

Remarks on the General Sea-Bathing Infirmary at West Brook, near Margate; its public utility and local treatment / By Christianus.

Contributors

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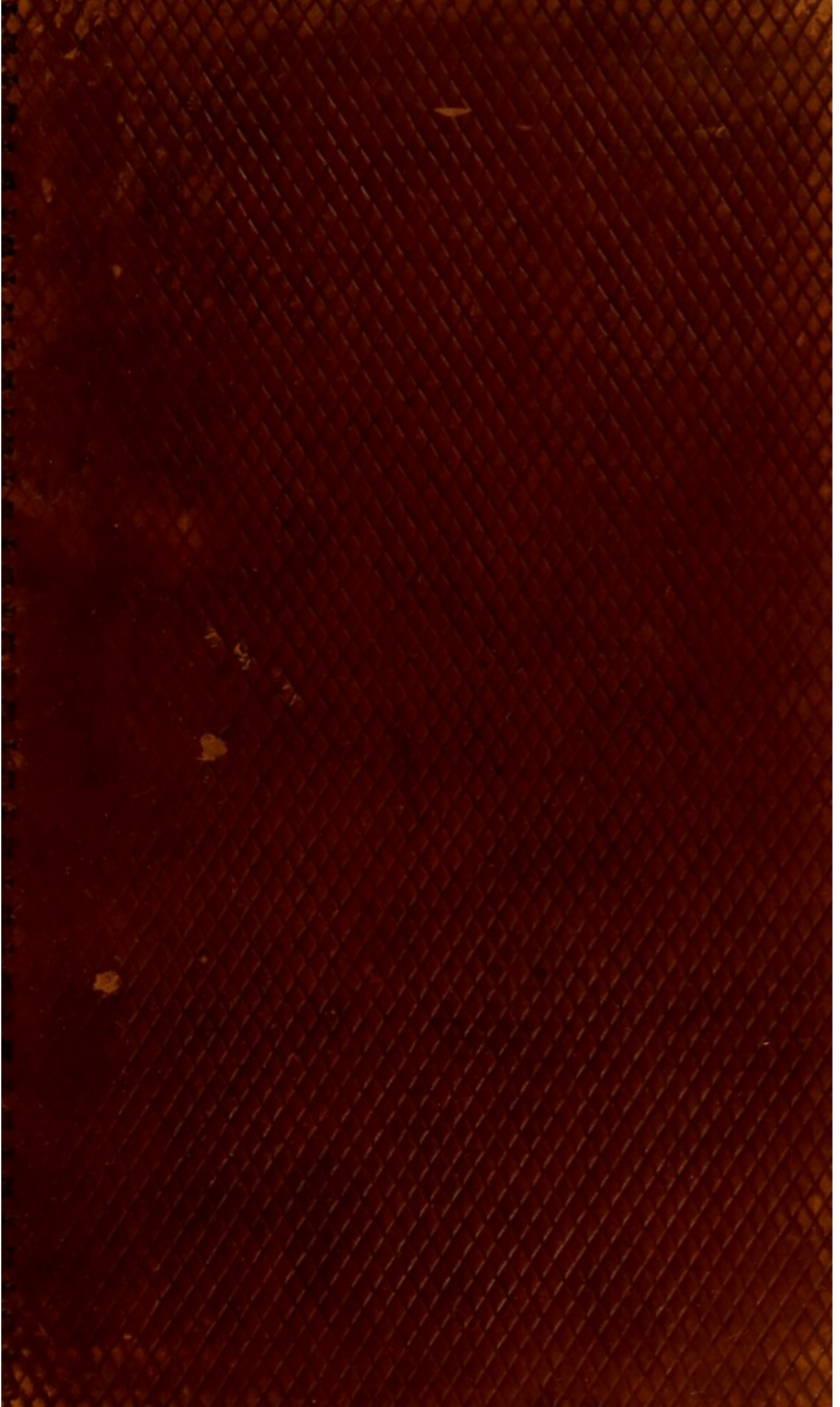
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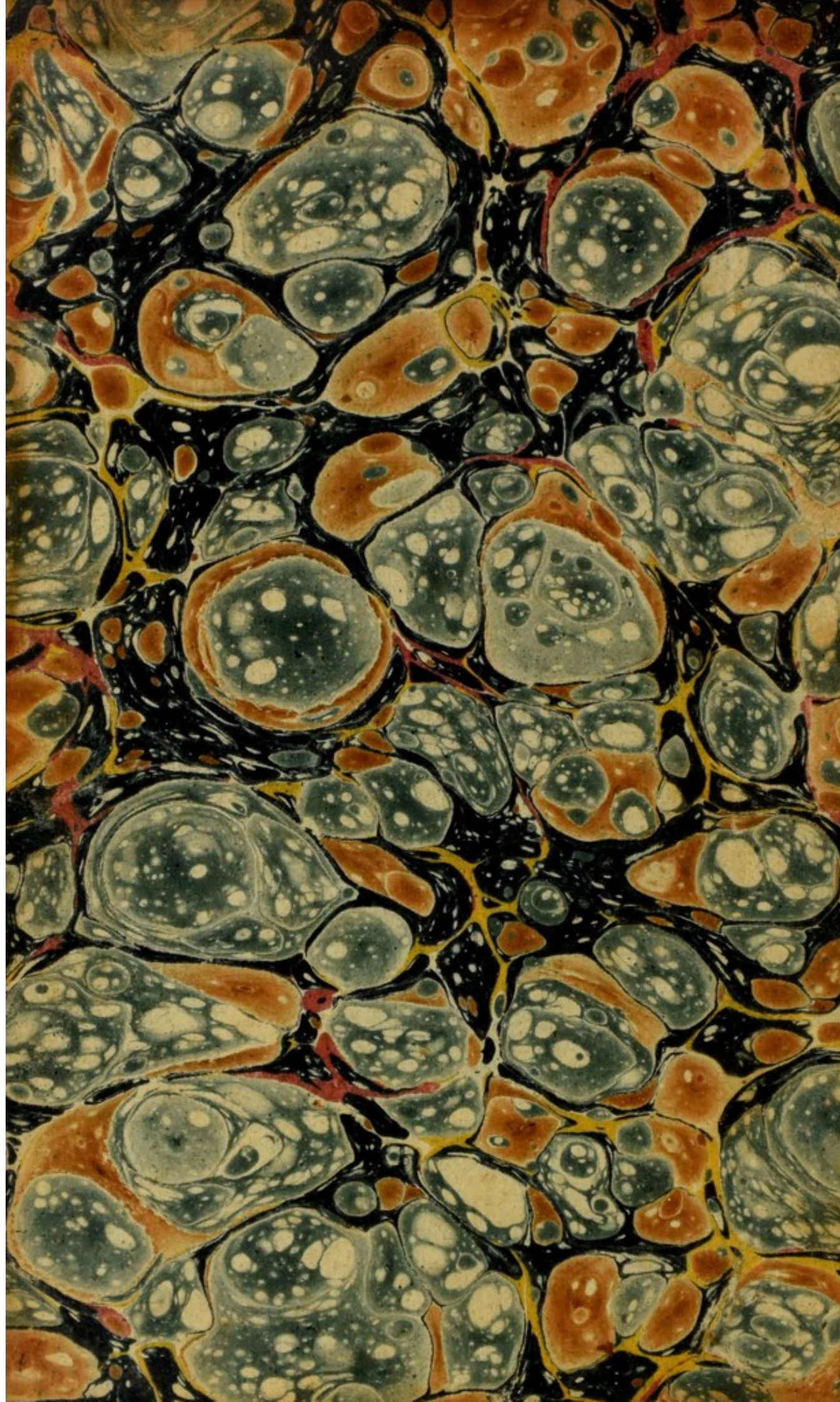
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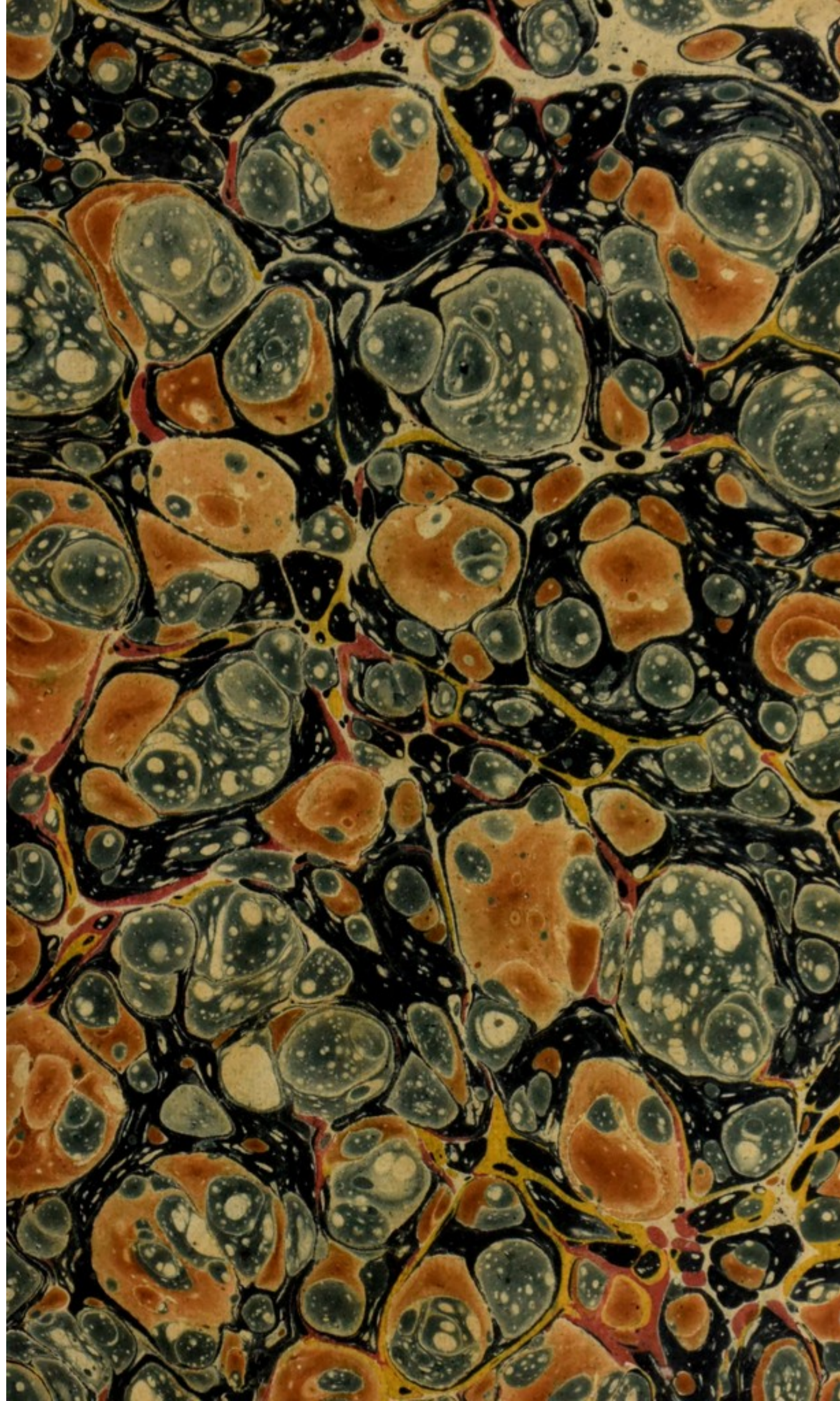
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REMARKS
ON THE
GENERAL SEA-BATHING INFIRMARY,

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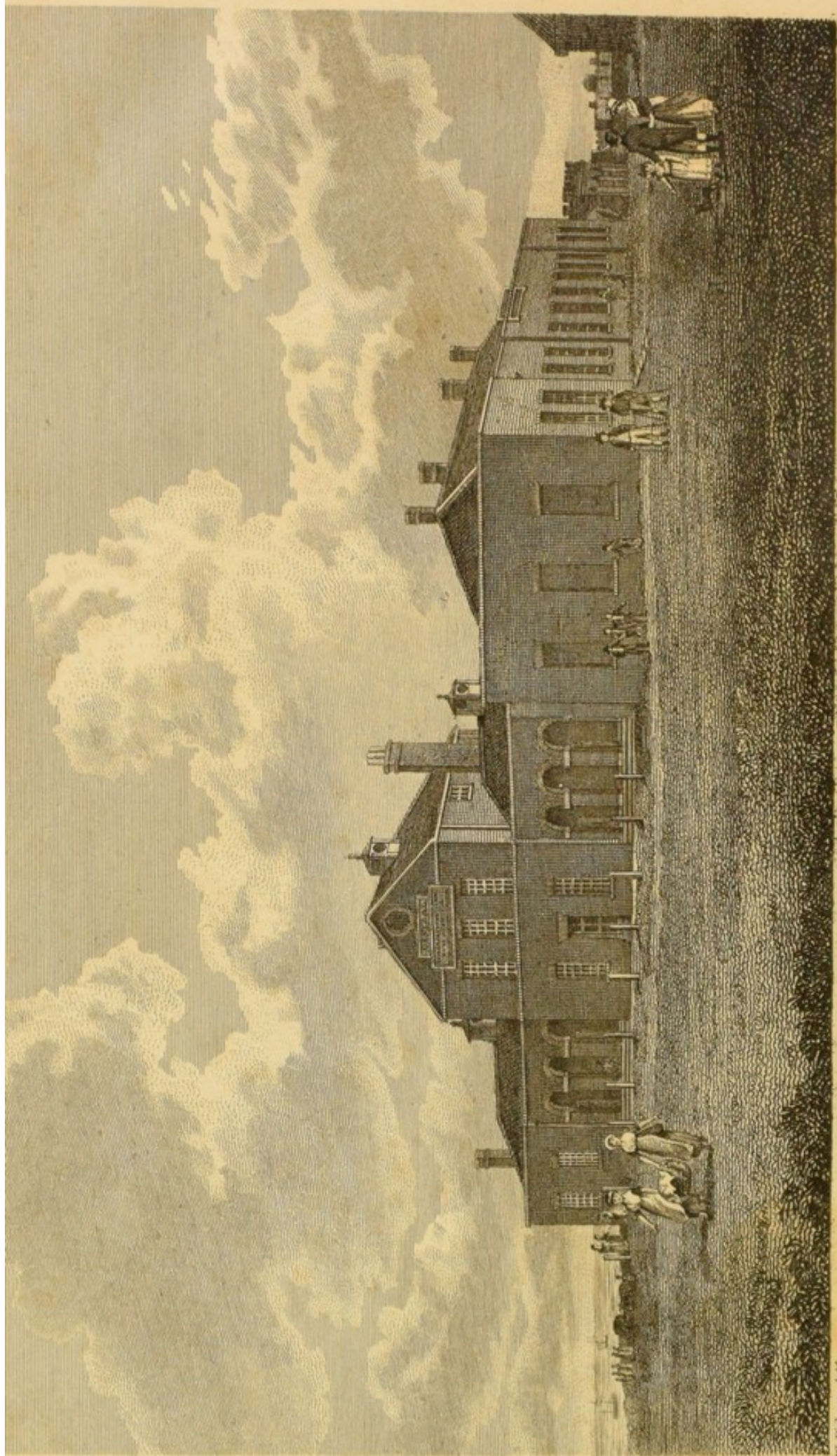
GENERAL SEA-BATHING INFIRMARY.

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GENERAL SEA BATHING INFIRMARY.

REMARKS
ON THE
GENERAL SEA-BATHING INFIRMARY
AT
WEST BROOK, NEAR MARGATE;
ITS
PUBLIC UTILITY
AND
LOCAL TREATMENT.

BY
CHRISTIANUS.

SECOND EDITION.

Ἐν παρρησίᾳ καὶ ἀληθείᾳ.

LONDON:

Printed by A. J. Valpy, Tooke's Court, Chancery Lane.

1820.

REMARKS
GENERAL SEA-BATHING INFIRMARY

TO
THE FRIEND OF MAN,
WHO SHOWS FORTH THE PRAISE OF GOD,
NOT ONLY WITH HIS LIP, BUT IN HIS LIFE;

TO
JAMES TADDY, ESQ.
OF HARTSDOWN,
V. P. OF THE GENERAL SEA-BATHING INFIRMARY;

THESE
REMARKS,
IN TESTIMONY OF HIS VIRTUE,
ARE RESPECTFULLY AND GRATEFULLY
DEDICATED,

BY
CHRISTIANUS.

PREFACE.

THROUGHOUT the following pages the Compiler is not aware of any misrepresentation on his part. To the view of a reflecting Public, therefore, he presents them with perfect confidence, as documents worthy of lasting record ; from whose careful preservation he anticipates the probability of much benefit to the cause of humanity, of honour, and of truth : for “some things are so familiar and plain,” writes the venerable Hooker, “that truth from falshood, and good from evil, is most easily discerned in them, even by men of no deep capacity.”

Gaudia summa putat quidam miscere sinistris
Litibus, atque homines ad jurgia vana movere.
Gaudet et interdum rixis turbare molestis
Pectora, sic igitur malesani est criminis auctor :
Ore tenet virus, linguâ mendacia fingit,
Atque dolos versat, quibus impugnare nocenter
Concordes animos et pectora dulcia possit.

Seb. Brant.

Some there are that have pleasure at their life,
To bring men in brawling, to discord and debate,
Seeking to move them to chiding and to strife,
And where love before was, to cause mortall hate
With the common tie, and many great estate :
Such is much worse then eyther murtherer or thefe,
For ofte of his tales procedeth great mitchiefe

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Within his mouth is venom jeopardsous and vile,
 His tongue still laboureth leasinges to contrive :
 His minde still mugeth on falshood and on gile,
 Therewith to trouble such as gladly would not strive.
 Sometime his wordes as dartes he doth drive
 Against good men ; for onely his delite
 Is set to slaunder, to defame and backbite.

Alex. Barclay.

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CHAPTER I.

INTRODUCTION.

WHOEVER have, in any degree, attended to the afflictions of their indigent fellow-creatures in the Metropolis or its crowded environs, must have observed with feelings of regret how many have been dragging on a miserable existence, from the dread effects of a most loathsome disease, the debilitating nature of which is heightened by want of proper food, clothing, and cleanliness. To the destructive powers of this disorder many, very many, annually fall victims, notwithstanding all the aids refinement can suggest, and wealth can procure. The experience of medical men of the first rank in their profession, founded on an extensive practice in the hospitals of London and its suburbs, as well as among the higher orders of society, proves that medicine can effect but little in this distressing complaint. The experience of years now points with confirmed decision to that vast mineral Bath, the rolling Ocean, at once the safeguard and the

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glory of our land; whose healing properties cannot be too much extolled for often alleviating, if not eradicating wholly, this corroding malady in the constitution, and restoring health to the body.

