

The Asylum for Idiots : instituted October 27, 1847.

Contributors

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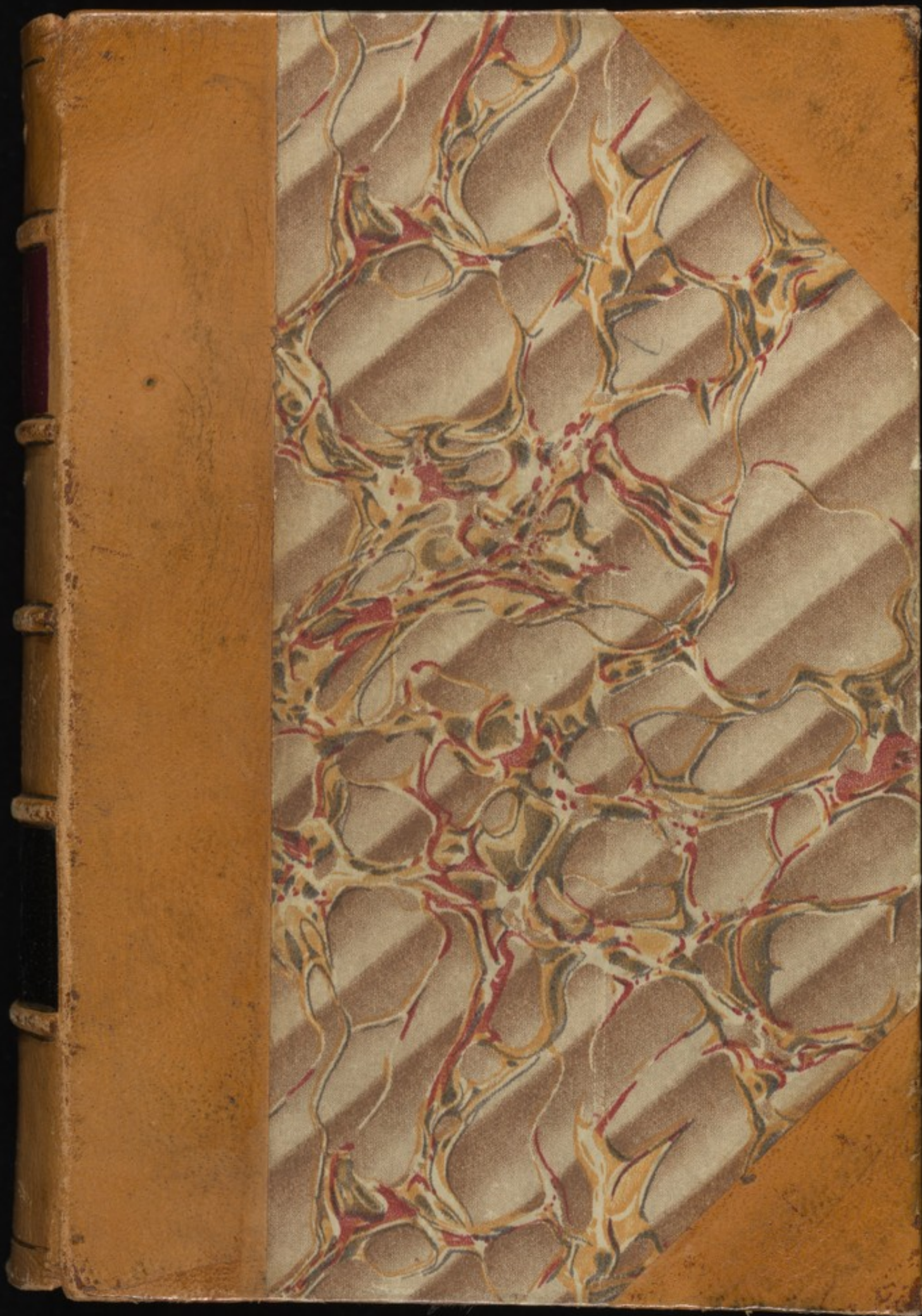
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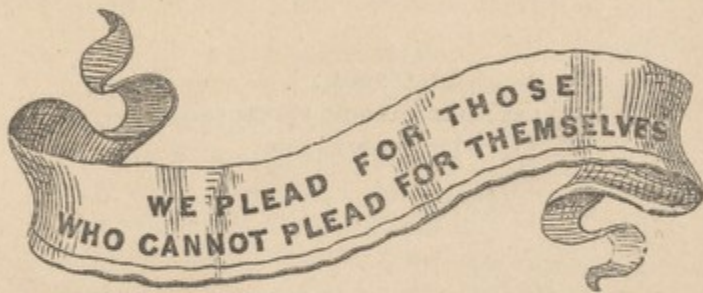


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THE
ASYLUM FOR IDIOTS:

Instituted October 27, 1847.



ESTABLISHMENTS:

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OFFICE: 29, POULTRY, LONDON.

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ADDRESS.

ENGLAND, our beloved country, is greatly distinguished amongst the nations by the Divine Providence. On her head there rest many crowns; but the fairest and the brightest is that of Charity! Her power in arms, her skill in arts, her discoveries in science, her boundless commerce and dominion, do neither distinguish nor glorify her so much as her benevolent Institutions. They should seem to be, like our oaks and our elms, indigenous to our Land. They are not the creatures of the State, but the nurslings of the people; and well have they been fostered.

