

Rules and Regulations for the Government of the Retreat near York

Publication/Creation

1827

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/c24xd6jt>

License and attribution

Works in this archive created by or for The Retreat, York are available under a CC-BY-NC license. Please be aware that works in this archive created by other organisations and individuals are not covered under this license, and you should obtain any necessary permissions before copyright or adapting any such works.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>



RETREAT RULES.

AS it is proposed that the Rules of the Retreat, should be published in the "Sketch of the History and Present State of the Institution," which is preparing for publication, the Committee have concluded to print, at present, only a small number of copies of the Rules, as agreed to at the last Meeting of the Directors and Subscribers. In case, therefore, of any dissatisfaction arising in the minds of Friends, in regard to any of the alterations made in the Rules, they may be again considered before the publication is generally made.





RETREAT RULES.

As it is proposed that the Rules of the Retreat, should be published in the "Sketch of the History and Present State of the Institution," which is preparing for publication, the Committee have concluded to print at present, only a small number of copies of the Rules, as agreed to at the last Meeting of the Directors and Subscribers. In case, therefore, of any dissension arising in the minds of Friends, in regard to any of the alterations made in the Rules, they may be again considered before the publication is generally made.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

FOR THE GOVERNMENT

OF

THE RETREAT,

Near York;

FOR PERSONS AFFLICTED WITH DISORDERS

OF THE MIND.

York :

PRINTED BY W. ALEXANDER AND SON, CASTLEGATE.

1827.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

FOR THE GOVERNMENT

INTRODUCTION.

At a Meeting of Friends, held in the year 1793, it was determined to form an Establishment for the purpose "of providing a retired habitation, with necessary advice and attendance, for the Members of the Society of Friends, and others in profession with it, who may be in a state of lunacy, or so deranged in mind, not ideots, as to require such a provision." And it was agreed, that the Institution should be established and supported by Annuities, Donations, and Annual Subscriptions, so long as such aids should be found needful; and that the Government should be vested wholly in the Members of the Society of Friends.

The House was opened for the reception of Patients in the year 1796.

PEL
Th
sons i
mere
mem
Frien
patien
niary
acco
the m
the su
WI
ments
Patien
the S
profes
being
claims
of the

RULES, REGULATIONS, &c.

CHAPTER I.

PERSONS ADMISSIBLE AND THE TERMS.

The Objects of the Institution are, all persons in a state of mental derangement, unless merely ideotic or superannuated, who are in membership or profession with the Society of Friends; and the terms to be paid by the patients, are to be regulated by their pecuniary circumstances, so as to afford suitable accommodation to all classes, and to make the means of the more affluent, contribute to the support of the poor.

When there is room in the distinct apartments appropriated to the Higher Classes of Patients, persons who are not connected with the Society of Friends by membership or profession, may be admitted into them; care being taken, not to interfere with the prior claims of those who were the original objects of the Institution.

CHAPTER II.

RULES RESPECTING CONTRIBUTIONS.

In addition to the payments of the patients, gratuitous contributions, subscriptions for annuities, and legacies, shall be received in aid of the Funds ; and Contributors, Annuitants, and Executors, shall be entitled to the privileges described in the following Rules.

1st. A contribution of one hundred pounds from any Quarterly or other Meeting, in its collective capacity, a donation of twenty-five pounds from any Friend, a subscription of fifty pounds for an Annuity, or the payment of a bequest of not less than £100, by any Executor, shall entitle such Meeting, Donor, Annuitant, or Executor, respectively, to the privilege of nominating one poor Patient at a time, on the lowest terms of admission.

2nd. In consideration of the smallness of a Quarterly Meeting, or of its members not being in an eligible situation to contribute one hundred pounds, the General Meeting of Subscribers shall have power, on application, to extend the privilege of the first Rule to

such Meeting, on contributing a smaller sum, at the discretion of the said General Meeting.

3rd. The privilege of Meetings or persons, to recommend poor Patients on the lowest terms of admission, according to the first and second Rules of this chapter, shall not be taken away or diminished, notwithstanding any general powers which are, or may be invested in the future Directors.

