

Mr. THACHER's

D I S C O U R S E

BEFORE THE

HUMANE SOCIETY.

1800
MEDICAL
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A
DISCOURSE

DELIVERED AT

BOSTON,

BEFORE THE

HUMANE SOCIETY

OF THE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS,

JUNE 10th, 1800.

By THOMAS THACHER, A.M.

MINISTER OF A CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY IN DEDHAM.

Levior Charontis
Cymba fecit dudum, et Lachesis triumphos.
Fassa minores.

Alsepi, Oda 4.

BOSTON:

PRINTED BY JOHN AND THOMAS FLEET, CORNHILL, 1800.

*At a Semiannual Meeting of the HUMANE SOCIETY
June 10th, 1800.*

VOTED, That Doctor JOHN WARREN, President, Honorable Judge PAINE, Judge DAWES, Rev. Doctor LATHROP, and NATHANIEL BALCH, Esq. be a Committee to wait upon the Rev. THOMAS THACHER, and to return him the thanks of this Society for his elegant and ingenious Discourse delivered before the Humane Society this day, and to request of him a Copy for the Press.

*An Extract from the Records
of said Society,*

JOHN AVERY, Recording Secretary.

DEDHAM, June, 1800.

GENTLEMEN,

AS this Discourse was delivered at the desire of the Humane Society, it is cheerfully submitted to their disposal. It is dedicated to the principle of the Institution, which will cast a veil over its errors. I am sensible of the politeness, with which the request for its publication has been communicated;

and am GENTLEMEN,

with the most respectful sentiments,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

THOMAS THACHER.

Doct. John Warren,
Hon. Judge Paine,
Hon. Judge Dawes,
Rev. Doct. Lathrop,
Nathaniel Balch, Esq.

} Committee.



A

D I S C O U R S E.

LUKE VIII CHAP. 12th VERSE.

“Now when he came nigh the gate of the city, behold, there was a dead man carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow: and much people of the city was with her.”

THIS is one of the numerous examples of compassion and philanthropy, exhibited by our blessed Saviour. It presents a scene, which, while it excites those tender and solemn emotions, by which the heart is made better, gives a pleasing view of divine power, employed (I had almost said) in its noblest occupation, the relief of the wretched.

WHEN our Lord travelled through Nain, a city of Galilee, he met a funeral procession;—it was that of *a young man, the only son of his mother*. The circumstances, though related with simplicity, tend to excite the extremes of grief.

He

He *was a young man*, cut off in the “blossom of his days.” The sanguine hope of his friends for his future usefulness and fortune was blasted forever. He was a melancholy instance of that triumph of the king of terrors over the human race, which waits not the slow process of time and age, which comes, when our expectations for the future are highest, and when we can most rationally indulge our desire of long life. To the usual regret, which attends events of this nature, this excruciating circumstance was added—he was the *only son of his mother*.

PAINFUL is it to the affectionate parent to lose any member of his family: but yet there may be plants which remain. The cords of love are commonly tightened in proportion as their circumference is lessened. He *was the only son of his mother, and she a widow*. May we not conjecture, that he was the pillar and last human refuge of a decayed family; that to the agonizing sensibilities of losing an only son, was added the near prospect of poverty and dependence.

And much people of the city was with her—Without question, they assembled for the benevolent purpose of pouring balm on the wounded spirit, and of administering such consolations, as might abate the effects, though they could not remove the cause of her affliction.

At length, the sovereign Physician of mankind approached. In the most gracious language, he addressed the woe-worn parent, forbidding her to weep. Cloathed with his Father's
power,

power, he unfolded the gates of death ; he commanded the black destroyer of mankind to drop his prey. When both life and hope were extinguished, the first was miraculously restored. We can feel the mingled emotions of surprize, joy and gratitude in the mother, the son and the circle of friends. All attempts to paint them would fall far below the original. It is enough for us to observe—that they excite sentiments, adapted to mend our hearts, and to animate us to render every possible aid to the suffering : they particularly create a high respect and devotion to the interests of an institution, founded on the principles of benevolence and compassion to mankind : an institution, of which it is doubtful to determine, whether it hath greater claims for praise from the intelligent, for the *wisdom of its design*, or from the benevolent, for the productive effects of *its operation*.

