

Humane Society. For the recovery of persons apparently dead by drowning. : Instituted in the year 1774.

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HUMANE SOCIETY.
in London 1774.

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HUMANE SOCIETY.

FOR THE RECOVERY OF

P E R S O N S

APPARENTLY DEAD BY DROWNING.

INSTITUTED in the YEAR 1774.

H U M A N E S O C I E T Y.

P A T R O N

The KING's Most Excellent MAJESTY.

P R E S I D E N T,

The R. HON. the EARL of STAMFORD.

V I C E - P R E S I D E E N T S,

The RT. HON. LORD BEAUCHAMP, M. P.

The RT. HON. LORD WILLOUGHBY DE BROKE.

The HON. PHILIP PUESY.

Sir JOSEPH ANDREWS, Bart.

Mr. ALDERMAN SAWBRIDGE, M. P.

J. HAWKINS BROWNE, Esq. M. P.

Mr. ALDERMAN SKINNER,

J. C. LETTSOM, M. D.—F. R. S. and S. A.

EDWARD BRIDGEN, Esq. F. R. S. and S. A.

GUSTAVUS A. KEMPENFELT, Esq.

T R E A S U R E R,

Dr. LETTSOM.

R E G I S T E R,

Dr. HAWES.

* * * Every benevolent person who applies for the mode of treatment for the recovery of the drowned, &c. it is to be hoped will be animated in the humane and patriotic cause of restoring life, as the happiness of a fond parent may depend upon the *resuscitation* of a beloved child, and the support of a numerous family upon the *restoration* of an industrious father.

RULES AND ORDERS
OF THE
HUMANE SOCIETY.

A DESIRE TO PROTRACT THE PERIOD OF OUR EXISTENCE IS SO PREVALENT THAT WE DREAD THE APPROACH OF DISSOLUTION MORE THAN THE SEVEREST PANGS THAT CAN AFFLICT OUR NATURE—AS THIS PROPENSITY IS BOTH NATURAL AND LAUDABLE, AN INSTITUTION, THAT TENDS TO PRESERVE THE LIVES OF MANKIND, MAY JUSTLY CLAIM THE SUPPORT OF A GENEROUS AND BENEVOLENT NATION.

THE HUMANE SOCIETY was instituted in the year 1774, for the recovery of persons apparently drowned, and has, in the course of thirteen years, been the means of preserving and restoring the lives of *eight hundred and ninety-seven persons*, who otherwise would, in all human probability, have been lost to the community.

To those who know of how much consequence to a STATE are the lives of its subjects, and that there are none who deserve its attention more than the industrious and laborious part of the people, it will be unnecessary to expatiate on the importance of an institution, which is peculiarly directed to their preservation.

It is not, however, to the lower class alone that its benevolent views are confined; its aim is to extend assistance to every case of *suspension of the vital powers*, and to restore to their friends and country, not the poor only, but those of every rank and description.

The philanthropist, therefore, must naturally wish, that the influence of this Society, which is now confined within a very narrow circle, were extended over the whole kingdom; but this desirable purpose cannot be accomplished till the Society is enabled to extend its rewards, so as to stimulate those, from motives of interest, who would not have been actuated by humanity, to exert themselves in preserving the lives of their fellow creatures.

The Humane Society have been productive of great public utility, by pointing out the possibility of restoring to life numbers in circumstances, which, in former ages, through *incredulity, culpable inactivity, or injudicious treatment*, were rendered fatal; and by

By exciting earnestness and expedition in assisting persons in danger of drowning, in consequence of which very many lives are annually preserved.—This institution also, by inclining the attention of ingenious men to a subject of such importance, must contribute not a little to the improvement of medical science *. It is now beyond a doubt that many, who, apparently dead, have remained unassisted till they were really so, might have been resuscitated, *had we been better acquainted with the certain and uncertain signs of death, the causes which may suspend life, without destroying it, and the most probable and powerful means of restoring animation.*

If there be in human nature any such thing as sympathy in the distresses of others; if there be a desire to relieve them; if there be a pleasure in so doing superior to all the gratifications of sense and passion; and if this pleasure, so far from bringing satiety along with it, increases upon enjoyment, and will always bear the review; surely, to those who consider how many opportunities of removing the misery, and contributing to the happiness, of mankind, are afforded by THE HUMANE SOCIETY, it will be needless to urge any argument in proof of its excellence. Let every PARENT OR CHILD, HUSBAND OR WIFE, let every one who has experienced the sensations of *affection* or *friendship*, only consider for a moment, and say, what would be their transport, to recover from the jaws of death those whom

* See p. 7.

they considered as lost for ever. They know the extasies they themselves would feel, and they surely would wish to make others partake in such exquisite enjoyments.

