

District 16. (200)
B
Miscellaneous

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Bk. XXXI

Charles Booth,
9, Adelphi Terrace,
Strand, London, W.C.

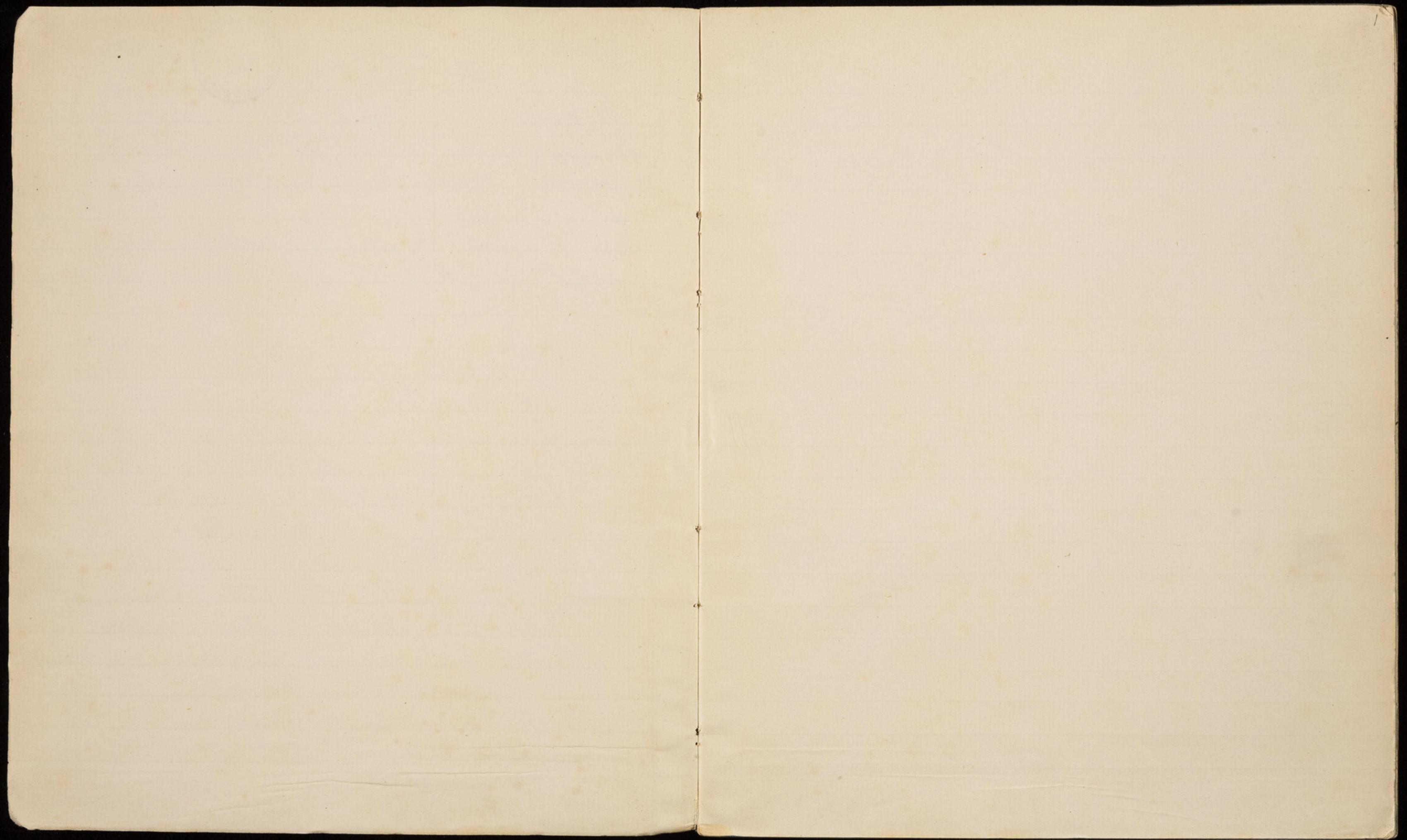
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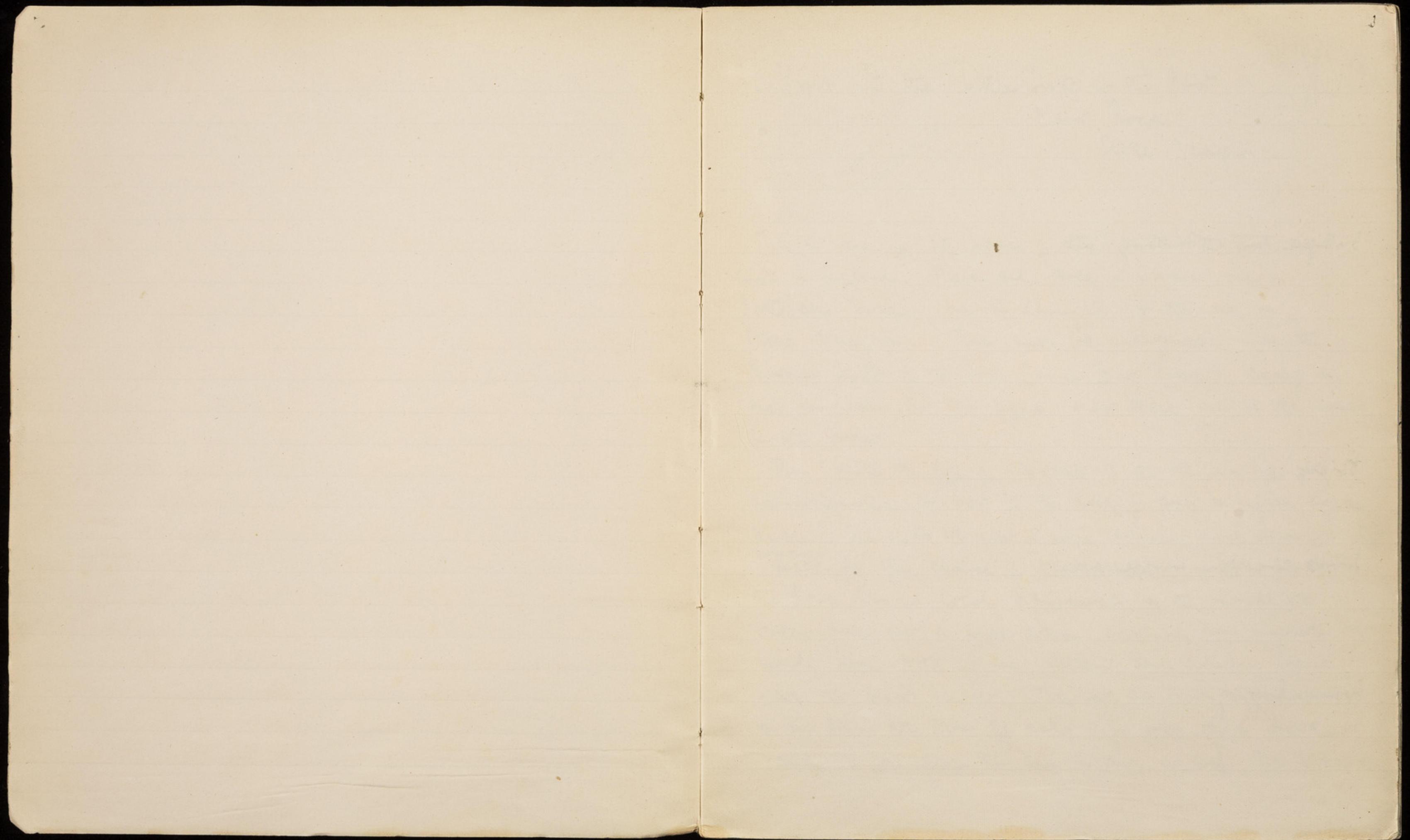
B 200



