83 383 Transferred from Hanwell Asylum

Patient’s Name Catherine Louisa Freston

Mental Disease Chronic mania

Union

Date of Admission. Nov. 22 1907

Age on Admission. 78

Married, Single, or Widowed. M

Weight and Height. 5ft 4ins

No. of Attacks 1st

Profession or Occupation. None

CAUSE OF INSANITY.

Predisposing. Senility

Exciting. (?) mental (?), drink

FORM OF MENTAL DISEASE.

Mania. 1

Melancholia. -

DEMENTIA.

Ordinary. -

Senile. -

Congenital Insanity, including

Idiots, &c. -

Other forms of Insanity,

If any.

Suffering from General Paralysis.

Suffering from Epilepsy. No

Having Suicidal Propensity. No

Whether Dangerous to others. No

Having Phthisical Family History. 1

Having family History of

Intemperance. No

Habits. w & d

Religious Persuasion. C. of E.

Time Insane.

Y. 10

M. 6

D. -

RESULT.

Date of Order. November 13th 1897

Signed by W.E.B. Blenkinsop

MEDICAL CERTIFICATE. -

1. Facts indicating Insanity observed by myself at the time of the Examination, viz. :-

She has a delusion that her son Cecil loves somewhere at the back of the house & says she has twice seen him in the garden. She told me an interminable story of her property & her relatives and rambled so that I could gain no information. She carries in her pocket an “indenture” which she thinks proves her entitled to property. I believe that she in error concerning this.

1. Facts communicated by others :-

MEDICAL CERTIFICATE.

1. Facts Indicating insanity observed by myself at the time of the Examination, viz.:-

Her conversation is rambling & incoherent and is impossible to get her to give any connected account of her affairs. Now and again she breaks out into fits of fatuous laughter without any ostensible cause.

1. Facts communicated by others viz. :-

“From Hanwell” Grandiose delusions & considerable dementia. Believes Lord Leighton has visited her (?) recently. Mistakes identities. Is forgetful & garrulous. No serious bodily illness while at Hanwell. She has become more childish & demented lately. Still has grandiose delusions.

HISTORY :- 1st attack from son

5 years & 5 months at Hanwell.

Duration 10 years Cause.- Senility.

Prolonged mental stress. (?)

(?) of husband (?) the cause.

Sent to nursing home at Wansdworth for 3 years then transferred to Northumberland House. From there to Hanwell.

Family history no heredity. (?) no heredity of (?).

Married since 1848. 6 children 2 of whom died in infancy. Sir John Gorst (?) related to her.

PRESENT ATTACK.

PHYSICAL :-

Of the habit of the body and temperament, appearance of eyes, expression of countenance, and any peculiarity in form of head; physical state of vascular and respiratory organs, and of the abdominal viscera, and their respective functions; state of the pulse, tongue, skin, &c., and the presence or absence, on admission, of bruises or other injuries.

Cheerful expression

Sparely nourished

Grey hair

Brown eyes

Pupils equal, reaction normal

Knee jerks absent

Tongue clean and steady

Heart – sounds rather feeble

Lungs

(?) nil

Small old bruise left arm, 2 small ones left thigh, 2 small ones left leg.

Teeth missing

Walks only with (?) of old age

MENTAL:-

The manner and period of the attack, with a minute account of the symptoms, and the changes produced in the patient’s temper or disposition; specifying whether the malady displays itself by any and what delusions, or irrational conduct, or morbid or dangerous habits or propensities; whether it has occasioned any failure of the memory or understanding; or is connected with epilepsy, or ordinary paralysis, or general paralysis.

Simple minded & childish. Smiles & laughs when spoken to. Memory somewhat impaired. Imagines that Lord Leighton has visited her lately & spoken to her on the ward (delusional)

PROGRESS.

1907

Nov 23 Has been quiet since admission. Takes food well. Put on mince diet.

Nov. 25th Statement – Chronic Mania – Is simple minded & childish. Says she has been visited by Lord Leighton (?). Garrulous & somewhat forgetful. There is marked mental enfeeblement. In poor health.

Dec 2 Cheerful, simple minded. Retains her delusions respecting Lord Leighton’s visits. Is wet & dirty. Poor health.

Dec 9 Simple minded. Fatuous & forgetful. Poor health.

PROGRESS.

1907

Dec 16 Simple minded garrulous & irrational. Says she is here to settle a family quarrel. (?) to the (?) of Sir John Gorst – ‘the head of her family’. Declines to allow her husband to come visit her here, says it would be improper. Poor health.

1908

Jan 18 Very pleased with her surroundings. Rambling (?) in conversation. Her (?) respecting Lord Leighton & Sir John Gorst remain as before. Poor health.

Feb 19 Simple minded, irrational. Rambling in conversations. Retains her delusions respecting Lord Leighton & Sir John Gorst. Poor health.

May 9 Rambling garrulous and simple-minded and irrational. Imagines she has been visited since coming here by Lord Leighton. Memory impaired. Is on mince diet. Poor health.

June 4 Whilst in the ward bath room yesterday at 6:30pm Nurse Gosling discovered a swelling in the scalp behind right ear. There is no discolouration or tenderness & the contents are fluid.

August 10 Remains in the same simple minded & forgetful condition. In poor health.

Nov 10 Simple minded, irrational with impair~~ed~~-ment of memory. Poor health.

Feb 9 Fatuous, simple minded, forgetful. Is gradually becoming more feeble in body as well as mind.

May 8 There is no improvement to note. Memory & intelligence much impaired. There is marked loss of power on left side. Feeble health.

Aug 9 Remains in the same dull & demented condition. Poor health.

 Special Report & Certificate

Oct 13 Dementia Secondary. Childish & weak minded. Confused & unable to give a rational account of herself. Memory much impaired. Cannot tell how long she has been here what day or month this is; thinks she may have been visited since being here by Lord Leighton. Very garrulous. In moderate health.

1909

Nov 8 She is much demented and is gradually becoming more feeble.

1910

Feb 8 Simple minded, fatuous & forgetful. Feeble health.

May 7 Memory much impaired. Very simple minded. Talks much about Lord Leighton. Imagines he keeps here. Feeble health.

Aug 7 Very simple minded & childish. Thinks her husband is alive. Memory greatly impaired. In very feeble health.

Nov 8 There is no change in her mental condition. Is as deluded as ever.

1911

Feb 8 Simple minded & childish with a marked impairment of memory. Poor health.

May 9 Forgetful & irrational & simple minded. Poor health.

Aug 9 Her mental condition remains much the same. She hoards rubbish and is greatly lost to her surroundings. Poor health.

Sep 5 Was this day (?) to the (?) class. (?) XIV folio 13