

Letter of application for the Chair of Anatomy and Chirurgery in the University of Dublin by Thomas H. Bryce ... : with testimonials and a list of his contributions to scientific literature.

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LETTER OF APPLICATION

FOR THE

Chair of Anatomy and Chirurgery in the
University of Dublin

BY

THOMAS H. BRYCE

M.A., M.D. (EDINBURGH)

LECTURER ON ANATOMY, UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW

(At Queen Margaret College)

Examiner in Anatomy to the Conjoint Board of the Scottish Colleges

Fellow of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons, Glasgow

Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh

Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland

WITH

TESTIMONIALS

AND A LIST OF HIS CONTRIBUTIONS
TO SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE.

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*TO THE ELECTORS TO THE
CHAIR OF ANATOMY AND CHIRURGERY
IN THE UNIVERSITY OF DUBLIN.*

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present myself as a candidate for the Chair of Anatomy and Chirurgery in Trinity College, now vacant by the election of Dr. D. J. Cunningham to the Chair of Anatomy at Edinburgh.

I am a Master of Arts, and a Doctor of Medicine of the University of Edinburgh. I graduated in Arts in 1882, and in Medicine (M.B., C.M.) in 1886. Immediately thereafter I was selected by Professor Chiene to be his House Surgeon in the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, and subsequently by Dr. Brakenridge to be House Physician in his wards in the same Hospital. I then studied for some time in the Hospitals of Vienna. In 1888 I settled in Glasgow, and shortly afterwards I was elected to a junior post on the surgical staff of the Western Infirmary. With the object of improving my equipment for Surgical work, which it was then my intention to take up as a speciality, I began to teach Anatomy, first as Demonstrator in Anderson's College, and later as Lecturer in the Medical School for women at Queen Margaret College.

In the year 1893 the latter College was incorporated with the University of Glasgow. I was then offered by

the University Court the post of University Lecturer to women students, and shortly afterwards I relinquished practice, in order to devote my whole time to the duties of the Lectureship. These have involved, so far as teaching and organisation are concerned, all the responsibilities of a Professor in the subject, and I have been answerable directly to the University Court for the conduct of my department. I have a seat on the Board of Studies of the Medical Faculty.

I have conducted two lecture courses, Junior and Senior, during the winter session, and a course of 40 lectures on Embryology during the summer session, besides all the work of the class of Practical Anatomy. The students under my tuition have varied in number from 25 to 45.

While the routine of the Lectureship has necessarily occupied the greater portion of my time, I have consistently endeavoured to find leisure for original work.

I was from the first attracted by the problems of Embryology, and I have given much attention to the study of that branch of my subject, and have sought to perfect myself in all the modern methods of research in it. My chief work has, however, been done in Cytology, in the study of the minute phenomena of Maturation, Fertilization, and Segmentation of the Ovum; and this has occupied me for a number of years. Such investigations, involving the use of the highest powers of the microscope, are very arduous and time-consuming; and my first contribution to the subject was only completed in the early part of 1901, when I presented it to the University of Edinburgh as a Thesis for the degree of Doctor of Medicine. It received the award of a University Gold Medal.

In addition to this Memoir I have contributed a number of other papers to the general literature of my subject, and from time to time I have published shorter communications

on matters of interest, which have suggested themselves in the course of my work. Of the chief of these I append a list.

While I am thus familiar with the methods of research in the several departments of anatomy, and alive to all its interests on the scientific side, my early training in surgical and general medical work has tended to give a practical turn to my teaching, and I have found this so valuable, that I have endeavoured to keep in touch with the modern advances of surgery and medicine.

For some years past, I have been drawn to the study from the anatomist's point of view, of the early races who in prehistoric times inhabited our Islands, and each year have spent part of my holiday in excavating the grave mounds of the Island of Arran, with the aid of funds granted to me for this purpose by the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.

These explorations have yielded results of considerable interest, and my publications in this department have led to my being asked from time to time, to identify and catalogue human and animal remains found by archaeologists on prehistoric sites. These investigations have necessarily led me, to some extent, into the domain of Prehistoric Archaeology, and the fruits of such studies, outside the immediate scope of my professional work, are embodied in my Memoirs on the Cairns of Arran.

