

Report [of the Committee who have undertaken to make enquiry into, and ascertain the extent of, the process practised by Messrs. Delahoyde and Lucett for the relief of persons afflicted with insanity].

Contributors

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REPORT.



London: Printed by W. Bulmer and Co.
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REPORT

Printed by W. B. E. & Co. at the
University Press, Cambridge.



REPORT.

[of]

THE Committee who have undertaken to make enquiry into, and ascertain the extent of the process practised by Messrs. Delahoyde and Lucett for the relief of persons afflicted with insanity] and to provide the means of paying the expense of such enquiry, make this their first Report:

The Committee consist of the following Royal Personages, Noblemen, and Gentlemen, viz.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF KENT.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF SUSSEX.

LORD DUNDAS.

EARL FITZWILLIAM.

LORD MILTON.

THE HON. LAWRENCE DUNDAS.

SIR JOSEPH BANKS, BART.

J. HARNESS, M.D.

JOHN DENT, ESQ.

THOMAS SMITH, ESQ. ALDERMAN.

VISCOUNT MELVILLE.

DUKE OF BEDFORD.

J. J. ANGERSTEIN, ESQ.

RICHARD CLARK, ESQ. CHAMBERLAIN.

EARL CORK.

The Subscribers to the fund are

	<i>L.</i>	<i>s.</i>
His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent	52	10
His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex	21	0
Lord Dundas	52	10
Earl Fitzwilliam	52	10
The Hon. Lawrence Dundas	20	0
Sir Joseph Banks, Bart.	42	0
Lord Milton	20	0
Earl of Radnor	20	0
Messrs. Child and Co.	21	0
John Dent, Esq.	21	0
Thomas Smith, Esq. Alderman	21	0
The Hon. John Spencer	20	0
John Pearce, Esq.	10	10
Nicholas Pearce, Esq.	10	10
Brice Pearce, Esq.	10	10
Earl Grosvenor	21	0
Duke of Bedford	52	10
J. J. Angerstein, Esq.	21	0
William Corston, Esq.	20	0
Earl of Hardwicke	20	0
Thomas Allen, Esq.	12	12
Henry Hoare, Esq.	20	0
Sir Thomas Bernard, Bart.	20	0
Charles Forbes, Esq.	10	10
Sir Charles Saxton, Bart.	20	0
Viscount Melville	20	0
Viscount Palmerston	21	0
B. Shaw, Esq.	20	0
Earl Cork	20	0
James Alexander, Esq. M. P.	10	10
Dr. Flemming	10	10
Thos. Wood, Esq. of Littleton	21	0
Richard Clark, Esq. Chamberlain	20	0
Lord Eardley	21	0
Col. P. Douglas	20	0
Total	<i>L.</i> 796	2

The Committee, impressed with the importance of the object they had in view, resolved to

put the investigation of the process to the severest possible test. To that end it was their anxious wish to avail themselves of the superior judgment and ability of Dr. Harness, the Medical commissioner of His Majesty's Navy (one of the present committee) as to the patients to be chosen for the experiment. By his advice it was resolved to select them from the government asylums, under the authority of whose certificates and those of other medical men of eminence, persons in the public service had been from time to time placed in these asylums.

Being informed by Dr. Harness that the Government receiving-house at Hoxton contained the greatest number of the most confirmed lunatics, and having procured a list of them, the committee on the 7th of June held their meeting at the said receiving-house, as will appear by the copy of their minute, which is as follows, viz.

"At a Meeting

“ At a Meeting of the Committee held at the
 “ receiving-house of Sir Jonathan Miles at
 “ Hoxton, the 7th day of June, 1813.

PRESENT,

“ HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF KENT.

“ HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF SUSSEX.

“ EARL FITZWILLIAM.

“ LORD DUNDAS.

“ DR. HARNESS.

“ JOHN DENT, ESQ.

“ THOMAS SMITH, ESQ.

“ Dr. Harness produced a list of all the pa-
 “ tients under Sir Jonathan's care on the 1st of
 “ April last, consisting of seamen and marines,
 “ being in number 146, of whom 94 had been
 “ deemed incurable in the opinion of Dr.
 “ Weir Naval Inspector, Mr. Haslam Principal
 “ Apothecary of Bethlem Hospital, and Mr.
 “ Sharp Surgeon of Sir Jonathan's receiving-
 “ house : which said list shewed the ships'
 “ names to which the patients formerly be-
 “ longed, their quality when received, the
 “ time they remained at Hoxton and the time
 “ when received at Bethlem in such instances
 “ as the patients had been in that hospital
 “ and the time they remained there, distin-
 “ guishing which of them were deemed in-
 “ curable

“ The Committee had brought before them
 “ every one of the class of those deemed incurable, and selected from them, with the help
 “ of Mr Delahoyde whose attendance had been
 “ required, such of them as were deemed proper for the experiment of the plan, receiving
 “ every necessary information from Sir Jonathan
 “ and the keepers respecting them.

