4th September, 1916.

Dear Miss James,

I have just returned from a holiday and have received your letter. I had heard of the sudden death of your mother. It was indeed satisfactory that the family had been united together during the holiday on Dartmoor. It must have been a great comfort to Mrs. James to have seen her three sons at this time. Let me express my deep sympathy with you and the family in your unexpected bereave ment.

With regard to the question you raise about nursing. My own feeling is that it will be unwise to take it up unless you can give your whole time to it, and I doubt very much whether your strength will permit this. I think you should leave the nursing work to younger and stronger people for the strain at any time may be severe, and it is not worth taking it up unless you can bear this strain without danger of being knocked up. There must be many other directions in which you can be useful at this time. I see no objections to clerical work provided you get sufficient fresh air.

It is very pleasant to hear that you have regained strength and have fully regained your weight, this makes it quite clear that you have thoroughly recovered.

With kind regards, Yours very truly,

1050.

ST. PIRAN,
COLLINGS PARK,
PLYMOUTH.

June 27th 1916

My dear Friend.

I am sorry to have delayed sending chq for enclosed a/c – but it has been very difficult for me to keep up the payments, owing to the continued unsettled state of affairs connected with my sister's estate, so that even ordinary income was not coming in with any regularity – There were legal intricacies which seemed

interminable - but I hope we are getting into smoother waters now - It is eighteen months since my sister's death -

My daughter continues to be in a satisfactory state both of body and mind - for which I cannot be too thankful - Her appetite is good & she has gained considerably in weight - She helps her brother who is a busy master in a school, & has also private pupils, by correcting exercises -

With kind regards

Very sincerely Martha J. James.

St. Piran
Collings Park
Plymouth.

Sept. 4. 1916.

Dear Friend.

I am writing, on Dr. Simpson's advice, about my sister Winifred - she has taken up the idea that she will be a nurse at one of the Military Hospitals, but I think you will agree with him that such a thing would be impossible in her case. In the first place she has no knowledge or taste for nursing, and in the second her health would not stand it for a

Edinburgh

week. She has no self control, and the sights she would see would utterly un-nerve her. Dr. Simpson thought she was going to write to ask your opinion, but I do not know if this has been done - she has said nothing about it at home, and I was only told privately by Dr. Simpson. My dear Mother being gone it seemed right for me to ask your advice on the matter - May I ask that some one else (whose writing she does not know) may address the envelope? She would be greatly vexed if she knew that I had written to you. We do not intend to mention the matter to her, but a letter from you, or any other member of the Staff, whom she knows, would probably, have some effect on her.

Apologising for troubling you, and with kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Miss) Mabel Collier James.

To Bedford Pierce, Esq. M.D.

she said relieved her and made her feel inclined to sleep - a pain she was liable to from indigestion. She died suddenly the next forenoon. My brother, Collier, who visited me at W. Villa, is now an orderly (First Aid St. John 3 certificates and belongs to the "Friends' Ambulance Unit), at the King George Hospital, Stamford St., S.E.

And now I have a special object in writing. I should so much like to help - to "do my bit" as the soldiers say. A few hours a day in connection with the Voluntary Aid Department. Mother does not need me now. They are advertizing that they are in urgent need of more help from women in nursing and otherwise in the military and auxiliary

Please use my initials in reply as I am not the eldest.

St. Piran (27)

Collings Park
Plymouth.

To Mr. Pierce, or in his absence Mr. Mackenzie (or Mr. Wilson in his absence).

2. 9. 16.

I have some very sad (for us) tidings to communicate to you in the first place. My dearest Mother died suddenly on August 23rd. Our family doctor, Mr. R. Simpson, said if I remember rightly that it was "valvular disease of the heart" about which she visited him a year ago, it seems. We knew her heart was weak, but we did not know about the valve. She passed peacefully

away in the arms of my eldest brother, of The Canadian Contingent, invalided (temporarily) from The Front and home with us on leave. I was holding her hand, and she was returning the pressure quite firmly till her fingers relaxed. It is sweet to think that she and my dearest Father are re-united after 15 years. "So grows in Paradise our store" as she quoted to me in writing about the death of some of our relatives.

It was a great pleasure to her that my three absent brothers, Edward (of Canada), Collier and Bevan were able to join our family party on Sartmoor, from which after 3 weeks we had returned the day before she left us. A unique experience, as she said, for our three absent boys to be all having their holidays at home together. I am so very thankful that I was able to be with her in these last 8 months, and to help her in various ways, lifting things, fetching &c. I gave her hot fomentations the last evening which

to daily Devonshire (whole, not "separated" cream). My digestion is much better - nettle-rash having practically disappeared. I do hope you will approve of my giving - say, 3, 4 or 5 hours daily to the work, living at home. Dr. Simpson thinks if Dr. Peice is away on his holidays another doctor on the Staff (Retreat) will give an opinion. If you do not approve of my nursing there, what about the "clerical work" there? If I receive a favourable answer from you, Dr. Simpson or his locum will, he says, ~~give~~ send me the medical certificate. He himself is going for his holidays on Tuesday next. I believe I have given you all necessary details, and hope I have not wearied you in this or the first matter of my letter. I feel also the regular work and interest will be very good for me, - I am rather "at loose ends" in work now. A tremendous loss to me. Mother and I had so much in common. Awaiting your earliest convenient reply, with kind regards, Yours sincerely,

Charlotte Winifred James.

hospitals. Since I came home I have attended a course of lectures on Home-Nursing from a Plymouth doctor, with much interest, and taken copious notes. I have had additional practice in bandaging. The adopt for additional nurses (V.A.F.) states "No First Aid or Home-Nursing Certificate required," and the age for Home Service is from 21-48. I have sent for the regulations. As you know I have had some practical experience in Probationers' Work on the Sixth Gallery at The Retreat. and I used to watch the nurses at work when

I was getting better, and listen to their talk about what they had heard at lectures and take mental notes. I certainly incline towards nursing - it is so nice to help people. My grandfather was a Member of the Pharmaceutical Society, and some of us, including myself, draw towards medical work.

I saw our family doctor, Mr. Robert Simpson, last evening about his filling up the medical certificate and he asks me to say that he suggests my writing to The Retreat to ask your opinion as to the likely effect of such sights (surgical cases) on my nerves. He would need to inoculate me against enteric, and perhaps perform vaccination. He said last night that I am looking very well (as I have been before this trouble came). I can walk 6 miles in a day - 3 at a stretch - and my weight has been going up every month since my return from 6 st. 10 lbs on Dec. 17. to 8 st. 5 lbs on July 31. before we went away. I attribute the increase largely

St Piran,
Collings Park,
Plymouth.

March 20th
1916

My dear Friend.

I thank you for the explanation as to the a/c I received - and there is still one item that I do not understand, but presuming it to be correct I enclose cheque £5 9 11 -
The item to which I refer is "Absence fee, 2 weeks at 2/6" - on the face of it, a not knowing the rule,

I should have supposed it would work the other way!

