25th November, 1915.

A. E. Blackwell, Esq.

Dear Sir,

I am obliged for the cheque, 21/-. receipt for which is enclosed. I cannot, however, agree that the account was overcharged a day; the slip enclosed will again show how the days are calculated.

With reference to the disbursements, the first account was sent in October, and was made up of:-

Board to Sept. 30th. 1914.	59.17. 0.
Board to Dec. 31st. 1914. (in advance)	95.11. 0.
Disbursements to Sept. 30th. 1914.	1.13. 9.
	£157. 1. 9.

The next quarter's disbursements, £2.13. 9, could not be included in the first statement as they were not then due. I believe you will find you have a statement sent early in January for £98. 6. 6, which included payment in advance to March 31st. 1915, £95.11. 0, and disbursements £2.13. 9 plus 1/9 balance from the first account. As Mr. Blackwell left the Retreat this account was not paid, hence the disbursements £2.15. 6 were carried forward in the statement sent in April and also into the final account. Trusting that this will make it clear that £2.15. 6 is still due.

Yours faithfully,

25th November, 1913.

A. S. Blackwell, Esq.,

Dear Sir,

I am obliged for the cheque, £14-.-. receipt for which is enclosed. I regret, however, to see that the account was overdrawn a day; the bill included will again show how the days are calculated.

With reference to the disbursements, the first account was sent in October, and was made up of:-

Postage on Mrs. Blackwell's letter	£0.17.0
Postage on Mrs. Blackwell's letter	0.1.0
Postage on the Cheque, 20th inst.	0.1.0
	£0.19.0

The next quarterly statement, dated 1st P. could not be included in the first statement as they were not then due. I believe you will find you have a statement sent early in January for [illegible] included amount in advance to March 20th, £2.15. 0, and disbursements £0.15. 0 plus 1/0 postage from the first account. As Mrs. Blackwell left the Retreat this account was not paid, hence the disbursements £2.15. 0 were carried forward in the statement sent in April and also into the final account. Trusting that this will make it clear that £2.15. 0 is still due.

Yours faithfully,

Telegraphic Address:—
"BLACKWELL, OUGHTIBRIDGE"

TELEPHONE No. 2.

BROOMFIELD HOUSE, OUGHTIBRIDGE,

NR. SHEFFIELD,

Nov 1st 1915

Memorandum from A. BLACKWELL,

To The Retreat. York

Sir

Your letter to hand dated Nov 1st '15.
You certainly have charged the day of admission Aug 5th, but quite agree that you were very kind to us when visiting, in finding meals, & in face of this we pass the extra day 7/- for payment.
The balance of £2.15.6 we cannot follow.
Your first account dated Oct 26th 1914, was for £157. 1. 9 we paid you £157. 0. 0
If there was any further balance beyond the 1/9 it was not shown on your first a/c & we do not feel prepared to accept this £2.15.6

Yours Respty
Archer E. Blackwell
(Brewer)

Cheque for 7/- enclosed

11th November, 1915.

Dear Sir,

I enclose receipt for cheque, £37. 6. 8.

You are mistaken in saying that we have charged both days, August 5th and January 22nd, only January 22nd is included. There would be;-

1914.	August.	26
	September.	30
	October	31
	November.	30
	December.	31
1915.	January.	22
		170 days = £178.10. 0.

The charges for board were:-

to September 30th. 1914.	59.17. 0
to December. 31st. 1915.	95.11. 0
to January. 22nd. 1915.	23. 2. 0
	£178.10. 0.

Even if a charge for both days had been made, I would call your attention to the fact that Mr. Blackwell's friends had numerous meals at the Retreat for which, of course, no charge was made.

I have given on the back of the account a

statement showing how the balance of £2.15. 6 is arrived at.

I must, therefore, ask you to forward a cheque for £3.16. 6, which has been deducted in error.

Yours faithfully,

Archibald E. Blackwell, Esq.
Broomfield House,
Oughtibridge,
Sheffield.

AND
6, PARK SQUARE,
LEEDS.
BY APPOINTMENT.
TUESDAY, FRIDAY } 1.30 TO 4 P.M.
TELEPHONE { YORK No 112. LEEDS No 3877.

THE RETREAT,
YORK.

26th October, 1915.

Dear Madam,

~~My~~ The attention of the Committee has been drawn to the fact that £43. 3. 2 is owing for Mr. Blackwell's stay at the Retreat, although repeated application has been made, and you have been written to on several occasions.

Mr. Blackwell left the Retreat on January 22nd, 1915 and the Committee of the Retreat are not willing that the ~~matter~~ account shall remain outstanding any longer; ~~and~~ they have therefore requested me to write to you personally in the matter. Your prompt attention will oblige

Yours very truly,

Mrs. Blackwell,
Broomfield House,
Oughtibridge,
Sheffield.

26th October, 1918.

Dear Madam,

My attention has been drawn to the fact that £43. 3. 2 is owing for Mr. Blackwell's stay at the Retreat, although repeated application has been made, and you have been written to on several occasions.

Mr. Blackwell left the Retreat on January 22nd, and the Committee of the Retreat are not willing that the ~~matter should~~ remain outstanding any longer, and they have requested me to write to you personally in the matter.

Yours very truly,

Mrs. Blackwell,

Broomfield House,

Oughtibridge,

Sheffield.

4th November, 1915.

Dear Madam,

The attention of the Committee has been drawn to the fact that £43. 3. 2 is owing for Mr. Blackwell's stay at the Retreat, although repeated application has been made, and you have been written to on several occasions.

Mr. Blackwell left the Retreat on January 22nd, 1915, and the Committee of the Retreat are not willing that the account shall remain outstanding any longer; they have, therefore, requested me to write to you personally in the matter. Your prompt attention will oblige.

