

**On lunatic asylums : a discourse delivered on 2d August, 1810, previous to laying the foundation stone of the Glasgow Lunatic Asylum ... To which is subjoined ... an appendix containing an account of the ceremony ... and an outline of the regulations proposed for the Asylum / by Stvenson MacGill.**

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**Publication/Creation**

Glasgow : printed for G. Lumsden, 1810.

**Persistent URL**

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/gfeuahrb>

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ON  
*LUNATIC ASYLUMS:*  
A DISCOURSE  
DELIVERED ON 2d AUGUST, 1810,  
PREVIOUS TO  
*LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE*  
OF THE  
*Glasgow Lunatic Asylum.*

BY STEVENSON MACGILL, D.D.

MINISTER OF THE TRONE CHURCH, GLASGOW.

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PUBLISHED BY DESIRE OF  
THE GENERAL COMMITTEE OF THE ASYLUM;  
*For the Benefit of the Institution.*

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TO WHICH IS SUBJOINED, BY THE COMMITTEE,  
AN APPENDIX,  
CONTAINING  
An Account of the CEREMONY at laying the FOUNDATION STONE;  
and an Outline of the REGULATIONS proposed for the ASYLUM.

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GLASGOW:  
PRINTED FOR GEORGE LUMSDEN, 637, ARGYLL-STREET,  
J. & A. DUNCAN, BRASH & REID, M. OGLE, AND J. SMITH & SON,  
GLASGOW; J. ANDERSON, AND OLIPHANT & BALFOUR, EDIN-  
BURGH; J. M'ARTHUR, AND T. AULD, PAISLEY; W. SCOTT,  
GREENOCK; WILSON & PAUL, AYR; R. MATHIE,  
KILMARNOCK; AND LONGMAN, HURST,  
REES, & ORME, LONDON.  
*James Hedderwick & Co. Printers.*

1810.

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ON

## LUNATIC ASYLUMS.

A DISCOURSE, &c.

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2 COR. viii. 11. *Now, therefore, perform the doing of it; that as there was a readiness to will, so there may be a performance also out of that which you have.*

THE exhortation which the Apostle gives in these words, relates to a general contribution among Christians, for the relief of their destitute brethren in Judea.

The great principles and views which form the mind to compassion, and enforce its obligation, lead not only to the succour of distress as it is casually presented, but to the exercise of judgment in preparing the means of relief; to union for the accomplishment of those objects which surpass the power of individuals; and, finally, to the formation and establishment of such institutions, as may render good designs most effectual,



extend their influence, and secure their permanency. Accordingly, the influence of the divine spirit of Christianity began to appear soon after its introduction, in the united exertions of Christians for the succour of the indigent. Not only were individuals distinguished for unexampled liberality, but a common fund was established in every church, for the aid of the distressed; and, by the direction of the Apostles, an order of men was appointed to superintend its management, and direct its application. Under the influence of the same spirit, churches, in different countries, united for the relief of their brethren, who were oppressed by want, slavery, or persecution. Alms were joined with their devotions; and while they celebrated the love of Him who gave himself for them, they remembered that He considered the good which was done to the least of his brethren, to be done unto himself. As the Christian church extended, and the institutions of Christians received protection and security, general establishments were formed, and structures seen every where arising, for the succour of the destitute, the infirm, and the diseased. In this spirit, institutions have been formed for the protection of the young and the helpless; schools for the instruction of the ignorant; hospitals for the support of the aged; infirmaries for the recovery of the sick. In the same spirit, and under the influence of similar obligations from humanity, religion, and



our common interest, we are called, I conceive, to provide ASYLUMS for our brethren under MENTAL DERANGEMENT.

Without dwelling on the heart-rending circumstances which attend mental derangement, it must be obvious, that the Security which is consistent with the safety of the insane, their connections, or general society, can only in a very few cases, be enjoyed in the houses of private families. In these few cases, it can only be attained at such an expense of time, and attention, and with so much anxiety, and harassment of mind, as must greatly injure the happiness and peace of domestic life. Removal from home is generally necessary, and in almost every case is desirable. But if our friends, thus helpless and unhappy, must be removed from us, to what places are they to be taken? Are you satisfied that they should be carried to mere places of confinement? Do you desire nothing better for them than a gaol? Are they to add, as in many places, to the miseries of our prisons? Would you treat them as the refuse of their species; prepare for them only chains and bolts, a floor of stone, and a bed of straw? and add diseases and pains of body, exasperated and wounded feelings to the evils which oppress them? Looking only to security and safety, we are led by every consideration of justice and humanity, to provide appropriate abodes, and accommodations suited in some degree to the condition of our unfortunate brethren.



But the necessity of this will appear still more urgent, when we attend to their Recovery.

It must be obvious, that we cannot expect the recovery of the sick, unless we provide the means which are adapted to their disease. If necessity, therefore, force us to remove our fellow-creatures to separate abodes, we must either leave the unhappy sufferers to perish, the victims of our neglect and inhumanity, or we must suit these abodes to the nature of their case; furnish such accommodations and establish such a plan of management, as may afford them relief and promote their cure: in other words, we must form LUNATIC ASYLUMS.

