

25

TESTIMONIALS

IN FAVOUR OF

ROBERT DYCE, M.D.

AS CANDIDATE FOR THE

Professorship of Midwifery

IN THE

UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN.

1858.



With Compliments

TESTIMONIALS.

I.—*From former Pupils of Dr. DYCE, Lecturer on Midwifery, Marischal College and University, Aberdeen.*

We, the Undersigned, having heard with pleasure that Doctor DYCE is to apply for the Chair of Midwifery in the Aberdeen University, cheerfully bear testimony to his ability, zeal, and aptness for teaching ; as also, to his acquirements in Medical Science, his extensive practice as an Accoucheur, and his successful treatment of the diseases of women and children. Having studied under Dr. Dyce, we are the better able to judge of his qualifications ; and it is gratifying to us to state, that his contributions with respect to Obstetric practice are noticed and quoted by the most eminent authors. It is our most anxious desire, both for the public weal and the interest of Dr. Dyce, that he should be appointed to the Chair of Midwifery in the Aberdeen University, to continue those duties which he has so long, so faithfully, and so successfully discharged.

GEORGE SUTHERLAND, L.R.C.S.E.

FREDERIC CROMPTON, M.R.C.S.L.

ROBERT LINDSAY, L.R.C.S.E.

W. CHALMERS, L.R.C.S.E.

JAMES LAING, M.B., M.R.C.S.

GEO. E. WILL, House Surgeon, Royal Infirmary.

JOHN GREIG, L.R.C.S.E.,

JOHN LIGERTWOOD, House Physician, Royal Infirmary.

ARCHD. REITH, M.B., M.R.C.S., Eng.

HENRY HUTCHEON.

JAMES M'INNES.

- PETER ABEL, M.D., Inverury.
 JAMES REID, L.R.C.S.E., Ballater.
 FREDR. LEWINS, M.D., L.R.C.S.E., Bervie.
 JOHN CHARLES CAMPBELL, M.D., L.R.C.S.E., 4th Lt.
 Dragoons.
 A. LEITH ADAMS, M.B., L.R.C.S.E., Surgeon, 1st Battalion
 22d Regiment.
 HENRY F. PATERSON, M.B., L.R.C.S.E., 5th Battalion Royal
 Artillery.
 WILLIAM PIRRIE, M.D., L.R.C.S.E., Ast. Surgeon, 71st Hd.
 Lt. Infantry.
 J. BLAIKIE, M.D., Grantown.
 DAVID B. DALZELL, M.D.
 JAS. HAMLIN, M.D.
 JOHN WILL. COOK, M.R.C.S., Eng.
 HENRY JACKSON, M.D., &c. Abdn.
 JAS. M'GREGOR.
 GEO. MACKIE, M.B., L.R.C.S.E., Insch.
 GEO. GRAY, M.R.C.S., London.
 ROBERT M'KILLIAM, M.B., Oldmeldrum.
 JAS. WILSON, M.D., L.R.C.S.E., Meldrum.
 JAMES WALKER, M.D., M.R.C.S., Eng., Kincardine.
 GEORGE PARK, A.M., M.R.C.S.E.
 AL. MARTIN, M.D., Stonehaven.
 A. THOM, A.M., M.R.C.S.E., Crieff, Surgeon, Ross, &c., Rifles.
 GEORGE ARTHUR GRANT, L.R.C.S.E.
 JNO. W. B. WADES, M.D., L.R.C.S.E.
 HUGH M. FRASER.
 JAMES PHILIP, M.R.C.S., Eng., Mounthooly, Aberdeen.
 Wm. B. LYALL GRANT, M.D., M.R.C.S.E.
 ANDREW WALLACE, M.D., &c., Turriff.
 ALEX. ROBB, M.B., L.R.C.S., Edin., Inverkindie.
 J. H. AVELING, M.D., Abdn., M.R.C.S., Lond., Sheffield.
 ROBERT BEVERIDGE, M.B., L.R.C.S.E.
 GEORGE SMITH, L.R.C.S.E.
 JOHN PIRIE, M.D., L.R.C.S.E., A.M., Campbelton, Argyle.
 JOHN B. M'LINTOCK.
 ALEXANDER MUNRO.
 GRAHAM A. CARTER, M.R.C.S., Ed.

