

**Fry, Walter Llewellyn**

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our holidays were spent  
here.

Trusting you all keep  
well, & with very kind  
remembrances

believe me,

Yours Sincerely

Bertha M. Fry.

P.S. I return home on  
the 26th, but kindly  
send receipt here.

Blowick. 798

Patterdale

Dr. Penrith.

July 11th 1912.

Dear Dr. Pierce

I am sorry this  
has been left so long  
unpaid, but it was  
thought best for me  
to leave home again  
for a while, so a price  
& I have been here  
for the last 5 weeks,

& every thing I could  
leave at home I did,  
but sent for all accounts  
the other day, as I  
feel now anxious to  
get all settled up, as  
I've sold the practice  
& it passes out of our  
hands next week.

I am keeping on the  
Catterick house for a  
while, but fancy I may

spend a good deal of  
time here in future,  
it is a little cottage  
just opposite the  
Hillswater Hotel, on  
Place Fell, which Dr. Fry  
& I took a fancy to  
last year, for it is  
absolutely peaceful &  
quiet. & here I have  
only happy memories  
of him, as most of



A 588

LUNACY COMMISSION,

66, VICTORIA STREET, S.W.,

29 May 1912

SIR,

I AM directed by the Commissioners in Lunacy to request you  
to forward to this Office a formal Notice of the *death*  
of *Walter L. Fry* on *the 13<sup>th</sup> instant*.  
~~for which purpose I enclose a~~  
blank form.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

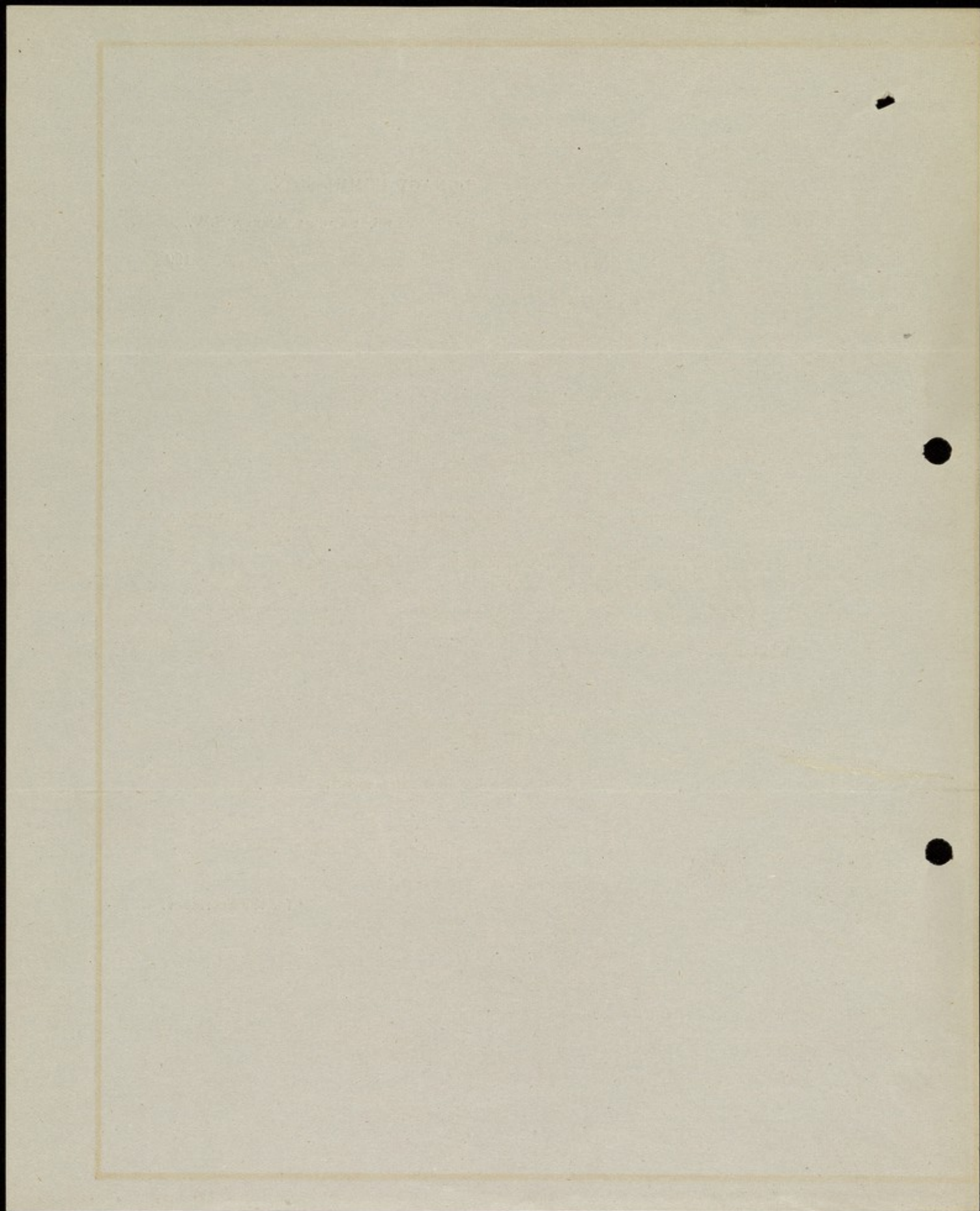
*Heard*

for the Secretary.

W B & L (x)—31114—250-6-1900

*The Medical Office,  
York Retreat.*





had had a little time  
together.

With very Sincere thanks  
& kindest regards

Yours Sincerely  
Bertha M. Fry.

P.S. Drilly was over  
yesterday & is leaving  
up, but one cannot  
but be anxious for them  
all, it has taken the  
grip out of the brothers  
badly.

Callenick 587  
Yorkshire  
May 20th 1912.

Dear Dr Bedford-Pierce.  
You will <sup>be</sup> wondering  
what to do with the  
clothing etc. If you  
would kindly return  
the bag & the box  
empty, I should be  
obliged. - If there is  
a Mackintosh Short  
Coat, that could be  
put in, as I want  
to send a few things



to a nephew in Canada  
but I cannot remember  
if I packed it or not,  
but cannot find it  
here. All else, will  
you kindly give away.  
There is a little parcel  
I had just that morning  
taken over, (addressed  
to me) it is the drawers  
which went with his  
other suit, as he would  
not have his better ones  
& I wanted him to make  
a change for to-day.

They are much repaired  
but some poor person  
may not mind.  
Many thanks for  
your kind letters and  
for all care & kindness  
to my dear one - he  
had a great admiration  
for you and your work  
& I only wish you could  
have known him in  
his usual life. I was  
pleased to hear that  
you, Dr. Shaw & Mr. Secker



94, WILTON ROAD,  
MUSWELL HILL, N.

18: May: 12.

Dear Dr. Pierce,

This morning I had  
a letter from Millie Fry  
telling of the tragic ending  
of poor Walter's life.

I feel the deepest  
sympathy for you, &  
all who shared the  
care of him - but it  
may be a little help

to you to know it was  
a comfort to his  
friends when he  
wished to be with you.  
Walter & Isabel were  
very much alike  
in the intense sweetness  
of disposition. & both  
were greatly loved  
by all who knew

them. What a mystery  
that their ending of  
this life should be  
so terrible. Perhaps  
you can trace the  
cause.

My love to Mr. Pierce  
& I hope you are  
all well.

Yours affectionately  
Ada Mary Catford.



stances he could only  
have dragged out  
a sad & weary existence  
With Very Kind Regards  
Yours sincerely  
Faith Ross.

561  
Catterick  
Yorkshire -  
May 17<sup>th</sup> 1912.

Dear F. Pierce,  
Just a line to say  
how very pleased we  
feel that you so kindly  
came over to the funeral  
to-day, it was most  
good of you and we



fully appreciate your  
Kindness - You have  
been our true friend  
through all, and  
Should it ever fall to  
our lot to have to  
place our dearest  
friend under similar  
treatment, there is  
no one with whom

We could more happily  
leave them - I am  
truly sorry for you  
that these painful  
circumstances have  
arisen, but from other  
points of view it is  
clearly though the  
best thing, as under  
the happiest circum-

15<sup>th</sup> May 1912.17 Broomhall Road,  
Sheffield.

Dear W. Price,

Your letter received late last evening, was my first intimation of the sad tragedy at York Station on Monday, and I can readily understand what a shock & anxiety it must have been to yourself especially and also all those who have been associated in the care of W. Fry at the Detroit.

I do indeed sympathise with you, in having experienced another anxiety of the same.

character, as occurred last  
November at Throcenty.

I have <sup>read</sup> the account of  
the inquest in today's York  
Herald, and it must be a  
satisfaction to you, although  
a mournful one, to know  
that yourself and the District  
management were entirely  
exonerated from any blame  
whatsoever in the sad affair.

I do hope you will not  
allow it to weigh too much  
on your mind, or lead you to  
have any misgivings on the  
course you pursued in giving

the poor fellow, the liberty you did,  
because I am perfectly satisfied  
in my own mind, that the principles  
you have laid <sup>down</sup> on the treatment  
of such cases, when speaking of  
them in Committee, are sound  
and most conducive to recovery,  
and you must not allow yourself  
to be discouraged, because  
2 cases so comparatively near  
together, have failed in your  
expectations.

Hoping to meet on Saturday,

Yours very sincerely,

Charles F. Johnson



BROOKSIDE,  
CATTERICK,  
YORKS.

May 14<sup>th</sup> 1912

Dear Dr. Preece

Your telegram received  
this morning & immediately  
followed by your letter was a  
great shock to me & indeed I  
may say to the entire village  
& surrounding district where  
Dr. Fry was so <sup>deservedly</sup> popular.  
As I have been a personal friend  
of the family & much attached to  
Dr. Fry I have been taken into  
their confidence & the sad event



did not take me so much by  
surprise knowing the condition  
he was in & the terrible family  
history. I can fully sympathize  
with you as I am sure it must  
have caused you much grief  
& disappointment. Mrs. Fry  
bore the news very well  
considering & I hope you found  
her as well as could be expected  
on her arrival at York

Thanking you for your letter

Believe me

Yours sincerely

John H. Hutchinson



37 Broad Street

14.V.12.

TELEPHONE 130.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:

"DICKSON: BUXTON."

The House, Buxton,  
Derbyshire.

Dear G. Bedford Pierce,

It is with the deepest regret that I read of poor Froy's death in today's paper; poor chap, it is what was almost bound to have happened to, though a tremendous grief to his wife, it must be a great relief to her.

But I should like also to express my sympathy with you. "Haud ignota moeli"; I know what it is myself. For it is not quite 12 months since I had a stationer's wife of a friend who was a friend to who, at the time, was accompanied by my A.M.O. The latter was, fortunately, not to be blamed in the matter, I suppose too, that they was a

personal friend of yours.

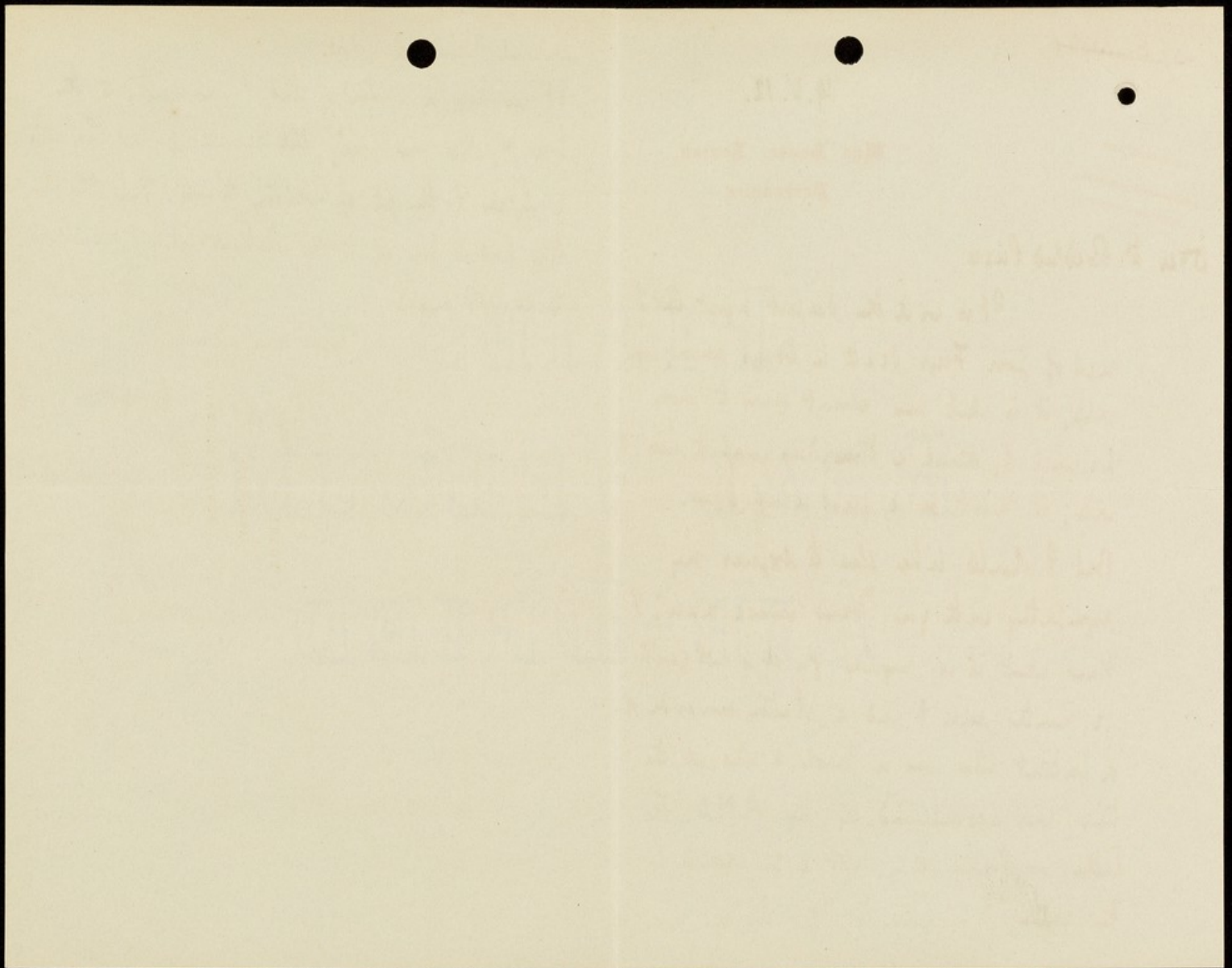
It was only on Saturday that I was saying to the Comrs. who were here, that I understood how they were going on & thought of writing to ask. They told me they hadn't been up to the Rectory lately & I didn't know. With kind regards,

Yours very sincerely,

Edmund Dickson.

533





11. May 1912.

516

OAKWOOD GRANGE,

ROUNDHAY,

LEEDS.

Dear Sir

I have a letter  
from Mrs Fry suggesting that  
I should come over to York on  
Monday afternoon - I am  
therefore writing to Mr Fry by  
this post to ~~ask whether~~  
say that I will be outside  
the station at 2.45 for a walk  
and a talk with him until  
the 4.30 return train, if he  
would like it - He will no  
doubt send me a line as to  
whether this suggestion is agreeable  
to him: but if you know any



reason why I should not  
come that day and that-  
time. I hope you will kindly  
stop me with a post-card -

Mrs Fry adds that if she  
can she will come herself  
also the same day.

Yours faithfully  
W. H. Secker.

D. Bradford Pierce.

P. S. I should add that I had written  
to Mrs Fry the substance of your  
telephone message



Catterick

Yorks

May 10th 1917.

Dear Mr Bedford-Pierce,

I still hear nothing from you as to arrangements made. - But from both Mr Secker & Milly Fry, I hear you are making plans. - If I possibly can. I may come over on Monday morning but let me hear by letter lest I cannot manage it. Are you arranging for an attendant as you mentioned, or am I to have full responsibility (which I hardly think) Mr McKenzie did not know what arrangements were in mind when I spoke to him, but Mr Fry was there & he perhaps thought it wiser to know nothing.

