

Robert Knox: FRCSEd Correspondence, Diploma & James Bridie's 'The Anatomist'

Reference and contact details: GB779

RCSEd GD 61

Location: RS L2

Title: Robert Knox

Dates of Creation: 1825-2008

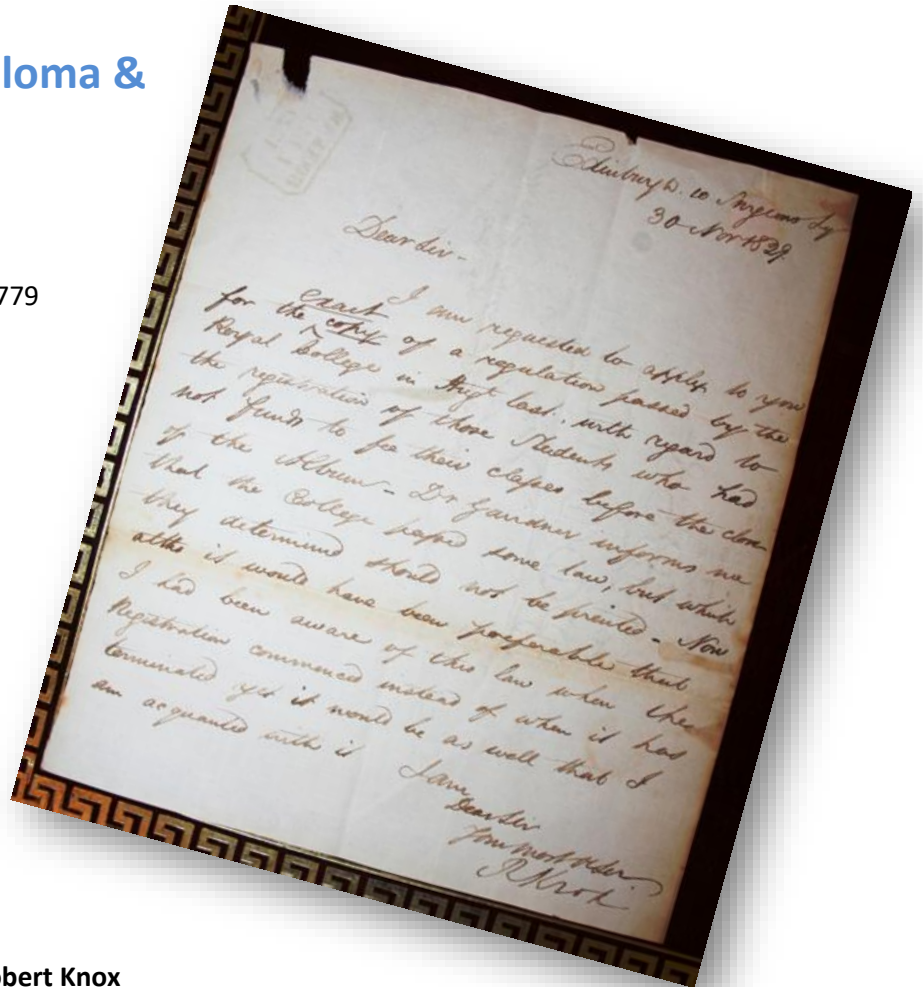
Held at: The Royal College of
Surgeons of Edinburgh

Extent: 1 file and 1 diploma

Name of Creator: R Knox

Language of Material: English.

