Sandgate home ready for Boer War casualties **1900** BEACH Rocks nursing home at Sandgate had been taken over by the War Office and was set to receive its first wounded soldiers from South Africa. Private Jenner, who had been a compositor with the Folkestone Express newspaper reported on the local troops' passage out to South Africa aboard the steamer Gascon to join soldiers fighting in the Boer War and of hearing the news of the relief of Ladysmith from a homegoing vessel they passed. Private W Francis of the Folkestone contingent of the Buffs wrote of the train journey up country after arrival at Capetown and said Viscount Folkestone was in command of the military train. He told of a train smash in which wagons carrying provisions were smashed, of two extra locomotives being coupled on to the train to haul it up through mountainous country, of a camp hospital with 600 patie is, and of two rebel spies being shot after they were caught communicating with the Boers from a nearby farm. Sensation was created by news of the attempted shooting of the Prince of Wales in Brussels soon after he boarded a train while travelling with the Princess of Wales.

28 A.

### A PRESENTATION.

On Wednesday afternoon there was a tea at the Bevan Hospital, Sandgate,, for workers who have given their services furing the war. There were 150 present, including Miss Mumford (Commandant), Miss Dale, of Hythe, Drs. J. C. O. Bradbury, E. D. Fitzgera'd, C. Hackney, and A. R. Davis. A presentation to Miss Mumford was made by Major O. A. Chambers, one of the presidents of the Hospital, the gift taking the form of a cheque for over 100 guineas, which will be followed later by another cheque, there being more subscriptions to came 'n. 15. 3. 00%

# Boer War veterans still in thoughts of readers

1950 MENTION was made recently about the wounded soldiers from the Boer War, who were driven to Beach Rocks Convalescent Home, Sandgate, after their return from South Africa a century ago this year. Shortly afterwards I came across a picture in the Herald's former midweek Gazette of Percy Pay, 19 at the time, who drove one of the coaches used by the Folkestone, Cheriton & Shorncliffe Omnibus Co to take heroes of the relieved Ladysmith garrison to that home, later called the Bevan, it was a golden wedding picture of the veteran driver and his wife Elizabeth (née Hills, from Capel.) Percy went to Horn Street School and was connected with local motoring for 40 years, 22 as a driver with the East Kent Road Car Co. But his connection with buses went back even further, having been a conductor on horse-buses from the age of 13! As a driver he recalled having to warn passengers to duck their heads while passing under Risborough Lane bridge! There was also a picture of the Ladysmith veterans travelling in a horse-drawn bus Percy drove from the old Sandgate Station, H.B. Green, of Risborough Lane, Cheriton, later revealed he took that photo, using a bulky camera on a tripod, after waiting hours to get the picture, as the train was latel



#### HANDBOOK OF

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years since by the late Mr. James Morris to afford a better class of dwellings for the poor of Sandgate. Mr. Morris had long remarked with some pain and regret the miserable shifts to which many members of the humbler classes were put in Sandgate by the scarcity of small houses and cottages. After some consideration Mr. Morris thought that it would be an act of practical philanthropy to build in the town so long his home a range of buildings which should combine the latest sanitary improvements and every . comfort for the tenants, within a structure that should be an ornament to the main street Mr. Joseph Gardner, architect, of Folkestone, designed the present handsome and commodious residences which were erected during the summer of 1875. The buildings are of red brick, with Bath stone dressings, in the style prevalent in the reign of Queen Anne, a free use being made of the capacities of coloured and moulded bricks for ornamental purposes. The chief features of the edifices are two small towers, one facing the Broadway, the other the sea front; these contain the staircases to the upper story and the water tanks. Within the building provision is made for persons and families requiring the use of one, two, three, four or five rooms, each "set" of apartments being selfcontained and having a separate cooking stove, cupboard, coal cellar, sink, &c., for the use of the occupant or occupants. Altogether, accommodation is provided for thirty-one separate families, from the "lone widow" needing but a solitary room, to the married couple with numerous children. The dwellings are planned to get the greatest possible accommodation out of the space at command, and the latest discoveries of sanitary science with regard to ventilation, the proper arrangements of closets and dust bins, &c., are utilised, the building reflecting

#### FOLKESTONE.

credit on all concerned in its erection. While Mr. Morris was actuated by philanthropic motives in building these dwellings for the poor, it is not intended to allow them to partake of an eleemosynary character, but such a rent is charged to the tenants as to return a small rate of interest upon the undertaking. The lodging houses have proved a great boon to the working classes, who so much appreciate the institution that very rarely is a set of apartments yacant.

The handsome buildings used as the National Schools were also erected at the whole cost of Mr. Morris, to replace the structure since used as the Volunteer Artillery Drill-Hall.

The London Samaritan Society's Convalescent Homes, called "Beach Rocks," are among the largest and best appointed of this class of institution in England. They were begun on a very unpretentious scale by the purchase of an old but pleasantly situated residence on the sea front, called Beach Rocks, the name which has been transferred to the present stately building, which was opened in 1892 by Sir Edward Watkin and Lady Ingram Watkin. The north front is plain but it conveys the idea of solidity and durability, and from the main entrance a glimpse of the pleasant interior may be obtained. The view is very inviting, and the home is always open to inspection at reasonable hours. The porch is generally filled with flowers, and the hall is tastefully decorated and adorned with bright looking furniture, portraits and pictures. The dining hall is a splendid apartment, the plate glass windows of which look out on to the Channel. It is well-furnished and on the walls are some fine pictures. The walls of the corridors, which are all light and airy, are also hung with prints and pictures, and everything which is calculated to

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cheer and inspirit the patients who come here to regain lost health is introduced. There are well-furnished sitting rooms and a smoking room for those male patients who are permitted to smoke tobacco, and lavatories fitted with the most modern improvements. The dormitories or wards are named after the most liberal donors to the institution, and all the bedsteads are in a like manner made memorials to those who have given them, and their names are inscribed on brass plates affixed to the bedsteads. The main front faces the south, and the general plan is a centre building with wings, east and west, and balconies run round, in which those patients who are unable to walk may sit and inhale the life-giving breezes from the sea, and where all on rainy days may enjoy the advantage of fresh air. A broad flight of steps leads directly on to the beach. The home will accommodate about 250 patients. It is under the direct superintendence of the Hon. Managing Director. Mr. J. J. Jones, to whose energies mainly the society owes its origin and its remarkable development. It is an unsectarian institution, and its doors are open to all in need of its exceptional advantages. Pamphlets giving the fullest particulars can be obtained on application to the matron.

A few yards beyond the Convalescent Home, and on the northern side of the road, there formerly stood a very nice residence called Encombe, belonging to Mr. Morris, before referred to as a great benefactor to Sandgate. The unstable nature of the soil, however, rendered it necessary to pull the residence down, but the beautifully laid out grounds and greenhouses remained. The gradual subsidence which led to the demolition of Encombe, was the forerunner of that very disastrous landslip which occurred in March, 1893, when nearly a hundred houses were more or less FOLKESTONE.

injured, and their inmates very greatly alarmed. The Coastguard Cottages, immediately opposite Encombe, which were in a straight line, were strangely contorted, the centre being pushed backward, and the ends forward. Wide cavities appeared in the roads of Encombe, and in the side streets greenhouses were wrecked, large dwellings were shifted bodily forward without sustaining very much damage, but those less substantially built suffered severely. The cause of the landslip which wrought such havoc was the accumulation of water in the sandy soil at the base of the hills behind, which being unable to find an outlet, percolated down to the bed of gault which underlies the greensand formation, and pushed the whole mass seaward. A judicious system of land drainage would have prevented the catastrophe, and its introduction after this slip will render the property more secure than it has ever been since its erection.

At the Folkestone end of Sandgate, in fact it is within the borough of Folkestone, many very charming residences have been built, both on the immediate sea front, on the Lower Road, and also on the Upper Sandgate Road.

Sandgate was the birth place of Mr. J. B. Gough, the celebrated lecturer and teetotaller, who was born there on the 22nd of August, 1816. His father had been a soldier in the 40th and 52nd Regiments. After enduring great vicissitudes of fortune in various parts of America, Mr. Gough was reclaimed from a life of the grossest intemperance, to become one of the most powerful advocates of total abstinence from alcoholic drinks.

Between Sandgate and Hythe, near the opening of the pretty valley of Seabrook, the great military canal commences, and extends from thence to Appledore,—a distance of twenty-three miles.

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#### SANDGATE AND THE JONES' SANATORIA, c.1895-1914.

The subject being researched is the socio-economic phenomenon of the Jones' Sanatoria in Sandgate (a seaside resort close to Folkestone, Kent) from c. 1896 to 1914. One of the most important events in the history of Sandgate in the  $19^{th}$  and  $20^{th}$  centuries was the Landslip that occurred over the night of  $4^{th}$  and  $5^{th}$  March 1893. Among the effects that could have been expected from such a catastrophe was the fall in property values and subsequent changes in ownership and lesseeship.

