

News, Notes and Queries

1806–1844	JAMES HOME Died 5 Dec. 1894 (<i>Dict. Nat. Biog.</i>)	10 June 1806	Ibid., xiii, 240
1844–1847	ANDREW COMBE Died 9 Aug. 1847 (<i>Dict. Nat. Biog.</i>)	20 Dec. 1844	Ibid., xvi, 40
1847–1853	JOHN SCOTT Died 3 May 1853. (Edinburgh Inventories, lxxxi, 484)	31 Dec. 1847	Warrant Bk. (HH29/1) 9

H.M. FIRST PHYSICIANS
1603–1844

The first appointment to the office of Principal Mediciner (later termed Principal or First Physician) was that of John Craig in 1603. His commission refers to a vacancy caused by the death of Gilbert Moncrieff, but there is no evidence that the latter ever ranked above the other ordinary physicians (*q.v.*). The office lapsed on the death of Dr. John Abercrombie in 1844, together with the salary of £100 attached to it.

<i>Dates</i>	<i>Name and Notes</i>	<i>Appointed</i>	<i>Source</i>
1603–1620	JOHN CRAIG Died 1620 (<i>Dict. Nat. Biog.</i>)	3 Jan. 1603	MS Reg. Secreti Sigilli, lxxiii, f233
1645(?)–1681	SIR ALEXANDER FRASER OF DORES Said to have been appointed in 1645. Definitely in office by 17 Dec. 1662 (Reg. Deeds, Mack., viii, 135). Died 3 May 1681 (<i>Dict. Nat. Biog.</i>)	1645(?)	G.E.C., <i>Complete Baronetage</i> , iv, 292
1681–1686	ARCHIBALD STEVENSON Still in office on 5 Feb. 1686 (Great Seal Reg., lxx, f37)	12 Nov. 1681	Privy Seal (English Record), iii, 359
1686–1689	CHRISTOPHER IRVINE Also Historiographer Royal. Died 1693. (<i>Dict. Nat. Biog.</i> ; <i>Book of the Irvings</i> , 142–6).	20 Sept. 1686	Great Seal (Paper Reg.), xii, No. 188
1689–1704	SIR THOMAS BURNET Dead by Mar. 1704. (<i>Dict. Nat. Biog.</i>)	7 Dec. 1689	Privy Seal (English Record), iv, 380
1704–1725	THOMAS DALRYMPLE Died 23 July 1725. Exchequer Establishment List (E229/10/1)	31 Mar. 1704	Ibid, vi, 207
1725–1733	JAMES CAMPBELL Died 16 Jan. 1733 (Ibid).	23 Sept. 1725	Ibid, vii, 444

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1733–1760	ANDREW SINCLAIR Died 25 Oct. 1760 (<i>Ibid.</i>)	24 Feb. 1733	<i>Ibid.</i> , viii, 37
1761–1766	ROBERT WHYTE Died 15 Apr. 1766 (<i>Ibid.</i>)	13 Apr. 1761	<i>Ibid.</i> , ix, 140
1766–1773	JOHN GREGORY Died 9 Feb. 1773 (<i>Dict. Nat. Biog.</i>)	12 May 1766	<i>Ibid.</i> , ix, 456
1773–1790	WILLIAM CULLEN Died 5 Feb. 1790 (<i>Dict. Nat. Biog.</i>)	18 Mar. 1773	<i>Ibid.</i> , x, 211
1790–1799	JOSEPH BLACK Died 6 Dec. 1799 (<i>Dict. Nat. Biog.</i>)	8 Mar. 1790	Privy Seal Warrants 1790 No. 6
1799–1821	JAMES GREGORY Died 2 Apr. 1821 (<i>Dict. Nat. Biog.</i>)	18 Dec. 1799	Privy Seal (English Record) xii, 216
1821–1828	ANDREW DUNCAN Died 5 July 1828 (<i>Dict. Nat. Biog.</i>)	10 Apr. 1821	<i>Ibid.</i> , xiv, 229
1828–1844	JOHN ABERCROMBIE Died 14 Nov. 1844 (<i>Dict. Nat. Biog.</i>)	22 July 1828	<i>Ibid.</i> , xiv, 449

THOMAS HODGKIN (1798-1866) ON CANCER CELL CARRIAGE

It is a hundred years since the death of Thomas Hodgkin who, in 1832, waded into the mass of ill-defined diseases that affect the sprawling reticulo-endothelial system of the body and fished out the gem among them. 'At the center of this orbit,' wrote Doan¹ concerning the diseases of this system a decade ago, 'is the clinicopathologic syndrome which continues to bear Hodgkin's name'.

Following its delineation, the nature of this disease has been a matter for controversy. Since that time, in the opinion of Moore² in 1951, 'little progress has been made in the understanding of the nature of the condition beyond the proposal of more than fifty terms as synonyms'. Willis³ wrote: 'The fact that the name "Hodgkin's disease" has persisted in spite of all competitors, and that most pathologists are quite clear as to the characters of the lesion so designated, is significant.'

In his popular book on diagnosis, Chamberlain⁴ recently honoured Hodgkin by giving an illustration of him with the caption, 'Philanthropist and Curator of the Pathological Museum, Guy's Hospital'. In a further honour to his memory, I wish to spotlight his pathological observations with special reference to my own field of research, namely, the mode of spread of cancer from one part of the body to another.