

## **Rules and constitutions of the Maiden Hospital, founded by the crafts-men of Edinburgh and Mary Erskin.**

### **Contributors**

Merchant Maiden Hospital.  
Erskine, Mary, active 1695.

### **Publication/Creation**

Edinburgh : Printed by the heirs and successors of Andrew Anderson ..., 1707.

### **Persistent URL**

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Wellcome Collection  
183 Euston Road  
London NW1 2BE UK  
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722  
E [library@wellcomecollection.org](mailto:library@wellcomecollection.org)  
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

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R U L E S  
A N D  
C O N S T I T U T I O N S

O F T H E  
*Maiden Hospital,*

*Founded by the*

C R A F T S - M E N

O F

EDINBURGH,

A N D

M A R Y E R S K I N :

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*Edinburgh,* Printed by the Heirs and  
Successors of *Andrew Anderson,*  
Printer to the Queen's most Excel-  
lent Majesty, 1707.



# Preface.

**T**HE Infinite wise Creator and Supreme Ruler of the World, hath for holy and Excellent Ends, thought fit to make a discernible Difference in the Stations and Circumstances of the Children of Men while they are in a state of Trial in this Lower World. Higher and Subordinate Powers are Ordained of him; Magistracy is his Ordinance Instituted by him, that there might be a Regular Disposal of a Beautiful Fabrick of human Societies; And therefore it may be justly called 1 Peter 2. 13. An Ordinance of Man, a human Creature or Structure; The Glorious Gospel of our Redeemer doth not destroy, but firmly Establish this Divine con-

Preface.

*stitution of Superioritie and Inferioritie, even amongst those that are the Adopted Sons of his Father, and joynt Heirs with himself of the same Heavenly Kingdom. The Words of the Apostle 1 Tim. Chap. 6. ver. 1, 2. are a plain Proof of this, Let as many Servants as are under the Yoke, count their own Masters worthy of all Honour: that the Name of God and his Doctrine be not Blasphemed, and they that have believing Masters, let them not despise them, because they are Brethren, but rather do them Service, because they are faithful and beloved partakers of the benefites; And as the Sovereign Lord hath for the Good of Mankind, appointed that there should be Rulers and Subjects, Governours and those that*

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that are Governed; So it hath pleased him, in the unsearchable Wisdom of his Providence, to make such a Distribution of the Good things of this Life, as some should have a Larger, some a Lesser share of them, and others should be left to be Provided for by the Compassionate care of their Richer fellow Rational Creatures; So that this Varietie that is in the Circumstances of Men as to the Comforts of this Earth, is in spotless Righteousness ordered by unerring Wisdom, which is admired and exalted in a High strain of Praise by the Great and Religious King David, 1 Chron. 29. 10, 11, 12. And it is Sung by Holy Hannah to the Praise of the wise Management of the Great God, 1 Sam. 2. 7. The Lord maketh  
Poor

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Poor and maketh Rich, he bringeth low and lifteth up. *The Righteous Lord who is pleased to Order thus the Affairs of Men as to this Life, hath in his Goodness given many Excellent Directions for our Conduct in the Management of our selves, with a Respect to one another in our several Stations and Circumstances in this World; And it is a very Comprehensive one which we have, 1 Pet: 3. 8, 9. Finallie be all of one Mind, be unanimoously concerned for the Glory of your God and Redeemer, in a Conformity to the Principles of true Religion, having Compassion one of another, Love as Brethren, be pitiful, be Courteous. No Man how Rich and Great soever he be, can justly pretend to have an absolute*  
Power

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Power to dispose of what he possesseth according to his meer Will and Pleasure; he is to have an awful Regard to the Rules prescribed to him by the most High God the possessor of Heaven and Earth, who will Vindicate the Honour of his own Laws, and be avenged upon the Ob-  
stinate and Proud contemners thereof. It is his Royal Law, that every Man should Love his Neighbour as himself, and the Sanction of it is of a frightful import, he shall have Judgment without Mercy that hath shewed no Mercy, *Ja. 2. 8, 13.* It is not left to those that have not only the Necessaries, but the Conveniencies of Life, to be Charitable or not as they please, to such as are Indigent, The Earth is the Lords and the  
fulness



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fulness thereof. He hath Reserved to himself the Sovereign Proprietie of both, and parcells them out to the Children of Men, as seemeth good to him ; But always with this Clause in their Lease, that out of their Store they shall according to their Ability and Circumstances supply the wants of the Indigent, as they would not lose their Right and Title to what they possess, and provoke their Supreme Lord to Curse them in the City and in the Field, in their Basket and in their Store, in the Increase of their Kine and Flocks of their Sheep, and permitt them to be only oppressed and crushed always to such a Degree that they shall be mad for the sight of their Eyes which they shall see, Deut. 28.

