

The Carrington Extracts
From the diaries of
Caroline Kipling

1902

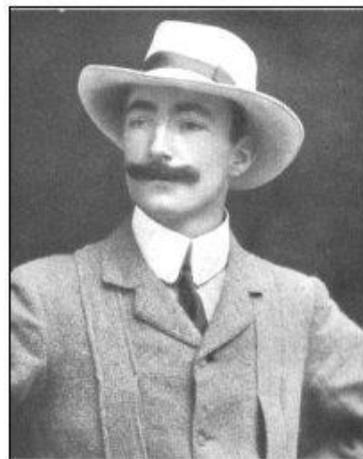
*(This was the year that saw the Kiplings finally settled at Burwash
in Sussex, where they both lived to the end of their lives.)*

1902

Jan. At sea.

7 Jan. 1902 Arrive Cape Town. To the Woolsack.
Many reporters to interview Rud about “*The Islanders*”. Wallace of
the “*Daily Mail*”.

*See our entries for 4 and 9 December
1901. “The Islanders” had been
published in London and New York
on 3 and 4 January. ‘Wallace’ was the
young Edgar Wallace, (1875-1932),
then a reporter, later the celebrated
writer of thrillers in the 1920s and `30s.
He also wrote and published
Kipling-esque verse.*



Edgar Wallace

Rud works in the garden.

Jan. 7 Leave the ship at 10.30. By train to The Woolsack. We find the
house all ready and most delightful.

Jan. 17 Our 10th wedding anniversary. Rud gives me a silver bangle, having
given me my beauty emerald before we left home.

*Actually, their anniversary was on the 18th. For the emerald,
see our entries for 28 Nov. and **Nov. 28 1901.***

18 Jan. To a hospital where he reads “M.I.” and “Parting of the Columns” to 500 men. Enthusiasm.

For “M.I.” see our entry for 13 April 1901. “The Parting of the Columns” was not published until it appeared in The Five Nations, in 1903. The poem is an appreciation of the colonial troops, Australian, Canadian and New Zealand, who had come to fight for the Empire. This occasion may have been its first public airing. See Mary Hamer’s notes on the poems in NRG.

Jan. 18 We go to the Hospital where Rud recites ‘M.I.’ and ‘The Parting of the Columns’ to about 500 men. Deep and long enthusiasm and delight.

23 Jan. “The Cat that Walked . . .”

“The Cat that Walked by Himself” was one of the Just So Stories, and was published in the Ladies’ Home Journal later this year, and collected shortly afterwards.

6 Feb. Radziwill trial (no comment)



Princess Radziwill

*Catherine Radziwill (1858-1941), a Polish princess, had pursued Cecil Rhodes and asked him to marry her. (Although estranged from her husband, she had not yet been divorced from him.) Rejected by Rhodes, she forged his name on a promissory note. Brought to trial in a Cape Town court for forgery and fraud, she was found guilty in May 1902 and jailed. See our entries of 7 June, **June 7** and **June 28, 1900**,*

7 Feb. Lunch at Groote Schuur. Rud [shocked to find Mr. Rhodes looking so ill but cheered by his excellent spirits.](#)

11 Feb. The pater arrives.

Feb. 12 The pater arrives.

13 Feb. Rhodes and Jameson call.

26 Feb. Edgar Wallace calls.

See entry for 7 January.

27 Feb. Mr. Rhodes ill.

2 Mar. Rud goes to Muizenberg and finds Mr. Rhodes better.
Sir G. Goldie calls.

Rhodes had a seaside cottage at Muizenberg, which was slightly cooler than at Groote Schuur

Sir George Goldie (1846-1925) did, in Nigeria, what Rhodes had done in Rhodesia: extended the bounds of Empire through the medium of a Chartered Company. The Company sold out to the British government in 1900, and Nigeria became two British protectorates of Northern and Southern Nigeria. At this time, he was a member of the Royal Commission which had been set up to enquire into the military preparations for the war in South Africa.



Sir George Goldie

4 Mar. “*Butterfly that Stamped*” (originally a firefly)

The last of the Just So Stories.