4th. As it is necessary to ascertain the rights of each Meeting, to recommend poor Patients, Donors of twenty-five pounds and upwards, are desired to explain, whether they wish to enjoy the privilege, during life, of recommending poor Patients, or that their Donations should be considered as the Subscriptions of their Quarterly or other Meetings: and it is agreed, that all Donations of individuals not claiming such right of recommendation, shall be considered as the Subscriptions of their respective Quarterly Meetings, whether reported to such Meetings or not; and every Quarterly Meeting shall enjoy the privilege of recommending poor Patients, in proportion to the Subscriptions of their respective members, on which no separate privilege is claimed.

5th. The name, when sent up, of every Annuitant, Donor, Subscriber, or Executor, shall be recorded in a book kept for that purpose ; and every Annuitant, Donor of not less than two guineas, and Subscriber of sums at any time amounting to two guineas, or Executor paying a bequest of not less than one hundred pounds, being and continuing a member of our Society, shall be a member of the meetings which are to be held for the government and superintendence of the Institution.

6th. For the satisfaction of Subscribers on life annuities, and those who have lent, or may hereafter lend any money to this Institution, this Meeting declares, that the whole real and personal property thereunto belonging, acquired, and to be acquired, shall stand and continue a security to the said life Annuitants, for the annual payment of their interest, and to the Lenders aforesaid, for the regular payment of principal and interest.

CHAPTER III.

THE RULES ON GOVERNMENT.

1st. The General Meeting in the year 1800, according to the original plan of the Institution, made provision for a perpetual succession of Directors. Forty Subscribers, members of our Society, were nominated and appointed, who, and their successors as hereafter directed to be appointed, together with any other Donors, Subscribers, or Executors, qualified according to the fifth Rule of Chapter II. and Agents who may be appointed by any qualified Meeting, and may from time to time choose to attend, are to be the General Meeting, and continue the Directors of the Institution, in whom the government of it is perpetually to vest and remain; and ten of whom are to be sufficient to do business. The said forty Directors, with any other qualified Donors or Subscribers, or any eight of them, are to meet quarterly for the transaction of business referred to them in the following Rules. The members of the Committee of Management, for the time being, shall be members of the General and Quarterly Meetings, by virtue of that appointment.

2nd. At the expiration of each year, the first named eight on the list are to cease to be Directors, and eight other members of our Society, are to be appointed by the General Meeting in their places ; with an addition for such as may be deceased or disowned ; and the whole may be chosen from the number of Annuitants, Donors, Subscribers, and Executors, or others, as shall, in process of time, be judged most convenient and best.

3rd. A General Meeting shall be held in the latter end of the 6th Month, or the beginning of the 7th Month of every year, unless some other time should hereafter be found more convenient ; and the Friends who may compose it shall, from time to time, have a general state of the family, and accounts of the Institution, laid before them ; and except the third and sixth Rules of Chapter II. which relate to securities to Annuitants, to Lenders of money, and to privileged Meetings and Subscribers, shall have power to alter or make Rules, and give such directions, as they may think best adapted to promote the designs of the Institution. They may also confirm, alter, or abrogate, the Orders and Regulations of the Quarterly Meetings ; and shall annually appoint Seven Friends, who with

the Tr
manage
receivi
shall
Meetin

4th.
Friends
of it, a
report
all thei
weekly
on rep
and gi
directi
sistentl
that n
Meetin
Meetin

5th.
said, tw
ers to t
succeed
inspect
and as c
are exp
for that
and such
sary or d

the Treasurer shall be a Committee for the management of the Undertaking. No Person receiving any salary from the Institution, shall be entitled to attend any of the Meetings for its management.

4th. During each Quarterly Meeting of Friends for Yorkshire, or after the conclusion of it, a Meeting is to be held to receive a report of the Committee's accounts, read over all their minutes, make such alterations in the weekly payments of any of the Patients as, on representation, may be deemed needful, and give the Committee such advice and direction as they may think proper, consistently with the general Rules and Orders that may have been established; which Meetings shall be the General or Quarterly Meetings respectively.

