

Devonshire Hospital and Buxton Bath Charity : half-yearly address and medical and general statement ... / Dr. Robertson.

Contributors

Devonshire Hospital and Buxton Bath Charity.

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DEVONSHIRE HOSPITAL
AND
BUXTON BATH CHARITY.

**Half-Yearly Address and Medical and
General Statement.**

At a meeting of the Committee of Management, held at the Hospital on
Saturday, July 5th, 1884,

DR. ROBERTSON, F.R.C.P.,

(Chairman of the Board of Trustees and Committee of Management), in the
Chair,

The CHAIRMAN delivered the following address, as to the results of the
work of the Hospital during the half-year, and as to the general financial
position of the Charity :—

During the half-year ending June 30th, 1,102 In-patients were admitted to
the Hospital. It will be again noted that this is a considerable increase
beyond the number of patients received during the first half of the previous
years, representing probably one half, or nearly one half, of the total number
of patients expected to be received during the year, thus spreading the work
more equally over a larger number of months, and showing, it is hoped,
a lessening prejudice against the resort to Buxton, on the part of the
patients, during the earlier periods of the year. This may be important as
affording to some, and perhaps to many, an earlier use of the Buxton
mineral waters in their several cases, and helping to establish the opinion as
to the undesirability of crowding the applications for admission to the
Hospital during a comparatively few weeks, and leaving the Hospital with a
very few patients during some weeks or months at the beginning and end of
every year.

Of the 1,102 Patients admitted, 684 were discharged as improved, 127 as no better, six at own request, three had to be sent away on account of drunkenness, four had died, and 278 remained on the books at the end of the half-year.

Ninety-one Out-patients were admitted during the half-year, and of these 56 were discharged as improved, nine left without report, and 26 remained on the books on the 30th of June. It should be noted how valuably these Patients supplement the general work of the Hospital, and with how comparatively small an addition to the expenditure; also how useful this may well be to some who are poor, and yet raised somewhat above the class necessarily requiring the provision of board and lodging; and how it supplies the wants of many who cannot be admitted as In-patients at the time that may be required.

The post-cards received from the Patients six weeks after their return to their several homes, continue to be of great interest, as to the permanence of the curative work of the Institution. 537 of these reported results have been received during the half-year; and of these 379 are set down as improved, 157 as no better, and one as having died. As usual, it is held that the death or deaths so soon after having left the Hospital, intimate significantly the very severe nature of many of the cases.

It is very gratifying to be able to state that the use made of the Hospital during the half-year, under the powers of the Cotton Districts Convalescent Fund, shews a large increase, 246 of these Patients having been admitted during the six months; and 42 of these Patients were in the Hospital on the 30th June.

Dr. Lorimer, the Medical Resident, submitted a summary of the cases received during the half-year, and the results. It will be received with interest, and acknowledged with thanks.

“During the half-year ending June 30th, 1,102 Patients were admitted for treatment.

“Of these 824 were discharged, and at the close of the half-year 278 remained under treatment.

“The subjoined table will shew the diseases from which they suffered :—

“ I. Rheumatism	690
Gout	17
Rheumatoid Arthritis.. .. .	90
Gonorrhœal Arthritis	10
Sciatica	106
Chronic Synovitis	7
Chronic Bursitis	1
“ II. Diseases of Nervous System.	
Hemiplegia	17
Chorea	5
Locomotor Ataxy	13
Lateral Scleroris	5
Paralysis Agitans	3
Paraplegia	4
Neuralgia	11
Poisonous Effects of Lead	10
Progressive Muscular Atrophy	1



"III. Other Diseases which constituted the remainder consisted of Anæmia, Dyspepsia, Phthisis Pulmonalis, Chronic Bright's Disease, Exophthalmic Goitre, Decay of Nature, Caries Vertebrarum, &c., 112.

"The cases of Rheumatism may be divided into three classes, according to severity, amount of disablement, and of structural alteration and duration.

"The first class contained the worst cases—those in which locomotion was impossible, and in which there were present articular deposits, contractions, thickening of fasciæ, and wasting of muscles. This class contained 58 cases.

"The second class contained those in which locomotion was possible, with varying degrees of difficulty, and in which the above-named conditions were present in a less aggravated form.

"The second class numbered 252 cases.

"The third class contained those in which the above conditions were absent, or in which articular depositions were present only to a slight extent, and in which the principal feature was pain in the parts affected, with stiffness; and, further, it included all convalescents from acute attacks of rheumatism, frequently occurring at an early period of life.

