Others not passed

53 Buckingham Place
Brighton

Hoskyns

Imperial Hydro
Harrogate

under the Chairman who is one of the County J.P's.

I was asked whether I had done any Church work — I have not because I have not been invited to do any but as my father was a County Rector and I have a taste for organisation the work would not be a difficulty to me rather the contrary.

I mention these points in case the post is not definitely filled & further inquiries are made as to my ways & pursuits. I did not know if the Institution had political meanings so refrained from mentioning my previous interest in such matters. Of course there are no

TELEGRAPH OFFICE, STORRINGTON.

SANDGATE
PULBOROUGH,
SUSSEX.

Jan 28th 1917.

Dear Sir,

I write to tender you my sincere thanks for your great kindness in furthering my application for the Solicitorship to the Friends Provident Institution at Bradford. Miss Eleanor Matthews tells me that you kindly spoke to the Chairman on my behalf — and I understand also proposed doing so to others

The Legal & Social sides of the work would have interested me greatly and I think they would have found me an able and keen worker and obtaining the post would have meant a great deal to me and my family – Hence my very great keenness on obtaining ~~the post~~ it

I have lived at Haddesdon for about 7 years now during which time I have got to know all the recent business men going to London & the working class have got to regard me as a friendly helper in all their business troubles and for some three years up to the outbreak of the war I gave a great deal of my time to running the local Habitation of the Primrose League and am now Vice Chairman of the Local Conservative Club which means I am to have the running of the business side of the Club

politics now.

I have had considerable worry over the fact that Miss Abrahall refuses to answer my letters.

I hope to set her business matters with you right really soon. For once I have been lazy in to give myself "a leg up" in my own prospects.

Yours very truly

A Teslor Bryant

Dr Bedford Pierce
The Retreat
York

Dear Dr France

I have heard from Miss Hayllar this morning. She says that she proposes coming here on Thursday next - She wishes to take me to Harrogate & stay there with me - & discuss my future flat or house - so that she may return & take one or the other for me - She asks me to engage a room for her at the Hydro - & to let her hear by return. Would you very kindly let me know what I shall say in reply.

I am

Yours very truly

F W. Hockyns

Dr Pearce

Oct. 9. 16.

Dear Dr Pearce.

I do not know who has the management of the Gardens, but as I am very fond of gardening, I shall be only too pleased to be of any assistance in such matters as tying up plants, removing dead flowers etc, & such like light work as long as I am here. If you think I can be of use in this way I will

not send away a bill
cask which is suitable
for gardening. It is
already packed to be sent
off by the earliest - Matron

I am

Yours very truly
G. W. Hawkins.

A. FESTING BRYANT,
SOLICITOR.
COMMISSIONER FOR OATHS.
TELEPHONE 2715 CENTRAL.

6, JOHN STREET,
BEDFORD ROW, W.C.
AND AT HODDESDON, HERTS.

The Hon Treasurer,
The Retreat
York.

30th April 1917.

Dear Sir,

Mrs Hoskyns-Abrahall.

Your letter of Greendale has reached me today –

As I sent the above to the Retreat I am of course responsible and shall have to discharge the account –

What happened was she told Dr Pierce that a certain Solicitor named by her would pay the account and this Dr Pierce reported to me. I interviewed the Solicitor about it and found she had (to return me all for all the trouble I was given) instructed the Solicitor not to pay the a/c – He acted quite straight to me in the matter – My cousin has saddled me with considerable other expense which in these days I cannot afford

and I have written to her about them & about the account more than once. I shall have at great inconvenience & expense to raise the amount soon to pay it. Sooner than have this further loss I ask you to allow the matter to stand for 14 days — and I will again approach the family Solicitor who may be able to bring pressure upon her. Pray give me some further time & Kindly take this letter as confidential and oblige

Yours faithfully

A Wolseley Bryant.

A. FESTING BRYANT,
SOLICITOR.
COMMISSIONER FOR OATHS.
TELEPHONE 2715 CENTRAL.

6, JOHN STREET,
BEDFORD ROW, W.C.
AND AT HODDESDON, HERTS.

5th May 1917

Miss E. May Hardcastle,
The Retreat,
York

Dear Madam.

Miss Hoskyns-Abrahall

I am glad to say there is a prospect of my being able to settle this matter within the time suggested by me.

As the lady in question will be called upon to repay my disbursements will you be so good as to look into the Sundries item and advise me that the account of the 20th March is final and correct: From the papers I have I extract the following

	As rendered on 22nd Nov 1916	As Rendered on 20th March 1917.
Board.	24: 6: 0.	24: 6: 0.
Washing & mending	1: 4: 0.	1: 4: 0.
Stationery & stamps	2: 8.	4: 4.
Sundries per Housekeeper	2: 11	7: 11.
Cash advanced.	2: 0: 0	2: 0: 0.
	27: 15: 7	£28: 2: 3
Less amount Advanced repaid		2: 0: 0.
		26: 2: 3.

Yours faithfully.

A Festing Bryant

2nd May, 1917.

Dear Sir,

re Miss G. W. R. Hoskyns-Abrahall.

The Treasurer, Mr. Richard Thompson, wishes me to thank you for your letter respecting the account for Miss Hoskyns-Abrahall.

He desires me to say that he readily agrees to your proposal to allow the matter to stand over for a fortnight, by which time he hopes that you will have been able to make some satisfactory arrangement with the solicitors.

Yours faithfully,

A. Festing Bryant, Esq.
6 John Street,
Bedford Row, W.C.

30th April, 1917.

Dear Sir,

My attention has been drawn to the fact that no payment has been made for the maintenance of Miss Hoskyns-Abrahall at the Retreat. She was, I understand, sent to the Retreat by your direction, and I must, therefore, ask you to send a remittance of £26. 2. 3, for which an account has been rendered to you more than once.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

A. Festing Bryant, Esq.
6 John Street,
Bedford Row, W.C.

21st March, 1917.

Dear Sir,

I am requested by the Committee to say that they are unwilling for the leave of absence for Miss Hoskyns-Abrahall to be continued any longer, and on Friday next she will be discharged as "relieved" by your authority.

The Committee consider that the fees for her maintenance here should now be paid, and I enclose a fresh account.

Yours faithfully,

A. Vesting Bryant, Esq.
6 John Street,
Bedford Street,
London, W.C.1

27th November, 1916.

Dear Madam,

I think the arrangements you have made are no doubt preferable for Miss Hoskyns-Abrahall, as it seems to me quite clear that she needs a certain amount of supervision.

The position in relation to the Retreat is that she is on leave of absence on trial, which means that if she breaks down and is unfit to look after herself she can come back to the Retreat at once without fresh certificates or other formalities. This does not mean that she need stay here, as a transfer to some other place in the south of England could immediately be arranged, but for the time being she is on our books. I did not explain the situation to the patient herself as it did not seem worth while, and I thought it would rather vex her to think that she was still under legal care.

I must say that I should not be surprised at another breakdown at another time. Miss Hoskyns- Abrahall has many strange ideas, and I fear she will grow increasingly peculiar; still as you know she is a most remarkable person, and a conversation with her on general topics is exceedingly interesting. It seems very sad that a mind so extraordinarily well equipped should be so ill-balanced.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

Miss Hayllar.

fortunately, would be compelled to return to the Retreat. Is that the case? or has Mr. Bryant "discharged" her altogether? While appreciating what the Retreat has done for her I think you will see my point in wishing that, if restraint should again be necessary, she might be at a less distance from me.

I am, Sir,
Your very truly
Florence Hayhar.

Nov: 25 - 1916

Dr Bedford Pierce

Dear Sir,

According to the arrangement made I came to York on Thursday & found Miss Hoskyns-Abrahall at the station. We went to the Imperial Hydro at Harrogate, but it was obviously not a suitable

place for her. So, after spending the night there, by the assistance of her friend at Harrogate, who knows the town well, I was able to take her to a very comfortable nursing home where she will have some opportunity of pleasant society if she wishes it, & be able to come

1

to, and, at the same time will have a certain amount of skilled care.

She says you have told her that you have now nothing further to do with her. I understood that she was coming out for a month or two on trial, & if this did not turn out

Copy for Dr Bedford Pierce

23rd. November 1916

My dear Winnie,

I have received from Dr. Bedford Pierce an account of which he tells me he gave you a copy. On the 14th. Novr. he wrote to me that you had stated that if he would send in the account for your maintenance to your Solicitor, Mr. Purves, it would be paid.

As I am in these very difficult times not in a position to disburse so large an amount I shall be extremely obliged if you will send Mr. Purves an authority to write the cheque in favour of Dr. Bedford Pierce, and if you and he approve or prefer of my doing so I myself will send the cheque to The Retreat.

