

Porter, Winifred P.

Publication/Creation

1912-1912

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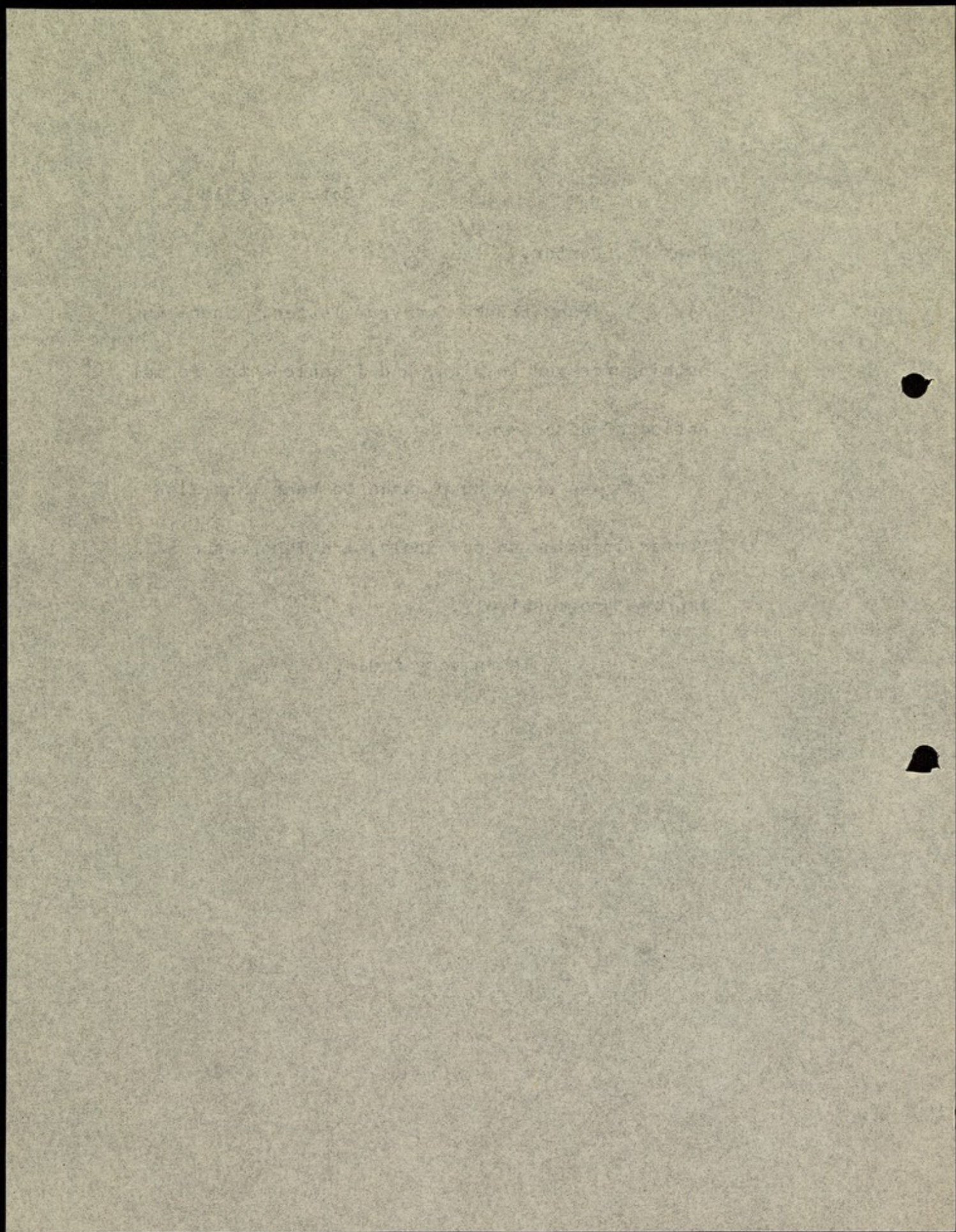
Oct. 10, 1912

Dear Mr. Porter,

Many thanks for your letter. There is nothing for you to sign, and I enclose the formal notice of discharge.