Level of Description:



(More accruals expected as of
2017)

GD/61/1 Correspondence from Robert Knox

GD 61/1/1 Letter from Robert Knox confirming attendance of Robert Logan at classes on practical anatomy and operative surgery (Mar 1829)

GD 61/1/2 Letter from Robert Knox confirming Robert Logan has registered class tickets in the books of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh (Apr 1829)

GD 61/1/3 Letter from Robert Knox confirming Robert Logan has attended courses on anatomy and physiology (May 1829)

GD 61/2 Photographs of Robert Knox

GD 61/2/1 Photograph of Robert Knox at a small table, full length arm outstretched (2 reproductions of originals) [1840s]

GD 61/2/2 Photograph of Robert Knox, half length with both hands on a table (reproduction of original [1840s])

GD 61/3 Robert Knox miscellaneous

GD 61/3/1 Robert Knox FRCSEd – Fellowship Diploma, 1825 (outsized) And small box 9 x 8 cms containing the wax seal from Knox's 1825 RCSEd Fellowship Diploma

GD 61/3/2 List of cabin passengers of Royal Mail Steamship Sarmation, 1884

GD 61/3/3 Letter from Douglas Guthrie to Hartley [museum conservator], 1947

GD 61/3/4 Box inscribed 'Russian Cross. Dr. R Knox Crimean War' – small metal cross

GD 61/3/5 Metal religious charm depicting a saint with sword (7x5 cm)

GD 61/3/5 File of 2008/9 secondary material gathered related to Knox, and Burke and Hare



GD/61/4 Papers relating to James Bridie (Osborne Henry Mavor) play "The Anatomist"

GD61/4/1 Letter Sept 1931 from James Bridie, 6 Woodlands Terrace, Glasgow, playwright [The Anatomist] to ...regarding his play ..."*My Dr Knox who is frankly a work of fiction not a biographical figure was deduced mainly from Lonsdale, some Edinburgh College of Surgeons pictures?, some of his own writings & Roughhead's "Trial of Burke and Hare". A friend of mine (now dead) Dr James Adams of Glasgow, was the son of a friend of Knox and the last act is based partly on an incident he described to me. I understood that none of Dr Knox's relatives survived. I am afraid I have not given an entirely pleasing picture of him, but at least I have refrained from making him a monster. You might be interested to read an article by a Mr Wallbrook? in "The Stage" of 24th September. It is a curious place in which to find a biographical note on the discoverer? of thebody! I hope Mrs Noel? Will forgive me for taking liberties with her distinguished and unfortunate ancestor. It was done in ignorance. Sincerely Yours, James Bridie*

GD61/4/2 Letter 16th October 1931 from Francis Caird Inglis, Photographer, to Henry Ainley, Actor. "*Dear Mr Ainley, I read in the press the other day that you were playing Dr Knox and as I happen to have in my collection the original Calotype negative made by D. O. Hill... I have made two prints from it and enclose these for your kind acceptance...adding a third print, a full length, taken at the front door here about 1843...*"

GD61/4/3 Letter 1st December 1931 from James Bridie to Mr Knox [grandson of Dr Robert Knox FRCSEd]. "*Dear Mr Knox, It was a great pleasure to get your letter and to learn that my simulacrum of your very distinguished grandfather was not too offensive to you...*"

GD61/4/4 Letter 16th November 1931. From Dr G. Kerr Pringle to Henry Ainley, actor, regarding an enclosure related to Robert Knox [perhaps a photograph?]

GD61/4/5 Press cutting - 8th October 1931. "Henry Ainley as an ogre with a soul: "The anatomist" is a very fine play..."

GD61/4/6 Press cutting of a photograph of "The Anatomist" actors

GD61/4/7 Book. Bridie, J. Five plays [incl. The Anatomist]

Collegium Regium Chirurgorum Edinburgense

Decrevit ornatissimum virum Robertum Knox
examine solite feliciter peracto, in Societatem suam cooptare
et Collegam adscribere. Ipsum, ideo, omnium honorum atque
privilegiorum, quibus Socii ejusdem Collegii fruuntur, participem
fecit. In cujus rei fidem, hoc Diploma, sigillo suo, Praesidisque
chirographo munitum, expediri jussit. Actum Edinburgi, in
Conventu Chirurgorum, die decimo nono mensis Aprilis
anno millesimo octingentesimo et vigesimo quinto

21st May 1725