

**Case resuscitation by His Imperial Majesty, the Emperor of Russia /  
Published for the anniversary festival, 1814.**

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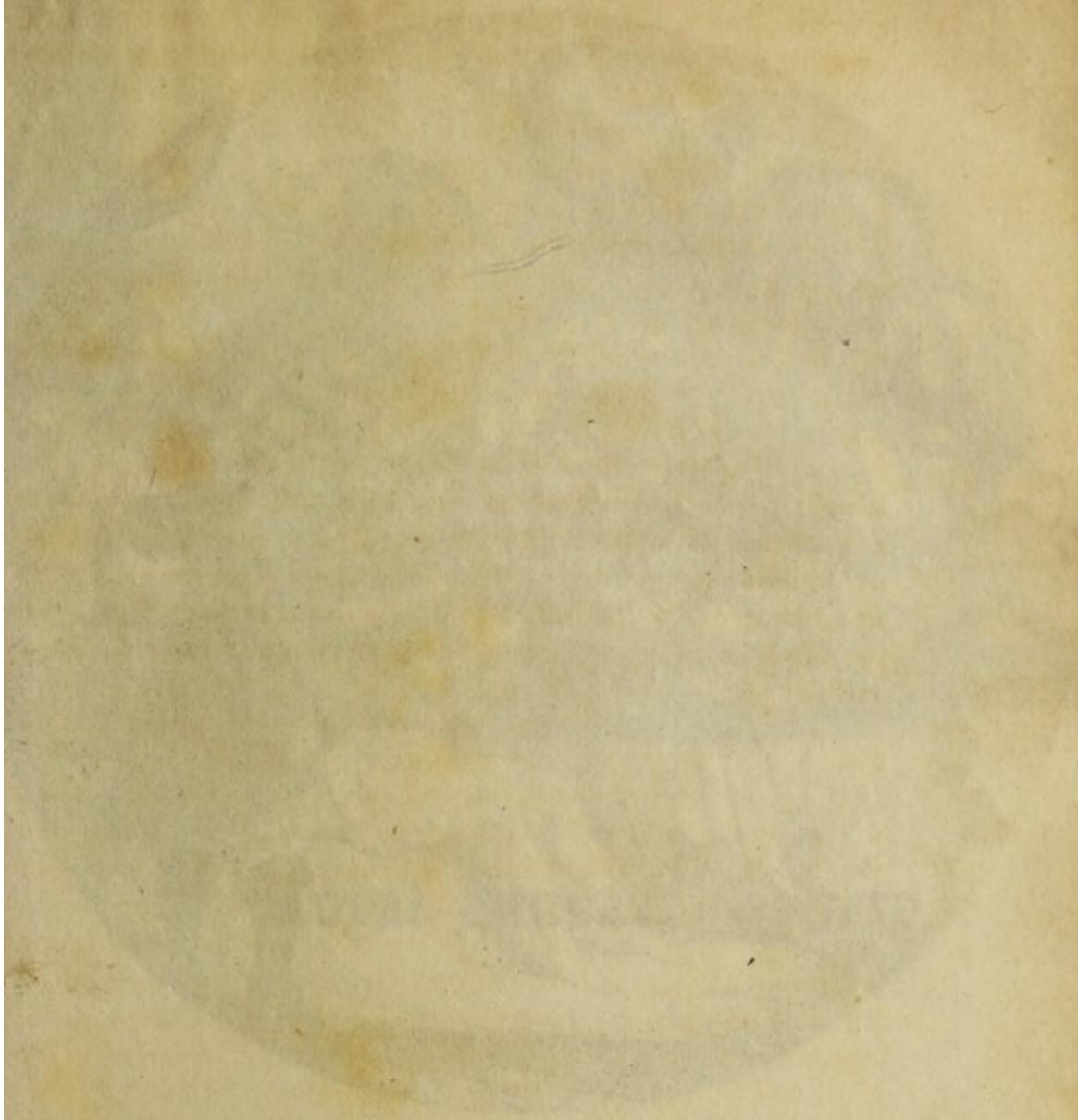
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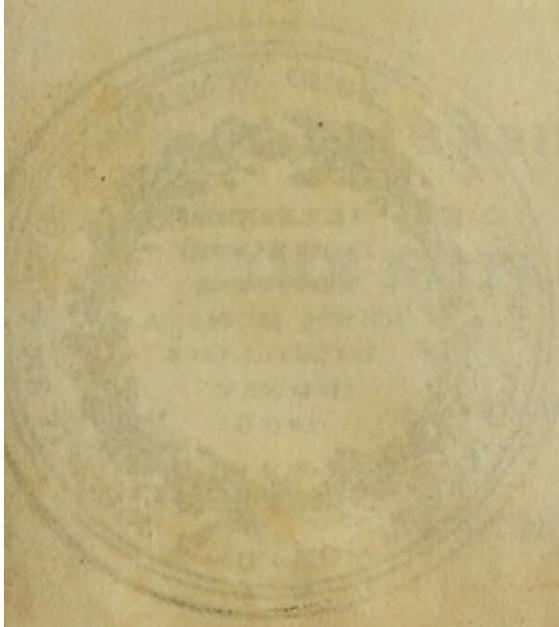
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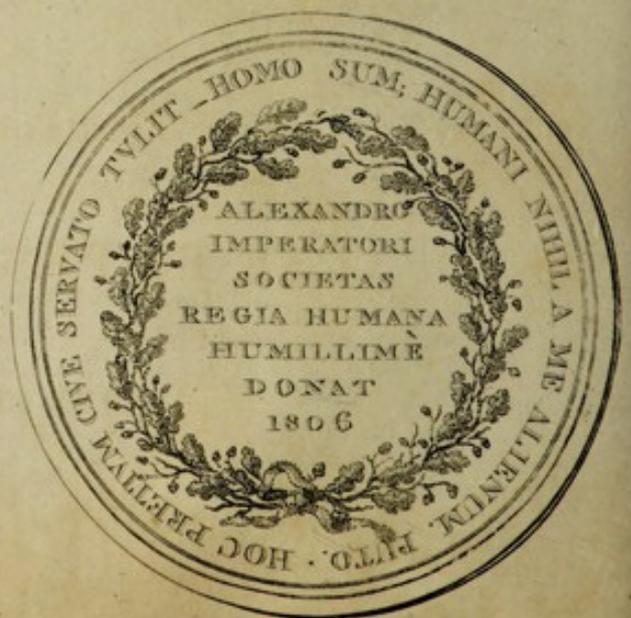
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CASE OF RESURRECTION