It is true, its members pretend to no divine or preternatural powers. But impressed with the excellent character of the great friend of mankind, they have studied by all human measures to awaken life in those, who were *nigh unto death* ; and to rescue from the dominion of the grave, those who were apparently within its power. Many have been the instances, wherein their exertions have been effectual. Under the auspices of the benignant and ever watchful providence, the parent hath been restored to the despairing family, and the child to the inconsolable and weeping relatives. Quiet and unostentatious have been the operations of this society ; but still efficient and energetic.

Truly

Truly noble and generous in its purposes, the members are far more happy in the gratitude of unknown individuals, and in the approbation of their own minds, than the troubleshooters and destroyers of mankind, under the applauses of venal flattery, or when decked with the meretricious ornaments of false praise and glory.

It will be expected on this occasion, that we speak of the political, moral and religious advantages, which arise from this institution, concluding with some few reflections on the whole.

1. THIS institution has a natural tendency to advance one of the most useful sciences ; since it will constantly be exhibiting new discoveries and experiments to the professors of the healing art. I am sensible this part of the subject more naturally falls within the province of the gentlemen of the faculty, who have shewn themselves amply competent to its discussion. I shall therefore limit myself to such parts of this proposition, as fall under my general plan, and are directly allied to the other parts of the subject.

EVEN where our efforts for restoring life have been ineffectual, many of the causes of life and death have been explored, and have been successfully applied by the learned, to other cases, so as to render the effects in the end, of great advantage. The inquirer after knowledge, is delighted not only with the satisfaction of having rendered an important service to a fellow creature ; but by contemplating the wonders of the human frame, is elevated to more ardent attempts

attempts to preserve mankind, and to adore the wisdom of our common parent. The united communications of so many respectable literary characters, have produced far greater acquisitions to this branch of knowledge, than could have been obtained from the same number of individuals of as great, or even of superior abilities.

WE may add, without the imputation of vanity, that the community reaps greater advantages from the study of life, than are derived from that of other sciences. To some of these we may with justice apply the observation of the wise man ; *He that increaseth knowledge increaseth sorrow* : Of others we may say, they are useful only to their owners : a third class have increased wealth, and enlarged commerce ; but, at the same time, by introducing luxury and affording provision for the gratification of corrupt and sensual passions, have often made the wise and good to envy the condition of simple barbarians. But the good which we derive from this institution is without alloy. If we partake of this branch of the tree of *knowledge, life not death* is the consequence. While we have twined the laurel wreath around the head of science, we have paid due homage to genius, without originating the rancorous spirit of envy.

2. OUR respect for human life, and anxiety for its preservation, are perfectly agreeable to the system of our holy religion, and to the principles of our mild and free government : a constitution comprising the efforts of the highest human wisdom, and tending to the greatest degree of happiness, which mortals can enjoy. Among ferocious,

unenlightened nations, animal life is but little regarded, and its loss but little deplored. Under tyrannical governments, the same remarks occur, because their principles suppose "the monstrous faith of many made for one." No wonder that in these situations mankind are sanguinary in their temper, and deaf to the calls of humanity. They may not unreasonably conclude, that where existence is attended with so many calamities, it is not worth preserving. But in free countries, the rights of persons precede the rights of property. The dignity of man is honored; and provision is made, not only to protect him from the violence of the murderer, and from the vengeance of the assassin, but to reward him, who shall rescue a citizen, when exposed to the perils of accidental death. Among the Greeks, a crown of laurel was bestowed on him, who had saved a citizen; because he was supposed to be superior to all pecuniary recompence. The Romans, for the same service, and probably from the same motive, conferred a similar honorary distinction.

THIS Society, instructed by such illustrious precedents, proportions its rewards to the sensibilities and condition of the receiver. It excites a variety of motives to adventure in the cause of humanity. It hath been said, "that by an ingenious contrivance, it has enlisted avarice itself under its banner." But though it omits no address to the human heart, which can avail its benevolent purposes; yet why may not its pecuniary rewards be given and received without the imputation of turpitude? For what doth it proffer rewards? For complying with moral obligations.

Has

Has it any interests but those of common humanity ? We do not tax the generous foldier with mercenary views, when he has adventured his life for his country, and discovered more than common degrees of courage. Can we suppose, that pay and promotion were his highest object ? and will not a small degree of christian charity lead us to suppose, that a man, who adventures his own, to save the life of another, is governed by a motive equally generous ?

