

**Parratt, Margaret**

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3 Dec 11  
Parkgate  
Rothham  
Oct. 21<sup>st</sup> 1912

Dear Dr. Pierce

I promised to write and tell you how my sister got on - I have been long in doing so, because there seemed nothing special to write about. She has been in bed ever since she came home, and cannot persuade her

Remember of great many symptoms. And then think she hasn't do a girl, & she suspects she thinks most about all principles - She is thinner - & I think not so well looking as when with you - but looks mentally - She is for the most part like an ordinary invalid, only - she does not seem able to pick up any pain but not says she can't sit up. seems not comfortable in bed. Complete recovery - but I am not without hope of complete recovery - but the way to it seems longer than Medical Bureau of N. A. Pierce

When dressing come down-stairs.  
She feeds herself always, but  
takes only milk foods, with  
occasionally soup or leaf-tea.  
She has been under the care  
of Dr. Parker & Menges all  
the time, and has taken  
medicine three times daily  
up to the last week or two.  
Mentally at times she is  
decidedly better - but  
sometimes is very childish.  
She is quite content with

my entire support; but is very exacting and  
never likes me to leave her, especially at night.  
She does not care how her friends, indeed  
if visiters she loves them.  
I mention she remembers much and will talk  
quite rationally. At other times she is mixed.  
She likes an infant in her room, being alone and  
in pajamas & now and then she will look at  
the book and read a few lines out of it.  
She can converse about the Bible & Prayers - both.