This necessity will appear still greater, when we add, that asylums erected and conducted with such views, furnish the most probable means of accomplishing the cure of the patients, even when they could remain at home consistently with security. The circumstances of the great body of mankind, are of such a nature as to render every attempt at recovering insane persons in their own houses, extremely difficult, and generally hopeless. If infirmaries be necessary for the cure of the ordinary diseases of the poor, how peculiarly necessary must be asylums when the poor are visited with insanity! Every thing in their houses must be wanting, which is necessary to the hope of success. For them, therefore, asylums must be provided, or they must be abandoned to their fate,



But persons placed in more favourable circumstances require similar houses to be provided for their recovery. The presence of relations is frequently found to be hurtful; and methods must often be resorted to, which their feelings permit them not to execute. Peculiar accommodations must also be provided, arrangements made, and a course of management and attendance pursued, which the circumstances of private families will not permit. In many situations, particularly in the country, proper medical aid cannot be obtained without much inconvenience; minute and frequent attention, which is so important, cannot be given; nor can a skilful domestic management, conducted by persons of experience, under a vigilant and enlightened superintendence, be enjoyed. Or, if in some cases, the benefits of these could be obtained, is it probable they could be obtained in an equal degree? Could the accommodations and arrangements be expected to equal those of houses erected and establishments formed, with a view to the nature and various appearances of the disease? Could the management be conducted and the means be employed with that knowledge, skill, and attention, which might be hoped for in an institution, where every rule is adopted and every person chosen with a view to the state and the recovery of the patients; where a constant superintendence is provided; and where longer experience, and more extensive and varied practice



must increase the knowledge and skill of persons in every department.

But an asylum presents not only the idea of a place of security, and of recovery from disease. It is a retreat suited to the condition of our afflicted brethren; an abode prepared to afford them those Comforts which their unfortunate circumstances will permit them to receive. It is not merely an infirmary for the sick: it is a place of refuge to the wanderer, an asylum for the wretched.

If the means of recovery should have failed, are our brethren to be forsaken? Still confinement, in many cases, would be necessary; retreat from the world, in every case, desirable; an abode suited to their state of mind, important to their comfort. The notion that with the loss of reason, our fellow-creatures have lost all sensibility to pain or pleasure, is a gross and vulgar error; unworthy of a people of humanity, or of observation. In many cases, they manifest very acute sensibility to neglect and personal injustice; often you see them keenly alive to the ridicule of the unfeeling; and often shrinking from the look of contempt, or the tone of severity. Their disease does not render them insensible to the evils of want and the pangs of hunger; and though regardless they may sometimes meet the rain and the tempest, yet the fever of their minds prevents not the wet and the cold from affecting their shivering frames.



Neither are their bodies insensible to the rigour of close confinement; to the evils of damp, cold, airless, and nauseating abodes; nor to the numerous train of diseases and pains which attend such wretched dwellings. There are many comforts of which they are deprived, but there are many of which they are still sensible. Insanity is a disease which assumes infinitely varied forms, and exists in various degrees. In the severest paroxysms, the unhappy patient can distinguish much. Reason also, to a certain degree, at intervals, returns; and he can participate in many of the rational enjoyments and pursuits to which he was accustomed. In few instances is understanding entirely removed. In some, it fails only on one class of objects, while on all others it is sound and entire. In those cases where reason is uniformly weak and disordered, a certain portion of its light continues to irradiate and direct the mind. All have their tastes, which may often with safety be gratified; and few are not capable of some employments, which are calculated to amuse and to please them. But these cannot be enjoyed with safety, in the ordinary haunts of men; never in the abodes of the poor, the labouring, and the busy; seldom with convenience and comfort in the houses of the affluent. Where confinement is necessary, asylums furnish a comparatively happy retreat; and where the state of the patient renders greater liberty safe, they furnish an abode best



adapted to his condition. Comforts are provided suited to his state; evils warded off to which he is exposed; and means of enjoyment and occupation are conferred, which in other circumstances might be dangerous, or could not be afforded.

Many of these benefits may, without doubt, be obtained in asylums which are erected and conducted by individuals, for their personal advantage. Individuals possessing the necessary fortune, dispositions, knowledge, and skill, may sometimes be found to erect and conduct asylums, as a speculation and professional employment, on principles of a similar nature with those which have been mentioned. But how few persons, possessing the necessary fortune, character, and talents, are likely to be found of so singular a taste, as to devote their money and their lives to such an occupation! It is to be remembered also, that persons possessing these difficult requisites, and providing, at a great expense, the necessary accommodations, when they do arise, must require a reimbursement greatly beyond what the generality of families can afford. And though excellent characters should be esteemed more highly, when they resist great and numerous temptations, yet it is just to state, that such asylums must want the advantages of a vigilant and humane superintendence; that, in the conduct of them, many strong temptations from self-interest must often be presented, to neglect our unfortunate brethren,



and to withhold from them the requisites to their recovery and their comfort. The danger of these temptations is increased by the consideration, that the suffering individuals are often incapable of knowing the neglect which they may experience, of finding redress for the evils which they may feel, of making known their complaints, or of obtaining belief when they are made.

Accordingly, in the western district of Scotland, no private asylum of any kind has been undertaken. Many of those in other parts of the kingdom, are kept by persons wholly unfit for the important charge, and are void of the necessary accommodations, arrangement, and system of management; places merely of confinement, unfit either for recovery or comfort; more fit to occasion madness than to cure it. To these observations is to be added, the situation of the labouring and middle classes of society. What is to become of the friends of the valuable tradesman, the industrious labourer, the poor man already bowed down with the misfortunes and afflictions of life? Are they, when visited with the heaviest of human calamities, to be thrown into wretched dungeons; or left, naked and helpless wanderers, to perish in our fields? For them no house erected by self-interest, is open to supply their wants, to clothe their shivering bodies, to protect them from the cold and the tempest; to shelter them from the eye of an unfeeling



world, minister relief to their disease, and soothe their distracted minds.

