TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER, STRAND BARROW-IN-FURNESS"

T. ASHBURNER.

56, STRAND,

Barrow-in-Furness,

33

Aug 27 1913

Dr Bedford Pierce
The Retreat
York

Dear Sir

Looking through my late brothers letters (Alderman Ashburner) I came across your name. when it occurred to me that I ought to acquaint you of his son Thomas' death on Aug 7 last he had not been very well for some time he was troubled with indigestion & insomnia. but the immediate cause of death was taking an ice drink when he was overheated which caused digestive & bowel trouble and ultimately paralysis of the right side he was only able to bed a week. Dr Thompson Church Street attended him in his illness. his Father died April 27 his Mother died June 5th and the son died Aug 7 all within 3½ months a whole family gone

yours truly
Richard Ashburner

FIRENZE BOARDING HOUSE,
TORQUAY.

August 25 1913

Dear Sir, I believe the Executrix of the late Thos Ashburner are. The Rev F. Ashburner. 18 Strand Street Barrow & the Rev. Parr. The latter address I do not know. Yours faithfully

A. E. Thompson

W. L. Waller Esq.

455

AT HOME,
9·30 - 10,
2 - 3,
6 - 8,
TELEPHONE Nº 250.

93 CHURCH STREET,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

June 1 1918

Dear Sir

Many thanks for your letter re Mr Ashburner. As you say, there is no doubt that he is unencumbered. I have seen a good deal of him lately and I certainly think he is much better in some ways. He still sleeps very badly: I am sorry to say his mother is in a highly critical condition. I fear the worst.

Probably he will write and let you know about his mother.

Yours very truly
A. E. Thompson

Dr Bedford Pierce.

454

Church Street
Barrow-in-Furness
1st June 1913.

Dear Dr. Pierce,

I thank you for the copies of the Certificate & Orders etc and agree that there is not much to be gained by contemplating or brooding over them. At the same time there was in it something I did not expect, something which shows I was not unjustly detained.

I also thank you for your sympathetic reference

to me trouble. I am sorry to say Mrs. Ashburner has had to undergo a serious operation and her condition is very critical

Yours faithfully,
T. Ashburner

P.S.
If there are any charges against me will you kindly ask the Secretary to send them on.

May 31, 1913

Dear Sir,

I write to let you know that Mr. Ashburner has had to be discharged from certificates, and having been discharged he is legally entitled to have copies of the certificates under which he was admitted here. He asked for these, and I have therefore sent him a copy of your sertificate dated Sept. 23, 1912.

There is, I fear, no doubt that he is unrecovered, and that the delusions of persecution continue, though I think it is clear that since he was under Dr. Haydn Brown's care the hallucinations have been less insistent, and he tells me that he does not allow himself to be influenced by the voices which annoy him. How long this will last I do not know, but there was no other course under the circumstances but to discharge him and give him a chance

Yours very truly,

Dr. Thompson

May 31, 1913

Dear Mr. Ashburner,

I send you a copy of the certificates under which you were admitted, as you ask for them, though I cannot think any useful purpose will be served by your contemplating them.

I hope Mrs. Ashburner is getting better. You are having a time of great anxiety.

Yours very truly,

12 Church Street 446 ~~447~~
Barrow in Furness
28th May 1913.

Dear Dr Pierce.

The Notice of Discharge sent to Mrs Ashburner was duly received but I regret to say my Mother is seriously ill with a chill.

I desire a Copy of the Certificate under which I was detained in the Retreat from the 20th September 1912 and onwards which I prefer to get from you instead of applying to the Commissioners under Sect 82 of the Lunacy Acts. as I

intend to get it from them if you are not willing to do this.

Yours faithfully
T. Ashburner

429

All communications should be addressed to—
THE SECRETARY,
Lunacy Commission,
66, Victoria Street,
LONDON, S.W.
Communications relating to different subjects should be made in separate letters.

LUNACY COMMISSION,
66, *Victoria Street, S.W.*

24 May 1913.

Sir,

Mr Thomas Ashburner

I am directed by the Commissioners in Lunacy to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23rd inst. and enclosures, and to say that Mrs Ashburner appears to be the person having authority to discharge the patient.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

O. P. Dickinson

Secretary.

The Medical Superintendent,

York Retreat.

24 May 1917.

Sir,

Mr Thomas Ashburner

I am directed by the Commissioners in Lunacy to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23rd inst. and enclosures, and to say that Mrs Ashburner appears to be the person having authority to discharge the patient.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Secretary.

The Medical Superintendent,

York Retreat.

May 23, 1913

Thomas Ashburner

Sir,

The father and Petitioner in the case of a patient of the same name, Thomas Ashburner, has died, and the patient is wishful to be discharged.

I enclose copies of some letters on the subject, and should be glad to know whether Mrs. Ashburner may be considered to have the right of discharge.

I may say that when I saw the patient in Leeds, on the 16th inst, there was no doubt whatever as to his being troubled with delusions of persecution. The Committee of the Retreat, however, are wishful that the patient's leave of absence should, under the circumstances, terminate.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

The Secretary,

Lunacy Commission

428

20 Church Street
Barrow in Furness
May 22 1913

Dr Bedford Pierce
The Retreat
York

Dear Sir

Mrs Thos Ashburner my sister in law, who is ill in bed with a severe feverish cold, sent for me to read your letter and confer as to the contents. She says that her son is fairly well in health and is doing the business relating to his Father's testamentary affairs, though he has not got clear of the noises he fancies he hears at night. He has a great objection to going to York and she thinks the only alternative is to cancel the certificate. She is one of her husband's trustees and thinks it not necessary to trouble the other two on the matter. Sorry you should be troubled about this unfortunate business.

Yours truly
Richard Ashburner

May 21, 1913

Dear Mrs.Ashburner,

I think you are aware tha t Mr. Ashburner is asking to be discharged from certificates, and has applied to the Committee with this object. I am sorry to have to trouble you just now, but the Committee wish me to explain that they do not feel justified in continuing the absence on leave longer, and that unless there be good reason to the contrary they propose next month to discharge him as "Relieved".

I fear we cannot discharge your son as "Recovered", as I ascertained when I saw him in Leeds last Friday that the delusions of persecution continue. Mr. Ashburner, however, assures me that these matters no longer seriously disturb him, that he causes you no anxiety in respect to them, a and that there is no longer any trouble in reference to neighbours or the servants, and, generally, that he is able to ignore the annoyances of which he complains.

I also understand that he is actually engaged in proving his father's will at your request. If so, it would seem very undesirable that he should remain under certificates.

May I ask you, before replying, to confer with one of your co-executors. I should perhaps have written to one of them had I known the address, and it may perhaps save you trouble if one of them replies to your enquiries instead of yourself.

these

Let me say in conclusion how much I felt with you and the family in your bereavement, and again say How sorry I am to trouble you with a letter of this kind at such a time.

Yours very truly,

TUESDAY } 2 TO 4 P.M.
FRIDAY }
BY APPOINTMENT.
TELEPHONE 391 X.

6, PARK SQUARE,
LEEDS.

16th May 1913

To The Committee,
The Retreat,
York.

Gentlemen,

I desire to place my circumstances before you and to appeal for my discharge on the following grounds:-

I have now been on leave for about three and a half months and during that time, have conducted my ordinary business and attended to Public work as as member of the Borough Council and during that time have given my friends and relations no cause for anxiety.

I have also been examined by Dr. Pierce this afternoon, who will give you his report.

I regret to inform you that in the meantime my father the Petitioner has passed away, As a result of this a very considerable additional amount of work has devolved upon me.

Whilst I do not agree with Dr. Pierce upon all points with regard to what he considers Hallunciations I feel sure you will come to the conclusion that I am in a fit state to be discharged,

I remain, Gentlemen
Yours faithfully
T. Ashburner

TUESDAY } 2 TO 4 P.M.
FRIDAY }
BY APPOINTMENT.
TELEPHONE 391 X.

6, PARK SQUARE,
LEEDS.

16th May 1913

Dear Dr Pierce,

Will you kindly hand the enclosed letter to The Committee of the Retreat at their Meeting to-morrow,

Yours faithfully,
T. Ashburner

Mrs. Ashbrooner – 14 May 1913.
seen at 6 Park Square
Leeds.

Execs – Trustees.
Mrs Ashbrooner.
Mr. Bevan Bagot.
Mr. J. D. Smyth.

Thinks the conversations & readings outside your room continue – espd at night – beyond keeping awake occasionally do not cause any serious distress of mind.

Has not made any public accusations against anyone.
Has been out at night –
Says Mrs Ashbrooner is quite easy in her mind.
Now managing affairs & engaged in proving the will for Trustees.

Attending to public duties as Town Councillor –
Relations friendly with everyone –
No trouble with servants or anyone –
In his own mind he believes ~~there are~~ there is a malicious conspiracy to prove an innocent man guilty which he "has no fear that they can do." "They" – are a number of men & women, some known by sight, ~~and~~ not known people – persons connected with the affair in the Midlands – who have taken it up to perpetrate a swindle –
Trying to work up a fraudulent case.
So now better able to ignore all this & Rum formerly made of a more settled state state –

Sometimes worse than others – but on the whole less troublesome than it used to be.

Mrs D Hasdu Brown died good.

There is no animus against any friend, neighbour or anyone he is likely to meet. There is not the slightest danger of any breach of the peace against anyone.

On excellent term with relatives, friends, doctors, and neighbours —

&c

Ask if anything owing.

BC

12 Church Street
Barrow in Furness
10th May 1913

Dear Dr. Pierce,

I duly received your letter and on behalf of Mrs. Ashburner and myself beg to thank you for your kind expression of sympathy.

I will come over on Friday the 16th inst to Leeds and call at your rooms about 1.30 p.m.

Yours faithfully,
T. Ashburner

May 8, 1913

Dear Mr. Ashburner,

I should have written before to say how sorry I was to hear of your bereavement, and should like to express to you and Mrs. Ashburner my great sympathy.

What to do about yourself I do not know. The actual legal position is difficult. Could you come to see me in Leeds, say on Friday the 16th? We could then talk over the situation together. In a case such as yours I have no power to discharge. There will, however, be a meeting of the Committee on the 17th inst, and if I could see you I could report the circumstances to them; and it is possible they might take the matter up, which is within their power.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

12 Church Street 360
Barrow-in-Furness
4th May 1913.

Dear Dr. Pierce,

I regret to inform you that my Father passed away about ten days ago.

I do not know what you propose to do about a discharge but it will not be convenient for me to come over to York for some time.

My views are the same as when I wrote the last time.

Yours faithfully
T. Ashburner

March 14, 1913

Dear Sir,

I am much obliged by your letter. I also have heard from the Commissioners i Lunacy to-day, and t ey are quite satisfied for your nephew's laave of absence to remain in force for some time longer, until the end of May at least. I feel quite sure this is the right course to take as there is only too much reason to fear there may be a relapse.

I am very sorry to hear that Mr. Thomas Ashburner, senior is so ill. I must say I am not surprised, for when I saw him last he was a bad colour and looked as if he might be taken seriously ill at any time. One cannot but fear that the anxiety relative to his son's case is injurious to him.

Yours very truly,

R.Ashburner Esq.

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THE SECRETARY,
Lunacy Commission,
66, Victoria Street,
LONDON, S.W.
Communications relating to different subjects should be made in separate letters.

LUNACY COMMISSION,
66, *Victoria Street, S.W.*

13th March, 1913.

Sir,

Thomas Ashburner, Junr.

In reply to your letter of the 11th inst., I am directed by the Commissioners in Lunacy to say that they think the patient should be allowed to remain for his leave on trial, renewed for three months on the 1st inst.

I am,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

C. P. Robinson
Secretary.

Dr. Pierce.

20 Church Street
Barrow in Furness
Mar 12. 1913

Dr Bedford Pierce
The Retreat
York

Dr Sir

My Brother had a slight relapse yesterday and was somewhat worse last night Mrs Ashburner thinks it would be better to keep the Certificate in force a bit longer until he is a bit better as their son Tom is not in as good form as he should be. He is still troubled with Insomnia and complains of noise that other people do not hear. Otherwise he is all right and looks the picture of health.
We will write again when my Brother is in a fit state to talk about the matter

Yours truly
R Ashburner

11th. March, 1913.

The Commissioner
in Lunacy.

Gentlemen,

Thomas Ashburner, Junr.

You will see from the enclosed copy of letter that the petitioner is ill, and I am at a loss to know what to do in respect to the leave of absence of his son.
You will see that the son opened my letter and has replied himself. It is quite clear from his letter that he has not recovered in the full sense of the term, and if this is so there is a difficulty about discharging him as relieved.

I could, of course, report the matter to the Committee and ask the Committee to take this responsibility, but knowing, as I do, how serious the case has been in the past I hesitate to do this.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

encl.

20 Church Street
Barrow in Furness
May 11. 1913

Dr Bedford Pierce
The Retreat
York

Dear Sir

My Brother Thos Ashburner is very ill indeed. He took to his bed a week ago with acute diarrhea. The doctor who is in attendance forbids any mention of business or visits of friends. I have only seen him once. but he would talk business and it quite upset him. so his wife thought it best for no one to see him except the nurse and herself.