I am hoping great things from your treatment of my poor nephew A. P. Bridham. My sister has been so very much tried and gone through so much. I am going through troublous times with my sons in the Tribunals. but am thankful that Bevan has absolute exemption.

Yours very sincerely

Martha J. James.

474.

St Piran,
Collings Park,
Plymouth.

Jan 1st 1916

My dear Friends

Your letter and enclosures dated Dec 30 reached me this morning. I conclude you have now received my letter dated also Dec 30th which I thought you would get on the 31st. In case this has gone astray in these busy times, I will repeat the sense of it.

"Recovered."

Yours sincerely
Martha J. James.

30th December, 1915.

Dear Mrs. James,

I much hope that Miss James is doing well at home, and that you will be able to sanction her discharge as "recovered". I am sending the usual circular on the subject of discharge, which explains itself. If you could possibly send me a wire with the word "recovered" on it to-morrow it would enable me to remove her name from the books this year, and she would start the New Year free from certificates.

With kind regards, and very good wishes for you and the family.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

30th December, 1913.

Dear Mrs. Jones,

I much hope that Miss James is doing well at home, and that you will be able to sanction her discharge as "recovered". I am sending the usual circular on the subject of discharge, which explains itself. If you could possibly send me a wire with the word "recovered" on it to-morrow it would enable me to remove her name from the books this year, and she would start the New Year free from anxieties.

With kind regards, and very good wishes for you and the family.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

With kindest regards, and every good wish for the opening year for yourself and your household,

Very sincerely yours
Martha J. James.

St Piran,
Collings Park,
Plymouth.

Dec 30th 1915

My dear Friend.

My son tells me that you would like to have a report of your later patient before the year closes – and my impressions as to recovery –

We consider, that is, as a family, that Winifred is entirely restored mentally; there has been nothing since her return to indicate any failure in this respect –

Old ways and habits have been resumed with complete recollection – and she is just the same as she was before her illness commenced.
Some of her ideas and habits have always been unusual from childhood – I remember the old nurse who had charge of most of the eight children from infancy, said to me once "You may depend, ma'am, she is a fine queer child" – using a Cornish expression.

She reached home in very good form – though somewhat fatigued – but has not been very well since owing to a very irritating rash – probably nettle-rash – this is now improving under a little treatment from our family doctor.
I intend to avoid all excitement and pressure for her for some time – indeed permanently if possible.
I am trying to check "as may may open" excess of talking.

St. Piran,
Collings Park,
Plymouth.

Dec. 19th 1915

My dear Friend,

I am writing to announce Winifred's safe arrival in good order and condition last evening, at a later hour, as their train missed the connection at Bristol – I am much pleased with her appearance, and in a general sense.

The cloak-room ticket for Winifred's trunk did not somehow turn up, but they managed to get it, (the trunk) by

showing an addressed letter -
My son promised that it (the letter)
should be sent to the cloak
room at York Station - as
otherwise some one would
get into trouble - he thinks
Miss Head had charge of it.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely

Martha J. James

W. thinks she left her tooth-
brush & a parcel containing
a pair of knitting needles
in room No 11 on the Centre -
Perhaps a nurse will kindly forward

I write in haste –
With kindest regards
Very sincerely
Martha J. James.

St Brain
Collings Park
Dec 15th 1915 Plymouth.

My dear Friend.

I thank you very much for your kind letter and willingness to facilitate our arrangements. As I understand it, Winifred would leave Scarborough for the Retreat on Thursday afternoon or evening and be ready for the proposed sight-seeing in York on Friday morning – when her brother would fetch her –

Then I think you are kindly

willing for her to spend another night at the Retreat & be prepared to start on the homeward journey on Saturday morning – We did not think night travelling best for her, and it is hardly admissible for any ladies in War time, I find.
I am very much concerned and disappointed that she has been so injudicious and misled as to speak to any one on the subject you mention – I should have been glad for her to leave your kind care and that of the Staff without this episode –

I will certainly speak very decidedly to her on the subject and I thank you for your kind forbearance –
I may mention that the monopoly to conversation is by no means a sign of imperfect recovery – but rather one of resuming the natural order of things –
I have several times had to point out quite clearly that for one member of a family to "hold the floor" almost entirely is not a usual or desirable thing. It is quite an indication of a normal condition.

TELEPHONE:-282.

THROXENBY HALL,
SCARBOROUGH.

Dec 14 1915.

Dear Mr. Pierce.

I hear from Mrs James that her Mother expects her to go to York on Friday when she will be met by her brother who is to show her the sights of York, & she will stay the night at The Retreat. The Mother has not written to me so I am waiting to hear from you if this

Arrangement is right -
& is she to travel to York
alone - I must admit -
it will be a great relief
to us when she leaves -
To night Mr. Raper has had to
retire to the smoke room,
Mr. & Mrs Irwin to the billiard
room to escape the chatter!
Please do remember the
Globes for Throxenby -
Kindest regards
Yrs Sincerely
Edith. A. Elkins

14th December, 1915

Dear Miss Elkins,

Will you arrange for Miss James to come to York on Thursday afternoon next. I think there is no reason why she should not travel alone. Perhaps you would see her off and let us know what time to expect her so that we can meet her.

Mrs. James would like the luggage sent in advance to Plymouth, and she need only have a hand bag for use at York.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

14th December, 1915.

Dear Mrs. James,

It will be perfectly convenient for Miss James to come here as you suggest. I think it will be well for her to come here the day before her brother arrives, and then perhaps Mr. James could come up here for her in the morning as soon as he is able.

I saw Miss James yesterday and she seemed quite nicely, complaining a little of her health, but there is nothing to be anxious about.

I hear from Miss Elkins that she has been talking to the other patients, complaining of the treatment of the nurses at the Retreat, and some of the other patients have indignantly contradicted her, ladies who knew the Retreat well and are intimately familiar with the staff.

I did not say anything to Miss James on the subject, and I think perhaps the matter should be left, but if she raises the subject at home I should speak to her quite plainly and tell her she was quite unable to form an opinion as to how anyone behaved at the time in question, and if she remembers how she used to bite, strike and ill-treat the nurses herself, and was utterly indecent in her behaviour, she had better say nothing on the subject I do not wish to re-open such an unpleasant episode in her history, and one is quite able to understand that a person so disordered in

mind can only have an imperfect memory of incidents connected with her illness, and yet I think it is only right that she should understand that it is unsuitable for her to discuss the subject with strangers.

I am much obliged for your kind remarks with reference to the nurses. It is a great pleasure to all of us to see Miss James so satisfactorily recovered. I should doubt whether she is really thoroughly well, as she tends to monopolise the conversation in a way that I hardly think she would do if she were at her best.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

I should like a message of thanks from me to be given to the Staff at The Retreat who were so kind & patient with my afflicted daughter at her worst time.
You were quite right in your opinion that she was more fully conscious than she appeared to be at times - she admits it herself - Now seems full of interest as to all family matters & passing events - I will see that she does not overtax her brain & body in the future, as far as in me lies - I am having her room altered & re-decorated to partially efface old memories.
With kindest regards
Very sincerely
Martha J. James.

