

The seventy-third report of the Visiting Justices appointed to superintend the building, erection, and management of the County Lunatic Asylum at Hanwell / [Middlesex County Lunatic Asylum].

Contributors

Middlesex Lunatic Asylum at Hanwell.
Tulk, Charles Augustus, 1786-1849.
Morrison, J.
Wright, Charles.
Allen, C.
Allen, J.

Publication/Creation

[Place of publication not identified] : [publisher not identified], [1845]

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/xdau7brk>

License and attribution

This work has been identified as being free of known restrictions under copyright law, including all related and neighbouring rights and is being made available under the Creative Commons, Public Domain Mark.

You can copy, modify, distribute and perform the work, even for commercial purposes, without asking permission.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

To HER MAJESTY'S JUSTICES OF THE PEACE
FOR THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX IN GENERAL QUARTER
SESSION ASSEMBLED.

*THE SEVENTY-THIRD REPORT of the
VISITING JUSTICES appointed to Super-
intend the Building, Erection, and Management
of THE COUNTY LUNATIC ASYLUM AT HANWELL.*

THE Visiting Justices are happy to report as to the state of the Asylum, that they have little else to communicate to the Court on the present occasion besides their satisfaction at the way in which the duties continue to be performed; at the progressive improvement they have observed in the order and discipline of the Establishment, and at the general good understanding and zeal shewn by the Officers and Attendants. After the retirement of the late Governor, the Visiting Justices resolved to defer filling up the vacancy for awhile, and to entrust the management of the Asylum to the ability and experience of the principal Officers, until they could determine what course for its future government it would be most advisable to adopt.

It has been a source of considerable pain to the Visiting Justices to find, that notwithstanding the caution which has from time to time been given, old and hopeless cases

are still sent to the Asylum, instead of those which, being recent, present some reasonable grounds for cure. This can scarcely be attributed to inadvertence, as the different Parishes have repeatedly had their attention called to this subject, and lately in an especial manner by the Commissioners in Lunacy, who, in their Report to the Lord Chancellor, seem to censure the Visiting Justices for not exercising a power which the law has not given them; and the Parish of Marylebone has with justice complained that the Asylum has been converted into a Hospital for Incurables. To enable the Court to understand how it is that the Asylum is turned into a Hospital for Incurables, it will be sufficient to invite attention to the following statement of a circumstance which has occurred since their last Report.

From a Report presented to the Visiting Justices by Dr. Nesbitt, one of the House-Surgeons, it appears, that among the recent admissions into the Asylum are the cases of two Females from the Parish of St. George's, Hanover-square, to which he invited the attention of the Committee.

“ These Patients are aged respectively 84 and 79, their names are Malice and Champfield; they are both very quiet, and their intellect seems simply enfeebled by age. One of them is paralysed in both limbs, and therefore almost bedridden.

“ It is a matter of surprise to your House-Surgeon that such cases should have been selected by the Parochial Authorities for admission here, to the exclu-

sion of those who are either now living at the Private Asylum at Peckham, or of the recent cases which are probably retained in the Workhouse of the Parish. From the Annual Return of the 24th August, 1843, it appears that St. George's had 59 Pauper Lunatics, 52 of whom were in the County Asylum, and 7 in a Licensed House at Peckham.

“ Your House-Surgeon is of opinion that these two aged Women might have been allowed to remain in the Workhouse without prejudice to any one, and that the Parish might have been relieved by sending two whose ages were somewhat less, and whose mental condition more urgently called for the treatment and comfort of Hanwell.

“ Your House-Surgeon, whilst noticing these points, cannot but allude to the little dependance that is to be placed upon the information supplied by the Parochial Authorities in respect to the character of the persons sent into the House.

“ These two Patients are described in the printed Paper, accompanying the Order for their admission, as single: they are both widows; one of them has had two husbands. Malice in this document is stated to be paralysed, whereas it is Champfield who is so; they are both described as clean, whereas one of them is dirty, and as recent cases, which is incorrect.