She asked me to write you to let the matter of her son stand over till he is able to talk business.

Nephew Tom looks well and as far as I can see appears to be all right

yours truly
R Ashburner

March 10 1913.

Dear Sir,

Mr Thomas Ashburner Junr.was given leave of absence on trial for three months on Nov.29 1912 and it was renewed on March 1 1913 for three months.

I saw him with Dr.Haydon Brown about six weeks ago when he was somewhat better, and I agreed to his going back to Barrow in Furness to his father's house after a short stay at Harrogate.

I have written for particulars as to how he is going on and asking whether he is sufficiently well to be discharged. I much fear that his delusions continue as the case is a very unpromising one.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

O.P.Dickinson Esq.

1 126

T. ASHBURNER, Jr., B.A.,
SOLICITOR.

12 Church Street
~~9, LAWSON STREET~~,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

10th March 1913

Dear Dr. Pierce,

I regret to say my Father is seriously ill in consequence of having caught a severe chill so I have taken the liberty of replying to your letter. I am glad to say he is improving and I hope will be able to get about again in a few weeks time. Dr. Thompson of Church Street who signed the Urgency Order is attending him. In the meantime I am looking after things for him and taking my usual share

2

T. ASHBURNER, JR, B.A.,
SOLICITOR.

~~9, LAWSON STREET,~~
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

in the Towns business. Under the circumstances as you will understand it would be extremely inconvenient for me to go away at present and of course I am very anxious to have my certificate discharged, as was understood when you saw me at Dr. Haydn Brown's consulting rooms. Dr. Brown's treatment was chiefly for indigestion and Exema and that treatment I am continuing here. I have also had six teeth out and shall have to remain at home to get the false

T. ASHBURNER, JR, B.A.,
SOLICITOR.

~~9, LAWSON STREET,~~
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

ones fitted. My health is now very good.

With regard to the reading or loud talking hundreds of people are aware that this takes place wherever I go but as I am innocent of what they accuse me of I have no fear of it and do not let it interfere with my usual life but it is not a delusion that this reading takes place.

During Easter Week I shall probably be able to get a few days at Harrogate and

4

T. ASHBURNER, JR, B.A.,
SOLICITOR.

~~9, LAWSON STREET,~~
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

Should like to see you at York when convenient to you

I remain
Yours very truly
T. Ashburner Jr

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LONDON, S.W.

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LUNACY COMMISSION,
66, *Victoria Street*, S.W.

8th March, 1913.

Sir,

Thos. Ashburner

The Commissioners in Lunacy direct me to ask you to inform them whether leave of absence on trial to Barrow in Furness has been granted to this patient and, if so, when the leave will expire. They learn from Dr. Haydon Brown that he is no longer under his care, and they would be glad to have some particulars as to Mr. Ashburner's present whereabouts and the probability of his discharge from certificates.

I am,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

O. P. Dickinson

Secretary.

Dr. Pierce.

Dear Sir -

Mr Thomas A. M. was given leave of absence until for on - Nov 29 1892 and it was renewed on Mar 1 1893 for 3 mos.

I saw him with Dr Hayden Brown ~~when he had~~ about 6 weeks ago. when he was better somewhat better and I agreed to his going home to Dakota to his father's home after a short stay in Minnesota.

~~I have to~~ I have written for ~~for~~ particulars as to how he is going on. ~~&~~ ~~+~~ whether he is sufficiently well to be discharged. I much fear that his delusions continue ~~that he is~~ as the case is a very unfavorable one.

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER. STRAND BARROW-IN-FURNESS"

T. ASHBURNER.

~~56, STRAND~~, 12 Church St
Barrow-in-Furness,
Nov 22nd 1912

Dear Dr Bedford Pierce
The Retreat York

I have a letter this morning from Dr Hayden Brown he wants my son to take up his lodgings at the Burham Caterham Valley on the 29th instant. I hope to come to the Retreat on Tuesday next the 26th instant. I hope you will oblige by letting one of your attendants accompany my son and see him safe to the Caterham Valley

I will be pleased to see you when over. I hope my son is improving

Yours sincerely
Thos Ashburner

65

TELEPHONES:
81 CATERHAM.
1480 MAYFAIR.
TELEGRAMS:
HAYDN BROWN, CATERHAM.

THE BISHAMS,
CATERHAM VALLEY,
SURREY.
AND
15, CAVENDISH PLACE,
CAVENDISH SQUARE,
LONDON, W.

Jan 21/13

Dear Mr Bedford Pierce,

I thank you for letter of 20th. inst. Fri. 28th. 5 p.m. will be quite convenient for me to arrange for Ashburnham to be present to see you. We shall be there.

I am very glad to think that Mr March is under greater care than it was possible to give under my provisions at Caterham,

P.S. I sometimes feel entitled to opine that psychotherapy (sublimal) is comparable to treatment for cancer & phthisis & appendicitis – that the method should be adopted early if possible, & of a reliable, approved method were known.

and that he will have every chance that is possible. Treatment by sublimal suggestion answered well enough for a time, but a relapse under always strained relationship with his wife, in a man inheriting very obstinate dispositions (secretively so) gave but poor chance for a continuance of the treatment. I have a medical man here now who improved vastly for a time, after giving me 23 names of specialists he had been under, but now he is failing again.

Yours very truly

Hayden Brown

Jan. 1915

Hyddcombe,
Upper Warlingham,
Warren Park,
Surrey.

Dear Dr. Pierce,

I am obliged by your letter and have discussed it with Dr. Brown.

Naturally I think I ought to be released now, but Dr. Brown is of opinion that nothing should be done with regard to my discharge until we have a consultation together in London towards the end of the month.

Will you kindly let Dr. Brown know as long beforehand as possible, the time and date you will be able to meet us at his Rooms in London.

I am feeling very well and fit just at present.

Yours faithfully
Thos. Ashburner Junr

TELEGRAMS "ASHBURNER, STRAND BARROW-IN-FURNESS"

T. ASHBURNER.

~~56, STRAND,~~ 12 Church St

Barrow-in-Furness,

Jany 18. 1913

Dear Dr Bedford Pierce

I am much obliged for your letter received this day and hope you will find my son all right so that you can give him his discharge. I purpose joining my son at Ventnor for about one week before he comes home as recommended by Dr Mayston Brown

Yours Sincerely
Thos Ashburner

Very pleased to hear my son is going on so well hope it will continue

TELEPHONES:
81 CATERHAM.
1460 MAYFAIR.
TELEGRAMS:
HAYDN BROWN, CATERHAM.

THE BISHAMS,
CATERHAM VALLEY,
SURREY.
AND
15, CAVENDISH PLACE,
CAVENDISH SQUARE,
LONDON, W.

9 ~~50~~

Jan 15/13

Dear Dr Redford Pierce,

I now have pleasure in returning letter from Ashburner Jun. to you. Many thanks for kind suggestion as to questions to ask him. I propose to ask him there in a week or two. He tells me you propose being in London end of month: I have told Ashburner to possess himself in patience & that I should much like you to see him on this occasion if you are able. I am also writing this to his Father who also wishes him to stay here longer.

Yrs Marsh

I received your two notes

the time of seeing this patient too late to reply, but your second wire indicated that the patient would see you in York as your original telegram the day before set forth. Right up to the last day he varied tremendously, being happy & quite sensible for an hour or two, & later on querulous & complaining of hallucinations & of his wife & even of myself saying I wanted to kill him &c &c.

Yours Sincerely

Alfred Brown

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER. STRAND BARROW-IN-FURNESS"

T. ASHBURNER.

~~56, STRAND,~~ 12 Church St

Barrow-in-Furness,

Jany 13 1913

Dear Dr Redfoot Price

I now enclose you cheque for £ ~~60. 10. 3~~ 60. 6. 9 in settlement of the enclosed account which please return to me receipted and oblige. My son informs me he has wrote to you about getting his release, will you please take up the case with Dr Hayden Brown and confer with him what is best to do in the matter. I wrote to Dr Hayden Brown a short time ago, he recommended to go on with the treatment to the end of February 1913 and it would be a permanent cure which is worth a great deal to my son. But best to have him discharged sooner or go on to the end of February 1913 as Dr Hayden Brown suggested. Kindly take up the case with Dr Hayden Brown and let us know the result at your convenience.

as my son has wrote you I have sent Dr Hayden Brown my son letter that I received from him yesterday. Hope what I have done meets your approval. Wishing you the compliments of the season

Yours sincerely

T. Ashburner

much impressed with my improvement and suggested that I should mention this fact.

I should like to know soon definitely what are your views on the matter as I am getting anxious to get into the general current of life again and several arrangements for the coming year are being held in suspension until I get to know at least approximately when the certificate will be discharged.

This neighbourhood

Please return to B Pierce

Hyddcombe. 50
Warren Park,
Upper Warlingham,
Surrey.
10th January 1913.

Dear Dr. Pierce,

As you will see from the above address I have moved to a village about three and a half miles from Caterham Valley so that I am getting pretty well all round the District.

I thank you for the kind wishes conveyed by your last letter. I gather from the general context

that you desire more
information as to my outlook
on life. With regard to that
I see things very differently,
am <u>not worried at all</u>, sleep
much better (in fact very well)
and also my rash which was
Indigestion Exzema has quite
gone away. In fact I think
I can safely say that I am
quite self contained and
self controlled.

Under the circumstances
I feel it is only right as I
am not bothered by outside

moves or anything of that
kind that my certificate
should be annulled and I
shall be glad to hear that
you are willing to do this.

If however you would
like to have a personal
interview both Dr. Brown
and myself would like to
know if you are likely to
be coming South soon
and when you could give
an appointment. I may
say that Dr. Brown is very

is very picturesque, and the weather although rather damp has been very mild in this part of the world so far this winter.

A very good amateur performance was given in the local Hall this week of "She Stoops to Conquer" and was very well received.

Wishing you a Happy New Year

Yours very truly
Thos. Ashburner

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TELEPHONES:
81 CATERHAM.
1460 MAYFAIR.
TELEGRAMS:
HAYDN BROWN, CATERHAM.

THE BISHAMS,
CATERHAM VALLEY,
SURREY.
AND
15, CAVENDISH PLACE,
CAVENDISH SQUARE,
LONDON, W.

Jan 10/13

Dear Dr Bedford Pierce,

I thank you for letter re Ashburner, & I quite see from your reasoning that he may have the smouldering embers deeply within but in any way apparent. He asked me to-day if there were any reason why he should not write to you and I replied — none whatever — just as often as he likes.

Now I wish to refer to another case — the Rev. W. E. Marsh

who came to me for further treatment some 2 months ago. On the whole he has been worse than last time, & more difficult to treat. I find he had bad temper & family failing of obstinacy & self-satisfied secretiveness while & since he left school. Consequently he has been difficult with his wife all along. I have thought it wise whether perhaps that she should not be with him, & I tried this but he worried till she returned. Now I still think she cannot manage him, but as he ought to have experienced companionship if she is away, both night & day I am going to advise them to return North & to consult you. I have no place two desire for cases requiring supervision night & day on account of mental derangement; nor do I take any cases under certificates as a practice (Ashburnham the only one ever). I have told his wife that you may find it necessary to advise certificates, & she will be prepared for this.

Yours sincerely

Haydn Brown

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TELEPHONES:
81 CATERHAM.
1460 MAYFAIR.
TELEGRAMS:
HAYDN BROWN, CATERHAM.

THE BISHAMS,
CATERHAM VALLEY,
SURREY.
AND
15, CAVENDISH PLACE,
CAVENDISH SQUARE,
LONDON, W.

Jan 16/13

Dear Dr Bedford Pierce,

Just a line of report on case of Ashburner. I have nothing but what is quite favourable. Sleeps 6 to 8 hours every night without any drug. Eczema of chest & back gone. Companion states he can find nothing abnormal about him at any time & has not observed anything for nearly 2 wks. now. All nervous tension gone for 3 wks past. May I take this

opportunity of wishing you all
Very best wishes for the new
Year just entered.

Yours faithfully

Hayden Brown

Jan. 9, 1913

Dear Dr. Haydn Brown,

I am glad to hear such a good account of Ashburner. But do not be deceived by the attendants finding nothing amiss, seeing that during several months in America the attendant who was with him detected nothing, and yet the delusions were there all the time. I cannot but think that any treatment calculated to eradicate such delusions would have to be continued for some time to have a chance of being permanently successful.

Yours very truly,

1277

1 Woodbine Villas
115 Croydon Road
Caterham Valley.

Dear Dr. Pierce,

As I thought you would perhaps like to hear how I was getting on and as I should like to know when you think my certificate should be annulled I am just sending you a few lines.

This is a very pretty District and I am sleeping better but am a little troubled with a rash caused by Indigestion which was at first thought to be a heat rash.

I am getting golf whenever the weather is suitable but of course there are no Shakesperian Readings which I suppose will be going on as successfully as ever at the Retreat

I hope you will be able to see your way to advise the Commissioners to discharge my certificate now.

Believe me
Yours sincerely
T. Ashburner Jr.

