

Third report of the Board of Health for the City of Glasgow and Suburbs.

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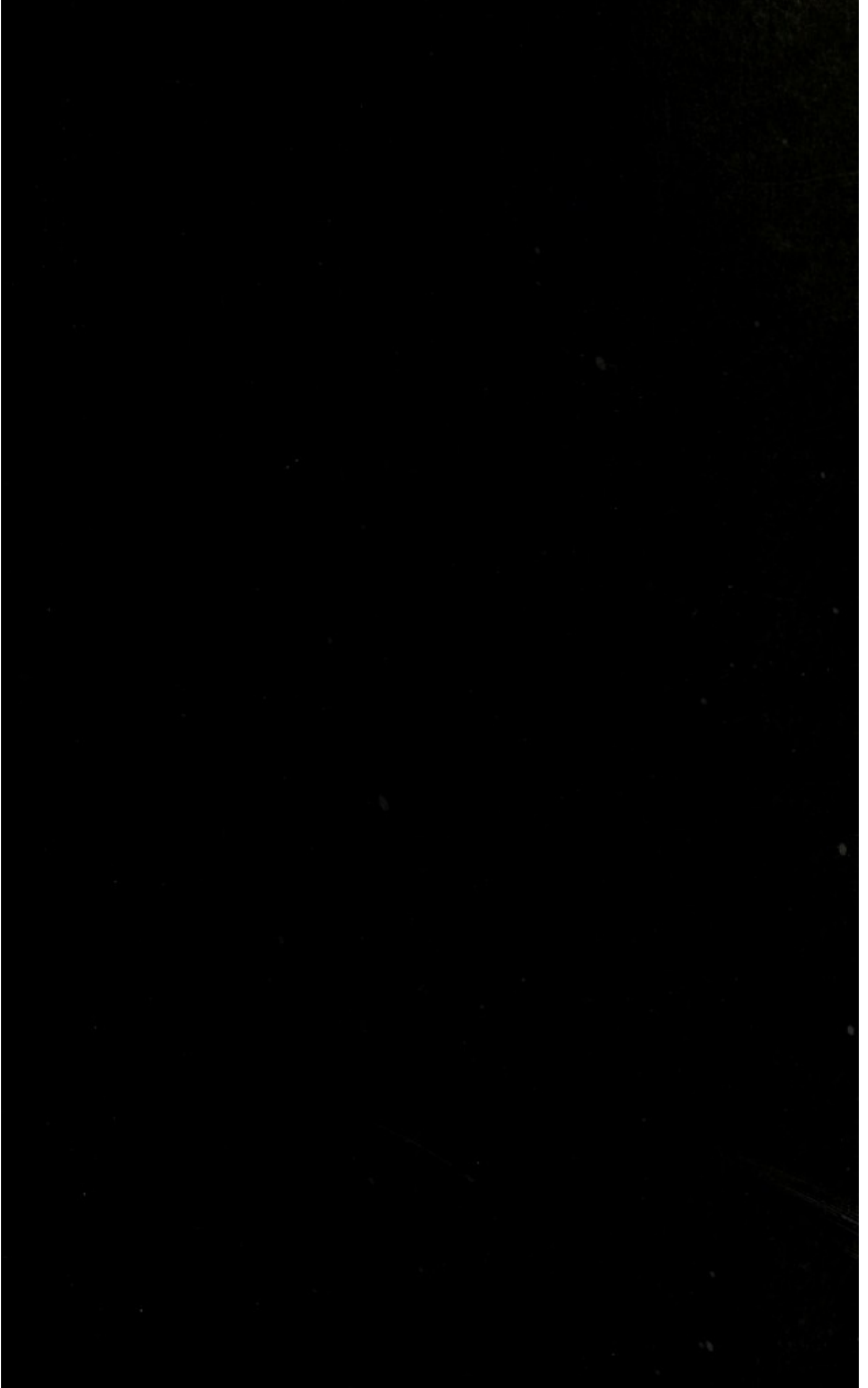
