

# **Rebuilding of the Medical Hospital of the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh.**

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REBUILDING  
OF  
THE MEDICAL HOSPITAL  
OF THE  
*Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh.*

And when he saw him, he had compassion *on him*, and went to *him*, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine.

Inasmuch as ye have done *it* unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done *it* unto me.

LUKE x. 33, 34; MATT. xxv. 40.

EDINBURGH:

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE ACTING COMMITTEE.

MDCCCLXVIII.

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THE MEDICAL HOSPITAL

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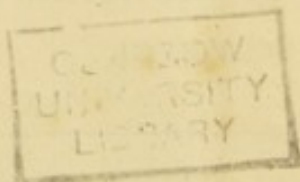
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THE ROYAL INFIRMARY OF EDINBURGH has been in existence for upwards of a century and a quarter. It is "open to all the 'curable distressed,' from whatever corner of the world they come, without restriction;" and the number of Patients treated last year, as per the Report just issued, was 4,752.

There are two Hospitals in connexion with the Royal Infirmary—the Medical and the Surgical. The latter is an excellent one; but the former is not adapted to the requirements of modern times, and is altogether so unsuitable for a public Hospital, that it is necessary to have it rebuilt. In particular, it may be mentioned that the Wards are much too confined; that the ceilings, which ought to be at least fifteen feet high, are only eleven feet; and that the proximity of the buildings in front of the University, renders it impossible to secure the free air and ventilation which are desirable. Besides, the Hospital, notwithstanding a large annual outlay for *repairs*, is in many respects falling into decay.

A Public Meeting was held in Edinburgh on Friday, the 17th April, under the presidency of the LORD PROVOST; and it has been resolved to rebuild the Medical Hospital on the present site; and, with the view of enlarging the accommodation, to acquire the site of the houses in front of the University—the new structure being kept back from the present line of street, so as to admit additional light and air.



## ACTING COMMITTEE.

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The Right Hon. Lord Polwarth.	*Robert Lee, Esq., Advocate.
The Right Hon. Sir Wm. Gibson-Craig, of Riccarton, Bart.	William Lindsay, Esq.
*The Hon. Lord Neaves.	Josiah Livingstone, Esq.
The Hon. B. F. Primrose.	John Macfie, Esq., Hope Terrace.
Sir Archibald Hope, of Craighall and Pinkie, Bart.	James Marshall, Esq.
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Robert Dundas, Esq., of Arniston.	John Muir, Esq., D.C.L., LL.D.
*James Hope, Esq., D.K.S.	*Rev. Dr Nicholson.
*Dr John Moir, P.R.C.P.E.	Rear-Admiral Peat.
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*Thomson Boyd, Esq.	David Smith, Esq.
Councillor Colston.	*Dr John Smith.
Charles Cowan, Esq., of Loganhouse and Valleyfield.	W. S. Walker, Esq., of Bowland.
*Dr Dunsmure.	*Dr Andrew Wood.
*James R. Dymock, Esq.	
James Falshaw, Esq.	Thomas J. Boyd, Esq., 41 Moray Place— <i>Convener.</i>
The Rev. Dr Hanna.	Laurence Robertson, Esq., Royal Bank, St Andrew Square— <i>Honorary Treasurer.</i>
George Harrison, Esq.	Councillor Colston, 10 Findhorn Place— <i>Honorary Secretary.</i>
*H. Maxwell Inglis, Esq., of Loganbank.	
*Charles Lawson, Esq., younger of Borthwick- hall.	

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(Those marked \* are the Ordinary Managers of the Royal Infirmary.)





# PROCEEDINGS

OF

## THE PUBLIC MEETING.

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ON Friday, 17th April 1868, a large and highly influential public meeting of the inhabitants of Edinburgh was held in the Music Hall, George Street, for the purpose of inaugurating a fund to be raised for the rebuilding of the Medical Hospital of the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh.

Among the noblemen and gentlemen on the platform were—

The Lord Provost, the Earl of Haddington, Lord Elphinstone, Lord Polwarth, Lord Jerviswoode, the Hon. Bouverie Primrose, the Lord Advocate, M.P.; Mr Moncreiff, M.P.; the Rev. Sir Henry Wellwood Moncreiff, Bart., D.D.; Sir David Baxter, Bart., Sir D. Davidson, Bart.; Sir Geo. Warrender, Bart.; Professor Sir James Y. Simpson, Bart.; Vice-Admiral Sir James Hope, G.C.B.; Vice-Admiral Ramsay, C.B.; Sir James Coxe, M.D.; Admiral Sir W. Hope Johnstone, K.C.B.; Lieutenant-Colonel Davidson; the Lyon King-at-Arms; Rev. Drs Nicholson, Begg, Burns, Blaikie, Hanna, Johnston, and Smart; Revs. W. Smith, W. H. Gray, D. T. K. Drummond, Jonathan Watson, J. Macgregor, D. F. Sandford, R. H. Stevenson, D. F. Montgomery, J. Macdougall, James Miller, garrison chaplain, F. Muir, and G. Gladstone; Bailies Handyside, Skinner, Miller, Mackie, and Fyfe; Councillors Cousin, Colston, Gordon, Cattanach, Rowatt, and Tawse; the Solicitor-General; Sheriff Davidson; Bishop Strain; Professor Spence, Professor Christison, Professor Maclagan, Professor Balfour, Professor Bennett;



Dr Struthers, Dr Omond, Dr Somerville, Dr Moir, P.R.C.P.E.; Dr Andrew Wood, Dr Grainger Stewart, Dr Pattison, Dr Sibbald, Dr J. Matthews Duncan, Dr Gillespie, Dr J. Young, Dr Sanders, Dr Charles Bell, Dr Douglas, Dr W. Cumming, the Provost of Leith, the Provost of Kirkcaldy, the Provost of Dysart, Messrs Charles Cowan of Logan House, J. Miller of Leithen, W. Scott Elliot of Arkleton, H. M. Inglis of Loganbank, W. H. Muir of Shawhill, W. S. Walker of Bowland, Isaac Bailey of Manuel, T. G. Murray, W.S., Crown Agent; Adam Black, George Seton, advocate; T. J. Boyd, George Harrison, James Hope, D.K.S.; J. Marshall, D. Rhind, D. Cousin, S. Raleigh, W. Cowan; J. Peddie, W.S.; J. Coldstream, W.S.; J. Crabbie, J. Moinet, J. Wilkie, L. Robertson, P. Scarth, J. Watson, Findlay Anderson, R. Landale, S.S.C.; James Sinclair, J. Murdoch, J. Hamilton, W.S.; J. Stuart, A. Snody, S.S.C.; R. Balfour, J. Grant, W.S.; J. Walker, J. Smith, E. Baxter, W.S.; James Balfour, W.S.; John Cheyne, E. L. I. Blyth, J. Brown, W.S.; T. Nelson, R. M. Smith, A. Beveridge, J. R. Dymock, G. L. Finlay, D. Murray, C.A.; R. Kerr, D. M'Laren, W. M'Crie, W. R. Clapperton, F. Farquharson, T. B. Campbell, D. T. Thomson, Samuel Hay, J. Weir, R. E. Scott, C. J. Henderson, C. M. Barstow, C.A.; D. Jeffrey, Benjamin Bell, &c.