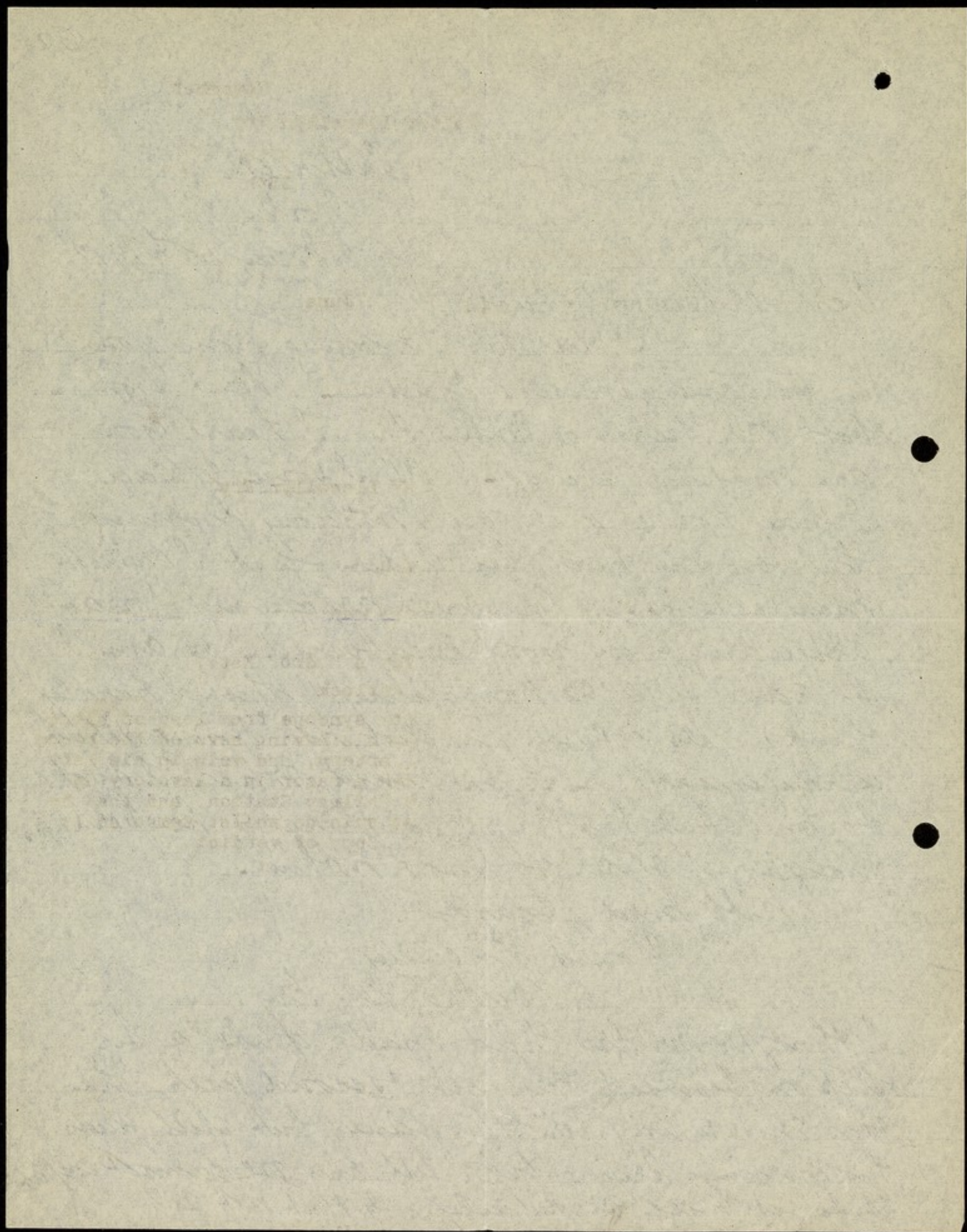
With kind regards

Yours Sincerely

Bertha M. Fry.

I thought Mr Fry had made quite a big step on between my first & second visit. He was much brighter this time, but still finds his mornings trying but I tell him we cannot expect it to get well suddenly. Is that not so?







Mr. Bradford Pierce  
Park Sq.  
Leeds.

May 7. 1912. 516

OAKWOOD GRANGE,  
ROUNDHAY,  
LEEDS.

Telephone  
" 60 Roundhay "

Dear Sir

I write from the address  
of my brother-in-law (Isabel Walker) with  
whom I am staying until end of next  
week.

You have at present in your care  
my old friend W. L. Fry of Catterick. I  
know pretty fully the facts of his break-  
down and am kept informed by  
Mrs Fry of his progress. She sent a  
very encouraging account about a  
week ago, saying that she had just  
seen her husband and suggesting that  
if I was in York at any time I  
should call also: "it would cheer  
him, though if I asked beforehand  
whether he would like me to go, he  
would certainly say 'no' as he had  
done in her case: the thing to do  
was just to go: etc."

Well, such a course for me is out  
of the question, obviously. I must



inquire of you beforehand - Nor am I  
likely to be in York at present - But  
I will gladly come over on purpose  
(either from here or from my home at  
Wakefield) if you feel that a visit  
would be welcome and really do my  
friend good - My fear is that knowing  
that I know (i.e. from himself) the family  
history and the anxieties that have  
weighed on him in past years, he might  
only be upset at seeing me before he  
is really recovered, more so perhaps  
than if he felt I knew nothing.

May I then have your frank opinion  
as to whether a visit is wise: either  
by post at your convenience to the above  
address or if it will save you trouble  
I shall be at <sup>in at that address</sup> ~~45 Park Square~~ (Secker  
Walker's <sup>residence</sup> ~~residence~~) this afternoon <sup>after</sup> ~~from~~ 4.30  
~~3.45 to 4.00 pm~~ and could ~~step across~~  
~~for a word with you or~~ hear from  
you on the telephone -

Yours faithfully

W. H. Secker.

P.S. Is any particular day of the week or  
hour of the day specially convenient for  
visitors?



# THE RETREAT, YORK.

## NOTICE OF DEATH.

Date of Reception Order, the **22nd** day of **November** 19**11**

I hereby give you Notice, that **Walter Llewellyn Fry**  
a Private Patient, received into this Hospital on the **27th** day  
of **January** 19**12** died therein on the **13th** day  
of **May** 19**12**

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Medical Superintendent.

Dated the \_\_\_\_\_ day of **June** 19**12**

To the **Commissioners in Lunacy**

### STATEMENT RESPECTING THE ABOVE-NAMED PATIENT.

Name - - - - - **Walter Llewellyn Fry**  
Sex and age - - - - - **Male**  
Married, single, or widowed - - - **Married**  
Profession or occupation - - - **Medical man**  
Place of abode immediately before }  
being placed under care and } **Smedley's Hydro. Est.,**  
treatment (if known) - - - } **Matlock**  
Apparent cause of death - - - **"Died from syncope from loss of blood**  
**caused by his having severed the blood**  
**vessels, artery, and vein in his left**  
**groin with a razor in a lavatory in**  
**the York Railway Station, and that he**  
**committed suicide whilst temporarily**  
**insane". Copy of verdict.**  
Whether or not ascertained by post }  
mortem examination - - - }  
Time and any unusual circumstances }  
attending the death; also a des- }  
cription of any injuries known to }  
exist at the time of death or found }  
subsequently on body of deceased }  
Duration of disease of which patient }  
died - - - - - }  
Names and description of persons }  
present at the death - - - }  
Whether or not mechanical restraint }  
was applied to deceased within }  
seven days previously to death, }  
with its character and duration, }  
if so applied - - - - - }

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Medical Superintendent.



110

November

22nd

Walter Llewellyn Fry

27th

13th

012

12

January

May

12

June

Commissioners in Lunacy

Walter Llewellyn Fry

Wife

Married

Medical man

Medley's Hydro. Bat.

Medlock

"Died from syncope from loss of blood caused by his having severed the blood vessels, artery, and vein in his left groin with a razor in a lavatory in the York Railway Station, and that he committed suicide whilst temporarily insane". Copy of verdict.



May 25, 1912

Dear Mrs. Fry,

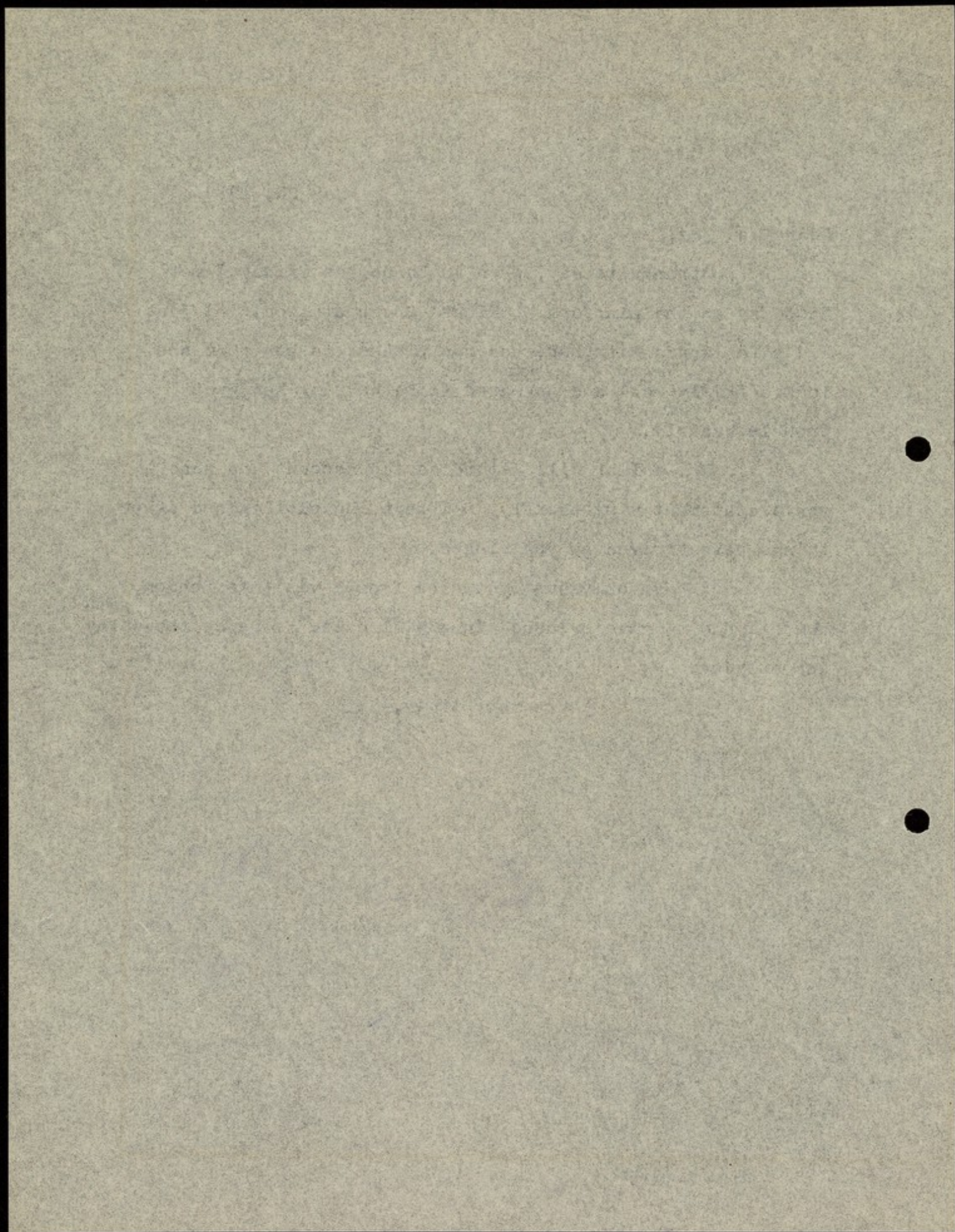
Strange to say, when in London on Friday I met Miss Fry on the platform at Kings' Cross station. I just had a few words with her, and was pleased to see that she looked fairly well and appeared to be bearing her great trouble bravely.

Mr. Waller will attend to the account and send you a statement very shortly. I hope the clothes and other things have arrived as you wished.

I have only just returned from a visit to London, where I had to give evidence in a will case. Hence the delay in replying.

Yours very truly,







Monday 16<sup>th</sup> 1912.  
May

489

PARKSIDE,  
DARLINGTON.

Dear Dr. Peirce.

I am writing on behalf  
of my brother Arthur to tell  
you that he is taking a fortnight's  
holiday from the 11<sup>th</sup> if Walter  
were all the more then if you  
approved of the plan. He would  
go to Ray in carbro so that  
he could see Walter every day  
& take him for walks &c. He feels  
so sorry for Walter's loneliness &  
homesickness & will be so glad  
to spend his holiday near him



Would you approve. I think  
Walter would like it  
too & perhaps it would be better  
than being always with his wife  
and some relief for her. Perhaps  
you will kindly let me know what  
you think of this. I hope that  
my visit of Saturday did not  
upset Walter. I was so glad  
to find him improved rather to go  
out with me in an ordinary way.  
I feel very sorry for him as I know  
so well what suffering depression brings  
with kind regards.

Yours very sincerely,  
Alice H.



NORTHALLERTON,  
YORKS.

May 16. 1912

Dear Dr Price,

I know you will have been greatly distressed by the tragic end of poor Dr Fry, and I feel I must drop you a line to express my sincere sympathy. I am sure you took the right line with him and the position is that of a surgeon who loses a patient in an attempt to restore him to health. Poor Fry! I liked him very much and feel so pained for him and for all concerned. Do not reply. Yours very truly  
J. A. Hutchinson





550  
Cattarick  
York.  
1912  
May 16th

Dear Mr Price

Mr Sucker tells  
me you would like  
to come tomorrow.  
I shall be very pleased  
indeed if you feel  
able & your engagements  
permit. No ladies  
are going, & I am



sorry to be so far  
away to offer you  
hospitality - That  
so much trouble  
should fall on you  
through us, is the  
very opposite. So  
that my dear husband  
would have wished  
had he been living

and if it is any  
comfort please  
understand that  
not a thought of  
a shadow of blame  
is in our mind as  
far as you are  
concerned.

Yours in deep sympathy  
Bertha M. Fry.



May 14, 1912

Dear Mr. Yeomans,

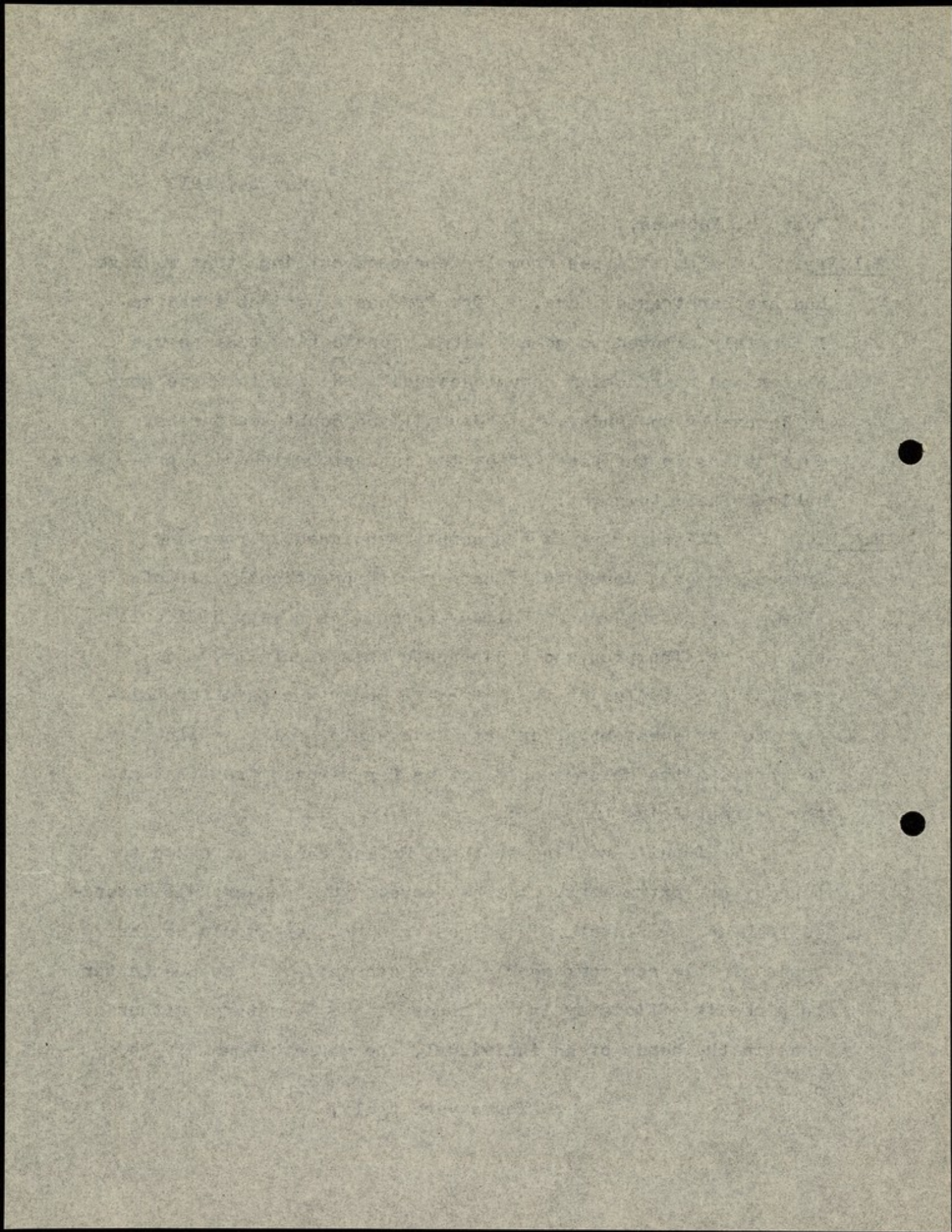
W.L.Fry. You will see from the enclosed cutting that we have had another tragedy here. Dr. Fry was a patient I had deliberately allowed to go out alone, considering that he was better and approaching convalescence. He was to have gone to Throxenby on Monday. You will no doubt see further particulars in the paper after the inquest, which will probably be held to-night.

