

Papers relating to Joshua Robinson Blakey

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THE RETREAT,
YORK.

July 18 96

Dear Mr. Blakey

My two letters are not contradictory -

In my first I pointed out that 5 visitors was a very unusual number & then I said that if each of our 150 patients had relatives who had tea in the Retreat the annual expense would be serious -

But the fact still remains that we almost daily do invite the relatives of patients to take tea & are always glad that the visit should be a pleasant one -

The particular point in this present case is the unusual size of the party & the fact that circumstances were ^{such} ~~the~~ ^{the visitors} that Mr. Stanwell could not invite ~~them~~ to have tea here -

The next meeting of the Committee is on the 21st Inst, & Joseph Rom. Tree S^r Marys York

is the Treasurer,

If after this further explanation you still think that ~~on~~ your daughters were not treated with proper courtesy & in any case if you think Mr. Stannell was insolent I hope you will let the Committee know of the matter.

It is very much better that these things should be investigated than that they should be allowed to drag on & possibly a permanent sense of annoyance be created

I remain

Yours very truly

Bedford Deice.

THE RETREAT,
YORK.

July 5. 96.

Dear Friend,

Your letter of the 5th duly awaited
my return from a holiday abroad. I
am very sorry that it you should have
occasion to write it.

In the first place, W. Stanwell did
not know that W. Blakey was so rarely
visited & he did know that the parlour
maid on the day in question had ~~been~~
overworked, being single handed &
there being an unusual number of
visitors. It is moreover a very
uncommon thing for a patient to have
five visitors at once -

If you reflect that we have more
~~than~~ ~~as~~ patients & that if the relatives

of each expected to be entertained to tea
when they visited the Retreat it would
mean a serious outlay of trouble &
of money annually -

As a general rule we do invite
the relatives to take tea with their friends
but in this particular case Mr. Hamwell
was engaged right on the other side of
the grounds & could not easily come
to see the visitors himself -

✓ We are always anxious for patients
to be visited frequently, & if I might
express my own opinion I think that
once in four years is decidedly not
frequently enough & I think Mr.
Blakeley ought to be visited if at all
practicable once in 3 months.

As there is no fixed day for visiting
& that friends are invited to come at any
time without notice you will understand
that it is not easy for us to be at liberty
just when they happen to come & we

are obliged to omit ^{seeing them} ~~doing~~ so occasionally unless there should be any request for an interview or there should be anything particularly to report.

As rule, however, either I, or one of my colleagues, see every visitor previous to their interview with their friend or relative -

I remain

Yours very truly

Edford Pierce.

THE BIBLE

BOOK

THE RETREAT,
YORK.

July 6. 1896

Madam,

In Dr. Pierce's absence I open all communications addressed to him, as acting Medical Superintendent.

I am the "man" who spoke to your daughter on Saturday afternoon & I would now like to repeat what I said to her, viz: - that I consider it unreasonable that five ~~for~~ visitors should take up so much time & attention in a busy house like this.