Yours very truly,

Mrs. Blackwell,
Broomfield House,
Oughtibridge,
Sheffield.

4th November, 1918.

Dear Madam,

The attention of the Committee has been drawn to the fact that Mrs. C. is owing for Mr. Blackwell's stay at the Retreat, although repeated application has been made. We now have been written to on several occasions.

Mr. Blackwell left the Retreat on January 22nd 1915, and the Committee of the Retreat are not willing that the account shall remain outstanding any longer; they have, therefore, requested me to write to you personally in the matter. Your prompt attention will oblige.

Yours very truly,

Mrs. Blackwell,
Broomfield House,
Chertsey,
Surrey.

TELEPHONE 130.
TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS "DICKSON: BUXTON."

Medical Superintendent:
GRAEME DICKSON, L.R.C.P., &c.
Can be seen from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. daily.
Other hours by appointment only.

24.vii.15.
Wye House, Buxton,
Derbyshire.

Dear Pierce,

Don't think me a slacker in writing; I am not. But I am having an awful time with correspondence just now & I think that reports to Government departments ought to be prohibited by the police (or the Military) ~~just now~~. My word, when my clinical assistant from Edin-burgh comes next week, he is going to get an insight into what fast North Country bowling, & polite letters to the Commrs, mean.

I have had an awful day; & to cap all, while I was seeing a patient in consultation with Flint, one of the local Drs here, I saw pass the window a car with 6, !!, Blackwells, including the old dame, in it. They saw the old gent & just caught me when I returned. Next another Sheffield car passed with 4 of another patients' relatives in it. They stopped to have tea at Boots & caught me walking up. They wanted to know whether I wouldn't come in & "ave tea & 'am & eggs" with them be-fore they saw their son. I could have done with a real Yorkshire tea well, for I had had no lunch, but I said I was busy & - kindly Christian souls - they said they would not look up their boy under these circum-stances. The Blackwells were pleased with the old boy; but he is going down hill.

Had, too, a long letter from Oswald of Gartnavel, anent the status of the V.B. under the English Lunacy Act. He wanted instant re-ply & it takes a bit of answering. I have indulged in rather a long letter to you because I am sitting up, everyone else having gone to bed.

Yours ever,
Graeme Dickson.

P.T.O.

The patient who bolted & whom I wrote (or telephoned to you about) we recaptured. They don't seem to want a second opinion. I think they ought to have one. I am sure I am right. But he is evidently at the turning of the ways & it ought to be decided authoritatively what should be his future line of life. Thirty, an athlete, with a pretty young wife ofabout 28, no children. Unless decided steps are takeh he will become a dement. Haven't seen the wife, so her prettiness is merely hearsay. Patient's blood relatives hate her. My private opinion is that she is a good wife to him, & they are bad "in laws" to her. But, one does not know, & I have never seen her.

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 JULY 15

Office of Origin and Service Instructions.

Buxton

Charges to pay } s. d.

Handed in at } 1.20 P.M., Received here at } 2 P.M.

TO { Reply paid hence Retreat your

Confirmation report under retreat Reception order can only be signed by a retreat medical officer I suggest your appointing me junior assistant to retreat for forty eight hours will promise

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

POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS.

EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, Ltd., Lond.

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Office Stamp.

YORK 23 JY 15

Office of Origin and Service Instructions.

Auxton

Charges to pay } s. d.

Handed in at } .M., Received here at } .M.

TO { Pierce (2)

not to demand pay or pension Dickson Auxton

735

All communications should be addressed to—
THE SECRETARY,
The Board of Control,
66, Victoria Street,
LONDON, S.W.
Communications relating to different subjects should be made in separate letters.
In reply please quote
No.

THE BOARD OF CONTROL,
66, *Victoria Street, S.W.*

22nd July, 1915.

Sir,

Mr. Arthur Blackwell.

In reply to your letter of yesterday's date I am directed by the Board of Control to say that, as the above-named patient was admitted to Wye House on 24th March, 1915, on a Reception Order made that day, the proper course would appear to be to consider him as discharged from York Retreat, and I am to request that a formal Notice of Mr. Blackwell's discharge on 24th March last be sent to this office.

I am,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

O. E. Dickinson
Secretary.

The Medical Superintendent,
York Retreat.

21st July, 1915.

Sir,

re Arthur Blackwell.

This patient though on leave of absence from the Retreat appears to have been sent to Wye House, Buxton. I have written to Dr. Dickson on the matter. Perhaps you will inform me as to whether the case should be considered as a transfer or whether the patient should be discharged relieved. I may say that the relatives of the patient clearly understood that he was on leave of absence from the Retreat, but I suppose they must have forgotten it.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

The Secretary,

The Board of Control.

21st July, 1913.

Sir,

re Arthur Blackwell.

This patient through on leave of absence from the Retreat appears to have been sent to Wye House, Buxton. I have written to Dr. Dickson on the matter. Perhaps you will inform me as to whether the case should be considered as a transfer or whether the patient should be discharged relieved. I may say that the relatives of the patient clearly understood that he was on leave of absence from the Retreat, but I suppose they must have forgotten it.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

The Secretary,
The Board of Control.

21st July, 1915.

Dear Dr. Bisset,

I am writing to the Commissioners respecting Mr. Blackwell's locus standi. I fancy the original Order continues in force and that he must be counted as a transfer to Wye House. I suppose the relatives forgot that he was on leave from the Retreat and that his certificates were still in force, though they were told on two occasions.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

21st July, 1916.

Dear Dr. Dinnet,

I am writing to the Commissioners respecting Mr. Blackwell's loose stand. I fancy the original order continues in force and that he must be counted as a transfer to Rye House. I suppose the relatives forgot that he was on leave from the Retreat and that his certificates were still in force, though they were told on two occasions.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

21st July, 1915.