(Signed) “ P. B. NESBITT,
“ *House-Surgeon.*

“ HANWELL ASYLUM, Dec. 26, 1844.”

One of these Patients, Champfield, is since dead. She died on the 5th of January, and the other is not likely long to survive.

The Visiting Justices are induced to notice these cases publicly, that the Public may be in a condition to form a right judgment on the subject, and may not join in the cry attempted to be raised against the management of the Institution by those who are opposed to the system of non-restraint. Such facts will not be lost upon the authorities of St. George's, Hanover-square. Investigation must lead to beneficial changes; and it is to be hoped there will be no further occasion for charging the Visiting Justices with a fault of which they are wholly guiltless, and which unfortunately, when once committed, they have not the means of remedying. The Visiting Justices most sincerely hope, that, for the sake of the poor and helpless Patients whose cases admit of cure, the Parish Officers will in future take such steps as shall ensure their admission, to the exclusion of such cases as admit neither of cure nor of alleviation.

The Visiting Justices have had their attention also directed to a most distressing case, of which the following is the account in Dr. Begley's Journal of the 3rd of December. It appears that on that day George Grimley was admitted as a patient from the Parish of Edmonton. The Surgeon states that at Three o'Clock, when the patient was brought in, he was found to be very thin and weak and quite cold, having been brought from the Workhouse in an open cart. The officer who accompanied him, on

the Surgeons calling his attention to the impropriety of bringing such a patient, and on such a day in an open cart, replied that *he* should have chosen a covered carriage for the conveyance of the patient, but that the Board of Guardians would not sanction the expense.

In consequence of this entry, a communication was made to the Board of Guardians, which produced the following reply :—

“ Edmonton, 2nd January, 1845.

“ SIR,

“ I am directed to inform you, that the Board of Guardians have enquired into the case of the removal of George Grimley, referred to in your letter of the 14th of December last, and to transmit you the following copy of their Resolutions, viz. :—

“ Resolved—That the mode in which the Removing Officer conveyed George Grimley, on the 2nd of December last, to the Hanwell Asylum, viz., in an open cart, was contrary to an express Order of this Board, that such removals should be in a covered conveyance, protected from the weather. And that Frederick Walden be strongly reprimanded by the Chairman, for his disregard of their Order in this case, and be warned against a repetition of what he has done in Grimley’s case, which would be followed by a dismissal from his office.

“ That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Clerk of the Visiting Magistrates of the Hanwell Asylum, with the

thanks of this Board to the Visiting Magistrates, for their communication to this Board on the subject.

“ I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

“ JOHN SAWYER,

“ *Clerk to the Edmonton Union.*”

“ C. WRIGHT, Esq.,

“ *Clerk to the Visiting Justices, Hanwell.*”

The Visiting Justices are happy to insert the foregoing letter, as it exonerates the Board of Guardians from a very serious imputation, and will most probably secure the public against a repetition of the like offence.

CHARLES AUGUSTUS TULK,

16th January, 1845.

MIDDLESEX LUNATIC ASYLUM.

PATIENTS ADMITTED, RE-ADMITTED, DISCHARGED, AND DEAD.

Quarter ending 31st December, 1844.

	Males.	Females	Total.
Patients in the Asylum on 30th September, 1844	419	569	988
Admitted during the Quarter.....	15	11	26
Re-admitted ..do.....do.....	—	1	1
	434	581	1,015
	Males.	Females.	
Cured.....	5	8	
Discharged Relieved	2	2	
Died	10	6	
	—	—	
	17	16	33
Remaining in the Asylum on 31st December, 1844	417	565	982
Daily Average Number of Patients			982

PATIENTS EMPLOYED,

Quarter ending 31st December, 1844.