(i)

Name	Office	M410	Address	Page
Little Sisters of the Poor	Nurses for Aged		Manor R ^d Stoke New ^t	5
Pritchard &c.	Miss COS SE Islington		268 S. Paul's Road	15
Agar	Mr R.O.			29
Blyth	M ^r & M ^s Chairman of COS Com ^c		20 Highbury Terrace	35
Torrance	M ^r a. m J.P., L.C.C. &c.		Highbury Quadrant	57





Visit to the Little Sisters of the Poor

Mary Road

Hove Newington.

CH ②

S. Andrews
Stoke Newington

Distinguished from the Nursing Sisters.

This is one of 19 houses of this Sisterhood that now exist in England. There are three in London, one in Portobello Road, one in Kensington, & the one in Hove Newington. They must be distinguished from the Nursing Sisters of the Poor (as in Bow Road), caring as they do only for the aged, & for those only in the homes of the order.

They "make the life of hospitality is the religious life", & are "consecrated by vow to the care of poor & infirm aged people". The sisters are under discipline, & little removed at will of the Mother Superior except for the chance of its establishment in Stoke Newington the home has no local stipendiaries, as the inmates are taken from over a wide area, practically from anywhere, but mainly from North London, including some suburban London, near the sister's order. They have no funds & no endowment & the sisters are told off daily to go out on a fixed round to get what they can in kind or cash. They take a

Objects.

Immaculate care for a wide area.

Labor & begging.

Van & call on bakers, markets, on restaurant-keepers & on drags, to private houses & bring home anything from bank-wits down to bread. It is in the area thus covered that they chiefly come across ^{the} the old people who live with them.

The home is practically a substitute for the workhouse. It is full, with 90 women & 60 men, & some 50 are waiting for the empty place as they may occur.

The age limit is 60. Admission is, if can't be withdrawn for life. The qualification is necessity, but they take some, with a very large proportion, who are put there by ~~these~~ benefactors, who pay perhaps £5 when the inmate is taken. There is no religious test, but only 10 or 12 are non-Catholics. All are expected to follow the religious services & none are object.

The home is preferred to the Workhouse as being more respectable, more of a home ("we are all one family"), & because no uniform has to be worn.

References from "someone we know" are required. A day & liberty once a fortnight is granted.

I went round the building & saw the old folk at-

A substitute for the workhouse.
full.

Age limit.

Qualification: a referee, & service.

Why preferred to workhouse.

Off days.

The building -

dinner; the dormitories; the infirmary (not 3 sad figures in two of the women & more in two of them); the tailoring room (they are proposing to make the rooms for those of the corps) the kitchen etc.

