

Best, Dr. Palemon

Publication/Creation

1911-1912

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26 Heriot Row,
Edinburgh.

21st May, 1912.

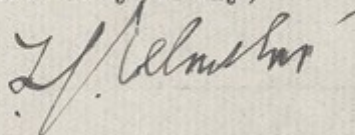
My Dear Pierce,

Many thanks for your letter about poor Dr Best. No doubt, in a way, his death is a thing to be thankful for, for there was no chance of his recovery.

We have just returned from a trip to Germany but unfortunately I could not stay in London for the M. P. A. Meeting as I should like to have done, as well as to have attended the Annual Meeting of the Lebanon Hospital and of the Asylum Workers Association. I spent two days in Munich with Kraepelin and was much impressed by him and his work. The whole conception of his psychiatric clinique, its thoroughness, its large staff, and its numerous departments, each under a special head, are all German in the best sense. I think Kraepelin is a thorough scientist in industry, honesty and openness of mind.

With kind regards to yourself and Mrs Pierce,

I am,
yours very truly,



P.S. I could not get for my usual golfing excursion this year.

St. James' Park,

London.

March 1st, 1872.

Dear Sir,

I have the pleasure to inform you that the

first of the series of lectures on the

history of the British Empire

will be given on the 1st of March at 8 o'clock

at the Royal Institution, 21, Bedford Square.

The lecture will be given by Mr. J. A. Roebuck,

Member of Parliament for the City of London.

The lecture will be given in the English

language, and the lecture will be given in

the English language, and the lecture will be

given in the English language, and the lecture

will be given in the English language, and

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1000/800

South

19th Aug 1912

Dear Dr Percie,

Will you kindly send
all my fathers clothes &
other articles (except boots)
to me at South. Kindly
send all his boots to
my sister Mrs Dyson at
Greenwich. We both wish
to thank you & Dr MacKenzie
and others at the Retreat
for your kind attendance
to my father. I should be

glad if you will let me have
all my father's accounts at
as early a date as convenient
I expect the bill for the
Coffin will be sent to me
also the Railways Company's
Charges for conveying the
body to Edinburgh. I shall
feel obliged if you will tell
me to whom to apply for
these. Yours very truly

W J West

May 6, 1912

Dear Mrs. Dyson,

I was pressed for time yesterday and could hardly reply properly to your letter.

The acute symptoms have passed off, and we quite expect, now the weather is warmer, that Dr. Best will progressively improve. The oedema of the legs is less and his general condition is easier; but he cannot lie down in bed yet, though he sleeps well sitting up in a chair.

He is much less excited, and, the greater part of the time, is quite reasonable, though since I saw him to-day he is asking to go out and walk round the front, which he is obviously unfitted to do. If he remains as he is now there would be no reason for him to be here.

It is rather singular that the attacks of asthma and the attacks of pain have all occurred during his periods of excitement, and that when depressed he is comfortable. However, he remains quietly in bed when depressed, and puts no strain on his heart. When excited he rushes about, talks to everybody, and works himself into a breathless condition.

It is, I fear, tolerably certain that the muscular walls of his heart are weak and that the unregulated excitement produces a train of symptoms from temporary cardiac failure.

You ask me about the future. I cannot but realise that this cardiac weakness, in a man of his years, is a serious matter, seeing that he is subject to these attacks of excitement. If he could only live an equable life I do not think there would be any cause for alarm. In any case I fully expect he will keep pretty nicely through the summer. The difficulty will come when the weather is less favourable.

I remain,
Yours very truly,

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April 30, 1912

Dear Mrs. Dyson,

Since you were here Dr. Best has improved physically. There was a lull in the excitement yesterday evening, lasting for a few hours, when he was quite pleasant to do with. This morning he is again excited as you will see from the enclosed telegram.

Yours very truly,

April 30, 1912

Dear Dr. Best,

I enclose a telegram which I did not think should be sent by wire.

Your father has had two or three attacks of asthma, the actual cause of which we cannot ascertain. It may be connected with these troublesome East winds, which penetrate every room in the place.

You will have heard from Mrs. Dyson how he is going on; and since she has been here he has greatly improved. There was a lull in the excitement last evening, when he was quite pleasant to do with, but this morning he is again restless, complaining and irritable. It is difficult to do any thing to please him in his present condition, but at other times he is grateful for any attention.

Yours very truly,

Royal Observatory,

Greenwich, S.E.

May 7th 1912.

Dear Dr. Pierce,

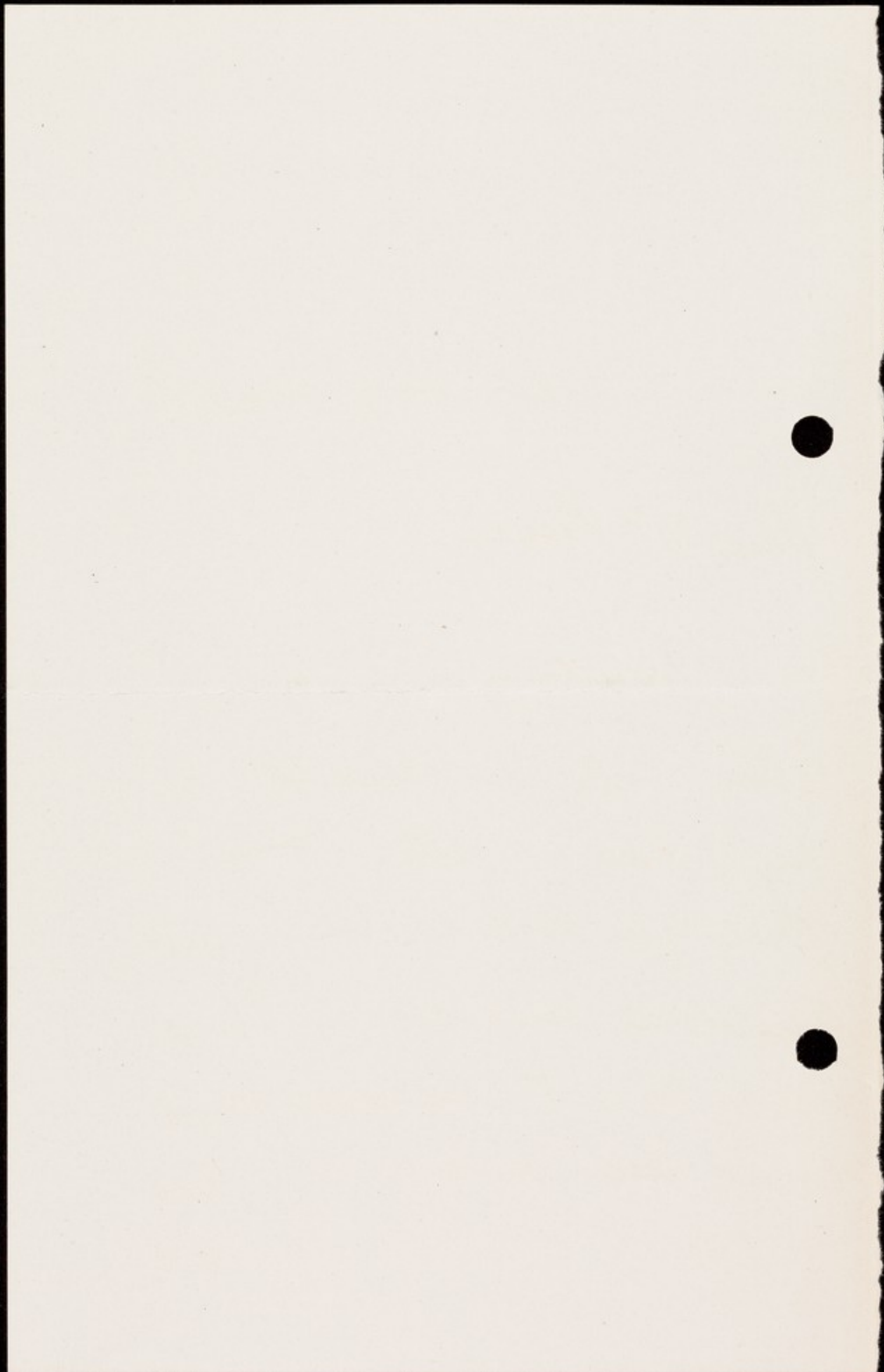
Thank you very much for your
two letters: it was kind of you to write
so fully, and I am glad that Father is
so much better.

