Street, 29th 6 month, 1883.

Dear Friend,

Thy letter of the 12th inst: was submitted to the Charitable Trusts' Committee at Yatton on the 26th instant, and I send herewith copy of minute adopted thereon, which please lay before the Committee in reply to their request to us to attend at York on the 10th prox:

To avoid needless delay our Committee has adjourned to the time of the summer Quarterly Meeting here on the 17th prox: to receive any communication from the Directors on the subject which may be previously sent me.

Thine truly,

James Clark

Robert Baker M.D.
The Friends Retreat
York.

Charitable Trusts Committee

of

Bristol and Somerset Quarterly Meeting
held at Yatton 26th 6mo. 1883.

10th Minute

The Sub-Committee appointed to correspond with the Directors of York Retreat have produced the following letters and minute.

Letter of Jonathan Burtt to James Clark 30th 1st mo 1883, enclosing Minute of Half yearly Meeting of the Directors of the Retreat 25th 1 month 1883.

Letter of Robert Baker M.D. 12th 6mo. 1883 to James Clark.

Upon careful consideration this Committee sees no advantage likely to arise from a conference on the subject at the present juncture, but having fairly and fully stated the case of the Quarterly Meeting and having no addition to make thereto, awaits either the reply of the Directors founded on any report of their sub-committee; or information as to the time and circumstances of any proceedings by which the rights of the Quarterly Meeting were abridged. If these, when received, present any new feature in the case this Committee will consider the same, but otherwise will be obliged to conclude that only a reference to arbitration can satisfactorily settle the points in difference.

The Clerk is requested to forward a copy of this Minute in reply to the letter received, and to express the desire of this Committee that the matter may be disposed of as soon as possible.

Copy

James Clark
Clerk.

Presentation to the Retreat

Report of the Sub-Committee appointed 9 mo 1883.

The committee of the York Retreat Directors, whose appointment was reported to our last meeting, met us at York on the 10th mo 30th & expressed a desire to discuss the question in a friendly & conciliatory spirit, expressing regret for some portions of the official correspondence, & they at once withdrew the ground taken up by Dr Baker in previous letters.

As regards the nomination of W S Cotterell it appears that he was admitted as a patient to the Retreat in 3rd mo 1867, which was before the Quarterly Meeting's Commission on Charitable Trusts had presented its first report to the Quarterly Meeting & more than a year before the first meeting of the Charitable Trusts Committee, it is clear therefore that the "unpleasant correspondence" as to his admission was not with the Quarterly Meeting or this Committee, but the statement made is that when the nomination by the Charitable Trusts Committee was accepted in 1st mo 1869, the Retreat Committee being conscious that the patient was sinking, accepted the nomination, as they state, for the sake of peace with the Quarterly Meeting.

The reply of the Directors to the position that we have sought to maintain, is, that in the first printed annual report, entitled "State of an Institution near York, called the "Retreat" for persons afflicted with disorder of the mind 1797"; a distinction as to terms is clearly set up between Members & those not strictly Members of our Society — patients nominated by Quarterly Meetings being taken in at a minimum charge of 14/- per week, & those "who are not strictly members" of our

Society" at a minimum of 8/- per week.

This document had not been previously quoted to us, & in reply to our enquiry as to the reason, we were informed that it is only quite recently that the Directors have been aware of its existence in print, they themselves having been satisfied to continue on the basis of long practice, until we challenged their decision.

As the only copy of the Report embodying the Rules & Regulations is in a bound volume at the Retreat we have had a copy made of that part of the statement which affects our case & append it hereto.

We must ask the Committee very carefully to consider Rules 3.5.6 & 7. because on the construction of these rules, depends the validity of our claim to use our nominations to the full extent of those in profession with Friends.

The Directors contend that the 7th rule lays down as a principle that those who are not strictly members of our Society should not be received under 8/- a week, in contradistinction to 4/- mentioned in the 5th rule, & assert, that with the exception of one other case (in addition to W S Cotterell's already reported on) no patient not in membership has been admitted on the nomination of a meeting on the lowest terms.

This is a case in 1840 in which a patient connected with Friends appears to have been admitted, but the Directors think from the otherwise unusual practice, that the entry in their own books is probably incorrect, & that this case was either admitted on the recommendation of some Donor residing in "Durham", or of some Donor on the Committee of Management, some of whom having

this privilege, occasionally exercised it as required by special case.

Since returning from York we have made enquiry of the Clerk of Durham Quarterly Meeting, & it does not appear that there is any minute upon their books in regard to this or any other case.

(See W C Parker's letter 21/11/93) (letter not given 1/0)

The minutes of the Retreat Committee in 1826 record that in that year "a doubt having arisen" as to the rights of presentation by donors & annuitants, to nominate "persons in profession" though not in membership, the question was referred to the General Meeting, & it came to the judgment, that they had such a right — but the question as to the right of meetings does not appear to have been raised & discussed, or subsequently to have attracted any attention until the nomination made by our Quarterly Meeting.

The Directors of the Retreat are of ~~the~~ opinion that the decision of 1826, in favour of Donors & Annuitants to nominate "persons in profession" was given with a view of inducing additional donations to the Institution, for by that time, the Quarterly Meeting had acquired as many rights as they were likely to want for Members, & therefore, there was no inducement left for private donors to subscribe on account of privileges, which any poor member of the Society could obtain, by application to his own Quarterly Meeting.

It must however be borne in mind that this decision of 1826 was simply the judgment of the then General Meeting upon

the construction of the Rule, & was not the granting of any new privilege.

It seems only fair to remark on this decision that if the General Meeting decided in favour of individuals, why should not some subsequent General Meeting decide on a construction equally favourable to the rights of Quarterly & other Meetings; seeing that rule 10 first published in 1796, one month after the Retreat was opened, specially sets forth, that the privileges of Meetings "shall not be taken away or diminished".

The Sub. committee do not think, that the Directors' interpretation of these Rules is necessarily the correct one. It is quite manifest from the 10th rule before quoted, that meetings or persons giving money, acquire certain rights "which could not be taken away or diminished".

The 3rd rule clearly gives the right of nominating one poor patient on the lowest terms, for each £100 contributed.

Rule 5 lays down 4/- per week as a minimum charge on "poor patients" privileged agreeably to 3rd rule.

Rule 6, lays down 8/- as a minimum for other patients. The distinction so far set up being distinctly between patients privileged & those who are not so nominated.

Now as regards the 7th Rule, the Directors contend that it is to be read in explanation of the 5th rule, thereby making 8/- a week a minimum for patients not strictly members of our Society — but we are not satisfied

that this was the original intention.

The 7th rule, your sub committee contend, may be fairly taken in contradistinction to the 3rd rule, & not in explanation of the 5th.

The 3rd rules mentions Quarterly or other Meeting & any "Friend" acquiring the privilege of nominating poor patients & the 5th rule mentions 4/- a week to be charged for patients so nominated & there is no mention of membership or profession with Friends in either of these rules & we contend that this right may still be held to be continued in its entirety.

The Sub committee maintain that the 7th rule may be interpreted to explain the position of those contributors who should not be members of our Society.

Such persons were by their contributions to acquire rights, but not equal with "Friends", & in support of this distinction it will be seen by the 4th rule that Subscribers must be & remain members of our Society, in order to take part in the government.

There is another view of these rules that is worthy of consideration,

Was the 10th rule inserted for the first time in the appeal of 1796. under the conviction that the terms offered in the earlier appeal, could not be sustained & that it was intended by this rule to limit the right of nomination to those meetings & friends which had up to that time, given contributions.

It appears that this Quarterly Meeting had given £200, which was acknowledged in

the 1794 appeal.

This is the basis of nomination mentioned in the report of the Charitable Trust Commission (see printed particulars page 11 – 16–III 1868.)

If this reading of the rule is accepted it would limit our right of nominating those in profession to ~~the~~ the extent of two cases, because the increased rights has been acquired by virtue of contributions given subsequently, & which therefore must be taken as subject to the published rules.

The Retreat Directors are evidently desirous that no question should be raised as regards the earlier contributions giving rights to nominate as distinct from later contributions credited to our Quarterly Meeting in accordance with the 19th of 1797, which continued in the Bye Laws of 1855.*

(* See Bye Laws 1855 (printed 1859) under heading III Respecting Contributions page 13 & 14 sec 2 which is a reprint of rule 19 of 1797)

In reply to our view of the case the Directors specially draw attention to the 1797 rules as being drawn up practically by the same Friends as were the earlier appeal for the foundation of the Retreat & the 5th & 7th rules must, they argue, be taken as the interpretation of the benefit intended to be given by the original founders of the Institution. And in confirmation of this view they produce a minute of the Committee in 1796 which is as follows. 1796 – 11 mo 28. Account is given that Thomas Ellis from Leeds came here this

day, concerning whom some of the Committee had a previous conference and agreed to propose 8/- a week, which hath been accepted. He is not a member of our Society, but having attended meetings for some time & being so far under the notice of Friends that some of them intend to pay for him, it was thought it he was proper to be admitted.