To exhibit their regard for the preservation of their fellow creatures, this society generously remunerates the expenses and attention, which are paid to the suffering object. Thus the poorest citizen, under cases of like extremity, may, without fearing to bring distress upon himself or family, indulge the feelings of a noble heart.

3. ANOTHER excellent quality of our institution is, that it especially respects the lives of a very useful part of the community—our mariners, who are exposed to more than common danger. These, from their manner of life, are citizens of the world : on this account, they are less liable to attract individual charity, and therefore have a superior claim to our attention. Our gazettes annually announce the loss of no inconsiderable portion of their number ; part of whom would be saved, could our benevolent intentions be more effectually executed. While the care and expense of this society, in affording to these unhappy men shelter, provision and fuel, must excite warm approbation in every benevolent heart ; what indignation must be enkindled at those

those rapacious wretches, who have often defeated its kind intentions. It is to be wished, that our Legislature would, by energetic regulations, provide for the detection and punishment of those men, compared with whom other thieves are holy.

4. THE liberal and catholic foundation, on which this society is established, must merit respect from the wise and good. No improper prejudices or partial interested views are admitted in its construction. It may be observed of some societies of a kindred nature, that they are confined by a religious creed, by local situation, or by circumstances of personal convenience to the donors. We do not by any means feel ourselves authorised to condemn them. It is both lawful and laudable to promote our sentiments, and even interest, where they are not incompatible with the public good, or with fairness and justice to individuals. But still, when we contemplate the principles of the *Humane Society*, the words of St. Paul may be adopted, and without vanity may its members address other institutions; *We will shew you a more excellent way.* For if our bounties are limited to one description of afflicted objects, yet still they include that class of the unfortunate, who are less liable to fall within the notice of other charitable associations. In truth, its munificence is extended to him who is ready to perish, and to him who saves a soul alive, of whatever nation or climate he may be. This is a humble and happy imitation of that infinitely wise and good Being, *who causes his sun to shine*

shine on the evil and on the good, and who sendeth his rain on the just and on the unjust. Its alms are truly disinterested, for neither praise nor gratitude is demanded from the receiver. Is not this conformable to the precepts of the gospel? Is it not agreeable to the laws of that divine teacher, who has taught us to be private in our charities, to avoid flattering returns, and not to let our *left hand know, what our right hand doeth?*

5. THIS institution has a tendency to promote piety as well as social virtue. The wonderful examples of divine mercy which occur, must lead us to be mindful of that Being, *who numbereth the hairs of our head; and doth not permit a sparrow to fall to the ground without his leave.* The recollection of such events must naturally excite us to look in future, to the protection of that all animating cause, by whom *we live, move and have our being*, and consequently generate habits of devotion in the soul. Besides, the love of our neighbour is of a nature so closely allied to the love of God, that when we have the former, we have the latter consequentially. The Deity is incomprehensible in nature and perfection. The imperfect knowledge of him, which we have acquired, arises from contemplating the sublime and beautiful works of creation, and from moral and mental excellence, which we find in his intelligent creatures.—*Who can by searching find out God? Who can find out the Almighty to perfection? It is high as heaven, what canst thou do? deeper than hell, what canst thou know?* In fact, the Almighty Parent is so infinitely above us, that when we attempt

attempt to describe our love to him, we must admit, that it is mixed so closely with the principle of fear, that it is difficult to separate them from each other. Its best illustration is in the reverence and affection, which a dutiful child has to an earthly father. This may produce sublime piety and uniform obedience, sufficient to constitute a good man ; but yet it does not include those minor graces and charities, which play round the heart, and which adorn and sweeten human life. The inspired apostle has assured us, that without philanthropy there can be no piety ; *He that loveth not his brother, whom he hath seen, how can he love God, whom he hath not seen.* And another inspired author has told us, that *we are divinely taught to love one another.* It is impossible for us to admire and love a picture, and at the same time hate and despise the original : when therefore we honor and love the image of God, we respect the Deity himself.

6. THE mind, by contemplating those subjects, which are connected with this Institution, will be filled with noble and generous sentiments. Here are no polemical party discussions on religion or civil government : here are no irritable emulations for literary fame ; and consequently no stings of rage at disappointment. But the mind triumphs in ascertaining the effects of its exertions for the cause of humanity. That heart must be base indeed, which is not softened at the recital of the miseries, with which the world abounds ; which doth not rejoice, when calamity and death are removed from a fellow creature, and which doth
not

not approve of and delight in those characters, to whose intrepidity a fellow-being owes the continuance of his existence. Conceive an example similar to that mentioned in the text; "that a young man, the only son of his mother, and she a widow, had been nigh unto death from the wintry storm or watry element; that the prompt exertions of some character, unappalled at danger, had rescued him from the jaws of death, and delivered an amiable family from suspense and horror. Had but one such example occurred, I say, since our incorporation, it would have amply repaid our expense, our cares and exertions.