The numerous places on the coast which now, at each returning summer, vie with each other in tempting the luxurious and pampered invalid of the interior to try the efficacy of Sea-Air and Sea-Bathing, are solid and convincing proofs of the importance of the offered remedy; and, of the numerous ills which flesh is heir to, none can be named that has been cured in more remarkable instances than scrofulous affection, by the renovating properties of the sea. And, if such advantages are constantly accruing to the rich, no wonder that the case of the poor should have interested the best feelings of the heart, and should prompt some humane characters, by the establishment of a Sea-Bathing Infirmary, to aim at extending these multitudinous benefits to their necessitous brethren, who were pining to death under every circumstance of aggravated suffering.

What was probable took place. The late Dr. Lettsom, whose labours for the relief of the afflicted poor cannot be too highly estimated, with some few friends, founded in London an Institution which (in consequence of untoward events) it is the object of Christianus to recommend to the notice of his countrymen. In looking for an eli-

gible spot for the erection of THE GENERAL SEA-BATHING INFIRMARY, the attention of those gentlemen was, in the first instance, directed to South-End, that place being at a convenient distance from the Metropolis; but the difficulty of access from the sea, and the circumstance of vessels sailing constantly to the Isle of Thanet, (a passage by water being much cheaper and easier to the patients than land-carriage,) led them to prefer a part of the coast at West Brook, near Margate, which accordingly was purchased by several charitable individuals. Dr. Lettsom undertook the office of Treasurer; and, under the blessing of heaven, the house was opened for the reception of patients in the year 1796, when sixteen applicants were admitted. From that period of time to 1818 inclusive, full four thousand patients in various degrees have experienced the salutary means afforded by this Establishment. Of these patients, numbers went from the close and confined chambers of poverty, situated in the bye courts and lanes and alleys of our populous cities; several from the poor-houses of out-parishes, the hospitals, and other charitable foundations, as well as many from various parts of the kingdom; the glorious Institution not being confined to any particular district, as its title, GENERAL, testifies.

Every succeeding year from its foundation, the medical officers have had the pleasure to report

the increasing good effects of the **PLAN**, from the rapid and extensive improvement in the health of patients. As a proof how much its advantages are prized by the poor, each season produces an augmented list of applications ; but hitherto, such has been the situation of the Directors in regard to finances, that, on account of very limited resources, their benevolence in its operations has been invariably and unavoidably and most reluctantly circumscribed. Their zeal has been checked by their prudence : although, indeed, they have occasionally done more than an average of their revenues might have been thought to warrant. In ardent hopes of continued and increased patronage for such a noble Institution, however, they have persevered, and not without success ; for, from the kind exertions of friends, an accession to the **LIST** of Governors has been made during the last year. For the purpose of soliciting additional assistance, the Directors circulated some pertinent *Resolutions* not many years ago ; among which appeared the following :

“ Resolved unanimously,
 “ That since The General Sea-Bathing Infirmary has been declared by the first Medical Gentlemen of the Country, to be calculated to rescue numbers of the industrious poor of the Metropolis from the ravaging and vitiating tendency of scrofulous disorders, peculiarly generated in their confined

dwellings, and thus to improve the race of the labouring part of the community, and preserve to the state many valuable lives; and, especially, when this opinion has been verified, in the annual examination of cases in the Infirmary, beyond their most sanguine expectations; it appears to this Meeting that the Institution merits liberal support on principles of sound policy as well as humanity."

" Resolved unanimously,

" That it also appears to this Meeting that this excellent Charity, for affording the relief of Sea-Air and Sea-Bathing to the poor of London and its vicinity, labours under peculiar disadvantages that do not affect the other Establishments for alleviating sickness and poverty, in not being so situated as to attract the attention of those whose ability and benevolent feelings are ever ready to support the institutions that are the ornament of this City and Nation. But when it is considered, that without the aid of The General Sea-Bathing Infirmary, many afflicted poor would be deprived of that remedy which all the hospitals are unable to afford, and that the Gentlemen of the Medical Board (who give their time and attention gratuitously) consist of Physicians and Surgeons who belong to all those Establishments, it is confidently expected that this APPEAL in behalf of suffering humanity will not be made in vain."

CHAPTER II.

STATEMENT

OF

REV. W. F. BAYLAY.

GENERAL SEA-BATHING INFIRMARY.

AT the earnest solicitation of several Governors of this Institution, I am induced to make this public statement of the grounds upon which the pulpits of the churches of the Isle of Thanet have been refused. At the Anniversary Meeting at Margate, on the 29th of August, 1814—Lord Henniker, V. P. in the chair—the following Resolutions moved by myself were seconded by Sir Edward Knatchbull, V. P. ; upon which the previous question was moved (without preface) by Mr. Norris, one of the Medical Board of the Institution, and a Director, and seconded by Mr. Gibbs, the Treasurer ; and after a long discussion, the previous question having been first negatived, were adopted by the meeting.

“ In consequence of several complaints having been made at this Meeting in reference to the unnecessary delay in the admission of patients, the

mode of keeping the accounts, the insufficient power given to the Committee at Margate, and other matters materially affecting the well-being of this Institution ; it is earnestly recommended to the Court of Directors by this Meeting, that a select Committee be appointed to inquire into these complaints.

“ Resolved,
 “ That the above Resolution be communicated to the Court of Directors, by Mr. Cozens, our Secretary.”

At the same time, I distinctly stated, that unless the Committee so earnestly recommended by the Anniversary Meeting was appointed, that I should cease to give support to an Institution which shrunk from an inquiry into alleged abuses.

Early in April, 1815, I requested the Margate Secretary to forward to the Court of Directors in London, another Copy of the Resolution adopted by the Anniversary Meeting ; and requested him to state the extreme disappointment felt at the non-appointment of the Committee of Inquiry.

On the 14th of April, I received a letter from the Secretary in London, conveying to me the unanimous thanks of the Court of Directors ; which vote had been subsequently confirmed at the Half-yearly General Court (both holden on the 12th of April), for my attention to the concerns of the Institution ; stating some improvements

which had been adopted, and requesting a detailed statement on other points. In reply to which, on the 18th of April, 1815, I enclosed a Copy of the Resolution adopted by the Anniversary Meeting at Margate, on the 29th of August, 1814, and requested Mr. Rainbow would have the goodness to lay it before the next Court of Directors, stating my very sincere regret, that the recommendation so earnestly made by the Anniversary Meeting, should have received so little attention. To this letter I never received any answer.

On the 22d of July, the Margate Secretary waited on me with a verbal message, requesting the use of my pulpit. On the 27th, I gave to him in writing an answer, requesting him to inform the Directors that neither Mr. Harvey nor myself considered the recent conduct of the Institution such as would justify us in granting their request. On the 10th of August, we each received a letter from the Secretary in London, stating that the Court of Directors trust that we would have the goodness to re-consider the subject. To this letter Mr. Harvey and myself forwarded the following answer on the 12th, addressed to Mr. Rainbow, the Secretary in London.

“ Sir, We have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the 9th instant, and to request that you will assure the Directors of The Sea-Bathing Infirmary, that the refusal which we

have given to their request, was not determined upon without mature consideration, and very great regret. But as the recommendation of the last Anniversary Meeting at Margate, (August, 1814,) has not been complied with, nor any reason assigned by the Directors for their non-compliance, we still feel ourselves constrained to refuse to them the use of our pulpits."

To this letter we have never received any answer.

The above is a full and faithful statement of the grounds upon which the pulpits have been refused; and in making it I have strictly confined myself to facts and documents. Why the Directors have refused to appoint the Committee of Inquiry, I have never heard. If there are no abuses to reform, inquiry need not be dreaded; and if there are any, they should be sought out and reformed.

W. FREDERICK BAYLAY,
VICAR OF ST. JOHN, MARGATE.

October the 2d, 1815.

CHAPTER III.

STATEMENT

OF

THE DIRECTORS.

MR. Norris and Mr. Gibbs, when at the Anniversary Meeting at Margate, 29th August, 1814, heard for the first time of any dissatisfaction being felt by Mr. Baylay as to delay in the admission of Patients, and the mode of keeping the Accounts. Mr. Baylay was a Member of the Committee at Margate, until he resigned on *that day*; so that he might have known, that no Complaints had been made by the Committee to the Directors, on any point of Management, nor any request for additional powers being granted to render them, *in his opinion*, a more efficient body.

It is stated, that the previous Question was moved and seconded *without preface*; whereas it is in the recollection of several Gentlemen, who attended the Meeting, that upon the Motion being put, as originally worded, *viz. That this Meeting do appoint a Committee, consisting of* ———— it was remarked by Mr. Norris and Mr. Gibbs, that no

Complaints had been made to the Court of Directors on a single point named in the Motion, nor any suggestion offered by Mr. Baylay, or any one else, for their consideration: and that to create a Committee of Inquiry, without first allowing the Directors to reply to any statement of alleged abuses, was a measure by no means called for. The Treasurer, in particular, offered to pledge himself to make known at the first Meeting of the Court of Directors, on his return to Town, as many Complaints as the Reverend Gentleman, or any other Governor, might think fit individually to prefer, and to take the opinion of the Directors thereon. He also stated, that if the Meeting should even agree to the Motion, as proposed by Mr. Baylay, it would be a nullity, not being made in a Legislative Assembly.* These remarks, how-

* EXTRACT FROM THE LAWS OF THE INSTITUTION.

The government of the Infirmary shall be vested in the General Court of Governors in London.—At the General Court in April, there shall be annually chosen, from amongst the Governors, twenty-four Directors (five of whom shall be a Quorum), for transacting such business as may be necessary for the regulation of the Charity.—The Medical Concerns of the Infirmary shall be conducted in London by a *Board*, consisting of eight Physicians, who shall be Fellows or Licentiates of the Royal College of Physicians; and eight Surgeons, who shall be Members of the Royal College of Surgeons, and Practitioners in Surgery only.—At the Anniversary Meeting at Margate, in the latter end of August or beginning of September, a Committee

ever, had not the effect of prevailing on Mr. Baylay to depend on the pledge of the Treasurer; but they induced Mr. B. to alter the wording of his Motion to *a Recommendation that the Court of Directors would appoint—a Committee of Inquiry*. A second attempt was then made, but without effect; and, on the previous question being lost, the Treasurer, Mr. Norris, Mr. Blades, and several gentlemen left the Room, and afterwards, as they understood, the Motion was further altered, and finally carried, by those who remained, as worded in the annexed Statement.

The Court of Directors, immediately on the receipt of the Resolution, acted upon it; but instead of appointing any new Committee, took upon themselves to examine into the subjects proposed for reference, they being the only persons authorised by the Laws of the Institution for such a purpose; and they, without delay, adopted such measures, as appeared to the best of their judgment. Ten Governors (three of whom shall be a Quorum) shall be chosen, for superintending the Infirmary, and seeing that the rules established for the government of the Infirmary be properly observed.—The Committee at Margate may recommend to the Court of Directors, for their appointment, such persons as they shall think proper to fill the offices of Steward, Matron, or other Servants; and shall have the power of suspending them at any time, until the opinion of the Court of Directors shall be known on the case.—None of the Laws of this Institution shall be repealed, or altered, nor any new ones established, but at the General Courts, or at an extraordinary General Court, called for that purpose, in London.

ment proper on the occasion. The Edition of the Plan published October, 1814, proves, by the alteration made in the mode of stating the Account of Receipts and Payments, that the Resolution of the Anniversary Meeting at Margate, *had been received and acted upon !*

The Directors did receive the favour of a *Second* Copy of the Resolution, but on reference to the Communication hereinafter stated, as made by the Treasurer to the Anniversary Meeting at Margate, 29th August, 1815, it will appear what the Court had done.—An *accurate* copy of the Resolution sent to Mr. Baylay on the 13th April, 1815, is also there given. Mr. Baylay states his own Reply correctly ; and it will be for the Governors to judge, whether the Directors had treated the Reference made to them with “ so little attention.”

Mr. Baylay's Letter being a reply, and not only a refusal to the request of the Directors, but needlessly sending them a THIRD Copy of the Resolution, which he knew they had already in possession, and had acted upon, What answer could they make ? To have repeated their request, would have been probably considered as insulting ; and if they had repeated it, all the return that could have been expected, would have been a FOURTH Copy of the Resolution.

The Directors transmitted a written request to

the Gentlemen of the Committee at Margate, soliciting the favour of their influence with the Clergy of the Isle of Thanet for their Pulpits as usual; and, consequently, Mr. Cozens, in applying to Mr. Baylay, was the official organ of the Committee; and as such, a respectful personal application was made to him. In testimony of the *recent* conduct of the Institution, the following Reports, made on the 29th August last, must prove highly satisfactory to the Reverend Gentleman, as well as to the Governors at large.

“ *Margate, 28th October, 1815.*

“ We, the undersigned, have, at the desire of the Directors and Governors of the General Sea-Bathing Infirmary, made a careful inspection of its present state, and have to report as follows:

“ The House was opened on the 15th of May last, and there have been admitted, since that period, 163 in-patients, and 124 out-patients, of whom 80 have been discharged, after having received the most essential advantages; and there remain on the books of the Infirmary 207, the greater number of whom are in a satisfactory progress to health.

“ We deem it our duty on this occasion to assure the friends of the Charity, that after several years of personal observation, we can adduce the most unequivocal instances of its highly beneficial influence on those labouring under scrofula, palsy, chronic rheumatism, debility, &c.

“ Amongst the numerous cases which might be mentioned in support of the above observation, the attention of the public is especially directed to the following patients now in the Infirmary, *viz.* Mary Harris, Mary and Martha Hill, Mary Byford, Anne Simpson, Thomas Hill, and William Curling; and to Sarah Pickett and Elizabeth Young, out-patients.

(Signed)

THOMAS BROWN.

T. GREY.”

“ Having been requested by the Governors present to accompany the Medical Gentlemen in their inspection of the patients in the Sea-Bathing Infirmary, this day; I do most heartily concur with them in the statement they have made in the above report.

(Signed)

LUDFORD HARVEY.

Principal Surgeon of St. Bartholomew's Hospital.”

“ The Governors who have attended at the Sea-Bathing Infirmary this 28th day of August, 1815, do report, that having inspected the premises, they found them in a very clean and airy state—that having examined and tasted the provisions, they proved good and wholesome; that the patients expressed thankfulness for the treatment and benefit they experienced. They further report, that on inquiry they learnt with satisfaction that prayers continue to be read daily in the wards, and that such patients as are able, attend divine service on Sundays.”

The following is a copy of the Letter that was addressed to Rev. Mr. Baylay, and Rev. Mr. Harvey, Sen.

“REV. SIR,

“I am desired by the Court of Directors of the General Sea-Bathing Infirmary, to acquaint you, that they have, with deep regret, received a communication from the Gentlemen of the Committee at Margate, by which they have been informed that you have declined to grant the use of your Church, for a Sermon in behalf of the Charity on the last Sunday in this month.

“The Court of Directors trust that you will have the goodness to re-consider the subject, and to favour them with another opportunity, similar to those they have for so many years been indulged with, for appealing to the benevolent in behalf of so excellent an Institution, the funds of which stand in great need of assistance. The favour of an answer will much oblige the Directors, for whom,

“I am, Rev. Sir, &c.”

The Directors have always considered themselves much indebted to the Clergy who have granted the use of their Pulpits for Sermons in behalf of this Institution ; and would wish to be actuated by sentiments of respect towards those, from whom they acknowledge great benefits have accrued for

the Charity ; but they cannot help expressing their surprise, that in the Letter received from the Rev. Mr. Harvey and the Rev. Mr. Baylay, it should be stated, that the recommendation of the Anniversary Meeting has not been complied with, nor any reasons assigned by the Directors for their non-compliance, when it has been shewn, that Mr. Baylay was informed that measures had been adopted on all the specified points of complaint, and that a detailed statement was requested from him on any other point that he might think conducive to the welfare of the Charity.

The Letter being not only a reply, but a refusal to the request of the Directors, it certainly did not require any answer.

At the Annual Meeting, 28th August, 1815, held at the Royal Hotel, Margate,

The Treasurer presented the following communication from the Court of Directors, before referred to :

At a Court of Directors, held at the London Workhouse, Tuesday, 22d August, 1815,

J. C. Lettsom, M. D. V. P. in the Chair,

The following extracts from the Minutes of Courts, held on the 22d September, 12th October, 1814, 12th and 19th April, 1815, were severally read, *viz.*

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22d September, 1814.

The following Resolution, passed at the late Anniversary Meeting at Margate, was presented by the Treasurer, and also a printed statement of the Accounts of the Canterbury Hospital.

Copy of the Resolution.

“In consequence of several Complaints having been made at this Meeting, in reference to the unnecessary delay in the admission of Patients, the mode of keeping the Accounts, the insufficient power given to the Committee at Margate, and other matters materially affecting the well-being of this Institution; it is earnestly recommended to the Court of Directors by this Meeting, that a Select Committee be appointed to enquire into these Complaints.”

Resolved, That the Copy of the Canterbury Hospital Accounts, presented by the Treasurer, be referred to the Auditors, and that the Secretary do make out the last year's Account of Receipts and Disbursements, according to the plan of the Canterbury Hospital, for the examination of the Auditors; and that the same be laid before the next Court of Directors for their consideration.

12th October, 1814.

The Treasurer presented the last year's Account of the Receipts and Disbursements of this Charity, according to the mode of keeping the Accounts

of the Canterbury Hospital, and which had been examined by the Auditors, who reported, that having compared the statement of the Annual Receipts and Disbursements of the General Sea-Bathing Infirmary, with that of the Canterbury Hospital, and drawn up an account of the former, similar to the latter, they begged leave to recommend the following, as the only alteration to be adopted in future ; *viz.* That the whole of the expenses of House-keeping, under separate Items, be specified in the Account: And that Credit be given for the Amount received from Parishes and Patients for their board, instead of deducting that Amount from the expenses of House-keeping as heretofore done.

Resolved, That this Court do agree with the report made by the Auditors relative to the Statement of the account, and that the same be printed accordingly.

12th April, 1815.

Resolved, That an alteration in the Admission Ticket be made, allowing seven days from the time of issuing the Tickets for the Patients to go down to the Infirmary ; and in case they do not appear at the Infirmary within that period, the Ticket to be null and void.

Resolved, That a Letter be written to the Rev. Mr. Baylay, thanking him for his attention to the Concerns of the Institution, and informing him

that the Court of Directors have already proceeded on that considerable part of the communication from the Anniversary Meeting at Margate in August last, which relates to the mode of drawing out the Accounts, and they have also made Regulations to insure the more regular admission of Patients, and shall be obliged to him to furnish the Court of Directors with a more detailed Statement on any other points that he may think conducive to the welfare of the Charity.

19th April, 1815.