In his present exalted condition he is
absolutely bent on leaving The Retreat,
but, judging by over 6 years experience,
his mood is sure to change pretty

soon. Again thanking you for your

letters, I am
Yours very truly

C. B. Dyson.



10, UPGATE,

LOUTH, LINCS.

4th Aug 1902

Dear Dr Pierce,

Thank you for your
letter with reference to
my father's health. I am
glad you consider his physical
condition improving. I had
hoped that the excellent period
would ~~soon~~ ^{have} subsided before
I came to see him. But as

Dr Girdling 16th 1871 I should
come over, I hope to do
so on Monday and shall
be pleased to see either you
or Dr Mackenzie off on ~~Monday~~

Yours very truly

W. B. B.

Royal Observatory,

Greenwich, S.E.

May 4th 1912.

Dear Dr. Pierce,

Thank you for your letter received yesterday: I forwarded it at once to my brother. I suppose the edema you speak of is a serious symptom: but I hope it is not menacing a fatal one. You will be sure to let me know if there is anything I could do or if he is in any danger of dying.

Would you be so kind & so good to tell me plainly what

you would anticipate the course of

No illness to be - I am not
afraid when the worst?

With kindest regards,

Yours in aff

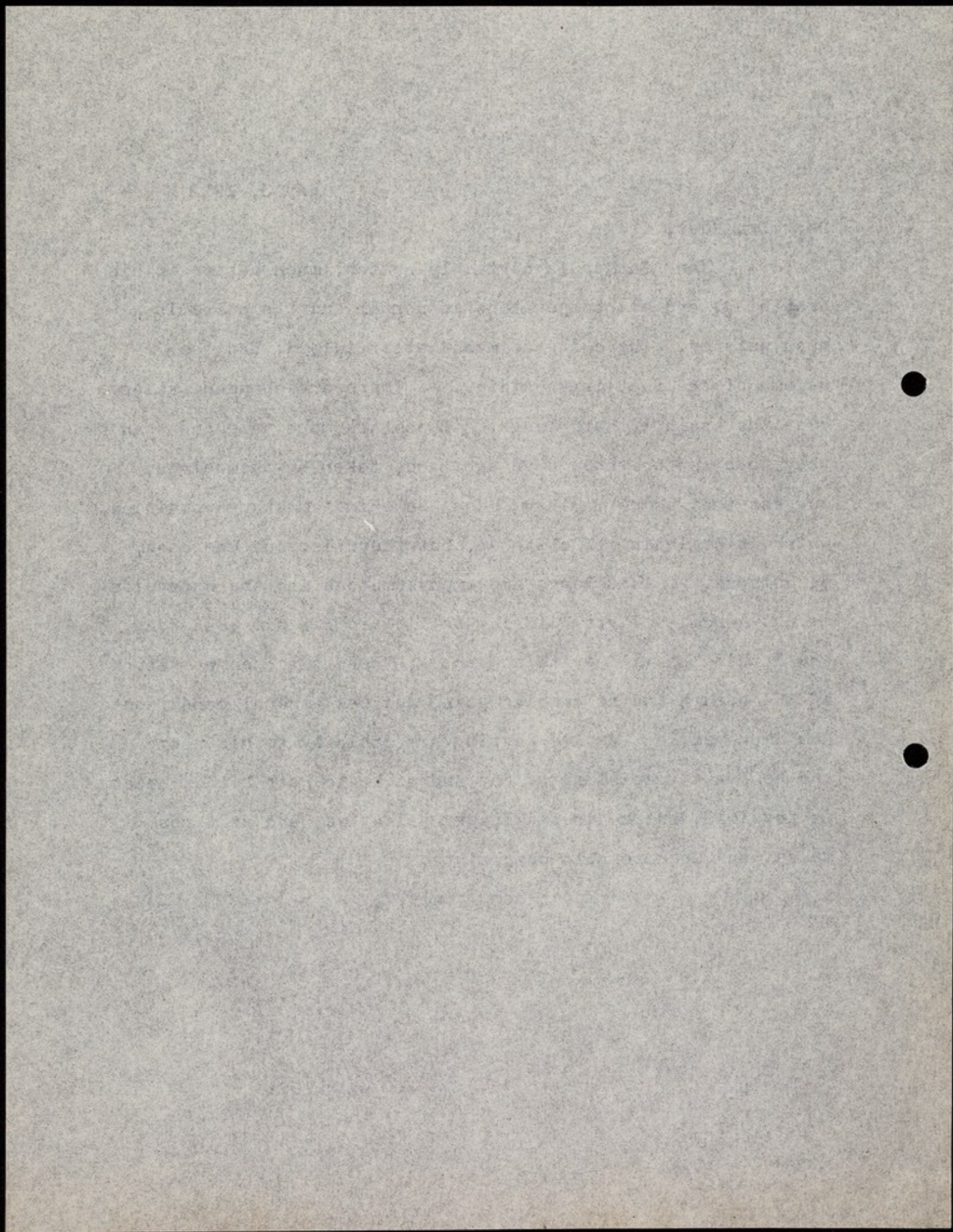
C. B. Dyson.

May 3, 1912

Dear Dr. Best,

Your father is certainly better, much easier in his breathing, and his temperature is normal and his pulse is much quieter. He can rest much better in bed, and the oedema of the feet is subsiding. There are abundant rales over the basis of both lungs. These are more numerous than they were two or three days ago, and, taken by themselves, suggest that there may have been some inflammatory condition which is beginning to clear up, but there is, and has been, no dulness. His lungs are emphysematous and the expansion is not good. I got Wilfrid Hostling to see him yesterday, and I think he will write to you. There has been no return of the asthma and no cardiac pain, and the general condition has improved. We are keeping him strictly to his room, and he has a special nurse day and night to keep him as quiet as possible, but he is still very talkative, and at times makes many unreasonable complaints.

Yours very truly,



10, UPGATE,

LOUTH, LINGS.

1st May 1912

Dear Dr. Bedford Pierce,

Thank you for your letter.
My father has written to me
many times complaining of
attacks of asthma which he
says are cardiac. I am glad
you do not think so. I felt
sure that he exaggerated the
severity of his symptoms.
During his periods of excitement

he must be a very difficult
patient to manage and?
hope he may soon quiet down

Yours sincerely
W. West



ROYAL STATION HOTEL.

YORK.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: "NEROTEL, YORK."
TELEPHONE NO 23.

April 1912

THE N.E.R. CO'S HOTELS ARE
 THE ZETLAND HOTEL. ROYAL STATION HOTEL, YORK. ROYAL HOTEL,
 SALTBURN-BY-THA-SEA. CENTRAL STATION HOTEL, NEWCASTLE. WEST HARTLEPOOL.
 ROYAL STATION HOTEL, HULL.

Dear Dr. Price,

I have come to see Dr. Best if
 you think it wise. I found I could
 get away last night but not in time
 so let you know first.

I am staying until the 5:15 train,
 so I have plenty of time. If you think
 it would be better only to pay a
 short visit I can come out again
 this afternoon & please the necessity.

to catch my train as an
excuse for not staying longer.

Yours very truly

C. B. Dyer.

ALEXANDRA HOTEL
ST ANDREWS

Sunday.

Dear Dr. Pierce,

I am returning from
Scotland to London on Monday next
+ should like to take the opportunity
of calling on Father, Dr. Best, on
my way home. I have not heard from
him for some time & am writing
to ask you if he is in a fit
condition to see me - not too
excited: I feel that I should like
to see him in any case, but if
he were very excited I would be

LETTER ARCHIVES
SWEDESKA

likely to beg me to have him
released from arrest I feel that
I should find it too painful.

Will you kindly send me a wire
to this address just stating
whether you think I may come
or no. - I have not written
to him. I think it wisest not to do
so. I should be with him at
about 3 o'clock or should leave
in about an hour or so to

get to London the same night.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely
C. B. Dyrson

Royal Observatory
Greenwich S.E.

