

Dix, W. R.

Publication/Creation

1912-1912

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also explains something
which occurred when
sleeping with one of
my sons and how
it upset him, he
is now staying at
Dr. Tibbley's at Exeter
and he wants to get
away from there
(not certified) hoping

I am not troubling
you too much in explaining
Yours faithfully
J. D. Pierce Joseph Dix

1 enclosure

Lang Lyne¹⁹⁷
Laffron Walden
Feb. 23rd/12

Dear Sir,

I understand
from the Lawyers that
you would ~~be~~ take
my brother back to
the Retreat under
fresh Certificate. I
have found out the
cause ~~of~~ his derange-
ment I think. While
spending the week end
at Clacton he started

self abusing him-
self in front of the
people we were staying
with and I had to
hurry him off to
bed when accused
of it he said it
was his nerves. I
have also found out
that a great friend
of his who he used
to go with a great
deal suffers in the
same way; This

Feb. 21, 1912

Dear Sirs,

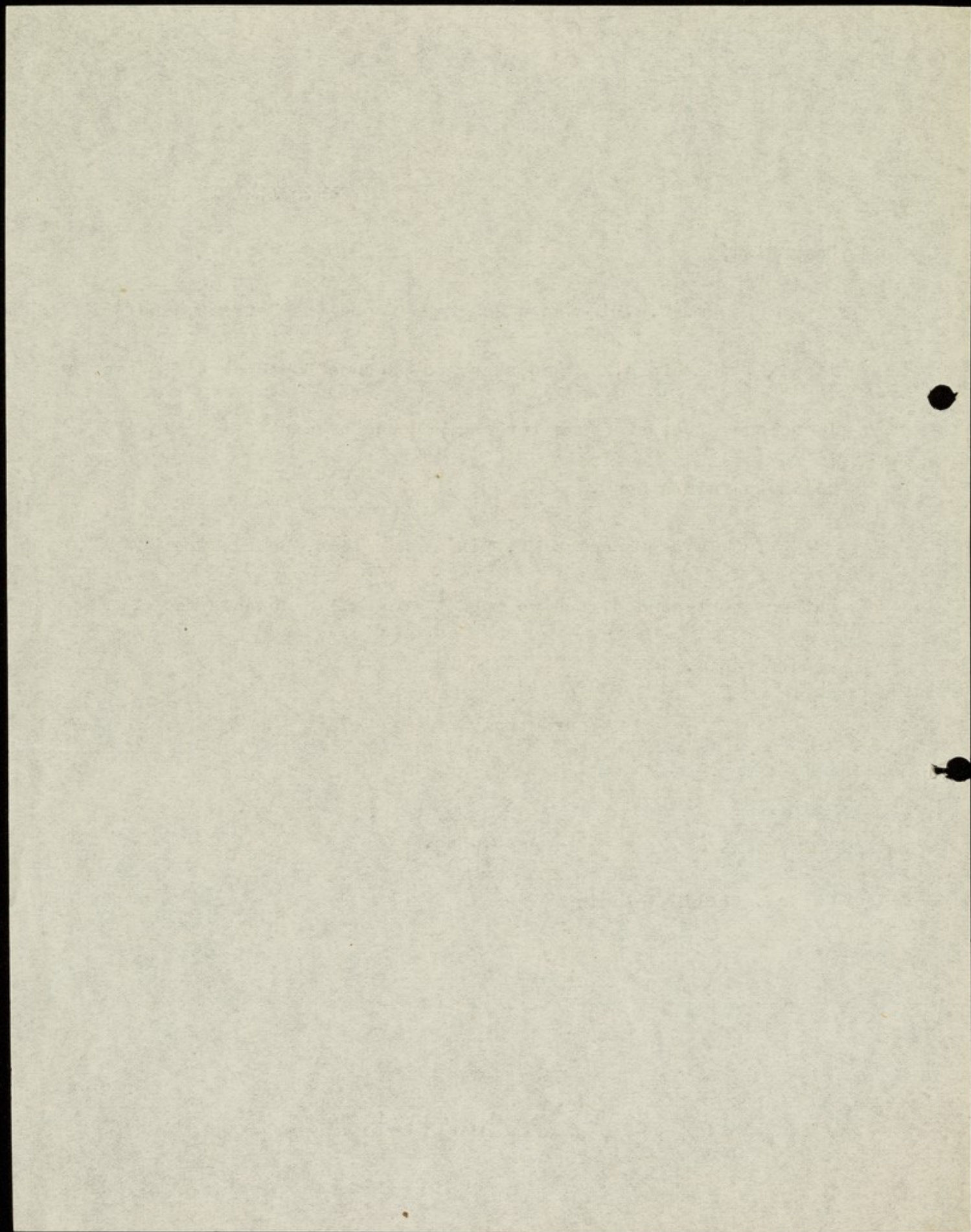
Mr. W.R.Dix was discharged from the Retreat, and it will, therefore, be necessary to procure fresh certificates. I enclose a set of forms for the purpose of certifying him if he is to return here.

We can receive Mr. Dix at any time, but we are rather short-handed, and we regret we shall be unable to send for him.

Yours truly

Asst. Sec.

Messrs. Collin & Adams



SAFFRON WALDEN.

