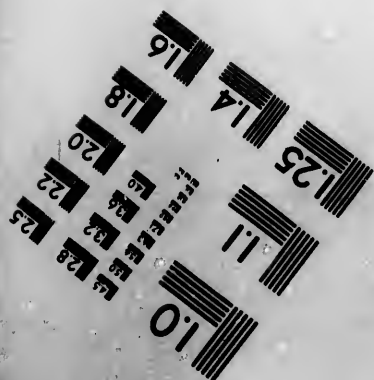
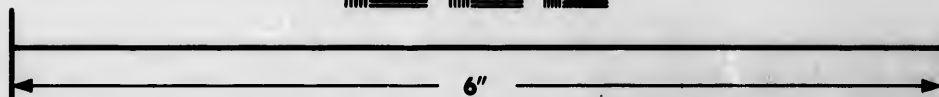
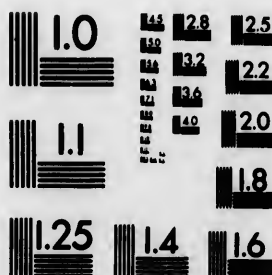


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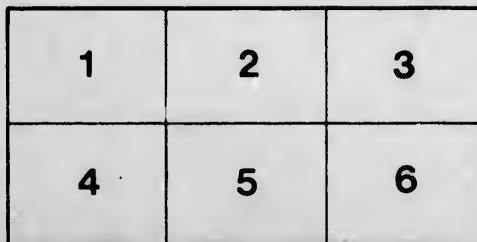
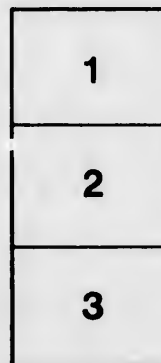
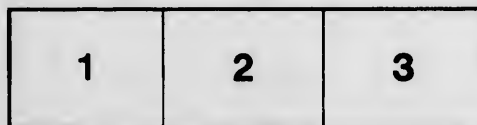
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SUPPLEMENTARY EVIDENCE

AS TO THE MANAGEMENT OF THE

NOVA SCOTIA

HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE,

MOUNT HOPE, DARTMOUTH.

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA, }
HALIFAX, S.S. }

I, JAMES S. WILSON, of the City of Halifax, make oath and say as follows:—

I was engaged as an assistant, and afterwards as an attendant at the Provincial Hospital for the Insane. I was employed there about fifteen months, and left there the 9th December last. I was employed in all the Male Wards, except M 7.

The food was frequently very inferior, the butter rancid, and at times more like lard than butter. In some of the Wards, there was none given to the patients, the attendants had only enough for themselves. The bread was occasionally sour. There were four or five barrels flour which I saw in the bakery, which was sour, about the months of July and August. The baker called my attention to it, and said, "that he could make bread almost out of saw-dust, but that he could not make good bread out of that flour." The meat was often very poor; I remember well on one or two occasions when the corned beef was so tainted that it

could not be eaten. The milk was frequently sour, with the cream taken off it. I saw butter-making going on in the kitchen. The molasses was often sour, and very dark, and the sugar the color of molasses sugar. The fish occasionally was not sound, and had a bad smell.

Wet beds were permitted to remain so for days on which the patients slept at night. The practice in the Hospital was, in Summer, when the weather was fine, to put the beds out sometimes, just as they were, to dry in the sun, and in the Winter time, occasionally to take them in the same state to the hot air chamber below. The beds have often been allowed to remain in a wet state for several days together. I never saw the Male Supervisor examine a bed after it was made up; he passed through mostly like any other visitor. I never saw Dr. DeWolf examine a bed but once. Mr. McNab was in the habit of giving notice to the attendants when the Commissioners were coming, to get the outside quilt on, and any of the rooms not in a good state, to lock them up. There was an insufficiency of bed-clothes, particularly sheets; and a great cause of the wet beds was the want of bed-sacks. I had to wait about three months before I could get half-a-dozen sacks, which I had applied for. I found several of the patients lousy when I entered the Wards, and there was not sufficient clothing to change them with, so as to keep them clean. I had to put the clothing in salt and water in the bath tub to destroy the vermin. Mr. McNab stated they were complaining in the laundry about sending too many clothes to the wash. In the Ward which I had charge of, there were twenty-five patients and two attendants. We had often to wash some of our own clothes in the Ward. We had some very dirty patients; and as well as I can recollect, there was an average of not more than eight sheets a week sent to the wash. About every three weeks a bed had one sheet put on it.

