Reports of the Society, etc. Part II.

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REPORTS

OFTHE

SOCIETY

FOR THE RECOVERY OF

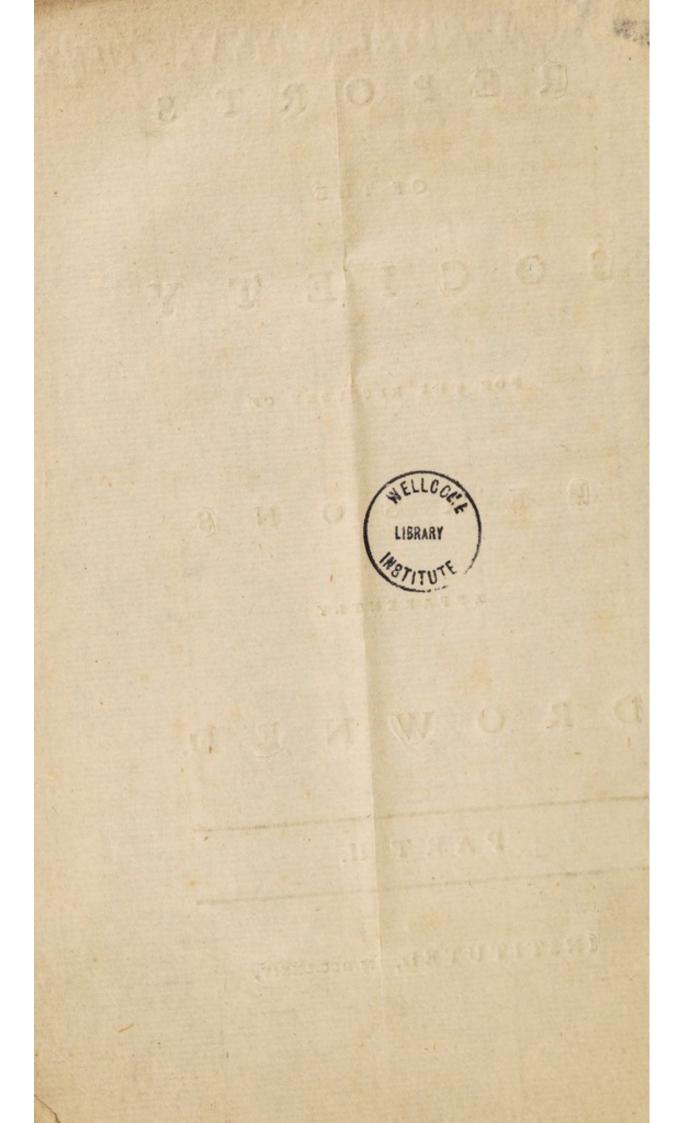
PERSONS

APPARENTLY

DROWNED.

PART II.

INSTITUTED, M.DCC.LXXIV.



REPORTS of the SOCIETY

INSTITUTED IN FAVOUR OF

DROWNED PERSONS, Gc.

T gives us unspeakable pleasure, that we are now able to unite our evidence with that of other nations, in confirmation of a fact equally interesting as it is curious and surprising, viz. that perfons may, either by immersion in water, or by other species of strangulation, have every corporeal faculty totally suspended, so that they shall, to all appearance, be dead for a considerable length of time; and yet it may be in the power of art to recover them.

The Cafes we fhall lay before the public, demonftrative of this truth, have either been communicated by gentlemen whofe veracity is unqueftionable, and who could readily produce a fufficient number of vouchers, were any one to difcredit their evidence; or they have fallen under our own immediate infpection.

As to ourfelves, we can have no motive to induce us to be abfurdly credulous on the one hand, or on the other, attempt to impose falshoods on the public. The furptifing facts recorded by our neigh- C_2 bours bours, the Dutch and French, induced us to make the like experiments. Had we not fucceeded, we fhould have made our report to the world; and, refting fatisfied with the goodnefs of our intention, we fhould have left others to draw what confequences they pleafed. But we have fucceeded; and we congratulate our countrymen upon having demonstrated a fact, which we hope will, in process of time, wipe tears from the eyes of thousands: we congratulate ourfelves in being the inftruments of fo much happinefs. These were our motives; these are our rewards; and we defire no other.