II.—*From Resident Practitioners in Aberdeen.*

Aberdeen, 21st October, 1858.

The undersigned, Practitioners in Aberdeen and neighbourhood, having for many years past known Dr. DYCE, the Lecturer on Midwifery in Marischal College, and having frequently called him in professionally in difficult and dangerous cases, are desirous now, in the prospect of a Chair of Midwifery being instituted in the United University of Aberdeen, of expressing the opinion which they entertain of his eminent fitness for that office, both as an accomplished Lecturer and as a skilful and experienced Obstetrician, who has acquired their highest confidence, from the experience they have had of his urbanity, his practical dexterity and skill, and his intimate knowledge of this department of Medicine.

WILLIAM LESLIE, Surgeon.

ROBERT SMITH, Surgeon.

WM. FRASER, Surgeon.

R. M. ERSKINE, Surgeon.

JAMES COUTTS, Surgeon.

JOHN PATERSON, Surgeon.

WM. WILLIAMSON, M.D.

GEORGE MORISON, M.D., Surgeon, R.A.H.

ISAAC GILCHRIST, M.D., Surgeon.

J. A. ^{Steel} SIM, M.D.

JOHN CHRISTIE, M.D.

JOHN SIM, Surgeon.

KEITH JOPP, M.D.

ROBERT L. POLSON, M.D.

ROBERT RATTRAY, M.D.

GEO. OGILVIE, M.D.

JAMES H. FORSYTH, M.D.

AL. DUNCAN, M.A., Surgeon.

WILLM. LYON, Surgeon.

A. J. MANSON, Surgeon.

AL. F. GREIG, Surgeon.

JAMES REID, M.D., Surgeon.

III.—*From the Very Rev. DANIEL DEWAR, D.D., LL.D., Principal of the Marischal College and University of Aberdeen, &c.*

Marischal College, 18th October, 1858.

I am not entitled to speak of the amount of Dr. DYCE's professional acquirements; but, from a long acquaintance with him as a Lecturer in this University, I am fully authorised to say that no medical man has a higher position in this city and county; that no teacher in any department in this College has been more efficient and successful; that his removal from the teaching of that branch of Medical Science, in which he is unrivalled, would be a great loss to the Aberdeen Medical School; and that by his laborious and most useful career he has won for himself a title to the highest honours and emoluments of his profession.

I have only to add that his character is that of a gentleman and Christian—amiable, kind, and conciliating.

D. DEWAR, D.D., Principal.

IV.—*From JOHN MACROBIN, M.D., Professor of Medicine, Marischal College and University, Physician Royal Lunatic Asylum, Aberdeen, &c.*

Aberdeen, 24th August, 1858.

MY DEAR SIR,

I have very great pleasure in expressing my opinion of your qualifications for the Office of Professor of Midwifery in the University of Aberdeen.

Thoroughly conversant with all that it concerns the Physician to know, you have more especially devoted your attention to the Science and Practice of Midwifery, including the Diseases of Women and Children, and have acquired a character and a name in connection with these subjects, which have raised you to the first rank in your profession here and elsewhere.

For many years you have taught the Class of Midwifery in Marischal College, and have done so with admirable tact and judgment, and to the entire satisfaction of the Senatus Academicus, by whom you were appointed to your present Office of Lecturer.

In the efficient teaching of the Class, you have had difficulties to contend with (like myself), owing to the want of a properly furnished Medical Museum in the University, but by your own exertions, and zeal for the subject you teach, you have greatly remedied the defect, by devoting no little time and money in procuring preparations, busts, and drawings, to illustrate the course of Lectures, and also in providing *practical* instruction to your pupils. In all these matters you have been most indefatigable in your endeavours to promote the efficiency of the Class.

It would be difficult, I think, to find a combination of qualities and a past career more entitled to the favourable consideration of those having the power to confer the appointments to the Medical Chairs, which are to be instituted in terms of the recent Act for the Union of the Aberdeen Universities; and the appointment of one so fully acquainted, as you are, with the difficult art of teaching—so amply qualified in every other respect for the office—commanding alike the respect of the students and of the community at large—is in my opinion a matter of vital importance to our rapidly increasing Medical School.

