

**Testimonials in favour of Mr. James Spence, candidate for the Chair of Anatomy in the University of Edinburgh / [James Spence].**

**Contributors**

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*D. Dyce*

TESTIMONIALS

IN FAVOUR OF

MR JAMES SPENCE,

CANDIDATE FOR THE

CHAIR OF ANATOMY IN THE UNIVERSITY  
OF EDINBURGH.

TESTIMONIALS

BY

MR JAMES SPENCE

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CANDIDATE FOR THE



CHAIR OF ANATOMY IN THE UNIVERSITY

OF EDINBURGH

TO THE

RIGHT HONOURABLE THE LORD PROVOST,

THE MAGISTRATES AND TOWN COUNCIL OF EDINBURGH.

24 DUBLIN STREET, EDINBURGH, March 6, 1846.

MY LORD AND GENTLEMEN,—I beg leave most respectfully to offer myself as a Candidate for the Chair of Anatomy, now vacant by the Resignation of Dr Monro.

I shall, as early as possible, have the honour of submitting to you Testimonials bearing upon my qualifications as an Anatomist and Teacher of Anatomy.

I may, in the meantime, state that I have been engaged in teaching Anatomy and Operative Surgery in this city for the last nine years, five of which I taught in the Practical Rooms of the University ;—for the last four years I have delivered regular courses of Demonstrative Lectures on Anatomy ; and during the whole time mentioned I have been engaged in teaching Practical Anatomy.

Permit me to say, that should I be fortunate enough to obtain the honour to which I aspire, no exertion shall be wanting on my part to discharge the duties of the Chair in such a manner as to justify your choice.

I have the honour to be,

My LORD AND GENTLEMEN,

Your very obedient Servant,

JAMES SPENCE.

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## TESTIMONIALS.

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I.—*From* SIR WILLIAM NEWBIGGING, F.R.C.S.E., &c.

EDINBURGH, 27th April 1841.

I have known Mr Spence for some time, and have great pleasure in the opportunity now afforded me of bearing testimony to his extensive knowledge of anatomy, which he has cultivated with great zeal and success.

I feel assured that, in the event of his being appointed to a situation requiring the application of this science, that he will discharge his duties with credit to himself, and to the satisfaction of those with whom he may be connected.

WILL. NEWBIGGING.

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II.—*From* ROBERT KNOX, M.D., F.R.S.E., F.R.C.S.E.,  
&c., *Lecturer on Anatomy.*

NEWINGTON, 3d May 1841.

MY DEAR SIR,—I have much pleasure in bearing testimony to your very great abilities as an anatomist, and as a teacher of anatomy. You were long a distinguished student of my own; and since then, nearly, or perhaps more than twelve years ago, it is consistent with my knowledge that you have never ceased improving yourself, with a zeal most rare and most commendable, in every branch of your profession, and more especially in the anatomical department.

In a word, I have every confidence in your ability as an anatomist, and as a teacher of anatomy, and esteem you well qualified for the situation you now canvass.—I remain, my dear Sir, very truly yours,

R. KNOX.

MR JAMES SPENCE, Surgeon.

III.—From HENRY LONSDALE, M.D., *Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, and formerly Lecturer on Anatomy and Physiology in Edinburgh, &c. &c.*

CARLISLE, February 11, 1846.

Mr Spence has been known to me for a long period, and I have great pleasure in bearing testimony to his talents, acquirements, and anatomical knowledge.

The opportunities which Mr Spence has had in the field of anatomy have fallen to few. For a number of years he was the *active* demonstrator in the Practical Rooms of the University, and not only acquired the esteem and confidence of a large number of students by the assiduous attention which he paid to their interests, but made himself thoroughly conversant with the human anatomy—pursuing *it* with that zeal and accuracy which characterised the labours of our great authorities in this science. His labours in the Anatomical Rooms of the University were rewarded by discoveries in the minute anatomy of the nervous system, and other parts of the body, and many of his important and, in point of delicacy, almost unparalleled dissections, form part of the present anatomical collections in the University.

During the last four years he has been engaged in extra-academical teaching, and I can conscientiously say, from being a colleague of his nearly the whole of that time, that he taught anatomy with the greatest success.

Mr Spence has contributed numerous and important Essays on Anatomy, Surgery, and Pathology, which have been noticed in the foreign periodicals, and their value duly acknowledged by his compeers in this country. No one can be *better* acquainted with descriptive anatomy than Mr S., and his minute dissections have ever claimed the admiration of the highest authorities in this country.

