

**An account of the principal charitable institutions of the parish of St. Mary-le-Bone / By Madame Adèle Du Thon.**

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AN  
ACCOUNT  
OF THE  
PRINCIPAL  
CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS  
OF  
ST. MARYLEBONE  
BY  
ADELE DU THON

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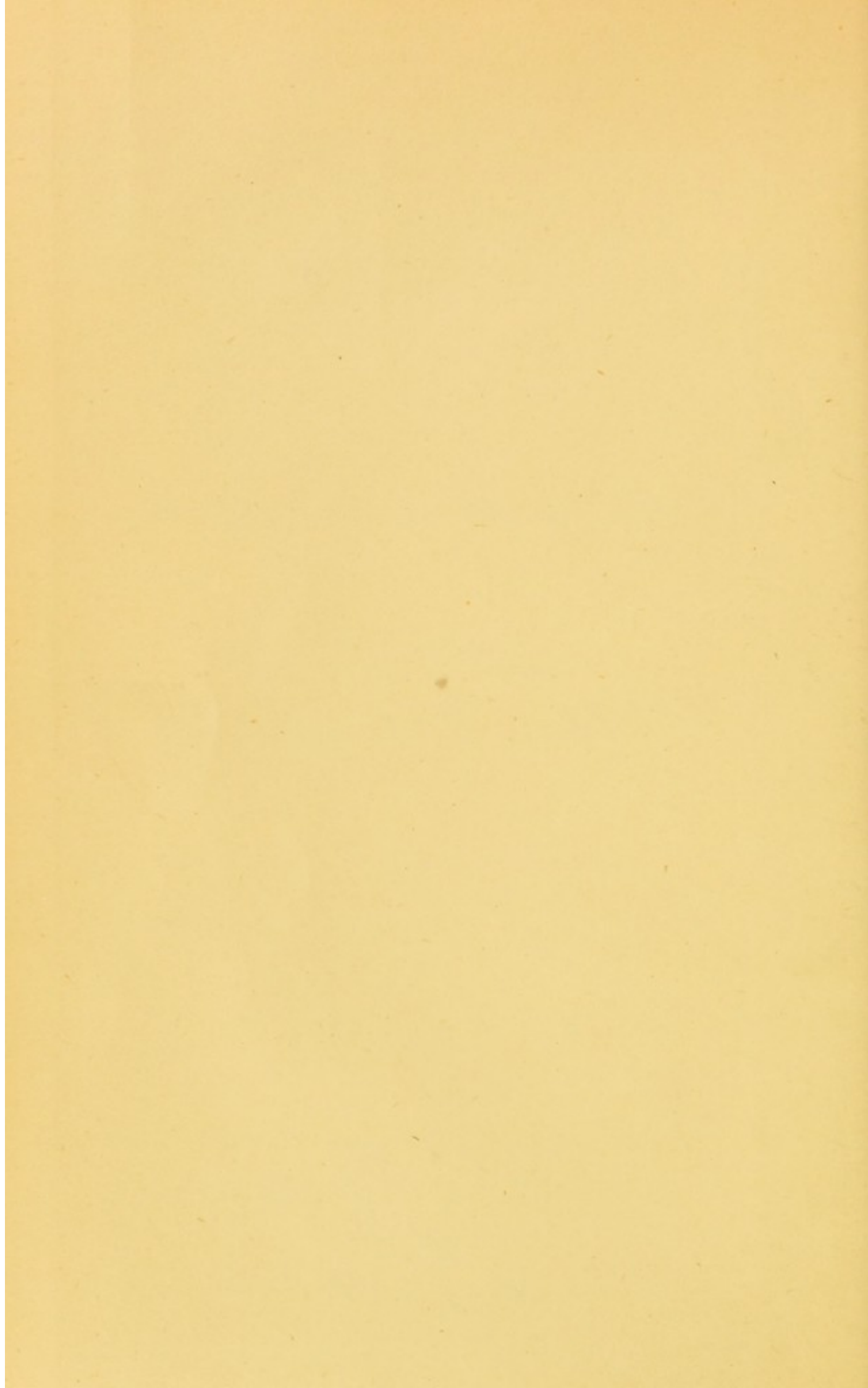
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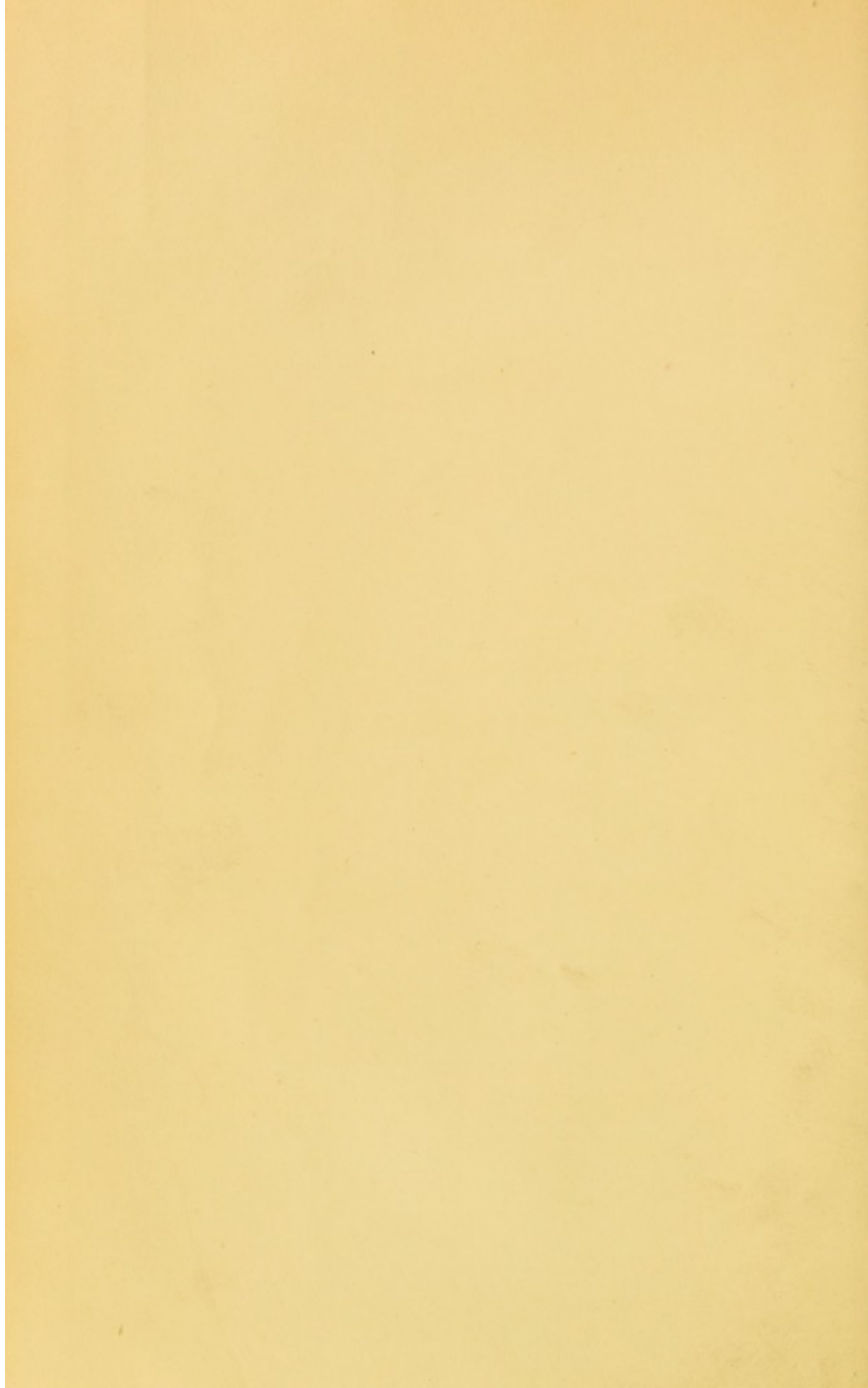






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AN  
A C C O U N T  
OF THE  
PRINCIPAL  
CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS  
OF THE  
PARISH OF  
ST. MARY-LE-BONE.

—◆—  
BY  
MADAME ADÉLE DU THON.

=====  
LONDON:  
JOHN MURRAY, ALBEMARLE STREET.

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MDCCCXXIII.



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## INTRODUCTION.