20th Feby 1912

Dear Sir,

Mr Joseph Dix & Mr A. R. Dix
brothers of Mr Wm Richard Dix who
was for a short time in your
Retreat & was only recently
discharged therefrom, have seen
us to-day with regard to his
Mental Condition, & we gather from
what they tell us that his state
of mind has not improved, but
if anything is rather worse & it
may be necessary to again place
him under control

Our Clients have therefore
asked us to write & Enquire whether

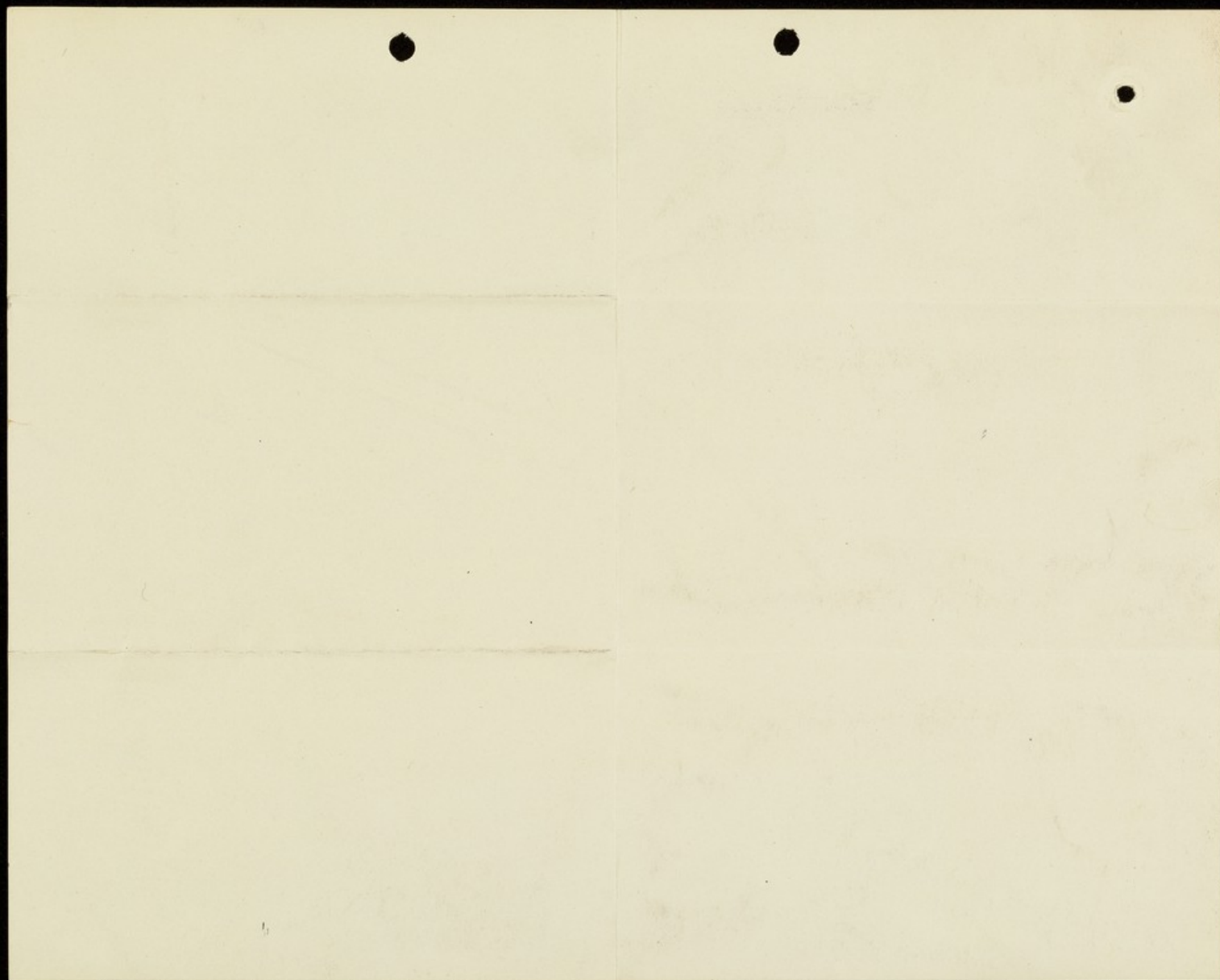
✓
you would be prepared to receive
Mr W. R. Dix again into your Retreat,
upon the two Medical Certificates
which you hold, & if necessary,
would it be possible for you to
send one of your attendants here
to receive & convey him to York.

Our Clients have received a
communication from the Lunacy
Commissioners stating that they
understand from you that Mr Dix
has been discharged "not improved"
& making Enquiries as to his future
care

Yours truly

Colin Adams

Dr Pearce
The Retreat
York



Of course he has never
been a strong minded
man, and we cannot
expect so much from
him as others -

I hope to see you and
that you will advise
me as to ~~the~~ best course
to take with him.

Yours truly
J. E. Dix.
J. E. D.