MALES.		FEMALES.	
Garden and Agriculture....	90	Garden.....	—
Helpers in the Wards	48	Laundry	53
Repicking Coir	6	Kitchen and Dairy	21
Store Room, Kitchen, and		Helpers in the Wards	43
Engine-house	15	Repicking Coir	2
Tailors	8	Needlework	153
Shoemakers	11	Knitting	—
Upholstery Room	7		
Bricklayers	2		
Painters	3		
Carpenters	10		
Tinman.....	1		
Employed.....	201	Employed.....	272
Unemployed	178	Unemployed.....	261
Sick	38	Sick	32
Total in Asylum (as above)	417	Total in Asylum (as above)	565
Males	417		
Females	565		
Total.....	982		

J. MORRISON, Accountant.

MIDDLESEX LUNATIC ASYLUM.

Dr. QUARTERLY ACCOUNT from 1st October to 31st December 1844. Cr.

1844.		1844.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Sept. 30. To Balance of Cash at this date	1,938 15 7	Dec. 31. By cash paid sundry Tradesmen's Bills and other Disbursements to this date	5,083 19 10
Dec. 31. To Cash received from Parishes	£3,934 4 9	Balance—At Messrs. Twining	£1,187 18 5
To ditto from County Treasurer for Lunatic Vagrants	662 17 9	In hand	263 19 10
	4,597 2 6		1,451 18 3
	£6,535 18 1		£6,535 18 1

1844.		1844.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Dec. 31. To Balance of Cash this day	1,451 18 3	Dec. 31. By Amount of Tradesmen's Bills, Salaries of Officers, Wages of Servants, &c. due at this date	3,565 8 3
To amount due from Parishes	£4,176 16 2	Surplus	2,735 11 6
To ditto from County Treasurer for Lunatic Vagrants	672 5 4		£6,300 19 9
	4,849 1 6		
	£6,300 19 9		

(Errors excepted.)

J. MORRISON, Accountant.

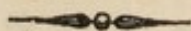
Hanwell, 16th January, 1845.

CONTRACT PRICES of the Principal Articles of Consumption in the Hanwell Lunatic Asylum, for the Quarter of the Year ending 31st December, 1844.—The Articles are delivered at the Asylum free of Carriage.

	£	s.	d.
Ox Beef, entirely free from Bone	0	6	10½
Prime Wether Mutton, the whole Carcase (without head, shanks or inside suet) ..	0	6	10½
Beef and Mutton Suet (equal proportions)	0	6	10½
Flour	1	14	6
Malt	2	19	0
Oatmeal	0	13	6
Cheese	2	14	0
Butter	3	19	0
Sugar (Lump)	4	0	0
Sugar (Raw)	3	1	0

CHAS. WRIGHT, *Clerk.*

MIDDLESEX LUNATIC ASYLUM.



A List of all Sums for Payment of which Orders have been made on the County Treasurer, under the authority of the 33rd Section of the Act 9th Geo. 4th, Cap. 40, from the 1st of October to the 31st of December, 1844.

	£	s.	d.
James Morrison, Advances to Workmen.....	83	16	2
James Harris, Superintending Repairs	13	15	0
C. Robinson, Iron Castings	26	5	3
Weiss and Son, Surgical Instruments	1	11	0
P. Thorn, Whistles	1	17	6
T. Adams, Wire Work	12	19	3
Chater and Hayward, Lead and Window Glass	66	13	9
Messrs. Allen, Law Expenses	48	19	3
R. Forest, Paving Tiles	5	12	0
T. Bowden, Clothes Baskets, &c.	2	9	5
M. Kelly, Gas Retorts	18	15	4
J. Mowlem and Co., Bath Stone	3	10	6
G. Robinson, Garden Pots	4	4	0
G. Chad, Carriage of Goods	11	11	8
C. F. Seyfang, Printing, &c.	30	0	6
William Crosby, Paper Hanging	4	18	8
C. Sims, Tiles and Lamp Post	4	11	6
Bailey, Pegg, and Co., Retorts	10	13	0
G. Reynell, Advertisements	7	10	6
T. Davis, Zinc Work	3	0	0
J. Bates, Air Beds	8	0	0
D. Wilde, Window Blinds	2	13	9
C. Turner, Printing	4	1	0