In the years following the Landslip the large number of private convalescent homes operated by John James Jones and his family, many for consumptive patients, had many direct effects upon the town. Jones, as a result of taking advantage of the fall in property values, purchased and/or leased a large number of premises for a range of commercial undertakings chief of which was the establishment of the convalescent homes, together with the purchase of land that he developed for profit and the purchase/leasing of properties as private residences for various members of the family.

Jones had been the founder and prime mover of the London Samaritan Society (which was associated with the Homerton Mission in Hackney) and he was instrumental in the Society's purchase at Sandgate of the marine residence, Beach Rocks, in 1883. In 1888 Jones gave in evidence in court that his income "as a travelling and shipping agent was from £400 to £700 a year ...with the London Samaritan Society ... he was its managing director. ... He got £312 a year for managing the Homerton mission." In 1891/1892 the Society built a new Beach Rocks Convalescent Home to replace the original buildings. The Society's investment in this substantial structure was by 1895 a financial embarrassment due to the costs of meeting loans raised to build the Home. Jones was variously described as "the leading spirit of the movement", 1887 to 1889; "the Secretary", 1890; "the Treasurer and Managing Director", 1892 to 1894; "the Founder and Managing Director", 1895 to 1896; and "the Founder and Manager", 1897 to 1899.

In 1900 the London Samaritan Society sold the Beach Rocks Convalescent Home to the Morley House Convalescent Home, and the Society appears to have ceased to function. As a result John James Jones had no further connection with the Society or with the Beach Rocks Convalescent Home. It was over this period of time that the growth of the Jones' Homes can be followed in the file of the Folkestone Directory. Many of the short-term residents of the Jones' Homes were drawn from the poorer, disadvantaged sections of the community, described by Jones in the terms that he used in relation to the Homerton Mission's and to the London Samaritan Society's projects, with direct publicity to the Poor Law Unions around the country. In the early 1900's Jones placed great emphasis on the "Sanatoria Treatment for Consumption" in his homes. John James Jones died in 1904 and the operation of the Jones' Homes was taken over by his eldest surviving son.

In 1905 the Sandgate Urban District Council (Sanitary Powers) Act was passed by Parliament. This private Act provided for the control of new convalescent homes in the town by the Sandgate U.D. Council, and for the licensing of existing homes. The Act also gave it (the Council) the power to buy out the Jones family. This latter objective was achieved in 1914. The re-sale by the Council of the Jones' premises to new owners was not completed until some ten years later, well after the end of the First World War.

The cuttings in the Fynmore Volumes in the Folkestone Heritage Room collections on John James Jones mainly give an image of a philanthropic gentleman with Low Church leanings. However some of these cuttings give a different impression of veiled uncertainty. This impression is born out by an article published in the *Lancet* (1903) in which the Sandgate Sanatoria were investigated on medical grounds in relation to the claims of provision of "Sanatoria Treatment for Consumptives". The *Lancet* article contains detailed references to the fact that Jones had been a target of the editorial policy of exposing social fraud of Labouchere's weekly newspaper *Truth*. In 1893 he was first accused in that journal of being a "begging letter writer". This claim was continued and never denied or challenged in court by Jones. Later articles in *Truth* expanded the altruistic campaign against J.J. Jones to include criticisms of his "provision of what professes to be the outdoor treatment of consumption".

J.J. Jones' character and personality were factors in the state of his relationships with the whole Sandgate community and with individual members of that community. These traits may have contributed also to the fact that all the periods of Jones' elected participation in public affairs (School Board for London, Sandgate Board of Health, Hythe Council, and Elham Poor Law Union Board) were of one term of three years or less.

It is realised that there are two conundrums that will arise from the completion and publication of a paper on this subject. The first will question whether the issues between the bulk of the Sandgate community and the Jones family were based on the "Not-In-My-Backyard" syndrome. The second will be the determination of the character, objectives, and motivations of John James Jones from 1870 to 1904. It may well be that the answers to these questions will have be left to the reader to made his/her decisions.

The use of the Sandgate Board of Health/Urban District Council Minutes at the East Kent Archives, Dover was the key to finding much of the necessary and purely local information required to produce a detailed account of this subject, while the resources of the Folkestone Library were important both in research carried out in 1993 and again in 2003. Extensive use has been made of the on-line Times Digital Archive 1785-1985. Research still needs to be carried out in the files of the *Truth* weekly newspaper, in Parliamentary official documents, and in the records of the Charities Organisation Society, all of which will be located in London and in Boston Spa for the latter set of records.

Bernard Sargeant

Sutherland, NSW, 26 December 2005.



THE BEVAN MILITARY HOSPITAL\*—THE SOUTH FRONT FROM THE BEACH. Frontispitce.



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# THE BEVAN MILITARY HOSPITAL, sandgate.



#### THE JONES HOMES OF SANDGATE

In two cofficial guides to Sandgate published by Sandgate Urban District Council mention is made of the Jones Homes.

In 1927the wording is "Then a calamity came to the town. Consumptive homes were established. This, though a compliment to the healthiness of Sandgate and a boon to the consumptives, was no blessing to the town" In 1933 the wording was modified to "at the beginning of the present century a great compliment was paid to the healthiness of Sandgate's climate, when consumptive homes were established near **the town**. Although a boon to consumptive cases, however, - these homes were no blessing to the inhabitants of Sandgate."

It was a recognised treatment of T.B. to send the patient from the poluted air of the industrial towns to the cleaner air of Southern coastal areas. Let us first consider what the guide books saiddabout Sangate's climate. In this the books are identical.

"The climate of Sandgate is mild and equable, for the town is open totheeSouth and west, from whence come the ozone-filled sea vreezes, but it is protected from the north, north-east and eastwwinds by a windscreen of hills. It is for that reason that so many people, in need of a respitefrom bitter cold, come to Sandgateiin the autumn and winter. When a northerly wind is blowing it is possible to sit in warm sunshine on the Sandgate beach, and not know that half a mile away, on the Folkestone Leas, those whomventure out are shivering in warm wraps.

At the same time, Sandgate is not "fuggy" Sandgate's "Doctor", the souwester, sees to that. When he visits the town he sometimes does a little of damage, but always good, for he buildesters everywhere, bringing the salt spray with him, clearing out the dust, winnowingin all the corners, washing down all the gulleys, and leaving the place as sweet as a house after spring cleaning. At times, in what the inhabitants know is only an excess of zeal, he even washes the roadways with vrine. Few such good doctorss charge such small fees.

As to health, the death rate is only 5.49 per 1,000 of theb resident population and that occurs mainly among old people."

Such a description of the Sandgate climate could almost be taken as an invitation to the consumptives to come to Sandgate, with the emphasis on how healthy it is.

### THE JONES HOMES of SANDGATE

The Council held a meeting in the Gough Hall and called upon residents to attend to hear arguments in favour of applying to Parliament for a bill regulating the health legislation within the town.

The Council's publicity for the vill stated that the Jones Homes were to be removed from the town.

RATEPAYERS OF SANDGATE HAVE YOU REALISED?

1. That rateable values are being decreased year by year by the existance of the Jones' Homes in Sandgate

2. That this means empty houses and increase iof rates.

3. That your town is being avoided by visitors and would-be residents.

4. That the houses now used as"Homes" would, when occupied by private residents, equally pay tre£380 in rates put forth by Mr Harold Jones as an inducement to you to support him, and the occupants would be better paying inhabitants.

5. That the Weat End of Sandgate is being deserted and East End occupiers avoid going through Sandgate Street but do their shopping in Folkestone.

6 That the cost of the proposed Bill will be a mere trifle to your present losses.

7. That opposition means increased legal expences.

8 That delay in legislation spells Ruin.

9 That all the Council are personally interested in the welfare of the town, and what injures them injures you.

10. That they would not be likely to use increased powers more oppressively than they have the poers conferred by previous acts.

11. THAT IT YOU OPPOSE THE COUNCIL YOU SUPPORT THE HOMES

Mr P. Harold Jones in opposition to the Council appealing to the residents of Sandgate issued a leaflet in which he called for attendance at the public meetingen 12th January 1905, where he would be present and will speak regarding the bill.

The Bill presented to Parliament by the District Council under the name of "The Sandgate Urban District Council (Sanitary Powers) Bill he saw as a Thinly-disguised attempt to crush, at whatever cost to the town, one particular business at Sandgate, and at the same timesgives the Council such powers of Wanton and Capricious Interference with Private Rights, that it invites opposition on general grounds.

EVERY LAUNDRY AND DAJRY BUSINESS is put avsolutely at the mercy of the Medical Officers and the Council.

