

E.W.A.Walker to Professor Thomson.
 Jan 1st 1904.

Royal Societies Club,
 St. James's Street,
 S.W.

Dear Professor Thomson,

I don't know whether you will be interested to hear more of the movements of which I wrote you hurriedly last night (to the Dept. of Human Anatomy).

I find that the notice which I quoted to you, stating that there will be a meeting of Oxford Medical Graduates at the Medical Soc. Rooms, Chandos Street, at 5.p.m. on Tuesday next to consider questions arising out of the resignation of Sir John Burdon Sanderson has been sent out unsigned, I sent only to "teachers" in London "and a few others".

West is the prime mover, but there is pretty wide spread movement Champneys, Ackland etc. Bosauquet and Fairbairn are very busy. I have seen the latter and had communication with the former. They will be very hard up for a Candidate for they don't seem likely to concentrate on Moullin.

I have gleaned a number of facts to-day e.g. that Balfour's private Sec. was seen yesterday and was besought to get the appointment postponed until Tuesday's meeting has expressed itself.

No Oxford resident is receiving a notification, but I shall certainly stay up and go to see the fun.

I think I irritate some of the people a good deal for while I thoroughly agree with them that R. is by no means eminent nor very distinguished, I suggest that just now Oxford wants efficiency and activity rather more than eminence in the Burdon's successor, and that the names they bring up are certainly less distinguished than the name they oppose. No single person I have heard named, except Moullin, has so far as I know made any permanent contribution to knowledge. I have heard the following suggestions Sharkey (+), Acland, Ormerod, Schorstein(!) Moullin. Payne will not allow himself to be suggested.

Schorstein appears to have thrown the bomb in his own inimitable way - as if it were a matter of common knowledge that R. would be successor - and has upon the instant disappeared to the South of France.

It may be possible to surprise the organisers of Tuesday's meeting.

The fury seems to be largely associated with a movement, which I had not realised as serious, to get the Final M.B. exam. into the hands of Clinicians here in town.

Yours sincerely,
 E.W.A.Walker.