The Restorations, &c. within the last Year were as follow.

<i>Persons restored to Life</i>	-	49
<i>Lives preserved,</i>	-	55
<i>Unsuccessful cases,</i>	-	63
		<u>167</u>

The number of LIVES *restored* and *preserved* in the last year, considerably exceeds that of any preceding one, since the establishment of this Institution.

Mr. WELLS, in a letter to Dr. HAWES, observes as follows —“ To you the public are greatly indebted for the establishment of the HUMANE SOCIETY; and I have now the pleasure to write, that *our Society* extends its benefits and premiums through the counties of *Worcester, Gloucester, and Shropshire*; which has in a few months been productive of SIX PERSONS BEING RESTORED ALIVE to their friends and the community.”

The truly benevolent, philanthropic, and immortal JONAS HANWAY countenanced the Humane Society for several years; and, in one of his publications, observes—“ If in fifty families *the plan of resuscitation* saved but a single life to the community, the nation would be a gainer in a pecuniary view, and still more in point of reputation, and the cultivation of humanity.”

The

The DIRECTORS of this INSTITUTION earnestly recommend the use of the following plain Methods of Treatment, for the RECOVERY OF THE DROWNED, OR OTHERWISE SUFFOCATED; as, in consequence of early unremitted perseverance therein, several hundred persons have been rescued from the watery grave, and restored to life, their families, and the community.

I. AS soon as the object is got out of the water, the wet cloaths, if the person is not naked at the time of the accident, should be taken off with all possible expedition, on the *spot*, (unless some convenient house be *very* near) and a great-coat or two of the bye-standers should be wrapped round the body.

II. The unfortunate person is to be thus carefully conveyed in the arms of three or four men; or on a bier, to the *nearest* public or other house, where a good fire, if in the winter season, and a warm bed, can be made ready for its reception. As the body is conveying to this place, great attention is to be paid to the position of the head;

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head; it *must* be kept supported in a natural and easy posture, and not suffered to hang down.

III. In cold or moist weather, the body is to be laid on a mattraß or bed before the fire, but not too near, or in a moderately heated room: in warm and sultry weather, on a bed only. The body is then to be surrounded as expeditiously as possible with a blanket, and thoroughly dried with warm coarse cloths or flannels.

IV. In warm or sultry weather too much air cannot be admitted. For this reason it will be necessary to set open the windows and doors, as *cool refreshing air* is of the greatest importance in the process of resuscitation.

V. Not more than six persons are to be present to apply the proper means; a greater number will be useless, and may retard, or totally prevent, the restoration of life, by rendering the air of the apartment unwholesome. It will be necessary, therefore, to request the absence of those who attend merely from motives of curiosity.

VI. It will be proper for one of the assistants, with a pair of bellows of the common size, applying the pipe a little way up one nostril, to blow with some force, in order to introduce air into the lungs; at the same
time

time the other nostril and the mouth are to be closed by another assistant, whilst a third person *gently* presses the chest with his hands, after the lungs are observed to be inflated. By pursuing this process, the noxious and stagnant vapours will be expelled, and natural breathing imitated. If the pipe of the bellows be too large, the air may be blown in at the mouth, the nostrils at the same time being closed, so that it may not escape that way; but the lungs are more easily filled, and *natural breathing* better imitated, by blowing up the nostril.

VII. Let the body be *gently* rubbed with common salt, or with flannels, sprinkled with spirits, as rum or geneva *. A warming-pan heated (the body being surrounded with flannel) may be *lightly* moved up and down the back. Fomentations of hot brandy are to be applied to the *pit of the stomach*, loins, &c. and often renewed. Bottles filled with hot water, heated tiles covered with flannel, or hot bricks, may be efficaciously applied to the soles of the feet, palms of the hands, and other parts of the body. The temples may be rubbed with spirits of hartshorn, and the nostrils now and then tickled with a feather; and *snuff*,

* Dr. Fothergill, of Bath, in a letter to the Register, advises, as a potent and active Stimulus, the *Patent Mustard*, moistened with Spirits.

hartshorn, or *eau de luce*, should be occasionally applied.

