

# **Historical sketch of the Glasgow Southern Medical Society / [John Dougall].**

## **Contributors**

Dougall, John.

## **Publication/Creation**

Glasgow : R. Maclehose, 1888.

## **Persistent URL**

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/e64kfn22>

## **License and attribution**

This work has been identified as being free of known restrictions under copyright law, including all related and neighbouring rights and is being made available under the Creative Commons, Public Domain Mark.

You can copy, modify, distribute and perform the work, even for commercial purposes, without asking permission.



Wellcome Collection  
183 Euston Road  
London NW1 2BE UK  
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722  
E [library@wellcomecollection.org](mailto:library@wellcomecollection.org)  
<https://wellcomecollection.org>



The image shows a full-page view of marbled paper. The pattern is a complex, organic swirl of colors, including deep forest green, burnt orange, and off-white. The colors are intermingled in a way that creates a sense of movement and depth, typical of traditional hand-marbled paper used in bookbinding.

CAG.4632



Gallen

CAF, 4632

281129



22101280831







Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2017 with funding from  
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b28984213>

12.





JAMES STEWART, M.D.,  
FIRST PRESIDENT OF THE GLASGOW SOUTHERN MEDICAL SOCIETY.  
INSTITUTED 1844.



Facsimile, enlarged, of the Original Seal of the Society.

HISTORICAL SKETCH  
OF  
THE GLASGOW SOUTHERN  
MEDICAL SOCIETY.

BY  
JOHN DOUGALL, M.D.

*Published by the Society for Distribution among the Members.*

GLASGOW :  
Printed at the University Press by  
ROBERT MACLEHOSE, 153 WEST NILE STREET.  
1888.



ow : Soupties, Medical

Gallies

CAG. 4632



## HISTORICAL SKETCH.

IN drawing up this sketch I have had command of ample and reliable material in the minutes of the Society, which form an almost unbroken series from its origin till the present time. As these minutes record the chief portions of the business transacted by the Society during 44 years, they hence contain much information as regards its origin, infancy, growth, and work, affording also glimpses of the state of medicine as practised in Glasgow nearly half a century ago.

After due consideration, it has been thought proper in many cases to let the minutes speak for themselves, and in doing so I have, to the best of my judgment, selected, partly or wholly, only those which were deemed necessary links in the history of the Society, or considered interesting from some facts or opinions they recorded, or from something peculiar in the minute itself.

As regards the more prominent past members of the Society, some notice must necessarily be taken; and in my opinion none will so much arrest attention as the inimitable original secretary, Dr. Leech, or, as he usually signed himself, "*Hirudo Officinalis*." The first, also a part of the second, year's minutes are his composition, and so abound with rich humour and flashes of wit, while their diction is so terse, graphic, and polished that they have been pronounced by all who have read them as the careful production of no ordinary mind, and for the most part well worthy of publication even solely for their intrinsic literary merit. The minutes of 1852-4, also his, are strictly business records.



The title page of the original minute book, now treasured by the Society, reads thus :—

“ORIGINAL  
MINUTE BOOK,  
TRANSCRIPT

OF,

FOR THE

GLASGOW SOUTHERN MEDICAL SOCIETY :

Being a record of the early proceedings of that Society, from the 16th August, 1844, till 11th December, 1845, with sundry additions relating to the subsequent progress of the Society, by John Leech, the original Secretary of the Society.”

The next page contains the following, bordered with an octagonal frame drawn in ink :—

“The Secretary has done his utmost to give a faithful transcript from the original, which, notwithstanding manifold manifest imperfections, is yet the fountain to which all subsequent out-flowing must ultimately be traced ; trifling in appearance, and but little account made of at first—

But

Despise not the day of small things.

The

Tiny Streamlet becomes at length  
the

Majestic River.

The

Small Acorn, on being planted  
in

A favourable situation, becomes at length  
the

Majestic Oak.”

The origin of the Society is thus narrated by Dr. Leech :—  
“The origin of the Glasgow Southern Medical Society has to be traced from an occurrence which took place on the fifth day of March, eighteen hundred and forty-four (5th March 1844), and which led to a professional meeting between Dr. James Stewart (the original president) and Dr. John Leech



(the original secretary) of this Society, at the case of Ann Leckie, spinstress, residing with her mother, Widow Leckie, at 139 Main Street of the Gorbals of Glasgow, who was labouring under irreducible femoral hernia, and which was successfully operated upon by Dr. Stewart, assisted by Drs. Lyon<sup>1</sup> and Leech. The circumstances connected with Dr. Leech's position at the time of this occurrence being of a very painful and peculiarly delicate nature, the prompt and friendly manner in which Dr. Stewart contributed his valuable professional counsel and assistance (Ann Leckie being Dr. Leech's patient) was deeply appreciated in the embarrassing circumstances under which he (Dr. Leech) was placed at the time.

"A few days after the operation, Dr. Stewart gave Dr. Leech an invitation to tea at his house, then at 19 Nicholson Street, Lauriston, on which occasion he met with David Campbell, Esq., surgeon, residing at No. 1 South Portland Street; Ebenezer Mackenzie, Esq., surgeon, residing at 70 Oxford Street; and Dr. Goudie, residing in South Portland Street. These three gentlemen, with Drs. Stewart and Leech, formed the nucleus of the Glasgow Southern Medical Society, and were wont to meet almost daily, sometimes taking a stroll into the country and holding meetings, in primitive patriarchal fashion, under the blue vault of heaven, and at other times in each others' back shops and houses. On the occasion of one of these meetings, held at the house of Dr. Campbell, in the month of May (latter part), Dr. Leech proposed that the gentlemen should organize themselves into a society. The idea was instantly acted upon, and carried into practical operation by the election of office-bearers as follows :—

#### " ORIGINAL LIST.

" James Stewart, Esq., president; Ebenezer Mackenzie, Esq., vice-president; John Goudie, Esq., treasurer; John Leech,

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Wm. Lyon, who died a few years ago.



Esq., secretary ; David Campbell, Esq., simple member. Dr. Campbell was wont to remark that he was abundantly officered."

Dr. Leech continues—"The original minute book was a very tiny affair, and has fallen aside, . . . a second being only a scroll minute book, carelessly and hurriedly written, the paper very inferior, as also the ink, which has become faint. . . The secretary, deeming that a transcript from the original might possibly by-and-bye come to be a desideratum of no small interest and importance when all trace of the same might be otherwise irretrievably lost, more especially as three of the original five members are in their graves, the survivors being the original president (Dr. James Stewart) and the original secretary (Dr. John Leech).

"Dr. Leech has every reason to think that the labour he has expended in the present disinterested undertaking will be duly appreciated by his brethren: nor will the errors and imperfections inseparable from the operations of a young and inexperienced body be regarded with the captious eye of the critic, but rather in the spirit of a generous brotherhood."

This introduction to the transcript of the original minutes is dated, Glasgow, 92 South Portland Street, 1854, and is succeeded by—

#### "OBITUARY OF ORIGINAL MEMBERS.

"Died—

"Ebenezer Mackenzie, at Borrowstoness, 20th Feb., 1848.

"David Campbell, at Glasgow, 9th March, 1848.

"John Goudie, at Rothesay, 23rd Jan., 1850."

Thus, in six years after the formation of the Society, three of the five original members were dead.

The Society's first formal meeting was held in "Secretary's Chambers, Mrs. Thomson's Lodgings, 15 Oxford Street, 16th Aug. (Friday), 1844, in full conclave," to discuss a motion for admitting new members. "The president held that any considerable addition would prove injurious to their present



easy, social companionship, and would be apt to fritter down the Society into private committees . . .” The secretary agreed with the president, by an “*argumentum ad hominem*, that the president is often to be found in private committees consisting of a single individual—our most excellent president himself—and urged that additional members would have a tendency to do away with much that was dogmatical, personal, and even offensive, by rubbing off some rough unseemly corners relating to manners that members might part with and be more agreeable and not one whit less useful.” This discussion resulted in Drs. James Newman (long well known on the south side), David Thomas, and Corbet being elected members, after which, on the president suggesting that their meetings in Dr. Leech’s lodgings might annoy the latter’s landlady, and that the Society might meet in his house—“The secretary begged to assure the gentlemen that their meetings were no cause of inconvenience, but the source of pleasure to Mrs. Thomson (his landlady), but as the president seemed so determined to be polite, the secretary had to suggest that a similar cause of disquietude was to be apprehended in accepting of the president’s kind offer, and that the full concurrence of Mrs. Stewart would be necessary before agreeing to this arrangement.” Dr. Campbell having next advocated the claims of his house, 1 South Portland Street, as a place of meeting, it was finally agreed to meet there. Dr. Leech then says:—“The secretary cannot allow the present opportunity to pass without congratulating the Society on its growing popularity. Seven cities disputed until bloodshed as to which was entitled to claim as the birth-place of Homer. Half that number (saving one) of persons prefer a claim to have the honour of affording a down-sitting to the members of this Society in their domestic castles during their deeply important deliberations, and the secretary has every reason to induce him to believe that this is only as yet the day of small things—the planting the acorn to be the future oak to shelter, refresh, and protect number-



less young doctors who may as yet be only in *ova*." Soon after this the Society had in hand "The Morgan Case," which seems to have originated in a letter received by the president, Dr. Stewart. A *facsimile* of this letter has been copied into the minutes by Dr. Leech, entitled "*Fac Simile* of the famous Morgan Epistle." It is an almost illegible scrawl, and reads something like this :—

"TO DR. STEWART.

"SIR,—I take the liberty of stating to you that from the report of my deputies, I feel it my duty as a father and Cristin to suspend hostilities. But caution not again to interfere with my fracture, my leency on this occassion must not privilege any more of your blunders.—I am yours,

"WILLIAM MORGAN, Surgeon.

"77 Bridgate.

"P.S.—Your paracels of instruments with Out use provs you . . . or a deliberat imposter.

"W. M."

Dr. Stewart brought this letter before the Society, and it was agreed to consider it during a peripatetic excursion on the banks of the canal—Port Eglinton, where accordingly they met. "Present—Vice-President Mackenzie, Brothers Goudie, Campbell, and Leech. Vice-President in the chair. The chair here being a large stone, the other members being seated or lying in true patriarchal fashion on the green sod, Goudie and Leech with cutty pipes in their cheeks charged with what is vulgarly named 'tinkler's twist.'

