



## Devizes Criminal Lunacy Warrant and Entry Books, 1882-1898

For

Charles J. Chambers

The Right Honourable *Sir William Vernon Hancock* one of her Majesty's most Honourable Privy Council and Principal Secretary, etc. etc. etc.

**WHEREAS** by an Act passed in the 27th and 28th years of Her Majesty's Reign "An Act to amend the Act Third and Fourth "Victoria, Chapter Fifty-four, for making further Provision for the confinement and Maintenance of Insane Prisoners," it is enacted that if any Person while imprisoned in any Prison or other place of Confinement under any Sentence of Transportation, Penal of Servitude or Imprisonment, or under a charge of any offence, or for not finding bail for good behavior or to keep the Peace, or to answer a Criminal Charge, or in consequence of any Summary Conviction, or Order by any Justice or Justices of the Peace, or under any other than Civil Process, shall appear to be insane, it shall be lawful if such Person is confined in a Prison to which visiting Justices are appointed, for two or more of the visiting Justices of such Prison, or, if such Person is in any other place of confinement, for two or more Justices of the Peace of the County, City, Borough, or Place in which such place of confinement is situate, or, if such Person is in a Convict Prison, one of the Directors thereof and such Visiting or other Justices or Directors are hereby required to call to their assistance two Physicians or Surgeons, or One Physician and One Surgeon duly registered as such respectively, under the Provisions of an Act passed in the Session of the Twenty-first and Twenty-second years of her Majesty's Reign, Chapter Ninety,

Warrant for the remand of

**Charles J Chambers**

To the County Lunatic Asylum

At Devizes

And to be selected by them for that purpose, and to inquire with their aid as to the Insanity of such Person, and if it shall be duly Certified by such Justices or any two of them, and such Physicians or Surgeons, or such Physician and Surgeon, that such Person is insane, One of Her Majesty's Principal secretaries of State may, upon receipt of such Certificate, if he

shall think fit, direct by warrant under his hand that such person shall be removed to such Lunatic Asylum, or other proper Receptacle for Insane Persons, as the said Secretary of State may judge proper and appoint.

**And Whereas** it has been Certified to me under the hands of **Alexander Meek and Henry Elledbeoff, Esquires**

Being two of the Visiting Committee of Her Majesty's Prison at Devizes and Justices of the County in which such Prison is situated under the hands of **Edward N. Carless and Henry W. Laugdon Surgeons**, being Persons authorized as aforesaid that **Charles J Chambers** who was convicted at Salisbury on the 23rd January 1883 of Larceny and sentenced to three calendar months hard labour

Has become insane, **and Whereas** The County Lunatic Asylum at Devizes has been recommended to me as a fit and proper Receptacle for the said Lunatic, I do hereby in pursuance of the Act of Parliament above recited authorize and direct you to cause the said Charles J Chambers to be removed from the said Prison to the said Lunatic Asylum, there to remain until further order shall be made herein. And for so doing this shall be your Warrant.

Given at Whitehall the 23rd day of February 1883

In the 46th year of her Majesty's Reign

**GOVERNOR**

*W. V. Harcourt*

**HM Prison at Devizes**