With my most cordial wishes for your success, believe me to remain,

MY DEAR SIR,

Yours most faithfully,

J. MACROBIN.

V.—*From A. JARDINE LIZARS, M.D., Professor of Anatomy, and Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, and Surgeon to the Royal Infirmary of Aberdeen.*

Marischal College,
Aberdeen, 27th August, 1858.

It is with sincere pleasure that I bear testimony to the high attainments of Dr. ROBERT DYCE. From our having been associated as colleagues for many years, partly in this University, and partly in the Royal Infirmary of this City, I have had ample opportunities of becoming acquainted with him; and I have no hesitation in saying, that no man stands higher in the estimation of his professional brethren and the public; and in the department of Medical Science to which he has more particularly devoted himself (Midwifery), I would say he occupies the highest position.

During the two first years of my residence in Aberdeen, after being appointed to the Chair which I now occupy, having plenty of leisure time, I attended two full courses of Dr. Dyce's lectures on Midwifery, and I beg leave to say that I never listened to a better lecturer, and I have heard the late Doctors James Hamilton, William Campbell, and John Mackintosh—all of them eminent lecturers on that branch of Medicine in Edinburgh. His style is clear, distinct, and fluent, and abounding in admirable illustrations, derived from his own experience and extensive practice. He is one of those few teachers whose pupils never tire, but have their attention and interest kept up during the whole of the prelection.

Dr. Dyce is now a Candidate for the Professorship of Midwifery, the duties of the Lectureship of which he has discharged so faithfully and creditably for so many years; and I most sincerely wish him every success, for I could not conceive a greater misfortune could befall our Medical School, than to be deprived of the services of a Gentleman who has proved himself so admirably fitted for the office to which he now aspires.

A. JARDINE LIZARS, M.D.

VI.—*From J. MATTHEWS DUNCAN, A.M., M.D., F.R.C.P.E.,
Lecturer on Midwifery, Physician Accoucheur to the Royal
Dispensary of Edinburgh, Corr. Member of the Imperial
Royal Society of Physicians of Vienna, &c. &c.*

55, North Castle Street,
Edinburgh, September 6, 1858.

MY DEAR SIR,

It seems almost a work of supererogation to write a Testimonial in regard to your qualifications for the Chair of Midwifery, probably about to be instituted in the new University of Aberdeen, for your scientific attainments and practical skill in this branch of Medicine are everywhere well known and recognised in Scotland.

From the commencement of my professional life till now, I have regarded you as a most able and zealous and successful Lecturer on Midwifery, and your elevation to a Professorship of this branch appears to me the most natural and appropriate progression. Your intrinsic claims to such a Chair cannot fail—even unsupported by testimonials from those fit to judge in such a matter—to command the respect and consideration of the patrons.

I most cordially wish you success in obtaining the object of your just and laudable ambition.

I am,

DEAR SIR,

Yours very truly,

J. MATTHEWS DUNCAN, A.M., M.D., F.R.C.P.E.

VII.—*From FRANCIS OGSTON, M.D., Professor of Medical Logic
and Medical Jurisprudence, Marischal College and Univer-
sity, Aberdeen.*

Aberdeen, 23d August, 1858.

I have much pleasure in reiterating formally the general sentiments of the profession and the public here as to the

eminent qualifications of Dr. ROBERT DYCE, both as an Accoucheur and Lecturer on Midwifery; and I do so with the more confidence from having repeatedly been glad to avail myself of his services in cases of unusual difficulty or danger in my own practice, and from having witnessed the appearances of his pupils at the examinations for Degrees in Medicine at Marischal College.

F. OGSTON, M.D.

VIII.—*From* GEORGE SKENE KEITH, M.D., *Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh.*

Edinburgh, October 1, 1858.

MY DEAR SIR,

I can scarcely imagine that any Testimonial from me as to your fitness for the Chair of Midwifery at Aberdeen could be of any service to you.

I can only say that I have known you as an authority in that branch of Medical Science during the whole of my own professional life, and that I know of none in Aberdeen or elsewhere better able both to teach and to practise it.

I am,

MY DEAR SIR,

Very truly yours,

GEORGE S. KEITH.

