## CHAPTER XIV

## THE GLASGOW SCHOOL IN THE FIRST HALF OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY

One of the most important steps in connection with the development of the Glasgow Medical School was the foundation of a hospital where clinical teaching could take place. Glasgow, in 1712, was a small burgh with a population of 14,000,



GLASGOW ROYAL INFIRMARY IN 1861

The original Adams building (medical house) is to the front: the fever-house (later surgical) to the right: and the newly-erected surgical block to the rear. Lister's Wards are those on either side of the door in the rear building: the male ward on the ground floor, to the left, and the female ward on the first floor up, to the right

but during the 18th century, in consequence of the development of trade with the American colonies, the population rose rapidly, and in 1801 had reached 83,000, while thirty years later a still more rapid rise brought the number of inhabitants

of the city and its suburbs to about 200,000 in the year 1831. Situated in the Old Green, the Town's Hospital, which corresponded very much to a modern workhouse, subserved the needs of the city in the early part of the 18th century. A movement, begun in 1787, to provide a general hospital, which was an indispensable adjunct to a medical school, took shape, so that in December, 1794, the Royal Infirmary was formally opened for the reception of patients. The site of this hospital was that of the old Archbishop's Castle, adjoining the Cathedral and close to the University buildings in the High Street, and, as originally built, its capacity was for 150 patients. The Western Infirmary was not inaugurated until 1874, when another hospital became necessary, partly because of the increase of the population in the city and partly because of the migration of the University to Gilmorehill in the western part of Glasgow. The Victoria Infirmary was not instituted until 1887.

By the beginning of the 19th century, the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons had been engaged for two hundred years in maintaining and improving the standard of practice in the west of Scotland, but it had done little or no teaching. The prosecution of quacks had by this time become less necessary, and it was falling into desuetude. Its gradual abandonment was due to two factors: in the first place, the summary powers conferred in the 16th century by which the Faculty summoned delinquents before them and fined them forty pounds Scots, could hardly be exercised in the 19th century; and, secondly, a penalty of forty pounds Scots, in its modern equivalent of two pounds sterling, held no terrors, in fact, provided a useful advertisement, for a successful quack. The early part of the 19th century saw a still more serious invasion of the Faculty's privileges by the developing University of Glasgow.

There had always been a doubt whether the doctors in medicine whose diplomas were inspected and who were then sanctioned to practise by the Faculty, could also practise surgery. It had been the habit for any doctors of medicine who wished to practise surgery in or near Glasgow to submit to examination in that craft by the examiners of the Faculty. A decision of the Court of Session was obtained by the Faculty in 1815 that a degree in medicine did not entitle the holder to practise surgery within the bounds of the Faculty. Accordingly, in 1816, the University of Glasgow astutely resolved to add to its list of degrees that of Chirurgiæ Magister (C.M.).

By 1826 there were twenty-three persons in the western counties practising surgery by virtue of holding the C.M. of Glasgow, and against the whole of these the Faculty raised an action of interdict in the Court of Session. This action dragged on with various suits, counterpleas and appeals until 1840, when judgment was given by the House of Lords in favour of the Faculty. This

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> John Fergus, M.D.: "Glasgow Royal Infirmary: Past, Present and Future," Glasgow, 1927.

judgment was, however, practically nullified by the Medical Act of 1858, when all territorial restrictions regarding medical practice were abolished.

The rise of the Glasgow Medical School is well seen from the number of students enrolled in the anatomy class between 1790 and 1860. The statistics were made up by the late Professor Allen Thomson:—

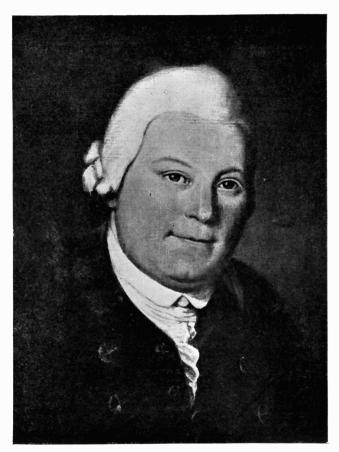
Year	Numbe				
1790	54				
1800	113				
1810	. 232				
1820	162				
1830	167				
1840	61				
1850	130				
1860	256				