"After discussion it was unanimously agreed that as our president seemed to take the whole matter in the light of an excellent joke, the committee can see no reason for the Society looking upon it in any other light, more particularly after the result of their recent interview with Dr. Morgan had fully satisfied them (the committee) that he (Dr. M.), poor fellow, is no further to blame than in being the author of, certainly, as Brother Goudie most happily entitled it, 'a most



unlovely letter,' in the possession of which curiosity the committee consider that the Faculty (society) are indebted to Dr. Morgan for a fund of amusement ; and seeing, moreover, that he (Dr. M.) did, before so many competent witnesses (after receiving certainly a most pungent flagellation from Brother Goudie) make a most humble and satisfactory verbal apology, the committee deem this sufficient, . . . The committee are further of opinion that, from the symbols they noticed in Dr. Morgan's place of business, taken in connection with the accoutrements on his person, that he (Dr. M.) is an object of sympathy to excite feelings of compassion and kindness, and not to wreak the vengeance of our now efficient Faculty, but rather as generous brethren to give the poor fellow a lift out of the Slough of Despond in which he is evidently struggling, with sundry drags in the shape of a wife and small childer." <sup>1</sup>

"NOTE.—The committee further consider, however, that could the real spurtles who had evidently been stirring up the mischief, in the shape of Mr. Malcolm <sup>2</sup> and Dr. Cunningham,<sup>3</sup> be brought to light, it would be serving them right to let fly the whole brimstone of the Faculty at their heads. As this is a delicate matter, however, and any single party employed (as it was proposed the secretary should) might run a risk of getting himself beastified, it is considered, therefore, that a movement by the president himself is the more proper course, in which he may rely on being backed by the combined energies of the Faculty, so far as they find themselves warranted to assist him as gentlemen and members of the same Society and sympathizing deeply with him in any matter in which his respectability as a practitioner and his comfort as a man is concerned.

"This (to use our president's own words) would be taking

<sup>1</sup> "Dr. M. was a native of the Emerald Isle."

<sup>2</sup> "Reporter connected with the Chronicle newspaper."

<sup>3</sup> "Dr Cunningham, Portugal Street ; these men had been the instigators of poor Morgan it was alleged."



‘a rise’ out of the right quarter, instead of breaking an already bruised reed like poor Morgan.”

The following is amusing :—

“Glasgow, 24th August (Saturday), 1844.

“Secretary at his chambers till twenty minutes from one o’clock. On returning at half-past one found a card on his table dated half-past twelve, with Drs. Mackenzie’s and Goudie’s signatures, the timepieces of the two learned gentlemen, possibly out of deference to their possessors, having sympathetically fallen astern.

“The servant intimated that Dr. Stewart had called a little before one, and hence this irregular meeting of the members renders us *minus* a meeting of Faculty, and postpones *sine die* the deeply important ‘Morgan case,’ and leaves the secretary to make up his minute by a reflection on this want of minutiae in the matter of time, as exemplified by his brethren. Magister Solus moved and Dr. Solo seconded the reflection, and it was unanimously carried, *nemine contradicente*.”

At the next few meetings—which, by the way, were held daily—the only points of importance worth noting are the dismissal of the Morgan case *sine die*; adopting the title of the Glasgow Southern Medical Society; a discussion “on the best modes of maintaining a drain from blistered wounds,” and amongst other things “cabbage and kail blades were suggested, their use differing somewhat from that entertained by the celebrated Dr. Hornbook.”

The following two minutes are characteristic of the secretary :—

“Glasgow, 26th September (Thursday), 1844.

“The head and tail of the Faculty met at 1 South Portland Street, and, on finding that the body had vanished like the mist from the tops of the mountains at Glencroe, they separated in solemn silence, with looks portentous of their singular situation—a head and tail in juxtaposition, both efficient in their own place, but rendered *nil* when the *corpus*



*abieat.* The head having also vanished and left the tail to finish the minute with a groan resembling the drone of a Highland bagpipe, doubtless sympathizing with the *corpus* toiling their weary way up the pass of Glencroe.

(Signed) "HIRUDO, Secretary.

"JAS. STEWART, Pres."

"Secretary's Note of Remembrance.

"The brethren had proceeded to Inveraray, *via* Glencroe, under the expectation (owing to a rumour that had gone abroad) that Her Majesty, Prince Albert, and the Royal Family intended to honour his Grace the Duke of Argyll with a visit at his Highland home at Inveraray Castle. The report proved to be a hoax, but, the occasion being his Grace's marriage jaunt with his young Duchess (daughter of the Duke of Sutherland), whom the brethren had the pleasure of seeing, they were not altogether disappointed."

"Glasgow, 27th September, 1844.

"Vice-President Mackenzie; Brothers Thomas, Campbell, and Leech.

"The thanks of the brethren were given with acclamation to their worthy Brother Campbell for the admirable narrative he gave of the recent introduction of the great MacCallum More and his lovely bride to their Highland home, and they consider that Dr. Campbell has done justice to this interesting event which, it is hoped, will by-and-bye speak for itself on the person of the lovely Duchess nine months after date; and, so far as the influence of the Faculty extends, they shall consider it their duty to recommend Brother Campbell to act as the accoucheur to introduce a young MacCallum More to view the beauties of bonnie Inveraray, when the Duchess has arrived at the interesting crisis of crying 'Peats.'"

In a subsequent minute reference is made to the Society's seal which had apparently been adopted by the secretary. The device is a cock in the act of crowing, and the motto



"While I live I'll crow." An impression of this seal on red wax is in the original minute book.<sup>1</sup>

"Dr. Campbell gave the Society a rich treat to-day, 9th October, 1884 (Wed.), by presenting for their minute inspection Dr. Warden's prismatic speculum, which had been the subject of much interest at the Glasgow Medical Society."

About this time the members had also discussed "Sprains and their treatment." Dr. Stewart advocating wrapping in oiled cloth; applying hot solutions of sugar of lead "on the principle that it is giving an appearance of doing something, and entitled us to make a better charge;" also "Fractures of the fibula," "Dropsical affections," for which the following prescription was recommended:—

"℞ Super Tart. Potass., ʒ ii.

P. G. Gamboge,    ʒ ii.

"A teaspoonful every hour until watery stools ensue."

Digitalis was suggested by Dr. Leech. "Morbus coxarius," for which small doses of calomel and chalk, until ptyalism ensued, were suggested in the first stage; also the hydriodide of potash; absolute rest; hot fomentations wet or dry; cupping, suggested by the secretary, was "condemned by the president in the most unqualified terms." "Anorexia," "The physiological action of calomel," "How to distinguish between gonorrhœa and leucorrhœa."

"Glasgow, 1st November, 1844.

"Vice-President Mackenzie, Treasurer Goudie, Drs. Thomas, Campbell, and Secretary Leech.

"Drs. Mackenzie and Thomas were sent as a deputation to inquire after the health of the president. Upon their returning with the melancholy intelligence that they found the president *gone*, it was proposed that the Faculty show their deep respect on the present occasion by wearing insignia of mourning in token of respect for their departed president."

"NOTE.—Dr. Mackenzie was an admirable dry wag, and the

<sup>1</sup> See Frontispiece. The seal itself is lost.



above was a play upon the word 'departed,' Dr. Stewart having gone on his professional duties. The young Society, like young children, was much given to playfulness; and however contemptible many of their actions may seem, now that the Society is more mature, there could not exist a doubt as to the beneficial tendency this had in promoting feelings of good nature and kindness during the infancy of the Society.

" 'When I was a child I spake as a child, but when I became a man I put away childish things,' is a sufficient explanation and vindication of the system then pursued."

This note is dated July, 1854, the Society being then ten years old.

"Glasgow, 4th November, 1844.

"The Faculty got a most agreeable surprise to-day, inasmuch that two of the members had sensible evidence that our most excellent president is still in the land of the living. Dr. Thomas had ocular demonstration, he having seen (through his shop window) the president passing along in great haste. Dr. Campbell, besides ocular, had the evidence of the sense of touch, having shaken paws with the worthy president himself, hearty and well this morning.

"Upon the testimony of two respectable witnesses the members of the Faculty have good grounds to congratulate themselves in believing that their painful fears have been disappointed, and their anxious hopes realized.

"Trusting that the president himself will appear amongst the brethren very shortly and confirm the previous testimony in *propria persona*. Nor would the brethren presume to weaken the testimony by attempting to impugn the veracity of the witnesses, but hope the best, and that he (the president) will bear all the usual manipulations to prove his identity without shrinking."

"NOTE.—The same remarks made in last minute of course applicable to this."

"November 6th, 1844.

"Present—Drs. Mackenzie, Thomas, Campbell, and Leech.



"Dr. Campbell gave the brethren an invitation in the name of Mr. Kibble, patentee for the 'chain paddle propeller,' to take a trip in the new boat impelled upon this principle on the Port-Dundas Canal.

"The four brethren proceeded thither, and in company with several scientific gentlemen had a sail of between four and five miles, which satisfied them that the new principle had overcome most of the usual objections urged against steam being made available to canal navigation."

Dr. Campbell had an obvious mechanical turn of mind, as besides having shown the brethren Dr. Warden's prismatic speculum (presumably uterine) and which was then considered (1844) "likely to prove a very useful instrument," he some time after invented a gastroscope, but no one of the brethren would allow his stomach to be examined by it. It happened, however, that "the shows" were then at the foot of Saltmarket, it being Glasgow Fair, and amongst the various wonderful feats there performed was the swallowing of a sword without injury by one of the performers. Dr. Campbell hearing of this, naturally concluded that when the man could swallow a sharp, rigid, flat sword, he would have no difficulty in getting him to swallow his smooth, flexible, round gastroscope. Accordingly he called at the sword-swallower's booth, and producing his gastroscope, tackled him by explaining its intended use, and requesting liberty to experiment on him with it. The showman looked askance at the gastroscope and shook his head in a mild negative way. Dr. Campbell urged that from the construction of his instrument the experiment was perfectly devoid of doing the least injury, and said further that if one could swallow a sword without danger he could surely swallow Dr. Campbell's comparatively harmless instrument. But the showman was inflexible and put a damper on Dr. Campbell's ardent hopes about the future of his gastroscope by abruptly exclaiming:—"I know I can swallow a sword, but I'll be —— if I can swallow a trumpet."



"Glasgow, 8th November, 1844.

"President, Vice-President, Drs. Thomas, Goudie, Campbell, and Leech.

"The worthy president having undergone all the necessary manipulations to prove his identity, the Faculty hail his safe return to the bosom of their community as an auspicious event. In proof of his firm health he is invited to affix his signature to this minute."

Dr. Campbell had turned ill and the brethren held a consultation on his case, as the following minute shows :—

"Glasgow, 15th November, 1844.

"Present—Vice-President Mackenzie; Treasurer Goudie; Drs. Thomas, Leech, and the Simple Member, *aegrotat in cubiculo*, on which account the brethren met in his bed-chamber.

"Each member gave an opinion upon his case, after which Dr. Campbell expressed the very great benefit he had derived from the consultation alone without his requiring to take a particle of medicine.

"After considerable deliberation it was agreed that pickled oysters, although savoury, were yet not the best food for dyspeptics, and Dr. Campbell was recommended to avoid them, as also toasted cheese—in *vulgo vocato*, 'Welsh rabbit.'

"A rope was then produced with noose attached addressed to Dr. Goudie, accompanied with a polite note recommending in the most kindly terms our most excellent treasurer to hang himself. The lovely young ladies of South Portland Street<sup>1</sup> doubtless sympathizing with the present exhausted state of the exchequer of the Southern Medical Society, and knowing our treasurer's tender feelings, had recommended this ulterior method of ending the heart burning always accompanying an empty purse. Our treasurer though deeply sensible of

<sup>1</sup>"Dr. Goudie was a handsome young bachelor—an immense favourite with the ladies in Mrs. Campbell's boarding school, South Portland Street."



the benevolent object intended by the lovely creatures, yet he being endowed with a considerable development of the organ of hope, was not disposed to second the benevolent advice even though given by the lovely young ladies of South Portland Street, and still feels indisposed to enter either the halter of matrimony or the halter of the hangman and has postponed the fulfilment of the kind wishes of the lovely ladies *sine die*. A chat *de omnibus rebus* and the Society dispersed."