M.N.D. With regard to the points mentioned in your and Duncan Barber's comments, I concur with practically all of them. The subject of holiday payment is a very difficult one. Mr. Thompson and I discussed this carefully, and came to the conclusion that if extra money was paid for holidays to any substantial extent there would be little incentive to work, as the salary would not be far removed from that at the Retreat doing full time.

I quite realise that Mr. Waller cannot be asked to take on any extra work. "The Secretary", however, was intended to near the Secretary's Office, and Mr. Hunt would do the whole of this new work should it be started. It seemed better to place it officially in the hands of the Secretary, rather than in the hands of an individual, who may subsequently be changed.

Yours very truly,







May 10, 1912

Dear Mrs. Fry,

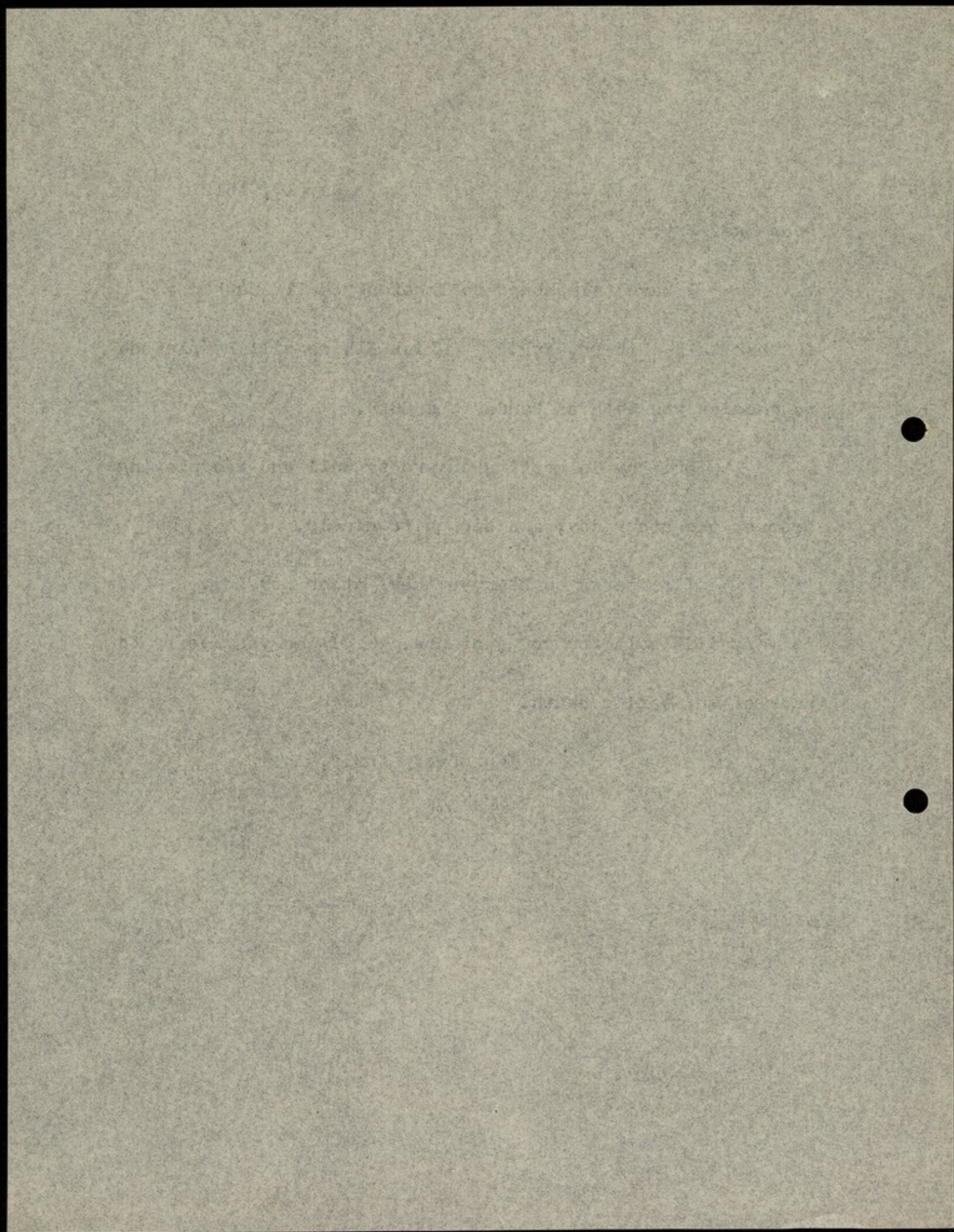
I have telephoned to Throxenby Hall and had a further talk with Dr. Fry. Miss Elkins will be pleased to receive you both on Monday the 20th.

Dr. Fry is getting on pretty well and was playing croquet the other day, and did quite nicely.

I am sorry to hear you have other worries. Life is very difficult for you just now. I was very sorry to hear of Mr. Wall's death.

Yours very truly,







Catherick

May 9<sup>th</sup> 1912.

Dear Dr Bedford-Pierce

I was very sorry not to see you but as I heard you were not to be home till evening, & I could not stay another night, I had to come away without hearing of any arrangements. & on returning I got a letter from Mr Seeker saying you had mentioned Monday the 20<sup>th</sup> as a date likely for the move! Let me hear what I really am wanted to do, & when, & I will try & fit in. My Sister has to go to Town next week but will be only away a day or two, if there is likelihood of me going to Throesbury.

I thought Mr Fry much better yesterday & got several healthy smiles!!!

We shall have to come round by York I expect & meet there, but perhaps I may get a letter giving me clear instructions. I say clear because my own thinking family



at present is far from being in good  
working order - & I don't want to forget  
any thing. I've got a batch of worries  
here & hardly know how to settle  
them satisfactorily, but must just  
do the best I can, but his interests are  
difficult to guard - when there's only  
a woman to deal with.

With kind regards

Yours Sincerely  
Bertha M. Fry.



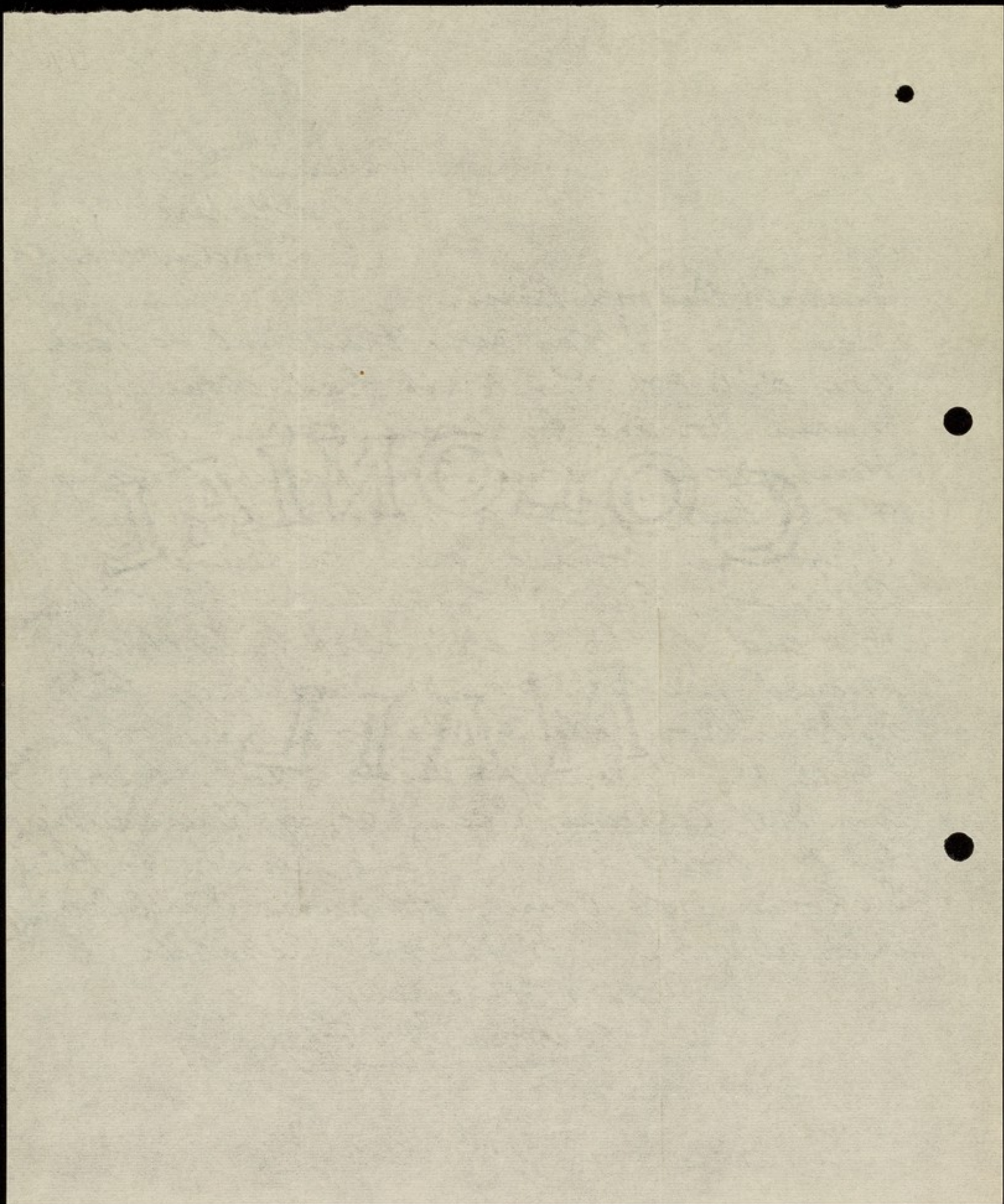
Catterick.  
Yorkshire 1912  
Sunday May 5th

Dear Mr Bedford-Pierce.

I was very thankful to hear you did not think it had done any harm for me to come over. as I want some Income Tax papers signing & over looking, & a parcel sending, I propose coming over on Tuesday Afternoon, but I have told him "towards the end of the week" lest anything should prevent me, on Tuesday, but as Miss Ross wants to go away on Thursday I will try Tuesday & Wednesday. but am not certain I can stay Tuesday night. Let me know if you have reason to think I should not come, otherwise I will conclude it is alright. With kind regards

Yours Sincerely  
Bertha M. Fry.







Catterick

Yorkshire

April 28<sup>th</sup>/1912.

Dear Dr. Bedford-Pierce

I would be very glad to know the result of my visit, before I come again, & if you think it did no harm I will come soon, as I think he is eating out his heart in loneliness at present, but you know best & I will be guided by you, & shall his Sisters or friends come over? a few know where he is & would come & spend an hour or two with him at times, if it would do no harm. I think your suggestion of Throscuby cheered him very much yesterday, as he had got it into his head that you considered him a very bad case, & there was nothing but an indefinite stay at the Retreat for him & he is sure that will be his undoing. I found him very much more improved than I expected, at the times when one



could make him forget himself.

I enclose the account for correction & will settle it as soon as I know the amount, if only we can get him better I will be grateful whatever the sum & if well, we can somehow make it up again.

With very kind regards  
Yours Sincerely  
Bertha M. Fry.



1 Nottingham Place  
W.

April 21<sup>st</sup> 1912.

Dear Mr Bedford-Pierce

As you were to be away I stayed on here another week as the house at home was full up, & I thought you would rather I was not at York too long. I am arriving Thursday afternoon <sup>at Mrs Thornton's</sup> at Mrs Thornton's, & would you let me have a note there to say when I could see you, & which time you think best for me to see my husband.

I have had a talk with Sir Victor Horsley about the pain in the head, & he says as far as he can judge without seeing him, there is only the Weir-Mitchell treatment which will relieve him, but he fears no Institution would take him, & he thought I had better first find out if he can have that treatment properly, at the Retreat, or see if you could in any way arrange it, It ought to have been tried long



ago, when he first began to complain of it  
& all this might then have been avoided  
but I did not then know much about it  
and Dr Fry himself has not had much  
leaning for-wards Special "Cures".

I hope you have had a nice holiday &  
had weather like we have been having  
in Loun. With kind regards

Yours Sincerely  
Bertha M. Fry.



April 13, 1912

Dear Mrs. Fry,

With regard to my movements, I expect to  
be back in York in the evening of the 23rd inst  
and shall be leaving here on Wednesday, the 17th.  
I have a meeting to attend at Carlisle and am tak-  
ing a little holiday as well.

Yours very truly,



1917-18

1918-19

1919-20

1920-21

1921-22

1922-23

1923-24



1 Nottingham Place  
W.

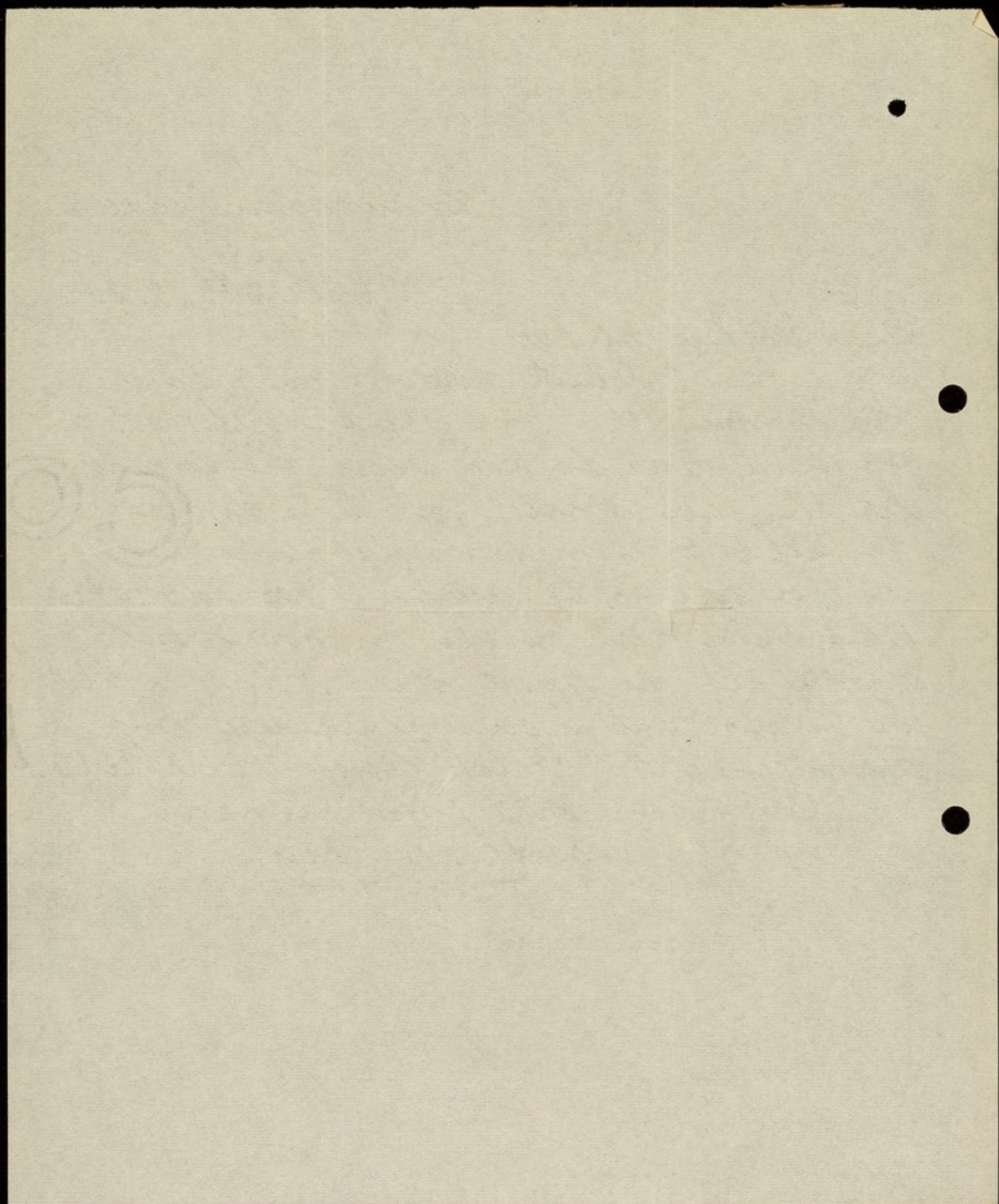
April 12<sup>th</sup> 1912.