The air in the Wards was at times very bad; the registers of the hot air flues were some of them off altogether, and others broken. The patients would often put food, human filth, and other rubbish down these flues. I have seen it cleaned out below. I made application to have those registers put on, and repaired, and spoke to the Medical Superintendent about it, but it was not attended to.

There was no fire brigade organized, nor were the attendants ever shown how to put out a fire or how to use fire apparatus. I saw only one old piece of hose which was unfit for use, and the taps for fire purposes in the wards were never once turned or used while I was there. There were no wrenches to turn them with, and no spanners to couple a hose on.

Doctor DeWolf did not go through the wards daily, he was very irregular in his visits. At times, not often, he would visit the wards sometimes once a week, and at times not more than once in three weeks. Dr. Fraser was generally very regular in his visits, mostly daily.

I have known patients confined to the dark room for over a week, and never seen by the Superintendent during that time; they were very violent patients, some of them were naked and their rooms were in a bad state. I know that Thyne and Hubley were afraid to go into the rooms, and they occasionally came to me to give them assistance.

Ward M 1 was frequently very cold in Winter, and not promptly attended to when complained of.

The idea generally among the attendants was, they had better for their own sakes make as few complaints as possible.

A man named Fayle was sick, and I was attending on him in M 2. I saw he was very low, and I sent for the doctor two or three times, but he was not to be found in the building. After some time, he came up from his daughter's, but the man was dead. Dr. Fraser was in Halifax at the time.

I have seen the steward (Downie) under the influence of drink, frequently, with as much as he could carry.

I have seen Hon. Robert Robertson pass through the Wards occasionally, not often, sometimes with Mr. Dustan; neither ever examined a bed, raised even the bed clothes, turned one over, or out, while I was in the Ward. They could not have done so without my seeing them.

It was generally known and talked of in the institution, that the doctors were not on friendly terms.

[Sd.] JAMES S. WILSON.

Sworn at Halifax, N. S., this 12th day }
of July, A. D. 1877, before me, }
WILLIAM EVANS, J. P. }

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA, }
 HALIFAX, S.S. }

I, MICHAEL MEAGHER, of the City of Halifax, Yeoman, make oath, and say as follows :—

I say that I was an assistant attendant in M 8 Ward, in the Provincial Hospital for the Insane. from, or about the month of September, 1875, until May, 1876. I had constant opportunities of noticing the quality and quantity of the food used. The butter was often uneatable from being rancid; it had frequently to be sent back; it was sometimes two or three days before we got any in its place. The butter was always strong.

The tea was of poor quality, often very poor. The milk was hardly noticeable in the tea, the quantity was so scanty.

In September, when I was first employed, the bread was sour and soggy. Afterwards, it got a little better.

Sometimes, the meat was insufficient, except for ten or twelve who worked outside. There were from thirty to thirty-five persons in my Ward. Some days the patients got no meat, other times we showed them a sign of it, to prevent complaint. Other times we had to see which patient to take it from, in order to give it to another who would be more troublesome. One class of patients got butter, others none.

There were a number of wet beds daily in my Ward. They were rarely taken out in the air. They were generally left for some days as they were. One patient, Norman McNeil, was in a very bad state from bed-sores. He was paralyzed, and generally mute. I called Dr. Fraser's attention to his state, so that I should not be under any responsibility about him. Nothing was done for him. Being nearly helpless, his bed was in a worse condition than other patients who could look after themselves. It was revolting to look at him. The sores were on his hips chiefly, and on his back. The bed-clothes were put out in the attic to dry; but it only hardened them; when the patient laid on them, the warmth and perspiration made them worse than ever. The bed-clothes of this patient were never taken to

the laundry to wash, to my knowledge I understood that they complained at the laundry, if we sent many clothes, especially if they were dirty. We sometimes washed them in the bath tub. It was the practice to leave the beds wet for days. There was not enough clothing to keep some of the patients warm in Winter. There was not enough supplied to keep them clean. The clothes of some of the patients got full of lice. We had to soak the clothes in the bath tub to clean them of vermin.