WE have, however, far greater causes of satisfaction, than any single example. The annual returns which we receive from the different parts of the Commonwealth, abundantly prove, that we have not labored in vain. Though the good man loves to do good in secret; yet it is a pleasure to him to know, that his charity has been commensurate with the wants of the object; and that he has selected the most worthy objects of his bounties. In like manner, our motives to perseverance and to redouble our efforts must still be increased, when we find such advantages have arisen from our attempts. Is not this a proof of the assent and co-operation of that eternal providence, through whose wisdom and goodness, all intelligent and animal nature is continued in existence?

WE do not wish to lessen the merit of other societies. Let due praise be given to the Academy of Arts and Sciences, whose

whose literary labours have already given and we trust will continue to give celebrity and renown to the genius and acquirements of Americans. Let us applaud that respectable association, through whom we have obtained such additional knowledge of agriculture, as has produced a plenty and luxury of all native productions. We will fully appreciate those opulent citizens, who have promoted industry and mechanic inventions, who have devoted their attention and fortunes to the cultivation of the finer arts. Let our enlarged commerce, let the noble palaces and elegant rural seats, let the embellishments of the natural beauties of the country, proclaim their worth. In the mean time, let ours be the godlike ambition of preserving life, of protecting the stranger, succouring him who is ready to perish, rewarding the generosity of the poor but noble-spirited citizen, who exhausteth his little substance on the exile and out-cast, in bestowing the rights of sepulture on those objects, who have neither friend nor brother. These are the triumphs we have exhibited. They are recorded on the hearts of the unhappy, whom we have relieved. They are witnessed and acknowledged by the wise and good. And they will finally be proclaimed, with the highest honor, before the intelligent universe at the great and last day.

7. THERE is one observation more, which will bring me to the concluding reflections on this subject ; i. e. *Every man is under a moral obligation, to perform not only all the good he can, as an individual ; but all that may be effected by him in his collective capacity.*

FROM

FROM what has been already observed, we find, that the good, which can be effected by the united wealth, wisdom and virtue of men, associated for benevolent purposes, is superior to what they could effect without connection as individuals. This sentiment will hold good in respect to other societies. We find our past success in the cause of humanity, has induced numbers of worthy citizens to enrol themselves in our community. May we not suppose, that, as these advantages become more transparent, there will be such a farther accession of good men, as will enable us to extend our views, and to render more important services to our country and mankind, than were at first even conceived? Is it not therefore our duty as men and as christians, to promote by every mean in our power, the interests of this society? Doth not the increasing wealth and population of the country render it, on the one hand more practicable, on the other more necessary? It was organized under circumstances and impediments which were more than commonly discouraging. The United States had closed a long and expensive war. This city was suffering the effects of the devastation received from a brutal and ferocious enemy. Our want of an efficient government created uncertainty in all our transactions. Public and private credit failed; and on all sides there was a near prospect of poverty and ruin. Yet amidst those clouds in which our political horizon was enveloped, the penetrating eye of the first members discerned the future utility and moment of this institution. Their most sanguine calculations have been realized. Some

of them indeed are removed from their earthly labours ; but posterity will bless their memories. Among our deceased patrons, we should be criminal to omit the names of a *Russell* and a *Clarke* * : the former of whom, with a soul more liberal than his noble fortune, stands first as our benefactor : the latter assisted us by his scientific labours, and drew up the constitution of this Society. For his extensive erudition and philanthropic heart, he ever ought to be remembered, as a delight and ornament to human nature. May the example of the illustrious dead provoke the emulation of the living ; of the rich, that they imitate their bounties ; of the learned, that they contribute by their abilities and influence to promote the interests of humanity. May one and all of us use every effort in our power, to lessen the natural evils of life. Let us take for our example the great Redeemer of mankind, who devoted his attentions particularly to the children of affliction.