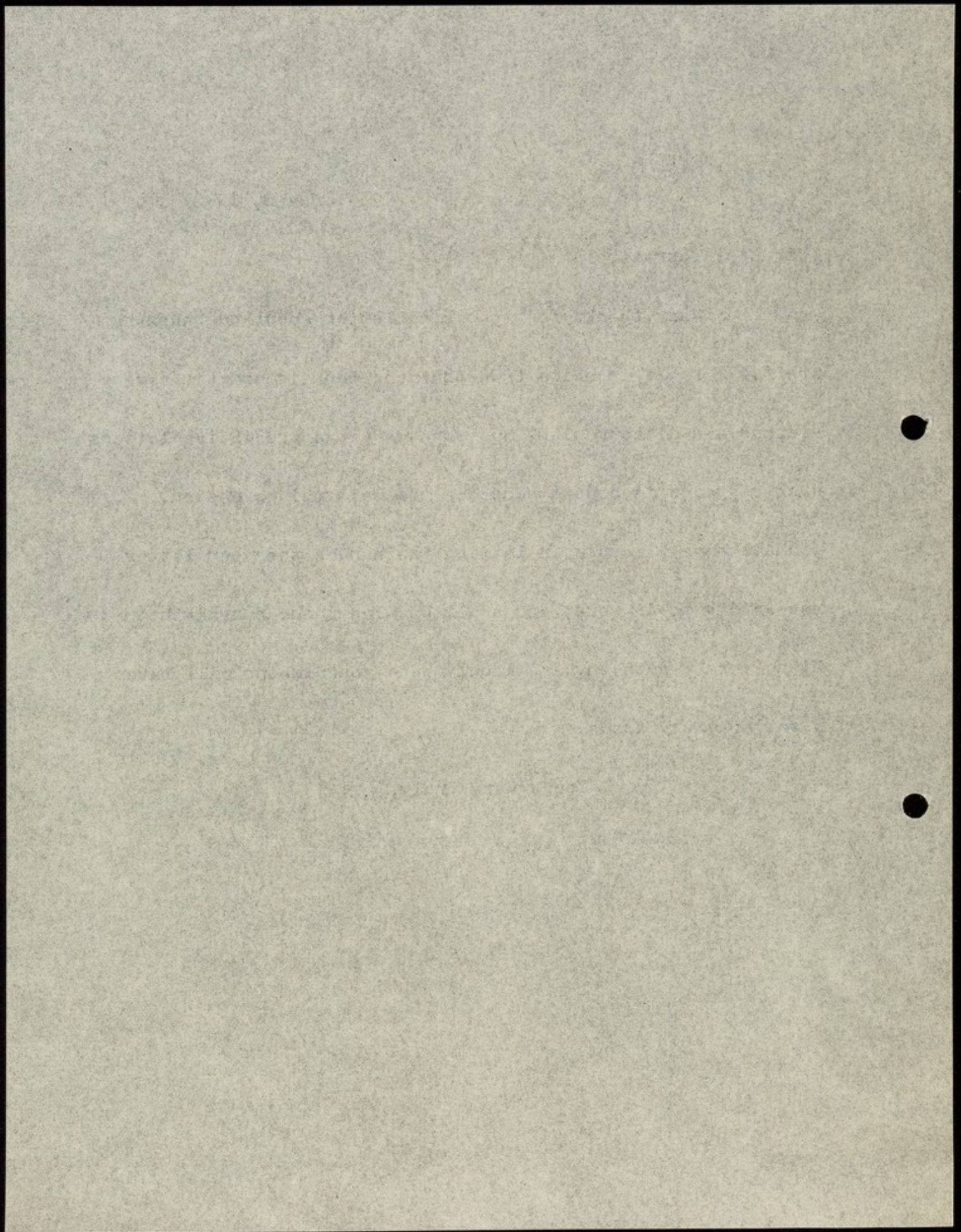
May 3, 1912

Dear Miss Parratt,

Many thanks for your kind letter about our nursing staff. It is quite true that the work is sometimes very arduous and discouraging, but when we get appreciative letters such as yours it does a good deal to make things easier.

I shall have pleasure in letting the nurses see your letter respecting their work, and shall be glad to hear again how Miss Parratt gets on. I only hope your labour will have a satisfactory issue.

Yours very truly,



I think her illness is entering  
on another phase and she  
will probably be better  
mentally, and not so  
well bodily, as she was  
with you.

I will write at intervals &  
report progress, as I know  
every case must be interesting  
to you.

I remain

Your Obedient Servant

B. A. Parratt

To Dr. Bellford Pierce

467  
3 Vesey St  
Parkgate  
Rotherham  
May 2<sup>nd</sup> 1912.

Dear Dr. Pierce

I should  
be glad if you would  
kindly thank the Nurses  
at the Retreat for their  
kind care of my sister  
Margaret.

It must be very hard work

Sometimes to continue patient  
and kind and considerate  
with those who are unable  
to appreciate their work.

When my sister was well no-one  
was more grateful for kindness  
than she was.

I think that their work for my  
sister will not be lost, as she  
seems to be slowly recovering  
her memory, and I hope  
that in course of time she  
will be completely well.

• 3 May Street  
Parkgate  
Rothham  
March 30<sup>th</sup> 1912

Dear Dr. Pierce

Will you  
Kindly fill up the  
enclosed form and  
return it to me by

post at 3 May St  
Parkgate  
Rothham.



I am very sorry that we  
can't bring my sister Margaret  
home just yet - as my  
younger sister is ill in  
bed with Influenza  
& it would not be  
safe to bring my sister  
Margaret here at present.  
I know she is well off at  
the Retreat if only she could  
be cured. Your Obedient Servant  
Wm. A. Parratt.  
to Mr. Bedford Price.

1/2

3 May 11- 158  
Parkegate  
Rothamham  
Feb 14<sup>th</sup> 1912

Dear Dr. Pierce

Acting on the  
advice of an old friend of our  
family, we have decided to have  
my sister Margaret with us  
as soon as may be, and to  
get such help in the care of  
her, as circumstances may  
seem to require.

We are very grateful for the kind care and attention my sister has had at The Retreat, and for the benefit that she has received there, but in view of her future needs, it is not possible to go on keeping her there, and we do not wish her to go to any other Institution. We shall be glad to know when you think a suitable time to bring her home, and shall have to arrange accordingly.

I shall be glad of any practical suggestion. Your Obedient Servant  
B. A. Parratt

To Dr. Bedford Pierce.

AND  
6, PARK SQUARE,  
LEEDS.  
BY APPOINTMENT.

TUESDAY, } 1.30 TO 4 P.M.  
FRIDAY }

TELEPHONE { YORK No 112.  
LEEDS No 391X.

Dr Henrys -  
Parkgate - Rotherham  
THE RETREAT,

YORK.

Miss Margaret Parret <sup>47</sup> teacher.

Two or three nervous breakdowns  
Nervous fever when a child when 15 - when  
at training college - Headmistress at  
Sunderland - Nervous not mental?

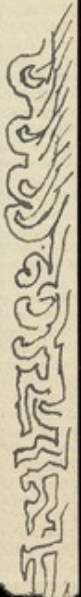
15 yrs. headmistress.

Feb. 1910. Sister was ill. infl - at same time -  
would go to school - did night & day work.

Thought her sister was dead -

Would not eat - forcibly fed by nurses who  
poured down her throat -

Hubbard about 3 days in a stupor.



THE GREAT  
WORK

100  
100  
100

3 May 11

511

Parkegate  
Rotherham.

Oct<sup>r</sup> 4<sup>th</sup>

Dear Dr Pierce

I sent your  
Certificate up to the office  
of the Paymaster General  
and they have sent it  
back to me for the further  
Certificate of the Justice

of Peace or Minicute - so I shall  
have to send it away again  
to day.