The printed statements show that Yorkshire Quarterly Meeting has then contributed nearly £600 in addition to annuity payments, & the Directors urge that it is manifest that Leeds Friends could not have put their hands into their own pockets to pay for this poor patient, if they had understood that their Quarterly Meeting had acquired rights of nomination applicable to the case.

But it is not so manifest to your Sub-committee that the inference drawn by the Directors is conclusive. It is quite possible that the charitable friend who agreed to pay for Thomas Ellin did not choose to apply to the Quarterly Meeting, either from a wish to avoid publicity of the case, or from a generous willingness to assist the Institution in its early days.

The Directors further urge for our consideration, that under the existing qualification the Quarterly Meetings might now nominate Friends exceeding the present number of patients in the Institution, & that if under the enlarged construction we have

contended for, but five additional poor patients were sent to the Retreat the loss would be so considerable, as to entail serious financial embarrassment. They regard it as impossible to carry on the Institution with satisfactory efficiency, on such an economical scale as would realize sufficient profit from paying patients to make up for any such increase of poor patients. The Directors produced sundry figures in support of this statement, but time did not permit us to examine them.

Having now to the best of our ability set forth the results of our interview with the Directors of the Retreat, we must leave it to the Committee to decide, whether to recommend the Quarterly Meeting to carry the matter further, or whether in view of the somewhat altered position in which the case now stands to allow the matter to remain as it is.

Signed Joseph Theobald
Waller Sturge
Henry Grace

Bristol
12mo 1 — 1883

Copy. William Pumphrey

Bristol ~ Somerset
Dispute
Correspondence
1883

Street, Somerset.

7th Mo 30th 1883

+ should be 6mo 30th

My dear Friend

The letter & minute I forwarded yesterday will have been an answer to thine received to day I was in the Channel Islands when thy first came to hand and we could give no reply to it till the meeting of the Charity Committee on 4th day last — The friends on this committee feel the more strongly on this matter because the wife of the friend Wedmore who can ill afford it has had to pay the extra rate for her husband who having applied for Membership but that the accident happened that necessitated his being placed under your care

With best wishes I am

Thy affectionate friend

James Clark

The Friends' Retreat,
York.

July 5 - 83

My dear friend,

Thanks for thy letter. I minute enclosed - I shall be glad to bring them before the next Meeting of the Committee on the 14th inst.

I regret to find from the last paragraph in thy letter that they are under a misconception of the

actual facts of the case of Mrs. Wedmore.

The Retreat Committee, through me, offered Mrs Wedmore a reduction of terms many months ago; which was declined, as she was "quite able to pay the sum charged".

Since then, she has made application for reduction of terms, which application was immediately granted.

the present charge being 12s/. per week, although the actual cost is not less than 42s/-.

I make this explanation to you (unofficially) because I am desirous that you should believe that the Committee of this Hospital are most wishful to carry out the benevolent purposes of its originators.

Yours faithfully

Robt Baker

Bristol & Somerset Quarterly Meeting's
Committee for the Management of
Charitable Trusts
held at Weston Super Mare 12mo 16 1881

Selected Minute
15

The correspondence of the sub-committee (appointed in 6th month last) with the Managers of the York Retreat was read at our Special Meeting in 9th month and has now been again read through and fully considered.

This Committee is still of the judgment that according to the Rules of the Institution (printed in 1859) the Quarterly Meeting has a distinct right to make the nomination of a person "in profession with Friends" which was in 1868 accepted by the Managers of the Retreat by the admission of Wm. Cotterell not then in membership and this occurred immediately after the question of the nominations vesting in this Quarterly Meeting had been settled by correspondence with Dr Kitching & Wm Wood.

The reasons set forth in Dr Baker's letter of Sept. 21 in reply to the letter of our Sub-Committee dated June 25 do not appear to this Committee to justify them (acting as Trustees for Charitable funds) in foregoing a

a distinct right which is based upon a money contribution originally given to found the 'Retreat' more especially as these persons who belong to the class "others in profession" are more likely to need a reduction in rate than those in actual membership. This Committee therefore submits to the consideration of the Managers of the 'Retreat' that the nomination of Thomas Redmore must stand and that the accounts for his treatment at the 'Retreat' should be charged at the lowest rate.

A copy of this minute to be sent to Dr Baker.

Copy.

James Clark

Clerk.

Charitable Trusts Committee

— of —

Bristol and Somerset Quarterly Meeting

held at Yatton 26th 6 month 1883.

10th Minute

The Sub-Committee appointed to correspond with the Directors of York Retreat have produced the following letters and minute

Letter of Jonathan Bevan to James Clark 30th 1st month 1883, enclosing Minute of Half-yearly Meeting of the Directors of the Retreat 25th 1 month 1883.

Letter of Robert Baker M.D. 12th 6th month 1883 to James Clark.

Upon careful consideration this Committee see no advantage likely to arise from a conference on the subject at the present juncture, but having fairly and fully stated the case of the Quarterly Meeting and having no additions to make thereto, await either the reply of the Directors founded on any report of their Sub-Committee; or information as to the time and circumstances of any proceedings by which the rights of the Quarterly Meeting were abridged. If these, when received, present any new feature in the case this Committee will consider the same, but otherwise will be obliged to conclude that only a reference to arbitration can satisfactorily settle the points in difference.

The Clerk is requested to forward a copy of this Minute in reply to the letter received, and to express the desire of this Committee that the matter may be disposed of as soon as possible.

Copy

James Clark
Clerk.

The Friends' Retreat
York
June 11th 1883

My dear friend,

At the last Meeting of the Committee of the Retreat it was decided to invite three Members of Bristol and Somerset Q. M. ~~to meet the Committee~~, together with a deputation from the Directors of the Retreat, ~~at the next Committee Meeting~~ to meet the Committee at its next Meeting which is, to be held at the Retreat at eleven o'clock ~~with the view of inter~~ a.m. on Tuesday the 10th of July, 1883, in order to consider together ~~still further~~ the question of the right of the Bristol and Somerset Q. M. to nominate for admission to the Retreat at the lowest rate of payment persons in profession with Friends, but who are not ~~being~~ members of the Society.

Yours faithfully
Robt. Baker

James Clark
Street, Somerset.

Dr Mr Woods
I have made the few corrections that occur to me
J R

Copy letter
to
Jas. Clark

York - Sept. 21. 1882

Dear Friend,

Jonathan Burtt,

The tone of the Bristol letters is conciliatory. As I understand the position - If the Bristol people insist upon & press their full legal rights, regardless of the interests of the Retreat, we cannot maintain our objection to their recommending persons in profession. The question must clearly therefore not go to arbitration. But if the Bristol people are accessible to sound argument they will see how mischievous, in the interests of the Retreat, is the assertion of the right which they claim. There appear to me to be two courses which the Retreat may adopt —

(a) to surrender the point with a dignified and not too mildly worded protest.

(b) to write to the Bristol people and say that the question at issue is one which it is difficult to state fully in writing, but that the Committee apprehend that if one or more Bristol Friends were to come down and were to go fully into the question with the Members of the Retreat Committee the question might be wisely and satisfactorily settled.

This latter course strikes me as the better. Might not a letter be sent somewhat as follows?

"Dear Friend

Henry Grace,

In submitting thy letter and the accom-

"passing minute to the Retreat Committee – they
"were of the opinion that, as your Quarterly
"Meeting deemed it necessary to pursue the
"question further, the best course, under the cir-
"cumstances, would be for one or more members
"of your Meeting to meet the Committee at
"York and to go with them fully into the
"question at issue. The Committee believe
"that if two or three hours were spent in
"such a Conference and the whole bearing of
"the case were fully discussed (with the ready
"access to books which a conference at the Retreat
"would give) there need not be much difficul-
"ty in coming to an united & satisfactory
"settlement. If this course should be ac-
"ceptable to your Quarterly Meeting & you would
"name a time when such a small Committee
"could visit the Retreat I would arrange that
"all the needful books and memoranda
"should be in readiness

"Yours truly
(signed) "Jonathan Burt."

Would it not be well to talk this over with Dr. Baker? If the ~~Committee~~ Bristol Friends accede to the proposal & arrange to visit the Retreat we ought to get up our case with the utmost care beforehand. If I can be of further use in this matter do not hesitate to write me

Thine truly,
Joseph Rowntree.

Heads of Case.

The Ctee of B&S. claims to have the right to recommend as patients at "the lowest rate" members of the Society & those in profession with them.

The Committee of the Retreat freely acknowledge the former & demur to the latter.

The Retreat was established in 1796 to provide for Members of the Society of Friends & those in profession with them (or, as it is expressed in one of the documents of the time, "not strictly in membership") a more humane style of treatment & one more in accordance with the habits of Friends

than was to be found in the Madhouses of the 18th century. The cost was defrayed by the donations & subscriptions of private friends, & of Meetings in their corporate capacity — to some of these, dependent on the amount, was conceded the privilege of nominating poor patients to be received at the "lowest rate". The terms were fixed at 8/- per week — but of recommended 4/- per week. But it is clear that these arrangements were made on the assumption that a Meeting in its corporate capacity can only deal with its own members, for we find in the first report published in 1797, that where "those not strictly in membership" are mentioned, that they are not to be received

under 8/- per week – this evidently means the recommendations of Meetings shall be confined to their own members.