Since thefe are the fecret fprings of our conduct, we lie under no temptation to act difingenuoully. We are folicitous, equally with others, to weigh the validity of our undertaking, and afcertain the proportion of ufefulnefs to our fellow-creatures likely to accrue from it; and therefore we hefitate not to declare, that we have paid our proffered rewards, in no lefs than twelve unfuccefsful attempts, while the inflances of recovery, in confequence of our inflitution, are only *four* in number. But fo valuable is life, not only to the individual, but to his various connections, that were the cafes of fuccefs never to bear a greater proportion, we fhould have no reafon to repent of our undertaking.

Yet were it confiftent with the proposed brevity of this publication, to give the unfuccessful cases also at large, feveral inftances would sufficiently indicate, that the cause of their failure was owing to adventitious circumstances, which, without affecting our leading principle, rendered it morally impossible to recover the unfortunate objects.

Three of the number had lain in the water from an hour and half to two hours, before they were taken up: and although we have engaged, that we might err err on the fide of fafety, to give our premiums to thole who shall attempt the recovery of perfons in this state, yet we are not fo fanguine as to expect that one in fifty could be restored under such disadvantages. Others, after being taken out, were neglected for a confiderable length of time, through the ignorance of the attendants.—In another instance, the perfon fell into the water as he was fighting. In this case, the body must have been heated to a great degree, and the lungs surcharged with blood; and his restoration would most probably have been impracticable, had the proper means been instantly applied.

In two other cafes, although we were not fo happy as to fucceed, yet we were for fome time flattered with fuch figns of returning life, as demonftrated that the vital fpark had not been totally extinguished, though it was not in our power to revive it.

A due confideration of these circumstances fo far from discouraging, animates our hopes, that, in the usual course of accidents, we shall proportionably equal other countries in the number of objects snatched from immediate death.

Candour will alfo make allowance for our prefent inexperience in attempts of this nature. No rules can be laid down that fhall be equally applicable in every cafe; and our own obfervations in a few inftances will better inftruct us in the modes of procedure, than the moft minute and circumftantial directions that can be poffibly given. It is but juft that we affure the public, however, that in all the accidents, where the Medical Gentlemen have been called in, they have difcovered fo much attention and zeal, as well as fkill and expertnefs in their methods of treatment, that we have every reafon to expect expect confiderable fuccefs from the continuance of their generous affiftance. It is with pleafure we find alfo, that publicans and others readily admit bodies into their houfes, without being fuch flaves to vulgar prejudices as we might naturally have apprehended; and that the lower clafs of people begin to be very affiduous in their endeavours to affift objects in that perilous flate. The fourth cafe we have defcribed is a pleafing fpecimen and earneft of the good effects of our rewards, in faving the unfortunate from an immediate danger of drowning; which is full as fatisfactory, refpecting the good produced, as recovering them after they were to appearance dead.

In giving the hiftory of Cafes, the order which naturally prefents itfelf is, first to relate the instances of success which fall under our immediate cognizance, and afterwards those which have been communicated to us by our correspondents.

CASE

[23]

CASE I.

July 12, THOMAS, the fon of John Joseph, a child aged about 14 months, dwel-1774. ling by the Iron Foundery near the Falcon Stairs, wandering from its mother and other women who were drinking tea together in a chandler's fhop, got into a back kitchen, and fell through a trap, the door of which was carelefsly left open, into an aqueduct communicating with the River Thames. The women heard it fall, and ran to the place, but could not perceive the child. Their fcreams brought a fhoemaker, who lived in an adjacent house, to the place, but he was fearful of jumping in, left he should fall upon the child. Thomas Vincent, a waterman, who was amongft the crowd brought together by the cries of the diftreffed mother, being informed of the event, ran round by feveral houfes, and climbing over the walls of the aqueduct, waded up to the place to the height of his cheft in the water, proceeding cautioully, and feeling for the infant with his feet as he advanced; as he imagined the returning tide might have carried it to a diftance from the place : nor was he altogether deceived; for he felt the child about ten feet from the opening. He took it up, and gave it to the women through the hole through which it had tallen. From feven to ten minutes must have elapfed from the falling-in of the child to the time it was taken out. The women upon the ftricteft exa-