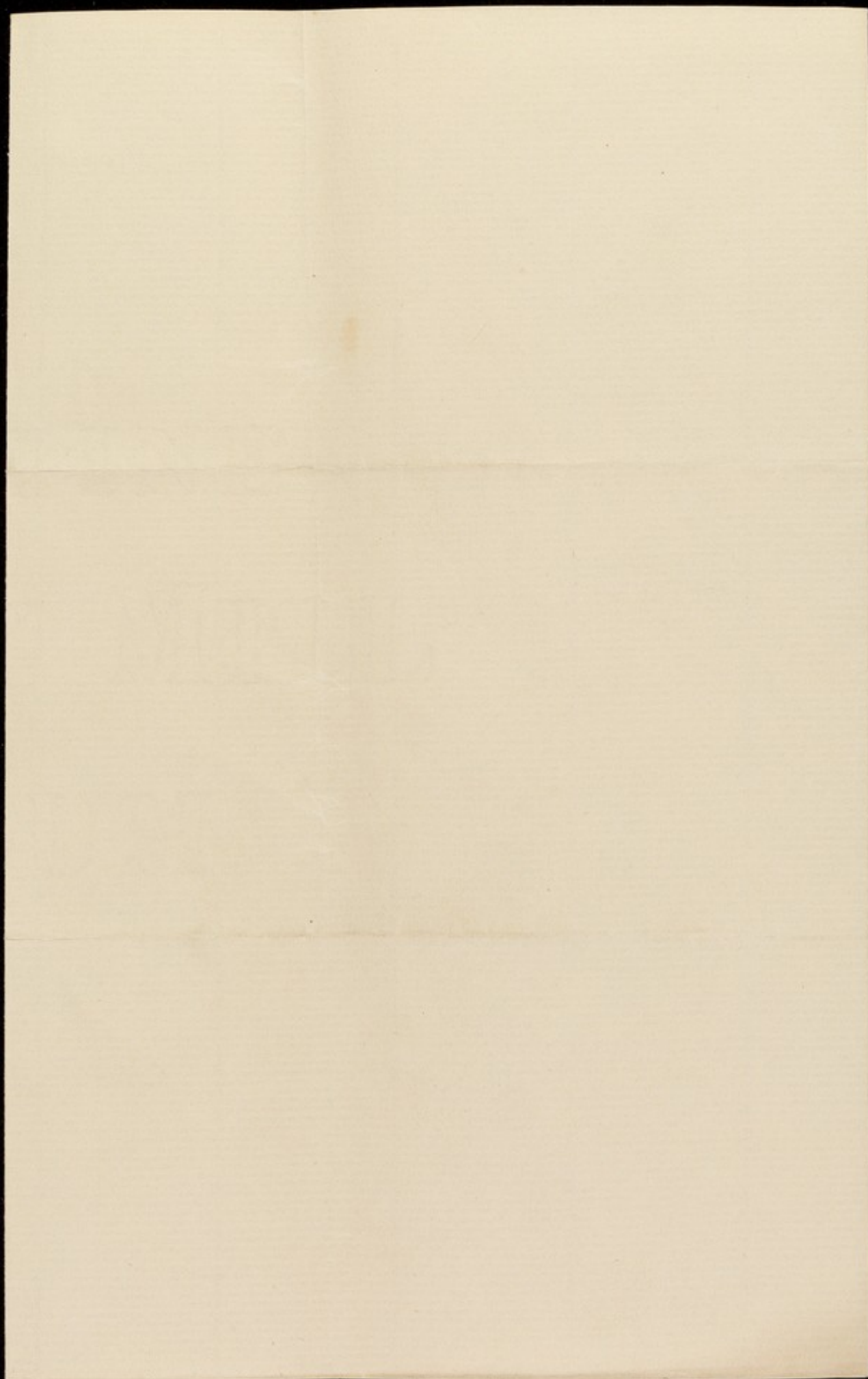
On Dr. Pierce's return your letter will be laid before him.