Thus, by clause **II**, at the instance of the medical officer, the Council can insist on every person maining a livelihood by the washing or mangling of clothes, furnishing a complete list of their customers during the previous six weeks, with a penalty for not doing so, not exceeding £5, and a Daily Penalty not exceeding 20s. So, too, with regard to Dairymen, (including any Cow-keeper or Furveyor of Milk), the Medical Officer, if he thinks any person is suffering from an infectios disease attributable to milk, can require every person supplying milk to the house, to give him a list of all the places from which he gets his supply, and a list of his customers, for the previous six weeks, the penalty being the same.

This is grandmotherly jurisdiction with a vengeance! It is true there is compensation for both Laundry and Dairy. For every twenty-five names there is to be paid - 6d!

Compensation, indeed, plays ostensibly a prominent part in the bill, and is destined, perhaps, to play a still greater part than the promoters realise.

Thus, if a Dairyman stops his milk supply at the request of the Council, on the probability of his milk causing tuberculosis, or if any person at such request stops his employment for the purpose of preventing the spread of infectious disease, the Council MAY compensate him for his loss. The rigorous cleaning and disinfecting powers of the Council also entail compensation. And here we come to the primary cause of confusion in the Bill, i.e., the attempt indirectly to treat Consumption as an Infectious

Disease, without having the courage to call it so. Under clause 6 the Medical Officer has only to certify (without reference to any case having actually occurred in the House) that the cleansing and disinfecting of any building would tend to prevent Tuberculosis, and the cleansing and disinfecting has to be done by the owner or occupier within twenty-four hours. Clause 20 applies the same to the prevention of Infectious Disease, although for some occult reason the Council has, in the one case, a working day of nine hours, and in the other case, of eight hours only. Under Section 20 (5) where there is, or has recently been, Infectious Disease in a house, or disinfecting is thought necessary, the Council may secure a Justice's warant and remove all the residents not themselves sick, though hers again the bill is magnanimous enough to provide "TEMPORARY SHELTER FREE OF CHARGE".

Under Clause 7 no person suffering from Infectious Disease is to carry on any Trade or Business whatever in such an manner as to be likely to spread infection, and is liable to a penalty not exceeding Twenty Shillings, and a daily penalty not exceeding Ten Shillings if he does so.

The real object of the Bill, however, is apparent from clauses 3 to 5 dealing with Hospitals. By these clauses all buildings for the reception of persons

suffering from or convalescent after disease, are put on the level of public-

houses, by having to be licenced from year to year. The obvious intention is: (1) To prevent Hospitals or Medical Houses or Institutions existing at all in Sandgate, for no one would spend money in expensive Buildings, where the license could at any time be revoked by the Council; (2) To put an end to the Business of the Jomes' Sanatoria.

As to the second object, it is a new departure to attempt to confiscate by Statute a legitamate Private Business, and Parliament is hardly likely to sanction such interference UNLESS WITH ADEQUATE COMPENSATION TO THE INJURED PARTY.

THE EXPENSE OF THE ACT WILL FALL ON THE DISTRICT FUND AND GENERAL DISTRICT RATE, BUT THE COUNCIL ASK FOR PODERS TO BORROW, PAYING OFF MONEYS BORROWED WITHIN TEN YEARS.

If Ratepayers desire these INCUISITIONAL POWERS AND HEAVY PENALTIES, and these ADDITIONAL BURDENS ON THE RATES, thisSTAMPING OUT OF PRIVATE ENTERPRISE, they will no doubt support the Bill. If, on the other hand, they consider such wide-renging measures ought to be the subject matter of a general Bill dealing systematically with the whole of England, if they think that aPPRIVATE BUSINESS WHICHCONTRIBUTES £380TO THE RATES, AND SPENDS £70or £80 IN THE TOWN which SUPPLIES A PUBLIC WANT at a moderate cost to the individual, and NO COST TO THE FUBLIC, ought to be suppressed by a Bill which itself provides nothingmto put in its place, or any means at all by which persons suffering from what the Bill affects to treat as an Infectious Disease, can be

partially isolated, while at the same ti me treating with great severity their books, bedding and clothing, then it is tombe hoped that they will attend the meeting on the 12th January, 1905, AT & O'CLOCK, and MAKE THEIR UDICES HEARD AGAINST THE BILL. YOUR obedient Servant,

#### P. HAROLD JOILES.

Mr Jones predicted that no-one could afford to run a Hospital in Sand gate but The Beach Rocks Convalescent home, was opened on 25th June 1892 founded by the London Samaritan Society, in 1900 its name was changed to The Alfred Bevan Memorial Home and subsequently the Bevan Private Hospital and this stayed open. This Hospital did admirable work for the wounded of both World Wars.

The Urban District Council was keen to publicise Sandgate's mild climate, which is one of the reasons [Mr Jones' Sanatoria to be established in the town, but did not want nolidaymakers discouraged by the chance of being infected by TB. To quote from the OOfficial Guide to Sandgate of 7927:

The climate of Sandgate is mild and equitable, for the town is open to the south and west, from whence some the seabreezes, but it is protected from the north, north-east and the east, by the windscreen of nills. It is for that reason that so many people, in need of a respite from vitter cold, come to Sandgate in autumy and win ter. It is possible in northerly winds to sit in warm sunshine on Sandgate reach, and not know that half a mile away on the Folkestone Leas, those who venture there are shivering in warm wraps.

At the same time, Sandgate is not "fuggy". "Sandgate's Doctor", the Southwester, sees to that. When ne visits the town, he sometimes does damage, but ne always does good, for he blusters in everywhere, bringing the salt spray with him, clearing out dust, winnowing in all the corners, washing down all the gulleys, and leaving the place as clean and sweet as a house after spring-

cleaning. At times, in what the inhabitants know is only an excess of zeal, he even washes the roadway with brine. There are few suchgood doctors charge such small fees.

As to health, the deathrate is only 5.49 per 7,000 of the resident population and that occurs mainly among old people.

Then came a calamity to the town. Consumptive homes were established. this, though a compliment tomthe healthiness of Sandgate, and a boon to the consumptives, was no blessing to the town, and though it is twelve years ago since they were abolished, there are still some people who imagine they exist yet. Good has, however come of it :-

Early in 1915 the Sandgate Urban District Council was able, with the kind help of a local resident, to purchase the Consumptive Homes from Mr Percy Jones, and now the town is quite free of any of these Sanatoria. Indeed, it occupies a unique position, as by the stringent regulations accepted by the Local Government Board, it is impossible for anyone else to start an institution of the same kind except under the almost impossible condition of providing at least a quarter of an acre per patient. Mr Jones' patients, however, showed clearly how beneficial Sandgate air is to persons suffering from lung diseases, as the majority of the patients treated in these Homes made considerable improvement during their stag.

If the Sanitory Powers Bill was passed in 1905, as proposed, then Mr Jones had delayed the closure of the homes for ten years. A liternatively it

could be that they partients were allowed time to vecover and the last palient did not go home until 10 years had passed. In is to be hoped that

the houses were finingated before being converted to holiday tettings.

Intro.

In two officeal Guide books to somethicked by sandgate Unban Distric Council mention is made of the Jones homes. In 1997 the working is "Then calamity came to the town Consumptive homes were established!" In 1933 the working was modified to "A complement to the healthiness of Sandgate was the establishment of Consumptive homes "It was a recognised Weather of T. B. to send the potent! from the polyted air of industrial towns to the cleaser air of Southern constal areas. Let us first consider What the quide books said about Sandgate's climate. In this case the books were identical:-

# Concerning the PUBLIC MEETING TO-NIGHT 12th JANUARY, 1905.

I desire to contradict a statement made in Sandgate yesterday to the effect that I am not entitled to be present or speak at the Public Meeting to-night, to be held in Sandgate at the Gough Lecture Hall, at 8 o'clock.

# **This is Untrue!**

I shall be present at the Meeting to-night, and will speak regarding the Bill under consideration. P. HAROLD JONES.

"Herald" Printing Works, The Bayle, Folkestone.

# **RATEPAYERS of SANDGATE**

# HAVE YOU REALISED?

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- 3. That your town is being avoided by visitors and would-be residents
- 4. That the houses now used as "Homes" would, when occupied by private residents, equally pay the £380 in rates put forth by Mr. Harold Jones as an inducement to you to <u>support him</u>, and the occupants would be better paying inhabitants
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- 10. That they would not be likely to use increased powers more oppressively than they have the powers conferred by previous Acts
- 11. THAT IF YOU OPPOSE THE COUNCIL YOU SUPPORT THE HOMES

Attend the Meeting TO-NIGHT (Thursday) at the GOUGH HALL, at 8 o'clock and SUPPORT THE BILL.

#### THE BEVAN

#### Private Nursing Home

The London Samaritan Society opened a convalesc ent home in 1892, a charitable institution, presumably to nurse Londoners in the more healthy climate of the South Coast. It was formerly Known as Beach Rocks Convalescent Home and cost about £23,000 to build. In 1900 its name was changed to the Alfred Bevan Memorial Home in memory of the late Sir Alfred Henry Bevan, Sheriff of the City of London. The main front of the building faced southand consisted of a central building with wings, east and west, and balconies running round where patients who are capable may sit to inhale the sea breezes. A broad flight of steps lead down to the sea. It was tastefully decorated and could accommodate 250 patients.