Dear Dr. Bedford-Pierce

Thank you for your letter  
this morning, & I am greatly relieved  
to find you do not seem to consider  
Mr. Fry any worse, for it is difficult  
to tell how much is fancy with him.  
As you are to be away, I would rather  
wait until your return, if you would  
kindly let me know when that is likely  
to be, so that I can rearrange my  
arrangements which affect other people.

Yours, with kind regards  
Bertha M. Fry.







1 Nottingham Place  
London W.  
April 10<sup>th</sup> 1912

Dear Mr Bedford-Pierce

My husband's letters lately have been so very extra depressed & he has so often said he feels so he growing worse, that I think I had better let you know, of course I know it may only be his fancy, as you have told me you consider him better & please do not let him know I have written to you. Miss Stower advises me to enclose my last letters for you to see so that you can judge.

I am hoping to come up to York on Thursday the 18<sup>th</sup> & will write to the addresses you give - He knows I am contemplating returning home at the end of the month, but begs me not to call, but unless you wish me not to I shall do so if not the Thursday evening, then whatever time you fix on the Friday. & I leave it to you as to whether he is



told I am coming or not, I shall not tell  
him & leave him to think I am not leaving  
town just then. I think it is natural  
to a certain extent that he should be  
extra depressed during Easter, & Race Week  
at home, as it was the one time when  
he saw many friends, & not professionally,  
also it is our wedding time, & it brings  
back many things more strongly, but  
I thought I ought to let you know lest  
he again gave way to weakness, but if  
possible ~~do not~~ let him think I have  
told you, Dr. Dickson told me, he thought  
he made worse of his condition to me  
but that I leave to your judgement.  
Regretting to give you trouble, but  
with kind regards.

Yours Sincerely

Bertha M. Fry.



1 Nottingham Place  
W.

April 2<sup>nd</sup> 1912.

Dear Dr Pierce

I had just arranged to go & pay a farewell visit to my Widow Sister, who is going out to British Columbia to live with her boy out there, & I have been trying to make my plans fit in with hers, so do not like to alter it now, & as I do not think a little delay will do harm I will come up to York about the middle or end of the month, as soon as I can get settled up here so that I need not return from York but go straight on to Catterick, I will let you know later, as there is also just a possibility that I may have to take home one of our patients who has been in Hospital here, & owing to fits they do not quite like to let her take the



Journey quite alone. in which case I  
should go home first & come to York  
from there. No, I shall not expect  
to see Mr Fry except at the Retreat  
for I think the temptation not to  
return without me would be too  
great, & I do not wish to make things  
more difficult, & if I come from Cal<sup>ick</sup>  
I shall not even stay all night -  
but if from London I will, & thank  
you for sending me the addresses.

With kind regards & for a few  
days my address will be

C/o Mrs Wilkinson

St Mary's Croft

Elstree, Herts.

but 1 Nottingham Place is still my  
head quarters & am leaving all  
belongings here.

Yours Sincerely

Bertha M. Fry.



1 Nottingham Place

W.

March 30th 1912.

Dear Mr. Bedford-Pierce

Thank you for your letter, & I am glad to find you have not thought it necessary to make much alteration as to supervision, as there is a possibility that he is making more of it than necessary, but I am thankful that he told of it, so as to be on the alert. I think the connecting thought would be, that he has always expressed a wish for cremation, not burial when he died, so he may have fancied something of that sort, & felt the temptation in consequence. I have not sent you word before of the way he pleads in every letter almost, for us to be together somewhere, with abundant if necessary, because you must get so tired of such letters, & I feel sure you will tell me as soon as you think any change advisable. But he says, ~~he says~~ it is almost beyond his endurance, what with the sights, & sounds & sadness, & the want of our daily companionship, he says it drives him to despair, & he fears lest he becomes worse owing to it all.



He say so much of how kind you all are  
to him, but I have wondered if you would  
think some thing of a more private nature  
might suit him better, after giving this  
a fair trial. - You still do not say if  
you think my coming up would be <sup>advised</sup>  
as in a short time now, I could as easily  
be in or near York as here, as I am out  
of the doctor's hands now. My Sister does  
not want me to go home until July, if  
possible, as everything is so unlike home  
& there are so many people staying in the  
house, owing to the sale of practice, that really  
the rooms are needed, of course if I insist, it  
would be alright, but I think if I were  
there, it would make Dr Fry still more  
anxious to join me there. - but there is  
nothing to prevent me joining him elsewhere  
if you thought it advisable. - He tells  
me you have advised him to write to Dr Shaw  
about his head. - I confess that pain, worries  
me, is it usual for mental cases to have  
such long continued pain, it is now quite  
18 months since he has seriously complained  
of it, & nothing seems to have relieved it, &  
we both wanted to see Sir Victor Horsley

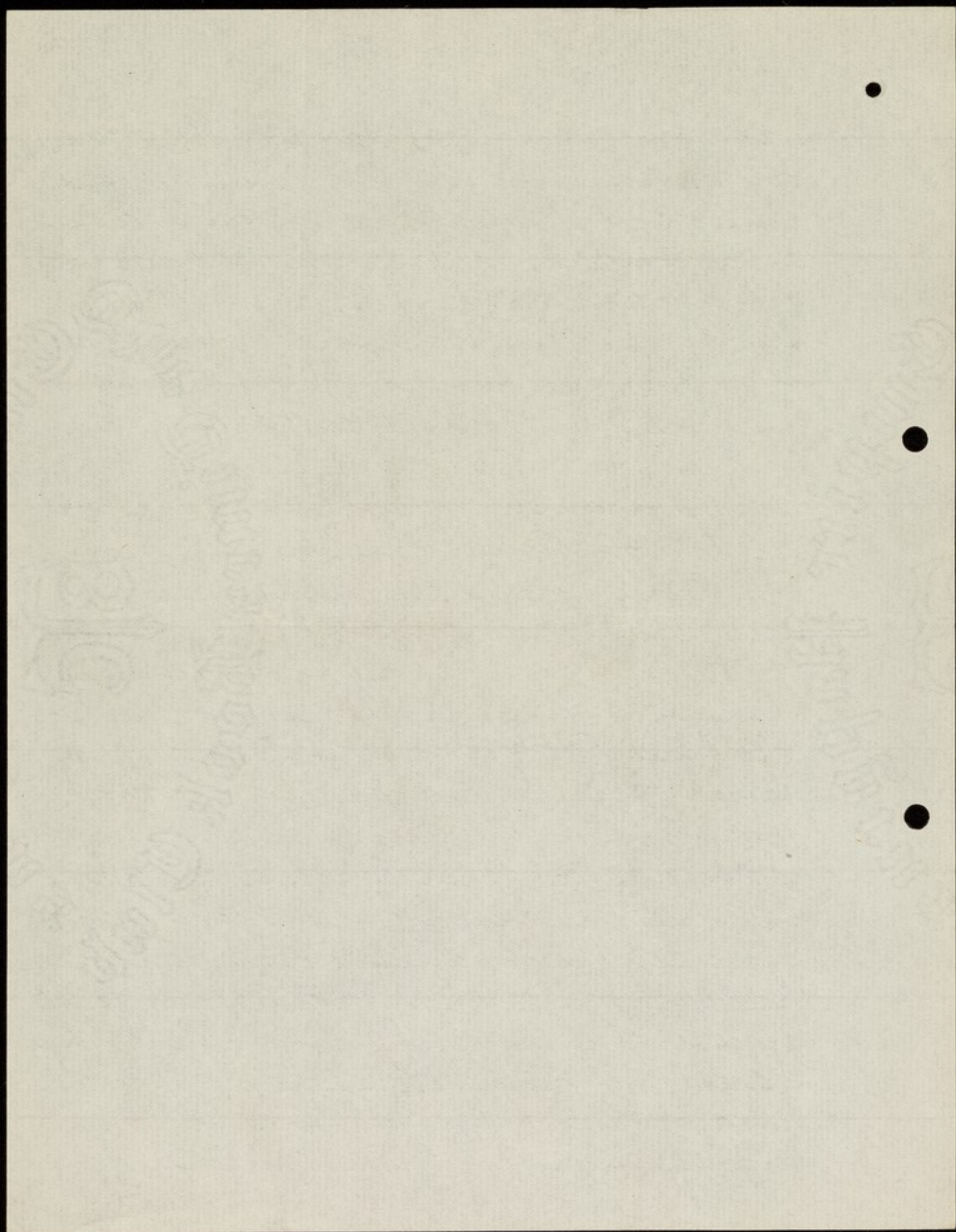


3/

about it last Oct, but Mr Shaw persuaded my husband to see Mr Rivin - Russell instead, & I wish now we had done as we wished. I hear he always goes out of town for Easter, but I will try to see him shortly & find out if in the near future he might be up North & would see him, or if that were not possible, is there any possibility of it being safe for Mr Fry to come here? to see him. Miss Stower would, providing he had attendants, put him up for a couple of nights if you thought it advisable presently, & she had free rooms at the time. or you might know of a better place. Let me know what you think.

I am afraid Emuley's is a vain hope, but they know everything & yet left me alone all the Sunday. I knew when I had told the doctor I must not be left alone - still unless I went to law, I fear I could not make them help. & I must not do that for his sake. With kind regards, believe me, Yours Sincerely  
 Bertha M. Fry.







1 Nottingham Place

W.

March 26<sup>th</sup> 1913.

Dear Mr Bedford-Pierce

I've had a sad letter from my husband this morning, saying he had had another temptation, but that he had spoken to you about it & he thought you would be writing to me, perhaps as I have not heard anything you do not attach so much importance to it, as he does, but I should be glad to hear what you think.

I wonder if you got my last letter some weeks ago, asking if you thought it would do any good if I came to see him? He asks me not to, but I leave it to you to say if I should disregard that. I have consulted a Solicitor as to Smudley & he says if I would go to Court he is sure I should get damages, but that I refuse to do under any considerations as long as my husband lives, but he thinks they might be willing to meet me half way rather than have their negligence exposed, but he would first like if possible a copy



of the first letter you write them, before  
we meet. He says he knows from experience  
it is difficult to get one Medical Man  
to say anything against another, but  
thinks as my husband is also a Medical  
Man, & as I do not intend in this case  
to go to Court, you may perhaps if possible  
try to help me, as a small amount  
of damages now to ease finances is  
of much more value to me, than claiming  
a larger amount if anything should  
later happen to my poor husband - as  
a very large amount of the present trouble  
is owing to the tragedy, which they could  
so easily have prevented. - Both my  
husband & (I myself have stay with  
a patient 2 nights) when we could not  
get nurses in time. That it seems incredible  
with all their staff they would not give  
me help when they (or Dr McDelland at any rate)  
knew how urgent it was, & they ought to  
help. With kind regards & trusting Dr Fry  
has made more of it to me, than you think  
of it. believe me

Yours Sincerely  
Bertha M. Fry.



D

March 20<sup>th</sup> 1912.

Dear J. Pierce

Thank You so much for  
Kindly sending me word of Dr. Fry.  
I know so well how his great desire  
will be to come home, but he is not  
yet to do the ~~best~~ and the last time  
he came home he was very much

CATTERICK  
YORKS

but it is  
the last time  
he came home  
he was very much

but it is  
the last time  
he came home  
he was very much

but it is  
the last time  
he came home  
he was very much

but it is  
the last time  
he came home  
he was very much



worse directly, wanted to do the work  
& could not & worried dreadfully &  
simply couldn't stay. Mr. Guy  
is very anxious of course to do what he  
wishes but she makes a good suggestion  
of Oxford for a time, I can only foresee  
trouble if he comes here. Under the



March 18, 1912

Dear Miss Ross,

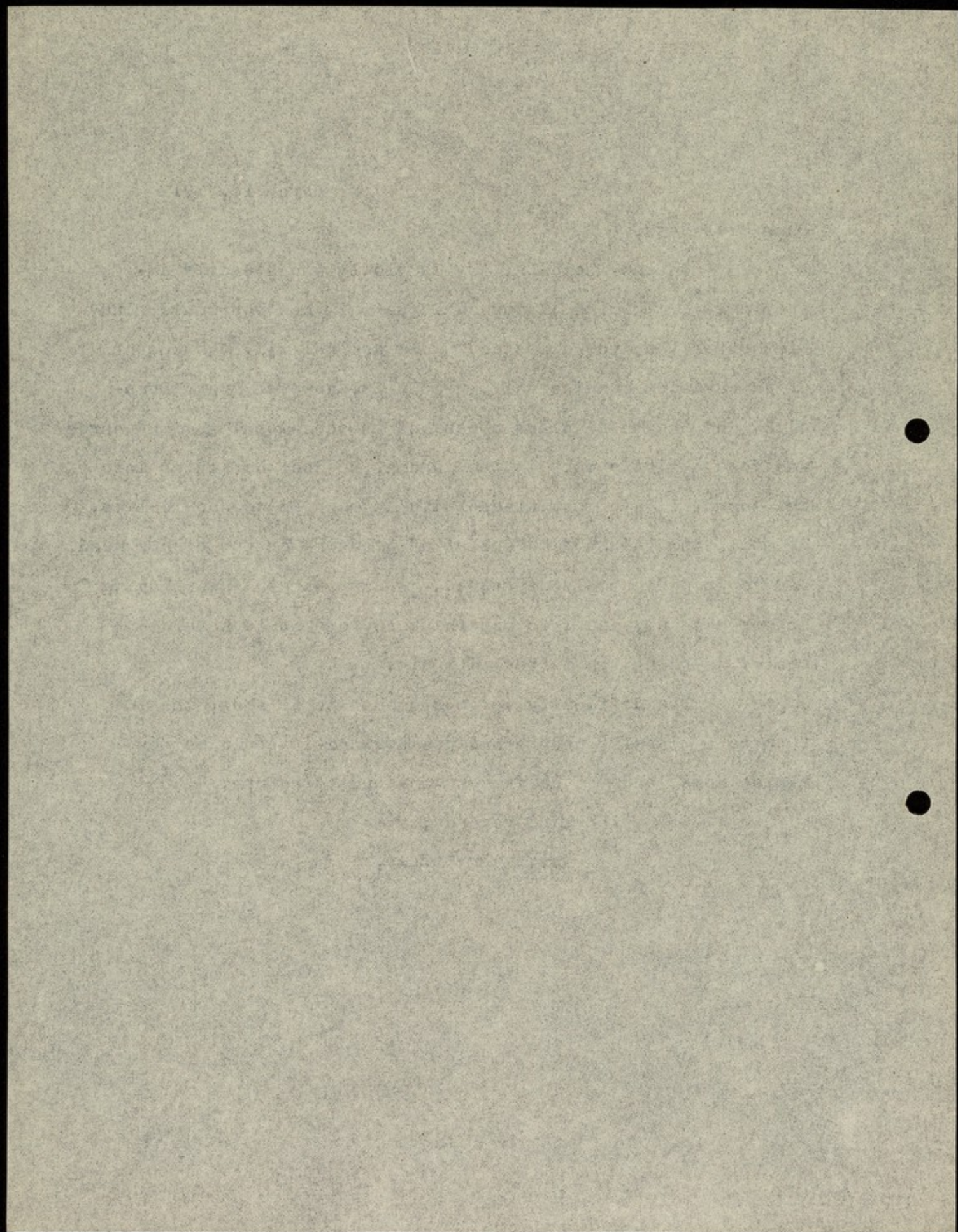
On the whole Dr. Fry is slowly and steadily improving. I think if you could see him now you would find him better than you expected. We are relaxing the amount of supervision considerably. He is, however, very homesick, and though he plays chess and an occasional game of cards and does a little work in the garden, he does not enter into the social life of the place quite as much as we should like. He still complains of a feeling of pressure on top of his head, and he is undoubtedly depressed. Last night he was having supper with us, and I do not think any one would have detected anything the matter with him.

The difficulty is to see what to do about the future. I fully understand how awkward it would be for him at home, and yet he is very anxious to return.

With kind regards,

Yours very truly,







his work & he unable  
to do it, seems to me  
an impossible future  
he has no hobby &  
every time he went out  
could be to meet patients  
However time will prove  
meanwhile if I am not  
asking more than I should  
I should like to know what  
you think of his condition.  
Though I know well enough  
you won't want to express  
too definite an opinion

which is always  
difficult & more  
difficult in these cases.