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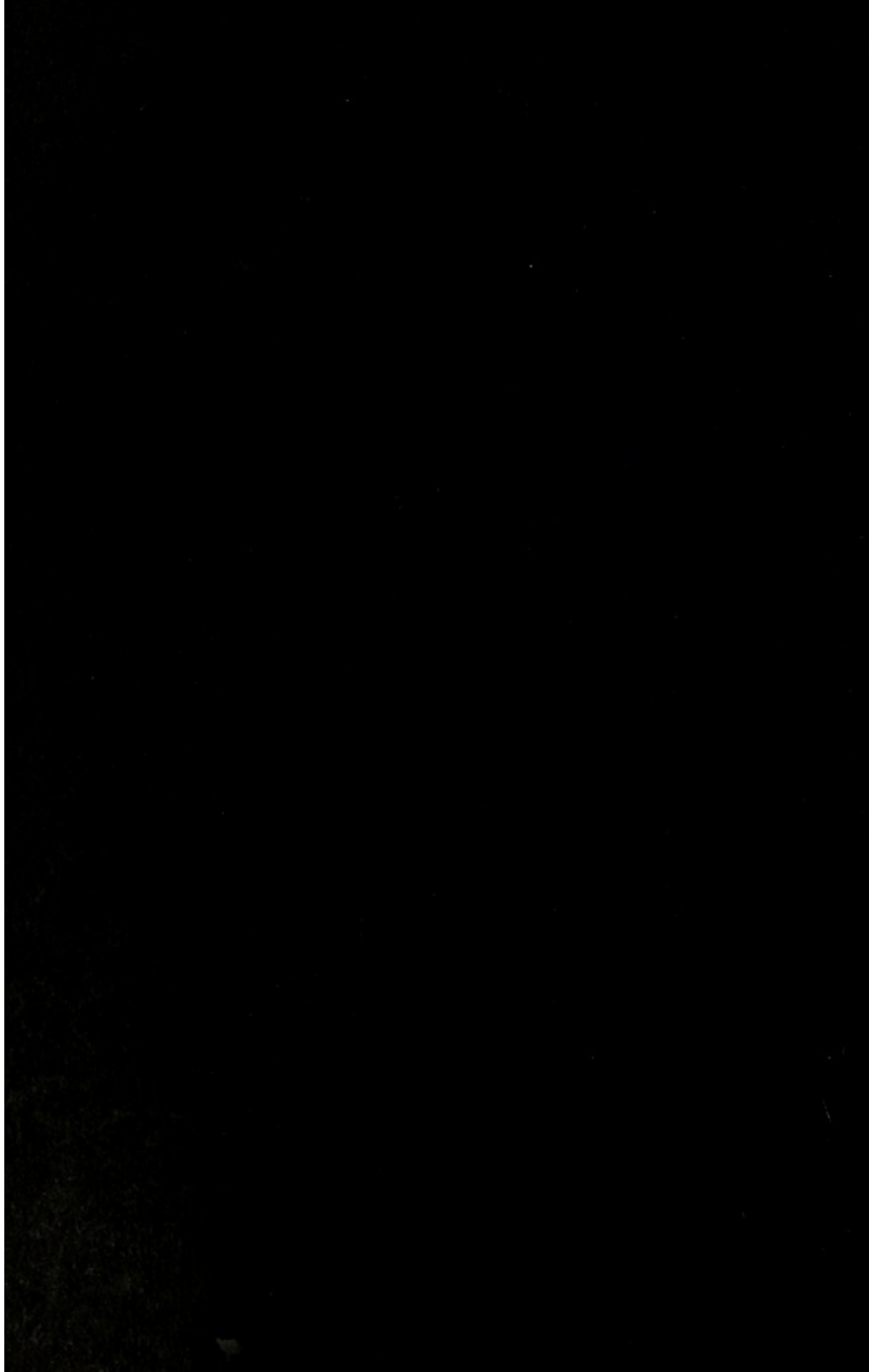
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THIRD REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF HEALTH