A committee having been appointed to frame rules for the Society, the secretary embodied the results of their deliberations as follows:—

"The want of unanimity and consequent harmony amongst the medical practitioners on the south side of the Clyde has been long felt and complained of as an evil of considerable magnitude.

"A few medical gentlemen, attracted by a seeming casualty, and afterwards retained in social fellowship upon the homœopathic principle—*similia similibus*, by meeting frequently for the interchange of sentiment and mutual friendship, and from time to time adding to their number, assumed at length a collective body of practitioners, respectable for their number and for an anxious wish to cultivate all measures tending to promote the gentlemanly and efficient discharge of their professional duties second to none."

"Animated as one man by an ardent wish for improvement and acting upon the wise man's axiom—'As iron sharpeneth iron.' So the brethren by frequent contact impart to each other a mutual benefit."

Having at length constituted themselves into a society under the appellation of "The Glasgow Southern Medical Society," its objects are defined as follow:—

"I.—To promote amicable feelings amongst our medical brethren, especially between members of this Society.

"II.—To assist each other toward attaining a more extensive and accurate acquaintance with the theory and practice of our profession.



“III.—To assist each other in our professional duties when required.—1st, By attending each other's cases when from home or otherwise engaged. 2nd, By giving each other the benefit of consultation gratuitous or otherwise according to the circumstance of the case.

“IV.—To uphold the dignity and character of any member when unworthily assailed, the understanding being in all such cases—when one member suffers all the other members sympathize.

“V.—To adjust all causes of disagreement that may take place between any of the members. In all such cases the minority being pledged to submit to the majority.”

Towards promoting the aforesaid objects it was agreed to hold a daily meeting, also a special monthly meeting on first Thursday of each month, the latter for the reading of papers. Attendance and the reading of an essay annually at the monthly meetings were compulsory. After the reading of an essay the gentlemen gave their opinions upon it in rotation, as is still done by the Society. Intervening Thursdays were devoted to conversation on matters of professional interest. Hence, according to this arrangement the Society met at least twenty-four times monthly. Rules were also formed for the election of office-bearers, admission of members, ordinary and honorary, discipline, etc. This constitution of the Society was finally agreed to on Friday, 28th November, 1845.

The next minute refers to a professional conversation opened by Dr. Leech on a case of bleeding piles, which he and a Dr. Laurie had “operated upon by inserting a needle armed with a ligature.” The conversation next turned upon typhus, then very common in Glasgow; the doctrine of “critical days” being maintained by some and denied by others. “The distinction between inflammation and congestion of the brain in fever excited an animated discussion until the brains of the gentlemen were congested and the subject dropped.”

“Dr. Brown related a case terminating in the death of the



patient (an old woman) from an over-stuffing with potatoes, and which, upon an inspection, was found to have resulted from the closing up of the cardiac and pyloric orifices of the stomach with potatoes, and the stomach was in consequence blown up like a bladder, and blew her life out. Had a real, leal-hearted, and true Irishman been present, he would have pronounced our worthy brother Brown's statement a vile piece of ill-breeding against the fruit of Ould Ireland which sustains the lives of six millions<sup>1</sup> of lovely women and brave boys, and had our brother given utterance to such an ungentleman-like remark in the 'first gem of the sea,' his head would have been made, with a shillelagh, into a mash softer than mashed potatoes, and no mistake at all, at all."

"After the potatoe question, a very general conversation ensued, which was concluded by a practical experiment upon the effect of nicotiana, presented for the use of the brethren by the secretary."

The next minute, dated 30th November, 1844, reads as follows :—"The brethren took their peripatetic to-day, and, instead of going into the country to witness leafless trees and decaying vegetation, they went townwards and paraded the principal streets, where they witnessed the rose blooming on the cheeks of the fair, which, mingling with the lily, gave the brethren a vivid idea of summer sweets.

"In passing through the Arcade the brethren made a halt, in two files, for the purpose of giving a salute to a brace of Bullocks (Bullochs, ladies of that name) who had contrived to make their way into the Arcade; Drs. Goudie and Thomas fronting the Bullocks—Vice-President Mackenzie, Drs. Brown and Leech, in better taste, presenting their rear as the said Bullocks passed along.

"Brother Goudie condescended to lift his hat, which was considered beyond precedent degrading to himself, towards any species of *pecus*, except for the purpose of scanning them,

<sup>1</sup> The population of Ireland is now only about five millions.



which was possibly Brother Goudie's intention, seeing they had trespassed.

"The brethren, after a pleasant walk, arrived at the corner of Oxford and Portland Streets, where they came to a halt, and at the word of command by the vice-president, separated to take 'the road that pleased themselves.'"

The two following minutes refer to the brethren visiting General Tom Thumb in the City Hall, and to several cases of poisoning in children, "from eating portions of a green ornament surrounding an ornamental cake," the colouring being acetate of copper.

The next minute is probably the most original ever recorded :—

*8th December, 1844.*

"Vice-President Mackenzie, Drs. Brown and Leech.

"General conversation and a professional conundrum, propounded by Dr. Brown, and which was deemed worthy of record :—

"*Ques.*—When may a man be said to be literally within himself?

"*Ans.*—When he is confined in his bowels."

It seems that about this time much difference of opinion existed in the profession regarding the propriety of medical men accepting appointments to such societies as Oddfellows, Druids, etc. The result was that a meeting of medical men took place in the Old Assembly Rooms, Ingram Street, and was attended by Vice-President Mackenzie and Goudie. What took place at the meeting is not recorded, but the following is the minuted report of the above-named brethren :—

"Without particularizing, it is concurred that those gentlemen who preferred being absent from said meeting have much cause to congratulate themselves in thus being prevented from witnessing a display of talent, certainly of a description, however, that none of the members of the



Glasgow Southern Medical Society have any anxiety to emulate.

"The brethren are now more and more convinced of the benefits to be derived from attending with more punctuality than ever to the duties connected with our own Society, being a normal institution, fitting our members to act with a degree of point and precision when required, very different from that exhibited at the misnamed 'Dignity Meeting,' which seemed to be an indignity and an insult perpetrated upon the profession, as well as the public at large, and only to be characterized by the Scottish proverb, however vulgar it be to quote proverbs, yet being so applicable to said Dignity *alias* Indignity meeting that it will finish our minute and all further notice of said meeting, viz :—

' Muckle din  
But little woo',  
As the de'il said  
When he clippit the sow.'

or in *Latina lingua*, '*Vox et praeterea nihil*.'

The following regarding the Royal Infirmary and the treatment of erysipelas is interesting. Dr. Mackenzie was the essayist :—

"He introduced much original matter, more especially relative to the prevalence of erysipelas in one of the wards of the Royal Infirmary at Glasgow, and he indulged in some withering sarcasm on the filthy habits of the fair sex, upon the supposition that ward No. 8 of that institution was a female ward, quoting the authority of Dr. Brown, who had been a dresser, and Dr. Corbet, who formerly acted as one of the physician's clerks in said institution and to said ward, and by which authority he endeavoured to show that the nurse, a female, and the patients, females, were subject to frequent attacks of erysipelalous disease.

"Dr. Leech, who had no particular cause for defending the fair sex from any experience he has had, still was desirous



that fair and honourable dealing should be shown, detected the fallacy of our worthy *Vice's* conclusion by impugning the soundness of his premises, inasmuch as the ward alluded to happened to be a male and not a female ward, and hence the argument employed by the excellent essayist cut directly the reverse way from that the learned gentleman intended, and aimed a final blow against our own sex."

In the discussion which followed regarding treatment, scarification was condemned and the following recommended:—Mild aperients; "nauseating doses of tart. antim. when the fever is high;" the application of carded cotton. "The efficacy of the application of nitrate of silver by making a ring around the affected part with the caustic, and by this means isolating the disease, was discussed. The president's views of the benefits derived from the application of tinct. iodine were considered, Dr. Thomas's experience seeming to clash with the president's as to the propriety of this practice." Following this, the secretary remarks in a footnote:—"Dr. Leech has had numerous opportunities since the above hint was given by Dr. Stewart, to confirm the soundness of his views." The minute continues:—"The united sentiment of the Society was expressed as to the very great pleasure and benefit they had derived from the learned essayist's elegantly composed, well digested, eloquently and appropriately delivered paper, and the G. S. M. S. are not afraid that their meeting last night will lose anything by a comparison with the great dignity meeting in the Assembly Rooms on the 11th inst. (11th December 1844), the most appropriate name to which it seems deserving of having applied to it being the 'Great Medical Humbug Meeting' for the purpose of confirming public opinion in the view it already entertains, of the crude *indigesta mola* of which the medical profession is composed."

It is worth noting here that the local application of iodine in erysipelas, comparatively recently vaunted as a new discovery, was practised in 1844.

Two nights after the above meeting the Society held a con-



versation, during which "Dr. Goudie, having arrived, gave the agreeable intelligence of his having met the president on his way to that aristocratic village, Crossmyloof. The Society felt much gratified by the information, and hoped that the president's loof might be crossed with a respectable fee."

On the 18th December, 1844, the Society entertained Dr. Thomas to supper on his leaving to fill an appointment in Valparaiso. Amongst the toasts were "The Queen, Prince Albert, and Royal Family;" "The British Constitution;" "University and Medical Schools of Glasgow;" "Medical Literature," etc. "The supper came off with great *éclat*, and the diploma of the Society, written on parchment, was presented to Dr. Thomas, by which he was constituted an honorary member of the Society."

The proceedings of next day are recorded as follows:—

"Secretary's Memorial.

"Glasgow, 19th December, 1844.

"There never was a body corporate more highly favoured than the G. S. M. S. To-night the utopian idea of perfection was all but realized, viz., the *utile cum dulce*. Another entertainment was given to the Society by Mrs. Campbell, accompanied as usual with the joyous sounds of music and the fairy maze of the dance."

"At half-past nine p.m. the brethren left the ballroom to hear the weekly paper by the member whose turn it was to read, being the eloquent proposer of the toast 'Medical literature' at the Thomas festival" (Dr. Corbet).

"To-night this learned gentleman read a luminous paper relative to the comparative merits of lithotomy, lithotrity, and lithotripsy." The result of the discussion which followed was unfavourable towards the two latter operations. The secretary continues:—"Such of the brethren as found it to be convenient and agreeable, returned to the ballroom to partake of the dulcet sounds of music, and the yet more dulcet sound of the silver-toned voices of the fascinating fair, and to trip again on the 'light fantastic toe.'"



"The party broke up at an early hour, and the brethren parted to meet again to-morrow.

"Truly the Southern Medical Society had need of a large proportion of ballast; so much sail and such a gale of prosperity is enough to upset a steady ship or an otherwise steady society. The members would do well to remember that prudence is nine parts of valour and nineteen parts of learning, and in both cases will be fully verified by those who adopt this self-regulating principle for their guidance.

