

**Report of the Committee of Visitors of the Bedford Lunatic Asylum, for the year ending the 31st of December, 1855 : with appendix.**

**Contributors**

Bedford Lunatic Asylum.  
Higgins, Thomas Charles.  
Denne, William.  
Swann, Edward.

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REPORT  
OF THE  
COMMITTEE OF VISITORS  
OF THE  
BEDFORD  
LUNATIC ASYLUM,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING  
THE 31<sup>ST</sup> OF DECEMBER, 1855.

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WITH APPENDIX.

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BEDFORD :  
PRINTED BY W. C. GREY.  
1856.

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HIGH STREET, ST. MARY'S, BEDFORD.

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# THE COMMITTEE OF VISITORS,

FOR THE YEAR, 1856.

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## FOR THE COUNTY OF BEDFORD.

THOMAS CHARLES HIGGINS, Esq., Chairman, *Turvey, Newport*  
JOHN HARVEY, Esq., *Ickwell Bury, Biggleswade.* [*Pagnet.*  
ROBERT LINDSELL, Esq., *Biggleswade.*  
HENRY LITTLEDALE, Esq., *Kempston, Bedford.*  
CHARLES MOORE, Esq., *Maulden, Silsoe.*  
WILLIAM ST. QUINTIN, Esq., *Goldington, Bedford.*  
WILLIAM LYNN SMART, Esq., *Linden, Woburn.*  
WILLIAM STUART, JUNR., Esq., M.P., *Kempston, Bedford.*  
WILLIAM HENRY WHITBREAD, Esq., *Southill, Biggleswade.*  
REV. CHAS. COLYEAR BEATY-POWNALL, *Milton Ernest, Bedford.*

## FOR THE COUNTY OF HERTFORD.

THE MOST NOBLE THE MARQUIS OF SALISBURY, K. G., *Hatfield.*  
RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF VERULAM, *Gorhambury St. Albans.*  
THE RIGHT HON. THE LORD DACRE, *The Hoo, Welwyn.*  
WILLIAM FRANKS, Esq., *Woodhill, Hatfield.*  
THOMAS MILLS, Esq., M.P., *Tolmers, Hertford.*  
WILLIAM JOHN BLAKE, Esq., *Danesbury, Welwyn.*  
GEORGE ROBERT MARTEN, Esq., *Marshalls Wick, Sandridge.*  
WILLIAM WILSHERE, Esq., *The Thryfte, Welwyn.*  
MARLBOROUGH PRYOR, Esq., *Weston, Stevenage.*  
REV. FREDERICK SULLIVAN, *Kimpton, Hitchin.*

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COLONEL LINTON, *Stirtloe House, Buckden.*  
GEORGE THORNHILL, Esq., *Diddington, Buckden.*  
GEORGE WILLIAM ROWLEY, Esq., *The Priory, St. Neots.*  
GEORGE RUST, Esq., *Cromwell House, Huntingdon.*  
CAPTAIN WILLIAM HUMBLEY, *Eynesbury, St. Neots*  
REV. JAMES LINTON, *Hemingford Abbots, St. Ives.*  
REV. GEORGE HEATHCOTE, *Connington, Stilton.*

REPORT

The Committee of Visitors, in laying before the Court their annual report of the state and condition of the Federal county juvenile asylum, in conformity with the third section of "The Juvenile Asylum Act, 1882," have the satisfaction of reporting that the same is in a state of

Y.	Y.	M.	F.	T.
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# REPORT.

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The Committee of Visitors, in laying before the Court their annual report of the state and condition of the Bedford county lunatic asylum, in conformity with the 62nd section of "The Lunatic Asylums Act, 1853," have the satisfaction of reporting favourably of the institution.

The admissions, discharges, removals, and deaths of the patients have been as follows, viz. :—

ADMISSIONS.			
	M.	F.	T.
Patients in the Asylum, December 31st, 1854 .....	138	159	297
Received during the year .....	40	57	97
Total .....	178	216	394
DISCHARGES, REMOVALS, AND DEATHS.			
	M.	F.	T.
Patients discharged—recovered .....	12	19	31
"    "    relieved .....	7	9	16
"    "    not improved .....		1	1
Removed to other asylums .....	2	2	4
Died during the year.....	18	25	43
Absent upon trial .....	3	1	4
	42	57	99
Remaining in the asylum, December 31st, 1855.....	136	159	295
Total .....	178	216	394



The following table will show the respective counties, &c. to which the patients remaining in the asylum on the 31st of December, 1855, severally belonged, viz. :—

NAME OF COUNTY, ETC.	M.	F.	T.
Bedfordshire .....	53	61	114
Borough of Bedford .....	2	5	7
Hertfordshire .....	61	64	125
Huntingdonshire .....	20	29	49
Total .....	136	159	295

The daily average number of patients maintained during the year has been 294, or an increase of 10 compared with last year.

The daily average number of patients who have been usefully employed during the year has been 177, viz. :—79 males and 98 females.

The employment of the males has been chiefly in bricklayer's and carpenter's work, shoemaking, tailoring, &c. : and in the cultivation of the garden and farm. Whilst that of the females has been in washing and ironing, sewing, knitting, plaiting, and general domestic work. The average number employed the preceeding year was 147, showing an increase of 30 daily.

The average number of patients attending chapel has been 106, or an increase of 10 compared with last year.



The number of deaths during the year has been 43, or a mortality of 10.9 per cent. on the total number of patients in the asylum in that period. The number last year was 26, or a mortality of 7.2 per cent. The committee are unable to ascribe any particular cause for this increase in the mortality, beyond the fact, that many of the patients who died were very aged and infirm.

