

The duty and advantages of encouraging public infirmaries, further considered. A sermon, preached before his Grace Charles Duke of Richmond, Lenox, and Aubigny, President; and the governors of the London Infirmary, in Goodman's-Fields, for the relief of sick and diseased manufacturers, and seamen in merchant-service, &c.; at the Parish Church of St. Lawrence-Jewry, on Wednesday, April 25, 1744 / By ... Isaac, Lord Bishop of Worcester.

Contributors

Maddox, Isaac, 1697-1759.

Charles, Duke of Richmond.

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*The DUTY and ADVANTAGES of en-
couraging PUBLIC INFIRMARIES,
further considered.*

A
S E R M O N,
Preached before HIS GRACE
CHARLES Duke of *Richmond*,
Lenox, and *Aubigny*,
P R E S I D E N T;
AND THE
G O V E R N O R S
OF THE
LONDON INFIRMARY,
In GOODMAN'S-FIELDS,
FOR THE
RELIEF of Sick and Diseased MANUFACTURERS,
and SEAMEN in MERCHANT-SERVICE, &c.
AT THE
Parish Church of *St. Lawrence-Jewry*,
On WEDNESDAY, *April 25*, 1744.

By the Right Reverend Father in God,
MADDOX ISAAC, Lord Bishop of Worcester.

Published at the Request of the PRESIDENT and GOVERNORS.

L O N D O N:

Printed by H. WOODFALL, jun. in *Little-Britain*: and Sold by
J. BROTHERTON, in *Cornhill*; and J. STAGG, in *Westminster*
Hall. 1744.



LUKE, CHAP. XI. VER. 2.

*When ye pray say, our Father which
art in Heaven.*

AMONG the many Advantages of Prayer and Devotion, 'tis certainly no inconsiderable one, that the Mind, by this religious Exercise, is more deeply impress'd with those useful Sentiments, which, upon many other Occasions, are acknowledged in a less powerful and affecting Manner. Thus, for Example; tho' the paternal Relation of the Supreme Being towards Mankind has so just a Foundation in the Nature of Things, that we find it, not only represented and enforced in the sacred Writings, but Heathen Authors likewise have made very
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lively Descriptions of, and drawn very pertinent Inferences from the same Notion ; by considering the Deity, according to the Suggestion of the Text, as the great Parent of Mankind, the common Father of the Race of Men : Yet our Blessed Saviour, in order to place in the strongest Light, and give the utmost Efficacy to a Maxim that conveys so much Comfort and Instruction, has been pleased to enjoin the fixing our Thoughts upon this Article, and making a serious Profession of it, at every Approach to the Throne of Grace, at the very solemn Seasons of immediate Application to an Omniscient and All-powerful Being. *WHEN YE PRAY, say, our Father which art in Heaven.* Such a direct Appeal to God himself gives a new Sanction to this Acknowledgement of the paternal Character of the Deity ; and, in a Manner, confirms our Belief and Recognition of that Important Truth, with the Solemnity of an Oath---*When ye PRAY, say, our Father which art in Heaven.*

AND, from no Topic can the good Work, for which we are now assembled, derive more Benefit, or be recommended with a fairer Prospect of Success, than by looking up to Almighty

mighty God as a Father ; a Father, to whose affectionate Authority we owe, as obedient Children, a chearful Submission. OUR Father, the common Parent of Mankind ; the God and Father of us all ; and, of course, we are all equally his Off-spring, and connected together among ourselves by the near and tender Relation of a Brother : Our Father *in Heaven* ; the great Sovereign of the World ; the Judge and Ruler of Mankind, who strictly commands such Acts of Charity ; and requires under the highest Sanctions, that *He who loves God should love his Brother also.*

BUT, before these Considerations are further urged, it may not be improper, very briefly, to review the Nature of that Design, in Behalf of which, this Audience is once more piously assembled ; and consider, if this Instance of Charity be not attended with peculiar Circumstances, that render it, in a distinguished Manner, acceptable to God, our Father in Heaven, and useful to Men, our Brethren : Nor indeed can Justice be done to this charitable Undertaking, without reviewing, very slightly, at least, the general Plan and Extent of this useful Work, wisely and compassionately intended to preserve and pro-

long a Multitude of Lives ; and by the most effectual Methods to alleviate and remove that great Variety of painful Infirmities attendant upon this State of Mortality: A Scheme, contrived with equal Prudence and Humanity, to communicate the important Blessing of Health with all its valuable Comforts, to those, who are languishing with Sickness, or tormented with racking Pains: Happiest Exchange that can upon Earth befall the Sons of *Adam* ! healthful Ease for grievous Tortures ; Strength for Weakness ; Liberty for fore Confinement ; Joy for Sorrow !

'Tis a Scheme to abate and relieve the double Weight of Indigence and Pain ; to remove the combined Distress of Sickness and Poverty too ; either of which alone, those, who have felt either, well know to be a severe and heavy Visitation.

'Tis a generous but careful Contrivance to assist, with tender and effectual Sympathy, real and substantial Misery ; where deceitful Idleness, Fraud and Imposture can never be employed to abuse or pervert the Design of Charity.

'Tis kindly and seasonably to relieve the most affecting Objects of Compassion, diligent,
useful,

useful MANUFACTURERS, whose laborious Days are consumed in the Service of their Country; and to furnish you with the many Entertainments of a plentiful and easy Condition; whose constant Industry, in full Health, acquires only a scanty Provision for themselves and their Families: But now, when the additional Expence of Sicknes comes upon them, this very Circumstance, that demands a larger Fund, puts a full Stop to their former Labour; and by an unhappy Reverse, when pressing Necessity demands the most, the usual Endeavours, unfortunately interrupted, can procure the least, if any Supply.

