

Certificates in favour of William Pirrie.

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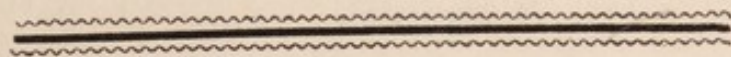


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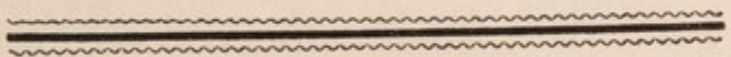
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CERTIFICATES




Certificates.



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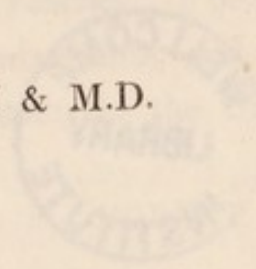
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CERTIFICATES

IN FAVOUR OF

WILLIAM PIRRIE, A.M.

SURGEON & M.D.





CERTIFICATES,

&c.

I.

From ROBERT LISTON, Esq., F.R.C.S. L. & E., Lecturer on Surgery.

DR. WILLIAM PIRRIE, as one of my Surgical Pupils, proved himself both assiduous and talented; and, ere he left, I was convinced of his being intimately acquainted with his profession.

Since he turned his attention chiefly to Anatomy, and taught that science, I have had many opportunities of knowing his success and abilities as a Teacher. I believe him to be possessed of no ordinary acquirements, and well qualified for the Professorship of Anatomy in the University of Aberdeen.

ROBERT LISTON.

Edinburgh, 99, George Street,

Oct. 19, 1833.

II.

From ALEX. EWING, M.D., late Lecturer on Anatomy and Surgery to the Universities, and one of the Physicians of the Royal Infirmary of Aberdeen.

MY DEAR SIR,

It gives me great pleasure to learn that you intend to apply for the Professorship of Anatomy in Marischal

College. As I have been intimately acquainted with you since you were a Student, and conversant with the whole of your progress in the profession since that time, I feel the greater confidence in stating my most unqualified opinion, that you are in every respect eminently qualified to fill the important situation of Professor of Anatomy. The grounds on which I more particularly found that opinion are :—That after receiving an excellent general education, you had the advantage of a very liberal education in all the branches of medical science in Aberdeen, Edinburgh, and Paris ; that at Edinburgh you obtained the degree of M.D., and also distinguished yourself so as to merit the first prizes in several of the classes ; that, after settling in Aberdeen, you were first appointed my assistant, and then my successor, as Lecturer on Anatomy to the Universities ; that, in this latter situation, you have distinguished yourself as an able anatomist and accomplished lecturer, and have given the greatest satisfaction to the Patrons and Pupils of the School, as has been manifested by repeated public testimonials spontaneously presented to you. I may add, that, from my own experience, I am aware of the great difficulties you had to contend with, in conducting an Anatomical Class in this part of the kingdom, and that these difficulties you completely surmounted, by a combination of well directed talent, perseverance, and assiduity. In accomplishing this object, I am sensible that you have spent much time, and been at great expense for books, drawings, and preparations to illustrate the subject of your lectures. It is also well known that your class has been always numerously and respectably attended. Permit me to add, that, as a gentleman, as a friend, and as a physician, I have always highly valued and esteemed you ; and that, from all those circumstances, I can most confidently recommend you, as possessing the strongest claims on the

College, to be appointed Professor of Anatomy in that school, where you have so long been a successful Lecturer.

Wishing you every success, I remain,

My dear Sir,

Yours, very truly,

ALEX. EWING, M.D.

Aberdeen, 20th Feb. 1839.

III.

*From R. L. BROWN, D.D., Professor of Greek in Marischal College,
Aberdeen.*

I HEREBY certify, that WILLIAM PIRRIE, M.D., has filled the office of Lecturer on Anatomy to King's and Marischal Colleges, since 1830, with the highest credit to himself and benefit to the Medical School of these Universities; that he discharged all his public duties with great ability, diligence, and zeal, and secured for himself in a high degree the confidence and regard of his pupils; and that he has been most assiduous in promoting the best interests of the Medical School with which he is connected.

R. L. BROWN.

Aberdeen, February 20, 1839.

IV.

From W. KNIGHT, LL.D., Professor of Natural Philosophy.