The Lord Provost having taken the chair, called upon the Rev. Sir Henry Wellwood Moncreiff, Bart., to open the meeting with prayer.

THE LORD PROVOST, in opening the proceedings, said—Ladies and Gentlemen, this is a public meeting of the citizens of Edinburgh, called to take into consideration the means for inaugurating a fund for the improvement of the Royal Infirmary. As is well known, that establishment has latterly failed to accomplish all the ends expected from it, and which an improved knowledge of medical science has rendered desirable. The Old Infirmary of Edinburgh dates now about 128 years back, having been begun at that time by one of my predecessors in office, and, through the vicissitudes of the last century or more, it has been supported munificently by the inhabitants of this city as well as by the people of Scotland generally. It is a proud thing to take the chair at a meeting, the object of which is so purely benevolent, and so greatly calculated to promote the welfare of our more unfortunate fellow-creatures. I am sorry to think we are under the necessity of appealing in a particular manner to public benevolence under the pressure of a special exigency. The Infirmary, as I have just said, has latterly failed to accomplish all the objects for which it was designed, and there is now, I hope, about to be a very great and important change



effected upon its physical structure. As you know, there have, from time to time, been added various buildings to the original edifice. The establishment now consists of a cluster of four or five distinct kinds of hospitals, and the more ancient of the whole is now found to be so antiquated that it will have to be taken down and entirely rebuilt. On looking at that very beautiful, interesting old structure, one cannot but feel a degree of regret that a pile which has been so highly valued by our ancestors and by ourselves should require to be removed. But if you proceed into the interior of the building, and view its various departments, it is seen that it is very defective in many respects. I need not trouble you with details, but I will just say that, upon inspection by persons qualified to judge, it has been thought the best and cheapest thing is to pull it down, and rebuild a proper edifice in its place. (Applause.) There was at one time entertained a notion of removing the entire establishment to some other site outside the city; but, upon consideration, that idea was abandoned, and, I am inclined to think, very properly so. The situation of the present Infirmary is peculiarly accessible in many respects. It is in the centre of the town, placed among those very localities where are found the unhappy beings who require to take advantage of it; and the site is also advantageous, because it is in close proximity to the University. Besides taking down the old building itself, it is proposed also to remove the stretch of buildings in front of the University, which intercepts the view of that stupendous building. I am sure no stranger has ever visited Edinburgh, and none of its citizens ever passed there, without a feeling of regret that the University should be placed so close upon so narrow a thoroughfare. By removing these buildings in the South Bridge, while the Royal Infirmary would still be kept back at a proper distance from the thoroughfare,—the sanitary condition of the neighbourhood would be very much improved; the ventilation necessary for the Infirmary would be vastly increased; the interior accommodation of the establishment would be very much improved; and I think the amenity of the city would be enhanced. Now, of course, all this cannot be done without a very large expenditure being incurred. It is expected that as much as £100,000 will be expended, and no such sum can be raised without an appeal, not to the citizens of Edinburgh only, but also to friends at a distance. (Hear, hear.) Looking at the statistics connected with the Infirmary, I observe, with not a little degree of satisfaction, that about a third of the inmates are not from Edinburgh alone, but from all parts of Scotland; and when this fact is properly brought before the public and made known, we must



surely look to our friends in more remote quarters for assistance in the present emergency. I trust, therefore, that funds will be raised, not only in Edinburgh, but also in many other districts, and that we will have help on this occasion from all who can give it. (Hear, hear.) You are all aware that I have lately endeavoured to inaugurate a movement for the purpose of coalescing the different charities in Edinburgh. I have long felt that the time had arrived when it was necessary to consolidate many of these charities. Now, the Infirmary has been proceeding upon that footing. It has adopted the Convalescent Hospital as one of its branches. That is a very great improvement, and I hope the managers will take one other step—viz., to incorporate with their establishment the Maternity Hospital of Edinburgh. (Applause.) I cannot but think that it would be much more than a scandal were we to allow that useful but humble charity to be put down, for, were we to do so, it would induce incalculable evils. Yet it can hardly be sustained on its present footing; and, in the name of the authorities of Edinburgh, I seek to press upon the managers of the Infirmary my earnest desire that they will take this into their best consideration. I am sure, if it is money that is wanted, upon its being made known in future, when any collection is made for the Infirmary, that the institution has incorporated with it the Maternity Hospital, a consideration of that fact will be calculated greatly to enlarge the liberality of all subscribers. I would add, further, that it is as necessary to support that humble institution as it is to support the Infirmary itself, upon this ground, that, unless students coming to Edinburgh can derive instruction in that branch of the profession which is more immediately practised therein, as well as in every other branch, our University must necessarily suffer. I could not, therefore, avoid the present opportunity of referring to that matter; and I have no doubt that this suggestion will be taken into consideration in the most kindly manner, and that the adoption of it would encourage the public in future to be as liberal as possible in their donations and contributions to the Royal Infirmary. (Applause.) Having now stated to the meeting the general object for which we have been called together, I shall leave the various speakers to lay before you their views upon the subject, and shall merely conclude by remarking that this is a great and noble occasion, on which all who are able to assist ought to come forward liberally and handsomely to help one of the greatest of our noble charities. (Loud applause.)