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HAVING visited England with a mind peculiarly alive to the improvements now operating in all parts of the world, and especially in this favoured Isle, in the education of the human race, and for the general amelioration of the condition of mankind, I have since devoted myself to the observation of the various means adopted throughout Great Britain for the furtherance of this exalted purpose.

The parish of Mary-le-Bone being, perhaps, the most extensive and populous of this country, and the most opulent in Europe, has afforded a wide and fertile field for inquiries of this



nature, and it is the object of the following pages to present to the public the result of these inquiries.

No diligence has been spared to render this statement accurate: personal visits, the most minute and unwearied investigation, in short, all the several means which could aid the inquirer in a most sincere and earnest pursuit after truth, have been resorted to, and yet, no doubt, many mistakes and errors, some arising from my own imperfect and erroneous view of the matter, and others from that involuntary incorrectness which will creep into all representations of fact, may be detected in the summary I now venture to publish. Under such a conviction I solicit the reader to favour me with whatever of correction or information may strike him as necessary to render my work more complete and authentic. — Should the statement now published be found useful, and in any degree meriting approval, I have it in contemplation to pursue the examination, herein

commenced, through the principal parishes of the metropolis, commencing with those of Spitalfields and St. Giles', which offer, in many respects, a striking and interesting contrast to the parish now under consideration.

ADÉLE DU THON.

*London, July 1, 1823.*

commenced, through the principal parishes of the metropolis, commencing with those of St. James's and St. Giles', which offer, in many respects, a striking and interesting contrast to the parish now under consideration.

# ADRIEN DU THOY.

London, July 1, 1893.



(May, 1822.)

SUMMARY  
OF THE  
POPULATION, CHURCHES, AND CHARITABLE  
INSTITUTIONS  
OF THE  
PARISH OF ST. MARY-LE-BONE.

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POPULATION . . . . 96,040 inhabitants—41,386 males; 54,654 females.

NUMBER OF HOUSES. 10,000.

PARISH CHURCH . The new Mary-le-Bone church. There are five others now building.

CHAPELS OF THE ESTABLISHED CHURCH.—Ten.

CATHOLIC CHAPELS.—Two.

CHAPELS OF DISSENTERS.—Six. *Two* Methodist; *two* Baptist; *one* Independent; and *one* Scotch chapel.

WORKHOUSE . . . One. The Mary-le-Bone Workhouse.<sup>1</sup>

HOSPITALS . . . . Two. The Middlesex Hospital,<sup>2</sup> and the Queen's Lying-in Hospital.<sup>3</sup>

DISPENSARY . . . One. The St. Mary-le-Bone General Dispensary.<sup>4</sup>

INFIRMARY . . . . The Royal Metropolitan Infirmary for Sick Children.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Northumberland Street, New Road.

<sup>2</sup> Charles Street, Berners Street.

<sup>3</sup> Manor House, Lisson Green.

<sup>4</sup> Welbeck Street.

<sup>5</sup> South Street, Manchester Square.

**PUBLIC SCHOOLS BELONGING TO THE ESTABLISHED CHURCH.—**

Six. The St. Mary-le-Bone Charity School;<sup>6</sup> the St. Mary-le-Bone National School;<sup>7</sup> the Bentinck Chapel School;<sup>8</sup> the School of Industry;<sup>9</sup> the Clergy Orphan's School;<sup>10</sup> and the Philological School.<sup>11</sup>

**CATHOLIC SCHOOLS.—**Two. The West Division Catholic Schools.<sup>12</sup>

**SCHOOLS OF DISSENTERS.—**Three. The Wesleyan Methodist School;<sup>13</sup> Paddington Chapel Independent Sabbath School; Shuldham Street Baptist Sunday School.

**CHARITABLE SOCIETIES.—**Six. <sup>14</sup>The four district societies of St. Mary-le-Bone for visiting and relieving the Sick and Poor at their own Habitations.

The <sup>15</sup>Society for Charitable Purposes.

The <sup>16</sup>Newman Street Lying-in Charity, for delivering and supporting poor Married Women at their own Habitations.

**BIBLE SOCIETY . .** One. The North West London Auxiliary Bible Society.\*

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<sup>6</sup> High Street.

<sup>7</sup> High Street.

<sup>8</sup> King Street, Bryanston Square.

<sup>9</sup> No. 68, Edgware Road.

<sup>10</sup> St. John's Wood, Regent's Park.

<sup>11</sup> King Street, Bryanston Square.

<sup>12</sup> North Street, Mary-le-Bone.

<sup>13</sup> Hinde Street, Manchester Square.

<sup>14</sup> Mr. Panchaud, 15, Duke Street, Manchester Square, collector of the Portman Square District Society. Mr. Poulter, Woodstock Street, Weymouth Street, collector of the Cavendish Square District Society. Mr. T. Emperor, St. John's Wood Chapel, collector of the Northern District Society. Mr. Fenny, 26, Charlotte Street, Portland Place, collector of the Eastern District Society.

<sup>15</sup> Mr. T. S. Stephenson, collector, 23, Noel Street, Wardour Street.

<sup>16</sup> No. 82, Newman Street, Oxford Street.

\* This being one of the branches of the British Society for the distribution of Bibles in foreign parts, established in 1784, it is deemed superfluous to enlarge upon a subject so generally understood.



## THE WORKHOUSE OF ST. MARY-LE-BONE.

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(July, 1823.)

**T**HE Workhouse of St. Mary-le-Bone, erected in the year 1775, may be considered as the most complete establishment of the kind in England.

Such of the poor as are in good health are employed in various manufactures; and those who refuse to work are dismissed, or kept upon bread and water. The sick and infirm are carefully attended. Those labouring under serious or contagious diseases are sent to the Infirmary, a building in the same enclosure as the Workhouse, but entirely detached from it. Children also are received into the Workhouse, where two schools have been established, one for the girls and the other for the boys.

The boys are brought up to different trades, such as weaving, shoe-making, &c. &c. The girls are taught to knit and sew. Seven hours in each day are devoted to these employments,



and one to the general instruction of all the children in reading, writing, and arithmetic, upon the system of the National School. All persons during residence in the Workhouse are required to wear the uniform of the house; their own clothes meanwhile are deposited with the matron, and returned to them upon their dismissal. They are never allowed to take away the uniform. No one is obliged to remain in the Workhouse longer than suits his own convenience or inclination. It is only necessary to apply to the matron for a paper called a Discharge, which authorizes the porter to open the doors; if the conduct of the person thus applying for dismissal have been regular and diligent, some small donation in money or clothes is generally given. There is a chapel in the house, where the service of the established church is performed twice every Sunday, and prayers read twice on other days of the week. All who are not confined to their rooms by sickness are expected to attend. The clergyman visits the sick, reads prayers, and administers the sacrament to them separately.

The food given to the poor is very good; each person receives six ounces of meat twice in the week; on the other days, soup or cheese;



and four ounces of bread, each day; also a pint of rice milk for breakfast. The exterior walls of the Workhouse, comprising the whole, schools, Infirmary, &c. inclose a space of six acres and a half. All the clothes are made by the poor themselves. They also wash the linen; and, as this is the most laborious and unpleasant of the different occupations of the house, it is found an efficacious restraint to send to the laundry those women whose conduct has not given satisfaction to the matron.

The number of officers is ten, viz. the governor, the matron, who has the general direction of the interior arrangements, the regulator of the manufactures and his wife, who assists in the distribution of the work, a separate matron for the Infirmary, a surgeon, an apothecary, and three medical pupils.

The following servants receive wages—the porter, the baker, the cook, the laundry-maid, and the head house-maid: their assistants, as well as the nurses and servants of the Infirmary, are selected from amongst the poor themselves. Each apartment has one or two superintendants. The vices which generally prevail, and which may be considered as the principal causes of the sickness and poverty which reduce the poor to the necessity of seeking refuge in a Work-



house, are drunkenness or profligacy; it is observed, amongst the women especially, that drunkenness is the constant attendant upon a disorderly life. It is found necessary to watch those women who have illegitimate children, as they are often bad mothers, and would neglect or ill treat their own infants, if not prevented.

The character of the matron is of the greatest importance, as her influence extends through the whole establishment. She, who now fills this arduous office, appears to possess every requisite qualification, and to be earnestly desirous of promoting the welfare, both spiritual and temporal, of all who are under her care.

The average number of paupers in the Workhouse and Infirmary, from the year 1803 to the year 1820, has been as follows.