5th. At each Meeting, to be held as aforesaid, two Friends shall be appointed as Visitors to the Institution for each month in the succeeding Quarter; who are authorized to inspect every part of the House, at such times, and as often as they may think proper. They are expected to enter in a Book, to be kept for that purpose, the time of their attendance, and such remarks as may appear to them necessary or desirable. The minutes of the Visitors

to be read at the Meetings of the Committee, and at the General and Quarterly Meetings.

6th. The appointment of the Treasurer, Physician, Surgeon, Superintendent, and Matron, shall be vested in the General or Quarterly Meetings.

7th. If at any future period, by means of some unforeseen or unexpected events, it should appear to the General Meeting, that the original purpose of the Undertaking cannot be accomplished or pursued, the said General Meeting shall give due notice in writing to all the Directors, and also in every Quarterly or other Meeting of our Society, which, according to the Rules, may be interested therein, that the disposal of the Property of the Institution is to be taken under consideration at a Meeting, the time and place of which shall be specified. At such Meeting two Agents or Representatives, appointed by any of the said Meetings, shall be admitted as members of the General Meeting; and in case two-thirds of the Meeting so convened shall agree thereto, they may sell or dispose of the whole Estate and Property of the Institution, or of any part thereof, and after discharging all claims upon it, may appropriate the neat produce thereof, to

such just, equitable, or charitable uses, as they, on serious and deliberate consideration, shall judge best.

POWERS OF THE COMMITTEE.

The Committee shall have the general inspection, control, and management of the Institution. It is to meet once a month, or oftener if necessary—admit and discharge patients and fix the weekly terms—engage or dismiss servants—examine and pass bills previous to payment—audit the Treasurers and Superintendent's accounts, and cause a clear statement of the funds of the Institution to be annually prepared and laid before the General Meeting.

It shall keep minutes of all its proceedings for the perusal of the General and Quarterly Meetings. The Committee is to appoint three female visitors, one of whom is to be changed every month. The Committee shall have a discretion to decline the admission of Patients, though Members of our Society; but in such cases, the applicants, if dissatisfied, may, after having given fourteen days previous notice, in writing, to the Treasurer, represent the case to a General or Quarterly Meeting for its decision.

OFFICERS AND SERVANTS.

CHAPTER IV.

THE OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION ARE, A TREASURER, PHYSICIAN, SURGEON, SUPERINTENDENT, AND MATRON.

TREASURER.

The Treasurer shall keep an account of all monies received and paid on account of the Institution. He is authorised to give receipts for legacies and other payments. His Cash Book shall be laid before the Committee at their regular Meetings and examined by them. He shall dispose of the balances in his hand in such manner as the General or Quarterly Meeting shall direct.

PHYSICIAN.

The Physician shall visit the House and see the Patients at least twice in each week. He shall also attend at the House at any time, when requested by the Superintendent.

A Case book shall be provided in which shall be entered the information originally received relative to each Patient; and in which

he shall enter an account of the treatment pursued in each case, and the apparent results

A book shall also be provided in which he shall enter the date of his visits, the names of such Patients as he considers in a fit state to be discharged, and any observations which he wishes to communicate to the Committee.

The books above described shall be the property of the Institution.

SURGEON, &c.

The Surgeon or Apothecary, when not resident in the family, shall attend at the House and visit the Patients at least once in each week; and at any other times, when requested by the Physician or Superintendent. In addition to the performance of Surgical operations, he shall give such General Medical assistance as may be required of him.

He shall keep a book in which he shall enter the time of his attendance, his proceedings, and any other observations he inclines to make. The book to be open to the Physician and Superintendent, and to be the property of the Institution.

SUPERINTENDENT AND MATRON.

The Superintendent, under the general directions of the Committee, shall have full authority in the House; and, in conjunction with the Medical Officers, shall direct the management of the Patients. He shall be authorised to discharge any servant or attendant for improper conduct; but where the case is not urgent, the Committee are to be consulted as to the discharge of those whom they have elected.