VIII. Tobacco fumes should be thrown up the fundament; if a *fumigator* be not at hand, the common pipe may answer the purpose. The operation should be frequently performed, as it is of importance; for the good effects of this process have been experienced in a variety of instances. But, should the application of tobacco-smoke in this way not be immediately convenient, or other impediments arise, clysters of this herb, or other acrid infusions with salt, &c. may be thrown up with advantage.

IX. When these means have been employed a considerable time without success, and any brewhouse or warm bath can be readily obtained, the body should be carefully conveyed to such a place, and remain in the bath, or surrounded with warm grains, for three or four hours.

If a child has been drowned, its body should be wiped perfectly dry, and immediately placed in bed between two healthy persons. The salutary effects of the natural vital warmth, conveyed in this manner, have been proved in a variety of successful cases.

X. While the various methods of treatment are employed, the body is to be well shaken every ten minutes, in order to render

render the *process of animation* more certainly successful; and children, in particular, are to be much agitated, by taking hold of their legs and arms frequently and for a continuance of time. In various instances, agitation has forwarded the recovery of boys who have been drowned, and continued for a considerable time apparently dead.

XI. *If there be any signs of returning life*, such as sighing, gasping, or convulsive motions, a spoonful of any warm liquid may be administered; and if the act of swallowing is returned, then a cordial of warm brandy or wine may be given in small quantities and frequently repeated.

XII. ELECTRICITY may be tried by the judicious and skilful, as its application does not prevent nor retard the various modes of recovery already recommended; but, on the other hand, will most probably tend to render the other means employed more certainly and more expeditiously efficacious.—This stimulus bids fair to prove an important auxiliary in cases of suspended animations; and therefore deserves the serious regard and attention of the Faculty*.

The

* In a severe thunder-storm, a house in Gray's-Inn was struck with lightning, and an elderly person thrown with violence from his chair, and taken up for dead, In this hopeless state Electricity was performed; by which remedy

The methods which have been so fully described, are to be employed with vigour for *two hours*, or upwards, although no favourable circumstances should arise; for it is a vulgar and dangerous opinion to suppose that persons are irrecoverable, because life does not soon make its appearance; an opinion that has consigned to the grave an immense number of the seemingly dead, who might have been RESTORED TO LIFE by *resolution* and *perseverance*.

BLEEDING IS NEVER TO BE EMPLOYED IN SUCH CASES, UNLESS BY THE DIRECTION OF ONE OF THE MEDICAL ASSISTANTS, OR SOME OTHER RESPECTABLE GENTLEMAN OF THE FACULTY, WHO HAS PAID ATTENTION TO THE SUBJECT OF SUSPENDED ANIMATION.

medy the man was at length restored to life.—See Dr. FOTHERGILL's Hints on Animation, in the third Edition of an Address to the King and Parliament, by Dr. HAWES.

The importance and utility of this institution to the public will be manifest to those who attend to the number of preservations and restorations ; and the extensive private happiness, of which it is productive, can be best estimated by the tender parent, the dutiful child, the fond husband, the affectionate wife, the faithful friend, and the sympathetic citizen of the world.

The MEDICAL GENTLEMEN of this INSTITUTION generously attend *gratis*, and direct the various Modes of Treatment for the Recovery of the Drowned ; the DIRECTORS therefore earnestly recommend their assistance to be called in as soon as possible, as their professional Judgment will lead them to vary THE PLAN recommended as circumstances may require. The Person who calls in the nearest MEDICAL ASSISTANT *, is always entitled to a Reward for his Humanity and Attention on such Occasions.

* See " Medical Assistants."

THE DIRECTORS ARE EXTREMELY DESIROUS TO COMPLETE THEIR PHILANTHROPIC VIEWS, BY APPOINTING MEDICAL ASSISTANTS AT THE VARIOUS SEA PORTS, &c. &c. AND ALSO EXTENDING THEIR REWARDS TO VARIOUS KINDS OF APPARENT SUDDEN DEATH.

IN ORDER TO EXCITE AN EARNEST ATTENTION TO THE APPARENTLY DEAD; it may be proper to observe, that since the establishment of the HUMANE SOCIETY, MORE THAN TWO THIRDS of those, who a few years ago would have been interred as *inanimate corpes*, are now restored to their joyful relations and friends! Among these many were *industrious heads of numerous families*, who would have become a parochial charge, had not their valuable lives been thus preserved! Many were *heedless infants*, wandering from their parents, who, but for this institution, would never have returned! Others were *Suicides*, rushing into eternity in a state of mind the most unfit to appear before the tribunal of their Judge!