My address until further  
notice is

3 Vesey St

Parkgate

Rotherham -

I did tell Mr Walker. but  
thought he had forgotten to  
acquaint you - as you had addressed  
the Cert. for the Cleveland Terr. <sup>Whittier</sup>

I Remain Yours Truly  
D. L. Parratt

491  
6 Cleveland Terrace  
Whitely  
Sept 24<sup>th</sup> 1911

Dear Dr. Pierce

Will  
you kindly have  
the enclosed Certificates  
of disability signed  
on account of my  
sister Miss Margaret Purcell



and I will call at the  
Retreat for them on Saturday  
September 30<sup>th</sup>. That being  
the day on which the amt  
of Pension due to her has  
to be claimed -  
I have to send it to  
The Paymaster General's  
Office London - in order  
that I may claim the  
allowance.

Remain Yours Truly

L. G. Pierce

B. A. Parrott

Sept. 7, 1911

Dear Miss Parratt,

I am obliged for your letter. We will gladly continue to do our best for Miss Parratt at present. We cannot be very sanguine about the result. I am sorry she is not well enough to have a trial away at Whitby, but it is clearly quite out of the question.

Yours very truly,

1911

Faint, illegible text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.



• Cleveland Tenn.  
Whitney  
Sept - 6<sup>th</sup> 1911

Dr. Dr. Pierce

I wish  
my sister Miss Margaret  
Pieratt to stay on  
at the Retreat for  
a few months longer  
in the hope that she

from other nervous illnesses - but of course  
she will want them.  
I will still continue the responsibility  
to her relatives & friends to thank all  
at the Retreat for their interesting letters  
to her & to us her letters, when we have  
come to regard her.

J. Remond

John H. Pieratt

Dr. Dr. Pierce

M. G. Pieratt

will still recover, as I know of no other Institution that seems to me so fit to aid her recovery. I am quite sure she is better in some ways though not in others. She is quite conscious of her surroundings. Though at the same time she has hallucinations of hearing and of locomotion-fancying she is first in one place then in another.

Though at the same time she thinks that she is in one room. She complained once that the world was going round and that she was going headward. which shows that she has strange feelings in her head. I am surprised that she became so aware that she is strange when recovering.

Letters should be addressed—

"The Secretary,  
Board of Education  
Whitehall,  
London, S.W."

and should show the complete postal  
address and designation of the writer.

BOARD OF EDUCATION,

WHITEHALL, LONDON, S.W.

3rd July 1911.

Please write at the  
head of any reply:—

11/14520 P. (D.A.F.)

Sir,

Form 426 D.O.F  
I am directed to state that the Board would be obliged if  
you would kindly fill up and return to this Office the enclosed  
form of medical certificate with reference to Miss Margaret Parratt,  
on whose behalf an application for a Disablement Allowance under the  
Elementary School Teachers (Superannuation) Act, 1898, has been made.

It is understood that she is an inmate of the 'Retreat'  
Asylum, York.

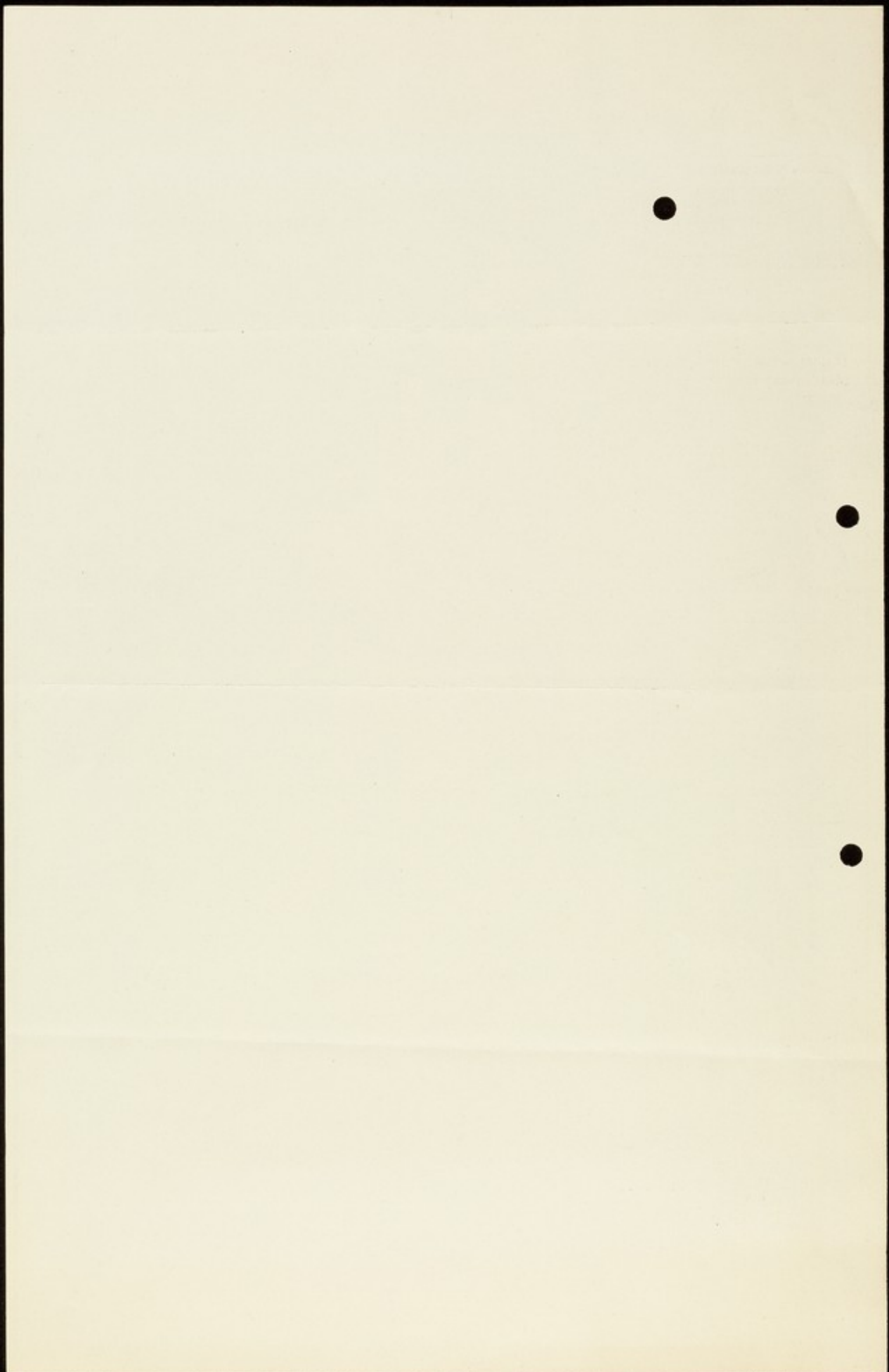
I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

