

## John Smith

(1825-1910)

**Reference and contact details:** RCSEd GD/2

**Location:** RS R2

**Title:** Smith, John, MD FRCSEd (1825-1910),

**Dates of Creation:**

**Held at:** The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh

**Extent:** 28 items

**Name of Creator:** John Smith

**Language of Material:** English.

**Level of Description:** fonds

**Administrative/Biographical History:**

John Smith, MD FRCSEd (1825-1910), surgeon, was the son of a dentist. He was born in Edinburgh and educated at the Edinburgh Institution, Edinburgh University and the Royal College of Surgeons.

After graduating he went to London and Paris where he made drawings of gun-shot and sabre wounds.

Smith gave the first regular course on the physiology and diseases of the teeth in 1856. He was surgeon dentist to the Royal Public Dispensary, and in 1860, with Francis Imlach and others, he established the Edinburgh Dental Dispensary.

In 1859 he founded what was to become the Royal Hospital for Sick Children and wrote the book which celebrated the Quatercentenary of the Royal College in 1905.

Smith was made Surgeon Dentist to Queen Victoria in 1871 and LLD Edinburgh University, 1884. He was President of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh and President of the British Dental Association.

The College owns a fine portrait, currently (2009) on display in the Main Hall.



### GD2/1-4

**Dr Smith's medical sketches and drawings**

Date of Creation: 1849-1867

Extent: 4 items

### GD2/5-9

**Papers relating to Dr Smith's Dental Lectures**

Dates of Creation: 1856-1861

Extent: 5 items

### GD2/10-18

**Printed papers of the business and resolutions of the Edinburgh Dental Dispensary, Dental Examinations and Qualifications**

Dates of Creation: 1864-1892

Extent: 9 items

### GD2/19-24

**Publications by Dr John Smith and miscellaneous rough notes**

Dates of Creation: 1864-1893

Extent: 6 items

**GD2/25-28****Exercises in penmanship by John Smith**

Dates of Creation: 1840

Extent: 4 items

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**GD2/1-4 Dr Smith's medical sketches and drawings.**

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**GD2/1****1849-1867**

Book of sketches and watercolours by John Smith, mainly of patients of the Royal Infirmary and the Edinburgh Child [sic] Hospital and including victims of suffocation in a fallen house, November 24th 1861; cholera patient 1849; victim of lightning, facial and renal ulcers and abnormalities of the palate.

**GD2/2****[n.d.]**

Book of John Smith's illustrations of diseases of the skin and eyes from studies at the Hospital St Louis, Paris.

**GD2/3****circa 1850?**

Book of anatomical ink drawings of the upper and lower limbs by J. Smith, 12 Dundas Street

**GD2/4****[n.d.]**

Drawings of human skulls including Ethiopian, Botoque, Brazilian, Indian, Turk, ancient Greek, Carib and an Egyptian mummy. [10 sheets]

**GD2/5-9 Papers relating to Dr Smith's Dental Lectures**

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**GD2/5****1856 May**

Two printed advertisements of Dr Smith's course of lectures on the physiology and diseases of the teeth commencing on June 2nd 1856

**GD2/6****[1856?] May**

Three printed notices announcing the lectures of Dr Smith, Surgeon Dentist to the Royal Dispensary, to be delivered at the Medical School, Surgeons' Hall and outlining the syllabus.

**GD2/7****1856 June 2**

Bound manuscript of lectures delivered by Dr John Smith on physiology and diseases of the teeth at the Medical School, Surgeons' Hall, constituting the first comprehensive course of dental lectures to be delivered in Scotland.

**GD2/8****[circa 1860]**

John Smith's synopsis of his eight dentistry lectures: importance of dental system and diseases; soft parts of the mouth; development of the teeth; dentition; local affectations of the mouth during dentition; injuries and diseases of the teeth; dental anaesthetics; haemorrhage after extraction. [2 sheets]

**GD2/9****circa 1859-1861**

Collection of John Smith's dentistry lecture notes and folder with table of contents.  
{Numerous sheets; some apparently missing}

**GD2/10-18**

**Printed papers of the business and resolutions of the Edinburgh Dental Dispensary, Dental Examinations and Qualifications**

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**GD2/10**

[n.d.]

Printed pamphlet of the Constitution and Laws of the Edinburgh Dental Dispensary

**GD2/11**

**1864 May**

Printed Second Annual Report by the managers of the Edinburgh Dental Dispensary.

**GD2/12**

**1866 May 5**

Two printed notices in the Edinburgh Courant of the Annual Meeting of the Edinburgh Dental Dispensary at which consideration was given as to whether the existing qualifications required for the office of surgeon-dentist should be extended.

**GD2/13**

**1878 November 8-9**

Printed confidential minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee of the General Medical Council under the presidency of Dr Acland including the acts and schemes proposed for an examination in dentistry. [2 documents]

**GD2/14**

[C. 1878]

Two printed notices of the Royal College of Surgeons' decision to hold examinations and grant diplomas in dental surgery in accordance with the provisions of the Dental Act of 1878, naming the gentlemen elected to the Dental Examining Board and outlining regulations for the preliminary and professional examinations.

**GD2/15**

**1877, October 6**

Printed draft suggestions submitted to the meeting of dentists at Edinburgh for the regulation of the practice of dentistry and the registration of dental practitioners in Scotland by John Smith.

**GD2/16**

**1892, April 6**

Three printed notices of the application for a licence of the Board of Trade.

**GD2/17**

[N.D.]

John Smith's dentistry candidates' answers to examination questions. [7 Sets]

**GD2/18**

[C. 1860]

Special Certificate in Dental Surgery diploma. [2 documents]

**PUBLICATIONS BY DR JOHN SMITH AND MISCELLANEOUS ROUGH NOTES.**

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**GD2/19**

**1864**

Proof sheets of 'Hand-book of Dental Anatomy and Surgery for the Use of Students and Practitioners' by John Smith M.D, F.R.C.S., surgeon -dentist to the Royal Infirmary, Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Dental Dispensary, etc.

**GD2/20**

**1887**

Publication by J. Smith, M.D., LL.D., F.R.C.S.E. , 'Notes on Dental Surgery Intended for Students of Medicine and Medical Practitioners'. [3 copies].

**GD2/21**

[N.D. ]

List of papers by Dr John Smith, showing Journals in which they appeared and dates of publication, 1852-1893.

**GD2/22**

**1891, November 28**

Book by Robert Kirk M. D. (Edinburgh) ., F. F. Phys & Surg(Glasgow) , 'A New Theory of Chloroform Syncope showing how the Anaesthetic ought to be Administered', with a note to John Smith from the author expressing interest in Smith's paper on chloroform published in the Edinburgh Medical Journal 1866

**GD2/23**

[N.D.]

Notes on the 1741 proposal of the town council to appoint a professor of Lithotomy and a "Town's Lithotomist" and observations on the careers of the Monros.

**GD2/24**

[N.D]

Fragment with rough notes relating to the life and works of Monro.

**GD2/25-28 Exercises in penmanship by John Smith**

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**GD2/25**

1840, July 23

"Engraving Poetry and Penmanship Shine In Their Proper Sphere when Attempting to Render Immortal Characters who have Merited Their Country's Gratitude and Praise".

**GD2/26**

N.D.

"Imagination may be Displayed in Penmanship tho' not with the same force as Painting".

**GD2/27**

**N.D.**

"To the Lovers of the Fine Arts this Design is most Respectfully Inscribed by their Most obedient and humble Servant, John Smith".

**GD2/28**

**N.D.**

Chart of poets, dramatists and prose writers, their dates and works.

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