Dr. DeWolf's visits were irregular; he was absent from the ward generally from three to five days. His visits were generally what you call flying ones, except when he had friends with him, or the Commissioners. He never, to my knowledge, examined the patients medically, unless the attendants called his attention to a serious case. I have seen Dr. DeWolf, Dr. Fraser, Mr. McNab, the Supervisor, the Commissioners, and the Hon. Robert Robertson, going through the ward. I never saw them examine the beds, turn them up, or turn them over. I was generally present in my own ward, and would have seen them if they had done so. The Commissioners generally went through the corridor or sittingroom. Seldom or never entered the patients' rooms. Mr. McNab used to give us warning of the Commissioners' visit, so as to make preparation for it. I know that Norman McNeil's bed was in the condition I have described during some visits of the Commissioners. It was always in a bad condition, more or less. Mr. McNab was in the habit of walking through the ward like a casual visitor; he did not seem to examine anything as an official. From his conversation with me, I understood, on one occasion, that it would be better to let things go on quietly, and not make complaints. This was on an occasion when I called his attention to some deficiency.

I had no knowledge whatever of any fire organization, or appliances for extinguishing fire in the building. I saw one piece of old hose which was never used. I saw some taps, but there were no keys to turn them. There was no spanner to my knowledge. There were no fire buckets. Dr. DeWolf and Dr. Fraser seldom or never visited the ward together. I saw them together only on two or three

occasions. It was generally understood that they were not on good terms with each other.

George Thompson, a patient, was sick while I was at the Hospital. He died there. He was admitted four or five days before the Doctors saw him to treat him medically. I saw that the man was in a very bad state. After repeatedly calling the Doctors' attention to his condition, they sent him a bowl of senna and salts. He was very weak at the time. Next morning he was prostrate. There was a tremendous evacuation from his bowels. He died from three to five days afterwards. Thompson's family was sent for the day before he died. Dr DeWolf asked me if they were making any enquiries about his illness. I said "No." He began to laugh, and gave me to understand not to say anything about Thompson's treatment. The head attendant had taken Thompson out of bed a few days before he died to put him in the bath tub. I saw the man was very low, and prevented them. I don't believe he would have come out of the bath alive. He looked as if he were dying. He was quite rigid and stiff.

A patient named Graham was in the dark room while I was at the Hospital. It was in the Winter time. The glass was broken, and the rain came in and wet the floor. Graham was lying on the floor on a mattrass. The room was in a very dirty condition. There was straw on the floor, and human excrements. I saw the snow not melted on the floor. We put the food in over the door sometimes. The doctor would occasionally enquire how he was. He never took a list of patients in that condition to my knowledge. He never went to see them. A man put in the dark room was entirely neglected. Graham was subject to fits; he might have died without assistance during the night; he was left entirely to his own resources after locking him up. Graham was a powerful muscular man. It was the practice of the attendants to give as little food as possible to patients in that state to reduce their strength; just enough food to sustain them. The doctors never enquired into the quantity of food given them. Graham was in the dark room from one to three weeks. The room was bitterly cold; it was hardly fit for a dog; it was not fit for a human being.

I never saw M. Nab examine the bedclothes or other clothing while I was at the Hospital.

[Sd.] MICHAEL MEAGHER.