*R. W. Howard*

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

16



time from G. Kemp so infer that she  
is away.  
Will you kindly let me have a  
line as soon as possible.

I Remain

Yours Respectfully

B. A. Parratt

G. Bedford Pierce.  
The Retreat  
Lark.

1  
h. 12

3 Vesey St A  
Parkgate  
Rotherham

May 31<sup>st</sup> 1911

Dear Dr Pierce

Will you  
please let us know how  
my sister Margaret is  
going on.

We are very thankful for  
the improvement in her



bodily condition, and hope  
that it is a prelude to her  
mental improvement.  
She has been under your  
observation nearly a year  
now - and you will no  
doubt by this time have  
formed some opinion as  
to the time she is likely  
to remain in her present  
mental condition.  
We have not heard for some

3 May 10

584

Parkegate

Pottersham.

Oct 22<sup>nd</sup> 1910.

Dear Dr Pierce. Thank you for your

letter of last week we were grieved  
at its contents & are very much depressed  
about there being no improvement  
in my sister's condition.

Do you think there is any sign  
of better things this week? - it  
would help me to know. Any  
little sign.

Yours Truly  
B. A. Parratt

Dr. Bedford Pierce.



3 Hasy St  
Parkgate  
Rotherham  
July 22<sup>nd</sup> 1910

Dr. Sir I beg to acknowledge Quarterly  
Account + Report for my Sister

M. Parratt at the Retreat.

I am coming to York one day next  
week, and will make payment

then.

