

**An historical account of the Old People's Hospital, commonly called, the Trinity Hospital in Edinburgh : Also, proposals how to raise a fond [sic] for the maintenance of widows and orphans, under the title of a charity-bank / By Andrew Gairdner.**

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A N  
HISTORICAL ACCOUNT  
O F T H E  
O l d P E O P L E ' s H O S P I T A L,

Commonly called,

*The Trinity Hospital in Edinburgh;*

A L S O,

P R O P O S A L S how to raise a Fond for the  
Maintenance of *Widows* and *Orphans*, un-  
der the Title of a

*Charity-BANK.*

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By A N D R E W G A I R D N E R Merchant in *Edin-  
burgh*, and Treasurer to the Old People's Hospital.

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E D I N B U R G H,  
Printed in the Year M: DCC: XXVII.



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A N  
HISTORICAL ACCOUNT  
OF THE  
OLD POPE'S HOSPITAL

Commonly called

The Trinity Hospital in Edinburgh;

ALSO

The reasons, how to give a Bond for the  
Maintenance of Widows and Orphans, and  
for the Life of a

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CHARLES B. ANK.

By Andrew GARDNER, Merchant in Edinburgh,  
and Secretary to the Old Pope's Hospital.

1727  
1728

EDINBURGH,  
Printed in the Year M. DCC. XXVII.



# PREFACE.



IN all the Ages of Christianity it has been universally agreed by all the Professors of it, of whatsoever Denomination, that *Charity*, or a sincere Desire and Willingness to relieve the Poor, according to Ability, is justly numbered amongst the noblest Dispositions of the Mind. What can give greater Satisfaction to the generous Christian Soul, next to the Contemplation of God, and his infinite Love and Goodness to us, than the reflex Thoughts of having relieved our fellow Creature, from the Anguish of Soul he was in, through the direful Prospects of Misery and Want, and thereby putting him in a Condition of better answering the End of his Creation, and enabling him to serve his Maker cheerfully, and without Fear?

I acknowledge it is not easy to paint out this Satisfaction to a Mind that is hardened against all the Calamities to which human Nature is liable, a Mind that contracts all its Concerns within the narrow Compass of its worthless self, and can neither be moved to Joy or Grief from the happy or miserable State of another: Neither the strongest Colours, nor the best chosen Words are able to draw such a Picture of this beautiful Virtue,



as to touch their Imagination with any agreeable Idea of it.

And indeed it were mispending Time to attempt to convince, by Strength of Argument, such as are altogether lost in the fordid Vice of Covetousness, how far this excellent Duty of *Charity* is acceptable in the Sight of God ; but I would gladly hope such as have no Bowels of Compassion to the Poor, when compared with the rest of Mankind, consists of but a very small Number.

Some upon a Death-bed leave considerable Sums to the Poor, which I acknowledge a very commendable Duty: But it is wish'd that they would contribute cheerfully in their Life, and thereby they would have the Pleasure and Satisfaction of beholding it doing much good. They would never lose the vast Satisfaction that would daily result to them from seasonable Reliefs, to such whose Hearts might be made glad by a small Sum given in a proper Time. How far should they be from letting slip so many noble Occasions of this Kind, as frequently present themselves, lest they should be suddenly overtaken by Death, and not have Time to set their House in Order before they die, and thereby their *Charity* be wholly lost, whatever their Inclination this Way may be ?

Nothing could have moved me to appear in Print, far less to have affixed my Name to it, but Compassion to the Poor and Needy,  
that



## P R E F A C E.

that are in great Straits at this Day. There are frequent Applications made to me, to know if there be any Vacancies in the old People's Hospital, both by the People themselves, and Persons both of high and low Stations in their Name, whom I would with the greatest Willingness oblige, but am in no Capacity to comply with, 'till the L O R D in his Providence grant an Enlargement of our Fund, and Encrease of our Stock, in order to pay off our Reparations, which ye will find by this Treatise absolutely necessary: For I can declare, both in the Name of the Honourable Magistrates and Governors, and in my own Name, we would be heartily willing to prefer Ten for One, if it were within the Compass of our Power to maintain them; therefore I earnestly plead with all that desire either their Friends or Acquaintances preferred, that ye would use all Means possible in persuading one another, in whatever Station you are in, and whatever Company you may happen to be with, to contribute some Moiety for this good Work.

You will see by this Treatise, how easy it will be to raise this Charity Bank, and make this Hospital capable of maintaining a great many more than ever it did in former Times, and also to provide for poor Orphans.

Considering the many Persons of all Stations and Denominations, that it is hoped  
will



will contribute thereto, it will certainly be found very easy, for on all Occasions many Hands make light Work.

I do acknowledge some may say, This is a wrong Time to apply for Charity or a Contribution, considering the great Scarcity of Money at this Time. This indeed is granted that Money is scarce; but then, to be sure, this makes the Needs of the Poor the greater, and the Applications to be the more numerous; and ye may also consider the Method I have laid down is very easy, for we urge and importune no Man or Woman to give, but according to their Ability; and if that be done, it will answer our Design. And tho' we be scarce of Money, it will be our Honour to copy after the noble *Macedonians*, who not only to their Power, but above their Power, they contributed in the Time of Straits for the poor Saints that were at *Jerusalem*. And we are not so low as the poor Widow of *Sarepta*, that was gathering Sticks to make ready her last Meal, and yet chearfully condescended to make a Cake of it in the first Place for *Elijah* the Prophet, with an entire Dependence on the Promise; and how much the LORD rewarded her for so doing, I refer you to see in the *Plea for the Poor*, from Page 132, to Page 140.

Some may say we have too many Hospitals already: But whatever they may say now, when they are pleading for Friends and  
Rela-



Relations they seem to be of another Mind ; and whoever say so, sure none of the Inhabitants of *Edinburgh* should argue after that Manner, where the considerable Revenues of the Hospitals erected and to be erected are all spent in Meat, Drink and Apparel, whereby both the City and Country are Gainers. Besides, as these Hospitals are for the Advantage, so likewise they are for the Honour and an Ornament to the City ; and for this Orphans Hospital, it is evident it will be the most profitable Hospital that has yet been erected, considering it is for Children cast on the Care of Providence, and the Way proposed how it will be managed will be a Means to introduce Trade and Business, not only about the City, but also through the Nation.

I had once a Design to have given an Account of all the Contributors to the Old Peoples Hospital, but considering there is several considerable Donations promised by charitable Persons not yet come in, and many more we hope will be given in a little Time, I forbear it, and because 'tis hoped there will be Occasion to write an Account of the Rise and Progress of the Orphans Hospital, and Management thereof, when it is resolved to give an Account of both those that have contributed and also of those that shall give noticeable Donations before that Time.

It



It is thought it will be proper to build the Orphans Hospital near the old People's, because many are there, and will be in after Times both of Men and Women, who will be useful to the young People, according to their Capacity.

It is not to be thought that there is so many Copies printed, either of this Historical Account &c. or of the History of the Hospital in *Germany*, or of the *Plea for the Poor*, as will be sufficient to give to every one 'tis hoped will contribute: But to supply that Defect it is entreated that they who get them may lend them to others; and there shall be some gifted to every Society and Incorporation, and some lodged with the Church Sessions Clerks, and in the *Trinity Hospital*, that others may get them to read and return them again.

The Contributors either in City, Suburbs or Country, may give Contributions to any of the Magistrates, or Ministers, or me. If they shall give into my Hand, or send them to me, they shall have the following Receipt.

**I** Andrew Gairdner Merchant in Edinburgh,  
and present Treasurer of the Old People's  
Hospital, grants me to have received from  
the Sum of \_\_\_\_\_ for the  
Benefit of the CHARITY-BANK for Widows  
and Orphans, which I oblige me to charge my  
self with in the Book keepeed for that Purpose,  
and to account for the same to the Governors  
thereof.





A N

# Historical Account of the *Trinity Hospital*, &c.



HAVE in another Treatise collected together many Arguments for the Exercise of Charity to the Poor, and shewed from Scripture that it is a Duty having many Promises annexed to it, and shall

not now insist much further as to that Part: But having than made Mention of an Account of the Rise, Progress and languishing State of the *Trinity-Hospital*, I now send what I designed abroad.

It was the Fault of Papists to found Hospitals and Cloysters to maintain many able young Persons, under Pretence of Devotion, and they thereby enhanced so much Land and



Riches, that a Prejudice was raised in the Minds of People against Hospitals, and at the Reformation many of them were demolished, and many of their Rents given to secular Persons, Noblemen, Gentlemen, and others, so that from the Reformation till the late happy Revolution, there were few Instances of Mortifications for Hospitals in *Scotland*, except what the famous *George Heriot* did at *Edinburgh*, and a few others, viz. in *Glasgow*, *Stirling*, one in *Falkirk*, *Dundee*, *Largo*, *Aberdeen*. But since that Time Charity has been put upon a better Footing, not to maintain Persons able to labour for their Bread, but to young and old Persons, and such as are poor, having no Means of Subsistence, and not in Case to work. And this leads me to give a short Account of some pious and charitable Works set on Foot, and Endeavours to recover Mortifications which had been near sunk or lost.