As to the sufficiency of the asylum for the proper accommodation of the lunatics from the united counties, the committee have nothing to add to their former reports on this subject, nor is it necessary to do so, now that the question of building a new asylum on a new site has been determined upon.

The committee report that with the use of some old materials and the labour of the patients, they have been enabled to provide some new workshops on the male side, which were much wanted, as well as to effect some minor alterations and improvements in the asylum, in other respects, at a cost of about £50; by which arrangements, two of the present day-rooms are appropriated as dormitories, and additional accommodation for 16 patients thereby obtained.

At the annual meeting in February last, Mr. Musson, Assistant Medical Officer, having resigned that office, upon the recommendation of Mr. Denne, Resident Medical Superintendent, the



committee determined not to fill up the vacancy, but to consolidate the offices of steward and store-keeper, and to appoint an efficient person to discharge the duties thereof, at a salary of £80 per annum, with board, washing and furnished apartments. Accordingly, the committee caused the vacancy to be advertised, and they subsequently elected Mr. John Barnes, late Steward of the Leicester and Rutland County Asylum, to the office of Steward of this asylum.

The management of the asylum during the year has been under the superintendence of Mr. and Mrs. Denne, whose appointments as resident medical superintendent and matron, were adverted to in the last annual report.

The committee are happy to bear testimony, to the beneficial effects which have resulted in the improved condition of the patients generally, from the extended system of employment introduced by Mr. and Mrs. Denne—more especially amongst the females, whose quiet and cheerful demeanour form a pleasing contrast with their former state on that account.

The committee have much pleasure in reporting a legacy of £200 (less duty) to this asylum from Henericus Octavius Roc, Esq., late of Weston, Herts, “for the general purposes of the institution.”



The committee considered they should best carry out the intentions of the benevolent testator by directing the net amount received ( £180 ) to be invested in the Three Per Cent. Consolidated Bank Annuities in the name of four members of the committee, with a view of forming a Benevolent Fund for affording assistance to patients discharged from the asylum in special cases where the public rates cannot be legally applied.

The committee report that the asylum has been regularly visited throughout the year.

The commissioners in lunacy also made their annual visitation of the asylum, on the 13th of July ult., and recorded their observations thereon in the following minute :—

“Since the last visit of the commissioners, on the 10th Dec., 1854, 51 patients have been admitted ; 61 have been discharged, and 24 have died.

“There are at the present time 296 patients on the books of the asylum, viz. —141 men and 155 women, of whom three are absent on leave. We found them generally tranquil, and in fair bodily health. We understand that since the appointment of Mr. Denne, mechanical restraint has not been resorted to. A decided improvement is already perceptible in the condition of the women patients, whom we found more quiet, orderly, better dressed, and occupied.

“The rooms were clean and free from offensive smell. The cultivated grounds we found in good order and productive, but the walled yards, of which there are eight in number, still present a dull, cheerless, and prison like appearance.

“We are glad to find that the magistrates of Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire have decided on the erection of a new county asylum, subject to the concurrence of the magistrates of the county of Huntingdon. We earnestly hope that this design will be carried out with as little delay as possible. In



the meantime, although we do not recommend the expenditure of money on the present fabric, yet we think a liberal outlay might be prudently and usefully made in articles of furniture, means of occupation, cheerful books, and objects calculated to attract the attention, or afford recreation and amusement to the patients.

"We learn with pleasure that 11 chronic cases have been sent out on trial, and subsequently discharged; and we understand it is the intention of Mr. Denne to relieve the establishment, by removing several of the present inmates, provided they can be judiciously taken care of at home or elsewhere.

"We recommend for the consideration of the committee of visitors, whether, pending the erection of the new asylum, it might not be found advantageous to enter into an arrangement with some of the neighbouring public asylums, so as to secure temporary accommodation for the pauper patients, who cannot be received into this institution. The asylum for Warwickshire, Buckinghamshire, and the Borough of Birmingham have vacancies at the present time. Should there be any difficulty in affecting such an arrangement as this, we take leave to suggest, that temporary provision be made by renting a suitable building convenient to this asylum.

"We recommend that all the walls should be lowered, and at least two of the division walls taken down, and all the yards planted and made, either useful or ornamental: that wire work and bars be removed from the windows, and that a fixed night nurse be appointed on each side of the house, and that a record of the condition of the patients during the night time be kept.

"We have made several suggestions to Mr. Denne, having for their object, a further advance of the amount of occupation, exercise, and recreation of the patients.

"The system of treatment lately adopted has, in our opinion, already effected an improvement in the condition of the patients, and we trust that when it is fully carried out, the patients generally will become tranquil, orderly, and usefully occupied."

J. W. MYLNE, } Commissioners  
S. GASKELL. } in Lunacy.

The committee are happy to record in this report that the important question of building a new asylum on a new site has at length been brought to a satisfactory conclusion.



At the July midsummer sessions the county of Hertford agreed to make certain propositions, which are embodied in the following resolutions :—

1. That the present union and contract of union between the counties of Hertford, Huntingdon, Bedford, and the borough of Bedford be dissolved forthwith.

2. That a new union be formed between the same parties for the purpose of building a new asylum for pauper lunatics for the same three counties and borough, in some central situation, as proposed at the meeting held at Hitchin in November, 1853, according to the plan of Mr. Hill ; and upon the signing of an agreement to that effect, that the county of Hertford, acting under the provisions of the 39th section of the 16th and 17th Victoria, cap. 97, and in consideration of the debt incurred by the county of Bedford, in enlarging and improving the present asylum, will agree to pay to the county of Bedford the sum of £2,000, if the county of Huntingdon will agree to pay to the county of Bedford the sum of £1,000 for the same purpose ; and the county of Hertford, with the county of Huntingdon, will also agree, as a further compensation to the county of Bedford, to waive all claims they now have, on account of moneys spent by them respectively, in altering the present asylum.

