



Royal Hospital for Neuro-disability Archive Service :
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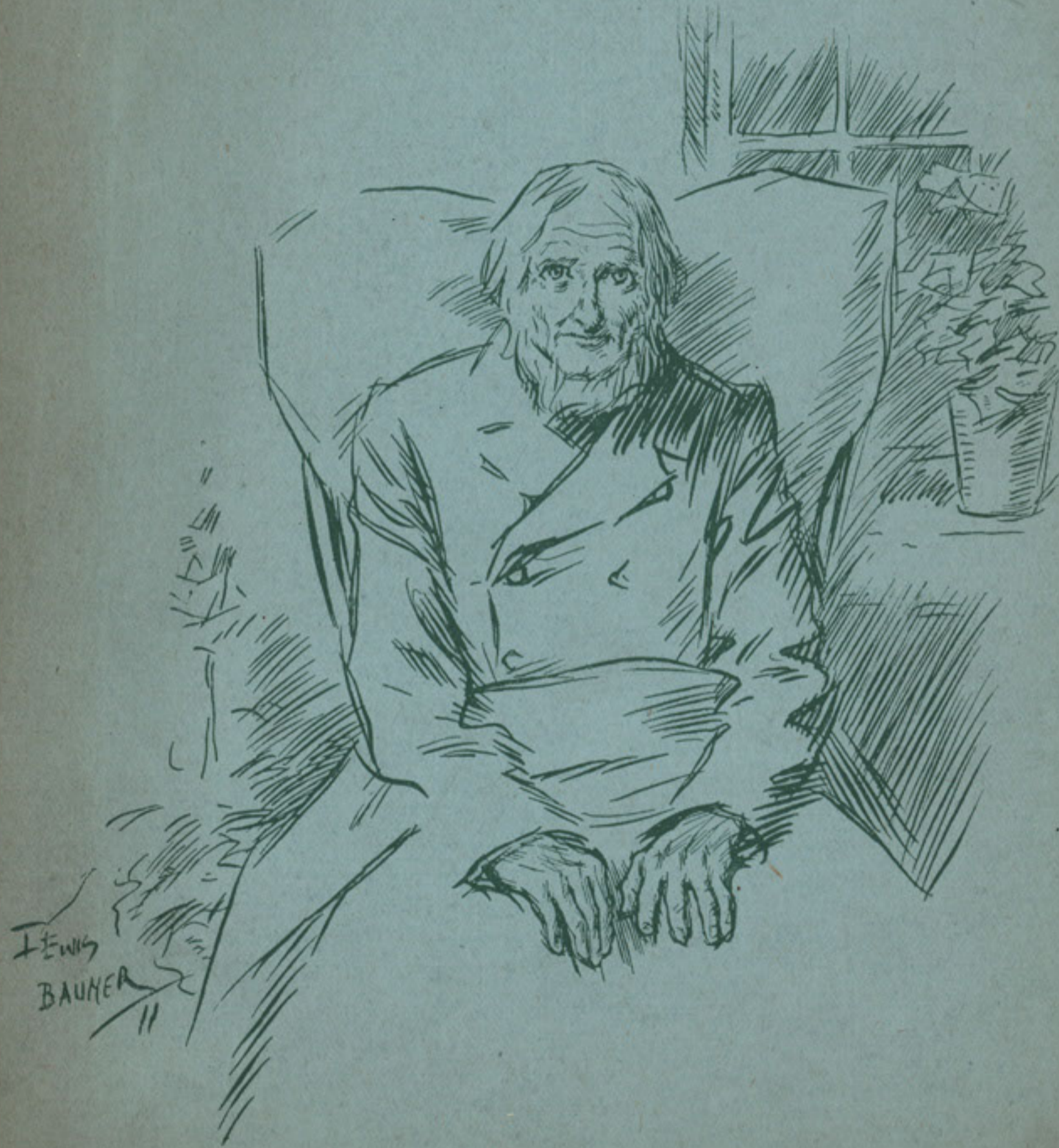
ROYAL HOSPITAL FOR NEURO-DISABILITY :
Fundraising : Appeals : Christmas Appeals

Our pensioners

Ref No : GB 3544 RHN-FU-2-3-17

1911

OUR PENSIONERS



RHN/FU/2/3/17



An Annual Subscriber has One Vote at each Election for each Half-Guinea.

A Donation entitles to Votes at the next ensuing Election, Four Votes being given for each Guinea contributed.

A Life Subscriber has One Vote for Life for Five Guineas, and an additional Vote for Life for every additional Five Guineas.

Subscriptions received by the Secretary, at the Offices, 4, ST. PAUL'S CHURCHYARD, LONDON, will be promptly acknowledged. Cheques should be made payable to—

Messrs. GLYN, MILLS & Co., 67, Lombard Street.



Through Love to Light.

“**T**HROUGH love to light, how wonderful the way
That leads from darkness to the perfect day!
From darkness and from sorrow of the night,
To morning that comes singing o'er the sea.
Through love to light; through light, O God, to Thee
Who art the Love of love, the eternal Light of light.”



I EXPECT to pass through this world but once. Any good therefore that I can do, or any kindness that I can show to any fellow creature, let me do it now. Let me not defer or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again."

John Wesley.

Introduction.

FOR some years in our Christmas Appeals we have written a good deal about the Hospital and the In-patients. This year, as the title of our little book implies, we have endeavoured to present our friends with some "Human Documents" concerning OUR PENSIONERS. Surely nothing could be more persuading than the unquestioned statements of unpaid workers who have personal knowledge of some among our 700 incurable invalid beneficiaries. The only test of the value of Charity is the permanent benefit it confers upon those who receive it.

Nowadays we live in an atmosphere of Suggestion, and it is our privileged duty to spread Suggestion as well as facts respecting the work of the ROYAL HOSPITAL FOR INCURABLES, PUTNEY HEATH. Each one of the 700 Pensioners who receives our monthly cheque has, at least, one good and attentive friend, who, while seeing to the well-being of the invalid, also safeguards the interests of the Hospital. The Pensioners cost this National Charity over £14,000 a year.

The average yearly expenditure of this huge **Monument to Civilization** is £35,000. Investments (all too slender) bring in about £6,000, leaving the large sum of £29,000 to be collected yearly from voluntary sources. We suggest earnestly that you should help us.

CITY OFFICES—4, ST. PAUL'S CHURCHYARD, E.C.

CHRISTMAS, 1911.

The Royal Hospital for Incurables,

PUTNEY HEATH, S.W.

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HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.
HER ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCESS CHRISTIAN.

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CHARLES CUTTING, *Secretary.*

*With the Compliments of
the Board of Management
of the
Royal Hospital for Incurables,
Putney Heath.*

In Memoriam.

Rather than spend money on the erection of Memorial Stones or Windows, why not commemorate the precious memory of those dear to you by giving money for naming in perpetuity a bed, or a ward, at the

**Royal Hospital for Incurables,
PUTNEY HEATH,**

a means which would not only be a lasting tribute to the departed, but also provide the additional merit of affording relief to those who are worthy objects for such practical sympathy.

Her Father Fought at Waterloo.

M. P. was born in 1833. Her father, an artilleryman, fought at WATERLOO. She, for some time, supported herself by village dress-making, but had to give it up on account of failing eyesight. Her father dying about this time (1885) his Pension ceased. Some friends succeeded in getting the invalid one from the Royal Hospital for Incurables, Putney Heath, in November, 1891, for which she was truly thankful. She lived on it for some years, paying her rent punctually and never getting into debt. She now also has a further Pension of 5/- a week, and can afford to have a good fire and other comforts. The first thing she did when she had this was to give the woman who helps her sixpence a week extra! She is very cheerful but rather helpless, being nearly blind, and has to use crutches, as one leg was amputated when she was six years old.

(Mrs.) M. ALICE BURKE.

BULMER LODGE,
SUDBURY.

"His Happy Good Face."

G. R. is sixty-six years of age and by trade a painter. Some twenty years ago he was sent to a job, at a distance from his home. At the lodgings which he engaged, he was put into a damp bed, and from that time his illness began. For over 17 years he has been incapacitated from following his calling. The pain which he suffers at times is excruciating. The disease has played sad havoc with his hands and feet, but has not been able to touch his happy good face. He is one of the most marvellous examples of patience and cheerfulness in suffering that I have ever known.

Some years ago he heard of the beneficial work of your Charity and made application for a Pension. The help which your Society gives is deeply appreciated by both G. R. and his wife. Nothing delights him more than to read in the paper that some good person has left a benefaction to it, because he knows what a blessing it has proved in his own case, and must prove equally beneficial to the many deserving cases which apply continually to your Charity.

THE VICAR OF BOCKING.

ESSEX.

Her Mercies are Her Song.