“ The Committee having chosen 19 in number,
 “ the list was given to Mr. Delahoyde for him,
 “ as soon as convenient, to select such as in his
 “ judgment were within the reach of his process
 “ and most fit to answer the object in view.

“ EDWARD P^RESIDENT.”

The Committee then made an arrangement with Messrs. Delahoyde and Lucett, as to terms for receiving, in the first instance, four patients into their care, and afterwards such further number as might be thought proper.

JOHN BRAILY.

On the 27th June—John Braily, being one of the selected list, and who appeared to the Committee to be more violent, if possible, than any of the rest, heavily chained and handcuffed, with an horse-cloth, by way of covering, about his waist, was conducted to Sion Vale.

Braily, by the list, was described as coming from His Majesty's Ship the Phoenix, and it

appeared that he had been received at Hoxton on the 18th September 1809, from whence, after remaining there 12 days, he had been removed to Bethlem Hospital, and there continued a year and 11 days, when he was, on the 11th October, 1810, returned to Hoxton as an incurable maniac, and there remained till he was removed to Sion Vale.

Dr. Harness, who had obligingly complied with the request of the Committee to take the trouble of visiting Brailly and examining his pulse, previous to the commencement of the process and also after the operation of it, with a view to ascertain how far it was capable of reducing the pulse in a short period, as well as to enable him afterwards to form a judgment of the efficacy of the process, on the 8th of July, made his Report as follow :

“ By desire of the Committee I visited Sion
 “ Vale upon June 29th, 1813, for the purpose
 “ of ascertaining the state of Brailly’s pulse,
 “ previous and subsequent to the operation,
 “ which I had full opportunity of doing by ac-
 “ curate examination, and ascertained it to
 “ pulsate 108 within the minute—I again saw
 “ him within the space of 10 minutes after he
 “ had undergone the operation and put to bed—
 “ though his manner was considerably calmed
 “ his pulse was not less frequent, but somewhat
 “ softer than previous to the operation. We left

“ the patient for about three quarters of an hour;
 “ when we returned we found him in every re-
 “ spect more calm, and his pulse reduced to
 “ seventy-six. Whilst I was sitting on his bed,
 “ feeling his pulse, he observed to me, that he
 “ had undergone a severe operation, that he had
 “ given the gentleman (alluding to Mr. Dela-
 “ hoyde) much trouble, but hoped that he
 “ should soon be better; under these favorable
 “ circumstances, with a person sitting in his
 “ room, I left him about 20 minutes after eight
 “ o’clock.

“ Upon the 4th instant, July, I saw Brailly
 “ walking in the garden at Sion Vale, when I
 “ entered into conversation with him by enquir-
 “ ing after his general health, which he observed
 “ was very good, but that he felt reather weak,
 “ expressed himself most gratefully to Mr.
 “ Delahoyde for the great benefit he had afforded
 “ him, and that he ever should consider him as
 “ his greatest friend. He was immediately after
 “ seen by His Royal Highness the Duke of
 “ Sussex, to whom he repeated the same grateful
 “ sentiments, and related many circumstances
 “ of himself.

To the Committee,

&c. &c. &c

“ J. HARNESS ”

Extracts

*Extracts from Mr. Delahoyde's Report as to
Braily.*

“ June 30th, Braily's pulse has not exceeded
“ 72 the whole of the day ; he has had another
“ good night, and has not been either violent
“ or outrageous ; he amuses himself in walking
“ in the garden and playing at drafts.”

From 1st of July to the 7th of August, Mr. Delahoyde reported progressive improvement, with a small degree of increased irritation about the period of the change of the moon.

August 7, Mr. Delahoyde reported that Braily was in a state of convalescence.

WILLIAM MATTERS.

This man had, it appears by the list, been a marine on board the *Revenge*, and was sent to Hoxton the 16th of April, 1808, and after remaining there seven days, was sent to Bethlem Hospital, where he continued one year one month and seven days, and then returned as incurable to Hoxton, and after remaining there four years and two months, was conducted to Sion Vale, viz, on the 30th of July.

Extracts from Mr. Delahoyde's Reports.

“ 30th July, Matters's pulse on his arrival
 “ was 104 ; at nine o'clock I commenced the
 “ curative process. In the course of an hour
 “ his pulse was reduced to 76, at half past 10
 “ o'clock he fell into a sound sleep, which con-
 “ tinued eight hours, he then awoke much
 “ refreshed.

“ 31st, Continued tranquil and sane the whole
 “ of the day.

“ August 1st, has had another good night, and
 “ continues sane.

“ 2d, His pulse remains at 74, he has had a
 “ good night, and I have put him to work in the
 “ garden.”