"It contained in all 388 cases.

"The subjoined table will shew the decades at which the cases occurred; being again subdivided, according to the classification adopted.

	Class I.	Class II.	Class III.	Totals.	Heart compli- cation.
Under 20 years	3	37	79	119	45
From 20 to 30 years	21	61	92	174	41
From 30 to 40 "	17	55	85	157	33
From 40 to 50 "	11	50	77	138	10
From 50 to 60 "	5	27	36	68	13
From 60 to 70 "	1	18	9	28	8
From 70 to 80 "	0	4	2	6	1

"One hundred and fifty one cases of the 690 cases of rheumatism were complicated with some form of heart disease (Valvular Hypertrophy, Pericarditis).

"The number in each decade is given in the last column.

"The period of initial attack varied from a few weeks to an indefinite number of years; but the average duration of the attack, preceding admission, was eight months.

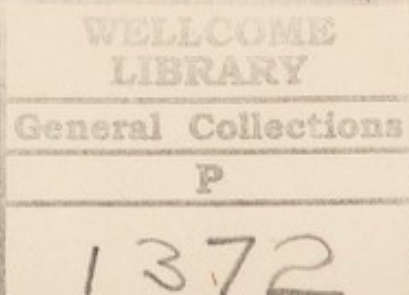
"With regard to the curative results, about one case in 6 left in *statu quo*; while the remainder received different amounts of improvement: some being discharged well, without ache or pain, or visibly altered structure, others much better, others again improved.

"It may be mentioned that about 8 per cent. of the cases admitted did not strictly belong to the class of cases in which successful results could be predicted from treatment by the Buxton waters. Such cases only contribute to swell the list of those who leave "no better;" when extreme cases, structural disorganisation, or extremely advanced age, must be *nullis medicabilis herbis*. It is matter of justifiable regret that any unfit cases should be sent to the Hospital.

"Of the cases proper, viz. Chronic Rheumatism in its several forms, the results were in the large majority of cases satisfactory and successful.

"Even in the more aggravated cases (belonging to class I.) proportional relief was obtained; and, in a few instances, complete restoration to health and locomotion.

"In class II., which differed from the former class in a less degree of severity, the large majority received signal benefit; and it contained many instances which resulted in complete recovery.



“ In the third class, which contained those cases in which articular pains were without apparent structural alteration, and those cases which were convalescent from acute attacks, the benefit was marked; and, in the latter, rapid; and except where heart complications existed, the treatment resulted in a favourable and successful issue.

“ Though less tractable and more chronic, results not unsatisfactory followed the treatment of Rheumatoid Arthritis; and the cases of Sciatica associated with the Rheumatic Diathesis received much benefit and relief from their treatment at Buxton.”

The financial position of the Institution continues to be anxious; and perhaps in greater proportion than the necessarily more considerable expenditure. The larger the number of patients, as a matter of necessity, the greater must be the outlay. But, in addition to this, an amount of work in connection with the extension is found to be incomplete; and whatever is imperfect must be remedied, as opportunity serves, and occasion arises. It is a set-off in an important degree to the outlay thus occasioned that, under the settlement of the long continued arbitration, very large deductions were made from the claims upon the Hospital; and, in this way, the whole of the additional outlay that may be necessary from time to time may be held to have been provided for; but the outlay in question was not included in the munificent grant of the Governors of the Cotton Districts Convalescent Fund, nor in the large additional outlay that has already been made from the funds of the Hospital; and the single feeling of all concerned in the immediate and future welfare of the Institution must be, that every addition should be provided, and every defect remedied, which can affect the well-doing of the Patients and the beneficial operations of this Charity. In this way, not only has the ordinary outlay of the establishment to be provided, but accounts connected with construction must be met; and it must be wished that adequate means should be supplied by the benevolence of the public in this behalf, and that the investments of the Hospital should not be additionally encroached upon. The competence and stability of the Hospital would be secured, if every one of its supporters would only contribute in proportion to his means. As has been said, a donation from every Subscriber equal to his subscription would represent a valuable set-off to the amount of these extra charges; but it is believed, that if the matter could be adequately brought to the minds of the benevolent public, the whole of these liabilities might be wiped away, the amount of the investments of the Hospital be at once restored to the sum invested before the extension was in question, and the future good work of this great Institution might be secured. As it is, the appeals that have been made on this behalf have been responded to by an extremely small number of Subscribers. It does not seem to be realised, that the Subscriber who uses his recommendation withdraws from the Hospital a larger sum than the amount of his subscription, and that the Charity is only enabled to pay its way by the help of public collections in churches and chapels, and by donations and legacies.