Very kind

March 14<sup>th</sup> 1912

Yours sincerely

Edith Ross

I have refrained  
from troubling you with  
any correspondence, as  
I know so well what  
a busy hard life you  
lead - but if not asking  
too much I should  
so like to have some  
idea of your opinion



of poor D. Fry. It is  
so awfully sad to see  
a fine life like his  
gone poor Chap. and  
I cannot but regret  
for his own sake that  
he recovered - You are  
all so good to him  
at the Retreat and  
there is no place where

he could feel happier  
about him under the  
circumstances.

What troubles me most  
of all is the thought  
of him coming back  
here, of course I do  
not consider myself  
able to judge but  
with his sensitive  
nature to determine  
to come back here &  
see another doing



March 9, 1912

Dear Miss Fry,

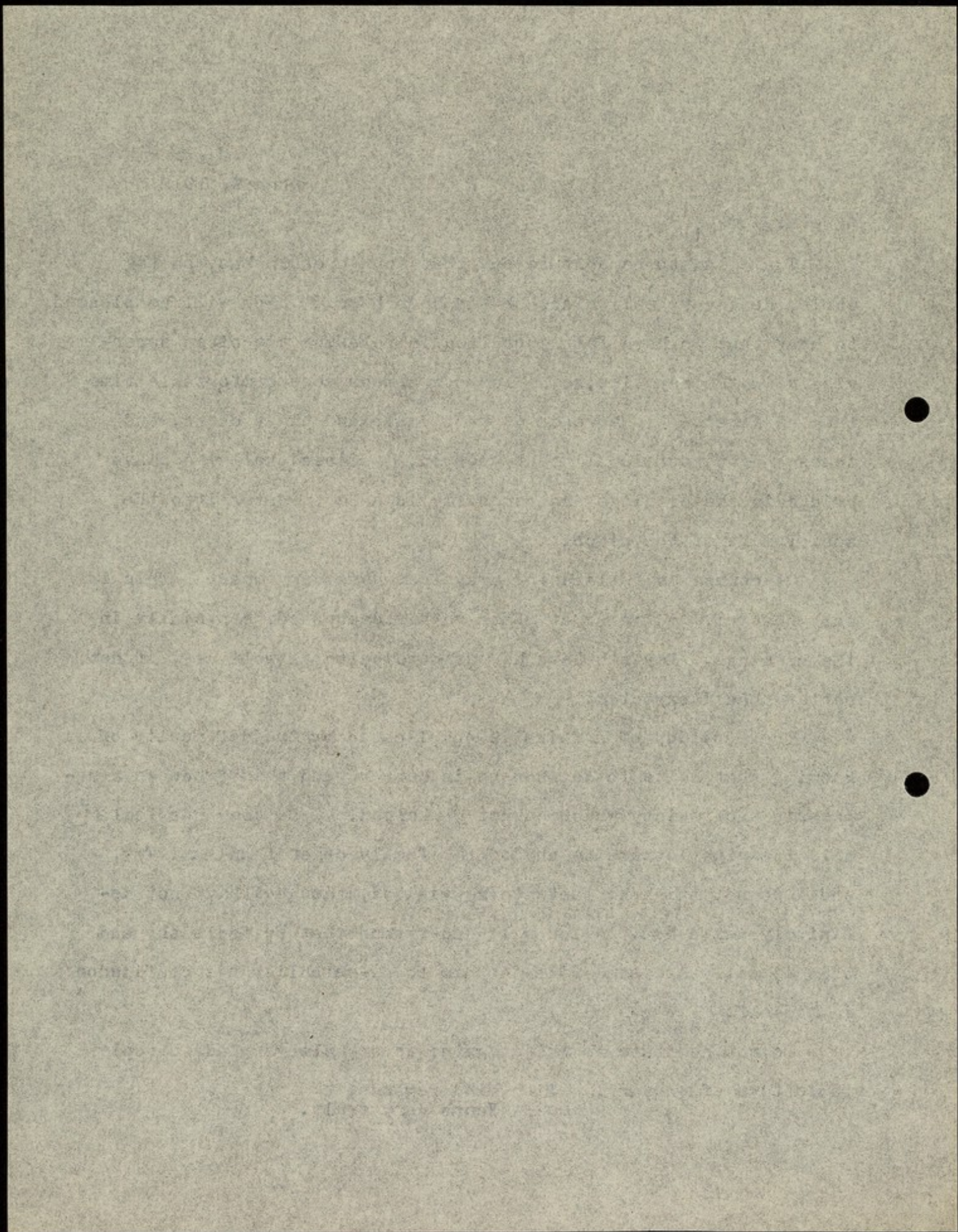
I am glad to be able to say that your brother has, on the whole, done very well since he has been here. You will be pleased to hear that we have felt justified in relaxing the close supervision in the day time, so he has now a much more comfortable time than at first. He reads a great deal, and plays chess, and takes an interest in all that goes on. Occasionally he plays bridge in the evenings and generally is able to enter into the social life of the place.

Of course he feels being away from home very much. This is only natural, and he is at times rather depressed, especially in the mornings. Nevertheless he has done quite as well as, if not better than I expected.

The position of affairs is complicated by the difficulty of knowing what he is to do when he is better, and this produces a depressing uncertainty which cannot be helped. He does not feel able to write letters to any of the family other than Mrs. Fry, and I do not think he wants to be visited, though I have not definitely asked him. You will understand that he feels shy and that it will take some time for him to re-establish his confidence in himself.

Do not hesitate to write again: we are always glad to reply to letters of enquiry. With kind regards,  
Yours very truly.







Friday 5<sup>th</sup> - 1912.  
March

251

PARKSIDE,  
DARLINGTON.

Dear Dr. Pereira.

As it is some little time since we had any news of my brother Walter I am writing to ask how he is. His wife doesn't write to us very often but then she is not well herself & doing a lot of rest cure in London. We are so glad to know that Walter is under your care & do hope that he is making satisfactory progress. We have all felt



his breakdown so much &  
could do anything as  
possibly could to help him.  
I must apologize for troubling  
you as I know how busy you  
always are but Mrs. Hall &  
I are so anxious to know  
what you think of Walter's  
progress.

With kind regards to Mrs. Pierce  
and yourself.

Yours very sincerely,  
Minnie Isy.



1 Nottingham Place.  
W.

Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> 1912.

Dear Dr. Bedford-Pierce,

My husband sends me word this morning, that he has been allowed a short time without attendance. & he will be I know very grateful. I had a sad letter from him yesterday, saying he thought that he had made you think worse of him than he was, but he felt he must tell you the truth, & it is always difficult to him to speak favourably of himself. So I know how much your confidence in him will have cheered him. I have advised him to let you know where the strain is upon him, as he evidently finds he varies, & thinks himself that early morning is his worst time. He says he is "desperately lonely & home sick" & I know all his life it has been the same. - But until July I cannot take him home, even if you thought it advisable (do not let him know this please). He says he misses at every turn the constant companionship, you see we were rarely apart.



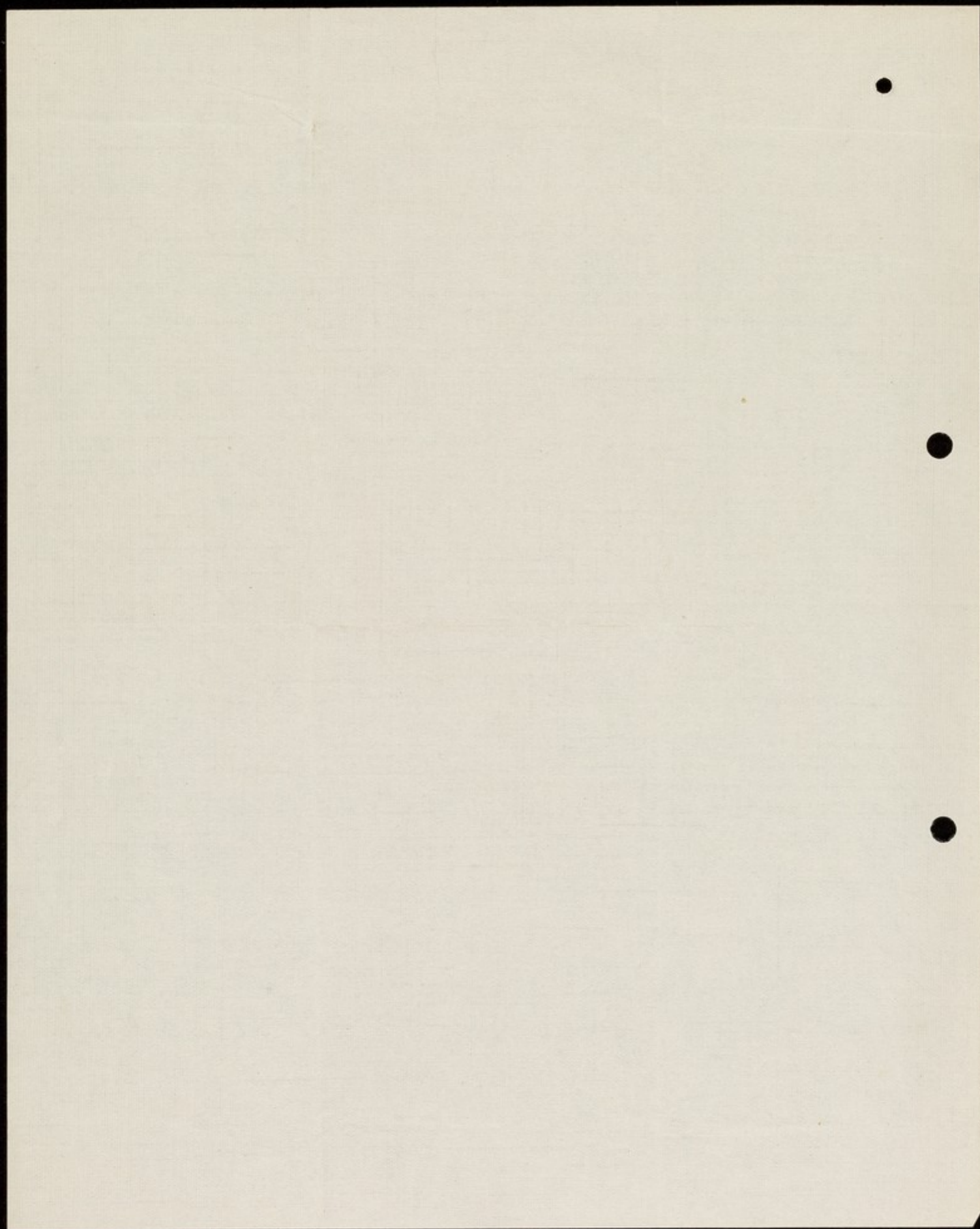
so I thought perhaps if I told you this  
you would hold out the hope to him  
of being able to return to Catherick  
before very long, even if I have one or two  
attendants, but I cannot do it till I  
get the doctors out of the house, & the  
Surgeons safely off the premises, it would  
be too great a risk & also the house  
would be too restless, until they are  
away, in the meantime with you I know  
he is safe, but at the same time I know  
the cold Coneliness takes of him, & there is  
a certain risk there - So I am telling him  
as soon as ever you think it may be  
done it shall. He is the most complex  
of natures, & so difficult, but good. & so  
grateful for all the kindness you all show  
him. I want him to let his people, or my  
Sister come over & see him but he won't  
hear of it, & says he could not bear the parking.  
I told Milly either you or I would let them  
know when they could go. I am unfortunately  
fixed up here myself at present & the doctor  
only allows me 2 hours up & then only providing  
my temperature was not up the night before.



2.

I'm allowed to do as I like that 2 hours but there is not time to reach York!! or I would have been up long since, tho' he begs me not to come. If you think it would do any real good to see friends will you please let me know, but he has such a morbid turn of mind. Naturally I dreads things so in anticipation, that some times it is best not to heed them. I am writing this on my back & nurse keeps on talking, so that I may not be making my meaning very clear, but I hope I do - and if you think I ought to run up for a day or two (I know of a boarding house in York) I am sure Mr Shaw will let me, providing I return & continue treatment afterwards, & it might do him good, but I will be guided by you. He says the effort to appear cheerful is at times almost beyond him. When next in town I would like to see you as the telephone here is in the passage where everyone hears all I say, & the street noises are around. With kind regards & very many thanks from Yours Sincerely  
 Bertha M. Fry.







1 Nottingham Place  
W.

Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> 1912.

Dear Mr Bedford-Pierce.

Thank you so much for your very cheering report of Mr Fry. I knew from his letters that he was very much happier, & he says you are all so very kind to him, & so encouraging. He is most grateful for the kindness & I need not add, so am I, for it was terrible to see him so unhappy & he unable to do anything for him. I will certainly let you know at once if anything makes me the least bit more uneasy - he says it is a great effort to keep cheerful, & he does not speak well of his head. but adds generally that "we must have patience & hope." He certainly has much more hope than before, of taking up ordinary life again, but he says in the middle of a cheerful conversation & when feeling quite nicely, the horror of the whole scene comes over him, & is overwhelming at times. Which is only natural I suppose, for it is the same with myself, & I can hardly believe it really



happened. but poor fellow it is much worse  
for him to hear, as he brought it on himself &  
he reproaches himself so much. But Time is  
the only thing to help him there I suppose.  
I am pleased to hear he is learning Chess  
as it is one of the few games I used to play  
with my Father, so I can keep that up for him  
in the future. With kind regards and  
very many thanks for all you are doing  
for him, believe me

Yours Sincerely  
Bertha W. Fry.



Feb. 9, 1912

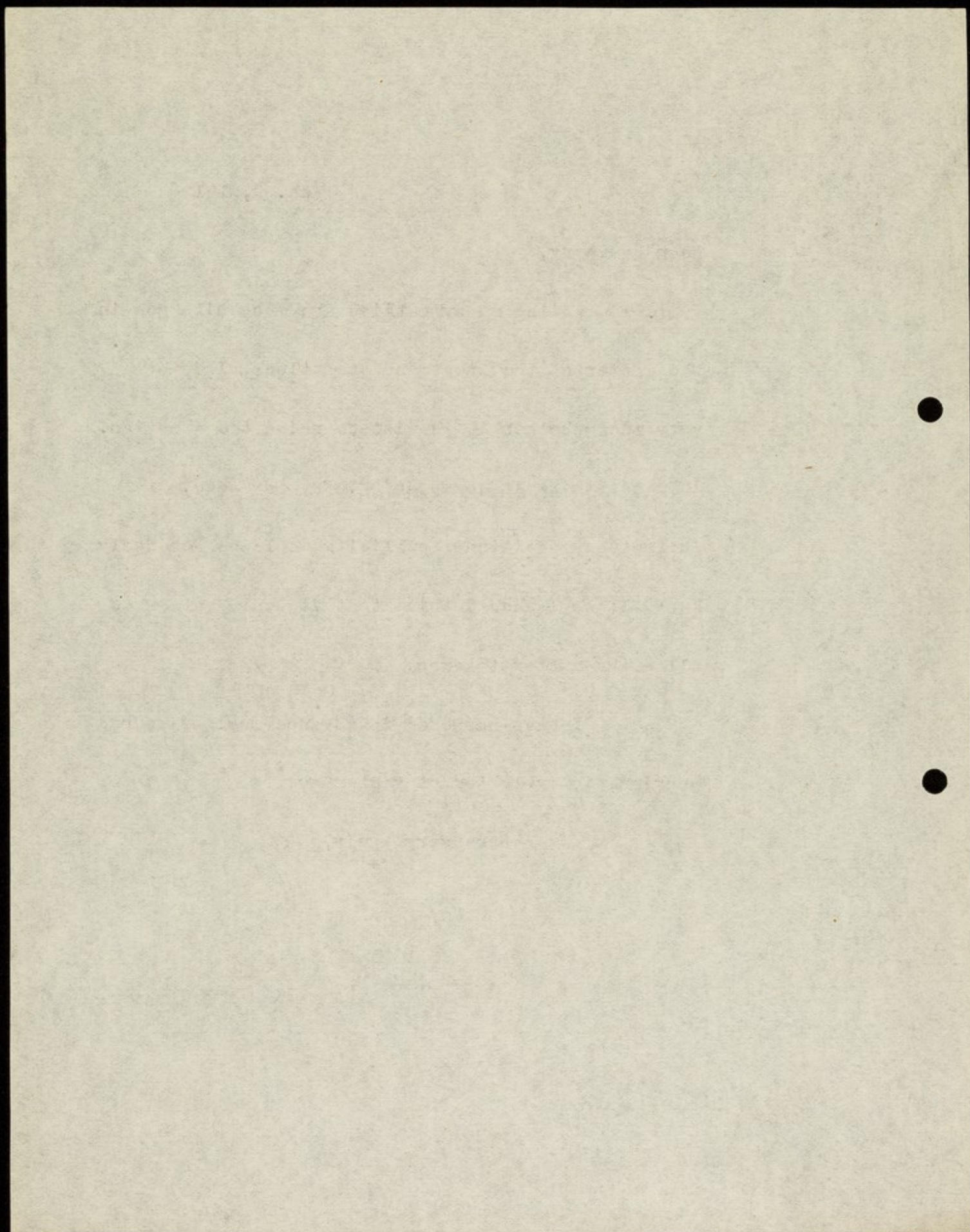
Dear Mrs. Fry,

Whilst my sympathies are much with you in the matter of the treatment at Matlock, I doubt very much whether it is wise to raise the question. I do not think it would do Dr. Fry any good. In fact any additional publicity would be decidedly hurtful; so I should think that it would better to allow the matter to drop.