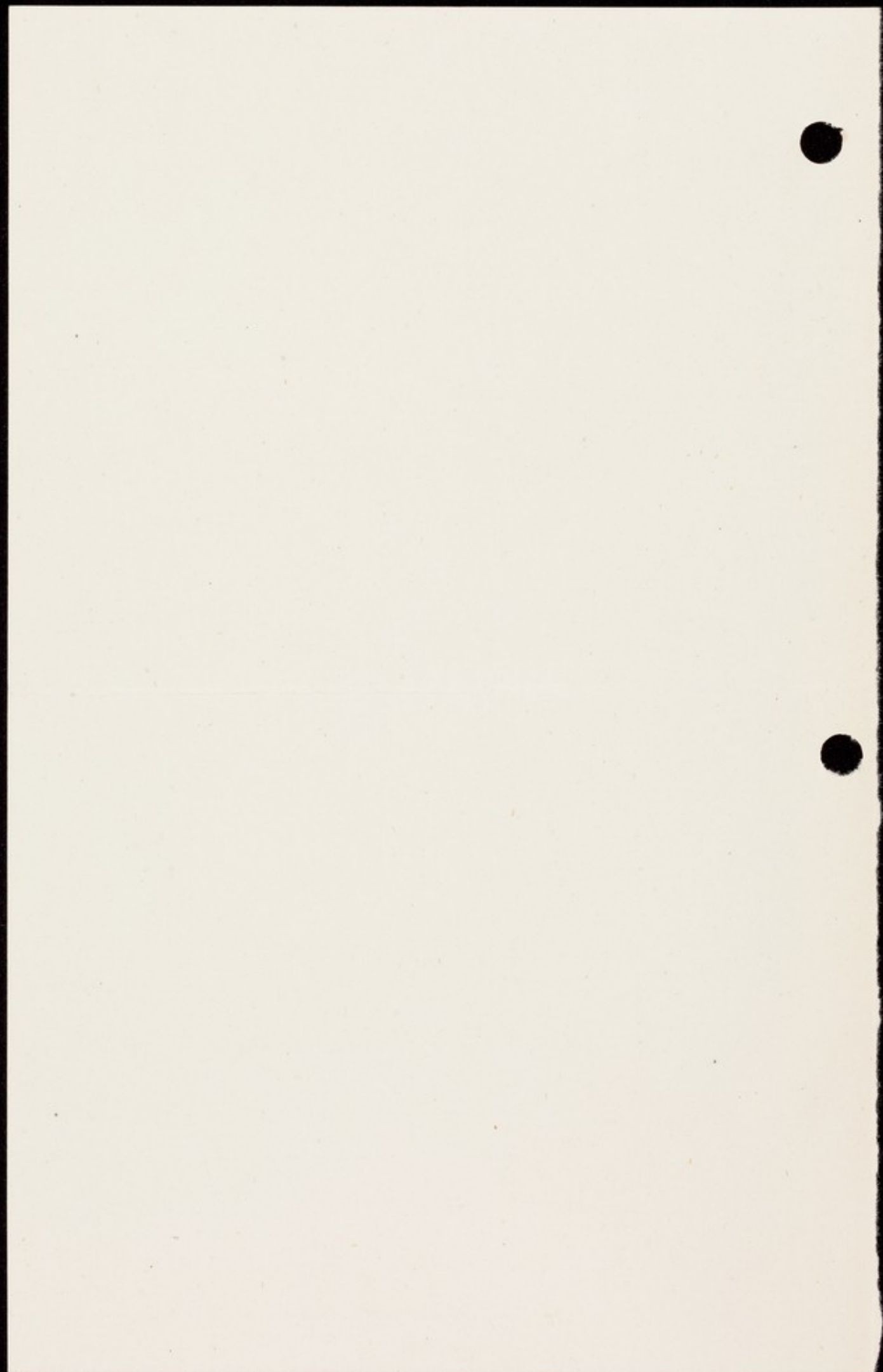
Feb. 2. 1862

Dear Dr. Pierce,

Would you kindly send me a
line as to Dr. Post's health? The
latter says he has had a severe attack
of angina pectoris. I would com-
mune him at once if you think
it advisable, - but so far I
have avoided going while he
is excited as I am sure it would
be very trying for us both.

Yours sincerely

C. B. Dyson.



↓
Royal Observatory,

Greenwich, S.E.

To Mr. Price

Feb. 14th 1812

Dear Sir,

I was relieved to receive your letter about Dr. Best; I understood from a letter of his to my brother which was forwarded to me that Dr. Best is now depressed. I hope to come & see him next Saturday. I have not told him yet as I should be very likely to excite him, but will write a line on Friday for him to receive on Saturday.

I should be glad of the opportunity to see you if you could spare any time on Saturday.

afternoon or on Sunday that would
be convenient to you.

Yours very truly
C. B. Dyson.

Feb. 5, 1912

Dear Mrs. Dyson,

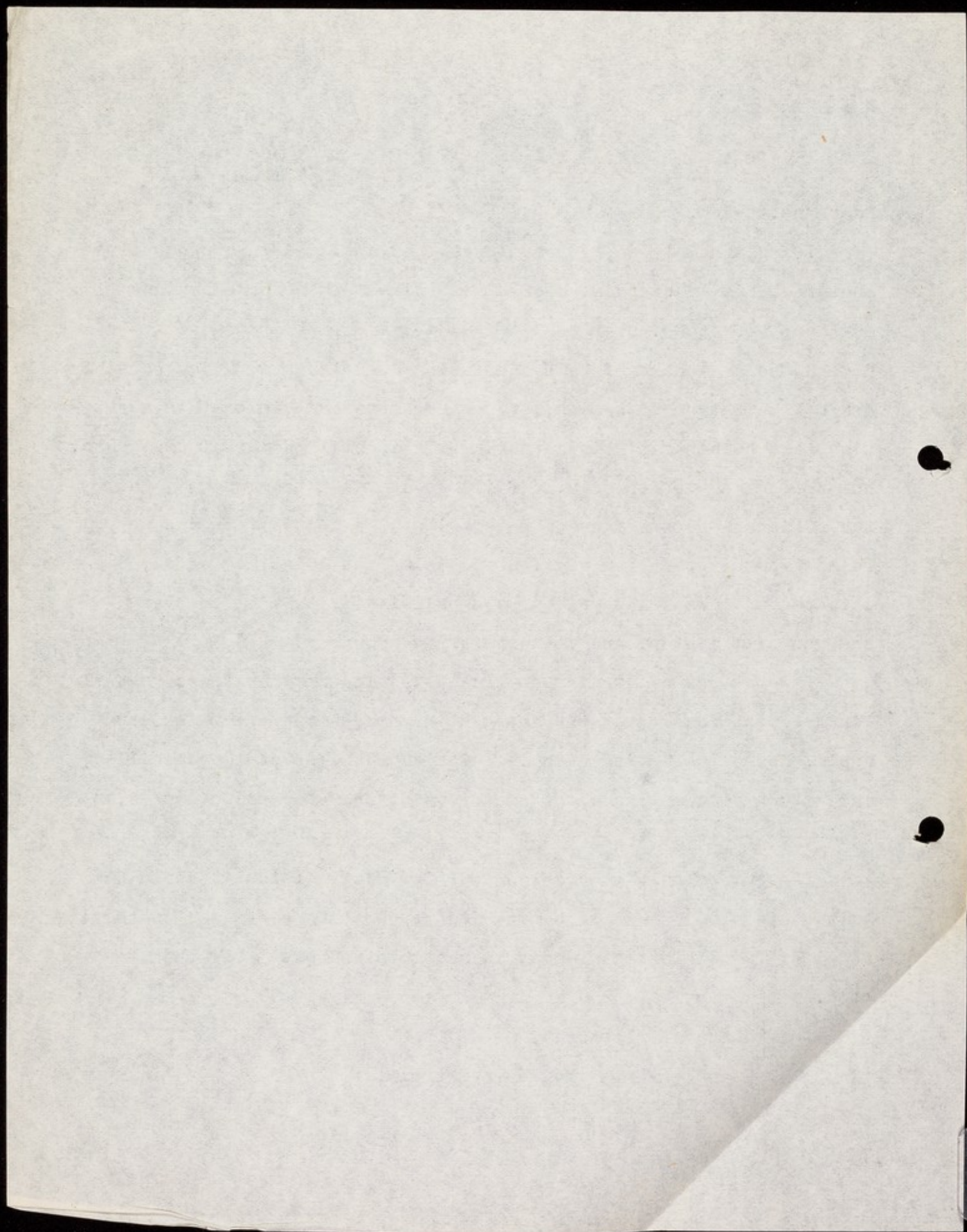
I am extremely sorry your letter has not been more promptly answered, but we certainly would have wired had we been anxious or thought that Dr. Best was in a bad way. It is true that he has had some attacks of pain, radiating down the arm, which possibly are of the nature of angina, and we have treated him on this assumption, and he certainly is better. He is still somewhat excitable, but not so bad as formerly. Still we can do nothing right, and the officers and staff are, almost without exception, knaves or fools from his point of view. He is up and about, cheerful, interested in what goes on, playing billiards, talking to every one who will listen, and is certainly very happy.