Sworn to at Halifax, this 3rd day of }
 July, A. D., 1877, before me, }
 WILLIAM EVANS, J. P. }

LUNATIC ASYLUM, MOUNT HOPE, }
 18th Sept., 1873. }

REV. SIR,—I take the liberty of addressing you, as I understand you were making enquiries last evening about injuries received by Abraham Landre whom you visited here, and I am in a position to give you some information. Landre, it seems, used to assist in the dining room in this ward, and about March last had some altercation with one Dyke, an attendant, who cruelly kicked and stamped upon him, inflicting the injuries, from the effects of which the unhappy man is now dying. Dyke, whose christian name is Edwin, (but I am not quite sure, as some say it is Isaac,) was afterwards discharged, but not for this matter, as the other patients were too much intimidated at the time to give evidence, though some enquiries were made. I, myself, was not here at the time, but there are two convalescent patients, Charles Thomson and Benjamin King, who are still in the ward, witnessed the assault, and can give you all the particulars, should you require them. Edwin Dyke, I understand is a discharged soldier, and resides in Halifax. The man Wm McDonald, whom you saw on his dying bed, sometime since, was in this ward, he was struck with death while sitting at the dinner table, was then removed to another ward, and died the same night; he was a quiet man, took no exercise, and pined away. I never saw the Superintendent even speak to him, or feel his pulse in his rare visits to the ward, though the man's life was evidently waning fast.

I trust, Rev. sir, that you will not think me officious in

making these matters known to you ; but I, myself, have suffered so cruelly from brutal usage in this place that I wish, if possible, to save other poor creatures from similar treatment. I was brought here on the 7th June, and the next day, Sunday, I was brutally kicked and beaten ; news of the outrage leaked out in my case, and three attendants, Wm. Robertson, Wm. Neil, and Alex. McCoy, were discharged in consequence ; *but I do not think I shall ever completely recover from the injuries then received.* My treatment has been good since that time. I have no personal animosity towards the Superintendent, Dr. DeWolf, whom I have always found courteous ; but I have no hesitation in stating that he *grossly neglects his duty* of personal supervision and inquiry into individual cases, else such things as I have mentioned could never have happened. Several similar cases of ill-usage, though not to quite the same extent, have come under my own eye. The secrecy which shrouds everything is also a very bad feature of the management here ; friends are rarely allowed to see the patients, and visitors are only taken to wards kept in order for show, *while others reek with filth and misery.* I have been in this ward, containing about 30 patients, for three months and-a-half, and you, Rev. Sir, are the only clergyman who has entered it in that time.

You are quite at liberty to make any use of this letter you may deem fit, and I remain, Rev. Sir,

Respectfully yours,

PETER McNAB.

REV. MR. WOODS, &c., &c.

I, ANNIE MARVIN, of Dartmouth, in the County of Halifax, make oath and say as follows :—I was employed as a servant in the late Dr. McKeagney's family at the Nova Scotia Hospital for the Insane, about the year 1872, and for which the doctor paid me out of his own private funds. Some time during that year, Mrs. McKeagney was taken sick, and he had to take her to St. Catherine's, Ontario, for treatment. During the doctor's absence, I took

the position of attendant in the female ward, then called No. 9. While acting in that capacity, there was a patient, a young colored woman, whose name I don't remember, but which can be easily ascertained from the books of the Hospital, who became ill; she had little or no appetite, and was suffering from a stoppage of water and constipation of the bowels. I told Mrs. Downie, the female supervisor, her condition, and she said that she would let the superintendent know; but there was nothing done for her that day. Finding that she was getting worse, and suffering great pain, I pitied the poor creature, and went down myself to the surgery to tell the doctor; I had to go twice, or I think oftener, before he came, and when he did come, he just looked at her for about a minute, and said that he would ring my bell when the medicine would be ready to send her; but the bell was never rung, and she got no medicine. She had no sick diet, but a little gruel on one occasion, which was brought to the ward by Mrs. Downie, and two or three spoonfuls of which only she was able to take. I remained in the ward only a few days after this, until Dr. McKeagney returned, and I mentioned to Dr. McKeagney just before I left, how this poor patient had been suffering, but he told me that as she was in Dr. DeWolf's hands, it was more than he dare do to interfere in the least, or prescribe for her. I think, to the best of my knowledge, that the day I left the ward was Thursday, and the attendant who took my place, told me that this patient was dead on the *next* Saturday morning.

There was no night nurse or attendant, and this woman was locked up in the bed room with three other patients. During the time she was so very ill, she became frantic, as I thought, with pain, and I found one morning, when I unlocked the bed room door, that she had broken the chamber on another patient's head.