3. When the new union is entered into, it shall be provided that, the existing arrangements as to the occupation of the present asylum and payment of rent, shall continue in force until the new asylum is fit for use, and the two sums of £2,000 and £1,000, mentioned in the second resolution, shall not be paid to the County of Bedford until the present rents cease.

4. That in case the above proposals shall not be agreed to by the county of Bedford, the county of Hertford will feel the absolute necessity of taking immediate steps to dissolve the union, in order to provide a fit asylum for all the pauper lunatics of this county.

These propositions were considered and discussed by the justices of the county of Bedford, at an adjourned session, held on the 7th of July last, when the following resolution was carried :—  
“That the offer made by the county of Hertford be adopted, and that twenty thousand pounds



(£20,000) be borrowed on the county rate for the purpose of building a new asylum on a new site, on the condition that the county of Huntingdon accede to the arrangement as suggested by the county of Hertford."

The county of Huntingdon, at an adjourned session, held on the 4th of August last, adopted the following resolutions, viz. :—

"1. The visitors appointed by this county are hereby recommended to concur in effecting the dissolution of the present union, as proposed in the first of the Hertfordshire resolutions ; and in anticipation of such dissolution being agreed to, the Clerk of the Peace is hereby directed to give notice of the intention of the justices of this county, to appoint at the next Michaelmas Quarter Sessions, a committee for the purposes mentioned in the 3rd section of the 16 & 17 Vict. c. 97, or some of them."

"2. If such dissolution shall be effected, and a new agreement of union shall be entered into, for the object stated in the second of the above mentioned Hertfordshire resolutions, with stipulations for the continued occupation of the present asylum, until the new asylum shall have been built, this county will agree to pay to the county of Bedford, the sum of £1,000 at the same time, and for the same purposes, and under the same powers as the county of Hertford has agreed, in the second and third of their resolutions, to pay to the county of Bedford the sum of £2,000, and this county will also agree in such case, and in the further execution of the same powers, to waive all claims for moneys spent in altering the present asylum."

The next step necessary to be taken to carry out the above mentioned resolutions was under the 39th section of the "Lunatic Asylums Act, 1853" to dissolve the union of the counties of Bedford, Hertford, and Huntingdon, and the borough of Bedford.

Accordingly a meeting of the committee of visitors was specially convened on the 14th of



August last, when the following resolution was carried, the Mayor of Bedford being the only dissident :—

“That with the consent of one of Her Majesty’s principal Secretaries of State, the union of the counties of Bedford, Hertford, and Huntingdon, and the borough of Bedford, formed under the act 8 & 9 Vict. c. 126, be determined and dissolved. And that before such dissolution takes effect, the several counties and borough parties to the union, be requested to elect a committee to provide an asylum for their county and borough, and authorize such committee to proceed for that purpose in manner by the “Lunatic Asylums Act, 1853,” provided, in the case of a county or borough not having an asylum.”

To this resolution the Right Hon. Sir George Grey, baronet, Her Majesty’s Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department, gave his consent in writing, dated 14th October last. And in pursuance of the provisions contained in section 5, of 18 & 19 Vict. c. 105, committees were elected by the respective counties and borough, and authorized to proceed for that purpose in manner directed by law, whereupon such dissolution took effect.

The justices and other persons appointed, and acting as the committee of visitors of the dissolved union, held a meeting, on the 11th of December instant, for the purpose of proceeding under the provisions contained in the 39th section of “the Lunatic Asylums Act, 1853” in order upon such dissolution to divide and allot the lands, buildings, hereditaments, chattels, moneys and effects of or belonging to such union, between the several counties and borough, when



the following resolutions were unanimously agreed to :—

On the motion of Mr. Marlborough Pryor, seconded by the Mayor of Bedford. Resolved “that, with the approbation of one of Her Majesty’s Principal Secretaries of State, all the lands, buildings, hereditaments, chattels, moneys and effects of or belonging to the union, between or among the counties of Bedford, Hertford, and Huntingdon, and the borough of Bedford, be now, upon the dissolution thereof, divided and allotted between the said counties and borough in the following proportions and manner, viz. :”—

1. To the county of Bedford, exclusively, shall be allotted the asylum, lands, buildings and appurtenances, including the additions and improvements heretofore made thereto and therein.

2. To the borough of Bedford shall be paid by the county of Bedford, the sum of £20 in full payment and satisfaction of the proportion to the said borough of all moneys expended in additions, alterations, and improvements to the said asylum.

3. To the county of Bedford, exclusively, shall be allotted such of the furniture, and other chattels and effects now in use, as were in the asylum on the 21st day of September, 1846.

4. Between the counties of Bedford, Hertford, and Huntingdon shall be divided the residue of the furniture, chattels and effects now in the use and purchased since the 21st day of September, 1846, in the several proportions fixed by their respective agreements for union; and to the borough of Bedford shall be paid by the said counties in such proportions, the sum of £30 in full payment and satisfaction, of all moneys expended by such borough in the purchase of such last-mentioned furniture, chattels, and effects.

A copy of the foregoing resolutions were transmitted to Sir George Grey, baronet, and have been duly approved by him.

Lastly, the committee report that the average weekly rate of payment for the maintenance of patients during the year has been 10s., or an increase of 3d., per head, per week, compared with the year preceeding, it should, however, be born in mind, that a considerable outlay in furniture, clothing, bedding, &c., has been indispensable, for the purpose of carrying into effect the new arrangements.