examination affirmed, that the child was to all appearance dead; its eyes were fixed, it lay breathlefs, and void either of motion or pulfe. They shook, and beat it on its back for fome little time, and then laying it upon a counter in the fhop, rubbed its belly and cheft with dry falt; the friction was fcarcely continued three minutes before the child began to gafp, and give other figns of returning life, which encreafed till they were enabled to pour fome falt and water down its throat. This excited a vomiting, by which the child threw up a confiderable quantity of water and mud from its ftomach, and in a few minutes more it was reftored to the joyful arms of its mother. In the course of the evening it had two or three convulfive fits, but thefe were of fhort duration, and returned no more. The perfon who had taken the child out of the water ran for Mr. Boyle, one of the Medical Affiftants to this Society : he not being at home, his journeyman went to the house, but he found the child pretty well recovered. The waterman had the reward promifed by the fociety.

CASE II.

ON the 11th of August, 1774, in the afternoon, about the time of high water, as Dederic, the fon of Dederic Woolbert, a lad about thirteen years of age, was standing on a wharf near Wapping New Stairs, and casting a net, he accidentally fell into the river, in a depth of between 12 and 14 feet. Some perfons who faw him fall threw a rope into the water : the boy, as he afterwards informed us, perceived the rope, and catched at it, but missing his aim he sunk, and became immediately senseles. A wa-

A waterman, who also faw him fall, got a boat hook, and drew him up with fome difficulty. He had been under water about ten minutes; when taken out he was to appearance void of life; his face was fwoln and livid, there was neither pulfe nor refpiration, and his limbs were cold and ftiff; one leg was confiderably contracted. He was conveyed to a public house in the neighbourhood, and Mr. Hodg fon, furgeon and apothecary in Wapping, was immediately fent for, who ordered the wet clothes to be taken off as foon as poffible, his body to be rubbed dry with flannels, and then put between two blankets. Four men rubbed him well with falt; bottles of warm water were applied to his arm-pits, to the foles of his feet, &c. In about 25 minutes a little warmth was perceptible; fome wine and water warm was then given him; he fwallowed about half a small glassful, which excited a cough; a vein was opened, and more of the wine and water was given, which he drank without any difficulty. By the above method he was, in the fpace of an hour and a half, very well recovered .---The lad appeared before the Society. He faid he had been troubled with a difficulty of breathing two or three days after his recovery; and his eyes were ftill fo much inflamed, that what is termed the white of the eyes appeared of a uniform red; which was a fufficient evidence of the extreme danger from which he had been delivered. The prefence of a promifing youth, as it were rifen from the dead, and the gratitude he expressed to the instruments of his prefervation, diffufed a pleafure over the whole company, which it is eafier for a benevolent heart to conceive, than for any words to express.

His account corresponded with the general decla-PART II. D ration

CASE III.

The following extraordinary Cafe, communicated to us by Mr. *Thomas*, Surgeon, at *Greenwich*, one of the Medical Affiftants, is a demonstration of the efficacy of fimilar methods of treatment applied to the unfortunate perfons who hang themfelves, and indicates the extensive utility of thefe inftitutions. We shall relate it in Mr. *Thomas's* own words.