1290

TELEPHONE: CATERHAM.

The Bishams,
Caterham Valley,
Surrey.

Consultations:
15, CAVENDISH PLACE,
CAVENDISH SQUARE,
LONDON, W.

Dec 26/12

Dear Dr Medford Pierce, Ashburner

I wrote you some Mths. ago about night nurse & gave you my opinion about Ashburner, asking if you approved of my taking the night nurse off. I received no reply. Of course the expense is complained of & I enclose a letter to Mr Ashburner Sen. explaining the

Situation. This also refers to the ~~sons'~~ present condition. If you do not mind taking this as an indication, ~~of the~~ ~~sons'~~ as I have been obliged to write to him at length. I cannot understand why you did not reply to my last letter. Was I not in order in asking the question about night nurse? Or did you overlook my letter, or what?

With all the very best
dearest wishes

Yours ever
Hayden Brown

I told the father I was sending off a letter to you. H.B.

1289

Copy Letter Mr. Ashburner Dec 26 - 1912

Dear Mr. Ashburner

I told you what my fees would be in London. Now your son coming home under certificate has made all the difference, which I cannot help. Until I saw Dr. Bedford Pierce (I think the day before your son arrived) I had no idea he would come under certificate. I made it clear to you that I have no institution for certificated patients & did not take patients in my house. Patients go to apartments & hotel & a few into my nursing homes (but none under certificate.) Therefore your son had to go under, first, two attendants; then, when better, one. All this of course means expense. Nor can I do any better, and ask you to take your son away at once if the expense is too great for you. My fees now are £6.6.0 a week & I charge no less to anybody.

I must ask you to send cheque for nurses fees according to my last letter. As to your estimate

£6.6.0 my fees
3.3.0 attendant
5.5.0 Rooms &c. The last item has nothing to do with me. Your son is in apartments with an attendant & their expenses are what they make them. They ought not to be more than £3.0.0. a week for the two in my opinion

Now as to your son's condition. He complains

of nothing, & the attendant says he has appeared quite normal for more than a week & has taken no sleeping medicine. As to ideas, voices &c I have searched him to day & he says he occasionally hears someone reading, but he is not bothered much. Such hallucinations are going as fast as they can, & I judge that in about two weeks they will be a thing of the past. The worst physical features are his dyspepsia & constipation; I am working hard to get these right (no small difficulty after many years suffering); his eczema also is nearly all gone.

You refer to fees of £5.5-0 at the Retreat. You could find other places for less. I have more people wanting to come at the present time than I can find apartments for, & all vacancies are filled up at once. You are paying for what you cannot get elsewhere in England, that is to say for treatment which is found to give better results than any other, & in my own work produces 90 per cent of successes, most of which are permanent. I may tell you more, that inasmuch as there is a foundation of dyspepsia, constipation & eczema (the two former of many years standing) I ought to have about 3 months to make, to me, a satisfactory result. I told you in London that the time would take 1 to 3 months. If your son could be in apartments alone the cost would be only £6.6.0 & his own expenses. Will you ask Dr Bedford Pierce

to see your son in London when he comes South again & perhaps he may take off certificate.

The position is therefore this: If you take your son away now, he is infinitely better, & nearly quite well. Let him stop 2 weeks more & I think none of the hallucinations will exist & he will be able to sleep without drugs & his digestion will be much better. Let him stop up to 3 months & I think he will make a permanent cure. With kind regards & all very best Season's wishes

Yours Sincerely
Hayden Brown

P.S. I am sending a copy of this to Dr Bedford Pierce.

Dec. 10, 1912

Dear Mr. Allison,

I had a very nice letter from your brother not very long ago, but was sorry to hear that he continues to suffer so much pain.

If there are any eye symptoms appearing, which are suggestive of nervous disease, it would seem important that he should be thoroughly overhauled. I fear I cannot offer any opinion on this matter, at this distance. Could he go to Town and see a nerve specialist, such as Dr. Henry Head or Dr. Risien Russell, who are authorities on nervous disease as opposed to mental disorders?

I remain,

Yours very truly,

1247

TELEPHONES:
81 CATERHAM.
1480 MAYFAIR.
TELEGRAMS:
HAYDN BROWN, CATERHAM.

THE BISHAMS,
CATERHAM VALLEY,
SURREY.
AND
15, CAVENDISH PLACE,
CAVENDISH SQUARE,
LONDON, W.

Dec 1/12

Dear Dr Bedford Pierce,

I thank you for kindly writing re Ashburner, who arrived safely. I will write again when he is further settled — perhaps in a week. Will you please let me know if I am to obtain the signature of the male nurse in charge as "owner" or custodian. I want to be in order. Is it not the case that when a patient is placed in apartments with night & day nurse that he shall when under certificates be under the "ownership" of a matron or nurse (the doctor not residing in the apartments)? Is there a form to sign. Thanking you in anticipation for these particulars

Yours faithfully
Haydn Brown

I rarely take a patient under certificates

Nov. 28, 1912

Dear Dr. Haydn Brown,

I quite understood how you were placed. I have been in the same difficulty myself with doctors and patients dotted round in different rooms.

I hope you will be successful with Ashburner. He is not at all a bad sort, and is worth taking pains over. He has hallucinations of hearing in considerable variety, and delusions of persecution, thinking there is a conspiracy against him which extends from York to Barrow-in-Furness and all over America.

He leaves tomorrow morning, and should be at Caterham some time in the afternoon. An excellent attendant, John Wilson, accompanies him.

I think you understood that he is a certified patient on leave from the Retreat. If any difficulty should arise please let me know at once, as I am responsible for his welfare. There is no difficulty about the leave of absence being extended if he is going on all right.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

1209

TELEPHONES:
51 CATERHAM.
1480 MAYFAIR.
TELEGRAMS:
HAYDN BROWN, CATERHAM.

THE BISHAMS,
CATERHAM VALLEY,
SURREY.
AND
15, CAVENDISH PLACE,
CAVENDISH SQUARE,
LONDON, W.

Nov 27/12

Dear Dr Bedford Pierce,

I was very sorry I could not receive you more decorously yesterday. I was really over-tired with some of my cases, & a nervous young millionaire declined to wait "amongst nervous people". I have lost patients like this. I have 3 & sometimes 4 rooms going (patients resting 30 min.) but am not always so crushed. I can make plenty of leisure. I should so much have liked to talk over Mr Ashburner's case or the work generally & would have moved appointments had I known you were calling.

Mr Marsh came to Caterham a few days ago, having had a return of "Voices", which I attribute to his specially lonely life, never seeing males, playing no game — doing nothing but think & read & speak to wife. After a first course of treatment a patient takes to the second easily & responsively. She will soon get right again I think, & must have a different kind of life, that moves him forth outside of self rather than that he should have so much chance for introspection.

I forget whether I wrote to you after seeing Mr Ashburner — at any rate I know that his Father was to convey any proposition

I had regarding his case to you from me.

I have been so overwhelmed with work that literary work has stood still, but I am going to get out a book early in the year on the lines I spoke of yesterday. I have no time for profound psychology in a thick book — others have done this in various languages. I hope to do what no other authority has yet done — namely to give cases & explain how & why, at the same time touching upon scientific theory quite cursorily but enough to help.

Dr. Rotten has heard several things from me & has studied on the lines I have suggested, but only hard work & experience such as I have had for the last 5 years amongst a collection of the hardest cases that could be found for me can make one proficient in anything. Psychotherapy is as easy as toy ballooning — to that extent — but as difficult to practice amongst advanced cases as flying in air-pockets.

With kind regards

Yours sincerely

Wayde Brown

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER, STRAND BARROW-IN-FURNESS"

T. ASHBURNER.

56, STRAND,

Barrow-in-Furness,

1705

Nov 25 1912

Dear Dr B Pierce

I hope to arrive at the Retreat on wednesday next the 27th instant and trust it will be convenient for you to see me and get matters arranged about my son. Dr H Brown would like my son to take up his lodgings at Caterham on friday next the 29th instant I hope this can be arranged. I hope to arrive at the Retreat about 2 p m 27th instant

Yours sincerely

Thos Ashburner

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER, STRAND BARROW-IN-FURNESS"

T. ASHBURNER.

~~56, STRAND~~, 12 Church St

Barrow-in-Furness,

Oct 29 1912

Dear Dr Bedford Pearce

I duly received the account and the agreement. I hope you will make the charge 5 guineas as before and not 6 guineas (I dont want to pay 6 guineas) Kindly let me know and oblige. I hope my son is improving. He have to day sent off his report his dress suit & great coat. My wife would prefer the safety razor with the panel it is sent by post. The panel is sent carriage paid

Yours sincerely
Thos Ashburner

I will be glad to hear at your convenience how my son is getting on

Sept. 30, 1912

Thomas Ashburner, junior

Gentlemen,

Before receiving your lerrer we had ascertained that Mr. Lord was not specially appointed under the Lunacy Act 1890, and had obtained Mr. Alderman Purnell's approval in York, which I gather is all that is necessary.

I have not, therefore, sent the Order to the Clerk to the Justices in Barrow-in-Furness as suggested in your letter.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

The Commissioners in Lunacy

All communications should be addressed to—
THE SECRETARY,
Lunacy Commission,
66, Victoria Street,
LONDON, S.W.
Communications relating to different subjects should be made in separate letters.

LUNACY COMMISSION,
66, *Victoria Street, S.W.*

28th September, 1912.

Sir,

re Thomas Ashburner, junior.

I am directed by the Commissioners in Lunacy again to return the Notice of Admission with copies of Reception Documents in this case, and to say that they have ascertained that Mr Lord is not a specially appointed Justice, and his Order should be sent to the Clerks to the Justices, Messrs Major & Son, 5 Lawson Street, Barrow-in-Furness, for approval and signature of a Judicial Authority.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

A. D. Wild

for the Secretary.

The Medical Superintendent,

The Retreat, York.

1078

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER. STRAND BARROW-IN-FURNESS"

T. ASHBURNER.

~~56, STRAND~~, 12 Church St

Barrow-in-Furness,

Oct 22nd 1912

Dear Dr B Pierce
The Retreat
York

Your account came duly to hand for my son. I hope you will reduce the charge per week to 5 guineas, we have never paid more for. It is a misfortune he will not drop his Delusions, he would do so he would soon be all right. We have to day sent by rail carriage paid 6 golf sticks. 3 balls one pair of shoes hoping you will receive them all right and that they will be useful I wish my son would write to us I am writing to him to day

Yours very sincerely
Thos Ashburner

Oct. 16, 1912

Dear Mr. Ashburner,

We had the Commissioners in Lunacy here on Monday, and they had some talk with your son, but I fear they could not influence him in the slightest, though they urged him to let the past alone. He is quite pleasant with us, goes out a great deal with attendants, and joins in anything that is going on, but I see no indication of his changing his mental outlook.

I do not think it would be wise to send him the motor bicycle. It would give too great a temptation to escape, and of course he would be away from all control at once, and we should never know when he was coming back. If you like we could arrange for motor hire quite easily, the charge being 9d an hour in these parts.

Thankyou for sending the letter, which I am glad to have for the case book. It shows only too clearly how he is harassed by hallucinations of hearing.

Yours very truly,

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER, STRAND BARROW-IN-FURNESS"

T. ASHBURNER.

~~56, STRAND~~, 12 Church St

Barrow-in-Furness,

Oct 15 1912

Dear Dr B Rowie

I received your letter for which I am obliged but regret to hear my son is still suffering from delusions. You may remember some years ago he suffered from delusions in connection with Lavington they are entirely gone, after that he had delusions in connection with our servants they are entirely gone, but the latest still remains he charges our neighbours with a conspiracy against him (all is quiet here now) will you kindly send us what shall we send his clothes for getting. He has a motor bicycle how nearly new, he sometimes used to ride many miles per day upon it would you recommend to send it, it is entirely in your hands. Does he read the local newspaper we send him, when writing kindly let us know. He would like to pay my son account monthly if agreeable to you

A short time before he left home for the Retreat he rode on his motor bicycle from Ulverston to Barrow say 40 to 50 miles in about 4 hours he often used to ride 20 miles and had very few accidents and only of a trivial nature. I enclose you copy of letter received from one of our neighbours not a word of truth in it a delusion unfortunately he does not appear to be able to get over the delusion that there is a conspiracy abroad against him. If he could get clear of the delusions I think he would be all right When my son was last at home the night he slept well we could not see he ailed anything

Yours sincerely

Please address Thos Ashburner

12 Church Street

Barrow in Furness

He used to talk about a Motor Car under present circumstances I expect that is out of the question

Dr Carmichael is at Leeds having an operation for gallstones doing well

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER. STRAND BARROW-IN-FURNESS"

T. ASHBURNER.

56, STRAND,

Barrow-in-Furness,

1043

Oct 11th 1912

Dear Dr B Price

Please inform me how our son is getting on at the Retreat, when he came to you he was getting very offensive to our neighbours, if he had remained at home much longer I am afraid he would have been summoned to the Police court for annoying our neighbours but trust he is now doing better Will you kindly ask him to write to us and give him the enclosed card. How does he sleep at the Retreat, when he slept soundly at home he was much better. How long can he be kept at the Retreat under the present certificate, your reply will oblige

Yours sincerely

Thos Ashburner

He has not written to us during the time he has been at the Retreat this time

1009

ENC.