We are very pleased to hear that Miss Porter is going on so nicely, and I hope she will improve progressively.

Yours very truly,



11 ARLINGTON STREET,
HULL.

Oct: 9. 1912

Dear D. Pierce

Believe me, 10th

I'm reply to yours of the 3rd inst. I do think that we might venture on having a discharge made out for my daughter. So far as I can judge she seems to be getting better, and of course we hope this will continue.

I suppose this means taking her name off your books.

Are there any documents to sign?

She is at Witherssea now and I have not seen her since Saturday last, but I have no doubt that she is keeping well.

She will return I expect

on the 12th. (Saturday week.) -

The refund balance will
I ~~suppose~~ ^{hope} reach me on the
16th. ?

Yours faithfully
Walter Porter.

11 ARLINGTON STREET,
HULL.

Oct: 2. 1912

Dear Dr. Pierce

I am glad to be able to report that my daughter has made a little progress towards recovery since she left Throx only -

Though not yet quite normal yet she is now taking more interest in things and her general health is good; so we are hoping that she will not have any set back. She is quite willing to meet folk now, and gets out for walking daily. Since her home coming she has not caused any trouble at all.

Will you kindly arrange for the return of the money which is due to me from

the amount I last paid in
advances. You will find that
I paid up to Oct: 1st and she
left Thoroughly on Aug: 9th

I appreciate the kindness and
attention which you all gave
to her while she was at the
Retreat and am

Yours sincerely
Walter Teller

Dr. Bedford Pierce
The Retreat
York.

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11 ARLINGTON STREET,
HULL.

July 24. 1912

Dear Dr. Preece

I am much obliged to you
for your letter received this morning.

My daughter certainly does not
seem to have any idea of her
real condition, but when I was
with her on Saturday she made
no foolish or irrelevant remarks,
only at times seemed to find
it difficult to continue a
conversation to a definite issue
- many (apparently) being at
fault. A letter to her mother
this morning is not so con-
- herent as it should be.

Mr. Portin will be at Homeau
today looking after a place
for the family to go to during
August and we should like
Winifred to join us - if you

Can definitely approve of her coming.

It would be an experiment of course, and I should not care to try it, if you thought there was any possibility (likelihood) of disturbing her present quiet (though very slow) progress.

We should not think of putting her in any responsible position — but I am inclined to think that so long as she remained quiet mentally, the change might do her good.

Does your knowledge of the case permit you to agree with this view? If so we will act upon it and arrange for her return (on trial) about Aug 1.

Awaiting your reply
I remain

Yours sincerely
Walter Porter

11 ARLINGTON STREET,
HULL.

D. Bedford Price
The Retreat
York.

July 1912

Dear Sir,

I enclose cheque values
Thirty Three Pounds Two Shillings &
Two Pence as per acct: on behalf
of W. P. Porter.

Will you let me know if
you think Miss Porter is sufficiently
well to return home, or at
least to go with us to the
seaside at the end of this
month? We should like
to have her with us if you
think her mental condition
is sound enough to warrant
us taking that step.

We shall make no definite

arrangement until your reply
comes to hand.

My vacation begins about July 31.

Yours truly

Walter Porter.

29th July, 1912.

Dear Mr. Porter,

There are no formalities required before you take
^{Mr.} Mrs. Porter away on August 9th. We will let Miss Elkins know
that you are coming for her. I do hope she will get on well.

Yours faithfully,

W. Porter, Esq.,

11 Arlington Street,

Ball.

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11 ARLINGTON STREET,
HULL.

July 1. 1912

Dear Sir,

May we assume that Miss
Porter will stay at Throssenby
Hall for at least another
fortnight? I am leaving
home on business today
and shall not return until
the 16th inst.

I was sorry not to see you
last Saturday-week, but as
Miss Porter has been able
to go to Throssenby we are
hoping that it is a good
sign of progress towards
complete recovery; and
trust her stay there will
be very beneficial.