HENRY LONSDALE.

IV.—*From* PETER REDFERN, M.B. Lond., M.R.C.S.L.,  
*Lecturer on Anatomy and Physiology in the University and*  
*King's College, Aberdeen.*

ABERDEEN, 31st January 1846.

Having had the honour of being a pupil of Mr Spence's, I can speak with the greatest confidence of his merits as a profound and comprehensive anatomist and physiologist, and also of his rare capabilities as a teacher. Owing to an ardent love of the science of anatomy and physiology, Mr S. has devoted his whole life to their study, and has long since proved himself to be a most skilful, scientific, and practical anatomist. On this head I need only refer to his very beautiful and minute dissections of the arteries of different parts of the body, of the nerves of the same, and to his clear and concise description of their origin and distribution; also to his dissections illustrative of the effects of operations on the large arteries of the lower animals. These preparations, which are preserved in the University Museum, and the numerous valuable papers which Mr Spence has published at different times, are but a few of the many convincing proofs which I have had that he must be considered one of the first anatomists of the present day. I have, moreover, seen him perform the most important surgical operations with a coolness, dexterity, and precision, which a sound and complete knowledge of anatomy alone can impart.

As a teacher of anatomy and operative surgery during the last nine years, Mr Spence has uniformly endeared himself to his pupils, as well by his sterling talent, as by his kindness of manner, and untiring perseverance in promoting their rapid advancement. In the thorough elucidation of important and difficult anatomical regions, he has always been especially distinguished for the time and labour which he uniformly bestows in the preparation of these



parts by his own hand, and for the lasting ground-work which he has laid for future practice.

I scarcely need to add, that Mr Spence is admirably fitted to fill the Chair of Anatomy in the University of Edinburgh, and that, if appointed, I have no doubt that he will prove one of its brightest ornaments.

PETER REDFERN.

V.—*From* ANDREW MILLAR, M.D., *Surgeon,*  
*Her Majesty's Ship Trafalgar.*

EDINBURGH, 9th February 1846.

MY DEAR SIR,—I cannot leave Edinburgh without expressing to you, that I have had great satisfaction in attending your class of surgical anatomy and theatre for dissections and operations. I never heard important practical and physiological points better described, or saw the minute anatomy so clearly displayed.

As a teacher of anatomy and practical anatomist, I consider your qualifications of the highest order, to which are added those of a perfect operating surgeon.—I remain, my dear Sir, yours faithfully,

ANDREW MILLAR.

To JAMES SPENCE, Esq., &c. &c. &c.,  
Edinburgh.

VI.—*From* A. MAKELLAR, M.D., F.R.C.P.E.

30, NORTHUMBERLAND STREET, March 4, 1846.

I have great pleasure in expressing the high opinion which I entertain of Mr Spence as a teacher of Anatomy. From my knowledge of his acquirements in that department, and his unwearied exertions for the promotion of science, I have no hesitation in saying that, should Mr Spence be appointed to the Chair of Anatomy, he will prove an ornament to the University. I have repeatedly, during the last eight years, come in contact with young practitioners in the country who had been pupils of Mr Spence's. They universally expressed the greatest respect for him as a gentleman and a teacher; and I would merely reiterate their declaration, that "the principal reason of the success was his constant attention to their studies, and his very effective mode of communicating valuable instruction."

A. MAKELLAR.

VII.—*From* DAVID KERR, M.D., *Lecturer on Surgery,*  
*King's College University, Aberdeen.*

ABERDEEN, March 4, 1846.

I certify that Mr James Spence is known to me as the author of several well-written papers on Anatomy and Surgery. His inquiry into the anatomy of the par vagum and spinal accessory, entitles him to a high rank among anatomists; and the ardour and success with which he has for several years taught anatomy and operative surgery, qualify him in no ordinary degree for the discharge of the duties of the Chair for which he is at present a candidate, and to which his various acquirements give him a strong claim.

DAVID KERR.

VIII.—*From JOHN REID, M.D., Professor of Anatomy in the United College of St Salvator and St Leonard.*

UNITED COLLEGE, ST ANDREWS, 5th March 1846.