Dear Dr. Dickson,

You have admitted a patient, Mr. Blackwell, who is on our books. I suppose the relatives forgot that he was on leave of absence. I will send you a few particulars of his case. I only hope that he is not as troublesome with you as he was here.

I do not know what will happen about the Reception Order. I am writing to the Board of Control on the subject. The date of the previous Order is August 5th 1914, so there is just time for you to send a special report and certificate to keep it alive, and I can send you copies of the papers if it is decided that it shall count as a transfer and not as a new admission. I fancy in a previous admission the Commissioners decided that two Reception Orders cannot exist for the same person at the same time and that the second one is necessarily void.

I heard after a day or two from the relatives of the patient you telephoned about, but I have not seen the patient and I fancy they have made some other arrangements.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

21st July, 1915.

Dear Dickson,

Blackwell, Y whoháweondmittedokspatiēntsupposeAthhurelatives

714.

A. A. BISSETT, M.D.,
TELEPHONE:
OWLERTON, 75.

WADSLEY BRIDGE,
SHEFFIELD.

20. July 1915. (?)

Dear Sir,

Mrs Blackwell handed me your letter re her husband to answer.

Mr Blackwell had another attack some weeks ago and they had him removed to Wye Ho., Buxton at the time. He, I believe, does not seem to be any better.

Yours faithfully,

A A Bissett

1

696.

Mn
BRANSON & SON,
SOLICITORS.
G. ERNEST BRANSON.
J. H. DAVIDSON.
TELEPHONE 333.

9, BANK STREET,
SHEFFIELD.

7th May 1915.

Dear Sir,

re Arthur Blackwell.

We are obliged to you for your letter of yesterday's date and note as to the conditions under which Mr Blackwell left the Retreat in January last.

Yours truly,

Branson & Son

Bedford Pierce Esq,
The Retreat,
YORK.

5th July, 1915.

Dear Madam,

The time has now come when Mr. Blackwell's name must be removed from the books, and with your approval I propose to discharge him as "relieved". The only alternative to this is for me to see him personally and report to the Board of Control as to his condition and that he is a fit and proper person to remain under care. I gather that there is no necessity for this, and that the right course is for him to be discharged. I hope he is much better than when I last heard.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

Mrs. Blackwell,
Broomfield House,
Oughtibridge.

5th July, 1914.

Dear Madam,

The time has now come when Mr. Hall's name must be removed from the Register, and with your approval I propose to discharge him as "cured". The only alternative (which is for me to see him personally and report in the Medical Committee) is to his condition and that he is a fit and proper person to remain under care. I gather that there is no necessity for this, and that the right course is for him to be discharged. I hope he is much better then when I last saw him.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

Mrs. Hickwell,

Broomfield House,

Cambridge.

692.

Mn

BRANSON & SON,
SOLICITORS.
G. ERNEST BRANSON.
J. H. DAVIDSON.
TELEPHONE 333.

9, BANK STREET,
SHEFFIELD.

5th May 1915.

Dear Sir,

re Mr Arthur Blackwell.

We are obliged to you for your letter of yesterday's date enclosing copies of the medical certificates and Reception Order herein. We enclose Cheque for 10/6 the amount of your fee and shall be obliged if when you acknowledge receipt you will kindly give us the date upon which Mr Blackwell was admitted and the date when he was discharged from The Retreat.

Yours truly,

Branson & Son

Bedford Pierce Esq,
The Retreat,
YORK.

Esplands
Worrall
Nr Sheffield
May 3rd 15

To Dr Pierce
Dear Sir

We are having to appoint a a Receiver to deal with my fathers affairs & therefore my father's Solicitors wish me to ask you for a copy of Medical certificate & also decending order, ~~therefore~~ I should esteem it a favour if you will kindly forward same on to his Solicitors Messrs Branson & Son 9 Bank Street Sheffield.

Thanking you in Anticipation

I remain,
Yours faithfully,
H. Blackwell

6th May, 1915.

Dear Sirs,

Many thanks for cheque, received this morning.

Mr. Blackwell was admitted to the Retreat on August 5th 1914 and he left on January 22nd 1915. He has not been discharged, and consequently he is strictly speaking a person of unsound mind on leave of absence granted by the Committee of the Retreat. This means that if necessary he can be brought back to the Retreat at any time without fresh certificates.

Yours very truly,

Messrs. Branson & Son,
9 Bank Street,
Sheffield.

6th May, 1915.

Dear Sirs,

Many thanks for cheque, received this morning.

Mr. Blackwell was admitted to the Retreat on August 5th 1914 and he left on January 22nd 1915. He has not been discharged, and consequently he is strictly speaking a person of unsound mind on leave of absence granted by the Committee of the Retreat. This means that if necessary he can be brought back to the Retreat at any time without fresh certificates.

Yours very truly,

Messrs. Branson & Son,
9 Bank Street,
Sheffield.

9th February, 1915.

Dear Simpson,

Many thanks for your letter. It would certainly seem better for you to stay a little longer, and I find that they can manage at the Lodge without you for the present. Consequently I enclose one of the Male Nurses' Department forms, which the family should have so that they may know what the fees are. I conclude that Mrs. Blackwell knows that you hold a responsible position here, and consequently the fees must be higher than in ordinary cases. If the poor man refuses food or becomes violent or there is reason to think he is suicidal he certainly should return, otherwise I should encourage the family to keep him at home so that he may spend his last days under his own roof.

Yours truly,

BROOMFIELD HOUSE,
OUGHTIBRIDGE,
Nr. SHEFFIELD.

To Dr Preece

Sir

I got to Dr Biggis, alright and then went on to Mr Blackwells. I found that he had had a slight seizure which left him sensibly speechless. he told his wife to clear out or he would kill her. but he sent for her to come back & told her that he did not want to hurt her. so she came & stopped with him all night. he had a very good night & seems very fair this morning. I see no difference in him as far as I can tell. he had a visit from his solicitor this morning he wanted Mr Blackwell to sign some papers but he told the solicitor that I was in league with him. to get his property

I had a talk with Mrs Blackwell and she does not want him to come back to York. unless he becomes violent & realy out of hand.

