

Tuesday Evening
March 22 1864

Dear Mrs Davidson.

I feel very thankful that the ladies are taking hold of the Female Home with such energy. From circumstances entirely unthought, its management first devolved upon Mr Davidson, and afterwards at his request, upon myself. A very unsatisfactory state of matter both for myself, and the Asylum, so much so that I visit in my Regenerator. Some time back and now only act until 1st May when I hope an official Secretary will be appointed by the gentlemen.

I am not aware of the early history of the Asylum my first connection with it was in June 1859. #
for many years no Committee
Created

our means of support Mr Davidson
managed & did paid nearly all
expenses out of his own pocket to
the extent I believe of £400 to £500.
In January 1860 he issued
a Report which you will find
at the commencement of the Minute
Book, and called a public
meeting (see his note) this meeting
was held and you will see
the Committee that was then
appointed - which still exists
with the addition of the names
of Mess Lunn & Mrs Bryson
I have acted as Secretary since that
time - I send you the minute
Book of the Committee, which
if you can spare time to look
over may give you some
information - you will see
that the great difficulty the

Committee has had to contend with
a want of funds. the Treasurer
has been largely in advance until
the present moment and at present
the account is simply square
we have not any thing yet to go on
with.

I also send
you the rough jottings kept of
admissions &c commenced by
Mr Davidson and continued by myself.
these books I will get from you
again when you have done with
them. I send them as I want to
give you all the information in
my power especially as I cannot
meet with the ladies in person

at the request of the ladies Committee
I have this afternoon told Mrs Park
that a new matron has been chosen
she will leave on the 15th April
but be paid to care of her year
12 May

I can assure you it is a great Relief
to have this matter taken off my hands -
I found it altogether too great a
Responsibility to take alone -

The Ladies will find the house very
bare of conveniences ~~about necessary~~
arising from our extreme poverty -
and also during the past year the
uncertainty of the continuance of
the effort -

Permit me to say that I think
that the duties of the Ladies and
Genl^l Committee should be very
clearly defined to prevent all danger
of clashing - I name this as I
hear some difficulty did arise
in the earlier history of the Institution -
the consequence of which no Ladies
Committee has existed for many
years. but by a business like
arrangement

at starting this danger may be
avoided. I also doubt whether
it would work very well to take
all management out of the Govt hands
if they were willing, (which I rather
think they are not) I have had
the greatest difficulty in getting a
Govt Committee at all. And if
they have nothing to do but provide
funds. I fear they will soon
desist and not even provide
~~them~~ ^{the} funds. The gentlemen's Committee
will act mainly thro' their Treasurer,
and Secretary. the former office is
well filled and I hope the latter
will be also - ^{me} allow to
ask that when the Ladies have
their Organization complete they
will report what they have done
with any suggestion they may
have to

make as to the different duties of the
Committee - I will then call
together the General Committee and
lay the ladies Report before them
for their information and advice

I suppose I need hardly
say after naming the state of the
Treasury that the ladies must
be extremely careful about
spending money - but on this head
they must confer with the Treasurer.

I fear I shall task your
patience with my mem^{os} I
have written them late & very hurriedly
and I do not know that you
can read them. if there is any
other information wanted I shall
be happy to communicate it
and to assist the ladies in any
way as long as I continue

in office

Believe me
Yours very sincerely
184 W Connor
Secy

I send you Minute Book of Committee
Two du of admissions or
Collecting Books. showing the Committee