In conclusion I may be allowed to add that I am a Fellow of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, a Fellow and Member of the Council of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, a Fellow of the Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland; and that I was, for a number of years, Secretary for Scotland of the Anatomical Society of Great Britain and Ireland.

I am also Examiner in Anatomy and Comparative Anatomy for the Fellowship of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons, and Examiner in Anatomy on the Conjoint Board of the Scottish Colleges.

Should you do me the honour to elect me to the Chair, I would make every endeavour to maintain its high traditions, not merely in the way of thorough and earnest scientific teaching, but also in the prosecution of original research.

I am,

GENTLEMEN,

Your obedient Servant,

THOMAS H. BRYCE.

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW,
13th May, 1903.

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LIST OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE.

MICROSCOPICAL SCIENCE.

1. The Maturation of the Ovum in *Echinus Esculentus*. *Quarterly Journal of Microscopical Science*, Volume XLVI. Part II.
2. On the Heterotypical Division in the Maturation Phases of the Sexual Cells. *British Association Report*, 1901.
3. Artificial Parthenogenesis and Fertilization. A Review. *Quarterly Journal of Microscopical Science*, Volume XLVI. Part III.
(Though having the subtitle "a Review" this is founded on, and embodies original observations on Fertilization in *Echinus* not elsewhere published.)
4. Duplicitas Anterior in an Early Chick Embryo. *Proceedings Royal Society of Edinburgh*, 1899.
5. On Recent Views as to the part the Nucleus plays in Development. A Lecture. *Glasgow Medical Journal*, 1896.

HUMAN ANATOMY.

6. On Certain Points in the Anatomy and Mechanism of the Wrist Joint reviewed in the light of a series of Röntgen Ray Photographs of the living Hand. *Journal of Anatomy and Physiology*, Volume XXXI. Part I.
7. A Long Muscular branch of the Musculo-cutaneous Nerve of the Leg. *Proc. Anat. Society ; Journal of Anat. and Physiology*, Volume XXXI. Part I.
8. A Further Note on the Deep Accessory Peroneal Nerve of Ruge in Man. *Ibid.* Volume XXXV. Part I.
9. Some Notes on the Myology of a Negro. *Ibid.* Volume XXXI. Part IV.
10. On a pair of Negro Femora showing some analogies to the Trinil Femur. *Ibid.* Volume XXXII. Part I.

11. Note on a group of Varieties of the Pectoral Sheet of Muscles.
Ibid. Volume xxxiv.
12. On a Rare Abnormality in the Curvature of the Duodenum.
Ibid. Volume xxxiii. Part iv.
13. Description of a Foetus the subject of Retroflexion of the Trunk, etc. *Ibid.* Volume xxix.
And several other shorter notes in the Proceedings of the Anatomical Society.

PREHISTORIC ANTHROPOLOGY.

14. On the Cairns of Arran. A Record of Explorations, with an Anatomical Description of the Human Remains discovered.
Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, Volume xxxv.
15. On the Cairns of Arran. Report of further Explorations during the season of 1902. *Ibid.* not yet published.
16. Prehistoric Man in the Island of Arran. *British Association Reports*, 1901.
17. On the Human Remains discovered during Excavations in the Cairns of Arran. *Journal of the Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland*, Volume xxxii. Part ii.
Various reports on Human and Animal Remains found on Prehistoric sites.

TESTIMONIALS.

*From The Very Reverend R. HERBERT STORY, D.D., LL.D.,
Principal, University of Glasgow.*

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW,
March 2nd, 1903.

MY DEAR DR. BRYCE,

Your ten years' service here in Queen Margaret College needs no word of commendation from me, to confirm the general testimony to its value and success, nor do I feel competent, as in any degree an "expert," to pass an opinion upon your scientific work. The only part of it with which I can claim any acquaintance is your very interesting investigations, and their results, in Arran.

