

In his Mortification of 1641, for the School, Thomas Hutcheson simply appoints "the Town of Glasgow" Patrons thereof. The expression "Town" is so far explained by his direction to "the Provost, Bailies, and Council of the said Burgh" yearly to nominate "four of the maist qualifiet of their ain number, with four of the ordinary Ministers of the Town, for the tyme," who, with the "Master of the House," or, as he afterwards came to be styled, the "Preceptor," should meet "to cognosce and determine concerning the reception, admiſſion, and intertainment of the founded persons, and the ordering and government of the said House." In the Eik to this Deed, of 10,000 merks, in 1641, applicable to both Hospital and School—the Provost, Bailies, and Council are again spoken of as the Patrons.

From the above it will be seen that the terms of the original Deeds of Mortification, as regards the constitution of the Patronage, are neither precise nor altogether consistent, and their discrepancy has occasionally, in the administration of the Hospital affairs, given rise to differences and disputes which happily are all now set at rest.

As regards the Preceptor, or Master, Thomas Hutcheson, by his Deed of 9th March 1641, appointed that, besides ingathering the rents of the Hospital, he should have charge "of the ruling and governing thereof during the time of his office." The various Deeds of Mortification, which make mention of the Preceptor's appointment, express with sufficient clearness that he required to be "an ordinary Councillor of the Burgh." Accordingly in practice he was chosen annually by the Patrons at their General Meeting, shortly after the election of Town Councillors, and has invariably been one of the Council at the time of his first election; but not unfrequently the Preceptor was re-elected, or continued in office, although he had ceased to be a Member of the Council.<sup>1</sup> At present, all that the Act of Parliament requires is, that he

<sup>1</sup> One instance of this was the case of ex-Provost Andrew Cochrane in 1763. He had doubtless continuously till that date, since 1736, held office as Preceptor while duly qualified either as Provost, Bailie, or Councillor; and his re-election to the Preceptorship in 1763, when not so qualified, is the more noticeable that his immediate predecessor, Mr. John Robertson, was in 1736 (11th November) discontinued from the office of Preceptor in consequence of being no longer a Councillor. See also Minutes of 14th February 1788, 15th February and 4th April 1821. On the other hand, see Minutes of 18th February 1813, 12th February 1834, and 6th November 1843.

shall "be annually elected by the Patrons from among their own number."<sup>1</sup>

The Preceptor may from year to year be, and usually is, re-elected for some years in succession. When present he is Chairman of all Meetings, and is *ex officio* a Member of all Committees of the Patrons. If he is absent at any of the General Meetings, the Patrons make choice of one of their number to be Chairman. It is the Preceptor's province to fix the precise days for holding the stated or other Meetings of the Patrons, whom he may convene as often as he thinks necessary, to give instruction to the officials of the Hospital and School, and to take cognisance of the general superintendence and direction of the Institution and its affairs.

The earliest recorded election to the Preceptorship of the Hospital was on 17th August 1641, when Mr. Thomas Hutcheson appointed Colin Campbell, younger, late Bailie, to be "Maister and Collector," and to take charge of building the Hospital. This election, confirmed by the Provost, Bailies, and Council, forms the first Minute in the Records. On 12th November 1642, Colin Campbell was re-elected by the Provost, Bailies, and Council, "for the year to come." Other Minutes record his re-election to this office, which he continued to hold till 1647, when William Hume was chosen "Maister," as appears from the Town Council Records.<sup>2</sup> In the same Records we find<sup>3</sup> William Hume expressing his inability to attend during the ensuing half-year to the charge of the Hospital affairs, and consequently relieved therefrom by the Council, who, by a plurality of votes, appointed James Hamilton, merchant, to be Master of the Hospital.

So strict a requirement as the above Minute implied seems, very shortly afterwards, to have been regarded by the Patrons as inexpedient. On 18th August 1649, it appears from the Hospital Records that a Deputy Preceptorship was instituted, *pro tempore*, John Grahame being, of that date, appointed "to have oversight of the Hospital in absence of the present Master."

Originally it was the province of the Preceptor to keep the Title Deeds, Bonds, and other Writs belonging to the Hospital, and annually to produce them, with an account of his intronissions

<sup>1</sup> Section 2.

<sup>2</sup> 14th May 1647.

<sup>3</sup> 22nd January 1648.

for the past year. This practice was so far changed in 1648, that we find (7th January) Colin Campbell, the late Master, handing in to the Bailies and Council all the Writs previously in his custody, "conforme to ane Inventar yrof in ane little buike subscrivit with "his hand," which book and papers were "put in ye tounes hous "q<sup>r</sup> ye rest of ye tounes Writtes lyes, within ye iron doire yrof." Of this door the Dean of Guild and Deacon-Convener kept the keys. This arrangement being subsequently found unsuitable, the Preceptor was, on 18th May 1691, directed "to provyde a chist "or a cabinet for keeping of the hail Wrytes belonging to this "Hospital, which is to have two locks and two keys, one thereof "to be kept be the Preceptor and the other be the Town Clerk, "that the Preceptor may have access, upon his receipt, to take "out any of the saids Wrytes as need requires; which chist is to "lye in the Clerk's Chamber."