Every form of evil by which humanity suffers has been searched out; and Ingenuity has been tasked to devise methods of cure or of mitigation. Defects of the eye, the ear, the tongue, the foot, have separate and skilful attention; the maimed, the sick, and the insane, are supplied with a house of refuge, and soothed by the kindness of Charity; and, as might be expected, where the voice of Religion is heard, the widow and the fatherless have been so fully and earnestly regarded, as that their affliction and mourning are turned into joy and praise.

Yet it must be admitted that there is one class, and that, in some respects, the lowest and the worst, which has been overlooked. WE HAVE DONE NOTHING FOR THE IDIOT! How is this? It cannot be that, feeling aright towards every other class of misery, our charity should fail here. It must be, that we have laboured under the appalling conviction that idiocy is without remedy, and therefore we have left it without help.

It is happy for the interests of humanity

that this opinion is now exploded. The experiment has at length been made—made by several persons—made in several countries,—France, Germany, and Switzerland,—and in all cases with success. It may now, therefore, be pronounced, not as an opinion, but as a fact—a delightful fact—**THAT THE IDIOT MAY BE EDUCATED.**

While this is now to be received as an ascertained and registered fact, it is especially true as applied to the earlier periods of life. There can be no doubt that the evil, in this case, as in that of insanity, is wholly physical. We cannot even conceive of mind, apart from the body, as either idiotic or insane. In itself it is neither; and it only becomes so from imperfect or distorted manifestations through a diseased or defective organization. If this is correct, it is evident that the **EARLIER** we attempt the recovery of the Idiot, the more hopeful. In fact, the young—the very young—are greatly susceptible of improvement. If they are regarded as hopeless, they will indeed become hopeless,—for the

tendency of neglect is to fatuity ; but if they are taken early, and are carefully trained and educated on the principle that *there is mind*, and that it only demands *physical manifestation*, much, in most cases, that is essential to life, if not all that is desirable, may be secured. For vacancy there may be sense ; for frivolousness, a serious regard to the habits and duties of life ; for a joyless and unconscious being, lower than the brutes that perish, a capacity for thought, for enjoyment, for religion, for an anticipated immortality !

It is not possible that these facts can be known and believed, and yet neglected. **SOMETHING MUST BE DONE FOR THE IDIOT.** In charity it must be done—in consistency it must be done—for very shame it must be done—unless we would allow other nations to outrun us in the noblest course of man—that of benevolence.

Yet it must not be concealed, that this service is especially one of great difficulty and self-

denial. It requires skill, as much as earnestness, and earnestness equally with skill. Of all the spheres of charity, it supplies the least aliment to vapid sentiment, and demands that it be fulfilled under a rigid and extraordinary sense of duty—the duty which man owes to man.

The purport of this appeal is to invite and concentrate effort on this object. It proposes to educate the Idiot, especially in the earlier periods of life. It proposes to do this by the strenuous application of the most skilful means, appropriate to the object before us, and worthy of the Country in which we dwell. It proposes that the benefit of the first efforts shall supply relief chiefly to the *middle* and *poorer classes*; and, at the same time, become a model and a motive for improvement in our pauper institutions. It will be, in the fullest sense, an effort of charity. It will help those who cannot help themselves; and it will proffer assistance to those who would otherwise be called to bear a burden that was intolerable.

Those who make this appeal do it with confidence—the confidence of those who have before challenged public benevolence, and not in vain. Can it be in vain now? It is for the poor, poor Idiot they plead!—for the Idiot, the lowest of all the objects of Christian sympathy,—for the Idiot, most needing charity, and for whom charity has done nothing. We ask that he may be elevated from existence to life—from animal being to manhood—from vacancy and unconsciousness to reason and reflection. We ask that his soul may be disimprisoned; that he may look forth from the body with meaning and intelligence on a world full of expression; that he may, as a fellow, discourse with his fellows; that he may cease to be a burden on society, and become a blessing; that he may be qualified to know his Maker, and look beyond our present imperfect modes of being to perfected life in a glorious and everlasting future!

CONSTITUTION.

I. That the name of this Charity be,
"THE ASYLUM FOR IDIOTS."

II. That the design of this Charity be, not merely to take the Idiot under its care, but especially, by the skilful and earnest application of the best means in his education, to prepare him, as far as possible, for the duties and enjoyments of life.

III. That the proper object of this Institution be the Idiot, without regard to sex or place. That such persons as are destitute of means, shall be placed on the foundation, by the open election of the Subscribers; while such as have means, shall be supplied with the advantages of the Asylum on moderate payments, to be regulated by the Board of Direction, and independent of the elections.

IV. That the age be unlimited; and that the Board be understood to have a discretion over the cases applying for relief; but that, usually, the period of CHILDHOOD and INFANCY be preferred as most favourable; and that always those cases be first regarded, which are most likely to profit by the course of treatment and education to be adopted.