Such, then, are the objects of LUNATIC ASYLUMS; and such are some of the advantages which they possess. Let me entreat of you now to consider whether it be not our duty and our interest, to promote the establishment of such institutions.

I will not enlarge on the relief from many painful occurrences, which are thus obtained by the public; on the comfort of reflecting that these are not obtained by injuring, but by promoting the welfare of individuals; and on the general advantages which must arise from the restoration of talents and labours, which were more than lost to society: I would rather lead your attention to those obligations which arise from the duties which we owe to our afflicted fellow-creatures.

Our character and condition as human beings, the will of God and our Redeemer, every view presented in the dispensation of grace, our affections, feelings, hopes, and aims, as Christians—all lead to the exercise and cultivation of compassion, to the relief of the afflicted, and the care of the helpless. But can any of our brethren be in a greater degree the objects of compassion, than those who have been visited with insanity? Or, have they not peculiar claims to our regard? Deprived of reason, they are rendered destitute and helpless, incapacitated for the pursuits of life, and for acquiring its necessities and its



comforts; incapacitated for all the high and varied employments, blessings, and satisfactions, which distinguish us as moral and intellectual beings. Sensible frequently to their loss, and experiencing a deep sense of wretchedness, they are, at the same time, incapable of enjoying the sweetest and best refuge of the miserable; the consolations of the gospel, and the society, sympathy, and friendship of the affectionate and good. Nor is their case marked only with the deprivation of the chief blessings of man. By the loss of reason, their path is involved in darkness; they perceive not the course which they should pursue, and see not the evils which surround them. Alas! not only darkness, thick as night, has overtaken them; they are bewildered in the imaginations of their disordered minds, and in the pursuit of fancied objects, or in the flight from fancied terrors, hurried into the midst of dangers. With these are often joined the most misjudging and furious passions, which render them dangerous to themselves, and objects of fear to those who love them. And though sometimes sentiments of a lighter order may prevail, yet often with insanity are joined feelings of the most poignant kind; frantic and wild despair, or settled, deep, and gloomy melancholy; dreadful imaginations and perpetual terrors; or the deep despondency and helpless grief of a mind refusing to be comforted, chained to its sorrows, and dwelling amidst scenes of woe.



And can there be, in the minds of Christians, no desire to procure relief for their fellow-creatures in such circumstances; to restore them to the common blessings of human beings; to deliver them from the thralldom which binds down their minds to misery, or from the furious tempest which threatens, every moment, to overwhelm them? Shall we not embrace every favourable opportunity to save them from a state so dreadful; to bring them in safety to their native shore; to guide them to the friendly haven, where no tempest rages, and the surrounding calm may restore them to tranquillity and happiness! Or, should this desire prove hopeless, and we should see the dismasted and driven vessel broken for ever in pieces by the overwhelming billows, shall we not provide for the shipwrecked some shelter for the night; some comfort suited to their wretched case; some place, at least, for the head of him to rest, whom the storm hath bereft of all, and cast helpless upon our care?

Take farther into account, the additional miseries which must follow the neglect of these unfortunate sufferers.

The neglect of the helpless must, in all cases, add to their sufferings; but the neglect of those disordered in mind, must be followed by consequences unusually deplorable. Shall we dwell on the many evils which, in their dreadful paroxysms, they must bring upon themselves? Or,



shall we follow the distracted wanderers, deserting their families and homes, exposed to hunger and nakedness, and every inclemency of season, among strangers, regardless of their condition and unwilling to be disturbed by their infirmities? Or, shall we go to those cold, and damp, and airless cells, where no friendly accent falls on the irritated soul, and where in the midst of disease and pain, the wretched maniac passes his solitary days? Or, shall we view those abodes which self-interest hath formed; where no superintending care provides the means of recovery and comfort, and guards against the neglects of selfishness and inhumanity; where those who have known every tender indulgence, and whose gentle minds shrink from the look of disorder and of violence, are doomed to hear the shocking ravings and horrid blasphemies of the furious, and cannot look from their small apartments without seeing some sight of horror?—To dwell on such scenes would awaken not merely pity, but unmingled anguish. Slightly to present them in review before the mind, is sufficient to awaken the liveliest compassion; to stimulate the exertions of the pious and humane, that they may ward off from the unfortunate such additions to their misery.

Another view only requires to be presented. Contemplate the character and condition of the persons who thus claim our assistance,



Were the diseases of insanity confined to one description of character; were the proud, the profligate, and unprincipled, only its victims, compassion and a sense of duty would still prompt our endeavours, but some of the most powerful principles of the human soul would be left untouched. But how powerfully should every string vibrate through the heart, when we consider that the disease of insanity assaults and subdues beneath its power, persons of every character and class in human life! The mild and the amiable, the pious and the wise, the accomplished scholar as well as the illiterate peasant, the rich and the poor, the vigorous and the weak, persons of every sex and every age, the young rejoicing in their strength and the aged and unfortunate, worn out with disappointments—all are seen sinking before this dread calamity. Still nearer may the case be brought. The objects of your peculiar esteem and regard; your benefactors, your friends, your connections, and your nearest kindred, may be amongst the number of its victims. In rearing an asylum for frail and disordered beings, whom the saddest of human maladies has overtaken, we are providing for one of those awful casualties, which may, in a moment, overwhelm and humble to the lowest dust, ourselves, our families, the objects of our best affections, and of our dearest hopes.



