



Source 6

Task

6a Write down the names of the people on the list and how much relief they had been allowed by the Board of Guardians.

6b How does the Board explain each payment?

6c Why do you think the Assistant Commissioner wanted the payments explained?

VICTORIAN BRITAIN

A Caring Nation?

Source 6

This is part of a letter sent from the Reigate Union to an Assistant Poor Law Commissioner. His job was to inspect the Unions in his area and make sure that they were obeying the rules laid down by the 1834 Act. The letter explains why the Union paid outdoor relief to people living outside the workhouse which was not encouraged. Wages are given in pounds and shillings.

<p>7. Jas. Harman 27. Wife 29. 3 Children. Wages 12^s of Week. allowed a pair of -- Shoes.</p>	<p>Both the Man and his Wife are frequently out of Health altho' not returned as disabled they were known to the Guardians to have been much distressed at the time.</p>
<p>8. John Brown aged 36- Wife 33- 5 children under 15- Wages 15^s of Week- James 2^d and has also -- half an Acre of Land - allowed 10^s for a -- Nurse for Wife.</p>	<p>This Man had been unwell for sometime before and had been out of Work and lost time by -- removing from one Residence to another.</p>
<p>9. Amey Harman - aged 19. Allowed 2^s of Week for her Bastard child.</p>	<p>This Allowance was merely made a few Weeks before the Session to enable the Guardians to apply for an Order on the reputed Father and which Order was made at the last Michaelmas Session. The allowance will therefore be received back under the Order.</p>

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10 Thomas King aged 49 living at Nutfield.
Bill for £3 for medical attendance - this is
allowed - if the medical officer of the union -
had attended to this case no expense would -
have been incurred.

In this case the man broke his leg and was -
taken to the public house at Nutfield. The Bill
for £3 was not for medical relief he having been
attended by the medical officer of the union but
it was the Bill of the Landlord at the Public
House for Board and Lodging and which Bill
was submitted to the Board at their Weekly -
meeting and allowed. He was removed from the
Public House to the union workhouse the first -
moment the Medical officer could certify that he
might be removed.

11 Thomas Warren aged 48. wife 44. Six
children all at Home - Eldest 14.
This Man's wages 18^s 6^d week - allowed 10^s 6^d
for one week.

This Allowance was made in consequence of -
the Illness of the Man who had thereby been -
deprived of part of his usual earnings.

12 Ambrose Knight 44. Wife 40. Six -
children under 12.
Wages 12^s 6^d week altho' only sometimes -
unable to work - He is allowed regularly 3^s 6^d -
per week.

The permanent Relief is ordered to be taken off
and his Case will in future be brought forward,
when he may be unable to work.

(PRO ref: MH 12/12575)