I have answered in advance most of your queries, in my letter of yesterday.

Yours very truly,







1 Nottingham Place.  
London W.  
Feb. 8th/912.

Dear Mr Pierce,

I am so pleased with the improvement in my husband's condition, & feel very grateful for the different treatment he is receiving, for he feels now he is being helped. And when you have leisure, I will be pleased to hear your report.

In reply to a letter to Smedley's saying that on my return <sup>home</sup> I should place the same facts (as I sent to them) in the hands of Mr Fry Solicitor, they say that you had written saying "I certainly was not aware that Mr Fry had repeatedly contemplated suicide". You could have ~~no~~ such idea for it is absolutely impossible. & I would like to know who told you so. For I certainly myself never thought he would do such a thing until after we went to Smedley's & wrote to you. I told Mr Harbison afterwards that I had often been uneasy, but they can hardly construe a wife's uneasiness into "attempted suicide on the part of the husband". and



They are trying to make out now that they did not know the history of his case till after-  
-wards, when I told Mr McClelland all on the Sunday morning myself. But please do not believe that Mr Fry had ever attempted such a thing before. He had had every opportunity right up to going to Smedley & never attempted any such thing. But they know they are to blame for leaving me alone on the Sunday & for sending him out of the house in an almost dying condition & without giving the duck proper attention. What they wanted was to avoid an inquest. I feel it has ruined Mr Fry's life & they are in great measure to blame & if possible they shall pay damages. I want to wait till I can see our own Solicitor as I do not know of a reliable one here - or I would lose no time. But I felt I must put you right on the point they has misrepresented. With kind regards and many thanks  
Yours Sincerely  
Bertha M. Fry.



Telephone 486 Buscton

Smethurst.  
Buscton.  
Jan. 25<sup>th</sup>

Dear Mr Bedford - Pierce,

Mr Dickson has made all arrangements, weather permitting, for Mr Fry to come to you on Saturday & I hope to go to London on Monday evening if I can be ready - I hear you also may be in town, so if it were possible for you to see me, I should be very glad of a little <sup>talk</sup> with you -

My address will be -

at "Miss Stower's Nursing Home"

1 Nottingham Place - W.

Telephone 1028 Paddington.

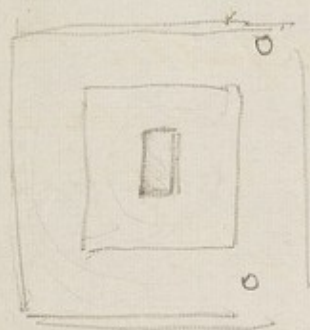
I have been in bed 10 days with a slight touch of Influenza & Miss Stower is a friend, & I was with her when ill myself - so for a while I will be with her, until I see what else to do, as they do not want me at home just yet. I would like to know your rules for visiting & writing, as I have been rather



spoilt here, owing to him being ill also.  
But for 2 or 3 weeks at any rate, unless  
you should wish it, I will not be in York.  
I very much regret you will not be  
there when he goes, as it is so much  
you he wants to be near, & for the  
first little while he will feel amongst  
strangers again, but I would rather  
not wait for your return now he knows  
he is to come, as he finds the thought  
of moving very disturbing, so I would rather  
it was over as soon as possible.

I could meet you any where if that would  
be more convenient to you, otherwise.  
I shall not be out until after you leave  
town. With kind regards

Yours very Sincerely  
Bertha M. Fry.





April 10 1891  
Jm 10

Dearest - My Beloved

Your long loving letter with all its tender  
thoughts today - making me long for you & to be  
with you in my weakness. There is no ground at all  
for me to be troubled doubting or questioning everything  
simply to the best - & thank you for my heart in great  
grace for my own blood near & far. I feel  
I am a weak & I am to lead point of view. Part of the  
day - awful & I must face to face. I do not know  
I can get any I - here for an indefinite time & yet I  
do not know how to get along without further & deeper rest  
down. The pressure now imposed in my body & d  
suffer. It seems as though I cannot keep all thought  
- without all thought I must have rest. I believe  
D B P men I have been so often told all one that I hope to write  
not long absent - I am here & send out a paper  
and to stay there part of last day in addition to the work  
but I am here that every other man of mine & the work  
I will all the weary load I find I cannot hold for rest -  
in that way. However I must try but I do fear another  
violent outbreak in my weakness. I am so really  
weak myself. I feel very in doubt. If I were a better  
do not wonder but I hope my health will be better. I can know  
what I am doing - I am here but I do not know I feel I am  
faded & I am here but I am here & I am here in affliction -  
God forgive - I am here a great blessing - a better beautiful man  
in his weakness. You have been so good to me & I am so good to you -  
your ever loving - William F. - W. F.

X  
73.9m 20



Handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. The text is written in cursive and is mostly illegible due to the angle and quality of the scan. It appears to be a letter or a document, with several lines of text visible. The text is written in dark ink on aged, slightly yellowed paper. The handwriting is fluid and characteristic of the 18th or 19th century. The text is oriented vertically on the page, suggesting it was written on a sheet of paper that was folded or placed in a book. The overall appearance is that of a historical document or a personal letter.



I have 7- Danby 1- 2ms. complete with 12 cards  
 & little book & for all the small things of the arrangement.  
 7- I am ever faithful in Danby - of the same day  
 the same. I hope 7- I am yet safely back. I am  
 better for the little change. I am just dragging in  
 for day & night & night day. They are making some rain  
 in a spin and shelter for some hours - I wish I could only  
 rest. But I am out & put up for breakfast at present.

And I feel it as you told me I feel of some kind of life. Now  
 a month that I have arrived at & I remain thinking  
 for you & all - And especially to me. I myself  
 feel that it is so difficult for you to make any plans  
 as you must surely seek to do. Oh how much if  
 I could be near you with all the feeling of longing that is  
 I have I have thought for anything here that I feel I  
 could just get up at home for a part of the day I am  
 different. Then my memory stays in it with me.  
 So it details. Oh my blessed love - more than ever before  
 me at the time. For the you. I am left to be with  
 with A. L. in vain.

In these few long words. Yours truly  
W. F.

Wm. B. Davis / - Mr. K. L. Davis. He is in the  
of the 5th Regt.



Handwritten text, likely a letter or document, written in cursive script. The text is mirrored across the page, suggesting it was written on a single sheet of paper that was later scanned or photographed. The handwriting is dense and fills most of the page.



If I give away & help her feel for her will  
let me come by over. & I am out of the  
question for an indefinite time. I guess I say

If I give away the most likely \$11.00 on her  
theft - and comp. dec. - I don't know how in a  
great deal for it seems that night. I  
transfer them about 4. (over 100). & I don't  
wonder how the better to the other than a long time  
to let me resign & I don't know how to  
over on the way - & I don't know how  
or doing - but I don't know how to do  
for C. Moore. I am in a hurry to keep it on but I  
don't see how for any effort. Must be 100  
I am at home in case.

Just now every one around here must know  
about my flight. If I don't know I don't  
know it. But I am hardly to say it will  
be clear now. I am not of the same  
length in its entirety.



1870  
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 1900



Lincoln  
Boston.

95

CATERPILLAR  
CO.

Dear Mr. Bedford-Pierce,

I have sent off a box for  
Mr. Fry, & it struck me afterwards  
I ought to let you know what is  
in it - only cigars & cigarettes & the  
case - to give him a welcome on  
arrival.

Yours Sincerely  
Bertha M. Fry.







48  
H  
Limehurst  
Barnston  
Jan. 7<sup>th</sup> 1912.

Dear Dr. Bedford-Pierce,

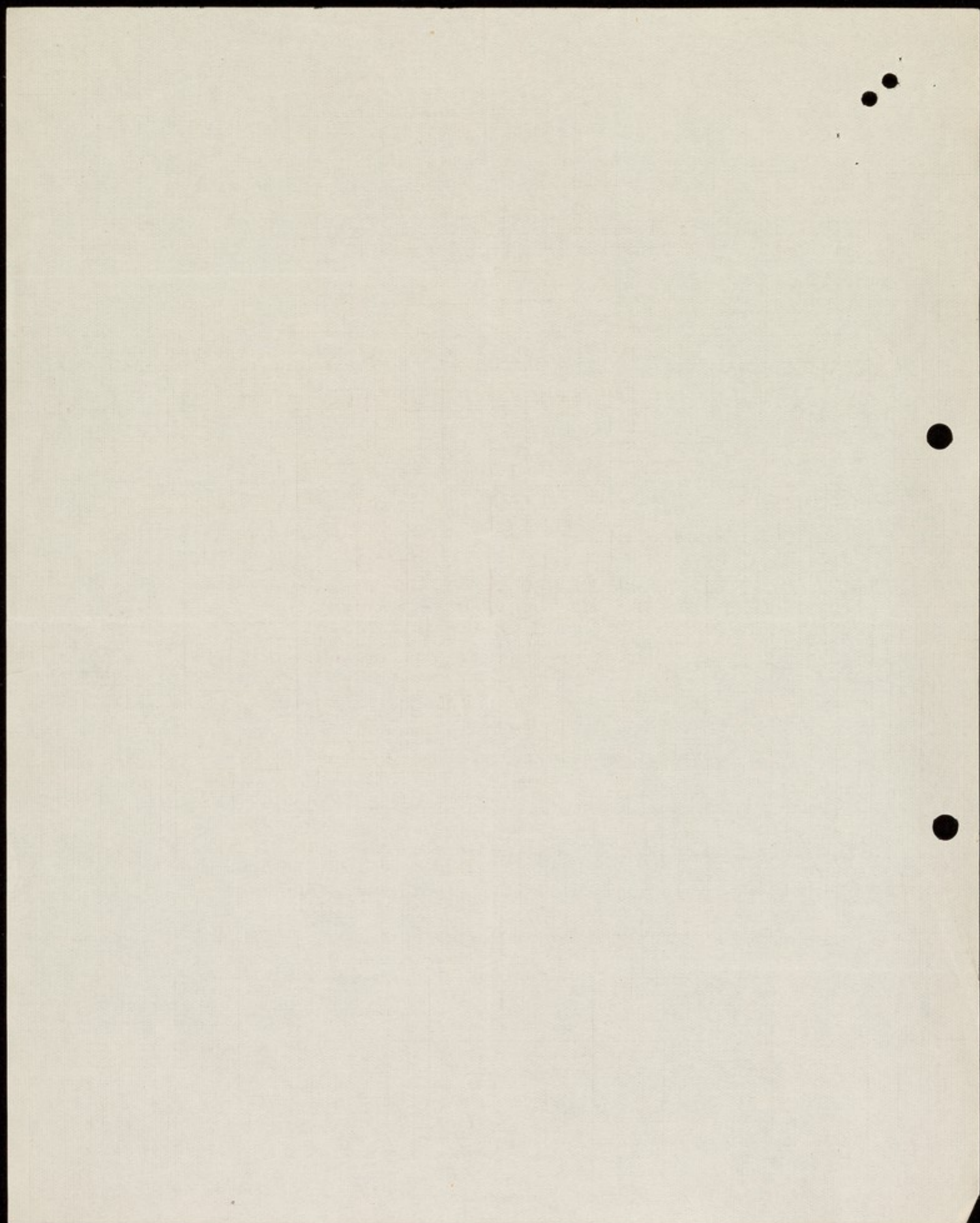
Thank you for your letter.

As far as Companionable patients go, you could not possibly be worse than here, but it is kind of you to mention it.

I am at present paying £5. a week, & he is being nursed in his own room, but I believe now, is supposed to go down amongst the others in the day time. I do not know how he would bear sleeping in a dormitory, & if possible would rather not try it, until you have had him in hand a while & see what you think of him. If he sleeps, he sleeps very lightly as a rule, but he is often thought to be asleep when he is not.

Our joint income is about £300. but as I am hoping to sell the Practice & let the house, I can manage on very little until we see how he progresses. I want to be as careful as I can, yet I want him to be sufficiently comfortable, to make him content to stay with you, until it is safe for him to be







2/.

48  
#6

With me — with surces. I feel sure I may  
leave it in your hands to make what terms  
you think fair to all. — I have not my books  
here, but last year Mr Fry's private income  
did not quite reach £200, & this year it will  
be a little less, but I can make it up to  
about £300. As I still have to run the  
Practice till the end of June, & pay at the  
rate of £300 p.a. to the doctor who is  
working it, I cannot count on much help  
there, in fact I will be thankful if it  
pays its way, as already it is slipping  
away with this unsettled 12 months.

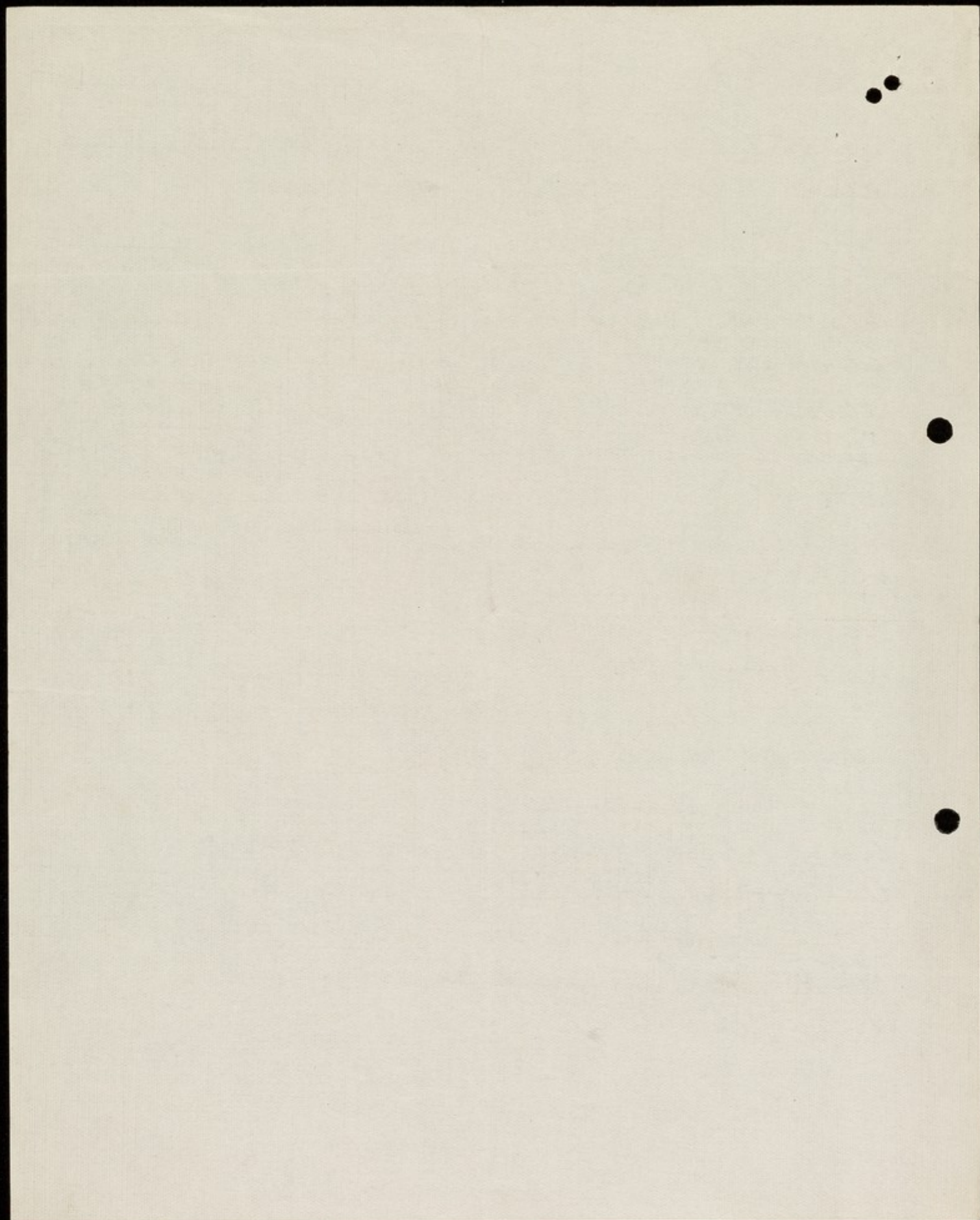
I am willing for a while, tell you see for  
yourself what is really required, & do  
as I am doing here, & you will I know  
arrange differently when you see fit.  
As he has so longed to come to you, I  
hope he may soon improve when he  
finds he has been able to come, for he  
is so determined to get away from here, &  
I am sure is at present not to be trusted.

