Extracts from the Retreat Committee minutes for 1892 on the appointment of Pierce as Medical Superintendent

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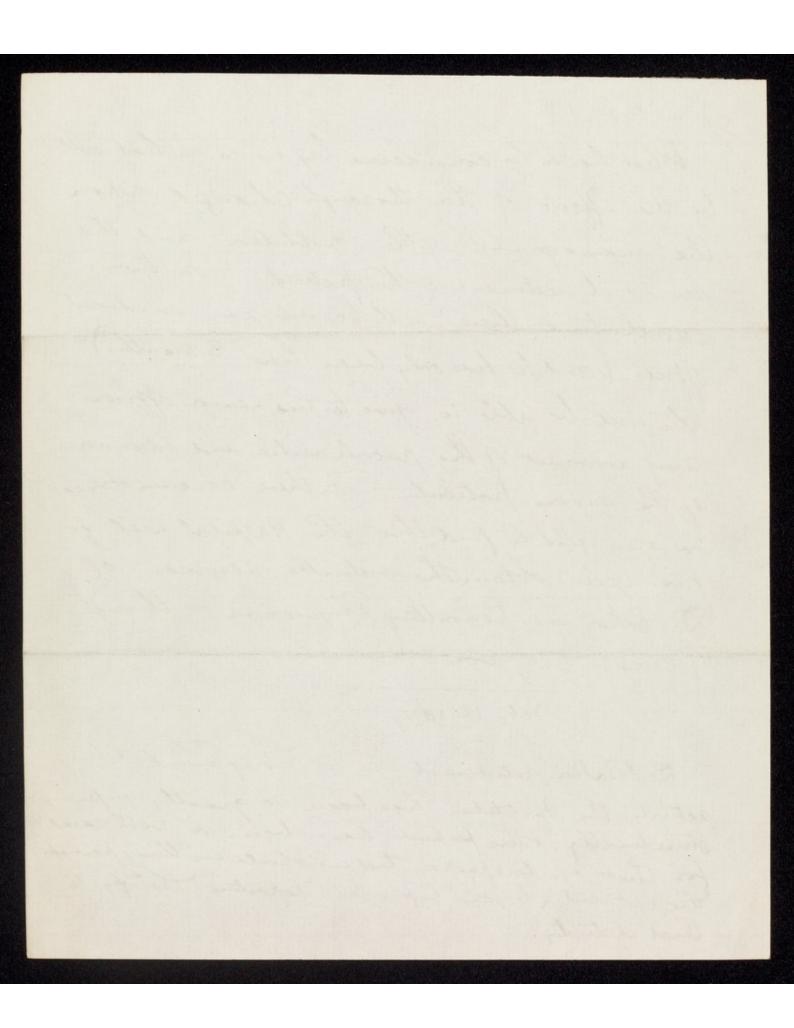
we and regret that the Committee have not thought night to except our colleagues orgestion at the last vint, and appoint as Dr. Baker ancerna, a gentle man "with considerable experience in Lunacy". Dr. Betford Preice has been chosen to fill the post of thedical Superintendent; he has har but very little practical experience in our doyluns, but is now striving to derive sufficient knowledge to fit limi to undertake the duties of Greekeal Superintandent on Od. 15th by opending the west two worth with Dr. Ices Phillipps at Holloways fanatoring. The natural consequence of this is that Dr. Kind Who has proved such an excellent assistant to Dr. Baker, and has spent so many years in this Institution, to the great benefit of the potients, is obliged to leave and seek work elsewhere, and in this we wish him every mocess,

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29/7/92 I What has to be considered by us is what will be the effect of this thorough change upon the management of the Institution, and the months trine there will be only one medical officer, (and he has only been here 3 months) Who will be able to give to this senior officers The moine patients. In these curin stances we are glad to find that the Hospital will, for five years, obtain the valuable services of Dr. Baker as Consulting Huysician, though of course non resident.

Feb. 16.1892

Dr. Bakers retirement - - swing much this activity the Institution has been to greatly improved activity the Institution has been to well cared structurally, + the patients have been to well cared for, that is is bus proper that we should in this, perhaps for, that is is bus proper that we should in this, perhaps the last entry by as before his deporture, testify to that activity.



Much has been done to bring this Hospital up to the standard of other institutions for the insane, and we think we may fairly say that it is only now in the older building that excellent modern accommodation is not afforded. Dr. Baker leaves this Hospital at the end of September; he has done his work zealously and well, and leaves to his suzcessor but very few improvements to carry out and complete the general satisfactory condition of the Hospital according to modern requirements. We much regret that the Committee have not thought right to accept our colleagues' suggestion at the last visit and appoint as Dr. Baker's successor a gentlemen with considerable experience in Lunacy". Dr. Bedford Pierce has been chosen to fill the post of Medical Superintendent; he has had but very little practical experience in an asylum, but is now striving to derive sufficient knowledge to fit him to undertake the duties of Medical Superintendent on October 15th. by spending the next two months with Dr. Rees Phillips at Holloways Sanatorium. The natural consequence of this is that Dr. Hind who has proved such an excellent assistant to Dr. Baker, and has spent so many years in this Institution, to the great benefit of the patients, is obliged to leave and seek work elsewhere, and in this we wish him every success. What has to be considered by us is what will be the effect of this thorough change upon the management of the Institution, and the medical treatment of the patients. In two months' time there will be only one medical officer (and he has only been here 3 months) who will be able to give to his senior officers any account of the peculiarities and idiosyncrasies of the insane patients. In these circumstances we are glad to find that the Hospital will for five years obtain the valuable services of Dr. Baker as Consulting Physician, though, of course, non-resident.....

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