

COPY OF LETTER BOOK. ELHAM UNION WORKHOUSE

May 6th 1842

Letter 1

Letter regarding admission of two boys to Royal Sea Bathing Infirmary Margate.

Letter 2

Half a £5 note sent to Royal Sea Bathing Infirmary as payment by Guardians for boys admission. Other half to be sent on acknowledgement confirming admission. Boys to follow.

Letter 3

Letter to Royal Sea Bathing Infirmary that boys came back 'lousy' and complaining of mismanagement.

Elham Union

The Board of Guardians  
of the Parish of  
Sinhain  
Dunon

Dear Sirs  
I am directed by the Board of Guardians  
to inform you that a Pauper of the name of  
John Sedgewick stating himself to belong to  
the Parish of Sinhain in the County of Kent  
is now in the Union Workhouse and  
it is your duty to enquire of the Board of Guardians  
of the Parish of Sinhain whether the same  
person is the same as the person who was  
removed from the Parish of Sinhain  
in the year 1811.

I have the honor to be  
Dear Sirs  
Yours Obedient Servant  
J. Sedgewick

a) Pauper of another parish

Letter Bk 2

Elham Union  
Surrey 18th July 1811

To the Poor Law  
Commissioners  
Somerset House  
London

Dear Sirs  
I am directed by the Board of Guardians  
to enquire of you whether you will sanction the  
expedition of £200 pounds or thereabouts from the  
Poor Rates of Elham Parish in emigrating a pauper  
woman and her family (7 Children) belonging to this  
Parish now in the Union Workhouse. Her Husband  
sometime ago absconded to the United States of America  
and left her destitute. She is very desirous of being  
sent out to him and the Rate-payers of Elham  
Parish are equally desirous that it should be so  
for if she continues here the expense must be  
added to the Parish. The Rate-payers would gladly  
pay the above sum for the purpose of getting  
this woman and her family to her Husband.  
The Guardians also consider it desirable to  
emigrate this family.

I have the honor to be  
Dear Sirs  
Yours Obedient Servant  
J. Sedgewick

b) Emigration to United States of America

Letter Bk 1

To the Two Law Gentlemen,  
Commissioners  
Towers  
House  
London

Elham Union

Dated 28<sup>th</sup> Aug 1841

The Board of Guardians have had the enclosed papers laid before them, resolved to raising a sum of money viz £20 from the Poor Rate of Holywell Parish for the purpose of emigrating a poor family belonging to this Parish to Canada. I am directed by the Guardians to inform you that they see no objection to this sum being applied from the Poor Rate of Holywell Parish for the said purpose.

I am Gentlemen,  
Yours very obed<sup>t</sup> serv<sup>t</sup>  
Robt Thompson  
Clerk

a) Australia

Letter Book 1

To the Secretary  
to the Colonial  
Land and Emigration  
Company  
9, Park Street  
Westminster.

Elham Union

Dated 14<sup>th</sup> Nov 1841

I am directed by the Board of Guardians to apply to you relative to a woman and her 4 children who are in the Elham Union Workhouse. She wishes to obtain a free passage to Hobart Town New South Wales. Her husband is a convict there, has a free ticket to get his living in any part of the Colony but not to leave it. He has been there 7 years.

The woman's name is	Ann Walker	years	36
Her children	Ann		11
	Elizabeth		12
	John		10
	James		5

The Guardians will thank you to inform them prior to Thursday next whether the woman's wishes in this respect can be accomplished.

I am the Serv<sup>t</sup> of  
Robt Thompson  
Clerk

b) Canada

Letter Book 2

ELHAM UNION

A notice of Application for an Order of Bastardy was signed by the Guardians present on William Hatches charged with being the putative father of a male bastard child of Mary Hughes belonging to the Parish of St. Leonard Hythe.

Also an Application for Order to the Magistrates of the Borough of Hythe to cause the said William Hatches to reimburse such Parish for the Maintenance and Support of the said Child.

a) Bastardy Order

Minute Book C

The Messrs of the Poor Elders  
Elham  
Elham Union  
Lymington June 26<sup>th</sup> 1840  
The Board of Guardians particularly wish you to make all the enquiry you can to find out what has become of Thomas Featherstone who has left his wife and Family chargeable to the Parish of Elham now in the Union Workhouse. The Board request that you will let them with any information that you may obtain relative to Featherstone.  
I am Gentlemen  
Your Obedt Servant  
Robert Thompson Clerk

b) Desertion By Husband

Letter Book I

Mr William Hill  
of the Poor  
Elham  
Elham Union  
Lymington June 26<sup>th</sup> 1840  
I am directed by the Board of Guardians of the Elham Union to inform you that your father Richard Hodge is now in this Union Workhouse and that unless you can make some arrangement to support him out of the Workhouse that the Board will call upon you to repay the cost of his maintenance in the House. Please to inform the Board what course you intend to pursue.  
I am Sir  
Your Obedt Servant  
Robert Thompson Clerk



Mt Rainbow  
10 Pall Mall  
London

Elham Union  
Saltwood Hythe May 6 1842  
Sir I herewith transmit to you the recommendation  
of the Chairman of the Board of Guardians for  
the admission of two boys into the Royal Sea  
Bathing Infirmary at Margate.

