[Letter of application for the post of Medical Commissioner or General Inspector, as proposed in the Lunacy Bill for Scotland] / Charles Wilson.

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15 Aug. 1859.

LUNACY COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND.

TO

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE SIR GEORGE GREY, BART., SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE HOME DEPARTMENT.

Edinburgh, 43, Moray Place, 1st August, 1857.

SIR,

In anticipation of the Lunacy Bill for Scotland being immediately passed into a law, I beg leave to offer myself as a Candidate for the appointment of Medical Commissioner or General Inspector, and respectfully to present the accompanying Testimonials.

In these I submit especially to your consideration the ample testimony to the extent of my practical experience in all the departments of my profession:—an experience without which, in its most general sense, I could not approach the decision of the intricate questions which must arise in relation to the duties of the office, or have invited the risk of bringing my opinions into possible collision with those of the most enlightened medical practitioners, or have ventured to interpose authoritatively where the sensibilities and interests of families and of individuals were so intimately concerned; and, therefore, without the evidence of which, I should not have dared to propose myself for the honour of your selection.

It may be permitted to me to point out, that, among the individuals who have favoured me with their testimonials of my fitness for the position to which I aspire, are included nearly all those who rank as the most distinguished in their profession in Scotland for their talents, worth, and public eminence; and that they refer, almost without a single exception, to immediate sources of knowledge. This fact, I trust, will be received as evincing my anxiety to rest on the most trustworthy credentials to which I could obtain access.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

With the highest respect,

Your most obedient Servant,

CHARLES WILSON, M.D., F.R.C.P.E.