

Papers relating to Elizabeth Salvin

Publication/Creation

1852

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I can testify that Elizabeth Salmon was admitted into the Retreat on the 1st of the 2nd Mo: 1852 called February, 1852, & that she was then in excited state of mind, & labored under various delusions, some of which were that there were conspiracies formed to murder her, deprive her of her property &c. & that she was beset by various ~~unknown~~ dangerous persons from the people. That under these delusions she was in a state of continual fear & excitement, clinging to every person who conversed with her, & begging them to take her ^{to} friends & protect her. That since her admission in the Retreat, these delusions have to a considerable extent subsided, but she is still in a state of ~~but~~ mental excitement, & nervous agitation, & is in my opinion disqualified her for the care of herself. ~~Also~~ ^{very}

I fully concur in the step suggested by her
friends of placing her under the care of Lord
Chancellor for the following reasons:

First. If she should recover from the present
attack, it is highly probable she may soon
experience another.

Second. The history given of her former attacks
shows that she has for many years been
in an unsound state of mind at various
intervals, if not continuously.

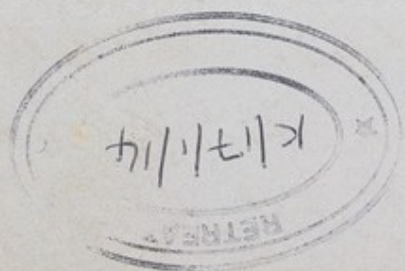
Third. The frequent repetition of these attacks
has a tendency to weaken her faculties & to
bring her in "intervals" thus exposing her in
to the influence of designing persons.

I am, Sir,
Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
John Lubbock

W. Lubbock
Esq.
Barrister at Law
Lincoln's Inn
Hall

W. Lubbock
Esq.
Barrister at Law
Lincoln's Inn
Hall

Elis. Salom
1852



JOPPING & E. SALVIN.

Letters relating to
E. SALVIN.

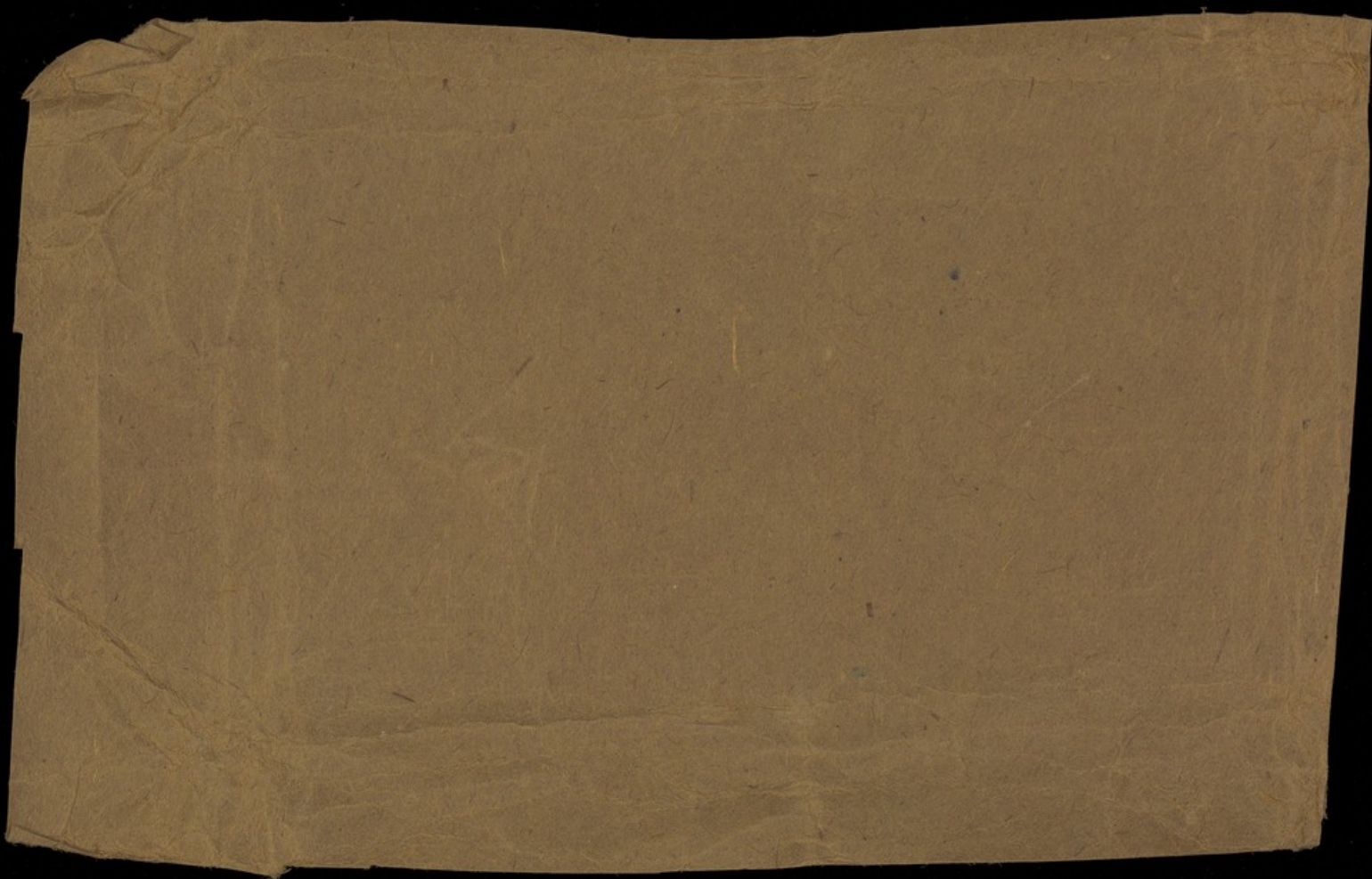
No. 853. 2/1752.

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1852

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The following statement is submitted to the Medical Committee of the Retreat near York respecting Miss Elizabeth Salvin who is at present an inmate of that Asylum

Miss Elizabeth Salvin of Durham is in her 62nd year. There is an hereditary predisposition to insanity both in her father's and mother's family - and at this time her only sister - her first cousin - & two second cousins are under medical restraint -

She was always of a very peculiar & irritable disposition which rendered it not only difficult but almost impossible for her relatives to live with her in peace, although they treated her with the utmost consideration & forbearance - She had delusions on her mind for a great many years before they became so conspicuous as they have become since -

The two Cousins who were most with her & managed her affairs for her are now both of them dead, but the following

extracts from their letters, which are in our possession & can be exhibited, will shew the progress of her disorder - In the winter of 1842 one of these Cousins writing to her Aunt in London says "(Eliza) dreads a conspiracy of her neighbours to take possession of her property, which she fancied she has signed over to a married Student in the University who lives next door to her" ** "The delusions still continue, my sister says they have existed for years" -

In another letter written by the same Cousin & at the same time to Dr Joel Smith of New Castle, she says - "Last Spring she seemed to regain health & strength & grew stout, but her mind was very unsettled - She had strange delusions (in a slighter degree the case for many years) & was dissatisfied with everything & every body - Last October she was seized in the middle of the night with the horror there was something in bed, jumped out in great consternation & was extremely ill, a medical man W. Jepson

"was sent for, she was able to bear remedies, the
"fever was subdued & she was restored to a quiet
"state & could be kept in bed, & made no more
"attempts to leave the house in the night. The
"delusions have since increased, & her expressions
"have been very wilful, she still thinks there
"are conspiracies against her in which the
"woman & servant of the house are in league.
"On one occasion when refused a trifling request
"not in my sister's power to grant, she said,
"if you don't do it I will — drawing her finger
"across her own throat, at another time threatened
"to throw herself into the river — at times she
"is low & confines herself to her bed for weeks
"together & complains of nervous sensations
"aversion to being alone x x x x Mr. Sepson is
"willing to sign a certificate & thinks she would
"be best under medical restraint & all her
"family concur in that opinion x x x x The two
"poor sisters never agreed together & seemed to
"irritate each other, on every trifling occasion"

"& it was always better when they were separate"
"indeed poor Margaret seemed to have her existence
"embittered by her presence - and Eliza knows not
"her sister's state, nor where she is, & seldom how
"even enquires after her - Previous to the"
"dreadful night she burnt some of her clothes"

There are several other letters written
about this period viz 1842-3 - by her relations
& all of them clearly proving that she was
then in a state of Lunacy & that her friends
considered it unsafe for her to be at large -