As a Minister (now retired) I could quote many cases of blessing through happy visits to the afflicted, but perhaps the case of A. M. H. here has touched and blessed me most. I have visited her for twelve years under varying circumstances: sometimes physically dark, sometimes financially, but never spiritually. I have noted that the aid of your excellent Charity was always traced to the hand of her Lord, using whom He would to answer her prayers, and thus ever proving He cared for her.

She is a couch invalid. I have never seen her moved (though others have); but though her pains might well be her complaint, her mercies are ever her theme, almost her song. This struck me when I was in work; but now I am injured and helpless through an accident, this ever strikes me more and more.

Your grant is "twice blessed" at May Villa, nay "thrice"; blessing the patient sufferer, her aged sister-nurse, and also him who now writes this.

CHARLES WRIGHT.

YORK AVENUE,
EAST COWES, I. of W.

Absolutely Bedridden.

For the past ten years I have regularly visited M. B. in my capacity of Chaplain of the Home for Confirmed Invalids, 36, Aubert Park, Highbury. During the whole of that period she has been absolutely bedridden, and of late months it has been increasingly evident that her enfeebled physical powers are gradually failing. But she is more than well cared for. The pension granted her by the Royal Hospital for Incurables goes a long way towards securing for her the comforts of the Institution of which she has been for so long a beneficiary, and without which in her helpless condition her lot would be hard in the extreme.

H. M. SANDERS,
Vicar of St. John's.

HIGHBURY.

Invalid waits upon Invalid.

C. H. B. has enjoyed the Pension for nineteen years. Her father was in a good way of business in Holborn and after his death the business went wrong, and about the same time C. H. B. was attacked with an incurable complaint which prevented her earning her living. Her old servant would not leave her, but continued to wait on her and to go out to daily work. This continued for many years, then some five years ago the faithful servant had a stroke of paralysis and is now unable to do anything for herself. The Clergy and Charity Organisation Society organised a pension of 5/- a week for the servant, who has not left her room for five years. Now the relations are reversed, and the mistress, who can just get up and down stairs, looks after the maid, and both live happily together, examples of patience and endurance.

W. HOOK LONGSDON.

ST. ANDREW'S VICARAGE,
STOCKWELL.

Old Friends are Passing.

M. E. B.'s whole life has been devoted to the welfare of others until she was herself rendered incapable through her ailment (Rheumatoid Arthritis). Her sufferings are pitiable and I fear increasing, but she is always cheerful. Your monthly cheque is a great boon to her in her present sad condition.

She devoted the latter part of her life to the nursing of a sick mother until the parent's death, and her present helplessness may be attributed to the night and day attention to this patient. The bright happy disposition of M. E. B. (notwithstanding her trying illness), always secures her a welcome to the homes of friends, but old friends are passing away, or leaving the district, and she is now unable and unfit to travel without assistance, therefore the help of your noble Charity is more and more appreciated.

ABINGDON,
BERKS.

EDWARD L. SHEPHERD, J.P.

A Sensitive Woman in Distress.

The knowledge I possess of the Royal Hospital for Incurables comes through an occasional visit I make to one of your Pensioners, A. J. D., who for many years has been dependent upon your assistance.

The first time I called to sign the certificate I noticed that she was a refined, Christian woman and I came to understand that in consequence of paralysis she was unable to earn her livelihood. Sometimes I am amazed at her exceptional cheerfulness and the utter absence of anything like fear of the future. Whilst I have been delighted with the generosity of the Royal Hospital, I have admired most of all their gracious method of dealing with sensitive people in distress. I cannot think of any work that is more in harmony with the spirit of our Divine Master.

PRIORY ROAD,
HORNSEY, N.

(REV.) A. WAINWRIGHT.

"Shapeless all over."

The first thing that strikes the visitor to F. P. is her pleasant, cheerful, motherly face; the second, is the almost indescribable condition of her hands. True, she has fingers, but they are more like decayed twigs than fingers. All are rigidly fixed; some are at right angles to the palm, others are bent *back* at the joint at right angles to themselves; none are the shape they should be, all are equally useless. As with her hands, so with the rest of her body; to use her own expression, she is "shapeless all over." She has not been able to walk for twenty years; she can do no single thing for herself, not even lift a cup of tea to her lips. Before her son goes to business in the morning, he and the servant get her up and place her in a chair; there she remains until he comes home at night, for she is a heavy woman and "it takes somebody pretty strong to move her; two women couldn't do it." Fortunately F. P. is able to read, and notwithstanding her helpless condition, she manages to preserve a perfectly contented mind, as is evidenced by her contented face. Your monthly cheque places within her reach other hands and feet to minister to her needs, and I can testify to the greatness of those needs and to the comfort which is brought into this afflicted life through your agency.

STAMFORD HILL.

(REV.) E. V. MARTIN.



A BENEFICIARY FOR FIFTY-THREE YEARS, WHO IS BLIND, DEAF AND PARALYSED,
BUT ALWAYS CHEERFUL.

Robs Pain somewhat of its Sting.

It is with much pleasure that I testify to the great help the Royal Hospital for Incurables confers upon its 700 outside annuitants. A case in point is one of its beneficiaries whom I have known some time, E. S., who, when young, had a severe attack of Rheumatic Fever, and now, being middle-aged, suffers from Rheumatic Arthritis and has done so for many many years, and who often endures such torturing pains that it is distressing to see her. I am certain that if it were not for the certainty of the annuity, which gives so much independency and the providing of so many little comforts and robs pain somewhat of its sting, life indeed would be weary and without its cloud of silver lining. The public, by helping such a Charity, are conducing to the welfare of a class of cases who otherwise would be in straitened circumstances.

H. BASKCOMB-HARRISON, M.R.C.S., &c.

FRIAR'S HOUSE,
EXETER.

Repairs the Choir Boys' Surplices.

S. J. L., who receives a pension of twenty pounds a year, having been elected a beneficiary of the Royal Hospital for Incurables in November, 1886, was born on February 25th, 1835, in the village of Isleworth. She has lived in the parish all her life. For the last fifty years she has been a sufferer from lupus. Her father died at the age of forty-one years on the 22nd July, 1855. Her mother died on April 7th, 1886, at the age of 81 years. Applications were made for a pension by S. J. L.'s friends, and at the Third Election she was successful.

She is a regular communicant of the Church and keeps the choir-boys' surplices in repair, and cleans the brass-work in the Sanctuary.

J. H. CHAMPION MCGILL,
Vicar of Isleworth.

A Little Home Kept Going.

I should like the Subscribers to the Royal Hospital for Incurables to know what a tremendous boon the Pension forwarded regularly by you has been to T. W. B. I well remember in the days when he was canvassing for votes how pathetically earnest he was during the anxious period, when election was still uncertain. That anxiety is the measure of his present satisfaction. It would have been specially hard for a man of his type to have been obliged to give up home and go to the Workhouse. As it is, his physical disability is made easier to bear by the fact that he can keep home open through the welcome aid of the Pension and all this means the freeing of his mind from anxiety.

C. E. WALLER,
Vicar of Woodford Bridge.

ESSEX.

More Funds, More Pensions.

There is, in my opinion, no Institution more worthy of public support than the Royal Hospital for Incurables. I know something of its good work, and the great benefit conferred by its agency upon its Patients and Pensioners. I have a case in mind at present, that of one known to me personally, whose lot, like that of many hundreds of others, would be sad indeed, but for the help so generously given by your Pension. I refer to K. T., whose half-yearly pension certificates it is always a pleasure for me to sign. Need I say how greatly this needy Pensioner values your monthly cheque, and with what feelings of gratitude and encouragement the help afforded by it inspires her. May God continue to bless your work of genuine benevolence, and, if possible, enable you to *extend* it.

GEORGE J. EMMERSON,
Rector of Swalecliffe.

KENT.

The Light of Hope.

It gives me very great pleasure to testify to the valuable help rendered to J. F. by the Royal Hospital for Incurables. I have known J. F. for the past five years and am, therefore, in a position to speak of the benefit that he has derived as a Pensioner of your Institution. His case is a peculiarly sad one. Though in the prime of life, he is absolutely crippled and helpless. Notwithstanding his pathetic condition, he is always bright and cheerful, and, thanks to the Pension he receives, is able to live with his sister. There can be no doubt as to the good work done by the Royal Hospital for Incurables in this, as in hundreds of other cases. Were it not for the timely assistance rendered, it is difficult to see how the light of hope could be kept burning. This National Charity is playing the part of the Good Samaritan in many cases of distress.

LEONARD A. F. WILLAN,
Senior Curate of the Parish Church.

HOVE.

A Little Cheque—And How Much It Is!

Unless one has been laid by and stopped working and earning for a time, it is impossible to get an idea of the feelings of an incurable cripple, such as those of him for whom I gladly sign as witness that he still lives; and only those who know can realise the immense comfort of the monthly cheque to the Pensioners. It does this (and how much it is!): it enables those who never can be well in this world again still to live their own little lives and keep a home. The man of whom I write is a cripple and will be so till the end of time, only the beginning of Eternity can make him well, and now the darkness of cataract is descending slowly but surely upon his eyes. Still, the Pension will yet enable him to live in his little room, which to him is home. What a boon to him and us, to be able to do so little and yet attain so much!