IX.—*From* J. HENRY BENNET, M.D., *Member of the Royal College of Physicians, London, Physician Accoucheur to the Royal Free Hospital, &c.*

60, Grosvenor Street,
London, August 25, 1858.

I have heard with pleasure that Dr. ROBERT DYCE intends to become a Candidate for the Chair of Midwifery at the Aberdeen University, under the new Act, and, for the sake of the University, trust he will be successful in his canvass.

From my knowledge of Dr. Dyce, of his devotion to science,

of his experience as a Lecturer on Midwifery for many years, and of his skill as a practitioner, I firmly believe that his appointment would greatly redound to the reputation and interests of the University.

J. HENRY BENNET, M.D.

X.—*From WILL. PIRRIE, M.D., Regius Professor of Surgery, Marischal College and University, Aberdeen, Surgeon Royal Infirmary, &c. &c.*

238, Union Street West, Aberdeen,

19th August, 1858.

MY DEAR SIR,

I most gladly comply with your request, that I should express my opinion as to your claims for admission as Professor of Midwifery in the University of Aberdeen, feeling persuaded that, whether as regards your position as Lecturer on Midwifery in Marischal College, or the manner in which you have performed the duties of a public Teacher and of a Practitioner in Aberdeen, your appointment to the situation in question has been well merited by you, and is calculated to promote the cause of Medical education in this town. I feel assured that it requires no testimony from me to confirm the general opinion, that your exertions as a Teacher have been most unwearied, judicious, and successful. During the many years I have been your colleague, I have been an almost daily witness of the zeal, talent, and knowledge which you bring to the investigation of professional subjects. I know well the liberality and care with which you have endeavoured to provide and extend the means of instruction for your pupils, and I should hold your undoubted success in practice as a sufficient evidence of the favour with which your professional skill has been acknowledged by your fellow townsmen. I have had the pleasure of hearing you lecture, and willingly testify to the fact that, as a Teacher, you are distinguished by a rare degree of clearness of style, and by the power of interesting your hearers in the subject. You have lectured for many years

on Midwifery with distinguished success; and I feel that the strongest terms which I can express do not adequately convey my convictions of the value of the services you have rendered to this Medical School. By your long continued, unwearied, and successful labours, you have placed this University under very great obligations.

It will give me great pleasure to learn that your exertions shall have met with the farther mark of public approval, which I think they deserve, in your appointment to the situation of Professor of Midwifery; and I should rejoice in this, not alone because of the high opinion I entertain of your talents and ripe experience, but also on account of the advantage which would thereby accrue to the cause of Medical instruction in the Aberdeen School of Medicine.

Believe me,

MY DEAR SIR,

Yours very sincerely,

WILLIAM PIRRIE.

XI.—*From J. JAMIESON, M.D., formerly Lecturer on Midwifery in Marischal College and University, Aberdeen.*

Edinburgh, September 20, 1858.

MY DEAR SIR,

I gladly avail myself of the opportunity afforded me to express my high opinion of your fitness for the office of Professor of Midwifery in the University of Aberdeen.

I might content myself with merely declaring—which I can do with all sincerity—that I know no man whose experience and capabilities so well qualify him for the office as yourself; and this opinion I have formed upon no slight grounds, some of which I may be allowed to mention.

During the course of my long practice in Aberdeen, there was no Professional Brother to whom I so often, or more confidently, applied for assistance in serious cases of Midwifery, and of diseases of Women and Children, than yourself. On all

these occasions, you afforded, to my mind, every proof I could desire of skill and judgment.

You have for many years been a successful Lecturer on Midwifery in Marischal College; and I can bear ample testimony, so far as I am capable of judging, to your industry, zeal, and ability, in the discharge of the duties of your office.

For many years before I left Aberdeen you did me the honour, at the close of each Session, to lay before me (previously to awarding the prizes in your Class) copies of the questions you had put to your pupils, and of their written answers. These questions were uniformly of so searching a nature, and the answers, for the most part, so apposite and satisfactory, as to leave the most favourable impression on my mind as to both Teacher and Pupils.

For the honour of Marischal College, as well as for your own sake, and the successful cultivation of Obstetric Education in our "New University," I heartily wish you all success.