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16, 17, 18, 34. I am obliged in Charity to be persuaded, that the serious Consideration of these things, hath Influenced the Inhabitants of the Honourable City of Edinburgh, both Merchants and Craftsmen, to give an Exemplary Proof of their Concern for the Glory of God, for the Honour of the Holy Religion which they profess, and for the publick good of their City in particular, and the Land of their Nativitie in General, both as to their Religious and Civil Interest, to do what was in their Power, for supplying what was Defective as to Charitable Foundations for the Support, and the Virtuouse and Christian Education of Female young Ones; Which otherways, when come to riper Age, might through Povertie

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and Want, become a prey to Temptations to Wickedness, and be a Reproach to Christianity, and a Scandal to their Nation, a Plague to Families and Societies, and bring the Eternal Wrath of God upon themselves. Such Charity as doth plainly tend to keep off heavy Judgments from City and Countrey, cannot well be misplaced, as that which is bestowed upon those of a mature age, may often be, through it's being abused to the Encouragement of Idleness and Sloth.

The Good, Regular and Advanced State that the Crafts-men of this City, have by their Diligent Care & the Bounty of their several Incorporations, with the Liberal Assistance of the Worthy late Mary Erskin, have brought their pious  
Foun-

## Preface.

*Foundation of a Maiden Hospital to, cannot but have some weight to prevail with Compassionate Christians, to give their helping Hand to such a pious and useful Work.*

*I am Sensible that there have been so many excellent Discourses upon the subject of Charity and Beneficence, that any thing that I can pretend to say upon it, can only be a Repetition of what hath been said to much better purpose, by many others; Yet seing it is not so much through Ignorance of what Men ought to know, as by want of thought and reflection with a Respect to what they do know, that they are often Guilty of an inexcusable Neglect of many important Duties, which as Christians they are obliged to perform; I shall only by*

## Preface.

*way of Remembrance, stir up the Minds of those, that have not cast off all Regard to Religion, to ponder the weight, of the Arguments, by which it urgeth such a Compassionate Regard to our Indigent Neighbours, as do's go beyond a mere saying, be you warmed, be you filled. The Holy Scriptures teach us, that God himself is pleased to take the Poor under his peculiar Care and Protection, Psal. 10. 14. The Poor Com-mitteth himself to thee, thou art the helper of the Fatherless; and Psal. 68. 5. He is a Father of the Fatherless, and a Judge of the Widow, in his Holy Habitation; We are told, Prov. 17. 5. That he that mocketh the Poor, Reproacheth his Maker; He Robbeth him of the Honour, of the*  
*Wisdom,*

## Preface

Wisdom, of his Government ; Shall we then have no Compassion upon those, that are so much considered by the God of Heaven. This Almighty Creator hath in his great Goodness, put such Honour upon Human Nature, That he hath prescribed by our being kind and Beneficent to one another, as a part of Worship paid to himself, *Ja. 1. 27.* Pure and Undeiled Religion or his Worship is to Visit the Fatherless and the Widow ; Charity is not indeed an expiatorie Sin-Offering ; But it is a Christian Sacrifice, a Thank-Offering well-pleasing to God, *Heb. 13. 16.* It is a high Honour that the Glorious God puts upon those, who by his Blessing upon their Lawful Endeavours, have plenty of the good things of

## Preface.

of this Life, or by his kind Providence have an Inheritance conveyed to them from their Progenitors, that he Substitutes them as Managers for him; Leaving to their care a part of his World, and requiring them to Act like himself as his Representatives; And as Compassion is his Delight, so he would have it theirs too; Is not this a great Dignitie? And shall Mortal Creatures so disparrage it, as to Act in Direct Opposition to the plain Design of it, by having little or no Regard to the Circumstances of those that are Objects of Pitie and Commiseration, how will they Answer for it, when called to give an Account of their Stewardship? It is an Unaccountable follie, that any should think, that they can never  
be

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be secure against Poverty and Want, but by scraping together at any Rate Riches and Wealth, without any concern to support their starving Neighbours. The Righteous Governor of the World, hath in his Providence, given Remarkable Proofs of his Indignation against this Foolish Imagination and Mad Practice, which he hath suffered many of these heaping and distrustful Earth Worms, to Live and see their own Misery; Whereas it hath been found, that Liberal Men have stood by liberal things, seeing then that the distinction, as hath been said, that is in the Circumstances of the Children of Men as to the Comforts of this Life, is an Ordinance of the Almighty Creator; Let us by having Bowels of Compassion to-  
ward



## Preface.

*wards the Distressed and Indigent, Testify the Honour and Regard we have to the Sacred Constitution of the Supreme Law-giver, and our Gratitude to our Greatest Benefactor; Let us thus make it Appear, that we give entire Credit to his Word, and that we have a full Confidence in the Wisdom, Goodness and Faithfulness of his Government; Let us Imitate and Encourage his Example of pious Charity, of which the following Paper gives us an Account; An Example that ought to be the more Valued and Regarded, because it is given by those, who generally do, even by a Laborious Industry, make but a Moderat gain: And it must be allowed, that the Incorporations of the Crafts-men of Edinburgh have given a visible prooff, in their so Largely Contributing to the Charitable Foundation*

*of*

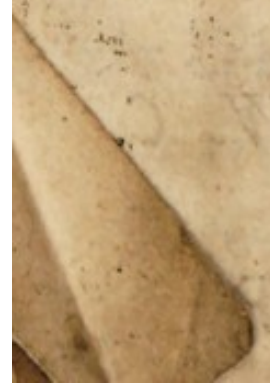
## Preface.

