

Historic Psychiatry original miscellaneous documents

Section 14, Pages 391 - 420

These are a variety of handwritten and typed letters, lectures, autographs, news clippings, biographical information, images and sketches, court documents, and other documents related to the history of psychiatry. These documents are housed in four boxes and the folders within are arranged alphabetically by surname or title, and they are included in the larger collection of historic psychiatry material in the Menninger Archives. Authors come from such fields as medicine, religion, prison and other reform and advocacy movements, politics, the military, etc. The documents themselves sometimes provide significant information, and sometimes they were collected because their authors were significant historical figures. Some of the individuals found in Box 1 include James Mark Baldwin, Ludwig Binswanger, Eugen Bleuler, Jean-Martin Charcot, Elizabeth Fry, Oliver Wendell Holmes, and Carl Jung. Some of the individuals found in Box 2 include Alfred Adler, Robert Frost, and Washinton Irving. This box also includes a 68-page handwritten notebook by Dr. W.W. Reed entitled "Reminiscenses About the Treatment of the Insane." Some of the individuals found in Box 3 include Amariah Brigham and Frederick van Eeden. This box also includes a correspondence file (1883-1888) on Ellen Kehoe, a patient at the Worcester Lunatic Hospital in Massachusetts, and a series of drawings from the 1920s and 1930s by a Belgian patient suffering from paranoia named Andreas at the Kankakee State Hospital in Illinois. The drawings were donated by Dr. J.B. Gier, formerly of the Topeka Veteran's Administration Hospital, who knew the patient and encouraged his work. Box 4 includes a miscellaneous folder regarding insane asylums and contains legal documents, postcard images, and receipts for services. Languages include English, German, French and Italian, and transcriptions or translations follow some of the documents.

Date: 1751 - 1961

Callnumber: Menninger Historic Psychiatry Coll., Miscellaneous, Box 1-4

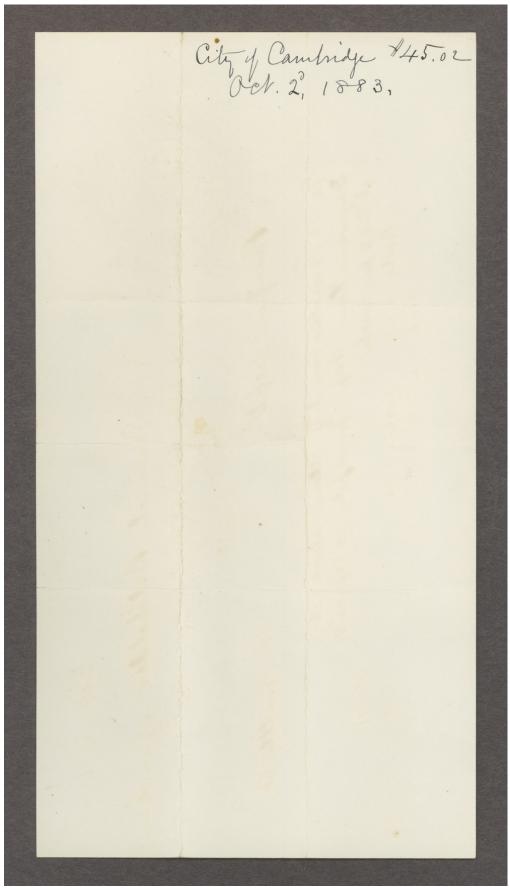
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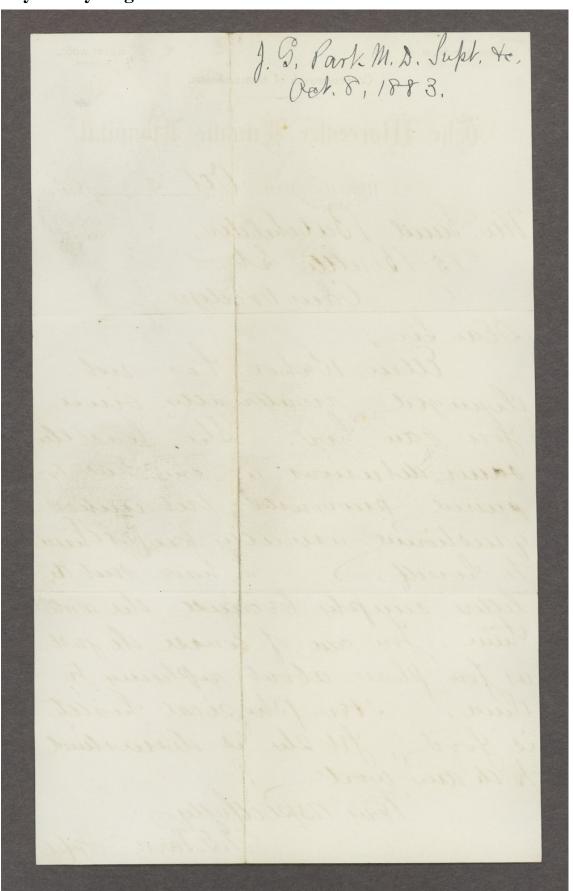