Signed on behalf of the Committee,

THO. CHA. HIGGINS, Chairman.

*December 31st, 1855.*





*The following Documents are appended to this Report :—*

SCHEDULE.

Report of the Resident Medical Superintendent .....	A
Report of the Chaplain .....	B
Statistical Tables.....	C
Abstract of Annual Returns.—Schedule D. ....	D
Report of Committee of Visitors upon Audit of Accounts .....	E
Abstract of Receipts and Payments .....	F
Abstract of Garden and Farm Account .....	G
Annual Abstract of Accounts with Counties, &c. and Unions.....	H
Comparative Table of Receipts and Expenditure from 1847 to 1855 .....	I





APPENDIX  
[A]REPORT  
OF THE  
RESIDENT MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT.

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*To the Committee of Visitors of the Bedford Lunatic Asylum.*

GENTLEMEN,

During the past year 40 male, and 57 female patients, were received into the asylum; of these 58 were cases of mania, 21 melancholia, 10 imbecility, 2 dementia, and 6 idiots. Of the combinations of disease amongst them, 13 were afflicted with paralysis, 10 with epilepsy, and to the propensity to suicide no less than 25 were reported to be disposed.

Seventeen of the above were re-admissions, whose absence extended over periods of from 1 month to 40 years; and 23 had been inmates of other asylums, consequently lessening, to an extent, the prospect of recovery.

Of the 52 discharges, 31 were recovered, 86 relieved, 8 not improved, and 4 were removed to other asylums, having been adjudicated to belong to parishes out of these counties.

The rate of mortality, as compared with former years, notwithstanding the entire absence of epidemic disease, has been above the average. The principal causes being similar to those in like institutions, viz.—paralysis, epilepsy, and pulmonary consumption, and several of the many asthenic diseases allotted to those suffering from exhausted nervous energy.

Coroner's inquests were held on 4 patients; of whom 2 males were found dead from asphyxia, caused in like manner, from the pressure of the nose and mouth against the pillow, during the



convulsion of epilepsy. These patients were known to be subject to that disease, and visited by the night attendant, but were attacked in the interval.

One man, aged 70 years, died from exhaustion, after an accidental fall from a table, which he had stepped upon, to enable him to open a window.

The 4th, a very distressing case, occurred in a woman between 70 and 80 years of age. She had been a most determined suicide from the time of her admission, and made frequent attempts at self-destruction in various ways, added to which, she had become so watchful of an opportunity to injure others, that an attendant was specially directed to observe her movements, and to take her out in the open air. In the performance of this duty, the nurse was violently attacked by her, and it was found absolutely necessary to put her in seclusion, which allowed her sufficient time, to suspend herself by her neckerchief to the window guard, and when visited, she was found quite dead.

In all these cases a verdict was returned, but without imputing blame to any one.

Withal, it is gratifying to state, that the health of the patients generally, has been good, doubtless in consequence of the generous diet, together with the beneficial effects of the physical exercise they have been encouraged to use in their daily occupations.

Although tables are appended to this report of the amount of material used, and the number of articles made up, with the result of their successful efforts in the farm and garden, yet part must necessarily be omitted. But more than ordinary satisfaction has been the reward of the officers and servants, to witness, day by day, the hearty manner with which the patients have carried on their work, amounting, often, to a degree of emulation amongst them, seldom witnessed in the insane.

By way of illustration, it may be mentioned, that they undertook the erection of 4 workshops and a drying room, and



completed them, even to the slating. The tailors, shoemakers, and carpenter's shops, have now been advantageously in use for some time.,

The removal of the prison-like division walls of the airing courts, afforded sufficient bricks for the new buildings, and other alterations you have kindly permitted me to make ; adding not only comfort to the inmates, but additional accommodation for several more patients, at a very trifling outlay.

It would be superfluous to enter upon the want of accommodation in this asylum ; since it has been settled, that an entire new structure, in a more convenient locality for the three counties, shall be erected.

The Commissioners in lunacy visited the asylum on the 12th and 13th of July last, and were pleased to make favorable mention of the condition of the patients, and state of the asylum, with several suggestions ; which have, to some extent, been carried out.

A night watch has been organized on both sides of the house, and numerous have been the advantages from that source.

The choice of attendants being one of the most important duties in the management of an asylum, our best attentions have been directed to that point ; always looking to high moral standing, a certain amount of education, added to firmness of purpose, combined with benevolence ; so as to enable them to lead with calmness, control by kindness, and amuse with cheerfulness. And it affords me pleasure to state that their duties in general, have been diligently and efficiently performed.

Small as have been our resources for amusement, every attempt has, apparently succeeded beyond our anticipations. During the winter months, several evenings were devoted to dancing, when from 100 to 140 of both sexes have enjoyed the country dance. In the summer, a large party met in a neighbour's field, where they had their tea and supper ; some of the men played at cricket, and the women with the rest had a dance.



Every available opportunity for recreation beyond the bounds of the asylum, has been taken advantage of, such as the regatta, races, &c. Parties also have been allowed the privilege of taking country walks, and from the unbounded expressions of gratitude, especially from those who have been inmates for years, this concession has proved most encouraging. And I must add, that not in a single instance, has there been the slightest indecorum.

The formation of a brass band among the attendants, is likely to be attended with much good, as a diversion to the patients, and a break in the monotony of asylum life. I must offer my warmest thanks to the officers and servants, for the kindly aid they have ever rendered me in my arduous undertaking.