This has always been the ruling of the successive Committees from the earliest time to the present, & no claim to recommend any person not in actual membership has been made till in 1868 (?) the Pres. of B. & S. claimed to nominate such a person & a correspondence of not the most pleasant kind, extending over two years was ended by the then Committee conceding, for peace sake, the point as regarded that particular case, but the decision in no way bends their successors.

That claim has now been renewed & in the exercise of the trust committed to them the present committee has declined to acknowledge the validity of the claim.

But our friends say very plausibly the Retreat was established for the benefit of those in profession, as well as those in actual membership with Friends — how is this carried out if we have not the power of nominating them?

To this we reply that admitting them to the advantages of the more humane treatment then carried on at the Retreat, was a very different thing from taking charge of those persons, for whose maintenance no meeting was responsible, at

a rate which would not cover one half their cost to the Institution. That while this privilege of the "lowest rate" was not accorded to this class, they were received on terms in every respect more favorable than they could have been in other asylums, & partook with Friends in the improved methods of management. Though often invited to contribute, we have no evidence that any pecuniary help ever came from this class.

Unfortunately for the ready settlement of this question the the minutes of the early committees of the Retreat are not extant. But we have some on record that will shew the spirit in 1798 the Friends of Wilkinson's Meeting

contributed 50 guineas, & asked to be admitted to the privilege of nominating. This was accorded at a meeting of Subscribers held at York 29/6/1798 by the following minute.

A proposition has been received with the Wiltshire Monthly Meeting's subscription, that they may be admitted to the privilege of recommending a poor patient of their own Monthly Meeting on the lowest terms, according to the 3rd rule; which this meeting thinks desirable & agrees thereto

A true copy

William Tuke

The Committee while believing that the financial arrangements of the founders of the Retreat were based on unsound principles & that the privilege

accorded by them to Donors were such as if fully exercised would have ruined the Institution, have nevertheless fully & cheerfully acknowledged their responsibilities & have never made any demur to receiving members of the Society (when recommended by their meetings) at the lowest terms, & even in the most crowded condition room has always been made for such cases, when any applicants (without recommendation) would have been refused admittance

At the present time of the Meetings exercised their privileges to the full, the whole of the patients would be of this class — the income could not meet the expenditure —

the rate of lowest payment must be raised so as to cover all expenses & the value of the Institution as a charity must cease — while it would be utterly unable to keep its position among the well-conducted Asylums of the Country.

At present the difference between the ~~cost~~ average cost per week & the lowest rate, is nearly 23/- a about £60 per ann, a very fair return for £100 invested —

BUSINESS FOUNDED 1838.

MEMORANDUM.

From

HENRY I. ROWNTREE & CO.,

COCOA AND CHOCOLATE,

MANUFACTURERS,

YORK.

PRIZE MEDALS, 1866, 1867, 1873, 1879. London Address.—Cowper's Court, Cornhill, E.C.

To

Jany 20. 1883

Awarded for Purity and Excellence

PRIZE MEDALS, 1866, 1867, 1873, 1879.

Dear Dr Baker,

I am advertised to give a lecture on Monday night, & the lecture is unfortunately still to write.

The point raised in Mr Pumphrey's draft memorandum as to the presumable character of the benefits to non-members contemplated by the Founders of the Retreat & alluded to in the Rules, is new to me & it would require careful examination of Rules, early minutes &c to satisfy mes mind about it. I query, however, whether it is well to raise the legal question unless our legal position is very strong – I sent a letter to Jonathan Burtt on Sept 21st 1882 giving my views as to the best way of dealing with this question & looking at the papers & that letter again today I am inclined to think the course (b) therein sketched modified to suit the present position of the case, is the right course to adopt. How would it do for the ~~Committee~~ Directors Minutes to adopt some such minute as the enclosed? It should be very carefully overhauled by a few friends before the meeting. Perhaps J. S. R along with others might see it. Very truly

JR

Street, Somerset.

8th Mo: 28th 1883

My dear Friend

I am duly in receipt of thine of the 25th for which I am much obliged; containing copy of minute from the Directors of the Retreat this I will take care to forward for the consideration of our next Q.M. which does not meet till the 15th Mo: and I trust the remarks in thy letter accompanying the minute will have due weight in bringing this difficulty to a satisfactory conclusion

I have been very sorry to hear this morning of the death of thy niece in London. and to feel deep sympathy with you all in this affliction I know from sad experience the bitterness of such a trial

With love & best wishes I am
Thy affectionate friend James Clark

The Cottage,
Lyncombe,
Bath.

17/12/82

Dear Doctor

Some time ago I scribbled my ideas of the controversy between the Retiree Comd & the B & S. Ms. There is nothing new in it, but as I cannot be with you on Tuesday, I send it. If you see fit to make use of it in any way do so – if not please

keep it till I see you.
I rather hope to be with
you at the January Comd.
or else at the Oxn.
On Tuesday there is a
meeting of the Comd. which
has put forward the claim,
& as I am on that Comd.
perhaps I may hear
more about it.
It seems long since
we heard anything
from you, I hope you
are all nicely. We
have had a spell of

very cold weather, as low as 12° of frost; but now it is quite mild again. We are both well, Elizth had to keep in during the very cold days, but has passed through them without harm.

With our dear love

Thy aff Friend

W Dumphreys

R W Baker MD
York

Sarah Rowntree
1£

Bristol & Somerset Quarterly Meeting's Committee

FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF CHARITABLE TRUSTS.

Royal Insurance Buildings.

Bristol. Sept. 6 1882

Dear Friend,

I return herewith copy of the Rules of the Retreat which thou kindly lent to me through Dr. Baker in 1881

I also send a letter, written on behalf of the Quarterly Meeting of Bristol & Somerset, addressed to thyself and others.

I remain

Thy friend truly

Henry Grace

Jonathan Burtt.

Street, Somerset,

7/12 1883

Dear Friend

I was in London when the letter of the 7th was received or it might have been answered earlier

I am very glad to find that you have made the terms easier for the Widows I was not aware of it before

I thought your Committee was to have met earlier am sorry it does not as our last Committee of Christians was adjourned to our ensuing Quarterly Meeting to be held on 8th day next Tenth Month 10th

Thy affd Friend

James Clark

The Cottage,
Lyncombe,
Bath.

19/7/83

My dear Friend

Thanks for letter & cheque, which came to hand just as we were leaving for the Q M at Street. There was a meeting of the Charelabe Trust Comm. on the day of our return from France, which of course I could not attend, but it appears they adjourned to the morning of 9th, on

duce the rate to the "recommendation" point.
I was amused at the remark made by
one friend, he felt sorry that Mrs Wedmore
had been obliged to solicit a reduction
of terms, as if she were a pauper; not
seeing that the "recommendation" of ac-
cepted would certainly have placed her in
that category. They seem quite unan-
imous in their opinion, that they have

the matter of the York affair.
Your letter to Jas Clark was
read, & the remark was made
that the arrangements men-
tioned in it as regards terms,
did not touch the question.
To which I replied that
it was not intended to to
do, indeed that it was spe-
cially intended that ~~the~~
while shewing the willing-
ness of the Board to give
to such persons the
advantages of the Institution,
its purposely did not re-

all the right on their side.
It seems that their objection to a conference proceeds from the fact that the invitation proceeds not from the Directors but from the Committee.
I feel sure that without this conference there is no possibility of arbitration, & that possibly if the Directors' Card would ask them to appoint some of their Body to confer with them, they might

York 25. VIII. 1883.

To James Clark

Dear friend

I began a letter to thee on the 15th but an unusual load of business and anxiety has prevented me from getting it off. The object of my letter was to say that the correspondence with Bristol & Somerset Q.M. claimed fresh attention at the late meeting of Directors of the Retreat and resulted in the adoption of a minute a copy of which I enclose. Only one of the Friends nominated in the last sentence of the minute was present at the Director's meeting - and it seemed to be almost useless to transmit the minute till I had ascertained if the appointment would be accepted. This I was unable to do till last week.