I remain,

MY DEAR SIR,

Very truly yours,

J. JAMIESON, M.D.

XII.—*From ALEX. HARVEY, M.D., Licentiate of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, formerly Lecturer on the Practice of Medicine in the University and King's College, and on the Institutes of Medicine, Marischal College and University, Aberdeen.*

Southampton, August 27, 1858.

MY DEAR SIR,

In complying (as I have the most sincere satisfaction in doing) with your request to give some expression of my opinion as to your fitness for the Chair of Midwifery, about to be founded in the University of Aberdeen, I will make it my endeavour to confine myself to words of truth and soberness. Occupying, as you do in Aberdeen, as is well known and universally acknowledged there, the *first* position as an Accoucheur, and,

as such, possessing the confidence alike of the public and the profession—enjoying likewise an *established* reputation as a Teacher of Midwifery, it will be quite unnecessary for me to strive to invest you with imaginary qualifications.

The simple fact, indeed, that for a period extending over fourteen years you have taught the Principles and Practice of Midwifery in Marischal College, with what it is but bare justice to you to designate *signal* success, and that you *still* possess, unabated, the capacity to teach them with equal success, ought, I think, to secure for you the Chair in question. It is the highest recommendation that any Candidate for a Professorship can have, that, in addition to a thorough knowledge of the subject he professes, he has already proved himself a *good* Teacher of it. That recommendation, I honestly believe, you possess in as high a degree as any one can; while it consists with my own personal knowledge, during a connection of ten years with Marischal College, that not only your own colleagues, but likewise your pupils, entertained the same high opinion of your merits as a Teacher.

If anything further be deemed requisite towards setting forth your claims on the Patrons of that Chair, it surely need only be this—and a very strong point in your favour it is—that, with no higher inducement than the hope of one day attaining to the honourable position which is now, by the “Universities (Scotland) Act,” brought within your view, you have given the time and labour of many years to the cause of Medical Education in Aberdeen.

Wishing you all success, I remain,

DEAR SIR,

Yours very sincerely,

ALEX. HARVEY, M.D.

XIII.—*From* SIR ANDREW SMITH, M.D., K.C.B., *late* Director-General of the Army Medical and Ordnance Department.

MY DEAR DYCE,

I was pleased, some time ago, to observe that

it had been decided to convert your two Colleges into one. The amalgamation will, I suppose, soon take place, and I sincerely hope that those who may have to carry out the arrangements will not overlook your claims to the Chair of Midwifery.

The length of time you have been a teacher of that branch of the profession, and the zeal and success with which you, I know, cultivated it, both in the Mauritius and South Africa, will, I have no doubt, ensure you, and very properly, success, should you find it to your interest to be a candidate.

Yours most faithfully,

A. SMITH.

London, 20th July, 1858.

XIV.—*From JOHN CRUICKSHANK, LL.D., Professor of Mathematics, Marischal College and University, Aberdeen.*

Marischal College, Aberdeen,
10th Sept., 1858.

ROBERT DYCE, Esq., M.D., has been Lecturer here on Midwifery and the Diseases of Women and Children for a good many years, and has discharged the duties of his office with great zeal and efficiency, gaining the approbation of the Senatus and of the public, and the respect and esteem of the students; and during a much longer period, he has been extensively engaged in the practice of his profession. It will fall to Medical men to express opinions of his professional knowledge and skill; but I feel called upon to state, that I believe it to be the opinion, both of those who are best qualified to judge, and of the public in this quarter, that the conversion of his Lectureship into an endowed Professorship would greatly tend to the credit of the Medical School here, and of the United University which is about to be formed.

JOHN CRUICKSHANK, LL.D.

XV.—*From CHAS. CLAY, M.D., Senior Medical Officer in Ordinary to St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester, and Lecturer on Principles and Practice of Midwifery, &c. &c.*

St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester,
August 31, 1858.

I feel assured, whilst recommending Dr. DYCE as a person in every way qualified as a Teacher of Midwifery, I am only doing bare justice to an individual, the greater part of whose life has been devoted to the practice of Midwifery, and many years to the instruction of Youth in that branch of Medical Education.

CHAS. CLAY, M.D.