With very kind regards & thanks.

Yours Sincerely

Bertha M. Fry.







✓

P6

Limehurst

Buxton.

Jan. 4<sup>th</sup> 1912.

Dear Mr Bedford-Pierce,

Thank you for your letter & very kind message. and I certainly hope you may find 1912 holds better things than 1911, for you have had a worrying time, & I hope we are not going to give you more trouble. I hear from Mrs Wall that they all think the change would be advisable, as he seems so determined to get away from here. I think the first associations have helped towards the dislike & I believe a change anywhere would be good, but for months past, I believe Mr Fry has felt the Retreat was to be his Haven, & the only place where he would secure rest & peace. So I hope the change may do a great deal of good, & I know he will give you his confidence more than here - and will I feel sure submit much more readily to what you advise. I certainly agree with Mr Dickson, & that is why I dare not urge his release from supervision, & will leave it in your hands to say when you



feel it could safely be done. He talks of after a time settling quietly somewhere together, but he himself says it is too great a responsibility for me at present. I trust he will try & hear what cannot be avoided & I've told him it cannot, but at any rate he is greatly relieved to find you will take him, he was afraid it was you did not want him!! He says he will give you as little trouble as he possibly can. His idea is, that he will be such a burden to me in the future that he must not live, then when he gets the better of that thought come the awful feel of how much worse his own action has made things, & that he cannot face life again - & if he gets both those ideas fought out, then the pain in his head drives him distracted - I think that is all I can tell you.

I will ask Dr. Dickinson to be arranging for the transfer & be ready to come as soon as ever you can take him.

With kind regards & many thanks

Yours very sincerely

Bertha M. Fry.



TELEPHONE 130.  
TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS  
"DICKSON: BUXTON."

2.1.12.

P7

Wye House, Buxton,  
Derbyshire.

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.

W. L. Fry.

Dear Dr. Rowland Pierce,

I have had a conversation with Mr. Fry this morning & there appears to be no doubt that they want to shift Fry to the Asylum, provided it is not to his disadvantage. The idea is - not that he would be free from control to an extent greater than there has been - but that he has said from the very first that if he had to be detained anywhere, let it be at the Asylum, amongst his own people. I myself am inclined to look on this, not as the morbid outbursts of the melancholic, but as a genuine craving to be where he <sup>thinks he</sup> is more likely to feel at home. I know that, were I to be suddenly placed in an asylum near London & were I to be there as close handed as he is now, I should express a decided wish to be transferred to my own country, the banks of England or Scotland, & would probably back up this expression by an appeal to the C in L. There is another question to be considered, that of L.S.D. The Frys are far from well off & though I am doing things as reasonably as I can for them, the patient being a medical man, it stands to reason that he will probably obtain the same care & comfort for a less sum at a place which, I suppose, is more or less endowed, than at a private manor house establishment like this. Mr. Fry is rather inclined to say "hang the expense, so long as he gets better" just now, but I have told him that, when his means were limited, it is very unwise not to exercise due economy from the very first, lest the illness should prove longer than was anticipated, or lest the patient, when better able to enjoy the results of a little extra expenditure, should not be able to afford it.

As I am writing in reply to your letter to me, Mr. Fry wishes me to say that she will not trouble you with a reply to your letter to her. She is communicating with the rest of the family & in the meantime, would be glad if you would not fill any vacancy which



may occur without first letting her know & giving her the refusal of it.

Do not think that I am trying to thrust upon you a patient who is - as they undoubtedly is - a source of great anxiety to those who have to care for him. I am very sorry for the tragedy & want to do my best for them; for though I think it likely that this time they will return to - not around, but what has passed with him for married - yet I foresee a very black future for both of them.

With kind regards & reciprocating your good wishes,

Yours very sincerely,

Græme. Dickson.

P.S. He is still actively suicidal, requiring all our attention to anticipate his plots. & will require night & day supervision for some time



Limehurst  
 Boston -  
 Dec. 28<sup>th</sup> 1911

Dear Dr Bedford-Pierce.

Thank you for your kind letter. I am very sorry to find you have been having such a worrying time, but your life must be an exceedingly anxious one, & we all put our troubles on your shoulders. And you seem such a Tower of Strength to so many. My good man still clings to the hope of coming to you, now that he finds I cannot take him home, and as I'm hoping to sell the Practice it is the one place I cannot take him to. So kindly let me know when you have a vacancy & I will talk it over with Dr Dickson, we have had several talks on the subject, but I think he hopes before long that he will be well enough to have only attendants, but I am not feeling like taking too much responsibility again, & I do not want to leave him here - if he must be anywhere of the sort; & it is possible, both he & I would much prefer him to be with you. He seems so to want to be able



now & again to have a talk to you. He  
will "consume his own smoke" here. So if  
you will kindly let us know when you  
have a vacancy, I shall hope to be able  
to say we need not trouble you, but I  
should not like to miss an opportunity if  
one arose, as I cannot help feeling he would  
be more likely to recover quickly with you.  
Dr Dickson has been kindless itself, both  
to Dr Fry & myself, but the very circumstances  
of his entrance here, make me feel the  
associations here are detrimental, if likely  
to continue, & this morning Dr Dickson says  
he does not think he could let him outside  
till the end of Jan. & I do not want to  
run any unnecessary risks, by trying to  
have him under my own care before Dr Dickson  
thinks it wise. I hope the next week or two  
may show more improvement; this Season has  
been a great trial to him, & also he is suffering  
from a nasty carbuncle. With very kind  
regards, believe me,

Yours Sincerely  
Bertha M. Fry.

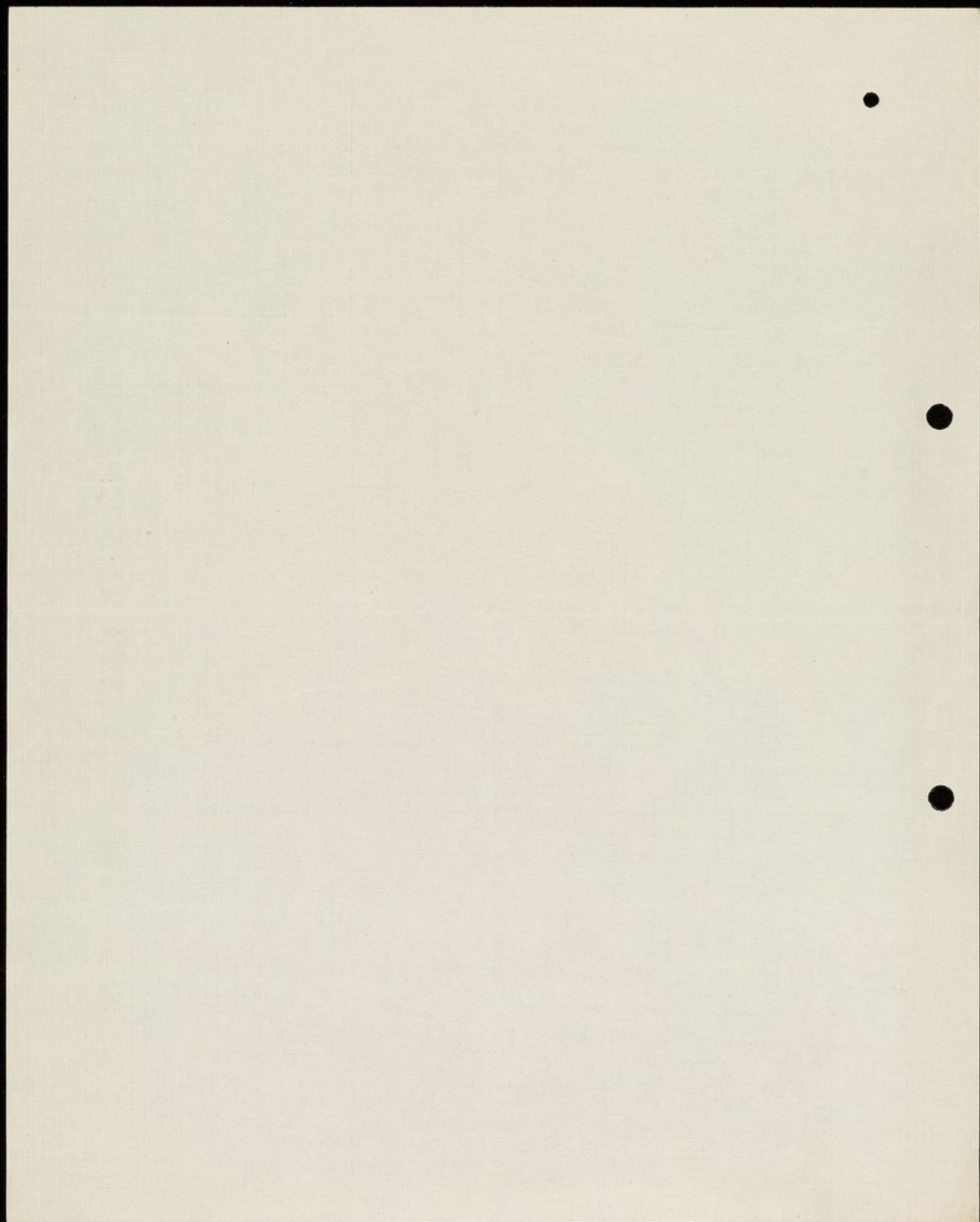


2/.

We both thank you so much for all your kindness & sympathy & Mr Fry does so long to be with you instead of here, but Mr Dickson has comforted him very much by saying he does not think it will be necessary for him to be long anywhere. but I'm quite sure he will have to have care for a very long time, & I'm afraid I've lost faith in my own power of taking care of him. With very kind regards & many thanks believe me,

Yours very Sincerely  
Bertha M. Fry.





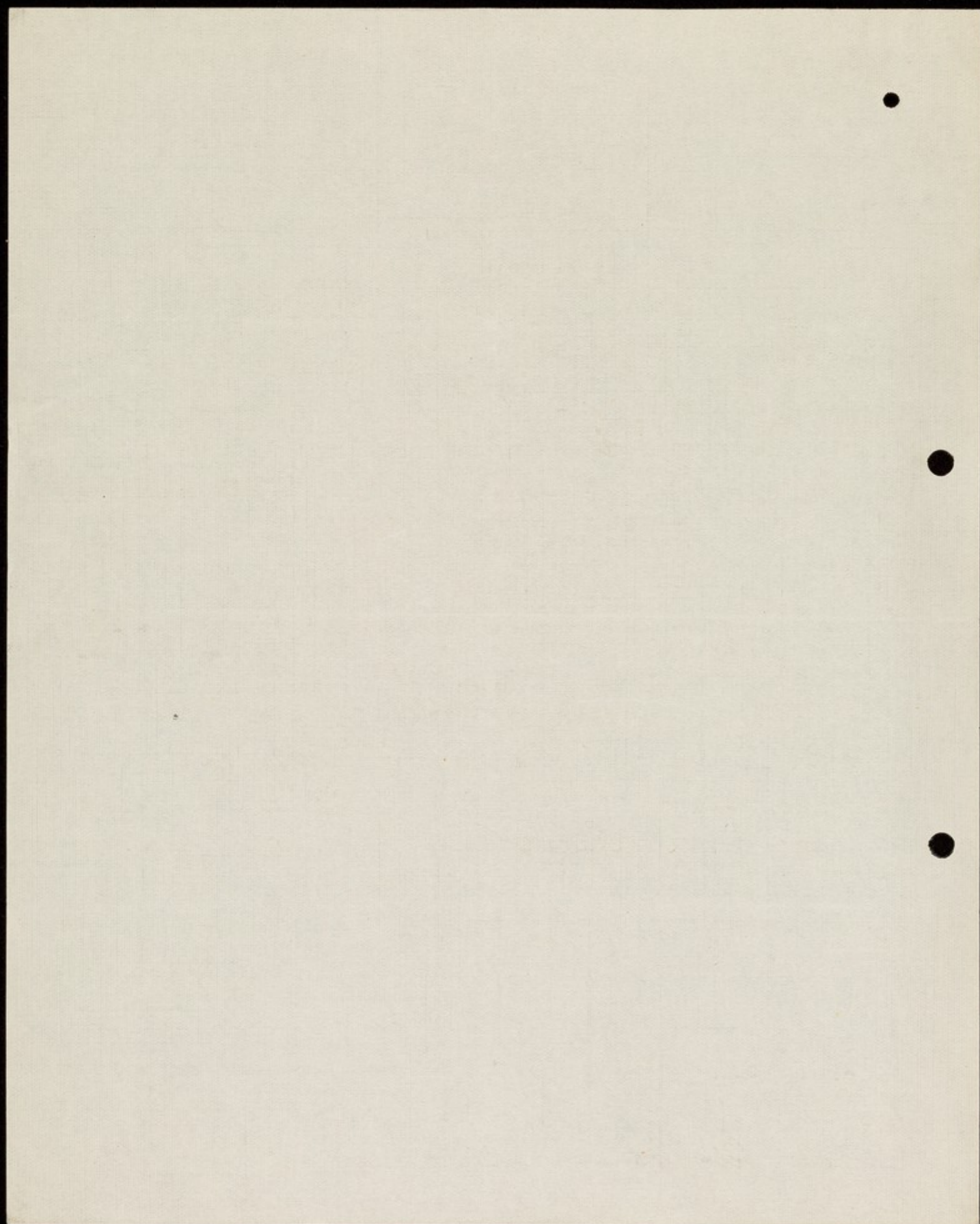


Limehurst  
 Buschou.  
 Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> 1911.

Dear Mr Bedford-Pierce

I would like just to send you word that we think Mr Fry is doing as well as possible. I had my first half hour alone with him yesterday, & of course his depression is more real than it was before, as he has a much worse future to face, but I hope in time he will see there is much good waiting for him. I think he is making up his mind to try & stay where he is until Mr Dickson thinks him able to go away with nurses at any rate that is the hope we put before him. Later my widow Sister at Elstree, Herts. I think would be willing to take him & his nurses while under Certificate case, so Mr Dickson seems to agree that presently that might be carried out. I very much want to keep him from his own neighbourhood - but he thinks nothing but "Home" will put him right. However a few more weeks may show a clearer path.







Limehurst  
Buxton.

Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> 1911

Dear Mr Bedford-Pierce,

Thank you so much for your kind letter, which has made me able to lift a great weight off Mr Fry's mind, & in that way off mine also. I have told him you will let us know when you have a vacancy, but that we hope by that time no institution may be necessary. So I trust for a while at any rate he will rest on that. Mr Dickson knows that from the first he has wanted to come to you, & he knows we should all like it, if this is to go on long - but from a business point of view the longer we can keep away from our own neighbourhood the better, as once at York people will much sooner hear of his collapse - We are trying to sell the Practice to the young man who is now doing Mr Fry's work & knows all about this illness, and for his sake, as he is young, we do not want people to think Mr Fry is not returning until he has established himself. So that



if the vacancy does not occur for a while  
it will be alright, providing he knows you do  
not refuse to have him - that is his great  
dread - I've had a letter tonight all on  
that subject, so was very glad to be able  
to say I had heard from you, & you would  
take him later. I have been laying all  
my plans so that he should not go back to  
Catterick, <sup>but have got hold him so</sup> but he seems determined at present  
to go back there when he leaves you! But  
I put him off, by saying we can none of  
us yet make any plans, & that he must  
be quick & get well, then we will see.

When you are likely to have a vacancy, if  
you would kindly let me know, then I will  
speak to Mr. Dickson & see if then he thinks  
it still necessary, or if he could be anywhere  
with attendants. Somewhere South is what I  
would think best. but that can be seen to  
later. Again thanking you very much for coming  
to the rescue - Dr. Fry says you are his only hope  
of help.

Yours Sincerely  
Bertha M. Fry.