Resolved, That in order to prevent any delay in filling up such vacancies as may occur from time to time in the House during the Season, that the Steward and House Surgeon be directed to report by post every Monday the probable vacancies that may happen in the *following week*, so that new patients may have time to go down to the Infirmary, and enter as soon as the vacancies are made.¹

¹ The Directors have lately heard, that an unfavourable impression has been made on the minds of several persons, under the idea, that all Patients in the Country are required to attend the Medical Board *personally*, for examination. That such is not the practice, will appear from the following extract from the Ticket of Admission: "The Patients from LONDON and its Vicinity must be examined by the Medical Board in LONDON, before they can be admitted into the Infirmary. Patients in the COUNTRY who cannot attend the Medical Board, are required to have the Symptoms of their Disease described by the Surgeon or Apothecary where they reside, and trans-

It was moved by Sir William Blizard, and seconded by Mr. Hase, and resolved unanimously :

That this Court having considered all the aforesaid minutes, are of opinion that there is no ground for proposing to a General Court any alteration in the Government of the Infirmary with relation to any Committee at Margate or otherwise.

It was moved by Sir William Blizard, and submitted, post paid, to the Secretary, who will inform the parties whether their Cases be deemed proper or not."—The Directors have also been informed that persons resident at Margate are considered by the Medical Board to be ineligible; whereas the Board have only been of opinion, that those who reside at Margate have had the advantages of Sea-Air and Sea-Bathing all the year; therefore, they judged that the inhabitants of the inland parts of the kingdom were the proper objects for admission into the Infirmary; but no one has ever been rejected from receiving benefit from the institution as an Out-Patient, on account of residing at Margate, because there is no Law of exclusion.

Information relative to the Plan, Accounts, and Proceedings of the Charity may be had of Mr. Rainbow the Secretary, 35, Cannon Street; and Subscriptions for the encouragement and support of this Institution are received by the Collector, Mr. Anthony Wagner, Grosvenor Place, Chelsea, and also by the Secretary in London: At Margate by Messrs. Cobb and Son, Bankers: By the Physicians and Consulting Surgeon; By Mr. John Silver, Surgeon and Apothecary, at the Infirmary; Mr. Zechariah Cozens, Secretary at Margate; and at the Public Rooms, Libraries, and Bathing-Rooms at Margate, Ramsgate, and Broadstairs.

conded by Mr. Blades, and resolved unanimously :

That the Treasurer be requested to present a copy of the foregoing Resolution to the Anniversary Meeting at Margate, on Monday the 28th instant.

No observation on this communication was made by any Gentleman at the Meeting, among whom was the Rev, Mr. Baylay : the only question asked, was by him ; *viz.* whether the communication from the Court of Directors was to be entered in the Minutes ; and on the same being put by the Chairman (James Taddy, Esq. V. P.) it was unanimously ordered to be done, and the Meeting adjourned.

From the silence maintained, the Directors might possibly have taken to themselves the credit of having acted to the complete satisfaction of the Governors present ; but it would appear they have not done so in the opinion of Mr. Baylay. They have, however, great pleasure in adding that at the Half-yearly General Court of Governors held on the 12th instant, their proceedings were unanimously confirmed.

From a perusal of the foregoing, the Governors will be able to judge of the *full* and *faithful* Statement of the Rev. Mr. Baylay, and how strictly he has confined himself to FACTS and DOCUMENTS.

If it be asked why the Directors have refused to appoint the new Committee, they beg to state that, had they done so, they would have been unworthy of the trust reposed in them by the Governors of the Charity, as well as wanting in respect to themselves.

They do not pretend to perfection, but only claim credit for acting from good intention, and with a sincere desire to forward the interests of the Institution. They do not feel themselves chargeable with neglect, but are happy, although they have declined to appoint a Committee to enquire into their own conduct, that, instead of abandoning the Concerns of the Charity, because every one had not concurred with them in opinion, they have exerted themselves with the public so as to obtain a larger Subscription than has been received in former years.

The Directors are not conscious that they have used their influence against the Charity ; nor of suffering private pique to prevent their exertions for the public good : they have not circulated any unjustifiable insinuations, that might prejudice the public mind against the charitably disposed, as disturbers of the peace ; much less have they repelled the hand of Benevolence, that was extended for the relief of the afflicted Poor. They have only quietly pursued the path of their duty, and have practised a degree of forbearance, that in

the opinion of some has bordered on the extreme ; nor until they were called forth to account for their proceedings, which have already received confirmation, have they intruded themselves on the public attention.

If there are no abuses to reform, there is no need for enquiry ; and if there are any, it is not the fault of the Directors that they are not reformed ; as they requested information respecting them from the Rev. Mr. Baylay himself without success.

By Order of the Court of Directors,

JOSEPH RAINBOW, SEC.

October 23rd, 1818.

CHAPTER IV.

STATEMENT

OF

DANIEL JARVIS, ESQ.

AT a Public Dinner which took place at the Royal Hotel in Margate, on the 2nd of last June, I proposed the health of Mr. TADDY, and added, that I believed he had the power to put an end to the differences which existed between the Clergy of the Isle of Thanet, and the Directors of the General Sea-Bathing Infirmary. The following extract from Mr. TADDY's letter to Mr. GIBBS the Treasurer of the Institution, will best explain the proceedings which followed :

“ MR. BAYLAY has fully evinced his earnest desire that a general amity should take place with all parties, and without any interference on his part; he has entirely submitted to MR. JARVIS

and myself, the means by which so desirable a reconciliation can be obtained."

"For which purpose we met yesterday, and were of opinion that the inclosed paper, (No. 1.) should be submitted to the Court of Directors, which I hope and trust you will approve; and so desirous am I of a permanent peace, that after being favored with your answer, I will appoint with you a time for a board, when it will be in my power to attend and explain our motives, and that they must ultimately add to the prosperity of the Charity."

(No. 1.) "That the Directors should authorize their Treasurer or Secretary to write an official letter to the Clergymen of the three Parishes, stating, that as the points upon which the differences originated had been attained, and as the Institution had never made itself a party in the abuse heaped upon the Clergy, but on the contrary, greatly deplored it;—The Directors hoped, that upon a reconsideration of the subject, the Clergy would be able to effect a perfect reconciliation, and that their pulpits would be open for the benefit of the Institution this Season."

This project, recommended by MR. TADDY in the letter above quoted, received a flat refusal from MR. GIBBS the Treasurer, who declined to submit it to the Court of Directors.

Had it been acceded to, I am authorized to say, the pulpits would have been granted.

Early in the present month, Mr. TADDY and Mr. COBB, two of the Vice-Presidents of the Institution, waited on Mr. BAYLAY to request the grant of his pulpit;—I was present, and the following is a faithful account of what passed:—

On Mr. TADDY's making the application, Mr. BAYLAY said, "That as the present was a mere repetition of their former application, and as he understood that negotiations had been opened, with the result of which he had not been made acquainted, that he could not entertain the proposition; and therefore declined, under existing circumstances, making any answer:" When appealing to Mr. COBB, he said, "Do you think I ought to grant the request which has been made?"—Mr. COBB replied, "I think you cannot, unless the door be opened by the Directors of the Institution." Mr. TADDY asked what Mr. BAYLAY wanted? He replied, "That which you have told your Treasurer I ought to have."

Here the subject dropped, and Mr. TADDY, Mr. COBB, and myself, met on the following day, for the purpose of devising some plan which might be satisfactory to all parties.

Mr. TADDY having stated that the Directors

would never consent to disavow the abuse of the Clergy, because that it might seem to give weight to the opinion, that they had encouraged conduct so disgraceful ;—it was agreed to leave out that part of the intended Letter, and the following words were unanimously adopted :

(*No. 2.*) “That the Directors should authorize their Treasurer or Secretary to write an official Letter to the Clergymen of the three Parishes of St. John Margate, Ramsgate, and St. Peter’s, stating, that the points upon which the differences originated, no longer existed, but their several objects had been attained. The Directors, therefore, hoped that the Clergy would be pleased to grant the use of their Pulpits for the advantages of the Institution during the present Season.”

This proposition MR. TADDY undertook to commend ; but what has been its fate, whether it was either adopted or rejected, has never been communicated to myself or to MR. COBB. I believe that Mr. TADDY has been throughout sincere in his desire of effecting that which he undertook, but he has been overruled by those on whose support he had calculated.

The above is a full and true statement of the attempt which I have made to put an end to

this unpleasant difference, and I have thought it due to the Public to give them the Facts, and consider it most respectful to do so without comment.

DANIEL JARVIS.

Margate, August 28, 1819.

CHAPTER V.

STATEMENT

OF

JULIUS LUDOLPHUS SCHRODER, ESQ.

TO THE VISITORS OF MARGATE.

A STATEMENT relative to the continuation of those unhappy differences which have for four years deprived one of the most noble Monuments of Christian Philanthropy, of the support which it formerly received from the regular Clergy of this and the neighbouring Parishes, has been lately circulated by Mr. Daniel Jarvis. The object, for which Mr. Daniel Jarvis obtrudes himself, and his impotent defence of his reverend friend, will be best understood by a consideration of the time and circumstances which mark his gratuitous attempts to injure an Institution with which he is in no ways connected. The Annual Visitation of the

Directors and Governors is to be made *this day*: a Dinner is afterwards to be given at the Royal Hotel, at which a large number of the well-wishers of this excellent Institution may be expected to attend, and benevolently to aid its funds by their liberal subscriptions, if the minds of the Visitors of this place should happily escape the operation of Mr. Daniel Jarvis's *kind memento*, that there still exist differences between the Clergy and the Directors.

We will consider the Statement to be "full and true;" and make those fair inductions which may present themselves to the common understanding of any who may have perused it. The Reverend Mr. Baylay had *entirely* submitted to Mr. Taddy, a Vice-President, and to Mr. Daniel Jarvis, the means by which a reconciliation might be obtained. These two Gentlemen met, and most unadvisedly conceived, that the best mean of reconciliation was—a proposition that the Directors—men, whose Station in life, Character, and Fortune, ought to have placed them equally beyond the presumption of conspiring "to heap abuse upon the Clergy;" and the insult of a requisition to deny that which ought never to have been presumed;—that these Directors should make an apology to conciliate the wounded pride, or the worse feelings of an individual—who acknowledges, through his referee (Mr. Daniel Jarvis) that

“the points upon which the differences originated have been attained.” Such an apology would have dishonoured the Court of Directors, as much as its proposal reflects upon those who made it. Finding that the Directors were not to be brought to make a tacit acknowledgment, that they, as a collective body, encouraged and had made the “Institution a party in the abuse heaped upon the Clergy”—the requisition of an apology was as tamely withdrawn as it was imprudently proposed; and it was merely begged in another form. The Directors were requested to HOPE “that the Clergy would be *pleased* to grant the use of their pulpits for the advantages of the Institution. Now, as by the acknowledgment of the Reverend Mr. Baylay, made through his friend Mr. Daniel Jarvis, it is allowed, that “the points upon which the differences originated, no longer existed, *but their several objects had been attained* (mark the fulness of the concession,) ought not the reconciliation of divided opinions and feelings to have followed of course? The Reverend Gentleman has been respectfully waited on, in the usual manner, by two Vice-Presidents, to request the use of his pulpit:—what can he want more? His ostensible reasons for previous refusals, namely, the existence of what he termed certain abuses, cannot now be urged. Can wounded pride—can the unhallowed feelings of continued resentment,

still enthrone themselves in the heart of a Minister of the Gospel of Peace and Good-will towards men, and prevent his performance of a benevolent act?—If so,—alas! how different are the precepts of that Gospel, and the practice of the Priest!

If the present system should be persevered in—if the best sympathies of human nature are to be longer opposed by a callous indifference to its suffering—then indeed I would recommend to the Governors of this most noble Institution, a different course than that of humble apology, which would fix upon them unworthy imputations. The Law has decided, that their laudable endeavours to pour the balm of health into the tainted subject of disease, are not the acts of “Sturdy Vagrants.” I would recommend the renewal of that APPEAL to the benevolence of the Public, which was attended with success and honour to the Gentlemen who braved the promise—of “clean straw and imprisonment” for their laudable exertions. To save the Church penalties of 5th and 6th of Edward VI. cap. 4, it is only necessary for the Gentlemen to keep outside of the Church-yard Gates, and, thus secure, to add to the prosperity of that most excellent Charity over which they preside—The guardian Angels of the Impotent Poor.

Unconnected with, and personally unknown to the honourable Directors of this Godlike Institu-

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tion—the hope of preventing, in some degree, the obviously intended effect of Mr. Daniel Jarvis's Statement, has urged me to submit these observations to the discernment of a liberal Public.

BENEVOLUS.¹

Margate, August 30th, 1819.

“GENERAL SEA-BATHING INFIRMARY.

“It having been suggested by several gentlemen, friends of this Institution, that many well-disposed persons resident in and about Margate who could not promote this benevolent object by their presence at the Ball, would cheerfully subscribe their mite, if a suitable opportunity could be devised; and as the pulpit of Margate Church has been so unexpectedly shut this season against the Charity, they have thought of other means to prevent that diminution in the funds which this unprecedented opposition might have occasioned; and six gentlemen have volunteered their services to stand at the Church-Yard Gates tomorrow, Sunday, the 1st of October, 1815, immediately after Divine Service, to receive Donations from all those who are Friends to this invaluable Institution.

“Margate, September 30, 1815.”

“VAGRANTS.

“The Constables and Parish-officers of this parish having received information that several persons intend to make illegal collections by way of Alms, and apprehending that this design, if persisted in, may lead to a breach of the peace, give this public Caution, that by the 17th G. II. c. 5. ‘All persons placing themselves in streets, highways, or passages, to beg or gather Alms,’ are liable to be apprehended as Vagrants, and conveyed before a magistrate, who may imprison them one month.

“And by the 13 and 14 G. II. c. 12. ‘The justices in Sessions may transport such Rogues, Vagabonds, and Sturdy Beg-

gars, as shall be duly convicted, and adjudged to be incorrigible.'

"A sufficient number of Peace Officers will be directed to apprehend all who may be found offending against the law within this parish.

"*Francis Smith*, Churchwarden.

"*Francis Cobb*, Constable and Churchwarden,

"*Margate, September 30, 1815.*"

"Mr. B. also said, that he had ordered clean straw for six persons to be put in the black-hole; that, if the six gentlemen did receive collections at the church-yard gates on Sunday, they should all of them be put into the black-hole; and that he on Monday morning would send all of them prisoners to Dover for a month."

A Detail of all the late Proceedings, &c. &c. By Stephen Ellis, Esq. p. 18.

"A collection was made on Sunday the 1st of October, in the square on the outside of the church-yard gates; and the collection exceeded thirty pounds. Two of the gentlemen were taken into custody; and, after a considerable detention, were held to bail for their appearance at the Dover Sessions."

Ibid. p. 19.

CHAPTER VI.

PLACARD OF DANIEL JARVIS, ESQ.

MULTUM IN PARVO.

GENERAL SEA-BATHING INFIRMARY.

IF the writer of untruths, under the false and anonymous title of Benevolus, be not a coward as well as a liar, he will come forth, and by giving his name furnish the public with an antidote to his venomous poison.

DANIEL JARVIS.¹*Cecil Square, August 31, 1819.*¹ Nescia mens hominum fati sortisque futuræ,

Et servare modum, rebus sublata secundis!

Turno tempus erit, magno cùm optaverit emptum

Intactum Pallanta.

CHAPTER VII.

STATEMENT

OF

THOMAS JOHN TAYLER, Esq.

A PRINTED placard of the 31st August, having been posted and circulated during the absence of Julius Ludolphus Schroder, Esq. from Margate, calling (in terms which I shall not degrade myself by repeating) upon the author of an address signed 'Benevolus,' written in defence of the General Sea-Bathing Infirmary, to give up his name,—I feel it right, in justice to the interests of the Institution, and as due to that Gentleman's character, to state, that he instantly returned to Margate; and not only declared himself to be the author of 'Benevolus,' but took such measures as the vindication of his honour required; which steps were defeated by the information and deposition of two friends of the opposite party.

I now leave it to the Public to judge whether the epithets of that placard can be applied to J. L. Schroder, Esq.

THOMAS JOHN TAYLER.

Crescent Lodge, Margate, Sept. 8th, 1819.

¹ Pallas te hoc vulnere, Pallas

Immolat, et pœnam scelerato ex sanguine sumit.

CHAPTER VIII.

PETITION

TO THE REV. THE VICAR OF ST. JOHN'S,

MARGATE ;

THIS Petition of the Poor, and Sick, and Maimed, the Scrofulous, and otherwise grievously afflicted and diseased, humbly sheweth—

That your Honour's Petitioners are all of them, more or less, men and women of honest and industrious habits, with or without families, solely dependent on their daily labour and the aid of their neighbours for maintenance and support.

That, in the pursuit of their sedentary and unintermitted occupations in close and small rooms, amidst the numerous lanes and alleys of London, subjected as they all are, more or less, to the severe pressure of want, and to the evils (unknown to your Reverence, they trust,) of scanty and meagre diet, your Honour's Petitioners have gradually

acquired infirmities and complaints, from which not even the affluent and honourable ranks in the vast and crowded metropolis are said to be always exempt; which infirmities and complaints, alas! bear with a heavy weight indeed on the energies and best spirits of an useful class of human beings, whose wretched dwellings are too remote from your Honour's Vicarage to interest your philanthropy by any other visible mode than by this modest but earnest appeal.

That, with feelings of ill-suppressed concern, amounting to inexpressible anguish, they hear from friends and visitors occasionally of the blessed BETHESDA at West-Brook, near the parish whose spiritualities the piety of your Reverence exemplarily superintends. Their affliction arises from hope deferred from year to year, "making their hearts sick;" hope which four summers have baffled, and which the statement of one Mr. DANIEL JARVIS, in The Morning Post of Saturday, September 4, more than insinuates, *this fifth season* shall baffle in some similar way; owing to your Honour's sad differences with certain Directors and Governors of that glorious Institution, in which differences (important *possibly* to rich and idle Gentlemen in high health), your Petitioners venture with the utmost deference to submit, neither *they*, nor their suffering *families*, nor their humane *employers*, nor THE NATION AT LARGE, ever

did have, or ever can have, the slightest share or interest, beyond *the general augmentation of misery among the sick London poor.*

That your Petitioners hope your Reverence will take this their humble Memorial into your immediate consideration, and accept it for a peace-offering to your Honour before the God of all flesh. They presume not to meddle with the disputes of Gentlemen, but beg only to solicit what their Ministers in London instruct them to consider the paramount duty of Christians. And your Petitioners shall ever pray.

(Signed) A. B. Householder. G. H. Lodger.

C. D. Lodger. I. J. Lodger.

London. E. F. Lodger. &c. &c. &c.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MORNING POST.

“Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice.”—*Othello.*

Sir,—Your patriotic pages have ever been liberally open to the receipt of authorised articles on all important topics, embracing the prosperity of well-constituted society, public and private, the conservation of morals, and the honour of true religion. In no publication since the commencement of the awful French Revolution, to the best of my remembrance, have I perused greater demonstrations of genuine attachment to civil liberty, of unbought loyalty, of regard for virtue, of reve-

rence for God and his Christ, than have uniformly illuminated the readers of *The Morning Post*. Nor, whilst all other excellent subjects have shared their due portion of your notice, has god-like charity, that very "bond of perfectness," been neglected, on proper and important occasions.