Everything was large, airy, very clean, & suggestive of care & comfort. Many of the inmates were old & feeble, but when the sisters spoke to any I always got the impression that they were kindly treated, & that probably their poor old lives were being made more worth living than would otherwise have been the case. But it was really a workhouse sympathetically conducted, not charity instead of rats & "little sisters" instead of an ordinary staff. The work is probably worth the lives of the women who devote themselves to it. It is more doubtful whether it is worth all the begging that is involved.

I asked about the expense of maintaining her cases for no figures, & the large amount of food etc. given would doubtless make it difficult to give exact. The property purchased, & the total cost of the building has been £14,000. Of this £7,000 has been created, & £7,000 has been borrowed. Of the loan, which bears a small rate of interest, £2,000 is now

Summary.

£ plus.

Outlay.

No Capital.

St Joseph.

The Poor-house.

The Sisters at the Dispensary.

The "Good Mother".

11

being called to. A request for repented- dethroned
Magicians their appeal for money, the size of the bidding
& the amount collected show that they know how to make
people give. By the rule of their order I believe they
are forbade to accumulate a capital fund. They rely on
faith & their prayers, St Joseph is their special patron
saint. (q. pamphlet p. 39). In our country there are
now 300 houses.

The poor-house is at St Sernin (near St Malo) I am
the sister upon a certain number of years here. In
this house, French is spoken & most of the sisters are either
French or Belgian. Of the total (19) only 1 was
English. Four came "from America". The "Good Mother"
(i.e. the head of the house) was very French. She was
a woman of about 50 or 55, gentle but a little shrewd, &
with a not very pleasing voice or manner. I saw her at
the beginning of my visit, she was taken round by 2
sisters like us for the purpose - good people, but without any
special dignity or charm. The house is clearly a
centre of much devotion & good works, but I left with only
a feeling of qualified admiration. It is very much

A volunteer medical attendant (Proletarian).

13

In the year of the Order had a neighboring Proletarian doctor (Dr. Hes) give them his medical service. He has done so for 20 years (I believe since the home was founded) calling weekly for special need.

For fuller information on the Order see pamphlet (pp. 113)
"The Work of the Little Sisters from Poor".

As I kept on the sisters were waiting in the corridor
for a mid-day "spice". They supply the whole free
service for the home.

Marsell
16

15.
ON 2

Interview with Miss Pritchard, Miss Giles, & Mr
George Smith on the affairs of the C.O.S. 268 St Paul's Rd.
(i.e. the S. Blingdon Committee).

The interview was mainly with Miss Pritchard, who
has worked in the Committee for 13 years, part of the time
as Hon. Sec.

The Committee now covers S. Blingdon alone. A separate
Committee for Holloway [or North Blingdon] was formed 3 years
ago. It deals with cases North of the Great Northern Railway
& North Road, & meets at 2 Tarislock Terrace, Holloway Rd.

The S. Blingdon Committee is almost exclusively composed of
ladies. In so far as the clergy cooperate they do so
mainly to secure the help of the Committee for their policies
and then really to keep the Committee to make its work
effective. Only 3 or 4 of them are really in line with
the C.O.S. & in genuine sympathy with it.

The following may be taken as the C.O.S. character of
the local persons:-

Mr Wardroper - a weak man who sends on

his bad case.

W. Hind - more or less in sympathy. Like Wadsworth, but more intelligent.

W. A. D. Smith - Cooperates, but only with his difficult cases.

Canon McCormick - Has no poor, & is first on ornamental Vice-President.

W. Blanchard - but not really care about the Society.

W. Banning - Has not many poor. Is a talker.

W. F. Goffe - Is a warm sympathizer.

W. H. Hobart-Taylor - Ought to be a helper; progress like him is slow. Pompous.

W. Boston - Has his own Relief Cl^{ee}. Runs it. on C. O. S. lines. Sends his cases up, to one of the best-given clergymen.

W. Haigh - Touchy; just runs his own cases.

W. A. Morgan - Is young & sentimental & cannot understand the principle of the C. O. S.

W. Gough - Is supposed to cooperate more or less.

W. Baker - President! Sends him occasionally for a case. Never answers letters, & looks no further.

W. E. Hunt - Is both kind & sympathetic.

W. F. O. White - Is a shadow of the usual type (i.e. like A. O. Smith & Gough).

Mr F. W. Bass } Are of the ordinary type, i.e. very use the
 Mr Baskford } Society when it suits them, but don't really
 keep.

Mr R. Roe.

Mr Sturz Fox

Mr T. Snow

Mr. Dickinson

Mr R. Leach.

Mr Lightfoot

Mr Horne

Mr " " " " " } Are of the ordinary type, i.e. very use the
 Society when it suits them, but don't really
 keep.

Mr " " " " ". Has his limits.

Does not really approve.

Is very active with the friendly workers.
 (See below).

Has no poor. to Ad., subscribes.

"One of the good ones."

"A very benighted man" — who never
 answers letters! But he has an
 ecclesiastical connection with Rev. F. Brooks,
 formerly with Mr Leach.