Under the influence of such views, the GLASGOW LUNATIC ASYLUM has been planned. Such are the objects to which it is directed, and the motives by which it claims our support.

In the Hospital of Glasgow, some wards had been long set apart for the reception of insane persons. But these wards, while they were very limited in their number and size, were quite unsuited both to the cure and comfort of the patients; and never, from a variety of causes, could be rendered capable of fulfilling, in any tolerable degree, the important objects of a lunatic asylum. Accordingly, on the motion of a gentleman who has taken a deep interest in this Institution, a Committee was appointed by the Directors of the Town's Hospital, to take the state of the lunatic wards into consideration. This Committee gave a very full report upon the subject. They stated the insufficiency of the present wards, the importance of a separate building in a healthy situation, with suitable accommodations, and ground for exercise; and farther, that the benefits of such an establishment, should be extended to the WESTERN DISTRICT of Scotland. The Directors received the proposal with the warmest approbation; and appointed a general Committee, from the different orders of which they are composed, to take such steps as they should deem necessary for carrying it into effect.



In proceeding to accomplish their important object, the Committee early determined to request the advice and co-operation of gentlemen from the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons in this city, and of the two medical Professors of the University. They also requested the co-operation of other gentlemen, whose zeal and knowledge, in different departments, rendered their assistance of the greatest importance. And it is due to these various gentlemen, to some of them in a very distinguished manner, to acknowledge, that, to their talents and information, assiduous and persevering attention, this Institution must ever lie under the deepest obligations.—

In the formation of their plan, the Committee proceeded on the principle, that the income of the asylum was to equal its expenditure. As they trusted, therefore, that no succession of contributors would be requisite, they endeavoured to provide a superintendence which should be constant and permanent; at the same time, with such a change and variety of persons as should always secure attention, knowledge, and impartiality.—

An early and favourite object was the acquisition of such an extent of ground, as would afford air and exercise to the patients, and admit of divisions corresponding, in some degree, to various classes and characters. This, the liberality of their fellow-citizens enabled them very soon to accomplish. Three acres of ground have been purchased,



in a healthy situation; possessing the advantage of retirement; yet at a distance from town, so convenient as to admit of a regular and easy superintendence.—In the plan of the building, the Committee conceive they have been particularly successful. Its specific nature, and the views on which it has been founded, have been already explained to the public in an excellent Memorial. Yet, admirable as it seemed, it was not adopted by the Committee, till every part was minutely examined by gentlemen in different departments of business; and the whole had received the fullest sanction of medical practitioners of distinguished talents, knowledge, and experience. The expense of its execution will, indeed, be great. But this will not proceed from unnecessary ornament. For, though striking and picturesque, its beauty arises from the effect of figure and proportion, and not from minute and expensive decoration. It is calculated to contain about 120 inhabitants; but it is so constructed, that, when requisite, considerable additions may be made without injuring its general design.

To complete this great undertaking, including the expense of ground and of furniture, £15000, it is supposed, will be necessary. But the Committee conceive, that they would ill meet the feelings and the wishes of the public, were they, on this account, either to desist from their undertaking, or to accomplish it in a manner unworthy



of its object. They fear not the expense. They know the humane and generous spirit of their countrymen, and they derive confidence from the support which they have received in the prosecution of their object. In the city of Glasgow alone, more than £7000 have already been contributed, besides several liberal contributions from other quarters. Exertions are making, and we trust will be made, by the affluent and respectable towns in our neighbourhood. And the noblemen, land-holders, and inhabitants, of the various and extensive parishes in the western districts of Scotland, will, we hope, come forward, with cheerfulness, to give their aid for the accomplishment of this benevolent design.

I congratulate you, my brethren, on the prospect which this day presents. I view, with joy, so many distinguished individuals, public bodies, and various orders, assembled to give their countenance and aid to this great object. They are harbingers of success; they are pledges, from the public, of support; they give grounds not only for hope, but for confidence. Yes! my highly respected friends, who have devoted so much of your valuable time, and have exerted yourselves in such various ways for the succour of the most helpless and destitute of your species, ye will not be deserted. Proceed in the course you have been pursuing, with increasing ardour and perseverance. It is the cause of humanity in which you



are engaged. The Father of mercies approves and will bless your undertaking. The Saviour of men looks down with complacency on his followers, when they are engaged in the cause of the afflicted. And it is in the exercise of those heavenly principles, which He exemplified and which He taught to be characteristic of his subjects, that we are trained in his kingdom here, for the bliss of the celestial world.

Ye who have, by such generous contributions, promoted this important design, continue to give it your support by such additional means as God, in his providence, may afford. Much may be effected by your private influence; by example, by conversation, by rousing general attention, and by leading to just views and feelings of duty, your various acquaintances and friends. Amidst those objects which have engaged the attention of the general Committee, many humane and respectable citizens have not been asked for their support, to whom we look with confidence. Many too, may be supposed, not at first, to have perceived the full importance and great expense of such an undertaking, who may be disposed to add, according to their ability, to the aid which they have given. But to the populous towns around us, to the noblemen, landholders, and affluent inhabitants, of the various parishes to which the benefit of this Institution extends, we must now turn in a particular manner for assistance. The



great body of the people also will, we trust, now come forward with their aid. Let every man, according to the admonition of the Apostle, "lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him." The gift is accepted "according to that a man hath, and not according to that he hath not." And though the separate contributions of individuals may sometimes be small, they will render, when united, great and effectual support.