I have (if I may say so) endeavoured to do my very best for you throughout this matter as I think Miss Hayllar will bear out, and it will be a relief to me to close it altogether.

Hoping that you will enjoy yourself at Harrogate.

I remain,

Your affectionate Cousin,

A. Fiske Bayard

Miss Hoskyns Abrahall,
The Imperial Hydro,
Harrogate.

Private & Confidential

A. FESTING BRYANT,
SOLICITOR.
COMMISSIONER FOR OATHS.
TELEPHONE 2715 CENTRAL.

6, JOHN STREET,
BEDFORD ROW, W.C.
AND AT HODDESDON, HERTS.

Encls.

23rd. November 1916

Dear Sir,

I thank you for sending me the account as to Miss Abrahall. On receiving it I at once saw Mr. Purves who has acted very nicely throughout the whole business.

There is one aspect in the case I do not like. My Cousin told you that if the account was sent to Mr. Purves he would pay it; I accordingly saw him as I have already told you in my last letter. When I saw him to-day he told me that he had heard from my Cousin saying that he was to pay nothing until he heard further from her.

At his suggestion I have written to my Cousin to-day as per copy enclosed. Of course I realise that you will look to me to discharge my Cousin's account, but I am endeavouring not to be put into a very awkward position of having to find the money myself.

I will only add that I consider myself extremely indebted to you for the trouble you have taken, and the letters you have been kind enough to write.

Yours very truly,

A. Festing Bryant

Dr. Bedford Pierce,
The Retreat,
York.

Private & Confidential

Knole.

23rd. November 1916

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I thank you for sending me the account as to Miss Abrahall. On receiving it I at once saw Mr. Purves who has acted very nicely throughout the whole business.

There is one aspect in the case I do not like. My Cousin told you that if the account was sent to Mr. Purves he would pay it; I accordingly saw him as I have already told you in my last letter. When I saw him to-day he told me that he had heard from my Cousin saying that he was to pay nothing until he heard further from her.

At his suggestion I have written to my Cousin to-day as per copy enclosed. Of course I realise that you will look to me to discharge my Cousin's account, but I am endeavouring not to be put into a very awkward position of having to find the money myself.

I will only add that I consider myself extremely indebted to you for the trouble you have taken, and the letters you have been kind enough to write.

Yours very truly,

Dr. Bedford Pierce,
The Retreat,
York.

22nd November, 1916.

Dear Mr. Bryant,

Everything is ready for Miss Hoskyns-Abrahall to meet Miss Hayllar at York Station to-morrow and to go on to the Imperial Hydro at Harrogate.

With regard to the account, Miss Hoskyns tells me thatshe would prefer you to pay it and she will arrange with Mr. Purves for the re-imbursement. I, therefore, enclose an account up to date. I am giving her a copy of it so that there may be no misunderstanding about it.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

Copy

6 John Street,

Bedford Row, W.C

20th. November 1916

My dear Winnie,

I have just heard from Miss Hayllar that she proposes to go to York on Thursday next relative to your leaving The Retreat, and going with her by arrangement with Dr. Bedford Pierce.

I have through a client of mine obtained orders to view two places at Purley & sent them to Miss Hayllar.

Before leaving the Retreat you will arrange terms with Dr. Bedford Pierce as to your maintenance as he told me you had stated that Mr Purves would pay the Retreat's charges. I have seen him & ascertained that on your giving a written Direction to Dr. Pierce to apply to him (Mr Purves) he would disburse on your account up to £20 and so your own cheque for the surplus would I thought be a convenient way of dealing with the matter.

There are other points to deal in your nice long letter but this is the pressing one, is it not?

Your affectionate Cousin,

A. FESTING BRYANT.

Miss G. W. R. Hoskyns Abrahall,
The Retreat,
York.

Confidential
1 Encl

A. FESTING BRYANT,
SOLICITOR.
COMMISSIONER FOR OATHS.
TELEPHONE 2715 CENTRAL.

6, JOHN STREET,
BEDFORD ROW, W.C.
AND AT HODDESDON, HERTS.

20 Nov 1916.

The Bedford Pierce,
The Retreat
York

Dear Sir, re Miss Abahall

Please excuse a hurried note, as I have had a day in the Courts & have just got away.

The enclosed is a copy of a letter I have sent my cousin today & will explain how I have endeavoured to get the maintenance question settled.

I hope when my cousin leaves, Miss Stazlar will make clear to her that she goes away in a sense a probationer. Can that be made clear?

Yours very truly
A Festing Bryant

55 Buckingham Place
Brighton
Nov: 20 - 1916

Dr. Bedford Pierce,
The Retreat York.

Dear Sir,
Many thanks for your letter. You kindly say that it could be arranged for Miss Hoskyns-Abrahall to meet me at York station, & so go on to Harrogate.
I should be very greatly obliged if you would do

that. I suppose that it is not a matter of difficulty for her to engage rooms at the Imperial Hydro – i.e. a room for me in addition to her own for one night; & I am rather leaving that to be done.

As I said I leave King's Cross at 10 – I seem to be due at York 1.42. Unless I hear to the contrary I will expect to find Miss Abrahall waiting for me: if she is not there I will wait for her at the station.

If I do not hear from you I will take it that this is convenient & will be done.

Au revoir

I am yours very truly

Florence Hayllar.

Miss Abrahall – in the letter which has come with yours – seems so much to prefer Harrogate to Smedley's that I am not pressing Smedley's.

55 Buckingham Place
Brighton
Nov: 18. 1916

Dr. Bedford Pierce

Dear Sir,

I learn from Mr. Bryant – as well as from herself – that you consider Miss Hoskyns-Abrahall now ready to be removed from your care: at any rate to see how she gets on.

She has a wish to go to the Imperial Hydro at Harrogate. Could you very kindly let me know by return of post whether in your opinion that would be a suitable place for her.

It would have the advantage of her being looked up by an old friend who is in the Tour.

I am proposing to come to fetch her on Thursday – that is to take the 10 o'clock express on that day from King's X: & convey to Harrogate that afternoon. I asked her whether it would be at all possible by your kindness for me to be put up at the Retreat – but if my plan of

coming Thursday can be carried out, I shall spend the night at Harrogate & return to Brighton the following day.

I am –

Yours very truly

Florence Hayllar.

A. FESTING BRYANT,
SOLICITOR.
COMMISSIONER FOR OATHS.
TELEPHONE 2715 CENTRAL.

6, JOHN STREET,
BEDFORD ROW, W.C.
AND AT HODDESDON, HERTS.

Dear Sir,

15th. November 1916

Miss Hoskyns Abrahall

I am very much obliged for your letter of yesterdays date upon which I have seen Miss Hayllar to-day.

After carefully considering the position, and my Cousin's recent letters to me the following arrangements are proposed:-

1. That my Cousin leaves The Retreat on trial on the lines proposed in the third paragraph of your letter.

2. That if possible for a week or two from the 24th. Nov. she should leave The Retreat for Smedleys Sanatorium at Matlock. Miss Hayllar is writing there as to terms, and proposes to come to The Retreat to escort my Cousin to Matlock.

3. I will see Mr. Purves as to getting my Cousin's maintenance account settled.

4. A Client of mine is endeavouring to find a small house at Purley, and my difficulty will be in arranging that my Cousin has someone to look after her of a suitable character and acceptable to her.

Again thanking you for your kindness throughout the matter.

I am, Sir,

Yours very truly,

A Festing Bryant

Dr. Bedford Pierce,
The Retreat,
York.

TUESDAY
FRIDAY } 2 TO 4 P.M.
BY APPOINTMENT.

TELEPHONE [redacted] X.
3877

6, PARK SQUARE,
LEEDS.

14 Nov. 1916.

Dear Sir

~~Miss H.A.~~ I write to ask whether you have been able to decide anything respecting Miss H.A. Since December she has been much pleasanter to do with but she has many wants & is always asking for medicines, drugs, spa waters, or special diet.

Her general conduct is orderly - ~~distrac~~ ~~a lot~~ She takes what is said ~~or that and~~ however ~~is~~ much surprised at the sentiments I am supposed to have expressed - ~~and~~ generally she is plausible ~~yet~~ putting a gloss on events that would deceive anyone - I am sure that anyone she sees whether D or anyone would

TELEPHONE Nº 98.

W. C. M. ADAM.
C. B. THRING.
H. G. SHELDON.
A. I. INGRAM.

4, Queen Square, Bath.

S.

8th November, 1916.

Dear Sir,

We thank you for your letter of the 6th inst., relative to Miss G. W. R. Hoskyns-Abrahall.