of a Maiden Hospital, that they are Careful to maintain good Works while they Work with their Hands, that they may not only not be Burthensome to others, but may have to give to him that needeth; And that their Laudz able Practice, and the Consideration of what is Suggested in these Lines, may have some Weight to Influence many to do Good, to be Rich in Good Works, and to give their Chearful Assistance for the Promoting of this, and other such like great and Religious Works of Extensive Charity; Is the earnest prayer of,  
Your Faithful Well-wisher in the Lord,

W. C.

Practice

of a Minister, especially  
 by the Church, to maintain  
 good Works, which they work  
 with their hands, that they may not  
 only not be burdensome to others,  
 but may also to give to him that  
 needs; And that their Lands  
 and Estates, and the Conside-  
 ration of them is suggested in whole  
 lines, may have some Weight  
 to influence many to do Good,  
 to be Rich in Good Works, and  
 to give their Charities Assistance  
 for the Promoting of them, and  
 other such like great and Religious  
 Works of Extensive Charity;  
 Is the earnest prayer of  
 Your Faithful Well-wisher in the  
 Lord,



R U L E S  
A N D  
C O N S T I T U T I O N S  
O F T H E  
*Maiden Hospital,*

*Founded by the Crafts-men of  
Edinburgh, and Mary Erskin.*

**T**H E Free-men of the In-  
corporations of the  
Crafts-men of *Edin-  
burgh*, taking to their  
serious Consideration, that there  
were Funds settled and provided  
for the Education and Mainte-  
nance of the Male Children of De-  
cayed

cayed Burgeſſes of the Burgh, and for the Female Children of Decayed Merchants; but nothing for the Female Children of Decayed Craftſ-men of the ſaid Burgh. They after ſeveral Meetings thereanent, did, about three Years ago, unanimoſly reſolve to have an Hoſpital for the Daughters and Grand-children of the Female Sex of decayed Craftſ-men, who are not able to maintain themſelves, and for other poor Maidens who ſhall be preſented by perſons who ſhould contribute to ſo Good and Pious a Work. And upon the third of *May* 1704, they procured an Act from the Council of *Edinburgh*, approving of their ſo Pious and Charitable Reſolution; and declaring

claring they would give all due  
 Encouragement thereto. Upon  
 which the Incorporations, by  
 their several Contributions, ha-  
 ving purchased and acquired some  
 Houses and Yeads in *Edinburgh*,  
 for so pious an Use, did cause fit  
 and prepare one of these Houses  
 for an Hospital, and have alrea-  
 dy settled therein Twenty Three  
 Girls, with a Governess, and  
 School-Mistress and Servants:  
 And having now procured an  
 Act of Parliament, authorizing  
 the Incorporations in carrying on  
 so Pious and Laudable a De-  
 sign, &c. whereof the Tenor  
 follows; “At *Edinburgh* the  
 “Twenty Fifth day of *March* One  
 “Thousand Seven Hundred and

Seven Years, “ *Our Sovereign*  
 ‘ *Lady*, with Advice and Con-  
 ‘ sent of the Estates of Parliament  
 ‘ Considering, that there is a pious  
 ‘ and Laudable Design now carry-  
 ‘ ing on by the Incorporations  
 ‘ of the Craftsmen of *Edinburgh*;  
 ‘ and others who joyn with them,  
 ‘ Authorized by the Town Coun-  
 ‘ cil of the said Burgh by their  
 ‘ Act dated the third day of *May*,  
 ‘ 1704 Years, for Founding  
 ‘ and Erecting a Hospital for the  
 ‘ Maintenance and Education  
 ‘ of the Female Children and  
 ‘ Grand-Children of Decayed  
 ‘ Craftsmen and others to be  
 ‘ presented by persons who give  
 ‘ Donations thereto, which may  
 ‘ be of a General Advantage, and  
 ‘ especially to the City of *Edin-*  
 ‘ *burgh*;

‘ burgh; Therefore Her Majesty  
 ‘ with Advice and Consent fore-  
 ‘ said, do hereby Allow and Au-  
 ‘ thorize the said Incorporations  
 ‘ of the Craftsmen of *Edinburgh*  
 ‘ and others Joyning, or who  
 ‘ shall Joyn with them to meet  
 ‘ as oft as Occasion Requires, and  
 ‘ to make such Rules and Consti-  
 ‘ tutions for the carrying on, and  
 ‘ Supporting of the said Hospital  
 ‘ allennarly, as they shall find  
 ‘ Just and Convenient; *As also,*  
 ‘ to settle such Funds, as well  
 ‘ out of their Publick Boxes be-  
 ‘ longing to their respective Ad-  
 ‘ ministrations, as private Estates  
 ‘ as they shall think fit, and to  
 ‘ Receive Mortifications or Do-  
 ‘ nations, from any person who  
 ‘ shall be pleased to Contribute  
 thereto