I am, Madam

Yours faithfully

C. Stanwell

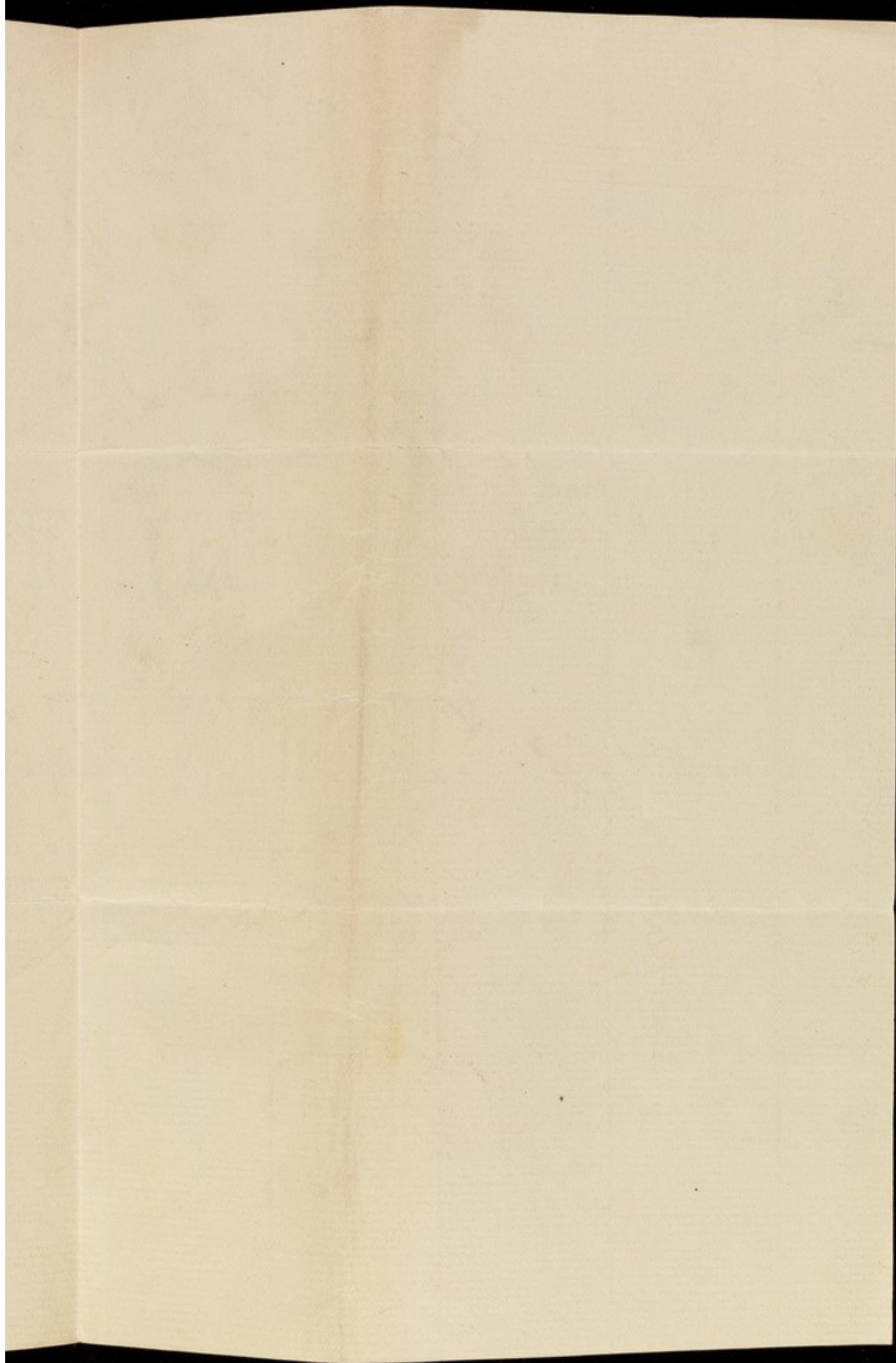
Mrs. Blakey.



18-13-1880

My dear Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th inst. in relation to the above matter.
I am sorry to hear that you are not satisfied with the result of the investigation.
I have been very busy lately, and have not had time to devote to this matter.
I will try to get it done as soon as possible.
Very respectfully,
J. H. [Name]

Yours truly,
J. H. [Name]



THE RETREAT,
YORK.

July 15-96.

Dear Friend,

Your letter is written as if we
object to our patients being made as
happy as possible when visited by their
Friends -