MAJOR & SON,
SOLICITORS.

5, Lawson Street,
Barrow-in-Furness.

5th October, 1912.

The Medical Superintendent,
The Retreat,
York.

Dear Sir,

By inadvertence the Order for the reception of Mr. Thomas Ashburner, Junior, into your Asylum was signed by a Justice who has not been specially appointed for the purpose under the Act.

Our attention was drawn to this by the Commissioners in Lunacy and we wrote to them asking them to return the Order, and we have a letter from them dated the 28th ultimo stating that they had asked you to send this back to us to be rectified.

Please let us have the Order immediately, as under the provisions of the Act a fresh Order ought to be signed within fourteen days of the Original Order.

Yours faithfully,

Major & Son

Clerks to the Justices.

Of course we should also require the medical certificates

T ASHBURNER.

56, Strand,
Barrow-in-Furness,
Oct 4th 1892

Dear Mr Waller I have to day received the account from Mr W V Scott for 21/ coal have to day sent him 0 6 for 21/ hoping this is all right

Yours sincerely
T Ashburner

I hope my son is getting on all right he has not write as since he came to the Rebbeck

949

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER. STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

56, STRAND,

T. ASHBURNER.

Barrow-in-Furness,

Sept 19 1912

Dear Dr Pearce

Your two young men arrived here this afternoon, we hope to leave here at 1 p m tomorrow I am coming with them we hope to complete the papers at York only the necessary papers filled up. I hope the papers will be filled up so that I can leave York at 4.30 Saturday afternoon arriving here at 8.10 p m

Yours sincerely
Thos Ashburner

934

AT HOME,
9.30 - 10,
2 - 3,
6 - 8,
TELEPHONE Nº 250.

33 CHURCH STREET,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

September 14 1912

Dear Sir

Mr. Ashburner of Barrow was in Carlisle the afternoon. He is afraid his son William will have entered "The Retreat" again. We managed to get him up to London to see Dr Haydon Brown - but he refused absolutely to undergo his treatment. I think he is gradually getting worse, and gives his father & mother little

peace - Mr. Ashburner is writing to you to-day about his son - he asked me to write also -
I certainly think young Mr Ashburner is quite unfit to be at liberty - I remain
yours faithfully
R. E. Thompson

D. Budgett Meakin

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER. STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

T. ASHBURNER.

~~56, STRAND.~~ 12 Church St

Barrow-in-Furness,

Sept 14th 1912

Dear Dr B Price

I am sorry to say our son gets in a great deal of trouble owing to his delusions. At present he is in a Bagnio Tonight he was at Shap, we expect him here on Tuesday next the 17th instant. Please oblige by sending us on Thursday next 19th two good men to stay here all night. I would meet them at the Station here and take them to the Hotel. They would bring urgency certificates with them. He would have to stay at least one month in the Retreat (longer if necessary) he saw Dr Hayden Brown in London my son would not go to him. I have asked Dr Thompson to write to you if we require here any Doctor assistance Dr Thompson will give it. I will see you when my son comes back again. He will require careful watching. Your early reply will oblige. He is very obstinate at present. I would accompany them to the Retreat. We have been hoping he would give up the delusions

Please address

Thos Ashburner

12 Church Street

Barrow in Furness

Yours sincerely

Thos Ashburner

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER. STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

56, STRAND,

T. ASHBURNER.

Barrow-in-Furness,

July 18th 1912

Dear Dr Bedford Pierce
The Retreat
York

I enclose you cheque for £17.11.11
Kindly settle the enclosed account return it
me and oblige. I am sorry to say my son
is not better, he has promised to go with me
about the end of this month to see the
Doctor you named (at present the Doctor is
on his holidays). At present my son is
very much troubled with insomnia
Dr Thompson attends to my son here

Yours very sincerely
Thos Ashburner

604

AT HOME,
9.30 - 10,
2 - 3,
6 - 8,
TELEPHONE No. 250.

33 CHURCH STREET,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

Dr Bedford Pearce

May 30th 1912

Dear Sir,

Dr. Carmichael kindly told me about the letter you wrote to him about Mr Ashburner-Jones.

I have no doubt you will not be surprised to hear that Mr Ashburner's mental condition is, in my opinion, worse. From what you said in your letter, you anticipated this. I had a talk with Mr Ashburner-Jones with regard to the

line of treatment suggested in your letter. He seemed most anxious that this suggestion should be acted upon. I pointed out to him that it would be necessary to have the full assistance of his son in the matter.

In short, I had an interview with young Ashburner, and he said he would do anything to help in the treatment.

Mr Ashburner senior asked me to write for full particulars, and what the treatment would cost.

I am sorry to trouble you, but I should be much indebted if you would give me your valuable advice how to proceed further in this matter.

I remain yours truly
A. E. Thompson

556

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER. STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

56, STRAND,

T. ASHBURNER.

Barrow-in-Furness,

May 17th 1912

Dear Dr Pearce

I beg to inform you that my son arrived back at home on Wednesday night last after visiting Great Yarmouth Eastbourne by way of London, as far as we can see he appears all right hopeing he will continue. If a Doctor is required for him Dr Carmichael refuses to act. he has told Dr Thompson our near neighbour, about your kind suggestion a few weeks ago my son wanted a Doctor he would not let us send for Dr Carmichael but had Dr Thompson, who is friendly with Dr Carmichael, so that if anything goes wrong we will call in Dr Thompson. Please send us your account for the Retreat My son is now attending to his business

Yours sincerely

Thos Ashburner

Inclosed £2.2.0 for Consultation in London

June 1, 1912

Dear Sir,

I do not think I can give you much more information than I gave Dr. Carmichael respecting the psycho-therapeutic treatment for Mr. Ashburner Jun.

Some months ago I sent a patient to Dr. Haydn Brown of Caterham, Surrey, and was pleasantly surprised to find how greatly he improved under treatment. This was a case in which there were hallucinations of hearing and a conviction that people in the garden and round about were talking about him. The history, however, was not so long as in Ashburner's case.

I cannot tell you what the fees are. I would suggest your writing to Dr. Haydn Brown to enquire.

Yours very truly,

Dr. Thompson

A. CARMICHAEL, M.D.
AND
E. ALLAN, F.R.C.S.

TEL. No. 68.

SURGERY HOURS--
8-30---10 A.M.
1-30---3-0 P.M.
6-0---7-0 P.M.

DUKE STREET,
DALTON ROAD,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

28 April 1912.

Dear Sir,

I have received your letter regarding Mr. Ashburner Junr. It is now many months since I ceased to be his medical adviser here. Dr. Thompson, Hartington Terrace, Church St. I understand attends him.

Yours very sincerely
A. Carmichael.

Dr Pirie.

April 27, 1912

Dear Sir,

Mr. Ashburner has written to me about his son, who, as you know, was here recently for a short time as a Voluntary Boarder.

The delusions of suspicion and hallucinations of hearing continue. Unfortunately they affect him in relation to the staff here, and this led to his leaving sooner than he intended to at first.

In my experiance these cases do badly, but constant change of scene seems to delay the development of the disorder to some extent. I fear, however, that it will not be very long before permanent asylum care is needed.

My object in writing is to say that I have had two cases lately, not quite of such long standing, and a little different in character, but in both of which there were hallucinations of hearing and delusions of suspicion, which were greatly benefitted, if not cured, by psychical treatment. One is a medical man; and he has returned to his practice, and is doing very well. The other, a clergyman, went to Dr. Haydn Brown of Caterham, Surrey, at my suggestion, and has come back wonderfully better, the improvement being confirmed by his family doctor.

If you think this worth following up, would you explain the matter to Mr. Ashburner Sen. The treatment does not consist of hypnotism exactly, but I gather the active co-operation of the patient and his willingness to assist are essential; and of course in the present case it is doubtful whether the patient is at all aware that he is mentally affected, and he may decline all attempts at treatment on this account.

I remain,
Yours very truly,

Dr. Carmichael

April 27, 1912

Dear Mr. Ashburner,

I would gladly tell you anything I could to help you with respect to your son. I am afraid the central difficulty is almost beyond the reach of medicine. I do not think you would regret allowing him a fair amount of liberty of action. In one somewhat similar case the patient did fairly well in rooms rather than at home, but I could not recommend this unless the landlady or others in the house were persons of discretion and would keep you properly informed as to how he goes on.

I am writing a line to Dr. Carmichael about him.

Yours very truly,

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER, STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

T. ASHBURNER.

56, STRAND,

Barrow-in-Furness,

April 25 1902

Dear Dr Price

I am this day in receipt of your letter for which I am much obliged. We are very sorry my son left the Retreat in your absence as you could have given him valuable advice. If we require your assistance in the future we hope you will assist us. Please send in the account for my son I am glad he has written to you, we had a letter from him from Great Yarmouth yesterday he expects to come home in about a fortnight. If there is anything we can do for him you please advise us. When at home on the last occasion he was anxious to come to the Retreat so as to be under your treatment. He have a small yacht he sometimes sails with a motor car has been recommended for his use. Kindly say could you recommend it. He is our only son and before this misfortune we both lived on a good footing and we are anxious to do all that we possibly can for him

Yours very sincerely

Thos Ashburner

413

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER. STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

56, STRAND,

T. ASHBURNER.

Barrow-in-Furness,

April 22nd 1912

Dear Dr Mookerjee

I am in receipt of your letter very soon, to hear my son is leaving the Retreat we would have liked him to make a longer stay, he wrote us he is leaving the Retreat but does not say where he is going, he is very stubborn. I wired you to day to detain him if possible, which I hope you have been able to do. I hope to hear from you in the morning. It appears to me unfortunate he was not put under certificate

Yours sincerely
John Ashburner

The Retreat
York
20th April 1912

Dear Dr. McKenzie,

As previously arranged with Dr. Pierce I shall be leaving on Monday and hereby give the twenty four hours notice as required as I understand Dr. Pierce is away.

Yours sincerely
T. Ashburner Jnr.

Dr. McKenzie.

The Retreat
York
18th April 1912.

Dear Father,

I have sent the slides back today and I expect you will receive them in a course of a few days. The Lecture seemed to be very much appreciated. I had a letter from Walter Bagot. Unfortunately his Wife does not seem very much better. I have not been sleeping very much lately and I hope to leave for the coast on the South of England in a few days time.

I hope Mr Smith has got into
No. 14. It has been very fine
weather lately but rain is
badly wanted. I hope Mother
is improving ~~so~~ ~~sto~~ will be
able to get out more now

Your affec son
Tom.

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER. STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

56, STRAND,

T. ASHBURNER.

Barrow-in-Furness,

413

April 19th 1912

Dear Dr Mackenzie

Your letter received for which I am much obliged. I enclose you my son's letter which please lay before Dr Pearce. I have to day wrote to him to ask Dr Pearce advice what to do in the future. Glad to hear my son's action went off so well. It is unfortunate he does not drop his delusions. I hope Dr Pearce will advise what is best to do as regards my son

Yours very sincerely

Thos Ashburner

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER, STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

56, STRAND,

T. ASHBURNER.

Barrow-in-Furness,

April 16 1912

Dear Dr Peaire

Please write to me at your earliest convenience and let me know how my son is getting on. I asked him to write to us every week but he does not do so. Before his month is up I intend to write and ask you what is the best way to treat him in the future. Except he alters we cannot do with him at home he interferes with the servants and they will not stand it. Kindly let me know how is letter went of. I found he had a detective here in the month of December but making enquiries it was all a delusion. (the detective was from London & went of money) I have only just found this out. He charges the servants with talking and about him it is all a delusion when at home. When I write you later I will ask you to advise with it be the best for him to remain at the Retreat as a voluntary patient or under a Certificate

Yours sincerely
Thos Ashburner

413

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER. STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

56, STRAND,

T. ASHBURNER.

Barrow-in-Furness,

April 16 1912

Dear Dr Rice

I fear I made a mistake in writing to you to day my son mouth is up on Monday next, please write me what you recommend me to do when the mouth is up and oblige

Yours sincerely
Thos Ashburner

323

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER, STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

56, STRAND,

T. ASHBURNER.

Barrow-in-Furness,

Mar 26 1912

Dear Dr Redfort Rice

The Retreat York

Very glad to receive your letter, glad to hear our son has returned with you to York and hope he will carry out your instructions and try and pull himself together. I got home late on Friday night. The train service is very much disorganised. Our son gave a lecture here before the Field naturalists on Jellies stone park it went off very well (he showed the slides.) I wonder could he give it at the Retreat. He is very anxious to know where he had got to. Dr Carmichael often enquires about him

Yours sincerely,

Thos Ashburner

March 25, 1912

Dear Mr. Ashburner,

It so happened that I had to go to Harrogate to-day, and I called on your son at the Hotel, and he was quite ready to come back with me, which he did quite pleasantly.