DR. WILLIAM PIRRIE received a regular and full education in this University, during which he distinguished

himself as a student possessed of great natural talents, aided by uncommon attention and diligence. When attending the Natural Philosophy Class, under my charge, he excelled in answering on all the branches of the course, and at the end of the session was the successful competitor for the Lord Rector's prize given in it for eminence in science. After receiving the degree of A.M., he continued his medical education in Edinburgh, from the University of which he obtained the honour of M.D. ; and a few years afterwards was appointed Lecturer on Anatomy and Physiology in Marischal College, in which he has since given very full courses of Anatomy and Practical Anatomy, which has for nine sessions been uniformly attended by large numbers of students, notwithstanding various obstacles opposed to his success, partly arising from the establishment of a Medical School being so recent in this city, and partly from classes on the same subjects conducted by other persons. These disadvantages he has in a very great degree overcome, by his talents, his enthusiasm for medical studies, his unremitting assiduity in the discharge of his duty to his class, and his excellent manner of communicating knowledge, in which he has been completely successful ; as appears not only from his having obtained larger numbers of students than any previous teacher had done in Aberdeen, but from his having constantly sustained the most uninterrupted regularity and good order, and gained, at the same time, the affection and esteem of his pupils.

Marischal College, Aberdeen,
21st February, 1839.

*From JOHN CRUICKSHANK, Professor of Mathematics in Marischal
College, Aberdeen.*

WILLIAM PIRRIE, A.M., Surgeon and M.D., has been known to me for sixteen years. During sessions 1822-3, and 1823-4, he attended in this University the First and Second Mathematical Classes respectively, and made distinguished progress in both. After receiving a regular and complete University education here, in all the branches of the curriculum of arts, he studied the various branches of Medical science, in schools of the highest reputation, and particularly distinguished himself in Anatomy. He bears a high character as a Physician, both for professional skill and attention to his patients. Having been Lecturer on Anatomy, for the last nine years, in the Medical School connected with the Universities of Aberdeen, he has discharged the duties of the office with great diligence and skill—conveying knowledge in the most accurate and efficient manner to numerous classes—uniformly commanding the respect of the students—and combating, with great energy, prudence, and success, the difficulties with which the department of Practical Anatomy has sometimes had to contend. My opinion of Dr. PIRRIE's qualifications is such, that I should reckon it greatly to the honour and advantage of this University to have him more intimately connected with it, by his becoming Professor of the branch which he has so zealously taught as Lecturer.

JOHN CRUICKSHANK.

Marischal College, 22d Feb., 1839.

VI

From JAMES DAVIDSON, M.D., Hist. Civ. and Nat. Prof.

I HEREBY certify, that DR. WILLIAM PIRRIE was a regular student in this University ; that he attended all the classes in the curriculum, much to the satisfaction of the various Professors, and on finishing his course received the degree of A.M. ; and more particularly while a student in the Natural and Civil History Class taught by me, he distinguished himself by the correctness of his conduct, the diligence and perseverance with which he prosecuted his studies, and the great and eminent acquirements he obtained in literature and science.

I also certify, that, to my knowledge, he afterwards prosecuted his studies in Medicine at the University of Edinburgh with the same assiduity until he obtained the degree of M.D. ; and that not long afterwards he was appointed assistant to Dr Ewing, Lecturer on Anatomy and Physiology in Marischal College, and on Dr Ewing's resignation he was unanimously elected his successor ; and ever since he has continued to teach Anatomy in all its branches, entirely to the satisfaction both of the Professors and Students.

I still farther certify, that, from being well acquainted with DR. PIRRIE'S medical acquirements and peculiar fitness for communicating information to his pupils, I sent a son of mine as a student to his class, and which he attended for three sessions, not only during the time of his lectures, but also dissecting under his superintendence and direction ; and that, on my examining my son at home on his progress in anatomical knowledge, which I did very frequently, I was completely satisfied that I could not have placed him under

a more judicious, well-informed, pains-taking teacher than
DR. PIRRIE.

JAMES DAVIDSON, M.D.

Marischal College, 23d Feb. 1839.

VII.

*From JOHN ABERCROMBIE, M.D., Fellow of the Royal College of
Physicians of Edinburgh, &c., and First Physician to her Majesty in
Scotland.*

I AM well acquainted with the professional character of DR. PIRRIE, and with what he has accomplished by his talents and industry in the formation of a Class of Anatomy in Marischal College, Aberdeen, where he has been Lecturer on Anatomy, appointed by the Universities, for many years past. I think him highly qualified for the appointment of Professor of Anatomy; and that his general character, talents, and acquirements, as well as his past services in the department, give him the highest claim to this appointment.