Lang Syne ¹⁵¹
Webden Road,
Saffron Walden.
Feb 13th 1912

Dear Sir
After hearing
my cousins account
of my brother, and
his seeming to be
so unhappy, and
longing so much to
get home, I have
decided to come
to York tomorrow,
Wednesday, and
bring him home

with me. Of course
I am taking a great
responsibility, and
feel rather doubtful
about it, but his
other friends seem
to take it so to heart
about him being there
~~that~~ and from their
account of him, I
conclude he is better
than when he first
entered the Home.
So we hope he
will settle down
at home -

you will tell me first.
Did I bring him to York
+ put him under your
charge without sufficient
reason?

Is it absolutely necessary
for him to stay there any
longer?

Would it be safe for me
to fetch him home to live
in my family as he
had done for some weeks
before? if so I am only
too willing to come any
day convenient to you
to fetch him away.

Regretting the necessity
for troubling you

As I enclose a
letter he sent
to Mr. Midgley.

Yours truly
J. E. Disc.
P.P. L.D.

Lang Syne 140
Debden Road
Saffron Walden
Feb 8th 1912

Dear Sir
As my brother
(M.R. Disc) has now been
at the Retreat a month,
(the time he originally
intended to stay) I
shall be much obliged
if you will let me
know your opinion
of his case.

You are no doubt
aware, that he is
constantly writing

to ask me to give a day
to fetch him home,
and evidently thinks
he is ~~put~~ in the
Retreat without cause.

He is now writing
to other relatives,
and to townspeople
asking them to see
me, and find out
the cause of him
being at York.

A cousin is coming
here for that purpose
on Monday.

I shall be glad if

34
S. Walden.

6 July 1912

Dear F. Pierce.

many thanks for
your kind letter respecting
our friend W. R. Dix.
I am glad to note
that you think there is
some improvement.
I recd. the enclosed
from him - today -
& have replied -
which please hand
to him - or stamp &
post if you think
better - if I might.
Please do not
trouble to return
this to me - I only
thought it might

and you - did you
see the post of
letter he sent -

I am -
with kind est re-
gards & thanks -

Yours sincerely

A. Midgley.

I myself really
believe he would be
most pleased to see
me.

I will not write my
cousin until I hear
from you, the
advisability of so doing

Thanking you in
anticipation,

Yours faithfully

May Steel.

c/o Mr Bartell,¹¹⁹
Wimborne Road,
Winton,
Bournemouth,

3-2-1912.

Dr Pierce,

Dear Sir,

I learn that my
cousin William Wise of
Saffron Walden, is at
the 'Reheat', also that
he is under your care,
and that you would
be willing to give me
particulars re his

indisposition and
general state of
health.

You will understand
I am most anxious
regarding him, when
I say he is more brother
than cousin to me.

Having been brought
up by his parents, we
have shared the same
home until last year,
when my Aunt died.

As I am most desirous
of visiting him, do you
think I might? If so
would you please
advise me the most
convenient time. I can
come after Friday next
Feb: 9th when I am
leaving Bournemouth.
Several friends have
suggested this, thinking
it would cheer him up.

I often think that I should
not have signed the
paper. I do not feel
that I should have done
the place is quiet and
all that but it is thought
of being right away from
home, and you know
that I am not much
among strangers.

So what you can
for future I will thank
you. I have one drive out.
The other time I have been
a grounds. Yours Truly
W. A. D. M.

The Retreat. 160
York
Saturday

Dear Sir/

I am here still

I wish I had not come
as I find that I have
not got out, they have
kept me here I do not
know that it is quite
my proper place, as I
do not feel quite ill.

I hope that my brother
could have taken me
out yesterday, but I

hope that something may
be done shortly, my brother
hopes to arrange that
he will have me out.

I think you know
Dr. Pierce and you may
have some influence

I do not feel settled.
I have given it a trial.
I hope that you may
see my brother and that
you will talk it over
with him.

I should not have
(time should not be wasted)

decided so quickly
without understanding the
complaint.

Suppose you are
thinking somewhat of me
I have such a lot of
time to think. as there
is not much doing
inside and I have
not been out much.
I do hope that I shall
soon be able to get
away, if Joe will
arrange with Dr. Pierce

He received your letter,
and account, but as
he is not able to draw
on his ^{business} banking account
without an Order, and
no funds are available
till the rents are due
on March 25th he has
not been able to send
a cheque -

Mr W D Dix has written
several letters begging
his brothers to give
you notice that he wishes
to leave the Retreat, as
he is not able to settle
down there, and feels
it is not doing him

Long Syne " 93
Webden Road,
Saffron Walden
Jan 29th 1912

Dear Sir,

My husband
has asked me to write
to you. He was sorry
he did not see you
when he went to York
last Thursday, as
he wished to ask
your opinion of his
brothers condition,
and whether you
think he is likely

any good, and we
would like to know
if we can hold out
hopes to him of being
able to come home
again soon.

Thanking you in
anticipation

I am
Yours truly
Kate Dice

2
to be better, and able
to leave the home in
a few weeks.

As he intended entering
as a voluntary patient
he made no business
arrangements before
he left here, and it
is difficult to conduct
his affairs without
an order. His brothers
do not wish to go to
the expense of getting
that if there is any
hope of him being
better in a short time.

Spalden.