Is there any chance of
her being able to come home

in the near future say August?
We shall follow your advice
of course, and do not wish
to hurry matters. <sup>(It would be better
for me to be at
home when she
returns.)</sup>

If you wish to communicate
with me on "finances" I shall
be in Hull on Sunday ^{a flying visit}
but am leaving again that
night.

Yours truly
Walter Porter.

Dr. Bedford Price.
The Retreat
York.

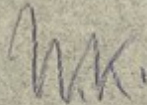
P.S. Would it be asking too much
to suggest that you send me
a report so that it may
reach Hull on Sunday
morning?

June 28, 1912

Dear Madam,

Your letter was forwarded to the Matron
at Throxenby Hall. Your daughter went there on
Monday, June 24th. I understood Mr. Porter was
told she would be going there when he called the
previous Saturday.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'W.K.', is written below the 'Yours truly,' text.

Mrs. Porter

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11 ARLINGTON STREET,
HULL.

June 12. 1912

Dear D. Peirce

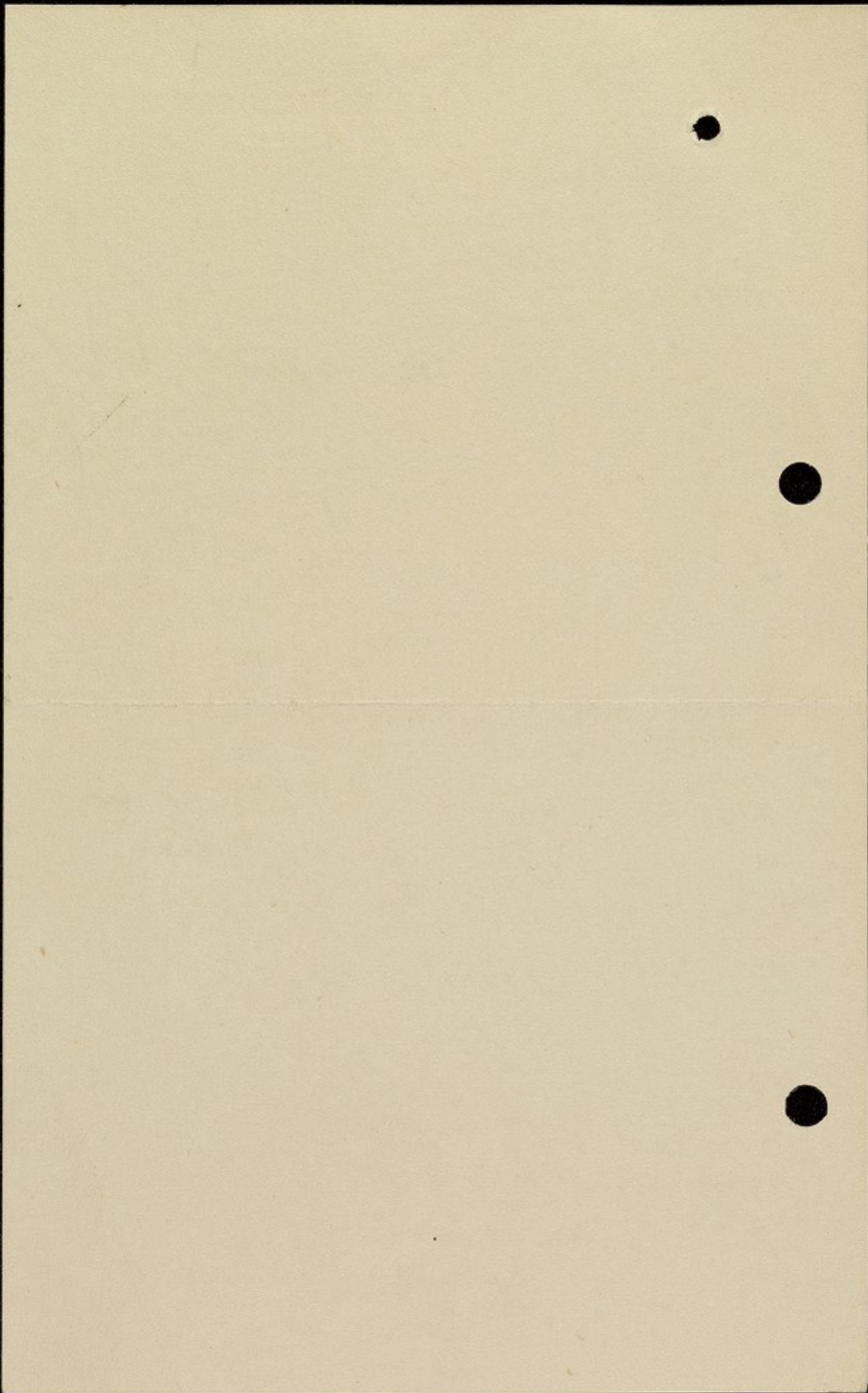
I shall be glad to let Miss
Porter join the party to Throxenby
Hall, Scarborough, if in your opinion
it will be of benefit to her,
and she is in a fit condition
to go.

