

## Supplementary Text 2

### Miscellaneous Documents

*Memorandum of conversation with Dr T. Simpson, 17 November 1854 (A, 54, n 3)*

Mem. of conversation with D<sup>f</sup> Simpson on Friday Evening 17 Nov. 1854 7 o'clock. Recapitulated to him the circumstances in relation to myself and the proceedings at the Med<sup>l</sup>. Society—namely, that Keyworth had proposed me without my knowledge—that three black-balls were in the ballot-box against me—that I knew who had placed them there—that that had grieved me less than what I had been informed as to the feelings of some of the Senior members, because the authors of the unkindness were the youngest of the juniors.—That Mr K. had been assured that some of the senior members would either not attend so frequently as usual, or withdraw altogether, if I attended in my place, and that on this assurance he had withdrawn me without having first made the statement known to me. That I had looked at the list of members and noted that with one exception all the senior members were more or less on terms of friendly feelings and social intercourse with me; that I could barely credit therefore the statement that had been made as to their feelings towards me and their resolution not to associate with me in the York Medical Society and that I had therefore resolved to ask each one of my friends whether they had expressed their determination to abstain from the society, or withdraw altogether, and I had called upon him (D<sup>f</sup> Simpson) in a friendly spirit to put these questions to him.

D<sup>f</sup> Simpson assented to the facts as I recapitulated them, and replied that he must say he had felt he must not attend so frequently or withdraw from the Society or withdraw altogether; and that he understood there were four or five senior members who had come to the same determination. I said—my question was—had he expressed such a determination to anyone. Reply—He hardly thought he had—he might say he had not; adding, however, that in consequence of his close and intimate friendship with Mr Husband he had had conversations with him on the matter. I then asked him the reason why he had come to that determination? He said it was in consequence of my unpleasant temper and language that had been used—I asked him on what occasions? He said he might mention the proceedings on a previous occasion 14 years ago. I said that I should be glad if he w<sup>d</sup> specify particulars, as I was ignorant in what I had given offence. He said it was at a discussion on a resolution to prevent the clandestine publication of the proceedings of the Society—The resolution consisted of two propositions, and I said they were opposed to each other, and made stark nonsense; and I implied by my language—though I did not say so, that the proposer and seconder, M<sup>f</sup> Williams and D<sup>f</sup> Goldie were fools. Mr Dodsworth on hearing me started and said, Good God! are we to sit and hear such language as that. He had no doubt if M<sup>f</sup> Allen, who presided that session, had called

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upon me to make an apology and retract I would have done so, but he weakly allowed me, no doubt from the best of motives, to go on unchecked; and it was felt by himself it was not proper it should. I replied that I believed the imputation then fixed upon me and kept up most sedulously since of being a quarrelsome person using intemperate language had been of serious injury to me, and had led to the very quarrels anticipated. And I asked him why he himself did not call me to order? It was well-known in all societies where there was freedom of debate, even in the highest, hasty words would fall only requiring explanation to deprive them of their apparently offensive meanings, and anyone was at liberty to call a speaker so speaking to order. He shook his head saying he was a man of peace and preferred not to interfere. That my quarrelsome temper had impeded my professional success he had no doubt. Not long ago a journal officer informed him that Sir J. Forbes had asked him (the officer) to assist a friend of his D<sup>r</sup> Laycock in his canvass for the hospital and wished to know something about him. I told him that you were a man of considerable energy and ability, but on account of your conduct had no chance whatever, and was not at all likely to succeed in your profession in York. He seemed to belong to the class where you are not popular. The committee of the hospital had evidently a painful recollection of the consequences of your temper on former occasions.—I said nothing, but I could see clearly that there was a strong feeling against you on these grounds. Sometime ago, above a year at least, Keyworth expressed to me in conversation his conviction that Shann would be the successful candidate in case of a contest between you and him on account of his more pleasing manner.