She is interested beneficially in the estates to which we referred in our last letter, of which she is a Trustee, and the difficulty arises that unless we can obtain her signature to various Transfers and cheques in connection with these estates, the income to which she is entitled under such estates cannot be made available for her. Can you give us any idea as to when it is likely that Miss Abrahall's condition will have so far improved that it will be possible for her to be removed from your Home? If it is at all likely that Miss Abrahall's condition may have so improved within a a comparatively short time that she may be removed, the matter of her signature of the Transfers and cheques referred to above, can be allowed to stand over for a time, but we should like to know if possible how long it is likely that they must stand over.

Yours faithfully,

Adam Thring Sheldon &

Dr. Bedford Pierce.

3.

8th November, 1916.

Dear Sir,

We thank you for your letter of the 6th inst., relative to Miss G. W. F. Hastings-Aubrey.

She is interested beneficially in the estates to which we referred again in our last letter, of which she is a Trustee, and the difficulty arises that unless we can obtain her signature to various Transfers and Deeds in connection with these estates, the income to which she is entitled under such estates cannot be made available for her. Can you give us any idea as to when it is likely that Miss Aubrey's condition will have so far improved that it will be possible for her to be removed from your home? If it is at all likely that Miss Aubrey's condition may have so improved within a comparatively short time that she may be removed, the matter of her signature to the Transfers and Deeds referred to above, can be allowed to stand over for a time, but we should like to know if possible how long it is likely that they must stand over.

Yours faithfully,

Dr. Bedford Fenwick.

TELEPHONE Nº 98.

W. C. M. ADAM.
C. B. THRING.
H. G. SHELDON.
A. I. INGRAM.

4, Queen Square, Bath,

7th Novr 1916

Dear Sir,

We shall be obliged if you will kindly let us hear from you in reply to our letter to you of the 3rd inst., as we have received a further letter this morning from Miss Abeshall relating to business matters.

Yours faithfully,
Adam Thring Sheldon & Co
Dr Bedford Pierce

55 Buckingham Place
Brighton
Nov: 6 - 1916

Mr. Bedford Pierce
The Retreat York.

Dear Sir,
I have received the £5 which you sent me by Miss Hoskyns-Abrahall's desire.

I should be very grateful for some account of her progress - particularly

of what you think
of her general physical
health.

I am, dear Sir,

Yours very truly
Florence Hayllar.

Dear Dr Pearce -

I apologise for having mis-spelt your name. I enclose my remains letter for your perusal - & my answer to it came. I have also written a card to Lindley's - in case you have no prescription. As I have not my address book on still, perhaps, kindly add the address.

As I am at this moment infected with B. Coli* & from which I have been free for a long time - I shall be glad if you will let me have some tablets of Guiacol Sulphate: a disinfectant advocated by Doctors who treat this disease. I bought a small box & half of these tablets with me from London. Burroughs & Wellcome's preparation or Allen & Hanburys I forget which.

I take only about ½ a tablet with each meal - & four daily stops the infection.

Many thanks for the books. I suppose it would not be possible for me to see your mineralological specimens in order to diagnose the little black specimen I have?

Guiacol is, I believe, Beech crystal - a kind of creosote - & is very nasty like German synthetic drugs.

Yours very truly

F. W. Hockyns.

* I have had this on & off for years: & I suffer pain in my spine & abdomen especially at night. so I shd be glad to have tablets bought.

a

Dear Dr Pearce.

I find this air very damp: & my diet very acid - as I am unaccustomed to so much meat - Dr Sayers advised me to take Condal water to alleviate acidity - finding that Vals water as advocated by French Doctors for Cattlers.
Can I have this Condal water or Vals - & also some lime-water (Dr S) to take with milk. She also advised Soda-water with uncooked milk to facilitate digestion.
& curds or curd cheese. or Gruyere instead of meat.
At nights I have been in the habit, (as advised) of soaking my feet in hot water in which I have squeezed a bag of bread bran - I make a muslin bag of cheap butter muslin - put in a certain amount of bread bran - soak the bag in the hot water & squeeze the bag over my feet & legs. This is a splendid remedy for acidity - & promotes comfortable sleep.
May I procure this bran - & some muslin.
another thing that greatly helps acidity is Clear Soup made of cheese with Egg shells these latter are generally thrown away by the ordinary English.

my mother's family was French blended with Scotch, & she knew just what to do with all the articles of diet thrown away in an English kitchen: Valuable alkaline salts as also in some instances neutral salts are thrown down the sink - & the injudicious rendered unpalatable & indigestible -
If I may have some salad oil - & a lemon - or a little, very little, French vinegar, I can make my own salad - & have that with cheese - preferably Gruyère - instead of meat.
My diet for some time past has been more French than English. I find this Yorkshire menu very trying -
I brought China tea (3/6 per lb) with me. This is far less acid than Ceylon tea, & a very small quantity in an infuser makes a good cup - & is not injurious in the way of Uric acid. I also brought good coffee (2/3 lb) & good cocoa nibs. as well as dandelion coffee, - rhubarb - & Rennet. Rhubarb I take occasionally after meals as a digestive. My grandmother & my other ancestors took this Root - & the habit is in the blood as much as the habit of living among rocks

is in the nature of rock plants.
The spirit of the plant – its mind as it were
becomes depressed & contracted when placed in
unfavourable surroundings.
'What is one man's meat is another man's
poison!' & this is true of food & of surroundings
generally.
In mentioning S. Bernard's hymns.
His inspiration was greatly helped by his
peaceful surroundings – solitude – & his
diet suited to his peculiar temperament –
Cowper, as I remember in Kirw found lettuces
& the society of hares very beneficial to
his nerves.
The Greek poets had their particular diet.
The honey of Hymettus was I believe an
important item as also the resin in the
wine of Greece.
This subject deserves the attention of Psychology
I think – more than that the Experimental
Psychology so much in vogue – dealing
with the senses only.
I only say this as being in an "Asylum"
everything I ask for is considered to be "Mad".
With thanks yours very truly Fw. Hopkins

Dear Dr Pearce

I am sorry to trouble you, but I must consider my case. I have recently passed a good deal of membrane etc from my colon & at this moment I am invaded by B. coli. Dr Sayer told me when I consulted him first that my neck was packed with these microbes. I have exactly the same experience now as I had then: & she then told me that my chest required <u>instant</u> attention. As I have told you the diet is very acid for me. Now I am quite near Harrogate - where I can get what I want in the way of proper treatment for my chest - a chest induced by lamp - chill - rheumatic & worry - & kept going by worry - At any hydro in Harrogate I can have what I need. Dr Sayer advised me to go there again in the autumn, & I should have done, but for my most unfortunate visit to Haddesdon. My friends know nothing about Cobbis - nor its effects when very severe or sudden in attack.

I sincerely hope you will see your way towards letting me go to Harrogate - <u>as soon as possible</u> as every day counts especially at this season of the year -

Yours sincerely

E W Hopkins

Dear Dr Pearce. I may add that Nurse Walker is very quiet & very pretty & very pathetic. When she has her hair dressed the tone was sad.

At Smedleys they do their best to remove factors for readers & patients "from all preventable annoyances". You may remember that one day when you were in this bedroom (20) a door banged in the corridor & you expressed your disapproval. When the shutters are up in this window I am compelled to leave the door open in order to have air. This being the case every noise is heard by me. I am naturally sensitive to noise - it keeps etc causes headache - & prevent me from reading or sleeping. A certain attendant named Hyslop banged doors several times. I said "Would you try not to bang the doors as the noise prevents my reading & makes my head ache". She answered me very rudely indeed - I said "Then I must speak to Dr Pearce about it" As a result she & the Nurse in the ward next door banged doors no less than 36 times in 1 hour. & during the night there were 31 bangs & great jangling of keys & creaking in locks.

I can hardly think that such "Nursing" is on the lines laid down by Miss Florence Nightingale nor on the lines of Rusthurly or Saterly Cove - which you expressed your approval.

Yours very truly S. W. Hopkins

Is this not so?

I should much like to go into York tomorrow. It is years since I was there; & six weeks here without a visit seems rather a waste of time! I might then get the Condal water or order it. Dr Sayer advised it as an anti-acid. It is a well-known mineral water, as you doubtless know - against gout.

Yours sincerely
J.W. Hackyns.