Will you oblige me by letting me
know 1. How long the visit is ~~for~~ to
last 2. Particulars of expenses
attached to it. 3. When.

Is Miss Porter showing any
signs of recovery?

If she were in Scarborough during
August (or end of July) we could
perhaps see some thing of her - by
staying at Scarborough ourselves.

Yours truly
W. Porter.



11 Arlington Street ⁵⁹⁴
Aule - May 28. 1912

Dear Dr. Peirce

I have decided to bring Mr. Porter
to see our daughter on Friday morn.
If all goes well we shall reach the
Retreat at about 2.30.

I had hoped to have a line from
you (with reference to this visit) in
reply to my note of the 20th inst. but
it seems to have escaped your attention.

Could you oblige me with a line
as to Miss Porter's present condition
before Friday? She does not write
to any of us so we do not know
how she is going on.

Yours sincerely

Walter Porter.

FULL

HULL

8. 45 PM

28 MAY 12



D. Bedford Pierce

The Retreat

York.

11 ARLINGTON STREET,
HULL.

May 26. 1912

Dear Dr. Peice

Your letter dated the 14th which should have been acknowledged before, but have been thinking things over so you will understand the delay.

Your prognosis shews us how serious the condition of our daughter is and it is a great grief to us that there are no signs of recovery.

It is very difficult for me to get away from Hull but I hope to come and see her one day next week; and will then take your advice as to the future. We

must give her every chance possible and unless you declare the case to be hopeless she will remain at the Retreat.

I wish you could once again

induce her to write to her mother
or sisters.

Do you think ~~that~~ when I came
if Mr. Porter came with me there
would be any likelihood of
Winifred being at all excited
and so upset her mother?

She was extremely good when
last I came with her sister.

Yours truly

Walter Porter.

P.S.

Mr. Porter is not an excitable person
and naturally wants to see her, but
it will be a painful meeting,
and if Winifred became (or were
likely to be) excited I should regret
the meeting.

11 ARLINGTON STREET,
HULL.

May 13 - 12

Dear Dr. Peirce

I venture to write to you
once more about my daughter.

Will you give me your full
opinion as to her condition
and as to the prospects of the
future.

I enclose her last letter to me
so that you may see the kind
of communication sent.

Is there any chance of her
return to us at present?

Yours sincerely

Walter Porter.

P.S. Will you kindly return enclosed letter
to me; which she must not know
I have submitted to you, or she will
never write again I fear.



11 ARLINGTON STREET,
HULL.

July 28. 1912

Dear Dr. Price

I have succeeded in renting
a house at Hornsea, but we
cannot enter it until Thursday
Aug: 8th. Therefore I propose
fetching my daughter on Friday
Aug: 9th as it is better that
she ^{should} not come until we are
settled down.

Will you kindly give the
necessary "permit" for her to
come and also instruct the
person in authority that ~~and~~ I
shall call for her on the 9th?

I am assuming that she
will be at Thrapston until
that date. Is this correct?

If she had by any chance

to leave ~~thoroughly~~ before Aug 9th.
(in accordance with any of your
regulations) it ~~would~~ ^{would} be better
for her to come home, rather
than return to York.

In this latter case will you
give me at least two days notice?