During the years 1843-4 she became better
again, & the friends desisted in consequence
from their intention of placing her in an
Asylum - though during this partial recovery
she continued to be very eccentric & troublesome
constantly accusing her relations of embezzling
her money & spending it upon their own
~~pleasures~~
~~relations~~ - coming to their door & leaving
most insulting messages with the servants -
writing anonymous letters full of violent
& false statements - fancying gentlemen

were in love with her, to one of whom she wrote a most absurd anonymous letter - This state went on till the year 1847 when the same delusions came on her again with increased violence & she was placed in an Asylum for ten weeks, & grew much better whilst there - When she came out one of her Cousins (since dead) in writing to her Sister says "Eliza is a troublesome person & I fear & expect she will always be so, her nervous system is much - very much more quiet than she was & she did not appear to me to be in a state to keep in an Asylum x x x Mr. Gleaton said "She was a very troublesome inmate, irritable & very teasing to the Attendant" - Previous to her being placed in the Asylum she rushed behind the Servant who was sitting on a chair, & seized her round the neck with one hand & a knife in the other - It might be difficult to obtain decisive evidence of

this fact now, but one of these Cousins since
dead, related the circumstances at the time
to another relation of Eliza Salvini's -

This state went on till the Summer of 1857
when she again began to fancy people were
conspiring to rob & murder her - She would
rush down the Street hooting Murder & throwing
herself for protection into the arms of perfect
Strangers - At another time she went to the
Governor of the Prisons & desired she secured
in the Goal - From him she would go to the
Chaplain, & thence to the Head of the Police,
& then to the family Solicitor - saying that
people in the City & her relations wanted to
rob & murder her - & anxiously desiring
to be placed under the protection of the Dean
& Chapter of the Cathedral - She was on one
occasion caught throwing herself out of
window - & she wandered up & down the Streets
~~together~~ for hours & hours together in the

utmost alarm for fear of murder & robbery -

The above can all be verified on the most overwhelming & impartial evidence, by several medical men - Relations - & the Governor & Chaplain of the Prisons -

She was placed in the Retreat at York in February 1852 on the certificate of two medical gentlemen residing at Durham -

Mary Howth
C. J. H. Cairns

April 16th 1852 —



Ducham May 4. 1852

I waited for a letter
Dear Sir, }
or I should have
written yesterday to tell
you that Miss Alvin bore
the journey very well, tho'
at Dulington she shewed slight
alarm at sight of the third
class return ticket people.
She had a good night,
but had not been many
hours awake, before all
the old ideas seemed
gradually to glide into
her mind, and before
evening, she talked again
of being killed, or worried

unless I got the gentlemen
of the aristocracy to protect
her. I asked her whom
she meant, and from
what she wished to be
protected? She said, the
gentlemen in the college
and university must look
up all the rough people
and boys. I told her
it was impossible they
would look up all the
boys: she said I do not mean
look, but hinder them
from conspiring. She
had however another
good night, and I hoped
she

might-calm, but she began
before breakfast the same
story to the servant, and
continued it to me, till she
left me contrary to my often
repeated advice and went
in the midst of a pouring
rain to the Cathedral.
She seemed agitated on
her return, but as the
rain had much abated
I advised her going
then to her lodging
which Mr Green had
ordered to be in readiness.
She said, Oh I am so
nervous, do go with me.
I feared to comply with
this natural wish, as
having

decidedly spoke out
to Mr Green my objections
to her going again to Miss
Topley, their attorney
might take some advantage
of the inconsistency of my
taking her. I feel sadly
embarrassed and unable
to take the responsibility
of a quaidian, which Mr
Williams so strongly impressed
on me, excepting so far as
suits the landlady and my
poor cousin. Had she not
been so hastily removed from
York some arrangement might
have been made for her
visiting a friend in Warwickshire
I write on the subject to Mrs Whitton

Truly yours
Mary Howells

Durham April 17

Dear Sir

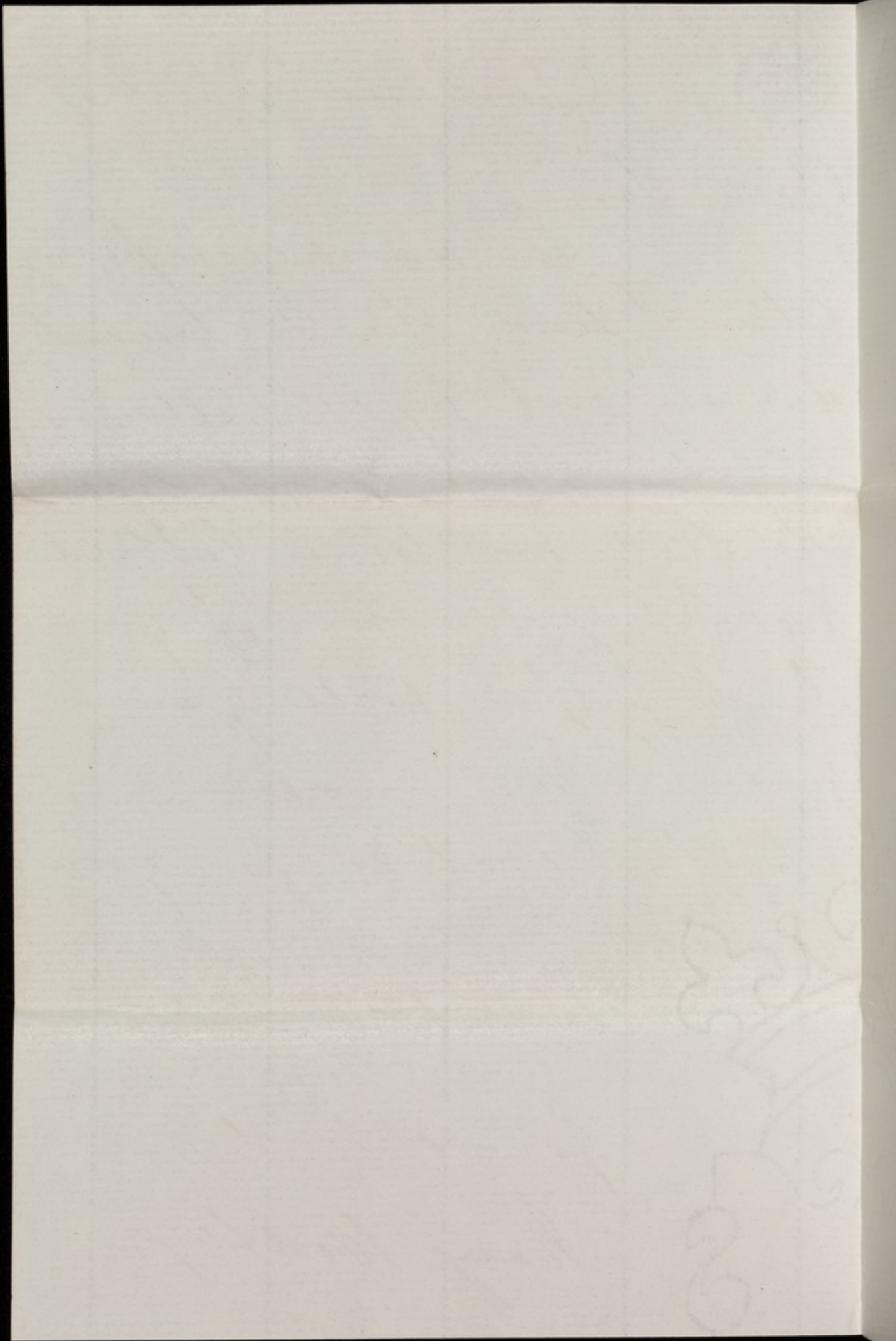
In an accompanying letter I send the statement drawn out by Mr Bellairs which I have countersigned. He sent me some letters from my cousin: if you think proper will you give her an answer which I enclose for your perusal

