENTS

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CONTRIBUTIONS TO MEDICAL JOURNALS BEARING ON SANITARY AND ALLIED SUBJECTS.

- On the existence of Typhus with Enteric Fever. Glasgow Medical Journal, 1882.
- On the Earth-Closet System for Epidemic Hospitals. Sanitary Journal, 1885.
- Measles during Vaccination. Lancet, 1886.
- Notes of a limited outbreak of Enteric Fever. Sanitary Journal, 1888.
- The Pyrexia of the Specific Fevers, with special relation to the daily fluctuations of temperature (with illustrations). Glasgow Medical Journal, 1890.
- Quarterly notes on Epidemiology to Glasgow Medical Journal since 1888.
- Occasional contributions to Sanitary Journal.

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TO SIR WILLIAM WALLACE HOZIER, CONVENER, AND THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF LANARKSHIRE.

GENTLEMEN.

'In view of the fact that, under the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1889, the County Council of Lanarkshire are empowered to elect one or more *Medical Officers of Health* for the County, and, with a view to being a candidate for such office, I beg to ask your consideration of the following statement and accompanying testimonials.

From the date of my Graduation in Medicine in Glasgow University, in 1879, to 1885, I was exclusively engaged in the medical and administrative duties of hospitals erected and worked under the provisions of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1867.

In 1879 I was appointed by the Health Committee of the Town Council of Glasgow as Assistant Resident Physician to the City of Glasgow Fever Hospital, Belvidere; and in the following year the Directors of the Joint (Fever) Hospital for the Burghs of Partick, Hillhead, and Maryhill, appointed me to the charge of that hospital, as Resident Medical Superintendent. This appointment I resigned on receiving that of Medical Officer to the Mossend Works of the Summerlee and Mossend Iron and Steel Company.

While my hospital duties brought me into direct relation with many aspects of practical sanitary administration, I have latterly, at Mossend, become familiar with the various conditions affecting Public Health which obtain over a very large part of the County of Lanark.

In 1887, at the request of the Editors of the Glasgow Medical Journal, I undertook the charge of that section of the Journal which deals with Epidemiology and Public Health.

In 1889, with the view of becoming more familiar with the recent advances in the methods of analytical and bacteriological research, in their application to practical hygiene, I attended the course of instruction therein at the University of Cambridge, and obtained the Diploma in Public Health of that University.

I have the honour to remain, GENTLEMEN,

> Your obedient Servant, ARCH. K. CHALMERS.

Mossend House, Mossend, May, 1890,

From James B. Russell, Esq., M.D., LL.D., etc., Medical Officer of Health to the City of Glasgow.

Sanitary Department, Montrose Street, Glasgow, 14th May, 1890.

Dr. A. K. Chalmers became known to me when he was appointed an Assistant Physician in the Belvidere Fever Hospital in 1879. He left there to take charge of the Joint Burghs' Fever Hospital in the Western Suburbs next year. After four years' service, he began private practice at Mossend. Throughout these successive steps in his career, I have been in friendly intercourse with Dr. Chalmers. He has always had an intelligent interest in hygienic subjects, and a deliberate intention to qualify himself for holding office in sanitary administration. In my opinion he is now eminently well qualified for an appointment as Medical Officer to a County Council. I say so not merely because he possesses all the theoretical information necessary (of which his Cambridge degree is evidence), but because he has that common sense, business capacity, and experience in public affairs, without which no man, however accomplished, will make a successful official.

I recommend Dr. Chalmers as a thoroughly competent candidate to any County Council to whom he may apply.

JAS. B. RUSSELL.

From W. T. Gairdner, Esq, M.D., LL.D., etc., Professor of Medicine, Glasgow University, etc., etc.

> GLASGOW UNIVERSITY, 10th May, 1890.

DR. ARCHD. K. CHALMERS has hitherto occupied a number of appointments which, with his distinction as a student and graduate of this University in 1879, give him a strong claim to consideration in reference to a sanitary appointment. He has been attached in succession to the working staff of two fever hospitals, and I am personally cognisant of his having been a most efficient Assistant Medical Officer in the great institution at Belvidere, under the charge of the Local Authority of the City of Glasgow. He has contributed various papers to medical literature, showing his independent interest and originality in sanitary subjects, and he has more recently acquired the Diploma of D.P.H. from the University of Cambridge. I am confident that he will be found, if appointed, a most efficient medical officer of health.

W. T. GAIRDNER.

From James W. Allan, Esq., M.B., Physician-Superintendent, City of Glasgow Fever Hospital, Belvidere, Clinical Lecturer on Fevers, appointed by the Town Council.

Belvidere,
City of Glasgow Fever Hospital,
10th April, 1890.

I LEARN that my friend, Dr. A. K. CHALMERS, is a candidate for the post of Medical Officer of Health for Lanarkshire under the County Council. It seems to me that Dr. Chalmers' professional career up till now has been a very suitable preparation for such a position. He acted as Assistant Physician in Belvidere (Fever) Hospital in 1879-80, and I can testify that he took a deep and thorough interest in the study of zymotic diseases. Dr. Chalmers left Belvidere on being appointed Medical Superintendent of the Fever Hospital at Knightswood (Joint Burghs of Maryhill, Partick, and Hillhead), and while occupying that responsible position he greatly enlarged his already extensive knowledge of infectious diseases. After holding the post of Medical Superintendent of that Hospital for four years and eight months to the entire satisfaction of all concerned, Dr. Chalmers resigned the appointment and entered on duty as Medical Officer at Mossend. But his interest in public health and the study of zymotic diseases did not cease, for he undertook the department of Epidemiology in the Glasgow Medical Journal, and at the same time directed his reading in the lines of preparation for the Cambridge University Examination in Public Health. Lately he went up to Cambridge University to complete his studies at the Laboratory there, and thereafter passed his examination and obtained the Diploma of Public Health.