Councillor COLSTON, Honorary Secretary of the Acting Committee,



said :—My Lord Provost, my Lords, Ladies, and Gentlemen,—I have to announce that letters of apology for absence have been received from the following noblemen and gentlemen :—From the Duke of Buccleuch, the Duke of Roxburghe; the Earl of Southesk, the Earl of Wemyss, the Earl of Rosslyn, and the Earl of Kellie; Lord Dunfermline, Lord Neaves, Lord Ardmillan, Lord Ormidale; Sir William Johnston; Mr Dundas of Arniston, Mr Trotter of the Bush; Major-General Dalzell; Sheriff Cleghorn; Mr Pitt Dundas; Right Rev. Bishop Morrell; Rev. Dr Guthrie, Rev. Dr A. Thomson, Dr W. L. Alexander, and others. He added—I may state that the acting committee had hoped to have had the able services of Bishop Morrell and Dr Guthrie in advocating the cause for which we are this day assembled. Your Lordship will allow me to read two short extracts from letters—the one from the Earl of Wemyss, and the other from the Earl of Rosslyn. In a letter to Mr T. G. Murray, W.S., the Earl of Wemyss says—“No one feels more interested in the success of the Infirmary than I do, as I consider it the most important and beneficial institution in Scotland, besides being our great medical school, from which so many eminent men have been produced.” (Hear, hear.) In a letter to Mr Boyd, the Convener of the Acting Committee, received this morning, and dated from Cannes, April 14, the Earl of Rosslyn writes—“Your invitation to attend a meeting to inaugurate the fund for the rebuilding of the Medical Hospital of the Royal Infirmary has been forwarded to me here. I regret that my absence on the Continent will prevent the possibility of my being present; but I take the opportunity of expressing my most sincere good wishes for the success of the object you have in view, and my earnest hope that so beneficent a charity may meet with the support it so thoroughly deserves. I shall hope, on my return to Scotland, to show my interest in the matter in a more practical form.—Yours, &c., ROSSLYN.” (Applause.) I may state that there are many other letters of a like nature, all expressive of the warmest sympathy with, and interest in, the movement; but I shall not further trespass on the meeting. (Applause.)

Mr MONCREIFF, M.P., who was received with cheers, rose to move the first resolution. He said—I have obeyed the summons of the Committee on this occasion with the greatest possible willingness, thinking that the object of the meeting was one to which every one should contribute as far as lay in his power. At the same time I do not know why I have been selected for the duty of moving this first resolution. The matter is somewhat out of my ordinary



line of knowledge or inquiry. It has some peculiarities of its own which are not always found on the occasions on which I have had the honour sometimes of addressing audiences in this place. (A laugh.) It is usual on such occasions—at least, it has been frequently so—to disclaim all pecuniary motives. Now, on this occasion we have none but pecuniary motives. We are here for the purpose of asking for money and for advising people to pay it ; and although that, in the ordinary case may be considered to savour of sordidness, I think that on the present occasion a higher or nobler incentive could not be suggested than the one we present ; for it is not the payment of the money, but the object for which the money is to be paid, that stamps the demand or the receipt of it either with sordidness or with nobility. (Applause.) But there is another peculiarity in the present case which frequently is not found. I mean that it is one in which there are no sections or parties—one in which all sections and all parties concur in supporting, as on common ground ; and that has been the distinction most peculiar, I think, of the Infirmary of Edinburgh, as far as our local views and opinions are concerned ; for, amid all the divisions of opinion that we have, amid all the differences that we have in politics, in ecclesiastical matters, and in sentiment, there has always been a rally round the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, not merely in consequence of the beneficent objects to which it is devoted, but also in consequence of the wisdom, the moderation, the skill, and the large-heartedness with which its affairs have always been administered. (Cheers.) It has been well said by the Lord Provost that the Infirmary of Edinburgh is not a local, but a national institution, and the reason why it should be and must be a national institution in one sense has been plain enough. We have here in this city, to our great pride and our great benefit, a great medical school. The Medical School of Edinburgh has had a reputation for centuries, and it is plain, therefore, that such an institution as an infirmary, with the best and highest skill which the land can afford at its door, must of necessity not be confined to the local wants of the city in which it is placed, but be resorted to from all parts of the country for the benefits which it can afford. In the statement I have before me it is said that the catholic character of the Edinburgh Infirmary is peculiar to itself,—that there are few institutions of precisely the same character in the country. And therefore we are dealing now, not with a matter merely for the benefit of Edinburgh, but we are now supporting an institution that is of advantage to the whole nation, and which, therefore, it concerns the whole nation to support. Now, what are the circumstances in which this demand is made? The



sum that is asked from the public—that is to say, the sum which we ourselves ask from ourselves—is a very considerable one; and the circumstances are simply these, that the large building which has been added to from time to time in Infirmary Street is no longer suitable for the demands that are made upon it; and the question which the managers have had to solve is simply this, whether they are to add to, or repair, or attempt to enlarge, a building which was constructed at a time when many of those appliances which modern science has suggested were unknown—or whether they should not at once make an appeal to the philanthropy and munificence of their fellow-countrymen, and endeavour to erect, once for all, a new building, which shall be adequate for the requirements of the city and country, and which shall be constructed in accordance with the improvements of modern times. That is the reason why the appeal has been made, and the question is, whether it is to be responded to. I sympathise with my friend the Lord Provost about taking down the old Infirmary. It has been a landmark to us for many years; and to those who are unhappily old enough to remember the old High School, and our morning journeys down Infirmary Street, there is no doubt it will be the removing of an old association over which, so far as sentiment goes, we may be allowed legitimately to mourn. But, on the other hand, it is impossible to overrate the interest which we have in constructing this building, so that it shall properly do its work. There are two views that may be taken of that, and both of them are strong, and, together, they come home to the breasts and bosoms of every one. The poet says—

“ To each his suff’rings, all are men  
Condemn’d alike to groan;  
The tender, for another’s pain,  
The unfeeling, for his own.”

And whether we take it in the one view or the other, there is a loud call for our responding to this appeal. In the first place, so far as the tender who “feel for another’s pain” is concerned, there can be no nobler exercise of philanthropy or sympathy than in smoothing the bed of pain, or removing the assaults of disease, when they assail those whose means do not permit them to make available the skill and attention that are required for their cure. That is a noble task; and those who cannot overtake it personally, can bestow their money and their funds—the good with which God has blessed them—in no way that will more immediately bring to their fellow-creatures comfort, peace, happiness, often life. But if we are to take it in the other way, mere



selfishness should conjure the money out of our pockets, if philanthropy fails; for can there be a doubt that the health of this metropolis of Scotland depends in a very large degree upon the mode in which this great institution of ours is administered? There can be no question at all that nothing tends so much to produce general social health among all classes of the community as having the means of removing the poorer classes, when afflicted with disease, to a building properly ventilated, properly constituted, and armed with all the appliances that can be required. And therefore, without further delay, and having made these few remarks in support of an appeal which I am perfectly certain needed no remarks to commend to your notice, I beg to propose:—

“That the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, which has been open for nearly a century and a half ‘to all the curable distressed, from whatever corner of the world they come, without restriction,’ is an institution which is pre-eminently entitled to the warmest and most liberal support, not only of the citizens of Edinburgh, but of the country at large.”

(Loud applause.)