HILLSBORO',
BRACKNELL, BERKS.

(REV.) ALFRED M. LITTLEHALES.

For Fifty Weary Years.

E. J. B. has been suffering from Epilepsy and Paralysis for fifty years and is now nearly blind and entirely dependent on her sister, but for the Pension from the Royal Hospital for Incurables, which enables her to have a doctor and other comforts. Considering the monotony of her life and the few resources that she has, one cannot but be very thankful that she does not complain more frequently than she does. She never says hard things of others, as is too much the custom with some chronic invalids.

J. S. J. T.

THE VICARAGE,
MAPLEDURHAM, READING.

A Solitary Life Cheered.

I have great pleasure in bearing witness to the admirable work which is being done by the agency of the Royal Hospital for Incurables. For a long time there has lived in this parish a poor woman, E. B., who has been a recipient of the Charity. She is an incurable invalid, and could not eke out an existence were it not for the help given. It is difficult to state the comfort and security which the certainty of the Pension brings to the poor soul, and her solitary life is cheered beyond words by this real bit of Christian philanthropy. There are few channels wherein our generosity can flow which is closer to the heart of the Master than the beneficent method which has been pursued for so many years by the Royal Hospital for Incurables, Putney Heath.

W. E. OLIVER,
Vicar of Ealing.

She lives quite Alone.

We are most grateful to the Royal Hospital for Incurables for the Pension granted to E. A. R. for many years past. The cheque received monthly by her is a perfect Godsend. She is permanently crippled with rheumatism and has been confined to her bed and couch for years, without any hope or possibility of recovery. I have never known a more deserving case, and to see and know her would appeal to the public far more eloquently than speech or circular. She lives quite alone in her little cottage, the next door neighbour lighting her fire, cooking her food, etc.

E. A. R. is wonderfully patient, gentle and thankful. There is surely no work on earth more Christ-like than that of ministering to the sick and needy, and how near to the heart of Christ such a work is we may learn from His own ministry. There is something higher than a sense of duty which should appeal to us in a work of this kind, namely, the great honour of ministering to Jesus Christ through His sick ones.

"I was hungry and ye gave me meat. I was sick and ye visited me.
"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these My
"children, ye have done it unto Me."

W. ROBINSON.

CLEARWELL VICARAGE,
COLEFORD.

Not a Helpless Burden.

I am very glad to testify to the comfort and blessing which your Pension brings to one whom I know well here. A lady by birth, cultured and refined, she was formerly a governess. Now she is a helpless invalid, only able to walk with difficulty, her right hand useless and her eyesight all but gone; yet she is always bright and cheerful and it is a pleasure to visit her. A devoted sister lives with her and does all she can, by teaching, to support them both. But this is difficult as they have no private means.

It is very easy, therefore, to imagine what a difference the pension makes to the poor invalid. It enables her to feel that she is not altogether a helpless burden to her sister, and it brings a sense of security into her life which it could not otherwise have. I know how grateful she is to the Royal Hospital for Incurables.

PERCY A. NASH,
Vicar of St. James'.

CHELTENHAM.

Beautiful Devotion.

M. W., with an aged invalid mother and younger sister, came to Crondall in March, 1898. Her father, a gardener, died many years ago, and her mother only lived two years here. She first received your Pension in 1891, which is of infinite benefit and comfort to her, and for which no one could be more grateful, as without it she had no means, except what she could earn from needlework. Her work was, and is, of a precarious nature, as she suffers from a series of internal complications, which frequently for weeks confine her to her bed, and prevent her from walking outside the limits of her cottage and garden. She is unable to look after herself, and only the beautiful devotion of her sister, who gave up domestic service for needlework, which, added to the Pension, enables her to keep a home for her. I only wish subscribers to this Charity could see for themselves the happy lives of these two.

E. B. COTTON,
Vicar of Crondall.

HANTS.

A Tidy Cottage Home.

J. N., a most respectable single woman, now residing at Steeple Bumpstead, has for nearly *forty years* been in receipt of a Pension from the Royal Hospital for Incurables, Putney Heath. Most of this long period she has lived in this Parish in the enjoyment of that great boon. Her fits, proving a kind of St. Vitus's Dance, quite incapacitate her for any regular or reliable employment. When, however, free from their influence, she has been most willing to help her neighbours at minding house, or children, or by sewing and knitting. For many years she was just able to attend to her own wants and keep her cottage tidy without other help, except when her fits were strong upon her and disabled her for days at a stretch. Then, in the good Providence of God, when the infirmities of old age disabled her for her own household work, the Government Old Age Pension came in to enable her to pay for the necessary assistance required by her increasing weakness, for all of which she is extremely grateful.

W. Q. W.

THE VICARAGE,
STEEPLE BUMPSTEAD.

An Invalid Teacher.

I have known S. L. now for 19 years, ever since I left London. She has been a teacher at the little Infant School at Varnold's Common, in this Parish, ever since the year 1878, and her influence for good has been great in her school on weekdays and on Sundays. Though so afflicted, she is able with the aid of her crutches to get to the school, so near to where she lives. I am sure the pension from the Royal Hospital for Incurables has been of the greatest value to her.

SHROPSHIRE.

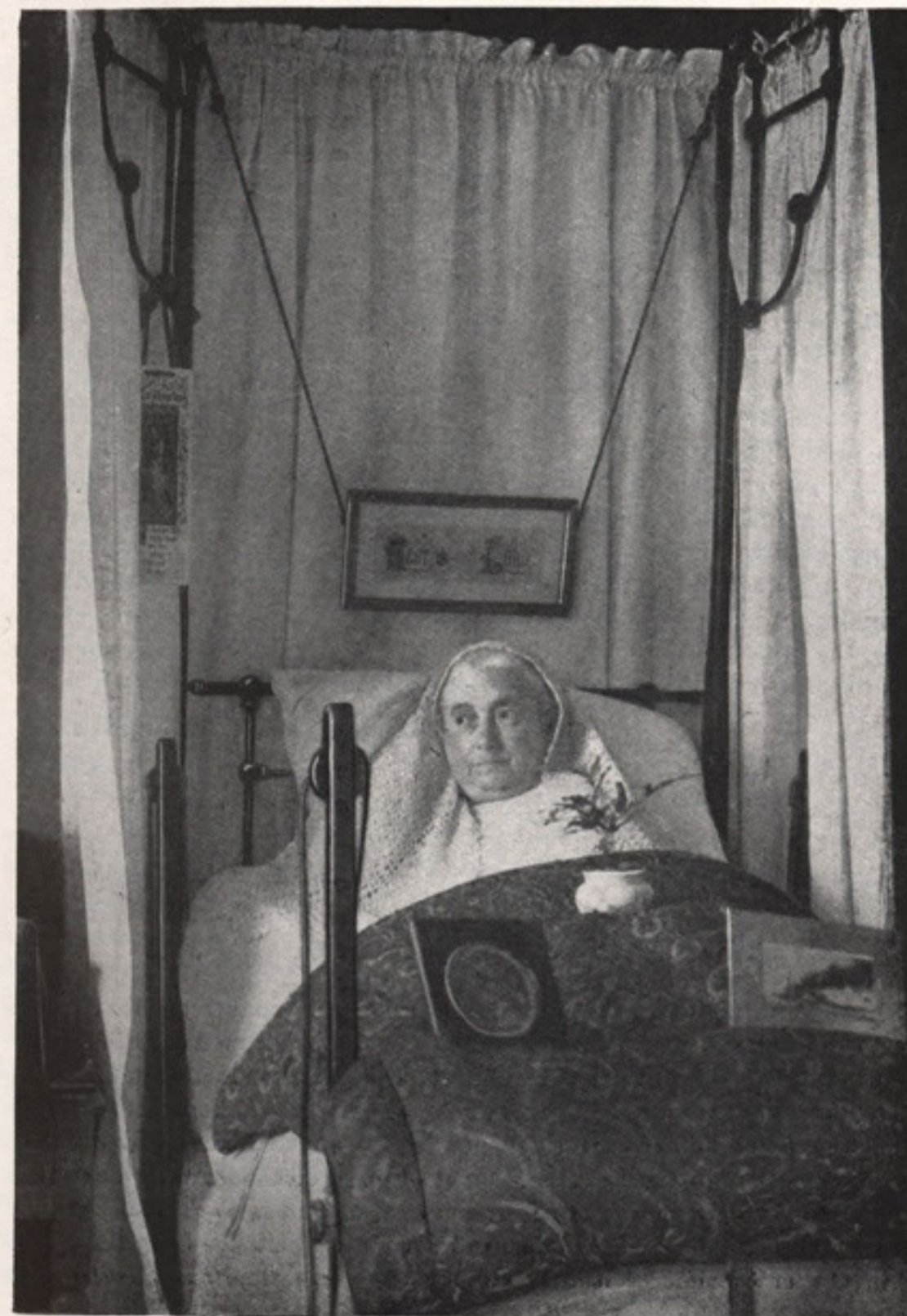
D. E. HOLLAND,
Rector of Culmington.