6. Jan. Tuesday

Dear Dr Pearce

Acting in accordance with what you said, I have written to Miss Haytler, & asked her to come here & go with me for a week to Harrogate. The change would do her good, as you said. Smedley Sanatorium has, I see, a ~~f~~ soft water supply; & I am inclined to think that just now I need a hard water. Is not this the case? I have received an acknowledgement of my

last letter to Mr Bryant.
Miss Hayllar tells me
that he is very very
busy & much worried,
so I really do not see
why he should in any
way concern himself
about me.
Miss Matthews tells me
that you do not 'hold'
with 'Mysticism'-! Is
this so? & that
she 'likes' the occult-

It seems to me that people who
speak thus do not understand
what is meant by "Mysticism"
I understand that Temple Lax
was a Mystic -
The Chinese are Philosophic "occult" in
a very Dryden way: & Sylphidum
who set mind up with Chinese
affairs may get caught in a
terrible net, & draw others in -

November 9th, 1916.

Dear Sirs,

In reply to your enquiry I am glad to say that Miss Hoskyns-Abrahall is getting on well, and I do not think it will be long before she will be able to leave the Retreat.

I would suggest that you communicate with Mr. Bryant who is, I believe, planning the future arrangements.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

Messrs. Adam Thring Sheldon & Co.,
4, Queen Square,
Bath.

8th November, 1916.

Dear Madam,

I am glad to be able to say that Miss Hoskyns-Abrahall is getting on better than she did. She tells me that the nurses are more civil than they were, and it so happens that the nurse of whom she spoke in the strongest terms is now evidently liked, for she talks to her more freely than to anyone else.

With regard to her bodily health, there is no ground for anxiety. She is up and about and out in the garden daily. She would take aperients very much more frequently than is prudent if supervision were not exercised.

In sending her things, please do not send her any drugs, as while she is here we supply all that is necessary.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

Miss Hayllar,

6th November, 1916.

Dear Sir,

The point you raise in respect to Miss Hoskyns-Abrahall is a difficult one. I should imagine that she is quite able to transact the business to which you refer, but her mental condition is not very satisfactory, and as probably you know this is not the first time that she has been under certificates. The Board of Control advise us decidedly that patients under care should not be allowed to transact business, and I should not be prepared to ignore this advice unless the circumstances were very exceptional. As you will understand, if I am a party to patients under my care signing documents I accept responsibility for their action in the matter, and this is just one of the cases in which I should not be prepared to take responsibility.

I would suggest that you communicate with Mr. Bryant and endeavour to come to some arrangement with him. It is possible that Miss Hoskyns-Abrahall may not be staying here very long.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

Messrs. Adam, Thring, Sheldon & Co.,
4 Queen Square,
Bath.

229.

TELEPHONE Nº 98.

S.

4. *Queen Square, Bath.*

W. C. M. ADAM.
C. B. THRING.
H. G. SHELDON.
A. I. INGRAM.

3rd November, 1916.

Dear Sir,

Miss G. W. R. Hoskyns-Abrahall, who is at present at your Home, is one of the Trustees of several estates which are at present in course of administration, and with which we are concerned. We are desirous of obtaining Miss Abrahall's signature to various documents and cheques in connection with these estates: Will you kindly tell us whether you think it would be proper for us at the present time to write to Miss Abrahall giving her a full explanation of all matters connected with the estates mentioned above, and to send for her signature the documents and cheques referred to.

We should not, of course, wish to adopt this course unless you could assure us that in your opinion Miss Abrahall is fully able, at the present time, to understand and appreciate business matters. We may say that we have recently received letters (the last of them only arrived this morning) from Miss Abrahall, from which it would seem that she is quite able to deal with business matters. We think it is quite likely that you will have heard from Mr. Bryant, who was instrumental in introducing Miss Abrahall to you, that we are connected with various matters in which she is interested.

Yours faithfully,

Adam Thring Sheldon &

Dr. Bedford Pierce,
The Retreat,
YORK.

Dear Sir,

Miss C. W. T. Martyne-Kirkhall, who is at present at your store, is one of the trustees of several estates which are at present in course of administration, and with which we are concerned. We are desirous of obtaining Miss Kirkhall's signature to various documents and obtains in connection with these estates. Will you kindly tell us whether you think it would be proper for us at the present time to write to Miss Kirkhall giving her a full explanation of all matters connected with the estates mentioned above, and to send for her signature the documents and obtains referred to.

We should not, of course, wish to adopt this course unless you could assure us that in your opinion Miss Kirkhall is fully able, at the present time, to understand and appreciate business matters. We may say that we have recently received letters (the last of them only arrived this morning) from Miss Kirkhall, from which it would seem that she is quite able to deal with business matters. We think it is quite likely that you will have heard from Mr. Arnaut, who was instrumental in introducing Miss Kirkhall to you, that we are connected with various matters in which she is interested.

Yours faithfully,

Mr. Alfred Pierce,
The Forest,
W. E.

A. FESTING BRYANT,
SOLICITOR.
COMMISSIONER FOR OATHS.
TELEPHONE 2715 CENTRAL.

A. Endoume.

6, JOHN STREET,
BEDFORD ROW, W.C.
AND AT HODDESDON, HERTS.

25th. October 1916

Dear Sir,

I am extremely obliged for your very full letter of the 18th. inst. which I should have replied to before, but my personal Clerk has been away very unwell, and I have been consequently shorthanded.

I am very sorry that my Cousin should have given you so much trouble.

I quite agree with your view that though the appointment of a Receiver would facilitate matters it must be avoided if possible for the reason you state. I have reported what you say to Messrs. Adam Thring & Sheldon, the family Solicitors.

I return Miss Hayllar's letter, and thank you for the same, and for sending me copy of your reply. This lady being her greatest friend my Cousin will naturally like to write to her, and I should expect her to write to the Bath Solicitors, to Mr. Purves, and to her Sister, Mrs. Bishop.
I have no knowledge as to other possible correspondents

My own idea for what it is worth as to the best way to keep my Cousin in a good state of health would be that as soon as she is well enough to be considered as no longer fit to be detained under the present arrangement quite a small

Dr. Bedford-Pierce

house should be taken for her at no great distance from Town preferably between London and Brighton so that her friend Miss Hayllar could keep in touch with her, and I could be within an easy distance if my Cousin wishes to keep in touch with me, and that she should have some one who was suitable to manage for her. I should like to write to her briefly referring to my idea say on Friday if you think that such a suggestion would do no harm, and the time has really come to talk to her of the future.

I make this suggestion for what it is worth. I must of course be guided by your experience and knowledge of such matters.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

A Pestonjee Bugant

Dr. Bedford-Pierce,
The Retreat,
York.

TEL. 27 MAYFAIR.
35, UPPER BROOK STREET,
LONDON.W.

Oct. 20th. 1916.

Dear Dr. Pierce

The complaints I have received from Miss Hockyns has chiefly been that she finds the diet at The Retreat constipating, & that she is accustomed to more ventilation in her bedroom.

As I expect you know she has been certified twice before, but becomes practically normal between the intervals.

There certainly seems to be

a toxic (alimentary) in her case. She herself when at her best is very convinced that her troubles originated from dabbling in Yoga etc. since when she has been the subject of obsessions & delusions such as she seems to have at present. She is a very learned person & her views on general Hygiene, diet etc: I have always found full of common sense.

How long do you think it would be advisable for her to remain at The Retreat? if I could

TEL. 27 MAYFAIR.
35, UPPER BROOK STREET,
LONDON.W.

answer her letter mentioning a definate date as to when your course of treatment would be complete — I think that she will settle down philosophically & that it might help her to go through with it in the right spirit.

I know an excellent mental nurse at Brighton who takes one resident patient & lives near Miss Hoskyns intimate friend: — perhaps that might do as a half way house for her to go to before returning to usual life? Yours truly Ettie Sayer

the tone of them ● how she is getting on. Her letters this last week sound less well than when she went to you.

May I beg you (1) to have an end put to the harshness (I suppose it is part of the treatment) if possible to remove the nurses who have been rude from attendance upon her (2) to let her have what she is used to in the way of aperients. She is well-used to keeping herself pretty well as far as that goes.

I am writing because, as you know, she was committed to your care by her cousin, who

— knows that this is more a woman's business — does not know her nearly as well as I do.

Sincerely yours
Florence Hughlings

35 Buckingham Place
Brighton
Oct. 16. 1916

Bedford Pearce
The Retreat - York.

Dear Sir,

I have received this morning a packet of letters from my friend Miss Hosmyns Abraham who is under your charge. The letters had been opened - I trust this was at least done by yourself.

Miss Abraham seems extremely unhappy. The two chief complaints that she makes

are of the rudeness of the Nurses & of the way in which her things are taken away & roughly dealt with.

Especially, she tells me that her enema & her aperients have been removed.