ANNIE MARVIN.

Sworn to at Dartmouth, this 29th day
of Jan'y., A. D. 1878, before me,
D. FARBELL, J. P.,
Visiting Com'r. Nova Scotia
Hospital for the Insane.

I, LIDA HAY, of Dartmouth, in the County of Halifax, make oath and say as follows :—I say that I was an assistant attendant in the N. S. Hospital for the Insane for about four months during the summer of last year. I had constant opportunities of seeing how some of the female patients were treated. I am acquainted with Miss Buree. She was the female night watch, and was usually engaged about half the day in what was called the infirmary ward. I have frequently heard her abuse and scold the invalid patients in the most violent manner. I saw her shake her fist in their face. I saw her prod the finger ends of a patient named Eliza Fanning in BBB ward with a pin, and heard the patient scream in consequence. I heard her threaten the patients that she would dip them. I did not at first understand what this meant, until I saw the operation performed. It is to tie a towel over the face, put the patient in the bath-tub, head under water, until she would almost smother, and come out in a fainting condition. This dipping is not the usual bath taken by the patients every Friday; it is a special arrangement for punishing. I saw a very weak and infirm old lady named Mrs. Hassey, and said to have been in a convent formerly, forced through the corridor of the ward to the bath room in her bare feet, by Miss Buree, to undergo this process. She was dipped because she refused to eat. This patient was occasionally fed by Dr. Fraser with a stomach pump, and she died just before I left the Hospital.

From all that I have seen at Mount Hope, I would prefer that any relative or friend of mine would die rather than see them placed there.

LIDA HAY.

Sworn to at Dartmouth, this 4th day
of Feb'y, A. D. 1878, before me,

D. FARRELL, J. P.

*Visiting Com'r. Nova Scotia
Hospital for the Insane.*

At an inquiry held January 23, 1878, before Commissioners ROSS and FARRELL, with regard to the death of HENRY BOND, a patient in the Hospital for the Insane, the attendant in the ward in which he died made the following statement:—

SHADRACH BRUTON sworn:—Henry Bond, a patient, died in the ward which I have charge of. It is supposed to be the infirmary ward. He died last Thursday morning (17th Jan'y, 1878), about 9 o'clock. He came into my ward the Saturday before he died. I partly cleaned him on Saturday, but not effectually. I did the best I could with him. Campbell, the attendant of the ward in which Bond came from was in my ward on Monday, and I gave him the comb to take the vermin that were left in his head out. I reported the state of this patient to the supervisor, and he sent up some sort of a wash for his head. When this patient came into my ward he was in a very weak state, unable to stand; I had to change him two or three times a day, and I had no assistant in my ward, except on two occasions, when Campbell came in to assist me. I had succeeded in taking out of Bond's head all the vermin, with the exception of some nits, before he died. This patient, if proper care had been taken of him, might have been kept clean. Dr. DeWolf visited this patient daily while he was in my ward, except the Thursday morning he died. He had an attendant to stop up with him the night he died, and until about 12 o'clock the night before; the other nights, Frank, the watchman visited him twice or three times during the night, as far as I know. He was locked up the rest of the time. He had bowel complaint from the time he came into M 6, until he died; he required to be changed constantly. He had no clergyman, or any friends to visit him; he seemed at times somewhat sensible, and asked for a drink. I have 13 patients, five of whom are unable to help themselves, in my ward. In the ward above, M 7, there are only 11 patients and two attendants.

I remember when Capt. Goudie, from Yarmouth, died. He was in my ward. I remember that his face was badly

bruised, having fallen out of the bed some short period before he died; he was paralysed, and unable to help himself; he had fallen out of the bed during the night; he had fallen out of the bed several nights before that, and afterwards. I found him frequently on the floor in the morning; he had no attendant during the night, except the watchman, who sometimes visited him. He, too, as is usual with all the patients, was locked up at night. He had no regular night attendant up to the night of his death.

Dougal Cameron, a patient, died in my ward, about 12 months ago; he had been in the ward only about two days, he was consumptive, and had no night attendant also, except Frank, the watchman, who might have visited him or not, but we found him dead in his bed in the morning. I reported the case to the supervisor, and never heard anything more about it after.