<i>Years.</i>	<i>No. of Paupers.</i>	<i>Years.</i>	<i>No. of Paupers.</i>
1803 . . . . .	1095	1812 . . . . .	1098
1804 . . . . .	1041	1813 . . . . .	1120
1805 . . . . .	986	1814 . . . . .	1039
1806 . . . . .	1035	1815 . . . . .	1048
1807 . . . . .	1104	1816 . . . . .	1047
1808 . . . . .	1114	1817 . . . . .	1171
1809 . . . . .	1098	1818 . . . . .	1024
1810 . . . . .	1068	1819 . . . . .	979
1811 . . . . .	1228	1820 . . . . .	940

The population of the parish in 1801 amounted to 63,982; in 1811, to 75,434; and in 1821, to 96,040, which makes an augmentation in the



first ten years, of 11,452, and in the last ten years, of 20,606.

Notwithstanding this increase of population, the number of paupers in the Workhouse (as may be seen by the above list) has much diminished. In 1820, the poor-rate was one shilling and sixpence in the pound.

The amount collected by the rate was	£41,316	2	9
Other receipts and earnings of the poor	2,364	11	6

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Total	£43,680	14	3
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The expenditure was	£43,218	6	7½
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A committee, composed of thirty directors and guardians, assembles every Friday, to regulate the affairs of the house and the general business of the parish of St. Mary-le-bone.

All the officers and servants of the house are constables, in order that there may be a police at hand.

One is apt to forget, when visiting this well-conducted establishment, that it is the asylum of the idle, and may seem to protect vice by affording it a shelter. Some are of opinion that it is a dangerous expedient, a temporary remedy, which may eventually serve but to increase the evil. On the other hand, is it certain that the abolition of these establishments would



tend to the diminution of vice? The question then is, which evil is the greater, the apparent remedy or the disease?

Blackstone, in his Commentaries, thus expresses himself, in speaking of the custom of receiving the poor into workhouses: "A practice which puts the sober and diligent upon a level (in point of their earnings) with those who are dissolute and idle, depresses the laudable emulation of domestic industry and neatness, and destroys all endearing family connexions, the only felicity of the indigent. Whereas, if none were relieved but those who are incapable to get their livings, and that in proportion to their incapacity; if no children were removed from their parents, but such as are brought up in rags and idleness; and if every poor man and his family were regularly furnished with employment and allowed the whole profits of their labour; a spirit of busy cheerfulness would soon diffuse itself through every cottage; work would become easy and habitual, when absolutely necessary for daily subsistence; and the peasant would go through his task without a murmur, if assured that he and his children (when incapable of work through infancy, age or infirmity) would then, and then only, be



entitled to support from his opulent neighbours."—*Blackstone's Commentaries: Rights of Persons*, p. 360.

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### THE MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL.

(May, 1822.)

SUPPORTED BY VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS.

THIS Hospital was founded in the year 1745, for the reception of the necessitous sick and lame. A fund was afterwards, in 1747, added for the purpose of affording relief to married lying-in women, at their own habitations; and also of furnishing medicines, food and lodging to poor persons of both sexes, when by sickness or misfortune rendered incapable of supporting themselves and their families.

In 1792, an important addition was made to this institution, by the establishment of a ward for the exclusive use of women afflicted with Cancer. The late S. Whitbread, Esq. was the founder of this branch of the charity. It is worthy of remark, that the Middlesex Hospital is the only charitable institution in London having a separate establishment for the treatment of cases of cancer. The ward in question



contains ten beds : the attendance on it is quite unconnected with that on the rest of the Hospital ; and it has even a private kitchen. The patients afflicted with cancer are allowed to remain in the Hospital until they be cured, or until death have terminated the sufferings of such as are incurable. There is at present in the ward a poor woman who has been there more than two years, without any hope of recovery, but who, nevertheless, is treated with the same care, and is as regularly visited by the physician, as the other patients. The Cancer ward has no appearance of an hospital : it has all the air of comfort which belongs to a private house ; and the patients afflicted with this painful disease, so peculiarly distressing to the poor, receive there, all those minute attentions which are so necessary to mitigate their sufferings, at least, if not to effect their cure. This department of charity has perhaps a higher claim than any other to the character of humane.

The Middlesex Hospital contains thirteen wards : six for males, and seven (including the Cancer ward) for females. There is accommodation for 200 patients.

It is not necessary to belong to the parish, in order to be admitted into this Hospital. All applicants are admitted, indiscriminately, on



the recommendation of a governor or subscriber; and in cases of accident, persons are taken in without any recommendation, and at all hours.

The patients are allowed to remain in the Hospital so long as there is any hope of recovery; but when they are deemed incurable, they are (except in cases of cancer) returned to their respective parishes. If a patient die in the hospital, and be interred at its expense, his clothes become the property of the institution, and are usually distributed amongst such of the poorer patients as stand most in need of them.

Prayers are read by the chaplain of the institution, twice a week, to all the patients; and on Sunday public service is performed in the Board-room for such of the invalids as are able to attend.

The Middlesex Hospital is at present in a very flourishing condition; its funds having increased and its expenditure diminished.

The expenses for the year 1820 amounted to £9,191 : 2s. 1d.; and the number of persons relieved in that year, either by being admitted into the Hospital or attended at their own habitations, was 5,411.

The expenses for the year 1821 were



£6,961: 14*s.* 1*d.*; and the number of persons relieved was 5,917.

Economy and an improved system of management have caused this difference in the comparative expenditure of the two years.

From the year 1812 to the year 1821, inclusive, the number of patients admitted into the Hospital was 12,776; and the number relieved at their own habitations, in the same period, was 28,417.

Thus, the supporters of this charity may have the satisfaction of reflecting, that, in the short space of ten years, no less than 41,193 individuals have been by their means restored from sickness to health, or at least, enabled to experience a tranquil and Christian death. Many families who are now living in comfort, would, but for the timely aid which this charity has afforded them, have been bereft of their supporters, and reduced to misery; for it should ever be borne in mind, that, in restoring the father of a family to health, it is not a single individual only that is relieved, but a whole family is perhaps saved from ruin.

A donation of a hundred guineas, or an annual subscription of ten guineas, gives the right of recommending an unlimited number of patients.

A donation of fifty guineas, or an annual subscription of five guineas, gives the right of recommending five patients to be received into the Hospital, and an unlimited number to be attended at their own habitations, including three lying-in women.

A donation of thirty guineas, or an annual subscription of three guineas, gives the right of recommending three patients to be received into the Hospital, and six to be attended at their own habitations, including two lying-in women.

An annual subscriber of two guineas is entitled to recommend one in-patient and three out-patients.

No subscriber is allowed to have more than one patient in the Hospital at a time, except in the case of his having one in the Cancer ward.



## THE QUEEN'S LYING-IN HOSPITAL.

(*May, 1822.*)

SUPPORTED BY VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS.

THIS Hospital was founded in 1752, and in 1809 it was honoured with the patronage of His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex. Between the years 1752 and 1822, more than 46,000 women in child-bed have been delivered within the Hospital.

This establishment is designed for the relief not merely of the extremely necessitous, but, also, of the wives of labourers and poor artizans. Such of the women as prefer being confined at their own homes are, upon the recommendation of a governor or subscriber, provided they live within two miles of the Hospital, attended by the surgeon at their own habitations; and are there furnished with every thing which their situation requires.

Unmarried women are likewise received into the Hospital; but they are kept quite separate from the others, and are never admitted a second time. It was deemed proper by the promoters of this charity, to extend its benefits to this class of persons, though culpable; and thus, it was thought, their further progress in



guilt might be checked; for, indeed, the instances are but too numerous of the fatal consequences resulting from abandonment and despair.

The regular time for the women to remain in the Hospital, is three weeks; but if, owing to unfavourable circumstances, they be not then sufficiently re-established, they are suffered to remain until their complete recovery. If the children be ill, the mothers are not, on that account, kept beyond the prescribed time; but they are allowed, after they have left the Hospital, to consult the surgeon; and they are gratuitously furnished with medicines by the apothecary. The expense on these occasions forms part of the general expenditure of the institution.

This Hospital contains only twenty-one beds, and, consequently, the number of objects, at any one time, is limited to that extent. There is, indeed, room to accommodate a greater number, but the funds are inadequate; and it has even been found necessary to expend a part of the capital, to defray the ordinary expenses of the establishment, at its present extent.