JAMES CARDIFF.

Formerly a marine on board the *Sussex*, was,
 as appears by the list, sent to Hoxton the 22d
 February, 1810 ; and from thence, at the end of
 a month and 20 days, to Bethlem, where he re-
 mained a year and 10 days, and was then returned
 to Hoxton, and continued there two years three
 months and six days previous to his removal to
 Sion Vale, which was on the said 30th of July.

Extracts from Mr. Delahoyde's Reports.

“ James Cardiff arrived at eight o'clock p. m.
 “ 30th July, with Matters, and underwent the
 “ process at half past eight o'clock; his pulse
 “ was 98 previous to the operation, at half past
 “ nine his pulse was reduced to 70; he got into
 “ a sound sleep, which continued nine hours,
 “ July 31st, he awoke refreshed and tranquil,
 “ and has passed the day in assisting the cook
 “ in dressing dinner for the house.

“ 1st August, Cardiff continues as yesterday,
 “ his pulse at 72, and has had a good night.

“ 2d, Continues to improve, his pulse at 70,
 “ and has had another good night.

“ 7th, The rapid amendment of Matters and
 “ Cardiff is more strongly and satisfactorily
 “ marked than in any other public case I have
 “ had as yet under my care—I consider each of
 “ these men in a state of convalescence.

DANIEL O'KEEFE.

This man had been quarter-master serjeant
 in the 47th Regiment, and confined at Hoxton,
 from whence he was conveyed to Bethlem, and
 in October 1812, discharged as incurable, as
 appears by a letter from the War Office, to John
 Ridge, Esq. the Agent to the Regiment, dated
 the 14th of October, 1812; and was discharged
 from the service by reason of his having been

reported incurably deranged in his intellect ; as appears by a letter to Mr. Ridge, dated Horse Guards, 21st November, 1812, signed Harry Calvert. O'Keefe was then put upon the out-pension list of Chelsea Hospital, by an order dispensing with his personal appearance before the board, and being under the care of his wife of Thatcham, was by her consent, removed to Brentford, and after being examined by their Royal Highnesses the Dukes of Kent and Sussex and Dr. Harness, was placed at Sion Vale under the care of Mr. Delahoyde.

Extracts from Mr. Delahoyde's Reports.

“ I commenced the curative process on Daniel O'Keefe, at half past 7 o'clock, the 16th July, in the evening. His pulse, previous to the commencement, was at 98 ; in the course of 57 minutes after the process, his pulse was at 70, his skin soft, and his countenance serene and tranquil : he has slept seven hours ; awoke refreshed, and seemed to have improved in his memory a little—he is at this moment at work in the garden.”

26th July. “ Works in the garden daily without restraint ; his recollection and health progressively improve.

“ 2nd Aug. His memory daily gets better.

“ 7th. O'Keefe evidently improves in memory.”

At a Meeting of the Committee, on the 7th August, Dr. Harness was requested to take the trouble to inspect the state of these four patients at Sion Vale, which was accordingly done, as appears by his Report, dated 27th Aug. 1813.

“ Upon the 10th Aug. 1813, I visited the
 “ patients at Sion Vale, accompanied by Dr.
 “ Weir, Naval Medical Inspector of Hospitals,
 “ when we found Cardiff assisting in brewing
 “ beer for the use of the family — continued in
 “ conversation with him some minutes, after
 “ which Dr. Weir, who had been in the habit
 “ of seeing him almost weekly during his confinement at Hoxton, pronounced him to be
 “ in a better state than he recollected ever to
 “ have seen him. Dr. Weir observed that he
 “ had frequently seen Cardiff employed in the
 “ service of the family at Hoxton.”

“ We afterwards saw Brailly walking in the
 “ back garden, but I am sorry to observe not in
 “ the quiet composed state I had been accustomed to find him on my former visits ; he
 “ being particularly talkative, complaining of
 “ his situation, and being constantly annoyed
 “ by numerous people, mostly women, relating
 “ their complaints to and of him ; upon which
 “ I asked him, if he felt himself better than when

“ at Hoxton : to which he replied that he cer-
 “ tainly did ; but that he did not know how long
 “ he might continue so, as he found his head
 “ becoming much confused, which observation
 “ occasioned Mr. Delahoyde to remark that he
 “ should again undergo the curative process in
 “ the evening. On Saturday the 21st instant,
 “ Mr. Delahoyde called on me at the Transport
 “ Office, to inform me that Braily had under-
 “ gone the curative process on the evening of
 “ the 10th instant, and that he had derived
 “ considerable benefit therefrom.

“ Upon the 25th, I visited Sion Vale, when I
 “ found Braily much more calm and collected
 “ than when seen by Dr. Weir and myself upon
 “ the 10th instant. Conversed and walked in
 “ the garden with him more than a quarter of
 “ an hour, during which time he conducted
 “ himself with great propriety, but occasionally
 “ expressed himself with more than usual rapi-
 “ dity, but in language strictly decorous.