THE other Objects of this well-contrived Charity are a very valuable and useful Body of People, the SEAMEN IN MERCHANT-SERVICE; who pass through great Toil and Danger, to continue and extend that Commerce, upon which the Wealth, the Power and the Honour of the Nation depend; and from whence the Superiority of the Rich and Great is intirely derived or supported: Destitute of all public Provision, they are delivered up by divine Providence to your private Charity and Compassion, to your Prudence and Justice, for some Relief under those grievous Distempers

pers frequently contracted in the various Climates thro' which they pass, and the numerous Hardships, which they, for the public Good, are continually obliged to undergo.

ENCOURAGEMENT and Support, in every necessary Form, are wisely administred, at every Juncture, to these beneficial Members of the Community; beneficial indeed, for to them every Individual in the Kingdom stands indebted, not only for the general Strength and Riches procured by their Fatigue and Hazards, in carrying into Foreign Countries the various Produce of their own; but for importing likewise many useful Commodities, for the Comfort, the Convenience and Support of Life; and among these, it may be allowed upon this Occasion to mention particularly, what is called the *Materia Medica*, different Species of Medicinal Drugs of greatest Efficacy and most general Use. Nor is any Return of Gratitude more natural than to bestow on them, in their Necessity and Sickness, some small Portion of those Medicines, which, with much Peril to themselves, they brought from far to remove your Pains, and restore your Health when impaired.

ASSISTANCE and Relief such Persons may at all Times, with Reason, expect ; but the present critical Conjunction demands a particular Regard and Encouragement, where besides the common Accidents of the Ocean, they must hazard the Loss of Limbs, of Liberty, of Life. In these Circumstances, the Destruction of Seamen must unavoidably be greater, at the same Time that our Situation demands the Assistance of larger Numbers. Every Scheme, every Contrivance, in this View, appears laudable and requisite, in an uncommon Manner, to restore their Health, and preserve those necessary Lives, which, as Circumstances require, must be withdrawn from Mercantile Engagements, and unavoidably employed, not to carry abroad or bring home Conveniences or Superfluities, but to secure our very Being ; to protect the Commerce ; to defend the Religion, the Laws, and Liberty of our Country ; to preserve our Lives and Substance, now so perfidiously menaced and attacked by our natural and inveterate Enemies, envious of our Happiness, and constantly meditating our Destruction.

OF what *public* Utility, of what general Importance and Necessity it is to preserve both
these

these Orders of Men, 'tis needless to urge; there is however a Circumstance of more private Interest and Advantage, which, as every Consideration should be offered to support a Design so humane and beneficial, may not improperly be mentioned; and that is, the very great Abatement these salutary Institutions must make in Parochial Taxations, the legal Provisions for the Poor; Burdens, which even with this Alleviation and Assistance in many Places, with great Difficulty, are scarce sustained. And if that heavy Weight was increased by the additional Expence of providing for those Multitudes of distressed Objects, MORE THAN FOUR THOUSAND of which received comfortable Relief the last Year only, in this single Infirmary; might not such an Increase of Charge prove too burdensome to be long defray'd? For the higher the demand rises, inferior People of small Substance would be less able to pay their Quota; and whenever the Proportion reaches beyond their Abilities, instead of giving greater Assistance, they must themselves require some Abatement and Relief, till the growing Numbers and enlarged Expence of the Poor become quite insupportable.

BUT

But enough of the useful Intention and Design of this charitable Institution ; the Conduct and Management whereof equally deserve your Approbation. How well this difficult and extensive Charity is regulated, with what strict OEconomy, with what prudent and successful Care it is conducted, appears with full Evidence from Facts that are public and incontestable. It need not therefore be repeated, that the Method of Cure here prosecuted by an united Charity, is much more beneficial and diffusive, than if it were dispersed in separate and distinct Donations, extends to many more Objects, and assists them all in a more speedy and effectual Manner : That by this conjunct Disposition, the Poor enjoy much better Advice, more exact Regimen, more wholesome and proper Food, than can be obtained or expected, by any Method of private and particular Relief, which long Experience proves more chargeable, less certain, less expeditious, and liable to much Misapplication.

NOR need it be again represented, with what peculiar and distinguish'd Compassion the distressed Patients are here treated, who, while the greatest Care is taken for the Welfare both of Soul and Body, are received within these charitable Walls, without any Demand at their

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Admission:

Admission : And as they are totally exempted from all present Payments, so are they free from any Requisition of Security against future Contingencies, which must unavoidably press the forest upon Misery that is most necessitous and friendless.

THE well deserved Approbation this excellent Charity has universally received ; and the happy Progress, which by God's good Providence, it has already made, is a persuasive Inducement to enlarge and compleat, the great and extensive Design. Such Success, while it redounds to the Honour, affords a rational and noble Satisfaction to any distinguish'd Character that has appeared its public and useful Patron ; and gives just Encouragement to imitate the laudable Example of its peculiar Friends and Advocates.

HIGHLY prudent it certainly was, in the Infancy of this Scheme, not to form a Plan too large and extensive ; lest the appearing impracticable at first View, should create Discouragement and frustrate the whole Undertaking.

NOR was it less considerate, to employ the first Collections, not in raising any spacious or magnificent Buildings ; but to invite and engage farther Assistance, by an Argument much more powerful and persuasive, than an unfinished

nished House ; the actual Cure and Recovery of almost NINE THOUSAND, of our indigent, sick and miserable Fellow-creatures ; happily accomplished in the short Space of three Years and a few Months ! Besides many others who have received all the Relief their several Cases would admit.