Your paper of Saturday, September 4, contains a strong proof, in the second column of its second page, of the truth of this assertion, and also of the strict impartiality by which you endeavour to regulate your editorial province and power; since, although you appear obviously, and (I must admit), naturally, to espouse the long-insulted cause of the Institution, you yet fairly and fully reprint the laboured manifesto of Mr. Daniel Jarvis, with its two garbled extracts from the correspondence of Mr. Taddy, relative to the Rev. F. W. Baylay, Vicar of St. John's, Margate.

To that remarkable and "damning" document, your present Correspondent has but little to add: still, Sir, that little is so indicative of the temper and talents of the parties concerned, that, like Mr. Daniel Jarvis, I, too, shall now "give the fact, and shall do so without comment."

On the morning of Monday, the 30th of August last, the Directors and Governors of the Establishment made their benevolent Annual Visitation with great care and commendable patience; and the Gentlemen afterwards adjourned, according to their known constant custom, to the Royal Hotel,

to report their proceedings and to dispatch business of every description, that no possibility of discussion might be left to annoy or to mix with the decent hilarity of the afternoon. Either at the Infirmary in the morning, therefore, or at the Adjourned Meeting at noon, when all were *impransi*,—to avail myself of Johnson's Latin,—Messrs. the Rev. F. W. Baylay, and his second, Daniel Jarvis, might, with credit, and in the usual course of things, have claimed and obtained the most explicit information. But no, Sir, this conduct was perhaps deemed too condescending, and too conciliatory, and too common. A *coup de theatre*, it seems, was thought necessary! Accordingly, after the removal of the cloth, and the chaunt of "Non nobis Domine," the mirth was all displaced, and the good-meeting was broken (as Lady Macbeth would express herself), "with most admired disorder." The Chairman, James Taddy, Esq. with the Treasurer, Michael Gibbs, Esq. and most of the staunch London Patrons of the Margate General Sea-Bathing Infirmary, reluctantly arose from their seats at the once festive board, and left the room. Mr. Francis Cobb, Sen. of Margate, was then placed in Mr. Taddy's seat. I hope, nay I believe, this respectable man felt his throne like the bed of Montezuma, and only assumed it to preserve decorum.

I am, Mr. Editor, yours,

an old Correspondent,

Chelsea.

W. B.

CHAPTER IX.

LETTER THE FIRST OF CHRISTIANUS.

Nihil est tam popolare quam bonitas: nulla de virtutibus plurimis nec gratior nec admirabilior misericordiâ est; homines enim ad deos nulla re propius accedunt, quam salutem hominibus dando.—*Ciceronis Oratio pro Quinto Ligario.*

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MORNING POST.

MR. EDITOR,—Permit a Correspondent of many years, to address you on an important topic, involving public interests, and, truly sorry am I to observe, private animosities. On Thursday, the 21st of June 1792, the first stone of The General Sea-Bathing Infirmary was laid, with all customary and due solemnities, by that singular philanthropist, JOHN COAKLEY LETTSOM, M. D., who came down with his friend the Rev. Weeden Butler, expressly for the purpose, from London. The Doctor was cheerfully assisted by a body of distinguished Gentlemen of London and of Margate, framers and founders of the Institution: such as

Dr. Hawes, of the Humane Society ; Mr. Deputy Nichols, Historian of Leicestershire ; the Rev. John Pridden ; James Boswell, Esq., the quondam bear-leader of Samuel Johnson, &c. I am not a young man, Sir, but my memory is sound ; and I even yet rejoice in the proud recollection that I, too, personally and actively shared the duties of the day. Foremost among the munificent patrons was ever found the generous Francis Cobb, Esq. banker and brewer, on whose tomb in the church-yard is emphatically engraven, "The Friend of Margate." The good man's worthy descendants continue to be staunch advocates in the cause of the Charity. On this subject I allude by design to the members of so respectable a family with particular satisfaction. They are plodding men, of well known talent and observation : and I consider the devoted fidelity of the attachment of such unequivocal characters to the Establishment, during its arduous progress of late years, through honour and dishonour, through evil report and good report, an irrefragable evidence in favour of its unvaried management, ever since the building was opened at West Brook, near Margate, in August 1796, for the reception of poor patients of both sexes and of all ages from London and other places.

The utility, nay, let us not here mince the matter, but let me add, the necessity, of an Establish-

ment of this grand and general description, which unostentatiously extends to the industrious poor of our Metropolis the advantages of sea-air and sea-bathing, must certainly be apparent even to the Vicar of Margate. If, although abounding in the comforts and conveniences of fortune, the more opulent classes of society feel compelled very frequently to seek the efficacy of sea-bathing for themselves and for their families in numberless cases where malady defeats and overpowers the most judicious exertion of medical skill; wretched indeed must sometimes be the forlorn condition of the poor, labouring under the severe pressure of disease, without means or prospect of ever securing the only sure and simple remedy for their sufferings: “*Wash, and be clean.*” The benefits which have been afforded to children and adults by the timely assistance of this Infirmary, in the probable saving of limbs by subduing the most alarming symptoms of disorder in the joints; in conquering inflammation of the eyes, which had resisted former endeavours to cure, and threatened speedily to inflict the horrors of permanent blindness; in healing obstinate and distressing sores; in resolving and removing the evils attendant on indurated glands in various parts; in restoring health and vigour to the system, from conditions of body and consequent depressions of mind, the most emaciated and the most deplorable; in renovating and

to all appearance absolutely altering constitutions, in which characters of a scrofulous disposition had been manifest ; and lastly, in preserving the lives of persons seemingly bending over the brink of the grave, are notorious. They have equalled all the hopes, they have gloriously exceeded all the sanguine expectations of the venerable Quaker, Dr. John Coakley Lettsom, and his Christian band of coadjutors, in 1792. With delight I record the following names of Medical Gentlemen, who have nobly done themselves and the Institution honour, by signing ample testimonials at different times to this effect :—

M. Garthshore, J. C. Lettsom, Wm. Woodville, Jas. Sims, Thos. Dale, J. H. Myers, Phi. Elliot, Algernon Frampton, Walter Farquhar, Wm. Long, C. Blicke, Wm. Blizard, Hen. Cline, Wm. Norris, T. Blizard, Robt. Keate, R. C. Hendington. The testimonials thus signed are conclusive. I beg pardon : Who oppose the scientific phalanx? Alas! One Clergyman and one Apothecary!—*vel duo, vel nemo.*

From these plain considerations, Mr. Editor, I trust your intelligent Readers will now deem my position evident to all but prejudiced observers, that the humane London Institution, called, “in common parlance,” The General Sea-Bathing Infirmary, situated at West-Brook, near Margate, can be no despicable Charity, unworthy of clerical notice. I trust they will agree with your present

Correspondent, that it powerfully demands and merits some portion of attention from London Clergymen and London Congregations, on principles of sound policy, aided by the sweetest suggestions of humanity, and enforced by the resistless dictates of our holy Religion, in its unaccountable local destitution and abandonment by the Reverend Vicar of Margate. Sir, by men of no mean rank, I am authorized to affirm that the Infirmary is controlled and conducted with honesty and honour; and that it calmly challenges the most rigorous, the most hostile examination into all its departments, all its receipts, and all its expenditures. Too long has an insidious slanderer been accustomed—

“Criminibus terrere novis; ac spargere voces

“In vulgum ambiguas, et quærere conscius arma.”

The Infirmary is most essential to the relief of our diseased poor in London and its populous environs; it is an admirable support and supplement to our London Hospitals, an almost indispensable link in the mighty chain of our eleemosynary establishments for the weal of our deserving fellow citizens, the industrious and indigent inhabitants of our unwieldy metropolis. Thank God, Mr. Editor, every sentiment of humanity is not even yet extinct in the vicinity of this harshly treated Institution. Believe me, Sir, other good Charities (*of a nature strictly parochial*), to my cer-

tain knowledge, do still experience the blessing of stated annual appeals from the pulpit of Margate Church, addressed purposely to London hearers, twice at least, in the height of the fashionable season. The procedure in itself is right: and, were no mean, insidious, and unwarrantable distinction made, no doubt it would be highly commendable, for it cannot but tend somewhat to alleviate the parish burthens. Here, then, the weighty question rolls in upon our thought, and bears down before it every petty barrier of timidity and reserve. I ask—Why is The General Sea-Bathing Infirmary, established by Londoners at Westbrook, alone proscribed? Why is the only London Institution in the whole Isle of Thanet (a spot favoured by Heaven, and owing much to London partiality), alone excluded by the clerical hostility of one haughty man, year after year, from all dignified modes of participation in the golden tide of London pity, thus annually watched like the overflowings of the river Nile, and thus anxiously taken always at the flood?

The Rev. William Frederick Baylay's unpleasant narrative, inserted in your paper for Saturday, 25th September, 1819, can no longer be adduced in satisfactory justification; since in the very same excellent journal for Saturday, 4th September, appears Mr. Daniel Jarvis's equally unpleasant narrative, by which, however, your readers are

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assured that "the points upon which differences had originated no longer existed." I feel somewhat encouraged to the indulgence of a longing and lingering, although faint and fading expectation, that, at length, after five years of rancorous opposition, considering himself not quite free from personal frailties and private motives, considering himself moreover in the truly august and responsible character of a Minister of the mild Gospel of Christ, the Rev. William Frederick Baylay, Vicar of St. John, Margate, will freely lend the gratuitous use of his Pulpit to this admirable Establishment in its turn, and thus vindicate his now ambiguous claim to the forgiveness of Christian charity, by manly, voluntary, hearty reconciliation. Why should the bulk of our diseased poor suffer for the dissensions and the petulance of the pampered rich, whether among Laity or Clergy? Fain would I twitch Mr. B.'s silken gown with due respect, and with no common earnestness, uninfluenced by any feeling save ONE, that of rooted commiseration for the many helpless objects of London solicitude—would plead for them in the pathetic lines of Nature's Poet :—

"The quality of Mercy is not strained ;

"It droppeth as the gentle rain from Heaven

"Upon the place beneath : it is twice blessed ;

"It blesseth him that gives, and him that takes :

"'Tis mightiest in the mightiest."

To James Taddy, Esq. of Hartsdown, to Julius

Ludolphus Schroder, Esq. merchant, of London, (whose life is too valuable to be again rashly staked in such a quarrel) and to the persevering Committee of the much insulted Institution, is here tendered the tribute of sincere esteem. To them the secret testimony of their own warm hearts, the still small voice of their approving consciences, must afford solid and permanent consolation. But, Mr. Editor, let us not fail to remind these men of one other recompense, recorded in the animating words of inspiration :—"If, when ye do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, this is acceptable with God." On the 21st of last May, I dined with the Directors and Stewards and a large company of the friends of The Sea-Bathing Infirmary, at the London Coffee-house, in Ludgate-street; and was very highly gratified, in common with every Gentleman in the room, to hear the statement of the Treasurer, Michael Gibbs, Esq. and the speeches of the several advocates of that excellent Institution, particularly the eloquent address of Dr. Davis, the physician. In the course of the evening, Dr. Yates and the Rev. Weeden Butler, pathetically alluded to the malign aspect with which the affairs of the Charity continue to be regarded by one of the Ministers resident in the Isle of Thanet, by whose prevailing influence almost all the pulpits of the Established Church therein seem to be, in a manner, hermetically closed and

sealed against the voice of Mercy in behalf of the poor, the sick, and the defenceless patients, supplicating in vain for years for their turn of admission into the building near Margate ; the funds of which were, till 1814, greatly augmented by collections after charity sermons. In language of no common power, the former gentleman expressed the liberal wish of all his associates to make every fair advance, "*dextris jungere dextras*," and to demonstrate the sincerest regard for a renewal of Christian fellowship ; whilst the latter expatiated on the strong additional motives, now almost imperative on the London Clergy, and on the cloth in general, throughout the land, in consequence of the strange and disgraceful feuds, systematically maintained year after year in the county of Kent exclusively. We were informed from the Chair, that on Sunday, the 16th of May last, the Rev. George Clarke, Chaplain to the Royal Military Asylum, preached for the Charity at Charlotte-Street Chapel, Pimlico ; and that the Rev. Richard Harrison promised the use of his pulpit at Brompton Chapel, in Kensington parish, in October (next month), when, I trust, a handsome collection will, as usual, be made.

Permit me, in conclusion of this letter, Sir, to record my most decided objection to any repetition of the sad and shameful scene once unblushingly exhibited at the gates of Margate Church-

yard, when Gentlemen of respectability held forth plates in defiance of Mr. Baylay's magisterial power. Far rather shall your humble Correspondent join his assent to the more dignified and pacific measure of preferring a candid APPEAL to the jurisdiction of his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury. The subject involves a national concern; to it, now, the public attention is drawn: happy am I to add that, very recently, the Christian Advocate of Cambridge¹ personally inspected the Infirmary, slowly traversed its several wards, examined minutely its domestic and its moral regulations, and expressed his perfect approbation of the plan and of the execution. I have the honour to subscribe myself, Mr. Editor,

CHRISTIANUS.

¹ The Rev. Thomas Rennell, A. M., Vicar of Kensington.

CHAPTER X.

LETTER THE SECOND.

GENERAL SEA-BATHING INFIRMARY.

That mercy I to others show,
That mercy show to me.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MORNING POST.

SIR,—In his long-winded narrative, printed in your excellent Paper for Saturday, the 4th of September, 1819, Mr. Daniel Jarvis states thus :—
“ At a public dinner which took place at the Royal Hotel in Margate, on the 2d of last June, I proposed the health of Mr. Taddy, &c.” but, in his laudable and conspicuous zeal to make out, “ in common parlance,” *a good case* for his Reverend client, Mr. Daniel Jarvis (whether by design or by accident) omitted to mention to your readers, the charitable end for which the above-mentioned public dinner was appointed. With that medical

gentleman's permission, or even if you please, Sir, without loss of time in waiting for it, your present Correspondent will supply the deficiency. That public dinner was the result of much amicable conversation between the intimate friends of the Rev. William Frederick Baylay on the one hand, and the gentlemen and substantial tradesmen and other inhabitants of Margate and its vicinity, with Messrs. Cramp and Taddy, Churchwardens of the parish of St. John the Baptist, in Margate, on the other. The avowed object of the meeting was, by voluntary subscription, at the earnest entreaty of the warm partisans of the Reverend Defendant, for all parties concerned (both late friends and foes) in the suit, together with others charitably and liberally disposed, to defray the legal expenses of the Vicar of Margate aforesaid : to whom, otherwise, such a heavy disbursement would prove most unpleasant. Many of the most generous advocates of the cause of the Infirmary did accept the invitation, and did attend the dinner, and did subscribe, and did, moreover, pay, cheerfully and individually, their " five pounds," in consequence ; even the upright plaintiffs in the recent trial, Messrs. Cramp and Taddy, pressing forward to set the glorious example of heartfelt compassion and forgiveness. True it is, Sir, that The General Sea-Bathing Infirmary, as a collected body, had no part in the conciliatory measure, or in the previous

most just and necessary prosecution; but Messrs. Cobb, Cramp, Taddy, and the other friends to the Establishment, were considered, by their prompt and essential relief to the Reverend Vicar, as tacitly preferring to his awakened conscience a forcible claim indeed, that he should henceforth remember *par pari referre*. As your numerous Readers and some of your humane Correspondents must feel a natural curiosity to know the fair and full particulars of the case, I herewith send you the best report that was published at the time, touching Mr. Baylay's trial: I take it verbatim from the *Kentish Gazette* of Friday, the 19th of March, 1819.

HOME CIRCUIT—MAIDSTONE, MARCH 13.

BEFORE MR. JUSTICE BAYLEY.

CRAMP AND ANOTHER *v.* BAYLAY, CLERK.

This was a case of very considerable interest on account of the important nature of the question, as well as the singular circumstances under which the action was brought. It was an action of trover, to recover the value of a certain quantity of black cloth and kerseymere, which the Defendant had converted to his own use. The Defendant pleaded Not Guilty.

Mr. Gurney (with whom was Mr. Chitty) for the Plaintiff, stated the circumstances of the case.

The Plaintiffs, Mr. Cramp and Mr. Taddy, were Churchwardens of the parish of St. John the Baptist, in Margate, and the Defendant was Vicar of the same parish. On the late lamentable occasion of the Princess Charlotte of Wales' death, the Plaintiffs being desirous of marking the respect which was due to the memory of that amiable Princess, caused the pulpit, the reading desk, and the communion table of the church to be hung with black cloth and kerseymere, during the period of public mourning. For this purpose they had given an order to a woollen-draper, at Margate, for the cloth in question, which being supplied, was nailed to the parts of the church already mentioned. After the period of public mourning had expired, the Plaintiffs contracted with the woollen-draper to take back the cloth again, at its then deteriorated value; and they gave notice to the Sexton of the parish, that on a particular day the woollen-draper was coming to the church for the purpose of carrying away the cloth. By some means or other the Defendant (who conceives that he was entitled, as Vicar, to appropriate the cloth to himself,) was informed of the intended visit of the woollen-draper, but he contrived to be before-hand with him at the church, which having done, he locked the door against the latter and shut him out. Under the Defendant's direction the cloth was removed from the communion table, the pulpit, and the desk;

and he thought proper to convert it to his own use, by afterwards employing the same draper to make it up into clothing for himself, imagining that he had a right so to do. This was the nature of the case, which he (Mr. G.) had to lay before the Jury; and he apprehended that there was no doubt of the Plaintiffs' right to recover the value of the cloth so appropriated by the Defendant to his own use, because he conceived it would hardly be disputed that the Plaintiffs, as Churchwardens of the parish, were the legal owners of the property in question. As Churchwardens they were the responsible agents of the parish in the disposal of its property. The cloth in question had been purchased out of the church-rates, by the Plaintiffs, and after it had satisfied the purposes for which it was intended, it was their duty to dispose of it again to the best advantage, in reduction of the parish expenses. As it could not be disputed that the Churchwardens were the legal owners of such property, and were entitled to dispose of it again, he was at a loss to imagine on what ground the Rev. Defendant could claim any right to appropriate it to his own use. He understood, however, that it was intended to be said, that the parish, on some former occasion, had permitted the Rev. Defendant to apply to his own use the cloth employed in the church in the same manner. That was very possible, but it could not be contended that because the parish officers

had in some particular instances waived their rights, that therefore all future parish officers were to give up the claims to which they were legally entitled. He (Mr. G.) wished to abstain, in the statement of this case, from entering into any observations unconnected with the mere question of right. Undoubtedly there had been considerable differences in the parish, but he was by no means desirous to mix up those differences with the present question, the object of which was to ascertain the mere right of property in the cloth which the Defendant had appropriated to his own use. This action was not brought with any feelings of hostility towards the Defendant, or without due notice on the part of the Plaintiffs to the Reverend Defendant. For long before the action was brought, a letter was sent to the Defendant, civilly requesting of him to pay to the Plaintiffs the amount of the value of the cloth which he had taken from the church, in order that it might be applied to the account of the parish. This letter, however, had not the desired effect, and it was not until a considerable interval of time had elapsed that the action was brought, which the Plaintiffs were driven to do from necessity. In point of law there could be no doubt that this action was sustainable, and as he (Mr. G.) was at a loss to imagine what defence could

be suggested, he confidently anticipated a verdict for the Plaintiffs.