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GO AND DO THOU LIKEWISE

*Girtin sc. d. Charles St. Mill. Hosp.*



Royal Humane Society,

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CASE OF RESUSCITATION

BY

HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY

THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA.

PUBLISHED FOR THE

*ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL,*

1814.



AT THE ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL,

*On Tuesday, the 15th Day of April, 1806,*

HIS EXCELLENCY BARON DE ROBECK,

*in the Chair.*

PRESENT,

The Right Honourable the EARL of ROMNEY, V. P.

The Right Honourable LORD HAWARDEN,

The Honourable PHILIP PUSEY, V. P.

J. C. LETTSOM, M. & LL. D. F. R. S. V. P.

J. THOMPSON, V. P.

*and upwards of*

THREE HUNDRED MERCHANTS *and* OTHERS,

GOVERNORS OF THIS SOCIETY ;

*On Motion by R. H. MARTEN, Esq. who, by an appropriate Address, introduced the interesting Communication from JAMES GRANGE, Esq. in the following Letter to W. HAWES, M. D. Treasurer of the Society.*

“ DEAR SIR,

*London, March 24, 1806.*

“ Agreeably to your request, that I would commit to writing the Narrative that formed part of our late conversation, I have now the renewed pleasure to inform you, that His Imperial Majesty the Emperor Alexander, in one of his journeys through Poland, by his own humane perseverance and personal exertion, *restored to*  
*life*

*life* a peasant of that country, who had been under water a considerable time. — This very interesting occurrence came to my knowledge during my late stay at St. Petersburg, and took place between Konna and Wilna (in Lithuania), on the banks of the little river Wilna, from whence the last-mentioned town derives its name.