Ans

P1

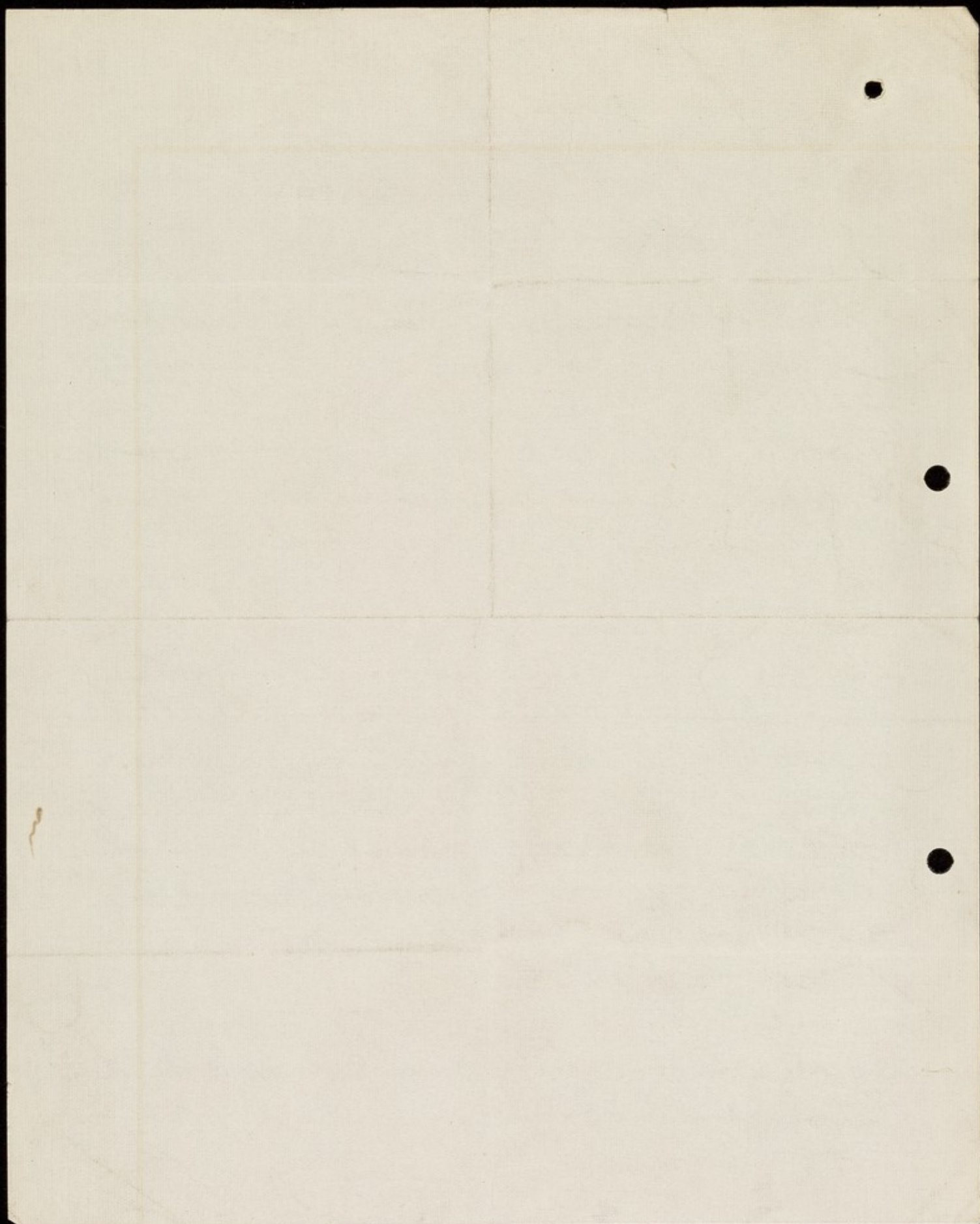
Lincoln  
Boston.

Dear Dr Bedford-Pierce

Thank you for your kind letter,  
& Sympathy with my husband. I have told  
him you have no vacancy, & that you had  
told me of a place in Gloucester, but he thinks  
he would rather stay where he is, & try to bear  
it, than go anywhere but to you, in fact  
I will enclose his letter & you will see it is  
not that he objects to being looked after  
but he looks upon you, so much as a friend,  
And our friend Dr Wally-Shaw has written  
urging me to try & get him to you, as he knows  
what a high opinion Walter has of you.  
But as he thinks he will try & stay here till  
you have a vacancy, perhaps by that time  
he will not need to be in any Institution, but  
only require nurses & could be in rooms, but  
I do not want him to go home as he seems to  
wish, & am trying to let the house furnished for  
a year at least. With kind regards & trusting  
things are a little easier for you by now.

Believe me, Yours Sincerely  
Bertha M. Fry.







Spencer 63.  
Since last account  
has been off.  
Apr 11.

Catharine  
Yorkshire  
May 24<sup>th</sup> 1912

Dear Mr Bedford-Pierce

Mr Nett asks me to  
set in all debts as soon  
as possible, as I am  
trying to go away soon,  
for a little time, so  
can you arrange for  
me to have the account  
as soon as possible, or  
must it wait for a  
Board meeting? if so



perhaps some idea  
could be given me of  
the amount, just so  
that I can say something  
for Probate, which Mr. <sup>Hill</sup>  
is trying to put through  
as quickly as he can.

Will you kindly also  
let Mr. Darby know  
the goods have arrived  
safely.

If you are passing

through the Village  
at any time we shall  
always be pleased to  
see you & Mrs. Pierce  
& the kettle is always  
ready to make tea.

For the present we are  
making no change.

& either I or my sister  
will always be here.

Yours, with kind remembrances  
Bertha M. Fry.





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 Retreat.

# YORK RETREAT HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE.

In consideration of the Directors of the York Retreat Hospital for the Insane agreeing to receive Walter L. Fry of Catherick Yorkshire as a patient in the said Hospital, I HEREBY UNDERTAKE AND AGREE with Richard Thompson of Dringcliffe, 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 9th day of March 1912  
 Name Bertha M. Fry  
 Residence Catherick  
 Occupation Yorkshire  
 SIGNED by the said Bertha M. Fry.  
 in the presence of

Witness's Signature,

Address, and

Profession.

Lillian Mary Stower  
1 Nottingham Place London Middlesex  
Spinster

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.







LUNACY COMMISSION,

66, Victoria Street, S.W.

20 January, 1912.

SIR,

I am directed by the Commissioners in Lunacy to  
inform you that M<sup>r</sup> Walter L. Fry who is about to be  
transferred from Wye House, Buxton  
to your care, is reported to be Suicidal.

I am,

SIR,

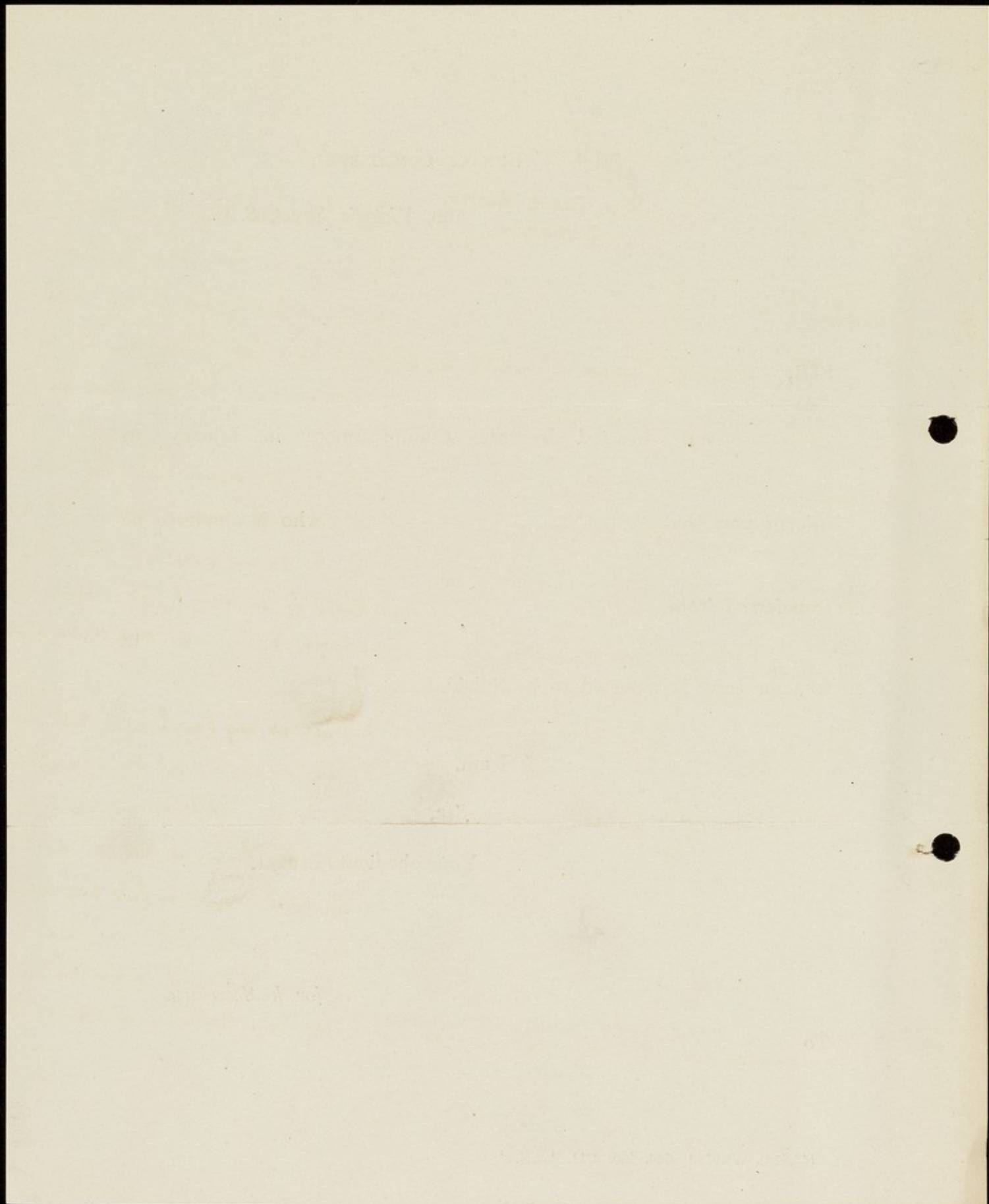
Your obedient Servant,

W. H. S. Rose

for the Secretary.

To The Medical Supt.  
The Retreat,  
York







21. <sup>1</sup>/<sub>7</sub>. 12.

69

TELEPHONE 130.  
TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:  
"DICKSON: BUXTON"

The House, Buxton,  
Derbyshire.

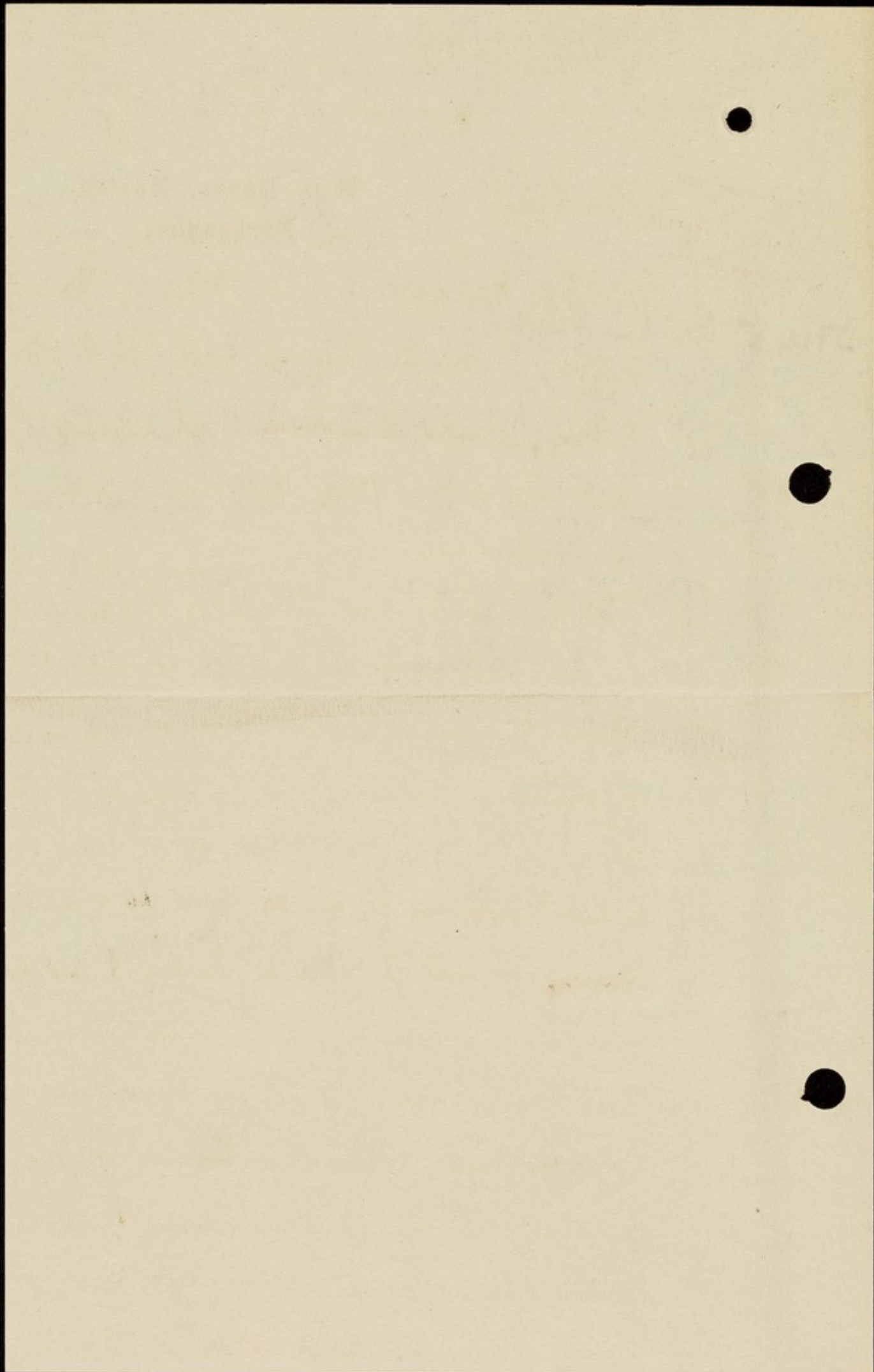
Dear Mr. Bridford Pierce,

The Order of Transfer, valid to July 20<sup>th</sup>,  
has come from Mr. Hay & the bills are now clear  
of mine. So I can send him over to Mark  
Shannon you are ready to receive him.  
With kind regards,

Yours very sincerely,

Grace M. Dickson.







PHONE 130.  
TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS  
"DICKSON: BUXTON."

19. 7. 12.

57

The House, Buxton,  
Derbyshire.

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.

W. L. Fry.

Dear Dr. Bedford Pierce,

Many thanks for your letter; I had not time to answer it yesterday. Mr. Fry has applied for an Order of Transfer & when the time comes to effect the transfer I propose to motor Fry to York (W.P.) accompanied by two of my men. I think motoring is safer than train & it will be safer to send two of my men for a journey than two of your men. Not that I want to disburge you, but mine know him & are up to his little ways.

I think he is the most dangerous suicidal case I ever came across; I asked my head-attendant, who has been with us 30 years, what he thought, & he thought the same. And we get a disproportionate number of melancholic cases because, being high up, we do very well with them. Fry not only is impulsively suicidal, but he plays with the thought in his mind, & plots suicide. Broken glass appears to be his great idea. He is foxxy to a degree & the worst of it is, he appears to me to intend & purport to be as sane as you or I.

Knowing he had to make a journey & might leave us any day, I have not pursued the question of associating him with others, & leaving him a patient; but he remained longer I could have pursued it & he knows you will do so. I think he has quite persuaded himself for even more restriction than he suffers here. His feeling is that he wants to be in Yorkshire, but the great determining factor in his mind is that he feels more confidence in your ability than in mine. Possibly there is an underlying hope that, having failed to get word re he may get word you. I understood that he is a man that until he met us has always had his own way & I know that he considers I have an obstinacy of not less than forty made power.

With kind regards,

Yours very sincerely,

Graeme Dickson.



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*[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. The text appears to be organized into several paragraphs.]*



Lincoln  
 Boston.  
 Jan 18<sup>th</sup> 1912.

Dear Dr Bedford-Pierce

Thank you for your letter this morning, as I am fixed in my room just at present with cold, Dr Dickson very kindly came to see me, & by tonight's post we are applying for the transfer & we shall hope to be ready by the time you send us word. The weather has taken an unfortunate turn as we hoped for the journey being taken by motor, but a week or 10 days may see a great change again.

As to terms, I will leave matters in your hands, you know what I have, & you will gradually see what he requires, & I do trust he may not give you great trouble. With kind regards

Yours Sincerely  
 Bertha M. Fay.