FROM such agreeable Experience it fully appears, that this well-contrived and well-executed Project is truly beneficial to our afflicted Brethren, the Children of *our Father in Heaven*: But yet great Numbers of these poor Sufferers remain languishing at Home in Want and Pain, (melancholy Consideration!) destitute of Food as well as Physick ; some not having Strength to resort to the Hospital as often as their mournful Case requires Attendance there ; and others, where the Effects of the open Air might prove fatal, are unable to defray the Expence of a warmer Conveyance : At best these distressed Patients must want proper Nourishment, that *Food which is convenient for them*, and that regular Administration both of Diet and Medicines ; that constant Attendance and Care upon which a Recovery so much depends ; and above all, must lose the Benefit of the actual, repeated Inspection of the Physician, his seasonable Observations of

the Changes that happen in the Progress of a Case, the sudden Turn or Crisis of a Distemper. And in Fact, many stubborn Complaints have been speedily removed by the Regularity and skillful Relief to be met with in these Places : Complaints that have long baffled all Attempts at Home ; consumed, in vain, the Substance of the poor Sufferer, and exhausted the private Charity of his Friends.

THE Number of disconsolate Creatures, who, as it were, are chained down to Misery ; confined, oppressed, destroyed, by the double Load of Poverty and Sicknefs, appears to be much more considerable, than is generally apprehended, or considered by too many, who pass their chearful Days in Health and Plenty. And, to this long mournful Catalogue of those who are confined at Home, many more must still be added, who, for want of a compassionate, and compleat Reception and Provision, are obliged to continue their daily Labour, 'till their Distemper encreases to a fatal Height ; and proves destructive, only from being neglected too long ; nor is it easy to determine how great the Number is of useful Lives, that perish every Year for want of early Care, timely Retirement and Cessation from Business ; which their hard Condition, that requires the Supplies

plies of constant Industry, will rarely permit.

AND in case of sudden Accidents, broken Limbs, sore Contusions and other Calamities, that require almost instantaneous Assistance, it would administer great Comfort and the best Relief to these unfortunate Sufferers, if they could be sure, in all Events, of a Resort to a Place of Refreshment and Cure. As far as the present Extent of the Infirmary will allow, such Objects have always found a free Admission ; but enlarging its Bounds would remove the great Difficulties that frequently occur upon these pressing Occasions.

ALMOST incredible it is, how often the Doors even of this House of Mercy, generous and friendly as they are, must unavoidably, when the present narrow Boundaries can receive no more, must, I say, unavoidably, with great Reluctance indeed, but still they must be shut against miserable Objects, pinched with Want, and struggling with grievous Pains ; Objects, that might be comfortably entertained and speedily cured, were the Place of Reception duly enlarged.

IN almost every Neighbourhood, the speedy and kind Relief received by some encourages many others, labouring under similar Distress,

trefs, to implore the same Assistance : and thus each known Instance of Success continually encreases the Number of Applications, under the same deplorable Condition of Poverty and Sicknefs.---But alas! in vain!---In vain, their Prayers, their Tears, their undissembled Sorrow, their trembling Limbs, their wishful Looks, their piercing Groans.---In vain, this moving, melting Importunity ; 'tis all in vain. Admittance is impossible ; the scanty Building waits your necessary Assistance to enlarge its Bounds.

THE faithful Execution of this Charity, so wisely calculated to preserve a Multitude of useful Lives ; the Approbation and Success it has already most deservedly obtained, the pressing Wants it still labours under, and the absolute Necessity of a continued Supply even to preserve it, in the present imperfect State ; these and many other Powerful Considerations, all tend to excite and enlarge a seasonable Liberality, and prevail for a public Testimony of your bountiful Regard ; and very naturally direct, apply and improve those pious and benevolent Dispositions, which are excited in the Mind by every serious Application to *your Father which is in Heaven.*

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LET Popery boast its Convents and its Cloysters, and numerous Lives spent in useless Retirement ; but be it always the Glory of *Englishmen* and Protestants to act agreeably to the awful Declarations of Religion, by approving themselves obedient Children to their heavenly Father : And the closer the Adherence is to the Doctrine of the blessed *Jesus*, let the greater Care be exerted to imitate that Divine Compassion, which *went about continually doing Good, and healing them that had need of healing.*

OUR *Father in Heaven* does, in a peculiar Manner, require such Instances of filial Obedience : 'Tis his express Command---*Shew Mercy---Relieve the Oppressed---Visit the Sick---Be merciful as your Father in Heaven is merciful.*

OUR FATHER---Gratitude and Duty jointly enforce Obedience to this venerable and affectionate Authority. OUR Father, the common Parent of the whole human Race, *who hath made of one Blood all Nations of Men to dwell on all the Face of the Earth.* Hence the whole Body of Mankind are to be considered as the Offspring and the Sons of *God*, equally honoured with the same high Descent ; and hence the Offices of Love and Friendship ;
brotherly

brotherly Love and Charity, so agreeable to the genuine Principles of human Nature, so beneficial to the World, and so strongly enjoined by Reason and Revelation ; brotherly Love and Charity, that compassionate Regard, that affectionate Assistance, which is due from one Brother to another, must be extended to the whole human Species, without Limits or Reserve ; Climate or Country, Customs or Opinions, make no Alteration in the Case. *Have we not all one Father. Hath not one God created us ?* even our Father in Heaven.