V. That the period of continuance shall not usually exceed five years; but that a discretion be allowed to the Board in special cases.

VI. That, before any case is deemed eligible, it shall be subject to careful inquiry and professional examination; and, on every such case, there shall be a reasonable expectation that it may profit by the means proposed to be employed for its benefit.

VII. That before any case is actually admitted to the Asylum, two or more respectable persons, approved by the Board, shall enter into an engagement to remove it from the Asylum, when required so to do.

VIII. That the elections do occur half-yearly, in April and October; and should the

votes in any case be equal, the Chairman is to have a casting vote.

IX. That the number of children to be chosen be determined from time to time by the state of the finances.

X. That if at any time it shall be evident that the election of any case has been secured by false representations, such election shall be declared void.

XI. That in case of an applicant being unsuccessful at the first election, credit shall be given for the number of votes at that and the two next succeeding elections; but not beyond this time.

XII. That all persons subscribing half-a guinea a year, or five guineas at one time, shall be Members, and have the right of voting at the elections, and on the general business.

XIII. That all persons subscribing one guinea a year, or ten guineas at one time, shall have two votes at the election of candidates.

XIV. That the right of voting at elections shall increase in the same proportion, and that all persons subscribing two guineas annually, or

twenty guineas at one time, shall be Governors, and have the right of attending at the sittings of the Board.

XV. That all Ministers preaching in behalf of this Charity shall become Members for life.

XVI. That an Executor paying a legacy of one hundred pounds, shall be a Member for life; and that if it exceed that sum, all the Executors shall have the same privilege.

XVII. That there be a General Annual Meeting in the month of April, when a Report, domestic and financial, on the state of the Charity, shall be read, and the officers chosen.

XVIII. That no such Meeting shall be deemed duly authorised, unless publicly advertised, and notice given to the Members; and that no rule affecting the constitution can be altered or withdrawn, without *special* announcement.

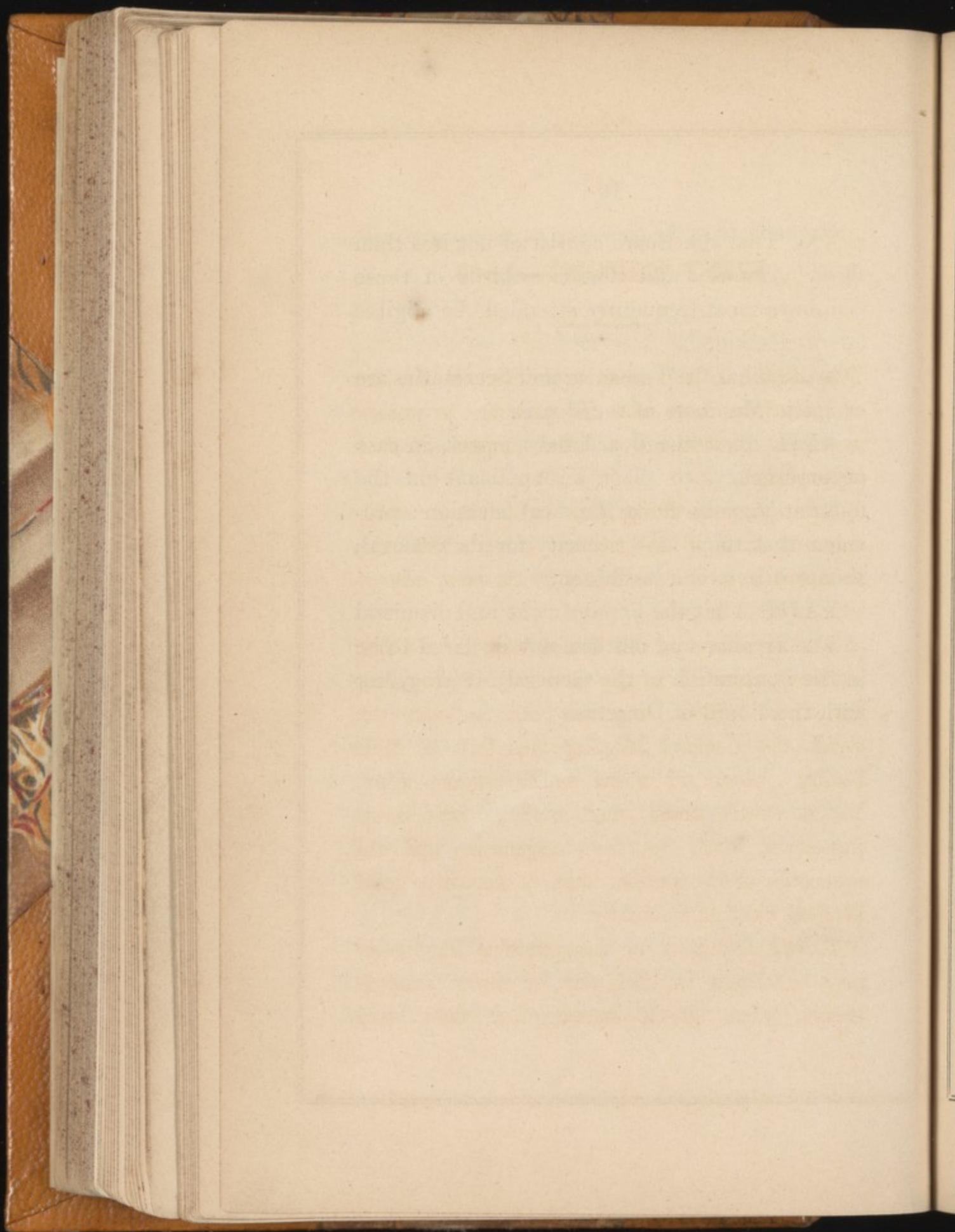
XIX. That the appointment of the Board, the Treasurer, and the Secretaries, rest with this meeting; and that these officers be chosen annually, and act gratuitously.

