

Chimborazo Hospital,  
April 3<sup>rd</sup> 1865.

To the Visitors of the  
Virginia Med. College,

I desire to present to your favourable consideration the name of D<sup>r</sup> Wm. Alex. Thom for the appointment to the vacant professorship of "Obstetrics &c" in your College. D<sup>r</sup> Thom is a distinguished graduate of the Virginia Med. College, and was for some time connected with this institution as Demonstrator of Anatomy. - It has always been the custom and policy of the Colleges and Universities of this State, other things being equal, to confer their vacant professorships on the Alumni of their schools. A reference to the faculty of the University of Virginia - the most successful institution in the State and the South, will establish this fact.

D<sup>r</sup> Thom after graduating at your College settled in the County of Northampton where he was an entire stranger. His cordial and genial manners, his vigorous and cultivated mind, but above all his thorough knowledge of his profession, gained him the confidence of the Community in which he settled. Secured him a large practice, and he rapidly rose to eminence in his profession, and is now justly ranked among the first Physicians and Surgeons of this State. D<sup>r</sup> Thom enjoyed a high reputation as an Obstetrician and was either directly employed or consulted in all cases of this character that required professional attention in a wide circle of country around him. I know of no medical gentleman who has in so eminent a degree the qualities of a successful teacher as D<sup>r</sup> Thom. To high intellectual endowments are added great energy of character.



zealous enthusiastic perseverance in whatever engages his attention.

D<sup>r</sup> Thom was appointed surgeon in the Confederate Army in 1861. Early in 1862 he was assigned to "Hospital duty" in this city. He entered on the discharge of <sup>the</sup> important and responsible duties of this position, and with no more experience than usually falls to the lot of country physicians and surgeons. He rapidly rose to distinction as a practical and scientific surgeon, and to-day the Medical Staff of the Army can boast of no more accomplished surgeon than D<sup>r</sup> Thom.

I mention this fact to show, with his professional attainments, and peculiar traits of character already alluded to, there is no position in his profession to which he may be assigned, that he would rise to usefulness and eminence.

Very Respectfully,  
J. V. Pringle

Surgeon O. A. C. S., in charge  
Chimborazo Hospital No 1.



D. P. F. Browne