Professor SPENCE—I have been requested, as President of the Royal College of Surgeons, to second the motion which you have heard proposed, and so ably supported by Mr Moncreiff. There are many things I could have well wished at this time to say, but it is almost unnecessary for me to say a word after what you have heard. At the same time, there are certain points which, from a professional stand-point, I could wish to bring before the meeting. I appear here to bear testimony to the deep interest which the College of Surgeons feels, and always has felt, in the welfare of the Royal Infirmary, and in all that concerns its interests. (Applause.) The reason of that interest is that we recognise it as one of the most beneficent of our charitable institutions, and one of the most efficient; and I know of no body of men who are better able to judge of that efficiency than the gentlemen who compose the Royal College of Surgeons. (Applause.) As a surgical officer of the Royal Infirmary for nearly eighteen years, I have had considerable experience of the benefits it has conferred upon the community and the suffering poor; and if I were possessed of the eloquence of the gentleman who preceded me, I would feel no hesitation in laying my testimony before you at some length. But as I am not possessed of, and have no pretensions to his eloquence, I shall present a few facts which shall have sufficient eloquence to speak for themselves. I call atten-



tion to one point in the resolution just proposed, "that the Infirmary has been open for a century and a half, to all the curable distressed, from whatever quarter of the world they come, without restriction." I do not know that the public of Edinburgh very fully appreciate what is meant by that, because they are not aware of the system which very generally prevails; and it is only those who are acquainted with hospital systems generally that can appreciate the full benefit of the system adopted in the Edinburgh Infirmary. In most hospitals, patients are admitted by what are termed "subscribers' tickets"—that is to say, the subscribers, in proportion to the amount of their subscriptions, obtain a certain number of tickets to admit patients to the hospital, and have, so to speak, the patronage of so many beds. The consequence of this is, that, in many cases, a poor man without friends, knowing no governor nor subscriber, however necessitous his case may be, is left very much in the position of the poor cripple at the pool of Bethesda—"he has no man to help him in," and the consequence is that whilst he is waiting, some other—perhaps less urgent—case takes precedence. Now, in the Royal Infirmary the system is this: The managers have always intrusted the admission of the patients to the medical and surgical officers of the institution, as being the best judges of the cases proper for admission. (Cheers.) That is a distinctive feature of the Edinburgh Infirmary; because in most of the hospitals of other countries the system I have referred to prevails, or where our system is employed it has been adopted from us. In our system we require no such title as a ticket; the title for admission is disease. The only claim to precedence is the urgency of the case; the only limitation to admission the accommodation the hospital affords. (Applause.) Having said so much, I will detain you no longer, but simply press upon you the claims of an institution so catholic, and so accessible, to all who require medical or surgical treatment, and consequently so beneficent in its operations. (Applause.)

The resolution was then put to the meeting, and carried unanimously.

The Rev. Dr MAXWELL NICHOLSON moved the second resolution:—

"That as the present Medical Hospital is not adapted to the requirements of modern times; as its wards are much too confined, and the accommodation otherwise inadequate; as the proximity of the buildings in front of the University renders it impossible to secure the free air and ventilation which are desirable; and as the structure is in many



respects falling into decay ; this meeting are of opinion that the Hospital should be rebuilt, that the present site should be retained, and that the site of the houses in front of the University should be acquired for the extension of the building, as unanimously approved of by the managers of the Infirmary, the court of contributors, and the medical officers who have been consulted."

He said—In offering a few remarks in support of this resolution, I desire to explain that the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh consists of two hospitals, the medical and the surgical. The Surgical Hospital has been recently built ; the Medical Hospital, as has been already stated, has been in use for about a hundred and twenty-seven years, and it is that hospital the managers desire to rebuild. Some years ago, finding that large repairs and alterations were required, they asked Mr Bryce, their architect, to examine it, and he reported that he would not recommend the managers to lay out the sum of money upon it that would be necessary ; that the whole building would require to be overhauled and remodelled ; and, in short, his opinion was that the managers should spend as little money upon it as possible, and that nothing but a new building could provide an hospital that would be satisfactory. The managers and court of contributors, the medical and surgical officers, and many other eminent medical men who were consulted, concur in that opinion ; and they are also agreed that the pile of buildings betwixt the University and the Infirmary should be acquired and removed, both that the site of the Medical Hospital may be enlarged, and that the ventilation of the whole buildings comprising the Infirmary may be improved. As your Lordship has stated, some warm friends of the Infirmary were of opinion that the Medical Hospital should be rebuilt on another site, but there were great difficulties in the way of carrying out that proposal. In the first place, it would have been necessary to sacrifice the Surgical Hospital, or have the two separated ; and either alternative would have involved a very great pecuniary loss. In the second place, there would have been great difficulty in obtaining a site ; because, as has been already stated, the Infirmary being intimately connected with our great medical schools, must necessarily be situated near the University, and in that locality it would be no easy matter to procure so large a piece of ground as would be required for building an hospital. It is very satisfactory to report that those who were most urgent for the removal of the Infirmary from its present site, though, I suppose, they still hold to their old opinion, are nevertheless giving their hearty and generous support to the present movement. (Applause.) I have done with details. I cannot think that our



proposal will meet with many objections. I expect that it will excite deep and wide-spread interest. It has done so already, and that among all classes. As you will soon hear from my friend, Mr Boyd, whose name I delight to mention in connexion with this movement—(applause)—to which he has given so great a stimulus, it has called forth the most handsome subscriptions that ever were reported to a meeting of our fellow-citizens—(applause)—subscriptions which, I may say, are worthy of the noble object for which they were given and all the more worthy that they were given so readily. The object we have in view is indeed a noble one, and may well commend itself to every generous mind. It is an object which secured the warm support of a generation which has long passed away, and which gave to Edinburgh and to Scotland that Medical Hospital which we now propose to remove. That pious gift of men who had compassion on the sick has served its day, and served it well. It has faithfully and usefully served many generations; and if ever a building fulfilled the expectations of those who erected it for purposes of mercy, that building has done so—(applause)—and as it now stands this day in its old age, with its gray venerable walls, it may challenge a comparison with any building in this country—with any building of any country for usefulness and for true charity—(applause)—and I feel assured that if the men by whose gifts that building was erected were to rise from their graves and read its history, the gifts by which these walls were reared up would be the very last gifts of which they would repent. And, my Lord, if those who were the original founders of the Royal Infirmary faced their difficulties, why should we shrink from ours? Our country is vastly richer now than it was in their day. And then we have the benefit not merely of their example, but of their success; for ours is no mere experiment. We know what the Royal Infirmary has done, what it is doing, and what it may do, and we are called to build in connexion with an institution which stands out from among all our charitable societies prominent as the Castle rock from the midst of our homes—in connexion with an institution than which none in all the world is more intimately connected with the progress of medical science—and we are called to build in connexion with a medical school which has shed lustre, not on Edinburgh merely, but on Scotland and on Great Britain—(applause)—a medical school which, year after year, is sending out well-trained medical practitioners, not merely to our own cities and rural districts, but to our army and navy, and away to our remotest colonies, to give to many the benefit of those instructions they have received, and that experience they have ac-