I said that I could not but think he (D<sup>r</sup> Simpson) had been too hasty in the expression of his determination to withdraw in case I attended. He, knowing how much my professional success had been endangered and was, by the imputations upon my personal character, might, I thought, have at least waited to see whether any unpleasantness took place, before he added his weight to those imputations. After 14 years absence he might have reasonably anticipated better things. He shook his head, and said he thought not. Besides the three who black-balled there were others, and although he voted for me “I protest on my honour” he exclaimed energetically and emphaticizing[?] with a clinching gesture of the right arm, “that I did not express to Anderson in your favour the sentiments he attributed to me. I protest and declare most solemnly I did not.” I expressed my regret that circumstances were such and rose to leave. He shook hands in the room; he accompanied me to the Hall-door and again shook hands with me wishing me good night. Subjoined is D<sup>r</sup> Simpson’s acceptance of an invitation as “one of the lions” of York to meet D<sup>r</sup> Noble of Manchester. “Dear Doctor Laycock. It will give me great pleasure to accept your kind invitation to-morrow at six o’ clock I remain yours faithfully T. Simpson. Friday Evening Seven o’ clock.”

Miscellaneous Documents

*Proof of First address, with corrections by J. Y. Simpson and T. Laycock, 21 August 1855 (A, 75, n 45)*

*To the Right Honourable the Lord Provost, the Magistrates, and Town Council of the City of Edinburgh, Patrons of the University.*

MY LORD PROVOST AND GENTLEMEN,

Your illustrious townsman, Professor Alison, having resigned the Chair of ~~Medicine~~ *the Practice of Physic* in the University of Edinburgh, I <sup>beg</sup> most respectfully <sup>to</sup> offer myself as a Candidate for the appointment.

I can unaffectedly say that I have ventured on this step with feelings of <sup>very</sup> great diffidence. The chair I seek has been occupied by a succession of men whose names are historical; it is, perhaps, the highest academical <sup>labour</sup> ~~position~~ <sup>{T.L.}</sup> attainable in the medical profession; and, <sup>and being in a University of world-wide reputation</sup> ~~from the fame of the University of Edinburgh~~, to fill it worthily involves the gravest responsibility. If, however, after considering the evidence <sup>as to my fitness for</sup> ~~as to my fitness for~~ <sup>stet</sup> ~~stet~~ <sup>{T.L.}</sup> ~~this most important position~~, which I shall shortly lay before you, <sup>you should do me the</sup> great honour to select me, permit me to assure you that no efforts on my part shall be wanting to justify your choice.

I have been twenty-eight years in the <sup>medical</sup> ~~profession~~ <sup>{T.L.}</sup> as a student and practitioner, ~~having commenced my professional career in 1827, as an articled pupil. In 1833, I proceeded to London and followed my studies during three winter and two summer sessions at University College. I also spent a summer session in Paris, studying Clinical Medicine, under Louis; Clinical Surgery, under Velpeau; Uterine Pathology, under Lisfranc; and Practical Midwifery and Operative Surgery, under Halmagrand and Manec. After passing the requisite[?]~~ <sup>Subsequently</sup> ~~the examinations necessary to qualify me,~~ I received in 1836 the appointment of Resident Medical Officer to the York County Hospital, which I held for upwards of three

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years. I then went to study for a session at the University of Göttingen, ~~where I graduated in medicine and Surgery, receiving a diploma of the highest class.~~ After visiting the principal Hospitals in Germany, I returned to York, where I practised both Medicine and Surgery until 1842, when I received the appointment of physician to the York Dispensary, *em* {T.L.} and I was admitted Licentiate Extra-Urban of the Royal College of Physicians of London. *the Practice of* In 1846, I was elected to the Chair of Medicine in the York Medical School, which I have occupied ever since. ~~For the last eight years, I have also been the Visiting or Consulting Physician to a large private establishment for the Cure of the Insane.~~

In compliance with the usual method of proceeding on occasions of this kind, I shall take an early opportunity of placing before you such evidence of my fitness for the appointment I seek as will, I humbly trust, obtain your approval.

I am, with the greatest respect,

MY LORD PROVOST AND GENTLEMEN,

Your very obedient humble Servant,

THOS. LAYCOCK.

York, 21st Aug., 1855.

*Dont state you got your Degree in Gottingen. It does not sound well. To state you were an "articled pupil" is nonsense & of no avail; but the very reverse to us here.*

*T. Laycock, First address, 24 August 1855 (A, 60, n 7)*

CHAIR OF THE PRACTICE OF PHYSIC AT THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.