“ Upon the 10th instant saw O’Keefe and
 “ Matters working in the garden ; they both
 “ appeared composed and reconciled to their
 “ situation. Dr. Weir thought Matters im-
 “ proved.

“ Each of them after being talked to a short
 “ time, reverted to his peculiar complaint, viz.
 “ O’Keefe to the loss of his hair, and Matters
 “ to his being distended by air.

“ On my visit of the 25th instant, I could not
“ discover that O’Keefe had made any progress
“ to amendment.

“ Cardiff and Matters I consider improved ;
“ they both bearing me to converse with them
“ upon those subjects on which they had rested
“ their principal complaints, and which sub-
“ jects could not before have been touched upon
“ without exciting considerable emotion.”

J. HARNESS.”

*Messrs. Delahoyde and Lucett’s Report of the
13th Sept. 1813.*

“ Matters restored and fit to be discharged.
“ Cardiff, we consider, may in a very short
“ time be discharged as perfectly restored.
“ Brailly is perfectly consistent, and has daily
“ made progress towards restoration, since
“ our last Report.

“ O’Keefe no longer talks about the man in
“ Bethlem that cut off his hair, and otherwise
“ ill-used him, and has daily made progress
“ towards restoration.”

“ In addition to the Reports of Dr. Harness,
and those received from Mr. Delahoyde, their
Royal Highnesses the Dukes of Kent and
Sussex, and other members of the Committee,
for their further satisfaction, have occasionally
visited Sion Vale, and thereby had an opportu-

nity of witnessing the progress of the said four patients.

The following is a copy of the minutes of the Committee, held at Sion Vale, the 15th of September, 1813.

PRESENT.

" HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF KENT,
President.

" THOMAS SMITH, ESQ.

" DR. HARNESS.

" The Committee now assembled having
" conversed with, and examined the four public
" patients at this place, with a view to form
" their judgment of them, came to the following
" opinion.

" Brailly, certainly more calm and collected
" than on the 25th ultimo., or at any time when
" seen by Dr. Harness since his arrival at Sion
" Vale.

" O'Keefe, perfectly calm, and his general
" health improved, but recollection still much
" impaired.

" Cardiff, much better, but does not appear
" wholly free from the influence of the parti-
" cular cause to which he attributes his com-
" plaint.

" Matters does not appear to labour under
" the least symptoms of complaint."

Although the Committee do not thus early in the investigation of the efficacy of a process of so much importance, presume to offer an opinion on its permanent effects, but merely to give a narrative of the facts as they have occurred, yet they cannot forbear to acknowledge, they feel satisfaction that thus far their hopes have not been disappointed, and that their labours have not proved useless, the violence of the paroxysms being evidently mitigated. Under this impression they intend (aided by subscriptions from those who may be induced to come forward for so laudable a purpose, and who have not already subscribed to the fund for the occasion) to extend the experiment to farther patients, and pursue the inquiry as far as may be thought necessary for the information and satisfaction of the public.

EDWARD, President.

AUGUSTUS FREDERICK.

WENTWORTH FITZWILLIAM.

MILTON.

THOMAS SMITH.

JOHN HARNESS.

JOHN DENT.

R. CLARK.

September 27, 1813.

“ In case the experiment about to be made
 “ under the present plan, should be the means
 “ of establishing the success of the process, and
 “ a permanent society should in consequence be
 “ formed, the subscribers of £20 , and upwards,
 “ to be considered as life governors of such
 “ society. Minute of the Committee held at
 “ Lord Dundas’s house in Arlington-street,
 “ May 31, 1813.”

Subscriptions continue to be received at the
 Banking-house of Messrs. Child and Co. Temple
 Bar.

N. B. The Committee have received a letter
 from Messrs. Delahoyde and Lucett, of the 27th
 instant, to inform the Committee, that finding it
 necessary to encrease their accommodation for
 patients, they had quitted Sion Vale, and taken
 the premises at Great Ealing, in Middlesex,
 called Ealing House, to which place they had
 removed their patients.



"In case the experiment should be made
under the present plan, should the success
of establishing the society be the purpose; and
a permanent society should be organized,
formed, the members of the society, and upwards,
to be considered as the proprietors of such
society. Amongst of the members should be
Land Division's house in Middlesex,
May 31, 1818."

Land Division's house in Middlesex
May 31, 1818.

M. D. W. Committee have received a letter
from Messrs. Delahoyde and Lusk, of the 21st
inst, to inform the Committee, that finding it
necessary to remove their accommodation for
patients, they had quitted Lion Vale, and taken
the premises at Great Malvern, in Middlesex,
called Malvern House, to which place they had
removed their patients.