I have been intimately acquainted with Mr James Spence for nearly the last twelve years, and have much pleasure in stating the very high opinion I entertain of his anatomical attainments. I know that he has been engaged in teaching Anatomy for the last nine years, that he has enjoyed the best opportunities, both in Paris and in this country, of obtaining a minute and extensive knowledge of anatomy, and that he has fully availed himself of all these advantages. Mr Spence has also published some excellent papers in elucidation of some anatomical points of considerable importance. I consider Mr Spence excellently well qualified for lecturing on anatomy; and that he would be a valuable acquisition to any school of medicine.

JOHN REID.

IX.—*From GEO. RAINY, Surgeon to the Aberdeen Ophthalmic and Aural Institution.*

ABERDEEN, 9th March 1846.

I certify that I have had professional correspondence with Mr James Spence, Surgeon, Edinburgh; that I have seen published several highly important and difficult surgical operations which he has successfully performed; that I have read his minute and beautiful description of the spinal accessory nerve; and that I have heard some of his pupils with whom I am personally acquainted speak very highly of his talents and professional acquirements. Under these circumstances, I have no hesitation whatever in stating, that I consider Mr Spence's knowledge of anatomy of the highest order, and that he is eminently qualified to teach that branch of medical science.

GEO. RAINY.

## TESTIMONIALS FROM FORMER PUPILS.

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I.—*From C. BLACK, M.D., Member of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, &c.*

ST MARY'S GATE,  
CHESTERFIELD, Feb. 4, 1846.

MY DEAR SIR,—Having heard that it is your intention to offer yourself as a candidate for the Chair of Anatomy, which is about to become vacant in the University of Edinburgh, I should consider it not only a dereliction of duty, but a great want of gratitude on my part, did I not at once, without any solicitation, express to you my full conviction of your perfect competency to discharge the duties of so important an office.

It is, indeed, a pleasure to me to have this opportunity of testifying to your profound anatomical knowledge, to your happy and efficient mode of conveying instructions to others, as well as to your great willingness at all times to advance the pursuits of your pupils, even beyond your own immediate department of science.

When, therefore, I reflect on such qualifications, and couple with them a knowledge of your private worth, I am led to the conviction, that, should you attain to the honourable distinction which you seek, the duties of your office will, I doubt not, be discharged with the utmost credit to yourself, and the greatest advantage to others.

That success may attend your every effort is the wish of, my dear Sir, your sincere friend and former pupil,

C. BLACK.

J. SPENCE, Esq.

II.—*From* JOHN D. WARD, M.D.

CHESTERFIELD, February 4, 1846.

MY DEAR SIR,—Having heard that you are a candidate for the Chair of Anatomy in the Edinburgh University, feelings of gratitude, as a late pupil, induce me to offer you my most sincere wishes for your success, as I am sure *no one* is better qualified to occupy that position.

Your great superiority as a practical anatomist, and your very satisfactory manner of lecturing, with the interest you take in the progress of your pupils, would make you an ornament to the chair for which you are a candidate.—I am, my dear Sir, yours very sincerely,

JOHN D. WARD.

To JAMES SPENCE, Esq.,  
24, Dublin Street, Edinburgh.

III.—*From* J. T. OGILVIE, M.D., *Medical Superintendent of the Aberdeen Lunatic Asylum.*

ABERDEEN ASYLUM, February 6, 1846.

Having been informed that Mr Spence intends offering himself as a candidate for the vacant Chair of Anatomy in the University of Edinburgh, I avail myself, with much pleasure, of this opportunity of bearing my humble testimony to his numerous qualifications for that office. During the session of 1843-44, I attended a course of anatomical demonstrations delivered by Mr Spence, and the manner in which they were conducted was such as to impress me with a very favourable opinion of his intimate acquaintance with anatomy, and with the collateral sciences of physiology and pathology, as well as of his talents as a public lecturer.

Should he prove successful in being appointed to the highly important charge to which he aspires, I feel assured that he will discharge its duties in a most efficient and creditable manner.

J. T. OGILVIE.

IV.—*From* HENRY DOUGLAS, M.R.C.S.L., &c.

WYMONDHAM, LEICESTERSHIRE, Feb. 9, 1846.

MY DEAR SIR,—I received a letter from my friend, Redfern, the other day, and he tells me that you are a candidate for the Chair of Anatomy in the University of Edinburgh. My object in writing to you is to offer my humble testimony in your favour. When I say you are a highly accomplished anatomist, and a most skilful dissector, I doubt not I shall but confirm the testimony of other gentlemen who, from their position in the scientific world, possess more influence than I can have. I may, however, state, that as a lecturer and a demonstrator, you are peculiarly felicitous in imparting knowledge to your pupils, and I can truly say that I always received more solid information, with less mental exertion, from your dissertations than from those of any other teacher whatever.