The Superintendent shall see every Male Patient at least *once* in the course of each day, and shall attend, when practicable, at the administration of medicines, and the application of personal restraint, to the Male Patients.

The Superintendent shall, from time to time, report to the Committee the various articles wanted for the use of the House.

The Superintendent or Matron shall not be absent from the Institution more than a day, without permission of the Committee.

The Matron, shall superintend the domestic arrangements of the Establishment. She shall have the care of the Female Patients, and the management and control of the

female s
She sha
Women
Superint
shall ha
sick Pat

1st. A
ries or w

2nd.
otherwis
shall be

3rd.
coercion
sent of
immedi

4th.
possible
their res

5th.
have lea
from th
Servants

6th.
conform
Superint

female servants; whom she may discharge. She shall pay the same attentions to the Women Patients as are required of the Superintendent in regard to the men; and shall have under her particular care the sick Patients of both sexes.

REGULATIONS AS TO SERVANTS.

1st. All the Servants shall have fixed salaries or wages, and no perquisites.

2nd. If any Servant strike, or punish, or otherwise ill-treat any Patient, such Servant shall be dismissed from his or her situation.

3rd. The Attendants shall not employ any coercion, without obtaining the previous consent of the Superintendent or Matron, or immediately informing one of them thereof.

4th. The Attendants shall, as much as possible, be present with the Patients under their respective care.

5th. Every Servant on going out, must have leave of absence; the Men Servants from the Superintendent, and the Women Servants from the Matron.

6th. The Servants shall, in all respects, conform to the orders and directions of the Superintendent and Matron respectively.

CHAPTER V.

RULES FOR THE ADMISSION OF PATIENTS.

1st. The Terms for Board, Washing, Medical Advice and Medicines, and all other things necessary, except clothing, are, for every poor Patient privileged agreeably to the first Rule of Chapter II. a sum not less than four shillings per week.

2nd. Not less than eight shillings per week shall be paid for other Patients, and more according to circumstances; and a reasonable sum for the board of the servant of a Patient; but in case his or her friends should incline to send one, such servant must be approved by the Committee. The terms of admission to be subject to future alterations, if found necessary; and a quarter of a year's maintenance for each Patient is to be paid in advance.

3rd. As experience demonstrates, that the recovery of insane Patients, frequently depends on their being removed from their connexions, and put under proper care and treatment in the early stages of the disorder, it is earnestly recommended to their friends,

to remove them at an early period, after the character of the disorder appears to be fixed. And as an additional inducement to persons in straitened circumstances, to adopt this SALUTARY measure, it is concluded, that in derangements not exceeding six months from the first attack of the disorder, those Members of our Society whose circumstances, in case of continuance, would not conveniently admit of their paying more than eight shillings per week, shall be entitled to an abatement of four shillings a week for one year, if not sooner recovered. Those Patients who, by Rule 1st, Chapter II. would be rated at four shillings per week, will, under this regulation, be admitted gratis, for a year, if necessary; but as some Patients have come with disorders unconnected with insanity, and which have required additional expense or attendance, it is judged necessary, that, in such cases, an additional charge shall be made at the discretion of the Committee.

4th. On the admission of Patients, the Committee should require a certificate signed by a medical person, to the following import, viz:

I do hereby certify, after personal examination of ——— that I believe —

to be Insane, and a fit object for confinement in a House for the reception of Lunatics.

It should also be stated, whether the Patient be afflicted with any complaint independent of insanity. It is also desirable, that some account should be sent, how long the Patient has been disordered; whether any, or what medical means have been used; and whether any disposition has appeared in the Patient to injure him or herself, or any other person: with any other circumstances, likely to throw light on the case, relative to his or her treatment.

5th. *Application is to be made, and PERMISSION given, PREVIOUSLY TO THE SENDING OF ANY PATIENT TO THE INSTITUTION.*

FINIS.