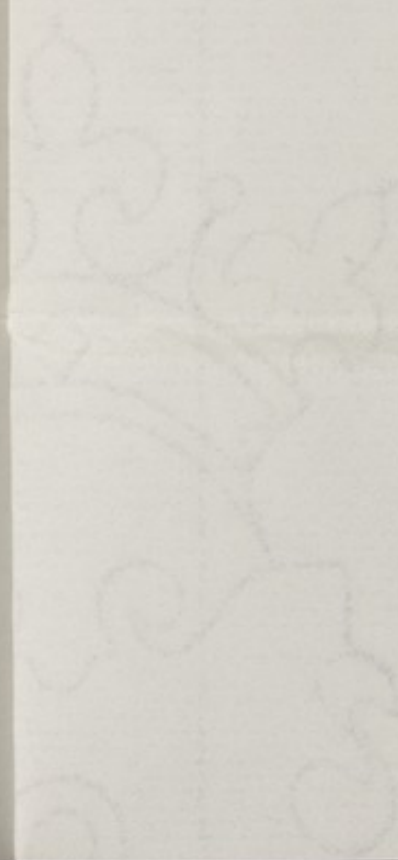
I remain

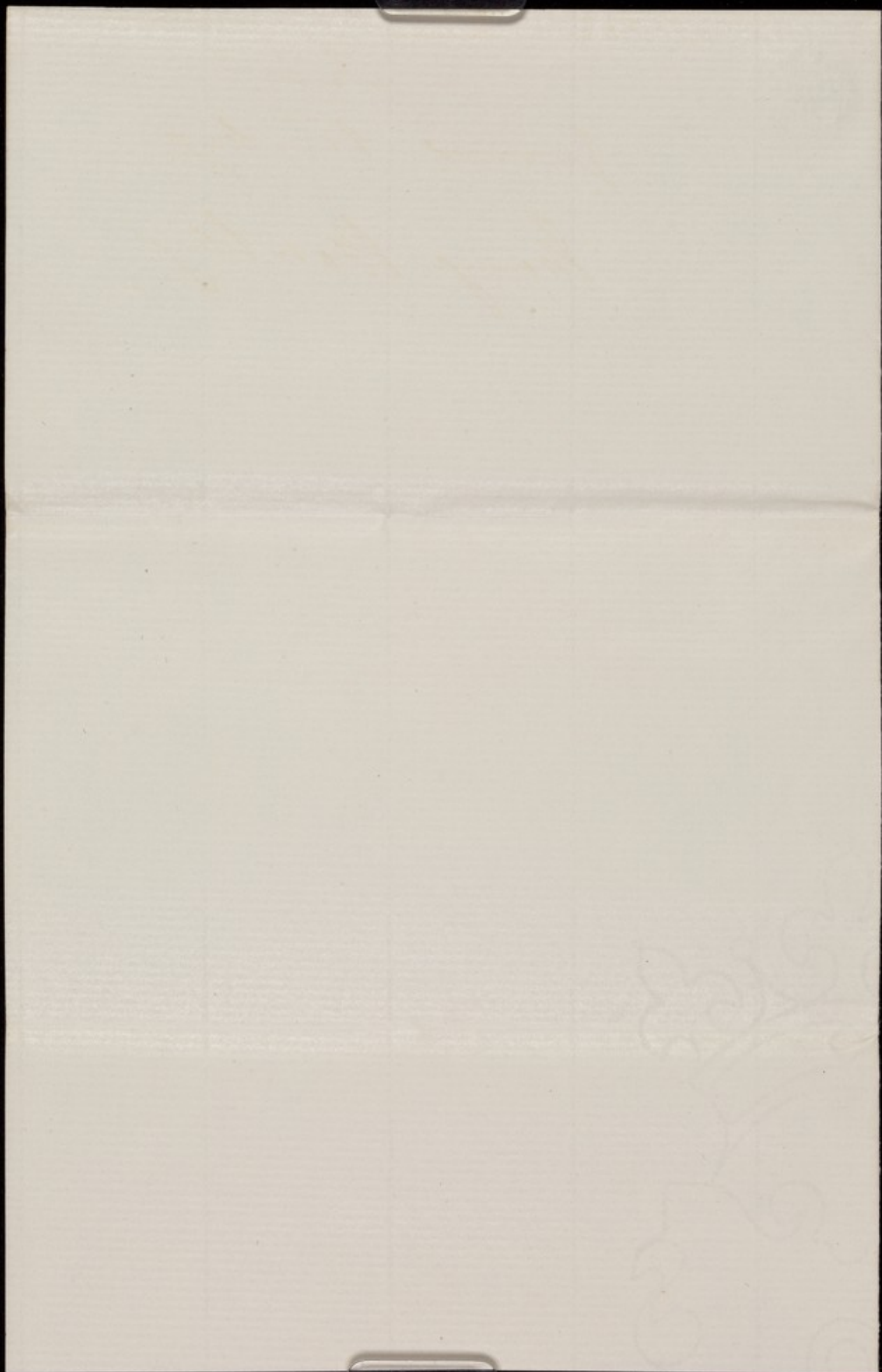
Sir

Yours truly

Harry Bowley







Dear Sir

Mr Bellairs told
me your objection to the
last letter I wrote to Miss
Salvin, I am very much
obliged to you for keeping
it back, and shall be happy
to alter what I have now
written should you wish
it. Mr Storey communicated
the contents of your last
letter to him, and as there
is no choice as to the course
proper to be taken, we must
^{trust} that in some other way than
we thought, my poor cousin will
be taken care of. I remain

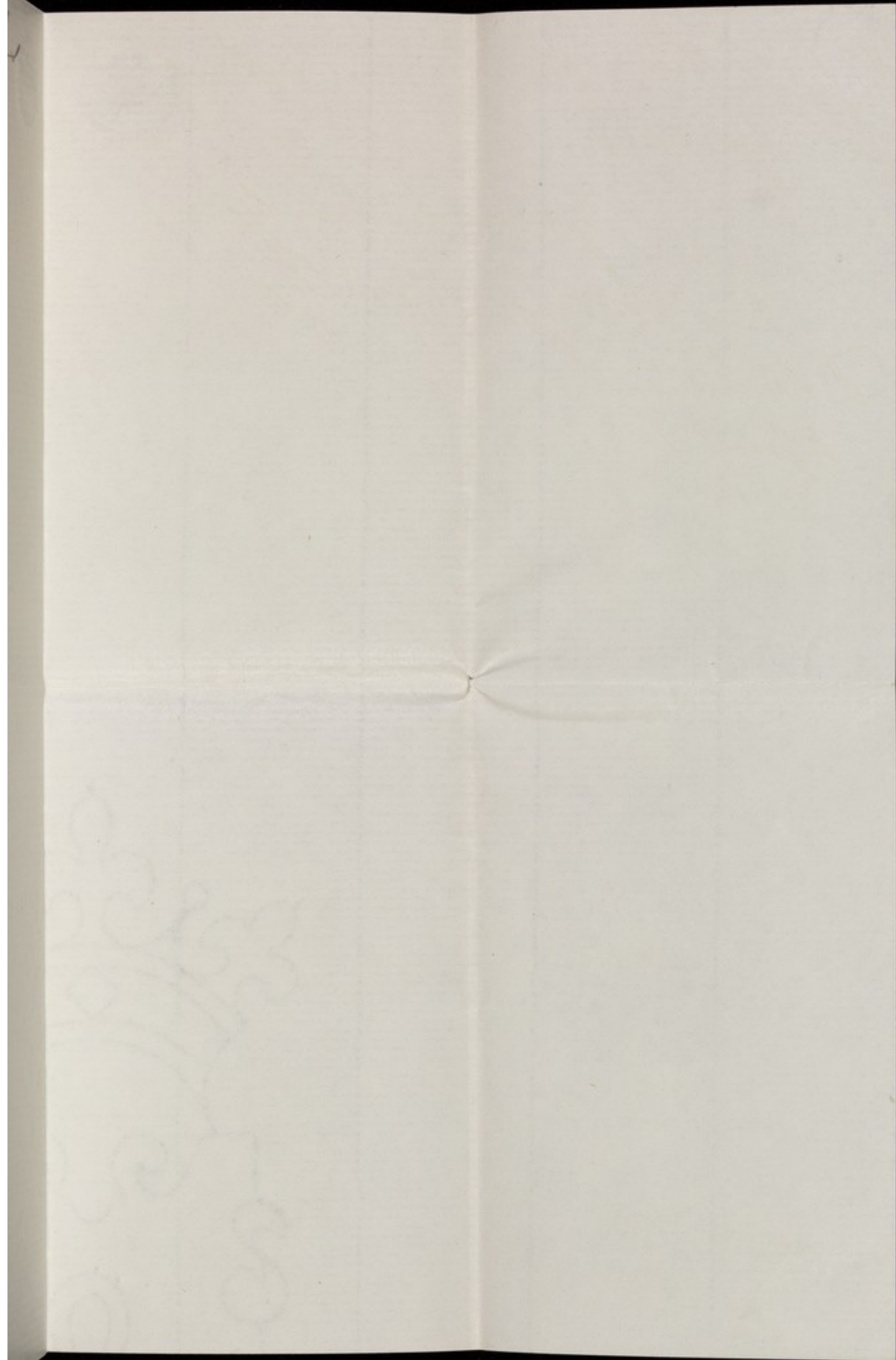
Dear Sir with thanks
for your kindness

Yours truly
Mary Howley

Durham

April 1

1852





Dear Sir

I have had a letter from Mr Mellairs this morning; though I fear he does not much approve of what I have done, yet having given a promise, I suppose still being with you on Saturday