May our light shine before men, that they seeing our good works, and the fruits of our beneficence, may not only copy but exceed us in charity. And may we, by pious affections toward God, and by social virtues toward mankind, be prepared for the second coming of Jesus Christ, when he shall wipe away all tears from all faces, and banish natural evil and death from the creation.

* To these names may be added—The Hon. JAMES BOWDOIN, late Governor of this Commonwealth, and first President of this Society ; eminent as a Statesman, a Philosopher, and a friend to humanity.



A P P E N D I X.

LETTER from William Hawes, M. D. Treasurer of the Royal Humane Society in London, to the Corresponding Secretary.

O magna vis veritatis, quæ contra hominum ingenia, calliditatem, solertiam, contraque fictas omnium infidias, facile se, per se ipsam defendat !
CIC. ORAT. PRO COELIO.

SPITAL-SQUARE, Sept. 18, 1799.

SIR,

I FEEL a particular pleasure in writing to you upon a subject, which, in the language of Lord Bacon, comes home to every man's business and bosom.—It will redound to the honor of this country and this age, that in spite of difficulties apparently insuperable, a society has been formed for the salutary purpose of abridging the triumphs of death. The success of this humane institution, in a variety of cases, has convinced the hardest sceptic, that signs of death are equivocal and fallacious ; and that thousands have been prematurely consigned to the grave, for want of using the means so strongly recommended by the unwearied benevolence of a few individuals.

It was reserved for the present age to forward and facilitate a plan fraught with inestimable blessings to this and future generations ; a plan which stands an illustrious monument of the zeal, philanthropy and ability of the faculty.—It will afford you the highest satisfaction to be informed, that your kind presentation of several copies of Dr. WALTER'S truly ingenious discourse, delivered before the Massachusetts Humane Society, arrived safe. With what rapture, with what heart-felt satisfaction must the Directors of other Humane Societies reflect, that the beneficent exertions of professional characters, have triumphed over death, and that each succeeding year is attended with additional causes of exultation.—It will be a reflection highly gratifying to the active friends of your humane institution to be informed that our society has increased the stock of human happiness, by exhibiting this year at their *Anniversary Festival*, a greater number than ever, of men, women and children, restored to their friends and relatives ; so that the Medical Assistants enjoyed the inexpressible pleasure of being applauded by more than four hundred exalted and philanthropic characters.

" Hail Science ! to thy mighty power,

" We consecrate this joyful hour,

" Teeming with blessings given :

" Recall'd by thee to life's warm day,

" To thee we dedicate this lay,

" Hail harbinger of Heaven."

THE

THE REV. VICESIMUS KNOX, in his lucubrations on Life and Manners observes—"Many were the prejudices formed against the Society for the recovery of drowned and other suffocated persons; but let any one place himself a moment in the situation of a parent suddenly bereaved of his child, and if he is not unfeeling in his nature, he will want no argument to induce him to give it every encouragement.—Doubts were once entertained of its success, but they may now be removed by ocular demonstration."

MAY heaven prosper every institution, which has for its object the preservation and restoration of the human race.

MAY such unwearied exertions unite us all in the bonds of permanent friendship, is the ardent wish of a sincere labourer in the great cause of resuscitation;—and permit me to conclude with this remark, that the efforts of the Trustees of the Massachusetts Humane Society cannot but reflect a peculiar lustre upon their institution.

I have the honour to be Sir,

Your most humble servant,

To Dr. Aaron Dexter.

WILLIAM HAWES.

THE Trustees of the Humane Society, having, in their private capacity, been informed of several instances of persons who had incurred apparent death by drowning or otherwise, and been fortunately recovered by the means recommended by the Society, and no communication made thereof; and convinced that publishing the circumstances of such incidents would be attended with beneficial effects, hereby request the citizens of this commonwealth, and particularly the gentlemen in the Medical line, to communicate to the Corresponding Secretary, all the instances that have, or shall come to their knowledge, of reanimation, and the means whereby those happy events are accomplished, with such other particulars of the time respiration was suspended, &c. as they shall think of importance to notice: As it is by comparing the success of different means and operations, that this important art can be brought to perfection. The Trustees are also desirous of extending the rewards promised by the Society for signal exertions throughout the Commonwealth, and for this reason they request information of all attempts of reanimation, even if they prove unsuccessful.

N. B. The Trustees request the same favour from the citizens of the neighbouring States.

An Extract from the Minutes of said Trustees,

JOHN AVERY, Recording Sec'y.

At a Meeting of the HUMANE SOCIETY, June 11th, 1799.