XX. That the Board consist of not less than thirty persons; and that two-thirds of those who have most frequently attended, be eligible for re-election.

XXI. That the Treasurer and Secretaries are *ex-officio* Members of the Board.

XXII. That the Board have power, in case of emergency, to place an applicant on the foundation, subject to the next election; provided that they have security for its removal, should it not then be chosen.

XXIII. That the appointment and dismissal of all servants and officers, not declared to be in the nomination of the General Meeting, rest with the Board of Direction.



FIRST REPORT—1849.

THE Board of Directors appointed on the day of institution have now the pleasure to present to their constituents a brief Report of their proceedings.

They purpose doing this by a simple statement of facts, as the method most satisfactory to themselves, and as likely to be most acceptable to their friends.

The attention of the Board was, in the first instance, directed to the necessity of providing for those offices, superior and subordinate, which the General Meeting had left in their hands. Some of these would require time; but it struck them that nothing was more important, both for their assistance and the assurance of the public, than to secure a good Medical Staff immediately.

It will doubtless be thought that they have been felicitous in this part of their arrangements, when it is stated, that they were

successful in securing the gratuitous official services of Dr. Conolly and Dr. Little, as Physicians; of Thomas Callaway, Esq., as Surgeon; and subsequently of Edwin Saunders, Esq., as Surgeon-Dentist. These names are known to the world, and need no comment.

The services of these gentlemen have been of great advantage to the infant Charity, and they have been the more prized by your Board from the spirit in which they have been given. In fact, grateful acknowledgments are due to the Medical Profession generally, for the handsome and generous manner in which they have regarded this effort of mercy. They best knew our difficulties, and they have been the most forward to cheer us in our course. Dr. Forbes, Dr. Sutherland, and Sir James Clarke, should be especially named with gratitude.

That the public might be satisfied that we were in earnest, the Board immediately prepared for an election; and when it is remembered that we have already arrived at our fourth election, it will not be thought that they have lost anything of their first ardour.

The choice of patients made it indispensable to provide a suitable home. This was, of course, an early and an anxious care, and in fact, for a considerable time, attended with unusual difficulties. In concurrence with the Medical Officers, they were of opinion, that they would require a house of ample accommodations; that its site should be elevated; that there should be sufficient land to secure exercise and free ventilation; and that, while it placed the family in retirement, it should be readily accessible from the Metropolis. They think that these advantages are brought together in the present dwelling. It is their happiness to know, that those who have visited it, have given to the selection the seal of their approbation.

The family took possession of this dwelling just a year since. Capacious as it was, within six months they had to look to an enlargement; and great as was their responsibility already, they did not shrink from it, when to have done so would have been to cripple the Institution in its cradle. The enlargements have been completed, and so far occupied, that the elec-

tion of this day will make us again full; and it is for this Meeting to show how far they will authorise what has been done, and encourage their successors in office to move forward. At the present time, the family of pupils and patients amounts to sixty; and the entire household, to eighty persons: which number, by the election of this day, will be raised to NINETY ONE.

The Board have had to appoint, in connection with this establishment, a matron, a master, a gymnastic and singing-master, two assistant masters, and four attendants. The last, but most important domestic appointment, is that of resident physician. Before they were fully aware that this was made imperative by recent Acts of Parliament, they were led to think, that nothing less could satisfy their anxieties in the care of such a family. At the earliest moment, when their means would allow, they gave therefore a most careful attention to this subject; and they are happy in stating that they have cordially and unanimously accepted the professional services of Dr. Foreman as the resident physician and superintendent.

He has commenced his valuable services with their entire confidence, and they have reason to believe that it is generously returned.

It will be remembered that, in pursuing an untrodden and difficult course, a discretion was wisely given to the Board; yet two things were distinctly before them from the beginning, and of these it may be needful to speak.

The first is *education*. The Board have regarded it as their chief trust, and they have given to it their chief attention. They have acted on the principle, that *always there is mind*, and that *in itself it is perfect*; and that it has imperfect and defective expression from imperfect or deranged organisation. Their education, therefore, has been principally physical; and they have availed themselves of separation and of classification in conducting it. They have sought for the particular defect, and begun with it. They have educated the eye, the ear, the mouth, the brain, the muscle, the limb; and have thus endeavoured to reach the better portion of our nature, that it also might be trained to moral and spiritual exercises.