' thereto ; The said Rules and  
 ' Acts to be made by them, be-  
 ' ing always consistent with the  
 ' Laws of the Kingdom, and  
 ' with the Acts and Constitutions  
 ' of the City of *Edinburgh* ; And  
 ' *Statutes* and *Ordains* the saids  
 ' Rules and Constitutions, to be  
 ' made by them to be as valid and  
 ' effectual to all Intents and Pur-  
 ' poses, for the Ordering and  
 ' Governing of the Hospital  
 ' abovementioned, as if they  
 ' were Particularly exprest and  
 ' set down in this Act ; *Where-*  
 ' *anent*, Her Majesty with Ad-  
 ' vice and Consent foresaid, Dis-  
 ' penses for ever : And *Further*,  
 ' Her Majesty, with Advice and  
 ' Consent foresaid, *Ordains* and  
 ' *Declares*, the foresaid Hospital  
 when

when set up and settled in it's  
 Constitutions, and Directors  
 and Overseers, to be a Free  
 Hospital, for the pious use fore-  
 said ; *With Power* to the said  
 Hospital, and it's Overseers  
 and Directors, not only to Ad-  
 ministrat the Funds and Rents  
 appertaining thereto ; But like-  
 ways to purchase and acquire  
 Lands, Tenements and others,  
 for the farder Good and Ad-  
 vantage thereof ; And for that  
 end, to Make, Grant and Re-  
 ceive all manner of Deeds and  
 Writes, Necessary for that Ef-  
 fect : And to have a Seal if they  
 shall think needful, and with  
 such Inscriptions as they shall  
 appoint for the Confirmation  
 of the saids Deeds ; And Gene-  
 rally

‘ rally to have all such Powers,  
 ‘ Liberties and Immunities of a  
 ‘ Free Hofpital, for pious ufes, as  
 ‘ any other Hofpital for the  
 ‘ like ufes hath, or by the Law  
 ‘ may have within this Kingdom.  
 ‘ Extracted furth of the Records  
 ‘ of Parliament, by me Sir *James*  
 ‘ *Murray* of *Philiphaugh*, one of  
 ‘ the Senators of the Colledge of  
 ‘ Justice, Clerk to the Parliament,  
 ‘ and to Her Majestys Councils,  
 ‘ Registers and Rolls. *Sic Sub-*  
 ‘ *scribitur* Ja. Murray, *Cls. Reg.*

After obtaining the forefaid  
 Act of Parliament, the forenam-  
 ed Pious and Worthy *Mary Erf-*  
*kin* Relict of *James Hair* Druggift  
 Burgefs of *Edinburgh*, (who was  
 the first who Projected and  
 Destinated Funds for *Maiden*  
*Hofpitals*

*Hospitals in the City of Edinburgh*)  
 Gave and Granted a great and  
 Considerable Donation to the  
 Hospital ; For which it is unani-  
 mously agreed, that She shall be  
 assumed unto the Title as a  
 Founder of the Hospital, and that  
 two of the Name of *Erskin*, shall  
 be for ever Governours there-  
 of, to be Named by the said  
*Mary Erskin* during Her Life,  
 (and who hath accordingly Nam-  
 ed Master *James Erskin* of  
*Grange* one of the Senators of  
 the Colledge of Justice, and  
 Master *David Erskin* Advocat for  
 all their Life-times ; ) And after  
 Her Death by the Representa-  
 tive of the present Family of  
*Mar*, under whatever Designation  
 it may then happen to be ; And  
 that

that the said *Mary Erskin* during Her Life, and after Her Death, the two Governours of her name, shall have the Presentation of all the Girls whom she hath Right to present, conform to Her Donation ; And that the Eldest of the Governours of the said Name, shall preside in absence of the Conveener, and shall keep one of the three Keys of the Hospitals Charter-house, as the Right and Disposition made and granted by the said *Mary Erskin* in Favours of the Hospital at more length bears.

*In Pursuance* of that part of the Act of Parliament anent the Rules and Constitutions, the Deacon Conveener, Remanent Deacons of the several Incorporations

porations of the Craftsmen of *Edinburgh*, Contributors, and the two Trades Counsellors and others joyned with them, and the said Lord *Grange* and Mr. *David Erskin*, after several meetings and serious Consideration, Have unanimously Agreed and Resolved upon the Rules following, viz.

## I.

The Freemen Craftsmen of *Edinburgh*, and the said *Mary Erskin*, being the Founders of the Hospital, the same shall now and in all time coming, in all Inscriptions, Acts, Contracts, or other Writes, be Named and called the *Maiden Hospital* Founded by the Craftsmen of *Edinburgh*, and *Mary Erskin*.

## II.

## II.

The Deacons for the time of the several Incorporations, Contributors to this good Work, and the two Trades Counsellors, and two of the Name of *Erskin* ( nominated, as is hereafter declared ) are perpetually to be Governours of the said Hospital. And there shall be chosen ( in manner as is hereafter appointed ) Yearly on the second *Monday* of *October*, as many as with the saids Deacons, two Trades Counsellors, and two of the Name of *Erskin*, shall make up Twenty and Seven Persons, and these Persons elected are also to be Governours of the said Hospital, during one Year next ensuing their Election;

and

and in case of the removing of any of these elected Governours by Death, or otherways, the other Governours for the time shall, by plurality of Votes, choose a Person to supply the Vacancy. The Conveener for the time is to preside in all Meetings, and in his Absence, the Eldest Governour of the Name of *Erskin* is to preside ; and in Absence of both, a Preses is to be chosen by Vote.