I have the honor to be  
Sir

Your very Obedt Servt  
R Thompson Clerk

Mt Rainbow  
16 Pall Mall  
London  
Royal Sea  
Bathing Infirmary  
Office

Elham Union  
Saltwood Hythe 13<sup>th</sup> May 1842  
Sir I herewith enclose the half part of a five pound note,  
the remainder I will forward to you when you acknowledge  
the receipt of this letter, being the payment of the  
Guardians of this Union on account of Featherstone  
and Burrett two boys about to be admitted into the  
Royal Sea Bathing Infirmary at Margate. The  
Boys will be conveyed to the Infirmary in the course  
of a day or two. I presume they will be admitted.

Your very Obedt Servt  
R Thompson Clerk

Memorandum 19<sup>th</sup> May 1842. Forwarded Mr. Rainbow the  
Remainder of the £5. note. R.T.

Joseph Rainbow Esq  
Royal Sea Bathing  
Infirmary Office  
16 Pall Mall  
London

Elham Union Kent  
Lyons 10<sup>th</sup> 1842  
I am directed by the Board of Guardians  
to lay the following communication before  
you relative to two boys Richard Burrett and  
Thomas Featherstone who were sent to the Margate  
Sea Bathing Infirmary from the Workhouse  
in May last. Viz. That Thomas Featherstone one  
of the boys has returned with the itch and  
his head very dirty and that neither of the  
boys appear to have reaped the least benefit,  
but in fact are not so well as before they  
went there. The Board consider that there  
must have been some mismanagement in the  
Infirmary with regard to those boys and feel  
it their duty to lay the subject before you  
waiting your reply thereupon.

I have the honor to be &c  
R Thompson Clerk

1 Mother  
to the  
Children  
Board  
all over

The Board took into consideration a paper concerning  
the employment of <sup>children</sup> in the workhouse in relation  
to food and lodging afforded to them.

It was ordered - by the Guardians of the Union  
at a Meeting of the Board, held this 26<sup>th</sup>  
day of April 1844.

That the Master of the Workhouse  
of the Union, do not employ <sup>male</sup> persons  
not suffering under any temporary or permanent  
infirmary of body, being an occasional poor person who  
shall be relieved in the said workhouse, in return for  
the food and lodging afforded to such person, to perform  
the following tasks of work, that is to say:

To beat stones for two hours.

Provided that no such person shall be detained  
against his will for the performance of such task of work  
for any time exceeding four hours from the hour of  
breakfast, on the morning next after admission.

And provided also that such amount of work  
shall not be required from any person to whose age,  
strength, and infirmity it shall appear not to be adapted.

Witness our hands  
at the Guardians

It was further ordered by the Board.

That the Master of the Workhouse do keep  
the able-bodied men in the workhouse <sup>in</sup> and  
not allow them as hitherto to work in the out-  
yards.

Witness our hands on behalf of the Guardians  
present.

Carried

1861 111  
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Groceries - Wm. J. ...  
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W. C. Jordan  
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D. Salter  
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A. Beiler  
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P. 18. S. K. C. ...

The Clerk states that the account made to the Medical Officers to attend the Paupers in the Union for the ensuing year was as follows.

Mr. and Mrs. Sydenham } Taken the Sum of £115 for attending the Workhouse, and the Parishes of St. Mary, Berwick, Padbury, St. Andrew's, St. James, St. George's and St. Andrew's - and to attend Midwifery cases when ordered at 10/- each case.

Mr. John Robinson - the Sum of £30 for attending the Paupers in the Town of Colchester, Parish of Colchester, Newington, Springfield, Keriton, except Langgate, in Hook and Home Street, and Hampton, excepting the houses adjacent to the Midwifery Cases.

Mr. Edward Jones the Sum of £48 for attending the Paupers in the Parishes of St. Andrew, Safford, Langgate, in Chelton Colchester Parish and Colchester, and that part of the Parish of Torrington near to St. Andrew's. Midwifery cases at 10/- each case.

Mr. St. W. P. Cook the Sum of £34 for attending the Paupers in the Parishes of Lyng, Safford, St. Andrew, St. Andrew's, St. Andrew's, Postling. Midwifery cases when ordered at 10/- each case.

Signed on behalf of the Guardians, present  
Jesse Pickett Residing Chairman.