Let no man keep back on account of trifling differences of sentiment. No great undertaking will ever be accomplished, if every man should refuse his support until all his opinions respecting it should be adopted. Extensive objects can only be accomplished by union; and good men will sacrifice even more than trifling differences of opinion, rather than great and benevolent designs should fail to be accomplished. Neither let us plead the excuse of inability. Few men, in any condition of human life, can plead this excuse with sincerity. Let there be first, "a willing mind," and then how quickly will the means be presented. The luxuries in which we daily indulge, the trifling and expensive pleasures which we daily pursue, the ornaments of vanity which serve so little the purposes either of beauty or of use, might be mentioned as sources, from which men of every rank might draw something without injury, even in appearance, to their comforts. Yet, even to these, it may be generally unneces-



sary to have recourse. Let us only give a little from that which is spent carelessly, and we know not how; which is spent not only without adding to the comfort, but often to the great detriment of ourselves and our families; and I apprehend, not only men in affluence, but in every order of society, will be able to contribute, without inconvenience or loss, more than their proportion to the purposes of charity.

O! did men only come near, and contemplate with seriousness the miseries of their fellow-creatures; how would the dark and flimsy cobwebs with which they enwrap their minds, break asunder; vanish before the powerful operations of feeling and convictions of duty; and leave them astonished and ashamed, that they could have remained so long indifferent to the woes which are around them!

But on this subject I will not enlarge farther. I am surrounded with hearts touched by pity for human suffering. “Now, therefore, perform the doing of it; that as there was a readiness to will, so there may be a performance also out of that which ye have.”

May the God of grace and consolation prosper our undertaking; may He render that Fabric, the first stone of which is about to be laid in our presence, an ASYLUM for the DESTITUTE, not in our day only, but through many succeeding ages; and when ages have ceased to roll, and the plans



of Divine mercy for the recovery of a ruined world, have completed their great design, may all of us be found among the happy subjects and followers of Him, who “came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.” *Amen!*

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As a confirmation of some of the preceding views, it may not be improper to subjoin a short Statement, from the Reports of some of the Lunatic Asylums in England, respecting the number of Patients cured or relieved.

York Asylum—admitted from the year 1777 to that of 1800, 1347 persons: of these 655 were dismissed cured, and 307 were relieved.

Manchester Asylum—admitted from the year 1766 to that of 1802, 1649 persons: of these 648 were cured, 213 relieved.

Exeter Asylum—admitted from the year 1801 to 1805, 89 persons: of these 46 have been cured, the remainder, excepting a very few, much recovered.

THE END.











## APPENDIX.

*An Account of the CEREMONY, which took place on the 2d day of August, 1810, at laying the Foundation Stone of the Glasgow Asylum for Lunatics.*

THE FOUNDATION STONE of the GLASGOW ASYLUM FOR LUNATICS, was laid by the Honourable the Lord Provost, acting Provincial Grand Master for the Lower Ward of Lanarkshire, in presence of the Magistrates, Public Bodies, Mason Lodges, and Contributors to the Institution. At Twelve o'Clock, noon, the several parties assembled in St. George's Church, when the Rev. Dr. Macgill, one of the Ministers of this City, delivered the preceding Discourse.

Immediately after Divine Service was concluded, the Procession moved down Buchanan-Street, along the Trongate, up the High-Street, along the Rottenrow, and down Taylor-Street, to the Site of the Building, in the following Order:—

---

A Band of Music, Drums, &c.

The Town Officers, in Scarlet Uniforms and Halberts,

The Magistrates, in full Dress, with their Staffs of Office,

The Town Clerks,

The Town Council, three and three.—

The Town Officers of Paisley,

William Jamieson, Esq.

James Whyte, Esq.

Robert Hart, Esq.

} Magistrates of Paisley.—

The Officers of the Barony of Gorbals,

Robert Ferrie, Esq.

David Niven, Esq.

William Mills, Esq.