### III.

The Governours to be yearly elected, shall be chosen by the saids Deacons of the Incorporations, Two Trades Counsellors, and two Governours of the Name of *Erskin*, and every Donator who gives



gives 2000 Merks to the Hospital, shall, during his Life, and after his Death, any he shall appoint by Write, have a Vote in Electing these yearly added Governours; As also, the saids Donators shall have a Vote in any other Concern of the *Hospital* at a general Meeting of the Governours, and they themselves shall also be capable to be elected Governours.

## IV.

The present Deacons of the Incorporations, Contributors, and the two present Trades Counsellors, and the Lord *Grange*, and Master *David Erskin* Advocat, Named by the said *Mary Erskin*, to be Governours during all the Days of their Lifetime, and these

these now joyned with them ;  
 And none else are to have the full  
 Administration and Government  
 of the *Hospital* and whole Estate  
 thereof, until the said 2<sup>d</sup>. Monday  
 of *October*, which is to be the  
 first Annual Council-day of E-  
 lecting the New Governours, to  
 be joyned to the Deacons and  
 Trades Counsellors, and two  
 Governours of the Name of  
*Erskin*, who are to be perpetual  
 Governours, as said is. But none  
 of the Governours are to have  
 Vote or Interest in the Concerns  
 of the *Hospital*, either for Rents  
 or Election or any other thing,  
 until they take the Oath follow-  
 ing, which is to be Administrat<sup>d</sup>  
 by the Clerk, first to the Deacon  
 Conveener, or Preses for the  
 D time ;

time; And by the Deacon Con-  
 veener or Prefes to all the rest  
 of the Governours. I A. B. Do  
*Faithfully Swear and Promise be-  
 fore God, that to the best of my  
 Knowledge and Power, I shall Carry  
 and Demean my self in all Matters  
 which concern the Election of the  
 Officers or Schollars, or any thing  
 else belonging to the Maiden Hof-  
 pital, Founded by the Crafts-men  
 of Edinburgh and Mary Erskin,  
 Truly and Honestly. And if I  
 know any going about at any  
 time to Defraud or Prejudge the said  
 pious Work, I shall obstruct it to  
 my Power, and reveal it to the  
 Governours for the time. So help  
 me GOD.*

The meetings anent the Elections or other concerns of the *Hospital*, shall either be in the *Hospital*, or *Magdalen Chappel*, or some other convenient place, to which the Conveener for the time shall think fit to cause warn them.

## VI.

Upon the said second *Monday* of *October* yearly, there shall be chosen by the then Deacons and two Trades Counsellors, and two Governours of the Name of *Erfkin*, and the New Governours to be chosen and added to them that day by plurality of Votes, an sufficient and qualified Man to be Treasurer to the said *Hospital* for one Year, whose Office shall be

to Receive all the *Hospital's* Rents,  
to keep all Stock and Money be-  
longing to the *Hospital*, to pay  
Wages and Allowances due to  
the Officers and Schollars, or any  
other thing belonging to the *Hos-  
pital*, to look Diligentlie to the  
Reparations of the Buildings of  
the *Hospital*, to deliver Weekly  
to the Mistrefs, so much Money  
as may provide the Dyet of the  
whole *Hospital*, for that Week;  
And to take in an Accompt each  
Week how the same is depurf-  
ed WITH POWER to him to  
Control or Allow, what Ac-  
compts relates to the *Hospital* as  
he finds Just; And the Treasur-  
er before he exerce in prefence of  
the Governours shall Solemly  
Swear

Swear the following Oath. I  
 A. B. *Elected Treasurer of the  
 Maiden Hospital Founded by the  
 Crafts-men of Edinburgh and Mary  
 Erskin, do Swear and Faithfully  
 Promise with my best Skill and  
 Power, to Discharge all that is Re-  
 quired of Me by the Statutes of the  
 said Hospital, Truly and Honestly.  
 So help me GOD. And Captain  
 John Wightman Skinner Burgefs  
 of Edinburgh, being formerly  
 chosen Treasurer, and having  
 given his Oath for Faithful Ad-  
 ministration, is to continue in  
 that Station until the first An-  
 nual Election, being the said se-  
 cond Monday of October next to  
 come; And it is hereby Declar-  
 ed and Ordained, that a Trea-  
 surer, serving the said Hospital  
 without*

without Fee or Sallary, shall have a Vote as other Governours, He being always a Benefactor, and his Donation Recorded.