It was moved by Mr. Le Gros, seconded by Mr. Lowthian, and unanimously resolved, “ That the Chairman’s Address be printed, and circulated amongst the Subscribers and friends of the Institution.”

On the motion of Mr. Milligan, seconded by Mr. Arthur Shipton, it was unanimously resolved, “ That the thanks of the Trustees and Committee of Management be given to the Chairman, Dr. Robertson, for the preparation of the Address.”

DONATIONS, 1883.

£ s. d.			£ s. d.				
Edward Western, Esq. ..	10	10	0	Mrs. McEachin	1	1	0
P. Reid, Esq.	10	10	0	Miss Ward	1	1	0
Mrs. A. Head	10	0	0	Mrs. T. Preston Wright..	1	1	0
Frederick Cooper, Esq.				Mrs. Moon	1	1	0
(for Samaritan Fund)..	10	0	0	M. Sherley, Esq.	1	1	0
Miss Wilson	5	0	0	Mrs. Webb Edge	1	1	0
Mrs. Oliphant	5	0	0	The Earl of Redesdale ..	1	0	0
G. H. Leather, Esq. (for				Mrs. Edward Joicey	1	0	0
Extensions)	5	0	0	Mrs. Oates	1	0	0
"J.L.M."	3	2	0	H. H. Hardman, Esq. ..	1	0	0
C. R. B. Legh, Esq.	2	18	0	— Beaumont, Esq.	1	0	0
Lady Lichfield	2	2	0	W. H. Sherley, Esq.	1	0	0
Richard Laycock, Esq. ..	2	2	0	J. W. Pashley, Esq.	1	0	0
Mrs. Barker	2	0	0	John Lowry, Esq.	1	0	0
Miss Forrest (for Samari-				J. Melrose, Esq.	1	0	0
tan Fund)	1	10	0	Miss Blackbourne	1	0	0
John Goosey, Esq. (for				Dr. Prothero Smith	1	0	0
Extensions)	1	1	0	Sheriff Thomas, Esq.	1	0	0
R. McNaughton, Esq.	1	1	0	H. Thomas, Esq.	1	0	0
J. H. Sleath, Esq. (for				Mrs. Penny, per Dr.			
Extensions)	1	1	0	Bennet	1	0	0
F. Kinaham, Esq.	1	1	0	Mrs. Frederick	1	0	0
Sir W. T. F. A. Wallace..	1	1	0	Proceeds of Concert at the			
Mrs. Churchill	1	1	0	Hospital on Aug. 18th.	16	0	0
John Cay, Esq.	1	1	0	Proceeds of Concert in the			
H. L. Cohen, Esq.	1	1	0	Pavilion, per The Misses			
J. Challinor, Esq. (to				Smith and Arthur	8	0	0
Estate Account)	1	1	0	Proceeds of Sale of Two			
A Friend to the Hospital.	1	1	0	Plaques painted by Miss			
Joseph Terry, Esq.	1	1	0	H. M. Donald	2	2	0
Mr. Kent	1	1	0	Donation Boxes at the			
Edwin Lloyd, Esq.	1	1	0	Hospital	159	1	9
S. M. Alexander, Esq. ..	1	1	0	Sums under £1	2	6	7
Dr. Freeman and Friends	1	1	0				
A Visitor, per Sister							
Stuart	1	1	0				

DONATIONS COLLECTED BY PATIENTS AFTER THEIR DISCHARGE.

£ s. d.			£ s. d.		
Mr. Joseph Bonser,			Mr. Thomas Beresford,		
Bunny	3	14	Peterborough	1	1
Mr. Henry Hutchins, East-			Mr. Geo. Plant, Longton.	1	1
wood	2	2	Mr. John Lowry, Knotty		
Mr. E. G. Cole, Ponteland	1	9	Ash	1	0
			Sums under £1	0	6