*George Heriot's* Hospital, in the Year 1690 did maintain a great Deal fewer Boys than it does now which is much owing to the Diligence and Fidelity of the Council of that Hospital, and to *Thomas Fisher* and *James Young* Treasurers thereto.

In the Year 1695, the Merchant-Company in *Edinburgh*, and *Mary Erskine* Relict of *James Hare*, founded an Hospital for poor young Girls, which now maintains the Num-

ber



ber of 44 Girls, besides a Governess, a Sub-governess, and Servants.

The Craftsmen of *Edinburgh* did in the Year 1704 begin to found an Hospital for poor Girls in the said City, and having procured considerable Mortifications, and particularly from the foresaid *Mary Erskine, &c.* it does now maintain a Governess and Sub-governess, Servants, and about 40 Girls.

Here I cannot omit to shew that in the Year 1709, upon the Application of the Commission of the General Assembly, her Majesty Queen *Anne* did erect the Society in *Scotland* for propagating *Christian Knowledge*, which consisteth of Nobility, Gentry, Ministers and others, and which, from the last Accounts thereof, read in the several Churches, had near 80 Schools, at which there is educated near 4000 poor Children yearly, and some of them are maintained by the said Society. And these Schools hath been blessed with great Success, so that in some Places, where few could read, now almost the whole Rising Generation are taught, and come to Church with their Bibles, and are in Case to teach their Parents, and others come to Age, the Principles of our holy Religion, yea many Children of Papists are taught at these Schools, and the *Engish* Language is spreading through the *Highlands* and *Islands*; and where Ministers have two, three or more Churches, and some in remote



Islands, the Society's School-masters do by the Minister's Direction convene the People and Scholars on the Lord's Day for the Worship of God, pray, sing Psalms, read Sermons and other pious Books, and catechises, whereby the Knowledge of Christ is spreading, and by the Discipline of these Schools Immorality and Superstition is much restrained from what it used to be in these Parts, and the remotest Places, such as *Hirta, Ruma, Skye, Long-Island, Cole, Gerloch, Lochcaran, Glenelg, Lochaber, Abertarph, Stromma* in *Pickland Firth, Orkney, Zetland*, and many other Places, where Schools were never before. So 'tis to be hoped it will not only tend to the Glory of God, but also much to the Advantage of the Government, both in Church and State, in having these numerous poor People both taught Religion and Loyalty, and how to be useful Members of Society.

*George Watson*, Merchant in *Edinburgh*, and long Treasurer to the foresaid Society for *Christian Knowledge*, has mortified 12000 *L. Sterling* for founding an Hospital for maintaining and educating Burgeses Children and Grand-Children which is about to be built.

From all which, the commendable Charity and Zeal of *Scotland*, since the Revolution, does brightly appear, and the Christian Care of these concerned therein will be seen in the Rules and Statutes of the foresaid



said Hospitals and their Records, and in the Rise, Constitution, Management and Progress of the foresaid Society, which is printed, and any who please may easily purchase the same.

*John Strachan* of *Craigcrook*, did lately mortifie most Part of his Estate for the maintaining of poor old Men, Women and Orphans, which he committed to the Management of two Advocates, two Writers to the Signet, and the Presbytery of *Edinburgh*, at the Sight of two Lords of Session, which helps to subsist many indigent Persons; but no Hospital is erected, neither would the Fund bear that Expence.

Our Laws give great Encouragement to Mortifications for pious Uses, particularly *Act 6. Parl. 1. Cha. I.* "It is Statute and  
 " Ordained, that it shall no ways be lawful  
 " to alter, Change or Invert any Gifts, Lega-  
 " cies, and other pious Donations to any o-  
 " ther Use than that specifick Use where-  
 " unto they are destinate by the Disponer  
 " himself: And that the Heirs, Executors or  
 " others intrusted with the saids Gifts and  
 " Legacies shall be countable for the same,  
 " to the Use of the Kirks, Colleges and o-  
 " thers to whom the saids Dispositions were  
 " made. And that Actions shall be com-  
 " petent either to the saids Kirks, Colleges  
 " and others to whom the same were dis-  
 " posed, for compelling them to apply the  
 " same



“ same to the true Use, and to make  
 “ count and Payment of the ordinary Profits  
 “ of every Year’s Intromission, at the Rate  
 “ allowed by the Laws of the Realm, by and  
 “ attour the fulfilling of the Disponers Will.”

Many Instances could be given of recovering Mortifications delapidate since the Revolution.

And it is with great Satisfaction that I know there is a considerable Sum signed for, in order to erect an Infirmary for poor sick, wounded Persons, and such as are broken in their Health with sore Work and Labour, here in *Edinburgh*, which will be set on Foot ere it be long.

But now I proceed to what I chiefly designed, which is to give an Account of the State of *Trinity-Hospital*, which has been a Relief to many, and is so to this Day, and I hope in a short Space of Time shall be able to relieve many more. And though the City of *Edinburgh* be concerned in this Hospital in the first Place, yet it is certain that Persons from all Parts of *Scotland* are often benefited thereby. If any will take a View of this City, and inform themselves of the Heads of Families therein, it will be found that not one of Ten of them were born in *Edinburgh*, but the Inhabitants are made up of People from all Parts of the Nation; and none knows but his or theirs may be relieved by the Charity of some of the fore-said Hospitals, and such as can spare it, cannot



not bestow Part of their Substance better than giving it this Way.

The pinching Necessities, and earnest Solicitations of many, both Men and Women at this Time, some of whom have been in good Circumstances in their former Days, and who have had creditable Families in and about this City, and have born, both them and their Parents, considerable Burdens, and Posts in their Day, together with the earnest Supplications, both of great and small, to take them into the old People's *Hospital*, obliges me to set the State of this ancient *Hospital* at the Foot of *Leith Wynd*, commonly called the *Trinity-Hospital*, in some clearer Light to those who know little about it, than has been known for some Time past. The little Knowledge of its State, Constitution and Management, I firmly believe, has been to its Loss and Detriment for many Years bypast.

'Tis very plain, that the long Building, going along the West-side of *Leith Wynd* was a Fabrick in Popish Times, and belonged to the College, under the Name of *Trinity-College*, for that Building at South End, going East and West, was afterwards built. I find in the 10th of *November 1567*, Sir *Simon Preston*, then Provost of *Edinburgh*, produced in Council a Gift of the *Trinity College*, *Kirk-Houses*, *Biggings* and *Yards*, which he had obtain'd and impe-



trate from my Lord Governor ; but for his Love to the Town he gave the said Gift, and transmitted the Right thereof, to them, to be holden for an *Hospital*. Upon which a Charter passed, and that Almoners were to be put in by the Council of *Edinburgh*; for which he received Thanks.

The first Persons on Record, placed in it, were *Robert Murdoch*, *James Gelly*, *John Muir*, *James Wright*, *John Weatherspoons*, *Isabel Bernard*, and *Janet Gate*.

Several Things might be told concerning the Customs of these Times, which are now gone out of Use, and run down the Precipice of Time ; and therefore I pass them, as not being for Edification.

At the Reformation Queen *Mary* did dedicate and gift some Part of the Living of the Provostry of *Trinity-College*, with some Part of other Livings, to this Hospital (which was afterwards confirmed by Charter by King *James VI.* in 1587) for the maintaining of Bead-men, as they were called in these Days. These Gifts and other Donations procured to the Hospital the Lands lying between the City and *Leith*, and Southward and below *Restlerig*, which they enjoy to this Day. For I find Warrant to invest the Masters of this Hospital in these Lands. Afterwards there were some Donations made by several Persons, which enabled it to maintain about 36 Persons.

But



But in the latter End of the late Dearth, about 28 Years ago, the Honourable Magistrates and Council, Governors of the said Hospital, out of Compassion to the State of many indigent Persons, did encrease the Number to 54, besides the Governor, Governess and Servants, hoping that Mortifications and Donations would come in in great Abundance to maintain them in this charitable Age.

After these Hospitals in *Edinburgh* for the young Ones were erected, most of our Thoughts did run out upon Charity for the young Generation, which no Doubt was a very great Duty, but then the old People's Hospital came to be very much neglected and forgot. And altho' I am not ashamed to maintain, there hath been more Charity given within these 30 Years, then I believe will be found on Record in three Times as long preceeding it, excepting Mr. *George Heriot's* famous Donation, yet the old People's Hospital came to be in a sad decaying State, the Fund greatly sunk, and they run in much Debt; and the Honourable Magistrates and Governors not being willing to put out any that were taken in, it not being an usual Thing, except they be guilty of Misdemeanours, were under a Necessity, not without great Reluctancy, to make an Act, that till their Number should decrease to 40, to take in no more.