7 Mar. Rud calls on Mr. Rhodes again and daily.

15 Mar. Very hot. Mr. Rhodes worse.

18 Mar. Rhodes unconscious.

21 Mar. “Sussex” verses.

The poem “Sussex” was published in The Five Nations. He had, evidently, been working on it for a matter of months – he writes in November 1901 to Sarah Orne Jewett (PINNEY, Letters, Vol. 3, pp.78/9) “. . . some verses about the Sussex Downs? Bless the Sussex Downs! I love ‘em and some day will finish those verses, but now is not the time.”

26 Mar. We hear of Mr. Rhodes’ death at 7 p.m.

He had died (according to the New York Times) at 5.57 p.m.

Mar. 26 The pater leaves to embark for Durban.
We hear of Mr. Rhodes’ death.

The pater was travelling along the coast to Durban – the journey by sea was the most comfortable way to make the trip, and almost certainly the quickest.

27 Mar. Lying in state at Groote Schuur.

He had, in fact, died in the cottage at Muizenberg where Kipling had visited him on 2 March and later. His body was taken to Groote Schuur the following day.

28 Mar. Discusses the will and funeral with Jameson.

29 Mar. Verses on Rhodes.

“The Burial”. This was the title under which the poem was collected in The Five Nations.

See Mary Hamer’s notes on the poem in NRG.



The grave of Cecil Rhodes

2 Apr. Recites the verses at a service at Groote Schuur.

Apr. 2 Rud digs at verses for C.J.R. (Rhodes) all day.

This is a slightly unusual use of the verb 'to dig'. We suggest that Carrie was probably using it in the sense given in the OED for 'to dig in', meaning "to set to work earnestly and energetically", which is said to be "U.S. colloquial"

Rud goes to Groote Schuur in the evening to a service and says the verses to them.

The verses were also read at Rhodes' burial in the Matoppos Hills on 10 April (at which Kipling was not present).

3 Apr. Service at Cathedral and procession to station.

Rud goes in one direction and I in another to take our places in the Cathedral. Rud in the procession for the state funeral. Rud goes to the station and sees the train go out.

5 Apr. Rud recites at a soldiers' concert.

6 Apr. Milner arrives and wants to see R(ud)

10 Apr. Telegram from Jameson and F. Rhodes describing the funeral.

As mentioned above, Kipling had not felt able to be present at the funeral, several hundred miles away in what is now southern Zimbabwe, near to Bulawayo. F. Rhodes was Cecil Rhodes' brother Francis, usually known as Frank.

16 Apr. Left the dear Woolsack. Jameson and Pater on the ship, *Walmer Castle*.

Apr. 16 Left the dear Woolsack at 1015 and find all waiting on the *Walmer Castle*

Walmer Castle was a new Union-Castle liner. The real castle, near Deal, in Kent, is the seat of the Lord Warden of the 'Cinque Ports', the ancient union of five sea ports along the English coast, Hastings, New Romney, Hythe, Dover, and Sandwich.

3 May Southampton and to Rottingdean.

May 3 Reach Southampton at 6 a.m. Leave docks at 7.30 taking pater as far as Eastleigh and Lord Wolseley as far as Brighton.

Their arrival was reported in The Times if the following Monday 5th.

It would seem that they had a private saloon again for their return journey (see our entry for Dec. 21 1901). Lord Wolseley was Field Marshal Lord Wolseley, a well-known Victorian General, who had been reputed to be, as Sir Garnet Wolseley, 'Queen Victoria's favourite General', and was the origin of the phrase, not now much in use, 'It's all Sir Garnet', for something which was exactly as it should be.

Rud comes to Brighton station and goes from there to London for Academy dinner.

The dinner was, as usual, reported in The Times of 5 May 1902. Kipling was something of a fixture at the annual 'Academy Banquet', as The Times referred to it. Let alone the fact that he was definitely one of the 'great and good', he was also a nephew of the President of the Academy, Sir Edward Poynter.

May 4 Rud returns at 12.30

5 May [Just So book in order.](#)

6 May [Engage secretary – E. Parker – on trial.](#)

May 6 Engage secretary on trial, Miss Parker.