OFFERTORIES AND COLLECTIONS IN CHURCHES AND
CHAPELS, 1883.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
S. John's Church, Buxton	49	13	6	Trinity Church, Buxton.	3	1	2
S. James' Church, „	41	11	0	Belvoir Castle	3	0	0
Burbage Church	21	6	8	Ketton Church.....	3	0	0
Congregational Church, Buxton	10	10	0	New Mills Church	3	0	0
Arley Chapel	7	12	8	Presbyterian Services, Buxton	2	0	0
Fairfield Church	7	3	11	All Saints' Church, Bradbourne	1	19	10
Over Tabley Church....	4	4	0	Wormhill Church	1	7	6
Wesleyan Chapel, Buxton	4	4	0	Earl Sterndale Church	1	4	3
Bottesford Church	3	10	0	Aldwick Mission Room	1	0	0
Knipton Church	3	10	0	Ballidon Church	0	16	7
Harpur Hill Church	3	5	0				
Taxal Church	3	3	0				

DONATIONS PER HOTELS, LODGING-HOUSES, &c., 1882.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Palace Hotel	116	15	4	No. 1, Terrace Villas ..	2	6	0
Grosvenor Board'g House	40	14	3	Devonshire Lodge	2	0	0
St. Ann's Hotel	33	2	6	Holker House	1	13	6
Old Hall Hotel.....	27	2	6	Derby House	1	12	6
Nos. 3 and 4, Athelstare Terrace (Mrs. Turnell's)	19	6	9	No. 17, Broad Walk....	1	11	0
Eagle Hotel	18	10	10	Lee Wood Hotel	1	10	0
Crescent Hotel.....	17	14	0	Argyle Villas.....	1	1	0
Shakespeare Hotel	8	14	0	Hawthorne Villa	1	0	0
Malvern House	8	3	0	No. 1, Portland Villas..	1	0	0
				Sums under £1.....	4	2	7

BEQUESTS.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
1847 Mrs. Foxlow	100	0	0	1873 Rev. C. Ingleby ..	19	19	0
1847 Mrs. Holland....	200	0	0	1873 Mrs. B. Robinson.	338	4	3
1854 Mrs. Bamford....	100	0	0	1874 W. Barnett, Esq..	1000	0	0
1856 W. Lewis, Esq. ..	100	0	0	1874 J. Bagshaw, Esq..	450	0	0
1858 J. Craven, Esq. ..	27	5	0	1875 Mrs. S. Lockett ..	10	0	0
1859 J. Henderson, Esq.	100	0	0	1875 Mrs. E. Dolling..	10	0	0
1860 Miss M. Hall....	9	9	0	1879 Hon. Mrs. Ramsden	5	0	0
1865 W. Phillips, Esq..	100	0	0	1879 W. Poole, Esq. ..	10	0	0
1865 G. Dar son, Esq..	19	19	0	1879 Miss Marriott....	100	0	0
1867 Miss E. Hurt....	100	0	0	1879 Miss E. Daine ..	900	0	0
1868 W. Gibson, Esq... 250	0	0	0	1879 Mrs. D.V. Harcourt	500	0	0
1868 W. Sharman, Esq. 261	5	10		1880 Miss J. Wheatley..	100	0	0
1869 Mrs. Ann Greenwood	45	0	0	1882 D. Holland, Esq..	90	0	0
1869 Mrs. Frances Pearson	100	0	0	1882 J. Hinckley, Esq.	45	0	0
1872 G. Smith.....	10	0	0	1882 W. Carter, Esq. ..	100	0	0
1872 H. Harris, Esq. ..	50	0	0	1883 Mrs. Barnes	450	0	0
1872 Mrs. Arkwright ..	50	0	0	1883 Mrs. Irton	10	0	0
1872 Chappell Fowler, Esq.	20	0	0	1883 J. Thurman, Esq.	17	19	2
				1883 E. E. Mollady, Esq.	500	0	0

Extracts from the Rules and Regulations for Patients.

- 1.—An In-Patient will be entitled to Board, Lodgings, and Medicines, for three weeks; should an extension of time be advised by the Medical Officers, the Patient may remain on payment of a *weekly charge, founded upon the cost of maintenance during preceding years.

An Out-Patient will be entitled to Medical Advice, Medicines and Baths for three weeks; but the Medical Officers will attend these Patients only at the Hospital at the appointed days and hours.

No Patient shall be allowed to remain on the Books of the Institution longer than six weeks at one time without special permission signed by at least two-thirds of the Medical Staff of the Hospital; and any Patient who has been on the books six weeks in any consecutive six months, shall not be re-admitted within six months from the date of discharge without such permission.

- 2.—All Applicants for admission, either as In or Out-Patients, will be required to produce a recommendation, signed by a subscriber, and countersigned by the officiating minister, churchwarden, or some other parochial officer, or respectable inhabitant of the place from which they come, certifying that they are fit objects of charity, and unable to pay for themselves.

