Madhouses Regulation Bill
as amended on 2nd Recommitment

(10)

Page 5 — After the word "Licence" in line 16 from the bottom

Proposed to insert —

for the keeping of any House for the reception of Lunatics, such House being under the management of the Trustees or Directors of any Establishment by the Proprietors of or Contributors to which no profits shall be received or receivable; and for such and every Licence

Page 6, line 2 — Before "maintained" — insert ~~of Lunatics~~
5 — ~~after~~ Before "which do" — insert ditto
And then omit the word "Pauper" ~~in line~~ ~~from the~~
in line 11.
Insert such

Page ~~11~~ 13 — after line 16 — After the Clause requiring that the Names of all Persons concerned &c. shall be inserted in Licences — a Clause of the following tenour is suggested:

Provided always, and be it further enacted, that if any House for the reception of Lunatics shall be under the management of ~~the Trustees or Directors of any Charitable Institution~~

~~Institution, or of~~ the Trustees or Directors of any Institution or Establishment by the Proprietors of or Contributors to which no Profits shall be received, it shall not be necessary to insert in the Licence for the keeping of such House the Names of all or any of such Trustees or Directors; nor shall they or any of them be required to enter into any Bond or Bonds: but the Master or Superintendent of such House shall be the Person whose Name shall be inserted in such Licence, and who shall be required to enter into a Bond with two sufficient Sureties in like manner as is hereinbefore provided with respect to the Master or Keeper of any ~~public~~ Hospital.

A Copy of
the above Clause
was handed to G. Rose
the 4. 7 mo. 1814 but he did not
give expectation of its being inserted.

Page ~~the Clause 1814~~
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See J. Gray's History - appendix - page 46.

July 1814.

(10)

COPY.

To the Right Honourable the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, in Parliament assembled, The humble Petition of the undersigned Persons, being Governors of the YORK LUNATIC ASYLUM, *within the Suburbs of the City of York:*

SHEWETH,

THAT a Bill is now depending in your Honourable House, to repeal an Act made in the 14th year of the reign of his present Majesty, for regulating Madhouses, and for making other Provisions and Regulations in lieu thereof.

THAT the York Lunatic Asylum, like the Hospitals of Bethlem and St. Luke, (both of which are expressly exempted from all the provisions of the said Bill, except as to the visitation thereof) is a Charitable Institution, designed for the relief of Lunatic Parish Paupers, and other Lunatics, in indigent and distressed circumstances, and admitting only a limited number of Patients, in easy circumstances, with a view to assist, in the maintenance of the poorest classes; and that it is under the government of your Petitioners, and others who have voluntarily contributed to its support, and is also under the inspection of Visitors appointed by the said Contributors from amongst their own body.

THAT the effect of the intended Bill will be, to take the Government and Direction of this Institution out of the hands of the Contributors to its support, who are naturally the Persons most anxious for its welfare and success.

THAT though the said Asylum is an Institution principally for the County of York, and has been erected and maintained chiefly by means of Contributions from Persons resident in various Parts of that County; yet that by the intended Bill, the Licensing and Government of this Institution will be vested in the Justices of the Peace for the City of York, which is a County of itself, and is a District of small extent, within which the said Asylum is situate, and over which the Justices of the Peace for the Three Ridings of the County of York have no controul.

THAT the Managers of this Charitable Institution will, by the provisions of the said Bill, be compellable to take out an Annual Licence, which will incur an expense of one Hundred Guineas, or upwards, which sum must be wholly drawn from Funds of a purely charitable nature, whilst the plan of visiting contained in the said Bill might be effected for a sum, not greater than Six or Eight Guineas; and yet it is on account of the expenses of visiting solely, that there is a charge on the Licence to be obtained.

That although the said Bill appears to intend a Provision for relieving not only Parish Paupers, but other indigent distressed Lunatics, from the burden of the higher rate of Charges for Licence, yet no Provision appears to your Petitioners to be made for the mode of licensing an Institution, where a part of the Patients are not Paupers; and that this Lunatic Asylum, which contains various Patients in different Classes, will be liable for all the Paupers and other distressed and indigent Patients to the highest rate of Charges.

That in case the visiting Justices or Physician should be disposed to perform their Office gratuitously, the Bill contains no Clause for remitting or abating the charge for Licences.

That the placing of Pumps, at all Hours accessible to the Patients, as required by the said Bill, may lead to mischief amongst the Patients.

That as Patients are brought to this Asylum from all Parts of the extensive County of York, as well as from other Parts of the Kingdom, a Restriction of the Power to grant Certificates for Admission to the Medical Practitioners of the City of York, (which would be the effect of the said Bill,) will produce much Inconvenience to Persons desirous of placing their Friends in this Asylum, since they must incur the Expense of a Journey to York, under an uncertainty as to obtaining Certificates of Admission, instead of applying to Practitioners in their respective Neighbourhoods.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray your Lordships, to adopt such Alterations and Amendments in the said Bill, for avoiding the Expense, and remedying the other Hardships and Inconveniences, apprehended by your Petitioners, as to your Lordships shall seem meet.

And your Petitioners shall ever Pray, &c.

(Signed by the ARCHBISHOP of YORK, and by 19 other Governors of the York Lunatic Asylum.)

York:
Printed at the Herald-Office,
Pavement.