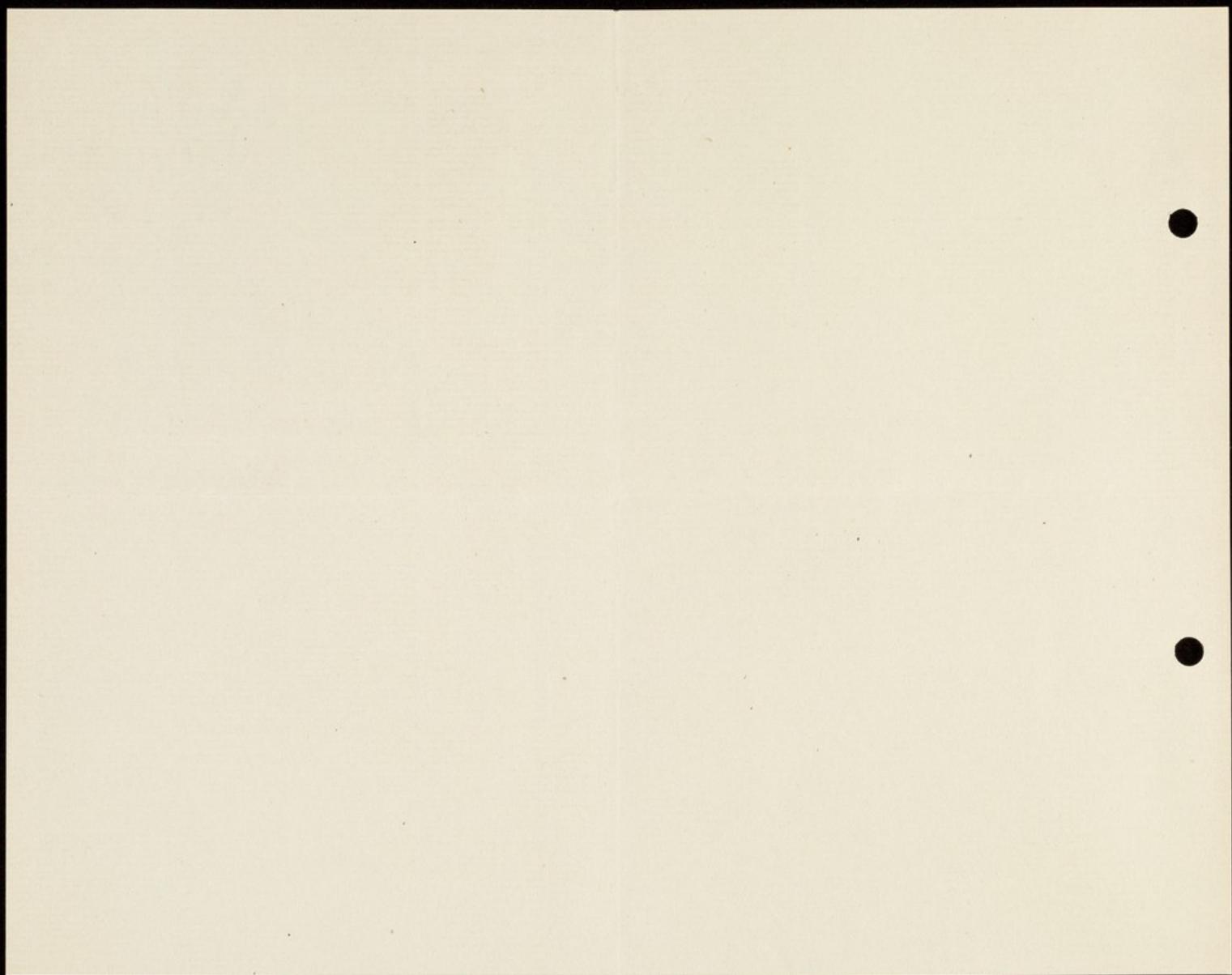
Hoping that time will be quite  
convenient.

I Remain

Yours Truly

W. A. Parratt

Mr. H. S. Waller  
Secretary.



July 20, 1910

Dear Madam,

At the Committee meeting held  
yesterday the terms for Miss Parratt  
were fixed at 48/- weekly.

Yours truly,

Secretary

Miss Betsy A. Parratt



is able to be out in the open  
air every day.  
It always did her more good  
than anything to get out, &  
especially to be in cheerful  
company.

Hoping to hear of further  
improvement.

I Am.

Yours Respectfully  
D. A. Parratt.

Dr. Bedford Pierce

✓  
A.R.

3 Wesley St  
Parkgate  
Rotherham  
July 20<sup>th</sup> 1910

Dear Dr Pierce

Will you kindly  
send me some news of my sister  
Margaret.  
I was cheered to hear from  
Dr Menzies last week, that  
you thought there was a little  
improvement in my sister's  
physical condition, though  
she was no better mentally.  
I have great hopes that



in her case. physical improvement  
may lead the way to mental health.  
She had for years been depending  
her vitality to the very utmost  
in her work. she never stopped  
working except when completely  
exhausted. her brain seemed  
always working at high  
pressure; and then influenza  
and the mental strain of  
my illness finished it. her  
brain gave way -

I do hope my sister is continuing  
to take her food herself. &

July 14, 1910

Dear Sir,

I am sorry to say we cannot report any material change in Miss Parratt's condition. She still remains very silent and takes very little apparent interest in anything that goes on.

Her bodily health seems to be improving and she is out of doors almost the whole day.

Yours very truly,

G.H.Menzies Esq.

OFFICE

OF THE



Parkgate  
Rotherham  
Yorks

July 12. 1910

Dr Pearce  
Medical Superintendent  
The Retreat

Dear Sir,

I shall be much obliged  
if you will let me know how  
Miss Parratt is progressing; I do  
not suppose that there will be  
much sign of improvement as yet.  
Apologising for troubling you.

I remain

yours truly  
George H. Menzies



22 June 1910.

Dear Miss Parrott,

I cannot report any improvement yet in Miss Parrott's state. She hardly ever speaks - she did just murmur one day that 'everything was lost' but has not spoken since. She no longer has the taste for food but since then she has taken her food - She does not look so very ill but is thin. She lies in bed in the open air in a shelter the greater part of the time.