THE TRUSTEES of the HUMANE SOCIETY, having had frequent applications for reward in cases for which the Constitution of said Society does not authorize their granting a Premium, wish their fellow-citizens to be informed, with a view to prevent fruitless applications, that the services for which said Society holds out a reward are,

FIRST. That when any accident shall happen producing apparent death, the person who shall first discover and endeavour to recover the subject, shall be entitled to a reward; but in no case are the Trustees allowed to exceed ten Dollars.

SECONDLY. The Person who shall receive into his or her house, the body of one apparently dead, with a view that means may be used for its recovery, is also entitled to such a compensation as the Trustees shall judge adequate.

THIRDLY. That any person who shall, by any signal exertion, save another from death, is entitled to a reward in proportion to the risque and danger incurred.

By a signal exertion the Trustees conceive, must be understood something more than barely reaching out the hand, or throwing a rope from a wharf, or a boat, or even wading into the water to half a man's depth, and rescuing a man from drowning; for the principles of common humanity and sympathy are sufficient motives for such exertions, but it must include the endangering his own life, or incurring some damage by impairing the health, or injuring his apparel or other property. In any or all these cases the Trustees are ready to grant adequate reward, when properly authenticated, but do not think themselves warranted by the regulations of the society to bestow them in other cases.

An Extract from the Minutes of said Society,

JOHN AVERY, *Rec. Sec'y.*

PREMIUMS

PREMIUMS adjudged by the TRUSTEES.

		<i>since JUNE, 1799.</i>		<i>Dollars.</i>
1799.				
June, 13.	To Jonathan Loring, for a signal exertion in saving a Child of Mr. Knap's from Drowning,	-	-	8
Aug. 3.	To Aaron Clap, for saving the life of a Child of Mr. John Ripley,	-	-	8
Sept. 2.	To Christian Howland, for saving the life of a Boy who had fallen into the dock, by the gla's house,	-	-	2
Octob. 7.	To Solomon Dennis, for saving the life of a Woman, To Thomas May, for saving the life of a Woman named Lucas, who had fallen into a Well, on Copps Hill,	-	-	4
Decem. 5.	To Peter Moody, alias Andricour, for saving a Man and Boy from drowning, in crossing from Dorchester Neck,	-	-	10
1800.				
Feb'ry. 3.	To Warren Chase, for saving from drowning a Boy, named John Roberts, near the North battery,	-	-	2
	To Anthony Paine, for saving the life of Thomas Harris, who fell through the ice near West-Boston bridge,	-	-	2
May 5.	To Benjamin Burnett, for saving the life of a son of Samuel Lines,	-	-	2
	To Nathan Buckman, for saving the lives of a Man and Boy, who had been upset in a small boat in Charles Riv.	-	-	6
	To Rufus Lucas, for saving the life of a son of Mr. John S. Austin, who was near drowning,	-	-	5
	To Dr. Samuel Brown, for his Treatise on the Yellow Fever, a piece Plate value	-	-	54
				<hr/> 111

State of Treasurer's Accounts for Year past.

	<i>Dolls.</i>	<i>Cents.</i>
To Balance due to Treasurer per last Account,	96	95½
To Expenses of semiannual meetings,	11	50
To building a Hut on Pettick's Island,	50	
To repairing Huts & furnishing them with Necessaries,	14	83
To Mess'rs. Fleet's Account printing Dr. Hurd's Discourse and Receipts,	47	66
To Manning and Loring, for printing Dr. Brown's Treatise,	118	81
To Jacob Kuhn, for his services,	38	
To Premiums adjudged,	111	
To Union Bank Stock purchased,	122	10
To Balance in Treasurer's hands,	162	37½
		<hr/>
<i>Dols.</i>	773	23

Contra Cr.

	<i>Dols.</i>	<i>Cts.</i>
By Interest on funded Stock of United States,	174	62
By do. Massachusetts State Notes 5 per Cent.	105	68
By Dividends at Union Bank,	69	12
By Subscriptions of Members,	417	66
By Donation from Mr. Eliphalet Pearson, Cambridge,	6	15
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<i>Dols.</i> 773	23

Society's Property in hands of Treasurer.