FIRST ADDRESS FROM DR LAYCOCK.

*To the Right Honourable the Lord Provost, the Magistrates, and Town Council of the City of Edinburgh, Patrons of the University.*

MY LORD PROVOST AND GENTLEMEN,

Your illustrious townsman, Professor Alison, having resigned the Chair of the Practice of Physic in the University of Edinburgh, I most respectfully beg leave to offer myself as a Candidate for the appointment.

I can unaffectedly say that I have ventured on this step with feelings of very great diffidence. The chair I seek has been occupied by a succession of men whose names are historical; it is, perhaps, the highest academical honour attainable in the medical profession; and being in a University of world-wide reputation, to fill it worthily involves the gravest responsibility. If, however, after considering the evidence, which I shall shortly lay before you, as to my fitness for this most important position, you should do me the great honour to select me, permit me to assure you that no efforts on my part shall be wanting to justify your choice.

I have been twenty-eight years in the profession as student and practitioner. After studying in London during three winter and two summer sessions at University College, I spent a session in the School of Medicine of Paris. Subsequently I received, in 1836, the appointment of Resident Medical Officer to the York County Hospital, which I held for upwards of three years. I then went to study for a session at the University of Göttingen. After visiting the principal Hospitals in Germany, I returned to York, where I practised both Medicine and Surgery until 1842, when I received the appointment of Physician to the York Dispensary, and I was admitted a Licentiate Extra-Urbem of the Royal College of Physicians of London. In 1846, I was elected to the Chair of the Practice of Physic in the York Medical School, which I have occupied ever since. For the last thirteen years, I have also had a considerable share in the advancement of Public Hygiene.

In compliance with the usual method of proceeding on occasions of this kind, I shall take an early opportunity of placing before you such evidence of my labours and acquirements, and of my fitness for the appointment I seek as will, I humbly trust, obtain your approval.

I am, with the greatest respect,

MY LORD PROVOST AND GENTLEMEN,

Your very obedient humble Servant,

THOS. LAYCOCK.

York, 24th Aug., 1855.

Dr Laycock

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*T. Laycock, Second address, 30 August 1855 (A, 66, n 24)*

CHAIR OF THE PRACTICE OF PHYSIC IN THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.

SECOND ADDRESS FROM DR LAYCOCK.

*To the Right Honourable the Lord Provost, the Magistrates, and Town Council of the City of Edinburgh, Patrons of the University.*

MY LORD PROVOST AND GENTLEMEN,

I have now the honour most respectfully to submit for your consideration a portion of the evidence which I propose to lay before you, as to my qualifications for filling the vacant chair of Physic in your University. The accompanying statement is intended to constitute a summary of my labours as a cultivator and teacher of the theory and practice of medicine and of those departments of science in more or less intimate relation therewith.

Yet in this respect it is imperfect, for the necessity of being brief compelled me to be so concise that the Titles of the Treatises, Reviews, Essays, Lectures, and other printed papers, do but inadequately express in many instances their actual extent and the nature of their contents. The communications to periodical medical literature would alone suffice to fill several octavo volumes, and would, therefore, require a corresponding index to give a sufficient idea of the subjects treated of.

I would also beg leave to state that the critical notices which I have ventured to add, are by no means so numerous as they might have been, had I kept a record of what had been published or written regarding my labours, during the long period of eighteen years over which the published works and papers extend. In default of this record I have been obliged to content myself with such criticisms as could hastily be got together; they having merit, however, that not one word of them has been written with the most remote anticipation of an emergency of this kind.

I may also be permitted to add, that the writers of the greater number are either not known to me personally, or will now learn, for the first time, what author they were criticising. This remark applies more especially to the Medical Essays in the form of reviews published in the Quarterly Journals, all of which (except four or five) were published, as is customary, anonymously.

I am with the greatest respect,

MY LORD PROVOST AND GENTLEMEN,

Your very obedient and humble servant,

THOS. LAYCOCK.

York, 30th Aug., 1855.