In the early period of the Hospital's history the designation of the head of the Institution is most frequently "Master of the "House" or Hospital. He is also often styled "Collector" or "Treasurer." In 1664 (12th February) the title of "Preceptor" appears, for the first time, to have been given him, the election of Donald M'Gilchrist, merchant, being minuted as "Collector and "Preceptor of the Hospital," and this designation of Preceptor is almost invariably used afterwards.

It is not improbable that the title of Preceptor was given in consequence of the duty, which seems about this time to have been undertaken or imposed upon him, of "admonishing" and by precept "exhorting" the old men and boys.<sup>1</sup> For a similar reason the Master of St. Nicholas Hospital, in Glasgow, received the same designation.

While, as may readily be believed, and indeed as is evidenced by many a contested election, the Preceptorship of the Hospital has ever been regarded as conferring special honour and dignity, yet the duties it involves effectually prevent it from being by any means a sinecure. So early as 1663 (27th February) it is minuted, "in regaird that now the Collectors and Maisters of the Hospital "ar burdined with the collecting and inseeking of the rent of the

<sup>1</sup> See Minutes of 12th February 1664, *et seqr.*, and particularly 27th September 1743.

“Gorballes without ony benefeit for their paines”—“it is therfor  
“concludit be the Patrounes, conveyed, that no persone sall be  
“burdined yrwith heirafter, longer nor ane yeire, allenarlie.”

Upon this footing the matter appears to have rested for several years. Latterly, the inexpediency<sup>1</sup> of devolving on the person who held the honorary appointment of Preceptor the responsible and purely professional duties of the Collectorship of the Institution became apparent. Accordingly, on 7th September 1708, a remit was made to a committee to consider and report “whether or not  
“it will tend to the good and advantage of this Hospital, that in  
“time coming ane yearly salary should be appoynted to the Preceptor  
“yrof, for his encouragement in taking pains, care, and diligence in  
“the affairs of the Hospital.” Naturally, however, it was felt that the receipt of a salary might derogate from the honorary character of the Preceptorship, and, until the institution of the separate office of the Factor and Chamberlain of the Institution, the only outcome from the above remit, or rather of the feeling which it expressed, were the following Minutes of the Patrons, which may appropriately be quoted. 23rd August 1709, “considering that James Sloss has  
“been Preceptor these nyne years past, and is yet continued Pre-  
“ceptor, and that he has been extraordinary serviceable to the  
“Hospital in his good management, and freeing the Hospital of  
“many debts and incumbrances, do therefor allow the said James  
“Sloss the soume of two hundred pund Scots money, as a token  
“for his sd extraordinary service.”<sup>2</sup>

On 17th September 1729, “in respect that Robert Alexander  
“has been Preceptor since 1713, and has been extraordinary ser-  
“viceable to the Hospital in his good management, and augmenting  
“the revenue of the Hospital, do therefor, and upon account of any

<sup>1</sup> Some indication of this may be gathered from the Accounts kept by the Preceptors themselves, one of whom, John M'Ure, it may be mentioned, had not been found altogether a satisfactory administrator of the Hospital's funds. Among other instances, on 31st July 1685, the Patrons appoint “John M'Cuir, “lait Preceptor, aither to instruct that he paid Charles Miller's prenteis fee, or then to pay the samen to the “said boy, or pay back the samen to the Hospitall, in respect the samen is allowed to him in his former “accompt.” Mr. M'Ure, however, did neither, and the £50 Scots of apprentice fee was, on 20th June 1690, paid to the boy Miller—anent whom, see Chapter I., p. 11; see also Hospital Minutes of 18th May 1691.

<sup>2</sup> James Sloss apparently ceased to be Preceptor by reason of ill health, as the account of William Donaldson, his successor in the Preceptorship, shows that the above honorarium was paid in part to his widow. See 31st August 1710.

“loss he has sustained by his management, allow him to retain in his hand the soume of £384 Scots, out of the first end of the balance due by him, as a token of his extraordinary service and loss.” Again, on 22nd October 1776, “The Patrons unanimously agree to request Andrew Cochrane, Preceptor, for his long and faithful services to the public, particularly for the great care and attention he has long paid to the affairs of the Hospital, and the increase of funds thereof by his diligent management, to sit in order to get his picture drawn, to be hung up in the Laigh Council Chamber.”<sup>1</sup> And, to conclude these notices of honour bestowed on their official chief, the Patrons<sup>2</sup> resolved “that it would be fit and becoming that, like the other authorities of the City, a Badge or Medal, suspended from a Gold Chain or Collar, should form the insignia of the Office of Preceptor.” The Chain and Collar now in use, costing £145, were accordingly obtained, and worn for the first time at the General Meeting of the Patrons on 23rd November 1857.