As you think of leaving us, however, and transferring your services to another University, I cannot but wish you success, though I know it must result in our losing an able and pleasant colleague, highly esteemed in his profession, and loyally interested in all that concerns the prosperity of this University.

With best wishes,

Believe me, my dear Dr. Bryce,

Very faithfully yours,

R. HERBERT STORY.

*From E. RAY LANKESTER, M.A., LL.D., F.R.S., Director of
the Natural History Departments, British Museum, late
Linacre Professor of Anatomy, Oxford.*

BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY),
CROMWELL ROAD, LONDON,
March 10th, 1903.

I HAVE great pleasure in stating that I know
DR. THOMAS H. BRYCE's writings, and have also met him
personally.

I consider that his researches on Cell Division, and the
allied subject of Fertilization, shew him to be a very
thorough and capable Anatomist in the department of
Microscopic Structure.

His method of treatment is remarkable for lucidity and
precision. I am convinced that his qualities are such as to
make him a most desirable occupant of the Chair of Human
Anatomy in a great University, and I should expect the
best results from his teaching and example in original
research.

E. RAY LANKESTER.

From JOHNSON SYMINGTON, M.D., *Professor of Anatomy,*
Queen's College, Belfast.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE,
BELFAST, *March 26th, 1903.*

My friend DR. T. H. BRYCE informs me that he is a candidate for the Chair of Anatomy and Chirurgery in the University of Dublin, and I have much pleasure in expressing the high opinion I entertain of his anatomical work.

Having had the opportunity of seeing a number of Dr. Bryce's specimens—both microscopic and macroscopic—and of observing the general arrangement of his department in Queen Margaret College, Glasgow, I can state that he is thoroughly conversant with the most approved methods of teaching, and that he possesses great manipulative skill and ingenuity as a "preparateur."

Dr. Bryce's important researches on the Maturation, Fertilization, and Segmentation of the Ovum, and the reports he has published on his Anthropological Explorations in Arran, show that he is a versatile and an accomplished investigator.

I may add that from personal knowledge I am sure Dr. Bryce would prove a very pleasant and agreeable colleague.

JOHNSON SYMINGTON.

From ALFRED H. YOUNG, M.B., *Professor of Anatomy,*
Owens College, Manchester.

THE OWENS COLLEGE,
MANCHESTER, *March, 1903.*

DR. THOMAS H. BRYCE informs me that he is a candidate for the Chair of Anatomy in the University of Dublin.

Dr. Bryce has had a long experience in teaching Anatomy, both as Demonstrator in Anderson's College at Glasgow, and as Lecturer in Anatomy at Queen Margaret College, now incorporated in the University of Glasgow.

I have had the good fortune to hear Dr. Bryce, both in lecturing and demonstrating, and I can testify to his ability and enthusiasm in both capacities. He is a singularly lucid and interesting lecturer, and a most able demonstrator.

Beyond this, however, I have to state that Dr. Bryce has done a considerable amount of exceedingly good and valuable original work, and has made many substantial additions to our knowledge of the earlier stages in the development of the ovum, and I feel quite sure that Dr. Bryce's further contributions will add lustre to any Chair of Anatomy with which he may be associated.

Dr. Bryce has also shown an interest in many other departments of Anatomy beyond Embryology, and I have no doubt that he will not only teach Anatomy to the students of his department, but will induce them to interest themselves in the prosecution of original researches in Anatomy generally.

It is with sincere pleasure that I venture to recommend Dr. Bryce's claims for the Chair of Anatomy in the University of Dublin to those with whom the appointment rests.

ALFRED H. YOUNG.

From ARTHUR THOMSON, M.A., M.B., Professor of Human Anatomy in the University of Oxford. Professor of Anatomy in the Royal Academy of Arts, London.

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN ANATOMY,
OXFORD, March 28th, 1903.

MY DEAR BRYCE,

I feel bound to comply with your request that I should write you a testimonial, despite the fact that I have already given one to another candidate.

I cannot of course say much regarding your actual teaching work, since that is beyond my immediate knowledge, but I can express the very high opinion I have formed of your ability as an investigator, and a man of original mind.