See entry for 12 July 1899. Sarah Anderson had had to resign. E. Parker was Elsie Parker who had been assistant Nanny when the children went to Crowborough the previous summer (see entry for 6 July 1901). Although she was primarily engaged for Rudyard's benefit and seems to have had a satisfactory relationship with him, her relationship with Carrie was an uneasy one. See LYCETT, pp.362/3.

7 May "Private Copper"

“The Comprehension of Private Copper” was evidently not finished, since there is an entry about it on 8 June; it was first published in October 1902, and collected in Traffics and Discoveries. See John McGivering’s notes on the story in NRG.

8 May FND and Dorothy arrive.

Dorothy was Frank Doubleday’s daughter.

(The children often pay visits to Crowborough)

See above, 6 May. The children had stayed at Crowborough the previous year

May 9 We leave in our motor with John for Crowborough.

14 May R. dines with Roberts at the Athenaeum.
(*“Just So Stories”* verses.)

All the “Just So Stories” that were collected in the book had a poem attached to them.

20 May Mrs. Kipling and Trix as guests.

May 20 Mrs. Kipling and Trix arrive at 5.5, have tea here and go on to hotel where they are to stop as our guests.

May 24 Rud’s parent and sister leave at 2.40.

It cannot be said that Carrie’s tone, in writing about her mother-in-law was welcoming – but there cannot have been that many spare bedrooms at ‘The Elms’, with two children and two nursemaids/nannies, and other live-in servants.

26 May Motor (*the ‘Locomobile’*) out of order. Again by train to Etchingham and by fly to Burwash. Bateman’s again in the market.

May 26 Leave by train for Etchingham. Lunch at Burwash. Walk to look at Bateman’s, again in the market.

See entry for 14 August and August 14, 1900.

28 May To Burwash again. (Telegrams fly – George Macdonald).

May 29 The children leave for Rottingdean. Telegrams and letters fly all day because of Bateman's.

*They meant to make no mistake this time in securing Bateman's.
It would seem that Joh and Elsie had been staying at Crowborough again.*

May 30 We go to London, see George Macdonald about Bateman's – each to our clubs for lunch. Meet at Victoria later. Return to Rottingdean weary.

1 June At Rottingdean.
Sunday – news of peace being declared. Rud starts a motor story.

June 1. Hear the news of peace being declared.

The Treaty of Vereeniging, which formally ended the Boer War was signed on 31 May.

The “motor story” was probably “Steam Tactics”. The ‘Locomobile’ had caused endless trouble, and was unreliable in the extreme (Kipling had described it as a “nickel-plated fraud” in a letter dated 4 July 1901 to John S. Phillips.) See NRG for notes on the story by Alastair Wilson.

2 June To Brighton.
Aunt Georgie puts motto – We have killed and taken possession – on her house – most offensive to village who are noisy near her house at night and have to be stopped by Rudyard.

June 2 Aunt Georgie puts motto “We have killed and taken possession” on her house – most offensive to village who are noisy near her house at night and have to be stopped by Rud.

*See CARRINGTON, pp.322/3, for a fuller description of this event. Details also appeared in a Brighton newspaper, the Echo, but not, it would seem, until 17 June. The text of the banner displayed by Aunt Georgie apparently read “**We have killed and also taken possession**”, according to CARRINGTON.*

5 June A Lanchester car.

6 June Invitations to the Abbey for the Coronation.

The Coronation was due to take place on 26 June. We assume that the Kiplings accepted. In the event, the coronation was postponed – see our entry for 24 June below and for 9 August.

June 6 Rud orders a Lanchester to be delivered.

Frederick Lanchester was an innovative British engineer, whose acquaintance Kipling had made. The motor cars made by him and his brothers George and Frank earned a reputation for reliability, though as we shall see, Kipling's first Lanchester did not always live up to that reputation – but his car must have been a very early example of the marque, they only sold their first cars to the public in 1901.

This was the first petrol-engined car that the Kiplings owned, and although not without fault, was infinitely better than the Locomobile'.