THUS the Ideas rise upon us: Our Father IN HEAVEN : In Heaven, from whence he looks down with Approbation ; and where he will for ever reward, with Happiness and Honour, that compassionate Bounty, with which he has declared himself to be now honoured.

YOUR Father in Heaven. Your Creator and Benefactor, from whose paternal Goodness proceeds every Blessing you now enjoy ; whose Divine Clemency defends you from those Calamities your Fellow-Creatures suffer, and preserves your Life in Safety ; *fills your Heart with Food and Gladness, and crowneth you with loving Kindness and tender Mercy !*

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YOUR Father in Heaven : Your Sovereign and your Judge ; your final Judge ! With what Force should this Consideration operate upon the Mind, when you remember (and who can venture to forget what is so authentically declared ?) that the Proceedings of this awful Judgment, the great Event of the Day will be determined upon the Relief given or refused to the Distresses of your sick and needy Brethren.

HEAR the Lord of Life and Glory, who will sit in Judgment upon you (*Matt. xxv. 34.*) *Then shall the King say unto them on his Right Hand, Come, ye Blessed of my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the Foundation of the World ; for I was an hungred and ye gave me Meat---I was a Stranger and ye took me in---I was sick and ye visited me.*

THEN shall he also say to them on his Left Hand, Depart from me, ye Cursed, into everlasting Fire, prepared for the Devil and his Angels---For I was an hungred and ye gave me no Meat---I was a Stranger and ye took me not in---Sick and in Prison and ye visited me not.

WHAT Words can describe, what human Mind can now conceive the heavy Dread, the piercing Anxiety that will then labour in your

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agitated

agitated Mind, when the Sound of the Trumpet shall awaken you from the silent Chambers of the Grave : *When the Lord himself shall descend from Heaven with a Shout, with the Voice of an Arch-angel and the Trump of God : When the Heavens shall pass away with a great Noise, the Elements shall melt with fervent Heat; the Earth also and all that therein is shall be burnt up, when the Son of Man shall come in his Glory, and all the holy Angels with him ; and the Dead shall arise, both Small and Great ?*

IN Circumstances so deeply affecting, when you are called forth into Light, and become the amazed Spectators of this grand and awful Day ; how natural will it be to cast your Eyes around, to survey every Quarter, with anxious Earnestness and doubtful Hopes, for some sure and prevailing Friend, some powerful Advocate successfully to plead your important Cause ? --- When, behold ! There your afflicted Brethren, whom your laudable Compassion wisely now relieves, will then stand forth your successful Advocates ; and with that seasonable Appearance infinitely more than recompence your present largest Bounty, by obtaining that high Approbation, pronounced with Divine Complacency, *Verily, I say unto you, inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least*
of

of THESE my Brethren, (which supposes them present at the great Solemnity) *inasmuch as ye have done it to the least of these my Brethren, ye have done it unto me. Enter Thou into the Joy of thy Lord.*

HAPPY Event; *to lay up this good Reward, for the Day of Necessity!* When the Blessing of him that was ready to perish will so plentifully come upon you!

BUT, on the contrary, which I am greatly unwilling to suppose, should the dangerous Influence of some lurking Avarice, some mean narrow Principle, at present artfully disguised, because not decently to be avowed; should this fatal Influence prevail against Reason and Religion, against the Dictates of Humanity, the Suggestions of Conscience, and the Commands of God, *your Father in Heaven*: Can you bear the Thoughts of then looking upon these despised, neglected Creatures. They must rise, they must appear in Judgment against you: How shocking will be that Appearance, when you can no longer *turn away your Face from the Poor!*

WILL the present superficial Excuses then give Quiet to your own Mind; or is there Room to hope they will appease and satisfy an omniscient Judge? Will they prevent the dire Effects of an ill-timed Avarice, in the Event

equally pernicious to yourself, as it was cruel to your Brother ? Will these Pretences avert a Sentence loaded with the utmost Horror ?— *I was sick and ye visited me not ; Depart from me ye cursed into everlasting Fire, prepared for malevolent and uncharitable Spirits, the Devil and his Angels ! Dreadful Condition !* When that Guilt, which needs the greatest Mercy and Alleviation, *shall find no Mercy, because it shewed no Mercy!*

WHICH Way soever our Thoughts are directed, either to the future or present State of Things, what powerful Inducements offer in behalf of such innocent Distress, so much deplorable Misery ?

Look up to Heaven, there, the constant Goodness, the adorable Authority, the amiable Example and solemn Command of *our Father in Heaven*, strongly enforce that Sympathy, which *is merciful as he is merciful.*

SURVEY the Order and Constitution of the World, on which we dwell ; reflect upon the near, the brotherly Relation of Mankind to each other ; consider their mutual Necessities and Dependance, either as helpless Individuals or connected in Society : Can any thing be more suitable and apposite in such a Condition, than that benign Injunction, dictated by

by Nature as well as Religion, *bear ye one anothers Burdens.*

AND if we look within ourselves, Reason and Affection, every Maxim of Wisdom, every social and tender Passion, that compose the Human Frame, concur, with joint Intercession, in a Cause so justly affecting.

