

WESTERN MEDICAL SCHOOL.

THIS School, situated in close proximity to the Glasgow University, is entirely maintained by an Association of Lecturers, whose lectures are recognised by the University of Glasgow, and the other examining boards. It owes its origin to Dr. D. N. Knox, who, in 1878, gave a course of lectures on Surgery. Two years later, courses on Medicine and Midwifery were started by Dr. M'Vail and Dr. W. L. Reid respectively. Thereafter an attempt was made for some years to give courses of lectures on all the subjects of the medical curriculum, with the view of forming a complete extra-mural school. But it was found that the students who attended the classes were nearly all University men, who only came to the School for special courses, and, in consequence, several of the classes had to be given up. Lectures are still given, however, on Anatomy, Surgery, Medicine, Midwifery, Diseases of the Eye, and of the Ear, and Throat, during the Winter Session; and on Practical Anatomy, Operative Surgery, and Gynæcology, in Summer. These classes are steadily increasing in favour with the students of the University, of whom about 150 have been in attendance during the past winter and present summer sessions.

D. N. KNOX.

THE ROYAL INFIRMARY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.

THE circumstances which led to the formation of the Royal Infirmary School of Medicine may be briefly stated as follows:—

From the time that the Royal Infirmary was opened in the year 1794 till 1874, it was the only hospital available for instruction in Clinical Medicine and Surgery in Glasgow, and was, during that period, in close proximity to the Glasgow University, then situated in High Street; and to Anderson's Medical School, situated in George Street. In 1870 the University was transferred to Gilmorehill, at the west end of Glasgow, and in 1874 the Western Infirmary was opened, the result being that the Royal Infirmary ceased to be available for clinical purposes, except for students attending Anderson's College. A double loss was thus sustained—first, a loss of students who added to the prestige of the hospital, and who acted, in conjunction with the staff

of the hospital, as Resident Assistants, and as Dressers in the Surgical Wards; and second, a loss of most valuable clinical material, in so far as the teaching of medical students is concerned.

At this critical period, the managers, on the suggestion of the late Dr. John Gibson Fleming, one of their number, and formerly President of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow, applied for and obtained, in 1875, a supplementary Charter, which, among other things, included, "Powers to afford facilities and accommodation for the teaching of Medicine and Surgery, and the Collateral Sciences, usually comprehended in a medical education."

At their first meeting in 1876, the managers appointed a Committee of their number to consider and report what steps they would recommend should be taken in virtue of the powers thus acquired; and, after full and careful consideration, the Committee reported, *inter alia*, as follows:—

1. That to utilise, to the full extent, the unsurpassed advantages, which the Royal Infirmary affords for instruction in the Medical Sciences, would conduce to the best interests of the Infirmary as a great Public Charity.

2. That the fullest realisation of these advantages can be secured only by the institution of a School of Medicine, in connection with the Royal Infirmary.

3. That, though the advantages which the Infirmary affords are principally connected with the practical branches of medicine, the institution of classes for instruction on these subjects, apart from what are known as the fundamental branches of Medical Science, would not have a fair claim for complete success.

4. That the School should, therefore, provide instruction in all the subjects necessary for qualifying students of medicine for admission to the examinations for a Licence to practise, as in the case of the English Metropolitan, and some of the Provincial Hospitals.

These clauses of the report, especially the third and fourth, give the *raison d'être* of the establishment of the school.

The report was adopted by the managers; lecturers were appointed; class-rooms were provided, and fitted up; and, on 1st November, 1876, the school was formally opened.

It may be stated, however, that, before the final arrangements were made for the institution of the School, it was deemed feasible that an arrangement might be made with the trustees of Anderson's College for the institution of a joint school, and a scheme was drawn up with this end in view;

but, on further consideration, the scheme was abandoned, as it was thought that the Lecturers on Medicine and Surgery at the Royal Infirmary, would have no chance with the Lecturers on the same subjects at Anderson's College, owing to the distance between the two places, and the consequent disarrangement and inconvenience that would ensue in attending classes in places so far distant from each other.

The number of students who joined the School at its opening was much greater than the Managers expected, "showing, in their opinion, that this addition to the educational functions of the Infirmary was a highly judicious step, and calculated to conduce to the best interests of the Institution."

Shortly after the institution of the School, the temporary class rooms were found to be inconvenient, and insufficient in size; and, in consequence, Mr. William M'Ewen, of Glasgow, Chairman of the House Committee, in 1881, resolved to carry out the original idea of Dr. Fleming of having a separate building erected for the accommodation of the Medical School worthy of the Royal Infirmary with which it is associated, and of the memory of Dr. Fleming (who had died in the interval) with whom he had been long associated in the management.

In accordance with this scheme, Mr. M'Ewen collected funds; plans of the new school were drawn out, and approved of by the Managers; the building was commenced in 1881, and completed in 1882, the classes in the new building being opened at the winter session of 1882-83.

The new building, situated in the grounds in close proximity to the Royal Infirmary, is in the Italian style of architecture, and was formally opened by Lord Provost Ure, on the 1st November, 1882. It has an Anatomical department consisting of a Lecture Room, an Osteology Room, and a Museum. The Dissecting Room, constructed on the most improved plans, as regards heating, ventilation, and light, measures 67 feet in length by 25 feet in breadth, and affords ample accommodation for a large number of students. The Chemical and Physiological Laboratories are large and fully equipped, the latter being provided with valuable apparatus, part of which was presented by Dr. Henry Muirhead, then one of the Managers. The Lecture Rooms, for all the other classes, are equally well fitted up. Private rooms are provided for the Lecturers; and, for the use of students, there is a large room with lavatory attached. The students have also the use of the Osteology Room, for purposes

of study, and of a Reading Room supplied with newspapers and the leading Medical Journals, the general aim being to supply the students with all facilities for obtaining a superior medical education.

The following classes are taught—viz., Chemistry, Anatomy, Physiology, Materia Medica, Surgery, Practice of Medicine, Midwifery and Diseases of Women, Medical Jurisprudence, and Pathology. The Medical and Surgical Dispensary is in the Medical School building, and is attended by large numbers of out-door patients. In addition to the usual clinical teaching in the Infirmary, special lectures are delivered on Diseases of the Throat.

The cost of a complete medical education, including classes such as Practical Physiology, Operative Surgery, and others, which are now practically necessary, and two courses of Medicine and Surgery, is about £60.

Attendance on the Lectures is recognised by all the qualifying bodies for diplomas ; and also by the University of London, and the Royal University of Ireland for the degrees of M.B., C.M. The lectures, to a limited extent, are recognised by the Scotch and English Universities. They qualify also for the Army, Navy, and Indian Medical Service.

Since the opening of the Medical School, in 1876, important changes have been made in regard to the diplomas granted by the Corporations, there being now but one Scotch diploma granted in accordance with the conjoint scheme, called the triple qualification, those obtaining it being Licentiates of the Royal College of Surgeons, and of the Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh ; and of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons, Glasgow.

THE GLASGOW ROYAL INFIRMARY.

THIS is the largest and oldest of the medical charitable institutions of Glasgow. It was opened on the 8th December, 1794, under a charter granted by His Majesty King George III, on the 21st December, 1791, to James M'Dowall, Esq., Lord Provost of the City of Glasgow, and to other contributors to the Glasgow Infirmary, who had represented to His Majesty "that an Infirmary, for the relief of persons labouring under poverty and disease, has long been wanted in the city of Glasgow and in the adjoining counties of Scotland, and is become more necessary at present than at any former period, on account of the prosperous state of manufactures in Glasgow