Yours Faithfully
J. F. Simpson

from him so he did not sign.
Mr. Blackwell asked me if I was going to take him back this afternoon to York. he also asked me what time I expected the other man. I told Mrs Blackwell that you could only let me stay a few days. She would like me to stay this week if possible as Mr Blackwell seems to have taken to me alright. Kindly please write instructions.
He asked me this morning if I thought there was any chance for him.
he still thinks that it is impossible for him to get better. & keeps saying to himself that it is all over with him.

18th January, 1915.

Dear Mrs. Blackwell,

Mr. Blackwell is very uncommunicative and grumpy this morning, and it is not fit for him to go home in his present state. Perhaps if someone could come over to see him he might brighten up. He is certainly better to do with than recently, though the improvement I spoke about in my last letter has not been altogether maintained.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

BROOMFIELD HOUSE,
OUGHTIBRIDGE,
Nr. SHEFFIELD.

Jan 17
1915.

To Dr Bedford Pierce

Dear Sir. I received a nice letter from Mr Blackwell this Morning Sunday. I am so pleased to know that he is nicely better also I feel most thankful to the Retreat for there treatment towards him which I am sure as

received
Mr. Jackson's very kind
Invitation for Mr. Blackwell
to dinner for one of
our Patients when
convalescent

2

been very good. he seems
to want to come home
very much we shall be
very pleased to see him
home again but I want
to do ~~the best~~ that
which will be the best
if you think it will do
his mind good and be of
benefit towards his recovery
that will be grand for
him and very nice for my
Family and myself

Hoping he may continue
improving rapidly we will have
the more pleasure then
to see him home well
again. I remain yours
truly C. Blackwell

17th December, 1914.

Dear Mrs. Blackwell,

Early this morning Mr. Blackwell had a slight seizure. When first seen by the doctor he was unconscious, and there was a little weakness of one side of the face, but he rapidly came round, and is now much as usual. Shortly after the seizure for about ten minutes Mr. Blackwell was perfectly clear in mind. He asked where he was, what were the names of the doctors in charge, and explained that he had no notion whatever as to what had happened to him. Then unfortunately he went back to his groaning and picking the wall and has remained so since.

There are many causes of attacks of this kind, but the most probably one is that he has had an interference with the circulation in the brain, which is not serious as regards this particular attack, but indicates senile changes which may be serious at some other time.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

15th January, 1915.

Dear Mrs. Blackwell,

Mr. Blackwell was quite nicely last night, and was able to talk over things fairly reasonably, but he was still suspicious, and would not believe what I told him about his illness, nor did he think that we would send letters. He seems to think that he was at a Nursery Garden near Sheffield. He said he had no notion how he came to the Retreat, or how he was fed, and it is clear that he has no memory of a considerable part of the time he has been here. He asked me about going home, and I said that if he kept thoroughly well there was no reason why he should not go home next week. He complained that he had not had letters from his friends, and generally the whole situation was perplexing to him, seeing that he did not remember what had happened.

This morning he is more confused, but is up and dressed and out in the garden, but his delssions and suspicions have evidently returned.

I think that it would be well for you or some other member of the family to write to him every day, for he evidently values letters.

Yours very truly,

BROOMFIELD HOUSE,
OUGHTIBRIDGE,
Nr. SHEFFIELD.

Jan 14
1915

To Dr Bedford Pierce

Dear Sir. I do hope Mr Blackwell were all right after our visit. I were delighted to think that he conversed with us so nicely and did not make a mistake. I do think if his attendent put his clothes out for him it would induce him to get up more as he said there were never anything out for him

I begin to go out a little he would be better still. of course you know what is the best for him to do. I shall be most thankful to one above when he is better as it as been a great weight to bear all the same things might have been a lot worse. I am most gradeful for the progress so far which I hope he will maintain. Kindly let me know how he is getting on as I shall be very pleased to know. thanking you for the past = I remain

Yours truly S. Blackwell

2/ to pud on. he also asked
me if I would let him have
some ponds and some ties
I told him there were some
there. you see. he as allways
had everything pud out for
him at home as he were
allways such A busy Man
I have Known him come up
from the works in A hurry times
Many and say do you think
that I can catch the train
as I have only quarter of an
hour we have got everything to
his hand he as been ready put
into the trap and caught it
with comfort. if he would only

12th January, 1915.

Dear Mrs. Blackwell,

Mr. Blackwell has been much quieter lately, but he is no more sensible, and does not take any interest in what goes on. He stays quietly in bed, just getting up for necessary purposes, but there has been no struggling or difficulty in management, and there is no reason why you should not come over and see him. It is quite possible that you may get more response from him than we do. His general health is well maintained.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

336.

BROOMFIELD HOUSE,
OUGHTIBRIDGE,
Nr. SHEFFIELD.

Jan 11 = 1914.

To Bedford Pierce

Dear Sir = I hope Mr Blackwell is getting on all right as I have not heard anything for the week. but it is a usal word to say no news is good which I hope is true. I would like to know if any of the Family could come to see him but it rests with you as it is

2) my desire to take your advice in the matter all the same what a pleasure to my Family and myself if Mr Blackwell is restored to us again as he is worthy of all the happiness that our Saviour can give to him it gives me pleasure of mind to know that he is in good hands - hoping to receive good news - I remain

yours truly L. Blackwell

1st January, 1915.