The above means of restoration are applicable to various other cases of apparent death; whether from hanging, apoplectic and convulsive fits, intense cold, suffocation by damp, or noxious vapours proceeding from coal-mines, the confined air of wells, cisterns, caverns, or the must of fermenting liquors.

HUMANE SOCIETY-PRIZE MEDALS.

LONDON COFFEE-HOUSE, *March, 9, 1787.*

H U M A N E S O C I E T Y.

GENERAL COURT OF DIRECTORS.

E. BRIDGEN, Esq. F. R. S. and V. P.

IN THE CHAIR.

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY,

THAT, in order to invite the learned to the important study of SUSPENDED ANIMATION, and to point out *the most judicious modes of practice* at such an alarming period as that of apparent death, an HONORARY GOLD MEDAL be offered for the *best original Essay*; and a SILVER MEDAL for the *second* in point of merit on this interesting subject.

These Essays must be sent to Dr. HAWES, Bury street, St. Mary-Axe, London, on or before the first week in March, 1788, without a name; but with some corresponding mark on the outside of an inclosed sealed paper, in which the author's name is to be written—Such Dissertations as are not approved, shall remain in the hands of the Register; and on not being called for *within three months* after the decision, shall be destroyed.

The determination of the merits of the Essays will be vested in three or more respectable Medical Gentlemen; and the successful ones are to be published by the Society; unless the authors shall think proper to print them at their own expence.

EDWARD BRIDGEN, CHAIRMAN.

(Signed by order)

W. HAWES, REGISTER.

B 2

Re-

Reflections on premature Death, and premature Interment.

Inserted at the particular request of the General Court of Directors.

DR. HAWES most earnestly requests the attention of the public; as every individual is *materially interested* in the subsequent observations.

It has been proved, beyond a doubt, that in various instances of apparent sudden death, and even in CERTAIN DISEASES, a suspension of the vital powers may take place, independent of the absolute extinction of life; and it is now an established maxim, that *the coldness of the body, the frigidity of the limbs, and the abolition of the external senses,* are very dubious and fallacious signs of death. It is not, then, to be wondered at, that the absurd and pernicious custom of laying-out the bodies of persons supposed to be dead, as soon as *respiration* ceases, should have occasioned the *premature dissolution* of great numbers of the human race. For, it is a melancholy fact, corroborated by daily observation, that on the appearance of death, the sick chamber is generally deserted by friends and relatives; and the apparently dead, though often *living body*, consigned to the care of those who are least anxious for the preservation of life; the consequence is, that *the bed-cloaths are immediately removed, the body exposed to the surrounding air, and the vital spark for ever extinguished.*

In

In order to guard mankind against the fallacious appearances of death, those circumstances will be briefly mentioned, in which its resemblance may, and does frequently occur; and the writer hopes that this brief address, dictated by motives of philanthropy, will have its due weight with the public; since, from a proper attention to the following observations, a father may be restored to his numerous family, children to their fond parents, and the most valuable members of the community to their useful and active pursuits in life.

1st. In APOPLEXIES, TRANCES, SYNCOPE, and FITS, arising from violent agitation of the mind, and terminating in apparent death, the return of life may be every now and then effected by the attendance of skilful practitioners.

2d. CONVULSIONS have caused an immense number of children to be prematurely committed to the grave; and it is a pleasing truth, that, in consequence of LECTURES ON SUSPENDED ANIMATION, many of the infant race have been restored to life.

3d. On OPIUM or SPIRITS producing a state of insensibility, and the appearance of death, *immediate judicious advice* may rescue numbers from an untimely grave.

4th. PERSONS ADVANCED IN YEARS, in consequence of profuse evacuations, often become so debilitated as to fall into an apparent state of death; but medical means, instantaneously applied, may, even in such cases, bring about resuscitation.

5th. MALIGNANT and NERVOUS FEVERS, and the CONFLUENT SMALL-POX, often terminate in a state, which bears so close an affinity to that of death, as to deceive the attendants, and induce them to send for the undertaker; when, on the first suspension of the vital powers, the succours of the medical art would often produce the return of life.