Few Friends and Little Comfort.

One of your Pensioners, M. G. R., lives in this Parish. She is nearly blind and is crippled with rheumatism, and suffers much in other ways. At one time she was well off, in her own house with many comforts and friends; now she has few friends and little comforts, being confined to one small room. Her growing loss of eyesight is a continual cause of anxiety, though she is patient and uncomplaining. It is one of her great pleasures when any one goes in to talk or read to her, and she keeps herself well informed on what goes on about her. It can be easily understood how much worry and anxiety are removed by your Pension from one in her sad circumstances. The knowledge of the regular payments coming in is an untold comfort to one so helpless, afflicted and needy.

S. AUGUSTINE'S VICARAGE,
HIGHGATE.

CHARLES G. MATURIN.



ANOTHER BENEFICIARY.

A Life of Loneliness.

I have, in the course of my duties as a parochial clergyman, paid frequent visits to N. A. P., a bedridden invalid, and she has shown the greatest possible appreciation of my efforts to minister to her in spiritual things. Her room is always kept spotlessly clean, and when one knocks at the door, a very weak thin voice says "come in." It is simply wonderful how bright her spirits are, considering the monotony of her life and surroundings. Christian women belonging to the church frequently take a book and read to her. The table in her room is always adorned with flowers sent by country friends. She has lived a very long time in the neighbourhood, and always has her windows wide open, so that she gets plenty of air. She listens intently for the church bell, and goes through the whole service quietly by herself—reads the lessons, Psalms, Collects—indeed one realises how, in her case especially, the Prayer Book forms a most perfect treasury of devotion. As she grows older, she says she feels weaker, and when she receives her home-call, all those who were privileged to brighten her days by acts of kindness, will realise, as they never did before, the fortitude and resignation with which she submitted for long years to a life of loneliness and monotony and suffering.

(REV.) F. REDMAYNE TATTERSALL.

30, QUERNMORE ROAD,
STROUD GREEN, N.

Were She a Daughter of Mine.

I can certainly assure you of the pleasure that your monthly cheques afford to your Pensioner. I know what they would mean to me in similar circumstances, or how grateful I should feel to such a Charity for the same assistance to a daughter of mine, were she left in a like position. One cannot be too thankful that there are Institutions which are doing such good work. It is just such cases as that of your Pensioner where one feels that pecuniary assistance is of the greatest value and is so great a blessing. The Royal Hospital for Incurables well deserves assistance from those who are in the enjoyment of health, and at the same time are blessed with this world's goods.

A WORCESTERSHIRE VICAR.

A Bright Spot in a Darkened Life.

I am glad to testify to the great benefit and comfort which is derived by your many Pensioners. For years I have had the pleasure of signing the half-yearly certificates for one lady, to whom the Pension has been a veritable "godsend," and without which I know not how she could have lived. I know also another of your Pensioners—a man, this time, cut off from earning a living for his wife and children quite early in life by Locomotor Ataxy—and, again, the obtaining of one of your Pensions has been a bright spot in his darkened life.

You will, therefore, understand how pleased I am to have the opportunity of stating from personal knowledge how great a boon your system of Pensions is to those who are in need and heavily afflicted.

W. V. MASON,
Vicar of S. Cyprian's.

BROCKLEY.

A Striking Example.

Born nearly seventy years ago, of respectable parents, in the ancient City of Wells, J. F. presents an excellent illustration of the beneficent working of your Institution in regard to its Pensioners (as well as of helplessness and suffering borne for more than thirty-two years with indomitable courage, patience, and cheerfulness). J. F., in early womanhood, started in business as a dressmaker in conjunction with a sister. All went well, and a good connexion was formed, when a cloud came over their prospect in the shape of the sister's failing health. For four years this continued, until this sister died. Up to within a few months of this bereavement, J. F. had been able to struggle on with the business and to provide for her sister. Then, thirty-two years ago, came the paralytic seizure which has made J. F. a cripple for life and rendered her incapable of any kind of employment. Her Pension has for long years been almost her only means of support, but she is always bright, cheerful, and contented, full of sympathy for others, and a striking example of Christian patience.

JOHN BERESFORD,
Vicar of Wells.

Address _____

Date _____

Sir,

I have read the Christmas Appeal issued by the Board of Management of the Royal Hospital for Incurables, Putney Heath, and it is possible that if you were to post a copy of it to my friend,

Name _____

Address _____

you might secure a New Subscriber.

Yours faithfully,

THE SECRETARY,
Royal Hospital for Incurables,
4, ST. PAUL'S CHURCHYARD,
LONDON, E.C

Three Score and Twelve.

As I have just seen one of your Pensioners, M. H., I thought you might like to hear how she is getting on. She desired me to express her deep gratitude for the help received. She is in her seventy-second year, and though not bed-ridden is not capable of getting her own living. She seldom gets out of doors, and not at all in the winter. Her sole income is the Pension from the Royal Hospital for Incurables, so you can imagine what a real blessing it is to her. She resides with her sisters, who let apartments, so that she has someone to attend to her when ill.

If those who kindly subscribe to your Institution could go round and see some of the recipients, they would realise what a real boon these Pensions are, and would rejoice that they are privileged to help such a worthy object.

F. M. BRODIE.

CHRIST CHURCH VICARAGE,
COVENTRY.

Banishing Torturing Anxiety.

As a parish priest one has opportunities that are not open to the ordinary layman of observing the admirable work of various Institutions. The work done by the Royal Hospital for Incurables has come under my notice. For four years I have visited one of their Pensioners in Braintree, who has been an invalid for a long time. I have been very much struck by one thing, the care taken by this Charity in allotting a Pension. The merits of each case are gone into with a thoroughness that in itself should recommend the work. It would be difficult to estimate the value of this regularly-paid sum of money to the Pensioner—it is so invaluable in once and for all relieving the sufferer from the torturing anxiety which is incident to poverty. It provides a solace in suffering that cannot be measured in just the payment of money.

(REV.) HY. JORDAN.

KING'S CORNER,
BOCKING, ESSEX.

She Never Wastes a Penny.

I feel personally grateful to the Royal Hospital for Incurables for the Pension given to M. B., of Westcott. Her parents were good Methodists in Yorkshire; her brother was a Wesleyan Minister who died at the beginning of his career. M. B. suffers from an incurable disease. She has to lie on her back day and night and is wheeled about in a chair by a devoted nurse, who has given up her life to ministering to her friend. M. B. is one of the most patient women I know and she has done a beautiful work among the rough boys and girls who live around her. She has arranged little meetings for them and they all regard her as a Saint. I do not know what she could do without your Institution's monthly cheque. It is her salvation. She never wastes a penny, and the one room where she and her nurse-companion live and sleep is a sight that would delight all subscribers to the Society. No grant could be more welcome or better used, and all who know M. B. are thankful for such providential help to one whom they love and honour.

(REV.) JOHN TELFORD.

DORKING.

"One Egg a Day."

I imagine very few of your Pensioners can be more deserving of your help than J. C. Suffering from some incurable complaint of her throat she has to subsist on *one egg a day*. Her patience in the midst of this process of semi-starvation is admirable.

Such a case as hers affords a powerful testimony to the greatness of the work the Royal Hospital for Incurables is doing. For to be in any degree a source of financial help to those who can do nothing to earn a penny, and whose lot is one of unbroken weakness and suffering, is surely of the very essence of love and mercy.

MARTIN C. TAYLOR.

Congregational Minister.

CHERTSEY,
SURREY.

The Fourteen Years are over.

I beg to inform you of the passing from earthly life of E. L. S., lately of 62, Victoria Road, Peckham, S.E., on Sunday last. For fourteen years E. L. S. enjoyed the Pension from your Institution and it was indeed a most welcome, timely, and deeply-appreciated help to her. May I add also it was richly deserved by her, for she was a splendid character. Her surviving sister, who so devotedly ministered to her, desires me to express her deepest gratitude for the help so generously given.

It was my privilege to sign the certificate you sent with the remittance, and to know E. L. S.'s genuine need of your most welcome assistance.

(REV.) ROBT. JAS. TILSON.

14, UPSTALL STREET,
CAMBERWELL.

"Perfect Patience in Tribulation."

When calling one day upon F. V., an industrious and good-natured person who attends my church, I was somewhat surprised at being greeted by a little old lady who I subsequently discovered to be an elder sister of my church attendant. My surprise lay in the fact that though she was over seventy years of age and had been a cripple all her life, the warmth of her welcome and the intelligent animation of her conversation proved her to be one of the most charming of those upon whom I call. The help of one benefactor, the pension from you, and the industry of the able-bodied sister, enable these two to live together with some sense of security, though sometimes they have had very difficult times.