Despite the Locomobile's unreliability, they had, considering the technology of the day, and the unsuitability of the roads, achieved some remarkable trips.

7 June Rud pleased to hear of “Recessional” being sung at peace services. Rifle Club Committee.

June 7 Rud pleased to hear that ‘Recessional’ is being played at all peace services in Africa tomorrow

The difference between the CARRINGTON and the REES extracts puts a different complexion on this entry. In the former, it would appear that thanksgiving services, with ‘Recessional’ were being held in this country (as they probably were, but not necessarily with ‘Recessional’); whereas the latter makes it clear that the reference is to events in Cape Colony.

8 June Dr. Jameson to lunch (*the Prime Minister of Cape Colony*).
“Private Copper”

See entry for 7 May 1902.

Ten days later, Kipling wrote a long 'newsy', letter to Jameson who was taking the cure at Buxton (PINNEY, Letters, Vol. 3, pp. 92-4). He started by inveighing against the weather: "The whole d-d country is like cold spinach: the streams are bank-high [...]. The Pater finds it too dark to work and too wet to go out and we are prowling around the house blaspheming in chorus."

10 June George Macdonald buys Bateman's and 33 acres for £9300.

June 10 George Macdonald buys Bateman's and 33 acres for \$9300.

That price, based on the cost of living index, was roughly equivalent to some £630,000 at today's values. In 1947, my father bought a farmhouse some 70 years older than Bateman's, of about the same size, but in the Sussex vernacular style - stone and red-brick ground floor, tile-hung first floor, with outbuildings and 47 acres of land, - and paid only £7500. The house was run down, having been unoccupied during the war, but had had its own electricity plant installed in the 1930s, and so the whole property was comparable to Bateman's, just four miles away. Today's price for Bateman's, were it to come on the market (it never will, being held inalienably by the National Trust), would be, at an informed guess, in the vicinity of £3-5 million.

11 June Rud and Ambo go over to Bateman's.

Ambrose ('Ambo') Poynter was an architect (see entry for 13 May 1894). He helped Kipling with such alterations as they wanted to make to Bateman's before moving in.

16 June To London. Reception to Colonials.

June 16 Leave for London. Goldman reception to colonials. We separate at 5.30, he to go to Tisbury and I return home.

*“Colonials” meant important visitors from the colonies. We assume that ‘Goldman’ was Charles Goldman (see entry for [June 14 1901](#)). It was probably a private reception. As such it did not feature in any report in *The Times* - which was otherwise filled with such reports as the social whirl before the Coronation intensified. Kipling himself described it as a ‘tea-fight’ (letter to Jameson (PINNEY, **Letters, Vol 3**, pp.92-4). His reason for going to his parents was to “get some fishing” (same letter).*

18 June To Bateman’s, with Ambo again. They decide on no changes but electric light.

This visit was by Carrie alone (Ambo was Ambrose Poynter (see Index).

In rural areas, before the National Grid was created in the 1920s, electric power was virtually non-existent. However, in the first three decades of the 20th century, many larger country houses, with progressive owners, installed their own electric power plants, usually for lighting only, operating at 50 volts. The plant usually consisted of a prime mover, driving a dynamo, which charged a bank of batteries to provide direct current to the house. For Bateman’s, the prime mover at first was the waterwheel in the old mill which was part of the property. Kipling tells the story of the installation of the electric plant in “Below the Mill Dam” (Traffic and Discoveries). See also Something of Myself pp. 179/80. Later he installed a water-driven turbine to replace the mill-wheel. The bank of batteries provided stable power at a constant voltage, whereas the generator’s output would vary as the water level in the mill pond varied.