The number of women at present in the Hospital (May, 1822) is sixteen.

A donation of fifty guineas constitutes the



donor a governor for life, with the privilege of recommending, annually, two women to be received into the Hospital, ten to be delivered at their own habitations, and twelve for medical advice.

A donation of thirty guineas constitutes the donor a governor for life, with the privilege of recommending, annually, one woman to be received into the Hospital; six to be delivered at their own habitations, and twelve for medical advice.

An annual subscription of five guineas gives the right of recommending one woman, every two years, to be received into the Hospital; four, annually, to be delivered at their own habitations, and four for medical advice.

An annual subscription of one guinea gives the right of recommending one woman, every three years, to be received into the Hospital; two, annually, to be delivered at their own habitations, and four for medical advice.

No governor or subscriber is entitled to have more than one patient at a time in the Hospital or upon the books for admission.

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## THE ST. MARY-LE-BONE GENERAL DISPENSARY.

(*May*, 1822.)

SUPPORTED BY VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS.

THIS Dispensary was established in the year 1785, for the purpose of affording to the sick poor the advice and assistance of physicians, surgeons, and midwives, and of providing them with necessary medicines.

The treatment of the diseases of children forms a principal object of this charity; and vaccination is performed, in all cases of application, without any recommendation.

One of the most effectual methods, it has been found, of restoring the indigent sick, is to provide them with wholesome nourishment; it forms, therefore, a part of the plan of this establishment, to furnish the poor sufferers, under the direction of the physician, with wine, rice, sago, barley, tapioca, &c.

Many of the smaller shop-keepers have become subscribers to this establishment, with the view of being able to procure the medicines of which their families may have need, at a cheap rate; and to persons of this class the Dispensary offers peculiar advantages. The benefits arising



from this Institution are not confined to the poor; the wealthier classes partake of them in an eminent degree. The community is a considerable gainer, by the diminution of disease owing to the timely aid afforded by establishments like the present. Epidemical disorders, so dangerous in populous towns, are by their means prevented. In the absence of such institutions the poor, very often, either from the fear of being sent to an hospital, or from being ashamed to ask relief, disregard the earlier symptoms of disease, and contagion is almost always the fatal consequence of this neglect.

The results exhibited in the following table will serve to show the extensive utility of this Institution.

The total number of individuals who have received relief from the Dispensary, from its establishment in 1785 down to the year 1821, is . . . . .		54,774
Of which have been cured . . . . .	50,049	
Relieved . . . . .	3,579	
Died . . . . .	508	
Withdrawn themselves . . . . .	351	
Remain under cure . . . . .	287	
Total . . . . .		<hr/> 54,774 <hr/>

Of this number, 17,225 have been attended at their own habitations; 5,368 are women in



child-bed who have been delivered, and 7,147 have been supplied with wine and nourishment.

The Dispensary is open for the reception of recommendations every day at noon, except Sunday.

The patients, to whatever parish they belong, if they be properly recommended, receive the advice of the physician or surgeon, and the necessary medicine, on applying at the appointed hour. Such of them as are unable personally to attend, are visited by the physician or surgeon at their own habitations, provided they reside within two miles of the Dispensary.

Two physicians, an accoucheur, a cupper, and an apothecary, who resides on the premises, are engaged in the service of the Dispensary; besides twelve midwives, who are under the direction of the surgeon-accoucheur.

An annual subscription of one guinea constitutes the subscriber a governor, with the privilege of having one patient constantly on the books.

An annual subscription of five guineas constitutes the subscriber a governor, with the privilege of having six patients constantly on the books.

A donation of twenty guineas constitutes the



donor a governor for life, with the privilege of having eight patients constantly on the books.

The privileges in respect of a larger subscription, or donation, are extended in proportion.

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### THE ROYAL METROPOLITAN INFIRMARY FOR SICK CHILDREN.

“THE objects of this benevolent institution, founded in April, 1820, are to establish an Infirmary for the reception of a limited number of sick children of the poor, in cases which require constant medical attendance, or surgical operations, and better care than any which can be administered in the abodes of their parents; to give advice in all cases, whether medical or surgical, to the children of the poor, under twelve years of age, throughout the western part of the metropolis, upon a simple application, without letters of recommendation; to administer medicines *gratis*, where the patients or friends have it not in their power to procure them; and to assist government and the faculty in their endeavour to extirpate the small-pox.

To facilitate these objects, three stations

have been opened, where patients receive relief, on a simple application, without going far from their respective homes.

The station in South-street, Manchester-square, Mary-le-bone, is attended by R. Macleod, M. D. and R. W. Bampffield, Esq. surgeon, every Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning. Since the end of the year 1820, when the operations of the charity commenced, its benefits have been extended to nearly 17,000 patients. At Mary-le-bone station, in eighteen months, 1,706 children have been treated.

The average expense, including rents of the three stations, printing, advertisements, and every individual charge incurred in forming the institution, has amounted to 1s.  $10\frac{1}{4}d.$  each patient; medicines, only about  $10\frac{1}{2}d.$  each patient.”\*

\* First Report, 1822.



THE ST. MARY-LE-BONE CHARITY  
SCHOOL.

(May, 1822.)

SUPPORTED BY VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS.

THIS School was established in the year 1750, for the purpose of bringing up the children of poor deserving parishioners, and of qualifying them for service. In 1754, the Countess Dowager of Oxford made a grant to the charity of the land on which the school is built, for the term of 999 years. At that time ten girls were maintained, clothed, and educated in the school, and 30 boys and 10 girls were also clothed and instructed only. The increase of subscriptions has since enabled the governors to extend the benefits of the institution; and the number of children at present (May, 1822) wholly maintained and educated is 120, viz. 60 boys and 60 girls.

The children are instructed in reading, writing, and arithmetic; and the girls also learn plain needle-work. The girls by turns perform the domestic offices of the establishment, in order that they may thus become qualified for



being useful servants. The boys are brought up to the trade of a tailor, at which they work seven hours every other day; one half of the boys being employed three days in the week at their trade exclusively, whilst the other half are engaged at their lessons, and so alternately.

The children, to be admitted into this school, must belong to the parish. None are received under six nor above eleven years of age; and they are never allowed to remain beyond fourteen. Such of the children as have conducted themselves well, whilst in the school, receive two guineas, as a reward, on quitting it. Illegitimate children are not admitted.

Before a child is received into the school, the party recommending it is required to sign a declaration of the name and age of the child and residence of its parents; and also to adduce proof that it belongs to the parish. Without such certificate the child can in no case be admitted.

Since the establishment of this school in 1750, more than 1658 children have been educated in it, and qualified to be useful members of society.

This school is remarkable for effecting a great deal with very little show. The whole esta-



blishment consists of a school-master, school-mistress, house-keeper, cook, and a laundress, who also acts in the capacity of kitchen-maid. Great order prevails. The children wear a uniform, and are (especially the girls) remarkably neat and clean.

The profits arising from the work done by the children are applied towards defraying the expenses of the establishment; so that to furnish work for the children is aiding the charity.

The receipts for the year 1820, including the interest of the funds belonging to the establishment, the subscriptions, donations, and produce of the children's work, amounted to £2,541 : 15*s.* 3*d.* The expenditure for the same year, including a sum of £313 : 6*s.* 7*d.* laid out in the purchase of stock, was £2,507 : 19*s.* 3*d.* leaving a balance of £33 : 16*s.* in the hands of the Treasurer.

The two schools, although in the same building, have no communication with each other. The children enjoy excellent health, which is to be attributed, no doubt, to the extreme cleanliness preserved. In the course of the year 1820 the apothecary's bill for the 120 children amounted only to £31 : 14*s.* 11*d.* There is no sick-room attached to the establishment: in-



deed there is no suitable place for one within the building; but the better reason is that there are no invalids.

The first Monday in each month, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, a meeting of the patrons, trustees, and treasurers, takes place, to admit and discharge children, receive recommendations, and for the general management and direction of the charity.

Printed forms of recommendation of children for admission may be had by applying at the School-house, No. 110, High-street.

THE ST. MARY-LE-BONE NATIONAL  
SCHOOL.

(*May, 1822.*)

SUPPORTED BY VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS.

THE St. Mary-le-Bone National School was established in the year 1791; and it is open, on the recommendation of a subscriber, to all children resident within the parish, whose parents, whether parishioners or not, have not the means of paying for their education.