Your gentlemanly, kind, and condescending deportment will ever secure the good-will of your pupils; your scientific attainments and deep research as an anatomist, will command their respect, and your dexterity as a dissector will elicit their admiration; and I believe your occupation of the chair to which you aspire would add more lustre to the already bright fame of the University of Edinburgh.—I am, my dear Sir, most respectfully yours,

HENRY DOUGLAS.

V.—*From* WM. TIBBETTS, M.D.

STRETFORD, NEW ROAD, MANCHESTER,

14th February 1846.

DEAR SIR,—As an old pupil of yours, I feel the greatest pleasure in bearing testimony to the high estimation in which your qualifications as a teacher of anatomy were held by the whole of the students who attended the practical rooms in the University, during your labours there. I look back with pleasure to the advantages I then enjoyed, in having for a teacher one so eminently able, and ever ready to combine the duties of instructor and friend. I need not say how glad I should be, and I believe all who have enjoyed the benefit of your instruction, to see any efforts of yours to advance yourself crowned with the success you so well deserve.

With every wish for your success in the present competition, I remain, dear Sir, yours very truly,

WM. TIBBETTS.

To JAMES SPENCE, &c. &c.

VI.—*From* JAMES BRAID, M.D., L.R.C.S., *Edinburgh.*

MANCHESTER, Feb. 15, 1846.

MY DEAR SIR,—Having been a pupil of yours during your connexion with the University of Edinburgh, I have much pleasure in bearing testimony to the great zeal and talent with which you discharged your duties there, and to the accurate knowledge of anatomy which you displayed, as well as to the clear manner in which you communicated your information.—Wishing you every success, I remain, my dear Sir, very truly yours,

JAMES BRAID.

JAMES SPENCE, Esq.

## TESTIMONIAL

FROM

*Medical Practitioners in Belfast and Neighbourhood, former Pupils of Mr SPENCE, Lecturer on Anatomy and Operative Surgery, Edinburgh.*

SIR,—Understanding that you are about to become a candidate for the Chair of Anatomy in the University of Edinburgh, now vacant by the retirement of Dr Alexander Monro, we desire to avail ourselves of the opportunity to express to you our unanimous opinion respecting your peculiar qualifications for the office to which you aspire.

Having enjoyed the benefit of your prelections, we can bear ample testimony to the unwearied zeal, the great talent, the facility of imparting knowledge, and the kind and considerate disposition which you ever evinced in conducting, for many years, the class of Demonstrations of Anatomy in that University, and the extra-academical school. As an author, and a practitioner, too, you have already earned no inconsiderable reputation for acute observation in disease, and a complete mastery of the most difficult details of surgical anatomy.

We cannot but consider, then, that you are eminently qualified for the appointment which you seek; and that, should you be elected, you would contribute to cast additional lustre on a chair so long and so worthily occupied by the distinguished "Monros."

But whatever, Sir, may be the result of your application, you will please accept this testimonial, as a spontaneous expression of our deep sense of your excellence both as a



public teacher, and a practitioner of our common profession, and of your unvarying kindness, courtesy, and attention to—Your friends and former pupils,

A. G. MALCOLM, M.D. & L., R.C.S. Edin., Physician to the Belfast Hospital, &c.

ARTHUR DONNELLY, M.D., Edinburgh, Medical Attendant of Belfast Dispensary.

HUGH CAMPBELL, M.R.C.S., England.

JOHN H. GARNER, M.D., Edinburgh.

HUGH PELAN, M.D., Edin., M.R.C.S., England.

JAMES MOORE, M.D., Edin., Surgeon to the Belfast Hospital, &c.

ALEXANDER GORDON, M.D., Edin., Licentiate of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, Demonstrator of Anatomy at the Belfast Royal Academical Institution, and one of the Surgeons to the Belfast Surgical Hospital.

ALFRED ANDERSON, M.R.C.S.E.

BELFAST, *March 6, 1846.*

VIII.—*From* A. THOM THOMSON, Esq., M.R.C.S.E.

CHEADLE IN MANCHESTER, Feb. 26, 1846.

DEAR SIR,—As a former pupil, I have much pleasure in bearing testimony to the eminent qualifications you possess as a teacher of Anatomy.