I think he is glad to be back here for the present. He thought Dr. Luard's would be too quiet; and that it would be quiet is certain, as it is 8 miles away from any-where.

I hope you got back comfortably on Friday.

Yours very truly,

307

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER. STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

56, STRAND.

T. ASHBURNER.

Barrow-in-Furness,

Mar 23rd 1912

Dear Dr B Pearce

I have a letter this morning stating my son has returned to the North Eastern Railway Hotel Harrogate and that he hopes to call upon Dr Lovell to day I understand he accepted your very kind invitation to stay over the week end with you for which I beg to thank you. He is very obstinate. I hope you will forgive his indifference I am very sorry he did not go out your Retreat at York or Scarborough. I enclose your very kind letter

Yours sincerely

Thos Ashburner

March 23, 1912

Dear Luard,

I saw yesterday in Leeds an old patient of ours who has a return of his delusions of suspicion. He thinks there is a conspiracy against him and that a considerable number of people are in league to blackmail him in some way or other. People in the street, the servants at home, and the neighbours, are all talking about him. He is, however, much more peacaable and easy to do with than one would expect, and when he has a change his troubles subside. Last year he took an extended tour in America with one of our attendants, and did very well, and since then he has returned to Barrow in Furness and is taking an active part in the business of the Town Council, of which he is a member.

The prognosis I fear is bad, and I have no doubt that sooner or later certificates will again become necessary, but I think you would do quite well in taking him in your own house for a time, at any rate, and I have wired to you, saying he may be calling on y you. The patient is Thomas Ashburner, Jun., and if he does not call I would suggest your writing to him at the North Eastern Hotel, Harrogate. His father, Thomas Ashburner, is a retired builder, comfortably off, and his address is 56 Strand, Barrow-in-F.

Yours very truly,

Station Hotel
Harrogate
23rd March 1912

Dear Dr. Pierce,

I have seen Dr. Luard and come to the conclusion that the Retreat would suit me better and I propose to come on Monday unless hearing from you to the contrary. Excuse scribble as it was written under difficulties at Northallerton

Yours faithfully
T. Ashburner jun

293

GEO. ALDERSON,
J. CARRUTHERS,
MANAGER.

TELEGRAMS:
STATION HOTEL, HARROGATE.

NAT. TELEPHONE No. 417.

NORTH EASTERN STATION HOTEL,
HARROGATE, LTD.,

22nd March 1912

Dear Dr. Pierce,

After leaving Park Square and thinking over the matter I came to the conclusion that it was best not to go to York again and trust you will not be offended. I propose going over to Northallerton in the morning and hope to see Dr. Luard. I think it will be all right staying here until I go to Dr. Luards if he has room. With best regards

Yours faithfully
T. Ashburner Jr

GEO. ALDERSON,

J. CARRUTHERS,
MANAGER.

TELEGRAMS:
STATION HOTEL, HARROGATE.

NAT. TELEPHONE No. 417.

NORTH EASTERN STATION HOTEL,
HARROGATE, LTD.,

22nd March 1912

Dear Father,

I came to the conclusion that it would be better not to go back to York until I had arranged with Dr Lucard. I shall be going over to Northallerton to-morrow when I will have a look at the place. I hope you got home all right

Your affec son
Tom

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER. STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

56, STRAND,

T. ASHBURNER.

Barrow-in-Furness,

286

Mar 17th 1912

Dear Dr Bedford Pierce
The Retreat
York

I am this day in receipt of your letter with enclosure for which I am obliged. My son left here for Harrogate yesterday and is now there staying in the North Eastern Hotel. I propose going to Harrogate on Tuesday next the 19th instant and will call with him at your room in Leeds on Friday next the 22nd instant hoping this will be convenient to you. I think you will be best able to judge how to treat him after you have seen him. Some times for days we cannot see anything the matter with him but when he is without sleep for a few nights he breaks down. I think people are talking about him

286

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER, STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

56, STRAND,

T. ASHBURNER.

Barrow-in-Furness,

Mar 16 1912

Dear Dr Pearce
The Retreat York

My son left here for Ulverston to day (no one with him) he has promised to meet me at your place if all goes well I found out to day that he is under the impression that the Certificate is still in force. He thinks sometimes he is better but unfortunately he breaks down. I expect to know tomorrow where he is staying at Ulverston

Yours sincerely
Thos Ashburner

March 16, 1912

Dear Mr. Ashburner,

I am very sorry to hear of your renewed anxiety. I shall be very pleased to see your son and yourself at my rooms in Leeds, but the difficulty is to fix on a day. On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday next week I am engaged. Friday is my regular day for being there, but if the day before, Thursday, would be much more convenient to you I would make a special journey for that day.

Would your son come to stay with us as a Voluntary Boarder? I think it would be quite suitable for him to do so, seeing that he probably understands quite well the necessity for a change. If he is suitable, after examination he could go on to our branch house at Scarborough. Of course you both understand that as a Voluntary Boarder we should have no power to detain him should he wish to leave, and if he gave in his notice to do so he would be free to go. I enclose one of the usual forms which we ask Voluntary Boarders to sign.

It seems to me that a comparatively short stay with us might enable him to get over his present difficulties, and he would not have the annoyance of being considered a patient of unsound mind, and losing his civil rights. I would, therefore, suggest that you show him this letter, and I hope he will be willing promptly to take the course which has given him relief before.

Yours very truly

279

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER, STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

56, STRAND,

T. ASHBURNER.

Barrow-in-Furness,

Mar 15th 1912

Dear Dr Bedford Pierce
The Retreat
York

I am sorry to say my son's health has broken down he is suffering from delusions, he is anxious for us both to come and see you at Leeds, please give us your address at Leeds and when we can see you there at your earliest convenience

Yours sincerely
Thos Ashburner

Flamboro' House,
57 Marine Parade,
Great Yarmouth.

Tuesday.

Dear Dr. Pierce:

I arrived here to-day after having a look round Cambridge and was sorry not to see you before leaving York. Whilst appreciating the kindness shown to me at the Retreat I think you will agree that it was not

desirable for me to stop any longer than I had promised as I hope on returning Home in about a fortnight or so to take an active part in political life. The air seems very bracing here and will no doubt be beneficial. Kindly remember me to Mr McKenzie

Yours sincerely
T. Ashburner Jr

All communications should be addressed to—

THE SECRETARY,
Lunacy Commission,
66, Victoria Street,
LONDON, S.W.

Communications relating to different subjects should be made in separate letters.

LUNACY COMMISSION,
66, *Victoria Street, S.W.*

9th December 1911.

SIR,

The Commissioners in Lunacy observe that Mr. Thomas Ashburner was discharged, "relieved" only, from your Institution on the 6th inst.

They would be glad to know whether you considered him certifiably insane when he was discharged, and if you know what arrangements have been made for his care.

I am, SIR,

Your obedient Servant,

B. T. Hodgson

Secretary.

The Manager,

York Retreat

(48,901). Wt.24,969—888. 250. 11/11. A.&E.W.

Dec. 11, 1911

T.Ashburner, Jun.

Sir,

In reply to your enquiry, Mr. Thomas Ashburner, Jun. is at home, staying with his father and mother and is carrying on his business as a solicitor. There is reason, however, to believe that his delusions of persecution have not disappeared, and consequently he could not rightly be discharged as "recovered". I have not seen him since he went to America, and therefore cannot express any personal opinion as to his present mental state.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER, STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

56, STRAND,

T. ASHBURNER.

Barrow-in-Furness,

Dec 7th 1911

820

Dear Dr Bedford Pierce
The Retreat York

My son discharge arrived this morning, I have not told him of its arrival. He think sometimes for days together he is all right but unfortunately he breaks down. If it should be found necessary for him to leave home at any future time we hope you will take him in your Retreat. He appears upset when he does not sleep soundly, and he does not sleep soundly unfortunately. He attends to his business and the Council meeting. If it is found necessary to again take him away it would have to be gone about very carefully, as he has a great objection to his liberty been shortened

Yours sincerely
Thos Ashburner

8/12/11
Thanks for letter. no doubt we could receive him if necessary.
(C.H.)

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER, STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

56, STRAND,

T. ASHBURNER.

Barrow-in-Furness,

799

Nov 30th 19

Dear Dr Bedford Pierce

I am very pleased to say our son is much better and we think is in fit condition to remain at home. Should he unfortunately break down and become necessary to leave home and put under restraint we hope you will be able to take him in your Retreat. We are anxious if possible for him to remain at home. We have to thank you for your great kindness to him. We take great interest in the Cornish proceedings here

Yours sincerely
Thos Ashburner

751

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER. STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

56, STRAND,

T. ASHBURNER.

Barrow-in-Furness,

Nov 21st 1911

Dear Dr Bedford Pierce
Retreat York

I am in receipt of your letter of the 18th instant for which I am obliged. My son appears much better to day. We will decide before the 7th of December what we think is best to do with him. We think it very hard to have him again placed under restraint. I think Doctor Thompson our neighbour will assist us in the matter if required. he has given him a little medicine at present a (tonic) so that he is well acquainted with him

Yours sincerely
Thos Ashburner

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER. STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

56, STRAND,

T. ASHBURNER.

Barrow-in-Furness,

Nov 17th 1911

Dear Dr Redfoot Davies

I am this day in receipt of your letter for which I am obliged. After my son's tour in the United States and Canada we thought any son was better of his delusion, but about one month ago he was afraid they were returning. I hope you will be able to keep him on your books and not discharge him. I am afraid if he does not improve he will have to be put under restraint. He sleeps very badly and then the delusions come on. Can you kindly suggest anything for his good. If he thought he was going to be put under restraint I am afraid he would do something serious to himself. He has a great objection to Dr Carmichael. He takes great interest in the meeting of the council and attends his office. If it is found necessary to put him under restraint it will have to be done very carefully. I hope you will be able to keep him on your books and not discharge him. This is great trouble to me and my wife. I shall be happy to come and see you about Christmas

Yours sincerely

Thos Ashburner

734

T. ASHBURNER, JR, B.A.,
SOLICITOR.

9, LAWSON STREET,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

12th September 1911.

Dear Dr. Pierce,

I have now been back at Barrow for nearly a month and have been following my Profession in the usual way. I am quite well and strong and have benefitted very much from the tour in America. I trust Simpson has quite recovered from the effects of his attack of dysentry which he unfortunately got before leaving Canada.

I shall be obliged if you will kindly obtain my discharge

Yours sincerely
T. Ashburner Junr

Dr. Pierce.

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER, STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

~~56, STRAND~~, 12 Church Street

T. ASHBURNER.

Barrow-in-Furness,

July 19th 1909

Replied July 20

Dr B Pierce

Dear Sir

I received the enclosed letter from my son to day and regret the contents Dr Cairnmuir thought I ought to send it on to you. I was hoping my son would have been quite certain in your beautiful retreat there is a trip from here to York on the 21st instant leaving here early that morning. I hope to come with it and call upon you. As far as we are concerned we wish our son to carry out your instructions if he will not remain voluntary, we think he will have to remain compulsory. He had recently a sea voyage of about 3 weeks to Madeira and other places, we think he is not much better for it. My son shaves himself would it not be better to take the razor from him and let the barber shave him

Yours sincerely

Wm Ashburner

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER, STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

~~56, STRAND.~~ 12 Church St

T. ASHBURNER.

Barrow-in-Furness,

Oct 9th 1911

Dear Dr Bedford Pierce
The Retreat
York

I have received Mrs E Walker's letter with enclosures for which I am much obliged. I herein enclose cheque for £34. 19. 3 in settlement of the enclosed account kindly acknowledge receipt and oblige. I am pleased to say my son is all right nothing the matter with him since he came home. I have to thank you for your great kindness to my son. I hope to come with my son to see you sometime before Christmas, but will write you to get an appointment before that time

Enclosures 3 sovereigns
11 6 in P.O. 4. 8
Postal Order 3. 4. 8

Yours sincerely
T. Ashburner

Oct. 6 1911

Dear Sir,

I enclose account for Mr Ashburn. The money in pence Dec 1910 was placed to the account but the sum now sent £3 4 8 was left with me of the allowance, also the pocket knife. These I now enclose with the money.

Yours faithfully

E. E. Waller

Sec.

Wm. Ashburner Esq

Oct. 6 1911

Dear Sir,

Another account for the collection.

The money is owing since Dec. 1910 was

placed with the account but the amount

has been £3.4.0 has left with me

I'll collectively also the pocket book

this amount owing but the money.

Yours faithfully

G. Allen Esq.

The Editor Sq.

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER. STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

~~56, STRAND~~ 12 Church Street

T. ASHBURNER.

Barrow-in-Furness,

July 18th 1911

Dear Dr Perier

I am much obliged for your letter of yesterday and hope to come to the Market on Tuesday next the 25 instant I hope to call upon you about the middle of the forenoon of that day hoping this will be convenient to you

Yours truly
Th Ashburner

I hope to leave Harrogate on the 28th instant

July 17, 1911

Dear Mr. Ashburner,

In reply to your note, I am glad to get a rather better report of your son.