I have thus completed the first entire year, since the change in the conduct of the asylum, and one of no small importance, as being the last to follow the example, so nobly set by the immortal Pinel in France, and entered into with spirit by all the County Asylums throughout this kingdom, of ameliorating the condition of the insane, by diverting the tenour of thought in the perturbed brain to a natural exercise of the faculties, and by a varied system of employment best adapted to their humble stations in life. To the successful results of this system, many able men now annually bear testimony.

May each succeeding year give to the poor afflicted inmates fresh feelings of thankfulness for the increased benefits you have so freely bestowed upon them during the last.

In conclusion, I beg to assure you, that my labours have been lightened by the uniform support and consideration you have given to my suggestions for the improvement of the Institution. And with every feeling of gratitude

I have the honor to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

WM. DENNE.

February, 1856.



## APPENDIX

[B]

## REPORT OF THE CHAPLAIN.

*To the Committee of Visitors of the Bedford Lunatic Asylum.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honor to report to you that my best attention has been given to the regular discharge of the duties of my office during the past year. The Report of the Superintendent will inform you that the number of burials in the Cemetery of this Asylum has been unusually large, which I conceive is attributable to the fatality of the season, because the number of sickly patients, has appeared to me to be fewer than usual.

The attendance at Divine service has been remarkably good, and the behaviour of the patients, with rare exceptions, excellent. The singing and chaunting has been superior to that of former years. By confining ourselves to well selected church tunes, we avoid the apparent excitement which the patients occasionally exhibited, when, for want of help, I was obliged to permit them to choose their own tunes. A little too much emphasis then marked the distinction between them and an ordinary congregation. No one would now notice any difference.



I hope I shall not be thought to exceed my province in saying that, when a new Asylum shall be built, and new arrangements made, a resident Chaplain would be a great advantage to the Institution ; especially, if one could be found, uniting to other qualifications, a competent knowledge of church music. Such a minister might not only officiate at morning and evening prayer but might set on foot and superintend a system of reading instructive and entertaining books in several of the wards, and train such as are susceptible of improvement in music. Many of the household have some knowledge of music, and the patients are almost universally fond of it. Practise is much wanted, but all those connected with the Establishment are too busy with their own duties, to devote the time necessary to train and teach others.

I have the honor to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

EDWARD SWANN,

*Chaplain.*

APPENDIX  
[c]

STATISTICAL TABLES.

TABLE I.

GENERAL RESULTS OF THE YEAR, 1855.

				M.	F.	T.
Patients in the Asylum, December 31st, 1854 .....				138	159	297
" admitted in 1855.....				40	57	97
Total under treatment .....				178	216	394
Removed during the year.	M.	F.	T.			
Recovered .....	12	19	31			
Relieved.....	9	11	20			
Not Improved .....		1	1			
	21	31	52			
Died .....	18	25	43			
				39	56	95
Remaining in the asylum, December 31st, 1855 .....				139	160	299



TABLE II.

NUMBER OF ADMISSIONS, DISCHARGES, AND DEATHS, DURING EACH MONTH  
IN THE YEAR.

Months.	Admissions.			Discharges.			Deaths.		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
January .....	4		4				1	1	2
February .....	1	3	4	4		4	1	1	2
March .....	4	3	7	1	4	5	1	5	6
April .....	5	6	11	4	2	6	4	2	6
May .....	5	5	10		3	3	2	2	4
June .....	3	6	9	2	5	7		3	3
July .....	3	5	8		3	3	2		2
August .....	2	3	5	2	3	5	1	4	5
September .....	5	6	11	1	4	5	2	3	5
October .....	3	8	11	2	1	3	1	1	2
November .....		6	6	1	3	4		1	1
December .....	5	6	11	4	3	7	3	2	5
Total .....	40	57	97	21	31	52	18	25	43

\* \* \* *The Three following Tables contain the particulars of 97 cases admitted during the year.*

TABLE III.

AGE.	M.	F.	T.
From 10 to 20 years .....	5	2	7
„ 20 to 30 years .....	9	14	23
„ 30 to 40 years .....	10	13	23
„ 40 to 50 years .....	10	8	18
„ 50 to 60 years .....	2	6	8
„ 60 to 70 years .....	3	11	14
„ 70 to 80 years .....	1	1	2
„ 80 to 90 years .....		1	1
„ 90 to 100 years .....		1	1
Total .....	40	57	97

TABLE IV.

Social Condition.	M.	F.	T.
Married .....	16	24	40
Single .....	24	22	46
Widowed.....		11	11
Total.....	40	57	97

TABLE V.

Form of Insanity.	M.	F.	T.
Mania .....	9	17	26
Suicidal .....	4	7	11
with Epilepsy .....	3	2	5
Suicidal .....	1	2	3
with Paralysis Suicidal .....	1	1	2
with Incipient general Paralysis .....	5	1	6
with Delusions .....	2	2	4
with Hysteria .....		1	1
Melancholia.....	1	1	2
Suicidal .....	3	11	14
with Epilepsy .....	1	1	2
Suicidal .....		1	1
with Paralysis Suicidal .....		1	1
with Hysteria Suicidal .....		1	1
Imbecility Suicidal.....	1		1
with Epilepsy .....	1	1	2
with Paralysis.....	1	1	2
Congenital .....	1	1	2
with Epilepsy.....	1		1
Senile .....		1	1
Suicidal .....		1	1
Dementia.....		1	1
with Epilepsy .....		1	1
Idiotcy Congenital .....	5	1	6
Total .....	40	57	97



TABLE VI.