quired in the wards of the Royal Infirmary. (Applause.) And let us not forget that the hospital we propose to rebuild is part of an institution into which are received, year after year, from four to five thousand poor diseased human beings, and which affords medical advice to hundreds, I may say thousands more—an institution whose fame is so wide-spread that it attracts patients not only from our own city and its immediate district, but from every county in Scotland—where every day of the year you may see patients from Orkney and Shetland—where not unfrequently you may see the Dane, the Swede, and the German, and him, too, whose thoughts, as they flit away from his sick-bed to visit the home of his youth, must cross not merely the flood but the mountain, not merely the ocean but the snowy Alps. (Applause.) Nor should we overlook the devoted attention paid to these patients by the successive bands of young medical practitioners, who serve under the ordinary medical and surgical officers of the Infirmary. In times when there is severe epidemic disease in Edinburgh, they expose themselves to dangers great as of the battle-field. (Applause.) And many a young life, around which many hopes were gathered, has been offered up there at the shrine of duty. (Applause.) There is danger in every hospital to those who are attendants on fever patients; but surely this is beyond all question, that there must be less danger where you have wards fifteen feet high, than where you have wards, as in our present hospital, only eleven feet high. And surely if these young men give themselves to the work so readily and are required there, the public are bound to see that they labour at the least possible risk. (Applause.) On many grounds, then, we may appeal for funds to rebuild our medical hospital. For the sake of those who attend on the patients, for the sake of the patients themselves, for the credit of Scotland, and in the name of Him who, tender-hearted Himself, teaches us to be tender-hearted too, I would appeal to Scotland's sons and daughters wherever they reside. Our work is indeed an arduous one; it has been called gigantic; but why? that is merely because it is a work of charity. If this were a dividend-paying scheme, or a scheme that promised dividends, the whole money would be subscribed, nay, ten times the amount, in a single day. (Applause.) And, oh! let it not be said that we are such mammon-worshippers that we will subscribe our millions in its service, and not our hundreds in the service of charity, which is the service of the true God. And depend upon it, if this work be carried out to a successful issue, it will yield noble dividends. These it will pay year after year, not in silver and gold, but in the relief of human misery, in the restoration of human health, in gladness for many an afflicted



family, and in light and joy for many a darkened dwelling. (Applause.)

The Earl of HADDINGTON, who was received with applause, said—It is, sir, with the very greatest possible pleasure and satisfaction that I now rise to second the resolution which has been proposed so eloquently and so beautifully by Dr Nicholson. But will you permit me to say that, when I entered this room, I had not the slightest idea that I would be called upon to take any part in the proceedings of this day, and further, to say that, whenever I was asked to do so—however sudden the notice was—I felt it to be a very great pride and a very great honour that I might be permitted to raise my humble voice in behalf of that appeal which is this day being made to you—an appeal, in my opinion for an institution which is an honour, an ornament, and a glory to Scotland—an appeal which I hope and trust will be fully and entirely answered, not only by the people of Edinburgh and the people of Scotland, but which I hope will draw many subscriptions towards that most useful institution even from distant lands. (Applause.) And sure I am of this—talking of distant lands—that there is no Scotchman, however distant he may be removed from the “land of brown heath”—whether in the sultry clime of India, or any other part of the known world—who will not be ready and happy to support an institution which is the pride of his native country. (Applause.) However well prepared I might have been to have addressed you upon the present occasion—however much I may have studied the subject, which, as I have already informed you, I have not in any way done—I feel I would only be detaining you in a manner which I need not have done by attempting anything further than to allude to the speeches which have been already made—speeches which have fully, entirely, beautifully, and excellently described the measure which you have met to discuss to-day. I shall simply conclude by saying that it is my most earnest hope that this appeal, as I have said, shall meet with the support of Scotland at large, and that we may see a new institution—a new Infirmary—rising in beauty over the ashes of the one which is to be pulled down; that in after years those who succeed us may thank the present generation for what they did for their Infirmary; and that that Infirmary may still continue to be an honour, a glory, and an ornament to Scotland. (Loud applause.)

The resolution was then put to the meeting, and carried by acclamation.



The LORD ADVOCATE moved the adoption of the third resolution, which was as follows:—

“That as, in addition to £40,000 which the managers of the Infirmary are in a position to give from funds belonging to that institution, a sum of nearly £60,000 is required for the accomplishment of this work, the meeting resolve that a public subscription be raised for the purpose; and they express their hope that contributions from all classes and from all parts will be made in such numbers, and to such an amount, as will effect the object.”

In supporting the resolution, his Lordship said—My Lords, Ladies, and Gentlemen, the first resolution with which you have expressed your concurrence recognises the merits and claims of this excellent institution, in support of which we have met. The second resolution recognises the necessity which exists for adding to the structure and improving the accommodation of the buildings within which the sick and wounded are relieved; and having thus recognised the claims and necessities of this excellent institution, I have now to ask your concurrence in a resolution which may be called the practical resolution of the day. It has been found necessary, as has been already explained to you, that there should be very extensive additions and improvements on the existing buildings, and these cannot be carried out without a very large subscription. Money constitutes, it is well known, the sinews of war, and perhaps it is as well it should be so, because a knowledge of that fact operates as a considerable restraint upon our pugnacious tendencies. (A laugh.) But it is not merely in warlike operations that money is essential, because even for those connected with the purposes of peace and charity it is essential that funds should be provided. Now, the managers of this institution have come forward and intimated that for the purposes in support of which we are met, it is requisite that they should have a sum equal to £100,000. That is certainly a very large demand to make; but I am happy to say that, to the extent of two-fifths of that sum, it has already been provided for by the prudent management of the financial concerns of the institution by those who have hitherto taken charge of it—(applause)—so that the sum which we have to provide is £60,000. That is still a large sum, but I do not despair of our being able to accomplish it. There have been munificent subscriptions, from £1000 downwards, made, of which we shall hear probably more in detail; and I cannot believe that an institution which confers such blessings as this shall languish for want of public support. It must be borne in mind that