	£	s.	d.
P. Hayes, Brass Cocks, &c.	16	0	2
T. Wilkinson, Repairing Mangles	3	0	0
J. Casswell, Vials	0	17	0
J. Morgan, Rope Mats, &c.	3	13	0
Pontifex and Wood Valves,.....	3	16	8
J. H. Tillyer, Painting Materials	7	5	4
G. Simpson, Repairing Cutlery	9	18	5
Norbury and Co., Periodicals, &c.	6	13	4
H. F. Turner and Son, Feathers, &c.	30	11	2
Terry and Co., Painting Materials	55	16	8
Edwurd Suter, Stationery, &c.	7	15	6
Russell and Sons, Steam Tubing	10	2	6
T. Woods, Furniture	86	5	0
Elizabeth Farmer, Iron and Ironmongery	34	16	5
Edward Beck, Lime Cement, &c.....	72	0	5
J. Montgomery, Timber	38	10	7
Walkling and Co., Earthenware, &c.	15	14	3
E. Westbrook, Bricks	9	12	6
C. Roope, Bedding and House Linen.....	222	1	0
James Morrison, Advances to Workmen	334	18	4

CHARLES WRIGHT,

Clerk to the Visiting Justices.

TO HER MAJESTY'S JUSTICES OF THE PEACE
FOR THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX.

THE TWENTIETH REPORT OF
Messrs. ALLEN, of Carlisle Street,
Soho, Attorneys at Law.

SINCE the County Day of the last Quarter Session, Messrs. Allen have attended at the Metropolitan Police Courts and in Petty Sessions in thirteen cases. In three of them the Orders upon the County Treasurer for the maintenance of the Lunatics were refused, or the applications for them abandoned. And in the remaining ten cases the Magistrates decided that the Paupers were County Patients; but in four of those ten cases, enquiries are being made which seem likely to lead to the discovery of settlements.

In the case of Edward Johnson, a Criminal Lunatic, who had been previously to the County Day of the October Quarter Session adjudged to belong to the Parish of All Saints, in the Borough of Evesham; a Notice of Appeal against the Order was served on the Clerk of the Peace; and it appearing on further inquiry that the Lunatic was settled in the Parish of Birmingham the Appeal was, at the Sessions held in November last, allowed by consent, and a fresh Order has since been obtained and served on the Overseers of Birmingham.

In the case of Mary Ann Pugsly (whose settlement had been adjudged to be at Cadbury in the County of Devon) an appeal is pending; and, although the settlement is now admitted to be in that Parish, yet the case will not be finally disposed of, until the Appeal day of the present Session, as an application is then intended to be made on behalf of the County for the costs of defending the Appeal.

Messrs. Allen having discovered that Elizabeth Buchanan, who was admitted to the Asylum as a County Patient on the 20th of September last, belonged to the Parish of Liverpool, they have obtained an Order adjudicating her settlement to be at that place. They have likewise discovered and adjudicated the settlements of Francis Crocker, a Criminal Lunatic sent to the Asylum from the Westminster Bridewell under the Secretary of State's Warrant on the 12th of December last; and of Harriet Ellis, admitted to the Asylum on the 24th of the same month. A previous Order adjudicating her settlement having been quashed by the Court of Queen's Bench, in consequence of her having been sent under the provisions of the statute of the 9th Geo. the 4th, cap. 40, to a licenced house in consequence of there not being any room in the County Asylum.

Messrs. Allen have also attended Parish Officers, made inquiries and corresponded in nine other cases (of which two were appeals against Orders obtained at the instance of Parish Officers) with a view of protecting the interests of the County.

The sum directed to be repaid to the County Treasurer in the Adjudicated Cases is £6 18s. 10d.

The expence of attending at the Police Courts and Petty Sessions in the 13 cases and of tracing out evidence in several of them amounts to £16 12s. 4d.; and that relating to Edward Johnson, Francis Crocker, Elizabeth Buchannon and Harriet Ellis, and the nine other Lunatics (including payments to Witnesses and to Country Solicitors, for journeys, correspondence, &c.) is £45 16s.

All which Messrs. Allen submit, &c.

16th January 1845.

C. & J. ALLEN.