JOHN G. PARK, M. D. ALBERT WOOD,
Superintendent. Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
The Morcester Annatic Mospital.
Worcester, Mass., Och. 8, 1882.
Mr. Saul. Batchelder,
#15 Brattle St.
Cam bridge
D'Eau Lir:
Ellen Rahor has not
changed materially since
for dan her, She has the
sauce delusions as she had Ex-
pussed priviously, but unless
questione usually keeps there
the state of the s
to weself. I have the
letter simply because the write
there, for course do just
as for please about replying to
as for pueux avour supreguing to
there, Her Physical health
is food , fit the is disinclud
to de any work . The Mappetfully
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J.G. Park Dupt.

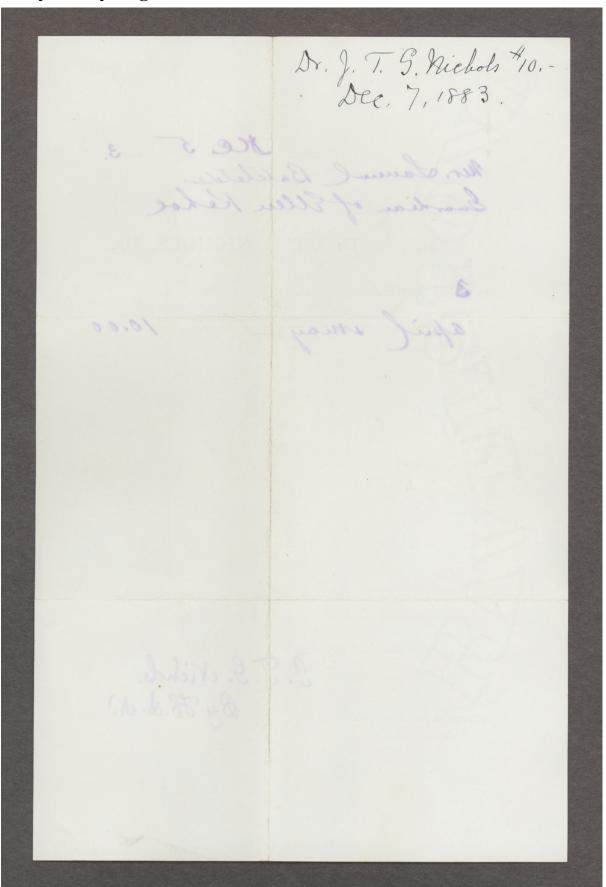




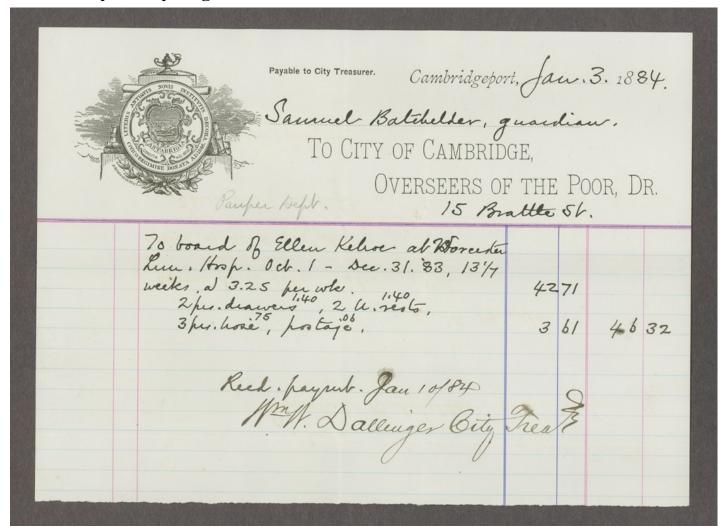


Vo -
CAMBRIDGE, See 3 1883.
Mer. Samuel Balchelder
Mer. Laurel Balchelder Guardian of Ellen Kehoe
To J. T. G. NICHOLS, Dr.
1883 For professional services.
april may 10.00
Received payment,
g. J. S. Vichols.
9. T. G. Nichols. By H. d. M.
Office Hours: 8 a.m.; 1 to 2 p.m.

