

**The report of the Committee of Visitors of the West-Riding Pauper Lunatic Asylum for the year 1853 : presented to the Court at Wakefield sessions, 3rd January, 1854.**

**Contributors**

West Riding Pauper Lunatic Asylum.  
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**Publication/Creation**

Wakefield : Printed by R. Hurst, 1854.

**Persistent URL**

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THE

R E P O R T

OF THE

COMMITTEE OF VISITORS

OF THE

West = Riding

P A U P E R

L U N A T I C A S Y L U M,

For the Year 1853.

1853 found after 1854

*Presented to the Court at Wakefield Sessions, 3rd January, 1854.*

Wakefield :

PRINTED BY R. HURST, WESTGATE.

1854.

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R E P O R T  
OF THE  
COMMITTEE OF VISITORS.

*Presented at Wakefield Sessions, 3rd January, 1854.*

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Health of      The Asylum during the past year has been generally  
Patients.      free from any epidemic or infectious disease.

Admissions.    The admissions during the year have been

Males ..... 179

Females ..... 161

Total ..... 340

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Deaths.        The deaths have amounted to

Males ..... 86

Females ..... 59

Total ..... 145

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These deaths have been principally occasioned by old age or debility, many persons having been brought to the Asylum in a feeble state, which has greatly tended to increase the mortality.



Discharges. The discharges have been as follows :

Males ..... 55

Females ..... 80

Total ..... 135

Number of Patients. The number of Patients this day in the Asylum is as follows :

Males ..... 341

Females ..... 367

Total ..... 708

Weekly charges.

The Committee had the satisfaction in the early part of the year of reducing the weekly charge for the maintenance of patients from 6s. 3d. to 6s. per week, but owing to the present high price of provisions, the Committee will be obliged to increase the rate to 7s.

New Buildings.

A portion of the New Farm Buildings referred to in the last Report of the Committee have been completed and are now occupied. The Committee are proceeding to finish the remainder of the buildings considered necessary by the Committee.

Officers and Servants.

A change has taken place in the offices of Treasurer and Medical Superintendent and Matron, in consequence of the resignation of Dr. and Mrs. Corsellis, whose places have been supplied by the appointment of Mr. Edward Aldam Leatham, as Treasurer, Mr.

John Septimus Alderson, as Medical Officer and Superintendent, and Mrs. Zillah Paige, as Matron.

With respect to the other officers and servants now in the Asylum, we have to report that they have fulfilled their respective duties to the entire satisfaction of the Visitors.

**Removal of Patients not belonging to the Riding.** Owing to the great increase of Patients during the present year, viz., from 647, the number in the Asylum when the last Report was made, to the number now in the Institution, (708,) the Committee have been compelled to direct the removal of Patients belonging to other counties, and have enforced such removal, by increasing the weekly charge from 6s. per week, the usual rate, to 14s. per week, the full sum authorised by the Act of Parliament.

**Rules.** In consequence of the recent Act of Parliament, 16th and 17th Vict., c. 97, the Committee have found it necessary to revise the rules for the regulation of the Asylum, and are about to submit a new code of rules for the approval of the Secretary of State.

H. W. WICKHAM,

*Chairman.*



John Benjamin Alderson, Esq. M.D. F.R.C.S. and  
Superintendent of the Asylum, as follows:

With respect to the other officers and servants now  
in the Asylum, we have to report that they have  
fulfilled their respective duties to the entire satisfaction

of the Visitors.

Owing to the great increase of Patients during the  
present year, viz. from 617, the number in the

Asylum when the last Report was made, to the number  
now in the Institution (708), the Committee have been  
compelled to direct the removal of Patients belonging

to other counties, and have ordered such removal, by  
increasing the weekly charge from 6s. per week, the  
usual rate, to 11s. per week, the full sum authorized

by the Act of Parliament.

In consequence of the recent Act of Parliament,  
18th and 19th Vic. c. 97, the Committee have found

it necessary to revise the rules for the regulation of the  
Asylum, and are about to submit a new code of rules  
for the approval of the Secretary of State.

Yours faithfully,  
J. W. WICKHAM