XVI.—*From GEORGE RUSSEL DARTNELL, Member of the Royal College of Surgeons, England, Inspector-General of Army Hospitals, and late Superintendent of the Royal Asylum for Military Lunatics.*

Arden House, Henley-in-Arden,
15th September, 1858.

MY DEAR DR. DYCE,

I am very glad to learn that you are a Candidate for the Professorship of Midwifery in the University of your native City, because, without flattery, I believe you to be eminently qualified for the Office, and because I should rejoice to see a friend whom I esteem so much, and have so high an opinion of, filling so distinguished a position.

I know that you always more especially devoted yourself to the study of Obstetrics, and even in the earlier days of our acquaintance, I often envied you the great success of your practice, and your popularity in this branch of our profession. I know, too, that you have long been a Lecturer on Midwifery in Marischal College, and this circumstance, with your now large

experience, and intimate acquaintance with the subject, and habit of addressing a professional class, must weigh largely in your favour.

Wishing you success in your canvass, believe me,

Very faithfully yours,

GEO. R. DARTNELL,

Inspector-General of Hospitals.

XVII.—*From* JAMES SYME, F.R.S.E., *Professor of Clinical Surgery, Edinburgh University, &c. &c.*

September 8, 1858.

MY DEAR SIR,

The experience which you have had in Obstetric practice and teaching, your position in the profession, and your personal qualities, eminently qualify you for the Chair of Midwifery. For your own sake, and that of the University, I sincerely wish that you may be appointed to it, and, so far as my opinion may be of any value, thus beg to express it in your favour.

I remain,

MY DEAR SIR,

Yours very truly,

JAMES SYME.

XVIII.—*From* JOHN CADENHEAD, M.D., *Member Royal College of Surgeons, London, and Ophthalmic Surgeon Royal Infirmary, Aberdeen.*

Aberdeen, September, 1858.

MY DEAR DOCTOR DYCE,

In answer to your note of yesterday, I can, with the greatest confidence, testify that I consider you most amply qualified for the Chair of Midwifery in the Aberdeen University.

For a long time you have, by your knowledge and extensive experience, been considered our leading authority in all Midwifery matters here, and for years you have shown a very useful qualification for the Chair, by your aptitude in teaching, and thus you have gained the respect and esteem of the Students attending your large classes at Marischal College. I have no hesitation in stating that I know no one better qualified for the Chair than yourself, nor one who has given such general satisfaction as a Lecturer.

Wishing you every success,
I remain yours,

JN. CADENHEAD, M.D.

XIX.—*From THOS. CLARK, M.D., Professor of Chemistry in Marischal College and University.*

Aberdeen, Oct. 7, 1858.

DR. ROBERT DYCE has filled the office of Lecturer on Midwifery in Marischal College and University with such uniform advantage to the Students, and satisfaction to the Professors, to the Medical Profession, and to the Public, as, I have no doubt, has contributed to the remarkable success that has attended the establishment of a Medical School in Aberdeen. What with his acknowledged eminence, more especially in this department of Medical practice, what with his learning, general as well as professional, what with his tried services, I could not but concur in the feeling of satisfaction, which I am sure would be entertained by the public, if Dr Dyce be promoted to be Professor, in the University of Aberdeen, in the department wherein he has so well established his reputation as a Lecturer.

THOS. CLARK, M.D.

XX. — *From* GEORGE DICKIE, M.D., *Prof. Nat. History, Queen's College, Belfast.*

August 1, 1858.

DEAR SIR,

I sincerely hope that your claims for a Professorship of Midwifery may not be overlooked.

While it would be presumption in me to testify regarding your acquirements, nevertheless I feel justified in stating, that the special attention paid by you to an important department of practice, and the efficient performance of the duties of a Lecturer upon it for many years, afford sufficient guarantee that your services as Professor would be of the highest value in the University of Aberdeen.