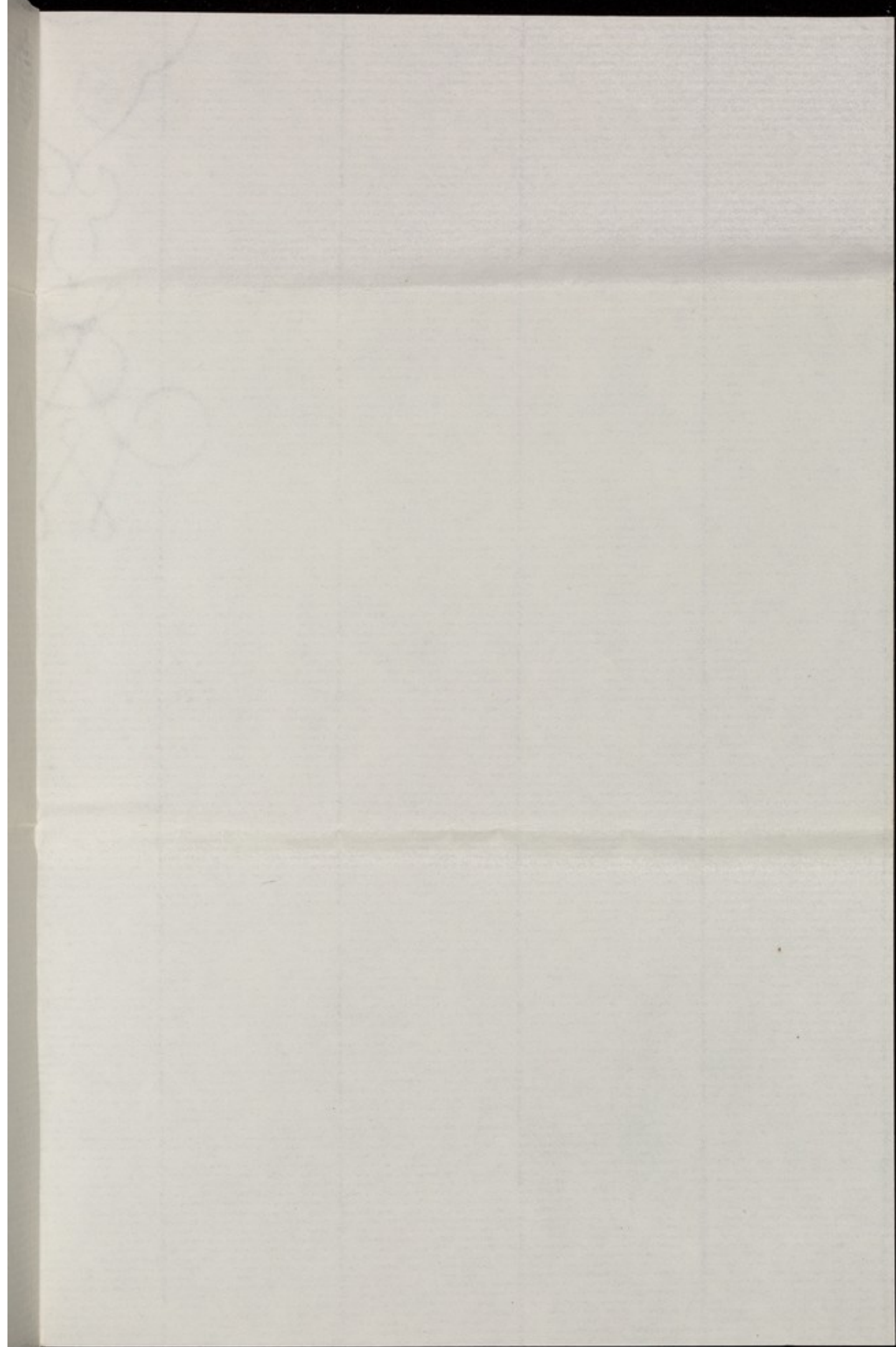
Truly yours

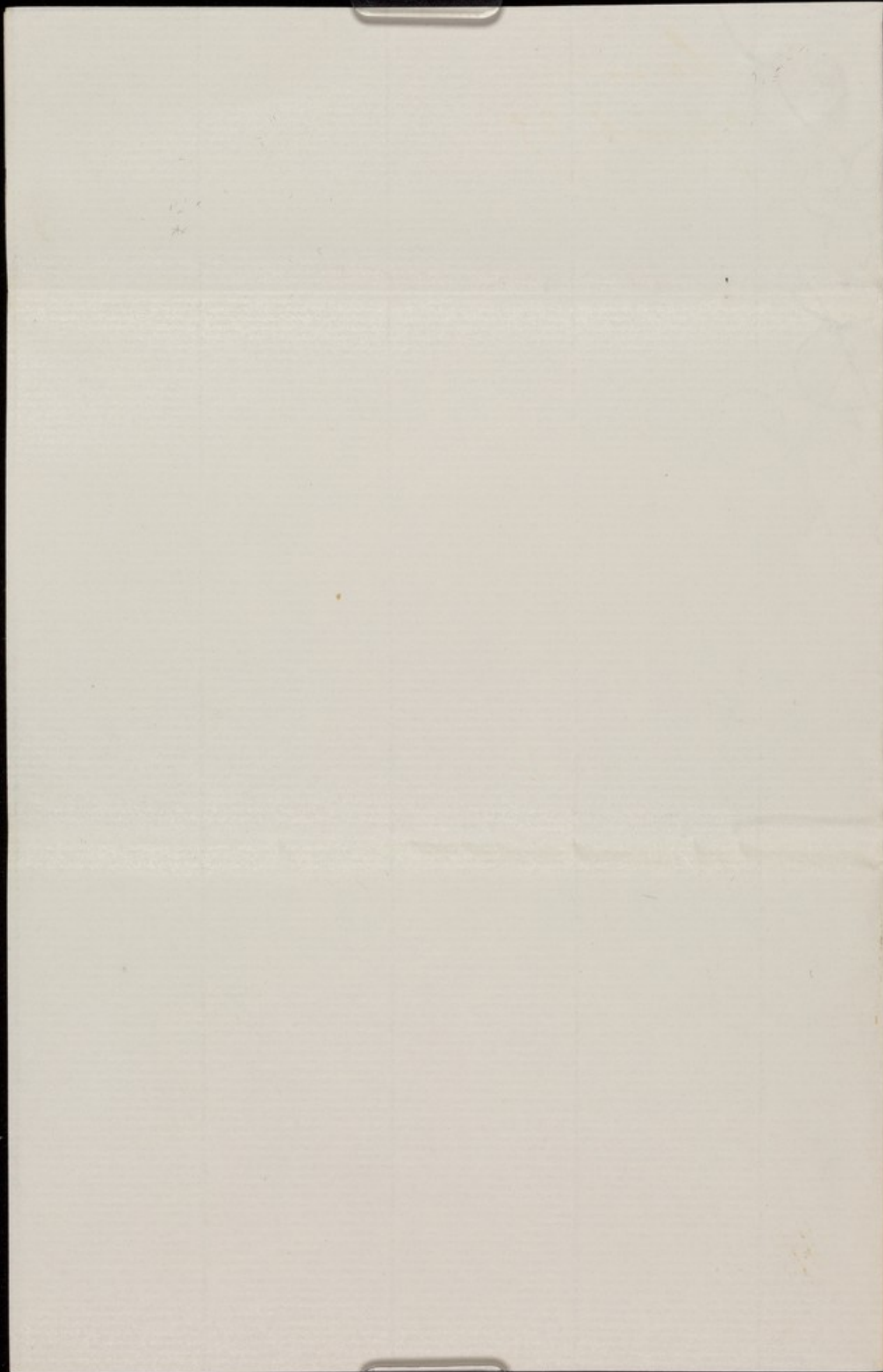
Mary Bowley

Durham

April 25







Dear Sir, I feel obliged by
your kindness in writing.
I saw Mr Green an hour
after receiving your kind
letter, and though I would
gladly have continued my
poor cousin under your
judicious care till she
was quite well: yet I thought
it best to yield so far, as
to promise I would go for
her on Saturday. He said, she
had told him, and he
thought she would become
ill

again if she remained longer
I contradicted the idea by
relating the fact that she
had always said so, and
yet that your letters had
announced gradual improvement.