The number of boys admitted into the school is limited to 400, and the number of girls to 173. Of this number 80 boys and 60 girls are annually selected from the most deserving, and a suit of clothes is given to each, as a reward for their good conduct.

The boys are instructed in reading, writing, arithmetic and music; the girls learn reading, writing, and needle-work, but are not taught music, the committee of ladies, who have the superintendence of this branch of the school, not deeming it suitable to their condition in life.

The system of instruction adopted in the school is that of Dr. Bell.

The children come to the school at 9 in the



morning and stay until 12; they return in the afternoon at 2 and remain until 5, except on Wednesday and Saturday, when they attend only in the morning. Sunday is devoted exclusively to religious exercises and instruction. At 11 o'clock on that day all the children assemble in the principal boys-school room, and the service of the established church is performed.

The boys are taught singing on Pestalozzi's plan; and they have attained to a high degree of perfection. A reflexion however constantly arises to damp the pleasure that is felt on hearing their exquisite singing: Will these children always thus consecrate their voices to sacred song? May not the talent thus developed prove a temptation to its possessors to endeavour, I do not say to better their condition in life, but to quit their proper sphere, allured by the glare of more brilliant fortunes? Will these poor boys in after life have the good sense to remain in the humble situation of shoemakers and tailors, and servants, or is it not rather to be feared that they will seek an opportunity on the public theatres for the exercise of the talents which have thus been awakened within them? Perhaps it will be urged in reply, that the schools of Pestalozzi and Owen prove that mu-



sic may be taught to children without any evil consequences ensuing; but it should be remembered, that the mountains of Switzerland and Scotland present not the same snares as large and opulent cities. Where there are no perils there is no need of precaution. I do not question the purity of the motives of those who encourage the teaching of music in the school: their intentions, I am sure, are excellent; but I cannot but think that an experiment, which may compromise the happiness of so many individuals, ought not to be lightly made. The committee of ladies have judged prudently in not consenting that this practice should be extended to the girls; to them the danger to be apprehended would be greater still.

The receipts for the year 1821, including the income from the funds belonging to the institution and the produce of the work done by the girls, amounted to £1450: 9s. 6d. The expenditure for the same year was £1321: 18s., leaving a balance of £138: 1s. in the hands of the treasurer.

The subscribers are entitled to recommend an unlimited number of children, resident in the parish, for admission into the school.

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## THE BENTINCK SCHOOL.

*(May, 1822.)*

SUPPORTED BY VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS.

THE Bentinck School was established in the year 1798, and since that time 1327 children have been received into it. The school takes its name from the Bentinck chapel, having been originally intended for the moral and religious instruction of the children of the poor who live in the neighbourhood of that chapel and attend divine service there.

The school contains 60 boys and 60 girls, to each of whom a suit of clothes for Sundays is given every year. Each child on entrance pays half a crown, which is all that is expected from them; and they are provided by the school with every thing necessary, such as paper, pens, books, &c. They are instructed in reading, writing, and the first four rules of arithmetic; the girls are also taught to sew. The religious instruction of the children is comprised in elementary questions, a few prayers, the catechism of the established church, and the little work called Duties of Servants.

The girls go into the school at 9 in the morning and remain until 12; they return in the



afternoon at 2 and stay until 5. The boys attend in the evening only. The two school rooms are contiguous; but the boys and girls have no communication with each other.



### THE BENTINCK CHAPEL SUNDAY SCHOOL.

*(May, 1822.)*

SUPPORTED BY VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS.

THE Bentinck Chapel Sunday School was established in 1812; and since that time 700 children have been received into it. The teachers give their services gratuitously.

The benevolent promoters of this charity, being desirous that their care of the children should not be confined to affording them religious instruction on Sundays, have determined, so soon as the funds will admit of it, to open the school on the week-days, when the boys will be taught writing and the primary rules of arithmetic, and the girls needle work.

Every person subscribing 5*s.* annually becomes a member of the association conducting the school.



## THE SCHOOL OF INDUSTRY.

*(May, 1822.)*

SUPPORTED BY VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS.

THE School of Industry, which was established in 1786, is designed for girls only. The girls are provided with food, clothing, and lodging, and are brought up in the principles of the established church. They are instructed in reading, writing, the first four rules of arithmetic, and needle-work. At the age of fourteen they are considered ready for service; and the ladies of the committee who superintend the school then place them out in respectable families, as chamber maids, laundry maids, cooks, &c.

This school is intended for the reception of orphans, or the children of extremely necessitous parents, resident in or near London. The children must be nine years of age before they can be admitted. No servants are kept in the establishment: the children perform all the domestic offices, and thus become qualified for fulfilling the duties of servants. The schoolmistress teaches them every thing, from reading and writing down to the offices of the kitchen.



Every subscriber of one guinea annually is entitled, after three years subscription, to have one child placed on the list to be elected, if of the requisite age.

A donation of fifteen guineas constitutes the donor a subscriber for life, with the privilege of recommending one child every five years.

The subscriber has to pay ten guineas entrance when the object of his recommendation is admitted.

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### THE CLERGY ORPHANS' SCHOOL.

(*May, 1822.*)

SUPPORTED BY VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS.

IN the year 1749, a society was formed for the purpose of taking care of and providing for the younger orphan children of clergymen of the established church; and in 1809 this society was incorporated under the name of "The Society for clothing, maintaining, and educating poor Orphans of Clergymen of the Established Church, in that part of the United Kingdom called England, until of age to be put apprentice."

The boys and girls schools are both in the



same building, but there is no communication between them. The boys school is under the direction of a clergyman of the church of England, who is assisted by an usher. That of the girls is superintended by a mistress, who is chosen by the general assembly. The boys are instructed in reading, writing, arithmetic, Latin, Greek, geography, and the elements of mathematics. The girls are taught reading, writing, grammar, arithmetic, the history of England, and needle-work; and those amongst them who are most distinguished for good conduct, are, as a reward, also instructed in French, music and geography.

No child is admitted under the age of seven nor above that of twelve; and the boys are not allowed to continue in the school beyond the age of fourteen, nor the girls beyond that of sixteen. The children, who are candidates for admission, are chosen by ballot at the general meeting, which is held annually in the month of February, or at one of the quarterly meetings. A preference is given to those orphans who are bereft of both their parents.

In general, the girls, on leaving the school, go out as governesses. Some of them, however, establish themselves in trades, as mantua-makers, milliners, &c. but fortunately this is



rarely necessary, the design of the institution being to enable the objects of its charity to continue in that rank of society in which they were born. The boys become tutors, surgeons, chemists, &c. It has often struck me as matter of regret, that those boys who most distinguish themselves in the school are not able to finish their studies at one of the universities. The want of pecuniary means prevents this desirable object; and thus, perhaps, very superior talents are lost, for want of an opportunity to develop themselves. It would afford a highly useful stimulus to exertion, if the patrons of the school were annually to send to college the two boys who should have made the most proficiency in their studies in the course of the seven years. It is true, that, for this purpose, an increase of funds would be necessary: but were the plan approved, this augmentation would, I have no doubt, be easily obtained. In England the means of doing good are never withheld.

Since the year 1749, more than 900 children have been educated in this school. The number at present (May, 1822,) is, of boys 56, and of girls 47.

The receipts for the year 1820, including subscriptions, donations, legacies, and the



profits of the girls' work, amounted to £5,513 : 5s. 2d. The expenditure for the same year, including a sum £2,011 : 2s. 6d. laid out in the purchase of stock, was £5,485 : 10s. 8d.; leaving a balance of £27 : 14s. 6d. in the hands of the treasurer.

There is a General Committee for managing the affairs of the establishment, as also a separate Committee of Ladies for superintending the girls' school. The children wear a uniform which is extremely neat. They have a new suit every year, at Easter: the girls make their own clothes. Both the schools are extremely well conducted. It is an interesting sight to behold this group of orphans, so early overtaken by misfortune, and whom a provident care has thus rescued from misery and ignorance, to place them in a sure asylum, where every attention is bestowed upon them, and which may with justice be called the paternal abode of the orphans of the clergy. There is nothing to suggest the idea of charity: few private boarding schools offer so many comforts and advantages.

All sorts of needle work are done in the girls' school, the prices of which are regulated by a fixed scale.

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## THE PHILOLOGICAL SCHOOL.

*(May, 1822.)*

SUPPORTED BY VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS.