This attack of excitement has lasted longer than those recently. For the past few months the changes in temperament have been very rapid, scarcely lasting a day. One cannot ignore the possibility, under such circumstances, of a serious attack of cardiac stress, though there is at the present time little indication of this.

If you are able to come and see Dr. Best I think it would be quite suitable, but it is a long journey in this very cold weather; and it is probable that he may be restless and excitable when you come.

I remain,

Yours very truly,



Jan. 18, 1912

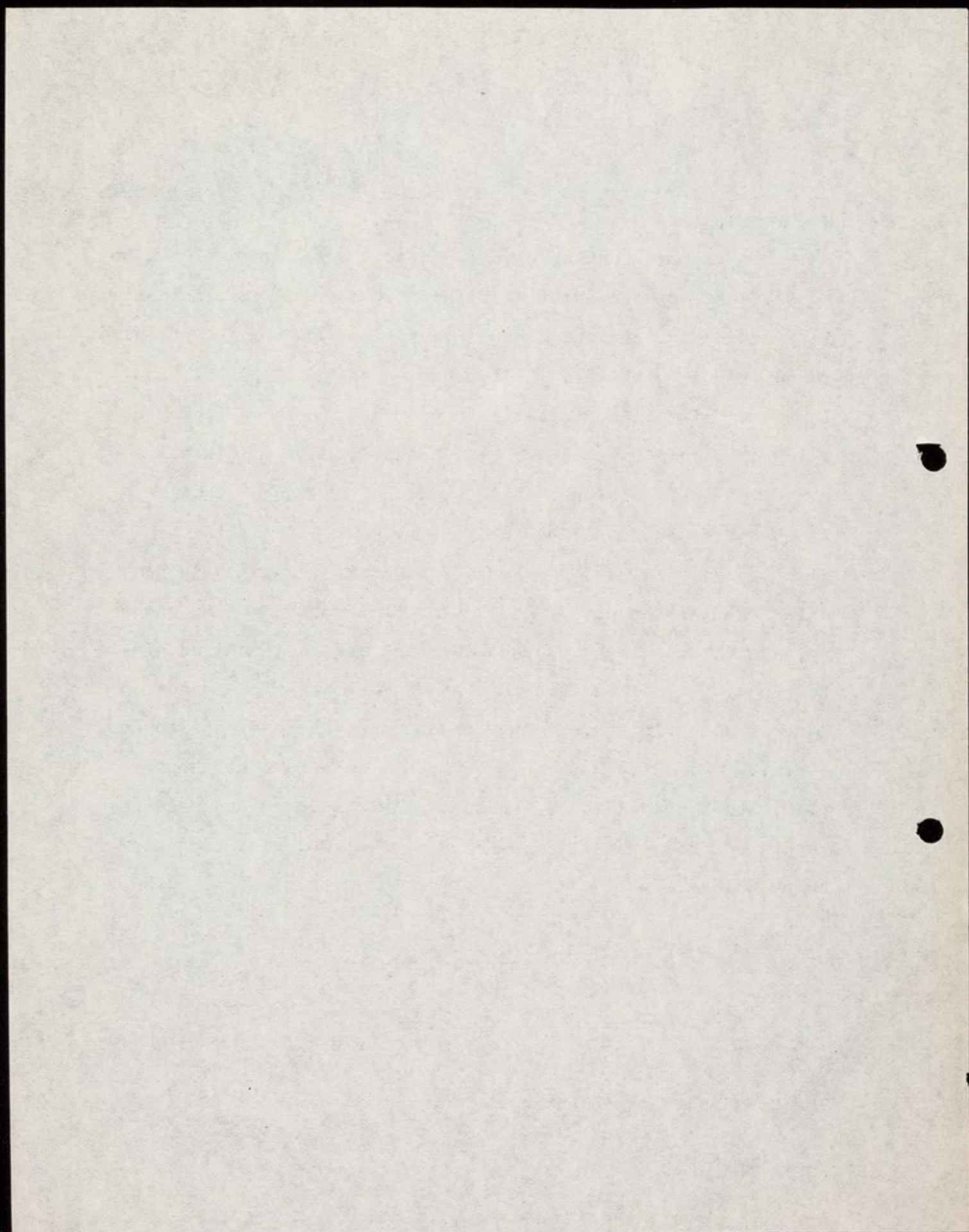
Gentlemen,

I have further enquired into the matter referred to by Dr. Best, and report that within two days of the incident in question Dr. Mackenzie had investigated the complaint and found it unsubstantial. It occurred on Oct 28, 1911, and I have examined the "tell-tale" records, the electric key of which is about 10 yards from the bedroom, and find it was marked 9 times between 1 and 6 a.m. The Charge Night Attendant reports that he visited Dr. Best 3 times in the night, and would have gone more frequently had he heard him call for assistance. There were attendants sleeping close by, who also would have heard if there had been serious disturbance. The condition of the chamber utensil was not as described. It had, however, been used, and was emptied at 6 a.m.. Dr. Best was seen by the attendant at about 4.30, and then made no requests of any kind. The written report of the Night Attendant states that Dr. Best had been "very quiet".

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

The Commissioners in Lunacy.



I have ^{further} enquired into the matter referred to by
D Best & report that within two days of the incident
in question D Mackenzie had investigated the complaint
& found it unsubstantiated. It occurred on Oct 28th 1911 &

I have examined ^{tall} ~~clock~~ records, ~~which~~ the electric
key of which is about 10 yds from ^{to the} ~~the~~ bedroom, used
by ~~in question~~ & find it was ~~not~~ marked 9 times
between 1 am & 6 am: ~~as attendant were sleeping~~