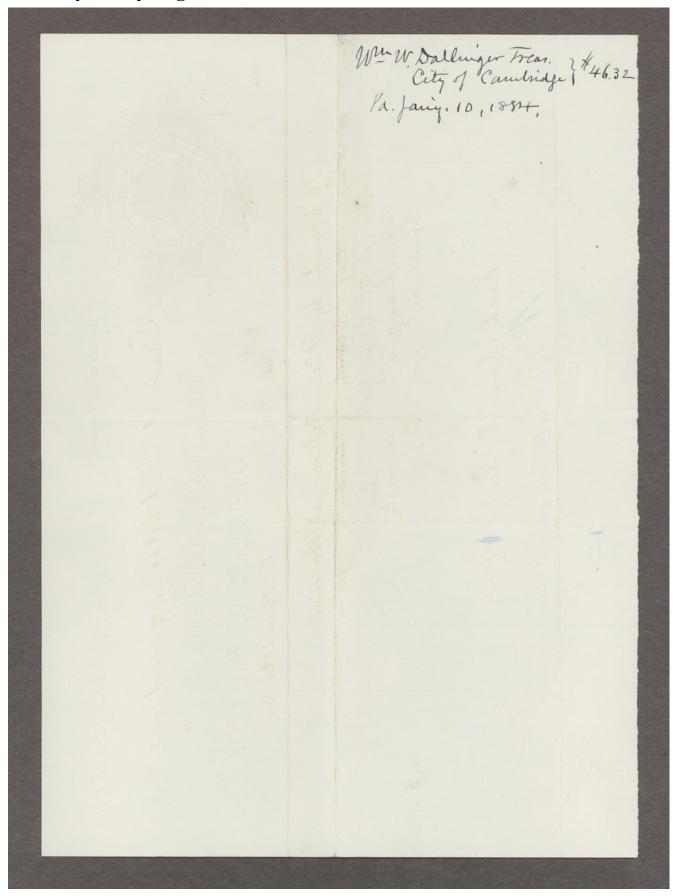




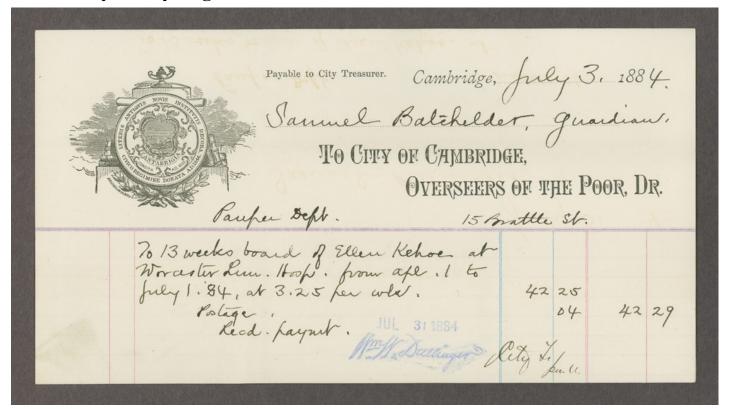




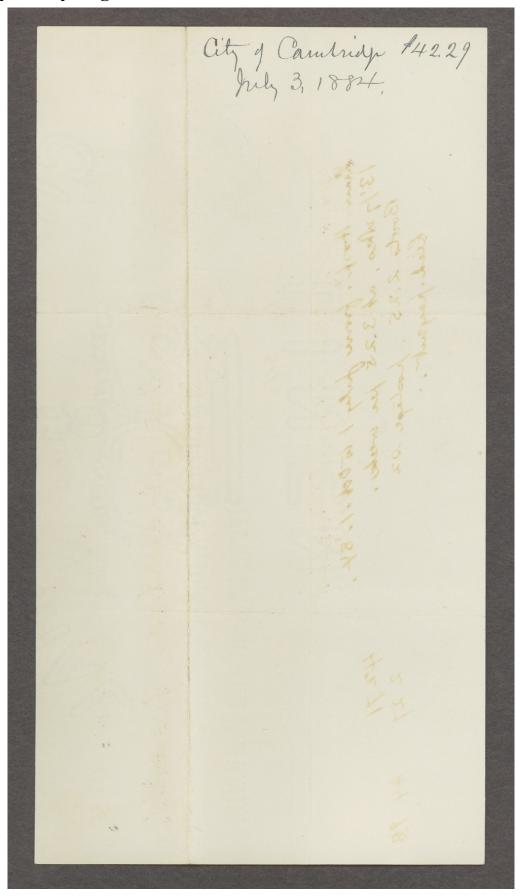




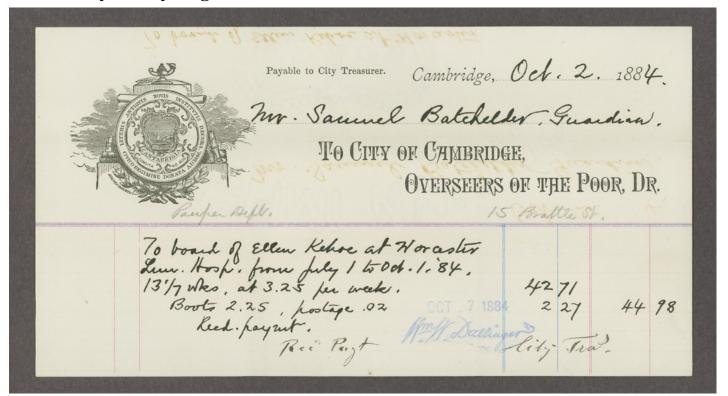




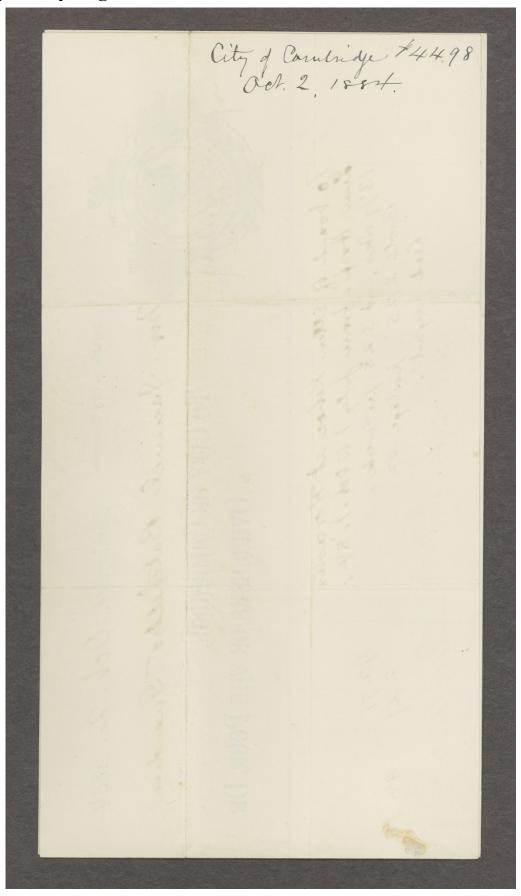