Mr Howard Committee no Noncon. as an exception to the
 prevailing obtuseness. They are in fact a difficultly as a body, &
 cannot be brought into line. They dislike any interference with whatever
 they may be doing. [Mr Howard's attitude has been reported in the
 papers with him. He is, I see, a Vice-President of the Committee].

I need to see now of people especially worth seeing, & as far

none were forthcoming. Eventually, but without any very strong recommendation, it was suggested that we might see -
Mr. Warman (Chuchman) 324 SE Paul Road

Connected with the Rosemary Mission (see Matthews).
Mr. J. E. Smith (Builder) 33 Abingre Rd., Camberley.

Hon. Sec. of the Brighton Relief Society. Miss Ordway dictated to Smith a "frothy-grooky", & had no good opinion of him.

There was no Vice side of Charlotte again, but I was told of the following:-

Brighton Dispensary - Upper Street.
Brighton District Provident Friendly Visiting Society (See next page. This does not connect with the C.O.S.)

Harrow North London Nurses.

Brighton Association of Friendly Workers among the Poor.
63 Linton St. The Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Rev. F. T. Snow, 27
Bunyan Terrace, is the most active member. The objects, or rather the motives of the Association were praised, but their work criticised, mainly on the ground that their visiting suggested the idea of application for help.

ISLINGTON DISTRICT
PROVIDENT & FRIENDLY VISITING SOCIETY.

Presidents.

SIR ALBERT ROLLIT, M.P.
A. M. TORRANCE, Esq., L.C.C.
REV. CANON McCORMICK, D.D.

Trustees.

MISS PRITCHARD.
MR. & MRS. W. M. BLYTH.
S. HALL, Esq.

Secretary & Treasurer.

W. M. CRICHTON, Esq., 268, St. Paul's Road, Highbury Corner.

OBJECTS.

- I. To encourage self-respect and independence by making it easy for men and women to save a portion of their weekly earnings.

When there is no saving, distress from want may be very near. How many are now suffering because they lived up to what they earned?

- II. To give and receive information as to Working Men's Clubs, Benefit and Provident Societies, Working Boys' and Girls' Clubs, Libraries Schools, &c.

Those who are always at work have no time to find out about the various Societies, &c., which exist for the benefit of body and mind. A visit from one who knows about these things must be useful to many.

- III. To advise in cases of illness, difficulty, or distress.

Sympathy and friendship are always valuable, but never more so than when there is special need of strength and wisdom.

REPORT

For the Year ending December, 1894.

"Be not weary in well doing, for, in due season, ye shall reap if ye faint not."

THIS fifth year of our work has been one of very great difficulty through want of workers; at one time it seemed almost impossible to continue the whole of the district we have visited since 1889, and, had it not been for the

good work done by temporary helpers, we should not have been able, as we are, to report the continuance during the past eleven months of Provident visiting throughout the district. We were, however, fortunate enough to get strong help from an American lady during the summer, when many of our visitors were absent, and the place of the visitor who has the largest number of depositors, and who has had to be away from her district since July last, has been taken by a lady who has worked quite regularly and so enthusiastically, that the work has not suffered, but has gradually extended in her hands. Four visitors have left us during 1894, one through ill health and three through pressure of other work; and, under these circumstances, it is not difficult to see why we have to report that our depositors, who numbered 600 last year, have not yet grown to 700, and our receipts, which were nearly £200, have only increased to £225. This is in some degree discouraging, but we, who are still working, believe strongly enough in our principles and methods to *work on* and to make special efforts to get others to join hands with us in doing what we believe to be not only very helpful now, but which will tell more and more the longer it is continued and the more thoughtfully and earnestly it is done. Thrift, Association, Friendship! These are good words and stand for good things, and if each visitor only helps two or three families to know the importance of habits of economy and of saving, to understand the value of associating themselves in good Clubs and Friendly Societies, and to realise something of what *Friendship* means, we shall rejoice together in the knowledge that we have not worked in vain.

It is our intention, during the spring, to bring our need of visitors before the Clergy of some of the parishes in which the congregations are mainly composed of leisured persons. There must be in these parishes many who do not feel themselves specially fitted for evangelistic work, but who would be glad to give two or three hours each week to the service of their fellows. To these we can offer an opening for simple, natural intercourse with their neighbours, and the opportunity of serving them and of learning from them lessons which can be learnt in no other way. We should be glad to have ten or twelve new visitors this year, for the Barnsbury Provident Visiting Society is wanting visitors even more urgently than we are.

Another plan we have is that of making our monthly meeting of visitors more interesting and important by inviting representatives of various branches of Friendly Societies to come and speak to us about their work. We have a capital Lodge of the Oddfellows in our district, and during 1894 one of the first Lodges of Women Foresters has been started in Islington, and, in less than a year, has enrolled over sixty members. There is also some chance of a Federation of Provident Visiting Societies, and it would be most interesting and instructive to have each month an account of the methods of one of these Societies. There can be no doubt that an interchange of information would help to raise the standard of our work all round.