During the South African War thehome was used for convalesing British soldiers, who were brought to Sangate Station and then transferred by horse-drawn bus to the Bevan Memorial Home.

The home became the Bevan Military Hospital during the First World War, and all the staff worked unstintingly and were universely congratulated. The org anisation uder the Military Medical Organisation was lead by Sister R Mumford whose title was Commandant of the Bevan Rursing Home . In the Kelly's Directory of 1937 there is an advertisement for the Bevan Rursing Home offering 'Medical, Surgical, Maternity & Massage fully aquipped X-Ray & Theatre and fully trained nurses. Miss M A Mumford was still in *et* charge. However, in March 1938 after a short illness she died, and in the announcement in the paper, she is still described as Commandant of the Bevan Rursing Home. The title of Commandant was given to her during the first World War when The Bevan was encorporated to the Military Hospital, Shorncliffe.

When the second World War occured the staff of the Bevan again perfomed to an equal high standard and were commended for their stirling work for the wounded service men.

Captain Francis Bennett-Goldney, President of the Bevan Milit ary Hospital commended the work of the staff with the words: If absolute forgetfulness of self and spendid devotion to duty are to be counted, as undoubtedly in justice they must be, then assuredly those who have made the success of the Bevan Military Hospital an accomplished fact should never be forgetten in the national remembrance



VIEW OF THE SEA FRONT OF "BEACH ROCKS" CONVALESCENT HOME, SANDCATE.

# DR. ERNEST HART,

The eminent Editor of the "British Medical Journal," and Chairman of the National Health Society, &c., &c.,

After Visiting the Home wrote, on July 2nd, 1892:

"On June 25th was opened by Sir EDWARD W. WATKIN, Bart., M.P., and Lady INGRAM WATKIN, supported by the Mayors of Folkestone and Hythe, the nobility and clergy of the neighbourhood, aldermen and town councillors and members of the Sandgate Local Board, at Sandgate, near Folkestone, the new Beach Rocks Convalescent Home, in connection with the London Samaritan Society and Homerton Mission. It is admirably situated in one of the healthiest and loveliest of our southern winter stations. The construction of the home does credit to the ability of the architects, the good faith of the builders, and the intelligent forethought and kindly sentiments of the trustees and founder, Mr. JOHN JAMES JONES. Its pretty verandahs on the sea-front, its homelike rooms, the general excellency of the arrangements, and the regard everywhere shown for the comfort and well-being of the patients, all deserve high commendation. We notice that over 1,000 persons have been sent to the Convalescent Homes of the society from the Brompton Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest, and that they are also largely made use of for the people of London and the country, as well as by Guy's and nearly all the Metropolitan hospitals. In all cases the superintendents of those institutions speak warmly of the comfort of the Convalescent Homes and the kindness with which the patients had been treated. After a careful inspection of the Home, we are glad to be able to confirm these commendations."

Copy

Dear Sir,

Some acquaintar placing C Convalesce the necess for the re Metropolit In ord branded as and treated clothing no then their would not It is a Poor Law petual pau health fully in the ind consumers Partic opinions o ment as to t The in medicine, week for necessary t The re each patien We an Board as t such patien I will g the Guardia should they

Under Beach Rocks

In 1993 when on a visit to England our cousin Yvonne Gallagher (nee Bloxham) and my brother Michael asked me to find out how our Prescott grandparents had been able to buy four houses in the Esplanade, Sandgate? John Prescott, our grandfather, had been a naval rating from 1878 to 1898, after which he was presumably on some form of a low pension. In the early 1900's John Prescott had been employed in the Folkestone Harbour Customs as a "watcher". At some time during that employment he had a fall from a cycle and subsequently suffered from some minor form of lameness, which later led to his being too incapacitated to work. From 1888 our grandmother, Annie Frances Prescott (nee Caden), had leased No. 31 Esplanade from the Tyssen Trust, although she was not listed in the Folkestone Directory as a lodging house keeper until 1890 (in the 1890/1891 edition). Early in her years as a lodging house keeper she appears to have commenced her practice of having long-term occupants at reduced tariffs - thus ensuring year-long incomes, while having a house in which to provide for her children. In 1892 Annie Prescott purchased 31 Esplanade from the Tyssen Trust, and in the following year the house was damaged in the Sandgate Landslip. This was house No. 1. In 1915 the Prescotts purchased 32 Esplanade (then know as Lymington House, and later renamed The Albert House) from the Sandgate U.D. Council. This was a former Jones Home that had been acquired by the Council in 1914. This was house No. 2. In 1919 the Prescotts purchased from the Sandgate Council Farleigh House, Esplanade (on the eastern corner of Prospect Road) - another former Jones Home. This was house Nos. 3 & 4. Farleigh House was subsequently converted into two separate houses, which were named Roxana and Killarney. Roxana became the home of the eldest son of John and Annie Prescott, John Prescott and his wife Eva, and their family. By 1927 Killarney was the home of H.C. Bloxham and his wife Molly (nee Prescott), and their family. This paragraph accounts for the purchase of the houses, but not the background to my research.

During my visit in 1993 Michael and I were fortunate enough to visit Mr and Mrs Beattie, who had purchased 31 Esplanade from the Prescott family after 1945. Later Mrs Beattie was kind enough to send me photocopies of documents relating to the sale of that house by the Tyssen Trust to our grandmother. In 2000 I spend some days at the Heritage Room, Folkestone Library checking the file of the Folkestone Directory for Prescott and associated families' information. I was also shown the relevant volumes of the Fynmore Scrapbooks from which I copied information about the Beach Rocks Convalescent Home, John James Jones, the Jones Sanatoria, etc. At the outset my interest was aroused by the apparent discrimination being shown towards the poorer and less advantaged patients of the Jones Homes. It would seem that this community antipathy had not been directed towards patients of Beach Rocks while it was in the hands of the London Samaritan Society, although later I became aware that there were local concerns about the scale of the new (1891/2) building at the time that it was being built and when it was officially opened.

Continued study of these issues made it clear that the situation of the poor and the poor unhealthy members of the community were – in the late  $19^{th}$  and early  $20^{th}$  centuries – not all that much improved since Dickens and others had tackled the problems arising out of the early Industrial Revolution in the British Isles. However as more time passed I became aware that – to all indications – John James Jones was hoodwinking the wider community and more important those disadvantaged people for his own benefit. As my Research Summary indicates I was led from the negative reports contained in the Fynmore Scrapbooks onto books and articles on Labourchere, his journal *Truth*, and related information in the *Times* newspaper. The information thus gained led me to change my stance from support of the Jones Sanatoria to support for the Sandgate community in its opposition to the Jones Homes and for the subsequent closure by the Council of all the Jones' establishments in 1914 by purchase.

The attitude of our grandparents to consumption and to consumptive homes (based on the fact that three Jones Homes were within yards of 31 Esplanade) was such that had our father not taken steps to hide the fact of his own father's death from that disease in 1904 it is likely that the Prescotts would not have allowed their youngest daughter, our mother, to marry Charles Sargeant in 1923! While this factor was not known to us until the mid-1990's it did not in any way influence my decision to continue to research John James Jones for so many years. His whole career is one of enigmas. In many ways he should have lived in the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries, since he was aware of the power of the media, and was able to manipulate his activities through his knowledge of the language and attitudes of the Christian churches and of related charities.

Bernard Sargeant, Sutherland, NSW, 15 May 2006.

# Sandgate

**Bevan Military Hospital** 

1915-113 High St Sandgate –unoccupied

**1916 Military Hospital** 

1918-19 Bevan Military Hospital, 113 High St, Sandgate

1921-22 Bevan Hospital, private nursing home, Sister M.Mumford, RRC

East Kent Gazetteer- opened on 8<sup>th</sup> October 1914. Hospital was in a building which had not been used since the Boer War(???). The personnel of Kent/30 and Kent/36 combined to put the building in order and to staff it. In the spring of 1915 Eastern Command recommended that the military authorities take over the Bevan Hospital and so from May 1915 it became virtually a part of the Military Hospital, Shorncliffe.

The Bevan had an open-air "sea-ward" and central court. More than 12,100 patients were cared for at the hospital and with 250 beds it was the largest hospital in the county to be staffed by VAD workers.

British Medical Journal25th December 1976- Its central court was entirely devoted to open air treatment of septic cases, although quite small 12,100 patients passed through it with 1552 major operations performed.

Carlile p134-135, p144 after photo.