The various circumstances, in which the state of apparent death may take place, have been described; it is therefore hoped, that *prudence, humanity, and natural affection*, will so far prevail, as to induce relatives and friends to consult the FACULTY on the *appearance of death* in consequence of apoplexy, syncope, trances, the convulsions of infants, &c.; as by such a conduct the most valuable lives may be preserved.

* * THE NECESSITY OF RECEIVING HOUSES, where an apparatus and every thing suitable and requisite to support the philanthropic efforts of the Faculty would be readily furnished, appears evident to demonstration.—The best means for establishing such asylums for the sudden and dreadful calamities incident to human nature, would be an interference of the legislature: it is an object worthy of their consideration as a politic and humane body of men—See the *third Edition of an Address to the KING and PARLIAMENT on preserving the lives of the inhabitants of Great Britain*, by DR. HAWES.

EXTRA-

EXTRAORDINARY INSTANCES
OF THE
RETURN OF LIFE.

The Register is certain, that the Friends of Philanthropy will receive infinite Pleasure on the perusal of the following remarkable instances of resuscitation.

W. T. Esq. of the Middle Temple, as he was bathing, the weather being very tempestuous, was unfortunately taken off his feet, and, by the waves, carried out to sea *the distance of a mile* before any assistance could be given.—Thirty guineas were offered to some fishermen to bring the body ashore, but were refused, on account of the danger; upon which Mr. GREGG, Mr. HOBSON, and Mr. SYLVESTER, three gentlemen, to their immortal honour, resolved to hazard their own lives in rescuing their valuable friend; their noble and generous efforts providentially succeeded; and they returned with the apparent corpse.—Mr. HALL, of Manchester, employed the various means of resuscitation, which, in about two hours, produced *a return of life*; and the health of the patient was gradually restored.—The above GENTLEMAN, as the best token of his regard and esteem for the Humane Society, has become a liberal annual benefactor.

The HONORARY MEDAL was unanimously voted, at the last general Court of Directors, to the *Medical Assistant*, for his humane and successful exertions.

MR. LANGSLOW, of *Ludlow*, to Dr. HAWES.

ON Monday last, the son of Mr. Hughes fell into the mill-pond, where the water was upwards of nine feet deep; his sister went home [the house is about five hundred yards from the place where the accident happened] crying violently on the road; her lamentations were first heard by the servant-maid, who enquired the cause of her cries. On the child's informing her what had happened, she hastened to the spot. but recollecting that the water was too deep for herself alone to be of use, she returned to the house for James Morgan, who leaped in, and diving a few times, discovered where the body lay, but owing to the depth of the water, before he brought it to the surface, made several unsuccessful attempts; a messenger was then dispatched to Ludlow, to request my assistance; and, in the interim, the usual methods were employed, so that in about fifteen minutes they perceived some small appearance of returning life; but on my arrival, these favourable symptoms were again declining, and at one time there was great reason to apprehend our hopes would have been frustrated; however, upon renewing our exertions, I had the pleasure in about two hours to pronounce him out of danger; and by the next morning the child was perfectly restored.

RICHARD LANGSLOW.

Mr.

MR. LANGSLOW'S *Second Letter to the*
REGISTER.

S I R,

I HAVE paid the rewards of the *Humane Society* in the manner you mentioned. James Morgan, who dived several times and at last brought up the body, carried the apparent corpse home, and employed the mode of treatment, which restored a living child to its distressed parents, has received the principal reward; and the assistants have had their due proportions.

All the parties concerned in the recovery beg leave to return their best thanks to the DIRECTORS for their beneficence. The generous conduct of the COMMITTEE will induce me to make it my study to promote one of the most laudable institutions ever established in this kingdom.

I am,

Sir, yours, &c.

RICHARD LANGSLOW.

Ludlow, Sept. 19.

To

To the TREASURER.

SIR,

THE first time I had the pleasure to hear of the establishment of your Laudable Society, I was instantly struck with the highest veneration for its honourable friends. Certainly such an instance of *universal humanity* has rarely been equalled in the annals of history.

A BUCHANON, being on duty in shifting the jibs, was thrown overboard, and before he reached the water his head pitched against the shrouds. The boat was got out to his assistance with all possible speed, but unfortunately filled along-side, owing to the confusion of the men upon the accident; she was obliged to be hauled up again, and emptied; this lost *much time*; the men found him turned upon his face, and the *vital heat* seemed entirely extinguished.

The various methods advised by the Humane Society were employed for upwards of half an hour, when feeble signs of returning life appeared, and my patient gradually recovered, so that in a few days he was as fit for duty as any man on board.