Various causes operated to produce the great fluctuations in the numbers of students. Immediately after the battle of Waterloo there was a great diminution in the number of students, who had been steadily increasing during the French Wars with the demand for surgeons which they occasioned. From 1797 to about 1828, there were several private lecturers on anatomy who went by the general name of the College Street School, and who attracted large numbers of students to their dissecting rooms. Also, Anderson's College taught anatomy to steadily increasing numbers of students till about the 'forties, when its numbers were almost double those of the University. From 1830 to 1844, there was also a school in Portland Street with a considerable number of students. In the University, from 1790 to 1848, Professor James Jeffray held the Chair of Anatomy and although he had been successful as a teacher during the earlier part of his tenure, the failing health and lack of energy of his later years were probably largely responsible for the diminution in the numbers of students. Immediately on Professor Allen Thomson's appointment, in 1848, the numbers of the University class rose again.

An important factor in the development of the Glasgow Medical School was the bequest of Dr. William Hunter, who died on 30th March, 1783, and directed by his will that his Museum should be made over to the University of Glasgow, together with a sum of £8000 to erect a building at Glasgow for the reception of the Museum and to keep the collection in proper order. In early life, Hunter had taken a course in languages and philosophy at Glasgow University, had been apprenticed to William Cullen at Hamilton, and had studied medicine for one session at Edinburgh. He had afterwards gone to London, where he rose to eminence as a practitioner in medicine and obstetrics and a teacher of anatomy, and where he gained great wealth. His Museum was transferred to Glasgow in 1807, at the time

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Duncan: "Memorials of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow" pp. 172 and 173.

when great efforts were being made to develop the medical school in this city. This Museum included specimens of geology and natural history, pictures, valuable manuscripts, paintings, coins and archæological relics, as well as a great collection of carefully prepared and mounted anatomical specimens. partly collected by himself and partly presented to him by former pupils. As this



JOHN ANDERSON (1726-1796)
(Original in the Royal Scottish National Portrait Gallery)

collection was a life-long work, the Museum is of great value, and when Hunter died in March 1783, he directed that it should ultimately be given to the University of Glasgow, when his nephew Dr. Matthew Baillie, and his partner in the anatomical class, William Cruikshank, should have finished with it.

His younger and more famous brother, Tohn Hunter, was ten vears younger than William, and the youngest of a tolerably large family. Somehow, his early education was neglected, and he, unlike his cultured brother William. was at the age of seventeen able neither to read nor write. His boyhood was entirely spent in his native parish of Long Calderwood, near Glasgow, where his father was a small landed proprietor. In early manhood he settled in London as assistant to

his brother William, and, afterwards becoming one of the greatest anatomists of Europe, attained a last resting-place in Westminster Abbey. His collection, as is well known, is preserved at the Royal College of Surgeons in London.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Freeland Fergus: "Origin and Development of the Glasgow Medical School," Glasgow Medical Journal, November, 1911, p. 9.

A profound influence was exerted upon the Glasgow Medical School during the 19th century by the Andersonian College. This institution was founded on the death of Professor John Anderson in 1796 as an educational establishment, designed to supply courses and means of instruction in general and scientific branches of study, and to be a rival to the University. Various scientific departments originally included in it have been merged in the Glasgow and West of Scotland Technical College founded in 1886, but the Medical School of Anderson's College is still conducted separately.

John Anderson (1726–1796) was appointed Professor of Oriental Languages in 1755. In 1757 he was appointed Professor of Natural Philosophy, which he taught with great acceptance to the students and to his fellow-townspeople.1 He was an ingenious man, and, as an example of his inventive skill, he presented to the French National Convention, in 1791, a gun, of which the recoil was absorbed by an air-chamber. In his zeal for reforming abuses in the University, he quarrelled with most of his fellow-professors. Failing in an attempt, made in 1784, to obtain a Royal Visitation of abuses in the University, with a view to reform, which seems to have been very necessary, he conceived the idea of leaving his property to found the College which bears his name, as an opponent and stimulus to the University. Anderson's College Medical School has proved a valuable training-ground for young lecturers, from which the professoriate in Glasgow University has been to a large extent recruited. the century and a quarter of its existence, it has also frequently provided competent instruction in various departments, when the professors of corresponding subjects in the University happened to be inept.