I am glad that you are able
to make her "leave of absence
on trial" in definite as to length
of time.

Thanking you for your letter
of the 25th. I remain

Yours sincerely

Walter Tordis

May 14, 1912

Dear Mr. Porter,

I find it difficult to reply to your letter. Miss Porter behaves quite correctly and is pleasant to do with, but there is something lacking. She fails to respond in an ordinary way to conversation, lapses into silence as if she does not properly understand what is said. She altogether fails to grasp the reasons for her coming to the Retreat. She thinks it is a mistake, and wants to go home, but seems quite unable to understand the anxieties of the family concerning her. The letter you enclose shows a serious lack of understanding. It is true I suggested she should write home, but it was merely an encouragement on my part to keep you informed as to what she is doing and how she is going on and also to show a reasonable interest in home affairs.

As to the prognosis I cannot but feel that the situation is a grave one and that there is a serious danger that this is the beginning of a mental attack of a serious type. We do not think that she has improved materially since being here, though she says she is better herself; and I certainly cannot urge you to spend more money than you can rightly afford. Neither do I think Miss Porter is sufficiently well to remain at home, though she might manage all right for a short time. It looks to me as if the only course possible ~~was~~ will be to place her under care in some institution where the expense is less than at the Retreat.

Yours very truly,

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WALTER PORTER, F.R.C.O.,
ORG. C.M. OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH.
CONDUCTOR HARMONIC SOCIETY.
GRIMSBY PHILHARMONIC
SOCIETY.
EXAMINER INCORPORATED SOCIETY OF
MUSICIANS.
HON. EXAMINER FOR LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS.
R.C.M.
TEACHER OF SINGING,
PIANOFORTE PLAYING,
THEORY OF MUSIC,
COMPOSITION.