THOMAS GRAHAM.

*** From the time of the accident to that of his being brought on board, was exactly *Twenty-seven minutes*; and when put on board, he was to all appearance a dead man.

JAMES

JAMES FARREN, a sailor, was restored from apparent death by Mr. ANDERSON, Surgeon to his Majesty's ship the Inflexible; and this gentleman concludes his letter with the following striking words:—*This is the THIRD TIME I have effectually experienced the happy of the benign institution.*

☞ The preceding Cases prove the advantages that must accrue to the Navy, if the means recommended by the Humane Society for the recovery of the drowned were universally adopted, and shew them to be worthy of the countenance of those who have the Direction of Maritime affairs.

To Dr. HAWES.

DEAR SIR,

The bearer of this letter was the happy instrument, in the hands of Providence, of rescuing from death the son of an inhabitant of *Peckham*, as will appear by the inclosed certificate from gentlemen of known probity, with whom I am well acquainted. I am of opinion that the person who waits on you justly and highly merits whatever reward the Treasurer may be pleased to confer upon him.

JAMES PORTER.

We, whose names are hereunto subscribed, do recommend, as a person deserving of the rewards offered by the Humane Society, the bearer, JOHN BAKER, who did, this 18th day of *August*, at the hazard of his own life, plunge into a pond, and brought out, *apparently dead*, A. LUNDEN, and conveyed him to the house of Mr. MOSELEY, by whose assistance he was restored.

R. Franklin, }
J. Rewen, } Churchwardens.
W. Moseley, T. Cockett, J. Bennett.

Mr.

Mr. HARRIS to the REGISTER.

SIR,

J. Hardy, and *R. Spinner*, restored *P. Kennedy*, who fell into the *Thames*, and was brought up from the bottom by means of a pole. The body was carried into a house near the place, and the means used as laid down by your excellent institution. On my assistant's arrival life, was just beginning to return with laborious respiration; but even then, his face was very livid, his body intensely cold, and the ends of his fingers quite black. The process was continued; and in about a quarter of an hour he was able to speak. This seems to me to be another of those instances in which, through divine providence, and the means pointed out, and *so general'y dispersed by the Society*, a life has been saved*. Wishing every success to you, and the Humane Society,

I remain, Sir, yours, &c.

May 21, 1787.

SAM. HARRIS.

* The advantages which accrue to the publick from the general distribution of the methods of treatment prescribed by the Humane Society, are numerous and important, as persons of every description have thereby an opportunity of exerting themselves successfully in the preservation and restoration of the lives of their fellow-creatures.

Addressed

*Addressed to Messrs, CORBYN, BROWN,
and Co.*

Gentlemen,

I shall esteem it a favour, if you will enquire into the proper mode of application to the *Humane Society*, as I have been so fortunate as to restore to life a young man, in the presence of many respectable persons *.

Mr. *Undrill*, sent for me to *E. Ailday*, who had been under water *twenty minutes*; there was *universal coldness*, no *pulse* nor *breathing*. I used the proper methods for two hours, when the body became convulsed, and after some time there was a return of heat, pulsation, and respiration. The young man is *now restored* to life and health.

Birmingham.

W. MASON.

* The Committee of Directors of the Humane Society, at a very considerable annual expence, have dispersed over the kingdom the most efficacious methods of recovering the apparently dead, and remarkable success has crowned their labours; of which the above and many other cases of resuscitation are happy instances.

Public benevolence, by encouraging the art of resuscitation, has successfully encountered the perils of overwhelming waters, pestilential air, and elementary fire; of which last circumstance, the subsequent Cases are most pleasing and convincing proofs.

Mr. JACKSON to Dr. HAWES.

SIR,

HAVING had various opportunities of observing your generous exertions for the purpose of preserving human beings from dissolution, and restoring latent animation, I think it incumbent upon me to lay before you the subsequent case of a youth who was apparently struck dead by lightning.

Being under way near the west rocks abreast of Harwich, at seven o'clock in the evening, the 27th of July, there came on a very heavy squall, accompanied with much rain, and violent thunder and lightning.—Providentially nobody happened to be at this instant a-mid-ships, except a lad, who being sick from a first voyage, was lying under the long-boat's side over the main hatches. The boy was struck motionless, and observing his hat to be rent in pieces, we concluded he was killed, but by proper applications he came to himself in about an hour.—For my own part, what with the continuance of the storm, the vapour arising from the hold, and the sight of the boy, to all appearance dead at our feet, I confess that I fully expected inevitable destruction.