Another important factor in the development of the Glasgow Medical School early in the 19th century, was the foundation, in 1802, of the Glasgow University Medico-Chirurgical Society for undergraduates. This Society, formed on the plan of the Royal Medical Society of Edinburgh, has had a long and prosperous existence. A little later, on 27th October, 1814, three physicians and three surgeons of the city met for the purpose of forming a Society, which they agreed to call the Glasgow Medical and Surgical Society. The Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons immediately granted the use of its hall for the meetings of the Society, which at first met twice in each month throughout the year. At a later date, the meetings of the Society were held on the second Tuesday of each month from March to October. In 1866, the Society amalgamated with another medical society and changed its name to the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Glasgow, of which Dr. Allen Thomson was the first President. An important meeting was held on 17th April, 1868, at which Professor Joseph Lister described the results of his investigations on the treatment of wounds with antiseptic dressings, this being believed to be the first occasion on which Lister gave a public

Addison: "Roll of Graduates of the University of Glasgow. 1727-1897," p. 18.

demonstration of his researches on this subject. The Society continued to prosper, and has had an important influence on the development of medical opinion and teaching in the Glasgow Medical School.<sup>1</sup>

Provision for botanising and instruction in botany had been made in Glasgow from an early date. In 1704, it had been decided that a portion of the great garden of the College should be converted into a Physic Garden, and John Marshall, a surgeon in the city, was appointed as keeper of the garden, and to give instruction in botany to students at an annual salary of £20. In 1708, Queen Anne allocated a sum of £30 a year to the Professor of Botany. This Botanic Garden existed in the grounds of the University for a century. The gardener who looked after the plants in the Physic Garden held the rest of the College garden rent free on condition of keeping both in order. Professor William Hamilton, from 1784, took great interest in the Botanic Garden, stocking it with new plants, erecting a conservatory at his own expense, and teaching in the garden. Professor Jeffray also taught here, and, in all probability, William Cullen.

After 1800, Dr. Thomas Brown and Dr. Robert Graham successively taught the class of botany, and the latter in 1818, when the Chair was instituted, was made Professor of this subject. In 1820, Professor Robert Graham was elected by the Town Council of Edinburgh Professor of Botany in this University, and he superintended the transfer of the Edinburgh Botanic Gardens from Leith Walk to their present site in Inverleith Row. The next Professor of Botany at Glasgow was William Jackson Hooker, who afterwards became Director of the Botanic Gardens at Kew in 1841, when he was succeeded at Glasgow by John Hutton Balfour, who four years later succeeded Graham as Professor of Botany in Edinburgh. Professor Balfour was succeeded in Glasgow by George Arnott, who held the Chair till 1868.4

In 1789, Professor Thomas Charles Hope, son of John Hope, the Professor of Medicine and Botany at Edinburgh, and a nephew of Professor Stevenson, became assistant to the latter in the professorship of medicine and succeeded him in 1791. While Hope was in Glasgow, he published his important research dealing with the maximum density of water, but in 1795 he was transferred to Edinburgh to succeed Joseph Black in the Chair of Chemistry. He is thus regarded as an Edinburgh professor (see page 207). In the Glasgow Chair of Medicine he was succeeded, at the beginning of 1796, by Dr. Robert Freer, an Edinburgh physician. In 1791, Robert Cleghorn, who had been lecturer on Materia Medica since 1788, was appointed lecturer in Chemistry, a post which he held till the institution of a professorship in Chemistry in 1818. Cleghorn was an Edinburgh graduate, who had started practice in Glasgow, and he was one of the first two physicians to the Royal Infirmary of Glasgow.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Downie: "The Medico-Chirurgical Society of Glasgow," 1908.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> p. 483, <sup>3</sup> p. 502, <sup>4</sup> pp. 531-533, Coutts: "History of the University of Glasgow," Glasgow, 1909.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Coutts: Op. cit., p. 496.