TABLE OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR

No.	Form of Disease.	Age		Cause of Death.	Duration of Disease	Time under treatment
		M.	F.			
767	Imbecility, Epilepsy ....	28		* Epilepsy ....	Unknown	3 years
946	Dementia .....	21		Fever after Epilepsy .....	From childhood	2 years
874	Imbecility .....	85		Paralysis ....	Unknown	2 years
799	Dementia Epilepsy .....	28		Exhaustion from sloughing feet	Unknown	3 years
461	Imbecility .....	66		Gangrene of feet	10 years	6 years
972	Mania, with gen. Paralysis	42		Genl. Paralysis	2 years	5 months
711	Mania .....	29		Pul. Consumption	Unknown	4 years
629	Mania, Epilepsy .....	27		Genl. Dropsy ..	Unknown	5 years
921	Mania with Hysteria ....	46		Exhaustion after Mania ...	14 years	1 year
882	Mania .....	59		Gangrene of leg	2 years	2 years
353	Ditto .....	79		Bronchitis ...	38 years	8 years
839	Dementia .....	70		* Exhaustion from Injuries accidentally received ...	Unknown	2 years
970	Imbecility ( Congenital Epileptic) .....	54		Paralysis .....	From childhood	3 months
935	Mania Epilepsy .....	63		P. Consumption	9 months	9 months
717	Dementia Epilepsy .....	44		Paralysis ..	5 years	5 years
827	Idiotcy Epilepsy .....	32		General Debility	From childhood	3 years
866	Mania .....	65		Erysipelas ....	Unknown	2 years
814	Dementia Epilepsy .....	30		Fever after Epilepsy .....	Unknown	3 years
383	Imbecility .....	75		General Debility	11 years	8 years
881	Mania G. P. ....	44		Genl. Paralysis	2 years	1 year
996	Mania .....	61		P. Consumption	3 years	6 weeks
992	Mania with Paralysis ...	32		Bronchitis ...	Unknown	3 months
954	Melancholia (Suicidal) ..	71		* Strangulation by Hanging..	13 years	8 months
1	Imbecility .....	78		Bronchitis ....	Unknown	41 years
690	Mania Epilepsy .....	45		Dysentery ....	Unknown	5 years
1015	Melancholia (Suicidal) ..	50		Paralysis .....	1 year	6 months
1010	Imbecility (Senile) ....	71		Diarrhœa ....	4 months	2 months
1012	Melancholia (Suicidal) ..	60		Pneumonia ....	3 months	2 months
776	Idiotcy (Congl. Epilepsy)	21		Fever after Epilepsy .....	From Childhood	3 years
910	Imbecility (Epilepsy) ...	21		* Epilepsy ....	Unknown	1 yr. 3 m.
1017	Mania .....	67		Exhaustion after mania.	7 months	2 months
751	Dementia .....	65		Natural decay..	Unknown	4 years
1009	Mania .....	18		P. Consumption	Unknown	4m. 2wks
1029	Melancholia .....	40		† Exhaustion ..	1 year	10 days
358	Idiotcy (Congl. Epilepsy)	17		General debility	From Childhood	8 years
633	Imbecility .....	53		Exhaustion ....	11 years	10 years
891	Dementia .....	63		Paralysis .....	Unknown	1 year
1039	Imbecility (Senile) .....	81		General debility	1 month	
259	Dementia .....	64		Disease of heart	29 years	9 years
1028	Mania (G. Paralysis) ....	44		Gen. paralysis..	2 years	1 year
1024	Melancholia (Paralysis) ..	67		Paralysis .....	1 year	4 months
351	Idiotcy (Epilepsy) .....	20		Epilepsy	Unknown	9 years
311	Dementia .....	44		General debility	8 years	8 years

\* Verdict Coroner's Jury.

† This case was afterwards reported to have refused food for upwards of a month.



TABLE VII.

Age of Patients in the Asylum.	M.	F.	T.
Under 10 years .....	1	1	2
From 10 to 20 years .....	5	4	9
„ 20 to 30 years .....	28	30	58
„ 30 to 40 years .....	40	37	77
„ 40 to 50 years .....	24	29	53
„ 50 to 60 years .....	16	29	45
„ 60 to 100 years .....	19	26	42
Age unknown .....	9	4	13
Total .....	139	160	299

*The times appointed for the Patient's Rising, Employment, Recreation, and going to Bed.*

	Time for Rising.	Interval for Breakfast & Chapel.	Em- ploy- ment.	Interval for Dinner.	Employ- ment.	Interval for supper and recreation	Time for going to bed.*
From 25 Mar. to 29 Sept.	6 o'clock.	7 to halfpast 8	$\frac{1}{2}$ past 8 to 12	half-past 12 to 2	2 to 6	6 to 9	9 o'clock.
From 29 Sept. to 25th March.	6 o'clock.	7 to halfpast 8	$\frac{1}{2}$ past 8 to 12	half-past 12 to 2	2 to halfpast 4	6 to 8	8 o'clock.

\* Those who wish to go to bed earlier are allowed to do so.

#### ATTENDANTS AND SERVANTS RATIONS.

MALES.		FEMALES.	
Weekly.	Daily	Weekly.	Daily.
4 oz. Coffee	1 lb. Bread	3 oz. Tea	1 lb. Bread
$\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Moist sugar	1 lb. Cooked meat	$\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Lump sugar	1 lb. Cooked meat
$\frac{3}{4}$ lb. Cheese	3 Pints beer	or	$1\frac{1}{2}$ pints Beer
$\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Butter	$\frac{1}{4}$ -pint New milk	$\frac{3}{4}$ lb. Moist sugar	$\frac{1}{2}$ pint New milk
or	Vegetables accord-	$\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Cheese	Vegetables accord-
1 lb. Bacon	ing to season	$\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Butter	ing to season.
Fruit and other		or	
Puddings twice		1 lb. Bacon	
		Fruit and other	
		Pudding twice.	