I have no further official duty in the matter than to send the minute - as clerk to the Director's meeting - but it may perhaps be useful if on my own responsibility I attempt to indicate the light in which the matter appeared to present itself to the Directors. In a few words then it may be said that the unanimous feeling of the meeting

was that no permanent & satisfactory solution of the question is likely to be brought about unless it can be discussed in a broader light than as a narrow legal contention. I have not myself looked carefully into the construction of the rules of the Retreat & offer no opinion upon them. But if for the sake of argument it be assumed that the construction put upon them by Bristol & Somerset is correct & that of the Retreat Committee incorrect, it does not alter the fact that the practice has been in accordance with the view of the Committee - so far as is known since the origin of the Institution - certainly through the life-time of the present generation - with a single brief exception in 1868 conceded to your Q.M. for the sake of peace & to end a troublesome correspondence. Now, on this existing practice the whole system of the Retreat finance has been built up. The Retreat possesses no property other than the land & buildings in its own occupation. It is understood that the cost of the Friends' patients exceeds by more than a thousand pounds a year what is paid for them. This large amount the Society of Friends receives in fact annually from the high paying patients -

-not Friends. Bristol & Somerset Q.M. has I received its full share of this profit which results from the prestige of the Institution & the success which has attended its management. I am informed that it could easily be shewn that your Q.M. has far more than received back again the whole of the £1400 which has been contributed by the members of Bristol & Somerset. Now if the space occupied by the higher paying patients is to be otherwise employed it is obvious a great addition must be made to the minimum charges to the poorer patients. If the Directors had to increase it 50% (from 10/- to 15/- a week) a sum I have heard named, it is obvious this would most seriously affect the families of many poor Friends now in the Retreat from all parts of England & increase the charges on Monthly Meetings. It would also raise the terms to some non-members, as for instance the particular case on which your correspondence is based 20%. Now this consideration alone, makes the Directors hesitate without full consideration, to accede to the position taken up by your Q.M. It might be inferred from your correspondence that your Q.M. possessed

rights of recommendation different from other Q.M.
This of course is not the fact, & if there be any pecuniary
interest at stake Yorkshire Q.M. has nearly three times
a greater interest ~~at stake~~ than yours. The Donations &c.
from this Q.M. have been £4000. Several suggestions
have been made by Directors & others with a view if
possible to meet the wishes of Bristol Friends, which
might be discussed at such a conference as the Directors
ask for, which I need not go into, & only refer to as
indicative that the managers of the Retreat are wishful
to fall in with any practice that can be shewn to be
for the benefit of a national institution in which
Friends everywhere are interested. I am not now a
member of the Retreat Committee, but being somewhat conversant
with the large sacrifices of time, labour & money which are
made by its members. I am glad of the opportunity of saying
that these Friends have a very strong claim on the Friends of
your Q.M. to occasion them no unnecessary trouble in connexion
with this correspondence. It has been suggested by one or two
of the Directors that your Q.M. should be invited to nominate
a committee of management from your members in the place
of the present one – perhaps even with all the railway facilities
of the present day this would be too much to ask of you – but
at any rate I trust you will be willing to depute the consideration
of the question you have raised to two or three of the competent
men your Q.M. contains, & I have little doubt that a couple of
hours with our directors will be sufficient to solve the question
at issue.

Sincerely thy Friend
J. J. Rowntree

4/6

Posted to all members
of the Charitable Trusts
Committee this day

WO

22/12/83

Dear Friend,

I undertook at the meeting of the Committee last week to procure copies of those minutes of the Retreat Committee and of the Meeting of Subscribers to the Retreat, which relate to the rule that has given rise to so much discussion, and as these minutes are in my estimation calculated to determine to a great extent the question at issue, it seems well that they should be placed in the hands of the Committee now while the Report of the Sub-committee is circulating among them. It should be borne in mind that the Meetings in 1796 and 7 which decided the question were not Meetings of Directors, but of the Subscribers themselves, who then determined what were their own rights. The Directors were not appointed till 1800.

Thine, very truly,

W. PUMPHREY.

Bath, 12th month 21, 1883.

From the Minutes of the Retreat Committee.

At a Committee, held 26th of 12th month, 1796, present Jno. Fothergill, Timothy White, Benjamin North and William Tuke.

3rd. min.—Application hath been made for the admission of a woman, on the lowest terms, who forfeited her membership by marriage with a person not of our Society, under the recommendation of a Subscriber of £25. This Committee calling in question its power of admitting persons in such situations at 4/- per week, concludes to refer the matter to the Quarterly Meeting of Subscribers.

From the Minutes of the Quarterly Meeting of Subscribers to the Retreat.

At a Quarterly Meeting held 29th of 12th month, 1796.

3rd. min.—The Committee hath also proposed to the consideration of this meeting, whether it is proper to admit such patients as are not strictly members of our Society on the lowest terms; and this meeting having considered the same, it is concluded, that, although by the 7th rule it is intended to admit such persons to the benefit of the Institution, yet it does not seem proper to admit them under 8/- per week or upwards, according to circumstances.

At a Quarterly Meeting held 29th of 6th month, 1797.

3rd. min.—This meeting confirms the minute of the Quarterly Meeting of the 12th month, which concludes that patients who are not in membership with our Society be not admitted under 8/- per week, and it is agreed that an explanation to this purpose be added to Rule 7.*

* Note.—This was done by the insertion of the words, "but not under 8/- per week."

Dear Dr Baker

John S. R. gives me enclosed letter from Chas Brady.

Our ~~[illegible]~~ view is to take the 30th. But before fixing we wish

know that you
will be in York
then & at liberty

Kindly send me
a line to say if
the 30th will suit
you & please

return C Brady's

letter with your

reply

Yrs

G Lomtree

The Cottage,
Lyncombe,
Bath.

18/8/83

My dear Friend

I am much obliged for your letter of yesterday informing me of the proposals of the Directors. I do not see how the Bristol friends can do other than accept such a friendly offer, but I know that they are very much set in their own ways.

As regards the notes that I read at the Directors meeting

garden & the country, & playing with their cousins. While with us they were out of-doors nearly all the time, & I think went back decidedly the better for the change.

We have not been from home (except two nights at the O.M. at Shell) since our return from the Continent, but we are feeling as if a few days entire quiet & change at some out of the way place at the sea-side would be very pleasant.

Taken as a whole, the photos I did while we were together have turned out well & I hope soon

I have no copy of them, to the best of my recollection I left them with you, if you cannot find them, perhaps I could very much recall what I said & let you have it; but if you look for it, much likely you will find it.

I am not surprised that you found Mrs T. ungracious – she is a woman of a very queer temper, & the great obstacle in the meeting to anything progressive or conciliatory.

We have just had George & the children here, the latter for three weeks; they greatly enjoyed the

warm, the country, playing with their cousins.

to have the pleasure of sending
you a copy. Has the Slater
case come from there? I
have not been likely to come
before the Committee till
later on in the year perhaps
will be more convenient.
Have you heard that the Partner
ship of Colby & Giles is dissolved.
He has become so utterly in-
capable of attending to business,
that he proposes the separation.
So far as I have taken to the state
concerns – the change has entailed
some thought & anxiety, as it
was necessary that we should
help him to obtain the capital
required to pay his partner out

Bristol and Somerset Dispute

Correspondence 1883 L/6

Bristol and Somerset Dispute 1883

Bristol and Somerset 1883

/A/—

T

Rowntree & Co. Ltd.
The Cocoa Works
York.

Telegraphic Address.
ROWNTREE. YORK.

NATIONAL TELEPHONE Nº 120.

York 10th. August, 189[illegible]

Dear Dr. Pierce,

In tidying out an old desk to-day, I came upon the enclosed Memorandum prepared in 1883, relative to the dispute between the Retreat Committee and Bristol Somerset Quarterly Meeting. I am not sure whether it is worth retaining; although the facts took a great deal of labour in getting together. Perhaps you would like to run it over and deal with it as you think well. I do not want it again.

Yours very truly
Joseph Rowntree

M. S.

p.1 "The question at issue between the Bristol and Somerset Quarterly Meeting and the Director of the Retreat is:"Is the power of Meetings (to nominate poor patients on the lowest terms) limited to the recommendation of actual members of the Society of Friends, or does it extend to the recommendation of those who although not members are in profession with Friends?"

"No question arises as to the rights of private donors, nor as to the total number of recommended patients which Meeting may have at one time in the Retreat, nor is any claim put forward to recommend poor patients not Friends , unless they are in profession with the Society.."

p17 "It would be most imprudent on the part of Directors to add to the liabilities wich have already perhaps been too recklessly incurred."

There follow careful analyses of costs.

QUESTIONNAIRE.

Have you kept well since leaving Hospital ?

If the answer to question is NO, please state what symptoms have troubled you.

Is your memory for recent and remote events good ?

What work are you doing at present ? Is it a full-time post ?

What is your weight ? Are you losing or gaining weight ?