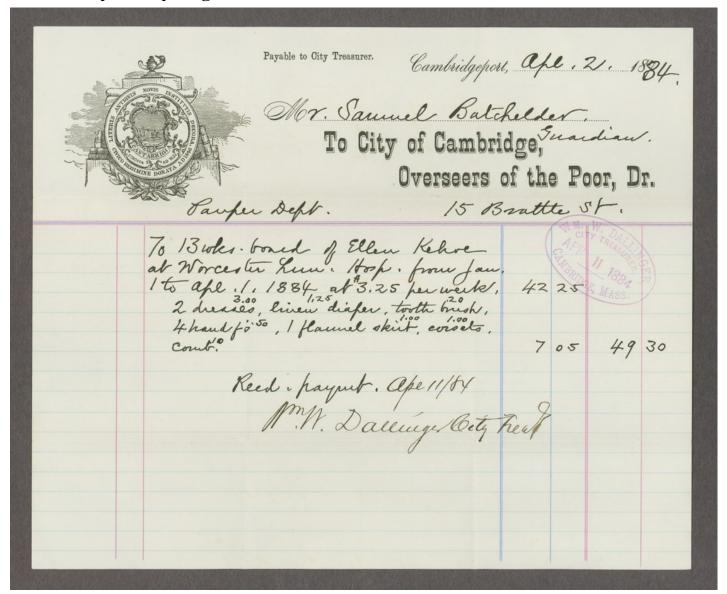




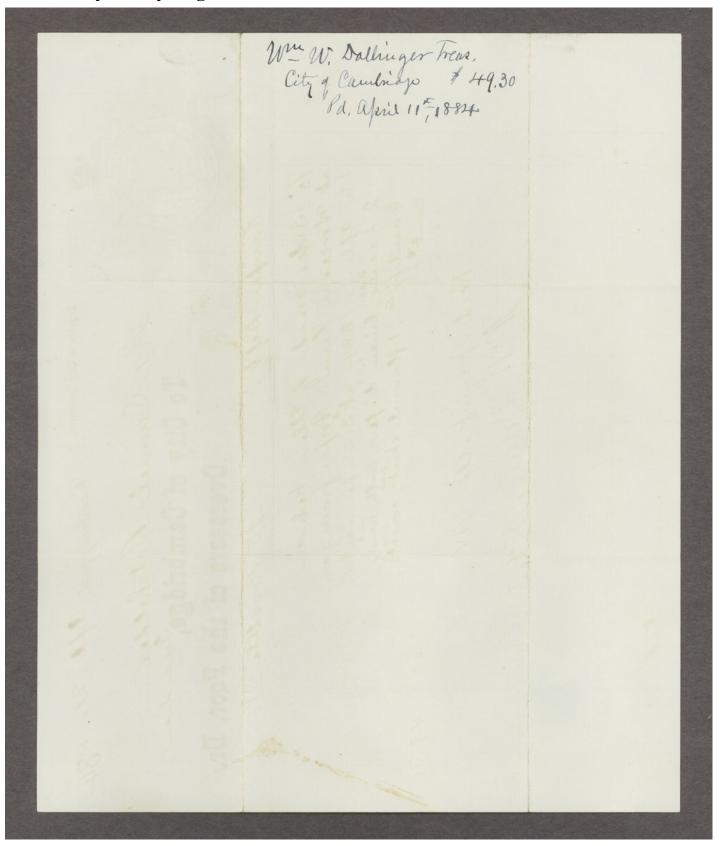








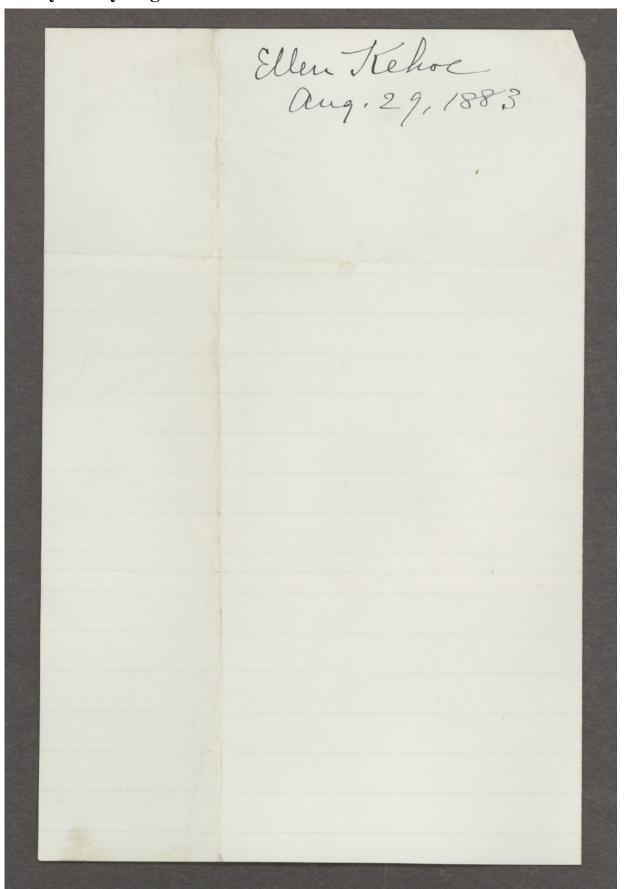




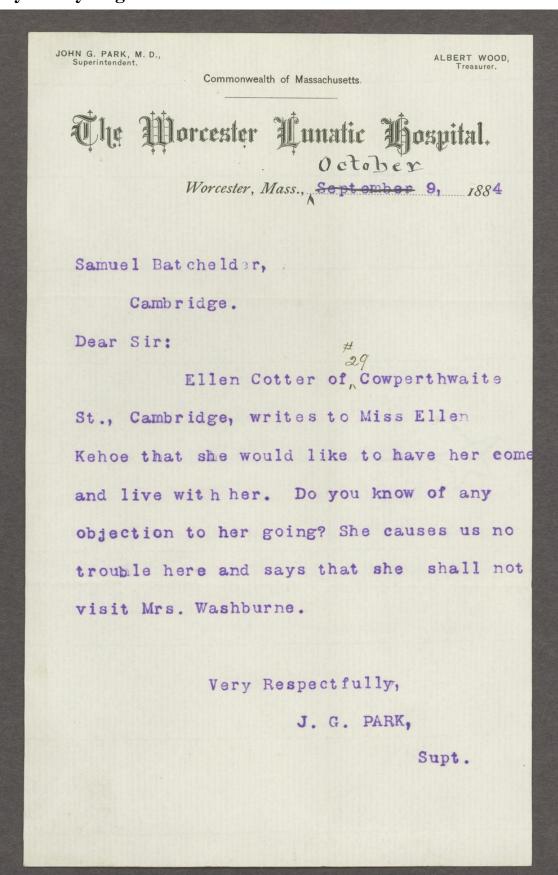


Woreester Aug 24
Ms Batchelder
Dear Sis-
me really industant
That they wanted me to go back there when
I sem you, I if they do
semyon, tif they do want me they have get to do is to just write to me they willed
Me Dr See is -
yours very respectfully
New State Loundie Asylum Worce Ster men
Wolcegler mess