THE object of this school, which was founded in 1792, is to afford instruction to the sons of poor clergymen, naval and military officers, professional men, merchants, and clerks in the public offices, as well as of the higher order of tradesmen and other respectable individuals, who, owing to misfortunes or a too limited income, are unable to give their children a suitable education. The children of persons of this class are admitted gratuitously, at ten years of age, on the recommendation of one of the governors of the school, and they are allowed to remain as free scholars until the age of fourteen; after which, if they are desirous of continuing in the school, they pay half a guinea a quarter.

The children of persons in the same situation in life, but whose circumstances are more affluent, are admitted as contributing scholars, and they pay a guinea and a half a quarter. The contributing scholars are provided by the school with books, paper, &c. in the same way



as the free scholars. The free scholars are clothed at the expense of the institution.

The course of instruction embraces English grammar, French, arithmetic, mathematics, book-keeping, geography, the use of the globes, the principles of drawing, and the rudiments of the Latin language. Pestalozzi's method of teaching is adopted, more particularly in its application to the study of languages, arithmetic, geometry and geography.

The number of free scholars at present in the school is 63; that of the contributing scholars, 26. 817 free scholars have been educated in the school since its establishment. None of the scholars sleep or board in the school, but the free boys are provided from time to time with such articles of clothing as the trustees think fit.

The receipts for the year 1821 were £462: 7s. 6d. The expenses for the same year were £478: 10s. 5d.; making a balance of £16: 2s. 11d. against the treasurer.

An annual subscriber of five guineas is entitled to have one boy in the school so long as his subscription is continued.

The great aim, as it appears to me, of this charity is, to prevent those families who have been overtaken by misfortune, from falling



wholly to decay; and it is in contemplating establishments of this nature, that a foreigner is chiefly struck with the peculiar refinement of English charity, which does not content itself merely with relieving the urgent necessities of the unfortunate, but seeks to maintain its objects in the station of life to which they have hitherto belonged. In this institution every thing which might tend to remind its inmates of their unfortunate situation is kept studiously out of view: the feeling that they are the partakers of charitable bounty is recalled only by the sentiment of gratitude. They are sensible of benefits received—the hand which confers them remains concealed: so truly are delicacy and humility the characteristics of English charity.

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THE WEST DIVISION CATHOLIC DAY  
SCHOOLS.*(May, 1822.)*

SUPPORTED BY VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS.

THESE schools form part of an association known by the name of "The Associated Catholic Charities for educating, clothing and apprenticing the Children of poor Catholics, and providing for destitute Orphans." The association comprises three sets of schools, denominated the East Division Schools, the Centre Division School, and the West Division Schools. It is of the last mentioned only that I propose to give an account, being situate in the parish of St. Mary-le-bone.

The children in this school are instructed in reading, writing and arithmetic; the girls in addition learn to sew. No children are admitted under the age of six, nor exceeding that of twelve, except in cases of urgent necessity. Since the year 1814, 481 girls have been educated in the school, including those at present there, to the number of ninety. The number of boys educated since 1812 is 860, exclusive of those at present in the school, to the number of 130. It is the object of the school to educate the children of Catholic parents in



their paternal religion, and to place them in Catholic families, where they may continue to follow the observances of that faith.

It is with pleasure that we read in one of the reports of the school, the following paragraph: "The committee cannot omit this opportunity of noticing anew the generous assistance they have received from their Protestant brethren, and particularly the noble example of the city of London, who, anxious to promote the education of the poor children of the metropolis, and to have them brought up in habits of order and industry, have generously disregarded the difference of religious opinions, and have aided our association in procuring to poor Catholic children the same advantages as those of the Established church." It is but justice to say, that English charity is exercised with extreme liberality; and that its benefits are extended wherever there is need, without regard to the distinctions of religious or political opinions.

Every annual subscriber of one guinea is entitled to recommend children for admission into the school.

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## THE WESLEYAN METHODIST SCHOOLS.

*(May, 1822.)*

SUPPORTED BY VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS.

THESE Schools are not designed more particularly for Methodists than for other sects. All who are desirous of having their children admitted, have only to bring them to the school, and they are immediately entered by one of the teachers in a book kept for the purpose, and admitted without any questions being asked them as to the religious opinions of their parents, or even as to what parish they belong. All that is required is, that they be above six years of age. They are allowed to attend the school just as long as they feel inclined. When they have made a sufficient progress, they are commonly made monitors, masters, visitors, &c. and thus they become united to the society and imperceptibly form part of its constituent members.

These schools are three in number, two being children (boys and girls) and one for adults. The childrens' school was established in 1810, and since that time 5,912 children have been admitted.



Sundays are devoted exclusively to religious instruction. Twice a-week a certain number of children come to the school in the evening, and are instructed in reading and accounts. Thirty-six teachers are engaged in the school; they receive no salary, voluntarily devoting their time and talents to the service of the institution. Whether their motive be charity or the zeal of proselytism, it is of little importance to inquire—the effects are certainly beneficial, inasmuch as a large number of children who, otherwise, would spend their time in idleness and ignorance, are thus furnished with occupation and derive lasting benefit from the instruction they receive. In so populous a parish as that of St. Mary-le-bone, the schools of the established church could not possibly suffice for the very great number of children; it is therefore fortunate that there are schools in which these children may be instructed without recommendation and without expense. I look only at the results as they immediately affect the children; my plan does not presume to involve the subject of religion.

The number of boys at present attending the school (May, 1822,) is 248; the number of girls 250.

The adult school was established in 1813;



and since that time 289 individuals of both sexes have received instruction there, including in that estimate the present number, which is 36, viz. 19 men and 17 women. Four teachers are engaged in this school. Persons of all sects are admitted, indiscriminately, as in the children's school. The chapel serves as a school-room for the adults: the children's school-room is under the chapel. This separation of the two classes is very properly made, as it might be painful to the adults to be in the same room with the children. The adult school presents a very interesting spectacle. Persons of sixty and even seventy years of age are seen there, who have come to learn to read the sacred writings, and who, for the sake of enjoying that satisfaction, have neither shrunk from the labour of learning nor been ashamed to avow their ignorance. There are also younger persons, who, feeling the vast importance of learning, devote to its acquisition the few hours of leisure which their laborious occupations allow them.

Improvement is very rapid in this school; the pupils soon become themselves instructors, and have the happiness of being useful in their turn. It were to be desired that there were more adult schools, their effects are so highly beneficial.



There is a library attached to these schools, designed chiefly for the masters and mistresses: the use of it is also extended to such of the senior monitors as best conduct themselves in the care of their classes, and are recommended by the masters.

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### THE PADDINGTON CHAPEL INDEPENDENT SABBATH SCHOOLS.

(*May, 1822.*)

SUPPORTED BY VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS.

THESE Schools were established in 1815, and are, as well as Wesleyan Methodist Schools, intended for children of all sects of Christians. The children are taught to read, and receive religious instruction, which is naturally according to the principles of the Independent persuasion. Such of the children as conduct themselves well on Sunday are allowed to attend the school two evenings in the week, when they are taught to write; for this they pay three half-pence a week, which goes towards remunerating the writing-master. All the other teachers are members of the persuasion, and give their service gratuitously.



The two schools (for boys and girls) are under the chapel, and are separated from each other by a low wall, in which is fixed a wooden partition, removable at pleasure. As soon as the children are assembled on Sunday the partition is let down, and a prayer is offered up before the two schools thus united. When the prayer is ended, the partition is again raised, and the children commence their lessons. The two schools present a very singular appearance.

The children are not obliged to attend the chapel; that is, it is not made a condition of the admission into the school; but they all do attend, and an exception would appear singular.

The number of children at present attending the school (May, 1822,) is 467, viz. 217 boys and 250 girls. Children are not admitted under five years of age.

A subscription of half-a-guinea a year entitles the subscriber to recommend children, who are admitted in preference to other applicants.



## THE BAPTIST SUNDAY SCHOOL.

*(May, 1822.)*

SUPPORTED BY VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS.

THIS Sunday School was established in 1812. A certain number of children are allowed to attend the school every Sunday, and are instructed in the religious principles of this sect; and are likewise taught to read. No care is taken what becomes of them the rest of the week. It is doubtful whether this Sunday education be productive of any good effects.

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THE FOUR DISTRICT SOCIETIES OF ST.  
MARY-LE-BONE FOR VISITING AND RE-  
LIEVING THE POOR AT THEIR OWN HA-  
BITATIONS.