N.B.—Particular attention is directed to this rule, as it is much feared many have been admitted who were not fit objects for any Charity.

- 3.—The Medical Staff are authorised to refuse admittance to, or discharge, any Patients they consider unfit objects of the Charity; such refusal, or dismissal, to be signed by at least two of their number.

- 4.—Every In-Patient will be required to bring a proper change of clean body linen, and will have to pay for his, or her, own washing out of the Hospital; and to deposit one shilling upon receiving the key of the clothes box appropriated to his or her use; this deposit will be returned to the Patient upon giving up the key. Out-Patients will have to provide their own towels for bathing. All Patients must be provided with money for their travelling expenses when leaving the Hospital.

All the Patients will be required to observe strictly the Rules laid down for their guidance; any infringement of the rules will render the Patient liable to immediate dismissal.

- 5.—Cases of Accident will be admitted to the Hospital on the recommendation of a Subscriber, or on payment of the usual weekly charge for board and lodging, and a guarantee given in either case for payment of any extra charges required.

- 6.—Application for the admission of In-Patients, accompanied by the usual Medical Certificate, to be made to the Secretary, who will intimate, by return of post, the earliest date upon which the Patient can be received. Patients are not on any account to come to the Hospital until they receive notice that there is room for them, as no allowance of any kind will be given to those who cannot be taken in.

- 7.—In-Patients are admitted into the Hospital on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 6 p.m., and during their residence in the Hospital are under the immediate medical supervision of the House Surgeon.

Out-Patients will be attended by one of the Medical Staff every Wednesday and Saturday, at 1.30 p.m.

General Rules and Regulations for Subscribers.

- 1.—A Life Subscription of Twenty Guineas shall entitle a Subscriber to recommend one In and two Out-Patients annually.

An Annual Subscription of One Guinea shall entitle a Subscriber to recommend one In or four Out-Patients; but no annual Subscriber shall send a Patient until he has been a Subscriber for at least three months; nor until his Subscription for the current year is paid.

All Subscriptions shall be considered as due in advance on the 1st of January in each year.

Annual Subscriptions not paid until after June 30th in each year, shall be considered to be in default, and shall not entitle to the recommendation of a Patient unless the difference between the amount of an Annual and a Casual Subscription be also paid. This rule does not apply to *new* Subscriptions paid after June 30th.

* The weekly charge for extra time during the year 1884, is 16s. 0d.

Recommendations are available only during the year for which they are issued.
Forms of recommendation will be sent by the Secretary on application.

- 2.—Persons not being Annual or Life Subscribers, may recommend an In-Patient on payment of a †Casual Subscription, the amount of which is founded on the cost of maintenance during preceding years; and Life or Annual Subscribers may recommend additional Patients, beyond the number they are entitled to recommend annually, on payment of a casual Subscription with each.

Subscribers of One Guinea per annum are allowed to send, in addition to the Patient eligible from the Subscription, three Out-Patients per annum, by paying Seven Shillings with each.

Any Clergyman or Minister kindly preaching a Sermon or Sermons, on any one day in aid of the Funds of the Hospital, and contributing therefrom not less than £3. shall be entitled to one In or four Out-Patients' recommendations.

No money shall be received as a Subscription which can in any way be regarded as the proceeds of any public collection, or offertory, in any place of worship; but all such sums shall be received as Donations, with the privileges defined in this rule.

- 3.—Visitors to the Hospital are particularly requested not to interfere between the Patients and Medical staff under whom they are placed.
- 4.—No Patient can be admitted without producing a medical certificate specifying the nature of the disease, and certifying that the Patient has not been exposed to the influence of Infectious or Contagious Disease during the four weeks previous to his or her admission.
- 5.—Persons suffering from any incurable or infectious disorder—women more than six months advanced in pregnancy—persons in the last stage of consumption—or afflicted with itch, ulcers, fits, or insanity—or infested with vermin—cannot be admitted as In-Patients; or, if inadvertently admitted, cannot be allowed to remain.

† The amount of a casual subscription during the year 1884, is £2 8s. 0d.

The Annual Report and List of Subscribers, price 3d., by post 4d., may be had on application to the Secretary, Mr. JOSEPH TAYLOR, Devonshire Hospital, Buxton, to whom all communications should be addressed.

Cheques and Post Office Orders to be made payable to the Sheffield and Rotherham Joint Stock Banking Company, Limited Buxton.