Poor thing, she has
never known her true friend.

Hoping to see you on Saturday

Remain yours obly

Henry Bowler

Durham

April 28th

1852

Page
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ind.
Sunday
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movement.

Will you be so kind
as retain Miss Salvis
letter as long as you can
in case you hear from
Mr Bellairs, to whom I
have written, but I think
we will see there is no other path

Durham April 24
1852

My dear Friend

I met Mr Green
this morning, in the street,
he informed me he was
going to York next week
and would call to see
Miss Salvin, and judge
whether she were in a
fit state to be kept where
she was, or to return
home. Whether he put
this positively, or whether
he asked me if he should
I feel it impossible to decide.
I answered I thought it
would be a good plan,
for though somewhat

Startled, I had no wish to
say any thing else, nor
indeed if I had, might it
have been of any avail.
Jopling had told him,
perhaps through his wife
that she had been refused
admittance. I told him
that she said, he sent her,
He shrugged his shoulders
and said, "She will say
any thing." I told him
I wished Miss Salome to
go any where, rather than
return to Mrs Jopling. He replied
but she will go no where else
and if she be well neither
yours

to her I have any right over her.

If she is not well, she will soon be as bad as we if she comes back, but he said I shall judge of her state. Supplied in a short interview he might be mistaken. No he said she cannot deceive me: and I will let you know when I return.

Would it be good to warn Mr Thitching not to mention any of the steps we meditated to Mr Green. He tells every thing to his wife, she to Sophia and she again would torment poor Eliza. I have heard more particulars of this worthless woman, from good authority

but she has our poor
cousin in too firm a
hold I fear, for her own
peace or comfort.

I may appear troublesome
but I think it best you
know things as they
are. I told Mr. Story the
contents of my last letter
to you, and he saw
treachery - such was his
word - This makes impossible,
what before, was we thought
only difficult.

The bitter cold winds
fill my poor child's eyes
with inflammation. I hope your
young boy is sheltered from it.
Ever truly yours Mary Howley

To the Commissioners in
Hennepin;

I hope I am not taking
an improper step in ap-
plying to you for informa-
tion on the following case.

No 853 Eliza Salmon was
admitted into the Asylum
on the 17th of February 1852.
She was then in a highly excited
state of mind & laboring
under several delusions.
As she had had several
previous attacks of this

devoid character, & had
not been considered by her
friends to be same for many
years, her relatives were
desirous of taking out a
Commission of Lunacy in
her case - especially as she
is likely on the demise of
a very infirm Sister to in-
herit a property of consider-
able amount. Added to this
was "consideration that she
appears to have fallen into
the power of a woman
in whose house she has

ledges to such an extent
that her friends have reason
to believe not only that
Sabina's mind has been
prejudiced by this woman
against her relations,
but that serious designs
are entertained by the
same party to influence
the poor lady into the disposi-
tion of her property, es-
pecially in case of the
expected invasion.

During the arrangement

of the preliminaries to the
petition for the Compensation
the excitement & discussions
of the patient subsided so
rapidly, that it was not
thought there would be suffi-
cient manifestation of
unsoundness of mind to satisfy
by a jury that a Compensation
would be conferred. Her friends
however are ready to be with
orders to prove that un-
soundness of mind has existed
for about 10 yrs. They see
however with myself that
an exacerbation of the

patients might fail in
detecting it, & under the ap-
prehension of a bunch of
designing persons, are
very anxious to know
whether a legal guardian
could be appointed during
such a remission of the
symptoms as might lead
~~to~~ casual observers
to suppose that no disease
was present.

A gentleman in the waiter
of the Lodging House woman
has been to the Retreat today

expressed his intention
of procuring to Salome's
discharge on trial writ.
saying that he never saw
her before. although we
do not consider she is ready
for discharge yet. On this
account an early reply to the
above would be a favour
to yours

Very respectfully
John T. Tilton
Secy. Sup. Ct. N.Y.

Wk 4 mo 27. 1852.

[Faint handwritten notes, possibly "the"]

My dear friend has been
offered a position in the
State of New York
and he is very much
pleased to accept of it.

I am very glad to hear
of it and hope you will
be able to go with him
and see him in person.

I am very much
pleased to hear of it
and hope you will
be able to go with him
and see him in person.
Yours truly
John G. Thompson

Bedworth Lodge
Near Coventry

March 6th 1852

Sir
Having been nominated
as Committee to the person
& property of my wife's
Cousin Miss Margaret
Salvin, a Lunatic; the
family think it desirable
that I should also make
the necessary inquiries
respecting her Sister Miss
Eliza Salvin who is now
under your care.

I am anxious to know

from you whether it is
your opinion that her's
has become a proper case
for an Inquiry -

You are perhaps aware
that Miss Salvin has betrayed
unmistakeable symptoms
of deranged mind at
different times, & especially
in the years 1843 & 1847 -
as can be proved on medical
& other testimony, & for some
months past she has been
in such a state as to make
her friends very uneasy,
especially as she is a person
not easily controlled -

Her property is partly in the
funds & partly in Land
& her friends have no
power to touch the interest
of either, without proper
authority, & I do not know
how she will be maintained
unless she is either allowed
to return home & manage
her own affairs, or else
made the subject of an
Enquiry -

I have great experience
in cases of Lunacy, & from
what I have seen & heard
of Miss Salvin I can hardly
suppose you will think it
advisable to recommend her

return to Dodgess in Durham.

If I hear from you that it is desirable to institute an Enquiry, I would come down to York & do myself the pleasure of seeing you on the subject -

I enclose this in a letter I am writing to Miss Mary Bowdby of Durham who is the same relation to Miss Salois as Mr. Bellair. Indeed, except her afflicted ^{& a very aged uncle} sister, she has no nearer Relations -

To Dr.
Foster

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your obed^t Serv^t
Charles Bellair

Sir

About a fortnight ago
I wrote to you at the request
of Miss Elizth Sabine's rela-
tives, respecting her state
of mind &c, & enclosed
my letter to Miss Mary
Bowby of Durham begging
her to forward it to you
with any remarks of her
own. She might wish to
make —

I waited anxiously ten
days expecting your
answer, but as none

arrived. I wrote again to
Miss Bowly thinking it
possible that my letter might
have been accidentally
detained in Durham -

This Morning I received
an answer from her, a
portion of which I enclose,
stating, as you will see,
that she posted the letter to
you last Saturday week!

Will you be kind
enough to let me know
by return of Post, whether
you have received it; and
if you have, I shall feel

greatly obliged by your
replying to it at your
earliest convenience, as
several of Miss Salois's
relations write to me
for information, having
requested me to carry
out their wishes respecting
her.

If you have not received
my letter I will state
the contents of it to you
again, & also send you
copies of the letters I have
received from Miss Salois's
relations authorising me
to act in the matter.

Miss Salvin is first cousin
to my wife, & I am committed
to her sister who is unhappily
in the same afflicted state -

It is strange that a packet
of letters from Miss Bowby
to me respecting this case
posted the same day as yours
should have been town open!

I remain Sir
your obed^t. Serv^t.
Charles Bellairs

My direction is
The Rev. Charles Bellairs
Bedworth Lodge
Near Coventry

To Dr. Trotter & Co. 2 York

24 Wesley Durham

Sir, I received from the Rev^d
Charles Mellairs this morning
the letter which accompanies
this. I entirely concur in
his statement, and must
add that none could do
otherwise who have witnessed
her sad state for years
though Miss Salmon is not
always in an equally
excitable state. Poor thing
she has outlived her friends,
who much devoted themselves
to look after her, and has
fallen into the care of a

lady's house woman.
Her uncle, I have written
to, but being about eighty ye^o
he may probably not
feel inclined to interfere.
Her heir at law is an
architect in full employment.
(Anthony Salvin of Finchley.)
He gladly deputed Mr Pelliss,
who has more time, to take
any steps that may be
thought advisable for the
comfort and safety of our
poor cousin and her
property. I have the honour
to be Sir your obt^d servant -
Wm Howley

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My dear Mr. Garrison
I have just received
your letter of the 17th inst.
and am glad to hear
that you are well and
hopeful. I am also
well and hope to hear
from you soon.