St Brain
Collings Park
Dec 12th 1915 Plymouth.

My dear Friend.
I have been trying to arrange for one of my sons to fetch Winifred one day towards the end of this week, as I think it wd be better for her not to travel in the bustle of the Xmas traffic. As I mentioned before she is very anxious to see a little of York before returning, and I am wondering whether you could allow her to sleep one night at The Retreat.

In that case my son Fred would reach York on Thursday evening - spend Friday with her in seeing the Minster &c and travel down on Saturday. If she could send on her heavy luggage to Plymouth from Scarborough and only take what she needs for the night in her hand, this arrangement might fit in, if you feel you can co-operate. This would mean coming from Scarborough to York on Friday morning. & if you think it would be all right for her to travel alone for this distance Fred could meet her on York station; they could spend the day together and he would fetch her from The Retreat on Saturday morning & take charge for the journey home -

I hope I am not proposing what may be giving too much trouble - if so please make some other arrangement for me - but I fancy the journey might be rather long, beginning at Scarborough & ending at Plymouth - after the quiet retired life she has been leading - and a break might be desirable - with not so early a start.

Kindly reply as soon as convenient as time is getting short -

coming over for a day –
I will make arrangements
for her to be fetched when
I find what the plans of
my sons are –
With kindest regards, also
to the members of your
household, and with many
thanks for all kindness,

Yours very sincerely
Martha L. James.

I have fairly good accounts
of my son at the Front, though
he has been in Hospital for
sickness – otherwise unbroken –

St. Piran,
Collings Park,
Plymouth.

Dec 4th 1915

My dear Friend,

It was with
great pleasure and thank-
fulness that I received last
night your intimation that
you consider my daughter
well enough to return before
Xmas – I was hoping that
this might be the case, but
did not like to suggest it
for fear of giving an effect
of hurrying matters.

I will write to her by same post, and send her the joyful news — but I am sure she will leave her present surroundings with regret, and also retain happy recollections of the latter part of her stay at the Retreat. Indeed she has expressed a wish to spend Xmas there, not supposing that you would be willing for her to return home — and regretting that she had been unable to take part in the festivities last year, and in the kind hospitality offered.

She has a great desire to see a little of York while in the neighbourhood, especially the Minster and the old walls — such things have always had a special interest for her — and as I hope she may <u>never visit York</u> again, I am wondering if this could be arranged when any of your staff are

Throxenby Hall
nr Scarborough
Yorks.

14.11.15.

Dear Mr Pierce,

Thank you for your letter received this morning. I am recalling to-day the persecution of those in New Zealand who objected conscientiously in time of Peace to military drill, which persecution raised great indignation among us, the Friends in Plymouth in (about) 1912-13. I apologize for having troubled you by writing. My excuses must be first — that, being with strangers, and my Father and all my four uncles having died within the last fourteen years, and my Mother being apparently from her letter, to which I alluded, ~~being~~ as much in ignorance as myself, I did not know whom to consult in the matter; and secondly - that I have not yet seen the current number of "The Friend".

I purposely used a letter-card (and sent it to your private address) as I did not wish my letter to be opened and read by anyone besides yourself as, in your professional capacity, might possibly have been the

case had I used an ordinary envelope and addressed it to The Retreat, I had no intention originally of crossing my note, but I suppose my strong family-feelings on the subject led me astray in the length of the note and in the subject-matter. I had no erroneous idea economically as to the trifling amount of postage involved by sending the note.

Again apologizing for troubling you in your busy life with what should have been my purely family-matter, and for all the other mistakes involved in my letter,

I remain
With kind regards
Yours very truly
C. Winifred James.

Bedford Pierce Esq: M.D.
The Retreat
York.

13th November, 1915.

Dear Miss James,

I think it is extremely probable that if conscription does come members of the Society of Friends will be exempted. You will see in the current number of the Friend some interesting remarks on the subject, and it is the duty of the Society as a body to support those who may be in trouble on this account.

I think it would have been more considerate if you had written on a larger piece of paper and not crossed your letter, and it would have cost no more in postage.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

12 [illegible].15.

Throxenby [illegible]
Scarborough
Yorks.

Dear Lt. [illegible]

I see in to-day's paper that the single men are to be summoned to serve on Nov 30 (Conscription in fact) unless they can prove that they are indispensable to the nation's business. Mother wrote to me a while back that my twin brothers who are in England will not fight from conscientious principles (being "Friends") nor help in manufacture of munitions and that they are prepared to take any consequences. Personally I take it that [illegible] never [illegible] National importance [illegible] must have [illegible] But [illegible] second division [illegible] the two other younger ones [illegible] at [illegible] one of the under-masters in the [illegible] County School (not as the name might suggest an elementary school) but high-class for the sons of gentlemen with 190 boys (69! new ~~last~~ term) But he is about to or has resigned there to take this another University Course to finish obtaining an architect's degree A.R.I.B.A. of which he has passed part. Is an architect of "National importance"!? He holds a First Class Architecture & [illegible] * The "home"-brother is a tutor & coach on his own account.

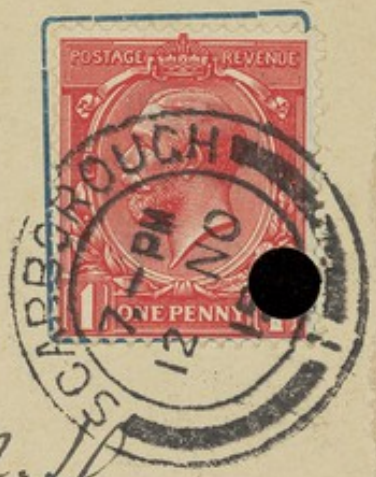
* see head of letter

I should like to state that my Canadian Contingent [illegible]

I am extremely afraid that the "home" brother at any rate is liable. But what do you think of the [illegible] He is extremely "medically" fit [illegible] *

[illegible] the "home" brother [illegible] is an assistant-master [illegible]

Letter Card.



Bedford Pierce Esq: M.P.
Lamel Beeches
Heslington Road
York.

I am still in a very difficult position as regards funds — my late sister's estate being even now not out of the lawyers hands, owing to some complication having arisen as to interpretation of one of the conditions of a will — although common sense reads it quite clearly — still this is not Common Law — and we are waiting for a legal decision at "Chambers" so that even ordinary income does not come in regularly — But I hope soon to be able to make it right — it would be a pleasure to me to pay regularly —

With kindest regards

Yours sincerely

Martha J. James.

St Piran,
Collings Park,
Plymouth.

Nov 1st 1915

My son is now at the Front which, I feel sure, will not be for long, but does not know that he has been home

My dear Friend,

I have been wishing to tell you how glad and thankful I have felt at the wonderful improvement in my dear daughter, in which, I am sure, you have shared; — for, hers could not fail to be a distressing case for all concerned — God has been very good to me and to her, in thus releasing her from a state of

mind and body that weighed so heavily on her and on us all. In saying this I am not forgetting all your good care and attention to which I am sure we are greatly indebted. When things were perhaps at their worst your words of encouragement to Rowan that the case was by no means hopeless, and that the change might come suddenly were so helpful and uplifting, and kept hope alive. I am so much pleased that she is well enough to go to Scarborough. It is a stage further on, and makes us feel that the time when we may welcome her home may not be remote.