### VII.

The Treasurer may be continued two years, or more, if the Governours shall think fit to Elect him of New yearly; and he shall yearly make his Accompts of his whole yearly Intromissions, & give in the samento the Auditors the first *Monday* of *October* yearly, who shall be obliged to deliver in the saids Accompts with their Report of the samento to the Governours, the said second *Monday* of *October* yearly, being the Annual Meeting: And the Governours of the *Hospital* are to finish

finish and conclude their Approving or Disproving of the same Accompts, before the admission of the New Governours for the year ensuing ; And at his Removal from his Office, he shall deliver up to the succeeding Treasurer all Accompts and Papers which belong any way to his Office, or may give insight for Discharging the same, which are to be kept in good Order, allowing always the Benefactors who are alive for the time and after their Death, whom they shall appoint by Write to be present if they please with the said Auditors, in their Auditing the same Accompts. If the Treasurer shall Die, or by any Necessity be Removed, the Governours shall with-



within eight days of his Death or Removal, proceed to the Election of a New one.

### VIII.

Upon the said second *Monday* of *October* yearly, there shall be chosen by the Deacons of the Incorporations who are Contributors, and the two Trades Counsellours for the time, and the two Governours of the Name of *Erskin*, and these to be added to them who are the Governours for the enfueing year, Nine of themselves, to be a Committee, for the more easy manadging of the Considerable Affairs and Concerns of the *Hospital*; And five of these nine to be a *Quorum*, and Auditors of the Treasurers  
and

and all other Accompts belonging to the *Hospital*, and for taking in the Treasurers Accompts Monthly, and preparing of the samen, that they may be the more readily Audited and Discharged at each years end, upon the said second *Monday* of *October* yearly. And the Treasurer with any five of these nine, are Impowered to Order and Manadge all the smaller Affairs of the *Hospital*, and to meet as oft for that Effect as they think fit; Which nine or their *Quorum*, are to choise their own Preses at their Meetings; but as to the matter of Election of the Governours, or anent the Rents of the *Hospital*, or the Government thereof, or any other great Con-

cern of the same, all the Governours that are in Town for the time, shall be Warned by the Officer of the *Hospital* to the Meetings thereanent; And what shall be concluded, by Plurality of Votes, shall stand in Force, there being always present at these Meetings no less than fifteen of the Governours. It is Declared that the Governours for the time, may be present at all Committees and Sub-committees, if they think fit, whether Warned or not, and Speak, Advise, and Vote therein.

## IX.

Upon the Death, Demission, or Deprivation of the Clerk, at least within 20 days thereafter, there is to be chosen another Clerk to the said  
*Hospital*

*Hospital* to continue during Life and good Behaviour, who shall keep in good Order, and Digest all the Evidents and other Papers belonging to the *Hospital*, and make and keep Books of a full and particular Record thereof, and to attend the Meetings, and form what Orders and Resolutions are done therein, and take the Oath in the same Form as is exprest in the Oath of the Treasurer, *Mutatis Mutandis*. And upon his Death or Removal, the Governours shall proceed within Twenty days to the Election of a New one, the Clerk is to have paid quarterly to him by the Treasurer the Sum of

And *William Brown*  
Writer

Writer in *Edinburgh* being formerly Chosen Clerk, and given his Oath for Faithful Administration, is to continue in that Station during his Life and Faithful Administration.

## X.

The present Governours have already Elected and Settled an Old Gentlewoman Named *Isobella Grant* Relict of *Francis Forbes* Gentleman, who voluntarily offered her Service to so Charitable a Work *Gratis* ; She is to continue in that Station during her Life and good Behaviour, and after her Death or Removal, the Governours for the time are within *Fourty* days to supply her place, by Electing another fit  
and

and qualified person for that Station. The said *Isobella Grant* and these who succeed to that Office, are to take care that the Schollars and Servants be brought up in the Fear of God, and shall Catechise and Instruct the Schollars in the Principles of the Christian Reformed Religion ; And Correct them for Faults when Occasion requires, and shall take in the Weekly Accompts, and deliver the same to the Treasurer, with her Opinion thereanent ; They are to be Unmarried persons not under *Fourty* years of Age, before their Admission; they shall be obliged to take the Oath following. I  
*A. B. Elected Mistres and Govern-  
ness of the Maiden Hospital Foun-  
ded*

*ded by the Crafts-men of Edinburgh  
 and Mary Erskin, Do Swear and  
 Faithfully Promise before God, that  
 to my best Power I shall Discharge  
 all which the Statutes of the said  
 Hofpital require from me ; And  
 shall do my best to see all the Statutes  
 of the said Hofpital observed by  
 others whom they do Concern, and  
 do Promise faithful Obedience to the  
 present Governours of the said Hof-  
 pital and their Successours in Office.  
 So help me GOD. After which  
 she is to get Possession of the  
 Mistrefs's Lodgings by some of the  
 Governours, and publickly in  
 prefence of the Children and Ser-  
 vants, Declared Mistrefs and  
 Governess ; and they Com-  
 manded to give her all Obedience,  
 under the pain of being expelled  
 from*

from the *Hospital*; She is to have her Dyet at a Table crofs at the Head of the other, and fhall not be any Night out of the *Hospital* without the leave of two at leaft of the Governours, and fhall have a Care to fee the whole Chambers and Office-houfes kept Clean and Neat; If ſhe marrie, her place thereby fhall become Void, or if ſhe be convicted of any Scandal before the Governours ſhe fhall be depofed; If at any time ſhe be found Remifs and Negligent, ſhe is to be publickly admoniſhed thereof by the Governours, which Admonition is to be Regiſtrat, and if thereafter ſhe Offend in like manner, ſhe is to be depofed; and if through Infirmity or Old Age ſhe