It must be evident, that, however interesting the subject, this is not the occasion for enlargement. Still it may be anxiously asked, With what results has the attempt been made? The Board would respectfully deprecate an impatience of results. If those are wrong who think that nothing can be done for the Idiot, those are not less wrong who think that everything may be done in a few weeks or months. It should be borne in mind, that the faculty we seek to train may have been dormant or perverted for years, and that we have to contend with the power of habit as well as the weakness of nature. It would not be the work of reasonable men to expect sudden results in such a case: in fact, it would be empirical and dangerous to seek them. The Board have counted the cost; and they are more than ever persuaded that the fruits they anticipate must be sought, through many changeful seasons, by a patience of labour, and an energy of benevolence, which know no weariness and refuse to be discouraged.

Yet it is their privilege to speak of effects

partially realised, and in some instances of a marked and delightful character. It has been their happiness to observe the eye that had no useful sight, begin to see; the ear to relish sweet sounds; the tongue that was dumb, begin to articulate the language of men; and the limb that was crippled or inert, put forth to useful and active service. In some cases, bad habits have been overcome; power has been created for the care of the person; the body has been brought under the control of the will; and both have become subject to a mild authority. The power of imitation has been fostered; music and drawing are beginning to find their place in the school; reading, writing, and even figures—which are the severest test to the weak mind—are now claiming general attention. Above all, the moral affections have been exercised; and the effects are found in the harmony of the family, and the greater readiness of the mind to recognise and worship an invisible and gracious Presence.

Indeed, the actual change to those who have the means of making the comparison is exceed-

ingly striking. Dr. Conolly, looking on it with a professional eye, lately remarked, that it was so great in six months, that he could hardly suppose the persons to be the same; and all who know what it was at first, and what it is now, will be prepared to confirm this assurance.

In fact, the first gathering of the idiotic family was a spectacle, unique in itself, sufficiently discouraging to the most resolved, and not to be forgotten in after time by any. It was a period of distraction, disorder, and noise of the most unnatural character. Some had defective sight; *most* had defective or no utterance; *most* were lame in limb or muscle; and all were of weak and perverted mind. Some had been spoiled, some neglected, and some ill-used. Some were clamorous and rebellious; some were sullen and perverse; and some unconscious and inert. Some were screaming at the top of the voice; some making constant and involuntary noises from nervous irritation; and some, terrified at scorn and ill-treatment, hid themselves in a corner from the face of man, as the face of an enemy. Windows were

smashed, wainscoting broken, boundaries defied ; and the spirit of mischief and disobedience prevailed. It seemed as though nothing less than the accommodations of a prison would meet the wants of such a family. Some who witnessed the scene retired from it in disgust, and others in despair.

How very different the impression is at present, many can testify. There is now order ; obedience to authority ; classification, improvement, and cheerful occupation. Every hour has its duties ; and these duties are steadily fulfilled. Windows are now safe ; boundaries are observed without walls ; and doors are safe without locks. The desire now is, not to get away, but to stay. They are essentially, not only an improving, but a *happy family*. And all this is secured without the aid of *correction* or *coercion*. The principle which rules in the house is LOVE—CHARITY—DIVINE CHARITY !

But there is yet another view of the subject distinctly before us, to which the Board must briefly refer—that is, the *care*, the permanent care of the Idiot. It must be admitted that,

after the utmost effort of skill and labour, there are cases which admit of little improvement; and many, while susceptible of much improvement, leaving the poor patient sadly disqualified to fulfil the duties of life, and to resist the trials and temptations of a bustling and selfish world. Are these to be abandoned because they inspire little hope, and need the most care? Is it nothing to make them safe?—to redeem them from misery and scorn?—to find them a home?—to provide them suitable occupation, and so save them from vacancy and fatuity?—to supply them with such comforts as they can enjoy, that they may be contented and happy? Is this nothing?

You have considered this division of the subject important from the first; and the Board have strong convictions on it, from the knowledge which has recently come to them. They have learned, that the first desire of many an anxious friend or parent is to secure such a provision, for a helpless but beloved sufferer. In so changeful a world, they have not been able to look for this from individuals: they have sought

for some Institution, of public name and permanent character, for the deposit of their charge. The Board have looked anxiously on this arrangement. They are persuaded it will confer a great benefit on society. They therefore earnestly hope that their Asylum may become both a School and a Refuge, where the more hopeful may find beneficial training, and the hopeless and forlorn a quiet and grateful place of rest.

In construing the third Rule, according to the discretion granted to them, the Board have provided, that the elections are not open either to the *pauper* or the *payment* case. The pauper case is excluded, because it is sufficiently provided for by the law of the land; and the payment case, because it is supposed to be able, in whole or in part, to help itself. The elections, therefore, are accessible to those only who, by respectable habits, are above the pauper, and, by narrow means, deprived of the power of payment.

In relation to the payment cases, the Board have provided, that, having respect to the

expense of care and education in the case of the Idiot, Fifty Guineas per annum is the adequate and needful payment. Those, therefore, otherwise qualified, who present themselves on this scale, are received without inquiry as to exact circumstances.