Now



Now any Person may consider, that many in that Time would be in great Need to be taken in before their Number would decrease to that, and under the Weight of many Person's Maintenance, more than their Fund was capable, and being much disappointed of Donations, as aforelaid, the Hospital did greatly run in Debt, and the Building into a very fore Decay, that much of that great Building was like to go to Ruin, both within Doors and without; for no Treasurer could undertake such a considerable Reparation, as afterwards you will find it hath cost, because the Fund would by no Means bear it, and they had Debts to pay off.

But blessed be the LORD, the Hospital hath won out of its former Debts and Burdens, by the good Laws and Statutes lately made for its Government, and the good Management of its several Treasurers, with some liberal Donations lately given, such as the Lady *Semple's*, Mr. *George Watson's* Merchant in *Edinburgh*, and Mr. *William Brown of Dalgourie's*, each of which three is entitled to a Presentation, and Sir *John Clark's* of *Pennycook*, and *William Wardrop's* late Deacon Conveener, with some other lesser ones.

In the Year 1726 it was found unavoidably necessary to set about the Reparation, that had so long been neglected, or else it was like to go



to utter Decay, which, if it had done, it would have taken a very great Sum of Money to have built any Part of it that might have fallen.

'Tis not to be doubted, but many will be desirous to know what may be the Reparation that is made, seeing we so earnestly desire and endeavour to get Contributions to help us to defray the Charges, and to raise our Fund, to supply these we are willing to take into the little Hospital, which we have gained by our Reparation within the Fabrick, consisting of 15 new Rooms more than we had before our Reparations were begun.

And to satisfy all who have contributed, or may contribute, I shall give some small Account of the State it was in before the Reparation, and what State it is in at this Day.

1. The Sclates were tumbling off the House, which have hazarded People's Lives walking in the Street, the Floor in the low Gallery, where the Women's Apartments were, and the Jisting was all rot; the North-Loch ran thro' the North-end of the House, which brought the whole Nestiness of the North-side of the Town, and of the Butcher's Booths through the House. There was a Through-fare through the House, which kept it in foul Weather, both nesty and cold. When the Water did run high,



high, it flowed thro' the House, when the Water was low, the foresaid Nestiness of the Town and Butchers, with ~~that~~ of their own Houses of Office which were in the West-side, and had not Water to carry it off, lay beneath the Flooring, and made it very noisom and unwholsome. The Walls were fore decayed on both Sides, that they could not keep out the Rain, and in the North-end, with the Loch's long running, which, for any Thing I know, was above these 300 Years, (and it may be much longer) the Foundation was so wasted, that it was rent from Top to Bottom, and in great Hazard of falling, if not timely repaired. The Floor of the House was below the Earth without in both Sides, the Lights were small and very high, so that they had little Light. The ruinous Rooms on the East side were closs upon one another. The Rooms were placed the whole Length of the House like a great Meal Ark, which did obscure the Light above them. Some of the Rooms did contain two Persons, which was most uneasy and inconvenient for them, considering their small Bounds, the Women in the West-side having so little Rooms, as they were obliged to draw Curtains before their Doors, which obscured their Light in the East-side, and no Doubt made them on that Side to fret for Want of Light. Some of the Rooms were gone to entire Decay and fallen down, being



ing entirely rotten by Length of Time. There were two Rooms in the North Chimney, very unpleasant by the Run of the Loch, which was just before them, and yet People, who had in former Times convenient Habitations, behoved to comport with them; but no Doubt this made their Life very uneasy, and their Habitation uncomfortable. All the Men's Rooms, three only excepted, were double Rooms, and had a Bed in each Side of the Room, which was not convenient for these that had no worldly Concern to be taken up about, but only to spend their Time to prepare for Eternity. This must of Necessity be very uneasy to them, and very liable to prevent their happy Way of Living, and enjoying of themselves in Private.

Now any Person that considers the Largeness of this Building, and the great Decay of it, may perceive it behoved every Year in some Thing to be mended and repaired; but the Reparations not being uniform, they were neither of great Last, nor of much Use.

But to satisfy all concerned, or those that will, as I hope many shall in a little Time, contribute to maintain honest People that live in it for the future, I shall give some Account, for their Satisfaction and Encouragement to contribute for so doing, of the Re-



Reparations made in it, and of its State at present.

1. We were obliged to take down and remove the whole of the Rooms in the ruinous Gallery, and take up the whole Floor, it being wholly gone to Decay. Then we were obliged to build Three Dykes the whole Length of the House, which is between the North Wall and the Kitchen about One hundred Foot long, one being within every one of the Walls to strengthen them in the Foundation, and to rest the Jists upon; another Dyke we were obliged to run through the Middle of the House, and found it upon Oak Planks to supply the Deficiency of the Foundation, and to strengthen the Floor, and rest the Jists upon. Then we filled it first with dead Earth, then with Ridlings of Lime to harden it, and then with Channel of the *Calton* Craigs, all which we caused beat down with Causey-Layers Mells to make it firm; then we brought dry Sand from *Leith* to lay next the Jists to prevent any Moist or Vermin to corrupt them for the future, and for keeping the Floor tight and warm; the Floor being raised about two Foot higher than before. Next, We laid a new Floor about 120 Foot long from the Kitchen Hearth to the North End, and about 23 broad. Afterwards we built some of the Rooms in the West Side, with some Part of the best of the Wood we had, and



repaired them with new. And then built in the East Side 20 new Rooms, of which there is Ten below and Ten above, which last Ten are wholly gained, there being no high Rooms formerly. Then we built Three good Rooms above the Kitchen, one for the Mistress, and two for other Women, which are gained; also two in the Kitchen, one of which is gain'd, all new; and we have in our Plan in the North End Three Rooms, which can be built, if our Fund encreases, so as to need them, which I hope it will ere it be long.

The House being very dark, we have caused lath and plaister the whole Roof of the laigh Gallery, which makes it both very lightsome and pleasant.

We have given every Man and every Woman, in both the high and low Galleries, a Room by themselves, as being most convenient for People in their Circumstances. And because many Women, when they were admitted, were in such straitned Circumstances, they had much to do to provide themselves with the Necessaries their Rooms wanted, but were obliged to bring such Things as they had alongst with them, and the House thereby was never in good Order or uniform: To prevent this for the future, we have given each of the Women a new corded Bed, and Curtains, a Wainscot Table and a Chair; and all of them, except such



such as have a little Room below the Stairs, a little Corner Cup-board, with some other little Conveniencies in their Rooms, and some Drawers in the Stairs that go up to the high Rooms. All these belong to the House, and will remain upon the different Deaths, and will prevent the House's being turned to a Chaos of Confusion. For which End we are to take Care they provide themselves with good Bedding and Bed-cloaths when they come into the Family.

Because we thought it was most convenient and profitable, we have made Chaste Windows, both in the high and low Galleries, and have taken the Run of the Loch out of the House, and brought it along the North End, without which it could never have been made either a wholesome or pleasant Habitation, as all that observe its Situation will understand. We have built a new strong Stone Gate on the North-west End, which with the House of Office built on the North End fixeth the End of the House that was like to fall; and have struck out several Windows where they were wanting, and brought a Walk of 12 Foot broad along the West Side of the House, have stopt the Thorough-fare or Road that was made through the Womens Gallery, have built a Dwarf Wall with a Paling on it, and made a covered Syre with Flags upon the Gutter, that run through and spoiled the Garden on the

West



West Side of the House. So that it is now as sufficient Ground as any Part of it, without which it could neither have been made pleasant, or of much Use.— The low Gallery within we have caused paint in a fine Wainscot Colour, which makes it both pleasant and durable.

We have been under a Necessity to fark and slate the long Building on the West Side, every Yard of it, and some Parts of the cross Building joining to it, as also some Parts of the East Side, and 'tis believed that must be wholly farked and slated ere it be long also. There is not one Yard of all the Walls without, but we were obliged to harle over and mend their Deficiencies.

Many other Things we have been laid under the Necessity to do, not here mentioned, which we refer to the Observation of these who will be pleased to visit it.

Now considering this great Reparation and Improvement, and what a great deal of Timber both Fir and Wainscot it hath taken, and what a vast deal of Workmanship, how many Locks, Bolts, and other Iron Work, and how many Stones it hath taken to build above 700 Foot of a Dyke within the Ground, besides these Buildings that do appear; what Lime both for Building, Harling, Pointing and Plaistering, what for Sclates, Glafs Windows, Painting, Lead, and repairing and panting the Garden; and



what a vast Quantity of Nails it hath taken, I refer to these, who have had Experience of Building and Reparation, what a great Sum of Money it hath cost.