It is pathetic to see the difficulty and yet comparative ease with which Miss Vincent makes her way, with the aid of a crutch, from the easy chair by the fire to the business of arranging herself at the table preparatory to signing the all-important document that I may witness the same. This transaction completed, we chat about churches and religion, literature and philanthropy, creeds and Christ, and as one watches her animated face, with its sincere eyes, one forgets that she is reckoned amongst the helpless of mankind and one is amazed at this perfect patience in tribulation.

(REV.) FRANCIS J. SLOPER.

CHAPEL ROAD, WEST NORWOOD.

The Sunshine of Joy.

To people, well-to-do in this world's goods, it is a matter of astonishment how a little money will gladden the lives of the poor, and a hundred-fold more when those poor are held bound by affliction. Even to a sincere Christian trusting in God that all things do, and will, work together for good, it is an awful feeling which realizes that one is the subject and bearer of an incurable disease: to carry about a body of death! No longer able to earn a living, but to be a burden on the care and toil of friends. And when those friends are poor, and perhaps themselves weak in body, or have others depending on their labours and continuance in health, the trial is increased in bearing their hopeless complaint. I feel sure many who lovingly subscribe to the funds of the Royal Hospital for Incurables have almost no conception of the sunshine of joy they put into the souls of those Incurables whom they assist by their kind donations or subscriptions to your Institution.

My subject, whose certificate I sign, is a sweet Christian woman, of sterling piety. She always seems to me, when I go to sign her certificate, to be one of God's poor little crippled birds, uttering her cheerful praises for His goodness in sending her the help from your Charity. She is mostly confined to her room, the only time I ever see her out anywhere in our parish, is when she is going to her beloved Place of Worship. May I myself thank those kind, loving hearts who enable you to send your help to my friend E. B. It is so thoroughly deserving and well-placed a benefaction, and gives so much help, comfort, and joy, that I must thank you for her, and also for myself in sharing her joy in signing your certificate sent so regularly to her.

(REV.) T. R. H. STURGES.

27, HYDE VALE,
GREENWICH.

The Pension is a Life-Buoy.

The invaluable work of the Royal Hospital for Incurables has done, and is doing, an immense amount of good. One must know the Patients and the Pensioners to form an adequate idea of its humane and Christian service. Having signed the forms as a witness of one of these Pensioners I have been well able to judge of the nature of the good work done by this National Charity.

The Pensioner with whom I have to do is particularly a pathetic case, who is quite incapable of earning anything for his livelihood. The monthly cheque is to him what a life-buoy is to a drowning man; it bears him up with an assurance of his daily bread, and prevents him from sinking into the depths of despondency, and inspires the sufferer with a sense of safety.

4, DOVER ROAD,
NORTHFLEET.

(REV.) G. HARDING.

Through Five Operations.

I have known M. B. about three years, and during that time I have visited her once a week and usually spent about an hour conversing, reading, and praying with her. She was 83 years of age last birthday, and has suffered ever since she was eight years of age, caused by a fall, and for 33 years she has had to walk on crutches. About 18 months ago she had a paralytic stroke, which affected her right side, and has left her very weak and helpless. She has gone through five operations, and is most grateful for your kind help in sending her the monthly Pension, which she has had *for about 49 years*. The only friend that M. B. had for some years was a Miss A. S., who lived with her and died with lupus in the face: she was also a former Pensioner of your Charity.

A. J. WILSON,
London City Missionary.

126, SYDENHAM ROAD NORTH,
CROYDON.

On her Back for over Thirty Years.

When I was a boy I often used to pass that huge building close to Putney Heath, and when I was told what it was and why it was there, I thought what good people there must be in the world to provide a Home for Incurables, who could not provide for themselves. But it was not until I became a Priest, and came to work in the heart of East London, that I discovered that the Charity which gave a home to so many at Putney was at work here, and I found that S. L., of Brunswick Road, Poplar (her patience and saintly life I have not time to describe), living with her married sister, was being cared for and helped by you.

What your assistance to her at regular intervals is, only those who, like myself, know the family well, are able to tell and appreciate.

S. L. has been on her back now for over thirty years, and apart from the actual money given by you, to know that there are those who feel for her and desire to help her, is a source of great comfort to her. She continually thanks you and praises God.

LESLIE C. BROOKSMITH,
Priest.

POPLAR,
LONDON, E.

She Feels Secure.

I have known A. W. personally for some years, and I am glad to have this opportunity of writing to tell you what a great help and comfort the Pension is to her.

A. W. is a very respectable person, getting on in years, who is sadly crippled by rheumatism. Some years ago she was able to support herself by dressmaking, but gradually her fingers became so painfully drawn up that work of any kind was impossible. Then it was that kind friends set to work to obtain the Pension for her, and her joy and relief were very great when she realised that it was indeed hers. Since then this poor woman has lost father, mother and brother, but although the bread-winners of her family are gone, she feels secure in the knowledge that the monthly cheque from the Royal Hospital for Incurables will not fail her.

(Miss) NELLIE HUNT.

10, CHURCH STREET,
AYLESBURY.



A GROUP OF BENEFICIARIES.

Her Only Companion being a Little Dog.

P. L., aged 65, is in poor health and unable to do anything to earn her living. At the age of 19 she was trained as a Surgical Nurse, and continued nursing until she was 48, for several years under Sir Spencer Wells. For five years she worked under the Rev. Neville Sherbrooke in the neighbourhood of the then called Portman Chapel. For eight months she was a Bible Woman and District Nurse, in Clifton, when a complete breakdown in health compelled her to give up altogether. For the past 18 years she has resided in Felixstowe, for $2\frac{1}{2}$ years as house-keeper to Sir Robert Hudson, but for most of the time in retirement, as continued ill health has been hers for many years. During these latter years her Pension has been of the greatest assistance to her, for her savings only bring her 8/4 a week. She is most grateful for the invaluable assistance that the Royal Hospital allows her. It enables her to live in a pretty cottage, her only companion being a little dog who acts as her guardian by night and friend and protector by day.

(REV.) E. SYMONDS,
Vicar of Walton.

BY FELIXSTOWE.

She can see Light.

A. D., one of your pensioners, lives in a tiny house close to Chulmleigh Church. It is very pathetic to go to see her, for, when you hold out your right hand to greet her it is a left hand that responds to your greeting—she can't lift her right hand!

She lives all alone and should she need to send for anything, she has to stand at her door till some boy or girl, whom she may know, passes by and takes pity on her helplessness. She now considers that she is quite rich because your Board have allowed her to receive the Government Old Age Pension; till then she was totally dependent on your Charity. She is one of those cheerful souls who is always thankful, and in the darkest surroundings she can see light.

A. R. STODDON,
Rector of Chulmleigh.

DEVON.

Feeling better at Eighty-two.

"It is my birthday to-day," were the words that greeted me. "And how old are you?" was my question as I shook hands with the hale old lady. "Eighty-two, to-day, and I am feeling better than I did a year ago, but I am so deaf." "Ah! Mother, what shall I be like, if I could live so long?" exclaimed her daughter, who was resting on the sofa. For many years the daughter has been a great sufferer from various serious complaints: for five years she was on her back from spinal weakness; and now for some years she has been slowly growing weaker with continued accesses of great pain. And yet, how cheery, how grateful she is for the mercies that follow her. The elder sister, who lives with them, is organist at the Parish Church. The Pension is of the utmost value to the invalid and brings untold happiness and content into this family, enabling them to live together. Without it one cannot imagine how they would have fared.

F. G. BULLER.

OAKFORD RECTORY,
DEVON.

A Poor Governess.

C. S. C., a resident in this parish for some years, who has been in a weak state of health and whose age would preclude her from any active service, acknowledges with gratitude her indebtedness to the Royal Hospital for Incurables, which has helped her very greatly from anxiety in years of severe illness. She was obliged to give up her work as Governess and was for some years wholly dependent upon relatives, except a little she could earn at plain work, and which was done under great bodily infirmities. Her present health is somewhat improved, but her age makes the Pension a necessity to her enjoyment of a quiet home in the country with a relative with whom she has resided for many years.

(REV.) E. J. FRANKLIN.

WHITCHURCH, BRISTOL.

With His Wife and Daughter.

Your Pensioner, J. R. G., is well known to me. He was a gardener, married, with a small family, when, over 20 years ago, he was attacked by Sclerosis of the spinal cord, which gradually advanced to Paralysis of the legs and arms. He is, and always has been, a sober, deserving, and very estimable man.

By means of your Pension he is enabled to live in a small cottage with his wife and daughter, who wheel him about in a bath chair. From this, and like experience, I can cordially recommend the Royal Hospital for Incurables to the benevolent.

ADDESTONE, SURREY.

A. G. MACKENZIE, M.D.

A Brave Old "Salt."