Dear Mrs. Blackwell,

I am much obliged for your letter, and for the cheque enclosed. There is little fresh to tell you respecting Mr. Blackwell's condition. He remains very much quieter, and for a very considerable time there has been no resistance or active opposition to what is necessary. He lies quietly in bed for the greater part of the time, but gets up for a bath and other necessary purposes quite pleasantly. He is on reasonably good terms with his attendant, but does not converse with him or with anyone else at all freely. He still thinks that we are thieves or worse. He is taking food reasonably well and there are no fresh developements. I do not see any signs of mental deterioration though his mind is of course very much clouded. I much hope that the New Year will bring a decided change for the better.

With kind regards.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

3) it would be advisable I felt very poorly for a few days after my return home as it were very hard work to leave him. if there is anything that he wants I will be very pleased to send hoping he is still improving and I shall receive good news = wishing you a prosperous new year

I remain yours truly
J. Blackwell

BROOMFIELD HOUSE,
OUGHTIBRIDGE,
Nr. SHEFFIELD.

31 = 1914

To Dr = Bedford Pierce

Dear Sir. I hope Mr Blackwell is improving. I were pleased to hear that he were going on rather better I hope he will keep to that. it as been a very sad Xmas for me this time as it is the first time that we have been parted since our Marage. but I hope the new year will bring good

2) dealings as this last year
as been one of trouble. but I
have held to my word and not
murmed as I know it is the
will of our Maker and he
knows what is the best for us
I am most thankful to know
that poor old Blackwell is in
good hands. and I know he
will appreciate all that is done
for him when he is fully
recovered as he as always been
most thankful for what as been
done for him. we shall be pleased
for any of the Family to come
to see him when you think

TEL. No. 24, OUGHTYBRIDGE.

PARCELS TO OUGHTYBRIDGE STATION. G. C. Ry.

Esplands,
Morrall,
Nr. Sheffield.

22-12-14

Dr Bedford Pierce,

Dear Sir,

Just a line to know how poor Father is getting on, when you can spare the time to answer.

I should be much obliged to know if Father could take fresh laid eggs & if he can & you have difficulty in obtaining

the enclosed letter to Father.

Thanking you in anticipation,

I remain,

Yours faithfully

Hehe E. Blackwell

them quite fresh I shall be pleased to send him some from my farm & if he knew that I had sent them he may take them freely, I also thought that they ~~would~~ might be better for him than meat, however I shall be pleased to send some if you think it best, If I am not asking too much you might give

243.

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

POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS.

EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, Ltd., Lond.

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Office Stamp.

YORK 12 DE 14 T.

Office of Origin and Service Instructions.

Oughtibridge

Charges to pay } s. d.

Handed in at } 11/9 .M., Received here at } 11/40 .M.

TO { Dr Pearce Retreat York

Please engage Bedroom and sittingroom
thanks

Blackwell

16 hours

241 Hyde Pk Rd
Leam 12 m

237.

A. A. BISSETT, M.D.
TELEPHONE:
OWLERTON, 75.

WADSLEY BRIDGE,
SHEFFIELD.

Dear Sir

Mrs Blackwell has rung me up today ~~that~~ she proposes going to see her husband on Sunday.

Perhaps you might be able to recommend some rooms for her close ~~to~~ the Retreat as she proposes to stay for

a day or so.

Yours sincerely

A O Bates

23rd November, 1914.

Dear Mrs. Blackwell,

I wish I could write you a more encouraging letter, but Mr. Blackwell continues to be much disturbed in mind. He wishes to be left alone, repels any attempt at conversation, and generally when spoken to turns over in bed refusing to take any notice of the speaker. Some days he can be dressedaand is able to go out, but more commonly he will not have his clothes on and we do not like to dress him by force. He is uncertain with regard to his food some times taking it abundantly, at other times taking very little. He is a peculiarly difficult case to nurse being so resistive and unapproachable, but on the whole the nurses are getting to understand him and it is rare that there is any serious difficulty.

Any of the family should write to him regularly, send him newspapers, and anything dealing with family affairs, and I hope that some one will come over to see him before long.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

A. Blackwell.

BROOMFIELD HOUSE,
OUGHTIBRIDGE,
Nr. SHEFFIELD.

Nov 22. 1914

To Dr Bedford Price

Dear Sir. I hope Mr Blackwell is improving. I should like to see him as it seems years to me since he left home but the time for leaving him I could not endure all the same I am waiting quietly and trusting to our Maker for him to be restored to us again which I hope he will I have had Faith all

3/ go against the rules I hope he is not brooding about been placed where he is. before he got so ill he used to tell us whatever we did we were not to send him away from home also at the time he said he should be worse before he were better. poor Soul he seemed to know A lot of things that were to come to him he never used to talk silly how he used to enjoy himself at this time of the year walking out in the fresh

2) the time all through I have
been in trouble. I do hope
he is conversing more and
getting into company if any
of them have been in the
steel trade like Mr Blackwell
than he may be induced to
converse with them as he would
feel at home with them it as
been his hobby all his life. if you
think my Sons would write to their
Father they would be very pleased
to do so but they are waiting
until your premission to do so
I hope my Letters dont upset
him I should be very sorry to

4) how I do miss him all
the same I hope he is happy
and contend. and getting
on well. I am all ways
delighted when I see a
Letter from York. and when
Mr Blackwell comes home
restored to us again my
heartful thanks will be
to the Retreat at York =

I remain yours truly
S. Blackwell

Arthur Blackwell.

189.

BROOMFIELD HOUSE,
OUGHTIBRIDGE,
Nr. SHEFFIELD.

Nov = 1914

To Dr Bedford Pierce

Dear Sir. I hope Mr Blackwell is feeling better by this and conversing a little more. how does he seem when he reads my letters I should very much like to be somewere so that I could see him without him knowing that I were there as he is always on my mind. I dont care

2) for anything if he is all right at the finish so that we can all be happy again. as I can honestly say I dont think there as been a more happier Family than we have been but it is the will of our Maker and it may be all for the best which I am trusting it may be. I hope he reads the papers if he will tell you what he would like to read I will send him anything with pleasure hoping I am not troubling you to much. but it gives me

3) Pleasure to write to you about him hoping he is better

I remain yours truly
S. Blackwell

BROOMFIELD HOUSE,
OUGHTIBRIDGE,
Nr. SHEFFIELD.