LET every Man therefore do *according as he is disposed in his Heart* ; execute the friendly Præ-engagements of Nature in Favour of Distress ; pursue the moving Suggestions of your own Bowels ; relieve the Miseries of your Brethren, to relieve the painful Sensations of your own Sympathy ; regard the Dictates of Humanity, the natural Benignity of your Constitution—*Do as you are disposed in your Heart.*

DID you behold a wretched Creature, almost exhausted with Grief and Pain, scarce supporting his weak Spirits, with the pleasing Hopes of a comfortable Reception and Retreat ; but when he comes to his Journey's End, unavoidably refused Entrance ; and after this sore Disappointment, obliged to undergo the painful Fatigue of returning to a forlorn Chamber, there to grieve and languish, till Death put a Period to his Sorrows ! Could you be an unconcerned Spectator of this moving Scene ; were such an Object languishing at your Feet, could you insult his Misery, could you trample
upon

upon him ? No. Your Bowels shiver at the Thought ; when perhaps it would be less cruel to put an immediate End to such piercing Sorrow ; than to suffer, for want of your necessary Help, a disconsolate Wretch to linger on a few Days, in great Torture, and consume the poor Remains of his hard-earned Substance, which might be of some little Service to his destitute Widow and Children.

FICTIONS have their Force ; the Passions may be raised by Art : But here is no Room for Fiction, nor any Need of Art. The Case is real ; the Misery great and certain beyond Dispute. Would to God ! it were not confirmed by many, very many melancholly and, I hope, moving Instances of grievous Maladies aggravated by helpless Indigence !

— AND what Heart can be obdurate enough to permit a *Brother* thus to expire in Grief and Want, unpitied, unassisted, and unrelieved ? How does the hardened Conduct of JOSEPH's envious Brethren affect your Mind ? What Abhorrence does this unnatural Cruelty raise in your Breast ? Can your Heart, far from being *grieved at the Afflictions of your Brethren*, without Pity and Remorse, by a Negligence, that wounds deeper than an actual Injury, assign Numbers to lingring Tortures and certain Deaths ? it must be repeated,
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Numbers of your BRETHREN ; for have we not all one Father? hath not one God created us?

BRING the Case home to yourselves---*Do as you would be done unto :* Nay, *do as you are disposed in your Heart.* Let Conscience speak ; let Conscience be heard ; I can ask no more ; the mournful Calamities of your Brethren will demand no more, to comfort their fainting Hearts, to restore them to their Health, to restore them to their Families, to restore them to their Country ; and to secure to you and to your Children, besides the highest Satisfaction a rational Creature can possibly enjoy, the Protection, the Mercy, the Blessing of *your common Father, which is in Heaven.*

Such Persons therefore as are inclined to encourage and promote so laudable a work, are desired to send their Subscriptions or Benefactions to Mr. Thomas Minors, Banker, in Lombard-street, who will give proper Receipts for the same. And any Person inclined by his last Will to bequeath a Legacy to this Charity, is desired to do it in the following Manner, viz.

Item, *I give and bequeath unto A. B. and C. D. the Sum of _____ upon Trust, and to the intent that they, or one of them, do pay the same to the Treasurer or Treasurers for the Time being, of the Society of the Governors of the London Infirmary, for the Relief of Sick and Diseased Manufacturers, Seamen in Merchant-Service, their Wives and Children, which said Sum of _____ I desire may be applied towards charitable carrying on the Designs of the said Society.*

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A C C O U N T
O F T H E
R I S E , P R O G R E S S , a n d S T A T E
O F T H E
L O N D O N I N F I R M A R Y ;

Supported by
CHARITABLE and VOLUNTARY SUBSCRIPTION, for
the Relief of Sick and Diseased MANUFACTU-
RERS, SEAMEN in MERCHANT-SERVICE, and their
WIVES and CHILDREN ; from the First INSTI-
TUTION on the 3d of *November*, 1740, to the
25th of *March*, 1744, inclusive.



OF all Circumstances that affect the Mind of Man with Compassion, no one seems to touch it so nearly, as the seeing our Fellow-Creatures labouring with Diseases, and even perishing under them for want of proper and timely Assistance ; for who, that is not savage in nature, can pass regardless by those Numbers of miserable Objects, who daily present themselves to us, and whose various Diseases (were all other Motives silent) would be as so many Tongues, which at once speak their
their

their own Anguish and excite our Pity. As the Characteristick of the *English* is to be humane and beneficent, so nothing shews it more than Institutions of a publick Nature, such as Hospitals and Infirmaryes, which are here better regulated and supplied with Necessaries, than in any other Country whatsoever. Some there are of Royal Endowment, and established Revenue, and others of more modern Institution, erected and supported by the generous and voluntary Contributions of good and well-disposed Persons; but all these are by Experience known to be no ways adequate to the Numbers that seek Assistance from them; for as they can take in no more Patients than they have Beds, or give Medicine to more than their Income will allow, many poor unhappy Creatures must be unavoidably lost. For 'tis a Truth well known, that tho' the City of *London* is more populous, and by its Trade and Navigation, the labouring Part thereof are more subject to Accidents and Diseases than the common People of *Paris*; yet it appears from the annual printed Accounts, that the *Hotel Dieu* alone contains more Patients at one time than all our Hospitals and Infirmaryes together. If such Provision is made for the diseased Inhabitants of *Paris*, those of *London* more immediately require our Regard; particularly, the *British* Manufacturers and Seamen, as they are the chief Support of both our foreign and domestick Trade.

The Strength and Security of *Great Britain* depending chiefly on its Naval Power, the Wisdom of the Legislature has shewed a peculiar Concern for the Comfort and Happiness of such infirm and disabled Seamen, as have been engaged in the Service of the Royal Navy: But for Seamen employ'd only in the Service of the Merchant, and Trading Part of the Kingdom, or the Wives and Families of such, in Distress by Sicknes, no desirable Publick Provision has yet been made, or particularly instituted for their Relief. Nor are our numerous, poor, industrious Manufacturers, and Artificers, or their Wives and Children, by any particular Donations or Establishment, sufficiently provided for, under the Calamity of bodily Diseases and Casualties; tho' in such afflicting and melancholy Circumstances, they are incapable of providing for themselves or Families by their usual Labour and Industry.