} Magistrates of Gorbals,

Council of Gorbals, three and three.—

The Beadles of the City Churches,

The Ministers of the City and Neighbourhood, in their Gowns and Bands,

A Deputation of two Members from each of the Church Sessions.—



The Officer of the Merchants' House,  
 The Dean of Guild, in full Dress, with his Staff of Office,  
 The Members of the Merchants' House, three and three.—  
 A Band of Music, Drums, &c.—  
 The Officer of the Trades' House,  
 The Convener, in full Dress, with his Staff of Office,  
 The Members of the Trades' House, three and three,  
 The Rev. John Ritchie, Chaplain to the Trades' House, in  
 his Gown,  
 The Colours of the late Regiment of Trades' House Volun-  
 teer Infantry, supported by Captains Meikle and Lyon,  
 formerly of that Regiment.—  
 The Officer of the Incorporation of Hammermen,  
 Deacon Napier, and the Master-Court of the Incorporation of  
 Hammermen, three and three;  
 The Officer of the Incorporation of Tailors,  
 Deacon Ross, and the Master-Court of the Incorporation of  
 Tailors, three and three;  
 The Officer of the Incorporation of Cordiners,  
 Deacon Craig, and the Master-Court of the Incorporation of  
 Cordiners, three and three;  
 The Officer of the Incorporation of Maltmen,  
 Visitor Hunter, and the Master-Court of the Incorporation of  
 Maltmen, three and three;  
 The Officer of the Incorporation of Weavers,  
 Deacon Buchanan, and the Master-Court of the Incorporation  
 of Weavers, three and three;  
 The Officer of the Incorporation of Bakers,  
 Deacon Marshall, and the Master-Court of the Incorporation  
 of Bakers, three and three;  
 The Officer of the Incorporation of Skinners,  
 Deacon Nicol, and the Master-Court of the Incorporation of  
 Skinners, three and three;  
 The Officer of the Incorporation of Wrights,  
 Deacon M'Callum, and the Master-Court of the Incorporation  
 of Wrights, three and three;  
 The Officer of the Incorporation of Coopers,  
 Deacon Scott, and the Master-Court of the Incorporation of  
 Coopers, three and three;



The Officer of the Incorporation of Fleshers,  
 Deacon Scouler, and the Master-Court of the Incorporation  
 of Fleshers, three and three;  
 The Officer of the Incorporation of Masons,  
 Deacon Paterson, and the Master-Court of the Incorporation  
 of Masons, three and three;  
 The Officer of the Incorporation of Gardeners,  
 Deacon Hamilton, and the Master-Court of the Incorporation  
 of Gardeners, three and three;  
 The Officer of the Incorporation of Barbers,  
 Deacon Campbell, and the Master-Court of the Incorporation  
 of Barbers, three and three;  
 The Officer of the Incorporation of Dyers and Bonnet-makers,  
 Deacon Cassels, and the Master-Court of the Incorporation of  
 Dyers and Bonnet-makers, three and three.—  
 Mr. Cowan, one of the Teachers of the Trades' House Free  
 School, in his gown,  
 The Directors of the Trades' House Free-School, three and three.  
 The Officer of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons,  
 The Preses & Faculty of Physicians & Surgeons, three and three.  
 The Officer of the Faculty of Procurators,  
 The Dean and Faculty of Procurators, three and three.—  
 The Officers of Police, in their full uniform,  
 Captain Mitchell, the Superintendent of Police, with his  
 Medal and Badge of Office,  
 The Commissioners of Police, with their Batons of Office,  
 three and three.—  
 The Officer of the Lunatic Asylum,  
 The Committee, the Managers, and the Contributors to the  
 Institution, three and three.—  
 A Band of Music, Drums, &c.

### Grand Lodge of Scotland.

The Grand Tyler, with a drawn Sword;  
 Two Grand Stewards, with Rods;  
 Compass and Level, carried by two Operative Brethren;  
 Two Grand Stewards, with Rods;  
 Square, Mallet, and Plumb, carried by Operative Brethren;  
 Two Grand Stewards, with Rods;



Silver Cup, | Cornucopiæ, filled with | Silver Cup,  
 filled with Wine; | Corn and Corn Stalks; | filled with Oil;  
 Two Grand Stewards, with Rods;  
 Two Inscription Plates, carried by Operative Brethren, on  
 one of which is inscribed:—

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TO RESTORE THE USE OF REASON,  
 TO ALLEVIATE SUFFERING, AND LESSEN PERIL,  
 WHERE REASON CANNOT BE RESTORED,

THE  
**Glasgow Asylum for Lunatics,**

WAS ERECTED BY PUBLIC CONTRIBUTION.

By the Favour of ALMIGHTY GOD,

*The Honourable JAMES BLACK,*

LORD PROVOST OF GLASGOW,

Acting Provincial Grand Master of the Lower Ward of Lanarkshire,

**Laid this Foundation Stone,**

*On the Second Day of AUGUST, MDCCCX,*

ÆRA OF MASONRY, 5810,

And 50th Year of the Reign of our most Gracious Sovereign,

**GEORGE THE THIRD;**

*In Presence of the Committee, consisting of*

Robert Cleghorn, M. D.

John Craig, Esq.

Robert M'Nair, Esq.

George Rutherford, Esq.

John Mair, Esq.

James Cleland, Esq.

AND

William Jamieson, Esq. Chief Magistrate of Paisley,

And of the other Managers and Contributors to this Asylum;

William Stark, Esq. Architect;

Thomas Smith and Alexander Hay, Contractors;

Robert M'Nair, Esq. Treasurer;

William Cuthbertson, Esq. Secretary—

*Which Undertaking may the Supreme God bless and prosper.*

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On the other Plate, the following Inscription is engraved:—

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**Magistrates of the City of Glasgow,**  
MDCCCX.

THE HON. JAMES BLACK, LORD PROVOST.  
*Baillies.*

GEORGE RUTHERFORD, Esq.

HENRY MONTEITH, Esq.

JOHN BERRY, Esq.

ROBERT WADDELL, Esq.

WALTER FERGUSON, Esq.

JOHN HAMILTON, Esq. Dean of Guild,

JAMES CLELAND, Esq. Convener of the Trades' House,

JOSHUA HEYWOOD, Esq. Baillie of the River and  
Frith of Clyde,

JAMES MACKENZIE, Esq. Treasurer,

RICHARD SMELLIE, Esq. Master of Works,

JAMES SPREULL, Esq. Chamberlain,

ROBERT FERRIE, Esq. Chief Magistrate of Gorbals.