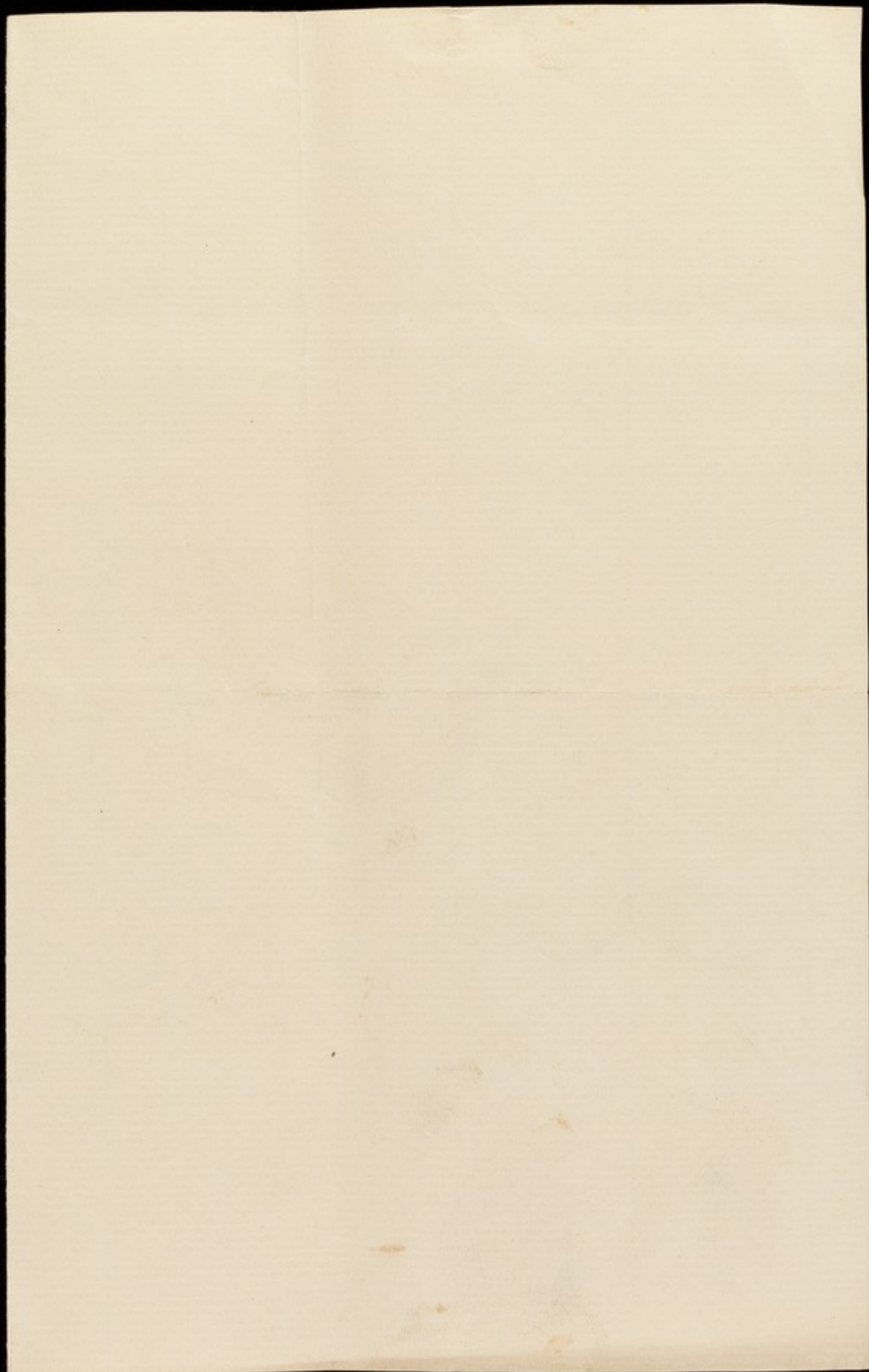
It is quite the reverse, & not a day
happens but what visitors here have
meals with their relatives. We are
always anxious that the visit should be as
pleasant as possible -