she become uncapable to exerce  
 the Office, which is to be cognosc-  
 ed by the Governours, she is to  
 be Respectfully dismissed: But  
 if she have served above Ten  
 years and not able to maintain  
 her self, she is to be allowed  
 Lodging and Maintenance in the  
*Hospital* during her Life, if she  
 please to accept thereof. In  
 case of her Deposition, Death  
 or Demission, the Governours are  
 to proceed to the Election of a  
 New Mistress or Governess with-  
 in Fourty Days thereafter; The  
 Governesses succeeding to the  
 said *Isobella Grant*, are to Re-  
 ceive Quarterly from the Trea-  
 surer the Sum of

## XI.

The present Governours have already Elected and Settled *Isobell Forbes* Daughter to the said *Francis Forbes* Gentleman to be School-mistress, who is to continue in that Station during her Life and good Behaviour, whose Office and her Successors shall be to teach the Children to Read, Work Stockings, Lace, coloured and white Seam, Spinning, Carding, Washing and Dressing of Linens, Dressing of Meat, Cleaning of House, and all sort of Needle-work and other ordinary House-hold Thrift ; And if they can to teach the Girls also Writing, Arithmetick, and the Common parts of Vocal Musick, And

if Women cannot be found to teach the whole Arts and Virtues abovementioned, then the Governours are to provide an Honest Man for some part thereof, to come to the *Hospital* at such Hours as shall be appointed and thought Convenient, who is to be Satisfied for his pains by the **Treasurer**; For the Schoolmistresses their qualities of Life, good Report, &c: and for the manner of their Election, Admission, Admonition, Deposition and Election of a New one in their place; It shall in all points be observed as is expressed in the Rules which concern the the Governesses, they must be unmarried and each of them shall

Receive

Receive from the Treasurer  
Quarterly the Sum of

XII.

The Governours for the time,  
shall have Power to Cognosce and  
and Judge any Transgression and  
Fault committed by the Treasu-  
rer, Clerk, Governers, and School-  
mistress, and consider whether the  
same merits Deprivation or not,  
and Determine accordingly.

XIII.

There shall be chosen a Wo-  
man of Good and Honest Report  
to be Cook to the *Hospital*, she  
shall be charged with the clean &  
exact dressing of the Victuals,  
Two or Three of the Children  
who are Educat in the *Hospital*,

shall be time about appointed by the Mistrefs to be present and assist at the dressing of the Victuals, that they may Learn to handle Meat Neatly; She shall have the keeping of all *Utencils* belonging to the Kitchen delivered to her by Inventory; she shall deliver up her Accompts for Bread, Drink, Candle, and other things belonging to her Charge to the Mistrefs Weekly, or as oft as she shall be required; she shall be chosen in manner forefaid, & continue during pleasure allanerly; she shall Receive from the Treasurer Quarterly the Sum of  
 for her Wages; And as to the rest of the Servants that may be needful for the said *Hospital*, it  
 is

is left to the Governours discreti-  
on to provide such, and give them  
such Allowances as they shall  
think fit.

## XIV.

There shall be Chosen and  
Admitted into the said *Hospital*,  
so many Children as the Revenue  
of the said *Hospital* shall be able  
to maintain, *Deductis Deducendis*.  
And these Girls presented by the  
Incorporations, are to be the  
Children or Grand-children of the  
Freemen Craftsmen of their own  
Incorporations, which failing, any  
other they please, of whose Poverty  
and Need of the help of the *Hos-  
pital*, the Incorporation who  
presents them are to be Judges;  
but the Donators to the *Hospital*

who have Right to present, by giving a Donation of 2000 *Merks* may present any Girl they think fit, whether Craftsmans Daughter or not, it being made appear to the Governours or their Committee before mentioned, by a Declaration under the Hand of the Donator who hath Right, and presents a Girl, that she is an Object of Charity; which Declaration shall be a sufficient Instruction of her Poverty. For each 2000 *Merks* Donation, the Person giver thereof during his or her Life, and after their Death any they shall appoint by write, hath a Title to present a Girl, and as oft as the presentation shall Vaick, they shall have the Renewing thereof; And if any two Persons shall jointly

joyntly give in 2000 *Merks* of their own proper means, they shall have the presenting of a child *alternis vicibus*, or as they shall Agree ; The Girls to be admitted to the *Hospital* must be Whole-  
som and Sound of their Body at their Entry, and capable to Learn, and must not be under seven years of Age, nor above Twelve years when they Enter ; And are to continue in the *Hospital* until they be Eighteen years of Age and no longer : And each of them at their Entry must be Decently Apparrelled at the sight of the Governours and Treasurer; and when that Apparel is worn, their Apparel afterwards is to be all of one Piece, without distinction of Persons, and as plain



plain as may be, and all of one  
 Collour, and with such Mark as  
 the Governours shall appoint ;  
 But when they go out of the  
*Hospital* at Eighteen years of Age,  
 they are to be Cled in New Ap-  
 parel distinct from what they  
 did wear in the *Hospital*, each  
 Girls Apparel not exceeding the  
 Sum of an Hundred Merks *Scots*,  
 which is to be paid by the Trea-  
 surer. The ordinary time of Re-  
 ceiving in of the Girls is to be the  
 first *Monday* of *November* yearly,  
 when it is to be considered by  
 the Governours what Vacancies  
 there are, and how many the  
 Estate and Revenue of the *Hos-  
 pital* is able to Maintain, that  
 so many Qualified as is before  
 exprest be then taken in, who  
 shall

shall have Lodging, Bed, Dyet, Washing and Common Fires allowed to them, beside their being Educated and Taught in manner aforesaid : And shall be Comely and Decently Apparelled both in their Cloaths and Linnings.