29.1.12

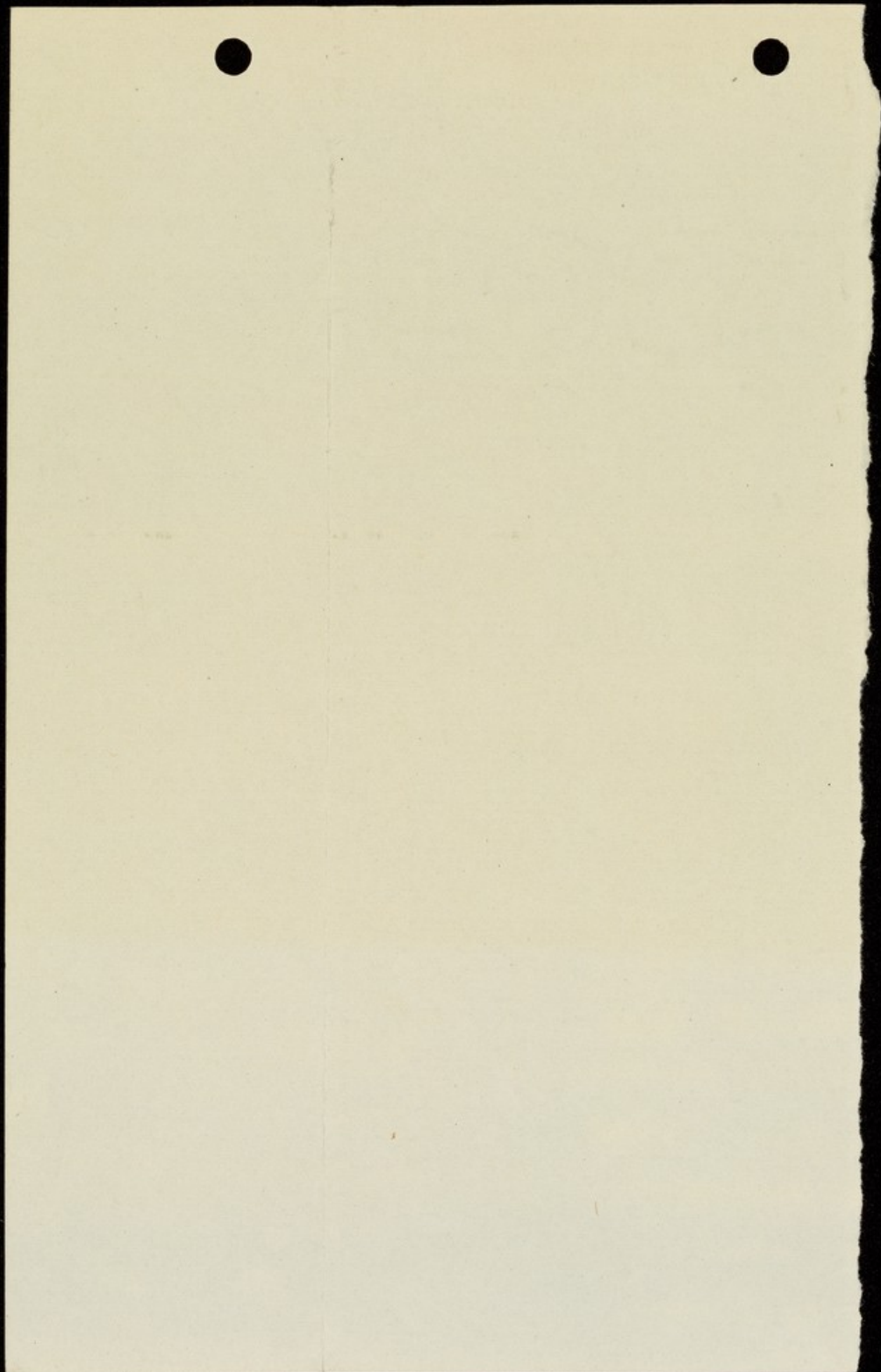
Dear S. Pierce -

I thought per-
haps it might be
well that you should
see the enclosed
to me from W.R.D.

Please hand in
the enclosed if
suitable -

Good dear fellow
I hope he will
soon settle &
improve

I am with best regards
Yours sincerely
A. Midgley



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



WILLIAM POTTISWOODS, Ltd., Lond.

POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS.

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Office of Origin and Service Instructions.

Office Stamp.



Saffron Walden

Charges
to pay

s. d.

Handed
in at

27/6

Received
here at

12/4

TO {

Dr. Pierce The Retreat

York

On no account allow my
brother William out unless fit

Andrew Dix

POST OFFICE TELEGRAPH



TO

10 Dec. 1812.

Dear Mr. Dix,

I am sorry to say I cannot report any real improvement. Your brother remains unable to understand why he left home & thinks it was an entire mistake & that he has been trapped here. He seems to forget that he came as a Boarder in the first place & that I told him before he entered the conditions & yet a few hours after he asked to leave.