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These Considerations have induced many benevolent and publick-spirited Noblemen, Gentlemen, Merchants, and others, to turn their Thoughts upon raising, by publick Subscription, a LONDON INFIRMARY, where *British* Sailors in the Merchant-Service, their Wives and Children, and poor *British* Manufacturers, their Wives and Children, are daily admitted, and find Relief in Distress by Sicknefs or Casualties: And this without any Difficulty or Expence of Admittance.

Situation.

In order to answer the Ends proposed, *a proper House was taken in* Prescot-street, Goodman's-Fields, which Situation was judged the most convenient, as being near the usual Abodes of Manufacturers and Seafaring Men in the Merchant-Service, and at a considerable Distance from any Hospital.

*General
Frame, and
Regulation of
this Society.*

The Society for carrying on this laudable Undertaking consists of a President, Vice-President, and Treasurer, annually elected out of the most considerable Benefactors to this Charity; and of such Persons who by giving a Benefaction of 30 Guineas or more at one time, become Governors for Life; as likewise such who subscribe five Guineas or more a Year to this Charity, and are thereby entitled to be Governors during such Subscription.

*General
Court.*

A General Court of Governors is held four times a Year; namely, in the Months of *March, June, September, and December*, to take the Reports of the Committees, elect a House Committee for the ensuing Quarter, inspect Accounts, and transact such other Business as may then be laid before them. And at the General Court in *March*, the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and other Officers are chosen. Another General Court of the Governors and Subscribers, being their Anniversary Feast, is held between the 25th of *March* and the last Day of *April*, when a Report of the State of the *Infirmery*, the Number of Patients receiv'd and discharg'd in the preceeding Year, the Proceedings of the Governors, and an Abstract of the Accounts for the Year past, is laid before them, and printed for the Satisfaction of the Publick.

*House-Com-
mittee.*

A House Committee is appointed at every General Quarterly Court, consisting of thirteen Governors, who at their first Meeting elect a Chairman to preside for the whole Quarter. Four of the Committee take the first Month, Four the next Month, and Four the last Month of the said Quarter. This Committee meets every

every *Tuesday* at the *Infirmery*, to Receive and Dismiss all Patients, to Order and Inspect the Diet and Provisions, and all Goods sent in by the several Tradesmen, *for the Use of the Infirmery*, and see that they be Cheap, and Good of the kind, to order any Conveniences that may from Time to Time be wanting, and to Examine and Regulate the Conduct of all the Servants and Patients of the House. All Governors that please to attend, have a Vote at this Committee.

A Committee of Accounts, consisting of twelve Governors, is appointed at the General Quarterly Court in the Month of *June*, for one Year, who meet at the *Infirmery* once a Quarter, to Receive, Examine, and Audit Tradesmen's Bills, which are constantly Paid by the Treasurer within a Fortnight after such Audit; all which Accounts are kept in a Regular Mercantile Manner, and are ready at any time for the Inspection of any of the Governors. *Committee of Accounts.*

A Physical Committee, consisting of all the Physicians, Surgeons, Apothecaries, Druggists, and Chemists, who are Governors of this *Infirmery*, meet once a Month to Examine all Medicines and Drugs brought into the Dispensary, and no Drugs or Medicines are suffered to be used without their Approbation. *Physical Committee.*

Two Governors are appointed House Visitors by the Committee, for one Fortnight, whose Business is to attend every *Thursday* and *Saturday*, and at such other times as they think proper, to inspect into the Management and Conduct of the House, during the Interval of the Meetings of the House Committee. *Visitors.*

Two Physicians, a Surgeon in Ordinary, and an Assistant Surgeon attend Daily from Eleven o'Clock till One, without any Fee or Reward, and give their Advice and Assistance to all such poor diseased Objects as come in those Hours, whether Recommended or Accidental. A Surgeon extraordinary, attends and advises in all dangerous and extraordinary Cases. *Physician and Surgeon.*

An Apothecary constantly resides at the *Infirmery*, who Compounds and Dispenses all Medicines used there, and solely attends the Business thereof. *Apothecary.*

And as the Governors of this Charity are desirous that the utmost Regard may be had to the Souls of the Patients, as well as their Bodies, a Clergyman of the Church of *England* has generously

rously undertaken, without any Gratuity, to read Prayers, and perform the other Duties of his Function, at the *Infirmary*.

*Steward,
Matron,
Nurses,
Watchers.*

A *Steward*, a grave, sober Man, who gives Security for his Integrity, has the Charge of the House and Furniture, keeps an Account of every Thing brought to or expended in the House and subjects the same to the daily Examination of the Visitors, and House-Committee, and has the Inspection likewise of the Conduct of all the Men-Servants.—A *Matron*, a discreet Woman, has the Direction of the Nurses and other Women-Servants, and sees the Diet and Medicines administred according to Order.—Under her, are Nurses, and Watchers, in Proportion to the Number of Patients, of experienced Honesty and Tendernefs, who are guided by written Orders to prevent Misconduct of any kind. Proper Diet for the Patients has been settled by the Gentlemen of the Faculty engaged in this Charity, and is fixed up in the Wards for the Satisfaction of the Patients and their Friends.

