

# Work in the Asylum – Source 1

## Case Notes of Elizabeth Clifton

Name, *Clifton Elizabeth*

Occupation, *Rag Picker*

Chargeable to *Dewsbury*

Admitted on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of Sept 1864

Facts observed by *William Greenwood*

*Her violent language and acts. Her tearing of clothes and biting herself. Her immoderate laughing without any apparent cause. Her chattering to imaginary people and things.*

**Other Facts Communicated** *Rambling from home, threatening her parents. Sleeplessness and unmanageable conduct.*

Age 12

Religious Persuasion *Church of England*

Previous Place of Abode *Ossett*

Bodily disease *none*

Statement sent to Commissioners in Lunacy. *Dementia Weak anaemic and reduced 23<sup>d</sup> '64*

*Has a dull aspect and sulky manner, is mischievous, and does not pay much attention to what is said to her, answers questions pretty correctly but in an abhorrent ill tempered tone. Care not mad, takes her food and sleeps well, is pallid but in pretty good health.*

**July 1865**

*She is not much improved being very troublesome teasing and fighting the other feeble patients.*

**1866 May 9<sup>th</sup>** *Has been behaving rather better lately*

**1867 January 11<sup>th</sup>**

*Continues to improve somewhat*

**1868.** *Has worked industriously in the wards, passages etc.*

*Turning in last year.*

*Was discharged today*

TABLE XVII.

EXTRACTS FROM THE DAILY REPORT OF THE STATE OF THE PATIENTS AS REGARDS EMPLOYMENT.

WOMEN—REPORTED BY THE ASSISTANT MATRON.

Patients employed, and manner of Occupation.	1867.	1867.	1867.	1867.
	MARCH 12th.	JUNE 12th.	SEPT. 12th.	DEC. 12th.
Patients employed in Laundry and Washhouse	49	55	52	56
"    "    Bakehouse	7	7	7	8
"    "    Passages and Kitchen	53	56	59	58
"    "    Sewing	182	178	168	170
"    "    Knitting	35	34	32	34
"    "    Picking Hair, &c.	—	—	—	—
"    "    Cutting-out Room	3	5	6	4
"    "    Cleaning Wards	73	73	74	71
"    "    Other Occupation	—	—	—	—
Total employed	402	408	398	401
Patients unemployed, and reasons for non-employment.				
Sick or too Feeble	42	30	25	27
Aged and Infirm	29	41	39	40
Too low-spirited ( <i>Melancholic</i> )	5	5	8	8
Too much excited ( <i>Maniacal</i> )	48	53	62	61
Too little mind ( <i>Demented</i> )	64	61	64	61
Able, but unwilling	8	10	10	8
Able, and willing	—	—	—	—
Total unemployed	196	200	208	205
Total number of Patients	598	608	606	606

TABLE XVI.

EXTRACTS FROM THE DAILY REPORT OF THE STATE OF THE PATIENTS AS REGARDS EMPLOYMENT.

MEN—REPORTED BY THE CHIEF ATTENDANT.

Patients employed, and manner of Occupation.	1867.	1867.	1867.	1867.
	MARCH 12th.	JUNE 12th.	SEPT. 12th.	DEC. 12th.
Patients employed in Out-door Occupation	232	229	239	240
"    "    Brewhouse and Bakehouse	6	5	6	6
"    "    Engine-room and Gas-works	10	9	10	7
"    "    Blacksmiths' Shop	4	3	3	3
"    "    Plumbers' do.	5	3	2	3
"    "    Joiners' do.	8	13	13	12
"    "    Shoemakers' do.	20	19	19	18
"    "    Tailors' do.	11	17	17	17
"    "    Weavers' do.	23	22	29	26
"    "    Upholsters' do.	2	2	2	2
"    "    Picking Hair or other Occupation	28	36	33	38
"    "    employed in Kitchen, Wash-house, &c.	17	21	18	21
"    "    Assisting in Wards	94	97	105	100
Total employed	460	476	496	493
Patients unemployed, and reasons for non-employment.				
Sick or too Feeble	9	10	1	14
Aged and Infirm	14	18	20	18
Too low-spirited ( <i>Melancholic</i> )	14	13	12	12
Too much excited ( <i>Maniacal</i> )	20	25	38	39
Too little mind ( <i>Demented</i> )	25	31	29	23
Able, but unwilling	—	—	—	—
Able, and willing	—	—	—	—
Total unemployed	82	97	100	106
Total number of Patients	542	573	596	599

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