Miss Abraham has suffered for many years from colitis - has been warned by many doctors of the need to avoid constipation - & when not able to avoid is always uncomfortable first & then very liable to have an attack of acute colitis. It is a rather harsh measure, surely, to deprive her of these things.

I have seen her before in a similar breakdown to this. Then too she went at first to a place where the nurses were rude, & where harsh measures were resorted to. It did, not do. She was removed to a place where she had a kind nurse & a reasonable amount of freedom & she soon pulled round.

I daresay you know that I am a very old friend of hers. I can tell from her letters - not necessarily from the actual statements she makes but from

A. FESTING BRYANT,
SOLICITOR.
COMMISSIONER FOR OATHS.
TELEPHONE 2715 CENTRAL.

Encl.

6, JOHN STREET,
BEDFORD ROW, W.C.
AND AT HODDESDON, HERTS.

10th. October 1916

Dear Sir,

Miss G. W. R. Hoskyns Abrahall

I much regret that I have not been so well the last few days, and have in consequence found it impossible to deal with all business with requisite despatch.

I have sent a copy of the form which you require to be filled to Miss Hoskyns Abrahall's family Solicitors at Bath, and hope you will receive it at York filled up on Thursday. Meanwhile I will make the following remarks.

My Cousin has I understand been certified before; I believe that was more than a year or two ago.

A day or so before my Cousin's becoming unwell she seemed to me to be better in health than she had appeared to be for some time previously.

The death of her Mother and a Sister within the last 12 months was I know a great sorrow to her, but I am not aware of any other mental strain or unfavourable influence.

She always had the idea of having this Sister, who had been in an Asylum I understand for some years, to live with her, and the Sister's death undoubtedly affected her considerably.

Dr. Bedford Pierce

5

She is I believe very restless by nature, and never inclined to settle in any place.

I had gathered before her present illness that she might be eccentric, but did not anticipate seeing her as I did on the 9th. September.

Dr. Brander of the Homerton Infirmary informed me that it was essential that she should have complete rest and quiet for a while, and I enclose a copy of a letter he wrote to me on the 22nd. September just prior to his leaving for a short absence from his official duties.

My Cousin's ill health has been a source of real sorrow to me as we have been on very friendly terms, and I shall be only too glad to hear that she is held to be completely recovered.

When she was taken to the Guildhall, and I attended there the Doctor had already certified her, and I understood that she would in the ordinary way have been sent to the London County Asylum had I not other plans to suggest.

As Dr. Brander spoke so highly of The Retreat, and was of opinion that a short residence there would be very beneficial to her I completed the arrangements accordingly,

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

W. Frotheringham Bryant

Dr. Bedford Pierce,
The Retreat,
York.

- 2 -

She is I hold so very careless by nature, and never

[illegible] in any place.

I had gathered before the present illness that she

might be [illegible], but did not [illegible] seeing her as I did

[illegible].

The Lady of the Lodge [illegible] informed me

that [illegible] that she should have complete rest and

total [illegible], and I enclose a copy of a letter he wrote

to me on [illegible]. My brother [illegible] to his leaving for a

[illegible] from his official duties.

My Guardian's ill health has been a source of real

[illegible] [illegible] friendly terms, and I

shall be [illegible] glad to hear that she is held to be

completely recovered.

When she was taken to the Guildhall, and I attended

there the Doctor had already certified her, and I understood

that she would in the ordinary way have been sent to the

London County Asylum had I not other plans to suggest.

As Mr. Trimmer-Hole is Mayor of The Retreat, and

is of opinion that a short residence there would be very

beneficial to her I regulated the arrangements accordingly.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

[illegible].

The Medical Officer,
The Retreat,
York.

Dear Sir Prance

I shall feel obliged by your giving me an answer to the following letter you have for London tomorrow as I understand in preparedness. Am I to understand that I am to be defrauded of my right to undertake the executorship of my late Mathews estate's affairs. in order to enable others to manage affairs themselves. by a declaration being made by the Board of Control that I am of "unsound mind"?

Yours very truly
J. W. Mathews.

Dear Dr Reeves. London Nov. 5. 16

I am sorry to trouble you - but I shall be obliged by your letting me why my portmanteau with papers was taken away from me when Dr Mackenzie ordained that I should be deprived of all my things & be confined for 14 days - merely because I resented the treatment I received at the hands of attendants.

At that time - 3 weeks ago - as indeed when I first came - I was anxious to arrange my papers & settle my affairs.

I have been in correspondence with Mr Thring of Bath for some time past - as I am senior executor of my Mathias' estate - & trust - "I was in the midst of attending to these matters when everything was wrested from me.

On Aug 14th Mr Thring wrote to me re sale of securities - I answered him on Nov 7th

Not hearing I wrote again

was informed that he was away.
I then written to him at least 3
times lately - & I then asked him
to send me accounts of his expenditure
in relation to a investigation of property
that he made that the accounts
would reach me this last week
but they have not arrived.
If he sent you the accounts I
am entitled to see them. I hope
never been incapable of attending
to my own affairs. It is
simply that I have been thwarted
insulted - & deprived of my papers.
& these papers have been looked
in & things removed.
I now miss from the pocket
1) a catalogue - & illustrations
of Tombstones - I went to a
dealer in London & chose a
tombstone - & was about to
write to this dealer (name
mentioned) - when everything
was taken from me.

2) a volume entitled
Modern Magicians
Chas Thwaite

which belongs to a Library to which I subscribe – which I was reading when the postmaster has removed.

3) a small book, bound in brown paper, written by a certain Leonard Bacman – which was lent to me, & which I must return. This also I was reading the very day before I had all my things taken from me, because I used my enema.

I shall feel obliged by your giving instructions that these things are restored to me, as I want to deal with them without delay.

I find I left a reading lens in the Minister. May I walk into York tomorrow & fetch it.

Yours very truly
S. W. Hockyer.

P.T.O

I shall be glad to see Mr Thring's letter. Possibly he may not have received my letters posted from this town?

Copy

Hackney Uniom Infirmary,
High Street,
Homerton, N.E.
22nd. September 1916

Dear Mr. Bryant,

Miss Hoskyns Abrahall

Am very sorry you called and was kept waiting so long today without seeing me. As intimated by telephone I regret we are obliged to deal with Miss Abrahall on Monday 25th. when she will be taken to the Mansion House or Guildhall at 11 a.m. by Dr. Carrick Allan. The Magistrate will only be too glad to listen to any suggestion for her future. Our advice will be that she has rest and treatment for a few months. If she goes to the Retreat at York, I should advise certification before, otherwise it will be extra expense if done there.

I sincerely hope she will make a rapid recovery.

Yours faithfully,

Wm. BRANDER.

14th November, 1916.

Dear Sir,

I write to ask whether you have been able to decide anything about Miss Hoskyns-Abrahall. Since I wrote she has been much pleasanter to do with, but she has many wants and is always asking for medicines, drugs, spa waters, and special diet.

Her general conduct is orderly. She twists what is said so that I have been much surprised at the sentiments I am supposed to have expressed. Generally she is plausible, putting a gloss on events which would deceive anyone. I have no doubt that anyone she sees afterwards, either doctor or nurse will be sure that she has been harshly and unkindly treated here.

The question which requires attention is what is to be done in the future. I am quite satisfied that in her present mental state there is no necessity for her to be under care in an Institution of this kind, although it is quite clear that she is not normal, is very faddy about her health, and is likely to be restless. I would, therefore, suggest that she goes away on trial, say for a month or possibly two, and that if during that time she gives no cause for anxiety she might be suitable discharged then.

She tells me that her friend, Miss Hayllar, would be willing to come for her at any time, but I do not gather that

she is wishful to stay with Miss Hayllar. She herself would like to go to Harrogate for a week in order to visit a friend who is there, and after that she proposes to go south, and she says that Miss Hayllar would no doubt arrange something for her. I do not know Miss Hayllar at all, but if she is prepared to look after her old friend I do not see why she should not do so.

I am letting Miss Matthews see this letter so that she may write to Mrs. Bryant. You will then be able to understand the situation a little better.

Broadly speaking I do not consider Miss Hoskyns normal. I much doubt whether she ever will be normal, and yet, as I have already said, I do not see why she should not again have a trial to see how she goes on.

I do not think she bears any resentment, and she said that if I would send in the account for her maintenance to her Solicitor, Mr. Purvis, it would be paid.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

A. Festing Bryant, Esq.

October 27th, 1916.

Dear Sir,

I have not been able to have conversation with Miss Hoskyns- Abrahall to-day as she was busy in her room when I called to see her, but I understand that she is certainly pleasanter to do with, and her hostility and resentment is subsiding to some extent.