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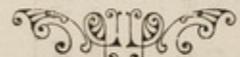
We have to report the success of our Children's Entertainment, when we had a gathering of about 200 children depositors, and also of the Annual Meeting and Entertainment, when between 200 and 300 adult depositors gathered in the St. Bartholomew's Schools to listen to the report of the year's work, and to enjoy an excellent concert of vocal and instrumental music. We have not been able to arrange any courses of lectures on our own behalf this year, but our visitors were able to make known the course of free nursing lectures given at the Clowdesley Institute, and some of our depositors have attended this course with pleasure and profit.

THE LIBRARY.

The event in the history of the Library during 1894 has been its removal, at the end of April, from Tibberton Square to 20, Queen's Cottages, Popham Street, where, owing to the kindness of the Managers of the Buildings, it finds a room rent free with gas. It is now opened on Wednesdays at mid-day, as well as on Saturday evenings. Our books are thus brought into a new centre, and new members have come from the immediate neighbourhood. We have received gifts of books from Mr. Walter Besant, Mr. M. Bunney and others, and this year, for the first time, we have been able to purchase some books for ourselves, with part of the money saved from rent. The kind donations of friends have enabled us to have a new book-cupboard made, and to meet the expenses of removal. We now need to renew or rebind the favorite books that are wearing out. We have lost very few books since we first opened, and these chiefly through the removal, illness or occasional carelessness of readers.

In common with other libraries, we find that fiction comprises quite 75 per cent. of the books taken out. But we have a few studious readers and one of them, Mr. Luker, has joined us as a helper on Saturday evenings. Mr. Bunney and Mr. Barnard continue librarians and Miss Balmer superintends the library on Wednesdays.

Mr. and Mrs. Blyth, 20, Highbury Terrace, will very gladly receive the names of new workers, either for the Provident Visiting Society or for the Library.



ESSEX ROAD LIBRARY ACCOUNT, 1894.

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Mrs. Fred Bolton ...	0 10 0	Owing Treasurer from last Account ...	0 8 2
Miss L. Eckenstein ...	0 10 0	Rent, Cleaning and Lighting ...	2 4 8
Samuel Hall, Esq ...	1 1 0	Repairs ...	0 10 1
Miss Holborn ...	1 1 0	Printing Circulars and Catalogue	1 0 0
Miss L. Sharpe ...	1 0 0	New Book Case...	3 5 0
M. W. Watson, Esq. ...	0 10 6	Purchase of Books ...	1 0 3
Subscriptions of Members and Sale of Catalogues ...	4 4 11	Petty Expenses...	0 1 10
Sale of Books ...	0 0 6	Balance in hand	0 7 11
	£8 17 11		£8 17 11

PROVIDENT SOCIETY MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT.

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Balance from last Account ...	3 9 9	Rev. L. Stanham, for use of Schoolroom	0 10 0
Mrs. Fred Bolton ...	0 10 0	Caretaker for Cleaning Schoolroom, &c.	0 10 0
Samuel Hall, Esq. ...	1 1 0	Printing 500 copies of Annual Report	1 16 0
N. Masterman, Esq. ...	1 0 0	Printing 800 Tickets for Entertain-	
Sir A. K. Rollit ...	0 10 6	ments ...	0 15 0
A. M. Torrance, Esq. ...	1 1 0	Balance in hand	5 14 1
Interest on Deposits ...	0 14 9		
By Sale of Cards ...	0 18 1		
	£9 5 1		£9 5 1

Examined and found correct,

P. L. BLYTH.

December 27th, 1894.

On the district as a whole I got little information except that the agen. in Fitzgerald, who had checked the original map for Mr. Botts (whom he associated with the Salvation Army!) said there had been very little subsequent change. The old poor parts had become a little better for the most part, but the better working-class districts had become a little better: "men seemed to take more care of their houses". But this was about all. Some stores on Blingin Green near Crim's Music Hall had recently disappeared in the re-building of that place.

Miss Pittman thought that while Blingin was no longer the residential district it had been, rents were not going down now. Many firms had come into the Highway New Park district, so that it had been dubbed "The New Jerusalem". Some parts had recently + rapidly become lodging-letting parts, + as illustrating this Patchett Road + adjacent streets were mentioned.

The following were mentioned as the relatively best spots for Blingin, which as a whole is not a poor district, neither very good nor very bad:

(1) The Poplar & neighborhood. This has been improving somewhat lately through the new dwellings. The agent gave me the following list of the worst streets in this part: Sun Row, New Hall St., Part of Poplar R. & Shepperton R., Northall Rd., Queensbury Rd., Elliott's Place, Two Cuts de Sac at the back of Collins, & John Place (Upper Street). Roughly the bad quarter is that lying ^{between} Freeman St. & Britannia Row.

- (2) The district North & South of Bingley Street (off the Caledonian Road) especially Bexwicks Buildings.
 (3) Queensland Road (leading out of Bannock Road, by Wrayton Park).

Mr Pritchard is a lady of about 50, a little ~~over~~
 too C.O.S.-y to make it worth while to go through the
 more general questions of the form. On this she is very probably
 to be advised to see Mr Blyth, also member of the Committee.
 On my own belief Mr Pritchard expresses the opinion that
 it was too easily given especially in the case of widows &
 spinster.

Mr Dow Kelly.

Oct. 25th

A.

March
16

25

Interview with Mr Agar, Relieving Officier.