*Miscellaneous Documents*

*T. Laycock, Third address, 7 September 1855 (A, 71, n 30)*

CHAIR OF THE PRACTICE OF PHYSIC IN THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.

THIRD ADDRESS FROM DR LAYCOCK.

*To the Right Honourable the Lord Provost, the Magistrates, and Town Council of the City of Edinburgh, Patrons of the University.*

MY LORD PROVOST AND GENTLEMEN,

I have now the honour to submit a series of testimonials for your consideration, as additional evidence of my fitness to perform the duties of Professor of Physic in your University.

These testimonials have been given to me by my neighbours, by my colleagues in the York School of Medicine, and by Physicians and Surgeons of the highest rank and the most distinguished reputation in the United Kingdom and abroad.

Although I am satisfied I should be excused if I were to give expression to a feeling of honest pride and gratitude, that my labours have been so kindly and so generously appreciated by my professional brethren, I would only venture to say, on this occasion, that these testimonials have been sought and are laid before you, simply that you may be the better enabled to estimate my fitness for the appointment which I ask from you.

I have the honour to be,

MY LORD PROVOST AND GENTLEMEN,

Your very obedient and humble Servant,

THOS. LAYCOCK.

York, 7th September, 1855

*T. Laycock, Fourth address, 25 September 1855 (A, 82, n 58)*

CHAIR OF THE PRACTICE OF PHYSIC IN THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.

FOURTH ADDRESS FROM DR. LAYCOCK.

*To the Right Honourable the Lord Provost, the Magistrates, and Town Council of the City of Edinburgh, Patrons of the University.*

MY LORD PROVOST AND GENTLEMEN,

I have now the honour to submit for your consideration a Third Series of Testimonials. Their number might have been easily increased had time permitted, especially by correspondents in the United States. In the absence of these, I may perhaps be excused for

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referring to the observations of the most distinguished American physicians, Drs. Meigs and Howe, quoted at pages 6 and 12 of the Catalogue of my published writings, already in your hands.

In reference to the various Essays and other writings mentioned in that Catalogue, I would beg leave to state that the whole were written with a definite object, viz., the practical development of Medical Science, and the direct application and Teaching of Medical Art. Not one, I believe, is of a purely speculative character. This constant practical tendency has been forced upon me by circumstances as well as from conviction, for I have not only had to teach the Practice of Medicine for nine years past, but (as will be shown by documents to be placed in the hands of the City Clerk), I have had, independently of my private practice, more than 20,000 patients, during the last nineteen years, under my professional care in connexion with public medical charities in York alone.

Opportunities of conversation with individual members of the Council have been most courteously afforded me, and I have been almost unanimously informed that I have already presented as many testimonials as can be necessary to enable you to form an opinion of my fitness for the very important and responsible appointment which I seek. I have, in consequence, given only a list of the names of several gentlemen who have honoured me with their testimony as to my acquirements and powers as a Teacher of Medicine, or of my reputation and ability as a Consulting Physician and Practitioner. Amongst these, I would beg leave here specially and gratefully to mention the Lord Mayor, Magistrates, and City Council of York, who have signed a testimonial in my favour in their non-official capacity.

Feeling most fully assured that you will duly weigh and rightly estimate the entire body of evidence as to professional acquirements which I have had the honour to lay before you, I most respectfully leave it in your hands without further comment, and remain,

MY LORD PROVOST AND GENTLEMEN,

Your most obedient and humble servant,

T. LAYCOCK.

Edinburgh, 25th September 1855.