Mr. Joseph Holland, a woollen-draper of Margate, and who described himself to be one of the rated inhabitants of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, was then offered as a witness.

Mr. Comyn, for the Defendant, interposed, and objected to his competency, on the ground that he was interested in the result of the cause, being liable to contribute to the parish rates.

Mr. Justice Bayley said, he might become a competent witness by being released, the Plaintiffs undertaking to return him that portion of the church-rate for which he would be liable in respect to the cloth in question.

The Plaintiffs' Counsel agreed to give this undertaking, and the objection being thus removed, he was examined as follows :—He knew the Plaintiffs, Mr. Cramp and Mr. Taddy; in November, 1817, they were churchwardens of the parish of St. John the Baptist, Margate. He received from Mr. Taddy an order for some black cloth and kersey-mere, amounting to the sum of *37l. 9s. 9d.* for the purpose of being put up in the Church during the mourning for the Princess Charlotte of Wales; the cloth was nailed upon the pulpit, the reading desk, and the communion table. It remained up for about six weeks, when he received directions from

the Plaintiffs to take it down, and allow them the then value of it. He accordingly went to the church on the day appointed, but he could not get in. He saw the Defendant go into the church with a Mr. White. The door was fastened and he was locked out. He afterwards saw them come out, Mr. White having something under his arm, in a wrapper which had been used for the purpose of keeping off the dust from the cloth during the time of mourning it remained up. He went away without the cloth. The defendant afterwards sent some of the black cloth to him, and next day called upon him, and said he should have it made up into a coat, and gave directions accordingly, witness having the defendant's measure in the house, as he had previously worked for him as a tailor. He could not swear positively to the cloth, but he believed it was part of that which had been put up in the church, because it had marks of nails in it. The Defendant, after having given an order for a coat, said he would give further orders afterwards, as soon as that was done. The cloth consisted partly of superfine broad cloth, and partly kerseymere. When the cloth was taken down, it was reduced about one-third in its original value. The cost price to the Plaintiffs was about 30s. per yard for the cloth, and 10s. per yard for the kerseymere.

Cross-examined by Mr. Comyn.—When Mr. Taddy gave him the order for the cloth, he desired that it might be of the best quality, stating, that after it was up the usual time, it would become the property of the Vicar, and he added, that he did not wish the Defendant to be worse off than his predecessors had been. There had been some differences between Mr. Taddy and some of the parishioners about the question as to the Defendant's right to take the cloth. When the cloth was bought, witness booked it in Mr. Taddy's individual character, but he looked to him for the money as Churchwarden. He never recollected telling him he would look to him for the money personally. The bill was made out in Mr. Cramp's name. There were about 7000 inhabitants in the parish. Witness had been a parishioner about 14 years. He recollected before this time that black cloth had been hung up in the church, at the instance of private individuals, as a mark of respect to the memory of departed friends.

Mr. Justice Bayley interposed, and said, that this did not bear upon the question. What private individuals did, could have no reference to what was done on public occasions.

Mr. Comyn said, he was prepared to contend, that where cloth, or any other ornament, was put up in a church, either for private individuals, or for

any public purpose, by the Churchwardens, it became dedicated to the church, and consequently was the property of the Vicar. He had evidence to show, that it was the universal custom throughout the kingdom: where ornaments were dedicated to the Church by private individuals, it was the same as if they had been bought at the expense of the parish, and that consequently they became the property of the Vicar.

Mr. Justice Bayley said, he was of opinion, that it would be a bad custom to show, that ornaments were put up in a church without the consent of the Vicar or Rector, even though put up by the public officers, and consequently the Rector or Vicar would have no right to take possession of such ornaments without some bargain or agreement for that purpose.

Mr. Comyn admitted that by the law of the land no ornament could be dedicated to the use of the Church without the consent of the Ordinary ; but where such consent had been obtained, and the ornament was put up, he contended that it became the property of the Vicar.

Mr. Holland's *cross-examination resumed*.—The Defendant had been Vicar of the parish for eight or nine years, and had discharged all the clerical duties in person. He did not know that the Church door had been shut in consequence of the

Defendant's order. In the two instances which he mentioned, where private individuals had put up cloth in the church, it had been taken down and divided into three parts, between the Vicar, Parish Clerk, and the Sexton. In the present case he understood that the cloth in question had been so divided and distributed, the Defendant taking for his share the cloth that had been nailed upon the communion-table, pulpit, and the reading-desk. Witness heard Mr. Cramp, the Plaintiff, say of the Defendant, that he had stolen the cloth from the church: and in consequence of this he believed the Defendant felt indignant, and refused having any further communication with the Plaintiff on the subject. Witness had received the price of the cloth from the Plaintiffs.

The Plaintiffs' case having here closed,

Mr. Comyn (with whom was Mr. Bolland) addressed the Jury on the part of the Defendant, observing, that for nine years he had been Vicar of the parish in question, during which time he had discharged his sacred functions with fidelity and honour. He assured the Jury that the Defendant, in suffering this case to be brought into Court, was actuated by no improper feeling or motive, for he had taken every step in his power to avoid the public discussion of such a question between himself and his parishioners. To show the good temper with

which he was actuated, he had offered to refer the question, in point of law, to the opinion of any Barrister; but this having been refused by the Plaintiffs, he was driven to defend those rights to which he conceived himself lawfully entitled. The question now before the Court was certainly of general importance, and was now for the first time raised. Undoubtedly the Defendant claimed the cloth, which was the subject of the action, as matter of right, founded upon the universal custom which had prevailed in all times, throughout all the parishes of England, and more particularly founded upon the usage of the parish in question; and consequently the defence to this action must depend upon the proof of such general and particular customs. He was in a condition to prove (if the Learned Judge was of opinion that such evidence was receivable), that it was the prevailing usage in all the parishes of England, and more particularly in the parish in question, where cloth was hung up in the church on similar occasions to those mentioned, for the Minister to take it and apply it to his own purposes.

It had been decided in a recent case, that no ornaments in a church, other than those directed to be provided by the Canons to be kept by the officers of the parish, were properly under the control of such officers; but he submitted, that all other ornaments which need not be provided by

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the parish in obedience to the Canons, might be proved to belong to the Rector, by custom, and that such a custom was good in law. He felt that there were difficulties in the case; but whatever might be the decision of the Learned Judge, the Defendant would cheerfully acquiesce in it. The question was of very general importance throughout the kingdom; and the decision, whatever it might be, would govern all the parishes in the country. By law, no ornaments could be put up in a church without the concurrence of the Ordinary, except those which were directed by the Canons; but where such consent was obtained (as in the present instance), he submitted that the ornaments, whatever they might be, legally belonged to the Rector, in consideration of the extra duty imposed upon him, resulting from the occasion of such ornaments being put up. This right, however, he admitted, depended upon custom, but he contended that such a custom was good in law. Supposing him, therefore, to be right in his proposition, that such a custom would be good, the only question would be, whether the evidence he had to adduce would support the custom. He was prepared to prove that such was the custom throughout all the parishes in the kingdom.

Mr. Justice Bayley said he could not receive evidence of the general custom, because that would in effect be giving evidence of the general law of the land.

Mr. Comyn resumed, and said, that such being the opinion of the Learned Judge as to the general custom, he should confine himself to the proof of the custom which existed in the particular parish. It was impossible to trace the reason for such a custom; but if in point of fact it was found to exist, that would be sufficient for the purpose of the present case. He was in a condition to prove, by the oldest inhabitants of the parish, that on all occasions of public mourning, when the church was hung with black cloth, it was the universal and undeviating custom for the Vicar to take that portion of the cloth which surrounded the pulpit, and covered the communion table, and that the other parts were appropriated to the Clerk and the Sexton.

In the discussion of this question, the Defendant was extremely anxious that no unpleasant feeling should subsist between him and his parishioners, as the sole object of his appearing to the action was to try a mere question of abstract right. If the Defendant had denied any communication with the Plaintiffs, the reason was perfectly justified, from the temper and language which had been shown and used on the subject, as already had been proved in evidence. He believed that the parish in general entertained no hostile feeling in this question, and that they were disposed readily to acquiesce in the Defendant's claim; for, before the

action was brought, a vestry had been called, at which 181 persons attended, and 180 of those passed a vote in favour of the claim; and there was but too much reason to believe that the single dissentient parishioner was the occasion of this action. He should proceed to call his witnesses, and he confidently hoped that the result of the cause would tend to restore peace and harmony in the parish.

Before any witnesses were called,

Mr. Justice Bayley repeated, that he could not receive evidence of the general custom throughout the kingdom, for the reasons already stated; and in fact the only way in which evidence could be received as to the custom in the particular parish, was to raise the question, whether there had not been, *a priori*, consent given by Mr. Bayley to put up the black cloth in question, upon an understanding that he should be at liberty to take it away, and apply it to his own use.

Richard Mummery, aged 61, Sexton of the parish, remembered two instances in which private individuals had hung the church with black cloth, out of respect to departed friends; and on those occasions the cloth had been afterwards divided between the Vicar, the Clerk, and the Sexton. On the occasion of the deaths of the Princess Charlotte and the late Queen, the Defendant had preached sermons

William Hurst, aged 76, remembered an instance of an old woman, upwards of a hundred, whose friends at her death hung the church with black cloth, but he did not know what became of the cloth. He had heard his mother and old people say, that when the church was hung with cloth, the clergyman always had it.

James Dixon, aged 76, lived 34 years in Margate; remembered two instances where private individuals had hung the church with black cloth, and after it came down, the clergyman, the clerk, and the sexton, shared it between them.

Mr. Edward Boys was called to prove the resolution of the vestry, in favour of the Defendant's claim, in order to prove the Plaintiffs' assent to it; but the evidence broke down, and was not admitted.

There was no other evidence adduced on the part of the Plaintiffs.

Mr. Gurney addressed the Jury in reply, and said he would forbear making any observations which might tend to increase the feuds of the parish. He contended that the custom attempted to be set up had completely failed, and that the Plaintiffs' right remained uncontradicted. The Defendant could have no right to the cloth; and in the instances proved, the permission to take it was matter of agreement, or was the result of private generosity.

Mr. Justice Bayley, in charging the Jury, lamented extremely that the Court was called upon to decide a question of this sort between a Clergyman and his parishioners, because litigation in a parish always produced unkindness, where there should be reverence and affection. Upon the question of right, now set up, it appeared to his Lordship, that by law no person had a right to hang up what are called ornaments in a church, without the leave of the Rector ; because the freehold of the church was in him, and he was at liberty to make his own terms for that leave. In general, where a private individual hung the church with cloth, with the concurrence of the Rector, there was a kind of understanding between them, that the cloth should become the property of the latter. The Rector might say to the party, " you shall not hang the church with cloth, unless I am permitted afterwards to keep it." A bargain of that kind was always supposed to exist ; but in this case there was no evidence of any such bargain, and in point of law the Defendant had no right to take the cloth, without some such agreement or arrangement.

There was, however, a great difference between a private individual and the general body of the parishioners. Where a private individual chose to hang the church with cloth, he did so at his own private expense ; but where the parish-officers, on

occasions of public mourning, hung the church from a feeling of respect to distinguished characters, they did so out of the parish rates, and they were at liberty to do so at the least expense possible to the parish. In the present case, however, there being no bargain between the parties, it appeared to him that the property in the cloth remained in the Plaintiffs, and they were entitled to a verdict.

The Jury found for the Plaintiffs—Damages, 15*l*.

Mr. Editor, I shall now leave THIS QUESTION to be decided at their leisure by Messrs. Baylay and Jarvis : “What mode, short of personal dishonour, after so much forbearance from complaint, and after so much demonstration of goodwill, can the Gentlemen who constitute the Committee of The General Sea-Bathing Infirmary at West-Brook adopt, to effectuate a firm and lasting reconciliation with Mr. Baylay, now that *the points upon which differences had originated no longer exist?*”¹ —“Speak out, Grildrig.”

CHRISTIANUS.

¹ See the manifesto of Mr. Baylay's Champion in the Morning Post of Saturday, 4th September, 1819. It is inserted in the present publication, pages 24—28.

CHAPTER XI.

LETTER THE THIRD.

GENERAL SEA-BATHING INFIRMARY.

True Charity, a plant divinely nursed,
 Fed by the Love from which it rose at first,
 Thrives against hope ; and, in the rudest scene,
 Storms but enliven its unfading green ;
 Exuberant is the shadow it supplies ;
 Its fruit on earth, its growth above the skies.

Cowper's Charity, line 574.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MORNING POST.

SIR,—Since I took the liberty of trespassing on the patience of your readers with my last letter, a gentleman, whose attachment to the Infirmary no insulting and coarse language of its opponents in Margate can abate, has communicated to me facts which I could little have suspected ever occurred ; and, in corroboration and recorded proof of his own undisputed verbal information, my respected friend has presented me with a printed do-

cument of sixty-two octavo pages, most weighty and convincing, entitled "*A Detail of all the late Proceedings relative to The General Sea-Bathing Infirmary at Margate, with Letters and other Documents, accompanied with Analytical Remarks. By Stephen Ellis, Esq. Governor of the Institution.*" With your humane permission, Sir, from that copious pamphlet I propose now to extract, as succinctly as possible, some very important passages, tending to establish beyond future doubt the active character, the deliberate forethought, and the systematic perseverance, of that clerical hostility with which this grand London Establishment is assailed, by ONE whose avowed motto on the disgraceful occasion appears to have been chosen from high classical *heathenish* authority, viz.

Quod si mea numina non sunt
Magna satis, dubitem haud equidem implorare quod usquam est ;
At trahere, atque moras tantis licet addere rebus,
Funestasque iterum recidiva in mœnia tædas :
FLECTERE SI NEQUEO SUPEROS, ACHERONTA MOVEBO.

What though my powers vicarial be confined,
Can I not pen to neighbouring priests my mind ?
Long stifling thus the cries and piteous calls
For public mercy from yon Mansion's walls ?
I can—Though round it worth superior shine,
I'LL STIR ALL HELL, TO COMPASS MY DESIGN.

I copy the passages from the Work scrupulously in the very words of Mr. Ellis :—

“ It did appear to me, that a permanent separation of great personal and local influence from the interests of the Charity would materially affect the growing prosperity of the Establishment ; and, if it was not an easy or a pleasing task to execute, I thought that the efforts would at least be deemed excusable, whose object was to conciliate conflicting parties, and to re-unite to the Institution those few patrons, who were actually withdrawing their support. It has been a voluntary and benevolent custom with several Clergymen in the Isle of Thanet, annually to allow, in their respective Churches, a Sermon to be preached for the benefit of The General Sea-Bathing Infirmary. In the current year, the pulpits of St. John, Margate, and of three other Churches, have been refused to the patrons of that Charity. The acknowledged right to refuse his own support does not include the justification of any Gentleman, who shall make himself a voluntary instrument to dissuade other people from the exercise of their kind intentions to aid the funds of a Charity. With every feeling of confidence in the innocency of the action, and with motives really unvitious, still the effect and example of the practice would militate against the very spirit of genuine benevolence, and would excite the just censure of consistent men. At Minster, the Rev. Mr. Roberts, the Curate, had kindly undertaken to preach a Sermon in favour of the Institution, on Sunday, the 17th of September,

1815. Printed papers were widely circulated, to make known the commendable purpose; and several parties actually went in carriages from Margate to Minster, on the Sunday for which the Sermon had been advertised.

“ Copy of a Letter received by the Rev. Mr. Roberts, of Minster, from the Rev. Mr. Baylay, on Saturday, the 16th of September:—

‘ Rev. Sir,—I called upon you, at the request of Mr. Simons (who mentioned having written to you, but doubted your receiving his letter), to say, that Mr. Simons rescinds his permission of a sermon in aid of the funds of The General Sea-Bathing Infirmary; and, consequently, that he does not think fit that the Sermon intended for to-morrow should be preached. If you have heard from Mr. Simons, he will have stated his own wishes; if not, I am responsible for the above statement, and remain, Rev. Sir, yours faithfully,

‘ W. FRED. BAYLAY.’

“ The outside cover of the half sheet, on which the letter was written, bears the Canterbury post mark; and was addressed to the Rev. Mr. Baylay on the 15th of September, according to an altered date on the cover. The letter shows the spirited activity with which Mr. Baylay pursues any favourite purpose. Any Gentleman who could anticipate and suspect the miscarriage of a letter

from Canterbury to Minster, only a few miles distant from each other, has not so high an opinion as I entertain of the general correctness of the Post Office. *A letter had not been received by Mr. Roberts from Mr. Simons.* The intended Sermon was not preached, although, probably, expected by more than half the congregation. The Sermon was to have been preached on Sunday the 17th, and it was only forbid on Saturday the 16th of September. The man who will incautiously obey every violent impulse of his private feelings, without reflection, and without consultation, must be more than commonly fortunate if his conduct shall not frequently relapse into an erroneous practice; and where public interests are likely to suffer by his indiscretion, the charge of culpability may perhaps be as justly applied to his impetuosity, as the milder imputation of imprudence.

“ A short digressive Narrative, which is honourable to the Institution, may perhaps be deemed excusable in this place. Mr. D., whom I have the pleasure to know intimately, is a person very respectable for his talents, and more so for the economy, the neatness, and the good habits in which, with a small income, he brings up a large family. Mr. D. fills the situation of a Clerk in one of the highest National Establishments. It is a glorious and heavenly custom in this great Establishment that a meritorious clerk may intro-

duce a son, if qualified, at the proper age, into the service of the Establishment; which introduction secures a comfortable provision for life to the person who is admitted. Mr. D. has a son about ten years of age. This child had been for years afflicted with scrofulous disease; his neck had the appearance of a monstrous craw, and his eyes were so inflamed and watery that he could not read a book without excessive pain. His education became wholly suspended. The child had received the assistance of three or four of the most eminent physicians and surgeons in London, and without effect. During the season of 1815, this boy was sent for four months as an in-patient to The General Sea-Bathing Infirmary. In that short space of time, he was perfectly cured of all visible scrofulous disease, and he continues in very good health to the present moment. Here is faithfully described the valuable little boy of very valuable parents, restored to health, to education, and to a future respectable provision for life, by the healing remedies of that most valuable Institution. I have permission to refer any persons to the parents of the boy, if they should be desirous to receive more satisfactory intelligence of this interesting fact. I had intended to offer a few excursive reflections upon the merits and utility of the General Sea-Bathing Infirmary; but, when I contemplate the list of royal and high personages who

now govern the Establishment ; when I recall to view the numerous, exalted, and fashionable characters who patronize the balls at Margate and Ramsgate ; both of which assemblies were, by the sacredly joyous union of charity and gaiety, elevated into a congregation of human beings far transcending all festive meetings ; and which were consecrated by the rank, beauty, and beneficence of one of the most important counties of England ; when these brilliant spectacles are flashing before my eyes, my heart becomes softened into a state of awful and pleasing humility that disqualifies me for the charitable attempt. With feelings of self-incapability, it is my consolation to witness the friendly, benevolent and active exertions of those great and good personages, who are able to sustain this very useful Institution ; and their rewards will be the blessings of the afflicted poor, and the final approbation of Heaven.