Mr Agar has for 10 years been the officier in charge of the district bounded roughly by Seven Sisters Road, Green Lanes, St Paul's Road, and Holloway Road.

In this district there is one exceedingly bad place, the Queensland Road district, from which come about 50 per cent. of the application for relief of the whole district. The inhabitants are nearly all casual labourers with a number of prostitutes. One common lodging house ~~contains~~ contains none but prostitutes of the lowest class who ply in parks and squares; another house of the same class has recently been started close by in Hornsey Road. outside is the legend "lodgings for respectable females"; the women here bring men to these houses.

Mr A. attributes the roughness of the neighbourhood largely to the presence of a number of low class lodging houses; but

though the district is still rough and law
then has been a great improvement in the last
five years or so. This Mr A. attributes to
several causes: (1) The influence of G. Barnacles
(Mr Head). He and his workers have undoubtedly
converted and reformed some of the worst
characters in the district. (2). The fact that
the managers of the lodging houses are better or
stricter men: they used to be almost entirely
confined to loafers, street-singers, beggars and
prostitutes: with the exception of the latter class
most of them have now been cleared out. (3). A
very large number of the roughest of the labourers
have gone to Tottenham and other ~~other~~ suburbs,
following their work. (4). Owing to there being
~~more~~ more officers the poor law has been more
carefully administered; at one time nearly the
whole district used to get out relief: now it
is entirely confined to widows, the old etc.

Speaking of his district as a whole Mr
A. showed me the figures of the out relief from
1875; for about 13 years there was an

enormous and steady increase, but for the last two or three years it has been rising again; this is not due to any change in the policy of administration, but to the fact that the district as a whole is becoming poorer, the middle class giving place to the working class.

I discussed other matters with Mr. A., but got nothing of interest out of him.

Personal.

Mr. Agar is a man of about 50 : tall, stout, sandy hair, and but rather a coarse face; very pleasant and jolly with me but giving the impression of having little or no sympathy.

CD (2)

Interview with Mr & Mrs W. M. Blyth at
20 Highway Terrace.

(Nov. 5. 97)

Mr Blyth is a solicitor & is or was engaged in the City, but for a considerable time has given a good deal of his time & thought to local social conditions. He is chairman both of the South Kensington & Holloway C.O.S. Committees, & acts as a kind of presiding & sympathetic genius over the work his wife undertakes. She was for some years Hon. Sec. of the South Kensington C.O.S. but gave it up some time back to organize the reform of Popham St. (see later). Both know Holloway well. She has lived in it for 25 years, & he I believe as long or longer. Both are at present deliberating as to whether they shall stand for the Guardians. They want to, but the step will involve suspending some time from their active work.

Both are sympathetic & capable workers, but the more quiet & the more easily stirred, but very strong the remain anarchist of nature. Both are extremely hard-headed.

M^r Blyth does most of the work & the talking, his following & occasionally impressing, but only to supplement what he says.

M^r Blyth Hall has been closely connected with C.O.S., &
during the last 8 years, Popham Street. The fine North of
dwelling [in the latter place] were built about 15 years ago. The
builder was bankrupt & the building found their way into the
hands of the Clark Investment Co. They were managed by an
agent, the owners having little or nothing of the state of
affairs, & understanding less. The building got into a shocking
condition, was inhabited by a mixed lot - on the whole a bad
set of tenants, & was as a matter of fact under trial - of a
dising over from the Vestry.

It was at this stage that M^r Blyth discovered them. They
had formed a C.O.S. Committee from Popham Bay to Popham N.
Building & was appalled at the condition of the latter.

They set to work to find out about them, & in time found out
to discover who the owners were. Having found out the Clark In-
vestment Co. it was found that one of the Directors was known
to be a member of the C.O.S. Committee. They saw the Chairman, a
Mr. Beale, made their statement & convinced him of their
power to substantiate everything asserted. He apparently had never
seen the property, but knew from the report that things were not
satisfactory, but had gone on accepting the agent's statement
that the people were so upright & dead set that practically

Two months to find out names of Agents.

nothing could be done. He asked Mr Blight if he
had any proposal to make.

Mrs Maria Hin was seen but could not at the
time withdraw the building. She however wrote Mr Blight
to do it herself, + after some hesitation ^{letter} she decided to
give up some of her C.O.S. work + take the matter
in hand.

The directors handed over one block first, as an experi-
ment. They were very good + gave Mr Blight a fee
based, but in management + expenditure. But ^{she & her} friends
had a very bad time of it, largely through the agents
who remained in charge of the other blocks, + lied stale-
mate about not managing by it self well
when - "paying", etc. + saying that practically
the tenants would be under the C.O.S. Under his note.
not + gave many tenant info. including one of the
blocks.

At the end of the year however the better was won;
the buildings were full + in good condition. At the
end of the first block we took charge over, + the
work has gone on satisfactorily ever since. They have
been well visited throughout by the Directors, + has been

allowed to plant a good deal of ivy, &c items 8, 9, being thrown on account. The upshot is that the annual returns probably do not show a better return than under the old management, ^{which} commercially the improvement is very great. Once, instead of having buildings under threat of closure, they possess a property in good marketable condition.

The little annual rental is also £1000.