*Miscellaneous Documents*

*A list of the Town Council of Edinburgh, 1855 [with annotations] (A, 85, n 66)*

A LIST OF THE  
TOWN COUNCIL OF EDINBURGH,  
1855

THE LORD PROVOST (John Melville, S.S.C.), 15, Heriot Row.  
BAILIE MORRISON, S.S.C., 45, York Place.  
BAILIE BROWN DOUGLAS (Advocate), 21, Moray Place.  
BAILIE G. CLARK (Grocer), House 17, Forth Street, 1, Elm Row.  
BAILIE KAY (Wine Merchant), House 72, Northumberland Street, 38, Jamaica Street.  
CONVENER HENRY BANKS (Merchant Tailor), 22, Duke Street.  
PETER S. FRASER (Dean of Guild), 45, North Hanover Street.  
ROBT. S. GRIEVE (Upholsterer), George Street.  
FRANCIS RICHARDSON (Drysalter), Old Corn Exchange.  
JOSEPH ROBERTSON, 84, Lauriston Place.  
DR. JOHN RENTON, 5, Eastfield, Leith.  
DR. DICK (Veterinary College), Clyde Street.  
JAMES LEWIS (Wine Merchant), 177, Canongate.  
DUNCAN MAC KINLEY, 138, George Street.  
GEORGE CRICHTON (Watchmaker), 55, North Bridge.  
JOHN CLARK, 6, Teviot Row.  
JOHN GRIEG (Printer), Lawn Market.  
ROBERT STEPHENSON (Comb Maker), 25, Leith Street.  
ALEXANDER CASSELS, W.S., 20, London Street.  
WILLIAM BELL (Solicitor), Elder Street.  
JAMES BLACKADDER, 34, Abercrombie Place.  
DR. THOMAS MURRAY (Printer), Thistle Street.  
JAMES DOWELL (Auctioneer), 18, George Street.  
RICHARD WILLIAMS (Clothier), 62, George Street.  
JAMES GRAY (Gentleman), 53, George Street.  
WM. FORRESTER (Lithographer), 56, Hanover Street.  
ALEXANDER HILL (Print-seller), 67, Princes Street.  
DR. JOHN SIBBALD, 141, Princes Street.  
ROBERT RITCHIE (Civil Engineer), 16, Hill Street.

*Home*

WILLIAM TULLIS ~~Home~~, Lodge, Viewforth.  
SIR ROBT. K. ARBUTHNOT, 16, Charlotte Square  
*David Dickson—St. Andrew Street (Paper Merchant)*

[Each name ticked in original.]

[Councillor Millar, 44 North Bridge missing. See A, 72, n 34]

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Lists of Councillors' voting intentions, 25 and 24 September 1855 (A, 87, n 68)

Thursday Night 25<sup>th</sup>. Sept 1855

<u>Bennett</u>	<u>Gairdner</u>	<u>Wood</u>	<u>Laycock</u>
Sibbald	Cassells	Millar	Forrester
Arbuthnot	Dick	Robertson	Renton
Dowell	Bell	Blackadder	Richardson
Crichton	Lewis	Grieg	Clark
Morrison -d	[ <i>name crossed out</i> ]	Banks	Fraser
Ritchie	<i>Williams 2<sup>nd</sup></i>	M <sup>c</sup> Kinlay	Williams
Grieve		Gray	Kay
Murray	Doubtfu[1]	B. Douglas	[ <i>names rubbed out</i> ]
Tullis		<i>Williams</i>	
<i>Williams 3<sup>d</sup></i>	Provost		
	Dickson		
	Hill		
	<del>Williams</del>		
	Clark		
	Stephenson		

Wednesday Night 24 Sept. 1855

L <sup>d</sup> Provost	D G. Fraser x	C. Millar	C. J. Clark
B Morrison	C Cassells x	Robertson	B. Kay
C. Sibbald x	Dick x	Banks	C. Forrester
Arbuthnot	Bell	Mackinlay?	Renton
Dowell x	Lewis x	Grieg	Richardson
Hill ? x	Stephenson	Blackadder <i>B.2<sup>nd</sup></i>	Gray
Williams ? x	B. Clark ?	B. Douglas	Dickson
Crichton x	[ <i>name crossed out</i> ]	<i>Williams 2<sup>nd</sup> G</i>	
Grieve x		<i>3 B</i>	Doubtful for others
Murray x?			Mackinlay
Ritchie			B. Clark
Tullis ?			Hill
			Williams
3 doubtful			

[Italics = pencil in original]

D = Dean of Guild; B = Bailie; C = Councillor

*Miscellaneous Documents*

*List of 1st and 2nd votes, calculated on evening of 1 October 1855 (A, 93, n 83)*

