

RULES and ORDERS

FOR THE

CHARITY-SCHOOLS

I N

C A M B R I D G E.

THE design of these Schools is in the first place to train up Poor Children in the Knowledge of God, and in the Christian Religion: And, in the second place, to Teach them to Read, Write, and to Cast Account; that they may thereby be rendred more useful in their several Stations in the World.

I. In order to which the School-masters and Mistresses are constantly to attend their proper business in the Schools, during the Hours appointed for Teaching; namely, from Seven to Eleven in the Morning, and from One to Five in the Evening, the *Summer* half year: And from Eight to Eleven in the Morning, and from One to Four in the Evening, the *Winter* half year.

II. They are also to take care that all the Poor Children with them be ready once every Month [Namely, at One of the clock in the Afternoon the last *Thursday* of every Month] to be Catechiz'd by the Stewards, at the place appointed by them. And in general, they are to follow the Directions of the Stewards in the whole Management of the Schools.

III. They are also to take particular care of the Manners and Behaviour of the Poor Children; and by all proper Methods to Discourage and Punish the beginnings of Vice; and particularly Lying, Swearing, Cursing, taking God's Name in Vain, and the Profanation of the Lord's Day; to which such Children are too commonly addicted.

IV. They are also to set a good Example themselves, by a constant and regular frequenting the Publick Worship and Sacraments; and to take care that the Children on all Opportunities be brought to the publick Prayers, and behave themselves there with due Reverence: Especially that they be at Church twice every Lord's Day, and upon every Holy-day. And that they be always ready to be publickly Catechiz'd by the Ministers of every Parish at the times appointed for it.

V. They are also to use the Prayers, which the Ministers and Lecturers have Collected and Appointed for them out of the Church Liturgy, Morning and Evening in the Schools: And to teach the Children the Church Ca-

techism and those private Prayers which the Ministers and Lecturers have also Collected and Appointed for them out of the same Liturgy, to be used by them at home; with the appointed short Graces before and after Meat. And that these Prayers and Graces may not be forgotten, they are to hear them repeated by the Children once every week; or as often as they see occasion.

VI. They are also to call over the Names of the Children every Morning and Afternoon, to know whether they come constantly at School hours. And if any be missing, to mark their Names with a Note for *Tardy*, and another for *Absent*, in ~~Monthly or Weekly~~ Bills, to be laid before the Ministers and Lecturers at each *Quarterly* Meeting, in order to their Correction or Expulsion. *Quarterly*

VII. They are also not to suffer the Children to break up above three times in the year, at the usual Festivals; and so by no means, if possible, at *Sturbridge* Fair. But if that cannot wholly be avoided, they are not on any pretence to break up then for above a single Week, for fear of any harm by the ill Examples, and opportunities of Corruption at that time.

VIII. They are not to admit any other Children into their Schools but such as will be subject to the Rules thereto belonging; and in particular will be Catechiz'd by the Stewards with the rest, at the Monthly returns above-mentioned.

IX. They are not to receive any Money of the Poor Childrens Parents at their Entry or Breaking up, or upon any other account whatsoever; but are to content themselves with their own Salaries.

X. Lastly, 'Tis expected that the Parents themselves also take particular care to send their Children clean Wash'd and Comb'd to School, lest they otherwise be offensive there: That they do not make use of any frivolous Occasions or Pretences for keeping them at home at the School hours: And that they give them good Examples, and keep them in good order when they are at home, lest their Wickedness or Negligence should as much or more corrupt the Children, as the care of the Schools can amend them.