Your profound acquaintance with the subject requires no commendations of mine. I cannot, however, refrain from alluding to the practical tendency of your prelections. This it was which gave them an especial interest and value to the advanced student. It was an observation repeatedly made by those attending your class, at the time I had the honour of being your pupil—now several years ago—that no opportunity was permitted to escape of calling our attention to those points which could in any respect bear upon

the efficient discharge of our duties as surgeons in after life, and, I need not say, that your experience as a practical surgeon enabled you to do this most effectually.

Your zealous and indefatigable exertions to discharge faithfully the duties of your position, your readiness to satisfy and aid the enquiring, and your efforts to encourage those who were apt to despond at the task before them, will be remembered by many now engaged in the active duties of their profession with the liveliest feelings of gratitude.

With the sincerest wishes that you may attain the position to which you at present aspire, I remain, dear Sir, yours very sincerely,

A. THOM THOMSON.

JAS. SPENCE, Esq.

the efficient discharge of our duties as surgeons in after life,  
and I need not say, that your experience as a practical  
surgeon enabled you to do this most efficiently.  
Your zealous and distinguished exertions to discharge  
faithfully the duties of your position, your readiness to encourage  
and aid the rising and your efforts to encourage  
those who were apt to despond at the task before them,  
will be remembered by many not engaged in the active  
duties of their profession with the liveliest feelings of  
gratitude.

With the sincerest wishes that you may attain the posi-  
tion to which you at present aspire, I remain, dear Sir,  
your very sincerely,  
A. THOMAS

VIII. THE A. THOMAS TRUST FOR THE BIRTH OF

Dear Sir, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your  
kind letter of the 10th inst. and in reply to inform you that  
the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for  
their consideration. I am, Sir, very respectfully,  
Yours very truly,  
A. THOMAS

# ADDITIONAL TESTIMONIALS

IN FAVOUR OF

MR JAMES SPENCE.

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I.—*From* PROFESSOR ALLEN THOMSON, *acting for the Curators of the Anatomical Museum.*

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH,  
28th March 1846.

SIR,—I am desired by the Curators of the Anatomical Museum of the University, to state to you that they attach a high value to the preparations and dissections which you made and presented to the Museum at various times during the period of your acting as Assistant Demonstrator of Anatomy in the University. Among a considerable number, they would in particular mention, as evincing your great skill in dissection and sound anatomical knowledge, the series of preparations and dissections illustrating the processes by which arteries are closed after being tied, and the collateral circulation established; those of the perinæum and pelvic viscera; those of the pneumogastric nerves; and those of some of the blood vessels.

ALLEN THOMSON.

JAMES SPENCE, Esq., Surgeon, &c. &c.

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II.—*From* PATRICK NEWBIGGING, M.D., F.R.C.S.E.,  
*Secretary to the Curators of the Museum, Royal College of Surgeons.*

29, HERIOT ROW, 28th April 1841.

I have great pleasure in bearing testimony to the high opinion entertained by the Curators of the Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons, of the excellent anatomical qualifications of Mr James Spence, surgeon.

The Curators have formed this estimate of Mr Spence's

professional character, from personal observation of his great neatness and accuracy of dissection, and from testimonials strongly commendatory of his professional attainments.

PATRICK NEWBIGGING.

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III.—*From* ALEX. MONRO, M.D., F.R.C.P.E., F.R.S.E.,  
*Professor of Anatomy in the University of Edinburgh, &c.*

CRAIGLOCKHART, March 14, 1846.

I hereby certify, that Mr James Spence acted for some time as assistant in the rooms of Practical Anatomy in the University, during which I had several opportunities of observing his zeal, indefatigable exertions, and depth of his knowledge of the anatomy of the human frame. He was also very attentive and obliging to the pupils, and communicated to them much important instruction; and also that Mr Spence has been the author of several papers which are written in a very clear manner, as also his Paper on the Nerves.

ALEX. MONRO.

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IV.—*From* JAMES DUNCAN, M.D., F.R.C.S. England and  
Edin., *one of the Surgeons of the Royal Infirmary, Lec-  
turer on Clinical Surgery, &c.*

12, HERIOT ROW, March 16, 1846.

MY DEAR SIR,—In compliance with your request, I have much pleasure in bearing testimony to your merits as an anatomist, and as a teacher.

I have long been intimately acquainted with you, and know well the assiduous manner in which you have cultivated the study of anatomy, more particularly in its bearings upon surgery, and I can likewise attest the success which has attended your labours.