(Signed) "HIRUDO OFFICINALIS."

The following is rich :—

"Glasgow, 9th January, 1845.

"The Society met in Dr. Goudie's premises to hear Dr. Brown's paper. After waiting till ten minutes till ten p.m., and the learned gentleman not making his appearance, an adjournment of the meeting was moved and agreed to till Thursday next, at the usual hour, at Dr. Campbell's house, for the purpose of affording Dr. Brown a safe delivery of his gravid sensorium, trusting that the mental fœtus may not suffer in consequence of the delay, but may be rather improved in its proportions, so as to compensate the Society for the disappointment of to-night. . . . The practical lessons to be drawn from the occurrences of to-night are—1st, That it is quite possible for the ceremonies practised on the first of April to be anticipated on the ninth of January. 2nd, That it is quite possible for learned vice-presidents to act the part of the 'titling' or 'gowk's bedelus.'<sup>1</sup> 3rd, Learn the propriety in future of observing order in our proceedings, and that each of the members ought to attend to his own particular duty only, *ne sutor ultra crepidam*, unless appointed in a regular way by the Society. 4th, In fine, the absolute necessity that exists, should the Society be wishful to retain a character for consistency, to remember the apostolic injunction, viz., 'Let all

<sup>1</sup> "Dr. Mackenzie had sent notice for meeting without consulting the secretary."



things be done decently and in order,' seeing that an otherwise enterprising, active, and efficient society, neglecting to attend to this very simple but indispensable rule, may possibly degenerate at length, even with a place to meet in,<sup>1</sup> into a collection of old wives, saving that the members wear trousers and it is presumed can make good their title to do so. They then ought to act like men."

(Signed) "HIRUDO OFFICINALIS."

There is a hiatus in the minutes for the year 1845 thus referred to by the secretary:—"The minutes during 1845, in consequence of the small scroll book being exhausted, and a want of due regard to futurity, were written on loose pieces of paper and have gone amissing. The poor secretary had hard work to pull up the brethren into an orderly shape. It appears that none but himself perceived the importance of the principle at stake," *i.e.*, preserving records of their proceedings.

During 1845-6 there was a considerable accession to the membership, amongst whom were Dr. Jas. Morton, at present President of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons, and now the oldest member; Dr. Douglas Reid, Helensburgh; Dr. Scott, Rutherglen; and the late Dr. H. Howat, of Cumberland Street. The fortnightly meetings seem to have been well attended, and amongst the subjects discussed were—"Alcohol as a popular beverage and as a therapeutic agent;" "Uterine hæmorrhage;" "Measles;" "Disease of knee and hip joints;" "Placenta prævia;" "Rheumatism;" "Hysteria;" "Bowel complaint and fever;" "Gonorrhœa;" "Rupture of uterus;" "Cases of midwifery, with complications;" "Spasmodic cholera, with cases;" etc. The annual subscription was this year fixed at 2s.

The following is worth noting:—At a meeting of the Society "Dr. Scott mentioned a case at the Cavalry Barracks," then in Eglinton Street, "which he attended, but the officer would

<sup>1</sup> "There was a considerable to do about getting a room rented exclusively for the Society's meetings."



only pay 2s. out of 5s. which was charged." At next meeting, however, Dr. Scott read letters from the Board of Ordnance to whom he had appealed, and sending his full fee.

Early in 1848 Drs. Mackenzie and Campbell died. The following beautiful tribute to their memory, the obvious composition of Dr. Leech, seems well worth transcribing. It is signed by Drs. Goudie, Leech, and James Morton.

"The members of the Glasgow Southern Medical Society have, with a feeling of deep regret, to record a double breach in their number in the removal by death of Ebenezer Mackenzie, on the 20th February, and David Lillie Campbell, on the 9th March, 1848. Thus, in the brief space of two weeks have been separated for ever from their fellowship, two individuals endeared by the earliest associations connected with the formation of this Society, and also by many pleasant and profitable hours spent with the beloved deceased since that period. The members of this Society consider it at one and the same time both a pleasing and a painful duty to record the deep sense they continue to cherish of the truly estimable qualities which were so singularly blended in the character and deportment of the deceased during the period they associated together in kindly and profitable fellowship, and while they cannot but mourn the loss which they have sustained, this feeling of pain is chastened by delightful reminiscences of the past in connection with these two esteemed friends, who, united in their lives, at death have not been separated."

Dr. Leech having ceased to act as secretary for some years, the minutes now are very formal. Amongst the subjects discussed by the Society are the "Experimental administration of chloroform;" "The epidemic of fever;" "The cholera;" "The small-pox epidemic;" etc. The three latter subjects are suggestive of the insanitary state of Glasgow at that time. The membership in 1850 numbered about twelve, in which year the late well-known Dr. Peter Stewart, of Albany Place, joined. There were seldom more than four



members at a meeting, and three formed a quorum. Each member took the responsibility for three months of having the billets calling the meetings delivered, and all members were bound to read papers in rotation.

The following part of minute, 4th July, 1850, is of great interest, and in Dr. Leech's best style:—"The Southern Medical Society having been apprised of the sudden death of one of the most distinguished members of their profession, with one voice embrace the earliest opportunity of placing upon their records the deep sense of sorrow they feel at the loss which society in general, and the profession in particular, has sustained by the death of John Burns, M.D., F.R.S., member of the Institute of France, and Regius Professor of Surgery in the University of this city, who perished at sea by the wreck of the *Orion* steamship<sup>1</sup> on the morning of the 18th ultimo." (18th June, 1850.)

"Considering the distinguished position that their departed father in medicine occupied as a member of their profession, his invaluable services as a public teacher, his acknowledged talents as a literary character—particularly as evinced in his systematic and famous work on Midwifery, which is known, read, and appreciated wherever the science of obstetrics is cultivated; his eminent worth as a Christian gentleman, as the author of such a production as the 'Christian Philosophy' must necessarily be, and the brilliant and successful career he long enjoyed as a general practitioner of this city as well as in the west of Scotland, the Society cannot but feel sad and solemnized at the very thought that such an honourable, useful, and distinguished life should have been cut short in the melancholy and appalling circumstances in which Dr. Burns terminated his earthly existence." "Honoured in life and regretted in death, his name is engraven upon the memory

<sup>1</sup> The *Orion* traded between Glasgow and Liverpool, and was on her homeward passage when she struck on a rock in Lochryan and sank. An engraved portrait of Professor Burns is in the Council Room of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons.



of this Society as well as upon that of every lover of our profession in letters of the deepest gratitude and respect—letters which the vicissitudes of time can never efface—*Sequitur patrem non passibus æquis*.

About this time the Society agreed to keep a "Black Book" "or record of those patients who have failed or refused to pay their accounts," but it does not seem to have succeeded. In January, 1851, the membership was 21, the annual subscription 5s. ; the meetings were held in Buchanan's Temperance Hotel, Carlton Place, five members forming a quorum ; the laws were amended, and the following declaration enacted to be signed by every member :—

"I hereby pledge myself to conform to all the laws of the Glasgow Southern Medical Society, to acquiesce in all its decisions, and likewise to forward all its declared objects to the utmost of my abilities as long as I shall continue a member of the Society." From then till now (September, 1888) 193 members have signed the above, of whom 51 are known to be dead. During the following few years the business of the Society was chiefly of the usual routine nature, prominent amongst which was their sending to Dr. Strang, City Chamberlain, "an acknowledgment of the great service he had rendered to science and humanity by his excellent report on the mortality bills of this city for 1851." Dr. Leech had also read a paper "on the extreme facility with which, under the present laws of lunacy, persons may be declared insane and consigned to madhouses." It would seem that Dr. Leech had published his paper, as soon after he read letters to the Society, which he had received from the Earl of Derby, the Earl of Shaftesbury, Lord John Russell, Prince Albert, Mr. Walpole, Secretary of State, and others, acknowledging receipt of copies of his essay.

The following diploma was presented to one of the members :—

"The Glasgow Southern Medical Society, instituted A.D. 1844, have this day presented in due form to Robert Hunter,



Esq., Surgeon, this diploma, as a mark of the esteem in which he is held by the Society, for his consistent conduct as a member, and valuable services as treasurer. In testimony whereof the president and other office-bearers are authorized to subscribe these presents and affix the seal of the Society.

“Given at Glasgow, this Twenty-eighth day of June, One thousand eight hundred and fifty-three years.

(Signed) “ROBERT PARKER, M.D., President.  
“PETER STEWART, M.D., Vice-President.  
“JAMES STEWART, M.D., Treasurer.  
“JOHN LEECH, M.D., Secretary.  
“ALEX. MORTON, Surgeon, Seal Keeper.”

The following seems worthy of note :—“Dr. Parker made some remarks relative to the propriety of making ourselves certain as to the quality of the digitalis we employ, he having found in his experience that the herb, when gathered in the country by himself, produced much more decided effects than the digitalis he could procure from the shops.”

Asiatic cholera having appeared in Glasgow three times, viz., in 1832, 1848, and 1854, Dr. Parker read a paper on that disease then prevalent, and took up the subject under the following heads :—1st, Is the disease a new one? 2nd, Is the disease contagious? 3rd, What is the pathology of the disease? 4th, What is the line of treatment? After having considered the subject under the three first aspects the essayist gave the following indications of treatment—1st stage, check the discharges; 2nd, maintain existence until reaction is established; 3rd, moderate febrile action. In the discussion which followed, all present (8) admitted that the disease was as yet imperfectly understood, and all matters related to it involved in great uncertainty and much obscurity. It was agreed to formulate the symptoms of cholera, thus—“vomiting and purging, generally serous—often attended by cramps—whispering voice—and rapid sinking.” The only points mentioned regarding the giving of medicine are—“nitrate of



silver in grain doses every quarter hour until purging and vomiting ceased," this having proved highly beneficial in Dr. Parker's experience. "He never pushed the medicine beyond 10 grains." It was besides agreed by all present "that in the treatment of the premonitory diarrhœa opium was the sheet anchor."

At this time, 1854, the Corporation of Glasgow had in Parliament the "Waterworks Bill," in which powers were sought to supply the city with Loch Katrine water. Many will remember that a deal of opposition was given to the bill, chiefly in consequence of the late Dr. Penny, Lecturer on Chemistry in the Andersonian University, asserting that the water, in passing through lead pipes, would dissolve a portion of that metal, and hence be rendered poisonous. It is highly probable that it was this statement which induced the Society to oppose the bill, Messrs. Hastie and Macgregor, the then M.P.'s for Glasgow, having presented their petition against it in the House of Commons. In the same year also, the "Medical Registration Bill," and the "Births, Deaths, and Marriages (Scotland) Bill" were before Parliament, both of which were approved by the Society.