In 1790, James Towers, surgeon, who had studied obstetrics at the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, and also in London, asked to be allowed to lecture upon midwifery in the University of Glasgow.<sup>1</sup> He was appointed year by year till 1815, when he was made Professor of Midwifery, enjoying a salary of £45 per annum. He was succeeded in 1820 by his son, John Towers, who died in 1833. Robert Lee, an obstetric physician and lecturer in London, was appointed Professor of Midwifery in 1834, but resigned office almost immediately, and William Cummin, a son of the Professor of Oriental Languages, who had been a surgeon in the Army, and afterwards Professor of Botany in Anderson's College, was appointed Professor of Midwifery. Although he expended about £200 in the purchase of preparations, drawings, casts and models from Paris, London and elsewhere, he held the Chair only for six years, and was succeeded in 1840 by John MacMichan Pagan, an Edinburgh graduate, who held the Chair till 1868.<sup>2</sup>

The year 1815 was an important one for the School of Medicine at Glasgow. In addition to the Chair of Midwifery, a Chair in Surgery was also established in that year, and, three years later, in 1818, Chairs of Botany and Chemistry were founded by the Crown, and a salary of  $\pounds$ 50 per annum was granted from the Treasury to each of the four new professors.<sup>3</sup>

The first professor of surgery was John Burns, son of a Glasgow minister, who had been educated at the Universities of Glasgow and Edinburgh, and who had already taught anatomy, surgery and midwifery for some time in connection with Anderson's College. He had also, as surgeon to the Royal Infirmary, taken to giving clinical lectures there in the session 1797–1798. He was the author of two books, "The Principles of Midwifery" and "The Principles of Surgery," which attained great success. As a teacher he was highly popular and successful, his class at times exceeding 200 students. Professor Burns occupied himself much with Parliamentary and other business connected with the University, and in 1850, when returning to Glasgow, he was a passenger on the steamer "Orion," which was wrecked near Portpatrick, and he was drowned.<sup>4</sup> He was succeeded as professor of surgery, in 1850, by James Adair Lawrie, who had graduated at Glasgow in 1822, served in the East India Company, and subsequently lectured in Anderson's College. He died in November, 1859.<sup>5</sup>

On 28th January, 1860, Queen Victoria issued a commission to Joseph Lister, Esq., who was at the time a lecturer on surgery in Edinburgh, to be Professor of Surgery at Glasgow. He was admitted to office as Professor of Surgery on 9th March, 1860, after reading, according to the fashion of the time, a Latin dissertation, "De Arte Chirurgica Recte Erudienda." 6

In 1818, a Chair of Chemistry was founded, and Dr. Thomas Thomson received the appointment of professor from the Crown. In the time of Joseph Black,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> p. 500, <sup>2</sup> pp. 526-528, <sup>3</sup> p. 526, <sup>4</sup> pp. 528-530, <sup>5</sup> pp. 530 and 531, <sup>6</sup> p. 582, Coutts: Op. cit.

the Chair had been one of medicine and chemistry, and in the interval the subject of pure chemistry had been taught by lecturers. Thomson had acted as editor of the third edition of the "Encyclopædia Britannica." He had published a "System of Chemistry," in 1802, which went through several editions, and was the author of numerous works dealing with history of chemistry, history of the Royal Society, and outlines of mineralogy and geology. He had graduated in 1799 as M.D. at Edinburgh, and he had been a student under Joseph Black. He is perhaps best known as the inventor of the oxy-hydrogen blow-pipe, and as the introducer of symbols in chemistry. The number of students and of persons doing research whom he attracted made it necessary to obtain a new chemistry department, and this was erected in Shuttle Street, a short distance from the University, and opened in 1831.

This laboratory is generally stated to be the first laboratory in the world devoted to research in chemistry, although Cullen and Black had previously had laboratories where they carried out their individual researches. In 1848, his failing health made it necessary that he should obtain permission from the Senatus that his nephew, Dr. Robert D. Thomson, should conduct the class for him, and this arrangement was continued till 1852, when Professor Thomson died, and was succeeded by Thomas Anderson, an Edinburgh graduate. Anderson took over the department in October, 1852, and held the Chair for twenty-two years, till his death in November, 1874.

