

CONSTITUTION.

I. That the name of this Charity be—
THE ROYAL HOSPITAL.

II. That the OBJECT be to give permanent relief to such persons as are hopelessly disqualified for the duties of life, by DISEASE, ACCIDENT, OR DEFORMITY.

III. That the DESIGN, therefore, is, not to interfere with the action of existing charities; but to take action precisely where *their action ceases*.

It will not provide for *temporary* affliction, which is excellently supplied by our great hospitals; but for that which is *permanent* and *continuous*, for which there is now *no provision*.

It will not deal with the hopeful case, but with the HOPELESS ; and provide, in a hospital, a final home for such as would otherwise be the REJECTED and OUTCAST of MANKIND.

IV. That this DESIGN shall be carried out on the broad principle of Christian kindness and liberality, in the hope of uniting all the good for the good of all who really need help ; in the spirit of that wisdom and love, which " cometh down from above," and which is " the bond of perfectness," to the exclusion of all party and sectarian influences whatever.

V. That this charity does not exist to relieve any case for which provision is found elsewhere. That, therefore, it does not deal with cases of temporary affliction, nor with the lunatic, the consumptive, or the victim of fever or small pox ; but that, notwithstanding this declaration, it will not endure that any case which finds not relief elsewhere, or which has exhausted a partial and temporary relief without cure, be left without protection, and without a home.

VI. The METHODS of relief will be various,

and somewhat discretional. The *mere pauper* case will not be eligible, as the law of the land sufficiently provides for the wants of that class.

Those who need only *partial relief*, and find aid and comfort in the bosom of their families, will be treated as *extra-patients* ; without breaking up the endearments of private life. They will enjoy a monthly allowance, and the benefit of medical visitation and attendance.

Such as have survived their friends, and need *total relief*, and have exhausted their own means under their affliction, will be received to the full benefits of A HOME.

Every case will be accepted as *incurable* ; but will be treated by the best medical science *hopefully* ; and should the means be happily successful, the benefited party will be required to leave the foundation.

Cases that can offer PAYMENT, either for themselves, or by their immediate relatives, will be received on NO OTHER TERMS, and the

rate of payment will be determined by the ability of the party, and the accommodation actually required.

VII. The ELECTIONS are to occur annually, or oftener; to be regulated by the Board, in respect to the *number* of applicants, and the *means* placed at their disposal.

No case shall be eligible for the election list during its *minority*; except it shall be in a state of orphanhood, and without means of support.

In *special instances* of urgency and destitution, a case may have prompt admission or relief, subject to the ensuing election.

In *very special cases* in which *three-fourths* of the Board shall agree, there shall be power to act absolutely; and to place an applicant on the foundation, without the intervention of an election; such case or cases from time to time to be reported to the annual meeting.

The *two preceding* provisions are meant

chiefly to apply to such cases as have had the temporary benefit of the general hospitals, and are commended for more permanent care to this hospital, by the Medical Officers, as likely to find a *partial* or *complete* cure.

Provision shall be made to accommodate cases of hopeless affliction FOR LIFE, where the parties interested in their welfare may secure comfort and protection for them, to the latest day of their suffering.

The *extra-patients* are to be received by election, and can only have relief *subject* to the ensuing election, and on the *evident urgency* of the case.

That the election cases are taken for life; but should any cases, by the combined influence of medical skill and of domestic comfort, be happily restored to the enjoyment of useful health, it shall be competent to the Board, under recorded medical testimony, to dismiss such patients.

VIII. That before any case, whether Election or Payment, is deemed eligible, it shall be subject to careful inquiry and professional examination; the result of which inquiry must be, that the case is judged to be beyond the *likelihood of cure*.

IX. That, although the *incurable* and *hopeless* case alone is eligible for the benefits of this Charity, the Board are to regard it as their most sacred duty, to use all likely means, professional and otherwise, to restore it to health and the uses of life.

X. That if it shall appear that the election of any case has been effected by false representations, such election shall be declared void.

XI. That each case may enjoy six elections, and no more; and over that time it may accumulate the votes to its own advantage.

XII. That all persons subscribing five guineas at one time, or half-a-guinea annually, shall be governors of the institution.

XIII. That the right of voting at elections shall increase in the same proportion as the subscriptions; and that all persons subscribing thirty guineas at one time, or three guineas annually, shall have a right to attend the sittings of the Board; and shall receive the regular notices, on an intimation being made to the Board to that effect.

XIV. That all ministers preaching in behalf of this Charity, shall be constituted life governors.

XV. That an executor paying a legacy of £100 shall be a governor for life; and that, if it exceed that sum, all the executors shall have the same privilege.

XVI. That there be a general annual meeting of the Society, when a report, domestic and financial, on the state of the Charity, shall be made, and the officers chosen.

XVII. That no such meeting shall be an authorized one, unless publicly advertised, and

notice given to the members; and that no rule affecting the *constitution* can be altered, or withdrawn, without *special notice*.

XVIII. That the appointment of the Board of Direction, of the Treasurer, and of the Secretary, rest with this meeting; and that they be chosen annually, and act gratuitously.

XIX. That the Board shall consist of not less than twenty-four persons; and that three of them, in rotation, be ineligible for re-election for one year.

XX. That the Treasurer and Secretary are, *ex officio*, members of the Board.

XXI. That the appointment and dismissal of all servants and officers, not declared to be in the nomination of the general meeting, rest with the Board of Direction.