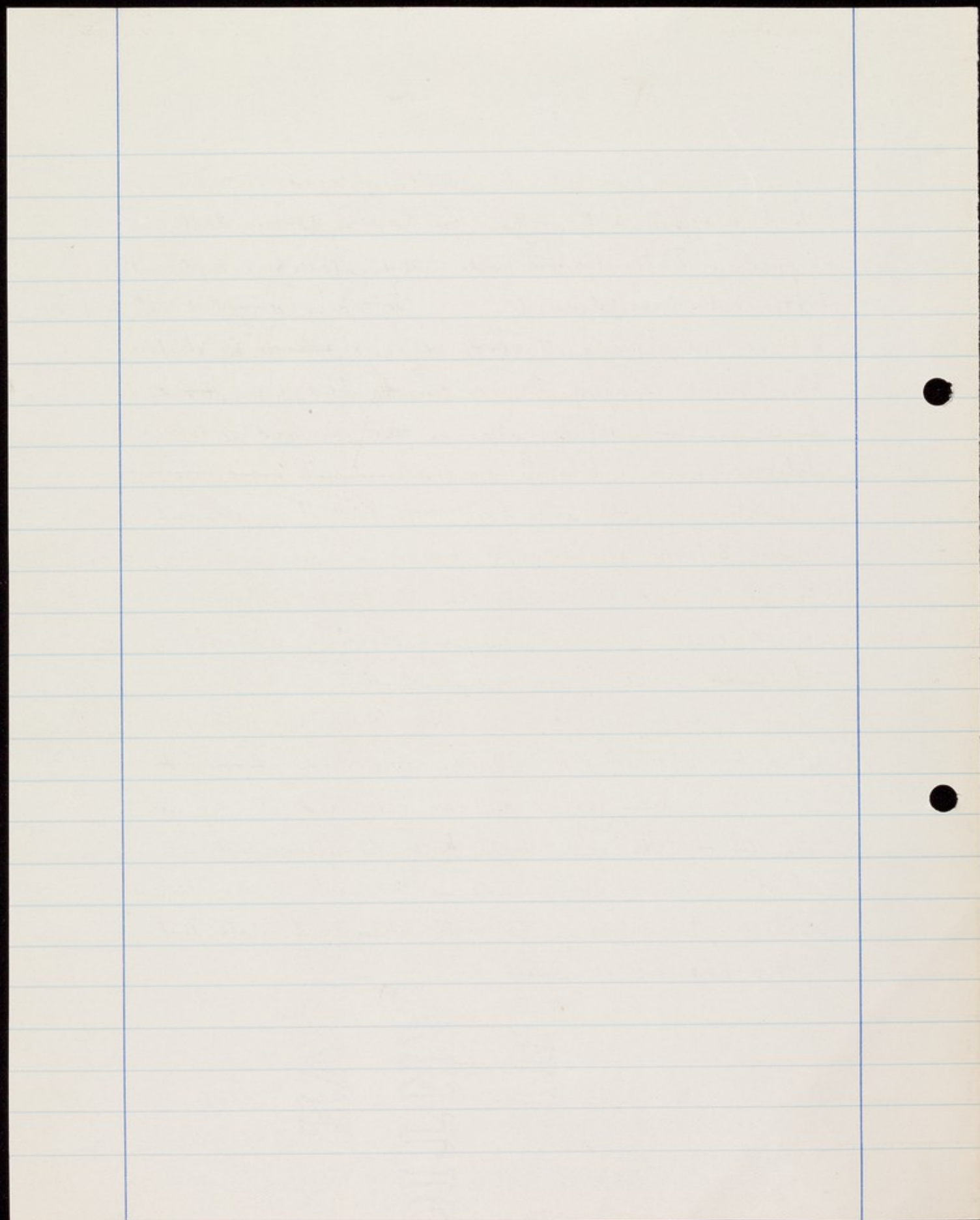
The Charge night attendant reports that he visited
D Best 3 times in the night & would have gone some
frequently had he heard him call for assistance.

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~~not~~ ~~could~~ would have heard if there had been
serious disturbance.

The condition of the
chamber utensil was not as described, ~~though~~ ^{however} it
had been used & was emptied at six am.

~~She~~ [^] ~~at the~~ ^{D Best} ~~was~~ was seen ~~to~~ by the attendant at
about 4.30 & then made no requests of any kind.

The written report of the night attendant state that
D Best has been "very quiet".



TELEGRAMS: INGOLDBY SOLICITOR, LOUTH.
TELEPHONE: (NATL) LOUTH N^o 192.

*Louth,
Lincolnshire,*

WILSON, BELL & INGOLDBY.

F. J. INGOLDBY.

25th October 1911.

Dear Sir,

We have received your letter and all being well propose to ring you up on the telephone tomorrow morning in good time. We are sorry to find that the little matter of business upon which we wish to see Dr Best will not admit of long delay. It is simply his being sworn to an Affidavit in a Chancery matter and we should just call at Throxonby Hall with a Commissioner for the administration of the Oath. The business should not take many minutes.

We may add that Mr Ingoldby is not a stranger to Dr Best, Dr Best having attended him and his family professionally during the whole time he had been in Louth since the year 1881.

Yours faithfully,

Wilson Bell & Ingoldby

Bedford Pierce Esq M.D.

The Retreat,
York.

RECEIVED
FEBRUARY 1941

Handwritten signature

WILSON, BELL & INGLETON

WILSON, BELL & INGLETON

25th October 1941

Dear Sir,

We have been very sorry to hear of the death of your mother. It is a great loss to you and the family. We are sorry to hear that you are still in the hospital. We hope you will be able to return home soon. We are sorry to hear that you are still in the hospital. We hope you will be able to return home soon.

We are sorry to hear that you are still in the hospital. We hope you will be able to return home soon. We are sorry to hear that you are still in the hospital. We hope you will be able to return home soon.

Yours faithfully,

The Secretary

Yours



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.

16th January, 1912.

Sir,

The Commissioners in Lunacy direct me to send you the enclosed portion of a letter which they have received from Dr Palemon Best and to request you, in returning it, to favour them with your observations on the part marked in blue.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

O. J. Doherty

Secretary.

The Medical Superintendent,
York Retreat.



0-23

WILSON, BELL & INGOLDBY.

F. J. INGOLDBY.

Louth.
Lincolnshire.

2nd November 1911.

Dear Sir,

I beg to thank you for your telegram and all being well will come over to York on Saturday. I am writing a line to Dr Best which will arrive by the same post as this letter just telling him of my proposed visit.

Kindly write me a line as to how far the Retreat is from the Railway Station.

Yours faithfully,

Fred. J. Ingoldby

Bedford Pierce Esq M.D.

The Retreat,

York.

WILSON, BELL & INGOLBY

W. J. INGOLBY

2nd November 1911.

Dear Sir,

I beg to thank you for your telegram

and all being well will come over to

York on Saturday. I am writing a

line to Dr. Best which will arrive by

the same post as this letter just

telling him of my proposed visit.

Kindly write me a line as to how

far the Retreat is from the Railway

Station.

Yours faithfully,

Bedford Pierce Esq M.D.

The Retreat,

York.

653

WILSON, BELL & INGOLDBY.

F. J. INGOLDBY.

Louth.
Lincolnshire.

1st Novr 1911.

Dear Sir,

I was disappointed this morning
not to receive the letter from you
as I requested with reference to Dr
Best's condition and if you have not
written me to-day will you send me a
wire in the morning if I may arrange to
see him on Saturday.

Yours faithfully,

Fred. J. Ingoldby

Bedford Pierce Esq M.D.

The Retreat,

York.

Patent still excited

but Saturday movement

Dear Sir,

I was disappointed this morning
not to receive the letter from you
as I expected with reference to Dr.
Beck's condition and if you have not
written me to-day will you send me a
wire in the morning if I may arrange to
see him on Saturday.

Yours faithfully,

Bedford Pierce M.D.

The Retreat,

York.

Nov. 1, 1911

Dear Mrs. Dyson,

Dr. Best has certainly had a somewhat severe attack of excitement, but except on one occasion there has been no violence, and though he has been very talkative and has made most outrageous accusations against everybody, yet the trouble in dealing with him has not been very serious.

He writes large numbers of letters which we do not send. He says a great deal that he does not mean, and when one talks to him about it he is quite jocular, and in his account of the disturbances you must allow some discount on account of his theatrical way of stating matters.

There was a good deal of trouble in getting him back to York, and he had to be carried into and held in the motor car by the attendants, and he was somewhat noisy. He was naturally very much annoyed at having to come back, as he liked Throxenby Hall very much and could not see any reason why he should return.

I do not think it would be desirable for you to come and see him just at present, even if you were able to do so. He would make all kinds of complaints, and it could not but be distressing to you to have to listen to his garbled accounts of things which you could not yourself investigate.

I may perhaps give one illustration. He wanted some pills made up in a particular way, and I undertook to have them made, and said I would order them at Scarborough if he wished so that he could get them at once. He told me that he would much prefer that they should be got at Bleasdale's in York as this was a firm he had done business with for many years and he had little confidence in drugs supplied through ordinary sources. To please him I acquiesced, though we do not do any business with this firm. Naturally there was some delay as the pills had to be specially made up and sent to Scarborough. Next time one of my colleagues went to Scarborough Dr. Best was very indignant and said the reason why I wanted the pills ordered in Scarborough was that I might make some profit out of the transaction as he understood it was customary in the North of England to get a discount on prescriptions supplied.

This will illustrate the extraordinary ways in which he imputes bad motives to those with whom he has to do. Let me add that he is quite friendly and courteous to me and does not show in the slightest any disinclination to discuss all manner of topics. As I explained, he really does not mean what he says.

to write direct to my daughter
at St. Andrews who is only 16 &
does not know that he is in an
asylum.

J. Lubbock Agassiz
Margate

646
—Royal Observatory,
Greenwich, S.E.

Oct. 30th 1871.

Dear Sir,

I am afraid that Dr. Bost is
giving you a great deal of trouble
during this fit of excitement. I
would gladly come & see him as soon
as I can leave a sick child I have
with me here at present, but I
am so afraid that it would not
be wise to visit him when
he is in this excited state: it
would be just starting the
old trouble afresh. Do you
think so? — This one idea now is

to come out, and of course it is
at these times that he would be
so troublesome, if he were out.