# DIETARY TABLE.

Days of the week.	BREAKFAST.					DINNER.										SUPPER.															
	Males.		Females.			Males.					Females.					Males.					Females.										
	Bread.	Milk Porridge	Bread.	Butter.	Tea.	Beer.	Bread.	Cooked Meat.	Plum Pudding.	Pie.	Soup.	Stew.	Vegetables.	Beer.	Bread.	Cooked Meat.	Plum Pudding.	Pie.	Soup.	Stew.	Vegetables.	Beer.	Bread.	Butter.	Cheese	Tea.	Bread.	Butter.	Plum Cake.	Tea.	
Sunday, ..	oz. 7	pt. 1½	oz. 6	oz. ½	pt. 1	pt. ½	oz. 2	oz. 6	oz. ....	oz. ....	pt. 1½	pt. ....	oz. 16	pt. ½	oz. 2	oz. 5	oz. .	oz. ....	pt. 1	pt. ....	oz. 12	pt. ....	pt. ½	oz. 7	oz. ¼	oz. ....	pt. 1	oz. ....	oz. 8	pt. 1	
Monday ..	7	1½	6	½	1	...	8	...	...	...	1½	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	½	7	...	1½	...	6	½	...	1
Tuesday ..	7	1½	6	½	1	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	16	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	12	...	½	7	...	1½	...	6	½	...	1
Wednesday	7	1½	6	½	1	...	6	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	½	7	...	1½	...	6	½	...	1
Thursday..	7	1½	6	½	1	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	16	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	12	...	½	7	...	1½	...	6	½	...	1
Friday ...	7	1½	6	½	1	...	...	1½	...	10	...	...	4	...	...	1½	...	10	...	...	4	...	½	7	...	1½	...	6	½	...	1
Saturday ..	7	1½	6	½	1	...	...	...	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	½	7	...	1½	...	6	½	...	1
Totals ....	49	10½	42	3½	7	½	16	19½	16	10	1½	1	52	½	12	16½	12	10	1	1	40	3	49	½	9	1	36	3	8	7	

N.B.—Scale per Gall. for Porridge,..... Twelve ounces Oatmeal, One pint New Milk.

" " Tea..... One ounce Tea, Four ounces Sugar, One pint New Milk.

" " lb. for Plum Pudding... Eight ounces Flour, One ounce Suet, One ounce Raisins, and One ounce Treacle.

Soup for 300 Patients. .... The liquor of the Meat the previous day, 75lbs. Legs and Shins of Beef, 14lbs. Peas, 56lbs. Carrots, 28lbs. Onions, 14lbs. Oatmeal, Salt, Pepper, Herbs, &c.

Stew for 300 Patients. .... The liquor of the Meat the previous day, 40lbs. Meat, 112lbs Potatoes, 28lbs. Onions, 14lbs. Oatmeal.

Extra.—All Male Patients Employed.—Two ounces Bread, ½-ounce Cheese, and ½-pint Beer at 10 a.m., and ½-pint Beer at 4 p.m.

Women employed at the Wash-house and Laundry.—Six ounces Meat and Vegetables for Dinner on Mondays. Bread and Cheese and ½ pint of Beer at 10 a.m. and at 4 p.m.

Helpers in the Wards and Needlewomen—Bread and Cheese and ½-pint Beer at 10 a.m.

Snuff and Tobacco to be given as indulgences to the workers, &c.

JOHN BARNES, *Steward.*



A return of Clothing and other Articles made and repaired in  
the Asylum during the year, 1855.

MALES.			FEMALES.		
	MADE	REPD.		MADE	REPD.
Boots and Shoes .....	285	393	Aprons .....	418	639
Caps .....	133		Bed ticks .....	81	93
Coats and Jackets ...	44	696	Blankets marked.....	160	
Waistcoats .....	18	409	Bonnets straw.....	106	
Trousers .....	41	1192	Boots & shoes bound	207	
Ticken dresses .....	3		Caps .....	261	946
Ditto rugs .....	2		Chemises .....	468	2294
			Chair Covers .....	9	
			Drawers .....	12	
			Flannel shirts .....	94	81
			Gowns .....	281	2144
			Handkerchiefs .....	818	
			Hats (straw) .....	96	
			Hoods .....	43	
			Mangling cloths .....	4	
			Night caps .....	193	10
			Night gowns.....	135	716
			Petticoats .....	292	978
			Pillow cases .....	358	2156
			Pillow ticks .....	80	
			Rugs.....		20
			Sheets .....	477	3220
			Shawls .....	19	
			Shirts .....	231	993
			Stays (jean).....	29	156
			Stockings knitted ...	68	6164
			Stockings marked ...	168	
			Straw plait .....score	301	
			Seed bags.....	82	
			Table cloths.....	40	
			Towels .....	318	
			Window blinds .....	20	
			Velvet stocks .....	200	
The work of the male patients in this return, commences from April the 1st.					
	526	2690		6069	20610

Return of Clothing and Material in store, Dec. 31st, 1855.