After this Account given, some Questions fall in natively to be asked. 1. What is the Reason I have in giving this Account, both of the Hospital and its Reparations, and present State? 2. What are the native Inferences to be drawn from it?

1. As to the Reason that moved me to give this Account I found, as it was before hinted, this ancient Hospital to have been long neglected and almost forgot; for I have met with many in this City, since I was concerned in it, that knew little or nothing of its State, or Constitution and Management; yea some have expressed themselves so as that they did not so much as know where it was, or what Place of the Town it was in, which to be sure hath been to its Loss and Detriment, for had People known how well the Money that was given in to that Hospital had been disposed of, I believe they would have given much more than they have done, and many more would have given than ever did.

2<sup>dly</sup>, Another Reason is, That it doth appear the Reparations hath cost a very great Sum, and if we should not get it in by a Contribution we would be obliged to borrow Money and pay it off the rising Fund  
which



which would keep us from taking in very many of those that are applying, whose Needs are great, and their Right good. For it is my Opinion we should not again break in upon our capital Stock, knowing it has been of dangerous Consequence to this Hospital in former Times, as it has likewise been to other Societies; if that be done, it is hard to know where it would land them at length.

3<sup>dly</sup>, The third Reason is to show, if every Person that is in a Capacity to give some small Matter to this good Work, will help us, we will not only get all our Reparations paid off, but I do hope, will be in a Condition e're it be long to get a Fund to take in People to all our 15 Rooms we have gained. For we are resolved to be very thankful to every Person who will be pleased to give us any small Sum, tho' it were but one Crown, as well as to those to whom Providence hath given both Riches and an Heart to lay them out for his Glory, and who will give us great Sums.

For the Encouragement of all Contributors they may assure themselves there shall be a fair Book kept, and all the Names and Designations, and Sums that shall be contributed shall be kept in that fair Register, and those who shall give the Sum of 50 *lb* *Ster.* shall be put upon the Wall, if they do not hinder it by their own express Order; and then



is shall be kept in the Register, and they may add to it afterwards as they please, and may have it put up as aforesaid.

4<sup>thly</sup>, A fourth Reason I add is, That I have many Times been surpris'd to think that the People in the City of *Edinburgh*, that have been most charitable in contributing whenever in Providence they were call'd to it, either for those at Home or Abroad, both for young and old, as to the People at *Lithuania*, and in *America*, and *Ireland*, and in *Duirness* in the North of *Scotland*, and to our Neighbours in this City, when their Needs did call for it, and many other Collections that have been made for Bridges, and other Uses, well known, but needless here to be mentioned; yet I must really say it is my Opinion, if our Concern had run out to provide for the old People as their Needs require and their Necessities call for, I do think, that instead of our being able to maintain between 40 and 50, including the Chaplain, Mistrefs and Servants, it might have been able to maintain near to 100 at this Day. Therefore I hope now we shall see our Mistake, after we know more of the Hospital and the Persons that are taken into it, and make a liberal Contribution for the Supply of what we have been too long Deficient in.

2<sup>dly</sup>, As to the Inferences that are to be drawn from this Account. (1.) I do by  
virtue



virtue of my Office as Treasurer to the Hospital, and in the Name of many needy Persons that have Right to be in, whom our Circumstances will not allow us to take in, plead for help and Assistance, alluding to that Portion of Scripture, *Acts xvi. 9. There was a Man of Macedonia appeared to Paul in a Vision, and prayed him to come over to Macedonia and help us* ; Help us to get the Charge of our Reparations made up, help us to get our Fund raised, help us to get the Needs of the Poor supplied, help us to provide for those who, by Reason of old Age and Infirmities, cannot provide for themselves, and help us *to make the Widow's Heart, broken with Grief and Sorrow, to sing for Joy*, help them to bless and pray for you their Benefactors. The Needs of the Poor are very pinching in our Day, and in the Place wherein we live, and likely to be far greater, they are rather on the increasing, than decreasing, if God do not by his adorable Providence set us upon other Ways of both thinking and Acting.

One Motive that should prevail with all while they have it in the Power of their Hand to do good this Way, is, that many that are preferred and taken in to this Hospital, are such who have born Burden in their Day, either them, their Parents or Ancestors, and the more of these are maintained in the Hospital, the City will be the more capable



to provide for others that are very needful. We have taken in, notwithstanding of our expensive Reparations, no less than 16 Persons within these two Years ; so that this may encourage those who earnestly plead to have their Friends or Acquaintances preferred, to lay out themselves to be assistant in this charitable Work, for altho' they be not immediately taken in, yet it may come to be their Lot e're it be long.

Another Motive to this may be, That it is Persons of some Credit and Reputation that use to be taken in ; and we assure you, that Care will be taken by the Council of Governors, that such shall be preferred as shall be commended for Persons of Reputation and good Behaviour in their Day, and indeed there is so many of these that there will be no need to take in any other. For my own Part, I think there should be as near a Regard as may be had to *Paul's* Commendation of the Widows, whom he recommends to the Church's Charity.

I know it hath among other Things been a Loss to the Fund of that Hospital, the Impressions that many have entertained of the People in it, especially of the Women, who have been reputed clamorous, fretting and flyting Persons, that could never agree among themselves, and that were unthankful for their Mercies. I will not say, but there has  
been



been some Ground for this Charge against some particular Persons; but yet I know not but these Reports have been most spread abroad by those who do not much favour the giving of Charity; besides it would be extremely hard to charge the Fault of some of them upon all of them in general: And as it hath been formerly represented, there was many Things in their Habitations that were inconvenient, and some Cause of their fretting at one another, which are now removed; so I hope there shall not be Ground for these Complaints for the future. But yet it is very well known by some, there has been Persons extruded the Family for their Troublesomeness, and if any such in Time coming shall be found, it may come to be their Lot to meet with the like Treatment. But for my Reader's Satisfaction, I assure them, since I was concerned, I have known several worthy Persons, both of Men and Women in that Hospital, some of which, I hope, are now with the Lord, and others, I hope, shall in due Time.

Another Thing should encourage these to contribute who have it in the Power of their Hand. There is in that Family such whose Parents in their Day were reckoned among the richest Burghers in the City. The Ancestors of others were amongst the ancientest Burghers, they have told me of 300 Years standing. There is now and has been formerly



merly those who have been Prefees and Deacons to Corporations in this City. There is some there who have descended of very considerable Families, as is very well known to many. Many are there who to my certain Knowledge are very thankful for their Mercies, and, I hope, improves their Opportunities accordingly. And here I will give an Account of a very good Saying of an honest Man in that Hospital, in the Time of our Reparations. A Friend of his went to see them, who took Occasion in our Hearing to extol the Goodness of God to him and the People in the Hospital. He answered, I and some others were the other Day sitting together, it being *Martinmas* Day, and were comparing Notes about our Hardships and Difficulties we had met with in the World. And he told us, I said, for my own Part? This is *Martinmas* Day, O *Martinmas*! many weary Day hast thou been to me; but now I can say, your humble Servant *Martinmas*, I have nothing to do with you.—

Another Argument I would make use of to engage those to contribute who are in a Capacity, is, That seeing Riches are very uncertain, and that many, who once, as has been said, both them and their Parents, and Ancestors, have had Abundance of the Things of the World, are now in great Straits, and that which has been may be again,



again, that some may now give and contribute, that either themselves, theirs, or some of their Posterity may find this a very happy City of Refuge to fly to, when they come to need it. And for my own Part, I really do think it is one of the pleasanter Lots they enjoy, whom Providence casts into that Family, that People in their Circumstances can live in in the World. And if they do not improve their Mercy, they will have as much to answer for as any People in the World; and I doubt not, but others will be of my Mind, after I have given an Account how they live, which I shall do as another Motive or Argument with these, with whom I am pleading to contribute to raise this new Bank for the Relief of the Poor, and which, I hope, will yield them Abundance of Profit and Pleasure some Time or other.

Their Way of Living is, as follows, from the Day they go into the Hospital, to the Day of their Death, they may and ought to give up with all anxious Concerns about the Things of this World, and dedicate their whole Life to the Service of the Lord, and to prepare for Eternity; for they have nothing to do, except any of the Women work any little Thing of their own; it is but little any of the Men can do, but wait on Ordinances within the Family, and in the Publick, read their Books, of which they



they have a very good Collection, in a Library lately erected, to which we are frequently adding new Books, and take their Walk in their Gardens.