The most of the patients generally in my ward are weak and sickly. At Commissioner Farrell's last visit, I called his attention, as he was in the ward at dinner time, to the quality of the meat which had been served. It was nearly all fat and flabby, and quite uneatable; it was the belly part of an old pig. The Commissioner took it over to the kitchen to let Mr. Downie and the cook see it. I had to give the patients bread and butter for their dinner. We had no soup or tea to drink with the bread. The meat for about three weeks previously was so fat that the sick patients could not eat it.

SHADRACH BRUTON.

Extracts from the Supervisor and Attendants' Testimony in the same case.

JOHN H. McNAB, Supervisor, sworn:

I noticed this man (Bond) failing in appearance a month before he took to his bed. I remarked to the attendant, Thyne, that from this man's appearance, I thought he would likely die of consumption. He was about a week constantly in

his bed before his removal to M 6, (the infirmary) ward I know that he had some wine in the invalid ward before he died. This patient slept in the room in the N. E. corner of M 2 ward. It was a very cold room, and I noticed the windows caulked with rags after one of Commissioner Farrell's visits. Bond was very weak when he was removed, and we had to carry him to the other ward. I never examined his head to see if he had vermin in it. Bruton was the first to tell me he had vermin on him. He had bowel complaint in M 6. He was buried last evening. I never saw or heard that this man's chest had been examined with a stethoscope. I did not see the pork which was rejected in M 6, but I heard it was afterwards given to the pigs. The belly part of an old sow is not fit food for invalid patients.

Mr. Farrell pointed out at his last visit (about a week before) a number of windows which were broken, and I had them repaired next day. I found, however, on examination, just this moment, that a pane of glass is still broken in Dr. Richey's bed room, and another pane split down about half an inch, leaving an opening of about these dimensions right across the pane.

JOHN H. McNAB.

ANGUS D. CAMPBELL, attendant, sworn:—Bond was up and down for some considerable time before he was removed out of the ward; he appeared to be consumptive, and I only noticed him as hoarse, and having a bad cough about a week before he was removed, just when he took to his bed. He eat pretty well up to the time of his leaving, yet he fell away fearfully and rapidly after he went to his bed. The superintendentsawhim occasionally to shake hands with him, and ask how he felt, sometime before he took to his bed, and he had a mixture for a cough. Dr. Fraser was sick, and did not visit the ward. I never saw Dr. DeWolf examine this patient with a stethoscope. He only began to expectorate badly after he took to his bed. Bond was perfectly clean before and when he left my ward. His head and whiskers were combed and cleaned, and the vermin, only a few, taken out daily by me or Mr. Thyne before he left the ward, and while he was in bed. I used no wash or blue ointment on

this patient's head previous to his removal. This man was able to help himself, and take the chamber before his removal to M 6. He had no bowel complaint then. The room is a very cold one, about the coldest in the ward; it is the same room in which Commissioner Farrell called my attention to the state of the windows. I had to caulk the windows with old rags after the Commissioner called my attention to the cold air coming in through them. The windows in this room were also broken, and they were repaired, I think, next day after the Commissioner's visit. This was before Bond took to his bed constantly, as he sometimes lay down for an hour or two before he became very sick.

A. D. CAMPBELL.

FRANCIS THYNE, attendant, sworn. Bond was sick, off and on, for a considerable time before he died. He had a bad cough, was careless about coming to the table for his meals, and when he did, eat very little, for about two months before he died. He was consumptive, as far as I could judge, and I believe he got his death in that big room, (which was very cold) where he slept before his removal. The windows were in a bad state, and had to be caulked with old rags. He had a cough mixture. He had bowel complaint pretty bad before his removal to M 6; was very weak, could not stand alone, and the look of death was in his face before he left the ward. His eyes were sunk in his head. This man's chest was never examined with a stethoscope to my knowledge. Dr. Fraser was around occasionally, but he was unwell at the time. This patient has had vermin on him frequently while in the ward; he occasionally combed his own head before he took sick. Campbell told me that he always combed his head. I did not examine it to see if it was clean before his removal. He was always, while in M 6, locked up at night in his room, with five other patients.