NOTE : Any additional details you care to give will be of interest

The Friends' Retreat York
and
Bristol & Somerset Quarterly
Meeting

Memorandum to be read to the Deputation from Bristol & Somerset at the conference to be held on Tuesday the 30th of October, 1873 or if not read, to form the bases of the Statement on behalf of the Retreat

---

The Friends appointed by the General meeting of the Directors of the Retreat held on the 26th of 9th mo. last to confer with a Deputation from Bristol & Somerset Quarterly Meeting have thought that it might save the time of the Deputation if the results of the inquiries which have been instituted in preparation for this conference were thrown into the form of a memorandum

Firstly. What is the precise question upon which the Quarterly Meeting of Bristol & Somerset differ in judgment from the Directors of the Retreat? It appears to be this: There are several meetings which have the power of nominating a certain number of poor patients on the lowest terms of admission. The Quarterly Meeting of Bristol & Somerset claim that this power of nomination extends to the recommendation of those who are not strictly members of the Society of Friends, but who are in ~~connexion~~ profession with it, whilst the Committee of the Retreat hold that the power of meetings to recommend is limited to those who are in actual membership. In this discussion no question has arisen as to the rights of private donors, nor as to the total number of recommended patients which Meetings may have at one time in the Retreat, nor is any claim put forward to recommend poor patients, not Friends, unless they are in ~~connexion~~ profession with the Society; but the question is limited to the one simple point which we have already stated, viz., "Is the power of Meetings limited to the recommendation

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~~[illegible]~~
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[illegible]

"of actual members of the Society of Friends, or
"does it extend to the recommendation of those who,
"although not Members are in profession with Friends"

We may pat this stage with the view of narrowing the range of discussion advert to two points which have attracted our attention in looking over the correspondence between Bristol & Somerset Quarterly Meeting & the Retreat. We gather from a letter dated 6 mo. 25 1881 signed by Robt. F. Sturge & Henry Grace that a letter was written on behalf of the Retreat declining to receive Thos. Wedmore's recommendation on the ground that it did not fulfil the conditions of Rule 1 page 15 of the 1878 Rules — a rule made for the first time when the amended Regulations of 1878 were adopted. If this position has been assumed on behalf of the Retreat it is clearly untenable — indeed the very next paragraph in the new Regulations reads as follows —

"2. The existing privilege of meetings or of persons to recommend poor patients shall not be taken away or diminished, notwithstanding any general powers which are or may be invested in future Directors"

And on the other hand the Charitable Trust Committee of Bristol & Somerset were under a misapprehension when in their selected minute of 16 XII. 1881. (No 15) they made use, in the following passage, of the words we

have underlined

"The Quarterly Meeting has a decided right to "make the nomination of a person in profession with "Friends, which was in 1868 accepted by the Managers "of the Retreat by the admission of William S Cotterell "not then in membership" — The actual fact being that the Committee of the Retreat distinctly & repeatedly denied the right of the Q M to recommend W. S Cotterell & only discontinued their protests when the prospect of W. S Cotterill's early death made them unwilling to prolong what was felt to be a painful controversy

Our Enquiry may therefore be conducted with the understanding that no rights of recommendation once given can afterwards be withdrawn except by mutual consent & also that so far as the Committee or Directors of the Retreat are concerned they have uniformly repudiated the position that Meetings have the power of recommending poor patients not in actual membership.

An Examination of the early literature of the Retreat shows that it was extremely difficult to raise the funds required for its establishment & as an inducement to Meetings & to individuals to subscribe, certain powers of recommendation were offered varying according to the amounts of the donations or subscriptions given. We are then at once directed back to the early records of the Institution to ascertain what were the promises which the Founders of the Institution held out to those who should subscribe, & what was the sense in which these promises were understood by the generation to whom they were made.

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a careful & detailed enquiry extending over many days has

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4 been made into these early records in anticipation of this conference & the information collected has been arranged so as to be readily available for reference

The Retreat was established in 1796 now 87 years ago. In a circular issued on the 25th of 9th mo 1794 the lowest (recommended) rate is fixed at 4/. a week & the lowest rate without recommendation is fixed at 8/. per week. These rates were adopted & remained in force for several years. The 7th Rule or numbered paragraph in this circular is as follows:—

"As the benefit of the proposed Institution is intended to extend to those who are not strictly Members of our Society, it is agreed that subscriptions may also be received from such persons"

In the first Report of the Institution issued in 1797 the same rule occurs but with a significant addition. The rule there appears as follows:—

"As the benefit of the proposed Institution is intended to extend to those who are not strictly Members of our Society, though not under eight shillings per week, it is agreed that subscriptions may also be received from such persons".

And in this form the rule reappears year after year for several years. We desire particularly to call attention to the point which is so clearly brought out in this Rule, viz. that the founders of the Retreat regarded those not of membership as receiving the benefits of the Institution even when the rate at which they were admitted was double that paid by the lowest recommended patients.

Let us turn now to the Register of Admissions to ascertain whether the Rule which provided that those "not strictly members of our Society" were not to be admitted under 8/. a week, was actually carried out. [redacted] A return, now on the table, has been prepared which

until the principle which it laid down had been fully established.
But even when withdrawn, the following Rule was maintained:—

"8th. Though it was the original design of this Institution, "to accommodate such insane persons as are members "of our Society, yet it was also considered that cases "might arise, wherein it might be desirable to extend "such accommodation beyond the line of that membership; "but as an indiscriminate admittance of persons not in "membership, would defeat the special design of the "Institution, by the exclusion of those who are members, the "admitting or not admitting of them, must always be left to "the discretion of the Committee, consequently time given "for that purpose"

shows the name & number of every Patient admitted into the Retreat from its establishment in 1796 to ~~the year~~ Sept 15th 1883. The Return further shows the date of admission & of discharge or death, whether the patient was a member of the Society of Friends, or in connexion with Friends, or unconnected with Friends, also whether received with a recommendation & if so, by whom the recommendation was given & lastly the rate of admission. The broad fact that strikes one at the onset in looking over this Return is that, with the exception of Wm Sollitt (and the possible case of No 614 (Ann Portland) to which we shall return) no patient not in actual membership has ever been received into the Retreat upon the recommendation of a Meeting. ~~The first patient admitted into the Retreat was not a member of the Society but was connected with Friends & she paid 8/- a week. Between 1796 & 1800 seven persons "connected with Friends" were admitted, but they all paid 8/- or more~~ The early minutes make repeated allusion to the fact that those not in actual membership could only be received upon a payment of 8/- or more. We append a few of these minutes:—

1796 - 11 mo. 28. Account is given that Thos Ellin now lies at Leeds came here this day, concerning whom some of the Committee had a previous conference & agreed to propose 8/- a week which hath been accepted. He is not a member of our Society, but having attended meetings for some time & being so far under the notice of Friends, that some of them intend to pay for him it was thought he was proper to be admitted.

1798 - 11 mo 26. Application has been made for the admittance of John Young of Poole in Dorsetshire, who is not a member of our Society, but has attended our Meetings, his wife being a member. It is agreed that he be admitted at 8/- per week.

1799 4 mo. 29 Thos Wellington of Shrewsbury being brought here

shall here after refer — * There is another case (No 16?) it is on the second page of the tabulated letter —

The italics are our own

to be admitted as a patient, recommended by divers friends of Coalbrookdale, as a sober character & having attended meetings for many years, his wife being a member of Society it is agreed to admit him at 8/. per week, but as no previous application was made Wm Fuke is desired to remonstrate on the impropriety of such a proceeding.

1800 4 mo 28. Joseph Lupton also came the 20th inst, who is in low circumstances, but, not being in membership, he is admitted at 8/. per week

1804 6 mo 26 Application has been made by a friend of Carlisle for the admission of Wm Gillespie near that place, concerning whom the Committee has had a conference & liberty was given for him to come. He not being in membership cannot be admitted under 8/. per week. (proved not to be a proper case)

1806 5 mo 30 Application has been made by John Hoyland for the admission of Jos. Collier of Sheffield, who has been a member, but has been disowned. It is agreed to admit him at 8/- per week, he being in low circumstances.

And, curiously enough a question almost identical with that which we are met to discuss was brought before the Quarterly Meeting in 1796 from that year we find the following minute:—

"The Committee hath also proposed to the consideration of this Meeting whether it is proper to admit such Patients as are not strictly members of our Society on the lowest terms & the meeting having considered the same it is concluded that although by the 7th Rule it is intended to admit such to the Benefit of the Institution yet it does not seem proper to admit them under 8/. p week or upwards according to circumstances

Birth, 12th month 21, 1883.

W. PUMPHREY.

* Note.—This was done by the insertion of the words, "but not under 8/- per week."

See, he
with a
full

Dear Friend,

I undertook at the meeting of the Committee last week to procure copies of those minutes of the Retreat Committee and of the Meeting of Subscribers to the Retreat, which relate to the rule that has given rise to so much discussion, and as these minutes are in my estimation calculated to determine to a great extent the question at issue, it seems well that they should be placed in the hands of the Committee now while the Report of the Sub-committee is circulating among them. It should be borne in mind that the Meetings in 1796 and 7 which decided the question were not Meetings of Directors, but of the Subscribers themselves, who then determined what were their own rights. The Directors were not appointed till 1800.

Thine, very truly,

W. PUMPHREY.

Bath, 12th month 21, 1883.

From the Minutes of the Retreat Committee.

At a Committee, held 26th of 12th month, 1796, present Jno. Fothergill, Timothy White, Benjamin North and William Tuke.

3rd. min.—Application hath been made for the admission of a woman, on the lowest terms, who forfeited her membership by marriage with a person not of our Society, under the recommendation of a Subscriber of £25. This Committee calling in question its power of admitting persons in such situations at 4/- per week, concludes to refer the matter to the Quarterly Meeting of Subscribers.

From the Minutes of the Quarterly Meeting of Subscribers to the Retreat.

At a Quarterly Meeting held 29th of 12th month, 1796.