Thousands of people know the little town of Broadstairs with its quaint harbour, its narrow streets and picturesque sea front. Thousands who have strolled along its promenade in fine weather must be familiar with the sight of a strongly-built old man, who owns to nearly 80 years, though most would take him for 60, sitting in a wheel-chair and busily engaged in knitting. He always has a smile on his face, despite the fact that for nearly 50 years he has been helplessly crippled by Rheumatism. Fifty years ago he was a sailor and then came the attack which laid him low and made of this active young man a helpless cripple.

Forty years ago he was elected to a Pension of the Royal Hospital for Incurables, and this for all these years has been the old sailor's sheet anchor in life. What it means to him, and has meant for these forty years you can imagine for yourself.

As I write these lines poor old R. R. lies seriously ill and it is doubtful whether he will live through the winter, but he is cheerful and uncomplaining as ever. Should he never be seen again on Broadstairs front, subscribers to the Hospital will have the satisfaction of knowing that they have helped an honest and good man to meet misfortune bravely, and to get much pleasure out of a life which many would call a burden to its possessor.

THE RECTORY,
BROADSTAIRS.

L. L. EDWARDS.

P.S. This Pensioner died recently.

"The Angel of the Tenement."

I have the greatest pleasure in writing about E. A. C., who is one of your Pensioners. It has been one of the most helpful experiences of my life to have known this lady. She is the most remarkable sufferer I have ever visited. For 28 years she has been afflicted with a most painful disease, rendering her more helpless year after year. Surely the barest outline of her experience must touch the hearts of all who read it. Taking to her bed about a year after her wedding, she has never been able to rise again, and thus began a life story which reveals a most pathetic tragedy. Soon after being stricken down her husband passed away, and thus this young and suffering widow was left without protector or bread-winner. "Then," as she told me with the tears streaming down her beautiful face, "and then my darling little boy was seized with an illness, and I watched him gradually fade away and die, and I felt my very heart would break." But does anybody suggest that Mrs. C. is unhappy? Why, she is the brightest and happiest and most uncomplaining soul I have ever known! Although she lives in the heart of one of the darkest spots of this mighty City, her beautiful character radiates to those around her life the fragrance of a sweet perfume. She is known as "The Angel of the Tenement," and to visit her flower-bedecked room and to talk to her and pray with her, is to come away a better and a nobler man. For her saintly life and entire resignation to the All Father, we cannot be too grateful. But how shall I express her overwhelming gratitude for the help and kindness she has received from your Institution! Your monthly cheque comes to her like a gift from God, and if those who subscribe to your funds could visit her and see for themselves what their money is doing, they would realise more than they have ever done before that it is more blessed to give than to receive.

J. WILLIAM DUNBAR.

BAPTIST CHURCH,
PALMER'S GREEN, N.

The Fear of coming to Want Abolished.

E. G. is, and has been for many years, a hopeless invalid, quite unable to do more than recline on a couch and do a little knitting or sewing. She has told me that for a time, before she was elected a Pensioner, her great fear was that she would inevitably come to want, and this thought was harder to bear than the suffering incident to her disease.

Relieved of this oppressive outlook by means of her Pension, she has been enabled, with great fortitude, to bear her afflictions, and the feelings of gratitude aroused have given her a happiness that has made her life, not only endurable, but even contented.

(REV.) HY. JORDAN.

BOCKING,
ESSEX.

Able to Live with Those I Love.

One of the most pathetic stories, related in the Gospel, is that of the woman who came to our Lord, suffering from an incurable disease. Tradition gives her the name of Veronica, and connects with her healing the nomenclature of the plant which flowers with healing blossoms when it reached the height of the hem of the oriental "garment." We know what faith she showed in the great physician, and as we listen to her life story we do not wonder at the compassion she experienced. She was regarded by the physician as "incurable," for she had been in that sad state 12 years. She had suffered many things of many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was nothing bettered, but rather grew worse, although it is fair to say that with professional etiquette, the physician-evangelist modifies his statement, he is content to say that "she had spent all her living upon physicians, neither could be healed of any," so we have a picture of a sufferer for whom the doctors confessed "they could do no more," reduced by her fruitless efforts to be healed, to abject poverty. She had spent all her living upon physicians—only to be pronounced incurable.

[Continued on next page.]

We do not wonder that such a case awakened pity in the breast of the Saviour, and we may thank God that the human breast is never insensible to pity for those for whom our doctors, with all their skill, all their intense sympathy, are compelled to say, "we have done all that is possible—we fear we can do no more." To be pronounced "Incurable" is in itself a sentence more terrible, than in health and strength, perhaps, many are able to realise. To have added to this, abject poverty is an aggravation which any man with a spark of human sympathy would determine to remove.

* There is, living in this parish, a patient sufferer, for whom, except to relieve distressing agony, physicians can do no more—E. A., now 57 years of age; she is a martyr to arthritis, all her limbs crippled and crumpled up, her knees drawn up, her once deft fingers twisted and contorted, unable even to hold a crochet-needle or knitting-pin, but she is cheerful and contented, though long time bed-ridden, naturally unable to put foot to the ground. Why is she so contented, so cheerful? Because she is still surrounded by loving relatives; they may be poor, but their hearts are loving, and it is their happiness to wait upon this patient sufferer. For 14 years now she has been in this sad condition, and were it not for the monthly Pension which she receives from the Royal Hospital for Incurables she must long ago have come to want. She is brimful of gratitude, and, asked if she is happy, replies "how can I be otherwise, when, owing to my Pension, I am still able to live with those I love. They are poor and could not possibly support me if I had not the Pension." Thus, if miraculous gifts of healing are withholden from us, at least what can be done, is lovingly done to afford relief to one pronounced "Incurable."

CHARLES M. A. TOWER,
Vicar of Shoreham.

SUSSEX.

EXTRACT FROM THE CONSTITUTION.

"The design of this Charity is not to interfere with the action of any existing institution, nor to relieve those cases for which provision is found elsewhere; nor does it profess to relieve temporary affliction; but so far as funds will permit, its aim is to provide relief for that which is continuous and permanent, and for which no public provision exists. It does not, therefore, deal with idiots, persons of unsound mind, with those who have been afflicted from birth, or who have received parochial relief."

Shuddered to think of Her Fate.

For many years F. W., who lives in East Hagbourne Village, has received regular help from this excellent Institution. She lives alone and is sometimes able to earn a very little by doing needlework, but, being sorely afflicted with spasmodic asthma, for most part of the day, and sometimes for whole days and nights, she is struggling for breath, and unable to attend to anything, even the little work connected with her domestic needs has to be left undone. During the Winter months, F. W. cannot go upstairs to bed, but has to manage, as best she can, in her sitting room. She is very patient and always grateful for any interest taken in her, and it seems very trying, when visiting her, not to be able to suggest any means of relief when her condition is so distressing. To this poor woman your Institution sends invaluable assistance. F. W. told me the other day she shuddered to think what her fate would have been without it.

J. W. R. BAKER,
Vicar of Hagbourne.

DIDCOT, BERKS.

Endurance and Trust.

I have known E. B. for three years. It is very bad to see such a case of helplessness, but the wonderful patience and fortitude which I see whenever I visit her is remarkable. She always looks so peaceful and happy, and I am so thankful to have the great privilege to administer the Holy Communion to her at certain periods. I am sure by the pension she receives from your National Charity and the thoughtfulness and care bestowed upon her by her relatives, everything is done to give her comfort and ease.

A case such as this gives a great example to the strong and healthy of quiet, patient endurance and trust in God.

(REV.) W. T. MARTEN.

AVONDALE,
AVENUE ROAD,
ITCHEN.

"Quiet Ways of Sympathy."

I can testify in the case I know to the great help given by your Pension. F. L. W. was brought up in good circumstances and belonged to a refined and well-to-do family. By the death of her father she was left completely without resources and afflicted with an incurable complaint, which means great and constant suffering. Her pension is her great support. It provides against want and insures her the shelter of a home. Giving her the minimum which secures her standing and self-respect, it enables her to exhibit a patient and Christian spirit under affliction and to help others in quiet ways of sympathy. I cannot conceive of money better invested than in the support of lives like hers.

(REV.) H. W. BURDETT.

REDLAND, BRISTOL.

How welcome it is.

M. E. T. has been a confirmed invalid for many years. She suffers from a form of spinal disease, and was at one time completely bedridden. She is now, however, able to walk about, but dare not attempt any physical strain. For her to earn her own living would be an absolute impossibility, and were it not for the kindness of a brother with whom she lives, and who, on a limited income, assists to maintain both her and a sister, who is a martyr to chronic rheumatism of a very painful nature, together with the monthly cheque so kindly sent her by your Charity, there would be nothing before her but abject poverty. Nothing, I assure you, gives me greater pleasure than to go to that humble, yet refined, home in order to sign the form which secures for them a renewal of your generous help, knowing as I do, from my own acquaintance of their circumstances, how extremely welcome it is.