"ON the 14th of June, 1774, Jane Donnelly, wife of one of the penfioners in the Royal Hospital at Greenwich, being in a phrenzy, took the defperate refolution of hanging herfelf. She lived in a house with several inmates; and about five o'clock in the afternoon was heard to drive a nail. In a few minutes after, a little dog that was in the room began to howl in a very uncommon manner. At first the people paid no attention to the dog, but finding the poor animal become more outrageous, and feemingly in great diffrefs, one of them was induced to open the door, when the difcovered the woman hanging in the middle of the room. She immediately alarmed the neighbours, who came to her affiftance, and cut her down. They believe that, from the time the dog began to howl, to the time fhe was cut down, was full 25 or 30 minutes. She appeared to the people about her to be quite dead, as fhe did not breathe nor move; however they rubbed her temples with fpirits of hartfhorn, and poured water into her mouth. Full half an hour was spent in finding the husband, who came for me. I found

I found her entirely motionless, her face fomewhat fwoln and and livid, her jaws fallen, and every other appearance of death; but having a general warmth, I was induced to attempt her recovery. After laying her in a proper fituation, I directed the women to rub her extremities with common falt; the hufband was employed in rubbing her temples with hartfhorn, every now and then applying it to her nostrils; at the fame time I opened a vein in her arm, from which the blood only dropt flowly. When the friction had been continued about fifteen minutes, I perceived a fmall pulfe; this affured me that the use of the fumigator, or bronchotomy would not be wanting, which it was my intention to have tried. The friction was continued with affiduity for half an hour, when I found her pulfe increase; the blood flowed freer; fhe began to breathe, and move her head; and foon after fcreamed most violently. She then fwallowed a few drops of fpirit of hartfhorn and water without much difficulty : her fenfes in fome degree returned; fhe called for water, and complained of her legs being hurt : her extremities being by this time very much inflamed, and the being thought out of danger; the friction was discontinued. I then left directions with the people about her how fhe was to be managed; and on the next morning found her free of all complaints, except a pain in her head and forenefs of the throat: I have feen her frequently fince in perfect health.

F. THOMAS.

CASE IV.

ON Thursday afternoon, August 18, 1774; John Harrington, a boy 14 years old, fon to Mary D 2 Herring-

Harrington, near the Blue Posts at Poplar, went into the Thames, near the Horfe-ferry at Limebouse, to bathe. The tide making down, and the river fuddenly deepening at that place, he foon got out of his depth, and was in the greateft danger of being drowned : he was a confiderable time in the water. ftruggling and driving down with the tide, until being quite fpent, infenfible, and finking, he was fortunately taken into a boat by Ifaac and Cornelius Estridge. He was actually below the furface of the water, and they could just reach to catch hold of fome part of the body, and in all probability he would have been totally loft in two minutes more, as it was in the middle of the river. He was without fenfe, or any perceptible refpiration, when taken They brought him on fhore, and began up. to shake him pretty smartly, with his head rather downwards, as they fuppofed he had taken in a confiderable quantity of water : however, by this agitation he came to his fenfes; he was taken into the Three Crowns at the Ferry, and put to bed between blankets. In this fituation I found him when I first came, (fays Mr. Patten, of Radcliffe-crofs, the Medical Affiftant who fuperintended the cure). As he was then fenfible, and the pulfation at the wrift plainly to be diffinguished, I directed him to be well rubbed with a piece of hot flannel, and fome warm brandy and water to be given him. After which he lay two hours, and went home perfectly well .---Mr. Patten alfo obferves, that the encouragement and rewards which the Society give to people affifting in fuch cafes, will be the means not only of recovering many thought to be dead, but will make people more diligent in giving their affiftance, before they are fo far gone as to render the recovery doubtful-an inftance of which was to be feen in the before

fore recited cafe. A waterman in particular, upon the first cry of the boy's danger, jumped from off the gunwale of a ship into his boat, at the hazard of breaking his limbs, with the view of being first to get him out of the water; but it happened others were nearer, and took him up: Again the people at the house made no scruple of receiving him, and instructioned putting him to bed.

Having obferved in the London Chronicle an account of the recovery of a child that was drowned at Henley upon Thames, we wrote to Mr. Clowes, Surgeon in that place, who was mentioned as having performed the cure, for the particulars of it; and he was fo obliging as to transmit the following to us, by the hands of Mr: Rich, Secretary to the Society.

