

Children in the Asylum - Source 2

Case Book Transcription C85/3/6/60/p541-542

No. Of Admission 11.421

Name, Edith Annie Craven

Occupation, None

Chargeable to Halifax

Admitted on the 24th day of July 1896

Age 5 years

Married, Single or Widowed "Single"

Religious persuasion "Church of England"

Previous place of abode 58 Skircoat Green, Halifax

Whether first attack Yes

Duration 3 ½ years

Age on first attack 18 months

Previous care Mother

Supposed cause Epilepsy

Epilepsy Yes

Suicidal No

Dangerous Yes, she pinches any other children

Name and residence of } John Crown St, Skircoat

Re-admission for a year None

Nearest known relative } Green, Halifax

Facts observed by E H Hachete Siddal Halifax. She is now in a most restless state and if her mother lets her go rushes wildly about the room shouting in an incoherent manner when asked a question she makes no answer, but dances up and down staring fixedly at the questioner.

Other facts communicated: John Craven her father states that three and a half years ago she started with epilepsy and gradually lost her reason. She is now unable to speak and has to be constantly watched, or she runs away and cannot find her way back. She has to be tied into bed to keep her there.

S P Knowles

History - patient began to have fits when she was 18 months old. At first the fits were only light faints: they gradually have become stronger and her mind has deteriorated. She never could be taught anything. Lately has been very restless especially at night. Has had no fits since last Easter.

Family History – Has intemperance, insanity and fits. Patient has 2 sisters younger than herself, both are healthy. L.Birt.

Physical Condition: Patient shows no deformity of the head, trunk and limbs; no stiffness or degeneracy found. She looks bright and pretty. Has a fresh clean complexion. Expression is not epileptic or unduly idiotic. Features regular. Irises dark brown. Reactions cannot be made with precision because of patients' restlessness and resistance: pupils constantly large. Good bodily condition: height – 3 foot 6 inches. Weight 43 lbs. Skin normal

Diagnosis – idiocy

Causation -

Prognosis – Hopeless

Treatment – Non medicinal at present

L. Birt

<http://www.historytoherstory.org.uk>