FOR THE

CITY OF GLASGOW AND SUBURBS.

IN the Second Report issued by the Board, it was mentioned that “they had under their consideration, the propriety of recommending the shutting up of Taverns and Public Houses, at an early hour, and that in next report, they would be able to state what progress had been made in the matter.” The Board have accordingly to mention, that after much deliberation, and correspondence with the Board of Health of Edinburgh, the measure was found to involve so many interests, and the enforcing of it to be attended with so many practical difficulties, as to induce them not to interfere. Still, however, the fact cannot be concealed, that to the unrestrained dissipation too often carried on in such places, has the increase of Cholera been frequently traced; though it would seem that nothing short of legislative interference, will be sufficient to provide a remedy for the evil.

In reference to their First Report, the Board have also now to state, that by the liberality of the public, 8,190 different articles of cast off clothing, were placed at their disposal, and that, in addition to 475 pairs of Blankets, 91 bed rugs, and 10 pieces of strong unbleached cotton, (made into shirts and shifts) purchased by the Board. These articles were distributed among the Hospitals and depots, and among poor persons, resident in the different districts of the city and suburbs. The articles received were as follows:—

Coats,	. . . . .	349
Vests,	. . . . .	614
Trowsers,	. . . . .	643
Pairs of Stockings and Socks,	. . . . .	1262
Pairs of Boots and Shoes,	. . . . .	747
Men's and Boy's Hats and Bonnets,	. . . . .	514
Gaiters, Braces, &c.,	. . . . .	150
Men's, Women's, and Children's Flannel Underdresses,		743
* Linen and Cotton Shirts and Shifts,	. . . . .	801
Gowns, Frocks, Spencers, &c.,	. . . . .	988
Men's Night Caps, Women's &c., Children's Caps, &c.,		800
Handkerchiefs and Stocks,	. . . . .	298
Pairs Blankets,	. . . . .	33
Bed Covers, Sheets, &c.,	. . . . .	101
Shawls and Mantels,	. . . . .	86
Women's and Girl's Bonnets,	. . . . .	61

Total articles, 8190

The Board have likewise to mention, that they relieved from pawn, 800 pairs blankets, 238 bed covers, and 261 flannel petticoats, thereby, it is to be hoped, affording much relief to many truly necessitous and destitute individuals.

The Local Committees which had been formed in the City and suburbs, for the purpose of affording more extended relief, to the suffering part of the community, continued their labours for a considerable time; and the supplies of Soup, Bread, &c., afforded by the Board through their agency, it is trusted, tended in no small degree to mitigate the severity of the disease. But the funds, liberal as they were, which had been placed at the disposal of the Board, having been wholly exhausted, they were reluctantly obliged from time to time to curtail, and at last altogether to withdraw the allowances for Soup Kitchens. Besides, the Bill for the prevention of Cholera, and for raising funds by assessment, having, in the month of April last, received the Royal assent, it became necessary to form Independent Local Boards for the suburban districts, and also to organize a new Board, under the sanction of the Privy Council for the Royalty of the City. These things were accordingly done, and on these new boards has now devolved the duty of adopting measures in their respective districts, for the prevention of the further spread of the disease, and, if possible, for the removal of it altogether, and for raising, by assessment, the requisite funds.

It has taken longer time than could have been wished, to get all the claims against the former Board, adjusted and paid off; but that has now been accomplished, and there is appended a classified statement* of the whole sums expended

by the Board, amounting to £10,694 : 4 : 9, which sums were obtained from the following sources ; viz.,

The Realised Subscriptions amount to

£8320 : 4 : 11

The Committee on the Fund for the Relief of the Industrious Poor, voted to the Board, in respect of their great expenditure, in Provisions and Soup Kitchens,

1500 : 0 : 0

And

The New Board, having taken the Hospitals belonging to the former Board, with their furnishings, paid the balance of their expenditure, amounting to

873 : 19 : 10

Total as above,

£10,694 : 4 : 9

In adverting to the financial department of the Board, it is impossible to omit noticing the laborious and indefatigable exertions of the Treasurer, Mr. Alston, or to avoid expressing the deep obligations under which the community lie to him, for the distinct and satisfactory manner, in which the books have been kept, and the whole pecuniary transactions of the Board conducted. To Mr. James M'Lean, Junr., is the Board likewise under very great obligations, for the time and labour bestowed gratuitously by him in checking and paying the accounts against the Board, in classifying the expenditure, and in general in all matters in which the aid of a professional accountant was required.

The thanks of the Board are also eminently due to the Chairman, Provost Dalglish, for his unwearied personal ex-

ertions during the whole progress of the disease, and for his conciliatory conduct, in many instances, in which seemingly adverse interests had to be reconciled.