the effort which we are now making is not of the character of those which we are generally called on to support—I mean, that it is for a permanent purpose, and not for an annual or periodically recurring thing. It is a subscription which, during our lives—ay, I may say, during the lives of our children and children's children—shall secure a home for the sick and disabled, not only of this great city, but of Scotland, and for the stranger. I say, therefore, that, not being of an annually recurring character, and not being likely to recur during our lives, this is a subscription which calls for liberal contributions; and I trust it will receive them. If I may make a suggestion, I would say that, if there are any excellent people who have made provision in their wills to contribute in the shape of legacies to this institution, may they not yet reconsider the matter, and make the payment of those sums during their lives, and have the satisfaction of seeing them applied while they are in life? (Applause.) But it is not merely because it is a subscription of a permanent character that I ask you to join in it. I ask you also to join in it, having regard to the immense benefits conferred by this institution upon the sick poor. You know well that by the words of our Divine Redeemer we are instructed to show mercy, and to show mercy to our neighbour; and you know well who is your neighbour in this sense of the term. But I would say in the restricted sense of the term that of those we have relieved—I think it was stated by the Lord Provost—nearly two-thirds of the patients are neighbours of ours; and even if influenced by selfish considerations, it is our interest that they should be well attended to when under the influence of sickness and disease. But it is, I am happy to say, not merely to our neighbour in the restricted sense of the term that we give support and relief—we give to all, come from what quarter they may. The only title they have to admittance is the necessity for their being well treated. I join in the commendation of my friend Dr Maxwell Nicholson, of those excellent persons—I mean the medical attendants and students—who devote themselves in a service of danger to the relief of the suffering. It is a quiet and unobtrusive danger to which they are exposed; it is not a showy service in which they are engaged; but it is nevertheless a service of mercy, and I trust they will have the satisfaction of a good conscience as payment for those services which they give. I trust, therefore, my Lord Provost, and ladies and gentlemen, that the resolution which I now move will receive the hearty concurrence not only of those who are present, but of all who are interested in the relief of the suffering, and feel an attachment to our native land. (Loud applause.)



Dr MOIR, President of the Royal College of Physicians, said,—I have much pleasure in seconding the resolution which has been so ably proposed by the Lord Advocate. As the Lord Advocate has said, this is the chief resolution—the chief end and object of this large and influential meeting; because the great object we have in view is to secure the sum necessary for rebuilding our Infirmary. There are situations in life, which we have all met with, where we must be satisfied with taking the will for the deed, but you must all be satisfied that this is not one of these cases at all—for unless the will become an accomplished fact, unless we really attain the object we have in view, all the former resolutions will be of no avail, and all the labour which we have taken in connexion with this subject will be of no consequence. As representing the College of Physicians here, and speaking in their name, I think I have a right and title, not for myself, but for them, to urge the claims of this institution upon the citizens of Edinburgh, and if you will allow me two or three minutes, I shall very shortly state the grounds for doing so. On consulting the minutes of our College it will be found that, in the year 1682, the College thought it necessary to appoint two of their number to attend to the sick poor, and this duty they continued to perform for between forty and fifty years. About that time they found that their efforts were greatly frustrated and rendered unavailing, from the want of some house or hospital where the sick poor could be accommodated; and accordingly, about the year 1726, some of the members of the College of Physicians proposed to certain well-disposed persons in Edinburgh that a house for the reception of the sick poor should be set up, which was gone into very heartily, and a temporary hospital was begun. On the 1st August 1727, the College bound itself by a minute, “that one or more of their number shall attend the said hospital faithfully and freely, without any prospect of reward or salary, until the stock of the said hospital shall be so increased that it can afford a reasonable allowance for one or two physicians.” On 7th November 1727, there appears a minute in the College records, stating, “that the members of the College had set this charitable work on foot;” and on 7th May 1728, the College memorialised and sent a deputation to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, calling the attention of that reverend body to the value of the proposed charity. On the 5th August 1729, the minutes of the College show that a temporary hospital was established by it, in which the sick poor were attended by its Fellows. It will also be found from the history of the Royal Infirmary that the Infirmary was incorporated by royal charter in August 1736; and



from a minute of the College, on the 1st August 1738, it appears that the College of Physicians attended as a body at the laying of the foundation stone of the Royal Infirmary, and the next day voted thirty guineas to the funds to be raised by voluntary contributions. I find also that in November 1742, the College ordained that each Fellow should, "on admission, pay twenty shillings to the Infirmary;" that, in 1785, the College "voted fifty guineas to the funds of the Royal Infirmary;" that, on the 2d February 1819, the College, on account of the expense incident to the prevalence of fever, voted fifty guineas to the Infirmary, and ten guineas to the Society for preventing contagious fever. There are many other minutes showing the close and intimate relation subsisting between the College and the Infirmary. These sums, it must be remembered, were contributed by the College of Physicians at a time when they were in great poverty, at a time when they had great difficulty in meeting their own ordinary expenses, but still, notwithstanding that, they showed such an interest in this institution, that out of their poverty they were willing to contribute very considerable sums, as I have mentioned to you; and on this occasion, when the proposal for the rebuilding of the Infirmary came before them, it was proposed, and after a little discussion, unanimously agreed to by the College, that we should contribute one thousand pounds to the scheme. (Loud applause.) There were individuals who thought that, considering the amount of attendance and care which is bestowed by medical men upon the poor of Edinburgh, a smaller subscription might have been sufficient, but after a little discussion it was unanimously agreed that considering the interest that the College of Physicians had all along taken in the Royal Infirmary, of which they had in fact been the originators, they should be contributors to the extent of one thousand pounds. (Applause.) It is at present a rule of the Infirmary, that none but Fellows of the College shall act as physicians to that institution, and I hope that we can well claim the acknowledgment that we have discharged our duty faithfully. (Applause.) Think of the illustrious names of Fellows of the College of Physicians who have attended in that Hospital—the Cullens, the Gregorys, the Hamiltons, the Duncans, senior and junior, the Listons, and last, one known to us all, Dr Alison. Remember that these men acquired their first rudiments of medical knowledge in that noble institution, and that, having acquired it, they were then followed in these wards by hundreds and thousands of students, who carried the benefits of the knowledge thus obtained to the remotest parts of the world. (Applause.) For these reasons, therefore, I think that the College of Physicians have very



