

to solicit the advice of the Commissioners as to the steps by which it may be practicable to place the matter on a footing more satisfactory to those whose pecuniary interests are so involved therewith.

LONDON, Dec. 2, 1863.

*Chronic Lunatics.—Arrangements for their Removal from Asylums to Workhouses.*

(Minute by the Commissioners in Lunacy.)

November, 1863.

The Board had under further consideration the provisions of the 'Lunacy Acts Amendment Act,' 1862, § 8, as explained by the 2nd section of the 'Lunacy Acts Amendment Act,' 1863, empowering the visitors of any asylum, with the approval of the Commissioners in Lunacy and the President of the Poor Law Board, to make arrangements with the guardians of any parish or union within the district for which the asylum has been provided for the removal from the asylum to the workhouse of such parish or union, and the reception and care therein of a limited number of chronic lunatics, chargeable to the same, or any other parish or union.

Resolved as follows—

I. The arrangements authorised are, in the opinion of the Board, intended to meet the deficiency of accommodation in asylums, and to enable visitors, in special cases, to make provision for the immediate reception into the asylums of all recent and probably curable cases. The Legislature clearly did not contemplate the reception into workhouses generally of the chronic patients referred to, and the constitution thereby of a number of small lunatic establishments; but the selection by the visitors of one or more workhouses, in which adequate accommodation, care, and attendance can be ensured. Consequently, all applications for the approval of the Commissioners must originate with visitors of asylums; and no such application, received directly from a board of guardians, can be entertained.

II. Proper rules and regulations, modified according to circumstances, will be required to be prepared and approved. In the mean time the Board consider and determine that the following conditions are (amongst others) indispensable, and will, in all cases, be insisted on, viz.—

1. Separate wards—properly constructed, arranged, and furnished for the patients of the respective sexes. The dormitories to be distinct from the day-rooms, and the former to afford cubical space per patient, of 500 feet, and the latter 400. Single bed-rooms to contain at least 600 cubic feet.

2. A liberal dietary, analogous to that of the asylums.

3. Ample means of outdoor exercise and recreation.

4. Due medical visitation.

5. Properly qualified paid attendants.

6. Medical and other registers; records similar to those in use in licensed houses.

*The English Lunatic Hospitals.*

"Of the fifteen or eighteen 'Lunatic Hospitals' in England, the majority are defective in their building, and seem to be restricted in usefulness by insufficient incomes. There are two, however, which are generally conceded to be among the best of their class, apparently containing every essential desideratum for the highest success. One of these, the Manchester Hos-