The thanks of the Board are also due to Mr Sheriff Robinson—to Dr. Corkindale for his laborious services in making up the official daily returns—to Dr. Lawrie for his indefatigable exertions wherever his services were called for—to all the other official gentlemen connected with the Board, and especially to Mr. Strang, the Secretary, to whose accuracy, incessant labour, and cheerful sacrifice of time, abstracted as it has been from important professional engagements, the public are indebted for a large proportion of whatever benefit has attended the measures detailed in this Report. Nor can the Board omit expressing the sense entertained by them of the meritorious services of Mr. Brebner, the Governor of Bridewell, in relation to the House of Refuge at Cowcaddens, under the superintendence of that gentleman. Every thing connected with that establishment has been conducted in the best and most economical manner, and the very handsome way in which all pecuniary remuneration, for his services, has been declined by him, cannot be better expressed than in the letter which he himself addressed to the Lord Provost, as Chairman of the Board, and which will be found in the appendix.*

In conclusion, the Board have only to express their hope, that the statements, now and formerly made, will be satisfactory to their fellow-citizens; and that credit will be given them, that in their endeavours to follow out the objects for which the Board was organized, they have adopted such precautionary measures as they conceived to be likely to avert

* Appendix No. 2.

or mitigate a malady so truly appalling, and which they apprehend have hitherto been attended with all the success that could be reasonably expected, considering the virulence of the disease, and the hopeless state in which a large proportion of patients have been subjected to medical treatment.

GLASGOW, 21st Sept., 1832.

APPENDIX.—No. 1.

Classified Statement of the Expenditure of the BOARD of HEALTH for the CITY of GLASGOW, and attached Suburbs from the Commencement, to the 16th day of August, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirty Two.

		City of Glasgow.			City and Suburbs.			Gorbals.			Calton and Bridgeton.			Springbank, Woodside, & Cowcaddens.			Anderston.			Partick.			Camlachie.			Total.		
		2010	12	6	...	...	...	200	13	...	319	1	4	189	10	5	53	3	11	16	6	...	24	...	...	2813	7	2
1	Provisions, and Soup Kitchens,.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	105	16	11
2	Clothing, per Committee,.....	90	...	3	...	...	...	20	17	6	40	...	...	13	11	8	1	7	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	249	6	4
3	Relieving Blankets, &c., from Pawn,.....	188	17	2	...	...	...	127	11	9	128	5	6	245	1	6	80	9	...	...	...	...	3	3	...	1505	17	...
4	Medical Depots, Medicines, &c.,.....	921	6	3	...	...	...	303	8	$\frac{1}{2}$	231	2	8	90	12	10	103	6	2	2	10	...	...	...	...	1334	19	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
5	Hospital Department,.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	17	...	50	12	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	438	4	10
6	House of Refuge Department,.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	53	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	790	16	14
7	Cleansing, Fumigating, and Washing Department,...	...	...	...	...	...	...	33	13	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	79	9	2
8	Suppression of Begging,.....	61	10	10	...	...	...	17	18	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	683	16	2
9	General Business, Stationery, Printing, Advertising, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	15	...	12	8	5	...	12	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1381	18	8
10	Fever Hospital, Mile-End,.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	474	...	6
11	Blankets and Rugs, &c.,.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	220	6	9
12	Funerals, Coffins, &c.,.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	5	4
13	Interest on Glasgow Bank Co.'s Account,.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total,.....		3272	7	...	...	5042	9	7	713	16	790	15	6	590	10	4	238	6	7	18	16	...	7	3	...	10694	4	9

No II.

Glasgow, 6th June, 1832.

MY LORD PROVOST,

IN reference to what you mentioned some days ago, about my making up a scale of the expenses I had been put to, in superintending the House of Refuge, I beg leave to state, that when the Cholera made its appearance in Glasgow, I conceived that every person was bound to do all in his power to assist your Lordship, and the other Members of the Board of Health, and I, as a public servant, considered myself doubly bound to do so. During the time the Refuge was open, my income suffered no diminution, and I hope, the duties connected with the Establishment under my charge, were not neglected. On the whole, if the House of Refuge has been conducted to the satisfaction of the Board of Health, to be told so, would be far more gratifying to me, than any remuneration I could possibly receive, for the trouble I have been at.

I have the honour to be,

Your Lordship's Obdt. Servant,

(Signed) WILLIAM BREBNER.