“STEPHEN ELLIS,

“A Life Governor of the Charity.”

In the List of Subscription, the residence of Mr. Ellis is put down, Albion-street, Blackfriars Road, and his first contribution is also stated, ‘*ten guineas.*’ His admirable vindication, from which the foregoing extracts were made, was printed in London in 1815, and published by Messrs. Axtell and Purser, Finch-lane, Cornhill : on au-

thority that I will not question I am assured, that its sale was great at the time, that copies are now scarce, and that to this very hour the positions therein laid down have not been controverted.

CHRISTIANUS.

CHAPTER XII.

LETTER THE FOURTH.

GENERAL SEA-BATHING INFIRMARY.

Glendower. Why, I can teach thee, cousin, to command
The devil.

Hotspur. And I can teach thee, cousin, to shame the devil,
By telling truth ; tell truth, and shame the devil.
If thou have power to raise him, bring him hither,
And I'll be sworn, I have power to shame him hence.
O, while you live, tell truth, and shame the devil.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MORNING POST.

SIR,—For the marked attention paid by you to the subject of these letters, and the politeness exhibited to their writer, your own sense of public duty will afford you ample satisfaction ; allow me, however, to assure you that I am not unmindful of the service thereby intended to the sacred cause of Charity, or of the favour conferred on myself. The best return your humble Correspondent feels his hand enabled to make to your kindness is not

to abuse it ; and you will no doubt agree, Sir, that the sweetest reward we could both attain by our respective labours would consist in the hearty reconciliation of all parties to the now sadly prolonged disputes, and in the joint harmonious efforts of clergy and laity in London, and in the Isle of Thanet, to promote the welfare of the Infirmary for the future. Unconscious, certainly, of having throughout this discussion, by one single step, swerved from the plain broad path of truth and candour, I cannot entertain for a moment any serious suspicion that my statements and occasional extracts and remarks may have given just offence, either to your intelligent Readers in the metropolis, or to the Governors of the Institution, or even to the two respectable Gentlemen at Margate, resident in Cecil-square, whose gauntlets were so unexpectedly thrown down on the eve of the public dinner at the Royal Hotel, in August last. My own device, with your leave, on the present tilting occasion, is a naked heart on a white ground ; and my only motto shall ever be, *Amicus Socrates, amicus Plato, sed magis amica Veritas*. I have very lately read "A Journey round the Coast of Kent," by L. Fussell, Esq. an octavo volume, containing more than 300 pages. Among many valuable observations in the work, you will readily believe me, those on the Establishment at West-Brook gratified me not a little. The worthy Author expresses

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himself in terms at once dignified and correct. I cite the important passage with pleasure, for the information of such gentlemen as may not even yet have seen the book :—

“ Almost contiguous to Margate, in the small hamlet of West-Brook, stands The Sea-Bathing Infirmary, a commodious building, erected by the voluntary contributions of a number of benevolent persons, who were desirous of affording an opportunity of Sea-Bathing to the poor and indigent resident in the inland parts of the country, who, without such a provision for their accommodation, must be precluded a participation of the benefits to be expected in various diseases from the use of salt-water baths, and a saline atmosphere. The late Dr. Lettsom, who was an active promoter of this benevolent plan, and to whom the merit and ingenuity of its original design has been ascribed, laid the first stone of the building on the 21st of June, 1792, in the presence of most of the company assembled at Margate, who, after an impressive oration delivered on the occasion by the Rev. Weeden Butler, sen. of Chelsea, subscribed so largely towards the undertaking, that it was completed and opened in 1796 for the reception of patients, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales having graciously condescended to become its Patron.

“ The success of the Managers of this Establish-

ment, in obtaining the support necessary for its maintenance, appears to have equalled the warmest expectations of its warmest friends; and it is said that numerous patients have derived great benefit from it. Whether, under all circumstances, the situation were well chosen, or possesses superior advantages over other parts of the coast, excepting merely in the very cheap conveyance by water, which enables the lower classes of the inhabitants of the Metropolis the more easily to avail themselves of the Charity, may perhaps be doubted. The affairs of the Institution are conducted by a Committee of Trustees and Governors, principally, if not entirely, resident in London; the chief and original intention of the founders being evidently to afford to persons who live at a distance from the coast, benefits which, it was supposed, the indigent could not otherwise obtain: but the circumstance of a collection in aid of the funds having been annually made at the doors of the Parish Church, unfortunately gave rise of late to a dispute respecting the right, both of management, and of admission into the Infirmary, which was followed by such heats and animosity between the parties engaged in it, that it may not be altogether improper to introduce a few words upon the subject, for the information of those visitors of Margate, who by *ex-parte* statements might be liable to have their opinions of the merits of the Institution diminished,

in consequence of the events which have recently happened.

“It was contended, on the one side, that the poor of Margate and its neighbourhood were equally eligible as the poor of any other parish whatsoever, and that subscribers to the Sea-Bathing Infirmary, resident in the Isle of Thanet, had a right to participate in the direction and government of that Institution, and to enjoy the power of admitting such persons amongst the native inhabitants, as they deemed fit objects of the Charity. It is assumed, on the other hand, that the inhabitants of the Isle of Thanet, however indigent their circumstances, or in other respects proper objects for admission into the Infirmary, could never be considered equally in need of such assistance as that which this establishment was designed to afford, because they could, at all times, partake of the benefits of the water and the air; and perhaps more advantageously, without being confined within the walls of an Infirmary;—that the principal design in view was not the medical aid to be obtained there (for without disparagement of the skill or abilities of the medical attendants, it must be confessed that at least equal skill and equal abilities might be found elsewhere, and in hospitals constantly open to the whole public), but the accommodation of appropriate lodgings, sustentation, and attendance, in a situation better adapted for

the enjoyment of sea-air and sea-bathing, than in places at a remote distance from the coast.

“ With regard to the direction of the affairs of the Establishment, and the right of every Subscriber to partake in the management of it, such right was not denied, although the expediency of it might be justly doubted ; but the greater number, both of original Benefactors and annual Subscribers, being inhabitants of the Metropolis (to whom, by-the-by, the town of Margate is chiefly indebted for its opulence and prosperity, and almost for its support), it certainly must appear reasonable that the Acting Committee of an Institution, supported principally by their bounty, and designed for the use of their poor neighbours, rather than the natives of the coast, should be selected from amongst themselves, who might be at least as capable of forming a proper judgment of the fitness or unfitness of those who were desirous of obtaining admission into the Infirmary, as the local inhabitants, however respectable or however impartial, of Margate, or the Isle of Thanet. Such appears to have been the nature of the dispute by which, for a season, Margate was rendered a scene of continual inquietude and animosity. The original question was soon forgotten in the tumultuous jargon of vehement and noisy altercation. This circumstance is noticed in these pages, not with the remotest design of arousing those passions, which ought never to have

been manifested by either party in the dispute, or to inflame prejudices which every friend of harmony and good order must unfeignedly lament to have at any time existed, but for the purpose of allaying the ferment which has been raised by partial and erroneous statements, and unfair views of the subject. It is introduced also, that the benefit of mutual good-will may be inculcated between those whose characters must essentially suffer, and whose ingenuous feelings must have been outraged by the rash and inconsiderate, the hasty and mischievous efforts of many of their respective partisans, who eagerly rushed into the dispute, from no commendable motives, and certainly without forming any just estimate of the merits of the question at issue.

“Reasons and persuasions cannot compel any one to recede from the assertion of his rights, whether real or supposed ; but, upon liberal minds, they can scarcely fail to make an impression, if properly urged and timely introduced. It is hoped that these remarks will not be deemed impertinent or misapplied ; and that a due consideration of the evils which arise out of vehement disputes, from jealousy and rivalry, from intermingling too much of secular concerns with ecclesiastical affairs, of mixing the magisterial with the clerical office, of refusing to others that right of private judgment respecting matters of general concern which we

ourselves desire to exercise, and would not relinquish without a painful struggle, and of the necessity of meekness, forbearance, and charity, amongst all who profess and call themselves Christians, will operate a becoming change in the minds of both parties, so that all those bickerings and animosities which have converted kind friends into bitter enemies, and introduced confusion and turbulence into the tranquil recesses of peace and concord, will henceforth and for ever cease !”

Who would not say *Amen* to such a wish ?—Mr. Fussell’s publication came out of the press last year, and may be had of Messrs. Baldwin, Cradock, and Joy, booksellers, London.

Your readers will do me the honour to consider these four letters as mere letters of introduction to their notice and regard. Hitherto, Sir, I have done little more, they will perceive, than endeavour by the respectability of vouchers and credentials, to establish fully my individual and personal right as a *preux chevalier* to enter the lists of courteous controversy, and my legitimate power so to do. The playful prancings and bounds and curvettings of my steed, serve partially to display its promised spirit and vigour to sustain the rider throughout the expected course. Before the trumpet shall sound the signal for engagement, I must be pardoned if I state that the arena of THE MORNING POST is no *Bear Garden*, or *Wormwood*

Scrubs, and that I cannot insult the good taste of our spectators by condescending to break lances with any servile or menial combatant; with any "villain," or villanous squire, in short, reeking from a debauch, with low pot companions, and belching forth the crude tokens of his crapula in gobbets of slang, flash phrases, and abuse. I will notice no blustering and scurrilous Thersites, otherwise than by following the example of Ulysses. But, Sir, I am armed to the proof, if unhappily needful, *à l'outrance*; and to the liege knight, after our gentle tournay, my visor shall be raised whenever such a worthy champion may think it proper for himself to oblige my compliance, by generously doing the same. I AM NO ADVENTURER.
Et me videre Philippi.

CHRISTIANUS.

P. S.—Be this my eulogium at the close of successful warfare, and I shall bless the toils I may endure: "And he stood between the dead and the living; and the plague was stayed."—I await the challenger's appearance.

CHAPTER XIII.

LETTER THE FIFTH.

GENERAL SEA-BATHING INFIRMARY.

How mild and sweet the strain of simple truth !
 Whilst moody falsehood mars the cause she pleads ;
 And, with the acid of her bitterest gall,
 Curdles and sours all milk of human kindness.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MORNING POST.

SIR,—Self-constituted, as your humble Correspondent hesitates not to avow himself, the fearless advocate of a cause most cruelly, and most unfairly, and most unjustly assailed, it affords him no common satisfaction to find not only that you permit the continuance of his labours, and that his own conscience upholds his spirits, but (from unequivocal proofs) that a generous London public also applauds and sanctions, and many unknown

hands assist him with hints and facts, and authentic documents, all bearing strongly upon the merits of the controversy under discussion—all demonstrating with a clearness tantamount to mathematical precision, the grand point at issue between the Rev. William Frederick Baylay, Vicar of the parish of St. John, Margate, and the Governors and Directors of The General Sea-Bathing Infirmary at West-Brook. After the recorded and printed sentiments of Messrs. Baylay and Jarvis, posted all round the neighbourhood of the residences of those Gentlemen in Cecil-square, it requires greater dexterity of ratiocination, and more extensive practice in special pleading, than either of these Arcadian Shepherds (*et cantare pares et respondere parati*) seem as yet to have exhibited on the occasion, to persuade one solitary independent London by-stander of the equity of their procedures.

Calmly awaiting this display of powers at present dormant, and admitting meanwhile the trite adage of the ancient schools, viz. *De non apparentibus et de non existentibus fere eadem est ratio*, we will proceed, if you please, Sir, to examine a slight literary skirmish (or sparring-match in gloves) that took place last year at the *Fives Court* of *The Kentish Gazette*, towards the close of the season; premising an undoubted truism, in the words of Lord Chesterfield:—"The warm cholerick man, with strong animal spirits, despises the *suaviter in modo*, and thinks to carry all before him

by the *fortiter in re*. He may possibly, by great accident, now and then succeed, when he has only weak and timid people to deal with; but his general fate will be, to shock, offend, be hated, and fail." A Fool's Bolt is soon shot.

In The Kentish Gazette of Tuesday, 25th August, 1818, appeared a short Notice to Correspondents to the following effect:—"The letter from Margate, signed 'A Clergyman,' being anonymous, is inadmissible."

In the next Kentish Gazette, i. e. that of 28th August, 1818, was inserted the letter to which the notice alludes. I deem it a strong link in my vast chain of circumstantial evidence, corroborating my own positions, and those of Messrs. Ellis and Fussell. I therefore here copy it with much pleasure, and shall subjoin the irregular correspondence, to which its writer's misprision of the purport of the prudent notice, gave rise.

GENERAL SEA-BATHING INFIRMARY.

" TO THE PRINTERS OF THE KENTISH GAZETTE.

Margate, 24th Aug. 1818.

" GENTLEMEN,—*Par pari referre*—the law of retaliation, when taken in a penal sense, is often harsh, but when applied to the recompense of good actions, is at once liberal in operation and useful in its effects. Your Paper of last Tuesday, (18th August) notices a contribution of upwards of 40*l.* at the Parish Church of St. John's, Margate,

for the benefit of the National Charity Schools established in that town. I noticed it also, for I witnessed the fact personally. The contributors were, for the most part, London Visitors. Now, Gentlemen, let me ask a plain question, and expect from your courtesy as plain an answer. How happens it that, whilst London Visitors are annually *twice* thus solicited with success to contribute to the support of Parochial Charity-Schools at Margate, their own excellent Public Establishment close to Margate, The General Sea-Bathing Infirmary, is denied the right of even *once* benefiting by the same Clerical mode of application from the Pulpit?

“I am, Gentlemen, with respect,

“Very truly your’s,

“A CLERGYMAN.”

I characterised the notice of the Kentish Editors a prudent notice, and such, in the extreme, undoubtedly it was. The Clergyman’s temperate letter of inquiry called no man “coward,” or “liar,” “or dealer in venomous poison.” It barely attested the correctness of some former statement, and asked a question that, in future, every Londoner will feel justified in repeating aloud, whenever, in the height of the season (mark that, Sir,) his charity shall be demanded from Mr. Baylay’s pulpit. And yet this letter, so respectably signed and so respectfully worded, being anonymous,

¹ See the present publication, page 34.

was declared inadmissible in a Kentish Gazette ! Does not the declaration imply somewhat of superabundant caution ? Does it not seem to exhibit a coyness and a reserve approximating to worse than feminine timidity ? Does it not give us London folk a clue to the mazes in the labyrinth of clerical and magisterial consequence in Cecil-square ? But, let us advance.

In The Kentish Gazette for Tuesday, Sept. 1, 1818, the Rev. Writer of the anonymous letter ingenuously, but, as in the sequel it turns out, very rashly and unadvisedly, unmasked his face and avowed his name, with his rank in the University and in the Church, as Mr. Baylay's equal.

GENERAL SEA-BATHING INFIRMARY.

"TO THE PRINTERS OF THE KENTISH GAZETTE.

Margate, Aug. 29th, 1818.

"GENTLEMEN,—Accept my thanks for your insertion of my letter of the 24th instant, in your Paper bearing yesterday's date. Since I wrote, fresh facts have come to my hearing, and fresh comments might be justified. To-morrow, the Revds. W. B. Collyer and J. Townsend will preach, the former at Ebenezer, the latter at Zion, in behalf of The General Sea-Bathing Infirmary. These, I learn, are respectable Chapels in the Dissenting interest ; and, to paralyse their effect, the Rev. Dr. Harrison (aided by an Anthem) is to plead in the Parish Church at Margate, the more parochial cause of poor lying-in women of the town

and its vicinity. Such coincidence, if intentional, is cruel ; and, if accidental, singular. From the windows of the room in which I now sit to address you, Gentlemen, I behold the tomb of my ancestors ; and my father was born in this very town. Local ties endear the place and many of its oldest inhabitants to me ; and peculiar associations of ideas of a nature public and private, which none but a liberal and independent mind can duly appreciate and regard, command my affections and possess my tenderest veneration : to the air of Margate, and the skill of the veteran Geo. Slater, Esq. under Providence, I owe the preservation of more than a single life in my little family, and the seasoning of my own, once most precarious and delicate. To be brief, Gentlemen, this is the third consecutive summer in which (under the auspices of The General Sea-Bathing Infirmary, at the formation of which, Witherden's Guide states, partially, the assistance of our name,) I came hither, with a view towards conciliation, and with a too sanguine hope to preach for the London Institution, established, as I believe, at Margate, greatly out of deference to my father's advice. I now give up all wishes and all intentions, as far as they concern my personal appearance at Margate. It is an act of justice due to the Rev. William Frederick Baylay, the Vicar of Margate, for me pointedly and respectfully to acknowledge that Gentleman's

civil department. Through the agency of Mr. Z. Cozens, he has annually applied for my clerical services in favour of the National Charity Schools, and the Lying-in Institution. For that worthy Divine I have officiated, although I declined his charity sermons. Why? Because I meant to be seen consistent. I regret, however, to perceive Clerical Gentlemen of the Established Church driven from the Church of Margate to Dissenting Chapels, to hotel balls, and to tavern dinners, if they uphold The General Sea-Bathing Infirmary of London.

“ WEEDEN BUTLER, M. A.

“ Rector of Great Woolstone, Bucks.”

Now, whatever may be its other merits, surely, Sir, this is a manly, candid, dispassionate, and affecting letter, that should have secured to its writer the decency and decorum of treatment adhered to by himself towards the Vicar of Margate. Nay, it may be fairly contended in this case, I think, that the Printers of the Kentish Gazette were more peculiarly bound to insist on and to maintain the external demonstrations of respect, inasmuch as by their express preliminary stipulation they had induced their clerical correspondent to stand forth and to adduce his title to it. The vindication of the fame of the Rev. Weeden Butler is certainly, in this paper and on this occasion, neither the province nor the aim of your present corre-

spondent. The Rev. Weeden Butler is able to defend himself. The name is not unknown to me.¹ I see it in the list of Governors ; probably it

¹ Since the first publication of these letters, their Compiler has had shewn to him some particulars in Nichols's Literary Anecdotes, Vol. IX. pages 223 et seq., and he here subjoins them, unmutated, with pleasure.

THE REV. WEEDEN BUTLER.

This gentleman is a native of Margate, the sixth son of Mr. Daniel Butler, a reputable solicitor in that town, and was himself originally intended for the Law ; but, entering from choice into holy orders, has been Minister of Charlotte-Street Chapel, Pimlico, ever since it was opened by Dr. Dodd, till the year 1814. He was also the Master of a School in Cheynè Walk, Chelsea, where many persons of considerable rank and family distinction have been so thoroughly grounded in morality and general learning, as to become bright ornaments to their country. Amongst other scholars, this truly good man has the gratification of seeing two sons treading assiduously in his own paths : a younger son, Charles William Butler, Captain of The William Pitt, extra East-Indiaman, has reached the goal of immortality before him ; for, on the 17th of Dec. 1813, the ship foundered, with all its crew, during a tremendous gale, at midnight, off Algoa Bay, after firing several half-minute signal-guns.