I trust, Sir, that this remarkable recovery may operate as an encouragement to similar exertions in others of a like nature; and hope that their labours may prove equally successful.

THOMAS JACKSON.

MR.

Mr. HAYES, to Dr. HAWES.

S I R,

AS an instance of the great necessity of the Faculty not giving up all hopes of resuscitation on the appearance of death, permit me to state the subsequent case.—I was called to a man who had been struck dead by lightning. The electric fire first fell upon the roof of a house, and was conducted to the extremity of the tiles, under which he was passing, by a sheeting of lead.—The person was to all appearance dead, there being no perceptible signs of respiration or circulation; he had received no external injury. I employed the various modes of treatment which you had so judiciously recommended; and, in about half an hour, feeble signs of respiration became perceptible, and he was immediately seized with strong convulsions, attended with efforts to vomit; upon which I ordered a mild emetic, and the convulsions gradually declined. In about eight hours he recovered his speech, and in a day or two was perfectly restored to life and health.

I have been called to many cases of sudden death, without proving successful,

C 2

which

which induced me to attend your valuable lectures, though very inconvenient to me in my extensive practice and distant situation. I am bound, however, in justice to declare that my trouble has been *amply compensated* by the improvement and satisfaction I thereby received. To you, Sir, the world is much indebted for your valuable researches into the art of restoring suspended animation.

THOMAS HAYES.

Hampstead.

* * * *The EDITOR hopes, that, in future, persons under the appearances of death will not be immediately doomed to the grave; but, that the Faculty, at such alarming periods, will be consulted; as by their judicious exertions an immense number of our fellow-creatures may be restored again to the active scenes of life.*

Many

Many persons in a desponding state have hung themselves, and though, on being cut down, the appearances of death were so strong as to render by-standers inattentive to their recovery, yet the Medical Assistants, on being informed of such melancholy events, have in the most benevolent manner successfully employed the means of Resuscitation. Such philanthropic exertions have not only restored animation, but also composure of mind. The two following cases, occurring nearly at the same period, are highly deserving of serious regard, as they are powerful appeals to the good sense of every professional character not to give up hastily the apparently dead, either in cases of hanging, drowning, or suffocation.

Mr. CARTER to the REGISTER.

When I got to the place, the man who cut the object down, stated to me that when he cut the string, she sunk about an inch, and was quite motionless; that it was very tight about the neck, was made with a running noose, and nearly covered in some places by the swelling of the parts; that her tongue projected about an inch, was much swelled and of a livid colour, and that she was to all appearance quite dead—But by re-

solute perseverance in the means recommended by the *Humane Society*, in about four hours she was restored to life, with which pleasing event I have now the happiness to acquaint you,

and am Sir, your's &c.

JOHN CARTER.

There were upwards of one hundred spectators who had the satisfaction of seeing the proper means employed which fortunately restored the young woman alive to her disconsolate friends.

From Mr. SCOTT to Dr. HAWES.

X. W. X. of the parish of *Hackney*, on *Thursday* morning last was found hanging by the neck, and when cut down was supposed to be dead; the person who cut her down is a respectable character, and immediately applied for my assistance. I could not distinguish any pulsation or breathing, and I adopted and persevered in the means you have so fully explained, and restored life to my patient.

The

The pleasure I feel in seeing a poor soul snatched from perdition, leaves me destitute of words to thank you for the important instructions I have received by my attendance on your ingenious and valuable course of LECTURES ON ANIMATION.

I am, Sir,

with respect, yours, &c.

ROBERT SCOTT.

PETER DACOSTA, a child, accidentally suffocated, and restored by Mr. Wyat, of Mansfield-street, one of the Medical Assistants.

Mr. ROWLEY, of SHIFFNELL, in SHROPSHIRE, has lately transmitted to the REGISTER the particulars of two persons found suffocated in a potter's kiln, both of whom were happily restored to life, by a long perseverance in the RESUSCITATING PLAN of this institution.

RES-

R E S T O R A T I O N S
F R O M
A P P A R E N T D E A T H,
A N D
U N S U C C E S S F U L C A S E S.