United States 6 per Cent. Stock,	<i>Dols.</i> 1442, 77	} <i>Dols.</i>	<i>Cts.</i>
8 per Cent Principal paid,	115, 37		
		1326	80
Ditto 3 per Cent.	- - -	708	83
Ditto deferred,	- - -	46	60
Ditto 8 per Cent.	- - -	600	
Massachusetts State Notes, 5 per Cent.	- - -	2113	71
Union Bank Stock,	- - -	868	
West-Boston Bridge, 2 Shares, cost	- - -	417	17
Malden Bridge, 1 Share, cost	- - -	140	
Accumulating Fund, on the above Share, in deferred Stock,	- - -	287	98

N. B. The late Honorable THOMAS RUSSELL, Esq. presented the Share in Malden Bridge, to the Society, on the express condition, that the Dividend should be annually kept at Interest for the space of twenty Years, and then the Principal and Interest be at the disposal of the Trustees.

We the Subscribers, appointed a Committee by the Humane Society of Massachusetts, at their annual meeting in December 1799, to examine the accounts of Rev. Doctor Parker, the Treasurer, having attended that business, Do find every article in the debit side of the foregoing account vouched, the same right cast, and a balance of one hundred sixty two Dollars 37 $\frac{1}{2}$ Cents due to said Society from said Treasurer. We also find in his hands the evidences of the Property enumerated above.

Boston, June 9, 1800.

Thomas Dawes,	}	<i>Committee.</i>
John Hancock,		
Sampson Reed,		

OFFICERS of the HUMANE SOCIETY, chosen in Dec. 1799.

JOHN WARREN, M. D. President,
 Rev. SIMEON HOWARD, D. D. first Vice President,
 Rev. JOHN LATHROP, D. D. second Vice President,
 Rev. SAMUEL PARKER, D. D. Treasurer,
 AARON DEXTER, M. D. Corresponding Secretary,
 JOHN AVERY, Esq. Recording Secretary,

Rev. PETER THACHER, D. D.

NATHANIEL BALCH, Esq.

JEREMIAH ALLEN, Esq.

WILLIAM SPOONER, M. D.

SAMUEL PARKMAN, Esq.

JAMES SCOTT, Esq.

} TRUSTEES.

MEMBERS deceased since the last Publication.

Dr. Joshua Barker, *Hingham*,
 His Honor Moses Gill, Esq.

Ebenezer Hall, Esq. *Medford*,
 Edward Pulling, Esq. *Salem*.

CATALOGUE of the MEMBERS of the HUMANE SOCIETY.
Names and Places of abode.

EXCELLENCY JOHN ADAMS, Esq. Mr. John Barrett, *Braintree*,
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APPARENT DEATH—LIFE RESTORED.

- " He sinks !—is lost !—none near to give relief !
 " And hark—that scream !—a frantic mother's grief !
 " Fix'd on the flood that would her babe destroy,
 " Her eager eye deep searches for her boy :
 " He's found !—but ah ! when anxious drawn to shore,
 " The mother breathless !—views her child—no more !
 " But, Heav'n-instructed—ev'ry effort's try'd
 " Which Wisdom plann'd, and Study has supply'd.
 " Eager to save, each panting bosom burns ;
 " Life, half departed, 's beckon'd, and returns :
 " What rapt'rous bliss the eager mind receives,
 " When parent Extacy exclaims—*He lives !*"

RESUSCITATIVE PROCESS.

WHAT THOU DOEST—DO QUICKLY.

OCCIDIT, QUI NON SERVAT.

CONVEY the person to the nearest convenient house, with his head raised : Strip and dry him as quick as possible ; clean the mouth and nostrils from froth and mud. If a child, let him be placed between two persons naked, in a hot bed. If an adult, lay him on a hot blanket or bed, and, in cold weather, near a fire—In warm weather, the air should be freely admitted into the room. The body is next to be gently rubbed with warm woollen cloths sprinkled with spirits, if at hand, otherwise dry : A heated warming-pan may be now lightly moved over the back, properly covered with a blanket—and the body, if of a child, is to be gently shook every few minutes : Whilst these means are using, one or two assistants are to be employed in blowing up tobacco-smoke into the fundament, with the instrument provided for the purpose, or a tobacco-pipe, if that cannot be had—the bowl filled with tobacco and properly lighted, being covered with a handkerchief, or piece of linen, so as to defend the mouth of the assistant in blowing : Bathe the breast with hot rum, and persist in the use of these means for several hours. If no signs of life should then appear, let the body be kept warm several hours longer, with hot bricks, or vessels of hot water, applied to the palms of the hands, and soles of the feet, and this for a longer or shorter time, as the circumstances of the case may dictate.