The Rev. Dr. George Butler, born in 1774, was educated under his father's care till 1790, when he was admitted a scholar on the foundation of Sidney-Sussex College, Cambridge ; and in that capacity obtained, repeatedly, exhibitions and prizes, classical and mathematical. In 1794 he took the degree of B. A., when, after a public examination, he was named the Senior Wrangler and Senior Prizeman of his year ; and being, thereupon, chosen Mathematical Lecturer of his own College, became soon afterwards a Fellow of that Society. In 1797 he took the degree of M. A. and was soon after appointed Classical Tutor

is that of the writer's father. On Sunday, 28th April, 1799, the Rev. Weeden Butler (father or son) preached in behalf of the Infirmary, at St. Lawrence's, Jewry, London. In May last, a gen-

In 1804 he took the degree of B. D. and was elected a Public Examiner in the University. In 1805 he was nominated one of the eight Honorary University Preachers; and in April of the same year chosen Head Master of Harrow; after exhibiting to the Governors of the School, and to his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, such honourable testimonials of character, from the chief Dignitaries and School-men of Cambridge, as perhaps were never before bestowed on any member of that body. These testimonials I myself have seen. He received the degree of D. D. by Royal Mandate, bearing date April 27, 1805; and still presides over the School at Harrow with high reputation. From his College he lately received the Rectory of Gayton in Northamptonshire.

An elder brother, the Rev. Weeden Butler, born in 1772, was similarly educated at his father's select seminary, in the same classes, till 1790; when with his brother he was entered of the same College, on the same day. He, too, sat for and obtained a scholarship, as likewise an exhibition, by his proficiency in classical studies; soon declining, however, all attempts at mathematical honours, from an undisguised conviction of a beloved brother's more splendid talents, and superior attainments. He became B. A. with credit in 1794; and M. A. in 1797. He was appointed Afternoon Lecturer of Charlotte Street Chapel, on the recommendation of his predecessor the Rev. Dr. Wilgress, and Evening Lecturer of Brompton, on the recommendation of the Rev. T. F. Dibdin, in 1811. His work "*Zimao the African*" was twice printed and published with success, *i. e.* in 1800 and 1807; it pleads the cause of humanity in pathetic language. For more than nineteen years he was classical-assistant in his father's

tleman of that name lent his pulpit, and on the 24th October, 1819, preached at Brompton Chapel for the Institution. Among the benefactors of this Establishment, therefore, the name of Butler may

school at Chelsea; to the superintendence of which establishment he succeeded in 1814, when the venerable Principal calmly and contentedly retired to the village of Gayton, to be *Curate* to the Master of Harrow.—Such and so humble is the solace in this lower world of a man of blameless manners and exalted character, whose life has been incessantly and most exemplarily engaged in arduous professional toil, in the service of his fellow creatures, for upwards of half a century!—“*Sic vos non vobis!!!*”

The elder Mr. Butler was one of the earliest Institutors of the excellent “Society for the Discharge and Relief of Persons imprisoned for small Debts;” and most materially assisted his friend and coadjutor, the late James Neild, Esq., in preparing for the press a Third Edition of the Account of that Society, published in 1808; and still more so in the enlarged Edition of 1810, every line of which he twice transcribed; and also took upon himself the labour of correcting the proof-sheets: all this he did gratuitously. The friendship, indeed, which existed between these two benevolent characters cannot be better exemplified and attested than by the following letter (published by Mr. Neild in the third edition of his work):

“Rev. Sir,

Chelsea, Jan. 1, 1808.

“I am unwilling to close these pages without embracing the opportunity they afford me of thus publicly expressing the ardent gratification I feel, in common with you, at the success and stability of this benevolent Society; and of uniting my congratulations with yours on the incalculable benefits which the public have long derived, and, under Divine Providence, through the most remote periods of time, will, I trust, continue to receive. from its establishment and the extension of its objects; aided by the bounty of the Christian, the Philanthropist, and the Man of

fully compete with that of Baylay; and it rises above it, in fact, in consequence of what the French would call "*la guerre sourde*," now main-

the World, to all of whom the great end of relieving human misery, the peculiar object of the Institution, is of equal consideration. When I look back to the distant period of our lives, and observe that of the first Committee of the Society, you, Reverend Sir, and myself, remain the only survivors, I cannot but feel the most powerful, and, at the same time, the most humble gratitude to the Great Disposer of all human events, for having suffered me to live, and witness the happy result of our early and well-meant endeavours. And when I pursue the course of reflection, and find that, in addition to the consequences naturally attendant upon an advance in years, I labour under painful infirmities, that hasten to plunge me into that awful, yet hopeful, gulph of death, which has already absorbed our fellow-labourers in the vineyard; I confess I feel an irresistible impulse to embrace this, perhaps, the last and only opportunity I shall ever have, of publicly commemorating, as far as the feeble efforts of an humble individual will be allowed to extend, our joint exertions in the same great cause; and of testifying the sincere pleasure with which I at all times recur to the early intimacy and long-continued friendship, which has formed one of the unfeigned sources of the comfort and happiness of my life. With growing and well-merited esteem, Sir, I witnessed your successful exertions in behalf of the Society, at its earliest institution. Often have I felt the influence acknowledged by all who have heard the eloquent and impressive Discourses which you have delivered from the pulpit, in recommendation of the objects embraced by this Charity; and never, whilst I am permitted to retain the power of memory, can the gratifying recollection be effaced, of the glow of surprise and pleasure, which beamed from every countenance around you, upon the receipt of 100*l.* sent by a then unknown, though eminent advocate for suffering humanity; u

tained for five whole years by the latter Gentleman throughout the Isle of Thanet.

more than can the impression of that active zeal with which you personally assisted to search out the objects of misery, who were relieved from the deepest affliction by its timely application. The leading share you took in forming the plan, which has afforded such permanent benefit to this enlarged and improving establishment, bespeaks the soundness of your judgment, while it pourtrays the natural goodness of your heart. It has left those impressions of gratitude and respect on the Society, and upon the mind of your humble and faithful friend, which cannot be described; and can only be felt by a due appreciation of the manifold benefits which the Public derive from the establishment of the Institution itself. The happy effects produced on Society by the exemplary conduct of a good and virtuous man, has been often the subject-matter of your pathetic and convincing Discourses. But, in no instance, Reverend Sir, under the grace of God, does the doctrine appear more manifestly established, than in the general character of the offspring with which you are blessed; and whose superior excellence, at the same time that it reflects splendour on themselves, distinctly emanates from the virtuous example of the Parent. And here, suffer me, Sir, without disparagement to the rest of your family, who have equal claims to your commendation, most sincerely to congratulate you on the promotion of your son Doctor Butler to the eminent situation he fills; the reward of his virtues; of those early advances which your tuition enabled him to make in Literature; and which can only be surpassed by the modesty of his deportment, the liberality of his sentiments, and the purity of his Christian principles. That you may both, with the rest of your children, long continue reciprocally to reflect honour on each other, on your households, and our common nature, is the sincere and earnest wish of,

“Reverend Sir, your faithful Friend, JAMES NEILD.

Well, Sir, in the Kentish Gazette, for Friday, Sept. 4, 1818, was printed an anonymous answer. It runs thus :—

“TO THE PRINTERS OF THE KENTISH GAZETTE.

“GENTLEMEN,—For the gratification of those of your Readers who take only the Friday's paper, I hope you will be pleased to repeat in your next the Letter of Weeden Butler, this day exhibited to us. I will then ask him upon what authority he dares assert in a public print, that ‘the Sermon at Margate Church on Sunday last, for the Lying-in Charity of the Town, was ‘intended’ to paralyse the charitable efforts then making in the Dissenting Chapels for the Sea-Bathing Infirmary,’ an assertion not less groundless than impudent towards the Vicar, the preacher, and a congregation of about 3000 persons then assembled. There were sermons on that day at three other places of worship in Margate, for different charities or purposes,

“If to any of my present readers the above tribute of esteem appear irrelevant, and unnecessary to the end proposed by the publication of the work, it is upon the candour of those readers, and of posterity, who may hereafter deem these sheets deserving of their consideration, that I am willing to throw myself: indulging the hope, that the same regard for mankind which induces them to the perusal of the work, will not be denied to its frail Author; who fondly imagines, that his humble record of an unreserved attachment, which, through all the vicissitudes of human life, has continued with unabated zeal for forty years, will not be read without some of those emotions of pleasure which glow in his bosom when he recurs to them. J. NEILD.”

totally foreign to the Sea-Bathing Infirmary ; and why any unworthy suspicion in Mr. Butler's mind, as against the Church, is to be let loose thus illiberally, I cannot understand. I envy neither the tenets nor the consistency of any Clergyman of the Establishment, who can be driven to a Dissenting Chapel, in order to contribute his mite to a Charity : believing, as I do, that " the exhortations from the Church, and the denunciations from the Chapel pulpits, are not the only channels of contributions from those who are really charitable. Mr. Butler, amidst all his egotistic effusions, forgets to state how much he has ever subscribed in cash to the Sea-Bathing Infirmary, and that our Vicar is one of the ten guinea subscribers : and it now, also, must not escape him, that Mr. Baylay, as Vicar, has extended the cause of charity in this parish, beyond all former example ; and all this without parade or ostentation. Such is the difference between froth and substance, or in more *common parlance*, between talking and doing. The Rev. Gentleman seems to be a dealer in "*ifs*," and (doubting he had gone too far in assertion) adds, ' such coincidence, if intentional, is cruel ; if accidental, is singular.' I will answer him in his own way : if Mr. Butler really meant that Dr. Harrison's sermon was intended to paralyse, &c., I assert this to be a FALSEHOOD—and if he did not

mean it, then he writes like a busy meddler, whose time might be much better employed in adding Christian to parochial charity in his own parish, than in disturbing others, and scribbling, in a newspaper, defamatory trash against two respectable Clergymen of the Established Church; trash, calculated only to revive dissensions, which cannot be useful to the cause he wishes to advocate." ¹ "A. B.

"Sept. 1, 1818.

Parishioner of Margate."

¹ The Rev. Weeden Butler did not affirm that the Sermon preached at Margate Church for The Lying-in Charity of the town, was *intended* to paralyse the charitable efforts, then making in the liberal Dissenting Chapels for The General Sea-Bathing Infirmary: but that gentleman stated, and he stated with truth, that such would be the inevitable *result*. When he subjoined forthwith, "Such coincidence, if intentional, is cruel; and, if accidental, is singular," his candid admission is obvious of a possibility that, although singular, the coincidence might have been unintentional. That, at any rate, *the result was paralytical*, we may infer even from the declaration of A. B., that about three thousand persons assembled to hear Dr. Harrison, and the anthem. Without meaning to insinuate the slightest disrespect towards the worthy Vicar, I confess myself fully satisfied, that on that day, of these three thousand persons, many might have attended at Ebenezer and at Zion, had only Mr. Baylay himself officiated in his customary discharge of duty at the parish Church. At Hawley Chapel, the three sermons by Captain Hawtrey were delivered to few hearers, and merely regarded the funds of that building.

To this delicate effusion, the Kentish Gazette of Friday, Sept. 11, 1818, conveyed a stern and significant reproof, viz. :—

“THE GENERAL SEA-BATHING INFIRMARY.

“TO THE PRINTERS OF THE KENTISH GAZETTE.

“GENTLEMEN,—Accept my thanks for the copy of your last Friday’s paper, received this day. Accustomed to London manners, and to the usages of London printers of papers and magazines, I inadvertently first wrote to you anonymously, signing myself “A CLERGYMAN.” To my communication you briefly answered, I think thus:—“The Letter from Margate, signed ‘A Clergyman,’ being anonymous, is inadmissible.” I instantly avowed myself to you.

“Now, Gentlemen, I consider myself as a man not committing himself, but complying with the regulations of the Canterbury Press; of course I consider myself as a man confiding his name to men of honour. The stipulation between us should be reciprocal, and mutually observed. Before I condescend, therefore, to stoop so very low as to pick up the scurrilities of your correspondent, A. B., on which I now set my foot, you will have the goodness, I expect, to give me the man’s name. If he be a Gentleman, we shall understand each other, and I hope shall soon be intimately acquainted.

“*Chelsea, Sept. 7, 1818.* “WEEDEN BUTLER.”

No doubt, the startled imagination of A. B. made him magnify this invitation into a challenge, for in the Kentish Gazette, for Friday, Sept. 18, 1818, he declares himself to be Sir John Brute, in female attire. *Risum teneamus?*

“TO THE PRINTERS OF THE KENTISH GAZETTE.

“GENTLEMEN,—An unexpected occurrence having prevented my noticing Mr. Butler’s letter in your last Friday’s paper, I beg leave now to observe, that as he must have discovered ere this, that it is your rule not to insert anonymous paragraphs, unless enclosed with a real signature, so that in cases of necessity, (and not from idle curiosity, or *other improper motive*,) the author may be given up; I hope he will either adopt some mode of excusing himself from the gross and unprovoked attack made in his first letter, or apologize for its inconsiderateness; not running wild with extraneous invective; not forgetting again the respected cloth he wears; and not hinting to me (*a female*) the dreadful effects of powder and shot; but in that temper and tone, that is due alike to the Preacher of the Lying-in Charity Sermon, to the Vicar, to the Patronesses of that Charity, (*of whom I am one*), to the Congregation, and all the rest of my *sex*. I shall then be ready to discuss the subject of his first letter; and this, whether it be

confined to the heavy charge he has made against the Clergy, or whether it be extended to the conduct and deserts of the General Sea-Bathing Infirmary. If he will not do this, I will (without retorting any question as to his being a Gentleman) take my leave, by reminding the reverend assailant of an old adage, that he who begins to throw stones at his neighbour's windows, should first examine whether his own are made of glass, and (I may add) whether any women are in the house." "A. B., &c."

No : Disguise thyself as thou wilt, still thou art discovered by thy drunken swagger, and by thy ruffian tone. Oh! Mr. Editor, can aught but ineffable contempt, from all men of common spirit, be the portion of that mean wretch, who, after voiding his rheum on a Clergyman's gown, shall thus sneak from chastisement, and cower beneath his *woman's* petticoat for protection? Again, I state broadly, that Mr. B. alone must be held the legitimate guardian of his own insulted honour. Your readers, and you too, Sir, will join with me, however, in regretting that mixture of passions, which is so strangely apparent in the few enemies of the Infirmary ; a mixture, in which (as in primeval chaos,) elements the most heterogeneous and discordant are blended in horrid unison. But time will bring order at length out of confusion. Let some more years roll onward

and light shall again shine over the Bethesda at West Brook, when its grateful patients shall neither regret the opposition of Messrs. Baylay and Jarvis, nor require the voice of a Butler, or the pen of

“CHRISTIANUS.”

CHAPTER XIV.

LETTER THE SIXTH.

GENERAL SEA-BATHING INFIRMARY.

“And now abideth FAITH—HOPE—CHARITY—these three ;
but the greatest of these is CHARITY.”

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MORNING POST.

SIR,—Having endeavoured in my five former Letters to unfold with the utmost perspicuity in my humble power, the involved and intricate dispute now for five long years at issue before an outraged and indignant public, between the Rev. William Frederick Baylay, Vicar of St. John, Margate, and a body of respectable Gentlemen, the Governors and Directors of the General Sea-Bathing Infirmary ; I now request permission to relieve the wounded feelings of humanity, by presenting in sweet contrast to this gloomy and unhallowed picture of unnatural clerical hostility, a slight sketch of the merits of the Institution, copied with scrupulous fidelity from the masterly draughts of nobler hands. Last year's *Medical Report* was drawn up by Dr. Hurlock, a Physician whose skill and benevolence little need any

eulogy from your present Correspondent. That satisfactory *Report* runs thus :

MEDICAL REPORT.

“ As a Member of the Medical Board, I have this day visited the Sea-Bathing Infirmary, and minutely examined the patients at present receiving the benefit of the Charity. It is with great satisfaction I am enabled to report that the greater number of the cases appear to be in a state of improvement : that many cases of the most deplorable description have received that relief which will enable them to return to their families, not as the wretched victims of lamentable disease, preventing them from pursuing their different occupations, but as efficient members of society. I beg leave to call the attention of the public to the following cases, where the beneficial effects of the sea-air and sea-bathing on the scrofulous constitution will be most strikingly exemplified :

Henrietta Thomas
Mary Wade
Eliza Barnes
Marg. Galloway
Sarah Chambers
John Owen

Anne Stansby
Alicia Thorn
Elizabeth Robinson
Mary Yarnley
Caroline Bean

“ I cannot close this Report without earnestly recommending those who are friends to the Institution, to visit the above cases, where they will be highly gratified in witnessing the effects of their

benevolence : and where *those who doubt the importance of the Institution*, will have ample confirmation of its efficacy.

“JOSEPH HURLOCK, M. D.

“August 31, 1818.”

As it is at present established, the Infirmary is well furnished for the reception of upwards of 120 patients, all at one time; and a regular House Surgeon and Apothecary, Mr. John Silver, is appointed, whose time is entirely devoted to the objects of the Charity, under the direction of Doctors Brown and Grey, the Physicians, and George Slater, Esq., the Consulting Surgeon, resident in Margate.

It is cheering, Mr. Editor, to the staunch benefactors of our diseased, industrious, and loyal London poor, to notice the progressive blessings emanating from an Establishment so truly National. The number of patients admitted I find to be—

In 1796.....	16	In 1808.....	239
1797.....	25	1809.....	244
1798.....	48	1810.....	243
1799.....	62	1811.....	282
1800.....	86	1812.....	311
1801.....	132	1813.....	322
1802.....	156	1814.....	264
1803.....	176	1815.....	318
1804.....	198	1816.....	285
1805.....	212	1817.....	311
1806.....	212	1818.....	350
1807.....	216		—
In all.....			4708

The following has been printed as one among the many important documents highly honourable to the writers and to the subject under their inspection. It is called, *The Opinion and Recommendation of the Institution by the Medical Board:—*

“ Being decidedly of opinion that the General Sea-Bathing Infirmary is calculated to be of great NATIONAL utility, by rescuing numbers of the industrious poor from the ravaging and vitiating tendency of scrofulous disease, thereby lessening the sum of disease, of imbecility, and deformity, particularly of hereditary maladies and their miserable consequences, and thus improving the race of the labouring part of the community, and preserving to the State many valuable lives ; We, the Members of the Medical Board of the Institution, do recommend it to the notice of professional men, and the patronage and support of the friends of humanity and their country.

(Signed)	M. Garthshore	William Long
	J. C. Lettsom	Charles Blicke
	Jas. Sims	William Blizard
	Thomas Dale	Henry Cline
	J. H. Myers	William Norris
	Phi. Elliot	T. Blizard
	Algn. Frampton	Robt. Keate
	Walter Farquhar	R. C. Headington.”