I fully expect to be at home on Monday, the 24th. On Tuesday, the 25th, I shall probably be in Leeds in the afternoon. Perhaps you will let me know which will suit you better.

Yours very truly,

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER. STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

~~56, STRAND.~~ 12 Church St

T. ASHBURNER.

Barrow-in-Furness,

July 15 1911

Dear Dr Bedford Pierce

I enclose you the last letter received from my son and the Surgeon. My son's letter is more promising than his previous letter. (Kindly return me the two enclosed letters)

I expect to join my wife at Harrogate from the 22nd to the 28th instant, will be glad to call upon you from the 22nd to the ~~29~~ 28th instant if convenient to you and you will let me know

Yours sincerely

Thos Ashburner

July 6, 1911

Dear Mr. Ashburner,

I fully expect to be at liberty on Monday morning, the 10th, and should be pleased to see you any time before noon.

We had a card, the other day, from Simpson, reporting that all was well.

Yours very truly,

320

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER. STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

~~56, STRAND.~~ 12 Church St

T. ASHBURNER.

Barrow-in-Furness,

July 4 1911

Dear Dr Bedford Pierce

I hope to come over to Harrogate with my wife on Saturday next the 8th instant I want to return home on the 11th instant Tuesday please inform me can you see me on Monday the 10th instant and oblige and at what time. If you could not see me on the 11th instant kindly say the date and time you could see me

Yours sincerely

Thos Ashburner

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER. STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

56, STRAND,

T. ASHBURNER.

Barrow-in-Furness,

232

May 16th 1911

Dear Dr B Pearce

The box and golf sticks came safe to hand to day for which I am obliged. I went to Liverpool on Saturday last and met my son and Mr Simpson. I beg to thank you very sincerely for your great kindness to my son also in allowing Mr Simpson to accompany him. I think they will be very comfortable on board the Mauretania they have a four berth cabin to themselves and she is one of the finest passenger steamers afloat. When you have the account made up if you will send it on I will remit you. I understand my son left £6 in the drawers which please keep and deduct from the account. We don't know did my son leave his golfing boots at the Roberts I think they will have a fine passage across

Yours sincerely
J Ashburner

Copy

Thos Cook & Son
Tourist Steamship & Forwarding Agents
Bankers &c

61 Duke St
Branch at Furness

May 3 1911

| B W 24 | 3141 |

In writing or telegraphing please quote this reference

The Ashburn Esq
12 Church St Barrow

Dear Sir

Referring to your call we now have pleasure to attach hereto itinerary & quotation for a tour in the United States & Canada. This fare is at the present, only approximate as the excursions commencing from New York on June 1st have not been advised for this year & the price is given on last year basis. We would mention that we have not yet received a definite reply regarding Hotel Accommodation, but expect to have this in the course of a day or two

We shall have pleasure in giving you any further information or quotations and beg to remain at your further service

Yours faithfully
Thos Cook & Son
per F C

bopr

Continuation of letter to J Ashburn Esq dated 2/5/11 page 2

Suggested times to spend at each place

New York & District	5 days
Philadelphia	1
Washington	2
Chicago	3
Colorado	7
Los Angeles	2
San Francisco	4
Salt Lake City	2
Ogden & Yellowstone Park	7
Portland	1
Victoria	1
Vancouver	1
Rockies	6
Winnipeg	1
Toronto	1
Niagara Falls	2
Montreal	2
Boston	1
New York	1
Travelling Inland about	30
	80
Ocean Voyage about	15
	95 days

Continuation of letter to J Ashburner Esq dated 2/5/11 Page 3

Approximate quotation

New York. B & O RR. Philadelphia. Washington Chicago
Colorado Springs. Salt Lake City. Los Angeles. San Francisco
Rail to Portland. Seattle. Steamer Victoria. ~~Victoria~~ Vancouver
thence C P R. Winnipeg. thence to St Paul. Chicago. Toronto.
Montreal. Rail to Boston About £27. 0–0
Extra charge for steamer Toronto to Montreal instead of rail
£1. 13. 4. (Via Richlieu & Ontario S V. to Meals & Berth not included)

Side Trips Colorado Springs Manitoba
& Return free
Manitoba. Pikes Peak & Return 18/9s
Toronto to Niagara Falls & Back free
Salt Lake City to Oregon & Back free
Ogden to Yellowstone Park & Back
Usual Terms including 4/5 days hotel accommodation in the Park } £11. 6–10
Boston & New York via Sound Semi Steamer £0. 16 0

Rail	27	0 0
Pikes P	1	
Yellow	11	6
Oregon	11	
	60	6.

Continuation of letter to J Ashburner Esq dated 3/5/11 page 4

New York Poughkeepsie & Return
Hudson River Day Line 6/3

In addition to this it will be necessary to add the Steamer fare which vary according to the Steamer
The average fare is £10.10. or £11.0 as will be noticed from the enclosed list

~~COPY~~

May 7, 1911

This is to certify that Mr. Thomas Ashburner, Solicitor and Member of the Town Council of Barrow-in-Furness, who has been a patient under my care in this Hospital, is now well enough to take an extensive tour in America, and I have advised him to visit the Western States, the Canadian Rockies, in the expectation that a three months tour will re-establish his health.

Medical Superintendent,

The Retreat,

YORK

C O P Y

May 7, 1911

This is to certify that Mr. Thomas Ashburner, Solicitor and Member of the Town Council of Barrow-in-Furness, who has been a patient under my care in this Hospital, is now

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TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER, STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

~~56, STRAND~~, 12 Church St

T. ASHBURNER.

Barrow-in-Furness,

April 26 1911

Dear Dr Bedford Pierce We think if it will suit your convenience that my son and Mr Simpson should embark at Liverpool a short a fortnight from this. Kindly let me know if this will suit you or what date will. The £2. 8. 0 that we are to pay for Mr Simpson service besides his expenses is it to be paid into the Retreat or where. Kindly let me know. We are extremely obliged for your kindness in allowing Mr Simpson to accompany my son I hope they will have a very comfortable time of it. I will come down to York before they leave. Kindly give my son an order for anything he may require and we will pay for it. It is expected the tour of the States and Canada will take about 3 months.

Aldermen Barnes was very pleased with his visit last week end. My son was very much pleased with a visit from his old Master. Yours sincerely

Thos Ashburner

146

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER, STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

56, STRAND,

T. ASHBURNER.

Barrow-in-Furness,

Mar 21st 1911

Dear Dr Bedford Pierce

I return you the form filled up. I intended speaking to you about my son smoking but forgot. If you think he smokes too much kindly get him to give some of it up. I am glad you recommended me to speak to Mr Darley he spoke some straight words to my son which I hope will do him good

Yours sincerely
Thos Ashburner

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER. STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

~~56, STRAND,~~ 12 Church Street

T. ASHBURNER.

Barrow-in-Furness,

May 19th 1911

Dear Dr Pierce
The Retreat
York

I enclose you cheque for £33.15.2. Kindly settle the enclosed account return it to me and oblige. I think my son and Mr Simpson will have a fine passage to New York hoping they will have a successful tour

Yours sincerely
Thos. Ashburner

No. 929

The Retreat,

York, May 15th 1911

Received from Thos. Shburne

the sum of Seven Pounds

— Shillings and Pence

on account of

£ 7. 0. 0

Received
R. L. Waller.
Secretary.

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER, STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

56, STRAND,

T. ASHBURNER.

Barrow-in-Furness,

April 13 1911

Dear Dr Pearce

We have a letter to day from my son he is anxious to have a change, he appears to be attached to your Mr Simpson could it be arranged for your Mr Simpson to travel with him under his certificate and on what terms kindly let me know and oblige at your earliest convenience

Yours sincerely

Thos Ashburner

15 APR 1911

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER, STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

56, STRAND,

T. ASHBURNER.

Barrow-in-Furness,

Mar 31 1911

Dear Dr Bedford Pierce

Mr Walter Bagot at present acting Manager of a branch bank here and a life long friend of my son is anxious to come and see my son. I hope this will be agreeable to you, he would come in York April 8th 4.48 p m he would have to leave on the Sunday to be at the bank on Monday morning. I hope my son is improving. He sent home his golf things and fortunately with sweet things in to day they are causing pain

Yours sincerely
Thos Ashburner

April 1, 1911

Dear Mr. Ashburner,

We shall be quite pleased for Mr. Walter Bagot to see Mr. Ashburner at any time.

I cannot report any real improvement, though your son gives us a minimum of trouble and is quite pleasant to do with.

Feb. 6, 1911

Dear Mr. Ashburner,

Ichave read the letters to your son and have again discussed the situation with him. I have urged him to suspend hisjudgment on his experiences and have explained to him fully once again that I think many of these are due to disordered perceptions. I fear I have not made any real impression, though perhaps he is rather more reasonable on the subject than he was. I have told him that unless I can be satisfied that his delusions are unlikely to affect his conduct and that he can put them aside definitely, I shall not be able to recommend his discharge.

Yours very truly,

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER. STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

T. ASHBURNER.

~~56, STRAND.~~ 12 Church St

Barrow-in-Furness,

Feby 4 1911

Dear Dr Bedford Pierce

I went to Leamington on Wednesday last and saw Mr Parker and enclose his statement. You will notice you see he not had anything to do with Miss Shakspeare's child, it is a delusion my son thinking she wants to connect him with it in any way. Please use Mr Parker's statement in the way you think best for my son. He will be glad to hear from you at your convenience how my son is getting on. Our Mayor was asking me yesterday how our son is getting on, he has his deepest sympathy, he had impressed the Mayor very favourably. Please return the enclosed when you have done with them

Yours sincerely

Thos Ashburner

The enclosed will show you the date of my son's visit to Leamington March 16th 1908 the only time he was ever there

T A

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER, STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

~~56, STRAND.~~ 12 Church St

T. ASHBURNER.

Barrow-in-Furness,

Jany 17 1911

Dear Dr Bedford Pierce

I have enclosed cheque for £86. 7. 2 kindly except endorsed return it to me and oblige. Mr Pallowfield called upon us on his return, we were pleased to hear your son health was so good but unfortunately the delusions still continue It is very remarkable he did not show the least sign of any delusion the 5 to 6 weeks he was in South Devon, with the Attendant Mr Vass. I hope he will take your advice soon and drop the delusions! We are much obliged for your kindness in allowing Mr Pallofield to interview my son

Yours sincerely
Thos Ashburner

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER, STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

~~56, STRAND~~, 12 Church St

T. ASHBURNER.

Barrow-in-Furness,

Jany 7th 1911

Dear Dr Redfort Price

Mr J Pellowfield purposes coming over to York on the 14th instant (next Saturday) to see my son if it is agreeable to you. he has always acted Electrics Agent for me and my son in the municipal elections getting us returned to the Council, he would arrive at 12.30 noon and leave again at 4.30 p m so as to arrive back at 8.10 p m. How would it be if we paid at the end of each month for my son, whichever way is convenient to you. When you write Reilly let us know how he is getting on. Wishing you the compliments of the season

Yours sincerely
John Ashburner

I hope he is quiet and does not give you trouble

Dec. 20, 1910

Thomas Ashburner

Sir,

I am sorry that my colleague in copying my certificate had the copying sheet too wet. I enclose a fresh copy. I may perhaps add that when the paper is freshly copied it is difficult to foresee that it will be so seriously blurred when it dries.

With reference to this patient, who you will perhaps have noticed was only discharged on Nov. 21st, I write to ask that the entry "Recovered" may be altered to "Relieved". It appears that during many weeks absence on trial he concealed his delusions completely, and his father was led to think he had recovered when such was clearly not the case. We will make this alteration in our registers unless I hear the contrary from you.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

The Secretary,

Lunacy Commission

C O P Y

Thomas Ashburner

13th December /// 1910

is suffering

from delusional insanity. He believes that a gang of 20 or 30 men who watch him, that the servants in his father's house are in league with them, that boys in the street call out after him that he is the father of children they have with them, and that a certain patient here is also in league with them to watch his movements.

is in good general health.

~~Thomas Ashburner~~

13th December 10

16th December

Ten

C O P Y

All communications should be addressed to—

THE SECRETARY,
Lunacy Commission,
66, Victoria Street,
LONDON, S.W.

Communications relating to different subjects should be made in separate Letters.

LUNACY COMMISSION,
66, *Victoria Street, S.W.*

19th December, 1910.

Sir,

Thomas Ashburner

I am directed by the Commissioners in Lunacy to return herewith the Medical Statement in the above case, and to request that a fresh copy may be sent. The returned copy is quite illegible and the Commissioners do not think such a copy should have been sent to them.

I am,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

B. T. Hodgson
Secretary.

The Superintendent,
The Retreat,
York.

683

N.B.—This Form must accompany any inquiry respecting this Telegram.

POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS.

EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, Ltd., Lond.

If the Receiver of an Inland Telegram doubts its accuracy, he may have it repeated on payment of half the amount originally paid for its transmission, any fraction of 1d. less than ½d. being reckoned as ½d.; and if it be found that there was any inaccuracy, the amount paid for repetition will be refunded. Special conditions are applicable to the repetition of Foreign Telegrams.