JOHN ABERCROMBIE, M.D.

Edinburgh, May 28, 1839.

VIII.

*From Dr. ALISON, Professor of the Institutes of Medicine in the University
of Edinburgh.*

Edinburgh, June 8, 1839.

ALTHOUGH I have not the pleasure of any personal acquaintance with DR. WM. PIRRIE, Lecturer on Anatomy

at Aberdeen, I have repeatedly corresponded with him on professional subjects, and have had many opportunities of knowing the estimation in which he is held, both as a teacher and as a practitioner ; and I have no doubt that he is a man of such talent, of such zeal in the prosecution of truth, and and of such judgment and experience as a teacher, as to be eminently qualified for a Professorship of Anatomy.

W. P. ALISON, M.D.,

Professor of the Institutes of Medicine.

IX.

From SIR JAMES M'GRIGOR, Bart., Director-General Army Medical Board, Inspector of Hospitals.

London, 12th June, 1839.

MY DEAR SIR,

I HAD yesterday the pleasure of receiving your letter of the 7th instant, and hasten to reply to it.

Having, as I believe, for ten years successfully discharged the duties of Lecturer on Anatomy in the Medical School of Aberdeen, I trust that on the establishment of Medical Professorships in Marischal College, you will be confirmed as Professor of Anatomy there ; as, from all that has reached me, I cannot doubt your fitness for that chair. In one of my official duties as examiner of candidates for the Medical Department of the Army, I have repeatedly noticed the accurate knowledge in Anatomy displayed by the gentlemen who had been your pupils ; and I feel quite satisfied of your

ability to fill the Anatomical chair, with credit to yourself and to the advantage of the College.

Heartily wishing you success, I ever am,

My dear Sir,

Very truly yours,

J. M'GRIGOR.

You are at liberty to make any use of this letter, if you think it can serve you.

J. M

To Dr. PIRRIE.

X.

From Wm. HENDERSON, Esq., M.D., Aberdeen.

Aberdeen, 13th June, 1839.

DEAR SIR,

IT gives me much pleasure to state, in compliance with your request, that, during the course of my personal acquaintance with you, I have on many occasions had opportunity of knowing—what has been most amply confirmed by the intercourse which I have had with various students under your care—the ability, and assiduity, and success with which you have taught the Anatomical and Physiological Class in connection with the Universities of King's and Marischal Colleges.

I am, dear Sir,

Yours, very truly,

W. HENDERSON.

To Dr. PIRRIE.

XI.

From Dr. CRAIGIE, F.R.S.E., Physician to the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, Editor of the Edinburgh Medical and Surgical Journal, Physician to the Infirmary of Edinburgh, Lecturer on Practice of Physic.

I have known Dr. PIRRIE of Aberdeen for several years, and I can say conscientiously that he is an able, intelligent, and well informed Anatomist ; that, as an Anatomical Teacher, he has been long most assiduously engaged in communicating a knowledge of the principles of Anatomy and Surgery to numerous and well attended classes in the city of Aberdeen ; that, in effecting his purpose of establishing an effectual system of teaching Anatomy by dissection and demonstration, he has had to contend with great and multiplied difficulties, in obviating which, I can say, from personal knowledge, that the Medical School there are under great obligations to him ; and that both in imparting knowledge and diffusing a spirit of zeal and energy in its acquisition, Dr. PIRRIE has been remarkably successful.

At the present conjuncture, when it is proposed to convert the Lectureship of Anatomy into a Professorship, I must say, that I know of no one who is so likely to answer the wishes of the Patrons in performing the duties in an efficient and respectable manner than Dr. PIRRIE. He may be said, by his exertions and assiduity in teaching, to have been for many years virtually Professor of Anatomy ; and the manner in which he has trained the Medical Students of Aberdeen, in the knowledge of the most important branch of Medical Education, is the strongest and most satisfactory testimonial of his merits that can be given.

DAVID CRAIGIE, M.D., F.R.S.E.,

Physician to the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, Lecturer
on Clinical Medicine and Practice of Physic.

Edinburgh, 14th June, 1839.

XII.

*From SIR ASTLEY COOPER, Bart., Serjeant Surgeon to her Majesty,
&c. &c.*

FROM the manner in which the pupils of Aberdeen have been educated, as regards their Anatomical knowledge, I have formed the highest opinion of the efficiency of DR. PIRRIE'S instructions.

ASTLEY COOPER,
Serjeant Surgeon to her Majesty.

June 14th, 1839.