“ The Emperor, from some cause or other immaterial to the present interesting subject, had considerably preceded his attendants ; and being led, by the winding of the road, within a short distance of the above-mentioned river, and perceiving several persons assembled near the edge of the water, out of which they appeared to be dragging something, instantly alighted ; and, on approaching the spot, found it to be the body of a man, *apparently lifeless*. Prompted by *humanity* alone, and without any other assistance than that of the ignorant boors around him (to whom he was no otherwise known, than that his uniform indicated an officer of rank), he had him conveyed to, and laid on the side of a bank, and immediately proceeded, with his own hands, to assist in taking off the wet clothes from the apparent corpse, and to rub his temples, wrists, &c. which His Imperial Majesty continued for a considerable time, using every other means (though destitute of every medical assistance), that appeared at the moment most likely to restore animation, but all without effect.

“ In the midst of this beneficent occupation, the Emperor was joined by the gentlemen of his suite, among whom were Prince Wolkonsky and Count Liewen (two Russian noblemen), and Dr. Weilly, His Majesty’s head surgeon, an English gentleman, whose professional abilities are so well known (at least on the Continent),  
that

that they need no comment, who always travels with, and indeed never quits His Majesty at any time.

“ Their exertions were immediately added to those of the Emperor ; and, on the Doctor’s attempting to bleed the patient, His Majesty held and rubbed his arm, and gave every other assistance in his power : however that, and all other means they could devise, proved equally ineffectual ; so much so, that *after above three hours’* fruitless attempts to recover him, the Doctor declared, to extreme chagrin of the Emperor (who was by this time become very anxious about it), his opinion, that life was quite gone, and that it was useless proceeding any further.

“ Fatigued as he was with such continued exertion, the Emperor could not, however, rest satisfied without entreating Dr. Weilly to persevere, and to make a fresh attempt to bleed him.—The Doctor, although (as he has declared to me himself, and from whose own mouth I have these particulars) he had not the slightest hope of being more successful in this than in former ones, proceeded, nevertheless, to obey the positive injunctions of His Imperial Majesty ; when the whole of them (the noblemen, &c.) making a last effort in rubbing, &c. the Emperor had, at length, the inexpressible satisfaction of seeing the blood make its appearance, accompanied by a slight groan.

“ The emotions of His Imperial Majesty, on this occasion, the Doctor informed me, are not to be described ; and, in the plenitude of his joy, he exclaimed in French,

‘ *Good God ! this is the brightest day of my life !*’

and the tears, which instantaneously sprang into his eyes, indicated that these words came from the heart.

It is useless to say, my dear Sir, that their exertions were, as you may suppose, redoubled, and finally crowned with complete success ; but I must not forget to add (as in justice to His Imperial Majesty no trait, however trifling, ought to be omitted, which reflects such honour on his feelings as a man), that, on Dr. Weilly's looking about for something to stop the blood with, and tie up his arm, the Emperor instantly took out his handkerchief, tore it in pieces, and, with his own hands, bound the poor fellow's arm with it (whose gratitude and astonishment, when informed to whom he was indebted for his life, you may easily conceive) ; and remained with him till he saw him quite recovered, and conveyed to a place where proper care would be taken of him ; besides ordering him a considerable present of money, and having since otherwise provided for him and his family.

The accompanying snuff-box \*, on which this interesting event is faithfully, though roughly delineated (the poor inhabitants of that part of Poland being no great artists), was sketched at a neighbouring town, for the purpose of commemorating his restoration ; and is one of *four* presented, on the occasion, to the principal actors in it, namely, His Imperial Majesty and the *three gentlemen* above mentioned, who are (though not very correctly, it is true) represented on it.

Knowing my attachment to every thing in the least connected with that truly amiable and good Prince, or his actions, Dr. Weilly was kind enough, at my request, to present me with it ; and although I would not part with

\* See the Engraving.

it on any other account, I think it cannot be better disposed of, than by taking the liberty of offering it to you, Sir, to the end, that so striking an example of humanity, perseverance, and philanthropy, in so exalted a character, may not be entirely lost to the world, and to posterity.

Requesting you to excuse the hasty, imperfect way in which I have endeavoured to narrate this very affecting transaction (to which I feel myself totally incompetent to do adequate justice), allow me to assure you, Sir, of the sentiments of respect and esteem with which I beg leave to subscribe myself,

“ Dear Sir,

“ Yours, most faithfully,

“ JAMES GRANGE.”