A

Sir, Henley upon Thames, July 15, 1774. In compliance with your request, I have fent as true a state of the case you enquire about as I am able, and think myself happy in having merited the attention of so humane a Society.

• ON the 27th of April an accident happened here, attended with a very fingular circumftance: fome children were playing near a drain cut through this town for the conveniency of conveying the water from a neighbouring fpring, occafioned by the late heavy rains, into the Thames, when one of thefe children unfortunately fell in, and was driven by the rapidity of the current near 300 yards under ground. From the place where this little girl fell, the water takes an angular courfe under the great Oxford Road, and is banked in with pofts and other implements to confine the violence of the ftream. From the angular courfe it runs in a right line into the Thames, through through another narrow covered drain, almost choaked up with fand and filth. This child, fomething better than two years of age, was at last taken up at the end of this drain, notwithstanding every impediment in the passage.

My house being fituated next the Thames where the child was taken up; I was called immediately to its affiftance, and found her to all appearance dead a cold as clay; the extremities and body of a high livid colour, with its jaw fallen, and a neighbour fuspending her by the legs. Being firmly of opinion that little or no water enters into the thorax or ftomach in these cases, I immediately altered its position (after taking off the wet clothes with the greateft expedition) by the affiftance of two or three byftanders; the child was supported in an horizontal pofture, with its head a little elevated. Then I began the recovery, by compreffing with my hands the abdomen, fo as to force the vifcera towards the diaphragm, that the lungs might receive fome preffure, and expel the ftagnated air in their veffels; as it is generally allowed, that people who die by fubmerfion, die in infpiration. By continuing this preffure a fhort time, and making a ftrong friction with warm cloths upon the abdomen, thorax and extremities (by the help of a proper affiftant who was at hand) the child foon fhewed fome figns of life by little gaspings. I also evidently felt a pulfation from the heart. As foon as the was capable of swallowing, I got down acetum scilliticum 3/s. in order to ftimulate nature by puking, which had the defired effect, and fhe foon recovered. The coldness of the limbs prevented my using the lancet, and I believe it was a full hour before the pulfe at the wrift could be perceived.

> 1 am, Sir, your obedient humble Servant, T: CLOWES:

The Cafe following was communicated to Mr. Rich, Secretary to the Society, by Mr. Rofe, Surgeon and Apothecary, at Putney.

· Sir.

Putney, August 15, 1774.

• You'll be pleafed to prefent my most respectful compliments to the Gentlemen of the Society, and acquaint them I have, agreeable to their request, transmitted the method used in the recovery of John Beesley, a lad of 12 years of age, son to a shoemaker in Fulbam.

· Paffing over the bridge in my carriage on the 4th inft. about fix o'clock in the evening, I was ftopped, and requested to give my affistance to a boy just carried into the Swan alebouse by the water fide, faid to be drowned. On my entrance, I found him lying on his face, and people rubbing him with falt. I immediately caufed him to he fet up, his head and shoulders supported, and took away 8 oz. of blood from the arm, rubbed his face, neck, &c. well with brandy, and continued the friction of falt: after fome time perfifting in this method, he fhewed figns of life. I then directed him to be put to bed betwixt the blankets, and attempted to get down fome brandy into the ftomach, but this was impracticable. I then left him for the prefent, defiring the attendants to continue the friction of falt on the body and extremities, and the bathing of the face, &c. with the brandy, and to keep his head and shoulders a little raifed. At nine o'clock the fame evening I called again, and found nature had just then then made an effort, by vomiting up fome flime and water. His pulfe now was getting up, with a general warmth diffufed all over him. I ordered fome gruel with wine as foon as he was capable of taking it, and then to leave him to reft, which he did the remaining part of the night. He arofe the next morning free from complaints, eat a good breakfaft, walked home, and has continued perfectly well ever fince.

I am, Sir, Your most bumble Servant, JOHN ROSE:

N. B. When I first faw him there was a total loss of muscular motion, no perceptible pulse nor respiration; the extremities cold, face and eyes livid, and the jaws fixed, with a frothing at the mouth; in short, to all human appearance dead, excepting a guttural noise, which indicated fome degree of air circulating through the lungs. How long he might be struggling in the water ere he was taken out I know not; they told me he had been sisten minutes out of it when I first faw him.