I feel so very sorry that he
has been violent - he says so in
his letter to me received today.
I always hoped that it would not
come to that.

Can you suggest anything that
I can write to him that would
doth him in any way?

I know only too well that there
are times when nothing will
do any good, but I ventured
to write to you, as I should

like to hear how he is from
you. I will make a point
of writing to see him as soon
as ever the depression comes on
again: I should be sorry if
he felt that we were
neglecting him.

Yours faithfully
Caroline B. Dyson.

I think I mentioned before that I
do not wish his letters to go
direct to anyone, except
to Dr. Best at Bournemouth or
Dr. Best at St. Ives Cornwall.
Any others should be sent first
either to me or my brother at
Louth. I should be very sorry for him

Oct. 30, 1911

Dear Dr. Best,

Many thanks for your letter. It was partly on account of Mr. Allison that Dr. Best stayed so long at Scarborough as it was obviously undesirable for them to meet. Since Dr. Best's return he has been placed in another part of the Institution where he will not meet Mr. Allison in any way. When the excitement passes over and Dr. Best is again depressed it will be easier to control his movements than at present and we hope he will be able to return to the Gentlemen's Lodge.

I do not think Mr. Allison is likely to say much about having met Dr. Best here. He will be none too wishful that it should be known that he has been here himself. Perhaps I may say that Mr. Allison is quite clear mentally, but is undergoing a course of treatment which we hope will permanently benefit him.

Yours very truly,

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1848
South

29th Oct 1848

Dear Dr Perce

Thank you for your letter describing
my father's condition. He is as you
say very troublesome during his periods
of excitement. Perhaps I ought to
mention one fact which may be of
assistance to you in keeping him out
of further trouble viz. During one
of his excitable periods here he had
a verbal altercation with John Sydney
Allison who I have been told is
an inmate of the Reformatory. Perhaps
under the circumstances it would be

advisable not to allow them to
come into ~~the~~ one another, way
of the Retreat. For another reason
my sister Mrs Dyson is anxious
that it should not be known
that my father is confined in an
asylum & if he and her father
were to meet - I am afraid it
would soon be common property
here. I am enclosing a cheque for
£100 - 0 - 6 as per account.

With regard to my father's financial
position I am at present unable
to ascertain exactly what his
net income is. His gross income is

somewhere between £600 & £700
a year but as most of this is
derivable from rents of houses
& land there are a good many
deductions to be made before
we can ascertain the exact amount
of money at the disposal of his
Widow for his maintenance.

I hope to come over to York in
the course of the next few weeks
when I shall be much obliged
if you could spare the time
to talk over this matter before
I make an application to the
Committee as you suggest -
Yours very truly
Wm Dyson

Oct. 28, 1911

Dear Dr. Best,

I am sorry to say that at last it has become necessary to remove Dr. Best back to the Retreat. This attack of excitement has been rather more severe, and he utterly exhausted the resources of Throxenby Hall and greatly disturbed the other patients. He did not want to come back, and there was a good deal of trouble in bringing him by motor. We have placed him in another department temporarily as he could not be allowed to be at the Lodge in his present excitable condition.

He constantly complains that too much is being charged for his maintenance. You will be aware that he gives a good deal of trouble, but I am sure the Committee would be willing to consider an application for reduction of terms if his financial condition renders it necessary or desirable. Just at present everything is wrong, and you will have many letters of complaint.

Yours very truly,

Oct. 1911

The following is a list of the names of the persons who have been elected to the office of the President of the United States since the year 1789. The names are arranged in chronological order, and the year of election is given in parentheses. The names are: George Washington (1789), John Adams (1797), Thomas Jefferson (1801), James Madison (1809), James Monroe (1817), John Quincy Adams (1825), Andrew Jackson (1829), Martin Van Buren (1837), William Henry Harrison (1841), Zachary Taylor (1849), Franklin Pierce (1853), James Buchanan (1857), Abraham Lincoln (1861), Andrew Johnson (1865), Ulysses S. Grant (1869), Rutherford B. Hayes (1877), James A. Garfield (1881), Chester A. Arthur (1881), Grover Cleveland (1885), Benjamin Harrison (1889), William McKinley (1897), Theodore Roosevelt (1901), William Howard Taft (1909), Woodrow Wilson (1913), Warren G. Harding (1921), Calvin Coolidge (1925), Herbert Hoover (1929), Franklin D. Roosevelt (1933), Harry S. Truman (1945), Dwight D. Eisenhower (1953), John F. Kennedy (1961), Lyndon B. Johnson (1963), Richard M. Nixon (1969), Gerald R. Ford (1974), Jimmy Carter (1977), Ronald Reagan (1981), George H. W. Bush (1989), Bill Clinton (1993), George W. Bush (2001), Barack Obama (2009), Donald Trump (2017).

WILSON, BELL & INGOLDBY.

F. J. INGOLDBY.

Louth.
Lincolnshire.

27th October 1911.

Dear Sir,

I have considered the question as to going over to Scarborough to see Dr Best and have decided to postpone the visit until the middle of next week and I shall be obliged if you will kindly write me not later than Tuesday as to whether there is any improvement or not.

Yours faithfully,

Fred. J. Ingoldby

Bedford Pierce Esq M.D.

The Retreat,

York.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10-10-01 BY 60322

John
Handwritten

WESLEY BELL & ASSOCIATES

27th October 1991

Dear Sir,

We have considered the question as
to going over to Southampton to see
Dr. Best and have decided to postpone
the visit until the middle of next week
and I shall be pleased if you will
kindly write me not later than Tuesday
as to whether there is any improvement
or not.

Yours faithfully,

Handwritten signature

Robert A. Pierce and M.D.

The Retreat,

York.

Oct. 24, 1911

Dear Sir,

Dr. Best is at Throxenby Hall, Scarborough.

I would suggest, however, that you defer coming to see him just for the present as he is in one of his excitable states, and it is perhaps better that he should see no visitors.

I have no doubt that he will be better again before long.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

Messrs. Wilson, Bell, and Ingoldby

Page 124

Page 125

The first of these is the fact that the

I should like to see the results of the

and the second is the fact that the

the third is the fact that the

the fourth is the fact that the

the fifth is the fact that the

the sixth is the fact that the

the seventh is the fact that the

WILSON, BELL & INGOLDBY.

F. J. INGOLDBY.

Louth.
Lincolnshire.

23rd October 1911.

Dear Sir,

Referring to your letter of the
6th Sept last the Affidavit is now
ready and I shall be glad to know
whether it is convenient for me to see
Dr Best on Thursday next and whether
I shall be able to see him in York or
Scarborough.

Yours faithfully,

Fred. J. Ingoldby

Bedford Pierce Esq M.D.

The Retreat,
York.

WILSON, BELL & HENDERSON

1000 1000 1000

25th October 1911.

Dear Sir,

Referring to your letter of the
6th Sept last the Affidavit is now
ready and I shall be glad to know
whether it is convenient for me to see
Dr Best on Thursday next and whether
I shall be able to see him in York or
Scarborough.

Yours faithfully,

Bedford Pierce Esq M.D.

The Retreat,

York.

Am /
10, Upgate,
South,
Linco.

23rd April 1911

Dear Sir,

My father Dr Paley
Best of South is suffering from
Circular Insanity and has
on two occasions attempted
suicide, the last time on
Christmas day last. I have
been advised that he should
be placed in a home for
supervision and restraint.

My Sister, (Mrs. Dyson) and
myself have been recommended
by Dr. Clouston of Edinburgh
that the Retreat, York, of
which you are Medical
Superintendent is a suitable
institution for his case.
We wish that he should
have a private bed room
and all reasonable comforts such
as his former position viz
Medical Practitioner in this
town would entitle him to.

Would you kindly let me know if you
have a vacancy for him, and also any
particulars of the institution that you can
send me, with the necessary papers to be
filled up.

Yours truly

Ans

W. G. B. M.D.

TELEGRAMS: INGOLDBY SOLICITOR, LOUTH.
TELEPHONE: (NATL) LOUTH N^o 192.

*Louth,
Lincolnshire,*

WILSON, BELL & INGOLDBY.