He is better against Mr. Midgell, and those who were concerned in his coming. He moreover now represents things: he told me today that D. Mackenzie declined to allow you to take him away which I knew could not be the case as it would

have been illegal. Thos. D. Mackenzie reminded him of the conversation with you at which he was present all the time he still thinks the same. He says he cant get out, whereas he is out walking almost daily & he thinks he is badly treated because he is not allowed to walk out just when he likes. He will not be guided: ~~thos~~ today, when in the City in spite of the attendants protest he called at Backhouse's shop to ask Mr. Backhouse to help to get him out. Generally he cannot understand his position, will not listen to explanation and immediately after showing him the reasons for anything he asks the same question. All this is much the same as the trouble you had at home and I fear he is not any better as yet. He says he is quite well & that there has never been

have been illegal. Should B. Bradburn
 be considered him of the conversation with
 you which he was present all the time
 he still thinks the same. He says he
 cannot get out, whereas he is out working
 almost daily & he thinks he is badly
 treated because he is out almost
 every day. He says he likes. He will
 not be guided: what today when in
 the bit in spite of the attendance
 present he called at Bradburn's shop
 to ask Mr. Bradburn to help it for him
 out. Generally he cannot understand
 his position, will not listen to explanation
 and immediately after leaving him
 the reason of anything he says the
 same question. What is it over
 the same as the trouble you had
 at home and I fear he is not
 any better as yet. He says he
 quite well & that there has never been

10 Oct. 1875.

Dear Mr. Dix,

I am over to see I cannot
 report any real improvement. From
 the remaining months to understand
 why he left home & thinks it was an
 entire mistake that he has been trapped
 here. He seems to forget that because
 as a prisoner in the first place & that of
 this him before he entered the conditions
 set a few hours after he has to leave.
 He is better against Mr. Briggs, and
 as those who were concerned in his coming.
 He never says anything about it: but he
 was told that D. Bradburn decided to
 allow you to take him away which I
 have never met out the case as it were

anything amiss. He cannot settle to read, but stands or wanders about the corridors asking any one he meets to get him away. When in the joiners shop, however, he works pretty well & has been making a stool quite nicely.

In my opinion he is not fit for home-life. & I think the best chance for him is to persevere & be firm. The routine of the home is good for him - it is worse he himself to allow him to go out just anytime & wander about aimlessly & if at home some one would be able to control him.

I would suggest that you talk the situation over with your D? & with your friends. Of course if you incline to return to the unsatisfactory & mode of life & have

your brother back you are quite free to do so - only I must disclaim all responsibility for the consequences.

I remain

Yours very truly

Edmund Pierce.

3 Dec. 1872

Dear Friend

I have been from home or
I would have written you before.

We are sorry we cannot report
any real change for the better in
Mr. Dix. He repeats the same
request about going away at all times
over & over again. He seems unable

to understand his position at all
& after a careful explanation shows
that there will be no difficulty about
his leaving when he is better he asks
to leave at once. They when told
this cannot be he will walk up
& come down the corridor & ask anyone

he meets, whether patient or
attendant, if he cannot go home that
very evening.

He has been out a good deal of late
but he is not any less restless.
He takes some interest in what goes
on - but still cannot make up
his mind. Thus last night said

he was lonely in his single bedroom
wished to sleep with others, directly
this was arranged he seemed to be
satisfied.

It seems impossible
for him to give his proper attention to
things for more than a very short time
& then doubts arise.

We must be patient & wait: it is
abundantly clear that he is unfit
to look after himself - He does not
seem as depressed as formerly.

I remain your truly
Arthur Bridges

Respectfully

8 Oct 1915

Dear Sir,

I have been from home in
London since written for before.
The one and the same report
and real change of the letter in
the first. The reports the same
report about your whole time
over your own. The same
to understand his position of all
+ after a complete information about
that there will be no difficulty about
his leaving when his letter is ready
+ leave at once. The when take
this cannot be the will work of
+ can have the same work again

is the same, which is the same
that cannot be done. The
very same.
I have been out a number of days
but have not seen you yet.
The letter over sent in about four
in - but still cannot see you
his own. I have not seen you
leave home in his own house
to go to sleep with others, which
this was arranged in about the
all seems impossible.
I have to give his position attention to
this of his position a very short time
+ then back to work.
The most important point is to
show clearly that his work
is not after himself. The work
seems to be done in a
from the
of the

Mr Speed -
56. Westwood Road
Sheff

Speed



Mr. W. R. Dix.

of Saffron Walden.

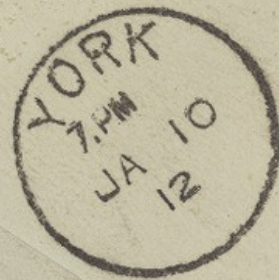
"The Retreat"

High Speed.