[33]

To the PUBLIC.

WE undertook to introduce into these kingdoms an Inftitution for the Recovery of Perfons apparently dead by Drowning, &c. upon the juftifiable prefumption that, fhould the methods recommended in fuch alarming cafes prove in any tolerable degree effectual, the known and experienced humanity of our countrymen would encourage a defign fo peculiarly benevolent in its views. We naturally concluded, that numbers in this great and opulent city would freely join us, and affift, by their liberal contributions, our attempts to leffen, in a very effential article, the evils of human life. Induced by these confiderations, we have taken no fmall pains, and fome of us have been at no inconfiderable expence, to place our inftitution upon an unexceptionable and advantageous footing, and to give the methods recommended by others as fo remarkably efficacious, a fair and impartial trial. If they had not answered our defires, we should have borne alone *hat ridicule which the bulk of mankind are fo ready to lavish upon unfuccessful projectors : Surely then we have a right to call upon every one whofe circumftances will permit, to fhare with us the bonour of PART II. E.

of doing good; the inexpreffible fatisfaction of reftoring life to perifhing individuals, and happinefs to diffracted families!

The above examples of recovery, few as they are, as inconteffibly prove the practicability of reftoring those who are to all appearance dead, as if they had been more numerous. And they afcertain alfo a very affecting and humiliating truth : They demonstrate that hundreds might have been reftored, and have remained to this moment a bleffing to their connections and to the world, had not Britain been fo fhamefully inattentive to these cries of the diffressed; had not a baneful, may we not fay murderous fpirit of incredulity, rendered us deaf to the repeated affertions and demonstrative facts communicated to us by our neighbours on the continent; who, we are forry to fay, have in this inftance taken large ftrides before us, in ferving the great caufe of humanity.

The fecond part of the Dutch Memoirs, publifhed fince the firft was translated, contains no lefs than fifty-eight additional inftances of reftoration to life; fo that they have redeemed, in the fpace of about fix years, upwards of *two hundred* fouls from death. In France, they have been inftrumental in faving forty-five perfons out of fixty-nine in about 16 months; and it is a natural inference, that England has permitted numbers nearly equal to perifh, for want of a fimilar interpofition.

But we now hope that our happy experience, connected with that of almost every country in Europe, will at length fix the attention of our countrymen upon this important object; and then they will foon learn how much good may be effected by their patronizing our undertaking. It would be difficult to form an eftimate of the number of lives annually loft

loft by drowning in this ifland : but when we recolleft that we are furrounded by water; that we are the first maritime state; that accidents of this nature are perpetually happening upon navigable rivers, in fea-ports, and on voyages; and that there is not a town or village in the kingdom where the inhabitants are not exposed to danger by bathing. fliding, &c. we need not hefitate to pronounce the amount to be feveral hundreds. But as the methods fo fuccefsfully practifed in the cafe of drowned perfons, are alfo applicable in fudden deaths occafioned by various other caufes; whether fuffocation by the cord, by noxious vapours, (as in coal and lead mines) fufpenfion of the vital powers by lightning. fyncopies, &c. &c. what an ample and untrodden field is open for the exercise of our generous compaffion ! What folid benefits might we not infure to the flate, what lafting happines to thousands, were the rich individuals, or the Magistracy of this great and wealthy city, to let fo laudable a defign fhare fome portion of their bounty *! Our premiums might be extended to a greater diftance from the metropolis; they might also comprehend other cafes of fudden deaths; we fhould be enabled to diffuse over the whole kingdom, even to its most retired parts, the knowledge of these fucces-

