

whose elevated situations command the most beautiful prospects. In addition to these are the *Richmond Cavalry Barracks*, which are situated on the Grand Canal, near Kilmainham, they are very extensive, and were finished about the year 1811. Near to this, is what may justly be called the *Rialto*, or *Island Bridge*: it crosses the river from north to south in one beautiful elliptic arch, extending 356 feet (being 12 feet wider than the celebrated Rialto at Venice,) in breadth it is 38 feet, including two flagged foot-paths. This elegant bridge is justly considered a monument of national taste. Many other Public Edifices adorn this grand and beautiful city, namely, the *Dublin Society-house*, formerly the town residence of his Grace the Duke of Leinster. This is a noble mansion of stone, with two fine fronts, one facing Merion-square with a beautiful lawn; and the other fronting Kildare-street, enclosed by a wall and lodge gates, entering into a capacious court-yard. This structure now contains an *extensive Museum* of natural curiosities, which on certain days is opened for public view, gratis. *The Club House, in College-green* is a very spacious building. *The New Club House* is a beautiful structure, the interior of which is elegant and convenient. *The Stamp Office, in William-street*, formerly the residence of a nobleman, is a superb mansion of stone, beautifully embellished with sculptured ornaments. A fine flight of steps, adorned on either side with stone balustrades, forms the grand entrance.

The Theatre Royal, in Hawkins-street, was formerly the Dublin Society House, which being considerably enlarged, is now converted into a commodious Theatrical establishment. The interior of the house is fitted up with burnished gold ornaments tastefully arranged, and the entire has a splendid effect. The exterior of this structure in front is the same as it formerly was, but some additional building is attached to it, with a piazza facing Townsend-street, in front of which is a carriage entrance to the boxes, and also another in Hawkins-street, making the road for carriages to and from the Theatre extremely spacious and convenient. The old Theatre in Crow-street is now made use of.

We cannot dismiss the subject of the Public Buildings of the metropolis of Ireland, without repeating our regret at not being enabled, from a want of space, to be more descriptive of their justly celebrated merits. The generality of the Streets, Squares, &c. correspond in beauty with the public structures. *Merrion-square* is magnificent and extensive, with fine gardens and walks in the centre, enclosed by iron palisades. It is often enlivened by the playing of a military band of music. *Mountjoy-square*, on the north side, is also a spacious superb square, with a large pleasure ground and shrubberies, enclosed by iron palisades. *Rutland-square* contiguous, is not inferior in elegance and size. *Sackville-street*, divided from Westmereland-street by Carlisle-bridge, with the immediate view of the Bank of Ireland, Trinity College, the Custom House, the Four Courts, General Post Office, and Nelson's Pillar, with the river Liffey, combine at once a view which cannot perhaps be equalled in the world, for the variety and extent of beauties which nature and art has so abundantly accumulated.

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

In no part of the world is there to be found more unlimited munificence than is evinced in the city of Dublin. Independent of the *Royal Hospital* which is similar in its establishment to Chelsea Hospital in London, are the *Royal Military Infirmary*, with the *Hibernian and Marine Societies* for maintaining and educating the children of soldiers and seamen, and the *Charter School, near Clontarf*. This city contains above fifty other Charitable Institutions, evincing the humanity of the Irish nation, many of which are of private endowment. These institutions are adapted to every age and situation of life, and no city in the world can boast of greater and more worthy examples of attention to every species of distress. These invaluable Public Institutions we can only briefly enumerate, as follows:

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The Royal Hospital, at Kilmainham, for the reception of invalid and superannuated soldiers, was erected by King Charles II. about the year 1684. It will hold about 300 of these very deserving servants of the public, and is generally full. The building is noble and well adapted for its purpose. It stands on the south side of the river commanding an advantageous elevation: when viewed from Phoenix Park it has an admirable effect. *The Blue Coat Hospital*, founded in 1670, was the first, and the *Invalid Soldiers* the second eleemosynary Institution that was founded in Dublin.

The House of Industry, in Brunswick-street, is an extensive range of building, and was founded to receive such as were by age or sickness rendered incapable of earning a subsistence, and for relieving the city from vagrant impostors. It is supported by voluntary subscription, parochial collections, and grants from Parliament.

The Lying-in Hospital, situated in Great Britain-street, was founded by Doctor Mosso, a physician of Dublin, and was opened for the reception of patients, 1757. That gentleman with the most humane and liberal efforts, erected this stately fabric, for the purpose of relieving poor lying-in women, it is the first institution of the kind in his Majesty's dominions. The interior is finely adapted to its several uses, and the chapel which is attached, is much admired for its simple elegance.

The Foundling Hospital is situated at the farthest end of Thomas-street. It is a fine commodious building, and was originally intended for the relief of the poor of the city of Dublin; but by an act of Parliament which dissolved the old Corporation, in the year 1728 there were new Governors appointed of rank and fortune, together with the Lord Mayor, &c. By this act they were to receive common beggars, and children of all denominations above six years old. Since that period, another act has been passed, which enacts, that from the 15th of March 1730, "the governors shall receive into the house, all exposed and deserted children of either sex." This act has totally changed the nature of the institution from the first intentions of the founders, it being now an hospital entirely for foundlings, except a few indigent people who are admitted by a general board. This is most certainly a very laudable and praise-worthy charity. The preservation of exposed infants, rescued, as many are from destruction, and their being received into this House, from all parts of the kingdom, renders it of the utmost utility and consequence. The younger children, as soon as they are received, are suckled by nurses, who are maintained in the hospital for that purpose, under the inspection of proper persons; and as soon as nurses with proper certificates can be provided in the country, the children are sent to them, where they remain till six years old; they are again removed to town and instructed in reading, writing, and the principles of the Christian Religion; when they arrive at a proper age they are put apprentices to useful trades, to enable them to procure their future livelihood. There are generally altogether about 5000 children in the House and with the country nurses.

The Hibernian Society for maintaining, educating, and apprenticing the orphans of soldiers, was opened the first of January, 1765, by subscription, since which period 3125 boys and girls have been admitted into this humane Institution. A committee of fifteen meet the first and second Tuesdays in every month to regulate its affairs.

The Hibernian Marine Society for maintaining, educating, and apprenticing the orphans and children of decayed seamen in his Majesty's navy and merchant service, is situated on Sir John Rogerson's Quay. It is a spacious neat building and was opened in the year 1773. On one side is a handsome Chapel, and on the other a commodious School Room. The apartments where the children sleep are kept in the neatest order and well adapted to promote health. This building will contain 200 children, it cost 6,600l. and the expence was defrayed by Parliament: the society obtained a charter in 1775.

Dublin General Dispensary, 4, Fleet-street; a very

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