I am glad to hear
that you are well and
hopeful. I am also
well and hope to hear
from you soon.

I am glad to hear
that you are well and
hopeful. I am also
well and hope to hear
from you soon.

Durham March 23
/52

Dear Sir I had a letter
this morning from Mr Bellamy,
the only way that I can
solve the mystery about
Dr Trotter, is, that in some way
he has mistaken, and imagined
he was the medical officer, at
the Retreat. I thought he knew
this to be the case, when he
enclosed the letter to me begging
I would add to it what I
thought fitting; and I then
imagined you must be
Steward or some other officer;
owing to your judicious manage-
ment and kind explanation
I trust no harm will occur
from the mistake.

I have sent

to Mr Bellairs several memoranda
proving that my poor cousin
was in the year 1842 worse even
then when she came to you,
but partially recovered ^{under Mr Jephson's care} till
1847 when she became as now,
and was placed in confinement
at Gateshead by her female
cousin, who managed her affairs;
she took her out in ten weeks
partially recovered, because a
fever was in the house ^{with Mary Salvin} which
if she took, she thought the
poor thing might not be attended
to; this fever Mary Salvin took
and died, her sister afterwards
managed for Eliza, and last
June she died; she often said
to me, "I have been repeatedly
warned against Miss Jopling, I
have the worst opinion of her;
but at present I can do nothing."

Memoranda

Two months after her death
Eliza began to show symptoms
of excitement, I was not in Durham
but on my return in September
I found her very bad, and
about the time I first wrote to
you she had run over to the
Prison and asked to be locked
up as a means of keeping her
safe. Miss Sopling chose then to
keep the management herself.

I suppose she spoke prospectively
when she said she managed
her sisters affairs. Were she to
die first, all she has, would
go into Soplings hands unless
the Chancellor take charge.

When Anthony Salvin civilly
wrote to Sopling begging she
would allow Eliza Salvin boxes
&c to be sent to my house, she

wrote me a note

Madam Send your messages
in future to W Marshall Solicitor
he has the charge of Miss Salons affairs.
Hoping.

The things therefore remain; your
incaution in sending the message
to me was kind.

Did you give my note to my
cousin; she has not replied,
it grieves me to think she
feels angry, as I should be
sorry to add needless suffering
where the hand of the Almighty
has afflicted heavily.

I remain Sir yours
truly and obliged
Mary Howley

Bedworth Lodge

26th April 1852

My dear Sir

I have just received
the enclosed from Miss
Mary Bowby which
explains itself —

I believe Mr. Green's
intended visit is at
the instigation of

loving & great caution
will therefore be required,

I hope you will
be kind enough to let
us know the result of
his visit, & at the
same time to state
how Miss Salvin
is, & what course
you think must

be taken by her friends
at the expiration of the
three months which
will now soon be
ended

Believe me
very truly yrs
O. Bellair

J. Kitching Esq.

be taken by the friends
of the Administration
these measures shall
with less force be
enforced
the Government
of the
people
of the
United States
will be
the
best
guarantee
of
the
rights
of
the
people
of
the
United States
and
the
world

and she had no grounds
whatever for stating that
she had -

The affairs of her Sister
(who has a larger income
than Miss Elizabeth) are
under the control of myself
& Miss Mary Bowby & the
family wish us also to be
entrusted with the necessary
arrangements for placing
Miss Elizabeth under the
Lord Chancellor.

I am Sir

Yours very truly

J. Bellair (over)

To John Fitching Esq

P. S. I have several letters
respecting Miss Salois
state of mind in 1842-3
written at the time - if
they should be wanted to
produce at the Inquiry.

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I have several letters

from you which I have not

time to answer yet

I am very sorry to hear

that you are not well

I hope you will soon

be able to write to me

again

I am very much interested

in your progress

I am very much interested

in your progress

I am very much interested

in your progress

Bedworth Lodge
Near Coventry
March 22^d 1852

Sir

I was led to suppose that
D^r Trotter was the Medical
Superintendent of the Retreat,
& it was upon that supposi-
tion that I wrote to him the
two letters which you very
properly opened -

Miss Mary Bowly had
the same impression -

The letter which you
addressed to Miss Mary
Bowly last week was
perfectly conclusive as to

Miss Salvin's state of mind,
I leave no doubt as to the
result of a legal Enquiry.

I have therefore written
to the family Solicitor in
Durham & desired him
to institute the necessary
proceedings for the Enquiry
which I suppose can take
place under your super-
intendence at the Retreat,
When all the preliminaries
are settled I shall come
down to York & personally
attend the Enquiry -
We are perfectly satisfied

with the arrangement that
Miss Salvin should pay two
Guineas a week. - Her
finances would not justify
a larger expenditure -

We quite concur in your
opinion that it is not
desirable that Miss Salvin
should ever return to her
old lodgings in Durham.
We have long been aware
that the influence under
which she was placed
was very prejudicial, but
we had no means of
preventing it - The family
hope you will not allow

Miss Salvin to receive any
visitors but her own Relations
not that we have any thing
to conceal, but we do not
wish her distressing state
to be made the subject of
remarks & conversation.

I shall feel obliged by
your letting me know from
time to time how Miss
Salvin is - I need hardly
tell you that the woman
in Durham with whom
Miss Salvin lodged has
nothing whatever to do
with the affairs either of
herself or her Sister:
as she stated to you.

Bedworth Lodge
26 March 1852.

Dear Sir

I have forwarded your letter to our Solicitor at Durham, in order to shew him how necessary it is to be prepared with the most decided & conclusive Evidence, as we must depend upon the Testimony of others for the Verdict; & not upon the depositions & answers of the Patient at the time of Inquiry.

She is evidently benefitted already by the Repose & Peace of your Asylum & it is probable that before the Commission sits her delusions will be less conspicuous than they are now —

You have no doubt had considerable experience in

Legal Enquiries as to soundness
of mind & will therefore be able
to tell me with confidence
whether you consider we are
taking a safe as well as a
proper course in petitioning
for a Commission, & you will
be able to tell me whether juries
in such cases are influenced
by the temporary deportment
of the Patient, supposing all the
Evidence is clear & conclusive.

We are of course anxious
in a pecuniary view to run
no greater risk than is necessary—

We have only one motive for
our proceeding & that is to
secure her person from tyranny
& her property from destruction.
If she leaves the peacefulness

of your Asylum there is no other
home than her old lodgings at
Durham, neither can we make
any proper arrangements about
her small property until she is
declared a Lunatic.

You are aware that her only
sister is in an Asylum - Her
first Cousin also (my wife's
only brother a young man of
large fortune) is a Lunatic -

I have been a great deal with
him, & though his case is now
quite confirmed, yet for some
time after its commencement,
he had lucid intervals for weeks
together during which he could
talk & write as reasonably as I
could, & would have misled
any one as to his state.

The Commissioner ^{Mr. Bartow} who tried
his case, & also Miss Mayant

Salvius, will I dare say try this, & he
will no doubt cautiously explain
this to the jury -

I am very thankful to find
that you will kindly allow the
Inquiry to take place at the
Petit, for as Miss Bowby
must be present, I know she
would dread the publicity of
an Inq. & will gratefully
avail herself of your permission
to have it conducted in the
Petitement of your Asylum.

Believe me

Dear Sir
Very faithfully Yrs
Charles Bellairs

John Pitching Esq.

Durham
March 16 /52

Dear friend

As certainly
I can recall circumstances
I received your letter enclosing
Dr Trotter's last Saturday week
I added my opinion to yours
then looked over the
memoranda I sent you and
posted the two letters myself.
one was torn open! Strange
if the other were lost! I
think the tear has been
accidental, and I hope
Dr Trotter is cogitating

Copy of the Committee
over judge & Mr
Hunting

I send you two letters I
have had from the
Superintendent: in answer
to the first I proposed a
removal at the end of a
month. To the second, I
replied, that Eliza's income
was about 130£ per annum
that if her expenses could
be accommodated I did
not wish to remove her
at present. Three weeks
have passed and there
has been no answer, nor
any further demand for
money. Though the month

has expired and only the
ten pounds she took with
her paid. My sister tells
me Miss Jopling has sent
her a box of clothes.

by the death of a neighbour
about my own eye in that
sad disease

Henry told me
he was delighted with his
visit to you and learned
removal at the end of 1
month. To the second, I
replied, that Elys income
was about 130£ per annum
that if her expenses could
be accommodated I did
not wish to remove her
at present. Three weeks
have passed and there
has been no answer, nor
any further demand for
money. Though the month

Wm. Pittman.