No Officers or Servants are permitted upon Pain of Expulsion to take of any Tradesmen, Patients, or other Persons, any Fee, Reward, or Gratuity of any kind, directly or indirectly, for any Service done, or to be done, on Account of this *Infirmary*.

Governors.

Every *Governor* of this Charity is intitled to send one In-Patient at a Time, and Out-Patients without Limitation. Subscribers of smaller Sums may likewise send what Number of Out-Patients they please. All Subscriptions are during Pleasure, and any small Sums from well-disposed Persons will be thankfully received and acknowledged; but in Order to carry on this laudable Undertaking, all Persons are desired to pay in their Subscription at the Time of Subscribing.

Proper Objects.

All Poor, Sick, and Lame, recommended as In-Patients, are received at any Hour, and are supply'd with Advice, Medicine, Diet, Washing, Lodging, and every comfortable Assistance during their Cure; and all Out-Patients have Advice and Medicines administred from Eleven 'till One. No Persons with incurable or infectious Distempers, or of known Ability to pay for their Cures, are admitted to partake of this Charity.

All Accidents, whether recommended or not, are received at any Hour of the Day or Night.

This

This is the Plan of our Proceedings, and tho' this Work is but in its Infancy, yet such has been the extraordinary Encouragement given to it, by Numbers of Distinguished Humanity, that we have the Satisfaction to assure the Publick, that since the 3d of *November*, 1740, it has pleased God to bless us with such Success, that upwards of 9000 distressed Objects have been Relieved at the *London Infirmary*, and, from Labouring under the Oppression of some of the most malignant Diseases, and unhappy Accidents, have been reinstated in their Honest and Industrious Capacities of Working; whereby the Publick again enjoy the Benefit of their Labour, they, and their poor Families preserved from perishing, and prevented from being a constant Incumbrance to the Community.

The Subscribers are desired to take Notice, that if any Patients shall not conform to the Rules of the House, or are guilty of any Misbehaviour, they will be discharged for such Irregularity, and never more relieved by this Charity.

The admitting of In-Patients troubled with Asthmatic and Consumptive Cases having been found greatly prejudicial to themselves, all Governors are desired not to recommend any such as In-Patients; they being more capable of Relief as Out-Patients.

An

An Account of Receipts and Payments of *Richard Chiswell, junior, Esq;*
Treasurer of the LONDON-INFIRMARY, from the 25th of *March*,
1743, to the 25th of *March*, 1744.

Money Received.		Money Expended.	
To Cash received by <i>Thomas Boehm, Esq;</i> the late Treasurer, the Balance of his Account	85 7 4	By House-keeping for Provisions, &c. viz. Butcher's Meat, Baker, Brewer, Cheesemonger, Milk, Firing, Soap, Candles, Mealman, Grocery and Money-Diet, —	492 18 10 $\frac{3}{4}$
To a Legacy left by <i>Mrs. Sarah Morgan</i> , deceased —	50	By Household Furniture, including Turnery-Ware and Linnen —	97 8 7
To Benefactions — —	994 11 0	By House-Rent and Taxes —	44 2 8
To Governors Subscriptions —	972 6 0	By Salaries, Wages and Gratuities —	172 13 6
To other Subscriptions —	155 5 4	By Stationary Ware and Printing —	101 10 8
To the Lock —	68 9 6	By petty Expences —	44 2 2 $\frac{3}{4}$
To the Poor's Box —	34 19 9	By the Dispensary, viz. for Drugs, Medicines, &c. —	166 18 3 $\frac{3}{4}$
To Interest on 650 <i>l.</i> Three per Cent. Annuities, due at <i>Christmas</i> last —	9 12 9	By Burials —	6 7 0
		By Repairs —	109 19 5
	<u>£. 2370 11 8</u>		<u>1236 1 2$\frac{3}{4}$</u>
		By Legacies and Benefactions paid into the Hands of <i>Fotherley Baker</i> and <i>Richard Chiswell, junior, Esqs;</i> to purchase Three per Cent. Annuities —	1044 11 0
			<u>2280 12 2$\frac{3}{4}$</u>
		By Balance in the Hands of <i>Richard Chiswell, junior, Esq;</i> —	89 19 5 $\frac{3}{4}$
			<u>£. 2370 11 8</u>

Fotherley Baker, and *Richard Chiswell, junior, Esqs;* Trustees to the
LONDON-INFIRMARY,

Debtor.	1743.	Contra, Creditor.
To Legacies and Benefactions £. 1044 11 0	June 17. By 400 Three per Cent. Annuities —	407 0 0
	Nov. 2. By 250 ditto —	252 16 3
	Feb. 6. By 200 ditto —	199 15
	March 15. By 150 ditto —	147 3 9
	1000	<u>£. 1006 15 0</u>
	By Balance in the Hands of <i>Fotherley Baker</i> and <i>Richard Chiswell, junior, Esqs;</i> —	37 16 0
		<u>£. 1044 11 0</u>

A General Abstract of Receipts and Payments from the First Institution of this INFIRMARY, viz. from the 3d of November, 1740, to the 25th of March, 1744.

Receipts.		Payments.	
Receipts from Nov. 3, 1740, to Jan. 1, 1741, by Fotherley Baker, Esq;	298 14 6	By Cash disbursed by Fotherley Baker, Esq; from Nov. 3, 1740, to Jan. 1, 1741,	206 5 6
Ditto from Jan. 1, 1741, to March 25, 1743, by Thomas Boehm, Esq;	1139 4 8	By ditto by Thomas Boehm, Esq; from Jan. 1, 1741, to March 25, 1743.	1146 6 4
Ditto from March 25, 1743, to March 25, 1744, by Richard Chiswell, jun. Esq;	2285 4 4	By ditto by Richard Chiswell, jun. Esq; from March 25, 1743, to March 25, 1744.	1236 1 2½
To Total Receipts	3723 3 6	Total Payments	2588 13 0½
		By Balance	1134 10 5½
		Total	3723 3 6

The Particulars of which Balance are, viz.