I remain

Yours very truly

Frederic Diez

2. 2. 1910.

Dear Mr. Bennett,

I am sorry to hear that you are  
 not in the best of health. I  
 hope that you will be able to  
 get out for a short time. I  
 am sure that you will find  
 the air very refreshing. I  
 am sure that you will be  
 able to get out for a short  
 time. I am sure that you will  
 find the air very refreshing.  
 I am sure that you will be  
 able to get out for a short  
 time. I am sure that you will  
 find the air very refreshing.

Yours truly,  
 J. M. Bennett

3 May St

Parkegate  
Rotherham

June 20<sup>th</sup> 1910

lost - one

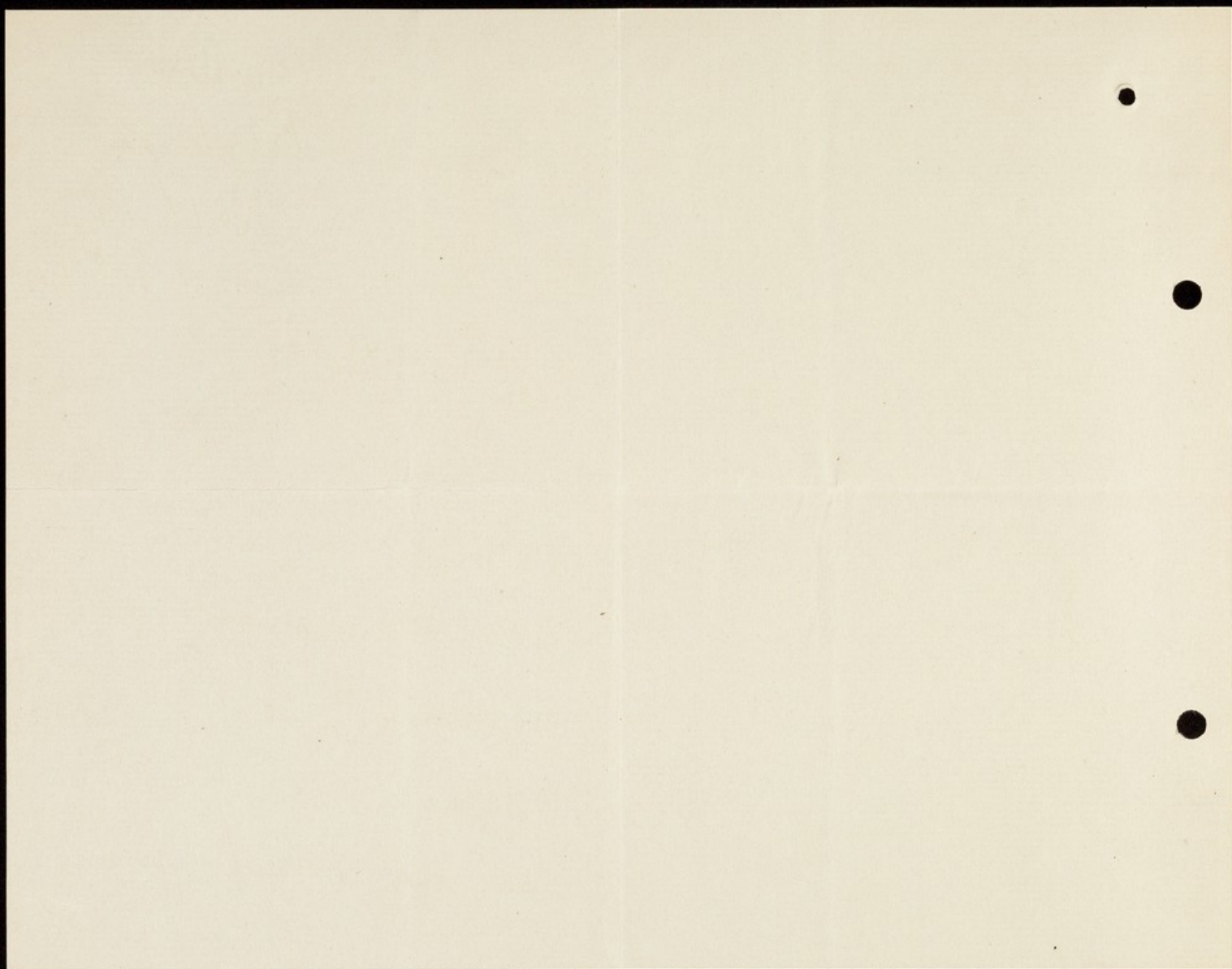
Dear Dr Pierce

Will you  
kindly let us know how  
my sister Margaret is.  
We are very anxious to  
know what you think  
after having seen and examined  
her. Yours Respectfully

Dr. Bedford Pierce

W. A. Parratt





3 May St 334  
Parkgate  
Rotherham  
June 11<sup>th</sup> 1840

Dear Dr. Pierce

I am  
bringing my sister to  
you to-morrow for  
treatment, as Dr. Musico  
advises.  
She has wonderfully

improved during the  
last few days - in the  
matter of taking food.  
She has sat down at  
the table, and eaten  
every meal with an  
appetite.