Jan 20. 1852.

Respected Sir,

By a note which
I have received from the
this morning, requesting
me to hand an enclosed
letter to Dr. Trotter, I
perceive that ~~some~~ ^{new} types =
take has ~~been~~ ^{arising with} ~~been~~ ^{also}
~~sent to the printer~~ ^{sent to the printer} ~~by the printer~~ ^{by the printer}
& that I have also been

but into a misapprehension.
~~a perfect misapprehension.~~

In explaining this, it will
probably make the matter
clearer if I first state
that I am the Medical
Superintendent of the
Reformatory, & in that ca-
pacity have corresponded
with (Miss) Mary Bowley
on the case of Elizabeth
Salvin, who was previous
to coming here medically
attended by Dr. Trotter.
At least Dr. Trotter signed
her Certificate of Insanity.

Now About a fortnight
ago, I received a communication
from Mary Bowley
~~in which I believed~~
~~to address as I supposed~~
~~for myself but directed~~
to Dr. Foster, Putnam, York.
At Dr. Foster's residence
I inquired of the lady at the
time at which I was
introduced this direction as
a simple slip of the pen
of the lady justified in my
mind as I was
then I could to answer the
M. Bowley's communi-
cation. There were two
important ~~points~~
requiring attention
at that time. One was

[illegible]

data, I immediately com-
municated the result to
Mr. Borolby, & expected that
that lady would immediately
acquaint the with the
with the misapprehension
as to Dr. Trotter for the
letter to Dr. J. being enclosed
(open) in hers & was
for my perusal, as I
supposed, without any
explanation. I felt it
~~impossible to address the~~
~~great difficulty in addres-~~
~~sing~~ under those circum-
stances. It is clear however
from the note of this morning

that such explanation
has not been made & that
Dr. Trotter is still supposed
to be the Medical Represen-
tative of this Institution.

There being no such per-
son as Dr. Trotter in
any way connected with
the Retreat, & being myself
the Medical Governor of it
I have ~~expressly~~ thought my-
self justified in opening
the letter ^{so} addressed & shall
give such information
as the letter requires.

Before doing so, I will

briefly state that I have
no knowledge of any paper
or letters addressed to the
Rev. Bowdoy respecting
E. Salvin, & consequently
can in no way account
for its being torn open.

I will now revert to the
first note dated March
6. 1852, & in answer to it
have to make ~~the same~~ ^{have}
statement as I made
to Mr. Bowdoy. It is
that I had consulted
with the ~~other~~ visiting clergy,
Seaman & Benson, & that
it is our joint opinion

that E. Salvin is not in
a fit state of mind
to have the management
of herself or her affairs,
& that looking at her
past history & her present
age, it is scarcely prob-
able she ever will be
at least for long together.
I further stated it as
my opinion that it
should be highly inadvisable
for E. Salvin ever to return
to her former lodgings
at Durham.

I hope this explanation

will clear the ~~affair~~
ground for the further
proceedings & account
for anything that may
have seemed unintelligible
in regard to Dr. Trotter.
I will only add that any
communication, either
on legal or other subjects
connected with E. Salois's
case, addressed to me
shall ~~be~~ ^{be} ~~immediately~~ ^{immediately} ~~be~~
attention, & I shall be
glad to receive a ^{large} ~~large~~ ^{large} ~~large~~ ^{large} ~~large~~
forming me whether
the explanations now

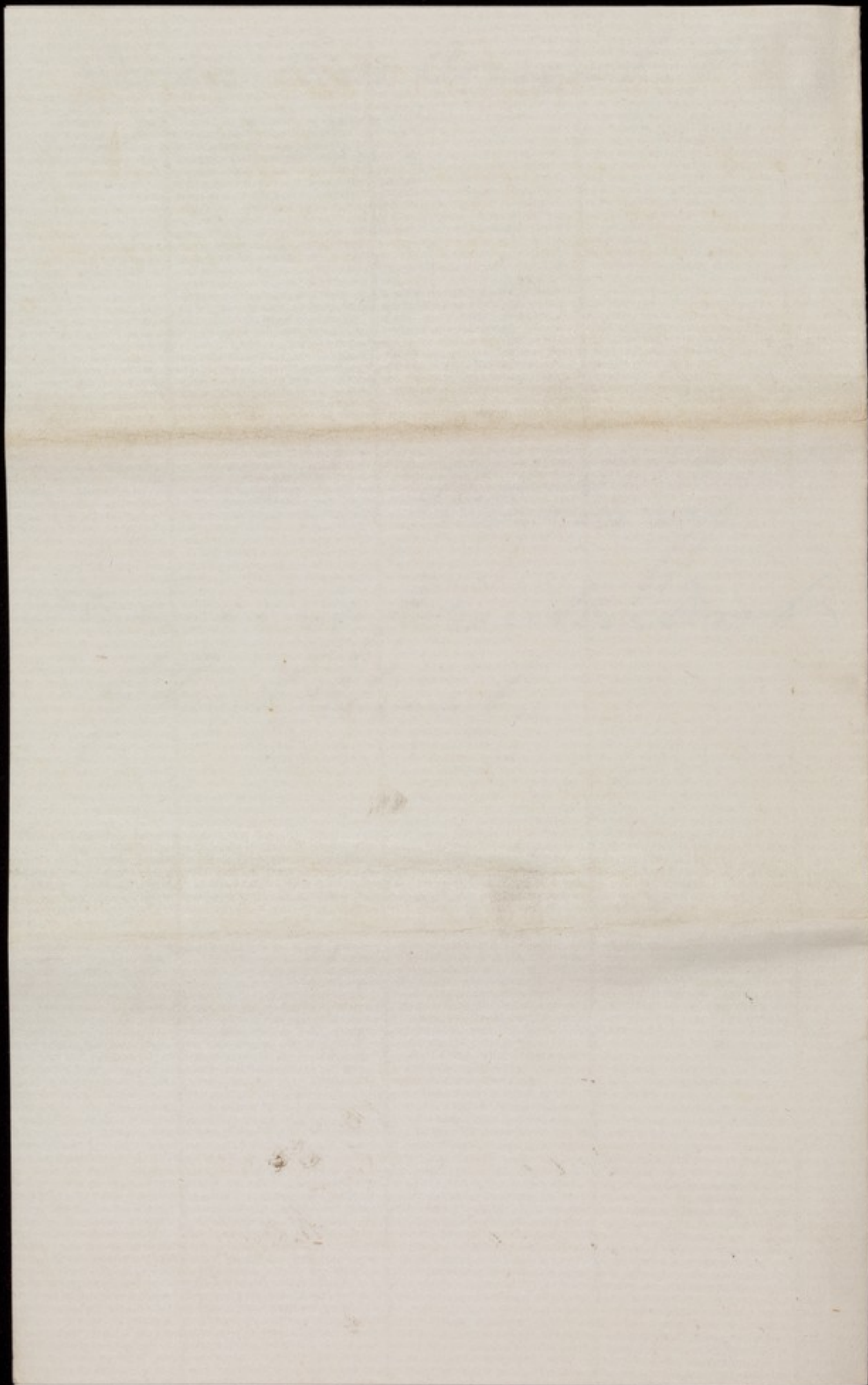
given and correct &
Satisfactory.

I am
respectfully
Yours

Wm Ritchey
Medical Superintendent
of the Retreat.

Charles Bellairs.

h



Durham March 24/52.

Sir:

I have already seen Your
Letters to Miss Mary Bewley
respecting Miss Elizabeth Salvin
now in the Retreat in or near
Your City Asylum I
know you attend professionally.
Mr. Bellairs has also written
you that ^{it is} intended at
once to apply for a Commission
as all the friends of Miss
Elizabeth think it most

important that her person
& property should at once
be put under proper
Custody - By your kind
Letters it is evident you
think also that this is
an imperative step - You
^{no doubt} know that to support
the Petition to the
Chancellor, ^{for a Commission} it is necessary
to support same with
affidavits of parties who
have attended the patient.