### **Castle Road**

" Jury, Colour-Sergeant. H.H., instructor 1913 1915 H Co Kent Cyclist Batt Drill Hall: Instructor Colour-Sergt H.Childs

1916

1918-19

1921-22 the same

Villa Honore, 4 Esplanade

1915 Mrs Mary Lewis Bachmann

**1916** Canadian Officers

1918-19 Mrs Purkis

Portland, 13 Esplanade

1915 Rev M P McCready., Acting Chaplain to the Forces.

"

"

1916 Ref M M McCready " "

1918-19 Portland 13 Gloster Terrace, Esplanade """

1921-22 Portland, Arthur L Ball

2-3 Wellington Terrace, Esplanade

1915 unoccupied

**1916** Canadians

1918-19 unoccupied

**5 High Street** 

**1915 Unoccupied** 

1916 The Allies' Restaurant Mrs Philpott

1918-19 " " "

43a High Street

1916 John Dixon tailor

"

1918-19 W.H.Lock, military outfitter

1921-22 F.J.Sillibourne draper

**45 High Street** 

1916 Mrs Mayne

1918-19 Mrs Gordon Church Canteen

1921-22 Capt H C Stewart, South Ingle

59 High Street

1915 W Huntley, Aughrim House, general & military bootmaker

"

11

11

"

11

11

1916 ""

1918-19 " "

1921-22 "

**103 High street** 

1915 Alexandra Hotel unoccupied

1916 " " "

1918-19 Canadian Y M C A Canteen

1921-22 Proposed Cinema

**109a High Street** 

1915 Durnford House, Convalescent Home, Arms Miss, matron

**1916 Military Hospital** 

1918-19 " "

1921-22 109a Mrs M Smith, Durnford House



6

#### [A PEN-AND-INK SKETCH].

In accordance with the announcement made last week in the columns of this journal, Sandgate was, on Monday last the scene of the arrival of a party of visitors such as has never before been witnessed in its history. The work done at the Beach Rocks Convalescent Home, under the superintendence of the esteemed Matron, and the very able staff, is so well known in Folkestone and the district that it is superfluous to describe it anew. I question, however, whether the Home has ever received within its cheerful walls a body of patients

#### SO DIVERSE, AND PROBABLY UNIQUE,

as the party that were brought down on Monday from London. No fewer than 108 crippled and from London. No lewer than 105 crippled and sick children were conveyed from the metropolis to Sandgate, under circumstances that, from whatever aspect they are viewed, must be put down as a credit to that spirit of humanitarianism and charity which, in its protean phases, is one of the grandest characteristics of the age and country in which we live. The origin of this wish is in which we live. The origin of this visit is briefly told.

Among the many charitable works carried out by the London Samaritan Society and Homertor. Mission a prominent and honourable place must be assigned to their solicitude for the poorest and most helpless children of the capital. From time to time these little waifs of the alleys and slums are sent out into the country for a day's enjoyment in the green fields and lanes, that are to their young lives so many new developments of wonderful contrast with the wilderness of brick and mortar from which they have been taken. The opening of 1896, however, has suggested a fresh departure, and the Society has thrown open the Sandgate Home, or more strictly a consider-able portion of its available resources, for the reception and care of a body of sick and crippled children, for a period extending over fourteen days, quite free of all cost, including the double transit by railway between Sandgate and London. This new year's treat, a treat in the truest sense are sent out into the country for a day's enjoyment This new year's treat, a treat in the truest sense of the term, was rendered possible by the kind-ness of some old friends of the poor, whose com-passion has been touched by the bitter

#### CRY OF THE LITTLE CRIPPLED ONES.

I know very well that the satisfaction derived I know very well that the satisfaction derived from the doing of a generous action is the best reward of generous minds. I know, of course, that philanthropic citizens do not like to have their charity paraded in print, and that the good work done by stealth was never meant to be productive of the evan-escent popularity which is miscalled fame. Yet, in justice to the broad-hearted spirit of kindness that prevails, I am bound to enter more fully upon the history of this visit of crippled children than I should have done had adult members of the community been the recipients of l ounty on the present occasion. I happened to lounty on the present occasion. I happened to be returning from town by the 3.30 train from Cannon Street on Monday last, and I shall never forget the scene that I then witnessed within the precincts of that building. At each of the entrances there were straggling little groups of adults, mostly women, leading to the waiting rooms adults, mostly women, leading to the waiting rooms two or three children as I entered at the front of the station. By 3.15 they were all collected, boys and girls, from 16 years of age downward, some being able to move by the aid of crutches,

#### SOME UTTERLY HELPLESS,

and all equipped with a bundle containing a change of linen. The selection of these children, who were evidently fit objects of charity, devolved upon the Ragged School Union, and was made, I believe, from typical "cases connected with the schools of that institution. During the brief period at disposal before the starting of the train, I could not resist the impulse to go a mongst the crimples and make personal in-

to go amongst the cripples and make personal in-quiries on my own account. One little fellow of 13 quiries on my own account. One little fellow of 13 years, reposing in a corner on the seat, told me that he had been suffering from a broken back since he was 5 years old. He was wan and wasted, but a fortnight at the Beach Rocks will put colour is his demonstrated by the seat of t in his checks unless I am grievously mistaken. A nice little girl of 12 summers, whose abode is in one of the alleys of Clerkenwell, was a picture of placid resignation, as she half-whispered to my bent ear that she has been a victim to hip disease

#### GROUP OF LONDON JOURNALISTS

by whom he was besieged for particulars of this strange exodus from the modern Babylon. I never saw a more active and thorough organizer. A few moments sufficed to give the gentlemen of the Press the information they were in search of, and which was so courteously imparted. Accompanied by several members of the Committee, and ladies of their bouseholds, the indefatigable Manager left nothing undone to brighten the journey for the little folks, who were soon stowed Journey for the little tolks, who were soon stowed away snugly in their respective compartments, under the care of the nurses in charge. A copious supply of pillows was then wheeled from door to door, and the sufferers were propped up as com-fortably as possible, the Company's servants basing bight tables to the company's servants fortably as possible, the Company's servants having kindly taken care to put foot-warmers in every carriage, thereby adding materially to the pleasure of the travellers.

I shall not soon forget the impression which this scene made upon the groups of ladies and gentlemen who had assembled at the Station and who were admitted to the platform. One bene-volent gentleman, to whom I had explained the meaning of the unaccustomed spectacle, was

#### SO STIRRED BY THE SIGHT

that he went straight to the Manager and pre-sented him with  $\frac{1}{22}$  10s., with a request to dis-tribute sixpence to each of the 100 cripples. Packets of sweets, and other delicacies had provided for them already, and the number of copies of *Snap Shots* was really a tribute to the

<sup>2</sup>copies of Snap Shots was really a tribute to the ubiquitous demand for light, amusing, and illus-trated literature in the veriest slums of London. And now, while the sick and crippled are being stowed away in their berths, I join the group of journalistic colleagues, and find them bu-ily engyged in getting the pith of letters of apology received by the Rev. A. Styleman Herring, M.A., of Clerkenwell, and a prominent member of the Committee of Management of the London Samaritan Society. To give even a resumb of Samaritan Society. To give even a resume of the replies received by that gentleman would be too great a tax upon the space at my disposal. I must content myself, therefore, with a few that I know will be glanced at with interest by the great bulk of my readers.

#### FIRST AND FOREMOST

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#### A MITE ON HER KNEES,

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#### AT HOME FROM HOME.

While they were in the height of enjoyr took my departure from the scene, and away impressed more deeply than ever w conviction that it is the "ouch of Nature," superadded to Christian Charity that "mak world kin," and enables the maimed and cri and sick to feel that their lot does not go w the sympathy of those who are alle to and the sadness of their condition. May it be so in this Merry and Christian England of my fervent aspiration ; and before I leav subject let me ask Folkestone readers who spare, to be good enough to remember the cripples, whose visit has been thus feely dese

are sent out into the country for a day's enjo, not in the green fields and lanes, that are to their young lives so many new developments of wonderful contrast with the wilderness of brick and mortar from which they have been taken. The opening of 1896, however, has suggested a fresh departure, and the Society has thrown open the Sandgate Home, or more strictly a considerable portion of its available resources, for the reception and cure of a body of sick and crippled children, for a period extending over fourteen days, quite free of all cost, including the double transit by railway between Sandgate and London. This new year's treat, a treat in the truest sense of the term, was rendered possible by the kindness of some old friends of the poor, whose compassion has been touched by the bitter

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#### TO PAINT A MADONNA

might gladly study as a model of grace and beauty. The poor child is paralysed in the legs, and walks with evident difficulty. But, enough of this aspect of the scene. It would only harrow the feelings of my readers to go more minutely into detail. Here, awaiting their pleasant journey to the seaside, on this Feast of the Epiphany, 1896, were a hundred and eight little pilgrims bound for a shrine of charity where health is restored to a considerable extent by the invigorating properties of a pure air, sea scenery, and loving care on the part of a benevolent institution.