As to their Maintenance, each Man hath one Pint of Ale a Day, each Woman three Mutchkins, every Man and Woman hath Twelve Ounces white Bread, second Flower, each Day, and if they take it a little less Weight, they have the finest; they have about one Mutchkin of Oat Meal Pottage every Morning; this is their Allowance, whether Malt, Meal, or Wheat, be dear or cheap. From the first of *August* to about the first of *January*, their Allowance is, two Days of the Week, one Shoulder or Giget of Mutton roasted among Four, two Days the Breast and Back-ribs, or the Loin boiled with Broth to every Four, and two Days of the Week they have fresh Beef and Broth; on *Monday* the Men get Twopence allowed each of them for Flesh, and each Woman Three Halfpence. From the 1st *January* to the 1st *June*, their Allowance is fresh Beef and Broth; and *June* and *July* each four hath one Lamb Leg.

'Tis true the Governels may give them some Days a Change, as Fish, or any Thing else, if kepted within the Allowance of the Bill of Fare; but this is seldom done.

Each Man hath every Year one Pair of Shoes, one Pair of Stockings, two Shirts, two Cravats, one Hat, one Pair of Breeches; and



and every two Years they have a Coat and Vest. Each Woman hath a Pair of Shoes, Stockings, and two Shirts every Year, and Gown and Petticoat every two Years. For buying other necessary Things, each Man hath 8 *lb.* 8 *d.* *Sterl.* and each Woman 5 *lb.* 6 *d.* *sterl.*

By this Account of their Living any Person may say, these People live a very comfortable Life, if they have Grace from the Lord to spend it for his Glory, and the Good of their own Souls. There are some in it, and others who are lately dead, that have lived 26, 27, 28 Years; and it is to be wished, they may be helped to consider what a sad Account they will have to make, if they have not improven their Time to the best Advantage. Certainly it may be thought, that they are happier than many other poor People who have Toils and vexing Thoughts, how to get Food and Raiment, and the Year brought about. Yea in some Cases they are much happier than some Rich People who are vexed with getting, keeping, and bestowing of their Riches. However the Lord can sanctify every Lot to his own People he sees fit to tryft them with in the World.

Some again may say, really we do think these People are very highly privileged People, but who are these that have a Privilege to be admitted into this Hospital? To this I answer, according to the Statutes,  
They



They are Burgeſſes, Burgeſſes Wives, or Children of Burgeſſes, not married, nor under the Age of 50 Years, and Care is taken they be Perſons of good Reputation, who have behaved themſelves virtuously in their former Days, who have not ſquandered away their Subſtance by riotous Living, but they or their Parents were brought to low Circumſtances by providential Diſpenſations, and by which it appears they have not had a ſinful Hand in their own Miſfortunes.

Another Statute provides, that the Donor of 200 *L. ſterl.* ſhall be privileged to preſent a Man or Woman to the Council of Governors, being a Burgeſs. And the Donor of 250 *L.* may preſent any Perſon whatſomever, whether Burgeſs or not, and the Privilege deſcend to Heirs and Succeſſors whatſomever, and this Privilege will continue, while it is an Hoſpital, which, I hope, it will do to the End of Time.

The Statutes allow to the Hoſpital a Governor or Chaplain; his Office is to inſpect the Manners and Behaviour of all the Perſons in it, particularly of the Men, and to report what he finds Amiſs to the Maſters or the Treafurer; to diſcourſe with theſe in the Family, counſel and adviſe, and reprove them as Occaſion requires, to ſit at Table where the Men eat, to officiate as Chaplain, praying in the Family Morning and Evening, reading and ſinging Pſalms, and moſt of



of the Days in the Week at Evening Exercise they have some short Discourse or Portion of Scripture explained, and on the Sabbath they have a Sermon after publick Worship is over.

The Business of the Governess is to inspect the Manners and Behaviour of all Persons in the Hospital, particularly of the Women, and report what she shall find Amis to the Masters, and officiate as Steward, taking Charge of the Provision of Meat and Drink, overseeing the Dressing and Disposal thereof, and accounting for it to the Treasurer, and to sit at the Head of the Table where the Women eat ; and further, to do whatever the Council shall from Time to Time direct concerning her Office.

They have one Man of their own Number to be Porter or Messenger, and he gets some Allowance for being so ; and they are allowed as many Maid-Servants as the Exigencies of the Hospital shall require.

Thus I have given some Account of this ancient, but much forgot and neglected Hospital, of its former and present State. The Thing which moved me to do so, and which is still in my View, is to do what can be done to induce all Persons to contribute, either less or more, of what the Lord hath bestowed on them, for getting its Reparations paid off, and its Fund raised, so as it  
may



may be able to maintain many more than ever it yet hath been able to do.

Some will say we think they live well enough already. That is granted, but it is not for these in the Family we are pleading, (for, as it hath been represented, nothing is kept off them, whatever Charges we have or may be at) but for many others that want to be in, whom we would wish to have as happy as they are.

It hath been my Observation, and the Observation of others also, that it had been greatly to the Advantage of some, if many who have died in this City within these few Years, and have left Abundance of Riches to their Friends, that they had left Part of their Riches to this Hospital, as in a sure Bank, for the Behoof and Benefit of those, who have little or nothing of these Riches left, and might have continued through every Generation doing Good to their Relations or others.

For Proof of what I affirm to be a Truth, there was a Gentleman left to that Hospital Forty thousand Merks. It is the greatest Donation they have : There is maintained on that Fund Ten Persons. *First*, His own Friends are preferred, if they apply within Sixty Days after another's Decease ; *Next*, His Name ; And, *lastly*, Burgessees. Now this Ten is a little Family ; and I refer it to every Person's Observation and Consideration,



ration, how many greater Sums they have known left within a few Years past, that little Account can be given of at this Day; nay, how can a Man, having Abundance of Riches, secure his Wealth to so good Advantage: For that Sum is at this Time just as entire, as the Time it was left, and so will continue. This should encourage others to give some Part of their Riches for so good a Work.

Many are the Objections and Shifts People are ready to make against their bestowing of *Charity*, which Love to the Things of the World makes them frame to themselves; but if we could be suitably impressed with the real Belief, that the World and the Things thereof are so great Enemies to our Souls as really they are, we would not be so much in Love with it, and would be more ready to part with some Portion of it for the Glory of God, and Relief of his needy Members.

As for other Motives and Arguments to persuade to contribute to this good Work, I refer the Reader to a little Treatise I composed and published some Months ago, Intituled, *A Looking-Glass for Rich People, or a Plea for the Poor*, and I would intreat these in whose Hands this may fall, that they have that Treatise by them, and look over these several Places here cited and pointed at: There it will appear, that Bounty  
and



and Liberality to the Poor, as it is a clear commanded Duty by God, so they will find it both a very pleasant and profitable Duty, that will turn greatly to their own Account one Day; for it is very plain, Riches are not our own, so as we may do with them as we please, but they are Talents for which we must answer to God, how we have improved them. For Proof of this, read in the *Plea for the Poor*, from *Page 11. to 19.* And that it is both a profitable and pleasant Duty, read from *Page 19. to 34.* And for Proof, that the Poor have a real Right to some Part of our worldly Substance, and what Peace it will yield a Person, either in Sicknes or Death, that they have pitied the Poor, Widow and Fatherless, read from *Page 34. to 56.* And to prove, that it is the Duty of these who have but little of the World, and but in low Circumstances themselves, to contribute some small Matter for the Relief of the Poor, read from *Page 56. to 72.* And to show what sad Characters are given in the Word of the LORD of those who are so *cruel*, both to themselves and to the Poor, as to with-hold their Right from them, seeing the LORD has given them a Title to some Part of our worldly Riches; for this read from *Page 72. to Page 87.* And for Answer to the many Objections that are ordinarily made against giving of *Charity*, you may read from *Page 87. to 106.* And to  
 prove



prove that our Profession is but in vain, except we evidence our Faith by our Works, read from Page 108 to 118, and then for a Proof that we all will in the Day of Judgment be called to an Account, how we have improven our Riches and Talents we enjoy in the World, read from Page 118, to Page 132. And for a Proof that *Charity* is a Duty, to which the Lord hath given his Testimony in his Word, that it is well pleasing to him, and acceptable in his Sight, read from Page 132, to Page 144.

Now after all some may say, I would very willingly comply with what hath been desired, and give in some small Part of what the Lord in his Providence hath bestowed on me, while I have it in the Power of my Hand, ( not knowing but the Poor may die To-day, and my Charity will do them no good To-morrow ) were it not that I am afraid I shall diminish my own Stock I have provided for my Friends and Family. but the more especially, if I could win to believe, that it would return to me in this Life with Increase ; for I really think *Liberality* a Thing pleasant and delightful to Flesh and Blood, and a very lovely Duty. For your Satisfaction in this, you may read in the *Plea for the Poor* from Page 149, to Page 160. After this Page last mentioned, the Treatise goeth on, and concludeth with some other



Duties, which if we make Conscience of, it will no doubt tend to our own Advantage, and prompt us to this excellent and important Duty of *Charity* to the Poor.