I seen & can testify to her
delusions - I am sure you
are so conversant with such
matters that you can
easily give me a full
statement of such an
affidavit as you can
make fully showing his
&: John's state of mind
& her incapacity to
conduct her own affairs.
at present your affidavit
will be ample ^{to support the Petition} but I believe
some other medical Gent. by
also seen her ^{in the Retreat} & if so his

Testimony will be necessary
on the Commission - if in
addition to your statement
you can give me any
suggestions I shall be glad
of your extensive knowledge
in such matters - It will be
desirable as the patient is
at York to sit the Commission
there - Be pleased to write
me as soon as you can
conveniently. As so as the
Family are most anxious
to get this delicate affair
concluded as soon as possible
- Yours &c &c
Surgeon
Retreat for Lunatics
York -
Alfred H. H. H.

Durham March 19

1852

Sir I am much obliged
by your letter received
this morning; containing
the mind of the Committee
on two important points—
With regard to the expendi-
ture, I send you a cheque
which according to the
account I enclose will
leave a balance in your
hands of eleven shillings
I preferred sending a bill
for the exact amount of

The legacy left by the late
Mrs H Howley and which
I had detained as her
executor: expecting it
might be so wanted, as
time has proved.

I will write to her heir
at law, with regard to the
other matter, and if Elyse
Salom and her property
can be put under legal
care I anticipate more
peace for her latter years.

Miss Jopling, has a legal
adviser, and is preparing
to defend what she
holds

but on what grounds I
know not. She has so long
reigned supreme over my
poor cousin that she
forgets she can have
no claim.

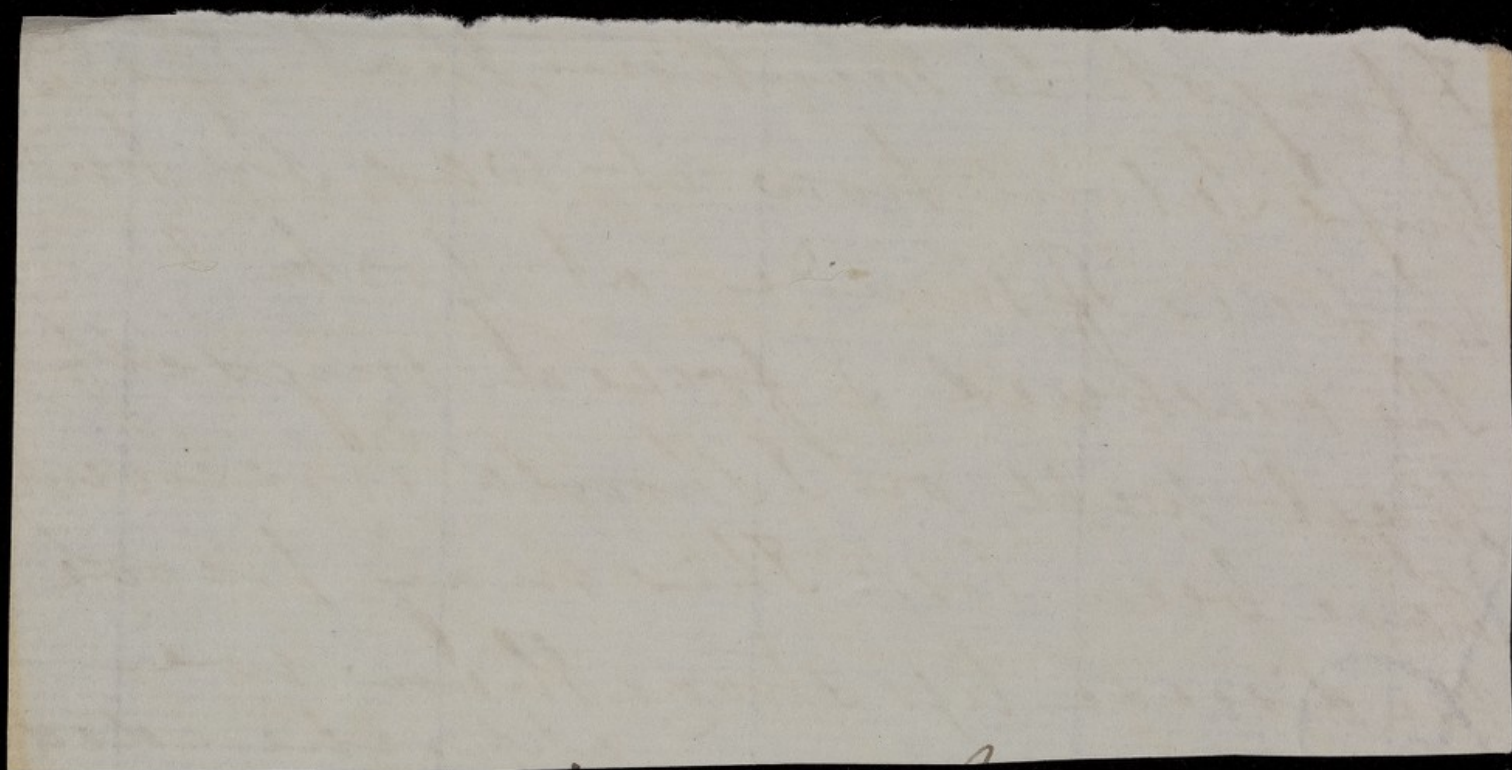
I remain Sir

Yours obedly

Mary Howley.

Please acknowledge
the receipt

I forgot to mention, that I asked
Miss Salvin how it was, she had
no fears of murder at home I
The answer I forced myself
to get well, or I should irrecoverably
have been lost. This may prove
the disease less strong than we
apprehended



31 Old Church.

March 31.

Dear Miss Sabine; (Recd by post on the 31st - H.C.)

I send you a present of a pair of
Shoes also a collar of your own work. you
having (?) gloves with you. if you have not I will
send you some of mine till you return. I was
at the Will Office. Mary does not name the
Road Shaver in her will nor any of the Church's
property.

Mary Bowley has let her house to Mrs
Kipple. I am glad of that. she will not get
to Church. she could not be a Tenant for either
house. she is so mean in her transactions.
I have everything belonging to you just as you
left them. Be composed & quiet & you soon
will be well. in hopes of seeing you soon

I remain

Dear Miss Sabine
Your sincere friend
N. Lopley.

Offering to
E. Salvoir -

Letters relating to
E. Salvoir

No 853. 2nd 17
1852

Bedworth Lodge
Near Coventry
10th April 1852

My dear Sir

I wrote a rough sketch of
Miss Eliza Salvin's history &
sent it to Miss Mary Bowby
for ~~correction~~; but instead of
altering it, I think I cannot
do better than forward it
to you in its rough state
together with her answer.

Almost every thing contained
in my history can be borne
out by original letters in
my possession, written by
one of her cousins, now
dead, at the time -

I wrote a few days ago to a
friend of mine in Sussex
Dr. Newington, who has a
very eminent Asylum for
lunatics of the higher classes.

I stated to him the pecu-
liarities & great difficulties
of the case - I have sent him
an answer to our Solicitor,
but he says there is not the
least difficulty in providing
for the safety of herself & her
property - He says all we
have to do is to proceed
under "Lord Ashleg's Act,"

without having a Commissioner
and that the Chancellor will
at once dispose of her safety,
if the Commissioner is satisfied
with the conduct of the friends,
& the testimony of the Doctors -

I have desired Mr. Story
to give me his advice on
Dr. Hewingston's letter, & I will
let you know what he says -

I was much obliged to you
for forwarding me Miss Eliza's
letter to her cousin Mr.
Salvin - It is a very
unnatural letter, to those

She know how she ought to
have written, & how she intended
to write when I saw her, but at
the same time it bears little
or no evidence of an unsound
mind -

I write to you in haste having
a great deal to do this
week in my Parish -

I remain

Very truly Yours
Charles Bellair

John Hitching Esq.
The Rectory
York.

Bedworth Lodge
March 28th 1852

Dear Sir

I received a letter from
Miss Bowly this morning
enclosing one from son
& another from Miss
Salvin -

Before proceeding
any further in so
serious a matter I
have thought it best

to come to York & see you
& Miss Salvin & to judge
for myself as to the
safety of petitioning
the Chancellor.

I therefore propose
if it please God,
to start tomorrow
Monday
morning for York
& hope to reach.

that I'll during the
afternoon & will come
to the Reheat as soon
as possible after my
arrival, & if you
have anything to
communicate I'm
previous to my
seeing you at the
Asylum I shall be

at the Black Swan.

It will perhaps be
better not to apprise
Miss Salvin of my
coming as I should
wish to see her
without any preparation
on her part.

In haste Y^{rs} truly
Charles Bellairs