#### *The Patrons.*

Respecting the Patrons, sufficient mention has already been made of the qualification originally requisite for their tenure of office, in the preceding narrative of the various Deeds of Mortification by the brothers Hutcheson and Contract with the City Corporation. At the institution of the Hospital and School in 1639-41, the Patrons consisted of the Provost, two Merchant Bailies, and one Trades' Bailie, the Dean of Guild, the Deacon-Convener, and fifteen Councillors of the Burgh, also three Ministers of Glasgow, viz.:—The Cathedral or Inner High, the Tron (erected in 1592), and Blackfriars' (erected in 1622) Parish Churches—in all, twenty-four individuals.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Andrew Cochrane having died during his tenure of the Preceptorship, a Committee was appointed (21st June 1777) to balance his accounts, and to get from his representative the Hospital Title Deeds and other papers in his possession. In the subsequent Minutes (22nd September 1778) the Preceptor in office is authorised “to pay to Cochrane, Limner in Glasgow, the sum of £10 10s. for drawing the picture of the deceased Provost Cochrane,” and £1 5s. “to Robert Smith, Wright, for the frame.”

<sup>2</sup> 24th November 1856.

<sup>3</sup> The Barony Parish of Glasgow, which was erected in the year 1595, has always been regarded as a landward parish, and the Minister of that Church has never acted as a Patron.

ment of the institution, or of the property and revenues thereof, or of matters incidental thereto, or connected therewith, and of fixing the quorum of such committees, as hitherto, or at present exercised; as also of electing and remunerating, and of conferring retiring allowances upon the schoolmasters, and other officers, of or connected with the institution, are hereby confirmed, and as such shall remain with the Patrons; and in general the whole rights and powers of the Patrons, as at present exercised, or competent to them, shall remain intact; and all Deeds of Mortification, Foundation, or Endowment, Charters, Statutes and Bye-laws or Regulations, are hereby altered and varied in so far only as may be necessary for carrying this Act into effect. New statutes or alterations of existing statutes, bye-laws, regulations and standing orders, must be sanctioned by two meetings of the Patrons, the one held after the lapse of a month from the other.

28. Nothing herein contained shall be deemed to exempt the Hospital and Mortifications therewith connected from investigation by any Royal Commission which may hereafter be appointed to inquire into and report upon the Charitable and Educational Institutions in Scotland, or from the provisions of any General Act relating to Charitable and Educational Institutions in Scotland which may hereafter be passed during this or any future Session of Parliament.

29. The expenses of obtaining and passing this Act, and incidental thereto, shall be paid out of the funds and assets of the Hospital.

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No. XIV.

LEGACIES AND DONATIONS TO WHICH NO SPECIAL CONDITION  
WAS ATTACHED.

1648.	John Wilson, sometime a pensioner in the Hospital, £233 6s. 8d. Scots, . . . . .	£19 8 11
1706.	John Bryson, 3 acres in Garngadhill.	
1709.	Andrew Morsoun, Mariner, £155 15s. 4d. Scots, . . . . .	12 19 7
1715.	The Town of Glasgow, one-half of the cost of the new Clock, £200 Scots, . . . . .	16 13 4
1718.	The Town of Glasgow, some corners and pieces of Ground to strait Marches of Ramshorn Lands, valued at 1,000 Merks Scots, . . . . .	55 11 2
1736. } 1737. }	Glasgow Assembly, . . . . .	18 17 11
1740.	The Magistrates of Glasgow, some Fines levied by them, . . . . .	23 15 0
1745.	Aitkenhead, . . . . .	5 0 0
—	Provost Coulter, . . . . .	5 0 0
1748.	Mrs. Luke, relict of Robert Luke, 100 Merks Scots, . . . . .	5 11 1
1754.	Provost Peter Murdoch, to the Widows' Fund, . . . . .	20 0 0
1759.	Andrew Buchanan, . . . . .	10 0 0
1761.	Archibald Buchanan, . . . . .	10 0 0