827. Eccleshall Road York.

See Memo

Speed



Long & Co
Suttons Market

J. DIX.

No. 471

The Retreat,

Work,

Jan. 12 1912

Received from

Mr W.R. Dix

the sum of

nine

Pounds

Fifteen

Shillings and

Pence

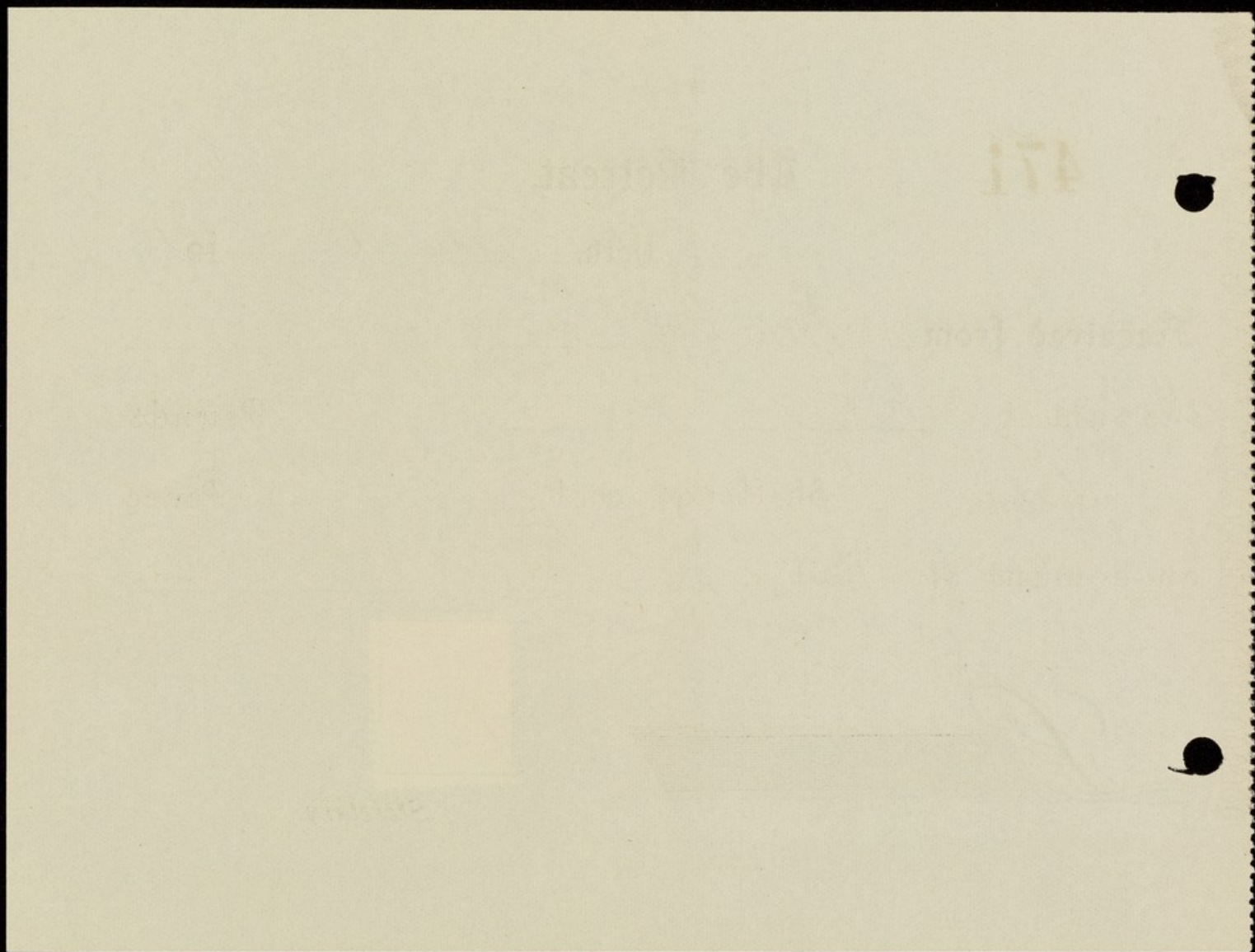
on account of

Cash in hand

L 9. 15. 0



Secretary.



Jan.20, 1912

Dear Mr. Midgley,

At the recent meeting of the Committee
I was asked to apply to you as to whic member of
the family should sign the Agreement for the pay-
ments for Mr. W.R.Dix.

I am sorry to say he has not made any
progress yet, but the time is short, and the
weather is not very favourable for out-of-door
occupations.

Yours very truly,

Jan. 20, 1912

Dear Mr. Dix,

I am sorry we cannot report any improvement.

Your brother is rather miserable, cannot occupy himself, frets about being here, and we cannot make any impression on him, as he does not seem to understand the full meaning of what is said to him.

The Committee fixed the terms at the rate suggested, viz. two guineas a week. May I remind you that the rules of the Institution require payment in advance. When you come to see Mr. Dix on Tuesday perhaps you will bring the money, unless you prefer to send a cheque beforehand.