Nov 10 = 1911

To Dr Bedford Price

Dear Sir

I am very pleased and thankful to receive the account that Dr Bissett gave to me concerning Mr Blackwells condition. I hope he will maintaine it and try to get into company and converse with them once he can do so than he will

2) begin to feel better as he is very fond of nice company when well also he is a very cheerful companion and one that would cause much trouble. we have felt the loose of him since he left home. but I am waiting and trusting to our Maker to restore him back to us again ~~with~~ which I hope he will kindly let me know how he is getting on = thanking you for the past —

I remain yours truly J. Blackburn

17th November, 1914.

Dear Madam,

Dr. Pierce asks me to say in reply to your letter that the garments sent for Mr. Blackwell were rather small but he can make them do.

He takes food well, but has been very resistive the last two days and it has not been possible to get him up. He did read your last letter and and very probably the others.

I remain,

Yours truly,

Asst Sec.

Mrs. Blackwell.

BROOMFIELD HOUSE,
OUGHTIBRIDGE,
Nr. SHEFFIELD.

To Dr Bedford Pierce

Dear Sir. I hope Mr Blackwell is getting on all right. I am surprised that Mr Blackwells sleeping suits have had to be altered as the jackets are the same ~~wd~~ width round the neck as his shirts also the drawers are the same round the top as his trousers. I hope they will be right now Kindly

2) Let me know if all Blackwell reads my letters all right when you write me again as my Sons would like to write to there

Father

I remain yours truly
S. Blackwell

5th November, 1914.

Dear Dr. Bisset,

I much hope that you will be able to come over and see Mr. Blackwell, as you may be able to give us some assistance in treatment. He is not as troublesome as when first admitted, as for a long time he required forcible feeding and this has not been necessary lately. He is, however, not really better, and it is impossible to get him to give any intelligent response ot to discuss things in a reasonable way. He is now up most days but it requires two attendants frequently to dress him, and we are often frightened that he will be bruised in the struggling which this entails. If left to himself he goes to bed, turns his face to the wall, resents being touched or spoken to evidently in a state of irritation and unreasoning opposition to things in general. Some days he eats food in a sort of ravenous way, snatching it from the plate, and occasionally he appears to have a depraved appetite,- thus he has to be prevented eating the leaves of shrubs when walking round the grounds, and he picks buttons of the sofa and tries to eat them, and he has taken his artificial teeth out and scraped plaster of the wall and tried to eat it. He is

faulty in his habits, and requires a great deal of personal attention to keep him clean.

Your letter to the Treasurer has been handed to me by the Secretary, and I will see that the matter is placed before the Committee when they next meet. I should, however, explain that Mr. Blackwell has probably the best room there is at the Retreat, newly built as a sick room for two persons, and he has a special attendant in the day-time and another at night as well as relief attendants when assistance is required or at meal times.

You will therefore see that the expenses of nursing are very great. Perhaps we can discuss the matter further when you come over.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

1285

A. A. BISSETT, M.D.,
TELEPHONE:
OWLERTON, 75.

WADSLEY BRIDGE,
SHEFFIELD.

3rd November, 1914.

Dear Dr. Pierce,

I shall be pleased if you can let me have a confidential report on Mr. Blackwell's condition, as the family are getting very anxious about him, and with your permission I would like to call on him some time in the course of a week or two.

Yours faithfully,

A. A. Bissett

Dr. Pierce,
The Retreat,
York.

1

A. A. BISSETT, M.D.,
TELEPHONE:
OWLERTON, 75.

WADSLEY BRIDGE,
SHEFFIELD.

3rd November, 1914.

Dear Sir,

Mrs. Blackwell of Broomfield House, Oughtibridge, has shewn me the Bill for her husband. I am afraid the terms are rather high for her to be able to continue paying, and would like to hear from you as to what can be done in the way of having them reduced. I may say that the family would consider five or six guineas a week reasonable, providing he could have the same conditions as at present. I put this to you as his case is likely to be a long one, and possibly you may on that account reduce the terms.

Yours faithfully,

A. A. Bissett

Now 7 guineas

The Treasurer,
York Retreat.

WARNLEY BRIDGE.

SHEFFIELD.

3rd November,1914.

Dear Sir,

Mrs. Blackwell of Broomfield House, Oughtibridge, has shown me the bill for her husband. I am afraid the terms are rather high for her to be able to continue paying, and would like to hear from you as to what can be done in the way of having them reduced. I may say that the family would consider five or six guineas a week reasonable, providing he could have the same conditions as at present. I put this to you as his case is likely to be a long one, and possibly you may on that account reduce the terms.

Yours faithfully,

The Treasurer,
York Street.

1st November, 1914.

Dear Mrs. Blackwell,

There is very little change in your husband's state, and I have little fresh to report. He reads your letters, not always directly they come, but in a spadmodic sort of way. He does not enter into any conversation, and the nursing is still difficult. He is strong and vigonous and shows no sign of failure of health, although one must admit that his mental state really arises out of bodily illness incidental to advancing years.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

107.

Broomfield House
Oct 29 = 1914

To - Dr Bedford Pierce

Dear Sir. would you please let me know how Mr - Blackwell is getting on. I do hope and trust that there is a little improvement. by this I allways have him on my mind my Family as well. I am sending the things you asked for

2) in the course of a day or two. would you kindly return his dirty clothes in the box as I should like to do his washing myself. I hope he is better also getting out —

I remain yours
Emily S. Blackwell

30th October, 1914.