The following are figures for the four books taken over:-

	£	Rent.	Arens.	Repairs.
1892	1430	74	27	
1897	1123	34	190	

The class of occupiers now do not differ much from that of the Peabody dwellings, some people thinking them considerably lower, & others even higher. They make rather a special effort to retain some of the weaker class of respectable tenanted - in Blight thinking that as a class they are then apt to be rather hardly dealt by, & pushed under them a little consideration would have kept them above water & in respectable surroundings. A good deal of difficulty has got on, but there is now no great concern, a special care is taken by ^{the} manager. There is not a great range of rentals: 2 rooms £1.6.13 + 3 rooms £16 15 8.

More recently James Bishop on the opposite side of
the street have been put in the hands of Mr. Wright
India & the same process of improvement is going on in them.

Careful management of the property & collection of rents is by no means an end in itself as done by the workers. Savings are collected; there is a library with from 500 to 1000 volumes; a Disp. Brigade with about 40 members; they are hoping to start a band & a friendly society which makes special provision for the admission of other members; a room belonging to the local Vicar (Mr. Horne) is hired, or if necessary a larger room in the Board School & lecture room etc etc are given. For the sake of the regular Troop (e.g. Brigade) a parish room is regularly taken & it is a sign of the attitude of Mr. ~~Horne~~ Horns that he always comes to 3/-, although he has the wealthy Cheltenham Co. at his back.

Although there are 22 houses nothing is in the capacity of another in the building.

The effect of all this work & supervision in that way of
the work-leads are moving to Pickering St. Bishop.
They have tried to leave the place but are now say they

Cannot make any change.

The New tenant for the manager's lodgings come mainly from more central London, but a good many from further out - Tottenham etc. The latter, it is thought, were less care for choice, but for necessity, & the wife comes ~~now~~ is now as much as grows up & goes to work the consequence ~~the~~ expense of railway & other fact becomes too heavy on them.

There are big Broad bands in the neighborhood but not enough yet in High Street. [This was I think the only band on which her husband did not quite agree]. The Vicar, Mr. Horne, is dead. He has not enough go in him to fight, but he does not like that is going on. His activity bothers him; he probably does not really understand the nature of the work attempted; & may be a bit afraid of the influence of the ladies who he admires as a ruler, Mrs. H. H. They are in full a wide lit in matter of religion, the Horne's who intelligent & liberal enough believe that there is room for everybody to do. The friends for instance, are

Working committee voters in election in the Providence Fund.

In Blight could not return home without being +
intoxicated, but on the whole regarded him well in how
he is angry, + only wished that he could be induced
to come + turn things over. But she often husband
candidly thinks that he is too apostolic + too ignorant ever
to rise to the occasion. It would seem to her he
must be somewhat sentimental or be fond of his
house + wife + look after people who do not attend
the Church! The Blights do not think that two
per cent of their funds go to church.

The Ladies' Friends make no provision for nursing, +
the Holloway Institution is used. This is a Mental
Mission (no mass) in Windsor Street.

Altogether it would appear that a rather remarkable
piece of work is being done by Mr Blight + friends. She would
not say so but Blight rather unwise said of his parish,
that they have reached high-water mark, but in a
higher water mark is with only good business management
but good influence at work. Some bankers - bank-collectors

has been trained, & Mr Blayte is very anxious to find
other work for some of them to do & offered me about the
L.C.C. buildings. He is also to see the late Mr Hill's old demands
to see many houses can ~~remove~~ ^{be} made ready for car
mange buildings, & is ready to tell me if there are any
that have the double gable.

She advanced the opinion that bad people would
be highly bridged, so that their whereabouts might be
known & their contaminating influence cut-off. On
the suggestion that if they were a free quantity there
could be no doubt about the greater advantage
of our congestion but the difficulty arose from the
children. She seemed to think that it was better to
try for congestion & make a spread egg - to take
children away from bad & distinctly harmful, than, by
dispersion, run the risk of doing harm to decent neighbors.
It seems to have been the terrible notice on Topham
St Building, which she first recited which brought the
topic home to her mind.

Bright Chapp.

We discussed a few questions in their general relationship to
Highway.

In the Clergy Mr Blyth said that the Brighton men
were a poor average lot. There are exceptions e.g. in Faithfull,
W. Lewis, & a few others, but taking them all through they were
not receptive of new ideas & rather low intelligence. They are
however by the grace of God & people & by the prompting death
lack of Evangelisation. In some ways they are good
workers as a rule but generally on the same line: Church
Meetings, Days of Fête, Sunday Schools, & other work for foreign
missions. Often for they have their own missions, but, understanding
understanding there are generally a replace for another
church. Most of the Clergy don't understand the claim
the importance of work connected with the hand & the heart
& the conversion of their people. Neither will they
give up their old methods or induce their workers to do so.
In matters of religion for instance, the majority are unprogressive
& ignorant.

Even the ecclesiastical parts of Highway & Brighton are
becoming of distinctly a lower though not of a low grade.

Change is rapid.

the Valley is active.

Health is good.

Mondays generally is not below, perhaps above average. His Blight has a great belief in the benefits that lead to follow from better housing - better & cleaner habits, better manners, better words.