It was only when the children passed through the ticket barriers and on to the main line platform that the full measure of their deformity could be realised. A staff of fourteen nurses from the Beach Rocks establishment were here in waiting and took charge of the helpless guests. The children who could walk were able to take up their allotted places without much help. Others, however, had to be assisted in the process, and not a few had to be carried bodily in the nurses' rems, to await entraining. The Rev. A. Styleman ring, Vicar of St. Paul's, Clerkenwell, was a in bimself. I caught sight of him among a engaged in getting the pith of letters of apology received by the Rev. A. Styleman Herring, M.A., of Clerkenwell, and a prominent member of the Committee of Management of the London Samaritan Society. To give even a resumè of the replies received by that gentleman would be too great a tax upon the space at my disposal. I must content myself, therefore, with a few that I know will be glaneed at with interest by the great bulk of my readers.

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#### ANSWER OF "ALL'S WELL !"

On the arrival of the train at Sandgate the forethought characteristic of the whole arrangements was again in evidence. The omnibus of the Society was reinforced by the three similar vehicles in the town, and all four were drawn up awaiting the arrival of the visitors. In due time, without confusion or delay, the whole of the party were transported to the Beach Rocks Home, where the children were received by the Matron and her staff, and where, in the large hall of the institution, a cheering tea was ready for the vigorous appetites that were whetled by their two hours' journey through the Garden of England. The process of debarcation was gone through without an accident of any kind, the most helpless being carried in by the porters and deposited on the couches that had been prepared for them. The eager look of curiosity cast upon the Christmas decorations, still remaining in situ, "he comfortable aspect of the Home when lighted up with gas, the cheery voices of nurses and helpers, the genial presence of the Matron, and

Passing of Sister M. A. Mumford Valuable Services During The War

LUE

### The Bevan As A Military Hospital

THE "Folkestone Herald" regrets to record the death on Friday last week of Sister Maria Amelia Mumford, R.R.C., Commandant of the Bevan Nursing' Home and one of Sandgate's most beloved and best known personalities. Miss Mumford, who was 78 years of age, was making a good recovery from

Miss Mulliord, who was 16 years or age, was making a good recovery from an attack of bronchitis and was able to leave her bedroom on Wednesday last week. However, she suffered a severe relapse and her death occurred at the Home, two days later.

MAGNIFICENT WAR SERVICE

MAGNIFICENT WAR SERVICE Miss Mumford's greatest service was undoubtedly that which she per-iormed as Commandant of the Bevan Military Hospital during the war, a service which will never be forgotten by those who remember Balkostone and Sandgate during the war years. Over 12,100 patients, including Im-perial troops, Australians, Canadians and Belgians passed through the Home, and for her services Miss Mum-ford received the Royal Red Cross Medal, Red Cross Long Service Medal and other decorations.

and other decorations. She was one of 14 children and an elder daughter of the late Mr. James Mumford, J.P., of The Chestnuts, Wanstead, Essex.

#### TRAINING

TRAINING After receiving her training at Guy's, Queen Charlotte's and South-ampton Row Hospitals, Miss Mum-ford carried out district and mater-nity work in Hackney. On coming to Sandgate in 1907 she continued this work for a time, later acquiring her own nursing home at 6 and 7, Devonshire Terrace. As the war years approached, the splendid foresight and ability for or-ganisation which marked the whole of Miss Mumford's career, were put to good use.

good use. Through her initiative members of the Kent No. 30 Voluntary Aid De-tachment, of which she was Com-mandant, attended lectures, demon-strations and drills outside the ordin-ary training, and when war broke out they were fully trained for their ardu-ous duties. Even before this here

Even before this, however, as early s 1912, Miss Mumford had informed as\_ 1912 as 1912, Miss Multiord had informed the military authorities that the premises, which were afterwards to become the Bevan Military Hospital, were suitable for emergency work.

#### WOUNDED SOLDIERS

On the eve of the declaration of war, Miss Mumford immediately gave war, Miss Mumford immediately gave up her own nursing home for the use of the V.A.D. and within 24 hours these premises, with all her belong-ings, and part of the Chichester Hall were placed at the disposal of the Government for the care of wounded soldiare soldiers.

At first the Government declined to accept the offer but Miss Mumford was undeterred and on August 6th she accept obtained permission to take over the Bevan Home, which had previously been a convalescent home.

With amazing courage and deter-mination she put into action her own plans for the conversion, and through her efforts and the assistance of Kent 30 and other V.A.D.'s, she immediately began to prepare the building as a hospitai. There was a splendid response to

to

There was a splendid response to Miss Mumford's appeals for assistance in the great task of repairing and equipping the building, and whilst some helpers scrubbed and polished, others gave in kind or money. Within six days the wards and staff and administration rooms had been furnished and the renovation and equipment of the operating theatre, X-ray room and other rooms had been started, the whole carried out enstarted, the whole carried out en-tirely through Miss Mumford's efforts and by private means. With Miss Mumford' as Command-

with Miss Mumford as Command-ant, the Hospital was ready and on October 8th, 1914, the first patients were received. From that day until the closing of the Hospital in March, 1919, the work went on without a break.

TAKEN OVER BY WAR OFFICE In 1915, when the Military Hospital, Shorncliffe, had become inadequate to accommodate sick and injured men, the Eastern Command recommended that the Bevan Home should be taken over by the military authorities, and the War Office at once proceeded to carry out the transfer. From May, 1915, the Bevan became virtually a part of the Military Hos-pital, with the standing of an A.I.

beginning of the war, and in which according to her wishes, she was buried-Queen Alexandra commented on this and described it as "very mathr." pretty.

LU

UI DEVULUIL

PRESENT AT EVERY OPERATION Miss Mumford had been present at every operation and birth at the Bevan since she became Command-ant, including one operation per-formed during an air raid in 1917. Al-though shells burst on the rocks cut-side the building the operation was finished.

finished, a A total of 1.552 operations were performed at the Bevan during the

performed at the Bevan during the war. At the close of March, 1919, the Bevan ceased to be a Military Hos-pital and within 24 hours Miss Mum-ford had started it as a private nurs-ing home of which she was Command-ant up to the time of her death. In peace time she continued to show those remarkable qualities of de-votion and self-secrifice which had made her so beloved to thousands of the wounded during the war, and her charming personality will be greatly missed by all who knew her. Besides the Royaj Red Cross and Long Service Médal in connection with the British Red Cross, she also received a decoration from Belgium in recognition of ther services. She was an expert needlewoman and among her finest work are some handsome wool rigs. These, she de-signed herself from small pictures and achieved some remarkable beautiful results. She also displayed outstand-ing craftsmanship as a wood carver.

Ing cratismanuly as a series of the series o

"Sister"—as we called her in those early days—was the inspirer and superintendent of that cleansing, and all through the ensuing four years she held together that unit, subsequently known as Be-van Military Hospital, and was the very heart and soul of its being. How the mamories flowed up through



#### Sister M. A. Mumford

all the intervening year: surely the countless British, Belgian, Canadian, French-Canadian, Australian and New Zealand soldiers who had filled the Bevan, were there again in spirit last Tuesday. Memories too of the Out-side Wash of dans richts with wind and rain and sea slashing the sand-bags, of the prowling round with a lantern.

lantern. Memories of that Neuve Chapelle convoy; of the operating theatre; of staff meals; of desperate and unceas-ing work, when you went on and on, knowing that however hard you worked, Sister worked harder still.

DAY AND NIGHT

"silken chemise" (as we dubbed her able "silken chemise" (as we dubbed her uniform) who always came, day or night, whenever she was needed, and who, on occasion, literally pulled men back from death. Memories of the ghostly night drives in the ambulance, and last, but not least, of the glorious comradeship that gradually came to permeate the whole hospital . All these and other deeper things

permeate the whole hospital . . . . All these and other deeper things were abroad on that sumy March morning, as we stood in the cemetery by the last resting-place of one who passed as she would have wished; the Union Jack covering her coffin, a young burger sounding the Last Poet by her bugler sounding the Last Post by her side, the voices of the men of Shorn-cliffe Camp echoing across in the still clear air, and a host of those who had worked with her, who loved her, and would always remember her, standing around around.