3rd. min.—The Committee hath also proposed to the consideration of this meeting, whether it is proper to admit such patients as are not strictly members of our Society on the lowest terms; and this meeting having considered the same, it is concluded, that, although by the 7th rule it is intended to admit such persons to the benefit of the Institution, yet it does not seem proper to admit them under 8/- per week or upwards, according to circumstances.

At a Quarterly Meeting held 29th of 6th month, 1797.

3rd. min.—This meeting confirms the minute of the Quarterly Meeting of the 12th month, which concludes that patients who are not in membership with our Society be not admitted under 8/- per week, and it is agreed that an explanation to this purpose be added to Rule 7.*

* Note.—This was done by the insertion of the words, "but not under 8/- per week."

See, however, W. Pumphrey's printed letter of 12 mo 21 1883. with accompanying extracts W.P.'s statement is more full & clear than mine.

The references to these early Rules & Minutes appear to establish the following points

I. That in the establishment of the Retreat it was intended ~~clearly~~ that the benefits of the Institution should extend to those not directly in Membership

II. But that in the year in which the Institution was founded a ~~rate~~ rule was adopted that such persons should pay not less than 5/. a week – the lowest recommended rate at the same time being 4/. a week

III. That a reference to the Register of Admissions shows that this Rule was regularly carried out in practice & that no person, not in actual membership, was admitted under 5/. a week – that being the lowest rate without a recommendation

IV. That the early Minutes make repeated reference to the fact that persons connected with Friends, but not in actual Membership, could only be received at the 5/. or a higher rate.

It seems due to our Friends from Bristol & Somerset who have taken the trouble to meet us here to say that until the results of the [redacted] inquiry made with a view to this Conference were brought before us no member of the Committee or of the Directors of the Retreat was aware how decisive was the evidence of these early records as to the limitations attached to the promises which were held out by the Founders of the Retreat ~~and also as to the sense in which those promises were understood by the generation to which they were addressed~~

Although not bearing directly upon the question under consideration it will help to place the whole subject of the rights of recommendation as they now

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stand more clearly before us if we allude to an important change which took place in the year 1826. Up to that time no person, not an actual member had been admitted at the lowest rate upon the recommendation of either a Meeting or a private donor. But in the 4th month of 1826 one Thomas Ward a person connected with Friends, but not in membership was recommended by a privileged subscriber. The Committee referred the question of the acceptance of the recommendation to the General Meeting which, under date 6 mo. 29. 1826 decided to accept the recommendation adopting at the same time the following minute :-

"1826 6 mo 29 A doubt having arisen in the Committee whether the right of Donors of £25 and upwards & of Annuitants of £50 extends to the recommending of patients on the lowest terms of admission, who are not members of our society though in profession with us, this Meeting is of the judgment that they have such a right."

From this time the recommendations by privileged donors of persons not in actual membership were received without question, altho no change was made in the rule which limited the recommendations of Meetings to those who were actually Members of the Society.

It is a question of some interest to consider what were the reasons which lead the General Meeting of 1826 to reverse the rule which had obtained up to that time with regard to the recommendation of Private Donors. The minutes throw no light upon the question & we do not suppose that there is any one

now living who can supply the information. A probable explanation may however be found in the altered position of the privileged donor. He right to recommend poor patients at the lowest rate was it will be remembered, held out at the time when the Retreat was founded as an inducement to Meetings & individuals to contribute to the funds of the Institution. By the year 1826 the Meetings had obtained ~~[illegible] the full~~ powers of recommendation, ~~[illegible] that they now possess, [illegible], access should [illegible] recession afterwards to rate, were far~~ considerably far in excess of their actual needs ~~of the Meetings~~. Any poor Friend therefore who needed a recommendation could get one without difficulty from his Meeting. And so the privileged donor with the power of recommendation found himself in possession of what was once a privilege, but one the value of which had been destroyed by the ample powers of recommendation which the various Meetings of Friends had by this time acquired. ~~Through the~~ The Directors of 1826, when the matter was formally brought before them may possibly have received the altered position of the privileged donor to come to the conclusion that if the revenue arising from this class were to be kept up some real & tangible inducement must be held out to them.

We have stated & we believe that from the searching charges of [redacted] the inquiry that has been made instituted the statement may be made with confidence that no patient other than W. S. Colleril & possibly Ann Forland has ever been received on the recommendation of a Meeting at the lowest rate. ~~We wish, however, for the deputation to know that in the case of these patients who were received as actual Members of the Society on the recommendation of Meetings at the lowest rate, doubt was afterwards thrown upon their Membership, even if it was not~~

proved that they were not in actual membership. Their Cases are Nos 14 & 614. In the admission entry of No 14 Mary Delves—she is entered as a member of the Society sent upon the recommendation of Northleadley General Meeting. But a note in a different hand is added

No 614 Ann Gowland is a similar case. She is entered as a Member sent on the recommendation of Durham Quarterly Meeting, & again, in a different hand is a note

We believe that in both these cases the lowest rate was paid. Whether there remained an actual doubt of the membership of these parties, which the Retreat Committee failed to clear up, or whether the recommendation having been once accepted under a misapprehension the Committee afterwards ~~per~~ mitted them to stand or whether in the later case the Committee were never informed by Dr Thurnam in whose writing the words "

are supposed to be of the doubt that attached to Ann Gowland's Membership are points upon which the minutes throw no light & which can now be only matters of conjecture.

10 A & 11 A want reading before this—

We wish now to advert to a consideration of moment brought forward in the Selected Minute of the Committee of Bristol & Somerset Quarterly Meeting under date 12 mo. 16 1881. We refer to the words xxx "more especially as those persons who belong to the class 'others in profession' are more likely to

But ~~and~~ here let us relieve this dry statement by alluding to No 14 Mary Delves. She was received as a Member on the recommendation of North Wales General Meeting & is duly entered on the list of admissions as "a member". Not only so but in the official case-book page 15 the words are added "a recorded minister of the Society." A later hand has however crossed out the entry "a recorded minister of the Society" & added his marginal note:—

"Had been rather a giddy girl and had married imprudently out of the Society."
"She occasionally spoke in Meetings when considered not in a sane state"
"of mind and was not a Member of Society. She was a kind"
"innocent, & very inoffensive woman, & was pitied & beloved by"
"those who knew her best."

And in the list of Admissions before the words "a member" some one has entered "not a", & after the word member inserted "married out" When these notes were made we do not know, nor indeed whether it was ascertained that Mary Delves was not in membership before the two years of her tarriance in the Retreat was ended. The point that is absolutely clear is that it was as a member that her recommendation was received.

The case of Ann Goodland No 614 is as follows - She was admitted into the Retreat 4 mo 1840 That she was not a member of the Society of Friends, but only connected with Friends appears to have been clear from the first. The entries in the admission register & in the official case book are perfectly clear upon the point. Yet she is entered as ~~having~~ having been admitted on the Recommendation of Durham Quarterly Meeting & this moreover without a word of comment or explanation. Now it is evident that if even the Committee had desired to reverse a rule which up to that date had been adhered to without a single exception, they would not have thought of doing so without appealing to the Directors who alone have the power to make an alteration in the Rules.

Continued at 11 A

"need a reduction in rate than those in actual "membership"

The deputation who have met us today may fairly say "The position which you have sought to establish is a narrow & legal one. You may have shown that you were within your rights in refusing to admit a person not in actual membership as a recommended patient, but you have brought forward no evidence to shew that the existing rule is a wise one & if the rule is calculated to defeat the great ends for which the Retreat exists it ought to be repealed" We admit the justice of this contention, the answer to it must depend upon the view which is taken of the extent & nature of the work which the Retreat is qualified to perform. ~~There are at the present time about patients~~ The average number of patients in the Retreat last year was 156 & those who have ~~of late years~~ latterly been the most conversant with its inner life have held that it is not desirable much to exceed ~~this number~~ 150. In 1874 when a great structural alteration was in prospect the question came up for serious review & in a Report which was then presented the following passage occurs:-

We might add also that the case of an Institution of 150 patients involves a ~~heavy~~ tax upon the time & labour of the Committee as heavy as they are able to properly to meet. ~~Now if we classify the 156 patients according to their payments we obtain the following result~~ Now if we classify the patients according to their payments we at once see that upon the poor patients there is a large loss & that upon the high paying patients there is a large profit. The Committee of the Retreat have been accustomed to say that the loss upon the poor friend patients amounts to £1000 a year. We have now with the form of a supplementary schedule (see page 20) which the Committee may possibly be interested in examining of time-form

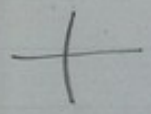
and it is equally evident that had the Committee desired to alter the Rules their minutes would have made some reference to the proposed change. But nothing of the kind appears in the minutes. There is not a word to shew that either the Committee or Superintendent were aware that anything out of the most ordinary routine had been done in the case. The explanation of this case may be that the recommendation came, ~~from~~ not from Durham Quarterly Meeting, but from some privileged donor, resident within the limits of Durham Quarterly Meeting & that the entry in the Retreat Books was incorrectly made. This point could at once have been cleared up by the production of the letter of recommendation but in 1840 these letters do not seem to have been fastened into a book as is now done, but to have been placed among the letters of the year; an examination of the letters of 1840 has so far failed to bring this recommendation to light. We incline to think the above is the explanation, but there is another explanation, not at all improbable. At the time when Ann Fowland came to the Retreat some Friends who took an active part in its management possessed powers of recommendation as privileged donors & when an urgent case of a patient connected with Friends came before the Committee one of these privileged donors occasionally gave the required recommendation. ~~A case of this kind is alluded to in the subjoined letter of Dr Kitching dated 20th of 12 mo 1850.~~ It is quite possible that some member of the Committee may have proposed to give the needed recommendation but that the actual writing of it was never completed. The fact that the Committee could if they wished have thus admitted Ann Fowland as a recommended patient is decisive evidence against any such supposition as that to meet 'a very urgent case' the Committee hurriedly broke a rule as old as the Institution.