(*May, 1822.*)

SUPPORTED BY VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS.

THE extreme distress which prevailed during the winter of 1814, excited, in a remarkable degree, the compassion of the friends of humanity; and subscriptions for the relief of the sufferers were opened in almost every parish in London. In that of St. Mary-le-bone a very considerable sum was raised. But mere subscribing, it was found, was not sufficient to remedy the evil. In examining the petitions which were daily presented by the crowds of poor wretches who flocked to the committee for relief, it became apparent that the only means of doing real good was to adopt a regular system of visiting the poor at their own habitations; and that by this method only could it be ascertained which of the applicants were true objects of charity, and which of them impostors. Four Societies, under the name of District Societies, were accordingly established,



and were thus distributed, viz. the Society of the District of Cavendish Square, the Society of the District of Portman Square, the Society of the Eastern District, and the Society of the Northern District.

Each of these societies appointed a committee of ladies and a committee of gentlemen to conduct its general business.

The committee of ladies appoints certain of its own members to visit the poor and furnish them with linen and other necessaries. Women in child-bed have linen lent to them; and they are expected to return it to the lady from whom they received it, when they have no longer occasion for it. Generally, when they come to return it, some articles of clothing for their infants are given them.

Each of the societies has a collector, whose business it is to get in the subscriptions. He is also charged with the duty of visiting the poor, and is authorised to bestow, at his discretion, any sum not exceeding ten shillings for the relief of urgent distress. He is not allowed to go beyond that sum without the consent of the committee.

Experience has shown the injurious tendency of frequently bestowing small sums in charity to the same object, a practice which, in fact,



only relieves in momentary wants, whilst at the same time it produces the pernicious sentiment in his mind, that he is a pensioner on a charitable society. The committees have therefore come to the resolution to give relief twice to the same object as rarely as possible; but on proper occasions to lend to the poor such sums as may keep them from falling into extreme necessity; as for instance, by satisfying an urgent creditor or by redeeming articles which they have pawned. An anxiety to repay their benefactors on these occasions, gives a new stimulus to their industry; they are induced not to despair, and urged to exertion as well by a principle of honour, as by the desire of supplying their wants.

The mischief of injudicious charity is, that it tends to destroy, in those who are the objects of it, that honest and manly feeling of independence which is so desirable in all situations of life, and which is the great safeguard of society. Alms ought not to have the effect of degrading but of raising their object; and for that purpose they must be bestowed with delicacy. Gratitude, the sentiment which should ever follow offices of charity, although commonly imperiously exacted, is not so easily felt. It is a sentiment which can neither be taught nor



commanded ; it is a voluntary emotion, and is produced less by the benefits conferred than by the feeling in which they are conferred. The poor man easily distinguishes between an alms given in kindness and one bestowed in pride. The example of the Divine goodness teaches us how we ought to give. God, in bestowing his various gifts on man, left him still freedom of thought and action, which is surely the greatest of all blessings. Let us copy this model, and leave to the poor man his independence ; let us not, in return for paltry benefits bestowed, exact the sacrifice of his honour ; but surely we do this if we allow him to feel humiliated. His dignity is lost, and he soon learns to practise dissimulation and hypocrisy.

The practice of visiting the poor at their own habitations, according to the plan of these societies, is attended with great advantage to those engaged in it. They derive a moral benefit in bestowing a physical good. It is necessary to be an eye-witness of misfortune and misery, in order to acquire a just estimate of real life ; and it is thus only, that the true art of charity, if I may so express myself, is learnt, which consists less in a profuse distribution of benefits, than in a wise and economical application of them. One guinea, well



applied, will do more good than twenty heedlessly bestowed, and without inquiry into the situation of the objects intended to be relieved.

The following comparative view of the expenditure of one year and the results produced, may serve to show the utility of these societies.

The subscriptions and donations received during the year 1820, amounted to £1,107: 17*s*. The expenses during the same year were £1,172: 12*s*. 7*d*., being an excess of £64: 15*s*. 7*d*. With these funds 1967 individuals have been relieved, and of this number 455 were women in child-bed: £911: 6*s*. 1*d*., part of the above fund, was distributed in the shape of food and money, and the remaining £261: 6*s*. 6*d*. was laid out in blankets, linen, clothes, &c.

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## THE SOCIETY FOR CHARITABLE PURPOSES.

*(July, 1823.)*

SUPPORTED BY VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS.

THIS Society, which was instituted in the year 1774, extends to five parishes, of which the parish of St. Mary-le-bone is one. “ The object of this Society (as expressed in the Report of 1823) is to inquire into the truth of the distress stated in begging-letters, and to relieve those cases which, from old age, sickness, numerous families, or great and immediate necessity, seem most urgent—for which purpose five inquirers are appointed—one for each parish to which the relief extends.—The inquirers visit the petitioners, inquire their characters, particular distresses, employments, families, age, parish or other relief they may receive, &c. &c. and make as accurate a report as possible of the cases given out to them for the several committees which begin to sit the first Tuesday after the 18th of January, and are held at the houses of different subscribers, every Tuesday, at half-past three in the afternoon, as long as the funds will allow, at the rate of 7*s.* per week.



There is a separate table, a separate account, and a separate president for each parish;—the reports of the inquirers are there examined, and the relief granted which seems best adapted to the urgency of each case, either in bread, meat, potatoes, and coals, or in clothes—and occasionally, but as seldom as possible, in money, to the amount, upon an average, of 14*s.* per case. Agreements are made with tradesmen in the different parishes to answer the grant of the committees, delivered to them by tickets, which the poor receive from the inquirers, written and signed by the President.”

“Subscribers of one guinea send in two letters; two guineas, four letters; three guineas, six; and so in regular proportion.”

The subjoined table contains a statement of the number of families who have been relieved in 1823 in the parish of St. Mary-le-bone, and the nature of the relief afforded.

In money . . . . .	52
Provisions and coals . . . . .	32
Clothing . . . . .	123
Two or more of the above articles given together	238
<hr/>	
Total number relieved . . . . .	445
Rejected . . . . .	10

At the end of the Report, which I have above quoted, there is subjoined a list of the indivi-



duals who have been thought, by the Society, unworthy of relief: and on the publication of this list I cannot but make one remark. The Society has certainly a right to reject such cases as it deems undeserving of its charity; but surely it cannot be justified in thus publicly denouncing, and, as it were, passing sentence of condemnation upon the unfortunate objects of its disapprobation, however culpable they may be. The public tribunals only are invested with this power; to them the administration of civil justice belongs; and the laws of society oblige them to condemn the guilty without yielding to the dictates of pity or the call of indulgence. Private individuals, however, assembled in the name of charity for the purpose of seeking out and relieving the unfortunate, have not this plea of necessity to urge; they have it in their power to be merciful. The consequences of these public denunciations to the individuals are most fatal; their character being thus ruined, and infamy affixed to their names, they are reduced to despair; are compelled to assume new names; and this first forgery (for it is hardly less) prepares the way for others of deeper guilt. The desire to repent and reform is taken away; in short, this moral punishment is a thousand times worse than the infliction of corporal penalties.



A singular expression follows this list of rejections : it is this—" For very obvious reasons general terms only have been applied to the above, but the particular ground for each case rejected may be known of the secretary."

I know not what is meant by " general terms ;" but it appears to me that the accusations are expressed in very plain and explicit terms. To take one or two instances—" E. T. given to drinking." " T. and F. G. very undeserving." " C. F. of bad character." What more could be said ? Unless indeed it were to declare that these persons are murderers, house-breakers, &c. which, if true, certainly ought not to be concealed.

Would it not be more consistent with the characteristic delicacy of English charity, to entrust the inquirers with the task of exhorting these persons of bad character to reform and lead better lives ? The difficulty commonly is, to find out the vicious ; but when known, there is abundant means of correction and reformation. I do not pretend that the exhortations I have recommended would be, in all cases, attended with success ; but if a few only of these unfortunate persons were recalled to the path of virtue, the recompense would be ample.

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THE NEWMAN-STREET LYING-IN CHARITY FOR DELIVERING POOR MARRIED WOMEN AT THEIR OWN HABITATIONS.

(*July, 1823.*)

SUPPORTED BY VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS.

THE Newman-street Lying-in Charity was instituted in the year 1787, and from that time to the year 1822, 11,566 women have been delivered.