As a teacher, I have always heard you spoken of with high respect by your pupils ; and from all I know and all I have heard, I am satisfied that you have contributed in no small degree to the success of the Anatomical Institution in Surgeon Square, by the assiduous attention paid by you to the Dissecting Rooms and Demonstrations, as well as by the practical turn you gave to the study. Knowing all this, I have no hesitation in expressing my opinion as to your qualifications as a teacher of anatomy.—I am, dear Sir, yours very truly,

J. DUNCAN.

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V.—*From A. G. MALCOLM, M.D. & L.R.C.S., Edinburgh, one of the attending Physicians to the Fever Hospital, Belfast, Physician to the Dispensary Rooms, Belfast, &c.*

BELFAST, 29, YORK STREET, March 10, 1846.

DEAR SIR,—Most willingly do I comply with your request to forward my individual testimony as to your eligibility for the important office of Professor of Anatomy in the University of Edinburgh, now vacant by the retirement of Dr Alexander Monro.

It is with pleasure that I recur to the time when I attended your instructions in descriptive and surgical anatomy. Whether in the Dissecting-room or the Lecture-theatre, indefatigable industry, superior talent, and ardent zeal, eminently distinguished your valuable services. Indeed, I know no teacher who possessed more tact in instilling a true spirit and enthusiasm into his pupils, or left clearer impressions of difficult subjects on their minds. Your demonstrations of anatomy will be remembered by many as having been the means of imparting a love for the deeper prosecution of that study in after life ; and especially were its interesting relations to surgery handled by your skill with an originality and perspicuity eminently calculated to render them peculiarly interesting and instructive. Your

contributions to the progress of medical science upon these branches, have only corroborated my conviction of your attainments. I need only refer to your valuable papers on the several capital operations, which evince confessedly no ordinary intellectual power.

Should you succeed in obtaining the object of your application, I fully believe that your success would be no more than your protracted labours in the domain of anatomy so highly deserve.

With every hope and wish for your future welfare, I remain, dear Sir, yours very sincerely,

A. G. MALCOLM.

VI.—*From Dr JAMES Y. SIMPSON, F.R.C.P., Professor of Midwifery in the University of Edinburgh.*

52, QUEEN STREET, 25th March 1846.

I believe that Mr Spence is a most excellent anatomist, and thoroughly versed in that department of medical science. He has acted as Anatomical Demonstrator both in the University and in the Extra-academic School, and consequently has had no small experience in teaching this branch.

J. Y. SIMPSON.

VII.—*From SIR GEORGE BALLINGALL, M.D., Surgeon to the Queen, and Professor of Military Surgery in the University of Edinburgh.*

EDINBURGH COLLEGE, 22d April 1841.

Having been requested to express my opinion of Mr Spence's professional attainments, I have great pleasure in stating, that he has been known to me for many years as a practical surgeon; that he has latterly devoted much of his time to anatomical investigations in the Museum of the

University ; and that he has distinguished himself greatly as a skilful, dexterous, and scientific anatomist.

GEO. BALLINGALL, M.D.

EDINBURGH, 10th August 1844.

With reference to the foregoing certificate, I beg leave to state in addition, that I have repeatedly seen Mr Spence perform several of the capital operations in surgery, and that I entertain a very high opinion of his skill, dexterity, and intelligence, as a surgeon.

GEO. BALLINGALL, M.D.

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VIII.—*From the late* SIR CHARLES BELL, F.R.S.L. and E.,  
*Professor of Surgery in the University of Edinburgh,*  
*Consulting Surgeon to the Royal Infirmary, &c. &c.*

6, AINSLIE PLACE, 31st March 1841.

In recommending Mr James Spence to the College of Surgeons, it is due to that gentleman to say, that he has shown great knowledge and dexterity in his dissections ; that he has made with exquisite skill preparations of the arterial and nervous system ; and on the whole I have no doubt, that under the direction of the College, he would not only be diligent in preserving the preparations in the Museum, but would supply the deficiencies, *more especially in the surgical anatomy, and pathology.*

I have had occasion in the last three years to witness his regularity and devotedness to the business of the anatomical rooms.

CHARLES BELL, K.H.

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IX.—*From* W. P. ALISON, M.D., *Professor of the Practice of Physic in the University of Edinburgh, &c. &c.*

EDINBURGH, 7th August 1844.

