

**From Dr. William Beattie, London.**

18 TAVISTOCK STREET, BEDFORD SQUARE, APRIL 3, 1849.

I hereby certify that Dr. Thomas Aitken, whom I have known upwards of twenty years, studied the Mathematical Sciences, both pure and mixed, under Professors Leslie and Playfair; that he obtained the highest Mathematical honors in the University of Edinburgh; that he delivered with eminent success a complete course of Lectures on Natural Philosophy in the Royal Institution of Liverpool; that he contributed the article *Bomouilli* to the last edition of the *Encyclopedia Britannica*; that he is the author of a volume of *Sermons*, which are held in high estimation, both for purity of doctrine and elegance of composition; and that as an honorable and upright man, he enjoys the esteem and confidence of all who know him.

(Signed,)

WILLIAM BEATTIE, M. D.,  
College of Physicians Lond. & Edin.

**From Dr. Traill, Professor of Medical Jurisprudence, University of Edinburgh.**

EDINBURGH, JUNE, 1846.

Dr. Thomas Aitken, during the period of my residence in Liverpool, was for several years employed to give Lectures on Natural Philosophy, in the Royal Institution of that town, many of which I attended with pleasure and advantage. He was if I recollect aright, recommended to the Directors by a letter from the late Sir John Leslie, whose pupil he had been, and his knowledge of his subject did credit to the recommendation of his preceptor.

(Signed,)

THOMAS STEWART TRAIL.

**From the late Dr. Carson, Physician in Liverpool.**

LIVERPOOL, 18th APRIL, 1841.

I have been intimately acquainted with Dr. Thomas Aitken for fifteen years. As Dr. Aitken during a great part of that time resided in Liverpool, I have had a favorable opportunity of estimating his character, talents and attainments. I attended a course of Lectures which he delivered at the Royal Institution of this place, on Mechanical Philosophy. From those Lectures I received much pleasure and instruction. Of his Botanical knowledge, which I always understood to be very great, I do not venture to speak as that is a source with which I am sorry to say, my acquaintance is limited, but from the perspicuity and soundness of his judgment, from the strength of his reasoning powers, and from the zeal with which he prosecutes every enquiry undertaken by him, and I know Botany to be a favourite one, Dr. Aitken would, I am satisfied, fill the Botanical Chair of Glasgow highly to the honour and interest of that University.

(Signed,)

JAS. CARSON, M. D., F.R.S.

**From Members of the Parish Church of Rothsay.**

ROTHSAY, DECEMBER, 1843.

REVEREND & DEAR SIR:

We, the undersigned, being Heritors, Tenants, Elders and Communicants of the Parish of Rothsay adhering to the Established Church of Scotland, are desirous of bearing our strongest testimony to your character and qualifications for the Ministerial Office. During two months of the vacancy which lately occurred in this parish in consequence of the secession of the Minister thereof, you afforded official supply, having been invited and appointed to do so from a convic-

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