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TIG

Jones, Mrs. Fairbairn, Miss Williams, Mrs. Christopher James, Miss Lewis Jenkins, Mrs. Wilks, Mrs. Middleton, Miss Tweedie, Miss Evelegh. Mrs. W. W. Linington, Mrs. Ernest C. Gimblett, Mrs. Samway, Nurse Huntley, Mr. A. H. Ullyett, Hythe Red Cross Society, V.A.D. Kent 36, Miss Ramsey, Miss M. Ramsey, Miss Dale, Sister Holland, Miss Gill-Ballard and Miss Villiers. Mrs. Jay, Mrs. Revuddis Miss Bos

Sister Holland, Miss Gill-Ballard and Miss Villiers.
Miss Villiers.
Mrs. Jay, Mrs. Reynolds, Miss Bos-well, Miss E. Shelford, Miss Allen (Matron of the Star and Garter Home, Sandgate), Mrs. Duiton, Mrs.
Kemp, Mrs. Foord, Mrs. Harvey, Mrs.
Baldwin, Mrs. Jago, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Fairclough, Mrs. Packham.
Mrs. Symons, Miss Symons, Mrs.
Davis, Miss M. Dean, Mrs. M. Ward Simpson, Mr. Jolly, Major O. A. Chambers and Mrs. Chambers, Miss Drysdale, Miss Jenner, Mrs. Ardagh, Miss Parish, Mrs. Jacobs, Dr. J. W. D. Buttery, Dr. E. E. Claxton, Mr. W. Allsworth, Nurse Fox, Nurse Heath Nurse Harries, Mr. Gordon Silli-bourne, Dr. F. R. Fletchert, Dr. J. C. O. Bradbury and Mrs. Bradbury.
Dr. F. G. Parker, Miss Spurgen, Mrs. J. B. Lewis, Nurse Butler, Miss Ridley, Miss Moffat, Sister Charles, Mrs. Russell, Mr. McBride, Mrs. Uprichards, Nurse Denkton, Mrs.
Uprichards, Nurse Denkton, Mrs.
Webster and Mrs. Webster and Nurse Webster.
Mr. F. Brown, Miss Maryan, Mrs.

Major and Mrs. Webster and Muse Webster. Mr. F. Brown, Miss Maryan, Mrs. Gloag, Mr. and Mrs. J. Cobb, Mrs. Charles, Mr. and Mrs. E. T. W. Timms, Mrs. Walford, Mr. R. A. Shields, Mrs. Fall, Miss D. Holmes, Miss D. McMeakin, the Misses Cross, Mrs. Brandrath.

brook, Mrs. Burgess, Mrs. MacMillan, Mrs. Bedford, Mrs. Robert McGregor, Mrs. Murray McGregor and Mrs.

Mrs. Murray McGregor and Mrs. Godden. The coffin was draped with the Union Jack and bore many flowers. At the interment the Last Post was sounded by a bugler of the 1st Batt. the Queen's Own Royal West Kent Begiment.

A number of flags in Sandgate were lowered to half mast, including that of the Sandgate Coastguard Station.

# FLORAL TRIBUTES

The followin floral tributes: following is a list of the

Noral tributes; With all our love, Pem and Dick. With best love and very fond memo-ries, from Tom and Lily. From Ella, in loving memories from Edle and Betty—and deep sorrow, we shall never forget her many acts of love and kindness to us. "Life out of death—We cannot think as ended, our dear dead who died. The

as ended, our dear dead who died. The life beyond, shall this life far transcend and death is the beginning not the end." In loving memory, Maude. With a piece of my tiny heart, Margaret

With a piece of my tiny heart, mar-garet. With love, from Jess and Lill (Mr. and Mrs. W. J. House). With love and affectionate memories of a long friendship from "Basins." To dear Commandant, in loving memory, from her Nurses. With best love, from Chips. (R. M. Chisholm, 6 Shakespeare Terrace). To/beloved Commandant, in affection-ate remembrance from the Domestic working staff. With deepest sympathy, from Mr. and Mrs. Legel and family. In affectionate remembrance, from Eva.

In affectionate remembrance, from Eva. With deepest sympathy, from The Matron and Nursing Staff, Manor Court. With kind remembrance, from Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Finn, Brodnyx, New Romney. With sincere sympathy, from Dr. and Mrs. Roker Evans. In sincere appreciation of sister's won-derful work in the War, Mrs. A. Stacey dilbertson, 62, Shorncliffe Road. With loving remembrances to darling Commandant, Big "Jonie" and Little Jonie" (India). With love and gratitude, Dr. and Mrs. E. Claxton.

E. Claxton. With deepest sympathy, Mr. and Mrs.

With deepest sympathy, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Funnell and family. In loving memory of Commandant from Nurse Byrne. In appreciation of friendship and a life devoted to others, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Linington, To Commandant with love and succet. memories, from "Gee Gee." With deepest sympathy, from Mr. and Mrs. Timme.

Mrs. Timme. With kind remembrance, from Mrs. A.

In admiration and sympathy, E. M. Fox

In affectionate remembrance, from Dr. D. N. Seth Smith and Dr. Ivor Rees. With deepest sympathy, irom the Staff of MacFisheries, Sandgate. With sincere sympathy, Major and Mrs. C. Douglas Jay, Bycliffe, Sandgate. With all true sympatny, from M. and E. Dawes. E. Dawes.

E. Dawes.
With sympathy and kind remembrances of dear Miss Mumford, irom C. Crosse (Sandgate).
With deepest sympathy, from Dr. and Mrs. Buttery.
With love, admiration and gratitude, Miss Marion Francis.
With much sympathy, Major and Mrs.
H. F. Stokes, Oid Well House, Hythe. Rev. E. and Mrs. Gimblett, " Love never faileth."
To our Commandant, Kent 30. In lov-

To our Commandant, Kent 30. In loving and grateful memory of her unselfish work during the years of the Great War, from Denny, Dickle and White. With kindest remembrances and sym-pathy, F. J. Hall, Mount House, Hythe,

To an admirable woman and our good friend, Major and Mrs. C. A. Chambers, and Miss Chambers, Manor House, Sandgate

With heartfelt sympathy, from Andrew W. Jolly. In loving memory, from Mr. and Mrs.

(Continued from preceding column.) grateful memory, Mrs. W. Kirk-In patri

atrick: With deepest sympathy, from Doctors F, and J. F. Dunn, With deepest sympathy, Dr. and Mrs. F. Griffiths, 10, Jointon Road, With deepest sympathy, from D. M. Zebser. With deepest sympathy, Sir Philip asson. H. F Web

With deepest sympathy, Sh Finny Sassoon. In affectionate remembrance, from Dr. T. J. Butchie, and Dr. Paterson Murray Sandgate Road. Stateful memory, Mrs. A. H. Haller Murray, Sandling, Hythe. In affectionate remembrance, from the Rwy. H. G. Blackburne, Sandgate Vicarate.

Vicarate, With deepest sympathy, Ethel Dabbs, Remembrances, S. Maguire, S.R.N. S.C.M. Beethoven, 28, Salisbury Road,

S.C.M. Beethoven, 20, Bandward Hallie Dover, With deepest sympathy, from Hallie Drysdere, and Constance Pembrook. In nimembrance of a good friend, Mr. and Ms. Douglas Paine and family. With sincere and affectionate regret,

With sincere and allectionate region, r. Rei Fletcher. In namory: Mr. Percy Mandy and Mr. T. Williamson, Cornerways, Hythe. In remembrance, from Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, "Sleap on beloved, sleep S.

E E. Johnson, "Sleep on beloved, sleep and take thy rest." Mr. H. W. L. Molesworth, Mr. H. O. M. Meuwathor Mr. H. W. L. Mertwether.

M.

M. Merwether. With very sincere sympathy and love, Marie Vard-Simpson. In effectionate remembrance from Twinkli and Jimmy Moffat. To laje Miss Mumford in very kindest remembrance, from Miss Ruth Devitt. 51 Drayion Gardens, S.W.10. In alectionate memory, from Mrs. Lewis and Miss Spurgen, 5 Julian Road. In grateful remembrance of a great lady, from Mr. and Mrs. B. Murton and Phillp, a Grimston Gardens. Mrs Cuthbert Barmby 7 Wellington

Mrs. Juthbert Barmby, 7 Wellington Terrace Sandgate.

A trikate of sincere affection and re-spect, from Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Spain, Paddock House, Coolinge Lane, Deepest sympathy and remembrance.

# **FROM OUR FILES** Big welcome awaited the Boer War casualties

**1900** Express were devoted to celebrations to mark the homecoming at Sandgate of some of the brave soldiers who left town the previous November to fight in the Boer War, men who "gambled daily with death" but returned home as invalids -160 of them, arriving in charabancs and a variety of other transports from Sandgate railway station. Devons, Gordons, Rifles, Gloucesters, Artillerymen Dragoons and Hussars arrived by hospital train from Southampton to a warm welcome with much flagwaving from crowds along the route to the Camp Mospital or Beach Rocks convalescent home. Mythe for training before going out, in May, to join Capt Gosling's company fighting in South Africa. They were expected to be led by Lieut Hubbard, of Margate, their send-off to Include a party at the Volunteer Club in Tontine Street given by Lieut Griffin. Latest casualty figures were given as 213 officers and 2,015 men killed, plus 50 officers and 483 men died of wounds. Other casualites brought numbers up to 842 officers and 13,982 men.