1739.	} Anonymous, in various sums of from £5 to £20, almost annually between these years, . . . . .	£240	0	0	
1767.					
1768.	Sir Michael Stewart of Blackhall, on account of his sister, Mrs. Margaret Stewart, relict of John Peadie of Ruchill, 100 Merks Scots, . . . . .		5	11	1
1775.	Mrs. Lilius Grahame, daughter of James Grahame of Kilmannan,		20	0	0
1776.	Jean Murdoch, daughter of Zacharias Murdoch, Merchant in Glasgow, . . . . .		5	0	0
—	John Murdoch, Merchant, and late Provost of Glasgow, paid by Mr. William Miller, his grandson and heir, . . . . .		15	0	0
1777.	James Brown, Merchant in Glasgow, heir of Provost Andrew Cochrane, out of respect to him, and knowledge of his intention to make a bequest to the Hospital, . . . . .		100	0	0
1781.	Agnes Murdoch, . . . . .		5	0	0
1786.	Thomas Nicolson, . . . . .		50	0	0
1788.	James Coulter, Merchant, . . . . .		25	0	0
1798.	Christian Dunlop, a pensioner of the Hospital, . . . . .		74	13	6
1802.	Peter Reid, Merchant, Glasgow, . . . . .		47	0	0
1804.	John Campbell of Clathic, late Preceptor, . . . . .		46	0	0
1811.	William Telfer, a pensioner of the Hospital, . . . . .		7	10	0
1814.	James Henderson, Merchant in Virginia, . . . . .		400	0	0
—	John Snow, Barber in Glasgow, the nett half of his whole means,		485	7	6
—	James Forrester, Merchant, Glasgow, . . . . .		35	0	0
1815.	Margaret and Janet Telfour, daughters of John Telfour, Watch- maker, . . . . .		20	0	0
1821.	David Carrick Buchanan, Esq., . . . . .		50	0	0
1828.	Charles Hutcheson, Esq., . . . . .		15	0	0
1829.	Miss Margaret Johnston, . . . . .		180	0	0
1833.	Captain Robert Tennent, Barrack Master, Wellington Square, Ayr, £500 and interest, £94 3s. 3d., . . . . .		594	3	3
1863.	Miss Barbara Aitcheson, at one time a pensioner, . . . . .		100	0	0
1868.	Miss Margaret Alexander, in repayment of sums advanced to her as a pensioner, . . . . .		225	10	0
1875.	George Thomson, Watchmaker, Glasgow, on condition of the Hospital Patrons administering the Trusts of his Settlement for certain charitable purposes, £25 per annum.				

## No. XV.

## LIST OF PRECEPTORS.

DATE OF ELECTION.		
1641.—August 17,	. . .	Colin Campbell, Junior, Merchant.
1647.—May 14,	. . .	William Hume.
1648.—January 22,	. . .	James Hamilton.
1650.—October 26,	. . .	Thomas Allan.
1651.—October 11,	. . .	James Hamilton.
1652.—April 18,	. . .	Colin Campbell, late Provost.
1654.—January 14,	. . .	James Trane, Merchant.
1655.—December 29,	. . .	James Barnes, Merchant.
1659.—September 13,	. . .	Henry Glen, Merchant.
1661.—December 17,	. . .	Robert Rae, Merchant, late Bailie.
1663.—February 27,	. . .	John Walkinsbaw.
1664.—February 14,	. . .	Colin Campbell.
1665.—February 28,	. . .	Donald M'Gilchrist, Merchant.
1666.—March 20,	. . .	John Caldwell, Merchant.
1667.—March 7,	. . .	James Ker, Merchant.
1668.—March 6,	. . .	John Johnstone.
1669.—April 20,	. . .	Robert M'Ure.
1670.—March 4,	. . .	Marcus Marshall.
1671.—April 1,	. . .	John Gilhagie.
1672.—April 2,	. . .	John Bryson.
1675.—March 18,	. . .	John Barnes, Merchant.
1677.—April 13,	. . .	Robert Cross.
1679.—April 25,	. . .	John Govan, Merchant.
1680.—April 16,	. . .	John Braidie, Merchant.
1681.—May 2,	. . .	James Corbett, Merchant.
1683.—May 3,	. . .	John M'Ure, Elder, Merchant.
1685.—July 3,	. . .	John Aitcheson, Merchant.
1687.—April 22,	. . .	James Stirling, Merchant.
1688.—May 24,	. . .	John Gray, Merchant.
1689.—July 1,	. . .	Duncan M'Lachlan, Merchant.
1690.—June 28,	. . .	John Stirling, Merchant.
1691.—June 12,	. . .	George Muirhead, Merchant.
1693.—July 24,	. . .	Matthew Cumming, Merchant.
1700.—September 24,	. . .	James Sloss, late Bailie.
1709.—September 27,	. . .	William Donaldson, Merchant.
1713.—August 7,	. . .	Robert Alexander, Merchant.
1729.—November 4,	. . .	John Robertson.
1736.—November 11,	. . .	Andrew Cochrane, Merchant.
1777.—July 24,	. . .	John Campbell of Clathic.
1800.—April 1,	. . .	Laurence Craigie, Lord Provost.
1805.—February 28,	. . .	Gilbert Hamilton.