The Newman-street charity is confined to poor married women; it supplies them with pecuniary aid at a time when it is most likely to be wanted. Out of every guinea subscribed, five shillings in money are given to each of the two lying-in cases, which the subscriber is entitled to recommend; besides half-a-crown to each of their midwives; thus securing to the objects of the subscriber's benevolence the actual use of fifteen shillings out of each guinea, besides medicine and advice.

The sum of twenty guineas, paid at one time, constitutes the donor a governor for life, and



gives the right of recommending four patients annually.

Annual subscribers of one guinea and upwards are governors, and are entitled to two letters of recommendation annually, for every guinea subscribed.

THE END.



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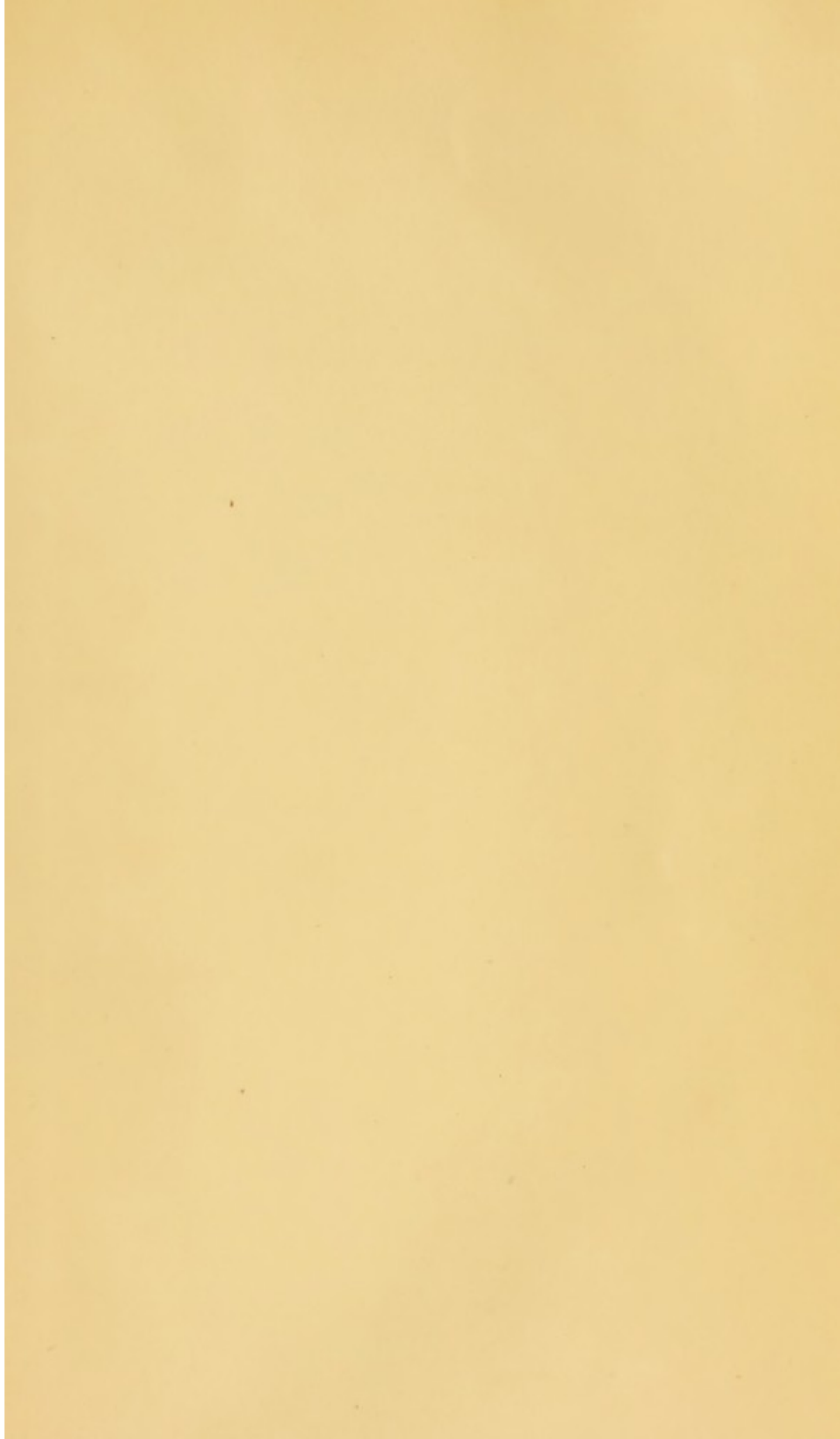
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87. MARYLEBONE

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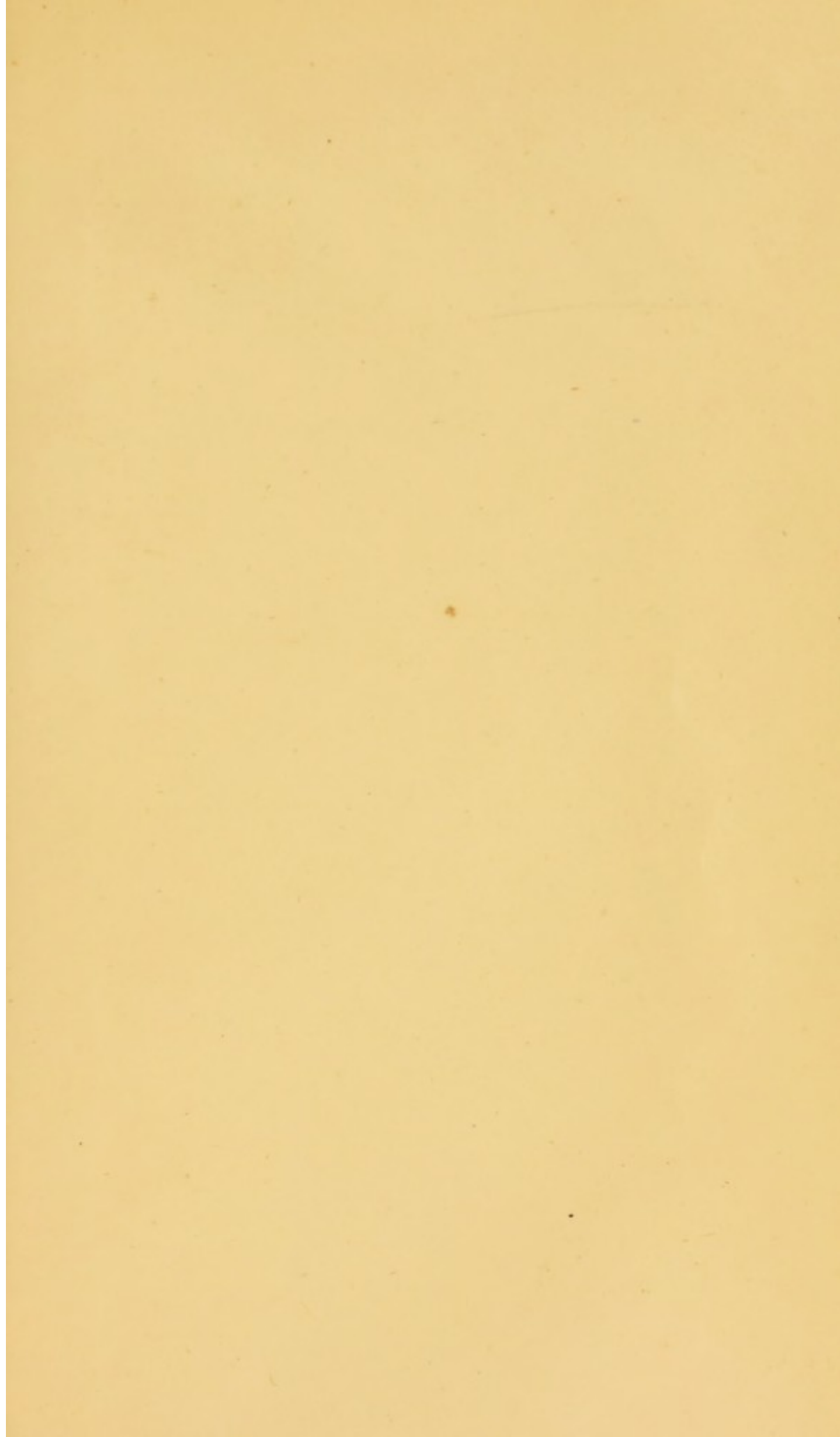
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