(REV.) H. OLIVER.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH,
COGGESHALL.

Many Years of Gratitude.

I have known A. W. for many years past, and she has frequently expressed to me her gratitude for the pension awarded her by the Royal Hospital for Incurables and her deep sense of the help and comfort it has been to her for so many years. A. W. is quite incapacitated, hence you will readily understand the value of your assistance.

JOHN W. S. STANLEY, J.P.

COWES,

I. OF WIGHT.

Looking after each other.

K. T. is most grateful for the Pension she is receiving from the Royal Hospital for Incurables. She is far too afflicted to work, and has not sufficient means to support herself; and she was in great distress, having been ill for so many years, and having no relatives who could afford to assist her. But through the kindness of some ladies who subscribed to the Charity and knew of her sad circumstances, she was enabled to get the Pension from your Hospital, and she is, consequently, able to remain in her home, which at one time she was afraid she would be unable to do.

She is living with her sister, who also suffers from an incurable complaint, but supports herself by needlework, and the valuable help given by the Pension makes it possible for them to live together and to look after each other.

ERNEST O. BEVERLEY,
Vicar.

STATION ROAD,
SAWBRIDGEWORTH.

He flushed with Joy.

Your Pensioner, T. A. I., is a case of Rheumatoid Arthritis of ten or twelve years' standing. Now he is completely bedridden. During the past seven years he has gradually lost the use of every limb. At one time we could shake hands; then he could only use three or four fingers; at last only one. *One's greeting now is only to gently stroke his forehead.* When I told him I was about to write to you on his case, his pale face flushed with joy, and he cried out, "Oh, I am so glad! I have often wanted to tell them how comfortable I am, and how very grateful I am for their goodness to me all these years." Then he added, "I always look in my paper every day to see if they have had any money left them; and I am so glad when I see they have had a legacy. They had one the other day of £1,000, and I was so glad." And then, "I am sure there can be no other Charity in the world so good or so deserving."

Those were his very words. I could add more details of his condition and comfort; but I have, I fear, already gone beyond my limit. I can only say that seeing him, as I do frequently, often when suffering great pain and discomfort (*flies bother him tremendously in the hot weather, and he cannot lift a finger to brush them off*). I have never once heard him complain. To visit him is to receive a blessing; it is to receive a lesson in patience and gratitude also.

ARTHUR T. GILL,

Curate of St. John's.

BOGNOR.

Eyes filled with Tears.

A. L. is 75 years of age and by trade a painter. He has been confined to his bed over five years by a stroke of paralysis. He is terribly crippled and a great sufferer.

When I spoke to him about the help and comfort such a Charity as yours confers on its Pensioners, his eyes filled with tears, and he said, "Tell the Governors I thank them all from the bottom of my heart. If I had not received the Pension, I should have been obliged to give up all hope." You may be sure that the beneficent work of the Royal Hospital for Incurables is deeply appreciated by all those who receive help from its funds.

H. J. S.,

An Essex Vicar.

The Outlook would be Black.

I am a constant visitor to the home of A. H., and have many opportunities of witnessing the blessing which is brought to the home through the regular help given by your Charity. A. H. lives with her sister, who, though herself weakly and suffering from an incurable disease, ministers to her needs with passionate devotion and self-sacrifice. In their earlier days they had the advantage of careful upbringing, and now their humble surroundings reveal a taste and refinement which help to make one's visits a pleasure. A. H. is a confirmed invalid, always suffering, and for long periods together experiencing acutest pain. Her true anchorage is found in the God who is ever His people's Refuge. But it is the barest truth to say that were it not for the cheque that comes at stated periods from the Royal Hospital, the outlook would be black indeed. To say she is grateful for your continued beneficence is to put the matter very coldly. Those who know her and her circumstances best would be the first to declare that in the case of A. H., the goodness of the Lord to her is revealed through the instrumentality of your Institution.

THE MANSE,
CHINNOR, OXON.

SAMUEL A. LATHAM.

Helpless and Voiceless.

During the fourteen or fifteen years I have known L. R. R. she has been a helpless invalid, confined to her room and her bed for the most part with a paralytic affection, which has not only rendered her practically helpless, but also voiceless. She is with it all, however, of a most cheerful and sunny disposition. When circumstances permit, she is lifted out of her bed and placed in a chair by the window of her bedroom. Sometimes, but that depends on her brother-in-law's health (she lives with a married sister, herself also a confirmed invalid, dying, in fact, of heart trouble, and her brother-in-law is not a strong man), she is carried downstairs to the front room. On special occasions she is taken for an airing in a Bath-chair, and on extra special occasions, once or twice a year, brought to Church to receive the Sacrament. A delicate boy of about twelve years old completes the household. It requires no words of mine to say how welcome, in this house of affliction, is the pension received month by month from the Royal Hospital for Incurables. It would be hard indeed to conceive of a case where it brings more comfort and joy.

TUCKINGMILL VICARAGE,
CAMBORNE, CORNWALL.

HENRY WRIGHT.



ANOTHER BENEFICIARY
(recently deceased).

Alone in the World.

For years I have been in the habit of visiting J. M., an aged pensioner of the Royal Hospital for Incurables, and have had abundant opportunity of judging the great amount of good your Institution is doing. Without the aid so generously given, J. M. would certainly be deprived of many of the necessary comforts and blessings she so gratefully enjoys by means of the regular receipt of her pension. Alone in the world, aged, infirm, and crippled by chronic rheumatism, her lot would be indeed more sad than it is, and it is very gratifying to find one who, as long as she was able, faithfully fulfilled the duties of a self-supporting life of labour, now beneficently provided for by the Charity of those who support so munificently Institutions and Charities so excellent as yours. I should like to place on record a very touching fact in connection with Mrs. Mehlhorn, *showing with what care she expends her pension*. She has for several years carefully set aside a small portion from each payment and invested it in the Post Office Savings Bank, in order that her burial may be decently provided for. She has thus saved just over £7, and now that there is a sufficient sum she no longer adds to it, but simply draws the small annual interest as it falls due.

M. BARNARD GEORGE.

ST. PETER'S VICARAGE,
WIGGENHALL, KING'S LYNN.

From Schoolmaster to Toymaker.

I have just been to see one of your Pensioners, A. B., and my conviction is more pronounced than ever that your grant to him is well bestowed. Practically speaking, he has been a cripple all his days, at all events since his childhood. He seems to have come on a succession of misfortunes. When he was once in a perambulator, I believe, he was overturned by the maid who had him in charge, and that lamed him. Then came a fall downstairs, and the after-consequence of that fall was paralysis of the left side, so that in time A. B. became absolutely helpless, unable to move without assistance.

Even thus, however, he followed the occupation of Schoolmaster until the School Boards came in. He was thrust aside without any means, and nothing to fall back upon, unless he took up his hobby as a resource. Fortunately he had spent his spare time in toy-making, and this had then to be the source of his livelihood. He now contrives to make about eighteenpence a week, after he has met the expenses of material, and in this way he produces furniture for dolls' houses, stables, and other things, which the little ones are keen on.

It is a small result to long and patient toil, but it affords him occupation in his physical helplessness, so that the days do not hang heavily. For a long time A. B. added to his income by bird-breeding, but gradually this failed him, and he had no provision other than what he scraped together by his work at the toys, and such gifts as he received from some who sympathised with him. When the Pension came it was a veritable God-send.

Now he is lodged in a room where he has his bed, his tools, and all the material for his toy-making. It is a crowd to get it all into so small a space, but it spells comfort to him, and brings content.

Whatever you may do for those who are destined to go all through life's journey in physical helplessness with no prospect of cure, it has done great things for those who would have gone under otherwise. A. B.'s case is one where such a thing would otherwise be inevitable, for his friends are not in a position to render any substantial aid. There come days when pain and weakness make work an impossibility, and the nights are often sleepless ones. But he is a great reader, and with the lamp at his side, he reads while the world is sleeping. Up at five o'clock in the morning,

[Continued on next page.]

he begins his day's task, on the plea that idleness is a sin, and that it is a man's duty to use his time well, if he wants to stand well in the sight of the Great Taskmaster.

Unfortunately, A. B. rarely goes out into the open air. It means expense, since someone has to be paid to take him out in his bath-chair. Then, as he has told me, work is over for the day, since he feels more like sleeping than working.

I know not what others find who have to deal with your Pensioners, but in A. B.'s case I am assured that it is money well spent, and the Charity in paying it over to him is bestowing a boon which cannot be overestimated. It is a hand of blessing and helpfulness stretched out to a needy one.

ALBERT LEE, Ph.B., F.R.G.S.

2, CLAREMONT ROAD,
WINDSOR.

The Fairy Godmother.