Not that she is pressing coming home now at all, though looking forward to it. She has seemed to be enjoying her life recently - and is delighted to go to Scarborough. I should like to offer my sincere thanks to the nurses who have had most to do with her, for their kindness and patience under most trying circumstances - with great regret for the trouble given. She seems to leave these kind friends with real regret - a feeling which extends to the Retreat in a general sense. I have been meaning to write and apologise for delay in telling the last account - but

12 Easton Road
New Ferry
Birkenhead
11/10/15

Dear Dr Pierce

Enclosed form of Retainer relates to an application we are making to a Judge in Chambers for a ruling as to wording of Wills affecting Family Trusts.

My Mother asks me to send it to you after signature with the request that you will be so kind as to get my sister to write her full name in the space pencilled, in her ordinary hand.

As there has been delay owing to the vacation & the matter is now waiting attention at once, perhaps you will kindly return the document after getting my sister's signature, direct to my Mother at Plymouth, in the addressed envelope I enclose — to save time.

Excuse our troubling you, the matter being important.

Please accept my warm thanks for yourself & staff for all kind arrangements made during my recent visit to my sister. It was a great pleasure to find her so much better.

With kind regards
Yours sincerely
W. Bevan James

9th September, 1915.

Dear Mrs. James,

I am glad to be able to confirm the report you have already had that your daughter is wonderfully better. She lies about in the garden a good deal, amusing herself with reading and sketching, but she is not yet able to do very much. She says her limbs are stiff, and there is some degree of inactivity of both mind and body after such a long period of confusion and mental disturbance. I quite think this is the beginning of better things, but I hesitate to say very much at present. I have told Miss James that it is a very long way for you to come here, and that I would advise her not to ask you to do so at present, and that if she gets on it will not be very long before she will be able to return home herself and see you. It will certainly not be wise to hurry matters along very much.

With kind regards.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

9th September, 1919.

Dear Mrs. James,

I am glad to be able to confirm the report you have already had that your daughter is wonderfully better. She lies about in the garden a good deal, showing herself with reading and sketching, but she is not yet able to do very much. She says her limbs are stiff, and there is some degree of inactivity of both mind and body after such a long period of confusion and mental disturbance. I quite think this is the beginning of better things, but I hesitate to say very much at present. I have told Miss James that it is a very long way for you to come here, and that I would advise her not to ask you to do so at present, and that if she gets on it will not be very long before she will be able to return home herself and see you. It will certainly not be wise to hurry matters along very much.

With kind regards.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

She heard of my paying a visit to Kenan at Birkenhead, and was expecting me every day – but Kenan discouraged the idea.
I find she has been in bed lately with swollen feet and ankles, perhaps rheumatism? Dr. Wilson (?) kindly replied to a letter of mine in your absence, quite confirming our impression of marked improvement – I trust this also applies to habits – she is very anxious to have some "cocoids" as aperient, that she considers entirely efficacious in her case – and I believe they have suited her when ordered by our doctor – With kindest regards Yours sincerely
Martha J. James.

St Piran,
Collings Park,
Plymouth.

Sep. 7th 1915

My dear Friend,
We have become aware of a very great change in my daughter. After ceasing all correspondence since Christmas, she is writing natural and sensible letters, absolutely clear as to past and passing events – asking for employment – a sketch-book, needlework &c

She says how kind the Nurses are to her, and that she can feed herself, sleeps better, and other symptoms of improvement – also mentioning amusing little incidents – quoting poetry quite correctly – &c

In fact it appears to us that she is <u>awake</u>. She is very anxious to come home – but it is not likely that the time is come for this.

She says she wants to see me "awfully" – and is very desirous that I should pay her a visit – I know it is time for some one to do so. as Bevan was the last, on Easter Monday – the change from what he then reported must be very apparent – I am writing to ask your opinion definitely on this point – I would not shrink from coming to see her even if it were distressing, provided my visit would not be likely to do her harm; probably the parting would be painful on both sides, but this might only be temporary – and what I want to know is whether you would advise it or not.

When I received your enclosure I was staying with Renan at New Ferry, being much in need of rest and quiet, having had a great deal upon me, and much sorrow –

With kind regards to your circle,

Yours very sincerely

Martha J. James.

Our Home address

(Address for 3 weeks)

c/o Mrs Horton

Hornden Farm

Cornwood

S. Devon

Aug. 3rd 1915

My dear Friend,

I am sorry to have delayed sending my cheque but it was unavoidable, as my sister's affairs and other family matters are still unsettled – and in the lawyer's hands, which means delay – I am still in the condition of hope deferred as regards my poor daughter – but I am hoping, even if my heart is sick.

I thank you very much for your kind letter in answer to my inquiry as to the wisdom of a visit to her from my son John Edward. Also the encouragement you gave me as to not letting our private feelings and principles come into collision with the sense of duty that undoubtedly influences the younger generation in this unprecedented crisis — It will all get disentangled and sorted out by-and-by —

I had the great pleasure of a six days' visit from J. E. when the twenty-three years of separation were bridged over in a moment, and I found him the same true-hearted fellow he has always been — He is now "somewhere" in Kent, at a Camp — but I am hoping to see him again.

I thought it best not to say anything to Winifred same about his enlistment — there seemed to be nothing gained by it — and might disturb her unnecessarily —

a great joy - but there is a dark cloud behind - I never thought I should be a personal sharer in the horrors of War - With kindest regards and relying on your true kindness in the past - in my tribulated life

Very sincerely
Martha J. James -

This eldest son is greatly beloved by all -

St Piran,
Collings Park,
Plymouth.

June 12th 1915

My dear Friend.

Will you at your earliest convenience, kindly advise me what to do as regards Winifred in the following circumstances -

My eldest son, whom we have not seen for 23 years has come over from Canada with the Contingent - He, though a Friend (John Edmund James) joined from a sense of duty - which it is difficult for me to realise.

I have not told Winifred of this or of any possibility of his coming over - but this has taken place unexpectedly & he is now at Thorncliffe, and may be sent to the Front at any time - We expect him on leave on Tuesday but I do not know for how long.

If Winifred should ever recover it would be a dreadful thing to her to hear that he had been at home, and she had not seen him -

Besides there is the awful possibility that he may never return - perhaps probability - To hear this at some future time might have the very worst effect on her even if recovered.

What shall I do? conceal the fact of his arrival? or try to arrange a short visit to her from him after timely preparation? These things do not admit of much delay - & I might want to wire to you for your kind reply - but should much value your advice as to my course by early post -

The thought of reunion is

of entire indifference came on which nothing would break; but I think he described his interview to you and judged that you did not consider the case quite hopeless -

There are many things to depress just now - we have to fall back on the old exhortation "Hope thou in God, for I shall yet praise Him"

With kindest regards

Very sincerely

Martha J. James.