They have, however, felt it to be of the highest importance to supply a *reduced scale* for those who cannot reach this sum, but are both able and willing to pay something. They have fixed Twenty-five Guineas as the payment for this class; thus bringing it as near as they safely can to those who, though of poor condition, seek to cherish, as their life, independent and respectable habits. Those, therefore, who are eligible for this reduced scale, are obliged, by a candid exposition of their circumstances, to show that they are not able to pay the larger sum. The Board at once confess, that this lower sum is not adjusted so much on a commercial principle as on one of benevolence. Still, with the checks provided, they cannot think it will be abused; and they are certain, that every subscriber will demand, that we

should deal generously with a class which, while they are oppressed by burdens almost intolerable, are concerned to preserve the standing and the bearing of Englishmen.

All the classes referred to are received on a level, and are treated equally. They have all the best provision, the best clothing, and the best lodging possible; and every branch of education, however expensive, is equally open to all. If any require, from their state of affliction, or from the desire of their connections, *separate* attendance or *separate* accommodation, it must be met on a higher scale, and left to be regulated from time to time by the discretion of the Board.

Having made these needful statements, the Board may perhaps be allowed to congratulate their constituents on their position. It exceeds any expectation that could have been entertained a twelvemonth ago. Never has an infant Charity made such progress in so short a period. Never has a Board of similar character taken up such serious responsibilities; and never perhaps has any one been so sustained by public

sympathy. We have advanced quietly and unostentatiously, but we have been observed. Science has inquired of our welfare; Benevolence has cheered us in our labours; and Royalty has smiled on our path. His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, and His Royal Highness Prince Albert, have recently honoured the Asylum with their presence. Correspondence has been invited from distant and various countries; and visitors have arrived from France, Germany, and America, to inspect our proceedings.

The benefit has already extended beyond the sphere of our exertions. The *tone* of public feeling in relation to the poor Idiot has been raised. He never can again be the forlorn, abandoned, scorned, imprisoned creature he once was. Many worthy men, at the head of private establishments, now promise to do more for him than was before thought of; Hanwell has engaged a master and mistress especially for the education of the idiotic portion of its large family; and just now a gentleman, not so much known for his wealth as for his beneficence, has consecrated to the welfare of the Idiot, over the Eastern Counties, a mansion of large capacities

and of great value. The Board cannot wish that it had received another direction; but they ardently desire that kindred minds may be disposed by Divine Providence to give them like assistance.

This is, in fact, what the occasion requires. The claim is not to be met by ordinary effort, and small, though regular, subscriptions. We are proposing to raise a Model Institution, and have thrown it open to the empire; and already, not scores, but hundreds are craving admission. We owe a long and heavy debt to the poor Idiot for past abuse, neglect, and cruelty. We have to roll away the reproach from our Country, of having done less for this class of suffering than other civilized nations. That which should have been first in our sympathies is last. The sublime of Benevolence is to pity the lowest, and to bless the worst. We are supplying the last link to the golden chain of Charity,—of all ornaments, the fairest that ever rested on the breast of a noble people. Never was there occasion more fair—more urgent—for the consecration of money, land, talent, labour, to the highest uses. It asks not merely for beneficent, but for magnificent action.

What we have done is well done ; but it only shows us what we have to do. We have committed ourselves to the work of mercy, and we must not go back. We have looked steadily on the evil, and it were sin now to pass it by.

Brethren of mankind, we must prove our title to the rights of humanity by a prompt and truthful sympathy with human interests and human suffering ! We must not be contented to possess a free mind in a free body, while others are in bonds and perishing for want of help ! The price of freedom is pity for the oppressed ! We must not say with the wicked, " Am I my brother's keeper ? " but must *draw out our soul* to him that is ready to perish ; and refuse to be perfectly happy while any of mankind are miserable ! Brethren, we are bound to this by our common nature,—by our pledged engagements,—by our faith in the soul and the soul's immortality,—by the example of our blessed Lord and Saviour,—and by our allegiance to our Father in Heaven !

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SECOND REPORT — 1850.

It has, now, become the duty of the Board to render a brief account of their proceedings during the past year. They trust it is such as will yield satisfaction to their constituents.

The family has grown considerably in that period. At the close of the former year we had sixty patients and pupils, and eighty persons in family; we have now *ninety-six* patients, and *one hundred and thirty* composing the entire household, which by the election of this day

will be advanced to *one hundred and forty-five* persons.

Park House was reported full on the last occasion. It was, therefore, necessary that the Board should look abroad, for increased accommodation. It happened, that Essex Hall, at Colchester, was presented to their attention. Samuel Morton Peto, Esq., M.P., had wished that it might be devoted to some such benevolent use ; and he generously offered to subscribe £200 a year to the funds of the charity, and to lend £1000, without interest, to meet the first expenses of occupation, if they should be disposed to take charge of it. A proposal so noble in itself, and so beneficial to the infant charity, left the Board no option. They accepted the offer ; they took possession at Christmas last ; and now a considerable portion of the family is located there. The Board cherish a hope that, while this arrangement meets their present want, they may finally dispose the Eastern Counties to adopt it as their own ; and thus leave themselves at liberty to look to a final *location*, more within the range of the Metropolis.