In 1818, although no pulpit of the *Established Church*

was granted to this grand cause, the meetings of people in the *Dissenting Interest* evinced their customary sympathy and liberality, viz.:—At Margate, Zion and Ebenezer Chapels raised 38*l.*: and at Ramsgate, Ebenezer Chapel raised 10*l.*—*Pudet hæc opprobria nobis—Et dici potuisse, et non potuisse refelli!* The force of this classical remark applies solely to the Margate Dictator, and his two obsequious brethren. At the Anniversary Dinner at the Royal Hotel, Margate, on the 31st day of August, 1818, the sum total of collections was announced from the Chair to amount to 175*l.* 18*s.* I am not fully informed of the nett produce of the Balls in 1818.

At the *last* Annual Meeting of the Governors, held (as usual) at the Hotel above-mentioned, on Monday, August 30, 1819, James Taddy Esq., V. P. in the Chair; the Secretary read the former minutes, and the proceedings of the Margate Committee were confirmed. Then Michael Gibbs, Esq., the zealous Treasurer, reported the collections at the Dissenting Chapels to be 42*l.* 6*s.*; and the cordial thanks of the dining party were voted to the Preachers on the occasion, as likewise to the Rev. Thomas Young, the Rev. Geo. Atkinson, the Rev. Geo. Townsend, and to the Trustees of the different Congregations, for the use of their Chapels for the purpose. Afterwards, the Secretary read Mr. Chevalier's able Report, and thanks were voted to its author; also, to Drs. Brown and

Grey, and to Mr. Slater. The sum total of collections (independent of the usual Annual Balls), was declared officially, this year, to amount to 152*l.* 5*s.*

REPORT OF THE GOVERNORS,

PUBLISHED IN THE KENTISH GAZETTE FOR TUESDAY,
OCT. 26, 1819, BY AUTHORITY:—

“The Governors, who have attended at the General Sea-Bathing Infirmary, this 30th day of August, 1819, do report, that they had gone through the different wards, and found every thing much to their satisfaction; the house very clean, the patients thankful for the treatment and care taken of them; that prayers were read morning and evening in the respective wards, by Mr. Matthews the Steward, and Mrs. Foster the Matron; and that such patients as were able attended divine worship on Sundays.

“That they had examined the provisions, and found them good and wholesome (excepting that on that day the beef was rather coarse and hard), and were informed, that those which had been before supplied, were satisfactory to the Gentlemen of the Margate Committee.”

I am happy, Sir, in being enabled to lay before the humane readers of the Morning Post, a full and very correct copy of Mr. Chevalier's luminous Report, for which, and for his kindness in visiting the Infirmary with that express object distinctly in view, Mr. C. received the cordial

Mar.

H

thanks of the company assembled at the dinner.— (Rev. W. F. B. and a squad of his associates ‘*distinguished themselves greatly*’ at that dinner. Their presence was wholly unexpected, however, and their deportment was not applauded by the dispassionate among the guests. A tavern dinner is not the fit scene for *tedious* and *warm* debates.)

MEDICAL REPORT.

“On examining the General Sea-Bathing Infirmary, at Margate, this day, as one of the Medical Board, I have felt very great satisfaction at witnessing the decided benefit resulting from that Institution in by far the greatest proportion of the patients who have been admitted, and whose cases, it must be remembered, are of a description in which no other mode of relief possesses equal advantage: and many of them, *under every other mode of treatment*, would have been altogether hopeless. The cases may be divided into three classes:—Those which are very severe from large ulcerations, carious bones and joints, and an exhausted state of health, from having struggled with long disease. Of these, some are in evident progress towards cure. With two or three exceptions, all have derived benefit; and those of the worst descriptions afford a striking illustration of the necessity of the Establishment, by exhibiting the melancholy state of suffering which might

probably have been avoided had an opportunity been enjoyed of having recourse to sea-air and sea-bathing in the early stages of the complaint; before the constitution had been overpowered by the continuance, not only of the disease itself, but of the causes which produced it. In the second class of cases may be principally numbered those affections of the joints, which threatened the final loss of them: paralytic cases of extensive glandular disease, in which the general health has been also much impaired; in these instances, the review of the Infirmary has been particularly pleasing. Many are greatly amended; in none has the disease made progress since their admission; and some are already in a state of convalescence, with every reason to hope for the enjoyment, in due time, of the use of limbs, which, had no such means of relief been afforded, must have been removed by the knife, or have been the sure source of protracted suffering and death. The last class of cases lies in those which are more slight and incipient; consisting of more or less severe affections of the glands, and principally those of the neck: twenty-one of these, now in this house, will shortly be in a state to be sent home to their friends, not only cured of the affections for which they were admitted, but with every appearance of that renovation of constitutional health, which is the surest pledge of the entire removal of their

local disease, and of the probability of their remaining free from similar affections in future. I beg leave to point out, that scrofulous cases in general are necessarily of a nature that renders their progress in amendment slow; and, that the longer the disease may have existed, the more slow that progress must naturally be expected to be; and when, as is often the case, bones and joints are affected, the structure and connection of these important parts present peculiar obstacles to recovery: and it is therefore far more wonderful to see that so much is accomplished, than that a rapid restoration is not effected. Were the funds of the Charity equal to a longer residence of the patients during the summer months, and to the reception of many who are now unavoidably rejected for want of room, *and of the pecuniary resources of this Infirmary*, the advantages resulting from it would be more conspicuous, more complete, and more lasting. The number of patients admitted since the commencement of the season, has been:—

“ In-Patients 156

Discharged, cured..... 3

Convalescent, and nearly ready to be discharged.. 21—24

132

Out-Patients..... 107

Discharged cured..... 5

Much benefited..... 16—21

86

Aug. 30, 1819.

(Signed)

“ T. CHEVALIER.”

This, Mr. Editor, you will undoubtedly agree with me is a document pregnant with most valuable information : added to the two preceding *Reports*, it helps to constitute a tower of strength ; a bulwark of stay and defence, that malice shall never undermine.

I am, Sir, your's,

CHRISTIANUS.

CHAPTER XV.

LETTER THE SEVENTH.

GENERAL SEA-BATHING INFIRMARY.

“A man should never be ashamed to own he has been in the wrong, which is but saying, in other words, that he is wiser to-day than he was yesterday.”

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MORNING POST.

SIR,—Whatever may be that Gentleman's opinion relative to CHRISTIANUS, the Rev. Wm. Fred. Baylay must allow me to state my firm conviction, that Mr. B. himself is a clergyman and a scholar of good natural talents, improved by an excellent public education. I beg permission, therefore, with the utmost intensity of seriousness, to recommend to his consideration the pithy motto, purposely selected for his use, and affixed to my letter. When secluded from the bustle of a vain world, remote from the observation of every eye, save that of his Maker, shut up alone in the studious retirement of his closet (as I doubt not he often is,) Mr. Baylay shall revolve and shall me-

ditate upon the matter of these lucubrations, and shall think proper calmly to trace back, *even to its source*, his present melancholy estrangement from many habitual acts of kindness ; I will not suspect, that fearfulness and trembling may come upon him, and that a horrible dread may overwhelm him ; although I do persuade myself that his well cultivated mind cannot but regret, in common with your correspondent, the lurking cause and the powerful bias of his aberration. Nor need his best friends despair. My acquaintance with mankind in general has been extensive ; and, in the peculiar case before us, much personal experience authorises my assertion, that great indeed must be his sense of wrong inflicted, or his apprehension of shame to be endured, that can make a family man, an exemplary husband and a fond father, a Member of Christ's Church, and a Minister of Christ's Holy Sacraments to boot, still stand aloof from all reconciliation with the Patrons of an admirable Charity, after their liberal demonstrations of goodwill, and thus, year after year, incur the stigma of being reputed ungracious, and reluctant to forgive and to be forgiven from the heart. I once heard a quaint phrase, which to Mr. B., I trust, is inapplicable. It runs thus :—"The offended pardons often : the offender seldom."¹

My first letter to you was printed on the 30th

¹ Odii causæ acriores ; quia iniquæ.

September, 1819. In it I strove to acquaint the numberless readers of THE MORNING POST with the character and modest pretensions of a grand London Establishment, to them little known, situated at West-Brook, in the Isle of Thanet; an Establishment, whose rise to patronage, though gradual and sure, was slow, and of late years was impeded by local animosities and a system of surly neglect; the former disgraceful to all the impetuous agents, and the latter equally unworthy of the opposition-chief and of his sacred office, and derogatory from the consistency of his profession and practice. Moreover, I hesitated not to recommend the proposal of a candid and manly Appeal to the jurisdiction of his Grace the Archbishop of CANTERBURY: and this I did, not from captiousness, but soberly and advisedly, in the plenitude of an honest zeal, matured and refined by considerable research, by patient inquiry, and very deliberate meditation. In my second letter, which you published on the 8th October, 1819, I took notice of the ill-timed *Manifesto* of Mr. Daniel Jarvis, and deemed myself, in some measure and degree, thereby compelled to throw a coacentrated blaze of light upon the interesting features of a transaction, (most honourable to the Churchwardens of Margate, and to many other friends of the General Sea-Bathing Infirmary,) which to my view seemed to be artfully shaded, and for no beneficial purpose, rendered indistinct.

I concluded with asking, what mode, short of personal dishonour, Messieurs B. and J. think the gentlemen of the Committee can adopt, to effectuate a firm and lasting reconciliation with Mr. Baylay. My third letter, inserted in your Paper of the 22d October, 1819, contained in epitome a faithful reprint of the statement of STEPHEN ELLIS, Esq., a Life-Governor of the Charity. It is indeed a disgusting, but an indispensable statement, almost of itself decisive of the whole question. To use a familiar figure, borrowed from Juvenal, III. 288.

—————“ Miseræ cognosce procœmia rixæ ;
Si rixa est, ubi tu pulsas, ego vapulo tantum.
Stat contra, starique jubet, parere necesse est.
Nam quid agas, cum te furiosus cogat, et idem
Fortior ?”

To the pure native strength of the composition I imparted no additional force beyond what might result from the mere process of distillation in its passage through my alembic. As for Mr. Baylay's singular nostrum prepared for Mr. Roberts, it was of a contraband and deleterious spirit, already considerably above proof: I presented it to public gaze in its genuine fierce and fermented state, ardent, and sparkling, and bitter, with the corrosive sublimate of mercury floating visibly on its surface. Of my fourth letter, honoured by your acceptance on the 29th October, 1819, the subject is equally instructive and elucidatory with respect

to the unpleasant variances, whilst in tone it is far more temperate, and in style it is more dignified and adorned. On these accounts, it is by me greatly valued ; forming a most correct representation of the whole of the presumed matter in controversy between the Vicar of St John, Margate, and the Directors and Governors of the neat building at West Brook, drawn up by L. FUSSELL, Esq., in a manner at once liberal, mild, cool, masterly, and convincing. My letter closes with a declaration of the nature, complexion, and aim of my own subordinate share in this discussion, as an humble pioneer, as an industrious forager, as a hewer of wood and drawer of water, in short, for the Infirmary. By my fifth letter, admitted into your columns on the 4th November, 1819, your intelligent London readers were not more edified than amused, I trow, with a slight specimen of the *prime* Billingsgate manœuvres, by which hitherto all free inquiry into the subject has been baffled and quashed. Now, however, the spring of the engine is broken, and its effect is rendered nugatory and ludicrous, and, in all human probability, its contemptible machinery will not soon again be brought into play. Be the dull artisan who devised it gentle or simple, Sir ; be his destination originally for the pulpit or for the pestle, or for the *plough*, or for the bar, or for the *tap* ; be he either a clerk in orders, or a clerk out of orders, it matters not ; in Margate, the

luckless wight's doom is fixed, and his cap and bells (I know) are already prepared. To him, in due time, shall be assigned and made over in solitary and undivided right, a PATENT for ' Kentish scurrilousness.' For this, *sudavit et alsit*. Let him soon enjoy his honours. Of one exhilarating fact he may henceforth rest assured : he will find no competitor, no co-rival. The game is up ; the sport, to *him*, is over ! My sixth letter was by you announced on the 9th, and published on the 12th November, 1819. Really, of all my little labours it was the most cheering, of my confidently-anticipated success throughout a task of duty it was, and it is the foretaste, the presage, the unerring harbinger. From its four authentic Reports flash glories of durable brightness, which, at no very distant day, cannot but dissipate the unnatural and unaccountable gloom, now, for five long years, brooding over THE POOR MAN'S FRIEND,—THE SICK MAN'S HOPE. YES!

“ Illic, ut perhibent, nunc intempesta silet nox

Semper, et obtentâ densantur nocte tenebræ ;

At redit a nobis AURORA, diemque reducet.”

And now, Mr. Editor, I flatter myself you may agree with me, that it is time for your present Volunteer to ground my arms and to stand at ease, and (till THE MARGATE GOLIAH shall stalk into the field) to return to my winter quarters, and to furbish my arms ; not wholly unmindful of the chance of a brisk ensuing summer campaign.

I have boldly and conscientiously discharged a public duty. My heart throbs not. Towards no man breathing, towards no set of men living or dead, do I willingly and knowingly foster one malevolent and rancorous sentiment. Well! then, “Let the galled jade wince, our withers are unwrung.” With my right hand placed on the Bible of my God, trusting to the promises of his Gospel, through the merits of CHRIST’S atonement, and casting my fixed glance at THE GENERAL SEA-BATHING INFIRMARY, I can truly swear:—
 “Adductus sum, Judices, officio, fide, misericordiâ, multorum bonorum exemplo, veteri consuetudine, institutoque majorum, ut onus hoc laboris atque officii, non ex meo, sed ex meorum necessariorum tempore, mihi suscipiendum putarem. *Defendo enim multos mortales.* Quamobrem, si mihi unus est accusandus, propemodum manere in instituto meo videor, et non omnino a defendendis hominibus, sublevandisque discedere.”—I depart, with the valediction of DEIPHOBUS in my mouth; bowing to the Rev. WILLIAM FREDERICK BAY LAY, who understands Latin, and can construe the lines of Virgil:—

—————*Ne sævi, magne Sacerdos:*

Discedam: explebo numerum, reddarque tenebris.

CHRISTIANUS.

CHAPTER XVI.

L A W S

OF THE

GENERAL SEA-BATHING INFIRMARY.

I.

THIS Institution shall consist of a Patron, Patronesses, President, Vice Presidents, a Treasurer, and Governors ; together with such officers and servants as may be necessary for conducting the business of the charity.

II.

Every Subscriber of *Ten* Guineas, or upwards, at one payment, shall be a Governor for Life ; and each Subscriber of *One* Guinea, or upwards, shall be deemed an annual Governor : who shall be entitled to equal privileges, upon paying a second subscription, or of two years in one payment. And upon any Legacy being paid to the Treasurer, the Executors who have administered shall be made Life Governors, calculating at the rate of fifty

pounds for each ; and in case the Legacy shall not amount to a sufficient sum to extend the privilege to all, preference shall be given to the first named in the Will.

III.

The Government of the Infirmary shall be vested in the General Courts of Governors in London ; of which there shall be annually two ; *viz.* on the second Wednesdays in April and October.

IV.

At the General Court in April, there shall be annually chosen, from amongst the Governors, twenty-four Directors (five of whom shall be a Quorum), who shall meet on the second Wednesday in every month, and oftener, if needful, to conduct the affairs of the Charity ; and shall have power to fill up such Vacancies in the Direction, as may happen during the year by death or resignation. No person shall be eligible for election as a Director, unless he shall have contributed a Life Subscription, or is an Annual Governor.

V.

The President, Vice Presidents, and Treasurer, shall be elected annually at the General Court in April, and they shall be considered as Directors, and as Members of all Committees.

VI.

The Medical Officers shall be appointed annually at the General Court in April.

VII.

None of the Laws of this Institution shall be repealed, or altered, nor any new ones established, but at the General Courts, or at an extraordinary General Court, called for that purpose, in London.

VIII.

No new law, nor abrogation, nor alteration, of any existing law, shall be valid, until confirmed by a subsequent General Court, at which not less than seven Governors shall be considered a sufficient number for transacting business.

IX.

An Extraordinary General Court in London shall be called, at any time, by the Secretary, at the requisition of the President, one of the Vice Presidents, the Treasurer, the Court of Directors, or any Ten Governors. Six days' notice shall be given in three public papers of every such intended Meeting, and of the object for which it is called ; which shall be deemed sufficient publicity.

X.

At every General Court, the proceedings of the Court of Directors, since the last General Court, shall be read.

XI.

The Medical Concerns of the Infirmary shall be conducted in London by a *Board*, consisting of twelve Physicians, who shall be Fellows or Licentiates of the Royal College of Physicians ; and

twelve Surgeons, who shall be Members of the Royal College of Surgeons, and Practitioners in Surgery only.

XII.

There shall be an Anniversary Meeting of the Governors, in London, in the month of May, to receive a report of the state of the finances, and to further the interests of the Charity by promoting Subscriptions. There shall be likewise a similar Meeting at Margate, in the latter end of August or beginning of September, for the same purposes, as also for the Visitation of the Infirmary; at which Meeting a Committee of Ten Governors (three of whom shall be a quorum) shall be chosen, for superintending the Infirmary, and seeing that the rules established for the government of the Infirmary be properly observed, and they shall have power to fill up such Vacancies in the Committee as may happen during the year either by death or resignation.

XIII.

The Committee at Margate may recommend to the Court of Directors, for their appointment, such persons as they shall think proper to fill the offices of Steward, Matron, or other Servants; and shall have the power of suspending them at any time, until the opinion of the Court of Directors shall be known on the case.

XIV.

In cases of equality of votes at any Meeting,

Board, or Committee, the Chairman shall be entitled to a second or casting vote.

XV.

Peers, Members of Parliament, and Ladies, may in all cases of election by ballot, vote by proxy given to any Governor.

XVI.

No Annual Governor whose Subscription is in arrear shall have any power ; or privilege to recommend a Patient ; or vote at General Courts ; until such arrears be paid.

XVII.

There shall be annually elected, at the General Court in April, five Governors to audit the accounts, three of whom shall be sufficient to transact business.

XVIII.

No persons shall be deemed objects of this Charity, but such whose diseases require sea-air or sea-bathing, and who are really necessitous.

XIX.

The Patients shall provide their own linen, except sheets. They shall conform strictly to the Rules of the Institution, regularly attend Divine Service, and be required, when discharged, to return thanks at their respective places of worship, and to the Governors who recommended them, for the benefits they have received.

XX.

No Patient shall continue longer than two

months in the Infirmary; unless the attending Medical Officers, with the approbation of the Margate Committee, should deem it necessary.

XXI.

The Patients shall be provided with food upon the terms of 6s. a week for those above 10 years of age, and 4s. a week for children : this regulation, however, shall be subject to such alterations as the Court of Directors may, from time to time, think proper. Children above 8, and under 10 years of age, shall bring a certificate of their birth. A proper diet table shall be prepared under the direction of the Medical Board.

XXII.

No fee, reward, or gratuity, shall be taken of any tradesman, patient, or other person, directly, or indirectly, for any service done, or to be done, on account of this Institution.

FINIS.