* We cannot forbear expressing our warmest acknowledgments to the Right Honourable FREDERICK BULL, Esq; the present worthy Lord Mayor, for the early countenance he has given to our design. It is not unusual for Societies which have gained a full establishment, or are so far advanced as to confer a degree of honour upon their Presidents, to meet with respectable patrons. But for the chief Magistrate of the first city in Europe, to floop and take an *infant* institution by the hand, and lead it through its first dangers and difficulties, merely because it was a *bumane* one, reflects the highest lustre upon the benevolence of his disposition, and affords an example worthy the imitation of every gentleman of fortune and influence.

ful

ful methods, and excite a general fpirit of trying these falutary experiments in every case of fudden death. The very idea of fuch extensive utility must warm the heart of every man that has a heart to be warmed: And we confess it hurts us to have fuch a noble prospect opened to our view, and feel ourfelves confined and fettered by the narrowness of our finances.

It is by no means our defire to erect this Inftitution upon the ruins of any other. It is with pleafure, and with a juftifiable pride, that we behold fuch a variety of Plans formed, and fupported by that fpirit of benevolence which diftinguifhes this nation, in order to alleviate the various diftreffes of mankind. Our only wifh is, that this may be added to the number; that we may be uniform and confiftent in our acts of humanity; that the ftreams of public beneficence may not be confined in partial channels, but be divided and fubdivided until they reach every proper object of diftrefs.

And yet the juffice we owe to our undertaking requires us to hint, that were we to draw a comparison between our Institution and those many others which do honour to their patrons, it would yield to none of them, either with respect to the quantity of good produced at a comparatively small expence; the importance and extent of its views; or the peculiar benevolence of its defigns.

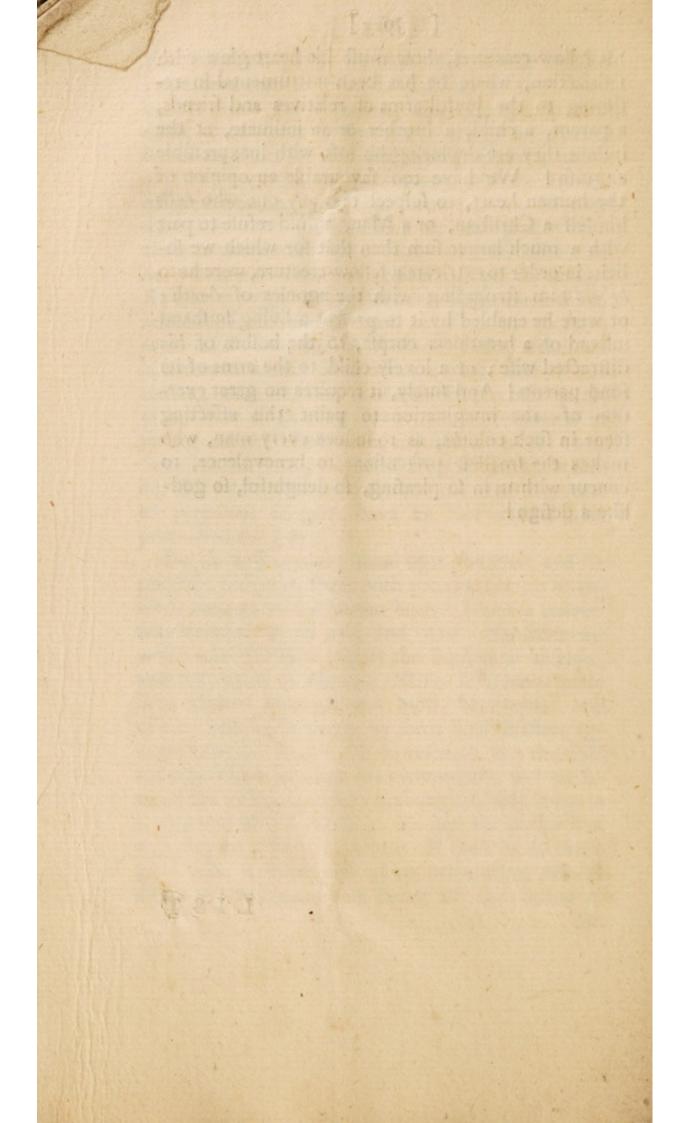
The current expences, after the firft, neceffary, to make our plan fufficiently known, are defrayed, will nearly be proportionate to the number of accidents which prefent themfelves. As we are not burdened with any ftanding charges, as the fpot neareft to the place where the accident has happened becomes a temporary infirmary; where, if the humanity of the inhabitant fhould not, a moderate gragratuity furnishes all the neceffary accommodations; every guinea employed will be towards the actual redemption of a life. Surely if a charitable dispofition contributes fuch large fums with chearfulnefs towards the building, furniture, and maintenance of HOSPITALS, where a princely fortune is frequently funk previous to the expected good, and where the hopes of relief are equally uncertain to each individual, it will not refuse a moiety immediately employed in fuccouring a fellow creature in the depth of diffres.