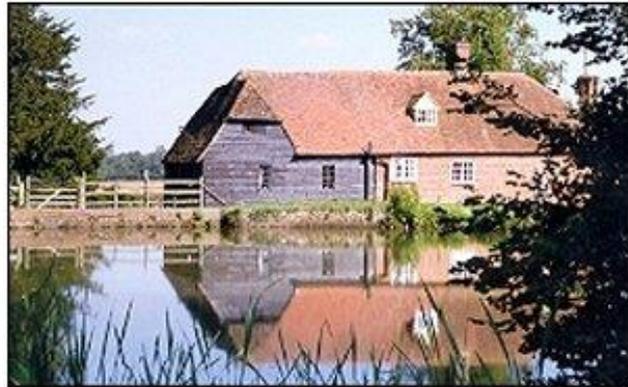
[June 18](#) Meet G. Macdonald and Ambo and motor to Bateman’s where we explore. Leave in motor for home at 3.30.

[June 19](#) Rud arrives at The Elms at 5.35. He had a talk with Mr. Chamberlain at the club where he had lunch.

In the letter to Jameson cited above, Kipling reported on casually conversing with a man in the street who said, “There’s only one man who’s King of England today and he’s Joseph Chamberlain,

21 June To the Stracheys at Guildford. Rud starts a story about Domesday Book and a water mill.

This was “Below the Mill Dam”, published three months later.



the Mill at Bateman's

June 21 We leave at 1 for Guildford. The Stracheys send their motor to meet us.

For the Stracheys, see Index

*In another letter written at this time, to his mother-in-law (PINNEY, **Letters, Vol 3**, pp.95-6)), Kipling explained that he had caught a cold while fishing at Tisbury, and so did not go in their car (this was still the Locomobile – the Lanchester ordered in June was still being built for them). Kipling described their journey to Guildford by train (3 hours for 40 cross-country miles, changing at Horsham) and home in their own Locomobile which (for once) “carried us quietly and noiselessly from Guildford to Rottingdean without a single accident or delay”. The week-end had evidently been spent among motoring enthusiasts (letter cited), the “modest 10 miles an hour [of the Locomobile] came as a relief after the rattling charging motors that had called at the Stracheys all through the Sunday.”*

June 23 Leave in our motor for home.

Their car had evidently come independently to bring them home.

24 June At ‘The Elms’ again. **News of the King’s illness. Rud greatly shocked and more interested than ever before in the King as a man.**

June 24 News of the King's illness comes. Rud greatly shocked and more interested than ever before in King as a man.

The first bearer of the news was young John, who heard it from one of the servants. The Coronation had to be postponed, because the King developed appendicitis, and an emergency operation had to be performed. At the time, this was an extremely radical and risky operation (the operation was not an appendectomy, but the draining of an abscess on the appendix). See entry below for 9 August.

30 June New Secretary – Miss Parker.

June 30 The new Secretary, Miss Parker, takes on.

*See the entries for 5 May above, and for **June 6 1935**.*

July (To Bateman's almost every day.)

10 July Sent off the last of the "Just So" proofs.

July 12 We meet Ambo, electric light man and a Mr. Reynolds with plumbers and masons at Bateman's and get through an immense amount of schemes and plans. Leave after lunch for home.

15-17 July A visit to the Loders (?) at ~~Fern~~ [Free] Chase, a private zoo.

From this entry, it would seem that Sir Edmund Loder evidently lived at a house called Free Chase, on the edge of the Leonardslee estate, at Lower Beeding, near Horsham – but see next entry and annotation,

July 15 We leave, taking the children for Free ? Chase. Met by G. Allen.

We believe that the Carrington entry (immediately above) is misleading. Their visit, as per Rees, was to George Allen (see Index), who was the son of Sir George Allen who had been Kipling's employer on the CMG and Pioneer. He lived at Free Chase, a country house at Warninglid in West Sussex. One of his neighbours was Sir Edmund Loder who lived at Leonardslee, at Lower Beeding, a short distance away. There he kept a private zoo in the grounds. No doubt they visited Sir Edmund's zoo to amuse the children (and also Kipling, who later became a Fellow of the Royal Zoological Society).

Kipling made use of Sir Edmund's zoo as the setting for the last scene of one of Pyecroft tales 'Steam Tactics' (Traffics and Discoveries)

July 17 Reach home at 12. Met by fly, motor not yet ready.