I quite agree with you that the iniatiative for her removal from the Retreat should come from you. Miss H. A. once told me that she assumed that the reason why she was thus dealt with was that you wanted to get hold of her money. This of course is absurd, but any resentment on her part will be muchlessened if you are able to move in the matter of her discharge.

I think your suggestion of writing to her in a tentative way and outlining a possible line of action, is excellent.

When Miss H.A. has completed a month's residence here it is always possible for her to go away on leave of absence, her certificates remaining in force; and in such a case the leave of abscence might be extended for some months so as to see how she gets on.

I am sorry I could not reply earlier to your letter but have been away from home.

Yours very truly,

A. Festing Bryant.

24th October, 1916.

Dear Madam,

Many thanks for your letter about Miss Hoskyns Abrahall. On the whole she is doing rather better, but she naturally resents being under care and also the necessary limitations of her liberty are vexing to her.

The open air is a real difficulty. The lighting restrictions are very strict here and rightly so. The Retreat stands on rising ground on the south east of the city in the direct line of approaching air-craft and we must not show a chink of light. Miss H.A. has her room door wide open during the night and consequently is not likely to suffer from lack of air.

I do not know how far Miss H.A's story is correct in respect to previous trouble with colitis and intestinal stasis. She seems to me to be quite a hypochondriac on this matter, the whole subject looming too large in her consciousness. If I am doing her an injustice please let me know.

I fear it is quite impossible to make any plans for the future. I really have a very imperfect history of the case, but it would appear to me that she is suffering from chronic mental trouble with periodic exacerbations which cause trouble. She is extremely reticent as to her past, declines to say anything about being under care

previously, and amuses herself by finding fault and poking fun at everybody she comes across. She is certainly a most amusing person; for instance, she tells me that she believes my mental qualities quite justify my becoming the Lord Chancellor, which I fear is not altogether a complimentary remark.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

Dr. Ettie Sayer.

35 Upper Brook Street,

London, W.

October 19th, 1916.

Dear Madam,

You will have had several letters from Miss Hoskyns-Abrahall; I fear they will be of a very distressing nature as she very much resents being placed under care, and the necessary restrictions are extremely irksome.

I know exceedingly little of her medical history as she is very reticent, and any information you can give me with a view of treating the case will be welcome.

I remain,

Yours verytruly,

Dr. Ettie Sayer,
35, Upper Brook St.,
London, W.

18th October, 1916.

Dear Madam,

I have received your letter to which I find it difficult to reply. The letter is apparently written under the impression that our nurses are rude and unkind, that our treatment is harsh, and that we have not properly considered Miss Hoskyns- Abrahall's wishes. I am not disposed to reply to any of these accusations.

I may say that the patient has been seen since she came here by the following independent persons:-

Mrs. Thompson, a lady appointed to visit patient.

Mr. Lingford, a member of the Retreat Committee.

Mr. Potter-Kirby, a Magistrate, accompanied by his clerk.

Mr. Shadwell, a Commissioner of the Board of Control.

to all of whom she has unburdened her grievances.

With regard to her correspondence; the letters referred to were opened by me.

I fully realise how difficult it is for you, unacquainted with the facts, to form a true judgment of the complaints made, yet I am surprised that anyone should accept Miss Abrahall's statements as to her treatment without question, seeing that her letters clearly indicate

her mental condition.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

Miss Hayllar,

55 Buckingham Place,

Brighton.

18th October, 1916.

Dear Sir,

I expect you are aware that Miss Hoskyns-Abrahall is very discontented and dissatisfied. She thinks she is badly treated here and she is writing a large number of letters making complaints as to our treatment. One can easily understand from her point of view, having been able to do exactly as she likes, that the limitations necessary for her welfare come hardly to her.

Her complaints have been very carefully investigated by several outsiders, a Lady Visitor, a member of the Retreat Committee, a Magistrate whom she requested to see, and to-day by a Commissioner of the Board of Control, Mr. Shadwell.

There is no doubt as to her mental infirmity, and yet it must be admitted that the case is one which is not very easily dealt with. Her account, for instance, of the circumstances which led to her being placed under care sounds very plausible to anyone who hears it, and if one did not know the true facts of the case it would appear that she had been the victim of misunderstanding and unkindness. It, therefore, seems probable that the case will give all concerned a good deal of trouble, as it would be impossible not to pay some attention to her numerous complaints.

The financial position will require careful

consideration. It would seem desirable to apply to the Court for the appointment of a Receiver under the 116th section of the Lunacy Act, but the difficulty in the way is that she would certainly oppose this action, would exercise her right to dispute it, and one can never tell how a case of this kind will go if an inquisition is held.

I wonder whether it would be possible to make some temporary arrangement for her maintenance at the Retreat without taking this step. It is possible that after a few months Miss H-A. may be more reasonable and may be able to look after herself, and yet I fear the fact remains that trouble is certain to arise again and that she is not really able to look after herself but needs some sort of supervision.

I think you should see the enclosed letter which I have received and a copy of my reply. Please return the letter.

Several other letters have been written, some of which we have returned to Miss H.A. as being unsuitable to send.

It would be a convenience to us if you could give us any idea as to what relatves and others she might correspond with without restraint, as we dislike very much interfering with a patient's correspondence unless it is

Please thank Mrs. Bryant very much for her letter which was just what we wanted, and it was useful to show to the Visiting Commissioner, giving him the facts of the case.

I am sorry to trouble you with such a long letter, but I thought you ought to know how matters were going.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

A. Festing Bryant, Esq.

4th October, 1916.

Dear Sir,

We have been advised by the Board of Control that patients under care here and in other similar Institutions should not be allowed to sign any documents or to transact business. So far as I understood the situation this is their advice, but we are not legally obliged to act upon it. However in the present case I should have thought that the proper course was to apply to the Court for the appointment of a Receiver. Though Miss Abrahall is clear and intelligent in many ways it is also quite clear that she is not properly capable of managing her affairs. However I should like to see a little more of her before giving a definite opinion on this matter. In the meantime if you like to send a cheque for her to endorse and take the entire responsibility in the matter I do not suppose I shall want to interfere.

Miss Abrahall has been making a good many complaints this morning and it is quite possible that letters will be sent to her friends full of fault finding. Just at present she has to be under very close observation until we get to know her and things will be much more pleasant when we can give her more liberty.

I remain,
Yours very truly,

A. Festing Bryant, Esq.

143.

A. FESTING BRYANT,
SOLICITOR.
COMMISSIONER FOR OATHS.
TELEPHONE 2715 CENTRAL.

Encl.

6, JOHN STREET,
BEDFORD ROW, W.C.
AND AT HODDESDON, HERTS.

3rd. October 1916

Dear Madam,

Miss G. W. R. Hoskyns Abrahall

I am much obliged for your letter of yesterday's date.

As there is every reason to hope that after a very few months at The Retreat my Cousin will recover her health her family Solicitors have asked me to let them know whether there is any possibility of getting her to sign any formal documents or cheques at the present time. If this can be done it would be a considerable saving of expense.

I shall be much obliged if you will let me hear on the point, and I enclose a stamped addressed envelope to cover your reply.

Yours faithfully,

A Festing Bryant

Miss H. May Hardcastle,
The Secretary,
The Retreat,
York.

Encl.

Ind. October 1916

Dear Madam,

Miss G. W. A. Mackyne Abraham

I am much obliged for your letter of yesterday's date.

As there is every reason to hope that after a very few months at The Retreat my Cousin will recover her health her family Solicitors have asked me to let them know whether there is any possibility of getting her to sign any formal documents or cheques at the present time. If this can be done it would be a considerable saving of expense.

I shall be much obliged if you will let me hear on the point, and I enclose a stamped addressed envelope to cover your reply.

Yours faithfully,

Miss E. May Wardsworth,
The Secretary,
The Retreat,
York.

A. FESTING BRYANT,
SOLICITOR.
COMMISSIONER FOR OATHS.
TELEPHONE 2715 CENTRAL.

6, JOHN STREET,
BEDFORD ROW, W.C.
AND AT HODDESDON, HERTS.

29th September 1916

Dear Sir,

Mrs G. W. R. Hoskyns-Abrahall

The Aldermen were today electing a new Lord Mayor and I was kept at the Guildhall relative to this matter for about 4 hours and consequently I have only time to say that my cousin and a Nurse whom I know well Nurse Doughty will I hope leave ~~you~~ Kings Cross by the 10 am train. I hope you will be able to have someone from the Retreat to meet them. The necessary papers will be brought by the Nurse. I am having copies now made for the Court

I am Sir,
Yours faithfully
A Festing Bryant

Dr Bedford Pierce,
The Retreat
York

A. FESTING BRYANT,
SOLICITOR.
COMMISSIONER FOR OATHS.
TELEPHONE 2715 CENTRAL.

6, JOHN STREET,
BEDFORD ROW, W.C.
AND AT HODDESDON, HERTS.