As regards anatomy, James Jeffray had been appointed professor of anatomy and botany in 1790, and he held the Chair of anatomy for fifty-eight years, which is the record for tenure of a Medical Chair in a Scottish University. Beginning as a student under Cullen at Edinburgh, where he graduated M.D. in 1786, he lived to see anæsthetics established in surgery. He began, immediately on his appointment, to improve the conditions under which anatomy was taught, by obtaining increased accommodation for the dissecting room and by establishing a library for his students. He was not unmindful that botany formed a part of the subjects to which his Chair was devoted, and he lectured for several years on this subject in the garden established by William Hamilton. From 1800, however, the subject of botany was treated by lecturers till a professor of botany was appointed in 1818.

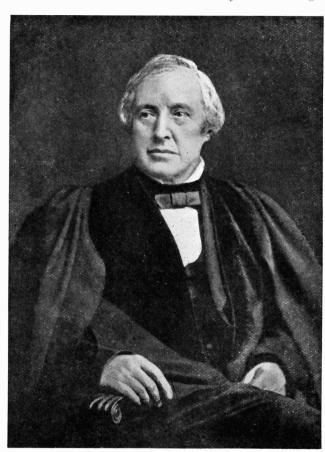
The students in Glasgow appear to have participated only to a very slight extent in the Resurrectionist activities which were a notable feature of other schools, although in 1803 a party of soldiers had to be requisitioned for the protection of the College, in fear of an attack by the mob. The Medical School of Glasgow was, however, very well supplied with anatomical material, due, no doubt, to the easy means of communication with Ireland. A memorial, drawn up by Professors Jeffray and Burns in April, 1830, was largely instrumental in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Coutts: Op. cit., pp. 533-535.

effecting the passing of the Anatomy Act of 1832.<sup>1</sup> Professor Jeffray was assisted by his son during the last ten years of his life, and during this time took little part in the teaching of the class.

He was succeeded in 1848 as Professor of Anatomy by Allen Thomson, the son of John Thomson, who held various Chairs in the University of Edinburgh.

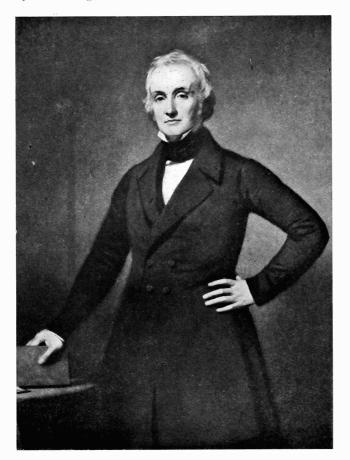
Allen was brother of William Thomson, who was Professor of Medicine at Glasgow from 1841 to 1852. Allen Thomson had studied at Edinburgh, graduated M.D. in 1830, and acted as an extra-mural lecturer upon physiology. From 1839 to 1841 he had been Professor of Anatomy at Marischal College, Aberdeen, and, from 1842 to 1848, Professor of Physiology at Edinburgh University. He held the Glasgow Chair of Anatomy till 1877, when he was succeeded by John Cleland. By the time he came to Glasgow, Thomson had made a large collection of material for anatomical and physiological teaching, and this was added to the Hunterian The number Museum. of students increased greatly under his regime,



ALLEN THOMSON (1809-1884)

but, in addition to the arduous work of teaching, he was able to devote much time to University management and to anatomical research. He was a skilful draughtsman, and many sketches by his hand still appear as illustrations in text-books of anatomy. He was one of the editors of the seventh and eighth editions of Quain's "Anatomy," and carried out important researches in embryology.<sup>2</sup>

Dr. Robert Freer had succeeded Hope in the Chair of Medicine in 1796, and continued to act as Professor of Medicine till he was eighty years of age, though this long continuance in office cannot have been a good thing for the Glasgow Medical School. On his death in 1827, Charles Badham, F.R.C.P., was appointed by the King to be Professor of Medicine, and the Crown, on his appointment,



HARRY RAINY (1792-1876)

reserved power to appoint a fellow professor teach the theory practice of medicine, both of these subjects up to this time having been taught from the same Chair. 1 Badham's tenure of the Chair does not appear to have been a success for he numerous disputes with the Faculty, appears to have neglected his duties, and in 1841, after having been absent in the south of Europe for over two vears, he resigned his Chair to the Home Secretary, ignoring the Senatus of the University altogether.