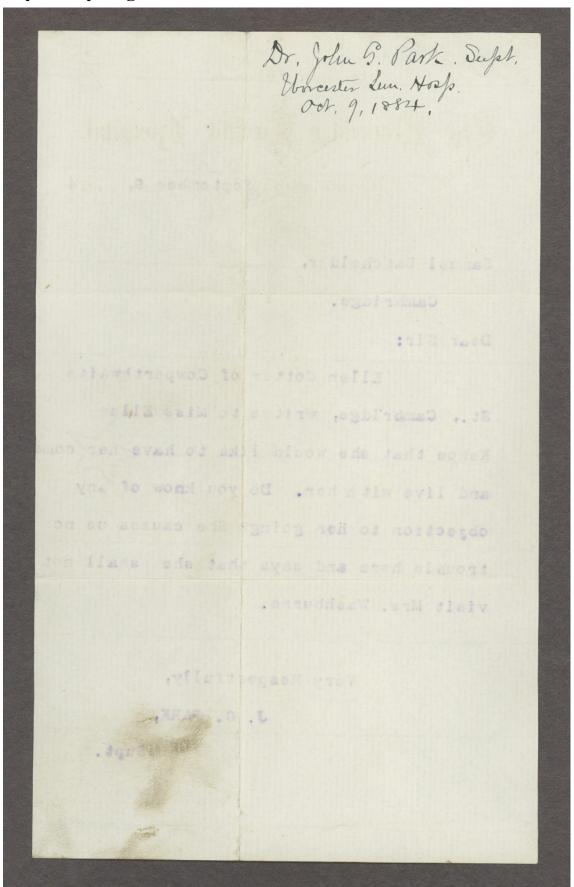




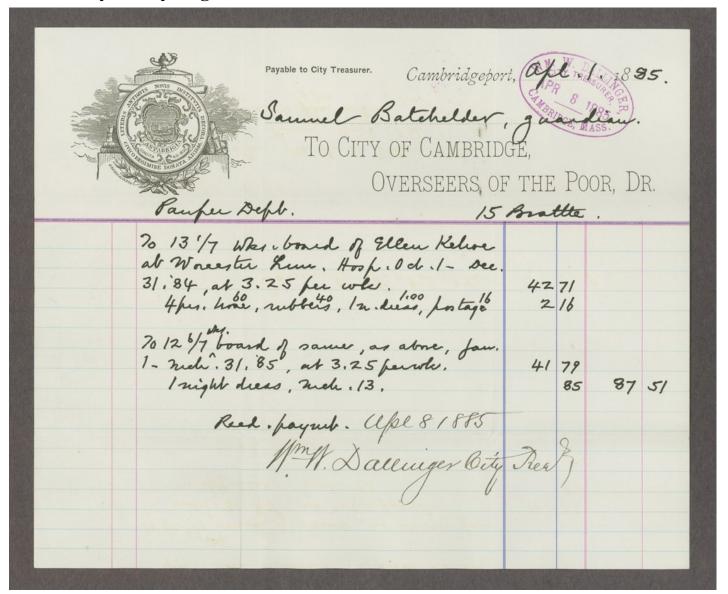




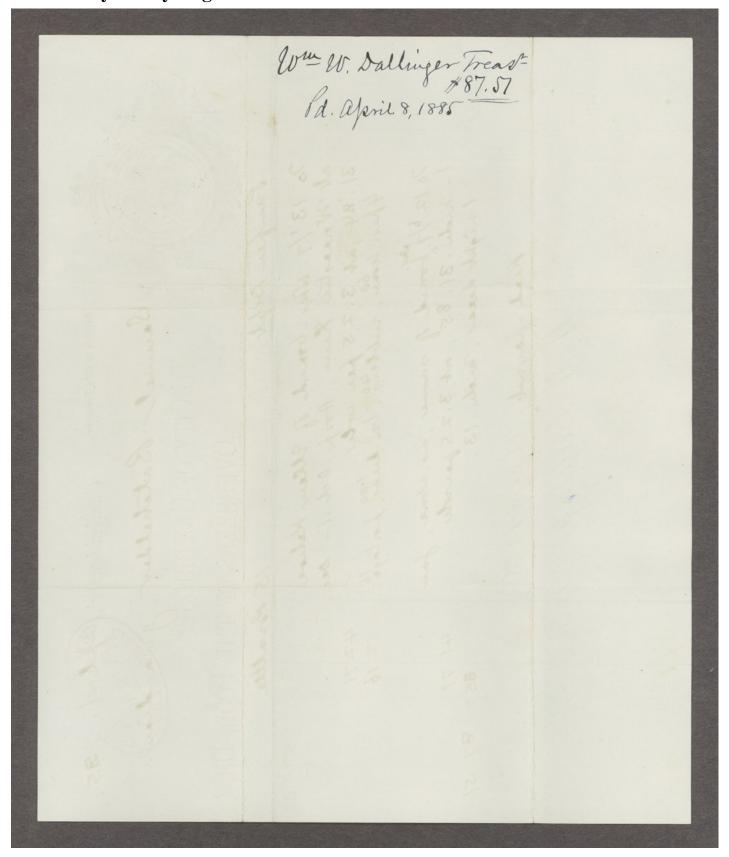




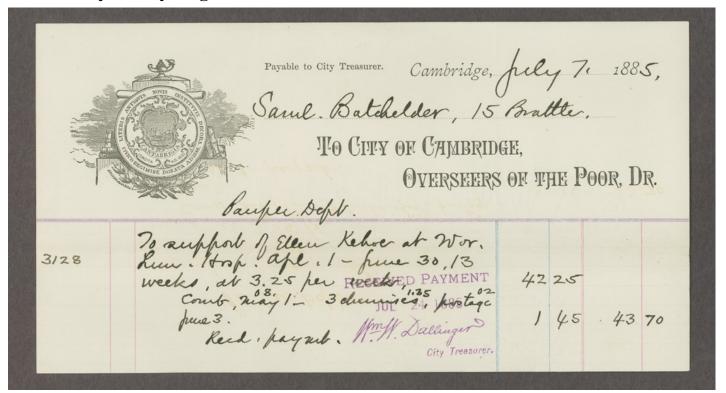




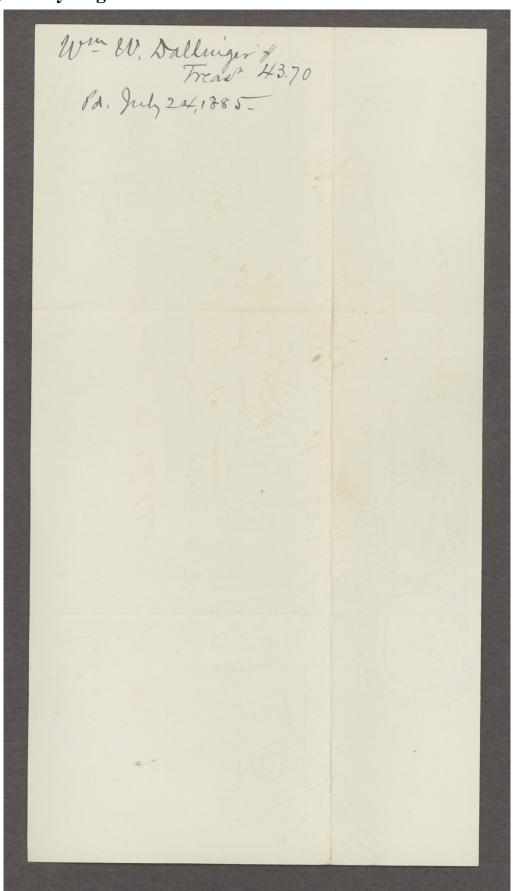














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Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

BOARD OF HEALTH, LUNACY AND CHARITY.

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR OF CHARITIES,

13 BEACON STREET, BOSTON.

February 9th, 1886.

To the Overseers of the Poor in the _______of _____, and other Persons interested in the Care of the Insane in Massachusetts.

Gentlemen : -

Under the provisions of a statute passed in the year 1885, a copy of which I enclose, this Board has undertaken to place in families throughout the Commonwealth, a small number of those insane persons previously committed to the State Hospitals. The number so placed since August 10, 1885, has been 39,—13 men and 26 women, of whom 34,—11 men and 23 women,—now remain in their boarding places. Three persons, a man and a woman, have been returned to the hospital from which they were taken, as unsuitable cases; two have practically recovered, and two more will soon be discharged, as able to care for themselves. All those who remain in their boarding places, have conducted themselves well, and, so far as can be judged, have improved in their condition since leaving the hospital. It has been found that many families living in comfort, are willing to receive such boarders, provided suitable patients are selected; and there are at present applications pending for at least twenty more patients, who will be sent to these boarding places, as soon as patients well adapted for this mode of life are found in the State Hospitals. The 34 persons placed out under this statute, have gone forth from hospitals as follows,—13 from the Northampton Hospital, 9 from the Taunton Hospital, 8 from the Worcester Hospital, 3 from the Danvers Hospital, and 1 from the Chronic Asylum at Tewksbury, and are boarding in families in the following cities and towns.—Ashfield, Athol, Boston, Charlton, Chelsea, Goshen, Marion, Medfield, Monson, Raynham, Southampton, Southwick, Spencer, Taunton, Tewksbury, and Westborough.