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**Grand Lodge of Scotland.**

His Royal Highness GEORGE PRINCE OF WALES, Grand  
Master of Scotland, and Patron of the Order;

Hon. W. R. Maule of Panmure, Acting Grand Master;

Right Hon. James Earl of Rosslyn, Acting Grand Master  
Elect;

William Inglis, Esq. Substitute Acting Grand Master;

John Clerk, Esq. and Hon. Major John Ramsay, Grand  
Wardens;

John Hay, Esq. Grand Treasurer;

The Rev. Sir Harry Moncrieff, Grand Chaplain;

William Guthrie, Esq. Grand Secretary;

James Bertram, Esq. Grand Clerk;

A. Cunningham, Grand Jeweller;

Alexander Laurie, Grand Bookseller.

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## THEN FOLLOWED

Two Grand Stewards, with Rods;  
 Three Operative Brethren, carrying three Bottles filled with  
 the Gold, Silver, and Copper Coins of the present Reign,  
 and another Bottle containing an Almanack for the current  
 year, and seven Glasgow Newspapers, *viz.* Courier, Herald,  
 Journal, Western Star, Clyde Commercial Advertiser,  
 Sentinel, and the Weekly Packet;  
 Two Grand Stewards, with Rods;  
 Architect, with the Plans of the Building;  
 Two Grand Stewards, with Rods;  
 The Contractors, and Mr. John Weir, the Superintendent of  
 the Work;  
 Usher of White | Bible open, carried on | Usher of White  
 Rod; | a Crimson Cushion; | Rod;  
 Grand Chaplain, in his Gown;  
 Grand Jeweller—Grand Bookseller;  
 Grand Secretary, | Grand Treasurer, | Grand Clerk, with  
 with Crimson Bag; | with Gold Stick; | his Book;  
 Senior Grand Warden—Junior Grand Warden;  
 Past Grand Master—Grand Master—Depute Grand Master;  
 Grand Steward, | Master of Grand Stewards, | Grand Steward,  
 with Rod; | with Grand Master's Rod; | with Rod.

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The other Lodges followed the Grand Lodge, conformable  
 to the following Order:—

The Operative Glasgow St. John's,  
 Journeymen Glasgow Operatives.

*Nos. Lodges from the Country.*

- 10. Hamilton,
- 78. Eaglesham Montgomery Kilwinning,
- 112. New Monkland Montrose,
- 146. Cambuslang Royal Arch,
- 149. Rutherglen Royal Arch,
- 150. Partick St. Mary's,
- 169. Shettleston St. John's,
- 170. Paisley St. Marriion's,



- 175. Paisley St. James's,
- 191. Paisley Royal Arch,
- 193. Renfrew Prince of Wales,
- 194. Calder Argyll,
- 221. Airdrie St. John's,
- 237. Old Monkland St. James's,
- 247. Lennox Kilwinning,
- 261. Caledonian St. John's,
- 264. St. Andrew's Cumbernauld,
- 270. Airdrie Operatives.

*Glasgow Lodges.*

- 28. St. Mungo's,
- 64. Glasgow Partick Kilwinning,
- 70. Montrose,
- 76. Argyll,
- 87. Thistle and Rose,
- 129. Union and Crown,
- 144. St. David's,
- 269. St. Patrick's,
- 286. Star.

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When the Procession arrived at the Site of the Building, the Bands played the King's Anthem, and the Rev. Dr. Gibb, as Grand Chaplain, gave a very suitable and highly impressive Prayer; immediately after which, the Grand Treasurer deposited the Bottle containing the Coins, and the Grand Secretary deposited the Bottle containing the Newspapers, Inscription Plates, &c. Thereafter, the acting Provincial Grand Master laid the Foundation Stone of the Asylum, with all the honours usual on such occasions, pronouncing, "May the Grand Architect of the Universe enable us successfully to carry on and finish the Work of which we have now laid the Foundation Stone, and every other undertaking which may tend to the advantage of the City of Glasgow and its Inhabitants; and may this Building be long preserved from peril and decay!" On which the Brethren gave three cheers, and the Bands played the Masons' Anthem.



The Grand Wardens then delivered to the acting Provincial Grand Master the Cornucopiæ, the Wine, and the Oil, which he poured on the Stone, according to ancient custom; saying,

“ May the bountiful hand of Heaven ever supply this City and Country with an abundance of Corn, Wine, and Oil, and all the Necessaries and Comforts of Life.”

At the conclusion of this prayer, the Brethren gave three cheers, and the Bands played the Masons' Anthem.

The acting Provincial Grand Master then retired to the centre of the Foundation of the Building, which had been excavated upwards of one hundred feet diameter, and six feet below the surface of the ground, where he was joined by the Magistrates, the Committee, the Grand Lodge, and the Office-Bearers of thirty Lodges; the Public Bodies, and the Masonic Brethren out of office, occupied the space above, which was inclosed by a guard, forming as it were a vast amphitheatre, which, for grandeur and magnificence, was never equalled in this part of the country.

The acting Provincial Grand Master, then addressed himself, in an animated speech, to the Public Bodies, and the Committee of Management; in which, expressing his thanks to them in their several capacities for their services, he declared the high sense which he entertained of the importance of this Institution; and, “ that among those of which this City can fairly boast, none of them, in point of true benevolence, will stand higher in public regard, than that of which the foundation had been this day laid.”