FRANCIS THYNE.

At an inquiry held at Mount Hope, Feb. 7, 1878, the following statement was made, under oath, by one of the attendants, relative to the death of ROBERT TODD, of St. Margaret's Bay, Co. Halifax.

HENRY HUTT sworn:—I am assistant attendant in M 8 ward. I remember the time Robert Todd died. He had been a patient in my ward. It was some time in July last. I noticed this patient for about three weeks before he died, that he began to fail in his health; he coughed a good deal and expectorated badly; he was very hoarse; he refused to eat, and seldom went to the table during that time; he seemed to be gradually pining away, and, as far as I could judge, I thought he was consumptive. The doctors saw him as they passed through the ward, but never, to my knowledge, made any medical examination of him. He had no medicine given to him that I know of. I reported him on a slip of paper, sent to the Superintendent, as not taking his food. He got some gruel and milk occasionally after that. This patient slept in a room with two others. He was never removed to the infirmary ward. He took to his bed three or four days before he died, and was generally, as far as I can recollect, visited by the doctors once a day during that time. He died in the room he occupied with the other patients. The only medicine he had, to my knowledge, was a small medicine bottle of wine the day he died. His breath was very short all the time he was in bed, and he could only take a portion of the wine. He died about 4 o'clock in the afternoon. I saw by his appearance, when I unlocked the door of his room in the morning, that he was sinking, and in fact had been from the time he took to his bed. He had no night nurse to attend him up to the day he died. We had to change this patient's clothing frequently, for the purpose of keeping him clean, during the three or four weeks before he died. The attendants were not ordered to visit this patient, or give him any special attention beyond the other patients. I remarked, in talking over matters with the other attendant, that I thought the doctor ought to do something for this patient. There were about thirty patients in this ward, and among them many noisy and troublesome.

HENRY HUTT.

I, GEORGE PIERS, of Wallace Bay, in the County of Cumberland, make oath and say as follows:—I say that I was an attendant in M 8 ward in the Nova Scotia Hospital for the Insane, from Sept. 15, 1876, until April 25, 1877. I say that, for about the first three months after I entered on my duties, the provisions were very poor. We had sour and very inferior bread at times; the molasses and sugar were very dark, the milk scanty and occasionally sour, the meat sometimes tainted, and the butter so rancid that it was almost uncatable. Some of the patients only got butter; others none. Commissioner Farrell found some of the beds wet and filthy about the month of November; it was the practice in the wards to leave them in that state sometimes for two weeks together; at times they would be put down in the hot air chamber below to dry, just as they were, without a change of straw: and the great cause of the wet beds was the want of bed-sacks. Neither the Medical Superintendent, Supervisor, Commissioner Dustan, nor Hon. Robert Robertson, ever examined a bed while I was in the ward, until I saw Commissioner Farrell do so. I was generally in the ward when they passed through, and they could not have done so without my knowledge.

Some of the patients I found lousy when I entered the ward, and there were three whose names I remember,—Numbers 275, 984 and 1017. The patients had not enough clothes to change with, so as to keep them clean and tidy.

I heard a patient in my ward complain to the supervisor about the quality of the molasses, and the answer he made him was, "that it was good enough, and that he got it for nothing."

The medical superintendent's visits were irregular, occasionally perhaps once a day, and at times not more than once a week. He would pass through, shake hands with the patients perhaps, but never enquire with regard to their health, or make any medical examination, unless the attendant called his attention to some special case.

The ward was often cold in consequence of the quantity of glass which was broken by the patients, and the windows were often allowed to remain in that state for two weeks together, without any repairs.

GEORGE PIERS.

Sworn to before me at Wallace Bay, this

23d day of February, A. D. 1878.

W. SMITH, J. P.

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I, KATE CAMERON, of Princeville, River Inhabitants, in the Island of Cape Breton, do solemnly declare—

That I served as an attendant in the Nova Scotia Hospital for the Insane for about four years, that is, from 1874 until the 3rd December, 1877, under the management of Dr. DeWolf, and afterwards, from the 6th July, 1878, until January, 1879, under the management of Dr. Reid.