Only two of these 34 persons belong to the class of city and town patients. Yet in the hospitals from which they came, the town patients not only greatly exceed in number the State patients (of whom 32 are now boarding in families), but are as a class much better adapted for family life than the State patients; because they include a much greater number of quiet and harmless cases, and such as have been accustomed, in former years, to live



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neatly and reputably in families. On the other hand, the State patients, as a class, include some persons whose former habits of life have been vicious; and a great many cases, not only of recent insanity, but of recent arrival in the State or the country, so that they have not yet adapted themselves to the ordinary conditions of American life. Hundreds of the city and town patients, on the contrary, have long resided in Massachusetts, and many of them, while secluded in the hospitals, are practically separated from friends and relatives, to an extent which would not be the case if they were boarding in families. Such persons, might in some instances, live with friends or relatives at the expense of the town of settlement, and the cost of their support might thus be diminished. The law fixes the price of their board at the same rate as is paid in the hospitals; in addition to which, the cost of clothing is provided by the Commonwealth, or the town of settlement, or by the friends of the patient. Such as board in families, are more likely to be supplied with clothing and other comforts by their friends, than are those who remain in the hospitals. Indeed, the interest of friends in these insane persons seems to be much increased by their removal from the great hospitals, where their individuality is apt to be lost in the multitude of inmates, with whom the wards are crowded. Before the experiment of boarding out these patients began, in August last, Mrs. C. T. Leonard, of Springfield, upon whose recommendation, in part, the statute was enacted, wrote a letter for publication, wherein she made the following remarks, which the experience of the last six months has quite justified.