Renan exceedingly enjoyed his visit to you - & appreciated your welcome.

St. Piran,
Collings Park,
Plymouth.

May 18th 1915

My dear Friend,

I am sorry to have delayed sending the enclosed - but all our affairs have been in a very unsettled state lately, owing to the slow progress of events involved in the proving of three wills -

I must express my warm obligations to the Committee

for their kind consideration for me in making the grant of £5 – which is very acceptable – There is a point in my sister's will that leaves a great uncertainty owing to the way in which it is expressed, which has to be put before Counsel. If things turn out more favourably to me than may possibly be the case – it may be that I ought gratefully to decline your kind help in this form in the future.

I should have said more correctly – my Aunts' wills in a former generation, wh. influence their descendants –

My son Renan wrote me a very full account of his visit to his sister – it was of course very painful & discouraging; but her state was better than he expected – until the condition

Bevan's address
12. Caston Road
New Ferry
Birkenhead.

8, Beechfield Avenue
Yelverton
S. Devon

April 2nd
1915

My dear Friend
I believe it is time for a member of the family to pay a visit to my unfortunate daughter, and Bevan has kindly offered to devote his Bank Holiday to seeing her, and asking your opinion of her state.
I should much regret his

failing to get an interview with you - and I am asking you kindly to send him a wire <u>if you are not</u> going to be at home on next Monday.
It may not be possible for him to arrange another day, but it is worth trying -
I must leave any further arrangement if necessary, to him. He is leading a very strenuous life at Port Sunlight but much pleased with his situation - Holidays are not abounding -

I write to Winifred fairly regularly but never get a reply now - I am wondering if she reads or understands my letters - and should much like to know.
Thanks for last report.
With kindest regards
Very sincerely
Martha J. James -

I am sorry you had no room for my nephew, A. P. Bridham -
We are here for a much needed rest & change after all we have gone through - Intend to reach home next Tuesday - April 6th -

over.

St Piran,
Collings Park,
Plymouth.

Mar. 20th 1915

My dear Friend.

I think things are sufficiently advanced now for me to send a cheque, though not settled. The death of the two remaining Trustees within a week has greatly delayed matters. Since I wrote last my beloved sister has been taken. The Lord's dealings with us are wonderful at times.

Kindly send a report with receipt – the silence on my daughter's part is most distressing to me, but I depend that you will let me know if there is any change –

We are just leaving for a little rest and change greatly needed –

Address for a fortnight

8, Beechfield Avenue
Yelverton
S. Devon.

With kindest regards
Very sincerely
Martha J. James.

25th February, 1915.

Dear Mrs. James,

I must just write to you and express my sympathy with you in this fresh cause of anxiety. You have indeed had more than your share of sorrow and trouble of late. I suppose as one gets older the circle of one's friends and relations necessarily narrows, but surely it is exceptional for anyone to have to bear such repeated blows as you have done.

I cannot report much change in your daughter's condition. We have moved her into a fresh ward during the day time, and we hope that the change of nurses and surroundings may be beneficial.

I think that I should write to her and tell her how you are placed. I have no doubt that in spite of her apparent inattention to everything she really knows what is going on.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

Woodside Cottage
Plymouth.
Feb 21st 1915

My dear Friend.
We have had a great deal of trouble lately - and now we have a fresh one - My sister was taken ill very suddenly on Wednesday - she fell forward in a seizure - and has not recovered consciousness - There is no hope of recovery, and I

course, the son of my other sister is reported as being admitted on the 19th to Guy's Hospital, - by wire without explanation, and this with no tidings from his wife - We are getting into touch now by telephone to clear up what is wholly mysterious -
I told Winifred of her own uncle's death, knowing that it would appear in the "Friend" I am wondering if this has had a great effect on her.
Waiting your kind advice
Yours very sincerely
Martha J. James.

Is it of any use to write to Winifred as usual? can she understand?

am here waiting for the end, which might be at any moment. What can I do about my daughter? Under ordinary circumstances the death of this Aunt wd be a great grief to her. I would not mention it at all to her if it would not appear in the "Herald". Is Winifred at all in a condition to read the "Herald"? I am afraid not – but if it possibly got into her hands it would be a great shock to her to see it first there – The account recently sent me is exceedingly distressing – I am wondering if her condition is hopeless –

It has pleased the Lord to feed us with the bread of tears & give us tears to drink in great measure –

I lost a beloved brother-in-law on Jan 9th my own brother on the 16th and now a very precious sister is passing to the tearless land –

Even to-day a fresh trouble

time she sent us each a pretty Xmas card nearly all inscribed by herself – no one was forgotten, not even her brothers in Canada, and a friend in France –

With very kind regards
Yours sincerely
Martha J. James.

St Brain
Collings Park
Plymouth

Feb. 11th 1915

Dear Dr Birnie,

You have been so kind on previous occasions in sending me information as to the condition of my unfortunate child, that I am writing to ask if you can explain the entire cessation of letters from her, though I keep up my correspondence, and beg her to write.

On more than one occasion a Nurse has kindly written

a message from her which is quite right as far as it goes & is signed by herself. It can hardly be that she is sinking into a state of imbecility as Dr Pierce in his last report speaks of her exhibiting "a great deal of good general intelligence" — while the delusions as to inability to do things, and unreasoning apprehension still continue.

I should be very glad to find that her habits in special respects had improved. Altogether I feel very down-hearted.

We have had a great deal of trouble lately — my much beloved & endeared brother-in-law died early in the year, & my only surviving brother that day week, after a very short & painful illness. I had to tell Winifred of the latter loss as it would appear in the "Friend" — but did not of the death of her uncle Mr Bridham, which did not seem necessary at present as this would not appear in that paper —

I have not heard direct from Winifred since Xmas — at that

25th January, 1915.

Dear Mrs. James,

I am exceedingly sorry to hear of your trouble, and the necessary difficulty in relation to money matters. I quite realise that the appointment of new trustees is necessarily a slow matter, and we shall, therefore, not expect you to settle the account immediately. In such cases delay cannot be helped.

There is little fresh to report in respect to your daughter. There is still the same unreasoning opposition and ideas as to the impossibility of her doing things, together with a great deal of good general intelligence.

With kind regards.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

29th January, 1941.

Dear Mrs. Ramsay,

I am exceedingly sorry to hear of your trouble, and the necessary difficulty in relating to Rodney matters. I quite realize that the application of rent has been in abeyance for a very matter, and we shall, therefore, not expect you to settle the account immediately. In such cases delay cannot be helped.

There is little Grace to report in respect to your daughter. There is still the same unreasonable opposition and threat as to the inconvenient of her doing things, together with a great deal of good general improvement.

With kind regards.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

I am hoping this does not mean any increased illness.
With kindest regards
Yours very sincerely
Martha J. James.

St Piran,
Collings Park,
Plymouth.