good grounds for urging the claims of this hospital upon the citizens of Edinburgh. As a member of the medical profession, I think I am also entitled to call upon the inhabitants of Edinburgh to support this institution. I do not think that the public of Edinburgh are sufficiently aware of the immense value of the advantages bestowed upon the poor of this city, and of the benefits which the very richest thus receive from the gratuitous services of the medical profession, and their being thus enabled to check contagious diseases which would otherwise extend to all classes. It is not the pauper poor who are admitted to the benefits of the Royal Infirmary. They, as you are aware, are supported by the Poorhouse, which provides medical men to attend them ; but there is a class of our working population, elevated above the pauper class, who are not able to pay for medical attendance, in case of severe illness, to whom our Infirmary, our Maternity Hospital, and our Dispensaries, scattered all over the city, are open for advice, which they obtain gratuitously, as well as medicine. Surely, when medical men thus spend so much of their time on the care of the sick poor, we have a right to look to the inhabitants of Edinburgh to assist us in building and fitting up an institution so well fitted as the Royal Infirmary is to improve the medical profession. You are aware, as Dr Nicholson has very ably mentioned, that not only are we indebted to the men of eminence who have studied in that Infirmary, but we must remember the large number of young men and physicians who have fallen victims there at the shrine of duty, and how much it becomes, therefore, the duty of all to assist in erecting an hospital where, as far as the appliances of science can be carried out, the danger of infection both to nurses and medical men should be made as small as possible. But these are not the only motives which should influence the public of Edinburgh in supporting this institution ; for, on visiting it the other day, it occurred to me that there are other motives still, motives which the builders of the present Infirmary entertained. All who are in the habit of attending the Infirmary must have been struck with the two mottoes inscribed on the front of that institution, and which are conspicuous to every one approaching the building—" I was naked and ye clothed me," and " I was sick and ye visited me." Surely the motives which actuated the founders of the present hospital should equally actuate us. There is another verse also which, in some sense, may be looked upon as more selfish in its character, but which I think we ought to bear in mind,—viz., " He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord, and that which he hath given will He pay him again." We ought then all to give our contributions to this noble object, and we



shall find how true it is that it is "more blessed to give than to receive." (Applause.) I think it unnecessary to say anything further. I trust the efforts of the gentlemen who have taken such an interest in this matter will be crowned with complete success. I hope we will find that the money will be forthcoming, and that an hospital will be erected in every way suited to the place which Edinburgh holds as a school of medicine, and to the talented men who give instruction there. (Loud applause.)

MR THOMAS J. BOYD, (publisher,) convener of the Acting Committee, said—My Lord Provost, my Lords, Ladies, and Gentlemen, I beg to announce the amount of subscriptions which have been already obtained. When the Acting Committee were appointed, at the instance of the court of contributors, to take steps for the purpose of endeavouring to raise so great a sum as £60,000, it seemed to them that it would be desirable, before calling this meeting, to get some contributions of different amounts—a specimen list, as it were, of subscriptions. When we began to look about for these, however well we knew that the Royal Infirmary was valued by the people of Scotland, we were scarcely prepared for the generous and cordial reception which awaited us. (Applause.) Of this reception something is already known. When first it got abroad that single individuals were giving very large sums, people wondered, and asked us if it were so. "Is it true," said they, "that you have got subscriptions of £1000 each? How was it—how were they obtained?" "Came they 'by request' and 'fair question?'" asked one. My Lord Provost, "By what conjuration and what mighty magic" did we get them? We told some friends the simple story of our case. Here is an institution which, as each year passes on, treats within its walls somewhere about 5000 suffering human beings seeking to be cured. Since times long gone by, there has been connected with it a medical school, the fame of whose skill is known over the world—a fame which, if it is now changed at all, is changed only in this, that its lustre is brighter than it ever was before. (Applause.) And so people come for cure from every county in Scotland; from all parts of England and Ireland, or rather from every quarter of the globe; and its gates are never closed, day or night. (Applause.) But they are not cured as they might be. Antagonistic to the skill of which I speak, there are heavy evils ever contending. To overcome these is the work of this great movement. The medical hospital is not suitable for its purpose. The wards are too small and too confined, with low ceilings and bad ventilation, and without necessary appliances,



they are not worthy of the name. It is believed that people die there who in more favourable circumstances might live; some patients—it may be many—whose lamp of life the power of disease reduces to that feeble flickering flame which the slightest change for better or for worse nourishes or extinguishes, and which, had full justice been done them, would have again begun to burn more brightly, until they were restored to their friends and society, but who, as it is, are carried out dead. (Hear, hear.) When asking subscriptions, this is the story which we told, “this only is the witchcraft we have used,” and this did win them. The first person—the very first to whom we went—unasked, and almost before we had done speaking, subscribed £1000. (Applause.) Another, whom I accidentally met shortly afterwards, also unasked, subscribed the same amount. To a lady, who lives within rifle range of where we now are, and whose charities have gladdened many a hearth of poverty, we wrote upon the subject. An answer soon came. “I have to request,” she said, “that you will add my name to the list of subscribers, for £1000—(applause)—believing the Royal Infirmary to be one of our noblest and most useful institutions.” (Applause.) As I said, we wanted a specimen list of subscriptions—smaller sums as well as those larger ones; and, taking a friend to introduce us, we made a call, expecting to get one or two hundred pounds. The person whom we went to see was out, and we arranged to go again. But our friend, in our absence, charging himself with our mission, returned alone, and instead of one or two hundred—he had learned to tell our story—he got £500. (Applause.) The next call we made was for £1000. The gentleman to whom we went, as we entered his room, was speaking to a poor-looking person, who immediately left. He said to us, “That woman has got 5s. from me; I suppose it’s all right enough, but so many people come wanting money.” We sat down, and nothing loath, asked £1000. Now I would like to say how good a subscription came from that visit; but, if I told the sum, people might be guessing who the donor was, and if they found it out he might blame us for telling tales. This much, however, I will say, that the subscription was a very noble one. (Applause.) Such are illustrations of the wonderful generosity with which this charity has been received; and I may add that we were thanked again and again by people for being “so kind,” as they were pleased to express it, “as to come and tell them what was doing.” (Applause.) And now, my Lord Provost, as to the subscriptions received. They are so many that it would take up too much time to read them in detail, but they will be advertised in to-morrow’s



newspapers, and I will content myself with giving a summary. Up to twelve o'clock to-day there have been received—

11 subscriptions of £1000	...	£11,000
5        „        500	...	2,500
2        „        400	...	800
2        „        250	...	500
1        „        210	...	210
14       „       200	...	2,800
2        „       105	...	210
44       „       100	...	4,400
Under        ...       100	...	2,365
Gross amount subscribed up to } twelve o'clock to-day		£24,785

In addition to that, since I came to the meeting, the secretary has sent me across the platform a little note, announcing additional contributions, which brings the amount up to £25,000—(applause)—and since I got that note, I have received a subscription from the baronet on my right hand (Sir David Baxter) of £1000. (Applause.) This makes the total sum £26,000. (Loud applause.) Such is the amount contributed, and which far exceeds that of any preliminary list of subscriptions ever before raised in this city for a charitable object. It is the first, and a noble, instalment of the fund which we are met to inaugurate. (Applause.) If all those upon whom the institution has a claim will but give what help they can, many suns will not go down before the whole amount required is subscribed. (Applause.) During these nearly one hundred and fifty years, the Infirmary has been doing a work, the greatness of which who shall attempt to describe, and it has ever been true to its best and earliest pledge, that its door shall ever be open to the “curable distressed,” from wherever they may come. The liberality of the public has made that sure. That difficulties have arisen during the long period of its existence was only to have been expected; but up to this last and greatest one, with which we have now to grapple, it has surmounted them all. That it is greater than our countrymen can overcome, I cannot for a moment contemplate; but, on the contrary, I believe that such will be the continued generosity displayed, that soon it, like the others, will be but a record of the past. (Loud applause.) Mr Boyd concluded by intimating that subscriptions would be received in the committee room at the Bible Society’s Rooms, No. 5 St Andrew Square, every day from ten to four o’clock; also at the



Royal Bank, and all its branches; and at all the banking companies in Scotland.