After all I have read and written about *Charity* to the Poor, and have hitherto intimated, that it is for Widows and old People, that are, or may be in great Need and Distress, I must acquaint my Reader, that I could never satisfy my self, that I could be answerable if I should say nothing for *Orphans* and poor *Children*, either such as have no Parents alive, or such as have Parents, but are in such low Circumstances, that they can neither give them Education to fit them for setting out in the World, nor have Means to bestow to get them taught either Religion or Virtue; and no doubt, it is the Duty of us all to do something for such Children; for it is certain where ever the Lord is pleased to cast such an *Orphan's* Lot, either in City or Parish, he saith to that City or Parish, *Bring up that Child for me*, as *Pharaoh's* Daughter said to *Moses's* Mother: Therefore I hereby intimate, it is the Design of some, in and about this City, to contribute something for the Education and teaching such Children as before mentioned, to be useful in their Generation, and as soon as possible, to erect an *Orphans Hospital*.  
We



We know of some Fund already to begin, such a good Work; and after what shall be said about its Management and Usefulness I hope, almost every Person that knows of so good a Design, will contribute some small Matter for that good Work. Also we are resolved, to keep as near to the Government of that famous *Hospital at Glaucha* near *Hall* in *Saxony* in the King of *Prussia's* Dominions, as their State, and our own will consist; which *Hospital*, I do think, is one of the wonderfulest Works, and has been most owned of the Lord, as any ever I read or heard of, and a very great Demonstration of God's owning such Undertakings. When I was composing *the Plea for the Poor*, and had read much for finding out Arguments and Motives for that End, I could find nothing in humane History, that pleased me better, as an Argument for that Design, or gave me (and I hope shall also give others) Ground to hope such a good Work shall prosper and succeed. O! how wonderful is it, when we consider how small a Beginning that great Work had, no more than eighteen Shillings and six Pence, and an entire Dependence on Divine Providence, and yet within five Years it was able to maintain such a vast Number, as there ye will find.

And for all these that shall give any Thing noticeable, they shall have the Gift



of the History of that famous *Hospital*, which I have caused print, hoping it may have a Tendency to very good Purpose on this Occasion, and may encourage all Stations, both high and low, to contribute, when they see such Designs so much owned and countenanced of the Lord.

The Children that are designed to be maintained in this *Orphans Hospital*, are those that are the most hopeful Children of such as have been honest People, who have lived in and about this City, and who have no Right or Title to go into any Hospital, such as *Heriot's*, or *George Watson's* when it shall be built, or into any of the *Maiden Hospitals*.

The Education that is resolved to be given them, is what the honourable Society for propagating Christian Knowledge gives to their Children, such as to read, write, Count Arithmetick, and sing the common Tunes, except it be Boys of more than ordinary Capacity, who may be carried on a further Length, to fit them for being more useful in their Generation.

We design to take into this Hospital, according to our Plan in the forementioned Hospital at *Glauca*, both Boys and Girls. The Boys are to be instructed and educated, in order to fit them for the Weaver Trade, and improving our Manufactories, that being the only Way whereby our Nation can be saved!



saved from going to sore Decay. The Girls shall be carefully taught in the Art of Spinning and House-wifery, whereby they will be fitted to be Servants in Families ; Persons shall be encouraged who are capable to educate them for such Purposes ; and 'tis hoped Care will be taken to instruct them in the Principles of the Christian Religion, and how to remember their Creator in the Days of their Youth.

The raising a Fund for so great and good a Work, and getting an Hospital built, may appear very difficult to some ; but however difficult it may seem to others, it appears to be no Difficulty to me. If we will use the ordinary Means, it will be very easy to so many as may contribute to it, we constantly relying on Divine Conduct, for *except the Lord build the House, the Builders loss their Pains*. And we should always have in View the Lord's wonderful Providence in the Beginning, and carrying on, that famous Hospital at *Hall*, which I recommend both as our Pattern, and for Motives and Encouragement to go in this good Work.

I have had many sweet Reflections when considering the great Usefulness of such an Hospital, both for the Good of these poor Children, the Advantage the City and Nation may reap by it, and how easy it will be to begin and carry it on, and that instead of being a Burden to us, it rather would be



a great Ease, which I hope to make appear in what is to be said afterwards.

It is very well known that many honest Men, who have wrought very sore about this City and Suburbs, some for 7 d. 8 d. 9 d. 10 d. a Day, by whose Labours others have gained their Bread, and some of them Riches, yet have had such Families of Children of their own, they were not able to educate so as to fit them for Employments; some of these Parents, either one or both dying, when they are Young, and leaving them very destitute of either Means or Friends. And altho' to my long Observation the several Kirk-Sessions have allowed to many of them some small Matter to help to maintain them, till they were about 7 or 8 Years of Age, and then, not being able to help them longer, we in Sessions use to say, they can now do for themselves. But if we will seriously consider what are the Things they can do, it will show their Case to be very destitute; for the Boys can only run with a Paper Lantern in the Streets, or an Errand, or beg from Door to Door; and for the Girls, they may bear a little Flesh from the Market, or beg; and O how lamentable and wretched is this Education. How are both the Souls and Bodies of these poor Children, who, by the Blessing of God, might, by a regular Care and Pains, be made useful, exposed!



But that it will rather be a Gain to the City and Nation than a Burden, rather a saving Bargain than a real Loss, for each Family to allow something for educating these poor Children, may be proved thus. For it is known to be practicable that a smart Boy in the Weaver Employment, employed about such Work as he is capable to do in the first Years of his Apprenticeship, may be in a Capacity to gain his own Bread within the Compass of one Year ; and this should encourage us to train up many such for that Business, the more especially when the Nation seems now to forward to encourage our own Manufactories. Nay it would not only be charitable to bestow some small Thing for these Childrens Maintainance and Education, but also to buy and make use of, and export such Goods as may be wrought by them, in which they are assisted and instructed by sufficient Tradesmen.

This Hospital may be raised and maintained this very easy Way. If every, or almost all, the Families in and about this City and Suburbs should but bestow, in such a Way as shall be thought proper to receive or collect it, but one Penny *Sterl.* of every Pound *Sterling* they lay out on maintaining their own Families, and House Rents, Servants Fees, Apparel, &c. in one Year, for this Use, that is to say, they who spend 50 *l.*



*Sterling*, 50 Pence, and they who spend more or less, in like Proportion, it is computed it will maintain an Hospital, consisting of an Hundred Orphans. And if this be any great Hardship to bestow thus much, I leave it to others to judge; for I do maintain 4 *lb.* will be of more real Use to give for the Use of these Children, for educating them in a regular Way, and fitting them for gaining their own Bread, than 16 *lb.* given in such Charity as shall be spent as soon as they receive it. And so this makes it very plain we will be rather Gainers than Losers by so doing in a prudential Way.

We may indeed provide some House built already for maintaining and educating some Children for some Time, 'till it be thought fit to erect an Hospital; But it is my Opinion, and you may also learn it from the History of the Hospital near to *Hall*, it will never make a Figure, or be noticeable, or come to a good Bearing, 'till an Hospital be begun to be erected. And then when it shall be set about, there might be built at one Period of Time but one Ward, after the Manner of *St. Thomas's* Hospital at *London*, and afterwards add to it as your Funds shall encrease.

It is not to be doubted but many will cheerfully contribute to this good Work; for to be sure it is an Hospital most needful, and 'tis hoped will be the most beneficial Hospital



tal to both the City and Nation that hath been yet set one Foot, for considering the regular Way may be taken in instructing these Children, and the fit Masters and Mistresses may be employed about, it will not only be a Mean to introduce Virtue about this City, but also diffuse it through the Kingdom. And no doubt many will contribute, that live in distant Places from this City, for so advantageous an Undertaking.

If Virtue be not encouraged in and about this City, I know not what low Circumstances it may come to be in e're it be long: For let us consider the Ways and Means by which the Inhabitants have subsisted for many Ages; 1<sup>st</sup>, They depended on the Parliament and Courts of Judicature. As for the Parliament we have none, and it is known, to the Experience of many, what from the great Scarcity of Money, and other Reasons, the Session is far from being so throng as it was in use to be. The other Way the Inhabitants of this City did gain their Livings, was, both Merchants and Tradesmen did sell their Effects and Goods to other Cities and distant Places of the Nation, and to Noblemen and Gentlemens Families; whereas now there is so very many Goods come from abroad, several Ways needless to mention, but well known and felt, that Way of Subsistence is much failed also; so that I see no Way we can long subsist



list without encouraging Virtue and improving Manufactories about this Place. And to be sure our Neighbours in *England* will commend us more for our improving some Virtue among our selves, because it will enable us to buy from them such Goods as will not be found expedient for us to make; and more especially if it should be found, that by our Neglect we bring our selves to so low Circumstances as not to have Money, either to buy or pay what we have from them. It is very certain it hath been to the great Loss and Detriment of this Nation, the not improving our Linnen Manufactories to the best Advantage in former Times; this might have tended greatly to our own Advantage, and we may persuade our selves, that *England* would have encouraged us rather than *Hamburgh* or *Ireland*, they knowing our Riches and Well being is a Part of the Strength of the Kingdom.— But there being Acts and Regulations laid lately down by the Parliament, and also Encouragement allowed for improving our Linnen Manufactories, and our own Wool, as also the Fishing Trade; and this Trust being committed to worthy Gentlemen, who 'tis hoped will study their Country's Advantage, and improve the Powers reposed in them, for making these Laws effectual, for the Good of the Kingdom; therefore I shall pass it.