*The MOTION being seconded by the Rev. GEORGE  
GREGORY, D. D. it was*

*Resolved unanimously,*

That it be recommended to the Managers of this Society, that the Gold Medal be voted to, and that His Imperial Majesty Alexander, Emperor of all the Russias, be humbly requested graciously to accept the same, being the highest tribute in its power to offer, in testimony of the sincere respect entertained by the Royal Humane Society, for the character of His Imperial Majesty, by whose noble, unwearied, and persevering efforts, Life was, under Divine Providence, restored to one of his subjects, who, otherwise, would have been prematurely consigned to the grave.

## AT A MEETING OF THE MANAGERS

*On the 29th of April, 1806,*

JOSEPH JENNINGS, Esq. in the Chair ;

*Resolved unanimously,*

That the Gold Medal of this Society be presented to His Imperial Majesty, Alexander, Emperor of all the Russias, in conformity with the recommendation of the General Meeting, on the 15th day of April last.

*Resolved unanimously,*

That, in consideration of the exalted rank, and to shew every mark of respect in the power of this Society to His Imperial Majesty, a *Special* Court of Directors be called, for the confirmation of the above Resolution, to meet on Tuesday, the 6th Day of May next.

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AT A SPECIAL COURT OF DIRECTORS OF THE ROYAL  
HUMANE SOCIERY.

*On Tuesday, the 6th day of May, 1806,*

The Worshipful JOSIAH BOYDELL, Ald. in the Chair,

*Resolved unanimously,*

That the Resolution of the Board of Managers, held on the 29th day of April last, whereby the Gold Medal of this Society was voted to His Imperial Majesty, Alexander, Emperor of all the Russias, be confirmed.

*Resolved,*

*Resolved,*

That His Imperial Majesty be respectfully requested graciously to accept the last Anniversary Report of this Society.

*Resolved unanimously,*

That the following Gentlemen be a Sub-Committee for the purpose of conferring on the best mode to testify, in the presentation of the Gold Medal, the sincere respect which a body of Englishmen entertain for the exalted character of His Imperial Majesty; and to carry the same into execution.

The Worshipful JOSIAH BOYDELL, Alderman.

J. C. LETTSOM, M. D.

WILLIAM HAWES, M. D.

Rev. GEORGE GREGORY, D. D.

JOSEPH JENNINGS, Esq.

R. H. MARTEN, Esq.

JAMES GRANGE, Esq.

*Resolved,*

That, the Most Noble the Marquis Douglas being nominated by our Royal Patron to represent His Majesty at the Court of St. Petersburg, his Lordship be requested to present the Gold Medal\* of this Society to His Imperial Majesty.

\* Inscription round the Civic Wreath of the Gold Medal presented to the Emperor of all the Russias :

*Homo sum, Humani nihil a me alienum puto.*   TERENCE.

The Roman Dramatist has delivered down to us a sentiment, the excellence of which has been admired by the Benefactors of Mankind. "I AM A MAN, and consider nothing as foreign to my purpose, which relates to the character and consideration of humanity." (See the Engraving.)

*Resolved,*

*Resolved,*

That the Sub-Committee do affix their signatures to the copy of these several Resolutions and Proceedings of the Royal Humane Society.

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*To the PRESIDENT and DIRECTORS of the ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY.*

*St. Petersburg,*

*26 March, 1807.*

“ GENTLEMEN,

“ I have the honour to send you herewith enclosed, a letter from his Imperial Majesty, intended for the Humane Society.

“ As soon after my arrival at St. Petersburg as I could procure a favourable opportunity, I delivered the Medal you entrusted to my care, with the other papers accompanying it.

“ The Emperor was graciously pleased to accept them; and, as a proof of the satisfaction he experienced, desired me to convey his sentiments through the medium of the enclosed letter to England.

“ If it is with extreme pleasure that I have executed a commission that carried with it a feeling so creditable to my countrymen; that pleasure has been augmented by the gracious manner in which their sentiments have been received by his Imperial Majesty.

“ I have the honour to be,

“ Gentlemen,

“ Your most obedient, humble Servant,

“ DOUGLAS AND CLYDESDALE.”

*Translation*

*Translation of a Letter from the EMPEROR ALEXANDER,  
to the ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY.*

“ Mr. PRESIDENT,

“ The Marquis of Douglas and Clydesdale, his Britannic Majesty’s Ambassador at my Court, has delivered to me the highly flattering marks of the approbation given by your Society, to an action which has such feeble claims to notice, in annals destined to preserve the memory of important services rendered to mankind.