1<sup>st</sup>. Votes Evening of October 1<sup>st</sup> 1855

Bennett	Wood	Laycock
Lord Provost	Bailie B. Douglas	Bailie Kay
Bailie Morrison	C <sup>r</sup> . Millar	– Clark
C <sup>r</sup> . Sibbald	– Robertson	D.G. Fraser
– Arbuthnot	– Mackinlay	T <sup>r</sup> . Dickson
– Dowell 5	– Grieg	C <sup>r</sup> . Forrester
– Crichton	– Williams	– Renton
– Grieve	– Blackadder	– Cassells
– Murray	– Banks	– Gray
– Ritchie	– J. Clark	– Dick
– Hill 10	– Bell	– Richardson
– Tullis	– Lewis	
	– Stephenson	
First vote 11 with Tullis	First vote 12	First vote 10 without Tullis

2<sup>nd</sup>. Votes

Bennett against Wood		Laycock against Wood	
First Vote 11	First Vote 12	First Vote with Tullis 11	First Vote 12
Forrester	B. Kay	Morrison	Provost
Richardson	– Clark	Sibbald	Dowell ?
Dick	– Dickson	Crichton	Arbuthnot ?
Renton	– Frazer	Grieve	
	– Gray	Murray	
	– Cassells	Ritchie	
		Hill	
2 <sup>nd</sup> . Vote 15	2 <sup>nd</sup> . Vote 18	2 <sup>nd</sup> . vote 18	2 <sup>nd</sup> . Vote 15

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List of voting intentions calculated by J. Y. Simpson, 1 October 1855 (A, 96, n 84)

{Annotation: "D<sup>r</sup>. Simpson's comparison on the night before the Election 1 Oct. 1855"}

Wood against Bennett

12	11 (with Tullis)
Fraser	Forrester
Dickson	Richardson
B. Clark	Dick
– Kay	Renton
Gray	
Cassells	
<hr/>	<hr/>
18	15

Wood ag<sup>st</sup>. Laycock

12	11 (with Tullis[])
Provost	Morrison
Dowell	Sibbald
Arbuthnot	Crichton
	Grieve
	Murray
	Ritchie
	Hill
<hr/>	<hr/>
15	18

*1<sup>st</sup> Vote*

Bennett

Provost *W*  
Morrison *L*  
Sibbald *L*  
Arbuthnot *W*  
Dowell *W*  
Crichton *L*  
Grieve *L*  
Murray *L*  
Ritchie  
Hill  
~~Dick~~  
*10*

Wood

Bailie B. Douglas  
C<sup>r</sup> Millar  
– Robertson  
– Mackinlay  
Grieg  
Williams  
Blackadder  
Banks  
Bell  
J. Clark  
Lewis  
Stephenson  
*12*

Laycock

Bailie Kay *W*  
– Clark *W*  
– Dickson *W*  
– Forrester *B*  
Renton  
Cassells *W*  
Fraser *W*  
Gray *W*  
*Dick*  
Richardson *B*  
Tullis *B*  
*Hill*  
*11*

[Italics = pencil in original]

*Miscellaneous Documents*

*Epigram on Syme by Mr Alex M.[?] Edwards (A, 110, n 131)*

Says D<sup>r</sup>. Brown to M<sup>r</sup>. Syme,  
I've put into the Scotsman  
You've never lost one drop of blood,  
Although you have shed lots man.

Says Syme—You're right my precious Brown  
For since we last did part  
I haven't lost one drop of blood  
T'was far more like a quart.

D<sup>r</sup> John Brown (“Rab and his Friends”) reviewed a published portrait of M<sup>r</sup> Syme in “The Scotsman”, saying it was the portrait of a surgeon “who never wasted a drop of ink, or lost a drop of blood”. On the same day on which it appeared M<sup>r</sup> Syme by mistake of diagnosis plunged an abscess lancet into the large abdominal aneurism of a patient in the Infirmary. Hence the *jeux d'esprit* [*sic*] of Mr Edwards, famous for his wit—and folly.

Another epigram on M<sup>r</sup> Syme's personal appearance (his mouth being unusually prominent) is by some attributed to M<sup>r</sup> Liston “*Simius quam simiae similis!*”