I hereby certify, that I know Mr James Spence to have given assistance in the dissecting rooms in the University



for several years past, to have made a number of minute and very beautiful dissections, and to have paid particular attention to surgical anatomy. I have met him occasionally as a practitioner, and have thought him well informed and judicious; and I know that he has performed difficult surgical operations with the dexterity and ability which might be expected from the pains he has taken in preparing himself for that department of the profession.

W. P. ALISON.

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X.—*From* J. A. ROBERTSON, M.D., F.R.C.S., *Lecturer on Surgery.*

QUEEN STREET, March 22, 1841.

I have been personally acquainted with Mr Spence for several years, and entertain a very high opinion of his professional attainments. He has devoted a large portion of his time during the last four years to the instruction of the pupils in the anatomical rooms of the University, to the teaching of operative surgery, and to the preparation of anatomical and pathological specimens. Some of his minute dissections for the latter purpose are fully equal to any I have seen in the best museums.

I have seen Mr Spence operate on the living body, when he showed the utmost coolness and dexterity in the most difficult and embarrassing circumstances. Mr Spence's conduct has always been most correct, gentlemanlike, and obliging.

J. A. ROBERTSON.

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XI.—*From* ALEXANDER KING, M.D., *Member of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons, Glasgow.*

GLASGOW, 17th August 1844.

I have much pleasure in expressing the high opinion I entertain of Mr Spence's qualifications as a surgeon. Long before I had the pleasure of his acquaintance, the valuable

contributions he has made to the periodical literature of our profession, satisfied me of his extensive and minute knowledge of anatomy and surgery; and from all I have seen and heard of him, I feel assured, if appointed to the office to which he aspires, he will discharge the important duties to the satisfaction of the directors. I heartily wish him success.

A. KING, M.D.

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LIST OF PAPERS ON ANATOMICAL AND SURGICAL SUBJECTS,  
PUBLISHED BY MR SPENCE.

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I. On the Sources of Hemorrhage after the Lateral Operation of Lithotomy. Published in the *London and Edinburgh Monthly Medical Journal* for March 1841. An abridgment of this paper, revised by me, was reprinted by Professor Monro in the last edition of his work on the Male Pelvis, p. 73. It has also been favourably noticed in the *Gazette Médicale de Paris*, of 9th October 1841, and an abstract of it translated, vol. ix. p. 655.

The investigation necessary for establishing the facts detailed in this paper extended over a period of nearly four years. During its progress, I examined the parts described in seventy-three subjects, and made almost all these dissections with my own hand.

II. Case of Tracheotomy for the Removal of a Foreign Body. *Lond. and Edin. Monthly Med. Journal*, January 1842. Abstract translated into the *Gazette Médicale de Paris*, of 18th Feb. 1843, vol. xi. p. 109.

III. An Account of Experiments regarding Ligature of the Carotid and Vertebral Arteries, and of the Anastomoses by which the circulation is subsequently carried on in such cases. Published by Professor Monro in his late work, *The Memoirs and Essays of Dr Monro, secundus*, pp. 98-127. The preparations are preserved in the Museum of the University; and, as far as I can learn, are the only similar preparations existing in this country, with the exception of the original preparations by the late Sir Astley Cooper.

IV. An Inquiry into the Anatomy of the Vagus and Spinal Accessory Nerves. Published in the *Edin. Med. and Surg. Journal*, No. 153. This paper, besides being favourably noticed in the *Annales Médico-Psychologiques*, Paris, edited by MM. les Docteurs Baillarger, Cerise, et Longet, has been by them considered a sufficiently important discovery in the nervous system, to be translated in full into that journal.

V. Case of Excision of the Lower Jaw. Published in *Edinburgh Med. and Surg. Journal*, No. 155. Abstract translated into the *Annales de Thérapeutique Médicale et Chirurgicale* for Sept. 1843.

VI. Case of Ligature of the Common Carotid Artery for Hemorrhage from Ulceration of the Face. Published in the *Lond. and Edin. Monthly Med. Journal*, for May 1843.

VII. Remarks on some Points connected with the Ligature of Arteries. Published in the *Lond. and Edin. Monthly Med. Journal* for June 1843. [This paper was originally read before the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Edinburgh, and the preparations illustrative of the facts detailed are preserved in the Anatomical Museum of the University, where they form part of the series illustrative of the Ligature of Arteries prepared by me specially for that Museum.

VIII. Cases of Hernia, with Remarks. Published in *Dr Cormack's Journal*, for August 1845.