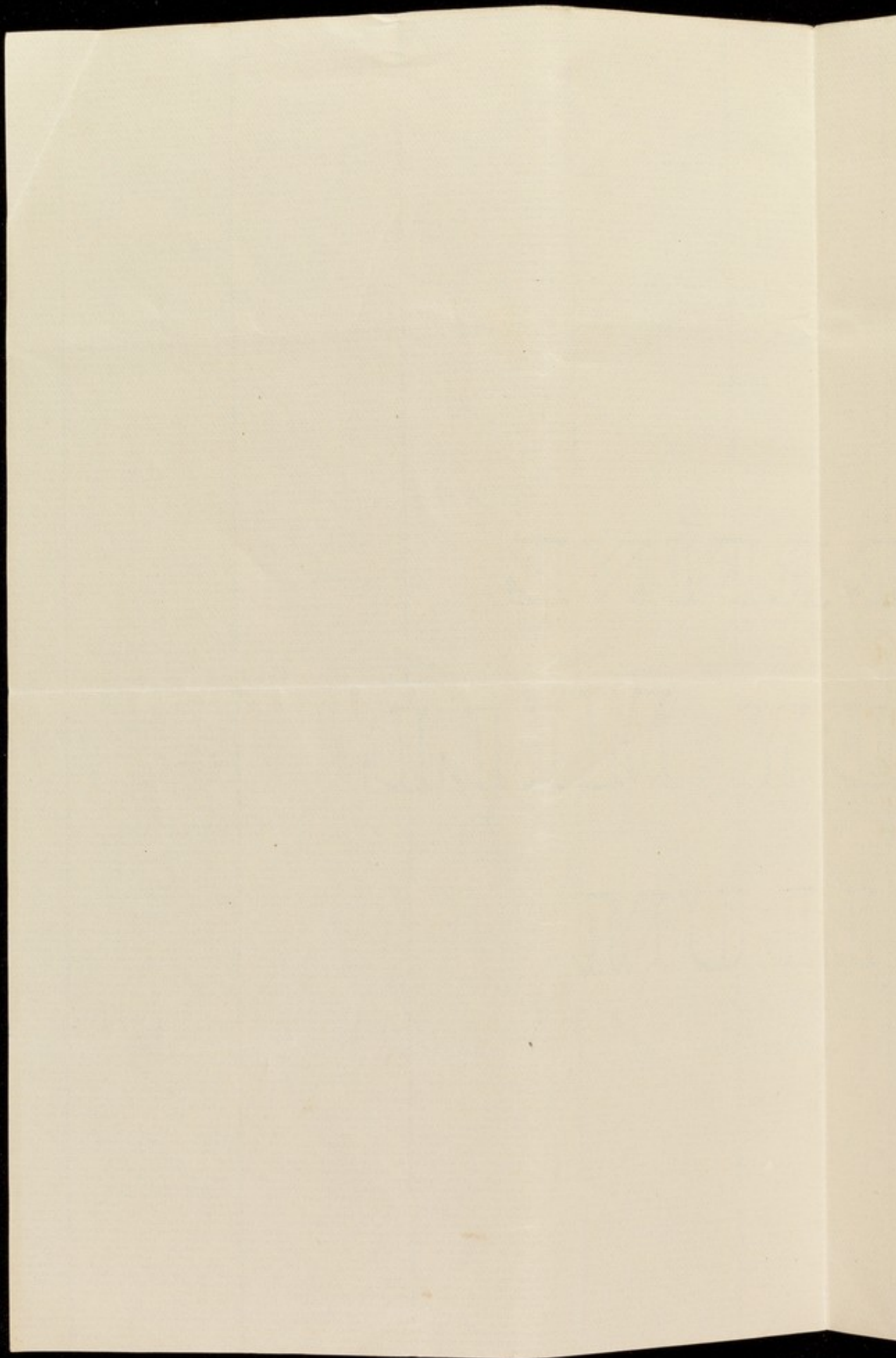
I remain

Yours very truly

Bedford Pierce.

M^{rs} Blakey.





THE NEW YORK

YORK

July 6, 1890

My dear Mr. Brewster,

I have just received your letter of the 4th inst. in relation to the matter of the "Heron" and its capture. I am sorry to hear that you have been unsuccessful in your efforts to secure the bird. I am sure, however, that you will be able to secure it in the future. I am sure that you will be able to secure it in the future. I am sure that you will be able to secure it in the future.