Yours very truly,

Jan. 16, 1912

Dear Mr. Midgley,

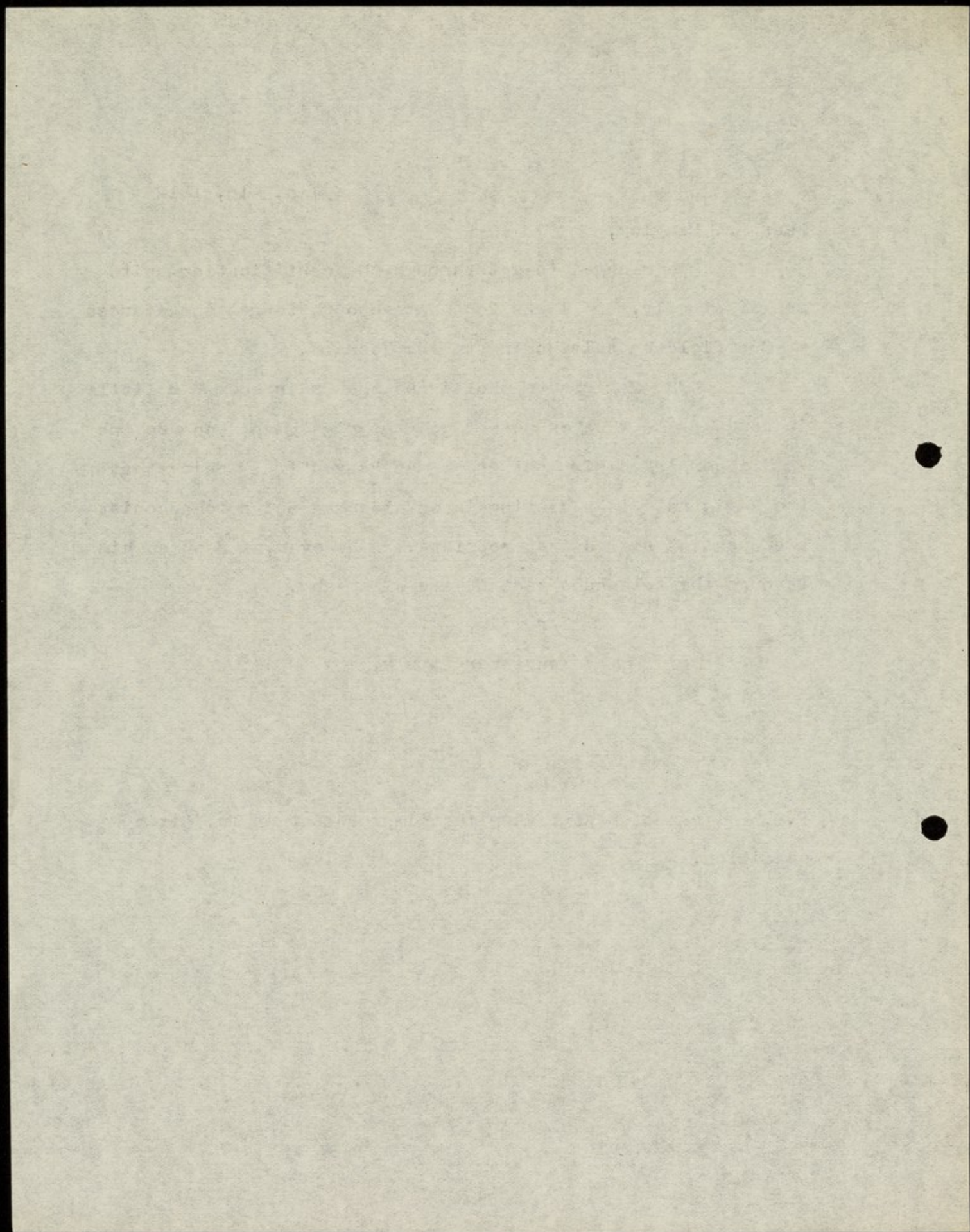
We managed to get through the certification quite satisfactorily. I was fortunate enough to get the address at Sheffield by telephoning to Mr. Yeomans.

The Magistrate who signed the Order seemed a little in doubt as to whether we had got the right man, because the Petitioner asked him whether he was "saved"! Seeing that the Magistrate is a distinguished alderman and a tobaccoconist the question seemed inappropriate. However, I assured him through the telephone that it was all right.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

P.S. I cannot report very much improvement in Mr. Dix's condition.



Lang Syne 53
Debden Road
Saffron Walden
Jan 17th 1912.

Dear Sir, I thank you
for letters received, and
concluded from the
one written by Dr McKeime
that my brother ^{in law} is feeling
a little more settled.
I received a letter from
him this morning,
and he wishes both
his brothers to see him
as soon as possible -
They think of going to

see him next Thursday
25th - unless you consider
it likely to do him harm.
+ if the Matron or some
one will send all sort of
things he may need
they will bring them.
He appears to take it very
hard that he is not
allowed out alone &c
but evidently does not
know he is certified.
his brothers would
like that kept from him
if possible -

I enclose envelope for
reply. yours truly -
Kate Dix

and trouble you look
in sending to Sheffield
&c.

Yours truly
Kate Dix

Dr Pierce

"Lang Syne," 27
Debden Rd.,
Saffron Walden.
Jan 13th 1912.

Dear Sir

I herewith
enclose a letter to
my brother (W. R. Dix)
which please give
to him if you think
well.

We would like to
hear news of him,
and hope he is
feeling happier

and more inclined to
settle down for a
time, and we will
send on anything he
requires.

We do not know the
rules of the Home,
but we would like
to know how he is
progressing, also to
hear from him if
he will write -

My husband is away
on business, and I
thank you on his
behalf, for the kindness.

interest him.

