

also saw some of the dinner which was not at all right.

Q. What was wrong with it? A. It did not seem cooked properly.

Q. Do you know anything else about the institution? A. A person upstairs told me that they were three days without hygienics; they could not get them. They could not even get a cup of cold tea at night if they wished it.

Q. Are the patients treated kindly? A. I did not see any unkindness. I have heard some patients say they were not treated kindly.

Q. Did you find the place properly heated? A. No. This winter it has been very cold. I caught cold there myself. I could not take my wraps off when visiting there.

Q. Was the place very cold? A. Yes, very cold.

Mrs. H—n, Sherbourne street, states: By Mr. Walsh:

Q. For how many years have you been visiting the Home? A. For 18 years, but I have not been visiting there lately. I have often been asked to become a member of the committee, but have refused as I did not approve of their management.

Q. In what condition have you found the patients during the past year? A. Anything but happy.

Q. What did they complain of most? A. Food and neglect. I had always been able to give them handkerchiefs in the summer, two a month for the last seven years. The summer before last I had great difficulty in getting these; in fact, they would not allow me to have any. It did not cost the Home anything, as I collected sufficient money to pay for the care of the handmen, for the supper and almost sufficient to pay for the coal oil used. They brought that up as an expense. I thought the patients should have a little pleasure, so I met the Board and I asked them why it was I could not give them the handkerchiefs. They said that some of the patients objected to them as they were too ill, and that the house-maids objected to the work; also the nurses. I then went around and saw them all. No one complained. No one was too sick. They all wanted the handkerchiefs. The house-maids and nurses said it was a delightful evening for them.

A petition was got up by the patients and house-maids and it went to the Board. It was carried that I should give them one concert a month. That was a year before last. This last summer they would not allow me to have any whatever on any condition. I wrote to the handmaid and told them I was very sorry we could not have our concert as they had perhaps some future time if they were agreeable we might take it up again.

Q. Do you know whether the patients are kept clean? A. I never visited all the patients. I know many of them have not got the clothes they should have. I have not visited there for six months, being out of town. I had not been there since April, but went up in November.

Q. Have you seen any cases of cruelty? A. I only know that the patients have told me they never seen it myself. I cannot prove anything.

Q. Do you know anything about the condition of the food the patients receive? A. I would like to eat it.

Q. What did you find wrong with it? A. One woman told me she had some butter that made her sick for a week afterwards. She did not buy some herself. Know nothing from personal knowledge, only what patients have told me.

Col. Elliott states: In the last Annual Report the Board thanks the medical staff for their services. In the same Report the medical staff uses these words: "The care which the inmates receive, and the general appearance of comfort which continues to exist, are always matters of satisfaction to the staff, and the management is to be congratulated on the excellent standard it maintains." I am prepared to prove that this is untrue, and misleading.

The Ex. Com. consists of nine women and no men.

In the Secretary's Report, she says: "The poor we shall always have with

us; necessarily, the suffering and helpless, and it would be a reproach indeed to our Christian civilization were we to allow such to suffer and die without any alleviation of their misery." I am ready to prove that that is all "saints."

The Board make their own rules, by-laws, and can alter and amend them. The Matron and Head Nurses hold their offices at the pleasure of the Board, and these two ladies "are told to do all in their power to promote the comfort of the inmates of the Home." I can prove that whilst they are told to promote the comfort, they have been snubbed for doing it.

In another part of the Report it is stated that the Managers can dismiss the inmates for a sufficient cause, and they (the Managers), are to be the sole Judges of that cause.

"The inmates must at all times show proper respect to the Managers and the Matron, and a strict regard for the rules and regulations of the institution. They are also urged to cultivate kind and cheerful dispositions thereby 'making a happy Home,' while the poor suffering patients are called upon to cultivate kindness and cheerfulness, and to make 'a happy Home.' It is impossible for them to do it in their down-trodden condition."

I have had overwhelming proof for a long while of all charges and am prepared at any moment when required to bring them forward.

I have been told that the patients lie in their beds until they have to be removed owing to bed sores and creeping things, lice, etc., in their clothes. When the poor suffering patients appeal they are punished for doing so.

A patient told me that a nurse said that the treatment of the Mercer Reformatory was good enough for the Home for Incurables.

A man was locked up in his room for complaining to a friend.

A patient took a woman's undergarment which was covered with vermin down to the Board and showed it to one of the ladies, and the lady told her to take it right away and burn it. I have seen the patients shivering with cold, hugging the radiators to get warm.

I saw a patient straining some dirty buttermilk through a hand towel. It would not go through the hand towel and the milk was spilt on the chair.