Your published papers relating to the Maturation and Fertilization of the Ovum in *Echinus* are of great value, and your excursions into the domain of Antiquarian and Anthropological research are abundant proof of the broad-minded view you take of your subject.

I know that you have had many difficulties to contend with, but I can vouch for the success which has attended your efforts in establishing a department, which in point of convenience and arrangement is second to none.

I have, on several occasions, listened with profit to your communications in the Anatomical Society, and can therefore confidently refer to your powers of exposition.

Should you prove successful in your candidature, I look forward with interest to your future work, work which I am sure, will not only further enhance your own reputation, but which will greatly redound to the credit of any institution with which you may be connected.

Believe me with best wishes,

Yours very truly,

ARTHUR THOMSON.

*From A. M. PATERSON, M.D., Professor of Anatomy, and
Dean of the Medical Faculty, University College, Liverpool.*

MEDICAL FACULTY,
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LIVERPOOL,
March 2nd, 1903.

DR. T. H. BRYCE'S position as an anatomist is so well established as to require no additional testimony; at the same time it gives me much pleasure to support his application for the Professorship of Anatomy and Chirurgery in the University of Dublin.

Dr. Bryce is a Master of Arts as well as a Doctor of Medicine, and he combines high scientific attainments and culture with a sound practical knowledge of professional subjects.

He has had a long experience as a Teacher and Examiner. He is an excellent Lecturer. I have frequently heard him speak, and been impressed with the power he possesses of holding the attention of his audience during the elucidation of an intricate and difficult subject. In addition, Dr. Bryce has earned great distinction by his original investigations. There is no doubt of his originality of mind, his capacity for investigation, or his resource and persistence in the prosecution of laborious investigations.

Besides being an expert anatomist, he is a master of special methods of microscopical and archaeological investigation. His original power has been shown by very valuable researches in the field of Embryology, particularly in the matter of the phenomena of Maturation, Fertilization, and Segmentation of the Ovum; and in his anthropological researches on Prehistoric man in Arran. These two lines of research are of great importance, and at the same time present great difficulties in their execution.

The work which Dr. Bryce has been able to do in these fields gives him a position among anatomists which entitles him to aspire to a position in which he may have wider opportunities for conducting investigations, which cannot but confer distinction not only on himself, but also on the Institution with which he is associated.

By his amiability, courtesy, and consideration for others, I have confidence in believing that Dr. Bryce would be a most agreeable colleague.

A. M. PATERSON.

*From SIR WILLIAM TENNANT GAIRDNER, K.C.B., M.D., LL.D.,
F.R.S., late Professor of Medicine, University of Glasgow.*

32 GEORGE SQUARE,
EDINBURGH, *February 28th, 1903.*

ALTHOUGH I have no pretensions to the opinion of an expert as regards the work of DR. THOMAS H. BRYCE in Anatomy, and the Sciences therewith connected, yet I have had occasion to make myself familiar with the position he has attained in the University of Glasgow as Lecturer on Anatomy in Queen Margaret College. I was a member of the University Court at the time, a number of years since, when Dr. Bryce's position there was under consideration, with a view to a more permanent adjustment, and I know that he was, and is, regarded as one of the chief supports of Queen Margaret College, in respect that he is both most popular as a teacher, and well known as a highly scientific writer and observer.

This latter point was specially made known to the Court at the time of his reappointment on the new basis, and the result, I believe, has entirely justified the views of the Court when they thus committed to him the independent charge of so important a branch of the teaching of the University.

Dr. Bryce was also, under the authority of the Court, instructed to organise the whole teaching of his branch in Queen Margaret College in new buildings specially prepared for the purpose, and I believe that the whole of the structural arrangements devised by him and now in operation have been such as to meet with the approval of the Court as well as the large number of students he has had under his care.

On these grounds I may venture I think to recommend Dr. Bryce very strongly to the authorities of Trinity College, Dublin.