Although they had a new Lanchester on order they were still persevering with the Locomobile, but it was undergoing repair at the moment, and they travelled by train from West Grinstead to Brighton. This editor has always thought that West Grinstead station was in Kipling's mind when he described the scene at 'Sumtner Barton' in 'The Vortex'.

22-30 July The diary written in Rudyard's hand: Uncle Fred calls. Three stories given to Watt. Shooting – a visit to London, Charing Cross Hotel.

July 25 (In RK's writing) **Go to town with Rud. Go to SK (?) ill. Together to see old furniture (a honeymoonish time) . . . Meet R Charing Cross Hotel. He very homesick. Send him to Brown's where he evidently belongs.**

This editor cannot readily interpret this entry. It is apparent that the Kiplings were furniture hunting for Bateman's, and that Kipling enjoyed the hunt. The diary extracts do not show how long they were in London. It is possible that they stayed at the Charing Cross Hotel, possibly the only accommodation they could get, London still being full of overseas visitors held up by the postponed Coronation, and that Kipling was 'homesick' for Brown's where they were known. We do not know who SK was.

29 July Purchase of Bateman's complete.

July 29 Wire from George Macdonald concluding Bateman's purchase which is now our own

This presumably marked the completion of the sale. (See entry for 1 June above.)

July 30 Rud works on his Rifle Range speech.

July 31 Rud does his speech.

Aug. 2 Rud opens Rifle Range at Croydon.

The range (a 25 yard range) was, in fact on the sports ground of the Jaeger Sanitary Woolen System Company at Sydenham (older readers may remember their hat they wore 'wool next to the skin', and that wool was likely to be Jaeger underwear). The speech was reported in The Times of 4 August, and is collected in Professor Pinney's Second Book of Words. (See NRG for text and notes.)

5 Aug. "Steam Tactics"

Kipling was evidently working on the tale again. He used Loder's zoo as a setting for the last phase of the story (see July 15 above) so when he started the tale, he did not expect it to work out like that. The visit clearly provided the inspiration.

9 Aug. Spent Coronation Day quietly at home.
(They went to the Isle of Wight to buy stamped Venetian leather for Bateman's.)

*The Kiplings had been invited to the Coronation (see entries for 6 and 24 June above). But Carrington's entry is wrong – they attended the Coronation ceremony in Westminster Abbey. PINNEY, **Letters, Vol 3**, pp.103-4 has a letter to Stanley Baldwin, dated 10 August, thanking him for all the arrangements which he had made to smooth the proceedings for the Kiplings, including breakfast at the House of Commons and lunch in Westminster Hall. The Kiplings' seats were "in the second row by the floor of the S. Aisle" and they "found themselves all among acquaintances". It seems slightly strange that the Rees 'Extracts' have no entries from Carrie's diaries for the day.*

Thanks to a member's researches in the National Trust archives we now know that the Venetian leather came from a private collector at Lymington, from where the ferries cross to the Isle of Wight, hence Carrington's assumption above. In 1940, Mrs Bambridge sent a packet of letters to a Mr. Matheson of the National Trust, to whom Bateman's had been bequeathed by Carrie. Her covering letter said:

"After you left on Tuesday I found, quite by chance, an envelope with the correspondence and details of the painted and gilt leather on the walls of the dining room.

It was bought by my father in 1902 for 100 guineas from a Mr. W. Moens of Tweed, Lymington, Hants.”



“Mr. Moens had bought it from the Burgomaster of [?] Waterland, Holland. The leather remained rolled up under the kitchen table in Mr. M’s house from 1877 – 1902 so it is a wonder it is in such good condition.”

Aug. 21 We have the new owner of The Elms to look at the furniture, see the garden and so on.

31 Aug.
-11 Sep. In Rudyard’s hand.

31 Aug. Our last night at ‘The Elms’

There is no reason given for Rudyard’s writing the diary during this period, but Carrie would have had her hands full with the move.

1 Sep. **A Reception of Farewell** at the Ridsdales.

The Ridsdales were the in-laws of Kipling's cousin, Stanley Baldwin, and lived in The Dene, at right angles to 'The Elms', on the east side of the Green.