I come now to answer some Questions concerning these *Hospitals*, to wit, the *Trinity Hospital* for old People, and the *Orphans Hospital* proposed to be erected, and concerning the Ways and Means of collecting Contributions for them; And the first is, Who are they will concern themselves in getting this Contribution collected? *Answer*, 'Tis hoped that all the honourable Magistrates, and those who sit with them in Council, will lay themselves out this Way, knowing it will tend much to the Advantage of this City and Country; and that all the reverend Ministers will also give their Assistance, and also all the Preses's of every different Society about the City and Suburbs, from the highest to the lowest, and that all the Elders and Deacons of every Kirk-session will make it their Business to be instrumental this Way. But I leave to the honourable Magistrates, Ministers and General Sessions to appoint proper Ways and Methods how it shall be most expeditiously gone about; and every one that will give their Contribution to me as Treasurer, as I formerly mentioned, it shall, every Farthing of it, stand on a fair Record, and they shall have a Receipt for it, a Copy of which you may see printed at the End of the Preface: And if any shall send a Sum of Money, and conceal their Name, it shall be likewise recorded, that on such



a Day received such a Sum from a Benefactor to this *Hospital*, who inclines not to be known.

2. A second Question is, Who are these we expect will contribute to this good Work? *Answer*, We perswade our selves, that almost all and every one will contribute either less or more according to their Ability. This is their indispensable Duty, it is plain what we enjoy is but a Trust, for which we must answer to God ere it be long; and it will be a terrible Question to us, who have possessed Abundance of worldly Wealth, *What did ye more than others?* Negative Holiness will not bring any Man to Heaven, it will not be enough to be able to say, I did not such and such evil Things, if we do no Good with the Talents we have been intrusted with.

3. A third Question is, How do we design to employ this large Contribution we expect. *Answer*, 'Tis designed in the first Place to make up what Money is expended in the Reparations of the *Trinity Hospital*, that the Fund may be preserved untouched. And in the second Place, after we have got our Reparations paid off, and our Fund untouched, it is resolved to divide the rest equally between the foresaid *Trinity Hospital*, and the designed *Hospital* for *Orphans*. We perswade our selves none will refuse chearfully to contribute, when  
they



they consider it is for two so great and good Designs. After some Time is spent in getting Contributions for both conjunctly, (and if it be thought proper to *Lammas* next) People may afterwards give Contributions to any of the two as they think most proper.

For the *Orphans Hospital* it is humbly proposed, the Way of Subsistence may be thus, leaving it to the honourable Magistrates and Town Council, the reverend Ministers and general Sessions to alter the Scheme as they shall find most convenient at the Time when they shall make Statutes and Rules for its Management. For yearly Subsistence it is proposed, that what shall come in after the Term of *Lammas* first, and given by any Person, under one Pound *Sterl.* shall be bestowed on that Year's Maintainance, all Sums above that shall be reckoned a capital Stock, and only the Interest shall be made use of in all Time coming: And because we depend upon Divine Providence, hoping there will be given to it many small Sums, and other Gifts every Year, and that the Childrens Work will be helpful in their Maintainance, it is proposed that the Donor of 60 *Lib. sterl.* whether Nobleman, Gentleman or others, or Society or Incorporation in any Part of *Scotland*, may present to the Governors of this *Hospital* either a hopeful  
Boy



Boy or Girl, not under the Age of seven Years, nor above the Age of Ten. And this they may do at the End of every seven Years, while this Hospital does continue, which we hope it shall to the End of Time.

It will be easy to build this Hospital for Orphans, compared with what it would cost to build another Fabrick of that Sort ; for we are perswaded, when once it is begun, many will contribute Necessaries and Materials for so good a Work. Some will bestow Donations of Timber, who deal in that Way ; some will lead us Stones, Lime or Sand ; some will give Locks, Bands, &c. Some will glafs Windows as Donations, and others contribute for other Parts of that Work ; and it is known, for some have promised it, that Journey-men Wrights and Masons will come and work there, when they can be spared from other Work, or have idle Days, for little or Nothing, except it be some Drink-money ; and they will the more cheerfully do so, seeing it tends so much to the Advantage of such People's Children.

And after the Hospital is built, as was done in the Hospital near to *Hall* in *Germany*, we doubt not but People will send in other Gifts for its Furniture and Provision. Victual, Drink and Cloathing from the City and adjacent Country. As for Example, I could name fifty two Brewers in and about this City and

Sub-



Suburbs that would each of them give to this Orphans Hospital a nine Gallon Tree of Ale once in the Year at least, which would prove a very great Mean of its Subsistence. Some will bestow Stockens, Shoes, Shirts, &c. and others will give Gifts of Money, as Providence bestows on them and inclines their Hearts to so doing.

Many are the Advantages will arise and redound to this City and Bounds from such an Undertaking. I shall suggest but a very few of them ; as it hath been formerly represented, it will be the Way to set on Foot and introduce Trade and Virtue about this City, for Improvement of our own Manufactories, not only for our own Use, but also for Exportation. Another great Advantage will be, that many Men and Women within this City, whose Circumstances are low, may happen to get some Post and Benefits about it when it comes to any considerable Bearing, according to their Capacity and Usefulness, for it is evident many do want Posts at this Day in order to get Subsistence, as is very well known by the many Applications that are made to the Council for any little Post that falls vacant. Nay some virtuous old People may get their Living about the Hospital, that many are of Opinion deserve to be taken into the old People's Hospital, but cannot be preferred for want of a Title.

Nay many young Men and Women, who have got Education already, may here be employed



ployed in educating others. And Men having Stocks may have them employed to good Advantage, seeing we shall have many fit Hands, employed in our Manufactures. We have at this Time, much talking and many Schemes about the Improvement of our Manufactories, but it is very certain we have neither Abundance of experienced Tradesmen of the Weaver Trade, or of People well skilled in the Art of Spinning, or other Pieces of Work about Manufactories, in order to carry on such a Trade and Improvement the Length designed and wished for.

It is certain this Country cannot subsist long, if we continue to import so many Goods into it as has been for some Years past, and export so few of our own ; every Person known in Trade and Business will easily perceive this, considering the Scarcity of Money there is already.

A Nursery of young People brought up about this City, in the Manner here proposed, will settle about it ; and if well instructed in their Business, and they get suitable Encouragement, they will be a Mean of increasing the Wealth and Riches of the City and Country ; and so all Societies of Men will be Gainers, and each have Encouragement in their own Way of Trafficking, such as Merchants, Chirurgeons, Goldsmiths, Wrights, Masons, Smiths, Shoemakers, Taylors.



lors, Baxters, Brewers, &c. Yea all sorts of Trades will be Gainers if this Capital City and the Nation shall flourish and encrease in Trade and Business. Therefore let all of us, with the greatest Pleasure and Chearfulness, contribute some Moieties for so commendable a Design as is here proposed for the Benefit of this City and Nation, and for making the Poor useful in their Day, and rather a Benefit than a Burden; yea this may be a blessed Mean of saving many poor Children from being exposed both as to their Souls and Bodies.