The Crown now appointed William Thomson to be Professor of Medicine. He was brother of Allen Thomson, professor of anatomy, and had studied medicine both in Edinburgh and Glasgow, as well as taking

the M.D. degree at Marischal College, Aberdeen. At Edinburgh he had been a lecturer both on theory and practice of medicine, and had also acted for his father in the Chair of Pathology. On his appointment to the University of Glasgow, he became one of the physicians to the Royal Infirmary, and did a great deal of administrative work for the University, especially in connection with the proposed

removal from the buildings in the High Street to the west side of the city. He died in 1852, and was succeeded by John Macfarlane, who had graduated M.D. at Glasgow, and had been a surgeon to the Royal Infirmary.

This professor held the Chair for only ten years, retiring in 1862, and being succeeded by Dr. (later Sir) William Tennant Gairdner. Gairdner had graduated M.D. at Edinburgh in 1845 with a thesis "On Death," and was a physician of philosophic mind who contributed a great deal to the high reputation of the Glasgow Medical School in the latter part of the 19th century. He was affectionately known to many generations of students as "Old G."

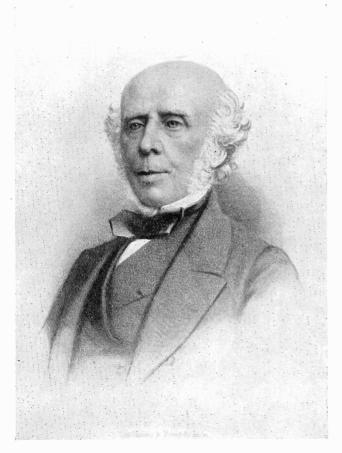
During Professor Badham's tenure of the Chair of Medicine, he announced, in 1832, that he was unable to give his course of lectures on the theory of medicine in addition to his course on practice of medicine, and Dr. Harry Rainy was appointed to give a course of lectures on the theory of medicine, and, in 1833, was re-appointed to give a full course. In 1839, on account of Badham's absence, Rainy was appointed for two years to lecture on practice of medicine.<sup>2</sup>

In this year, 1839, the Queen founded Chairs in Theory of Physic or Institutes of Medicine (Physiology) and Forensic Medicine. Dr. Andrew Buchanan, who had graduated M.D. at Glasgow in 1822, and had lectured on materia medica in Anderson's College, was appointed professor in the new Chair of Theory of Physic. Buchanan, who was one of the first to investigate the subject of coagulation of the blood, held the Chair till 1876.<sup>3</sup>

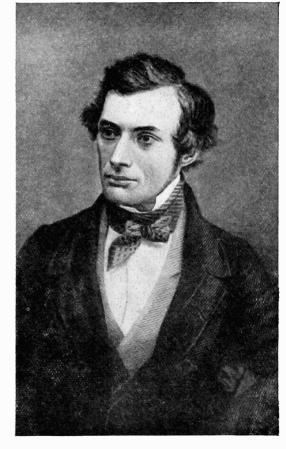
The other Chair founded by the Queen in 1839, was that of Forensic Medicine, to which Robert Cowan, who had graduated M.D. at Glasgow in 1834, and had been both physician and surgeon to the Royal Infirmary, was appointed. Cowan died after two years' tenure of the Chair, and in December, 1841, Dr. Harry Rainy was appointed Professor of Forensic Medicine by the Crown. He had graduated M.D. at Glasgow in 1833, having already been in practice in medicine with a licence from the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons, and, as mentioned above, he had acted for Badham during the absence of the latter. He continued in office until 1872.4

A Chair of Materia Medica was established by the Crown in 1831, and its first incumbent was Dr. Richard Millar, who had taught this subject as a lecturer since 1791. He had virtually been professor since 1819, when he had been made lecturer for life with a salary of £70 in addition to the class fees paid by the students, a scale of remuneration very much the same as that of the other professors. On his resignation in 1833, he was succeeded in the Chair by Dr. John Couper, who held the Chair until 1855, when he in turn was succeeded by John Alexander Easton, who had graduated M.D. at Glasgow in 1836, and had already taught materia medica in Anderson's College for some fifteen years. His name has attained a permanent record in that of a preparation introduced by him

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> pp. 524 and 525, <sup>2</sup> p. 523, <sup>3</sup> p. 540, <sup>4</sup> pp. 537-540, Coutts: Op. cit.