Jan. 21st 1915

My dear Friend
I am much regretting that I am unable to send a cheque at present. We have had much trouble in the family of late. God has taken two within a fortnight – and those are the only remaining trustees to act for me & my sisters. First my brother-in-law Arthur Bridhane, who conducted all my business affairs,

and to whom I applied for advice & help always, being also my co-executor - and within a few days, my only remaining brother, Edward Hamilton James -
You will understand that nothing can be done till the wills are proved, and matters generally arranged. After which I hope to remit at the earliest possible opportunity - but it may be several weeks in hand -
New trustees have to be appointed.
My brother's removal was so sudden that we have felt almost stunned.
I have felt it best to tell Winifred of this as she would be sure to see it in "The Friend" - but I have not mentioned her other uncle's death, as he was not a Friend & it would not appear there.
Things seem very dark around us just now, on every side - I grieve much over her continued condition - she seldom writes, but gets a nurse to do so - signing it herself -
To-day I find she is in bed,

St Brian
Collings Park
Plymouth.

Dec 3rd 1914

My dear Friend.

I have to thank you very much for your reply to my letter, which I am afraid must have seemed uncalled for and perhaps unreasonable, but you will I am sure make allowance for a much harassed and distressed mother.

I did not wish to make a complaint or cause any annoyance, but could not divest my mind of the idea, and felt you would excuse my making the enquiry -

My eldest son has felt it his duty to join the Canadian forces who are volunteering to help in this terrible war - You may perhaps have met him in London, John Edward James - This is a blow to us both as to the principles & traditions of our Society & the family, as well as for personal reasons - Besides financial losses coincident with increased expenses - from long continued illness also at home -

I suppose Winifred's health, (general) is not in such a state as to endanger her life, as she supposes, greatly desiring me to come to her - This I could not do either on her account or my own unless it seems necessary to you. With kindest regards, & much indebtedness for past & present kindness

Yours very sincerely Martha J. James

Her circumstances are undoubtedly exceedingly trying, and I feel very much for those whose duty it is to encounter them. These things are so absolutely at variance with the nature & habits of my daughter, that it impresses on my mind the painful conviction of how very far astray her mental condition must be. I am sure it is only the delusion as to incapacity to use her limbs that could lead to these results, and I remember your telling me in Annette's case that the patients cannot help the existence of such delusions - it all seems real to them while the mind remains disordered -

So I am hoping that some kindly allowance is made even in the midst of so much that is disagreeable.

I am cheered and comforted by your assurance that those who have to deal with this trying case are incapable of unkindness - and I can realize & deeply regret their difficulties.

I conclude that my daughter is not making progress towards recovery, which seemed to contain many elements of hope some months ago - but quite in a retrograde condition - under which conviction I feel almost crushed at times, especially as I have other causes for anxiety and distress -

an army – how much of this is true?
I was glad to hear she had been for a drive, which she seemed to enjoy – and she has finished the piece of work I sent her –
I am just now burdened with many cares – and if this cloud were more or less lifted, I should be very thankful – I have to seek to cast my cares on One who careth for me –

With kind regards
Yours sincerely
Martha J. James.

Reply in cale book No.

Wimpey funds.

St Piran
Collings Park
Plymouth.

Nov 24th 1914

Dear Dr Grimes

It seems long since I have had a report of my daughter, and judging from her letters perhaps there is nothing encouraging to say. But the last account I had was so distressing that I am very anxious to know if there has been any change for the better – I found she was giving a great deal of trouble to the nurses, and that her habits – to quote the nurse's report forwarded to me, were "filthy & disgusting"

Also that she bit and scratched the nurses and swallowed buttons off her clothes –
All this is so contrary to her practices when in a normal condition that I feel greatly distressed & discouraged –
I think my letter asking for a further report must have got mislaid or gone astray in the past – I wrote very strongly to her on both points, and she has told me that she was trying to behave better but sometimes her body will not obey her will.
I represented that there was no possibility for her to return home till these things were

given up – and I thought by the tone of her letters that my representations had taken some effect –
I have had a letter to-day that makes it appear she is very ill & wanting me to come –
Will you kindly tell me the real state of her health? it is so difficult to judge when some of the statements she makes as to her bodily condition are obviously impossible.
She is greatly desiring to die, and at the same time afraid of living for ever –
She says she is so reduced in strength she cannot walk without

Private

St Piran
Collings Park
Plymouth.
Nov. 4th 1914

My dear Friend.

May I ask for a report of my daughter at your convenience? whose condition naturally keeps me in a state of deepest concern – Can you report any degree of improvement as to the trouble she gives the nurses or as to her habits?
I have written strongly to her on both points, and she says she is trying, but often her body will not follow her will.

and there are quite rational parts in her letters to me, though the greater part is calculated to make me as miserable as herself.
I should be thankful to be informed whether her health (bodily) really is broken down, whether she suffers in her back, which has always been weak, so that she cannot walk without an arm, & could not possibly go up a flight of steps – She is also distressed as to the quantity of food she is expected to take – which, no doubt is necessary for her – I hope she is not losing weight to any extent – the state of opposition in which she lives must conduce to this –
Your kindness & consideration for me in time past leads me to trust you will excuse a mother's anxiety – I have had so much trouble of late – With kindest regards
Yours sincerely Martha J. James.

I want to touch on one point which I earnestly beg you to consider as strictly confidential. She says more than once that the nurses sometimes hit her on the head - I can fully understand the extreme provocation that she gives them, & recognise that this would not be allowed in any case - you would know whether it is at all possible. It is, of course, very difficult to know what to believe from a patient in her condition, when she frequently states things about her own body that we know to be impossible. At the same time, she is absolutely clear on other points - and has just written an excellent letter to her brother Bevan - He is now back at Port Sunlight.

I am sure you will forgive my suggesting this possibility - I try not to think of it as a reality, but cannot get rid of the idea, which weighs on my mind. And I have shrunk very much from mentioning it, fearing to make her position worse if any action were taken in the matter.

And she is frequently threatened with being moved to some "Gallery" which is a great terror to her - Does this mean that she would be with worse cases? She delusions that she has now, or, at any rate, those mentioned in her letters, are entirely confined to her bodily condition - I hear nothing about going into the Army or rebuilding the Retreat at her own expense -

St Piran
Collings Park
Plymouth.

Oct 11th 1914

My dear French.

The account you send me of my dear daughter's state is very distressing to me, as I was quite hoping she was in a stage that pointed more nearly to recovery.
I am especially concerned at the Nurse's report - and deeply regret the trouble she is giving.

The whole resolves itself into an intense desire to come home - to be with me - with regrets for the worry and distress she has given me in the past - this is quite true.
You may have heard of my proposed trip to Switzerland, which was frustrated at the outset by the outbreak of the War - I think it only right to explain that this was arranged for me by my son Collier at his personal expense, hoping to benefit me after my long time of anxiety and nursing - I have been very grateful for the kind consideration of your Committee. I have had to encounter greatly increased expenses with a diminished income.
With kindest regards & thanks for letter -
Very sincerely Maeve S. James.