Cash in the Hands of Richard Chiswell, jun. Esq;	89 19 5½
Ditto in the Hands of Fotherley Baker, and Richard Chiswell, jun. Esq's.	37 16 0
1000 l. Three per Cent. Annuities	1006 15 0

Total 1134 10 5½ Balance of the General Account.

An Account of Patients under the Care of the LONDON INFIRMARY, from March 25, 1743, to March 25, 1744.

Patients received into the House	311	Patients now in the House	46
Out-Patients	3877	Out-Patients now on the Books	761
	4188		807
		In-Patients discharged cured	219
		Incurable	13
		Misbehaviour	2
		Dead	31
			265
N.B. Out of the above, 104 were Casualties received without any Recommendation.		Out-Patients cured who re- turned Thanks	1689
		Discharged who did not return Thanks, tho' most of them known to be cured	1305
		Misbehaviour	72
		Incurable	50
			3116
			4188

Under the Care of this Infirmary.

From 3 Nov. 1740 to 12 May 1742	2315
From 12 May 1742 to 25 March 1743	2702
From 25 March 1743 to 25 March 1744.	4188

F Total—9205

A

L I S T

O F

GOVERNORS and CONTRIBUTORS

T O T H E

L O N D O N INFIRMARY.

His Grace CHARLES Duke of Richmond, Lenox,
and Aubigny, President.

** FOTHERLEY BAKER, Esq; Vice-President,
RICHARD CHISWELL Junior, Esq; Treasurer.

*Those marked thus * are annual* GOVERNORS.

*Those mark'd with ** are GOVERNORS for Life.*

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* Mr. Claude Aubert,
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 * Mr. Freeman Taylor
 The Rev. Mr. Robert Talbot

Mr. Geo. Jerv. Tapp
 Mr. Samuel Torin, Merchant
 Mr. James Torin

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 * The Hon. Vice Admiral Vernon
 * Gent. Unwin, Esq;
 ** Mr. John Upfal
 * Mr. Thomas Vigne, Merchant
 ** Mr. Henry Unwin
 Mr. Samuel Vernon

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 ** Isaac Lord Bishop of Worcester
 * Sir Robert Willimot, Knt. and Alderman.
 ** The Hon. Major-

General Williamfon.
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 * John Wormby, Esq;
 * Jos. Wilfon, Esq;
 * Tho. Watfon, Esq;
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 * Mr. Humph. Wright
 * Mr. Edward White
 * Mr. Henry Woodfall, jun.
 Mrs Mary Wilfon.

Y

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 * Mr. John Young

Z.

* Mr. John Zachary, Merchant

BENEFACTIONS, &c.

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
A Person unknown, by Mr. Robert Harrison, —	5	5	0
Ditto — by Tho. Boehm, Esq; —	5	5	0
Ditto — by Ditto —	3	3	0
Ditto, in Suffolk, by William Myre, Esq; —	5	5	0
Mrs. Raymond — — —	3	3	0
From a Lady unknown, by the Rev. Mr. Broughton	3	3	0
Mrs. Catherine Morrice — — — —	4	4	0
By a Lady unknown — — —	2	2	0
By a Lady unknown, by Isaac Ld. Bishop of St. Asaph	5	0	0
Ditto — by Isaac Lord Bishop of St. Asaph	5	5	0
From A. B. — — —	5	5	0
From a Person unknown — — —	2	2	0
From a Lady unknown, by the Rev. Mr. Broughton	1	1	0
From a Person unknown by the Rev. Mr. Calamy	2	2	0
Ditto, by Mr. Thomas Jones — — —	2	2	0
Sundry Household Goods from Mr. James Latour, } the Value of — — — —	50	0	0
From Ditto in Cash — — —	62	10	0
From a Person unknown by Ebenezer Muffell, Esq; } From a Person unknown, by Richard Chiswel, } Jun. Esq; — — — —	21	0	0
	10	10	0
A Person unknown — — —	0	10	6
From E. M. and H. D. by Mr. Isaac Hunter —	5	5	0
From a Lady unknown, by Mr. Will. Cleaver, Jun.	2	2	0
From an unknown Hand — — —	5	5	0
From a Person unknown, by Alderman Hoare,	2	12	6
From a Lady unknown, by Joseph Willson, Esq; } }	5	5	0

Rev. Mr. Matthew Audley, Rotherhith, *Chaplain.*

Dr. John Andree, Austin-Fryars, *Physician in Ordinary.*

Dr. John Coningham, Bartlet-Buildings Holborn, *Physician Extraordinary.*

Mr. John Harrison, Savage-Gardens, *Surgeon in Ordinary.*

Mr. Henry Dodson, Nicholas-Lane Lombard-Street, *Assistant Surgeon.*

William Petty, Esq; Fenchurch-Street, *Surgeon Extraordinary.*

Mr. Richard Neale, Dowgate-Hill, *Secretary.*

Mr. Godfrey Webb, *Apothecary.*

Mr. Benjamin Gifford, *Steward.*

Mrs. Elizabeth Broad, *Matron of the Infirmary.*

Mrs. Elizabeth Gilbert, *Matron of the Lock.*