WILLIAM MACKENZIE (1791-1868)



THOMAS GRAHAM, F.R.S. (1805-1869)

and still known as "Easton's Syrup." He held the Chair till his death in 1865.

Although many of the lecturers in the Portland Street School and Anderson's College figured at a later date as professors in the Medical School of the University, several left Glasgow to attain distinction in other places, and a large number devoted most of their energies to practise of various specialities in the city.

In 1828, Thomas Graham (1805–1869), who had been a pupil of Thomas Thomson, professor of chemistry, and had spent some time in Edinburgh studying under Thomas Charles Hope, began to lecture on chemistry in the Portland Street School. Two years later he transferred to the Andersonian College, and in 1837 he was appointed professor of chemistry in University College, London, a post which he held till 1855, when he became Master of the Mint. He was one of the most distinguished chemists of the 19th century, and to his Glasgow period belongs his elaborate series of experiments upon the diffusion of gases, which he published about 1834. His researches on osmosis and the diffusion of crystalline and colloid substances through membranes also belong to the same time. While professor of chemistry at University College, Graham was the teacher and friend of Joseph Lister, and it was on the recommendation of this teacher, as well as of Professor Sharpey, that Lister decided to go to Scotland in order to study surgery under Syme.

When Thomas Graham left the Andersonian College, he was succeeded by William Gregory, who became professor of chemistry in Edinburgh in 1839, when he in turn was succeeded by Dr. Frederick Penny.

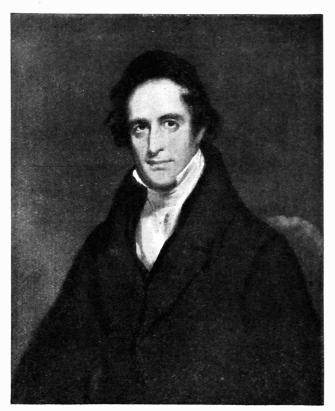
William Mackenzie (1791–1868) was in his day perhaps the most distinguished ophthalmic surgeon in the United Kingdom, and attracted patients from all over the world. He studied for a time in London, but, returning to Glasgow, he became professor of surgery and of anatomy at the Andersonian College in 1819. In 1824, he and Dr. Monteath founded the Glasgow Eye Infirmary, the first hospital for this speciality in Scotland. His practical treatise on "Diseases of the Eye" was translated into German, French and Italian, and he made many contributions to the clinical side of ophthalmology, being the first to give a clear and definite clinical picture of glaucoma, and of sympathetic ophthalmitis.<sup>2</sup>

Robert Watt (1774–1819) was the son of a small farmer in Ayrshire, and began life as a ploughman and road-maker. At a later date he joined his brother as a cabinet-maker, and in his spare time studied Latin and Greek, entering Glasgow University in 1793. In 1795–1796 he also attended philosophy classes at Edinburgh and taught in a private school. After a winter's study of anatomy at Edinburgh in 1796, he finished his medical studies at Glasgow in 1799. Obtaining the licence of the Faculty, he began practice in Paisley in the same year. He found time to make numerous contributions to the "London Medical and Physical Journal" from 1800 onwards, especially one giving a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> pp. 535-537, Coutts: Op. cit.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Fergus: "The Origin and Development of the Glasgow School of Medicine," 1911, p. 26.

description of diabetes. As he had a strong inclination to teaching, he took the M.D. degree of Aberdeen in 1810, and immediately afterwards removed to Glasgow, where he began to lecture on medicine in 1811. For the use of his students he formed a medical library, of which, in 1812, he printed a catalogue with subject-index. The utility of this impressed him so forcibly that he set



ROBERT PERRY (1783-1848)

about enlarging his catalogue so as to embrace all the medical works published in the United Kingdom, and to these he finally added those on law, divinity, and the whole round of science and literature. In this way the "Bibliotheca Britannica" of this talented man evolved.