Office Stamp.

YORK * DE 9 10 T

Office of Origin and Service Instructions.

Barrow

Charges to pay } s. d.

Handed in at 2.30 P.M.

Received here at 2.46 P.M.

TO { Pierce Retreat York

Send two men and Emergency certificate as soon as possible wire when they will be here Ashburner 56 Strand

Since discharge.

Insisted on Mr Thu. discharging the servants because they were taking information about him to outsiders.

Also 14 days before this had accused a servant of this. & she ~~had~~ some ~~gives~~ notice to leave on this account.

That they had given information so that an action in the Lancashire business would result in damages against him. This was relating to an incident 3 yrs last March.

The girls declared they had never spoken about him & he was satisfied.

~~14 days ago left a lift door. went out alone. to see about election~~

Said that owen was feeling.

Offered M. that she must decide between the servants & him.

Followed M. that repeatedly - almost every day. was rid M. every night

Looked round the back streets to see if anyone was about.

Had [illegible] been talking [illegible] with the [illegible]

Told F. that people in Leamington had paid agents to come to Barnes to watch him & the servants were in League with them.

Left badly

Business affairs all right - Had dinner to other. behaving all right -

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER, STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

T. ASHBURNER.

~~56, STRAND~~, 12 Church Street

Barrow-in-Furness,

Nov 22nd 1910

Dear Dr Rowe

Yours with enclosure to hand to day. I had a friend letter from Mr McDonnell who accompanied my son to Carnforth in all probability he stated he did not see anything wrong, he told me the same when I saw him at Ingleby. I went with my son to London on the way home I did not see anything amiss. I have had him under close observation about three weeks and did not see anything amiss but unfortunately last night the delusions returned he is quieter to day and is going about his work apparently all right. I have not told him that you have sent his ~~[illegible]~~ release and dont think of doing so as he may have to come back to you. I have the release carefully locked up. If he had to return to you would the present committment order be sufficient, the release not having been put in operation

Under present circumstances I think it best not to execute the release

Yours sincerely

Thos Ashburner

It appears to me extraordinary the delusions should have returned. Before my son came home I went to Ingleby to see him & I thought he was all right

Nov. 23, 1910

Dear Mr. Ashburner,

I am very sorry indeed to get the information contained in your letter, but I cannot say that I am in any way surprised as I could not satisfy myself when Mr. Ashburner left that the fundamental state of mind out of which the delusions have developed had been in any way altered.

The notice of discharge has been sent to the Commissioners and it cannot be rescinded, so that if there is further trouble new certificates will have to be found. It is very distressing and perplexing, and I have no doubt your son will not want to see any fresh medical men.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

30 Higher Bank Road Fulwood Preston 22.XI.1910.

Dear Dr Pierce

I have been in consultation with my brother & sister respecting our sister Caroline's desire to live somewhere else for a time. We find it difficult to know what to say: we feel she is in good hands now and as there is no strong advocacy in your letter in favour of a change we think on the whole that it would be well for her to continue to reside at the Retreat at present. If when the Winter is over and you think

a change might be beneficial. we should be glad to consider the question again. We do feel that if our sister could control her noisy habit it would hasten us to favour a change for her.

Marsden Hall would appear to be rather too small a palace for sister's case.

We much long for her recovery but feel she is in good hands & that you are doing all you can for her. I remain Sincerely

Dilworth Abbott

Nov. 23, 1910

Dear Mr. Abbatt,

I think your decision in respect to your sister is really a wise one, bearing in mind the time of the year and that any improvement is problematical. It isreally not anice time of the year to move, and I would suggest that you defer the matter until the Spring, and possibly then you may see more clearly what step to take.

I think it would be well if you would write to Miss Abbatt, saying you had carefully considered this matter and felt it was best to make not move until next year as you did not wish her to run the risks incidental to a change in this inclement weather.

Yours very truly,

& then they will both go up to London & I shall leave him & return to Manchester.
I think I have told you about all this time

I am Sir
Yours Faithfully
W. Vause

B. Pierce Esq: M.D.
The Retreat
York.

Savernake
Falkland Road
Torquay

592

27.10.10

Dear Sir

A few lines to let you know how Mr Ashburner is going on. We came here on the 14th of Oct: & we have had very good weather most of the time but has been rather unsettled this last couple of days
Mr Ashburner is keeping very well, there has been no return of any mental trouble so far & he seems to be quite himself again
We expect Mr Ashburner Senr down here on Tuesday next & I am given to understand that he will stay here a day or two

Nov. 21, 1910

Dear Mr. Ashburner,

I am pleased to hear such a good account of your son, and consequently enclose the notice of discharge as requested.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER, STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

T. ASHBURNER.

~~56, STRAND~~, 12 Church St

Barrow-in-Furness,

Nov 20th 1910

Dear Dr Poire

I am this day in receipt of your letter for which I am obliged. I am pleased to say my son is entirely better. Please make out the enclosed account I want to Longway to see him before he came home. Mr Mc Vaus told me he had been all right from the time he joined him at York. He has now been at home upwards of a fortnight and has been all right during that time, he was returned to the circuit now no opposition and has taken his seat and feels interested in the work (re-elected) I beg to thank you for your great kindness to my son. If there is anything further to pay if you will let me know I will remit you. With kind regards

Yours sincerely

T. Ashburner

Nov. 21, 1910

Dear Mr. Ashburner,

Many thanks for your letter. I am very pleased to hear that the trip in Devon was such a success. I think you went there at the very best timeof the year, and you certainly missed some very unfavourable weather in the north.

It is interesting to hear that you were elected a member of the Town Council in your absence, and the civic duties will certainly be a good occupation for you, and I have no doubt the town is glad to have your services again.

I am sending today in the ordinary course the usual notice of discharge to your father.

With kind regards,

Yours very truly,

T. ASHBURNER, JR, B.A.,
SOLICITOR.

9, LAWSON STREET,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

18th November 1910.

Dear Dr. Pierce,

I returned to Barrow on the 4th of this month feeling very much better for my visit to Devonshire. We visited all the places you kindly mentioned to Mr. Vause except Hartland Point and Westward Hoe. Our longest stay was at Torquay where we spent about three weeks. Devonshire is a very beautiful country especially in the Lynton District and we were favoured with very fine weather. Since my return I have been doing business as usual and fortunately in my absence I was re-elected on the Town Council without opposition. I shall be obliged if you will send me the certificate.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely
T. Ashburner Junr.

The Dudley 536
Ilfracombe
5th October 1910.

Dear Dr. Pierce,

We arrived here yesterday after spending a fortnight at Lynton. Lynton is a delightful spot and we have practically lived out of doors. We shall probably be staying here about a fortnight and then go on to Torquay. We have been fortunate in having splendid weather and I am feeling very fit in fact quite well in another five weeks I will be quite right. With best wishes

Yours sincerely
T. Ashburner Jnr

Oct. 17, 1910

Dear Mr. Ashburner,

I have had several letters from the attendant, Vause, and evidently things are going on very satisfactorily. If your son returns home the question will have to be raised whether he shall be discharged from certificates. I should doubt whether he could be discharged as "recovered" as I have no doubt that the delusional state of mind remains, though it is not in evidence at present. Perhaps you will talk over the question of discharge with your doctor and let me know.

Yours very truly,

Oct. 17, 1910

Dear Sir,

I am pleased to hear such a good account of Mr. Ashburner and hope the stay in South Devon will be as agreeable as that in the North. I am glad to hear there has been no apparent return of the annoyance which Mr. Ashburner has had.

Yours very truly,

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TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER, STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

~~56, STRAND~~, 12 Church St

T. ASHBURNER.

Barrow-in-Furness,

Sept 17 1910

Dear Dr Bedford Pierce

I beg to inform you that the Male Nurse will be at your Retreat on monday next hoping this will be convenient to you he is very highly recommended by the Male Nurses Co-Operative When the account is made up please have it sent on and I will remit. I beg to thank you for your very great Kindness to my son, hoping he will continue to improve

Yours sincerely
Thos Ashburner

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TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER. STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

T. ASHBURNER.

~~56, STRAND,~~ 12 Church St

Barrow-in-Furness,

Oct 18th 1910

Dear Dr Pierce

I am this day in receipt of your letter of the 17th instant. Please return to Mr W Vause's letter that I sent you and oblige. I have to day received a letter from Mr W Vause he states Mr Ashburner is keeping very well and is quite enjoying the change. I will see our Doctor as you suggest and let you know what he says. They are now at Torquay at present wet weather

Yours sincerely
T Ashburner

Bull Point, & Lee Village also a good many walks around here.
Mr Ashburner seems to keep very well, he has also put on several pounds in weight & quite enjoys the walks & scenery etc.
He has not during the whole time shown any signs of delusions of any kind. I expect we shall leave here for Torquay on Friday next & spend the rest of the time there. He did ask me a few days ago if I thought he would have to return to York to get his discharge or would he be able to get it from his own doctor at Barrow, so I told him you would no doubt let him know when the time came, I dont think there is anymore to say this time

Respectfully Yours

W. Vause

"The Dudley" Private Hotel

AND BOARDING ESTABLISHMENT.

Ilfracombe, Oct: 11th 1900

Dr Pierce

Dear Sir

A few lines to let you know how Mr Ashburner is going on. We came here from Lynton by steamer on the 4th of Oct: & the weather has been beautifull & fine so we have seen a good deal of the country we went to Clovelly one day also to Morthoe &

North Cliff Boarding House
26.9.10 / Lynton
Devonshire

Dr Pierce

Dear Sir

A few lines to let you know how we are going on. The day we left York, we got as far as Minehead & we put up there for the night, then came on to Lynton the following day by coach. we have got very comfortable quarters where we are staying. Mr Ashburner seems to keep fairly well, he eats & sleeps very well & we do a great deal of walking & up to now he has not shown any signs of delusions at all & seems to be enjoying the change

We are staying here untill about Thursday or Friday then going on to Ilfracombe for a time. The weather has been very fine & warm more like July & we seem to have explored all the district. I will let you know the address when we get to Ilfracombe

Respectfully Yours
W. Vause

T ASHBURNER.

~~56, Strand~~, 12 Church St
Barrow-in-Furness,
Oct 13 1890

Dear Dr Pierie

I thought you might like to know how my son is getting on. They arrived at Torquay yesterday. I enclose you Mr McOwen's letter which kindly return to me. We expect my son home in the course of one month time. We are pleased to hear he is so much better. My son address at Torquay is

Thos Ashburner Jnr
The Sovereign
Falkland Road
Torquay

Yours sincerely
Thos Ashburner

TELEPHONE 479.

13, PRINCE'S SQUARE,
HARROGATE.

September 2nd 1910

Dear Dr Bedford Pierce.

I have had a letter from Mr Ashbourner of Barrow in Furness requesting a consultation with you respecting his son now an inmate of the Retreat.

My son was under my care here just a year ago.

I can meet you tomorrow afternoon. if that will suit you.

I can leave here by the 3.15 train arriving at York 3.48. or by the 4.58 arriving 5.30. whichever time will suit you best. I will go up to the Retreat on my arrival.

Will you kindly telephone or wire me which time will suit you best. and oblige

Yours very faithfully
William J C Ward

Telephone Number. 479.
Telegraphic Address.
Ward
Princes Square
Harrogate

T ASHBURNER.

~~56, Strand,~~ 12 Church St
Barrow-in-Furness,
Oct 13th 1880

Dear Dr Bedford Pierce,

I herein enclose cheque for £12. 14. 4 in settlement of the enclosed account. My son expects to leave Ispaconha for Torquay tomorrow and to come home about the middle of next month, he states he is feeling very well. He appears to have got a very pleasant attendant from the Manchester Institution. I beg to thank you for your great kindness to him. I hope he will go on all right when he comes home

Yours sincerely
Jno Ashburner

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER, STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

~~56, STRAND,~~ 12 Church St

T. ASHBURNER.

Barrow-in-Furness,

Sep 9th 1910

Dear Dr Bedford Pierce

Dr Wards report came duly to hand. we are pleased to find my son is very much better, he would like to go somewhere for a holiday before the winter, he was at Margate a few months ago and liked it very much.

Dr Ward recommends he should go South with a proper attendant. Will you kindly recommend me if you know of one, we have been informed they are to be had at Manchester. I think of coming to your Retreat on Thursday next the 15th instant and would like to see you, please let me know if it will be convenient to you. If not which day will suit you and oblige

Yours very sincerely

Thos Ashburner

Sept. 10, 1910

Dear Mr. Ashburner,

I have received your letter, and in reply should recommend you to apply to the Male Nurses Temperance Co-operation, 235 Brunswick St., Manchester. You will probably be able to secure the services of a good attendant.