It was resolved, at a GENERAL COURT OF DIRECTORS, that all persons, within five miles of London, who are entitled to the rewards of the Society, must produce a written recommendation to Dr. HAWES, Register, from one of the Medical Assistants, within eight days after the accident; but, if it should happen at a considerable distance from the Metropolis, one month will be allowed to apply for the rewards: though as early an application as possible is in all cases expected.

P R E S E R V A T I O N S F R O M D R O W N I N G.

The DIRECTORS acquaint the Public, that, in cases where persons, in imminent danger of drowning, are preserved by the immediate exertions of watermen, &c. the letters addressed to the REGISTER must be signed by three respectable house-keepers; and the circumstances fully and particularly mentioned.

CHURCH-WARDENS, OVERSEERS, and other well-disposed persons, are requested *not to sign any testimonial*, except they should be *spectators* of the danger, and the successful attempts made to preserve life; as it is only in their power, at such times, to ascertain the merit of the claimants.

The MEDICAL ASSISTANTS are earnestly intreated to sign no letters of recommendation, for the payment of the rewards of this institution, unless they should be present at the time that immediate and humane exertions were made by the common people for the preservation of life.

(Signed by order,)

*Bury-street,
St. Mary Axe.*

W. HAWES, Register.
MEDICAL

MEDICAL ASSISTANTS.

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W. HAWES, REGISTER.

Ex.

EXTRACTS *from the Reports of the HUMANE SOCIETY, from the years 1783 and 1784.*
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THE MAYOR AND CORPORATION OF LIVERPOOL HAVE DONE THEMSELVES IMMORTAL HONOUR BY THEIR PHILANTHROPIC EXERTIONS TO PRESERVE THE LIVES OF THE PEOPLE.

A RECEIVING HOUSE FOR PURSUING THE VARIOUS PLANS OF RESUSCITATION, WITH THE APPOINTMENT OF A SURGEON, IS A WORK OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE; AS, BY IMMEDIATE AND JUDICIOUS AID, GREAT NUMBERS WILL BE RESCUED FROM PREMATURE DISSOLUTION.

N O R W I C H.

THE MAYOR AND CORPORATION ARE THE PARTICULAR PATRONS OF THE HUMANE SOCIETY; THEY SUBSCRIBE TO THE SUPPORT OF IT, AND HAVE PURCHASED DRUGS AND AN APPARATUS SIMILAR TO THOSE USED IN LONDON, FOR THE LAUDABLE PURPOSE OF PRESERVING AND RESTORING ANIMATION.

W H I T E H A V E N.

REGARDFUL OF OUR MARITIME SITUATION, AND THE DANGERS TO WHICH WE ARE INEVITABLY EXPOSED, IT WAS DEEMED ELIGIBLE TO FORM A CONNECTION WITH THE LONDON HUMANE SOCIETY; AND, VERY GENERALLY, TO DISTRIBUTE ITS JUDICIOUS INSTRUCTIONS, PROCURING AT THE SAME TIME A COMPLETE APPARATUS FOR THE RECOVERY OF PERSONS APPARENTLY DROWNED.

B R I S T O L.

“ THIRTY-ONE ACCIDENTS HAVE OCCURRED; OF WHICH NUMBER, FOURTEEN PERSONS HAVE BEEN RESTORED TO LIFE.”

MR. DYER FURTHER OBSERVES.

“ THESE EXERTIONS PROVE CLEARLY, THAT WE HAVE THE HUMANE OBJECT IN VIEW, OF RESTORING PERSONS APPARENTLY DEAD BY DROWNING, WHICH YOU HAVE SO SIGNALLY PATRONISED IN LONDON.”

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By W. H A W E S, M. D.

PHYSICIAN to the LONDON and SURRY DISPENSARIES,
REGISTER OF THE HUMANE SOCIETY, AND
READER OF LECTURES ON ANIMATION.

Death may usurp on Nature many Hours;
And yet the Fire of Life kindle again
The o'er-prest Spirits.—— SHAKSPEARE.

A L S O
H I N T S
F O R
R E S T O R I N G A N I M A T I O N,
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A N D F O R P R E S E R V I N G H E A L T H A G A I N S T T H E
P E R N I C I O U S I N F L U E N C E O F N O X I O U S V A -
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I n T w o L E T T E R S t o t h e A U T H O R.

By A. F O T H E R G I L L, M. D. F. R. S.

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A N D A P P A R E N T L Y D E A D.

By J O H N F U L L E R, S U R G E O N.

Dedicated to Sir WILLIAM FORDYCE, and Dr. HAWES.

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