11 ARLINGTON STREET,
HULL, *March 8* 1912

✓
A. 12

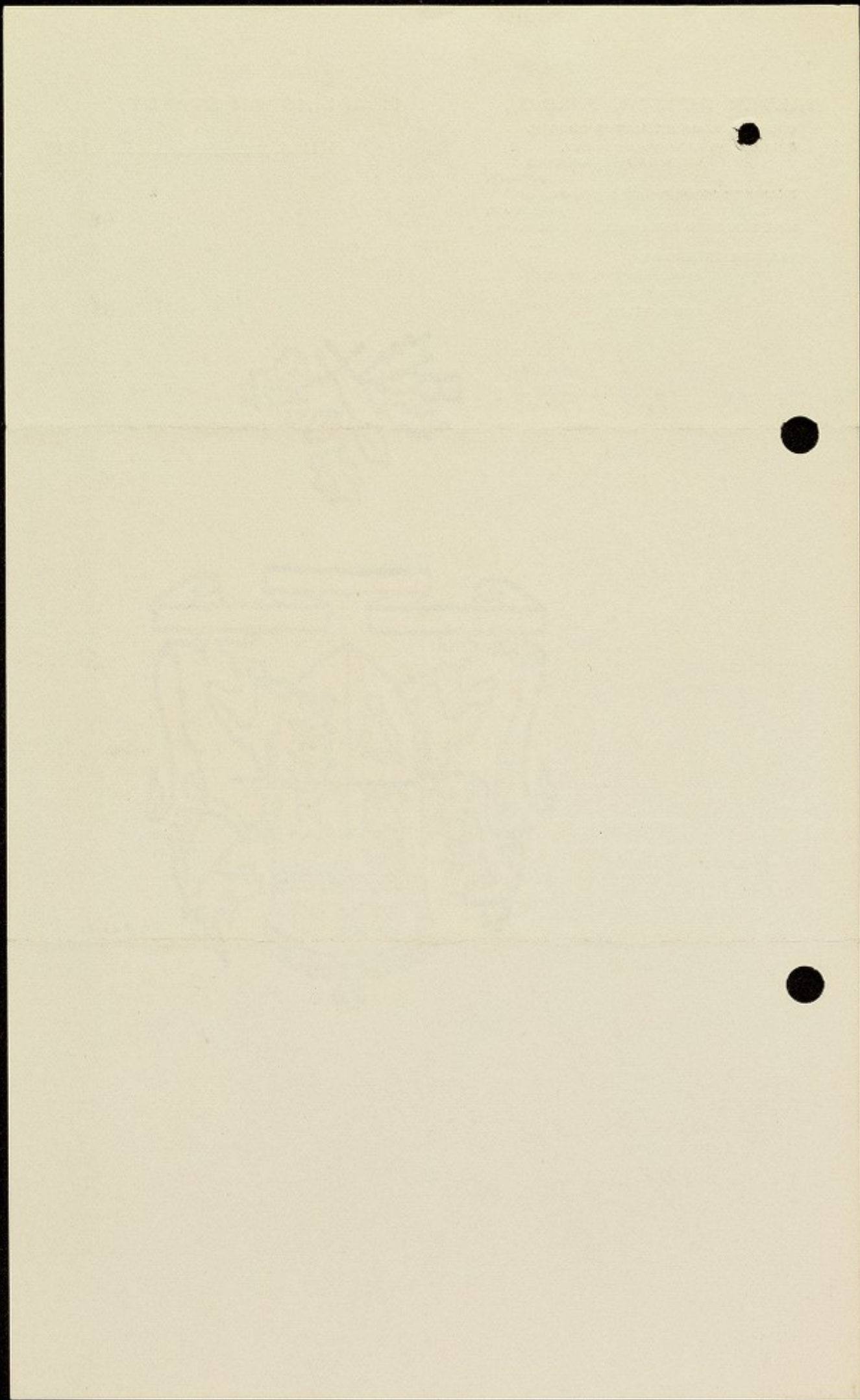
*Dr. Bedford Peice
The Retreat
York.*

Dear Sir,

I thank you for the report
of my daughter sent a week ago.

Will you be kind enough
again to let me know how
she has been during this last
week? We should also be glad
to know when you think we
might come and see her
without any disadvantage to
her progress.

Yours faithfully
Walter Porter.



March 2, 1912

Dear Sir,

On the whole Miss Porter has not done badly since she has been here. She has said and done very little that is seriously amiss. She cannot understand her position, and resents the few days in bed which we have prescribed in order to examine her more carefully. There is a good deal of irresponsibility and failure to grasp the situation. She is getting up today, for the first time, to go for a walk in the grounds.

Yours very truly,

W. Porter Esq.

1911

On the 1st of January 1911 the first of the
year was a fine day and the weather was
very good. The wind was from the west and
the temperature was about 50 degrees.
The sun was shining and the clouds were
very light. The water was calm and the
boats were out on the lake. The people
were all happy and the children were
playing in the park. The birds were
singing and the flowers were beginning
to bloom. The year was a very good
one and all the people were happy.



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

YORK RETREAT HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE.

In consideration of the Directors of the York Retreat Hospital for the Insane agreeing to receive Wmifed P. Porter of

as a patient in the said Hospital, I HEREBY UNDERTAKE

AND AGREE with Richard Thompson of Dringcliffe, The Mount, York the Treasurer of the said Hospital, to pay or cause to be paid, to the said Richard Thompson

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

WITNESS my hand the 22nd day of March 1912

Name Walter Porter

Residence 11 Arlington St. Hull

Occupation Teacher of Music

SIGNED by the said Walter Porter

in the presence of

Witness's Signature,

Address, and

Profession.

M. Needler
Princes Dock Hull
Shipping Agent

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.



Nov. 21. 1912

Dear Sir,

At the meeting of the Retreat
Comtee. on Tuesday the terms for
Miss Porter were fixed at \$6.00
I enclose the usual form of
agreement which kindly return to
me when signed & witnessed.

Yours truly

Wm. E. Miller

Secy.

Wm. E. Miller

Mar. 21. 1912

Dear Sir,
At the meeting of the Board
of Directors on Tuesday the 19th
their plans were fixed at 1912
under the usual form of
agreement which they believe to
be the best against competitors.

Yours truly
Wm. B. Allen
Sect.

Walter P. Smith