That there was a marked difference between the management under Dr. DeWolf and Dr. Reid.

That under Dr. Reid the patients were well attended to and regularly visited by him and his assistant, Dr. Sinclair; that the patients had medicine and sick diet whenever necessary, and their wants in every respect provided for.

That under Dr. DeWolf the food was often unfit for use, and, when sent back, was told that it was good enough, and got no better. The meat I have seen rotten, and as a general thing the tea, butter and meat were bad. I have seen the bread often bad also.

That attention is now paid to the cleanliness of the patients. Formerly this was not the case, as the filthy condition of the beds was such that I have seen maggots crawling out of some of them.

That I have known patients to have been inhumanly treated and sadly neglected. The first act of cruelty which I remember was to an inoffensive woman named Elsie Turpel, from Granville, who was in the habit of tearing her clothes. She was stripped naked, her hands and feet tied, her hands behind her back, in a room, on a cold December night, in old F Ward, in 1874, without a bed. Next morning she was found dead, coiled up in the corner. I was called in to unbind her hands and feet. She had not been visited by the Superintendent or Assistant Physician until she was dead. There was no inquest; the Doctor said she died of cramps.

That it was known to me that Mrs. McCoy, from Lake Ainslie, Cape Breton, was cruelly treated in No. 9 Ward. She was often put into the drying room, or closet, and cold water poured over her. One morning I heard that she would not eat her breakfast. I went down to see her, and in about an hour after she died. She had a large cut in the

back of her head. I heard that she was opened and that there was not a particle of food in her stomach.

That I had a patient named Bridget Dwyer locked in for about three months. Dr. DeWolf only saw her twice during that time, to my knowledge, and the Assistant Physician never once. Numbers of other cases of the same kind.

That a patient named Abbie Armstrong was sick for about five months. She suffered from diarrhoea; nothing done for her, and no suitable nourishment. She died about a week after I left the ward.

That another patient named Mary Walsh was also sick; she had sore toes for about three or four months, and was suffering with diarrhoea; she, too, had neither medicine nor nourishment of any consequence.

That I had to wash blankets, in the Ward, for Dr. DeWolf's daughter, Mrs. Harrington; they were given to me by Mrs. DeWolf, who stated that Mrs. H. had no tub at her house large enough. The blankets had Ward marks on some of them.

That I was not called to give evidence at the investigation, believing that if I had been, and that I told all I knew, my time would be made short in the institution.

That I am prepared, at any time, to substantiate, under oath, before any tribunal, the foregoing statement of facts.

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously, believing the same to be true, and by virtue of the Act passed in the thirty-seventh year of Her Majesty's reign, entitled: "An Act for the Suppression of Voluntary and Extra Judicial Oaths."

KATE CAMERON.

Solemnly declared before me, at River
Inhabitants, in the Island of Cape
Breton, this 5th day of March, A.D. }
1879. JOHN McMASTER, J. P. }

The following is a copy of Dr. DeWolf's letter announcing the death of Mrs. Turpel to her son:

10th December, 1874.

MR. ALEXANDER TURPEL:

Dear Sir,—

I have to inform you, with much regret, of your mother's decease, which occurred at an early hour this morning. I was called to her,

but life was extinct. She had been better than usual of late, and was much attached to her attendant. Her death was due to a fit of paralysis, and was very sudden. Please telegraph whether you wish the interment to be in Dartmouth.

I sent you a despatch this morning, which will have reached you ere this comes to hand.

Dear Sir,

Sympathetically,

(Signed)

J. R. DEWOLF.

The Medical Superintendent's Report for 1874 concludes as follows :

" It now remains to express our sincere gratitude to the Supreme Being for past mercies, and to invoke His blessing upon our future labors.

" The last hour of the old year was spent by a large number of attendants and many of the patients, in our chapel, where songs of grateful praise resounded at the solemn midnight hour, and ushered in the coming year."

(Signed)

JAMES R. DEWOLF, M. D.,
Superintendent.