CLOTHING.		MATERIAL.	
Linen Aprons .....	12	Calico .....	671yds.
Check ditto .....	89	Cotton print .....	78 "
Print ditto .....	10	Coburg .....	507 "
Pinafores .....	19	Corduroy .....	74 "
Braces .....	61	Drabbette.....	185 "
Bonnets Straw.....	21	Fustian .....	87 "
Chemises .....	229	Flannel.....	35 "
Handkerchiefs .....	87	Jean .....	74 "
Neckerchiefs.....	227	Slate lining .....	557 "
Hats straw .....	17	Lindsey .....	143 "
Night caps .....	42	Lawn .....	28 "
Night gowns .....	64	Muslin .....	22 "
Petticoats.....	179	Pilot cloth .....	114 "
Shawls .....	17	Serge.....	18 "
Shirts .....	84	Upper leather .....	118lbs.
Stays Jean .....	30	Sole leather .....	57 "
Stockings pair.....	146	Worsted .....	3 "

JOHN BARNES, STEWARD.



## APPENDIX

[D]

## ABSTRACT OF ANNUAL RETURNS,

16 &amp; 17 VICT., CAP. 97, Schedule D.

Name of Union.	In County Asylum.		In License Houses or other Asylums.		With Friends and in Workhouses.		Totals of both Sexes.	Persons not in confinement.			
	M	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		Dangerous to self or others.		Of Dirty Habits.	
								M.	F.	M	F.
<i>Bedfordshire.</i>											
Ampthill .....	10	10	..	..	5	8	33	..	..	1	..
Bedford .....	16	28	..	..	6	7	57	..	..	..	..
Biggleswade .....	12	10	..	1	11	21	55	..	..	2	..
Hitchin, part of ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Leighton Buz.,pt. of	1	2	2	..	3	2	10	..	..	..	..
Luton, part of .....	8	9	1	..	5	6	29	..	..	..	2
Neots St., part of..	1	3	..	1	2	6	13	..	..	..	..
Wellingboro,'part of	1	..	..	..	2	..	3	..	..	..	..
Woburn.....	6	6	..	..	7	8	27	..	..	..	..
Totals .....	55	68	3	2	41	58	227			3	2
<i>Hertfordshire.</i>											
Albans St. ....	4	4	..	..	9	21	38	..	..	..	..
Amersham, part of	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Barnet, part of ...	1	2	..	2	..	1	6	..	..	..	..
Berkhamsteadpt.of	3	2	..	1	4	11	21	..	..	..	..
BishopStortfordptof	7	6	2	3	9	12	39	..	..	..	..
Buntingford .....	2	3	..	..	4	6	15	..	..	..	..
Edmonton, part of	1	2	3	4	2	3	15	..	..	..	..
Hatfield .....	3	7	..	..	3	6	19	..	..	..	..
Hemel Hempstead..	4	4	..	1	2	1	12	..	..	..	..
Hertford ... ..	6	6	1	1	5	7	26	..	..	1	1
Hitchin, part of ..	11	13	..	1	17	11	53	..	..	..	..
Luton, part of .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Royston. ....	1	..	..	..	2	5	8	..	..	..	..
Ware .....	5	4	1	2	10	15	37	..	..	..	..
Watford .....	11	10	..	2	9	10	42	..	..	1	1
Welwyn.....	1	2	..	..	..	1	4	..	..	..	..
Totals .....	60	65	7	17	76	110	335			2	2
<i>Huntingdonshire.</i>											
Caxton, part of....	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Huntingdon .....	5	11	1	6	..	1	28	..	..	..	..
Ives, St., part of ..	9	10	..	..	4	..	21	..	..	..	..
Neots, St., part of..	5	4	3	..	2	7	23	..	..	1	..
Oundle, part of....	..	..	..	..	4	..	1	..	..	..	..
Peterboro,' part of	2	1	3	2	1	6	16	..	..	..	..
Stamford, part of ..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
Thrapston, part of..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..
Totals .....	22	26	7	8	13	15	91			1	
Grand Totals .....	137	159	17	27	130	183	653			6	4



## APPENDIX

[E]

REPORT  
OF THE  
COMMITTEE OF VISITORS  
UPON THE  
AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS.

The Committee of Visitors report, that they have audited the Accounts of the Treasurer and Clerk of the Bedford County Lunatic Asylum for the year 1855, as directed by Section 60, of "the Lunatic Asylums Act, 1853." An abstract thereof is presented herewith.

The Receipts for the year (exclusive of Balances)	£.	s.	d.
have been .....	8719	14	4
The Payments for the year (exclusive of Balances) have been .....	8836	6	5
Shewing an excess of Payments over Receipts of	£116	12	1

The Balances due to the Asylum on the 31st of Dec. 1855, are

From Superintendent	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	65	0	0
„ Counties and Unions	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	98	17	0
„ County of Bedford, for repairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	66	11	10½
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£230	8	10½



The Balances due from the Asylum at the same period are

To Treasurer ... ..	566	0	8
„ Counties and Unions ... ..	89	16	10 $\frac{1}{4}$
Total ... ..	<u>£655</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>6<math>\frac{1}{4}</math></u>

Leaving a net Balance due to the Maintenance Account of £425 8 7 $\frac{3}{4}$   
 Or an increase of £268. 1s. 10d. compared with last year.

The Garden and Farm Account is as follows,

To Cash received for sales, produce ... ..	228	5	11
Maintenance Account, for Meat, Vegetables, &c. consumed in the House ... ..	203	10	4
	<u>£431</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>3</u>
The Payments amount to ... ..	217	1	4
	<u>£214</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>11</u>
To which should be added the extra value in the Live and Dead stock compared with last year ... ..	42	12	0
Net profit on the year ... ..	<u>£257</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>11</u>

(Signed)

THO. CHA. HIGGINS,  
 GEORGE RUST,  
 WM. ST. QUINTIN,  
 C. C. BEATY POWNALL,  
 CHAS. MOORE,  
 W. STUART, JUN.

Bedford, February 12th, 1856.