As to the effects of education he remarked on the rapid deterioration of girls after they leave high school, & the need of clubs, continuation classes, & sustained personal interest. Much of the failing of the schools was resting on the basis, it was thought - that the good times we begat, but that the bad ones we kept - stocked. It was rather strange how truth leads to those who have much to give.

Poor law administration is bad, & we don't say given to any State. It is not that the Guardians at large & corrupt; but they are ignorant, & want new & better ideas put before them. One Vicar, a very good fellow, was asked on leaving after two years, saying that all he had been able to do was to make them use better language! There are bad ones on, but apparently not of great weight. Miss Weston approves of the Davies quo. Miss Reid is rather a "moonlight" person without clear ideas of what she wants. No, far from

various reasons Mr. Blyth is proposing to go on the Board.

The price are a mere del., the local superintendents
a good fellow enough, but like everybody else they work
working up from time to time. Mr. Blyth would seem to do
this occasionally, with a report, & verso of Report - Scotland
Yard.

There's a great want for a good place of healthy
residence in S. Washington.

[Mr. Blyth was in Boston a few weeks ago, & was
universally struck by the much lower level reached
there than anything I might see here].

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Dec. 2. - 9 a.

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Mr. A. M. Torrance occupies a big house in Highbury Quadrant, & is a middle-aged, affable Scotelman. He is a busy man - a milkman & merchant, a J.P., a London County Councillor for Islington, a leading member of the Dawson's Church, where he was for 17 years Sunday School supt., & connected with a number of local institutions & societies, to all of which he is a liberal subscriber. He is an advanced Liberal & Progressive, & is deputy chairman of the L.C.P.

Mr. Torrance has lived in Highbury for 25 years, & has seen a good deal of change in the locality - the pulling down of old mansions & the building of streets of middle-class houses instead, such as Balfour & Strandbroke Rd -

Better class houses have gone down from 30 to 50 £s in purchase price, & 25 £s in letting value, but houses below £50 rental are as good as ever. A peculiarity has been the number of houses at £40 or so erected, in wh. 2 or 3 families are living.

People who can afford to live in such large

houses as he himself now occupies will not live here. 25 years ago it was different - then it was the Northern outskirts; now they go further out, to Freshley, Hadley, etc.

There is a good deal of poverty in Hylebury Vale. It was always rather poor, & of late has got poorer. About 17 years ago Parmenter, Wyatt, & adjoining roads were built. The houses were at first occupied by City clerks, etc.; have since fallen in many cases to a lower class, including many bus & tram men, &c. The people have probably come here to some extent from the New North Rd. district - Shepperton Rd., Eagle Wharf Rd. - & Holton, driven out by the extension of City warehouses & factories.

Drunk in the poorer parts of this neighbourhood is not so bad as it was. A great deal of temperance work has been done, particularly by the Hylebury Vale Mission, & certainly with good effect in that part.

Churches flourish in middle-class districts, but where the working people live they are usually a failure. With the middle-class, religion is a fashion, & they are well-catered for in every way; amongst the working classes it is a most conspicuous failure, largely, he thinks, because the average parson does not preach to them or for them; & there is nothing suitable provided for them. Instances the comparative emptiness of the churches in the Southgate Rd.-working class neighbourhood; & the filling of Highbury Quadrangle & Christ Churches with middle class people.

His opinion is that, altho' more is being done, religion is very ground.

The P.S.A. movement he thinks a very good & successful idea. Mentioned the one at Finsbury Park Hall, Finsbury Pk. Buildings, wh. has an attendance of 200 to 300. Mr. Carver is the leader of it.

Thinks, from his Sunday School experience, that people like their children to know about religion, altho' indifferent to it themselves. It is met with

people who were practically atheists but yet wished their children to attend S. School. Of course, the children like it, & that makes a considerable difference in the eyes of parents.

Mr. T. holds advanced views on Education. Would make it entirely a State affair, & give the children of all classes an equal chance of rising. Has no doubt as to the improving effects of education.

He would also have the Hospitals supported by the State, & thrown open to all as a matter of right. Believes that the precarious circumstances under wh. they are carried on must be detrimental to their work, & that the constant & continuing begging wh. goes on - the cadging, shifts & continuances of every kind that are resorted to in order to keep them going - are annoying, degrading & injurious to those who take part in them. The State shd. appoint properly qualified medical men

to do the work.

He regards Islington as a well-administered & healthy parish, & as he never hears any complaints against the police, assumes they do their work satisfactorily.

Regards the enormous increase of outdoor games, & the growing provision of music, &c., in the parks, as excellent signs. The people, he thinks, will not put up with any sort of music now - they appreciate good music & will have it. More might be done in providing indoor amusements for winter - working men's clubs & institutes are of much benefit in this way. Would like to see more of them started - without the Trich for preference, but he knows that is not practical.

Wetland
birds - one or two shore sp.
and one or two gulls & little
pink warbler with out wings therefore no
longer "bird of winter" now with its

return of warmer weather it has
now been growing fast & is very
large at Cape Codger so I just take
just the outer leaf the inner is
too big before just now being fit for
any use which is now a very
handy & small pocketful of leaves
and always to use either in shade near water
or in sun light & you do not
burn out dirt off them - though I only
burn out the dirt off them