"Members of the Board of Health, Lunacy and Charity in their official visits to the hospitals, have often observed patients, who, though possessed by many delusions, are quiet and harmless, and who would be happier in ordinary life, than in the monotony, necessary restraint and unpleasant companionship of an insane asylum. Most of these persons have no homes, or friends who are willing to take care of them. A large proportion are old or past middle age. They have usually been for a considerable time inmates of hospitals, and were formerly more excited and troublesome than now. It is not proposed to place in families, any patients who are violent, or destructive, or filthy in their habits; any who are likely to wander away, or who are subject to epileptic fits, or who are disgusting in behavior and speech.

"It is hoped that inquiry will develop the fact, that there are a good many families living in the country, with comfortable homes and moderate incomes, who would be glad to add something to the latter by taking one or two mild and harmless persons from the hospitals and giving them kind care.

"The writer has now in mind a good many gentle, mild and harmless women, some aged, some younger, who have often piteously besought that they might 'go out' and have a home 'somewhere else.' We find them rearing canary birds, playing with dolls, or brooding in pathetic melancholy, weary of a great institution, and longing for domestic life, with its little details of interest. They stay in the hospitals because they have nowhere else to go. They have delusions, and cannot guide themselves; they require patience and kindness; but these, if conferred, will bless both the giver and receiver. Women, perhaps, will be most readily received; but there are men as well, who would give little trouble in a country home. If, on trial, a patient proves unmanageable, nothing is easier than to procure his return to a hospital."

Will you not bring this matter before the proper authorities in your town, and communicate with this Board either through the Chairman of its Lunacy Committee, Edward Hitchcock, M. D., Amherst, Mass., or through the Inspector of Charities, who is charged with the practical execution of the boarding-out law? Should any information be required, or further explanation concerning the new law and its results thus far, the undersigned will be



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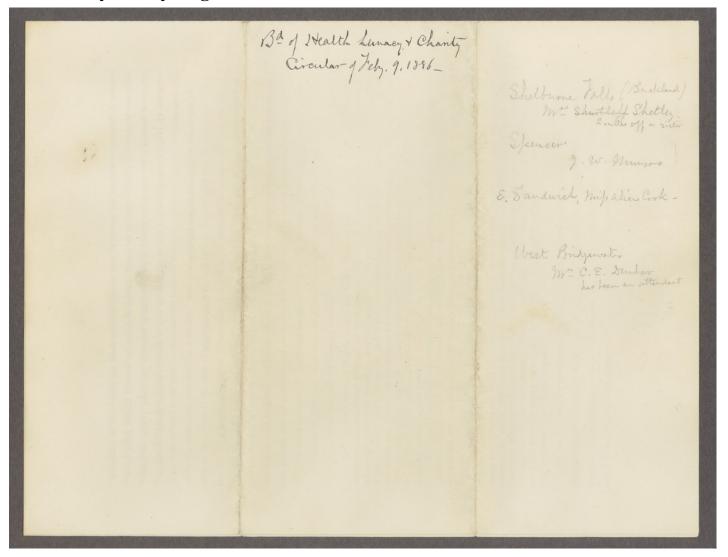
prepared to furnish it, or to attend any meeting of town or city authorities where the subject is to be considered with a view to action. A valuable report, on the general question of placing the insane in families, giving the experience of Scotland in this respect, was printed in the Sixth Annual Report of this Board (Public Document series, No. 17, 1885), a year ago, where it may be examined by such as desire to acquaint themselves with the facts in the case. An early answer to this communication will oblige

Yours very truly,

F. B. SANBORN,

Inspector of Charities.







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DAVID P. MUZZEY, Secretary,
P. O. Address, Cambridgeport, Mass.

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

OFFICE OF OVERSEERS OF THE POOR;

Central Square Building, Western Avenue.

Cambridgeport, Jef. 22. 1885.

Saml. Batchelder, Eogs. Dear Sir: -

letter from the State authorities stating that Ellen Keloe, though not entirely necessed, seems to be sufficiently in. haved to be discharged, and expresses the wish to go back to reland, country galway, where she has relatives.

Will you hay her passage for this purpose?

Very truly, yours. D. P. nugger, Secy.