“ Without, however, considering this action, so natural in itself, as entitling me to the distinction it has procured me; I accept it with pleasure and gratitude, being unwilling to deny myself the satisfaction of belonging to a Society, the object and the labours of which are so highly interesting to the cause of humanity, and so congenial to the dearest emotions of my own breast.

“ I beg you will express from me to your Society, the sincere esteem and interest I bear towards it; and be assured of the sentiments with which

“ I am,

“ Mr. President,

“ your well-affected,

“ *To the President of the  
Royal Humane Society.*”

“ ALEXANDER.”

ON  
 THE SECOND ALEXANDER,  
 THE EMPEROR OF ALL THE RUSSIAS,

*Restoring a poor Man to Life who had been drowned.*

---

BY THE REV. JAMES PLUMTRE, M. A.

---

By widows' tears and hapless orphans' moans,  
 By nations' cries, and by a whole world's groans,  
 From Macedonia Alexander rose,  
 And built his fame upon his subjects' woes ;  
 Then wept, unable to extend his state,  
 And all succeeding times agree to call him Great.

On Wilna's stream, as Russia's Monarch stray'd,  
 A peasant's body on the bank was laid,  
 Of seeming life bereft ; a friendly band,  
 Forth from the flood, had brought it to the land,  
 And gather'd round with unavailing zeal,  
 If signs of life they haply might reveal :  
 But all in vain. Yet with paternal love,  
 The Prince himself would every means approve ;

With

With unremitted energy applied,  
 Till thrice the hour revolv'd ; when, lo ! the tide  
 Of life again renew'd, and sighing breath  
 Gave token he 'd repass'd the gate of death.

With eyes up-rais'd the Father Monarch stood,  
 " 'The brightest day is this of all my life, good God!!!"  
 Tears from his eyes the pious words attend,  
 And Alexander lives the poor man's friend.  
 You, who the story hear, with hearts elate,  
 Say, is not Russia's Emperor **THE GREAT** ?

*October, 1806.*

## AN ODE,

BY JOHN GRETTON, Esq. H. L. G.

To Man alone the bounteous hand of Heaven  
 The heart to feel another's woe has given ;  
 To Monarch as to Peasant kindly lent  
 The happy means its sorrows to prevent ;  
 To soothe, assuage, console, restore, and bless,  
 Life's varied scenes, and make each evil less :  
 Such are thy sons ! O far-fam'd Britain's Isle !  
 With them supreme these god-like virtues smile.

Sighs but the bosom ?—Charity's sweet voice  
 Soothes the sad heart, and bids it straight rejoice.  
 Swift into action calls her genial fires,  
 When Death's fell stroke, or dire disease, inspires.  
 Hence on her teeming bosom nobly show,  
 Dear to each eye, those asylums of woe,  
 Where Sorrow's suffering songs, from grief reliev'd,  
 From death restor'd, from misery repriev'd,  
 By her kind influence sav'd, attain once more  
 From Heaven and her of bliss an ample store.

Nor unto Albion she alone bestows  
 The happy means to sooth the sufferer's woes,  
 'Mongst Scythia's sons, o'er Zembla's frozen clime,  
 She deigns to beam in Majesty sublime :  
 Her warmth irradiates a Monarch's breast,  
 Glows round his soul, to make a people blest.

Hail ! generously great and nobly good,  
 Hail ! stream untainted of Augustan blood ;

To thee the plaudits of the good belong,  
To thee, the grateful verse, the poet's song ;  
To thee, Britannia's sons unite this day,  
In festal joy they dedicate the lay ;  
To thee, Great Prince, who o'er the Northern world,  
Fair Charity's mild banners hast unfurl'd,  
By thy impelling goodness taught to save,  
To rescue struggling nature from the grave ;  
Around the anxious scene fair hope to spread,  
Recal life's pow'r, and renovate the dead.

From Britain's Sons, receive, O Prince, the boon,  
The votive trophy due to worth alone ;  
Upon thy gen'rous bosom as it glows,  
That breast from whence congenial virtue flows,  
O ! may this humble off'ring ever prove  
To thee, Great Prince, our reverence and love.