At present when cinchona rubra, etc., etc., are brought forward as cures for dipsomania the following seems worth quoting:—"Dr. Leech directed the attention of the Society to a letter from Professor Gregory, published in the *Glasgow Constitutional* of 17th April, 1852, in regard to the effects of oil on drunkards, and requested the members to give their attention to the subject during the recess, for discussion at some future period." Dr. Gregory was then Professor of Chemistry in the University of Edinburgh. In his work on Organic Chemistry, published in 1852, the year in which he wrote to the *Constitutional*, the following occurs, which seems to contain the ideas in his letter:—"By virtue of its strong attraction for oxygen, alcohol is first oxidized, while the food and tissues are imperfectly oxidized and disease is thus induced. If the food already contain a full or large proportion



of fat or starch every drop of alcohol is hurtful ; but when the food is too rich in sanguigenous matter, wine and beer are wholesome. In proof of the fact that alcohol supplements the other respiratory food, it is observed that those who drink no wine consume far more bread, vegetables, rice, or puddings, than wine drinkers ; and the good health enjoyed by the natives of wine and beer countries, who use these liquors freely but not to excess, proves that alcohol is not essentially hurtful when properly diluted, but acts as respiratory food. *Those who take much fat, butter, or oil, cannot take wine, and feel no desire for it.*"

It is interesting to note that as late as 1859-60, the Society had under consideration two, then new, or hitherto little studied diseases, viz., diphtheria and typhoid. At a meeting held in February, 1859, at which were seven members, "a conversation on diphtheritis took place. None of those present, however, had seen the disease excepting Dr. James Stewart, who was of opinion that he had seen it several years ago."

Then early in 1860, during a conversation on "Fevers," we find the late Dr. Peter Stewart referring to the researches of Louis upon typhoid, under whom he had studied in Paris, and further, stating that in his opinion the late Dr. Perry, of the Royal Infirmary, Glasgow, was the first to accurately point out the distinction between typhus and typhoid.

About this time a committee was appointed to select the subjects for discussion during the session, each member being bound to introduce a subject. The following were chosen for 1860-1—epilepsy, erysipelas, neuralgic affections, paralysis, hæmorrhoids, delirium tremens, jaundice, mammary tumours, varicose ulcers, spermatorrhœa, indolent bubo, rheumatism, hooping cough, hepatic affections, Bright's disease, galvanism as a remedial agent, bronchitis, hydrocephalus, fistula in ano.

For some years previous, and subsequent to 1860, it was customary for the newly-elected president to invite the members to tea at his house, where a very pleasant evening



was always spent. This custom has now given place to the more formal annual supper.

Many will remember of the profound sensation created by the "Sandyford murder," and the wide divergence of opinion as to whether Jessie M'Lachlan or the old man Fleming was the culprit. On this subject a paper was read to the Society by Dr. Alexander Patterson, presently Surgeon in the Western Infirmary, in which "he ingeniously argued that the murder must have been committed by a left-handed person. In support of this he stated that the principal and most severe wounds were situated on the right side of the head, and quoting the medical report, that these wounds sloped from above downwards and from behind, forwards. Some of these wounds penetrated deeply through their whole extent, others only at their anterior extremity, the depth of penetration, decreasing as they extended backwards; the latter Dr. Patterson considered as confirmatory of left-handed work. He mentioned that Mrs. M'Lachlan, according to her sister's statement, always poked the fire with the left hand, and could not lift her child off the floor with her right hand." A majority of the gentlemen present expressed themselves as thinking Mrs. M'Lachlan the only one connected with the murder.

In 1866 a paper by Dr. Rice was read to the Society on the "Present Hospital Accommodation of the City," in which he showed that "Glasgow had hospital bed accommodation and dispensaries for gratuitous advice, etc., equal to Edinburgh, Liverpool, or Manchester, but less in proportion to population than Dublin or London." At this period the Western Infirmary was not built. "The essayist further drew attention to the want of a hospital on the south side of the city, as should the population and public works increase at the rate they have done lately for a few more years, the want must be supplied."

In 1867 a deputation from the Glasgow Medical Association, consisting of Drs. Fergus, Lawrie, Miller, and M'Lean, attended a meeting of the Society for the purpose of urging it to amal-



gamate with the Association, the objects of which were "to improve and raise the status of the profession." In reply the members resolved at a subsequent meeting "that, taking into consideration the success which has hitherto attended the formation of this Society, and the amount of good feeling and social intercourse established among its members, we are of opinion that these advantages will be best maintained by remaining a separate body."

The Society having learned that an unqualified practitioner was signing vaccination certificates, and that these were accepted by a Registrar, the Registrar-General was informed of the matter, and the following reply received:—"With reference to what you state in your letter, I am directed to inform you that by the Registrar-General's regulations, Registrars are instructed not to give effect to any certificate unless it is signed by a duly qualified practitioner. In large towns, however, the Registrar-General has reason to believe that Registrars may not unfrequently have difficulty in ascertaining who are duly qualified in terms of the Act. As you are no doubt aware, many names are added to the roll annually, of qualified medical practitioners, but the Registrar has no means of knowing until their names appear in the Medical Directory, other than by making application in each instance to the Registrar of the Branch Council of Medical Education. There is thus on the one hand the danger of accepting certificates from unqualified, and on the other, of rejecting those of properly qualified practitioners. If, however, you have reason to believe that the Registrar to whom you refer does not exercise due care in this matter, the Registrar-General on learning who he is will at once communicate with him on the subject."

In 1868 the profession got a surprise by a proposed amended Pharmacy Act, in which it was stated that from and after 31st December, 1868, no person could sell or dispense medicines designated poisons unless he was registered as a chemist and druggist according to the Act. A conjoint petition was sent to the Lord Advocate against the proposal by the Society, the



Faculty of Medicine, and the Glasgow Medical Association, which set forth the anomalous position in which medical practitioners would be placed as compared with that of druggists, and asserting that medical men were already licensed as pharmacists by the various qualifying Boards, etc., etc. The result was the withdrawal of the objectionable clause.

Dr. James Morton was elected president for the second time in 1869, and in his opening address, 28th October, we find the last reference to Dr. Leech in the minutes. "He (Dr. M.), reminded them that this day the grave had closed on one who had been one of the founders of the Society, and its first secretary. Dr. John Leech, a gentleman who amid some eccentricities of character, and all through a somewhat chequered career, nevertheless displayed many amiable qualities of head and heart; was talented; had an extensive knowledge of the profession, and did much good to the class among whom his lot was cast." "His very failings leaned to virtue's side." Poor Hirudo! *Sit tibi terra levis!*

We have passed over many obituaries, but the above and two following seem specially interesting. "The members of the Glasgow Southern Medical Society unanimously concur in giving expression to their great regret at the death of Dr. James Stewart, which took place on 11th August, 1873, at the age of 67. . . . For upwards of 40 years Dr. Stewart actively pursued his professional avocations in Glasgow and neighbourhood, and for a long period of that time he held the office of Factory Surgeon, in which his accuracy as a business man stood him in good stead, and brought him respect alike from employers and employed. . . . But it is chiefly as the originator or founder of the Glasgow Southern Medical Society that its members would desire to keep him in lasting remembrance, for the benefits to the profession on the south side from its formation have been neither few nor small, not the least being the termination to the state of disunion among medical men which previously existed. Dr. Stewart was a member of the Society for 29 years, and repeatedly



filled the presidential chair. Ardent in temperament and socially genial, his elder friends will sadly miss one with whom they have enjoyed many happy hours."

Fourteen months before Dr. Stewart died, viz., in June, 1872, he was present for the last time at the Society's picnic in Campsie Glen. After dinner in the Clachan Inn he sang with his usual vivacity his favourite song, "The Stormy Winds do Blow," which was received with the same hearty plaudits as it had evoked on many similar occasions. On the way home the omnibus was stopped at the Campsie Parish Churchyard, and most of the gentlemen, Dr. Stewart included, visited the grave of the late Dr. Norman Macleod, who had recently died. The grave is situated in the north-east angle of the grounds, and contained at that time a memorial wreath sent by the Queen.

"Again death has been in our midst, and removed on 16th July (1874), one of our oldest and most useful members. Dr. Howatt's death has caused a blank not only in our Society, but also in the medical profession of Glasgow,—for wherever he was known he was esteemed and respected, not only by his brother practitioners, but also by the public. He was intimately connected with the origin of the Society, having joined it in 1846. He filled the various offices with great ability, and was looked to as an authority on all its matters of business. During his long connection with the Society he took the greatest interest in its affairs, and even when laid aside with the malady which caused his death, he at considerable trouble and expense compiled a summary of all its members and office-bearers from its formation, a copy of which he gave to each member.

"In his death we lose no ordinary member. Of his successful professional career we need not speak, but of his kind, genial, unassuming nature we cannot speak too highly. Under cover of a natural diffidence of manner existed a noble heart always ready to advise and assist those who required and solicited his aid. His judgment was of a matured character, so that his cautiously advanced opinions were always invariably relied



on as correct. By his removal we have lost a councillor, brother, and friend, whose place will be very difficult to fill." Dr. Howatt was M.D. of Marischall College, Aberdeen, and Fellow of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons.

"Death loves a shining mark."

The views enunciated by Dr. Rice before the Society in 1866 regarding the necessity for a south-side hospital, were twelve years after, viz., in 1878, again brought prominently before the members by Dr. Ebenezer Duncan, in a paper entitled "The Present Inadequate State of Hospital Accommodation in Glasgow." After considerable discussion a committee was formed with the object of obtaining a south-side hospital. Several members promised contributions, notably Dr. Scott, Rutherglen, honorary member, who offered £500, if nine others did the same. Two years after, Dr. Duncan, as convener of the hospital committee, reported to the Society that the scheme had made considerable progress by enlisting the sympathies of the large employers of labour, and of the more influential classes on the south side. In the present year, 1888, or twenty-two years after Dr. Rice's suggestion for a south-side hospital, and chiefly owing to the persistent efforts of Dr. Duncan, the erection of a hospital on the south side has begun, and probably in other six months the Victoria Infirmary will be open to patients.

In 1878 Dr. Peter Stewart, Albany Place, was elected president for the second time, and in his opening address the origin and early history of the Society was sketched. He maintained that "it had served the ends for which it was originated, viz., the mutual improvement of its members and the maintenance of amicable relations between them. He thought the Society deserved special credit for the admirable code of ethics which it drew up, and which has been adopted by others."

During the next few years the business of the Society was of the ordinary routine character. In 1883 Dr. Peter



Stewart's death caused the deepest regret among the members, especially those who had known him longest, as the longer he was known he was liked the better. In the sere and yellow leaf of life, he in reality had "honour, love, obedience, troops of friends." The following obituary notice was placed in the minutes, and a copy sent to Mrs. Stewart :—

"The members of the Glasgow Southern Medical Society embrace the earliest opportunity to express their sorrowful regret for the loss the Society has sustained by the death of Dr. Peter Stewart, so long one of its members, and several times an office-bearer. Possessed of keen feelings and an ardent temperament, Dr. Stewart was a warm friend and generous benefactor to those who needed help. In the ranks of the profession no more honourable man could be found, and to his patients he was most conscientious, kind, and attentive, and that from no sordid motive, their welfare being his first consideration. We know that his memory is dear to them, and long will they cherish it. The members beg to convey to Mrs. Stewart their sincere sympathy on the loss of such a life companion, and their best wishes for her future welfare."