27th. September 1916

Dear Sir,

Miss G. W. R. Hoskyns Abrahall

With further reference to your letter of the 16th. inst. and enclosures I am glad to say that the missing forms have been traced, and I am endeavouring to put forward the arrangements for the reception at The Retreat of my Cousin the above. It is of course important that I should not continue longer than necessary her residence at the Infirmary, and assuming that I can secure the Nurse whom I have asked to accompany her to York, and can complete all requisite arrangements with my Cousin's family Solicitors I hope that she will be able to leave London on Saturday at the latest if not on Friday.

I have just returned from the Guildhall offices, and understand that I can speedily get an Order through in the terms required, and am making arrangements with the two Doctors.

I can give but sketchy remarks in the form relating to family history &c., but the particulars can be supplemented of course subsequently.

My only difficulty concerns the proper signatory to

Dr. Bedford Pierce

27th. September 1916

Dear Sir,

Miss C. W. R. Hawkins Abrahall

With further reference to your letter of the 18th. inst. and enclosures I am glad to say that the missing forms have been traced, and I am endeavouring to put forward the arrangements for the reception at The Retreat of my Cousin the above. It is of course important that I should not continue longer than necessary her residence at the Infirmary, and assuming that I can secure the Nurse whom I have asked to accompany her to York, and can complete all requisite arrangements with Cousin's family Solicitors I hope that she will be able to leave London on Saturday at the latest if not on Friday.

I have just returned from the Guildhall offices, and understand that I can speedily get an Order through in the terms required, and am making arrangements with the two Doctors.

I can give but sketchy remarks in the form relating to family history &c., but the particulars can be supplemented of course subsequently.

My only difficulty concerns the proper signatory to

Mr. Bedford Pierce

the form of Agreement which must be signed I gather with your Institution.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

W Foster Bayard

Dr. Bedford Pierce,
The Retreat,
York.

A. FESTING BRYANT,
SOLICITOR.
COMMISSIONER FOR OATHS.
TELEPHONE 2715 CENTRAL.

6, JOHN STREET,
BEDFORD ROW, W.C.
AND AT HODDESDON, HERTS.

25 September 1916.

Dear Sir,

Mrs G. W. R. Hoskyns – Abrahall

I am much obliged for your kind letter – with enclosures. I am going to the Infirmary this afternoon late & after doing so, hope to write you with some or all of the Requisite papers completed.

In the circumstances Mrs Abrahall has been certified. I am endeavouring to arrange for her being escorted as soon as possible. I have managed to have her retained there for a day or two over the usual time.

Your last letter to me is with the Doctor at the Infirmary therefore I am unable to deal with specific points at the moment. I am Sir

Yours faithfully,
A. Festing Bryant

Dr Bedford Pierce,
The Retreat
York.

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A. FESTING BRYANT,
SOLICITOR.
COMMISSIONER FOR OATHS.
TELEPHONE 2715 CENTRAL.

6, JOHN STREET,
BEDFORD ROW, W.C.
AND AT HODDESDON, HERTS.

25th. September 1916

Dear Sir,

Miss G. W. R. Hoskyns Abrahall

I very much regret that since writing you to-day I find that Dr. Brander has left for a holiday, and his Clerk at the Infirmary cannot trace your letter to me with the forms you so kindly forwarded which I sent up there last week with my Cousin's friend who was going to see him on my behalf.

I shall be exceedingly obliged if without troubling to write you could post me a duplicate of the forms accompanied by a copy of your previous letter, and another print of your handbook. If the other forms and copy handbook are traced as I hope they will be I will return them if desired by whoever accompanies Miss Abrahall.

With my sincere apologies for troubling you.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

A Festing Bryant

Dr. Bedford Pierce,
The Retreat,
York.

29th. September 1926

Dear Sir,

Miss C. K. M. Murray Aitchison

I very much regret that since writing you to-day I find that Mr. Brander has left for Montrey, and his Clerk at the Infirmary cannot trace your letter to me with the forms you so kindly furnished after I sent up there last week with my Cousin's Pilgrim who was going to see him on my behalf.

I shall be exceedingly obliged if without troubling to write you could send me a dozen blanks of the forms accompanied by a copy of your previous letter, and another print of your handbook. If the other forms and copy handbook are traced as I hope they will be I will return them if desired by whoever accompanies Miss Aitchison.

With my sincere apologies for troubling you.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

Mr. Bedford Pierce,
The Retreat,
York.

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A[illegible]ESTING BRYANT,
SOLICITOR.
COMMISSIONER FOR OATHS.
TELEPHONE 2715 CENTRAL.

6, JOHN STREET,
BEDFORD ROW, W.C.
AND AT HODDESDON, HERTS.

Encl.

15th. September 1916

Dear Sir,

Knowing of "The Retreat" through my Sister-in-Law, Miss Elenore Matthews, I beg to enquire if you can help me in the following sad and difficult case.

My Cousin, Miss G. W. R. Hoskyns Abrahall, has had a serious nervous, and I believe temporary mental, breakdown which has rendered it necessary (as she was at the time travelling with my Wife in London) for her to be removed to the nearest accommodation available viz. the Hackney Union Infirmary where since Saturday last she has been under the care of the Medical Superintendent, Dr. Brander.

When I mentioned to him that I knew of "The Retreat" he said that I might when approaching you mention his name, and say that he thought the very best that could be done for my Cousin would be that she should be received at "The Retreat" for a period of about three months.

As to my Cousin's means I am not yet fully informed, but gather them to be sufficient for her to live upon quietly, and I should suppose that they would permit of her paying 3 guineas a week.

Dr. Bedford Pierce

Encl.

19th. September 1926

Dear Sir,

Knowing of The Retreat through my Sister-in-law, Miss Ellenore Matthews, I beg to enquire if you can help me in the following sad and difficult case.

My Cousin, Miss G. W. R. Tosalyna Abkhazi, has had a serious nervous, and I believe temporary mental, breakdown which has rendered it necessary (as she was at the time travelling with my Wife in London) for her to be removed to the nearest accommodation available viz. the Hackney Union Infirmary where since Saturday last she has been under the care of the Medical Superintendent, Dr. Kyander.

When I mentioned to him that I knew of The Retreat he said that I might when approaching you mention his name, and say that he thought the very best that could be done for my Cousin would be that she should be received at The Retreat for a period of about three months.

As to my Cousin's means I am not yet fully informed, but rather than to be sufficient for her to live upon quietly, and I should suppose that they would permit of her paying £ guineas a week.

Yr. Bedford Pierce

My Cousin has had similar illnesses before, and up to Thursday week when I last saw her previous to this illness there was nothing to suggest that she would be shortly so unwell in fact she seemed better in health than I had known her for some time. Her Mother to whom she was very much attached died about a year ago, and she has only one Sister living who lives at a considerable distance, and with whom she has not much in common, and her Sister, and her Sister's Solicitors have left the matter in my hands to make the best arrangements I can.

My Cousin has a great friend living at Brighton whom I acquainted with the circumstances, and who came up to see her on Tuesday, and has reported to me that although the Doctor considers her condition pretty bad she herself had seen her much worse, and had not a doubt that she would recover even pretty quickly.

Dr. Brander is doing all that he can as he regards it as a very sad case, but of course she cannot stay where she is much longer, and I should be much obliged if you could favour me with a reply at your earliest convenience.

I should mention that my Cousin is a lady of learning and literary attainments, that her Father was a Balliol Scholar, and an Oxfordshire Vicar, and that for some

Dr. Bedford Pierce

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I should mention that my Cousin is a lady of learning and literary attainments, that her Father was a Balliol Scholar, and an Oxfordshire Vicar, and that for

Dr. Bedford Pierce

time she was connected with Somerville College, Oxford, where I have always understood she had for some time a scholastic appointment.

Her Sister's Solicitors whom I saw on Tuesday tell me that she has up to recently anyhow done a certain amount of research work.

I enclose a stamped envelope to cover your reply.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

A Fearing Bryant

Dr. Bedford Pierce,
The Retreat,
York.

time she was connected with Somerville College, Oxford, I have always understood she had for some time a school appointment.

Mr. Slater's Solicitors whom I saw on Tuesday tell me that she has up to recently anyhow done a certain amount research work.

I enclose a stamped envelope to cover your reply.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

Dr. Bedford Pierce,
The Retreat,
York.