The whole drift of it is so contrary to her usual nature and habits that nothing more is needed to show how far she still is from recovery or a possibility of return home. I had no idea of the present state of things when I made the suggestion. I have written to her very strongly on the trouble she is giving, and impressed the point that there is no prospect of her return home while these things exist. I do not know how much effect this may be likely to have, if any; but felt that I ought to write on this occasion in a different strain from usual. I feel sure that she is capable of self-control from the manner in which she discriminates between those to whom she writes.

To her brothers and sisters she writes a natural ordinary letter, taking an interest in all home and family affairs, in which she is never at fault. But to me it is a catalogue of woes, and bodily ailments that could not possibly exist; this in a modified form is natural to her, especially of late.

7th. October, 1914.

Dear Mrs James,

I am afraid it is my fault that your letter to Dr. Birnie was not answered, as it came to my hands when she was away on holiday.

I cannot give you a very satisfactory report of your daughter. Her general health is good and she takes food well, and gets a fair amount of sleep, though irregularly; but the general conduct and behaviour is difficult, especially in the mornings, when she gives the nurses a very great deal of trouble in dressing and necessary toilet arrangements. She is often talking about going home; asks to go home immediately, apparently not understanding her condition at all. It would not be practicable to manage her at home with a single nurse, and she must improve a great deal before any such proposal can be entertained. On three separate occasions for several days together sedatives have been tried. The effect was to make her more manageable, but I do not think they produced any real benefit. She has not had any sedatives now for some time.

I remain,
Yours very truly,

Mrs James,
St. Piran,
Collings Park, Plymouth.

her or otherwise, to have her desire granted? I imagine that she has not now any tendency to self-destruction, and though I should of course shrink from the trouble & responsibility involved, I should be prepared to do it if there is any prospect of her mind being more settled in her usual surroundings - And yet she says she should quite like being where she is if she were not away from home & especially from me -

I should have been very glad if my son Collier could have had an interview with you when he visited her some weeks ago - but you were absent -

With kindest regards -

Yours very sincerely

Martha T. Jaques

St Piran
Collings Park
Plymouth

Oct 6th 1914

My dear Friend.

May I have, at your convenience, a report from yourself of my daughter? I have felt a little in the dark lately - as I did not hear from her for three or four weeks - when she usually writes about once a week - I had a letter from Miss Bracher at my daughter's request, which did not give me a cheering report, saying that she was "sleeping the greater part of her time, which was probably

owing to medicine she was taking." I did not know how much of this was true, but it awoke the anxiety in my mind whether her condition required frequent sedatives - I wrote to Dr Birnie, but concluded she may be absent, as I did not receive her usual kind reply to my enquiries -

I should feel greatly obliged if you would give me a report of her present condition, and prospects as far as this is possible - I always like to know exactly how things stand - and tell my doctor not to make the best of things, when there is real cause for anxiety -

I have had a letter from Winifred this morning - in which there is nothing to encourage me, though always her mind & memory are perfectly clear as regards home affairs. & these allusions are invariably correct - What is wrong is principally about her bodily condition - mentioning impossible ailments - this in a modified form is characteristic of her -

She has a consuming desire to return home - supposing it to be possible for me to make such an arrangement with a special attendant, would it be, in your opinion, likely to have a beneficial effect on

She wished Miss Bracher to say that she is not so well - but Miss Bracher did not think this was the case on the whole -
Awaiting your kind reply,
& with kind regards
Yours sincerely
Martha J. James.

I have known her get into a drowsy state by day when overtired -

St Brain
Collings Park
Plymouth

Sep. 29th 1914

Dear Dr Brine
I have this afternoon received a letter from Miss Bracher written at my daughter's request - which I feel needs some explanation from you as to her present condition - She says that Winifred sleeps nearly all her time, and that this is probably the result of the medicine she is taking - Is this so? and is she in a state requiring constant sedatives?

One does not know how much to believe, but the letter is quite sensible.
I have not asked for a report lately - as there was no particular change in her letters - She said she was doing some knitting for the soldiers, and I am always glad to hear of any employment - Also that she would like to do some of the household mending - but perhaps her work is not good enough.
When she writes to me, some of the old delusions come in, but the greater part of her letters are quite sensible -

When writing to her brothers or sisters all these things are excluded - which shows she is able to discriminate - She never makes any mistake in allusions to home affairs or family matters.
Is she still in the same room for sleeping that you mentioned in writing last - with three others and no night nurse?
Does the period occur at all? and is there, as she often says, next to no action of the bowels & kidneys? of course this could not be literally true - but is it so to some extent?

St Piran,
Collings Park,
Plymouth.

July 16th 1914

My dear Friend.

I enclose cheque £14.4.9 in payment of my daughter's a/c – with a renewed sense of gratitude for the consideration shown me.

I was disappointed at the report of the mental condition "no change" – I had had such an improved account only a week or so ago – and my daughter's letters quite confirmed it –

home affairs quite correct –

With kindest regards

Yours sincerely

Martha J. James

I felt so very thankful for the improvement and so hopeful as regards the future - Has she quite fallen back again, so that it seems as if one cannot place any reliance on a temporary improvement? I should much value a personal opinion from you - Her most recent letters have taken up again the old troubles & imaginary fears - which I do all in my power to discount when I write - She sends a most melancholy account of her physical condition - her body shrinking alarmingly and having little or no use of the important functions. with other impossible symptoms - this kind of thing is a natural tendency even in comparative health.
But it is a comfort to read the good report as to bodily condition, so I suppose I may conclude that most of it is imaginary. Her last letter to-day was much better - every allusion to

St Piran,
Collings Park,
Plymouth.

May 9th 1914

My dear Friend.

I enclose cheque £18 . 12 . 11 in settlement of a/c enclosed - thanking the Committee for kind consideration as to terms. I am thankful to receive a somewhat improved report from Dr Grimes - especially pleased to find that my daughter is employing herself, and able to get out of doors -

Portions of her letters are entirely coherent and sensible with instructions as to the carrying out of some collections that have been her work – all quite correct – Also the returning of certain books that had been lent to her – and reclaiming books lent to her pupils – so that light appears to be breaking and we must have patience and faith.

With very kind regards

Yours sincerely

Martha J. James.

17th. April, 1914.

Dear Mrs. James,

Miss James still has periods when she seems much clearer and then she goes back to the confused state, but on the whole she is improving.

The question of terms will be considered at the Meeting of the Committee on Tuesday next.

Yours very truly,

St Piran,
Collings Park,
Plymouth.

April 14th 1914

My dear Friend

I thank you for your letter of April 11th with its kind proposal as to terms. I am conscious that these are very moderate, especially as I am afraid my daughter is giving a great deal of trouble.

It seems unreasonable to make any other suggestion, but just now I am placed in an unusually difficult

they added to her signature a pet name used in childhood. This letter has cheered me very much – though I find from Dr. Birnie that these liquid internals are only transient. Still it seems like light breaking.