Unfortunately I shall be away, in all probability, on Thursday next, and so would not be able to see you, as I may have to go to Sheffield. I could see you either on Tuesday or Friday afternoon in Leeds and also on Monday here, but I expect to be away on Wednesday and Thursday.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER, STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

T. ASHBURNER.

~~56, STRAND~~, 12 Church St

Barrow-in-Furness,

July 13th 1911

Dear Sir

Dr Carmichael has just telephoned over here and recommends this to be removed to your Retreat under compulsion at once. Please send him as early as possible in the morning 2 good men to take charge of him. If you have not sent in the necessary papers, please send them by your man. Kindly wire me in the morning what time your man will be here and oblige

Yours sincerely
Thos Ashburner

To Bedford Pierce
The Retreat
York

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER, STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

T. ASHBURNER.

~~56, STRAND~~, 12 Church St

Barrow-in-Furness,

July 12th 1910

Dear Sir

I am sorry to say that our son that was in your Retreat about a year ago is still suffering from delusion, our family Doctor (Carmichael) thinks he should be put in your Retreat under Compulsion not voluntary. Will you kindly send me the necessary papers for our Doctor to fill in. Could you send two of your men here or to Harrogate should he go there shortly, it would require two good strong men to look after him, our son you will remember is a strong young man. I hope it will be convenient for you to take him in. Will you kindly send me the address of the Doctor at Harrogate if so require them to certify. Will you also inform me your address at Leeds and what days you attend there

Yours sincerely

Thos Ashburner

Dr Bedford Pierce
The Retreat
York

I might come over to Leeds to see you

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER, STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS"

~~56, STRAND,~~ 12 Church St

T. ASHBURNER.

Barrow-in-Furness,

Sept 1 1910

Dear Dr Bedford Pierce

I am much obliged for your letter of yesterday and have to day wrote to Dr Wand of Princes Square Harrogate to come over to your Retreat and see my son in consultation with you and asked Dr Wand to get an appointment with you. I beg to thank you for your great kindness. My son had the delusion very bad about two days before he left home. Dr Carmichael ordered him away at once. He cannot have our son at home till he is better, when under the delusion he interferes with the servants and they will not stay with us. He has the matter in his own hand dispite the delusion and he will soon be better

Yours sincerely
Thos Ashburner

The Retreat
York

2nd September, 1910.

Dear Dr. Ward,

You will have heard from Mr. Ashburner, of Barrow-in-Furness, asking you to come over here to see his son, who has been sent here under certificates. I quite hope you will be able to come and confer with me about the case. I expect to be at home on Monday, and on Wednesday in next week, and any time an either of these days will suit me quite well.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER, STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

~~56, STRAND,~~ 12 Church Street

T. ASHBURNER.

Barrow-in-Furness,

Augt 29th 1910

Dear Dr H J Mackenzie
The Retreat
York

Mr Bagot a friend of my son called upon us to day my son has been writing to him complaining about being kept in the Retreat. If agreeable to you will you kindly get an outside Doctor to examine him and report to us. Will you kindly talk the matter over with my son. If this was done perhaps my son would not be so bitter against me and my wife. If you call in the Doctor I will pay the expense. We leave the matter in your hands to do what you consider best for my son. Your letter to hand to day for which we are obliged

Yours sincerely
Thos Ashburner

Does he appear to have got rid of his delusions

31st August, 1910.

Dear Mr. Ashburner,

Your letter to Dr. Mackenzie has awaited my retirn from a holiday. We shall be quite glad for your son to see any independent medical man of standing. He himself is wishful to see Dr. Ward, of Harrogate, and this will be quite agreeable to us. If you approve of this, would you write to Dr. Ward, Prince's Square, Harrogate, asking him to come over to see your son, and send you a report? It would be better for Dr. Ward to come here, rather than that the interview should be in Harrogate, as I should like to talk over the situation with him myself.

I fear the delusions have not disappeared, although they are certainly less apparent than they were.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

29th July, 1910.

Dear Sir,

There is no essential change in Mr. Ashburner's condition, though he is much pleasanter to do with. He works in the garden occasionally, and joins in games.

I shall be away on August 4th.

Yours very truly,

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER, STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

(453 x

56, STRAND,

T. ASHBURNER.

Barrow-in-Furness,

July 20 1910

Dear Sir

My son is very anxious to get out of your Retreat. Kindly keep a very strict watch over him. When he was here, sometimes his talk showed he was suicidal to himself not to dangerous to others. I hope he will soon be able to pull himself together

Yours sincerely
Thos Ashburner

Dr Bedford Pierce
The Retreat
York

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER, STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

~~56, STRAND~~, 12 Church Street

T. ASHBURNER.

Barrow-in-Furness,

July 16 1910

Dear Sir

I regret I could not call to see you at Blackpool, we thought it was necessary for me to accompany your two men and my son to the Retreat. I am glad we got there so nicely. I hope to leave here on Tuesday morning next at 7.5 due in York at 12.30 and will proceed to the Retreat by cab to see you there, I would like to return same day from York at 4.30. I did not write or telegraph you to Blackpool we were very much hurried over getting our son away. He is in your Retreat under an order for a month compulsory or longer if necessary

Yours sincerely
Thos Ashburner

Dr Bedford Pierce
The Retreat
York

July 13, 1910

Dear Sir,

I am not surprised to hear that your son is not so well and that detention under certificates has become necessary. We can arrange to receive him, and I can send over to Harrogate at any time that may be fixed to bring him over.

I send you now a set of forms. You will notice that you will have to see your son in person before filling up the Petition. I think that Dr. Edgecombe of Rodney Ho., Harrogate will give you any assistance you require in the way of certificates, and he would no doubt suggest a second medical man to sign the other. Should Dr. Edgecombe be engaged, Dr. Liddell of North View, Victoria Avenue, Harrogate, would no doubt help you.

With respect to my being in Leeds, unfortunately I cannot be there either either Friday or any day next week as I am going from home. I shall be at the Retreat on Monday afternoon and the whole of Tuesday next week, and could see you then if you should be able to call. I shall be at the Imperial Hotel, Blackpool tomorrow, Thursday, night and could talk over matters with you there, say at 8 p.m. if ou think it necessary to see me in person, but I am due to leave early in the morning. Yours very truly,

Thos. Ashburner Esq.

Jan. 8, 1909

Dear Sir,

Your brother requested me to write to you respecting his progress at the Retreat. I regret to say that although he has had no stimulants whatever the epileptic seizures have not entirely disappeared, and he has recently had one severe fit and one slight one. These seizures start with slight mental disturbance in which he swears automatically and does not remember afterwards what has taken place. We have given Mr. Clegg a course of treatment for alcoholism which he has not stood very well. However, this is now nearly completed; and he says he is not feeling any temptations in that direction just now. He, however, does not feel sure of himself and wishes to stay on a little while longer, taking no medicine of any kind so that we can see how he goes on.

I rather fear that the epilepsy is independent of the alcoholic tendency unless it should happen to be the predisposing cause of the latter. If this prove to be so I fancy Mr. Clegg would do well to stay in an epileptic colone for a lengthened period rather than live here or return home. I have not told him this, but think it would be worth your while to make enquiries at the David Lewis Colony, Alderley Edge, Cheshire to see whether he gould go there.

It would appear as if a lengthened stay under care is likely to be desirable, but I can write more definitely on this point after a little while.

Yours very truly,

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER, STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

~~56, STRAND~~, 12 Church Street

T. ASHBURNER.

Barrow-in-Furness,

Nov 5 1909

Dr Bedford Pierce
The Beckett Park

Dr Sir

I enclose your cheque for £21.13.0 amount due to the Beckett Park as per enclosed statement kindly own the receipt and oblige. I am pleased to say my son keeps all right, thanking you for your kindness to him when he was with you

Yours sincerely
Thos Ashburner

POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS.

EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, Ltd., Lond.

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Office Stamp

BARROW-IN-FURNESS AU 6 09

Office of Origin and Service Instructions.

Charges to pay } s. d.

York

Handed in at } 2 45 P.M. Received here at } 3 15 P.M.

TO { J. Cockburner 12 Church St Barrow

Should I stay another month or so or return Have got used to it

Tom

N.B.—This Form must accompany any inquiry made respecting this Telegram.

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TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER, STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

T. ASHBURNER.

~~56, STRAND~~, 12 Church St

Barrow-in-Furness,

August 6 1909

Dear Doctor Pearce

We received the enclosed telegram from my son this afternoon and would have in reply that we thought it best for Lewis to remain in your Retreat another month or so that we would give up going to Norway for the present that we thought the Retreat would be better for him, so we hope he will remain with you. he appears quite satisfied to do so now I will be glad to have a report from you upon him at your convenience. We have got the fresh maids in the house so that should not trouble him, they don't know where he is and don't know anyone in York

Yours sincerely

Thos Ashburner

July 28, 1909

Dear Mr. Ashburner,

I do not know any-one who would be a suitable companion for your son, and I think it is very probable he would be best pleased if he had some-one in no way connected with myself or the Retreat to accompany him.

We will shortly send in the account for the month. I am sorry we have not been able to make more impression on your son's peculiar ideas.

Yours very truly,

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER, STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

T. ASHBURNER.

~~56, STRAND~~, 12 Strand Street

Barrow-in-Furness,

July 28 1869

Dr Pease
The Retreat York

Dr Sir

I hope my son will be all right and able to come home on the 1st of August. My wife has decided not to go to Harrogate till September next. I want my son to go with me to Norway. The ex Mayor of this Borough has lately returned from Norway after a three weeks visit to there, would you recommend this outing for my son, to go from Newcastle to Norway and visit several places there not keeping by the steamer. The ex Mayor was much benefited by his visit to Norway & visit Pleasa and on the account

Yours sincerely,
John Ashburner

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER, STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

T. ASHBURNER.

~~56, STRAND,~~ 12 Church Road

Barrow-in-Furness,

July 26 1909

Dr Pierce
The Retreat York

Dr Sir

I am obliged for your letter of yesterday and hope my son will be all right when he leaves you. My wife has given up going to Harrogate till September next. Our ex Mayor lately suffered something like my son he took a trip to Norway and is quite recovered, if my son takes the same trip it might put him right. I am writing to my son tomorrow. If we cannot get a suitable companion to go with him to Norway or some other suitable place I will go with him. Do you know of anyone suitable to go with him and his charge. your kind reply will oblige. He would have liked him to stay longer with you, but when he takes a notion it is bad to remove. I expect he will come home when his mother is up, please send in your account

Yours sincerely
Thos Ashburner

26 July 1907.

Dear Mr Ashburner

I cannot make any impression on Mr. Ashburners delusions. He still is convinced that he is the subject of a conspiracy and that persons outside constantly annoy him & almost after him and in some way indicate to him that they know who he is.

Happily there is no accusation yet against any one on the premises here. He seems very well in his bodily health.

He clearly wishes to leave when the month is up & I think he should be free to do this but I expect the annoyance will continue when he goes to Harrogate and then it will be an easy matter to get a medical man to certify him.

I do not know whether you know any doctors in Harrogate but Dr Ogsome, or Dr St Edgecombe, or Dr Bertram Watson would no doubt give you help if it were needed.

I remain

Yours truly

Bedford Pierce

24 July 1917.

Dear Mr Dickinson

I cannot sufficiently appreciate Mr Dickinson's kindness. The only is unfortunate that he is the subject of a conspiracy and that persons outside Guildhall cannot have a chance after him and in consequence indicate to him that this has not been the case.

Obviously there is no accountant yet against employers on the premises here. The same applies to his health in his health.

The clerk, who has taken over the work, says and I think he deserves to for treating that I expect

the arrangement will continue when he is to Bloomsgrove and then it will be very difficult to get a practical accountant with him.

I do not know whether you have any doubts in Bloomsgrove but I propose, as I explained, to Dickinson Waters ~~[illegible]~~ accounts. Doubt you the help of it more useful.

I remain

Yours sincerely

Christopher [illegible]

TELEGRAMS—"ASHBURNER, STRAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS."

~~56, STRAND~~,

T. ASHBURNER.

Barrow-in-Furness,

July 25 1909

Dr Pierce
The Retreat York

Dr Sir

I am this day in receipt of account from the Retreat. I am disappointed that I did not see you when down at York on the 21st instant. My son told me when at York that he would only remain one month in your Retreat for which we expected, when the ~~time~~ month was up he would go with his Mother for one month to Harrogate, that if we got an order to keep him in the Retreat he would run away. Please have a talk with him and write me particulars and oblige

Yours obdt
Thos Ashburner

The Retreat
York.
15th July 1909

Dear Father,

I am desirous of leaving here as soon as possible. Although there is every attention it is not very pleasant for me to be confined in a Private Asylum. Most of the other poor fellows are touched and I am perfectly right. What I told you was perfectly true and no delusion

and to a great extent the
Maids are responsible for my
being here. Mother should try
and get two ~~new~~ new maids as
~~these~~ I cannot live with them
again unless they make a
full confession of their spying
and giving information away
They could tell you all about
my annoyances if they choose
too. Be very careful what you
say in their presence or when
they are about. I cannot stand
being here much longer and
I exceedingly regret to say it
that unless some change is
made on the lines indicated
in this letter my only course
will be to go abroad. If you
give them both notice perhaps
they will make a clean breast
of it. I hope mother and you
are both keeping well

Your affec son
Tom.