#### "Beach Rocks" Convalescent Home, Sandgate.

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time after this, Mr. Jones and several other friends started a small convalescent home at Dover. The house was taken for three years, and at the expiration of that term the good work had grown so that when "Beach Rocks," the private residence of a gentleman lately deceased, was offered for sale for  $\pounds_{3,000}$ , it was purchased, the owners selling it for  $\pounds_{2,500}$  instead of  $\pounds_{3,000}$ , because it was to be used for such a good purpose. The new home became very serviceable to convalescents. Kind subscribers and donors rallied round. The doctors in London and the country appreciated the accommodation (which was



THE DINING-HALL.

very good of its kind) so much that the demands for admission became ever greater and greater. Auxiliary houses were taken until about 160 patients were received at one time. These houses, which had not been built for public institutions, with special sanitary arrangements, ventilation, air space, etc., became a source of considerable anxiety and expense in the working. It was then decided by the trustees to erect on the site of old "Beach Rocks" a new convalescent home, with accommodation for about 250 patients. The properties on the east and west of "Beach Rocks" have been taken on a long lease, and on them winter gardens are to be erected as soon as funds permit, so that the patients may obtain exercise in the inclement weather in an equable temperature. This is very essential for those who are suffering with lung diseases.

"Beach Rocks" faces due south (the south front is shown on page 2), overlooking the Channel, with its ever varying panorama of ships of all sizes and of all nations passing up and down. The entrance is on the north side, which abuts on the High Street of the town. The entrance hall —a picture of which will be found on the outside cover—is an inviting introduction to the Home. First you enter a small portico, with pretty stands for flowers and ferns, which is divided from the main hall



THE KITCHEN

by folding doors. These doors are both light and graceful, and, like all the painting of the wood work throughout the house, are of cream colour. The screens are glazed with bevelled glass, the whole forming a picture of comfort, cosiness, and neatness, brightened with pictures of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Earl and Countess of Radnor, Sir Edward Watkin, Bart., M.P., Lady Ingram Watkin, the Rev. H. Russell Wakefield (Vicar of Sandgate), Mr. John James Jones, and some of the trustees and other friends and donors to the work.

The floors of the hall and corridor are of red herring-boned tiles in the centre, with a Grecian border of black and white tiles. On the

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right is the matron's room, fitted up with telephone to the Homestead, where the stables, omnibus, brake, laundry, vegetable and flower gardens, dairy, tennis lawn for special patients, and offices are.

The dining hall is a fine room; it is 20 feet from floor to ceiling, and is capable of seating to dinner 150 people. When the Home is full the women take their meals half an hour before the men. When the Home has less than 150 patients they take their meals together, but at separate tables. Everything has been done in the dining hall in the way of ventilation, warming, etc., that scientific knowledge can do.



ONE OF THE SITTING-ROOMS.

The kitchen is 24 feet square and 13 feet 6 inches high, which is the height of all the rooms on the ground floor. The cooking ranges are capable of cooking for 300 persons. The ventilation of the kitchen and all the domestic and sanitary arrangements are as perfect as they well can be.

The library, reading, and writing rooms for the men and women are well furnished and provided with a very considerable stock of books, and games of an innocent and amusing character. Concerts are given weekly (and sometimes more often) in the Home, and the nobility and gentry of the neighbourhood and many kind friends help us to keep the patients as cheerful and happy as possible. The sitting rooms are large and well furnished and ventilated, the corridors are lofty, wide, and bright, with framed pictures on the walls. The bedrooms are all fitted up very brightly, and in the most approved style; the beds have all wire wove spring mattresses, and no two persons sleep in one bed throughout the building.

There are two staircases, one in the east wing used only by the women, and the other

in the west wing used exclusively by the men. These staircases are 5 feet 6 inches wide. The terraces and floors under the verandahs are all paved with red and black tiles. The courtyard is laid out with tiled walks round the well-kept grass plots. There is every possible convenience in the way of seats on the terraces and under the verandahs.

The Home is approached direct from the beach by a broad flight of steps in the centre, and there are steps the whole length of the buildings from



ONE OF THE STAIRCASES.

the lower terrace to the beach. We keep our own cows, and all the milk used at the Home comes direct from the small dairy farm which we have, about a mile and a half from "Beach Rocks."

Our own omnibus meets the trains by which our patients arrive, and on the expiration of their time takes them back to Sandgate Station. When the horses are not required for the omnibus, laundry, or farm they are used for taking out the patients in a brake, for which the small charge of three pence per hour is made. The drives round Sandgate are very beautiful, it being a magnificent undulating country. All the washing in connection with our Home is done in our own laundry. All the vegetables used—potatoes only excepted—are grown

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# Sandgate as a Bealth Resort,

WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO

### "BEACH ROCKS" CONVALESCENT HOME.

SANDGATE, though long known as a quiet and pleasant place to spend the summer holidays at, has, as a health resort, been to a great extent overlooked, though it is peculiarly a spot where nature may be relied on to assist the physician in checking the progress of disease and in restoring the shattered frame.

In addition to the usual advantages of other towns on the South coast—of pure and genial air, equable temperature, and charms of situation and of scenery—there are special reasons, of great importance to the invalid, why Sandgate should be selected as a health resort.

#### Situation.

Sandgate runs from east to west for about  $1\frac{1}{4}$  miles parallel with the seashore, and is about midway between Hythe and Folkestone.

The town is protected on the east by the high ground on which Folkestone is situated, and on the north by well-wooded hills, on the summit of which is Shorncliffe Camp.

It will be at once evident that the natural advantages of such a situation are very great from a medical point of view.



OUR BRAKE.

#### Climate.

In the first place, north and east winds, which prevail on an average for 107 days annually, are broken by the natural barriers mentioned before. At the same time, the moderate elevation allows free circulation of air.

The temperature of the plateau above Sandgate averages about 3° lower than that of Sandgate itself, the difference being often considerable when N. or N.E. winds are blowing. It would be well for the invalid to remember this fact, as a walk of a few minutes can take him from warm, sunny, sheltered Sandgate to the camp, where a northerly gale may be blowing and the temperature many degrees lower. The

## "Beach Rocks" Convalescent Home, Sandgate.

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On arrival the patients are seen by the medical officer, who advises them as to the amount and kind of exercise best suited for them individually, orders their diet, etc.

The patients have the benefit of a generous and varied diet; they live in lofty, well-ventilated, and well-lighted living and sleeping rooms. Those unable to take long walks have terraces and balconies where they can sit, or take such exercise as they are equal to, and they can go



for country drives in fine weather. The sanitary arrangements are all that could be desired.

The confidence of those who send patients is well justified.

The average stay at the Home is about three weeks; but even in this time the improvement in looks and powers is generally great, and often remarkable. The gain in weight sometimes amounts to 12 or 13 pounds; the average gain, including those who from various reasons do not improve and those who lose weight, amounting to from  $2\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. to 3lbs. These facts prove more eloquently than any words can do how admirably Sandgate is suited for the invalid, particularly when under careful management, as in the case of the patients at "Beach Rocks."

"Beach Rocks" Convalescent Home, Sandgate.

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# OPINIONS OF OUR OLD HOME.

The great interest taken by the late RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF SHAFTESBURY, K.G., in this branch of our work, leads us to give here his kind words, written June 12th, 1884.

"I and my daughter were highly pleased by all that we saw and heard at your Convalescent Home. It is a moral and physical paradise. My patients that went there spoke in warm terms of their treatment. I heartily wish that I had the means of contributing largely to so beneficent an Institution."

THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF CHICHESTER, *Enbrook*, *Sandgate*. "I have much pleasure in bearing my testimony to the excellence of this spacious and convenient Convalescent Home."

"THE DOWAGER COUNTESS OF CRAVEN has received so good an account of the way in which the patients she has sent to the Convalescent Home at Sandgate have been treated, that she is anxious to subscribe more to the charity, and encloses a cheque for 40 guineas."

#### THE RIGHT HON. EARL POULETT, Hinton St. George, Crewkerne.

"I cannot speak too highly of your Sandgate Home, which is so admirably managed in every respect; the kind attention of your staff to the patients I have recommended and sent is deserving of the highest praise. I can only say that your Institution is one that will give the greatest satisfaction to those who subscribe towards it, for in no way can money be better laid out than in assisting the recovery of the sick who otherwise would be unable to enjoy the change of air and good care, coupled with good food, that your Home affords."

#### J. C. STEEL, M.D., Guy's Hospital.

"The Home is the best I have seen on the coast, and its arrangements appear to me to be excellent."

#### F. H. NORVILL, M.D., London Royal Free Hospital.

"The Home is very pleasantly situated, and is very well suited for the purpose in view. There is perfect cleanliness, and the arrangements are excellent."

#### FRED. BRINDLEY, M.D., Chaplain of the Middlesex Hospital, W.

"As a hospital chaplain for the last nine years, I can honestly say that I have never yet seen a Convalescent Home more thoroughly adapted to the purpose it has in view. I am particularly struck with its beautiful cleanliness. The management seems perfect.



CONVALESCENT HOME, BEACH ROCKS, SANDGATE.