Among Dr. Chalmers' contributions to medical literature may be mentioned—"On the Earth-Closet System for Epidemic Hospitals" (Sanitary Journal, 1885); "Measles during Vaccination" (Lancet, 1886); "Notes of a Limited Outbreak of Enteric Fever" (Sanitary Journal), etc. etc. It will thus be seen that his work has all along had a direct bearing on public health. I am thoroughly satisfied that he is well qualified to undertake the duties of the office to which he aspires. From my personal knowledge of Dr. Chalmers' character (his honesty and integrity of purpose and his high ideal of duty), I believe that the County Council would do well to secure his services.

JAMES W. ALLAN.

From the Chairman and Secretary to the Board of Directors of the Partick, Hillhead, and Maryhill Joint (Fever) Hospital.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE, 180 St. VINCENT STREET, GLASGOW, 8th May, 1890.

It is with much pleasure that we bear testimony to the able and efficient services rendered by Dr. Archibald K. Chalmers, as Resident Medical Superintendent of the Joint Hospital for the Burghs of Partick, Hillhead, and Maryhill. He held that office for nearly five years, and the opportunities afforded of gaining experience in the treatment of every kind of infectious and contagious disease were very great. The satisfactory manner in which he discharged his professional duties was fully borne out by the very low death rate which occurred during his tenure of office, and the administrative ability which he showed in the management of the Hospital, every department of which was under his charge, was highly appreciated by the Directors. They much regretted the loss of his services, but they could not but feel that his abilities, both professional and administrative, deserved a larger sphere of usefulness.

We have no hesitation in saying that Dr. Chalmers is in every way highly qualified for any public appointment having for its object either the practice of his profession in all classes of infectious or contagious disease falling to the care of Local Authorities under the Public Health Act, the judicious treatment of epidemics, and the stamping out of any threatened outbreak of infectious or contagious disease, the management of hospitals erected under its provisions for the treatment of all such diseases, or the supervision and administration of all classes of sanitary work imposed upon Local Authorities under the Public Health Act.

We believe we cannot speak too highly of Dr. Chalmers personally as a wise, judicious, and sound adviser in all public health and sanitary work.

JAMES CAIRD, Chairman.
J. M. TAYLOR, Secretary.

From James Neilson, Esq., J.P., Member of the County Council of Lanarkshire, etc., etc.

> Summerlee and Mossend Iron and Steel Company, Mossend, 23rd May, 1890.

Dr. A. K. Chalmers was appointed Resident Medical Officer at these Works early in 1885. He came with recommendations of the highest order, and the intelligent discharge of his duties has fully borne out every word that was said in his favour.

He is a gentleman of great ability, and takes high rank in his profession, and I can, with confidence, recommend him for any position to which he may aspire.

JAS. NEILSON.

From Joseph Coats, Esq., M.D., Pathologist and Lecturer on Pathology, Western Infirmary, Glasgow; Editor "Glasgow Medical Journal," etc.

> 31 Lynedoch Street, Glasgow, May, 1890.

I have much pleasure in testifying to the merits of Dr. Arch. K. Chalmers. His past career has made him form an intimate acquaintance with epidemic diseases in their practical aspects. He has also shown a wide knowledge of the subject in his contributions to the Glasgow Medical Journal, to which he has for some time regularly supplied abstracts of papers on Epidemiology occurring in Medical Works, both British and Foreign. I believe that Dr. Chalmers will make a thoughtful and honest Medical Officer of Health.

JOSEPH COATS.

From Henry Robinson, Esq., M.A. (Camb.), Lecturer in Chemistry for the Public Health Diploma, etc., etc., University of Cambridge.

THE UNIVERSITY CHEMICAL LABORATORY, CAMBRIDGE, Feb., 1890.

DEAR DR. CHALMERS,

I am very glad to learn you are a candidate for a post as Medical Officer of Health. You went through your work in such an earnest and thorough way when you were working with me that I feel sure, if you obtain the appointment, any duties which pertain to the office will be performed by you in a most efficient manner. A better testimony than any words of mine to your qualifications for such an appointment is the fact that, after a severe examination, you obtained the Cambridge Certificate and the Diploma in Public Health. I have very great pleasure in wishing you success in your candidature.

I am,

Very truly yours,

HENRY ROBINSON.

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From Bushell Anningson, Esq., M.D., etc., Medical Office of Health, Cambridge; Lecturer in Medical Jurisprudence to the University, etc.

> University of Cambridge, State Medicine Syndicate, February, 1890.

I HAVE much pleasure in bearing testimony to the diligence and success with which Dr. Arch. K. Chalmers studied Sanitary Science at Cambridge during last summer, in a class conducted by Mr. Robinson, M.A., of the University Chemical Laboratory, and myself. Dr. Chalmers showed conspicuous ability in following our instruction, and an extensive acquaintance with the several sciences necessary for the practical application of the principles of hygiene.

BUSHELL ANNINGSON.