We again urge, that the objects whole caufe we are pleading with the public, feem to claim a peculiar right to our friendly interpofition. They are either the industrious poor, whom it is our interest as well as duty to replace, if postible, in their fphere of ulefulnels, that they may again work for their wives and families: whereby thefe are fnatched from milery and want, and the community relieved from a troublefome and expenfive burden. Or, they are unhappy objects, impelled by a temporary phrenfy to the defperate refolution of becoming their own executioners. If indulgent benevolence has erected hospitals for the removal of evils mankind bring upon themfelves by vicious gratifications, it must feel an additional pleafure in recalling a miferable creature from the very brink of eternity, into which he was precipitating himfelf by his own guilt; which guilt has this alleviation-it was occasioned by wretchednefs. Or, they are objects with whom any individual of us may have an immediate concern. Bufinefs or pleafure, or fome unforefeen caufe, expofes every man, either in his own perfon or in his connections, to accidents by water. In other cafes our station in life may be fo different, and fo remote

mote from the party we affift, that it may become imposible for us ever to partake of any other benefit from our donations than the pleafure of doing good; but every man living is exposed to the accidents we are attempting to avert, either in his own perfon or connexions, without any exemption from age, fex, or fortune; and he may owe his own prefervation, or the prefervation of some one still dearer to him, to that institution he patronized from a motive of public utility. So that it ought to be confidered as a kind of infurance of life rather than an affair of charity; as an affociation against those calamities which are common to us all. And when it shall become extenfive, numbers will doubtlefs have caufe to rejoice, that while they have been inftrumental in faving others, their own, or the lives of their dearest relations, perhaps of their children, whose heedlefs and adventurous fpirits are exposing them to perpetual dangers, have by thefe means been protracted for years.

But the Inftitutions formed upon the Plan, and for purpofes like ours, fpeak with peculiar energy to the finest feelings of the human heart. Death is univerfally dreaded as an evil, and those establishments which have for their object the healing of difeafes, and reftoration to vigorous active life, have juftly been ranked amongft the most benevolent and useful; but sudden death, by some fatal difaster, agaggravates the ftroke. It is refented as a dreadful robbery which accident has committed; and we lament the victim as cruelly and unguardedly ftript in a moment of the bleffings he had the profpect of enjoying for a feries of years. If there be to every good man a fecret pleafure in performing acts of common beneficence, in being of cold utility to his

his fellow-creatures, how must his heart glow with fatisfaction, where he has been inftrumental in reftoring to the joyful arms of relatives and friends, a parent, a child, a brother or an intimate, at the inftant they are deploring his lofs with inexpreffible anguish ! We have too favourable an opinion of the human heart, to fuspect that any one who calls himfelf a Chriftian, or a Man, would refuse to part with a much larger fum than that for which we folicit, in order to extricate a fellow-creature, were he to behold him ftruggling with the agonies of death; or were he enabled by it to prefent a living hufband inftead of a breathlefs corpfe, to the bofom of his distracted wife; or a lovely child to the arms of its fond parents! And furely, it requires no great exertion of the imagination to paint this affecting fcene in fuch colours, as to induce every man, who makes the fmalleft pretenfions to benevolence, to concur with us in fo pleafing, fo delightful, fo godlike a defign !



(4t)

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