Of course, with the expansion of the family, many arrangements have been made necessary. A Girls'-school has been organised, and a mistress appointed. It comprehends some of the little boys; and it is advancing in the methods of *the elder school*. Additional teachers and assistants have been engaged, especially with relation to the *physical education* of the pupils. The free use of baths, shampooing, manipulation, and gymnastic exercises, are held to be of the *first consideration*; and, although this department of service is of all others the most expensive, they are resolved on carrying it out efficiently. To look merely to the *safety* and *comfort* of the poor Idiot would involve comparatively small expense; but this, as it would not content themselves, so they are ready to think it would not satisfy their constituents. They consider their *vocation* to be, *to ascertain how far the Idiot and imbecile may be elevated to physical enjoyment and rational life*, and they are prepared to say that *no expense* should be spared in labouring to arrive at their object.

Without re-stating what appeared in the for-

mer Report, the Board have the happiness to say, that the evidence of another year confirms them in the opinion that *their object is attainable*. There will, doubtless, be exceptions, but the rule is, that *much may be done for the improvement of the Idiot*. They have laboured with decided success in *most* of the cases; and when the evidence shall be more complete, they hope to place it more distinctly before the public. Meantime, the grateful testimony of the children's immediate friends is a *clear and indisputable* proof in their favour.

It is with much concern that the Board refer to the loss of one of their original friends, by the death of Sir Charles Forbes. As he was amongst the *first* to appreciate our object, so it lived in his *last* remembrances. He has left £500, free of duty, for its benefit.

The Anniversary Dinner has just been celebrated, and with great advantage to the charity. A *Building Fund* was then opened; and, on the whole, the large sum of £2700 was announced as contributed on that occasion. His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge presided;

and it is stating only the simple fact, to say, that the Institution was greatly indebted to His Royal Highness's presence and earnest advocacy.

It is also matter of grateful acknowledgment, that HER MAJESTY has been pleased spontaneously to express her interest in the charity, by subscribing 250 guineas, to constitute His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales a life member, with the right of presentation *to one bed*, and subsequently, that Her Majesty has condescended to become its Patroness.

It will be seen from the *financial* statement, that though our young Institution has been sustained by unusual liberality, we have had nothing to spare. It has been the fixed resolution of the Board, not to embarrass themselves by debt, and with their utmost care they have only been just able to keep within the limits of their resolution. They have been the more afflicted at this, because they have done so *little good* as compared with the *demand* made on them. For instance, at this very time we have ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY APPLICANTS knocking at the door

for entrance, and we are prepared to accept only FIFTEEN ! What is to become of the ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FIVE who will this day be rejected ? If some are this day gratified with success, how many will be afflicted to tears at their disappointment ! In fact, there is, at present, no *proportion* between the *want* felt in society and the *relief* afforded.

Under these circumstances, the Board earnestly entreat the existing subscribers to exert themselves to procure additional assistance. If each one could obtain *five others*, what a different position would be ours ! What a sense of gratification should we have in the redemption of so many more of our fellow-creatures from vacancy, from fatuity, from unutterable misery and degradation !

The Board have just put into circulation a *Special Appeal* on the subject of a Building Fund. Without repeating themselves, they beg respectfully to refer attention to it. Nothing is more material to the success of their object than to provide a suitable and permanent habitation for their patients.

The Board leave the subject, with confidence, in the hands of the public. Where the first effort has been met with such *prompt* and *liberal* assistance, there can be no place for doubt. When the *sense* of a *great public want* takes hold of the English mind, it is met with great determination, great effort, and great and self-denying generosity.

Such a temper of mind is all that we need. The work we have begun, arduous though it be, will be carried to a triumphant conclusion.