Sep. 2 (in RK's writing – he makes all the entries between Aug. 32 and Sep. 12) **Rud goes to Tisbury morning. Wound up things at Elms. Left The Elms for Burwash in the afternoon.**

3 Sep. Move to Bateman's to **meet chaos and black night.** Foreman of removers rather drunk. [cf. the story "The Puzzler"] (Heavy struggles till about the 9th.)

Sep. 3 **Go to Bateman's to meet chaos and black night. Hudson has not kept promise and foreman of removers is rather drunk. Labour and struggle to put things right.**

A fairly typical house move! Not even Carrie's undoubted organising ability was proof against drunken removal men. And one may wonder about Kipling's absencing himself, but there is little doubt that he would probably have been 'like the fifth wheel on the coach' and would only have added to Carrie's stress.

Sep. 4 **A hopeless day. Rud arrives at 4 p.m. I meet him having laboured with Hudson's men all day. Everyone falling over his neighbour and apparently no hope of ever getting in. Sleep at Bear Inn.**

Sep. 5 **Fought with workmen and cleaners all day long. A terrible day. To bed at Bear Inn, dead tired.**

Sep. 6 **House on verge of being possible. A long and hectic day. Servants and children arrive at 3 p.m. We had our first meal (sent down from the inn) and spent our first night in house. All inmates made comfortable.**

9 Sep. R. takes children to see the hops roasted.

East Sussex and West Kent were great centres of hop-growing.

The flower of the hop bine, when dried, is used to give its particular flavour to English 'bitter' beer. This was probably in Bateman's own oasthouse – now the National Trust shop.



The Oast House at Bateman's

This may have been the last summer that the oasts were used for their proper purpose. By 1908, Kipling had decided that hop-growing was an uncertain crop, and, as evidenced by the photographs accompanying an article on the house in Country Life (August 15th 1908), the oasts had been altered to be part of the accommodation of the main house. But see "Dymchurch Flit" in Puck of Pook's Hill (1906).

The article says that it was Kipling who had had a dovecote erected on the top of the larger, western, oast; and that it was Ambo Poynter who had overseen the conversion of the smaller. There was also a third oast, converted later, down at the Bateman's mill. The rest of the 'Extracts' make no mention of when any of the conversions were effected.

11 Sep. 'Naulakha' packages arrive.

They were gradually clearing their house in Vermont of any articles they still required. Their former coachman-cum-bailiff, Matthew Howard was still acting as caretaker for the house

(Stan and Cissie are the first callers – charmed)

Stanley and Cissie Baldwin.

Sep. 14 Stan, Cissie and Hugh arrive. I have my first caller. Stan and Cissie enchanted with the house.

Hugh was probably Hugh Poynter – see Index

17 Sep. Rud declined an invitation from Curzon to the Delhi Durbar.

Sep. 17 Rud declined yesterday by cable an invitation to us both from Lord Curzon to the Delhi show as his guests.

*Lord Curzon (see entry for 31 May 1897) had received a peerage in his own right in 1898 (he was also the heir to Baron Scarsdale) and had become Viceroy of India in 1899. A Durbar, in India under British rule, meant a ceremonial gathering, and the Viceroy was organising one in honour of the new King's coronation. It had all the ceremonial of a coronation without the actual act (or, on this occasion, the presence of the monarch). Kipling's letter of polite refusal is at PINNEY, **Letters, Vol 3**, p.106.*

(A beautiful mild autumn)

But see entry for 7 November below

26 Sep. The motor in charge of Mr. Colgate arrives



A 1902 Lanchester

*Robert Colgate was a well-educated young man working for the Lanchesters. This was the car they had ordered on 5 June/**June 6**. In these very early days of experimental motoring, each car was individually built, by hand.*

Sep. 29 *Just So* presentation copies sent off.

2 Oct. Presentation copies of *Just So Stories*

Probably the author's free copies from the publisher.

'The Monkey Puzzler'

This tale was published in 1906 as "The Puzzler" and collected in Actions and Reactions. It features, at the end, four furniture removal men who seemed "to have taken as much as is good for them". See our entry for 3 September.