Dear Mrs. Blackwell,

I am sorry that I cannot report any real improvement in Mr. Blackwell's condition. Sometimes he is able to be up and dressed and out in the garden, and at other times he is confused and resistive and retires to bed taking no notice of anyone . In this condition his habits are so faulty that his washing must be done here and cannot be done at home. We are badly in want of the new clothing as he has torn up quite a quantity of his underclothing.

It is a painful case and we seem quite unable to make any appeal to him. He has shaken hands with me once but at no time has he responded in any cordial or reasonable way to anything I have said to him. He is evidently depressed by some overwhelming delusion that everything is all wrong, the nature of which he will not tell us. Happily at times the burden of this lightens and then he is able to be up and go into the garden. He is now taking food well but capriciously.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

21st. October, 1914.

Dear Mrs. Blackwell,

I enclose a Nurse's Report, and I am sorry I cannot give you a better account. Mr. Blackwell is certainly holding his own and is not losing ground, but he does not take any more interest in things, and it is very difficult to induce him to get up or go out or do anything when he is in a confused resistive state of mind.

He is wanting underclothing as he has destroyed some of it. He needs sleeping suits and day shirts and underclothing generally suitable for the approaching season.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

BROOMFIELD HOUSE,
OUGHTIBRIDGE,
Nr. SHEFFIELD.

Oct. 20. 1914

To Dr Bedford-Pierce. M.D

Dear Sir

I thank you very much for your letter of the 15 concerning Mr Blackwell. it made me feel much ~~easier~~ easier in my mind about him I hope he is improving a little day by day all the same we must not expect to much yet. I can assure you that I have had a hard battle to deal with before he came to the

2) Be[illegible]eal all though he were never violent. it were very hard for me to part with him at the last. but what a Blessing for all there are such nice homes for them poor Souls. I should like him to write a Letter home as soon as he feels able to do so as I know it will give him great pleasure would you kindly write me as I should like to know how he is getting on if there is anything that he requires I shall be most pleased to send —

Thanking you kindly for the pard
I remain yours truly
S. Blackwell

15th October, 1914.

Dear Mrs. Blackwell,

It must be less than a week since I wrote at some length to your son respecting Mr. Blackwell's health. Since then there has not been much fresh to report, he has taken food better though now and then he refuses a meal entirely. On several occasions he has been up and round the grounds or sitting under the verandah in the sun, but he is very uncertain, and one day he had to come in because he would undress himself in the verandah. Another day I found him in bed without a nightshirt and the attendant thought it better to leave him without one than put it on by main force. He is unresponsive and apparently takes no notice of anything said to him. During one of his better moments he read your letter but when urged to reply he does not attend to it. He has a large and pleasant sunny room but he takes little interest in anything, and does not read not even the newspapers. I think it quite probable, however, that he understands and heeds a great deal that goes on before him, and there is no reason to think that his mind is in any way enfeebled although he is so depressed.

With regard to letters we will gladly write any time you ask for information. It is really better not to attempt reports at stated times as they are so easily forgotten, but if you send me the briefest letter of enquiry we will gladly give you full particulars.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

Broomfield House
Oct = 14 = 1914

To Dr Mackenzie

Dear Sir. I am very grieved that I cannot hear how Mr Blackwell is once a week I feel that I am not asking to much I hope and trust to one above that he is improving and taking his food all right. how did he receive

2/ the letter and the
cambric. what happiness
it will bring to our minds
when we receive his hand
writing. hoping he is better
I have been ill myself with
troubling about him as we
miss him so badly it feels
like years to me since he
left home.=

Hoping to hear from
you - I am yours truly
S. Blackwell

8th. October, 1914.

Dear Sir,

I am much obliged for your letter. I incline to think that it would be worth while to come over and spend a day or two, or a week-end, at the Retreat and see whether you can help your father to look at things in a more reasonable way. It may be a failure, but I think it is worth trying, the more so as it was certainly successful last time, even though we had a good deal of extra trouble after you left.

We can arrange any time that may suit you, and we shall, of course, see that the conditions under which you live here are not unpleasant.

Yours very truly,

Arthur J. Blackwell, Esq.,
Fern Bank,
Oughtibridge

Fern Bank
Oughtibridge
Oct 6th 94

Dear Sir

I am obliged for your letter & sorry to hear Father was so upset through our visit, that is the worst of our coming to see him, he certainly benefits whilst we are there, but troubles so much when we leave, that taking it over the whole one wonders as to whether any material benefit is derived by our visits. We quite agree with you it is a most difficult case, he was so conscious of his surroundings all the time we were there & talked quite rationally, expressed his desire for coming home, but said he should be dead when we came again.

Thanks for your kindness in offering me a bed for a time in the Retreat, but do you really think any advantage would be gained. You see we are unable to say what is best for him & do not for one moment attempt, as we have the greatest confidence in you & your Institution alike & my remarks in the last letter were to make quite sure they came to your notice, as you were not there on Thursday morning when we left.

We are pleased to hear his bedroom has been changed & any suggestions you may care to make or any advice you may give. I assure you would be highly appreciated & carried out to the best of our abilities.

We have no desire to commit the Retreat to satisfy ourselves of your food management, as that is already established, but as we have said before if you consider it would be beneficial to Father we are prepared to try it, but it is the parting each time that causes the trouble.

Hoping that he is much better, and Sincerely trusting that ere long an improvement will show itself, it is a most anxious time.

Believe me
Ever Yours Respectfully
Arthur J. Blackwell

P.S. If there should be anything at any time he is wanting in the shape of clothing etc. kindly let us know & oblige, because he notices any little thing & troubles about it so.