### XV.

In Respect frequent losses fall out in Lending Money, it is Enacted and Appointed, That no Money belonging to the said *Hospital*, be laid out or Employed but by an Act of the Governours, Voted by way of Billeting ; And that either for purchassing of Land, or Lent upon real Security of Land reputed free of Incumbrances, or to the Town of *Edinburgh* on the Towns Security, or  
to

to any other Three Responsal  
Persons upon their Bond, bound  
Conjunctly & Severally, Providing  
the Sum Lent to these Three Per-  
sons do not exceed Five Thousand  
Merks.

## XVI.

It is hereby Declared, That the  
Blanks for Fees or Sallaries in  
the forelaids Rules and Constitu-  
tions may be filled up by the  
Governours after due Consider-  
ation and Experience of what  
may be fuitable to be allowed.

## XVII.

It is hereby Ordered and Ap-  
pointed, that each Donators  
Name and Designation shall be  
put up in the Hall of the said  
Hospital

*Hospital* in Gold Letters, and the Sum mentioned there which they gave in Donation.

## XVIII.

That there be a Room one or more set apart for the sick Children, to be kept separat from the other Children, and that every sick Child have a Bed by her self.

## XIX.

That the Donators who have the Right and Title to Present upon a Vaccancie may have timeous Advertifement ; There shall be a Broad affixed upon the Principal Entry of the *Hospital*, giving Notice to which Person the Presentation falls.

It being Necessary that the Rights, Evidents and other writes of Importance belonging to the said *Hospital*, be kept Safe and in good Order ; And likewise, when there shall be at any time, through God's Blessing, a greater Sum lying *in Specie*, than what is like to be necessary for defraying the ordinary Expences, it were hard that the Treasurer should be troubled with so great a Charge : Therefore both with respect to the Papers and Money, it is Recommended to the Governours with their Conveniencie, to order a pended Room in the *Hospital*, to be made all Stone, with a good Fire-light, and a Door of Iron, with three different Locks  
and

and Keys ; One whereof to be kept by the Deacon Conveener for the time, another by the Eldest Governour of the Name of *Erskin*, and one by the Treasurer of the *Hospital* for the time.

## XXI.

It is Declared, That for the better Establifhing and Ordering this Good and Pious Work, by fetling the Rules thereof, after due experience, in the beft manner, that the Governours ( and all Contributors if they think fit ) are to meet every year at *Edinburgh* in the Hall of the *Hospital*, upon the 2d. Monday of *January*, beginning the firft yearly Meeting upon the 2d. Monday of *January*,  
 One Thousand feven Hundred &  
 eight

eight years. At these Meetings it shall be Leifume to these Conveened, providing their Number be seventeen or more, to re-consider the foresaids Articles and Rules, and to add thereto, and Order whatever they find Just and Necessar for the good of the *Hospital*, the sament being always consistent with the fore-mentioned Rules and Constitutions, and particularly these in Favours of the said *Mary Erskin*, as they are contained in the forementioned Disposition made by her to the said *Hospital*, and these Additions and Orders to be Determined by the plurality of Votes of these Conveened. And it is Declared Leifum to all Ladys and other Women, who are or shall be Benefactors

factors to the *Hospital*, to have their Proxies in the said yearly Meetings, they always having written Mandats for that Effect.

## XXII.

The Articles and Rules before-mentioned and set down, Consisting of eight Pages in the Principal Subscribed Rules, each page thereof being Signed by *Gilbert Somervel* present Deacon Conveener, and Mr. *James Erskin* of *Grange* one of the Senators of the Colledge of Justice, are unanimously Agreed to, and settled in manner foresaid. We the present Governours and Contributors Subscribers hereto, Bind and Oblige us and our Successors, who shall be Concerned in the *Hospital*, to keep and observe the same faithfully and firmly, according  
to



to the true Meaning and Intent thereof; *Declaring*, that the Persons who shall afterwards Subscribe and Contribute for Advancing the said good Work, may likewise at the same time Subscribe to these presents; And if need be's, That afterward a Rati- fication of the foresaids Rules and Constitutions (or as they shall be Amended) may be procured from the Parliament, which is Recommended to the Governours of the *Hospital* for the time, to see done. In Witness whereof, We have Subscribed these Pre- sents with Our Hands, at *Edinburgh* the ninth Day of *Sep- tember*, One Thousand seven Hundred and seven Years.