I am, very sincerely yours,

G. DICKIE, M.D.

XXI.—*From* WM. LAING, M.D., *late Senior and now Consulting Surgeon of the Royal Infirmary, Aberdeen, and formerly Lecturer on the Principles and Practice of Surgery in the Universities of King's and Marischal Colleges.*

Having known Dr. R. DYCE, Senior Physician of the Royal Infirmary of Aberdeen, and Lecturer on Midwifery in the Marischal College and University, for more than twenty years, during a great part of which time I was his Colleague in the Infirmary, I have had ample opportunity of estimating the high position which he holds, both as a Practitioner and as a Teacher of that branch of his profession to which he has devoted his chief attention during his whole life. As I have also frequently met him in consultation, I can bear witness to the high estimation in which his talents and abilities are held by the public; and the number of students which attend his classes bears ample testimony to his success as a Teacher.

W. LAING, M.D.

XXII.—*From* GEORGE J. NICOL, M.D., *Physician to the Royal Infirmary, &c.*

Aberdeen, 25th August, 1858.

This is to certify that I have known DR. DYCE for the last fifteen years, during which time I have had frequent opportunities of meeting him in consultation, and profiting by his advice in cases of Midwifery and Diseases peculiar to women; that his knowledge of, and experience in, such cases are most extensive, and that he has availed himself of every opportunity to improve them. That I, therefore, consider him to be particularly well qualified for the appointment of Professor of Midwifery, &c., more so in my opinion than any other Medical Practitioner in Aberdeen.

GEORGE J. NICOL, M.D.

XXIII.—*From* FL. CHURCHILL, M.D., M.R.I.A., *Fellow of the College of Physicians, Professor of Midwifery, &c., Ireland.*

15, Stephen's Green, Dublin,
August 25, 1858,

After the very high reputation attained by Dr. DYCE as a Lecturer on Midwifery, any testimony of mine as to his merits appears quite superfluous. Although I have not the pleasure of personal acquaintance with Dr. Dyce, I know quite sufficient to satisfy me that he is eminently fitted to discharge the duties of a Professorship of Midwifery, with credit to himself, benefit to his pupils, and distinction to the University. For the sake of each of these different interests, I wish him success.

FLEETWOOD CHURCHILL, M.D., M.R.I.A.

XXIV.—*From WILLIAM R. PIRIE, D.D., Professor of Divinity in Marischal College and University, Aberdeen.*

I have the greatest pleasure in certifying that DR. DYCE has acted as Lecturer on Midwifery in the Marischal College and University of Aberdeen during the last fourteen years; that he has given the greatest satisfaction in that capacity to every member of the Senatus Academicus; that I have every reason to believe his services were highly valued by his Students, of whom the numbers have steadily and rapidly been increasing for many years; and that I am convinced his appointment to the Chair of Midwifery in the University of Aberdeen would be held by the whole community of this district of Scotland to reflect honour on the Patron or Patrons of the office.

Given at Marischal College, this 2d day of September, 1858
years, by

W. R. PIRIE, D.D.

XXV.—*From ROBERT CHRISTISON, M.D., Professor of Materia Medica in the University of Edinburgh, Ordinary Physician to the Queen in Scotland, &c.*

Edinburgh, 14th September, 1858.

MY DEAR SIR,

I have much pleasure in certifying, that, from the opportunities I have had in Medical Practice of judging of your knowledge and experience in Medicine, and of learning the opinion currently entertained among my Medical friends in Aberdeen as to the ability with which you have already discharged the duties of Lecturer on Midwifery in Marischal College, there can be no doubt that you are excellently qualified for the same office in the University which is about to be formed by fusion of the two Aberdeen Colleges. And so far as I can judge, nothing

better could be done, than your nomination to the new Chair of Midwifery, for maintaining the reputation which Aberdeen has acquired as a seat of Medical learning and education.

I am,
Yours most truly,

R. CHRISTISON.

XXVI.—*From WILLIAM LESLIE, Surgeon to the General Dispensary.*

Aberdeen, August 28, 1858.

MY DEAR DR. DYCE,

I have much pleasure in certifying that I have known you as a Lecturer on Midwifery at Marischal College for many years, and likewise as one of the Physicians to the Aberdeen Infirmary, and your unwearied attendance on the indigent poor in childbed.

I must return you my best thanks for the great assistance I have had when I had occasion to consult you in difficult Midwifery cases.

I am sure our Medical Students here would feel a great loss if you were removed from Lecturing on this department of the profession.