Dr. Stewart joined the Society in 1850, hence had been 33 years a member.

In the same year also other two of the older members died, viz., Dr. Dunbar and Mr. Wotherspoon. An obituary of the former says that "while in practice in Glasgow, Dr. Dunbar held the offices of president and vice-president of the Society with much acceptance.

"To one whose natural bent led him to the study of the Greek language and literature, medical practice was scarcely congenial. Seeking a quiet retreat he settled at Garelochhead in 1876.

"He will long be remembered by the senior members for his dignified and gentlemanly bearing, but a more lasting memorial will be found in his *Complete Concordance to the Odyssey and Hymns of Homer*."

Since 1883 the Society has lost several other members by



death, amongst whom are Drs. Cassells, Menzies, Freer, Hugh Miller, and White, most of whom were frequently at the meetings, and had been office-bearers. In the interval, besides the reading of papers and conversations on practical professional subjects, the members had under consideration various allied topics, including the Medical Acts Amendment Bill, The Registration of Infectious Diseases, The Direct Representation of the Profession in the General Medical Council, The Abuse of Medical Charities, The Universities (Scotland) Bill, etc. A proposal was also considered to establish a reading-room in connection with the Society, but the idea was finally abandoned.

During the session 1888 Dr. Stuart Nairne "introduced a conversation on lithoplatomy," or the extraction of stone from the female bladder. He showed an instrument called a lithoplatome, or female urethral dilator, invented by the late Dr. Moses Buchanan, and lent him by Professor George Buchanan. A description of the instrument was published in the *Glasgow Medical Journal* for 1830, and seems to have caused some unusual criticism, judging from the following verses (abridged) written by a Dr. George Gardener, probably in 1833, and which were exhumed by Dr. Nairne:—

"THE OMNIBUS: A POEM.

BY A MEDICAL STUDENT.

- " Oh, who has not heard of the Lithoplatome  
 And the wonderful wonders by it to be done ;  
 We may search everywhere, everywhere we may roam,  
 But no tool like it will be found 'neath the sun.
- " Weiss may boast of his instruments—care we a pin,  
 We will sing of inventions made nearer home.  
 Let this be our theme—it has ne'er before been—  
 The Omnibus, *alias* the Lithoplatome.
- " Ye troubled in body, give praise to the gods,  
 And eke to the wise man of Gotham, whose fame  
 Will reach to the furthest of human abodes,  
 Whose invention shall render immortal his name.



- “ Whatever your malady he is the boy  
 That will charm it away in the flash of an eye  
 With his Lithoplatome—his heart’s-blood, his joy—  
 Ah ! sooner than part with it Moses would die.
- “ Ye ancient inventors of instruments, ne’er  
 Will your names be resounded in Collegē more.  
 Old Hippo’, no more will your Ambo appear,  
 The Lithóplatome does what it did of yore.
- “ Laennec ! thy remembrance will pass as the breeze,  
 For thine and thy Stethoscope’s fame is obscured.  
 A tip of the Omnibus marks each disease,  
 With a tîp, as with magic, the malady’s cured.
- “ Sir Astley may fret, Abernethy may frown,  
 That on their noble actions our voices are mute ;  
 And Liston of Athens, of cutting renown,  
 May do as they do, and curse loudly to boot.
- “ But honour to him to whom honour is due.  
 Yet praises and honour are idle from us ;  
 Our descendants for ever will worship the Screw,  
 And the maker alsō of the great Omnibus.”

Although the members seem to have had an annual picnic or peripatetic prior to 1870, yet only subsequent to that date was a record of the places visited, and sometimes of the persons present, minuted. One exception, however, occurs and seems worthy of notice. At a meeting held in June, 1866, “it was agreed that the Society have a picnic during the summer recess in honour of Douglas Reid, Esq., Surgeon, Port-Glasgow.” “In accordance with the above resolution a picnic was held on Thursday, 30th August, at Finlaystone, near Langbank.” Twenty-five gentlemen were present, including Drs. Grieve, Freeland, Cumming, and Richards from Port-Glasgow and neighbourhood. “After partaking of an excellent repast the chairman (Mr. Morton) in a few well pointed remarks on the many good qualities of our special guest, Douglas Reid, proposed that his health and prosperity be pledged in a glass of sparkling champagne, which was done accordingly. Many other toasts followed, after which



the company, highly delighted with their days enjoyment, separated, each returning to his own sphere of usefulness and activity."

Since 1870 the Society's picnics have been held as follow :—

1870, 30th June. Blane Valley and Spout of Ballagan. Dr. James Morton, president. Thirty persons were present, including the late Dr. William Lyon and Dr. Peter Stewart, also Dr. M'Candlish the local practitioner. "Dr. Dougall gave a very lucid and interesting description of the geological features of the place, and of the shales laid bare and cut through by the Ballagan Burn. About four p.m. the gentlemen sat down to a dinner, which its own merits and keen appetites caused to be fully appreciated." This was a very successful picnic. The Society brought its own purveyor and the gentlemen dined sitting upon the grass. The weather was fine.

29th June, 1871. Craignethan Castle (Tillietudlem). Dr. Ronald, president. Thirty-four persons were present. The party went by rail to Hamilton, thence by omnibus along the Clyde valley to Crossford. On their arrival at the glen, down which the Nethan, a tributary of the Clyde flows, "a party entered the bed of the river and listened to a very admirable illustrative description by Dr. Dougall of the geology of the district, its products, fossiliferous and otherwise, and its geological position relative to that of the Blane Valley district visited last year. After dinner served in the ruins, Dr. White read a history of the Castle—its builders, its owners, its historical and literary associations, which Mr. Walker, the farmer (whose family had lived there for several generations), pronounced the best he had ever heard."

27th June, 1872. Campsie Glen. Dr. A. L. Kelly, president. Twenty-seven persons were present. Conveyance by omnibus. Dr. Wilson, Lennoxton, joined the party, "who went up the glen and ascended the hill where a good view is obtained of the surrounding country. Here the secretary (Dr. Dougall) made a few remarks on the probable origin and physical



geography of the district, after which they partook of an excellent dinner in the Clachan Inn. On the way home several of the party visited the grave of the late Rev. Dr. Norman Macleod," already referred to.

26th June, 1873. Luss. Dr. R. W. Forrest, president. Fourteen persons were present, and the party was joined at Dumbarton by Drs. Graham and Robertson, and at Luss by Dr. Douglas Reid. Dinner was served in the hotel, after which a photograph of the party was taken in the hotel garden, a copy of which illustrates the minute of the picnic. "It rained incessantly during the day," which accounts for the small number present.

25th June, 1874. Calderwood Glen. Dr. James Dunlop, president. Twenty-two persons were present. Conveyance by omnibus. "On arriving at the glen the interior of Calderwood Castle was visited, its ancient armour, paintings, and decorations were inspected, and a fine view from the drawing-room balcony was obtained of a waterfall in the glen. A substantial dinner was then served" in the *barn loft*, which the party seemed to enjoy as well as if it had been served in a hotel dining-room. After a short stroll along the banks of the Calder they started for home.

24th June, 1875. Inverkip. Dr. John White, president. Twenty persons were present, including three non-members, viz., Professor Gairdner, Drs. Joseph Coats and James Finlayson. The party travelled per rail by saloon carriage, dined in the Inverkip hotel, listened to an interesting paper by the president, on the history of the locality of Inverkip and of its feudal superiors, visited the beautiful policies and gardens of Ardgowan, to which admission had been granted by Sir Michael Shaw Stewart. The day was close but pleasant. It was a very agreeable and successful picnic.

29th June, 1876. Finnich Glen. Dr. John Dougall, president. "By the kindness of Professor G. H. B. Macleod, leave was obtained for the members to visit and picnic in Finnich Glen, in the policies of Mrs. Blackburn of Killearn.



Twenty-two gentlemen left Glasgow per 'bus, viz.:—Drs. G. H. B. Macleod, T. M'Call Anderson, James Morton, M'Farlan, M'Millan, James Dunlop, A. L. Kelly, Niven, Duncan, Pearson, White, Dougall, Carmichael, Gilmour, W. Forrest, Freer, Hall, Paton; also Drs. W. T. Gairdner, J. B. Russell, Stirton, and A. M. Buchanan, non-members. The route was by New Kilpatrick going and by Blane Valley returning. The glen was reached about three p.m., and after its beauties had been explored by the members they gathered round a large natural table of sandstone in the bed of the stream called the "Devil's Pulpit," where the president, Dr. Dougall, delivered a short address upon the geology of the district, and Dr. Stirton made a few remarks upon its botanical features. An excellent dinner was then served in a fine meadow on the estate, the members accommodating themselves with stones for seats, or reclining *modo Romanus* on the green grass. The weather was warm and bright, the scenery exceptionally beautiful, and altogether the picnic proved most enjoyable to all present."

21st June, 1877. Craignethan Castle (Tillicoultry). Dr. John Dougall, president. "Thirty-two gentlemen were present, viz.:—Drs. Dougall, Morton, G. H. B. Macleod, Dunlop, Cassells, Duncan, Ronald, Carmichael, R. W. Forrest, M'Millan, Menzies, White, Aitken, Hardie, R. D. Taylor, R. Taylor, W. C. Taylor, Wallace, Pollok, Dunn, Pinkerton, Brown, Napier, Gilmour, J. B. Russell, Scott Orr, Coats, Stirton, Miller, J. W. Anderson, Tindal, and Mr. Alexander Duncan, B.A., Secretary of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons.

"The members (who had previously been supplied with a 'sketch of the geology of Nethan Glen,' written and printed by the president specially for the occasion) went by saloon carriage, and after dining were photographed in good style by Mr. Urie. They then proceeded to explore the geological, botanical, and picturesque features of the locality, and after an enjoyable day's outing returned to Glasgow."



This was a most successful picnic. A photographic copy of those present is in the minute book. Pope says—

“Vain was the Chief’s the Sage’s pride  
They had no poet and they died.”

But the pride of the Society that day over its picnic was not destined to be vain. The jovial mirth, et cæteras, of this medical *fête champêtre* inspired the then secretary, Dr. T. F. Gilmour, to “kittle up” his Æsculapian harp in alliterative heptasyllabic numbers in unison with the rhythmic donner-gang of Campbell’s Hohenlinden, in which he immortalizes himself, the Society, the occasion, many of those present, their sayings and doings, with results in allegory, simile, metaphor, pun, hyperbole, *et hoc genus omne*. The following abstract of the Secretary’s “A Medical Holiday,” will give some idea of its intrinsic merits. Any member desiring to see it *verbatim et literatim*, will find it in the Society’s Minute Book, No. II.

“Forty doctors, bent on play,  
Pitch’d upon the longest day,  
And travelled forty miles away,  
To dine at Tillietudlem.

“The Faculty sent its right hand ;  
Th’ Infirmaries were a rōbust band,  
The Schools sent both their teachers and  
Their taught to Tillietudlem.

“Of all the band did one M.D.  
Care not one ——— for what might be  
His hapless patients’ lot while he  
Was doing Tillietudlem.