F. J. INGOLDBY.

5th Sept 1911.

Dear Sir,

It may be necessary that Dr Best should make an Affidavit in a case where he was a Trustee up to last year.

I have seen Mr Jenner Best on the subject and he informed me that you would no doubt let me know a little later as soon as the papers are ready when would be the best time for me to call to get the papers completed.

Will you kindly do this?

I shall also be glad if you will kindly give me your opinion as to Dr Best's ability to make an Affidavit.

Yours faithfully,

Wilson Bell & Ingoldby

Bedford Pierce Esq M.D.

The Retreat,

York.

WILSON, BELF & INGLETON
TELEPHONE (WAT) 10011

WILSON, BELF & INGLETON

W. B. INGLETON

Dear Sir:

Dear Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th inst. in relation to the matter of the purchase of the property of the late Mr. J. B. Wilson, deceased, and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration. It is the policy of this office to handle all such matters in a prompt and efficient manner, and it is our hope that you will be satisfied with the results of our efforts.

Very respectfully,

W. B. Ingleton

I am, Sir, very truly, your obedient servant,

Very truly yours,
W. B. Ingleton

W. B. Ingleton

W. B. Ingleton

Belmont, N.Y., N.Y.

The Honorable

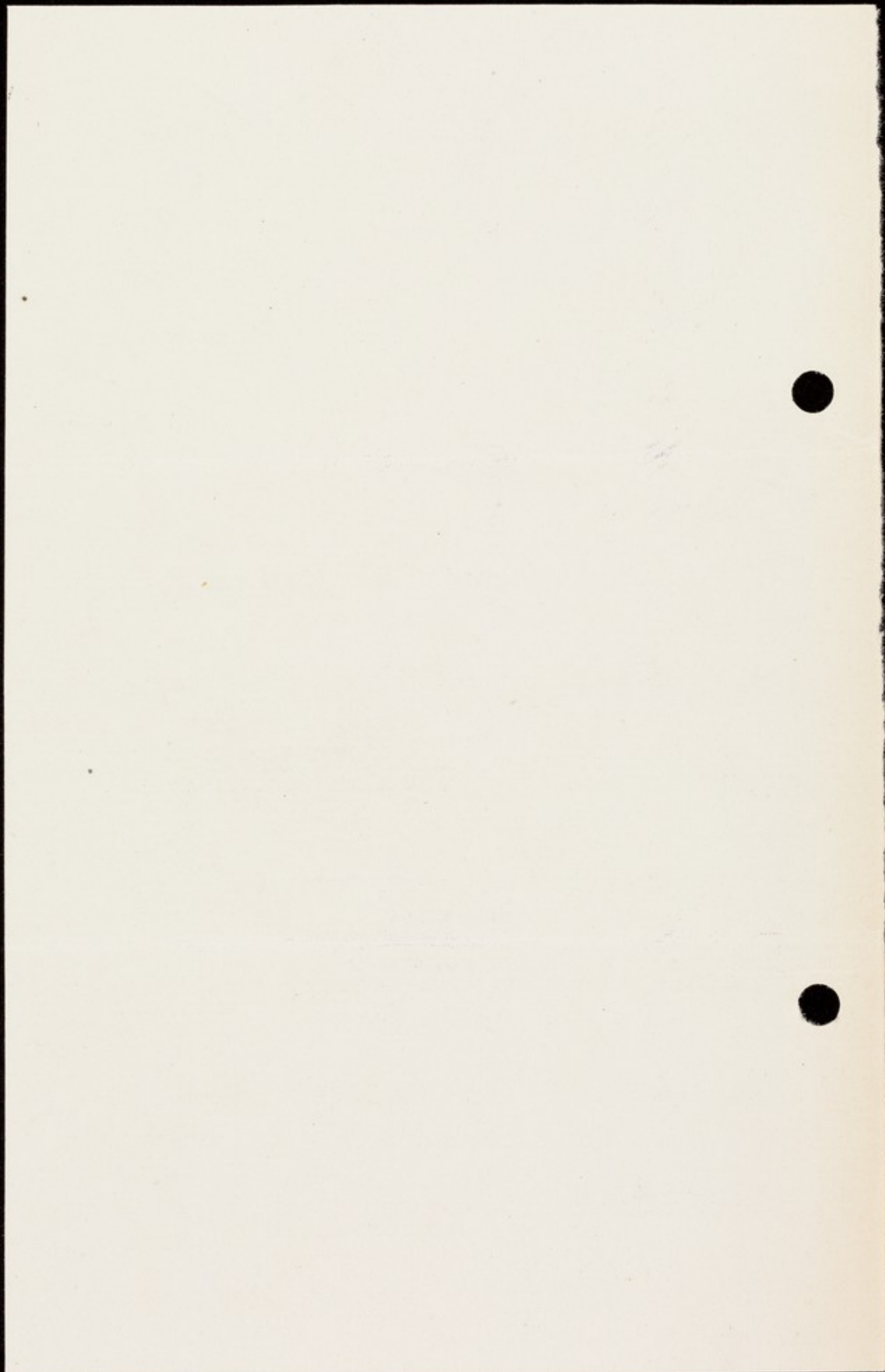
Sir:

10 upgate
Linth
4th August 1911

Dear Dr Perce,

I was glad to have a
good account of my father's
health from you & hope the
oppression is not any worse.

I enclose cheque for £5.10.0
to pay for the patient's accommodation
to 25th Sept 1911
Yours Truly
W West



Dr. Burt

310

Royal Observatory,
Greenwich, S.E.

July 2nd 1891

Dear Sir,

I am very much obliged to
you for your letter: I have been
wondering how Father was and hoping
to hear, as this too ~~occasional~~ to write.
Not having heard from him personally
I surmised that he was getting
quieter. It is quite a new
experience for him to feel (if
he will allow himself to do so)
that he really has nothing to
worry about, as none of the
many schemes he hatched have
been undertaken at all this time.

I have always hoped that this knowledge
would alleviate his fits of depression, &
that thus he would be compensated for the
irritation he feels at the restraint
during his fits of excitement. —

We were always distressed to see him
so unhappy, and yet the fits of
depression were a relief to us, &
must be so to you, I have no doubt;

As we used to get tired & worried
ourselves beyond bearing by his
impossible demands & sayings & doings.

I hope that ^{the} depression will not
become acute: I am hoping
to come & see him next
week, probably on Thursday,
July 13. But I shall be

writing to him before then.

With many thanks for your letter,

Yours truly

Caroline B. Dixon.

P.S.

My brother will have told you, I expect,
that Walter sometimes has suicidal
tendencies during his fits of
depression.

Cousin

Luther

Luis

2nd June 1911

Dear Dr. Pierce,

I thank you for your letter
 today and for the enclosures. When
 my father is unable to write he
 will write a great deal & I hope
 he will not be permitted to
 send letters to people & I shall
 be thankful if you will ~~write~~
 send them on to me (instead of
 putting them) as you did today.
 You may remember that I
 suggested a fishing & canoeing party

to work off the superfluous
energy. If you think it
advisable I will send an
ear fishing rod. Any sort
of fishing will do especially
if he has to walk a long way
to get to it or so get thoroughly
tired. Of course the attendant
will get tired also. When

excited he eats voraciously
which seems to keep him
full of energy. Perhaps it
might be advisable to restrict
the diet to some extent. However,
there and other points you

are much more competent to decide upon than
I am, & I hope the will not prove to be
a very great bother to the other inmates

Yours sincerely
C. P. Smith

104/200

Letter
Linn

14th June 1911

Dear Sir,

In accordance with your request
that the sum of £70.11-0
be paid to the Retreat for my
father, one third within 28
days of 18th May I am today
sending you your cheque for that
amount. You will see that I have
corrected an error in the ad-
vice: that I paid £25 on 8th Sept. it
was on 8th May. Please send receipt
to your bank WJHest
for Wally Esq.
See the Retreat Book

May 1, 1911

Dear Dr. Best,

As you will see, the expected attack of excitement has come, and your father is very talkative, full of schemes and plans, and he is sleeping badly and writes numerous letters. He now wants to make calls on people he has formerly known, which we are not permitting.