Believe me,
Yours, very truly,

W. LESLIE.

XXVII.—*From THOMAS THOMSON, M.D., Member of the Royal College of Surgeons, England.*

Inverury, 6th September, 1858.

MY DEAR SIR,

As you are to be a Candidate for the expected

New Chair in Midwifery in the Aberdeen University, I very sincerely wish you may succeed, because, from your great experience and success as a Practitioner in that branch, and also as a Lecturer for many years, I consider you to be eminently qualified for the situation, and that your appointment to the Chair would be for the interests of the Medical School of the University.

Believe me,

Very faithfully yours,

TH. THOMSON, M.D.

XXVIII.—*From* ANDREW WOOD, M.D., F.R.C.S., *late President of the Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh, &c., &c., &c.*

9, Darnaway Street, Edinburgh,

18th October, 1858.

DEAR SIR,

As I understand that you are a candidate for the Chair of Midwifery in the Aberdeen University, I can have no hesitation in strongly recommending you for that office, because I have reason to know that for many years you have practised that branch of the profession extensively and successfully, and have also had large experience as a Lecturer, in which capacity you have taught numerous classes for a series of years. If, then, a sound practical knowledge of Midwifery, the power of communicating to others that knowledge with fluency and effect, and ample means of illustrating your lecture, accumulated by yourself at great expense, be qualifications for the office, I have no hesitation in saying that all these you possess in an eminent degree. In short, I know no one better qualified than yourself, in Aberdeen, for the Professorship which you seek.

Yours truly,

A. WOOD.

XXIX.—*From WILLIAM HENDERSON, M.D., Lecturer on Materia Medica, Marischal College and University.*

Aberdeen, 30th October, 1858.

It is now a good many years since I became acquainted with Dr. ROBERT DYCE, on his return to Aberdeen from abroad, and during the whole of the period that has since elapsed, I have enjoyed the pleasure of being on intimate terms of friendship with him; and I have on various occasions experienced the greatest kindness from him. I have had opportunity of witnessing, in the case of more than one member of my own family, and in other cases which I have attended along with him, the skill, the assiduity, and the humane attention, with which he exercises the peculiar department of the profession to which he has mainly devoted himself, and in which he has attained no common degree of eminence—viz. Midwifery and the Diseases of Women and Children. I have also had the means of knowing that as a Lecturer in these branches (which office he has held for a considerable number of years in Marischal College) he has been highly successful. And I consider him, both as a gentleman, and a man of talent and scientific acquirement, in every way eminently qualified for the appointment to the Professorship in the United University of Aberdeen, the duties of which he has so long and so ably performed, to comparatively large and still growing Classes.

W. HENDERSON, M.D.

XXX.—*From JOHN HUGHES BENNETT, M.D., F.R.C.P., F.R.S., Professor of Institutes of Medicine and Clinical Medicine, Edinburgh University, &c. &c. &c.*

Edinburgh, October 27, 1858.

MY DEAR SIR,

I can have no hesitation, at your desire, in stating that there are few Midwifery Practitioners and Teachers

not only who deserve, but who are so eminently entitled to the Chair of Midwifery, about to be erected in Aberdeen, as yourself. Indeed, I can scarcely suppose that your long and successful services can fail to be properly appreciated by the authorities.

I am,

DEAR SIR,

Yours very sincerely,

T. HUGHES BENNETT.

XXXI.—*From* ROBERT BOWER, A.M., M.D., M.R.C.S., *England,*
Surgeon, Royal Navy.

Maryculter Manse, 19th October, 1858.

MY DEAR SIR,

I was glad to hear of your intention of being a candidate for the Chair of Midwifery in the Aberdeen University.

Recollecting our pleasant intercourse abroad, many years ago, when you were on the Staff of General Sir Lowry Cole, at Mauritius and Cape of Good Hope, and the estimation in which you were held as a medical and obstetric practitioner by your brethren and the public in both these Colonies, and more especially since that time, your long and extensive practice of Midwifery, and successful lecturing on that subject in Aberdeen, I know no one more likely to fill the Chair in question with greater honour and efficiency.

With cordial wishes for your success,

I remain,

MY DEAR SIR,

Yours most sincerely,

ROBT. BOWER.