16th September, 1916.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter, I have seen Miss Matthews and heard something more of Miss G. W. R. H. Abrahall, and we should be quite willing to receive her at the Retreat at the terms mentioned, three guineas per week, provided she does not prove to be a difficult or expensive patient to nurse.

I am sending a copy of the last report of the Retreat, and also a set of forms. You will, of course, understand the importance of forms for the admission of a private patient being correctly filled up.

I hope it will prove to be, as you expect, that the case is purely of a temporary nature.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

A. Festing Bryant, Esq.
6 John Street,
Bedford Row,
London, W.C.

Name. Gertrude Wynona Penina Haskyns Abrahall. Age. 58. Date of Adm. Sept. 30 1916.

Address. No fixed residence.

Description. Single. Literary & Lecturing.

Religious Persuasion. Anglican Established Church.

H. P. C.

On Sept. 8th instead of going to rooms which she knew had been taken for her, she wandered into the back premises of her landlord's house, and evidently spent the night in the wood shed. Had lighted matches there during the night and burnt a portion of her hair.

P. H.

T. H.

Abstract of Certificates.

Patient very depressed but at times bright. Has no sense of responsibility. Attempt to sustain a conversation a great effort and at times her attention wandered completely away. Was absolutely non-committal as to any delusions or hallucinations.

Name Miss Huskyns-Wrahall Ward Centre. Date of Exam.

General Bodily Condition

Height 5 ft. 6½ inch: Weight (without clothes)

Nutrition Good. 11 sts. 5½ lbs.

Injuries (if any) Bruises on both legs, also small ones left side of chest.

Deformities

Head & Neck

Teeth Good. Hair Fairly good. dark brown.

Trunk

Arms & Legs

Skin

Complexion Pale. Colour Dark.

Tongue Clean. Respiration 16.

Pulse 46 Temperature 97½.

Mental Condition

General Appearance. Neat. clothing neglected.

Conversation Good for short time.

Clearness "

Orientation "

Memory "

Coherence "

Delusions & Halls. no evidence.

Emotional State

Complaints

Conduct & Behaviour.

I should like to have (4) My Shirtwaist

(1) the old gloves in my box as these will do for the garden. My present black gloves cost 6/6. I generally wear old gloves in the garden.

(2) My hairpins: all my hairpins were in a card board box in the wash-stand drawer when I last was in No. 3.

(3) a white satin lavender sachet in my box when I came

BABCOCK & WILCOX, LTD.
ORIEL HOUSE, FARRINGDON STREET
LONDON, E.C.

LONDON
NOV 7 1[illegible]
6.15 PM

Miss Wenona Hoskyns-Abrahall,
~~London County & Westminster Bank~~
~~Aldershot.~~
190

The Retreat
Yor

I should like to have:—

1/ ~~my small tin of cold cream~~

2/ ~~my other chain~~ I have found this in my key

3/ my little book in gold bag

4/ My bunches of keys which were in my velvet bag in my ~~boot~~ box

5/ my white satin lavender jacket

6/ my Rafela jacket black silk.

S. V Harkness

This bag contained all
my Warehouse keys

Julia Frame

Dear Dr Rance.

During the few days I am yet to be here I should be glad to have China tea instead of Ceylon tea as the latter contains so much uric acid.
A very little China tea in a small tea pot with freshly boiled water is delightful. A good sized tea pot filled with water & Ceylon tea is brought to me daily & this is as wasteful as it is unwholesome whereas a breakfast cup of freshly boiled water poured over a little China tea is economical.
Also may I have Yeast for tea instead of brewer's yeast.
And finally - a thick curtain in my room instead of shutters - so that I may have air between 4.30 & 9.30 pm. A curtain such as is used in the kitchen would be quite efficacious as a darkener of my window.
The stuffiness from lack of air & smell of Drains is very distasteful to me!
May I be allowed the benefit of your advice on the Nervous System?

Yours very truly
S. L. Hopkins.

Dr Pearce informs me that I can procure the things I want by asking for them.

I shall be glad to have

1) my fur hat.

2) my penknife.

3) key of chest of drawers in room formerly occupied by me in order to get my instrumentation etc.

Yr.

F. W. Hopkins.

Miss Hoskyns.

Patient admitted 30th Sept., met her 3rd October, quite agreeable at first, slept in small dormitory - in bed all day. On 4th Oct. complained to the doctors about the ventilation etc of the room in which she slept - was moved into No. 3 side room, still agreeable, went into garden with other patients & attended second meals in Dining-hall. There was some difficulty there with her, on one occasion she came into the room twice during dinner to see what the meal consisted of & went out again without having anything to eat, the same thing occurred at supper, then when she came upstairs she said she wanted her supper which was refused.

She complained about the nurses going into her room prying into her things & left notes in several of the drawers to that effect, two mornings she refused to let the nurse in to do her room until after eleven & it was impossible to turn her out without a scene. After this she sent notes when she wanted anything. Her trunk was brought to her room so that she might sort out her papers & also get what clothes she wished out of it, she complained because several dirty articles of wearing apparel had been packed up to be destroyed, she said she wanted to send them away to poor people; these were given to her & also boxes in which to pack them but she refused to send them, later they were found. some in her chest of drawers & the rest underneath the mattress of her bed.

She complained that she was suffering from constipation, House Mixture was offered to her but was refused, she asked for Castor Oil Capsules failing that Liquid Cascara - had neither on the Gallery, Wanted six cascaras - three given, refused to take them at the time given, said she would take them about 10 p.m. Next morning she complained that the tabloids had been taken

out of her room by a nurse.
Dr. Wilson sent up a bottle of liquid cascara & a dose was given. When asked next day if it had acted she would not answer but sent a note for another dose. Later she said she did not require aperient as she had already given herself an enema – she got the syringe out of her trunk. A few days afterwards she had a second enema. Next morning while she was having her bath, the syringe was taken out of her room by nurse. A few days afterwards it was returned to her, on ~~con~~ the understanding that when she had used it, she was to give it up until she required it again. She would not give it up nor say where it was, while she was in her room I opened the drawers to look for it, Dr. Hayden was in the room also immediately she jumped out of bed & put the light out; we searched the room – Miss Hockyns was held by two nurses because she attempted to throw the jug of water over us. It was then we found the old clothing, also pieces of turnip tops & cabbage rolled in a dirty cloth underneath the bed – but not the syringe – she said it was in her trunk which was not the case, then she said she had put it down the lavatory, later that is was down among the cabbages.
Patient frequently asks for liquid Cascara, wishes to have the bottle left in her room to take when she wishes, dose given about every other night but not as often as she asks for it, not as much as she asks for, because she does not require it.
When moved into her present room, refused to have a fire at first, then decided to have one. After the first day or two fire seemed to go out frequently, she asked ~~fo~~ to have it re-lit three

times in one morning, then we found that water had been poured over it. Next day the fire was not lit until she asked for it & there has been no further trouble in that direction.
Patients' room is generally untidy, wash basin frequently full of dirty water, known to have been emptied eight times in one day, refused water now more than twice during the day. Rarely asks the nurses for anything, never myself, writes notes for what she wants, spends most of her time writing. Complains that she does not get the papers. Was given them for several days, until she refused to give up Punch, at least refused to answer when asked where it was - told Miss Matthews that it had been taken from her. Since then Dr. Hayton saw part of it destroyed about her room.
Patient speaks to some of the nurses & not to others, she was so disagreeable & abusive to the nurse who had been seeing to her room, that nurse asked if it were possible to let someone else do it instead, she is quite agreeable to the nurse who sees to it at present. At first & for sometime she was most rude to Dr. Hayton but now she talks quite pleasantly to her.
Patient was rather troublesome over the light one evening last week, she said Dr Pierce had given her permission to have it until 10 p.m. then there was some difficulty about the shutter, it was arranged that the night nurse should open it on visiting & then close the door but she would not have this done.
Last sunday morning a vase of flowers was found underneath, at the back of the bed & the vase broken.

E. F. M.

Miss Hotkyns has had a quiet week. Nov. 13th
No complaints - but always wanting some clothing brought to her from her box - little things such as handkerchief sachet extra pins.
All her belongings taken to her room - then she said she did not require them. they remained in her room - but nothing could be found by patient - she always left a note on her tray, asking for things - saying they were not in her room - but Sister or Nurse always found them.
No clothing mended by patient - always writing or reading - walking in grounds when weather permitted - patient never idle.
Went into town alone on the 14th returned very cheerful - had enjoyed it very much.
In town during the morning. Interviewed by one of the Committee gentlemen this afternoon. " 21st.
Agreeable bright day - in town. 22nd
Miss Hotkyns left The Retreat to day - patient helped with the packing of her books. 23rd

G. Lindsay