Yours faithfully,

W. Brewster

W. Brewster

Lee Rule

Shirburn

7th

17th of 7th mo 1846

Dear Friend

In your last note
you say visitors have meals
daily with their friends
but in the one before you
say to make tea for visitors
causes a great outlay or
expense & trouble these
appear two distinct
conditions of mind and
complete contradiction

and your other Medical
Officer said I must
report this to the Committee
but what will he report
It is our place to report
his insolence and we
intend to do so
hoping you will see the
case more clearly

J. Blumenthal

Lu Hule
Blissden
H₂

20th of 7th mo 1846

To the Committee
of Friends' Retreat

On the 4th of July my
daughters came to see
their home. J R Blakey
in the afternoon arrived
taking with them a strange
Lady, who had reason for
coming. It appears they
ventured to ask if they could
have tea

2/

which was brought in a
 very "rough & ready" way
 and when out there appears
 a doctor named "Stunwile"
 who flung open the door of
 the room without knocking
 and said Miss Blakey here
 just come this way.

Oh we cannot do with
 this five visitors ordering
 tea. it is simply making
 the place into an hotel
 we cannot do with it at all
 and in fact if I had been
 there I should NOT have
 allowed it

3/ We must be sure who the Committee know

also Mr Stenwells note which only
adds to his intolerance

8/3/20

Miss Blakey arrived here after leaving
the Retreat with a sum of £7- for it

Lu. Rule

Whitden

Wx

13th of 7th mo/846

Dear Friend

I am very sorry
you consider making a
such an outlay of trouble
& expense. I am sure if we
had considered our side
of expense we should have
deferred some things that
were not demanded of us
we will give you no more

3/ Come to see him, but now I would
not be paid to take care of any thing
else in such an institute. I repeat
I regret sending him away where,
that I cannot comfortably visit

him ~~any~~ ~~more~~

J. B. May

2

trouble of that sort
 but I venture to say here
 they had tea after leaving
 for which they paid 5/-
 it was only to put their brother
 at ease that they took tea
 with him. I have sent a
 box every week since
 he came to the Retreat
 and look what it has cost
 no having him there
 I thoroughly regret sending
 him there at all as this
 It is not a year since I ^{happened} saw
 my son only two of us generally

Handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. The text is mirrored and mostly illegible due to fading and the nature of the ink transfer.

Lee Hule

Shrioken

Mass

July 5th 1846

Dear Friend

My daughters came
to the Retreat yesterday
and ventured to bring with
them a Friend. but they
were called aside by your
assistant and he said
we cannot do with this
sort of thing

Now it is at least 4 years since
they came to see him before our
Robert Butler always, not only
themselves live for us, but business
as well. The Lady who came with them
had a reason for coming but this
circumstance gave her a most
unpleasantable impression which they

Now it is at least 4 years since

fine of you and all
they are Mr Bluebird's
coming in and ordering
tea it is making the
place into a hotel,
in fact if I had known
I should not have allowed
it. My daughter replied
I am sorry I have disturbed
you so I am sorry I asked
for tea, at all he replied
so am I.

Sup the wife not soon forget
the well done & neat Civil Parlor
given in Dr Barker's time and we
also say left her two childrens as a
Token of gratitude, this circumstance
deserves report & please let me know
the man's name. With our best thanks we
kindly regards to you as before Dr Barker —

Complaint from
Mr. Blakey with
regard to treatment
of visitors to his
Son.

Complaint from family
of Mr. Blakey regarding
treatment of visitors
to Son



The Friends' Retreat

York. Sep^r. 7
1885.

My dear mamma

I am much^{ly}

obliged for thee cards.

They are very nice
ones this week.

I always show them

to Mr West & to
Mr Jefferys and the
other gentlemen.

Mr Jefferys shows me
a paper from Halifax
which says you have
got a second prize
for the cat.

Mr ~~X~~ Jefferys knows
Mr Arnold and the
firm of James Royston
Son & Co (which you

pass as you go down
to meeting) also
the Crossleys, of Halifax
and of Myrtholmroyd Mills.

carpet makers. Manufac-
- turers, also the Henders^{ons},
and my cousin was
at school with his
sisters at Kendal.

With love to Uncle
Joshua, Louisa Lizzie
Army & Caroline, Harry
George and yourself -

I am your affectionate son
J R Blakey Jossie

Mrs. Blakey
Spring Hall
Halifax.