“With sundry fluids, white and red,  
Kept going round they typified  
The circulation of the blood,  
While seeking Tillietudlem.

“With song and story, jest and prank,  
They reached the Castle, dined and drank,  
Got photographed in triple rank ;  
The background Tillietudlem.



"The Dougal Cratur led the lot,  
He evidently knew the spot,  
The fossils, strata, and what not  
That's found at Tillietudlem.

"Then some sought fossils in the glen,  
And peered through audits at the men  
Who win the coals out of a den  
That pierces Tillietudlem.

"And some had beetles on the brain,  
And searched for grubs among the grain ;  
Some, wiser (?), only sought champagne  
And beer at Tillietudlem.

"How sweet the multitudinous hum  
From birds and burns and branches come  
Upon the tickled tympanum,  
Unused to Tillietudlem.

"And grudge them not the time they spent—  
The city deaths fell four per cent.  
That day the forty doctors went  
To dine at Tillietudlem."

But the pleasant reminiscences of that happy day are now dimmed by the thought that, in looking over the thirty-two gentlemen in the photograph, we find that in the comparatively brief space of eleven years nine are dead, viz. :—Drs. Aitken, Cassells, Menzies, Miller, Orr, Pinkerton, R. D. Taylor, R. Taylor, and White. But *Breve tempus aetatis satis est longum vitae bene vivendum*.

27th June, 1878. Castle Campbell. Dr. Eben. Duncan, president. "Nineteen members attended, viz., Drs. Duncan, Morton, A. L. Kelly, White, Erskine, Barras, Hardie, Whitaker, Freer, Aitken, Pearson, Cassells, Tindal, Taylor, R. W. Forrest, Carr, M'Millan, Gardener, and Gilmour ; and six guests, viz., Drs. Gairdner, Russell, Miller, Lapraik, Strachan, and Kirkwood—in all, twenty-five. The members reached Dollar at four p.m., during a heavy thunderstorm. After dinner, served in Castle Campbell Hotel, Dr. Gairdner referred at



length to the life and work of the late Dr. Strachan, of Dollar, through whose exertions mainly the beautiful walks and views of the district had been made public.

"The grounds and ruins of Castle Campbell were then explored by one party of members, while another set off to see Rumbling Bridge and the interesting and picturesque places in its neighbourhood."

The picnic for 1879 took place at Rosneath—Dr. Peter Stewart, president—and proved very enjoyable. Dinner was served in the hotel. The members visited the Yew Avenue and the Castle. Dr. Douglas Reid, Helensburgh, had small boats ready, manned by Cumberland boys, to convey the party to the training ship Cumberland, anchored in the Gareloch, but want of time prevented the visit being made. From some oversight this picnic is not minuted.

30th June, 1880. Hamilton Palace and grounds. President, Dr. J. Niven. Leave was obtained from Mr. Auldjo Jamieson, Edinburgh, the Duke of Hamilton's chamberlain, to visit the interior of the Palace. There were present Drs. Dougall, Miller, A. Macfarlane, Dun, Barrie, A. L. Kelly, Freer, Gilmour, Morton, J. W. Smith, Carmichael, Dunlop, Pollok, Paterson, White, Lapraik, Carr, Hall, Tindal, and Johnston, with Mr. Duncan, non-member—twenty-one. The party first visited Chatelherault, Cadzow Castle and Forest. In the latter place the ancient oaks and white cattle, *Bos Scotticus*, were viewed with much interest. They then drove to the palace, and inspected the famous Beckford Library collected by Wm. Beckford, Esq., the author of *Vathek*, also the magnificent and costly art treasures in statuary, pictures, furniture, cabinets, glass, china, etc., dispersed in London in 1882 by auction. The whole realized close on £400,000. The mausoleum and gardens were next visited, after which dinner was served in the Commercial Hotel.

21st. June, 1881. Rowardennan. Dr. T. F. Gilmour, president. "There were present Drs. T. F. Gilmour, Pollok, Jas. Morton, Cassells, Haddow, Lapraik, White, A. J. Smith,



Niven, Tindal, Brown, M'Connochie, Shaw, Hugh Miller, Stirton, and Carr, with Drs. Robertson, Dumbarton; James B. Barr, Port-Glasgow; and A. Martin, Merryflats—nineteen. After dinner the time was pleasantly spent in many ways. The sail up and down Lochlomond was much enjoyed."

6th July, 1882. Falls of Clyde. Dr. Carmichael, president. "Present—Drs. Carmichael, Morton, Cassells, Duncan, R. W. Forrest, A. L. Kelly, Shaw, Barras, Johnston, M'Millan, Gilmour, Hugh Miller, A. T. Smith; also Drs. Conner, Robertson, Barr, and Harrison, non-members—seventeen. The party dined in the Clydesdale Hotel, Lanark. Afterwards Corra and Bonnington Linns were visited. The party arrived in Glasgow about 7.40 p.m., thus concluding a somewhat hurried but enjoyable outing."

14th June, 1883. Port Bannatyne. Dr. Barras, president. "By invitation of the Chairman and Directors of Kyles of Bute Hydropathic Co., the Society this day visited Port Bannatyne, on the occasion of the annual picnic. Present—Drs. Barras, Carmichael, Gilmour, Hamilton, Haddow, Carr, Pollok, Shaw, Freer, Johnston, Walls White, John White, Macfarlane, Jas. Morton, M'Millan, Wilson, Ross, R. D. Taylor, Lapraik, Pearson, Tindal, Cooper, Clark, Hall, and A. C. Smith—twenty-five members; J. B. Russell, Sneddon, Beith; Kirkland, Airdrie; Barr, Port-Glasgow; Harrison, Lesmahagow; A. M. Smith, Govan; and Maddever, Rothesay—seven non-members.

"At Port Bannatyne the party were met by the Chairman and Directors and entertained to a generous dinner, after which the company grouped on the lawn and was photographed. The house, baths, and grounds were then inspected. A vote of thanks was accorded to the Directors for their kindness," and the party returned to Glasgow.

June, 1884. No picnic minuted. Dr. Park, president.

June, 1885. No picnic minuted. Dr. Napier, president.

4th June, 1886. Luss. Dr. Carr, president. "Nineteen gentlemen were present, viz.—Drs. Carr, Haddow, Ross,



Jas. Johnston, Stewart, Patterson, Barras, Brown, Gemmel, Pollok, Shaw, Knox, Glaister, Gordon, Robertson, Dumbarton; and Hamilton—members; also, Hillcoat, Moulin, and C. Black as guests. At Luss, justice was done to a splendid dinner. The weather was on its best behaviour, and all seemed to enjoy the excursion thoroughly.”

*9th June, 1887.* Ardentenny. Dr. Freer, Govan, president, having died soon after his election, Dr. James Morton was elected in his stead. “Present—Drs. Jas. Morton, M’Millan, Pirie, R. W. Forrest, Duncan, Pollok, A. Johnston, M. Black, Carr, Gilmour, M’Vail, Halket, Macgilvray, M’Pherson, Erskine, Provan, Ross, Brown, Shaw, Hillcoat, Rankin, and Hamilton—members; and A. F. Reid and Cluckie, guests—twenty-four. On arriving at Princes Pier, the steam yacht ‘Aerolite,’ kindly placed at the disposal of the party through the medium of Dr. Cluckie, was in waiting, and took them across to Blairmore. From thence they drove by Kilmun, Loch Eck, and Whistlefield to Ardentenny, where a first-class dinner was served. The return journey was made by means of the yacht to Princes Pier. The weather was the very best, and everyone present gave evidence of having enjoyed the outing thoroughly.”

*June, 1888.* Dr. M’Millan, president. It was intended that the picnic should take place at the Peesweep Inn, by Neilston, but as a sufficient number did not enrol, it was abandoned.

The number of medical practitioners on the south side in 1844, according to the Post Office Directory of that date, was 35; while, from an estimate kindly furnished me by Dr. J. B. Russell, the population, including that of Govan, was about 50,000—giving a little over 1,490 persons to each practitioner.

According to the Post Office Directory for 1888, the medical practitioners on the south side, including those in Govan, number 74, while the population, according to Dr. Russell, is—



Within Glasgow,        -        -        -        -        -	121,700
South-side Burghs outside Glasgow,        -	93,600
Extra Burghal,        -        -        -        -        -	17,000

Total population, south side,        -        232,300

This gives 3,139 persons to each practitioner, and shows that in 1844 there were more than double the number of doctors on the south side in proportion to the population than in 1888. There are 146 ordinary members at present on the roll, but a little less than half of these are not south-side practitioners, or live beyond the bounds of what is held as the south side of Glasgow. There is one honorary member (Dr. Douglas Reid, Helensburgh) and there are nine corresponding members: hence, the total membership as at November, 1888, is 156.

It is almost superfluous to remark that in the list of members are many names long well and honourably known in the profession. Among these may be mentioned—Thomas M'Call Anderson, George Buchanan, Hector C. Cameron, James Finlayson, William T. Gairdner, LL.D., William Macewen, Sir George H. B. Macleod, and James Morton, LL.D.

As regards the Society's funds, the balance on hand in October, 1888, was £31, and as there are 146 paying members, at 5s. each, its annual income is £36 10s. In my search through the minutes, I have very frequently been impressed with their excellence and the unusual amount of labour and of care which most of the secretaries have bestowed on them. In many cases they read more like printed transactions than written minutes.

In compiling this slight sketch of the Society's history, I have selected only what I considered the more generally interesting points. It is possible, however, that some of these points may be thought more calculated to amuse than inform. Still, they are not without historical value, as indicating the manner in which the earlier meetings of the Society were



conducted. Numerous minor details on various points might have been added both from the minutes and from memory, but, deeming them not of general interest, they were excluded.

In conclusion, seeing that the Society started with 5 members, and now numbers 156, I think it will be admitted that Dr. Leech's prediction regarding its future has been fulfilled—the tiny streamlet has become the majestic river, and the small acorn the majestic oak.



## LIST OF OFFICE-BEARERS OF GLASGOW SOUTHERN MEDICAL SOCIETY.

SESSION 1888-89.

*President*—John Glaister, M.D.

*Vice-President*—Robert Pollok, M.B.

*Treasurer*—Thomas F. Gilmour, L.R.C.P.Ed.

*Secretary*—James Erskine, M.A., M.B.

*Editorial Secretary*—Richard A. D. Robb, M.B.

*Seal-Keeper*—John Dougall, M.D.

*Court Medical*—Edward M'Millan, L.R.C.S.Ed. (*Convener*); James Morton, M.D.; James Dunlop, M.D.; David N. Knox, M.A., M.B.; Henry E. Clark, M.R.C.S.

The following gentlemen, with the Office-bearers and Convener of Court Medical, complete the Council:—Alexander Rankin, M.D.; Alexander Miller, L.R.C.P.Ed.; Maxwell Adams, M.B.

### LIST OF MEMBERS AS AT NOVEMBER, 1888, WITH YEAR OF ADMISSION AND OFFICES THEY HELD.

P., *President*; V.P., *Vice-President*; T., *Treasurer*; S., *Secretary*;  
E.S., *Editorial Secretary*; K., *Seal-Keeper*.