W. T. GAIRDNER.

*From JOHN G. M'KENDRICK, M.D., LL.D., F.R.S., Professor
of Physiology, University of Glasgow.*

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW,
February 26th, 1903.

I HAVE pleasure in stating that DR. THOMAS H. BRYCE is one of the ablest of the younger anatomists of this country. He has proved this by a considerable number of substantial contributions to Anatomical Science, more especially in the department of Embryology. He is intimately acquainted with the literature of his subject, and he is an accomplished Histologist, familiar with the modern methods now followed by the most advanced workers in Cytology.

Dr. Bryce is an excellent Lecturer, and he has had experience in the management of Anatomical Rooms and of Anatomical Students. He has been Lecturer at Queen Margaret College, which is an integral part of the University of Glasgow, for ten years, and he has conducted the affairs of his department there in a way so efficient and so thorough, as to give satisfaction to the authorities of the University, and to the Students who have come under his charge. He is devoted to the Science of Anatomy, and I feel sure that if he were elected to the Chair of Anatomy in the University of Dublin, he would worthily uphold the prestige it has gained while occupied by my friend Professor Cunningham. For these reasons I cordially support Dr. Bryce's candidature, and I wish him success.

JOHN G. M'KENDRICK.

From JOHN CHIENE, M.D., F.R.C.S.E., *Professor of Surgery,*
University of Edinburgh.

26 CHARLOTTE SQUARE,
EDINBURGH.

MY friend and former House Surgeon, DR. THOMAS H. BRYCE, is a candidate for the Chair of Anatomy in Trinity College, Dublin. I have known him intimately for twenty years. He worked so conscientiously with me as an undergraduate that I offered him the post of House Surgeon. Since that time Dr. Bryce has given most ample evidence of his ability as a teacher, and as an original investigator. He has always taken a broad view of his duties as an Anatomist. He has added to our knowledge of cell life, and he has taken a deep interest in Anthropology.

In my opinion he would be a worthy successor of Professor Cunningham. I can give him no higher praise.

JOHN CHIENE.

*From RALPH STOCKMAN, M.D., Professor of Materia Medica
in the University of Glasgow.*

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW,
7th May, 1903.

I DESIRE to support very cordially the candidature of DR. T. H. BRYCE for the Chair of Anatomy in Trinity College, Dublin. As Lecturer on Anatomy in this University Dr. Bryce holds an independent post, in which his teaching work and responsibilities differ in no way from those of the Professor of the subject, and he has fulfilled all its duties in a way which shows him to be a very able teacher.

Besides being an accomplished Anatomist and Anthropologist, Dr. Bryce is a most distinguished and successful scientific investigator, and has carried out some especially difficult research-work on certain problems in Embryology.

I have heard him on several occasions describe the results of his researches before medical and scientific societies, and I can testify that he is a clear and interesting demonstrator.

Dr. Bryce has also taken an interest in the social life of the University, and enjoys to a high degree the esteem and friendship of his colleagues.

RALPH STOCKMAN.

From ROBERT MUIR, M.D., *Professor of Pathology in the University of Glasgow.*

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW,
8th May, 1903.

IN connection with the application of DR. T. H. BRYCE for the Chair of Anatomy in Trinity College, Dublin, I have pleasure in stating, that, alike as regards original investigation, powers of teaching and organization, and personal qualities, he is, in my opinion, highly qualified for the post. During the last four years I have seen much of his original work, and I consider that it stands in the front rank of modern research. I may mention especially his studies in Cytology, which show him not only to be a master of technique, but also to have a thorough grasp of the leading problems of the subject. I indeed think that as a histologist and embryologist he has few equals in this country. He has also done excellent work in Anthropology and Archæology. Regarding this, others may speak with greater authority than I can, but I would desire to point out, as a striking testimony to the versatility of his powers, that he has proved himself so accomplished a worker in these widely different fields.

This statement would be incomplete were I to omit to mention the important position which Dr. Bryce has occupied in the social life of the University. He took an active part in originating and promoting the Staff Club—a club which has been of high service in furthering intercourse, in fostering *esprit de corps*, amongst the members of the University—and has always interested himself in anything that concerns the good of the school.