I had a Design to have said a good deal more about the Order, Management and Government of this Orphans Hospital, and about instructing the Children educated in it in Trade and Business; but having reprinted the History of that famous Hospital at *Glauca* without *Hall* in *Germany*, which we design as the Model and Pattern of this good Undertaking, and which all Contributors will have Access to see for their Encouragement, we refer to it, and conclude with a few Scriptures proving Charity an indispensable Duty, and with a few Arguments transcribed from Mr. *Harrison's Spiritual Pleadings*, plainly demonstrating that Bounty and Charity to Widows and Orphans is indispensibly necessary. *Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain Mercy, Math. v. 7. To do Good and communicate, forget not; for with*



*such Sacrifices God is well pleased, Heb. xiii. 16. Charge them that are rich in this World, that they be not high minded, nor trust in uncertain Riches, but in the Living God, who giveth us richly all Things to enjoy. That they do good, that they be rich in good Works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate, 2 Tim. vi. 17, 18. Come ye blessed of my Father inherit the Kingdom prepared for you, for I was an hungred, and ye gave me Meat; I was thirsty, and ye gave me Drink; I was naked, and ye clothed me, &c. Math. xxv. 34, 35, 36, &c. This poor Widow hath cast in more than they all, Mark xii. 43. The Poor ye shall always have with you, but me you have not always, and when ever you will you may do them Good, Mark xiv. 7. He that soweth sparingly, shall reap sparingly. 2 Cor. ix. 6. Make to your selves Friends of the Mammon of Unrighteousness, Luke xvi. 9. With-hold not Good from whom it is due, when it is in the Power of thy Hand to do it, Pro. iii. 27. He that hath Pity on the Poor lendeth to the Lord; and that which he hath given, will he pay him again, Pro. xix. 17. He that stoppeth his Ear at the Cry of the Poor, shall cry also himself, and shall not be heard, Prov. xxi. 13. Cast your Bread upon the Water: For you shall find it after many Days, Ecclesi. xi. 2. This is the Fast that I have chosen, — If thou draw out thy Soul to the Hungry, and satisfy the afflicted Soul, Isa. lviii. 7, 10. Blessed is he that considereth the Poor, Psal. xli. 1.*

*He-*



*He that hath Mercy on the Poor happy is he,*  
Prov. xiv 21.

Mr. *Harrison* in his Spiritual Pleadings, after having insisted on many incumbent Duties says, prefer one Bill more in a Case which few think of, notwithstanding of all our Boasting and Pretensions to a through Reformation, and that's this: Few Men now a-days do honour the Lord with their Substance, few look at this as a Duty to consecrate any Part of their Gain unto the Lord, or of their Substance to the Lord of the whole Earth, but carry it as if they were turned *Independents* indeed, and did not depend, no not upon God himself, or as if God himself had lost his Propriety, and there were now no Rent-penny, no Acknowledgement due unto him, save such an one as costs us nothing; surely God from the Beginning reserved and claimed a Part due to himself who gave the whole, and Whatever there was besides, this also was in the Sacrifices of *Cain* and *Abel*, an Acknowledgement that God hath a Right to every Man's Goods; afterwards he published and put in his Claim more particularly, *Exod. xxii. 29. Thou shalt not delay to offer the first of thy ripe Fruits. — All the Tithe of the Land, whether of the Seed of the Land, or of the Fruit of the Tree, is the Lord's, it is holy unto the Lord, Lev. xxvii. 20. It is the Lord's, it is his already, hath been so*



from the Beginning of the World, and he now appoints the *Levite*, the Stranger, the Widow, and the Fatherless to be his Rent-Gatherers or Receivers-General. — I wish Trial were made, whether it may not be proved, that the Tenth Part, or other Proportion of every Man's Increase, Acquisitions, Improvements and Incomes, is due unto the Lord, even to this Day ; — And so ought to be expended in the relieving of the Poor at Home and Abroad, under the Rage of Persecution in other Countries, and in the Education of poor Children, the Advancement of Learning (that inestimable Jewel) and other pious Uses. And would every Man that abounds make such a Purse, and account it as a sacred Treasury or Corban, not to be opened but for pious Uses, how many necessitous Parents, perishing Orphans, poor aged People, Persons maim'd by Fire, Shipwreck, or the like, might speedily be relieved? There is no pious Person but judges something due this Way, and the Holy Ghost calls even a Man's Charity due Debts, *Prov. iii. 27, 28 With-hold not Good from them to whom it is due, when it is in the Power of thine Hand to do it. Say not unto thy Neighbour, go and come again, and To-morrow I will give, when thou hast it by thee.* What we call giving, God calls paying; What we call Charity he counts due Debt. God's Command makes Relief due unto others,



others, makes them Owners, Masters of our Superfluities; not that they may take it by Force, but that we must give it freely. Indeed all the Question is about the *Quantum*, how much ought thus to be dedicated to God, and to fix it upon the Tenth Part, is neither Popish, nor legal, nor *Jewish*, but a known Truth or Duty, long before the Oldest of these was heard of in the World; this was no natural, but an adoptive Child of *Moses*, nor was it a Type or Ceremony, as sacrificing was (which was also before the Law) for then there must be some Spiritual Substance, typed out by it, but was practised by the Light of Nature, and Law of Reason, Moral Law and Law of Nations every where. Why else did *Abraham*, Gen. xvi. 20. pay Tithes to *Melchisedic*, the great Representative of Christ. And that they were paid as a due to the Priesthood of Christ (sustained then in a Figure by *Melchisedic*) the Seventh Chapter to the *Hebrews* proves abundantly, and that *Levi* himself who took Tithes, have payed them, and that *Levi* had only a Commission (*pro tempore*) to be God's Rent Gatherers and Receivers. They mistake that think the Payment of the Tenth Part, was then first set on Foot to defray the Charges of that costly Worship, it was paid long before; *Abraham* is a full Instance, four hundred and thirty Years before the Law, as the Apostle observes



observes upon another Occasion, *Gal. iii. 17.*  
 ——— But this was only a Tenth of the  
 Spoils taken in War, may some say, what  
 say ye then to that Engagement of *Jacob, Gen.*  
*xxviii 22. Of all that thou shalt give un-*  
*to me, I will surely give the Tenth unto thee.*  
 Methinks he speaks of this as a Duty, that  
 he had been catechised and trained up in the  
 Knowledge of. He had the Direction of the  
 Spirit for it, saith *Calvin*, and why not al-  
 so the Instruction of his Ancestors? For  
*Abraham* practised it before him ——— Thus  
 it was before the Law Ceremonial, and Christ  
 approves it, *Math. xxiii. 23.* and affirms that  
 dedicating a Part to Charitable Uses, Sancti-  
 fies the whole, as the first Fruit sanctified the  
 Lump, *Luke xi. 41, 42* and *xii. 33.* And  
 finds no Fault with the *Pharisee* for his  
 Practice *Luke xviii. 12.* for his giving up of a  
 Tenth Part of all that he possessed to Pious  
 Uses, but for his Trusting in it; nor were  
 the Tenths all of them consumed by Christ's  
*consumatum est*, but he teacheth us even to  
 the End of the World, *To give unto God*  
*the Things that are God's*, *Mark xii. 17.* and  
 both we and all we have are his, *1 Cor. ix.*  
*14.* though he is pleased to accept a small  
 Part in lieu of the whole. ——— And plain it  
 is, that there is such a Thing as Sacrilege  
 now in the Days of the Gospel, and I fear  
 many more are Guilty thereof than are aware  
 of



of it ; nay, well were it, that they were not most Guilty, who seem most to abhor it.

If the Lord would set on the Sense of this Duty (of Charity) upon the Hearts and Consciences of Professors, and take them off from their Subterfuges, and Cavils, and Evasions, how soon would there be a sacred Bank, a Stock raised, a Temple Treasury filled to answer all Religious Occasions, to give a speedy Relief to the Necessities of the Poor, who starve many Times while the Grass is Growing, while the Alms are a gathering.

How would this roll away our Reproach of being *Solifidians*, and make the Gospel vie for Fruitfulness in good Works with Popish Charity and blind Devotion. *Tit. iii. 8.* Let them who believe in God, *be careful to maintain good Works.* How would it cut off Occasions from the Flesh, which craves and calls for all, and consumes more upon some one Lust, than all a Man's Graces ever cost him : How would it bring a Blessing, and prove a Hedge about all the rest of his Estate, like *Hanna's* Loaf which was lent to God, *1 Sam. ii. 20, 21.* He gave her back five for one, and so will he do by every one that ventures with him; will ye prove him, *Mal. iii. 1.* Do but try me saith he in this one Particular.

And who would repent his Obedience hereunto when he comes to die, and to be torn  
away



away from all his outward Enjoyments? Then it is that Men's Consciences wring them, and make them fling away apace what they can grasp no longer. Oh! Then it is that their Hearts die away with Anguish and Astonishment, to behold all the black *Items* of their Expences, to think how they have served the Devil with their Estates and not God, to whom they are now going to give an Account of their Stewardship when he will trust them no longer; they now feel the Hook which they have swallowed, and would fain *disgorge* that which they are afraid to *digest*.

I shall add no more, but commend this small Treatise with the Preface to it, the History of the Hospital at *Glauca*, and the *Plea for the Poor*, to your serious Consideration and Perusal, where you will find Abundance of Arguments, Encouragements and Motives for enforcing our Compliance with this great Duty, hoping the Lord, who hath commanded it so peremptorily, will persuade us to comply with it. *Let us not be weary in Well-doing* (as saith the Apostle, Gal. vi. 9.) *for in due Season we shall reap, if we faint not.*

F I N I S.