{The paragraph at the bottom of page 10 follows on after this.}

The Committee of the Retreat have been accustomed to say that the loss upon the poor Friend patients amounts to £1000 a year; a careful investigation would probably show that this figure was far too low. For our present purpose it may however be accepted.

Roughly speaking then it may be said that the poor Friend patients make a loss of £1000 a year, & that high paying patients cover this loss & ~~also give whatever profit the Annual Balance Sheet may show~~. It is a remarkable fact not generally known & one that indicates the wisdom & caution that are needed in dealing with the finances of the Retreat, that although an average of 150 may be taken as the full complement of patients, the Meeting of Friends not less than 160 possess at this moment the power of recommending ~~160~~ patients. It is evident that if this power of recommendation were exercised, we will not say to the full for that could not be, but to any great additional extent, either the Retreat would come into the Bankruptcy Court or ~~an enormous~~ a most serious addition would have to be made to the charge for the recommended & other, poor Friend patients, or liberal annual subscriptions would have to be made.

Let the position be clearly understood. The number of patients should not exceed an average of about 150; no limit can be put upon the admission of poor Friends. However, ~~the~~ full the Retreat may be, room is always found for them. An addition to the number of recommended patients by the introduction of a new class must therefore necessarily mean an increase of the patients upon whom there is a great loss & a diminution of those whose payments help to meet the loss. You may say "this is obvious, but ~~that~~ the Institution is a prosperous one. Your balance "sheets exhibit a good profit. Why cannot you spend "a portion of your profits in meeting the charge that



~~that~~ would accrue from the admission of the class in question)? A full answer to this representation would occupy more of your time than it would be right to take. The vital consideration however is this – That all the profits that are made go to the Institution & are expended in making it more bright & commodious & healthful or in improving & multiplying its curative agencies. Let us take three illustrations. Dec 1881 the question of the temperature of the bedrooms throughout the house came under review. The physical condition of the insane is as is well known, generally below par & there could be no doubt that in severe winters the bedrooms were too cold. Open fires were out of the question & estimates were obtained for warming ~~the whole of the dormitories by piped~~ all the wing on the men's side not previously supplied with heating apparatus. ~~The cost~~ The cost of the work was £750 – ~~including two boilers, pipes &c~~ it is not yet finished but good progress has been made. ~~This was too heavy a charge to be met in one year. But the work is being done in sections~~. Again, a few weeks ago it became known to the Committee that 3 fields on the left hand side of the road ~~which~~ leading to the Retreat & ~~left hand side of the road~~ opposite to the Retreat Estate were for sale. The Retreat did not want the land & had no money to invest, but it was felt that if a great cottage population were to spring up in close proximity to the Retreat, the vegetation would be damaged by the smoke & the freshness of the air would be impaired. A conference of friends was convened to consider the question; its outcome was the purchase on the 16th of this month of ~~more than~~ about 7½ acres of land for the sum of £7650. The land may perhaps be let for £50 ~~to £60~~ per annum, but if the money is borrowed at 4% the Retreat will be left with an annual charge of ~~more than~~ about £250.

And once again – It was believed that few things would add more to the happiness of the women patients

than the presence of cultivated lady-companions whose duty it should be to read to & interest the patients & in various ways make the days brighter to them. This experiment of lady-companions having been worked out the most successfully in Philadelphia, arrangements were made by which Lucy Ann Rowe who had filled this position in the Philadelphia asylum, came to the Retreat to fill the post of lady-companion there & to assist Dr. Baker in the introduction of this interesting & important experiment. The experiment answered so well, that already 3 lady-companions are in the service of the Institution & more, would be added if funds allowed. ~~The experiment succeeded & is being followed up, but if larger funds were at the disposal of the Committee it might be extended more widely & to both sides of the house to the benefit of the patients.~~

These are merely 3 illustrations out of several that might have been given to show that the continued efficiency of the Retreat as an Institution for the treatment of the insane depends upon the command of adequate funds.

Now if our friends from Bristol & Somerset say to us, "we want you to alter your rule & to admit attenders of Meetings at the recommended rate" we reply "that we would willingly add to the service of the Retreat by such a change if we were strong enough & if it were prudent to incur this added responsibility. What the added responsibility would be may be seen at a glance. The Tabular statement for 1883 gives the number of Members at 15143 & the attenders at 5250 – there was a decrease of 1 in the number of members, but an increase of 146 in the attenders. As we have seen, the power of recommendation is practically unlimited & the total number of patients in the Retreat should not be increased. Unless there a great advance is made in the lowest rate (a policy which no wise man would recommend) or unless

Friends are prepared, as in the earlier years of the Institution to subscribe liberally to its support our powers are restricted by very obvious limitations. Two courses are open to us. We may continue the work which we are now carrying on & hope to do it well, or we may attempt a larger charitable work for the Society of Friends with the certainty that it will not be done with proper efficiency.

The Founders of the Retreat did a great work in two ways. They cared for the insanity within the Society of Friends & by the force of their example they led to the adoption of a wiser & more humane treatment of the insane throughout the civilized world. We do not think the Society of Friends would be satisfied if the Directors of the Retreat were to allow it to sink into a second class position, slow to accept improved methods of treatment, and slow to adopt changes calculated to add to the happiness of the patients. Yet these improvements, as we have seen, require ample funds & if these are to be seriously crippled it will be impossible for the present reputation of the Retreat to be maintained.

It is a satisfaction to us to believe that little, if any, hardship arises from the maintenance of the rule in question. A great change has taken place in the asylums of the country since 1796. Many of the attenders of our Meetings would

if afflicted with insanity get all that they would require in one or other of the excellent asylums that exist throughout the country; there are other patients whose ~~early~~ associations throughout life have been with Friends who would be much happier in the Retreat than elsewhere. For these the Retreat uniformly makes room & in these cases acts in a spirit of liberality. Unless our Friends of Bristol & Somerset have been dissatisfied we believe we may safely assert that Friends throughout the country have fully recognised the liberality of the Committee in dealing with these cases & have been satisfied with its action.

There are at the present time in the Retreat 21 patients connected with Friends, but not in membership. Seven of these pay not more than 12/. a week. Nine pay not more than 15/- & only 5 out of the 21 pay a sum equal to last years average cost. Indeed the rates which the Committee charge to poor patients connected with Friends are so low that the Deputation may say – there is really nothing worth contending for – the financial difficulty which has been spoken of is too small to enter into practical consideration.

It is true that to reduce ~~the~~ to 10/. a week the 7 cases now paying 12/. would involve an ~~additional~~ added loss of only £36:8:0 per annum. But if the argument of the previous pages has been brought out with sufficient clearness it will be seen that – an issue very different from this is at stake. If the proposed change of admitting patients connected with Friends at the lowest rate were carried out & the circular announcing the change to the various meetings of Friends throughout England resulted in the admission of but 5 extra patients who would not otherwise have been sent to the

Retreat the income of the Institution would be affected by hundreds of pounds. For these 5 patients upon whom there would be a heavy loss would necessarily take the place of 5 others upon whom there is a large profit. When it is considered that the attendors of meetings constitute a body equal to more than one-third of the actual members of the Society it will be seen that an addition of more than 5 patients of the class in question might easily be made. That thus the fund out of which improvements have to be made might be absolutely extinguished.

And apart from this most important consideration our broad contention is that by the privileges granted to Mr Gurney the Retreat has already incurred liabilities which never allured & by no means impossible contingencies might cause extreme embarrassment & that it would be most imprudent on the part of the Directors to add to liabilities which have already been perhaps too recklessly incurred.

We have only to add that nothing is further from the wishes of the Directors than to conduct the Institution in a narrow & illiberal spirit. They wish it to achieve as great a work for the amelioration of human suffering as it may be competent to perform. But at the same time the Directors are called upon to take a calm & sober ~~view~~ estimate of their powers & not, by attempting too much, to fail in that which they might otherwise accomplish.

FINIS.

This statement has been pasted over something else. N.R.Q. 23.i.x.68

Supplementary Schedule or Finance referred to @ page 11 of Memorandum

The following is an analysis of the income accruing from the patients in the last financial year & the figures may be taken as fairly representative of the average condition of things.