And I would only add that, by all who know him, he is held in the highest esteem for his personal qualities.

I cordially support his application, as I consider him not only an able anatomist, but also one who is fitted in many ways to promote the welfare of the College, and who would devote his energies to that end.

ROBERT MUIR.

*From J. GRAHAM KERR, M.A., Professor of Zoology,
University of Glasgow.*

NATURAL HISTORY DEPARTMENT,
UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW,
March 14th, 1903.

IT is with much pleasure that I express my conviction that DR. T. H. BRYCE is admirably qualified to discharge, in the most creditable way, the duties of Professor of Anatomy in the University of Dublin. It is of the greatest importance that the higher teaching posts in Anatomy should be held by men who are in full sympathy with the broader and more fundamental problems of Anatomy. Dr. Bryce is just such a man. An expert and experienced teacher of Anatomy along the lines required by the student of Medicine, Dr. Bryce has also taken great interest in those wider questions which interest the general Morphologist. He has devoted special attention to the phenomena of Development, and in particular to the processes of maturation and fertilization of the ovum. As is well known, researches of this kind are amongst the most difficult known to the Anatomist, and require for their successful accomplishment a very high degree of technical skill. That Dr. Bryce possesses this skill, and in addition the critical faculty necessary to make the best use of the results of his observations, is shown by the admirable contributions on Maturation and Fertilization, which he has recently published.

Though I wish Dr. Bryce success in his application, I feel, and I know that many agree with me in this, that his removal to Dublin would mean a most serious loss to our Biological School here in Glasgow.

J. GRAHAM KERR.

*From J. ARTHUR THOMSON, M.A., Professor of Zoology,
University of Aberdeen.*

NATURAL HISTORY DEPARTMENT,
MARISCHAL COLLEGE,
UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN,
March 23rd, 1903.

It gives me much pleasure to have an opportunity of expressing my high admiration of DR. T. H. BRYCE'S researches on Maturation and Fertilization. They are of much biological interest and importance, and display unusual technical skill and lucidity. I was greatly impressed, in particular, with the strength and independence of judgment shown in the paper on the Maturation of the ovum in *Echinus*.

J. ARTHUR THOMSON.

From ROBERT MUNRO, M.A., M.D., LL.D., *Vice-President,*
Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.

48 MANOR PLACE,
EDINBURGH, *February 14th, 1903.*

I HAVE much pleasure in bearing testimony to DR. THOMAS H. BRYCE'S efficiency as an Anthropologist. His recent record of explorations of the Cairns of Arran is an important contribution not only to Scottish Archæology, but to European Anthropology. From this Monograph alone we have ample evidence to show that Dr. Bryce is possessed of the essential qualifications for conducting original investigations in this difficult field of research; systematic methods, careful observations, and cautious inductions, founded on wide knowledge and scholarly attainments, being its characteristic features.

I have also seen one or two of his minor reports on the osseous remains found on prehistoric sites, which also disclose expert knowledge of the subject. On these and other grounds I am of opinion that Dr. Bryce stands in the foremost rank among the younger and rising Anthropologists of the present day.

ROBERT MUNRO.

From ALFRED C. HADDON, M.A., Sc.D., F.R.S., M.R.I.A., etc.,
Lecturer in Ethnology, Cambridge, President of the
Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland.

CAMBRIDGE, *March 9th*, 1903.

I HAVE used Dr. Bryce's beautiful lantern slides illustrating the maturation and fertilization of the ovum. They are of great use to teachers of Embryology, and demonstrate the great technical skill of Dr. Bryce.

I am well acquainted with Dr. Bryce's papers "on the Cairns of Arran," and "on Human Remains discovered during the excavation of these cairns"; both are most excellent pieces of work and prove that Dr. Bryce has wide scientific interests. I was also much struck with the bright clear way in which Dr. Bryce communicated the latter paper to the Anthropological Institute, which satisfied me that he must be a good and interesting lecturer to his students.

ALFRED C. HADDON.



