

Clement Archer

Born: c.1726
President: 1768-1769, 1776-1777
Died: 1796

Clement Archer was born in Dublin, the son of Benjamin Archer. He was probably from the Wexford family of Archers, who produced another near contemporary Clement Archer (1748-1803) who was President of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland.

Our Clement Archer entered Trinity College Dublin in 1743 as a pensioner. He was awarded the BA degree by Trinity in 1748, an MB in 1757, and eventually an MD in 1761. He became a Licentiate of the College of Physicians of Ireland in February 1761, receiving his Fellowship just eight months later.

During the final illness of Adam Humble (qv) in 1761 Clement Archer discharged Humble's duties as physician at Dr Steevens' Hospital, and was appointed to the post on his death in 1762. Archer resigned from the post in 1779. The governors of the Hospital, of whom Archer was one, recorded that 'their thanks should be given to Dr Clement Archer for his constant attendance to the said Hospital during the time he was Physician thereof'.¹

Archer was elected President of the College of Physicians of Ireland in 1768 and again in 1776. In 1790 he resigned his Fellowship and was awarded Honorary Fellowship. This was not unusual at that time as the number of Fellows of the College was then limited to twelve. Senior Fellows sometimes resigned their posts to allow for the election of younger colleagues.

Archer died in Dublin on 14 September 1796.

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¹ Quoted in Kirkpatrick, History of Dr Steevens' Hospital (Dublin: University Press, 1924) 144