I had intended writing to you, to say that Dr. Best was giving us so little trouble that the extra charges, which you are paying for a special attendant, seemed hardly called for; but it is now quite clear that he will require a very great deal of supervision, and we shall be obliged to see that he has somebody continuously with him to prevent his getting into trouble and interfering, unduly, with other patients.

Yours very truly,

1911

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Royal Observatory 265

Greenwich, S.E.

May 26th 1911

Dear Dr. Bedford-Pierce,

Thank you very much for your
letter written just after Dr. Best
arrived at the Retreat. I have been
wondering how he is getting on
under the new conditions, and
should be very much obliged if
you could let me know how
he seems to be settling down.
I hope to come & see him
early in July and am sorry
that I cannot come sooner: of

course I would do so if you thought
it advisable or desirable.

I have been wondering whether the
knowledge that it is no use to
worry has had any ^{soothing} effect on him,
and also, of course, whether the
excitement has come on & how
it is affecting him under the
new conditions.

Hoping I am not troubling you,
Believe me

Yours very truly

Caroline B. Dyson.

104/241
Luth

13th Aug 1884

Dear Dr Peice,

Thank you for your
letter of Aug 10th. I forwarded to you
the necessary forms & certificates
duly signed, yesterday. Thank
you for the trouble you have taken
in my father's case & shall be
glad to hear what Dr Hopkins
feels is so that I may send him
a cheque for the amount.
I am pleased that my father

4 looking myself in Oudeg.

I remain

Yours sincerely

W. West

adoring mother and then
by a most devoted absolutely
unselfish wife - hence in his
excited state his self-will runs
riot.

I am hoping that your methods
have a beneficial effect on him. -

His Edinburgh doctor gave up trying
to rouse him from his bed when depressed:
he seems to need too rest.

Trusting that I have not trespassed
too far on your time with this long
letter & that Thos will go
smoothly Believe me

Yours very truly

Caroline B. Dyson

Royal Observatory

218

Best

Greenwich
London, S.E.
May 8th 1911

Dear Dr. Bedford-Pierce,

I am sending a letter to my
father and thought that you would
perhaps allow me to say a few
words to you about him. I
have had charge of him for 4
of the 5½ years of his illness and
you will understand that I feel
very sorry that he has become
more than we can manage: to
me it seems like handing
over a naughty child to other
hands than one's own - and no

Mother would like to do that. —

You will see what I mean when he
gets excited and troublesome: It is
then that he can be so disagreeable,
especially with his tongue, — and all
the time he seems in a sense so
rational that it is hard to believe
that he is irresponsible — and

I am so afraid that he will
by everyone's patience beyond bearing
and suffer for it — I feel so anxious
about it. —

Again, when he is his other self —
depressed, as you probably see
L. is doing — he has often spoken

to me of his dread of an asylum, because
he sometimes suffers from want of control
of the bowels — like a child after medicine:
there again one feels one would like
to protect him. He is acutely
nervous when he is depressed. —

I hope you will not mind my writing
you these few lines — my Mother
wished him to live near me
under my care, and I feel that
I should like to ask you to be his
attendant to be very considerate:
we have found that he is most
amenable to a gentle, tactful
woman.

Those who know L. best say
that he was spoiled by an

May 18 1911

Dear Sir,

At the meeting of the Retreat
Committee on Tuesday the fee
for Dr. Palemon Best was fixed
at £7.7.0 a week. I enclose
the usual form of agreement which
please return to me when completed.

Yours faithfully

B. E. Waller
Secy

Dr. W. J. Best

May 18 1911

Dear Sir,
At the meeting of the
Committee on Sunday the 14th
for Dr. Johnson's book was fixed
at £7.7.0 a week. I enclose
the usual form of agreement which
please return to me when completed.

Yours faithfully
R. C. Johnson

R. C. Johnson

104gate

Smith
Linc.7th May 1944

Dear Sir,

My father & I hope to
arrive at York shortly after
two o'clock in the afternoon
to morrow^{Monday}. I am bringing him
with an urgency order as Dr
Russell of Lincoln could not
come over this week & I should
like the Second Certificate
signed by a Mental Specialist
as you so kindly said you could

arrange it York. My
father continues, rather depressed
but at present shows no
suicidal tendencies. I will
therefore leave the question
of special nurses to your
discretion.

I am yours truly

W. J. West Jones.

Dr. Pittford Pierce

Munday
a Wednesday
forenoon

193

10. Upgate,
South,
Linco.

27 April 1941

Dear Sir,

I thank you for your letter
of April 25th. If it is quite convenient
to you I could come over to York
on Monday or Tuesday next (Tuesday
by preference). I could explain
Circumstances better at a personal
interview & I should be glad if
you could admit my father
about the end of next week, but
as I am hoping to see you before

Ken perhaps it would be
better not to make any
definite arrangements until
after the winter.

I am yours sincerely
C. W. M.

AND
8, PARK SQUARE
LEEDS.
BY APPOINTMENT
TUESDAY, 1.30 TO 4 P.M.
FRIDAY
TELEPHONE { YORK N°112.
LEEDS N°391X

THE RETREAT,
YORK.

25. Ap. 1911

Dear Sir,

I have been staying with
Dr. Clouston at Gullane this week
& have only returned this even^g.
He mentioned to me that he had
recommended the Retreat to
Mr. Dym.

I send with this a report
which will give you particulars
of the Institution.

We are at the present time
very full on the men's side
but we can arrange to liberate

a suitable room in a few days.

If the reception ~~for~~ could be deferred
for a week or two, it would suit
us very well. On the other hand
if there be urgency we will
arrange something.

I shall be away away from
home until Saturday eve.
next, but my colleague Dr.
Mackenzie will do what is
needful in my absence.

In any case please avoid
Thursday next as Dr. Mackenzie
& I both will be attending a
section of the Medico-psychological
Association that afternoon.

I remain

Yours very truly

Dr W. J. Best.

Edmond Price

LETTER
WILLIAM DEBENHAM
HOLLYWOOD

N.B.—The Secretary is instructed to obtain the necessary signatures to the accompanying form of guarantee before the care of any patient is undertaken by the Retreat.



YORK RETREAT HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE.

In consideration of the Directors of the York Retreat Hospital for the Insane agreeing to receive Dr. Paley West of _____

_____ as a patient in the said Hospital, I HEREBY UNDERTAKE

AND AGREE with Richard Thompson

of Dringate the Mount York the Treasurer of the said Hospital, to pay or cause to be paid, to the said Richard Thompson

as such Treasurer, or to the Treasurer for the time being of the said Hospital, all such Sum or Sums of Money as shall from time to time be or become due and payable for the Lodging, Maintenance, and care of the said patient in the said Hospital, or whilst under the charge of the Authorities of the said Hospital, and all such Sum or Sums of Money as shall be paid or disbursed by or on behalf of the said Institution for any articles of Wearing Apparel, or other necessities, or extras supplied to, or provided for the said Patient, or the repairing or mending and washing of the articles of Wearing Apparel of the said Patient, so long as the said Patient shall continue in the said Hospital, or be under the charge of the Authorities of the said Hospital, and also to pay or cause to be paid the expenses in respect of the Funeral of the said Patient, in case the said Patient shall die in the said Hospital, or whilst under the charge of the Authorities of the said Hospital. AND I FURTHER AGREE to pay Interest at the rate of five per cent. per annum on any accounts due from me as above, which shall not have been discharged within Twenty-eight days from the receipt of such account from the Treasurer, Secretary, or Clerk of the said Hospital. AND I ALSO UNDERTAKE AND AGREE, at my own expense, to remove the said Patient from the said Hospital within Fourteen days after receiving Notice in writing from the Treasurer, Secretary or Clerk for the time being of the said Hospital, requiring such removal.

WITNESS my hand the 19 day of May 19 11

Name William Jenner West

Residence 10 Upgate South Leeds

Occupation Medical Practitioner

SIGNED by the said William Jenner West

in the presence of

Witness's Signature

Address, and

Profession.

Caroline J Cox

36 Broadbank

South Leeds

mil.

N.B.—The charge for Board, Lodging and Medical care is payable quarterly, in advance. Disbursements by the Institution on behalf of patients, and other exceptional expenses, are charged in the following quarter's account. A residence of less than a month is charged as a month.

In the event of the death, removal, or discharge of a patient before the expiry of the quarter covered by the last payment, the surplus amount is returned by the Retreat.