With kindest regards

Yours sincerely

Martha J. James.

is still have power to
much clear goes back to
confused state
2 of 1. cirrhosis Tuesday.

position financially, from a combination of unexpected circumstances. Would the question of limiting the payment to £1 be entertained? I would willingly pay more if in a position to do so.
If it were possible to arrange this concession for the first quarter at all events, it would relieve me in a difficult position.
My brother-in-law, Arthur Pridham, who is my co-executor, and helps me in all my affairs, advises me to offer this suggestion for the consideration of the Committee.
I have to-day received a letter from Winifred - almost entirely clear and coherent. her mind evidently in touch with home affairs, while conscious of her present environment - She writes in a comfortable strain, with allusions and messages sent to the members of the family. Said she was feeling a little better, and very desirous of hearing from me; hoping soon to be at home again -

11th. April, 1914.

Dear Mrs. James.

I am sorry I cannot report any improvement in your daughter. She is extraordinarily confused, she rarely speaks and seems to take not interest in what goes on around her. She is rather difficult to manage as she is in and out of bed, and often rolling on the floor.

We shall have to fix the question of terms before the next Committee. Last time you paid 25/- per week. Will this be right in the present case? If so I will submit this amount to the Committee.

Yours very truly,

St Piran
Collings Park.
April 4th Plymouth
1914

With regrets for delayed
completion.

M. J. James.

23rd. March, 1914.

Dear Mrs. James,

We have received the Petition and have got new Medical Certificates. The Magistrate's Order is being obtained to-day and then the papers will be all in order.

Yours very truly,

St Piran,
Collings Park,
Plymouth.

March 21st 1914

My dear Friend.

I am writing to say that my address is now as above, and likely to be.

Your communications have been sent to me at once. Unfortunately my son Frederick, who accompanied his sister to York, is now at Manchester as delegate to the Friends' School Conference - and will not be

back till late on Monday.
I conclude it will be right if my daughter Mabel fills in the paper - she has been with Winifred the whole time - till her departure for York -
We thought as there were so few days between the dates it would be satisfactory, as I had not been able to see her after the 25th, that being the day she left home for Crapstone, and Dr Simpson thinking it most undesirable for me to see her - on her account.

I will see him this afternoon between 2 and 4 - the time at which he receives patients - and get his advice - it would be useless to try to find him before - And I will try to get off the amended Petition this evening.
Thanks for the Nurse's report - it is not encouraging - but I suppose it is too early to look for improvement - That is just the condition she was in before leaving - I was hoping that she was resting in bed more quietly. Sorry she is giving so much trouble - With kind regards

Very sincerely
Martha J. Samuel.

20th. March, 1914.

Dear Mrs. James,

The Commissioners in Lunacy have returned Miss James' certificates which are invalid. The reasons are given in the accompanying letter from the Commissioners. This means that new certificates will have to be obtained. If your son, who came with Miss James, will fill up the enclosed Petition and return it to us immediately, we will get two new Medical Certificates and a fresh Order in York.

A Nurse' Report of Miss James is enclosed.

Please return the Commissioners' letter to us when sending the Petition.

Yours very truly,

Woodside Cottage
Plymouth.
March 17th
1914

My dear Friend,

I wrote in such haste yesterday to save a post that I did not say all I wished to put before you. We had to decide to act so promptly ~~and~~ that matters had to be hurried. I do not think I said that there are intervals when my daughter is quiet and reasonable and quite like herself – but it was only to cross her will to make her extremely

pay a larger weekly sum – my income is very limited and I have had heavy drains on it of late both in unusual circumstances in the family – and some of the property from which I derive my income being sold, besides expenses on another house – I do not wish to beg off from what I ought to contribute, and I know you will do the right thing – May God grant that the treatment that was so blessed in Annette's case may be equally so in this unexpected dispensation – With kindest regards & many thanks for past kindness – Yours sincerely

Martha S. James.

obstructive, & at times violent. The great difficulty has been to get her out of doors - and induce her to walk - She has not been strong enough to walk any distance, but could do a moderate walk quite well - Her strength was greatly reduced before she left home a fortnight ago, by a violent attack of nettle-rash, with which she was completely covered - As her health improved with the change to the Moors, her will & power of resistance strengthened - & there were nearly always difficulties when out of doors - once she lay down in the road - They thought it best not to take her out before the journey to-morrow so as to keep her quieter - One of her brothers and the Nurse are to go with her in a reserved compartment - leaving Plymouth at 10-30 a.m. & due at York at 7-47 (I think) -

I will wait to hear from you as to terms - not having a clear idea as to what I paid for Annette - I am not staying at home, but with my sister at the above address, so I cannot look the matter up - Perhaps I may be excused for saying that it is not possible for me to

even lying down in the road.
Also trying to swallow things
such as hair pins - or thimble -
Everything has to be kept
out of her way - she has
some artificial teeth - I do
not know if it is possible
to swallow them - but I should
think not - she takes them
out at night - We want
her to come on Friday - my
doctor - an absolutely depend-
able man is carrying it
through - Excuse my great
haste to catch post -
It is a deep trial - you will
understand - Kindest regards.

Martha J. James.

Cuth.

Woodside Cottage
Plymouth.

Mar. 11th
1914

My dear Friend -

I am sending
you, if you can receive her,
another daughter - this dis-
tressing visitation has been
sent to me again - Annette,
I am thankful to say is quite
well - My daughter Winifred
has not been well for some
weeks - completely run down
from continuously overdoing
herself - undertaking too much

and living in a constant state of hurry & pressure - particularly in study at our Technical Schools - over which she excited herself very much - aiming at excelling in a branch for which she has no gift - She complained of a great number of ailments - some real, some imaginary - especially the difficulty as regards walking believing she was becoming flat-footed - & an idea of a curvature of the spine - which did exist to some extent in her youth, but not now -

We sent her to the Moor with a sister believing all would come right - but we had to send out a nurse & she developed strong delusions - tried to get out of window & to set herself on fire - Also when out tried to get run over by a horse & a bicycle - The nurse is competent & experienced - & has done her best - but it has gone too far now for private treatment, as she has been violent when her will was crossed. The great difficulty has been persuading that she cannot walk

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

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POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS.

EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, Ltd., Lond.

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Office of Origin and Service Instructions.

Plymouth

Charges to pay } s. d.

Handed in at } 8 p.m., Received here at } 5 43 p.m.

TO { Dr Pierce Retreat House York

Can you receive a female patient next Tuesday reply to Mrs James Woodside Cottage Woodside Plymouth

"Can receive patient Friday
Perie."

May 8 1914

Dear Mr James

At the general meeting
of the Retired Commission the
terms for your daughter were fixed
at Fifty dollars

With kind regards & hoping
you are well

Very truly yours

W. E. Walter
Sec'y

Nov 8-1914

Dear Mr Parker

At the Second Meeting
of the Federal Commission the
Mass Proper Campfire was fixed
at 7½ o'clock.
With kind regards & hoping
you are well. Sincerely yours

G. E. Waller Sec.