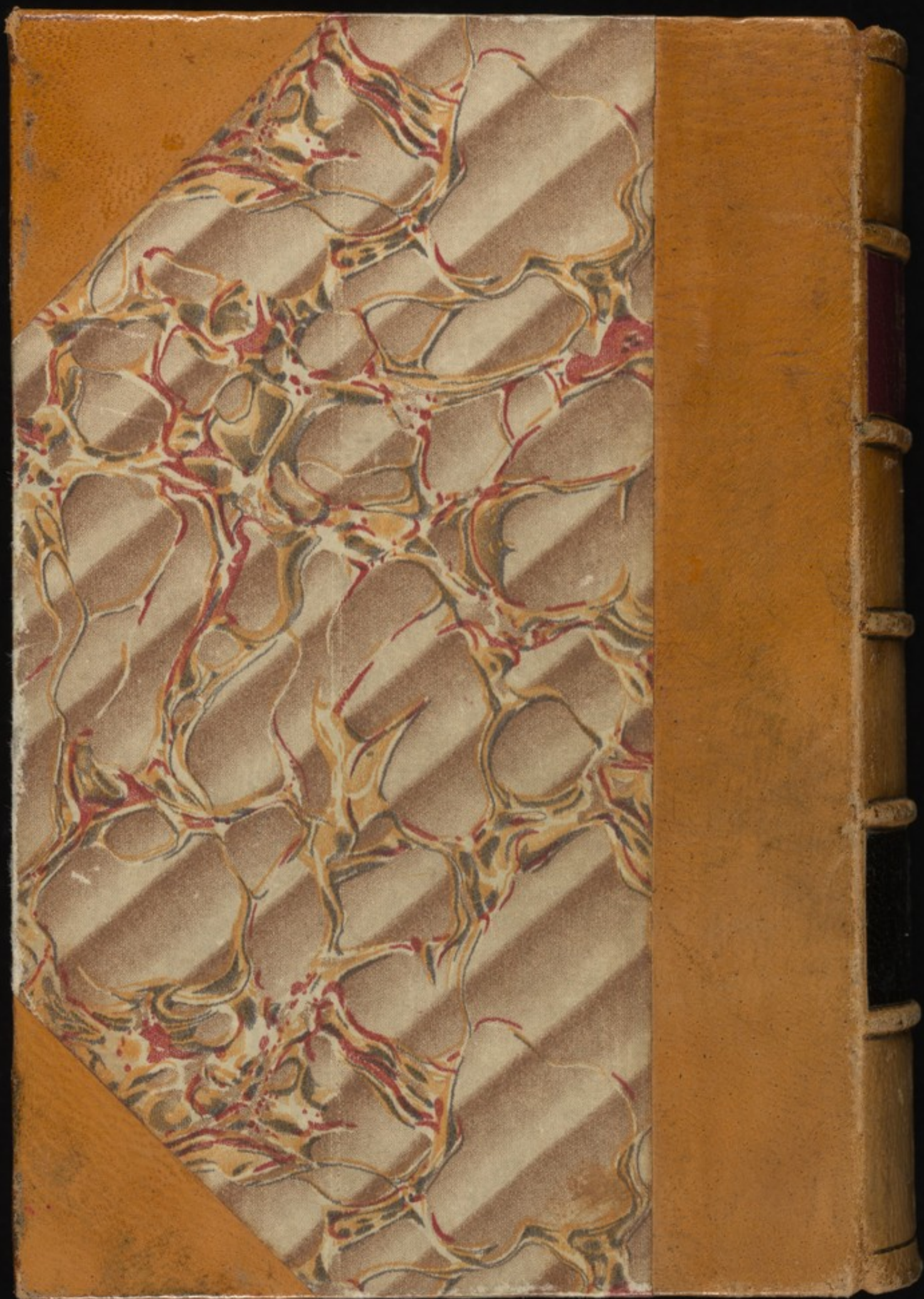
Many a dumb sufferer will be relieved—many a prison-bound spirit will be set at liberty—many a saddened family will awake to joy and gratitude for the child that was lost and is found—and England will preserve her high and blessed pre-eminence—not as the proud mistress of nations—but as the GRACIOUS FRIEND AND COMFORTER OF SUFFERING HUMANITY.

Receipts and Expenditure from 31st December, 1848, to 31st December, 1849.

1849.		1849.	
Dec. 31.	£	Dec. 31.	By
Balance at Bankers	154 1 1	Housekeeping Expenses for	
Annual Subscriptions, and Pay-		Board, Clothing, Educa-	
ments for Pupils	3441 11 7	tion, &c.	£1553 9 4
Life Subscriptions	1167 8 0	Furniture	412 2 0
Sermon by the Bishop of Oxford..	35 2 5	Repairs, Alterations	253 15 10
Miscellaneous Receipts	9 18 4	Rent—Highgate and Office..	272 14 2
		Salaries of Officers	759 0 0
		Wages	374 6 7
		Washing	321 7 1
		Taxes, Gas, &c.	137 16 6
		Printing	102 14 6
		Advertisements	73 16 1
		School-Books, Stationery, &c.	52 1 0
		Postages	50 1 0
Stock £1000, 3 per Cent. Consols		Petty Disbursements.....	61 3 6
" 45, 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ "		Balance in hand of Treasurer	983 13 10
			£4808 1 5
	£4808 1 5		

Examined and compared with the Books and Vouchers, and certified to be correct.

JAMES ABBISS, CHARLES GATLIFF, THOMAS B. KING,	} <i>Auditors.</i>
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MEDICAL
TRACTS

543

Receipts and Expenditure, from December 31st, 1862, to December 31st, 1863.

The Wellcome Library



250	3	0
27	15	11
4	6	0
150	13	0
17	8	3
184	17	2
359	17	2
27	4	10
2,830	7	5
2,789	15	6
378	3	3
58	14	4
1,650	0	0
11	2	11
1,082	17	4
623,037	10	2

MAN, } Auditors,
W. W. WESSELL,

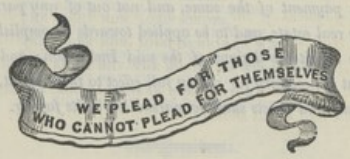
Examined and com



THE ASYLUM FOR IDIOTS.

INSTITUTED OCTOBER 27, 1847.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER, 1862.



ESTABLISHMENT:
EARLSWOOD, RED HILL, SURREY.
OFFICE—29, POULTRY, LONDON, E.C.
1865.

GEORGE UNWIN, GRESHAM STEAK PRESS, BUCKLESBURY, LONDON.



The Wellcome Library