Yours Respectfully  
W. A. Parratt.

Dr. Melford Pierce

Parkegate  
W. Rotherham  
Yorks

June 10. 1910

D<sup>r</sup> Desford Pierce.

Dear Sir,  
We have filled up  
the certificates necessary for the  
admission of Miss Parvett to the  
Asylum. Should these certificates  
be sent in advance or should  
they accompany her? The  
certificates are dated June 7<sup>th</sup>.  
Will you kindly let me know  
by return if you can admit  
her at once or on what day  
she might be sent.

I am,

yours truly  
Geo. H. Menzies

June 11, 1910

Dear Sir,

We can receive Miss Powatt on Monday. There is no need to send the Certificates in advance unless you have any doubt as to their being correctly filled up. It is important to have no blanks and carefully to comply with the instructions in the marginal notes.

Yours very truly,

Dr. Menzies

Parkgate 276

W Rotherham

June 1<sup>st</sup> 1910

Medical Superintendent

The Retreat

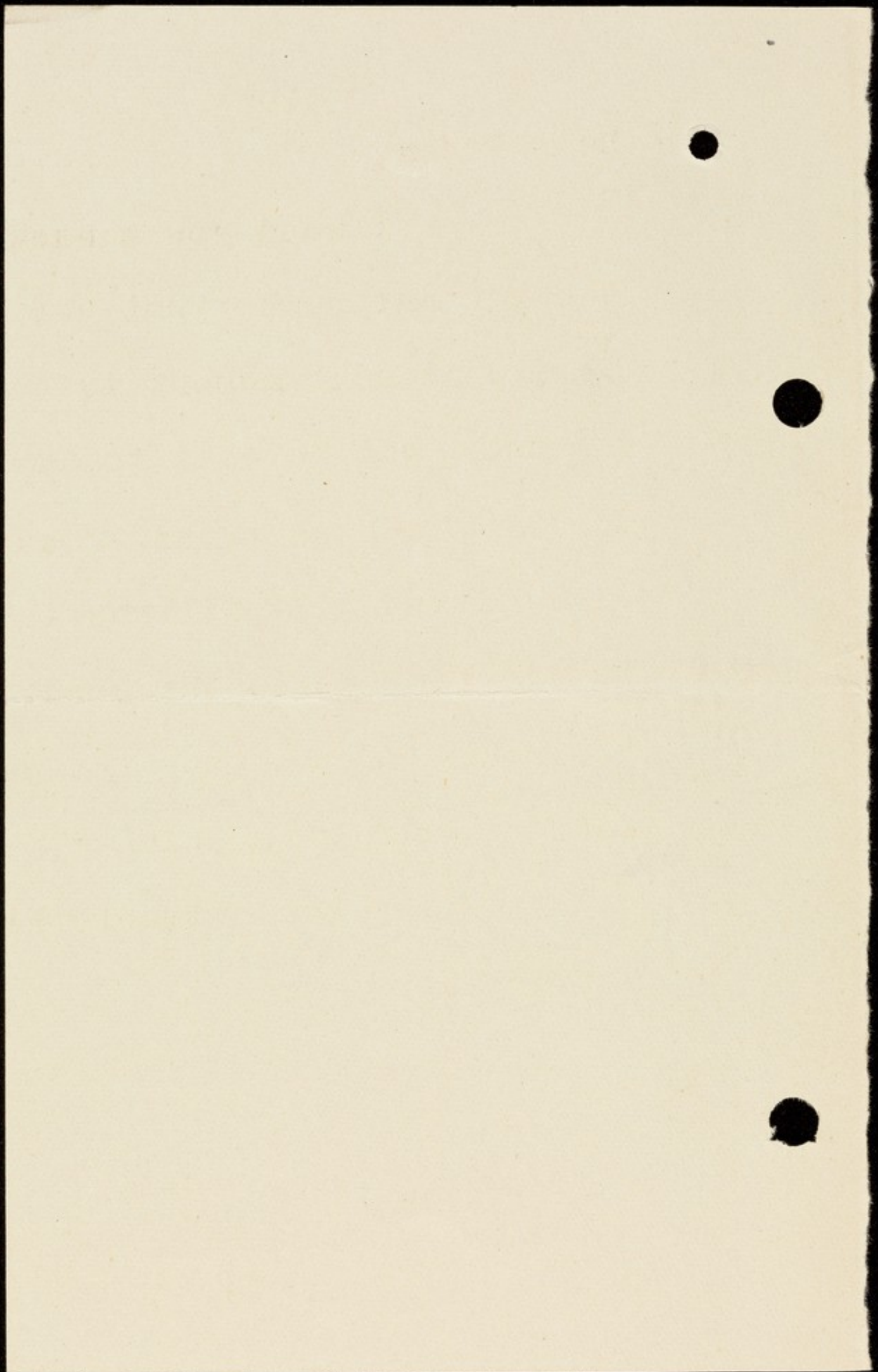
Dear Sir, I shall be much  
be obliged if you will send on,  
as soon as possible, the papers  
necessary for the admission  
of Miss Margaret Parratt  
to the "Retreat"