The LORD PROVOST—In your name, I beg to offer our hearty thanks to Mr Boyd and the other gentlemen of the Acting Committee for their indefatigable labours in this matter. (Applause.) We are all indebted to them for their labour, and I am sure that never did a committee in this city bring before a meeting so gratifying a statement as Mr Boyd has done.

Lord POLWARTH moved the adoption of the following resolution :—

“That the following noblemen and gentlemen be constituted a General Committee, with the Right Hon. the Lord Provost as convener, to co-operate with the managers of the Infirmary, and the Acting Committee and office-bearers already appointed, for the purpose of raising the amount required.” [Here follow names, *vide* page 29.]

In supporting the motion, his Lordship said—We have all heard how great a work this is, and we all feel it is great, because it is one that comes home to our hearts, and carries with it our very warmest sympathies. There are many reasons why we should carry out this work in an earnest manner; and foremost among them is this, that the Infirmary we have at present is one which is unworthy of the city of Edinburgh in the present age. The work which it has done in the past is great, but it is not sufficient to meet the demands of the present day. We hear that such and such things are not in conformity with the spirit of the present age; and it can be said that the Infirmary of Edinburgh is not in conformity with the spirit of the times. We need a new, a larger, and a more suitable building to meet the increased wants of the city and of the country. (Applause.) Then I think we are bound to make the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh the very best institution that we possibly can make it—we should endeavour to make it, in short, a model building, worthy of the city—an instrument in the hands of our noble and devoted physicians, which they should be able to work to the very best advantage. It has been truly said that at present it is not worthy of the noble army of physicians whose names adorn the city of Edinburgh. There are many reasons why it should be so; and I think that there are some which will come home more than others to our hearts. How many of us have known the benefit of being nursed and tended and cared for in a time of sickness! And surely we should have a fellow feeling for those whose



homes are not fit places for the sick to be in. Why, we have a report published about the poor of the city of Edinburgh in which we are told that the dwelling-houses are so unhealthy that they breed pestilence and disease. Surely, then, the building which we provide for the sick and the afflicted should be one in all respects the very best adapted for the purpose. (Applause.) Some of us have lately been within the walls of the present Infirmary, and when we have gone there we have felt as if there were a living appeal to us to make it all that it should be. The present Infirmary has, we know, proved a blessing to multitudes. I well remember words which may serve as an appeal to many a heart, which came from a poor man lying in one of the wards of the Infirmary—"Sir, this has been a blessed place to me." It has been a blessed place to many, but it might be made more so if the building were more suitable for the work—if we could make it more truly successful—if we could aid the labours of our physicians by giving them a fitting place in which to labour. We are all much gratified at the large amount of subscriptions received, and it seems to me that it would be a burning shame to Scotland if the sum required could not be raised. But I know that the hearts of the people of Scotland, and of Scotchmen not only at home but abroad, will respond earnestly and cheerfully to the noble work set before them. We do not grudge the great expense incurred for the deliverance of those captives in Africa. There we have a great army, and great provision made to deliver those men and sustain the honour of our country. Still less should we grudge what we are called on to give to deliver from the ravages of disease and death the multitudes that are being subjected to them. (Applause.) In conclusion, I appeal to the rich to give, because they can afford it; I appeal to the poor to give their little mite too, because in giving it, they will lay by, in a species of savings bank, something for the benefit, if not of themselves, of their children or their children's children. (Applause.) There is yet a higher motive than all these; for, in ministering to the wants of the poor and afflicted, we can remember our blessed Lord's words—"Inasmuch as ye did it to one of the least of these my brethren, ye did it unto me." (Applause.)

Mr CHARLES COWAN—Will you allow me to supplement what Mr Boyd has stated as to the amount of the subscriptions. I hold in my hand a letter from a very valued friend of my own, of forty years and more—Mr Thomas Murray, formerly of Leith—to whom I wrote last month, intimating the object of this meeting; and I have the gratifying announcement from him intimating a subscription of £500,



(applause,) of which Mr Boyd is not yet aware. Mr Murray expresses in his note his very warmest feelings towards the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, as associated with his earliest recollections, and he hopes that the whole amount will be subscribed before the meeting separates. (Applause.)

Bailie FYFE seconded Lord Polwarth's motion, which was carried by acclamation.

Lord ELPHINSTONE—One duty remains to be discharged, and the resolution which I have to propose is one which, I am sure, the meeting will have quite as much pleasure in receiving, as I have in proposing. No speech is necessary to recommend it to your acceptance, and I shall therefore at once, without any preface, propose that the warm and cordial thanks of this meeting be tendered to the Lord Provost for the very kind manner in which he has presided at this very important, very interesting, and very influential meeting. (Applause.)







## GENERAL COMMITTEE.

The Right Hon. William Chambers of Glenormiston, Lord Provost of Edinburgh.  
His Grace the Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry, K.G.  
His Grace the Duke of Argyll, K.T.  
His Grace the Duke of Athole.  
His Grace the Duke of Roxburghe, K.T.  
His Grace the Duke of Sutherland, K.T.  
The Most Hon. the Marquis of Queensberry.  
The Most Hon. the Marquis of Tweeddale, K.T., K.G.B.  
The Most Hon. the Marquis of Lothian.  
The Most Hon. the Marquis of Abercorn, K.P.  
The Most Hon. the Marquis of Bute.  
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The Right Hon. the Earl of Morton.  
The Right Hon. the Earl of Moray.  
The Right Hon. the Earl of Home.  
The Right Hon. the Earl of Strathmore.  
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The Right Hon. the Earl of Lauderdale, K.C.B.  
The Right Hon. the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine.  
The Right Hon. the Earl of Southesk.  
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The Right Hon. the Earl of Breadalbane.  
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