Weekly Rate of Payment £	s	d		£	s	d		Average No. of Patients	Income accruing under each rate £	s	d	Average
8	8		and above	7	7			1	400	-	-	
7	7		" "	6	6			2	760	10		
6	6		" "	5	5			3	975	6	4	
5	5		" "	4	4			10¼	2477	17	6	
4	4		" "	3	3			15¼	2968	14		
3	3		" "	2	2			19¾	2811	2	9	
2	2		" "	1	1			39	3500	3	5	
1	1		" "		10			30¼	1238	6	10	
	10		and under	"	"			40¾	1039	1	4	
"	"	"						1	"	"	"	
									16159	2	2	
			Less Contra a/c						607	5	5	
									15551	16	9	99. 13. 10 or weekly 1. 18. 4
			Add Medical, Washing Interments &c						499	14	2	
									16051	10	11	102. 7. 10¼ or weekly 1. 19. 7.

It will be seen that the column giving the number of patients adds up to 162¼ against the corrected figure of 156 & that the receipts add up to £16159 – 2 2 against the corrected figure of £15551 – 16 9 (for explanation of these differences see accompanying note) For ease in reckoning, we will in the first instances take the uncorrected figures & make the necessary corrections afterwards. The average weekly cost of the patients as shewn by this return is (after correction) £1:18:4 but if we take the Return ~~forwarded~~ furnished to the Commissioners in which items for Repairs, Buildings &c

NOTE 1. The average number of patients at each rate shewn in the statement is arrived at by adding together the ~~the~~ 4 quarterly returns, & by dividing the result by 4. The average number thus arrived at is subject to slight errors owing to patients coming & going in the middle of a quarter. But in the addition of the column, the needful correction is made so that the number by which the total revenue accruing is divided is the same as that shewn in the Statement of Expenditure, arrived at by adding the weekly returns of the number of the patients & dividing the result by 52.

2. The Revenue accruing from each rate shewn in ~~column~~ ~~NOTE~~ the Statement is arrived at by adding together the 4 quarterly journal entries, which entries give the sums charged to the patients. These journal entries do not represent with absolute accuracy the Revenue accruing from each rate, being subject to certain deductions on account of sums paid out for the patients "board in advance" returned, &c (contra)

are left out of sight, the figure is 32/4. The following is a copy of the Return made to the Commissioners:—

Statement of Expenditure, with average Weekly Cost per head, in maintenance of Patients, during the year ending 31st March 1873.

	£	s	d	£	s	d
Salaries of Officers				1484	18	.
Wages of Attendants & Servants				2743	9	7
Food				6082	9	6
Medicines				72	15	2
Fuel & Light				995	16	1
Furniture & Bedding				820	5	5
Extras & Miscellaneous viz—	£	s	d			
Laundry Department Labor not included	150	9	11			
Garden & Farm Labor included	257	17	3			
Water	93	14	2			
Postage Telegrams & Carriage	37	5	2			
Printing Library & Stationery	97	15	10			
General Charges	114	9	6			
Stable &c	340	7	8			
Seaside Excursions	21	.	11	1113	-	10
				13312	15	.
Less Moneys received for articles goods & produce sold (exclusive of those consumed in the Hospital)				87	7	1
				13225	7	11

Average number of Patients resident during the year { Private 156, Pauper ..., Total 156

Average Weekly cost per head (calculated on above net expenditure only) 32/4

followed

heat,
radiant

5

7
6
2
1
5

10

1
11

6

13/4

Taking the figure of 32/4 & assuming for the moment that the cost of every patient is alike, we may make a second table as below

A

	£	s	d		£	s	d	Amount N of Patients	Income accruing under each rate £	s	d
1	8	8		and above	7	7		1	400	-	-
2	7	7		"	6	6		2	760	10	
3	6	6		"	5	5		3	973	6	4
4	5	5		"	4	4		10 1/4	2477	17	6
5	4	4		"	3	3		15 3/4	2968	14	
6	3	3		"	2	2		19 3/4	2801	2	9
7	2	2		"	1	1		39	3500	3	5
								90 1/4	13881	14	-
8	1	1		and above		10		30 1/4	1238	6	10
9		10		and under	"	"		40 3/4	1039	1	4
10	"	"		"	"	"		1	"	"	"
								72	2277	8	2
								162 1/4	16159	2	2

If every patient had paid exactly 32/4 per that quoin in column B. But the patients 1 to 7 would have paid at the 32/4 rate) paid £13881: 14 profit upon the 1 to 7 patients i.e. the high paying patients 8 to 10 would at the 32/4 rate have £2277: 8: 2 - consequently in these 8 to 10 ~~from the profit of £6294: 13: 8 we subtract the loss of £2379: 5: 10~~.

To what extent must this result be modified by the difference in cost between the high paying & the poor patients.

B			C			D		
What the income would have been if 32/4 pr week had been paid £	s	d	The sum actually paid was in excess of what would have been paid under the rate of 32/4 pr week & the following sums			The sum actually paid was less than what would have been paid under a rate of 32/4 pr week & the following sums.		
84	1	4	315	18	8			
168	2	8	592	7	4			
252	4		721	2	4			
861	13	8	1616	3	10			
1282	0	4	1686	13	8			
1660	6	4	1140	16	5			
3278	12		221	11	5			
7587	-	4	6294	13	8			
2543		4				1504	13	6
3425	14	4				2386	13	
84	1	4				54	1	4
6052	16	-				3775	7	10
13,639	16	4	6294	13	8	3778	7	10

week is cost price, the result would have been instead of paying only £7587 : 0 : 4 (which they & therefore (assuming all patients cost alike) the patients is £6294 : 13 : 8 On the other hand paid £6052 : 16 : 0 but they only paid patients there is a loss of £ ~~3775 : 7 : 10~~ 3775 : 7 : 10. ~~If loss of £ 3775 : 7 : 10 we get a net profit~~

(a) Many of the high paying patients have their own private attendants for whose salary & keep a deduction must be made. We set this deduction down at the high figure of 1000.0.0

(b) Food from the "analysis of expenditure book" we find that the expenditure under this head is composed of the following items:-

Meat	2717.	15.	8
Game Poultry &c	108	2	6
Fish	125	2	11
Milk	599.	.	7
Butter.	440	13.	10
Eggs	198	17	.
Cheese	99.	4	4
Bread Flour Yeast	566	15	1
Ham Bacon	115	7.	5
Confectionery	81	2	2
Rice Sago &c	37.	18.	5
Tea Coffee &c	308	16	10
Sugar	210	17.	8
General Groceries	120	2	7
Fruit & Vegetables	352	12	10
	6082.	9.	6

The deduction for Poultry Fish Game & for articles other than those in ordinary use are so small that no great deduction appears to be required under the heading of Food we put it at 250.0.0

(The "Keep" of the private attendants has already been deducted from Salary & Wages)

(c) From fuel & light we deduct 150.0.0

(d) From furniture & Bedding we deduct 200.0.0

~~(e) From laundry & garden~~ " . . . . . .

£1,600.0.0

their
keep
this
000.00

these
educator
250.00

50 00
00 00

Many items might be put to the other side of this account. For instance the great charges for alterations (which do not show at all in this a/c) are very far from being for the sole benefit of the high class patients. The same remark applies to such charges as those incurred recently for warming the rooms on the nursing side. Again, one great peculiarity of the Retreat which should never be lost sight of is this that the Rooms which the patients occupy & the curative treatment which they receive is not determined solely (if at all) by their payments, but by the consideration in each case of what will conduce to the happiness & welfare of the patient. Thus in the New Lodge Rooms for which ~~£3 3 0 & £4 4 0~~ 3 Guineas & 4 Guineas can be easily obtained there are three patients one of whom pays 15/- & two are at the recommended rate. Taking all these things into consideration the deduction of £1600 is probably a very ample one.

Correcting then the figures already given the result comes out thus.

	L s d	£ s d	Average No. of patients	Income accruing under each rate		
1						
2						
3	This statement is the same as the given at page					
4	upon taking the number of patients at the time					
5	162¼					
6						
7						
			86¾	1334	7	1½
8						
9						
10						
			69¼	2207	9	7½
			156	15551	16	9

What the income would have been if 32/4 per week had been paid			The Sum actually paid would in excess of the sum which would have been paid under the 32/4 per week rate by the following sums			The Sum actually paid was less than what would have been paid under a rate of 32/4 per week by —		
£	s	d						
22 subject only to the necessary corrections consequent figure of 1156 instead of at the figure of								
7292	15	8	6051	11	5 1/2			
5821.	12	8				3614	3	0 1/2
13,114	8	4	6051.	11.	5 1/2	3614	3	0 1/2

The foregoing Corrected Statement brings out a loss upon the poor patients of £3614. 3. 0½ & if from this sum we deduct the £1600 particularized above we get a loss upon the poor patients of more than £2000 pr annum which may be taken as the sum which the Retreat earns every year for the Benefit of the Society of Friends & those connected with it

The rest of this volume is blank