I am,

yours truly

George H. Menzies

also any further information  
regarding the admission that you  
may think necessary. She is  
suffering from "melancholia"



May 28, 1910

Dear Madam,

I send you a back number of the Retreat Report, the current number not yet being ready. Our difficulty at the present moment is that the Retreat is very full, and it would not be easy to admit a new case immediately.

If the proposed transfer can wait a little while I should be glad if you will fill up the enclosed form, giving us further particulars as to the case. At the same time perhaps you would say whether the patient would require a private sitting room or a private bed-sitting room, or whether in the day time she can suitably live in association with other patients.

Yours very truly,

Mrs. Parritt



PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY  
RICHARD CLAY AND COMPANY  
BUNGAY, SUFFOLK, ENGLAND

May 23, 1910

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter I send you a back number of the Report of the Retreat. The current number is not yet out of the printer's hands.

The question of terms depends very much upon the amount of care and attention that is needed. Perhaps you can send us some further particulars as to the amount of nursing required, and whether the patient is suicidal; also if private rooms are likely to be required.

Yours very truly,

Dr. G.H. Menzies

George W. Mumford Pres.

George W. Mumford

your truly

from

I shall be pleased if you  
will give me particulars about  
the Patent, fees, etc., as I  
have a patent when I  
may wish to have it there

Dear Sir,

St. Louis

Department

May 22. 1910

Paragon  
Mr. Robinson  
St. Louis

N.B.—The Secretary is instructed to obtain the necessary signatures to the accompanying form of guarantee before the care of any patient is undertaken by the Retreat.

## YORK RETREAT HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE.

In consideration of the Directors of the York Retreat Hospital for the Insane agreeing to receive Margaret Parratt of \_\_\_\_\_ as a patient in the said Hospital, I HEREBY UNDERTAKE AND AGREE with Richard Thompson of Dringate, The Mount York the Treasurer of the said Hospital, to pay or cause to be paid, to the said Richard Thompson as such Treasurer, or to the Treasurer for the time being of the said Hospital, all such Sum or Sums of Money as shall from time to time be or become due and payable for the Lodging, Maintenance, and care of the said patient in the said Hospital, or whilst under the charge of the Authorities of the said Hospital, and all such Sum or Sums of Money as shall be paid or disbursed by or on behalf of the said Institution for any articles of Wearing Apparel, or other necessaries, or extras supplied to, or provided for the said Patient, or the repairing or mending and washing of the articles of Wearing Apparel of the said Patient, so long as the said Patient shall continue in the said Hospital, or be under the charge of the Authorities of the said Hospital, and also to pay or cause to be paid the expenses in respect of the Funeral of the said Patient, in case the said Patient shall die in the said Hospital, or whilst under the charge of the Authorities of the said Hospital. AND I FURTHER AGREE to pay Interest at the rate of five per cent. per annum on any accounts due from me as above, which shall not have been discharged within Twenty-eight days from the receipt of such account from the Treasurer, Secretary, or Clerk of the said Hospital. AND I ALSO UNDERTAKE AND AGREE, at my own expense, to remove the said Patient from the said Hospital within Fourteen days after receiving Notice in writing from the Treasurer, Secretary or Clerk for the time being of the said Hospital, requiring such removal.

WITNESS my hand the 19<sup>th</sup> day of June 1910

Name Betsy A. Parratt

Residence 6 Cleveland Terrace Whitley York  
Home address: 3 Beech St. Parkgate

Occupation None - formerly Schoolmistress

SIGNED by the said Betsy A. Parratt

in the presence of

Witness's Signature

Address, and

Profession.

Emma J. Parratt.

3 Beech St. Parkgate Rotherham

Teacher

N.B.—The charge for Board, Lodging and Medical care is payable quarterly, in advance. Disbursements by the Institution on behalf of patients, and other exceptional expenses, are charged in the following quarter's account. A residence of less than a month is charged as a month.

In the event of the death, removal, or discharge of a patient before the expiry of the quarter covered by the last payment, the surplus amount is returned by the Retreat.