3 Oct. Mr. Lanchester arrives with the machine to assure us all is well.

It was only a week earlier that Mr. Colgate had brought a car – we can only read between the lines and suggest that this car, 'Amelia', was not as reliable as Kipling had hoped.

(All the family and relatives come to stay in turn and all are delighted.)

Oct. 6 Rud goes to meet his people in the evening. They are enchanted with Bateman's.

Oct. 10 Pater leaves at 11, Mrs Kipling and Aunt Aggie at 1.30.

13 Oct. To Rye for lunch with Mr. James where the motor breaks down and remains,

*Mr. James was their old friend, the author Henry James. The Oct. 27 break-down embarrassed Kipling not a little, since he had been expatiating on the joys and advantages of motoring to James. There are two letters concerning the event in PINNEY, **Letters, Vol 3**, pp. 110/1 and pp. 113-115; the former to James himself, describing the aftermath, and the latter to C E Norton, telling the story against himself.*

18 Oct. King verses.

The poem was almost certainly "The King's Task". Its first 18 lines appeared as a heading to "The Comprehension of Private Copper", and later as a chapter heading in "A History of England". It appeared as a complete poem in Songs from Books, in 1912. See NRG for John McGivering's notes on the poem.

Miss Anderson comes for two days.

Oct. 24 We leave for London. Rud leaves to go to Worcester to stay Sunday with Stan. I return by train arriving 7 p.m.

Oct. 27 Rud returns.

7 Nov. He [sends off his notes for the St. George's \(6\) paper](#).

This was an article of reminiscences for the Regimental Magazine of the Royal Northumberland Fusiliers, entitled "Quo Fata Vocant" (the motto of the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers), whom he had known at Lahore (they were the originals of the 'Tyneside Tail Twisters') and in South Africa. The article was not published in the ordinary way, but was collected in the 'Sussex' and 'Burwash' editions. There is an article about it, in the form of a letter to the Editor, in KJ No. 287 (September 1998). See John Mcgivering's notes on the article in NRG, among 'Uncollected Stories'.

(The weather turns bitterly cold and R. has a bad cough).

After a mild autumn, the weather had turned, and Kipling wrote to C E Norton, describing its awfulness in PINNEY, Letters, Vol 3, pp. 114.

Kopje verses.

"Two Kopjes" – first collected in The Five Nations. See NRG for Mary Hamer's notes on the poem.

Nov. 15 Hard at work, struggle with accounts, workmen, housekeeping and guests whom Rud takes later for a walk. They leave by the 1.50 and we enjoy a quiet evening by ourselves.

Dec. 10 Rud starts a play *The Gods and the Machine*.
So far as is known, this play was never completed, and has not survived, even in fragmentary form. We wonder if it was about motoring.

Dec. 15 We go up to town, have a round of the shops, lunch at our respective clubs and return by train.

16 Dec. The Vicar to tea, a pleasant man.

The Vicar was the Rev. Charles Frewen Maude, MA, who was the Vicar of Burwash, 1888-1909. His name suggest that he was a member of the Frewen family from Brede Place, on the way to Rye.

19 Dec. “The Rowers”, also a dream story,

*“The Rowers” was a poem whose writing was triggered by a proposal by Germany that the British and German fleets should combine to make a demonstration off the coasts of Venezuela to persuade that country to pay its international debts. Kipling was scathing about the proposal (even at this date he mistrusted (at the least) the Kaiser’s foreign policy). The notes to this poem in PINNEY, **Poems Vol II** pp. 1511/2 give an account of the circumstances.*

The “dream story” is probably the first stirrings of “The Army of a Dream” (1904).

22 Dec. Lunch at the Vicarage,

25 Dec. Quiet Christmas at home

27 Dec. Southampton.

Dec. 27 We get away early to Southampton. An unpromising lot of fellow passengers including a company of actors under Mr. Terry.

They were off to South Africa for the winter on the Kildonan Castle. Mr. Terry was Fred Terry (1863-1933), a well-known London actor-manager. He was the brother of Ellen Terry

[C.K./C.C./A.J.W./J.R.]