1. 1846. James Morton, LL.D., M.D., S. '46, K. '47, V.P. '48, P. 49,  
K. '61, V.P. '68, P. 69, P. 87.
2. 1850. John Burns, L.F.P.S.G., K. 57, V.P. 70.
3. 1854. Andrew M'Farlan, L.F.P.S.G., S. '55-'56, V.P. '57, P. 58.
4. 1858. Edward M'Millan, L.R.C.S.Ed., S. '60-'61, V.P., 62, P.  
'63-'64, K. '69, T. '72-'85, V.P. '86, P. '87.
5. James Dunlop, M.D., S. '59, V.P. '72, P. '73, K. '75.



- |     | Year of<br>Admission. |   |
|-----|-----------------------|---|
| 6.  | 1860.                 | A. L. Kelly, M.D., P. '71.  |
| 7.  |                       | Alexander Patterson, M.D., K. '63, V.P. '66, P. '67.  |
| 8.  | 1862.                 | John Barrie, M.D., K. '74.  |
| 9.  |                       | James Barras, M.D., K. '68, V.P. '81, P. '82.   |
| 10. | 1867.                 | Thomas Smith, L.F.P.S.G.  |
| 11. |                       | R. W. Forrest, M.D., S. '69-'70, V.P. '71, P. '72, E.S. '74,<br>K. 82.                                |
| 12. | 1869.                 | Eben. Duncan, M.D., K. '72, S. '74, V.P. '76, P. '77.   |
| 13. | 1870.                 | John Dougall, M.D., S. '72-'73, V.P. '74, P. '75-'76, K. '88.   |
| 14. |                       | James Provan, M.D.  |
| 15. |                       | A. Wood Smith, M.D.   |
| 16. | 1871.                 | Neil Carmichael, M.D., S. '75, V.P. '80, P. '81.  |
| 17. |                       | Sir George H. B. Macleod, M.D.  |
| 18. | 1872.                 | John Gardner, M.D.  |
| 19. |                       | Thomas F. Gilmour, L.R.C.P.Ed., L.F.P.S.G., S. '76-'77,<br>V.P. '79, P. '80, K. '83, T. '86-'87, '88. |
| 20. | 1873.                 | Robert D. Taylor, M.D.  |
| 21. |                       | Archibald Johnston, M.B., K. '81.   |
| 22. |                       | William Forrest, M.B.   |
| 23. | 1874.                 | Thomas M'Call Anderson, M.D.  |
| 24. |                       | William Fenwick, M.D.   |
| 25. | 1875.                 | Matthew Gibson, L.F.P.S.G.  |
| 26. |                       | J. Stuart Nairne, L.F.P.S.G., E.S. '83.   |
| 27. |                       | Andrew Ritchie, M.D.  |
| 28. | 1876.                 | William Carr, M.B., L.R.C.S.Ed., K. '78, S. '80, V.P. '84,<br>P. '85.                                 |
| 29. |                       | Andrew J. Hall, M.D., E.S. '77, S. '78-'79.   |
| 30. |                       | Robert Pollok, M.B., E.S. '81-'82, V.P. '88.  |
| 31. |                       | A. M. Buchanan, M.D.  |
| 32. |                       | Alexander Napier, M.D., E.S. '78-'79, K. '80, V.P. '83,<br>P. '84.                                    |
| 33. | 1877.                 | Robert Park, M.D., V.P. '82, P. '83.  |
| 34. |                       | Archibald Brown, M.D.   |
| 35. |                       | James Stirton, M.D.   |
| 36. |                       | David Tindal, M.D., S. '83-'84, K. '85.   |
| 37. |                       | James K. Kelly, M.B.  |
| 38. |                       | Alexander Jamieson, M.B., L.R.C.S.Ed.   |
| 39. | 1878.                 | John V. Wallace, L.R.C.S.Ed.  |



- |     | Year of<br>Admission. |   |
|-----|-----------------------|---|
| 40. | 1878.                 | Andrew Mungall, M.B.                                |
| 41. |                       | Archibald Clerk, M.B.                               |
| 42. |                       | William Walker, M.D.                                |
| 43. | 1880.                 | Alexander Rankin, M.D.                              |
| 44. |                       | Charles Cameron, M.P., M.D.                         |
| 45. |                       | Thomas Lapraik, M.D., K. '84.                       |
| 46. |                       | Alexander Miller, L.R.C.P.Ed., L.F.P.S.G.           |
| 47. |                       | J. Walls White, M.D.                                |
| 48. |                       | William J. Shaw, M.B., K. '86.                      |
| 49. |                       | Alexander Johnston, M.B.                            |
| 50. |                       | Daniel Mungall, M.B.                                |
| 51. |                       | John Glaister, M.D., E.S. '85, V.P. '87, P. '88.    |
| 52. |                       | Alexander D. Moffat, L.R.C.P.Ed., L.R.C.S.Ed.       |
| 53. |                       | John Garey, M.R.C.S.E.                              |
| 54. |                       | James Smellie, M.D.                                 |
| 55. | 1881.                 | John Haddow, L.R.C.P.Ed., L.F.P.S.G.                |
| 56. |                       | James Hamilton, M.B., E.S. '84, S. '85-'86, K. '87. |
| 57. |                       | Alexander Martin, M.B.                              |
| 58. |                       | A. E. Maylard, M.B.Lond., and B.S.                  |
| 59. |                       | David N. Knox, M.A., M.B.                           |
| 60. |                       | D. C. M'Vail, M.B., L.F.P.S.G., L.R.C.P.Ed.         |
| 61. |                       | William James Fleming, M.D.                         |
| 62. |                       | James Johnstone, L.R.C.P. and S.Ed.                 |
| 63. |                       | David Couper, M.D.                                  |
| 64. | 1882.                 | Thomas B. Henderson, M.D.                           |
| 65. |                       | William Ross, M.B.                                  |
| 66. |                       | Samson Gemmell, M.D.                                |
| 67. |                       | James Wilson, M.B.                                  |
| 68. | 1883.                 | James Erskine, M.A., M.B., E.S. '86, S. '87-'88.    |
| 69. |                       | Patrick Smith, M.B.                                 |
| 70. |                       | William Riddell Watson, L.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.Ed.       |
| 71. |                       | Alexander M. Murdoch, L.R.C.P., L.F.P.S.G.          |
| 72. | 1884.                 | William M'Ewen, M.D.                                |
| 73. |                       | Oliphant Hamilton, L.F.P.S.G., L.R.C.P.Ed.          |
| 74. |                       | J. C. Edmiston, L.F.P.S.G.                          |
| 75. |                       | Duncan Macgillvray, M.B.                            |
| 76. |                       | Hector C. Cameron, M.D.                             |
| 77. |                       | Henry E. Clark, M.R.C.S.                            |



	Year of Admission.	
78.	1884.	Thomas Mowat, L.F.P.S.G.
79.		Charles W. Stewart, M.A., M.D.
80.		Peter Maclean, M.D.
81.		Matthew Martin, M.B.
82.		Alexander Cameron, L.R.C.P.E. and L.F.P.S.G.
83.		John Macintyre, M.B.
84.		Archibald M'Crorie, M.B.
85.		William Gordon, M.B.
86.		William M'Farlane, M.B.
87.		Thomas M'Kee, L.F.P.S.G., L.R.C.P.Ed.
88.	1885.	R. Stevenson Thomson, M.B.
89.		John Brown, M.D.
90.		John C. Wilson, M.B.
91.		James S. Blackwood, L.R.C.P., L.F.P.S.G.
92.		Malcolm Black, M.D.
93.		John Buchanan, M.B.
94.		A. Freeland Fergus, M.B.
95.		Neil M'Donald, M.B.
96.		Richard A. D. Robb, M.B., E.S. '87-'88.
97.		John Aitken, M.B.
98.		George Halket, M.D.
99.		Hugh Kelly, M.B.
100.		William K. Peden, M.B.
101.		E. H. L. Oliphant, M.D.
102.		J. Hutcheson, M.D.
103.		W. D. Campbell, M.B.
104.		J. Kerr Love, M.B.
105.		P. F. Shaw, L.R.C.P., L.F.P.S.G.
106.		John Lindsay Steven, M.D.
107.		Cornelius Hope, L.F.P.S.G.
108.	1886.	W. M'Knight Wilson, M.B.
109.		John Nairn, L.R.C.P. and S.Ed.
110.		George Buchanan, M.D.
111.		Robert Macpherson, M.B.
112.		John Pirie, M.D.
113.		James Finlayson, M.D.
114.		T. Kennedy Dalziel, M.B.
115.		Charles Workman, M.D.



	Year of Admission.	
116.	1887.	George Muir Connor, M.B.
117.		D. Campbell Black, M.D.
118.		William Allan, M.B.
119.		John Watson, L.R.C.P.
120.		A. C. Boothman, L.F.P.S.G.
121.		David Blyth, M.B.
122.		Alexander Munro, M.B.
123.		N. G. Cluckie, M.B.
124.		Daniel M. Dewar, M.B.
125.		Charles G. King, M.B., L.R.C.S.Ed.
126.		J. N. Stark, M.B.
127.		James Duncan, M.B.
128.		William Downie, M.A., M.B.
129.		Robert M. Service, M.B.
130.		Archibald Campbell Clark, M.B.
131.		Simon Prince Clark, L.R.C.P.
132.		Alexander Maxwell Adams, M.B.
133.		Alexander Buchanan, L.R.C.P.Ed.
134.		Alexander Ross Carmichael, M.B.
135.		James J. Macarthur, M.B.
136.		Archibald Templeton, M.D.
137.		J. Wilson Cameron, M.B.
138.	1888.	William Chalmers, L.F.P.S.G.
139.		John White, M.B.
140.		W. T. Gairdner, LL.D., M.D.
141.		Alexander MacDonald, L.R.C.P.Ed., L.F.P.S.G.
142.		George Miller, M.D.
143.		A. N. Montgomery, M.B.
144.		A. Maitland Ramsay, M.B.
145.		Peter Hodge, M.B.
146.		Robert Henry Parry, L.R.C.P. and S.Ed.

## HONORARY MEMBER.

147. 1846. R. Douglas Reid, L.F.P.S.G., L.R.C.P.Ed., Helensburgh.

## CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.

148. 1846. William Scott, L.F.P.S.G., Rutherglen.  
 149. 1858. M. Thomas, M.D., Royal Infirmary.



- 
- |      | Year of<br>Admission. |   |
|------|-----------------------|---|
| 150. | 1874.                 | John Robertson, M.D., Dumbarton.                    |
| 151. |                       | John Rodman, M.B., Chascomas, South America.        |
| 152. | 1876.                 | John Dudgeon, M.D., Pekin.                          |
| 153. | 1877.                 | William M'Farlane, M.D., Maybole, K. '79, E.S. '80. |
| 154. | 1878.                 | John Moyes, M.D., Largs.                            |
| 155. | 1880.                 | Paul R. Moore, M.D., New Brunswick.                 |
| 156. | 1883.                 | Daniel Carmichael, M.B., Lochgilphead.              |