The too customary method of rolling on a barrel, suspending by the feet, and every other violent mode of agitation, particularly in removing the body from the water, should be most carefully avoided. To

To restore breathing—Introduce the pipe of a bellows, (when no apparatus is at hand) into one of the nostrils, the other and mouth being closed, *inflate the lungs*, till the breast is a little raised; the mouth and nostrils must then be let free.

Repeat this process till life appear.

Electricity is recommended to be early employed by judicious Practitioners.

INTENSE COLD.

Rub the body with snow, ice or cold water; restore warmth by slow degrees, and after some time, if there be no appearance of life, the plans of resuscitation for the drowned must be employed.

SUSPENSION BY THE CORD.

A few ounces of blood may be taken from the jugular vein, cupping-glasses applied to the head and neck, and bleeding at the temples. The other methods of treatment, the same as recommended for the apparently drowned.

INTOXICATION.

The body to be laid on a bed, with the head a little raised; the neck-cloth, &c. removed.

Obtain immediate MEDICAL ASSISTANCE, as the modes of treatment must be varied according to the circumstances of the patient.

SUFFOCATION BY NOXIOUS VAPOURS.

Cold water to be repeatedly thrown upon the face, &c. drying the body at intervals. If the body feels cold, employ gradual *warmth*: and the plans for restoring the drowned, in all cases of apparent death.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

RESUSCITATION.

On the *dawn* or first indication of returning life, the prudent practitioner will resign the office of *Art to Nature*.—It is evident that ART has contributed her share by enabling *Nature* to struggle with the immediate cause of oppression.

It is in fact this judicious blending of *Nature* with *Art* that gives to the latter all its efficacy.

1.—ON SIGNS OF RETURNING LIFE,

A tea-spoonful of warm water may be given; and, if swallowing be returned, warm wine, or diluted brandy. The patients must be in a warm bed, and if disposed to sleep, they will generally awake perfectly restored.

2—The plans above recommended are to be used three or four hours.

It is an absurd and vulgar opinion to suppose persons irrecoverable, because life does not soon make its appearance.

3—BLEEDING NEVER TO BE EMPLOYED, UNLESS BY THE DIRECTION OF A PHYSICIAN.

REFLECTIONS.

REFLECTIONS ON REANIMATION.

SUPPOSE YOURSELVES but for a few moments in your evening walk of rural retirement, imagine your contemplations interrupted by an uncommon appearance.—Behold a young man dragged to the shore without life or motion.

SCARCE AN HOUR has passed since the object of their attention had left his circle of domestic happiness.—And now his body swollen, his eyes sunk, and his face livid. WITHOUT the least signs of life they convey him in *hopeless dependence* to his own home.—FEAR, DESPONDENCY, and HORROR, are spread over the afflicted family. On one side behold the *aged mother* lamenting her lost child ; on the other stands mute the *distracted wife*, afraid to look up to the horrid spectacle ; whilst the *innocent little ones* look with amazement, and wonder at the silence of him who always so kindly greeted them on his return.

THOSE WHO WOULD most gladly take upon them the task of restoration are most unable to perform it ; and all the precious moments which should have been employed in the means of his recovery, are lost in fruitless lamentation.—They hang over him in silent anguish, take their last farewell in the agonies of despair, and consign him to the grave.

And now observe the change.—It chances that one of the *sons of humanity* (which is but another name for this institution) is passing by.—As soon as he hears of the event, he flies, like the *Good Samaritan*, to the chamber of sorrow ; he stops those who had assembled but to gaze at and desert him, calls on them to assist him, and assiduously applies with zeal proper means to resuscitate.—*Death*, unwilling to relinquish his devoted prey, struggles powerfully to detain it ; seems to smile, as it were, at the ineffectual labour ; till at length subdued by *fortitude* and *perseverance* he gives up the contest.

“ A RAY OF HOPE breaks in upon the gloom, and lights up every countenance.—Behold, at last, again HE MOVES, HE BREATHES, HE LIVES.—What follows is *not* within the power of language to describe : *imagination* alone can suggest to true *Philanthropists* the delightful scene of wonder and astonishment, of mutual joy, transport, and felicity.”

N. B. The above and two preceeding Pages are, with some alterations, taken from the Annual Report of the *ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY* in London for 1799.