39
40
Stalden.
13.1.1912

Dear Dr. Reice -

I am hope. that
this our Patient is settling
in - and that he may
soon show signs of
improvement -

It is be glad when
Mrs. J. for Dr. send
me a copy of the
Book about the Retreat.
I handed the other
copy sent to W.R.D.
so that he & his
friends could look
at it -

I do not know if
it is suitable or
best to write to
W.R.D. & to be

glad to hear - I send
per this post a local
paper which I
thought would
interest him - tho:
I'm afraid it
is a little -
also I enclose a
note -

I am much very to
regards -

I do feel so
thankful that
for as contained
the Brothers'
address &
that our friend

was detained before
it was too late.

I am
Yours sincerely

Annur Midgley.

I remember A.R. Dix.
has very fine
flowers & has
a little green-
house - & such
work as sewing
patches, seeds
grow - or other
horticultural
work etc. which

suissable to hand
to him.

I dare say you
gained particulars
about the Patient
from his Brother.
but if I can
supply any in-
formation at
any time I
shall be glad to
do so -

I am
most kindly re-
gards

Yours very sincerely
A. Midgley.

LARCHMOUNT,
SARFON WALDEN.

12.1.1912

Dear Dr. Prince -

I did not receive
your letter y'day till
about $\frac{1}{4}$ to 1 - I called
to see the Dr. but
he was not home
till 5.00. So I
thought the only
thing I could do
was to get the
Brother's address
send it -
I presume he
turned up - &
so was able to

THOMAS
REGLAW MONTAG

for the York magistrates
to sign for his ad-
mission.

Fortunately we saw
the other Bro: and
got him to rise
as he did at
about 5.30. and
your reply to him
at 6.59 - was a
great relief. That
the patient was
to remain with
you under
certificates -

I sincerely trust that
he will be a
good patient. & that
under your treat-
ment he may
shortly recover.
He has few hobbies
but - is fond of
music - photo-
graphy & some
mechanical
things such as
gramophones re.
I enclose a
note - in case
it may be

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



BYRON SPOTTISWOODS, Ltd., Lond.

POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS.

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Office of Origin and Service Instructions.



Saffron Walden

Charges
to pay

s. d.

Handed
in at

542/

Received
here at

6.8/

TO { *Reply paid Dr presence,*
The Retreat York
my brother still with
you please detain him until
you hear further I could
come tomorrow Andrew Dix



10

I am -
with kindest
regards -
Yours sincerely
F. Armstrong Ky.

Dear D. Pierce.
The Friend. W. R. Dix
of whom I wrote you -
has this morning signed
the Voluntary Boarders
paper - which I enclose
with this -
He seems somewhat
better & more cheerful
to day - and I think
this change will
do him good -
He proposes to
leave here a little
before 8 - & travel
via Cambridge &
N.Y. - & would
reach York I think
between 12 & 1 o'c.

I saw his medical
man this morning
& he thinks going
to for him is the
safest thing &
will prevent any
stronger measures
in the future be-
coming necessary.
I am sure I may
ask for as a friend
of Mr. Dix's to
do all for him
to recover him -
he lost his mother
some 6 months
or more ago -
& since then has

been very lonely, & he
let his house -
somewhat ruinously
& has hardly thought
what to do, & that he
has built a small
house for himself -
which is not
quite completed.
His Brother
said - his presence
that he could
afford to pay
£2.20 a week -
I am very thank-
ful today
he seemed
quite willing

-ment - His father
never joined us by
convince ment - some
30 yrs ago - H.R.D.
grew up a friend -
It was a great
relief to know
that he is under
your own super-
-vision -

I thought it
better to make
this
first of my iden-
tification -
become hard to
catch the post
go: with only kind
regards
sincerely
A. Midgley

Pirate!

16

Shalders:
9 Jan 1912

Dear J. P. Ullie:
I asked J. Thelwell
to write you some par-
ticulars of H.R.D.'s -
but he said there was
no need as you w.
ascertain yourself
as to his condition -
except the change
will do him good -
but I thought it only
right today that
his J. has ordered
his friends to
keep away from him - and
I think not to leave
him much

When at Brighton
with his Nephew -
he wd. not stay
more than 1 night
& I understand
has threatened
to do away with
himself. - But
so don't for-
m an assertion
as necessary
information
from his elder
Brother - who
is a Britisher
& (not a friend)

who is going
with him -
W.R. Dix has been
living with this
Brother & sleep?
with his
Nephew. as
they did not
like to leave
him alone -
It will be a
great relief to
his friends &
to us all
at our Mill.
here to hear
of his improvement

could act at
once - or tho.
he become ill
he cd. be
quickly moved.
I am very kind
regards

Yrs. sincerely

Arthur Midgley.

✓ 5
"Larchmount"
Saffron Walden
6.1.1912

Dear S. Pierce.

I write this to ask
you, as to the ad-
mission into the
retreat of a single
man. About 35-
years of age - who
is becoming
seriously near
needing care -
He is a friend &
was by trade a
Builder but
has done little
at his trade of

late. Supposing he
was willing could
he come to you
at once? - & if so
how? - ed. he?
be admitted -
he must presume
fill up some
form saying he
was willing to do
so? may I have
the particulars
also as to
price -
His J. wishes
him to go to

some private home
and says if he
does not do so
he will have to
be taken care

of what are your
charges be - ?

I should think
he could pay
say 30/- or £2
a week -

Kidly let me
hear - so
that if he
be willing, I