Robert Perry (1783-1848) was for some years surgeon, and later (1834-1848) physician to the Glasgow Royal Infirmary. He is often stated to have been the person who originally distinguished between typhus and typhoid fever. These two diseases, along with relapsing fever, were hopelessly confused with one another and, indeed, in the early part of the 19th century, more than one of them probably

often affected a patient simultaneously. In January, 1836, Dr. Robert Perry published a paper in which he correctly described many of the distinctions between typhus and enteric fever. The complete separation of these three diseases was a matter of gradual development, and his observations were extended by Dr. A. P. Stewart, of Glasgow, and Dr. Gerhard, of Philadelphia, in the following year. Dr. John Reid, of Edinburgh and St. Andrews, nearly twenty years before had already drawn attention to some of these differences.

Table showing the Teachers in the Medical Schools of Glasgow to the passing of the Medical Act, 1858, and the subjects they respectively taught. (From Duncan: "Memorials of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow,"

Tedicine	dising	1714							
1742   Robert Hamilton   1756   Joseph Black   1757   Thomas Hamilton   1781   William Hamilton   1790   James Jeffray     1818   G. S. Pattison   1848-77   Allen Thomson     1818   G. S. Pattison   1828   Robert Hunter     1830   John Stirling   1836   M. S. Buchanan   1841   James Douglas   1844   Robert Knox   1799   John Burns       1826   Robert Hunter   Robert Knox   1818   G. S. Pattison       1826   Robert Hunter   1830   Wm. Auchencloss   1819   Wm. MacKenzie       1826   Robert Hunter   1830   Wm. Auchencloss   1819   Wm. MacKenzie       1826   Robert Hunter       1826   Robert Hunter	edicine	1757 1766 1789 1796 1827 1841	William Cullen Robert Hamilton Joseph Black Alex. Stevenson Thos. Chas. Hope Robert Freer Charles Badham William Thomson						
urgery   John Burns     1818   G. S. Pattison     1830   Wm. Auchencloss   Wm. MacKenzie	natomy	1742 1756 1757 1781 1790	Robert Hamilton Joseph Black Thomas Hamilton William Hamilton James Jeffray		1818 1819 1828	G. S. Pattison Wm. MacKenzie Robert Hunter	•••	 1830 1836 1841	John Stirling M. S. Buchanan James Douglas
	urgery		v		1818 1819	G. S. Pattison Wm. MacKenzie			

James Brown

1841-63 James Paterson

1838

1840

Charles Ritchie

Maxwell Adams

1831

William Cummin

1840-68 John M. Pagan

1834

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Subject	University				Andersonian			PORTLAND STREET SCHOOL	
Chemistry	1747 1756 1766 1769 1787	Lecturers: William Cullen Joseph Black John Robison William Irvine Thos. Chas. Hope Robert Cleghorn					1828	Thomas Graham	232
	1818	Professor: Thomas Thomson		. 1830	Thomas Graham		1833	James M'Conechy	
		Thomas Anderson		- 31	Wm. Gregory Frederick Penny			Rob. McGregor	HIST
Botany	1818 1821 1841 1845-68	Robert Graham Sir W. J. Hooker John H. Balfour G. Walker-Arnott			William Cummin Joseph Bell		1840-42	David Gibson	HISTORY OF
Materia Medica	1766 1787 1788 1791	Lecturers: William Irvine Thos. Chas. Hope Robert Cleghorn Richard Millar		. 1828	Andrew Buchanan	ı	1827 1830	Wm. MacKenzie Wm. Davidson	SCOTTISH
Medica	1831 1833 1855-65	Professors: Richard Millar John Couper John A. Easton		-000	William Hooker John A. Easton James Morton		1841-42	J. D. Muter	MEDICINE
Physiology	1839-76	Andrew Buchanan		1846	Andrew Anderson Maxwell Adams Eben. Watson		1830 1833 1836 1839–42	William Weir William Craig William Weir Wm. Macdonald	
Medical Jurisprudence	1839 1841–72	Robert Cowan Harry Rainy		1831 . 1842 . 1856-63	George Watt John Crawford J. B. Cowan			James Armour J. M. Pagan H. Cleland John Jackson	
Natural History	1807 1829 1857–66	Lockhart Muirhead William Couper Henry D. Rogers	I						