We should be pleased to hear of your having changed his bedroom with food effect

5 3

Fern Bank
Oughtibridge
Nr Sheffield
Oct 2nd /14

Dear Sir

I am sorry to inform you that our visit to the Lodge yesterday did not prove as satisfactory as was expected. There are one or two things at present existing which in our opinion are serious drawbacks to my Father's recovery.

In the first place he must have a more cheerful bedroom. There is neither light nor life in the corner which he now occupies & this together with the fact of him not being outside at all is quite sufficient to account for his asking for a rope to hang himself. We found not the slightest difficulty in getting him outside, but he candidly confessed that he had a dread of going back in that dark corner to be knocked about.

We were also sorry to find that his hair had not been cut since his admission & quite agreed with his remark that he was not fit to be seen out. We also found that the shirt he was wearing had no buttons on the wristband & the bottom half behind was completely torn away. No doubt force has to be used at times, but we see no reason why his clothing should be torn. On enquiry for another shirt, the attendant handed one to us that had just come in newly washed, without a single

(Continued from No 5)

buttons on, these conditions seem to point to the fact that you do not desire him to leave his bedroom or even get up, as we have told you before he has always been in the habit of having everything done in a proper manner & quite naturally he expects it, in your hands. I suggest that if you want him to go out that you place his clothing every morning where he can see it, rather than having it all under lock & key awaiting his asking for it.

The food that he ate for dinner yesterday was not to his liking or ours either viz (Fish & Bacon) we fail to see where strength ~~to~~ can be maintained from such a dish, either physically or mentally. He has always had a most sensitive liver & anything such as the above or even cut up & stewed at the week end did not suit him at all & perhaps this has something to do with him refusing food at times.

It is our constant endeavour to give you all the assistance we can to ensure him having every comfort, he has always been so to us & everyone around him, so self sacrificing & kind & we assure you that anything in his present treatment that we consider does not tend that way, hurts us severely.

In conclusion I may say that you have our confidence & in return we ask that you may do everything in your power to comfort & console him in his fearful struggle the issue of which depends greatly on you. His recovery means everything to us & our everlasting good name for you & we trust you will do work for that end.

Yours Respy.
For the Family
Arthur J. Blackwell

920.

BROOMFIELD HOUSE,
OUGHTIBRIDGE,
Nr. SHEFFIELD.

Sept 10 = 1914

To Dr. Price

Dear Sir. I received your letter this morning thanking you kindly for your information regarding Mr Blackwell I am very pleased to know that he is improving a little we cannot expect much at present hoping that he may continue I shall be very pleased when he will take his food without trouble. I do hope and trust

2) to our Maker that he is restored to us again as it seems like a dream to me as we have been so happy all our lives together. I have four Sons and two Daughters and I am happy to say they are all a comfort to me in my time of trouble. I should be most thankful to hear any time it is convenient for you to let me know how Mr Blackwell is getting on Thanking you - yours truly

S. Blackwell

9th. Septr., 1914.

Mrs Blackwell,
Broomfield House,
Oughtibridge, nr. Sheffield.

Dear Madam,

Dr. McKenzie has given me your letter.

We cannot report any very decided improvement. On one or two occasions Mr. Blackwell has been brighter and has even smiled once or twice, and taken food willingly; but for the most part of the time he is depressed and resistive, and has to be fed forcibly. Thus, yesterday he took his breakfast well but had to be fed with his other meals. He is not losing ground, in fact I think he is slightly improving; but I cannot give a very encouraging account.

It will be quite suitable for the friend you speak of to come to see him.

I remain,
Yours very truly,

898

BROOMFIELD HOUSE,
OUGHTIBRIDGE,
Nr. SHEFFIELD.

Sep 8=1914

To Dr = Mackinzie

Dear Sir. I would like to know how Mr Blackwell is getting on. I hope he is improveing. also conversing A little more. we shall be very pleased to receive A letter from him when he feels disposed to write. we miss him very much. as he were such A good Man for his home and his Family. the Gentleman

2) I had wrote to you about
coming to see Mr Blackwell
is a Friend of his my third
Son Married his Daughter
he would like to see him
there if you think fit
to let him come it is
all right for me - hoping
I may have good news
by return - I am
Yours truly
S. Blackwell

847.

BROOMFIELD HOUSE,
OUGHTIBRIDGE,
Nr. SHEFFIELD.

Aug. 14th /14

Gen

Thanks for your letter as to Fathers condition, & quite understand his suspicion on food as he was then same here.

If there is anything he is wanting to add to his comfort we should be pleased if you would inform us. We should also be glad to know when you consider him fit to see some of us, or to write to.

Trusting you will endeavour, to write us twice a week as to his condition & hoping for a favourable turn before long.

Yours Resp
Arthur. J. Blackwall

Form enclosed which we trust is now satisfactory

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

POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS.

822

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
4 AU
14
T

Office of Origin and Service Instructions.

Sheffield

Charges to pay } s. d.

Handed in at } 3/35 PM

Received here at } 4/15

TO { Reply Paid medical Supt
The Retreat York

Can you receive a male patient tonight or tomorrow morning urgent

Dr Bisset Wadsley
Bridge Sheffield

834.

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.

4 AU 14

Office of Origin and Service Instructions.

Hillsboro Sheffield

Charges to pay } s. d.

Handed in at } 8.15 A.M., Received here at } 9.40 A.M.

TO { Medical Supt The Retreat York

Sending patient tomorrow give best attention & charge accordingly

Biscatt

29th July, 1914.

Dear Sir,

We have a vacancy for a male patient, and I enclose a copy of the 1912 Report, together with a set of certificates. The lowest rate is £3. 3. 0 per week in ordinary cases, though in a recent acute case the Committee sometimes make reductions for a limited time if circumstances demand it. Patients having private rooms and special nurses pay from £5. 5. 0 to £7. 7. 0 per week. The charges depend very much upon the amount of special attendance which is necessary.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

Dr. Bissett.