City Relief Office, City Hall, Toronto, Ont., Jan. 31, '08. Edward Taylor, Esq.,

City Relief Office, City Hall.

Dear Sir,—Pursuant to your instructions, I yesterday visited the H. for I. In company with Colonel Elliott, and while there I interviewed several of the patients, and received from them the information which I set out as follows:

From a Mrs., who, as I believe, is suffering from paralysis, I was informed that two nurses forced her out of bed and took her to the bath room, the woman screaming with pain as they took her along the hallway, and when they got her to the bath-room she informed me they slapped her in the face several times, different patients heard her screaming and they corroborated her story in part. They are Mrs. —, Mrs. —, and Mrs. —.

From another patient, by the name of —, who, as I believe, is suffering from paralysis, I was informed that her bed she was allowed to go from 6 o'clock p. m. until 3 p. m. on the next day without anything to eat or drink, and when she complained she was told to get out of the institution, as she was not sick. This same person complained that the food is unfit to eat, the soup being like dish water and the meat not properly cooked, this same complaint in regard to the food was made by some five or six other patients.

From Mrs. —, an old lady, who seems to be suffering great pain, I was told the nurses treat her cruelly when she rings her bell for assistance she cannot get any answer until she has to cry out with pain, and on a recent occasion while she was calling out, one of the nurses came out and put something in her mouth to gag her and keep her from screaming. She has some trouble with the lower part of her limbs, which she says requires rubbing, but she informs me that she has been left

lying without any help.

(—). I am informed, had to comb her own hair and dress her herself, it is next to impossible to do so as her limbs are very much twisted, and I do not think she is able to properly care for herself.

From another patient (—), I was told that she has to comb her own hair and look after herself, although she is half-blind and she left her arms, she also complains of the food being unfit to eat.

From (—), a helpless cripple, I was informed that she and three other nurses in comb her hair, and they refused to do so, and after being in great agony from the vermin that had got into her hair, she was forced to get one of the patients, by the name of (—), to file-comb her hair and that after doing so she took no less than thirty vermin out of her hair, and that this was shown to Mrs. Bowman, Matron, and Miss Allison, Head Nurse, but still the unfortunate girl informs me that not up to the present time will any of the nurses comb her hair, consequently she would soon be in the same condition. Her story is corroborated by (—), as well as (—), also informs me that on frequent occasions, when she was confined to her bed, she was allowed to wait from supper time until the next day without even a drink of water, and when she complained she was told she might leave the Institution.

Many other patients, complained to me about the treatment they received in general, and the condition of the food, so did different ladies and gentlemen visitors, viz. Colonel Elliott, Mrs. W.—, and Mrs. —. These ladies and gentlemen claim that the treatment the inmates receive, is anything but humane, and that they are prepared to bring abundance of proof further than that what I have been able to gather in my short visit, to substantiate the charge that the Institution is not conducted in a humane manner.

Personally I am not in a position to make any comments on the condition of the Institution except from the one side of the case. As I have said, my instructions being only to get from the patients their side of the story, I did not interview Mrs. Bowman, the Matron or any of the Board, as to their side of the case. However, if the matter is at all in the condition that I am informed by Col. and Mrs. W.—, who appear to have no other motive than the betterment of these unfortunate inmates, together with the complaints made by the patients themselves, I do not think it is in the interests of the Institution to keep this matter of fact should continue without further investigation. All of which is respectfully submitted.

Yours very truly, Frank J. Walsh.

Q. In what condition did you find THE NEXT STEP

Rev. Dr. Parsons—Mr. A. Kent, Mr. Hunter.

On 6th of Feb. I called on Mr. —, a former member of the Board, who left because of the fact that heinger lodged in the gross mismanagement. He told me to call and see Mr. A. Kent, who was THEN TAKING MEANS TO REMEDY THE DEFECTS OF THE HOME. I saw Mr. A. Kent, who told me that CHANGES WERE TO BE MADE AT ONCE TO PUT MATTERS IN BETTER ORDER, ETC., ETC. He had appointed a young lady, whom he was to take the place of Miss M. Martin. This young lady was to have great authority, and it would have a most beneficial result. I said to Mr. A. I then had a long talk. He asked my advice in certain matters, and I parted with him with a clear understanding of the situation. I was then asked to immediately REMEDIATE, help them and co-operate generally in bringing about a better state of things! I suggested that I would call on the Executive Committee, I would from my knowledge of 50 years, be better able to help Mr. Kent, however did not see his way clear to do so. I then, at his request, to Mr. Hunter (Standard Office), who fell into the same style of talk, and I finally left him with the same understanding (my co-opera-