To this, Mr. *Robert M'Nair* of Belvedere, Treasurer to the Institution, and its first proposer, made a suitable reply; in which, “ in the name of the Committee of Management, most respectfully in his own name, and in the name of every unfortunate fellow-creature, whose lot may bring them under the protection of this Asylum, he returned thanks to the Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Council, of the City of Glasgow, to the Dean of Guild, to the Convener of the Trades' House, to the other numerous Public Bodies and Private Individuals, who have so liberally contributed to this Institution. He returned thanks also to Mr. *James Cleland*, in particular, for the great personal and professional services which he had



rendered—services which those only who know them, can duly appreciate.” And concluded, by expressing the obligations they were under “to the Grand Lodge, the other Lodges in the City and Neighbourhood, and all those who had honoured them with their attendance, and added so much splendour to the solemnity of the day.”

The Brethren then again gave three cheers, and the Bands played the Masons’ Anthem.

The Procession was guarded by a detachment of 700 men from the 71st, or Glasgow Regiment, and the Argyllshire Militia. The Staff and Band of the 6th Regiment of Lanarkshire Local Militia, formerly the ‘Trades’ House Regiment of Volunteer Infantry (upwards of eighty persons), handsomely volunteered to assist in guarding the ‘Trades’ House. The propitiousness of the day added greatly to the splendour of the occasion. The Procession, which consisted of more than 2000 persons, and 240 musicians, was conducted in the most orderly manner, and reflected great credit on the attention of Captain Graham, who acted as Grand Marshal.

Although the concourse of spectators was uncommonly great, from the deep interest which all ranks took in this Institution, yet, we are happy to state, no accident occurred.

The Collection amounted to 163*l.* 2*s.*



THE

## Names of the General Committee.

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The Lord Provost of Glasgow.

The Oldest Merchant Baillie.

The Oldest Trades Baillie.

The Dean of Guild.

The Convener of the Trades' House.

The Preceptor of the Town's Hospital.

The Rev. Dr. Balfour.

——— Dr. Rankin.

——— Dr. Macgill.

Dr. Cleghorn.

Dr. Freer.

Dr. Jaffray.

Mr. William Couper, Surgeon.

Professor Jardine.

Messrs. John Mair.

——— Robert M'Nair.

——— John Craig.

——— John M'Ilwham.

——— John Swanston.

——— William Muir.

——— Andrew M'Farlane.

——— Robert Thomson, jun.

——— Archibald Wallace.

William Cuthbertson, Secretary.



*The following is a General Outline of the Plan  
upon which the Asylum is to be conducted.*

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THE Asylum shall be governed by Directors, constituted in the following manner:

The Lord Provost of Glasgow, shall be President, *ex officio*; two Directors shall be chosen from the Town Council; two from the Merchants' House; two from the Trades' House; two from the Physicians and Surgeons; two from the General Session, consisting of one Minister and one Elder; eight from the General Subscribers; the chief Magistrate of Paisley; the Professors of Anatomy and Medicine in the University of Glasgow, members *ex officio*.

These shall meet once every quarter, on the first Tuesday of the month. From these shall be chosen for the year, a Subcommittee to meet once every week for attending to the particular interests of the house, admission of patients, and all such business as in the ordinary course of management may arise. This Committee shall consist of four Directors, the Medical Gentlemen who attend the Asylum and the Treasurer.

A statement of the affairs and management of the Asylum, shall be laid before a general meeting of Subscribers, once every year, when eight shall be chosen as Directors. No Subscriber below five guineas can be a member of the Meeting.

In regard to the persons admitted, they shall consist of two classes, of those who shall pay board, and of those who are Paupers. The rate of board shall be fixed from time to time by the General Committee, and shall be suited to the conveniences which the friends of the patients require.

Paupers belonging to the City of Glasgow, shall be admitted into the Lunatic Asylum in the same manner, and on the same footing, as the insane Poor are now admitted into the Hospital of the City: that is, they shall be recommended to the Committee of the Town's Hospital, by a Minister and Elder, or by a Corporation; the Committee shall judge, as at present, of their poverty, and grant an order for admission into the Asylum, as they now do to the cells of the Hospital.



The expense of their maintenance shall be defrayed in the same manner as at present, and the rate shall be fixed each year by a Committee chosen jointly from the Hospital and Asylum, consisting of two from each, with one Magistrate.

The Paupers of those Parishes who shall subscribe 50*l.* and are of moderate population, shall be admitted at the same rate with the Paupers of Glasgow; they shall be recommended by the Sessions for admission, from whom obligation for their board shall be required. The Board shall be paid quarterly.

Paupers from Parishes who have not subscribed 50*l.* shall be admitted, but at an advanced board, the rate of which shall be fixed by the General Committee.

No person shall be admitted without a certificate from a regular practising surgeon.

The House shall be divided into two great separate parts, one for Males, another for Females. Each of these shall be subdivided into two parts, one for Boarders, another for Paupers. The ground appropriated for the benefit of the patients shall be divided into similar parts, none of which shall have access or communication with the other.

Boarders shall be attended by their own physician and surgeon; Paupers by such physicians and surgeons as the humanity and judgement of the Medical Gentlemen shall appoint, to give their yearly attention to this Institution.

*J. Hedderwick & Co. }  
Printers, Glasgow. }*