Most of us at one time or another have heard money called "the root of all evil." It is a libel. The great Apostle, St. Paul, knew what he was talking about. It is not money, but the love of it, which he denounces. Money, like many other things, is a blessing or a curse, according as to how it is used. And of all the many ways of using this thing, surely the most blessed of all is to alleviate the wants of the sick. Think of the case I have in mind. A woman is earning a precarious livelihood by letting lodgings at a sea-side resort. Then, without warning, comes sickness, in this case severe and chronic rheumatism of the joints. What lies before her? The workhouse, or, almost more hopeless still, a bare existence of poverty, in dependence on the charity of relations, themselves none too well off. Here steps in the Fairy Godmother in this excellent Institution, and all is changed. Our friend can live with a relation without losing her self-respect, or going out of her mind with anxiety, thanks to your monthly cheque.

If such work is not worth well doing, then we have mis-read the life of Him "Who went about doing good," making the sick and poor happy.

(REV.) C. E. CURTIS.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S,
IPSWICH.

Once a Subscriber, now a Pensioner.

I have just paid visits to two of your Pensioners, E. G. and C. B., in order to sign their half-yearly certificates, and I should like to record what I know from personal acquaintance with them, namely, the inestimable boon that the monthly cheques are to these poor invalids, suffering from incurable diseases, and unable to earn any living for themselves. E. G. was at one time a dressmaker in one of the best firms in London, and herself, when earning her living, an enthusiastic and sympathetic contributor to the Royal Hospital for Incurables. She is truly grateful for the Pension which she now receives; it enables her to live her lonely life without any pressing anxiety, but without it she would be forced to enter the Union Infirmary. On her behalf, I desire to thank very sincerely the Governors of the Royal Hospital for Incurables, as also the kind Subscribers who enable them to do their beneficent work. I should like also to specially mention the man, C. B., whose case is one of the most distressing I have come across. He is in constant pain, unable to get about, nor to be in one position any length of time together. His trouble was occasioned by a fall of some 30 feet, which he had some years ago. He has seen a lot of the world, is very intelligent and patient, and very grateful for all that is done for him. His wife is unable to do anything for a living, having to wait upon him so continually. His appreciation of the kind help which the Hospital gives to him is truly pathetic.

DOUGLAS ADAMSON,

ESSEX.

Rector of Hadleigh.

The Sadness of Helplessness.

It gives me much pleasure to tell you of the great and invaluable help which the benefit and comfort of the Pension given to H. H. by the Royal Hospital for Incurables is to her. I have known Miss H. for years, and I have constantly visited her in her home: when I have signed her certificate each half year, it has been a moment of extreme gratification to me to notice her appreciation of the help thus given, and her gratitude to the Heavenly Father for His loving kindness thus bestowed upon her. Her poor deformed frame is a pathetic sight, and the sadness of her helpless condition is only exceeded by the brightness of her manner, and by the radiant expression of joy, which ever and anon dwells upon her peaceful but careworn face.

Through incurable infirmities she has been unable to work for her living. She lives with her old widowed mother, and no words can fully express what solace, comfort and encouragement is given by the receipt of the welcome cheque month by month and year after year. I, therefore, on behalf of H. H., and in thought for the many others who are largely dependent upon their invaluable Pensions, do not hesitate to express my sympathetic appreciation.

(REV.) G. HAROLD LANCASTER.

To Church on Crutches.

On Sundays, wet or fine, there may be seen in our streets a woman on crutches, dragging herself to Church. Once there, she is easily discovered. With a keen, intelligent, uplifted face she listens as if every sermon was her message, and in her prayers and praises she finds a vent peg for her pent-up gratitude to God and man. Sunday is her rest day and "power" day. From it she gains comfort from the past and inspiration and hope for the future. In her one room, the picture of neatness, she has everything near at hand and is happy, contented and hopeful, for, "Since my Pension, I feel quite rich," and the £20 is supplemented by needlework, when time and opportunity permit. She is rich, for she is full of faith in God, love to her Saviour, and gratitude for the grant which takes away all feeling that future feebleness will leave her entirely destitute and dependent alone on Charity.

W. E. PETERS.

S. SAVIOUR'S VICARAGE,
GUILDFORD.

The Sheet Anchor.

J. T. has been a Pensioner for the past 15 years. She is 53 years of age, and both her parents and nearly all her relatives are dead. Her father died in 1893, and in that same year the daughter slipped between a train and the platform and hurt her foot. Disease supervened, and first the foot and then the leg had to be amputated. Two years later the disease appeared in the other leg, and in 1895 this had to be sacrificed. Her mother died in August, 1900, leaving her some furniture, but neither property nor money. For some years, although she had frequent attacks of illness, she was able to earn a little money by fancy needlework, but for some time now this has been impossible, owing to failing eyesight, which threatens, unfortunately, to end in permanent blindness. She is entirely dependent upon her pension for support, plus occasional help from charitable and sympathetic friends. I have visited her frequently during the past eleven years, and I know that she has all her wits employed and all her ingenuity taxed to make ends meet—her helpless condition necessitating employed attendance—yet she invariably receives me with a smile, sitting neatly dressed in her self-wheeling chair. The sheet-anchor of her gratitude and content is the monthly cheque which she anticipates without misgiving from your Institution. It makes life worth living, even to this crippled and half-blind woman. And I can well believe that she is one of many into whose shadowed lives your Institution has shot a gleam of the sunshine of sympathy by its timely, generous, and unfailing help. "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of these the least of My brethren, ye have done it unto Me."

(REV.) JOHN JERMYN.

WANSTEAD.

Thirty-two years' Pain.

It is a Minister's duty to visit a great many people who are suffering, and he is not always able to "lose the duty in the joy." But there are some visits even to the grievously afflicted that are a source of gladness and blessing to the visitor himself. Such a case is that of E. J. C. I always come out of her room the better for going in. Yet she has known a great deal of acute suffering. Thirty-two years ago, when twenty-one years of age, she had rheumatic fever. After twelve months in bed, she was left a helpless cripple, with stiffened limbs, very tender to the touch. So she has been all these years, passing many hours of her time lying on her couch, with crippled fingers, often enduring severe pain, with not the slightest prospect of ever recovering, and entering into the ordinary life of a healthy person. Surely it would not surprise us if such a sufferer were depressed and discontented, but a brighter face than hers I seldom see.

I never knew her in the days before she received the Pension. Even then, I am sure she would be contented, peaceful and patient. But I know that the assurance of the regular financial help of the Pension greatly adds to the comfort of her life. It is accepted by her in a spirit of thankfulness as a good gift of God's Providence. Those whose generosity provides such help would, if they could only visit her, feel great satisfaction in the thought that the gifts they make are so happily expended, with the result of adding much to the comfort of many such real sufferers.

(REV.) S. BIRT COLEY.

3, CONNAUGHT PARK GARDENS,
DOVER.

Gratitude, Encouragement and Inspiration.

For several years I have had the pleasure of visiting from time to time A. M., one of the Pensioners of your excellent Institution. He has been suffering a long and painful illness of 19 years' duration, which has rendered him unable to obtain his living, but for the Pension that he has been in receipt of for a number of years, and from which he has derived great benefit, and for which he is very grateful. His illness began with a stroke which left him helpless for a considerable period. It is only the last few years that he has been able to walk a little.

His wife took a small business of a very precarious nature, and his case became a very desperate one. Just at this period, the knowledge of this great and splendid Institution was brought before him, and for many years he has been the thankful recipient of the Pension provided by the Royal Hospital. He suffers very much from double optic neuritis, and also from a very weak heart. When one witnesses the gratitude, encouragement, and inspiration that comes to this Pensioner on the receipt of the usual cheque, one feels that such an Institution deserves the gratitude and assistance of the whole Nation.

94, DISRAELI ROAD,
PUTNEY.

W. J. FLEW,
"London City Missionary."



ANOTHER BENEFICIARY.

Doctor and Patient.

I have been signing F. W.'s certificates for fourteen years now. His case is a very sad one. He suffers from pseudo-hypertrophic paralysis, which is incurable. He gets about by pushing the ground with his hands while sitting on a stool which has small wheels attached. *This is his own invention.* His brother suffers from the same disease, which runs in the family and afflicts the males only. His mother is dead, and at present his father is far from well. He is wonderfully cheerful, and this I attribute to the Pension from the Royal Hospital for Incurables. I wish your Hospital every success.

R. W. INNES-SMITH, M.D.

DON HOUSE,
BRIGHTSIDE,
SHEFFIELD.

" I, F. W., having been a Pensioner thirteen years, am very thankful
" to say what a blessing it has proved to be to me, and without it I should
" have had to go without many a comfort which I now get, and I shall
" always bless the day that I heard of this Institution, and wishing it
" every possible success.

" In addition to my case, my brother, aged thirty-four years, who is
" nearly as helpless as myself, and by my Pension his life is made more
" cheerful.

" Yours obediently,

" F. W.

" 2, STATION LANE,
" BRIGHTSIDE,
" SHEFFIELD."

