

The Rees and Carrington Extracts
From the diaries of
Caroline Kipling

1905

1905

Jan.

RK at work on Puck stories.
Sir G. Parker [novelist]



Sir Gilbert Parker

Sir Gilbert Parker (1862-1932) had just been knighted: he was born in Canada, had been a journalist in Australia, and was a prolific novelist. He was later Chairman of the Authors' Club, and was a member of Kipling's London clubs (Athenaeum, Carlton, and Beefsteak).

He was also Chairman of the Imperial South African Association and a Unionist MP for 18 years.

Jan. 17

Mlle. Barthelemy comes to arrange about giving the children French lessons, one hour daily while we are here, in conversation for a payment of £4 per month

28 Jan.

Two Puck stories to A P Watt

The first Puck stories did not appear in magazine form until January 1906, when they were published in The Strand Magazine in London, and McClure's in New York. They appeared at monthly intervals in the order in which they appeared in the book itself.

Feb. Rhodes Memorial Committee
Much talk for the site.



The Rhodes Memorial

The memorial, designed by Sir Herbert Baker, was on the slopes of Devil's Peak, above Cape Town, looking north-eastward along the line of Rhodes' great dream, the Cape-to-Cairo railway.

Feb. 15 Rud to Cpe Town to a meeting of Rhodes Memorial Committee.

March *"A Habitation Enforced"*

The correct title was "An Habitation Enforced" and it first appeared in Century magazine in New York in August this year. It was not published in England until it was collected in Actions and Reactions in 1909. (See our notes in the NRG by Alastair Wilson.)

24 Mar. [A set of verses for Lord Milner's departure](#) [See Horace Vth Book]
[Proconsul]

Mar. 24 Rud thinks out a possible set of verses on Lord Milner's departure.

*The title of the poem, which was published in The Times on 22 July 1905, was "The Pro-Consuls", with the sub-title, 'Lord Milner'. Pinney, **Poems**, Vol. 2, p.1517, in the endnotes for this poem, explains Carrington's M/S reference above to "Horace Vth Book" – Kipling's spoof (with Charles Graves and A D Godley and others) of a fictitious book of 'Odes' by the Roman poet Quintus Horatius Flaccus (Horace).*

Mar. 31 Rud writes out the speech he makes in the evening at the motor dinner.

This speech can be found among the ‘uncollected’ speeches which have now been edited by Professor Tom Pinney and published as A Second Book of Words. (See NRG.)

5 Apr. Leave for England, *Kinfauns Castle*
(Mostly this visit spent with Jameson and Sir David Gill?)

For Jameson, close associate of Rhodes, and much admired by Kipling, see the Index for various meetings with him between 1901 and 1903.

Sir David Gill was Director of the Cape Observatory from 1879 to 1906 (See the entry for January 10th 1901).



Sir David Gill

Kipling may have had these conversations in mind when writing “A Doctor of Medicine” (1909), his lecture to the Royal Society of Medicine in November 1928, “Healing by the stars”, and his story “Unprofessional” (1930),

We go first class.

The Hon. Gerald Portman and his wife, Lord Sheffield’s daughter, are the only folk of interest on the ship.

This year, they spent nearly four months in South Africa. The comment about first class is interesting. Kinfauns Castle was a three class ship, carrying 40% of her passengers in 1st class, and one would have expected the Kiplings to have travelled 1st class as a matter of course, as they did on railway journeys. Certainly, on earlier voyages, e.g. in April 1898, when there had been “much talk with Rhodes and Milner” they must have travelled in 1st class for privacy – the classes were segregated.

The Hon. Gerald Portman (1875-1948) was the sixth son of Viscount Portman, a very wealthy London landowner (Portman Square, etc.). Two of his brothers predeceased their father, and his three remaining older brothers all died without male issue, so that he succeeded to his father’s title in 1946.

Apr. 5 We leave for England on the *Kinfauns Castle*. The Hon. Gerald Portman and his wife, Lord Sheffield's daughter, are the only folk of interest on the ship,

22 Apr. Southampton.

Apr, 22 We land early. Arrive at Bateman's at 2.15. Baldwin meets us in motor which has been put in excellent order.

We assume that Baldwin was the Kipling's current chauffeur.

24 Apr. Mr. Lusted comes to report.

Stephen Lusted was the Burwash builder with whom Kipling evidently discussed gardening (see our note for 14 October 1903). Perhaps he had been keeping an eye on the garden at Bateman's in their absence, or carrying out building works for them. He may have been the model for Mr Springett, in "The Wrong Thing" (Rewards and Fairies). See NRG.

Apr. 26 I train Miss Blaikie (~~recent² governess~~) for a secretary. She starts in today at £60 a year (~~no increase in salary~~).

See 21 July below. As is clear from the crossing-out of the original, Rees was confused. There were two Miss Blaikies..

May 1 Rud spends his morning trying to do something for the Prince of Wales but finds himself out of the spirit of it.

There is nothing further to indicate what it might be that he was "trying to do for the Prince of Wales". The entry is of interest, because later, after the Prince of Wales became King, as George V, Kipling wrote many speeches for him.

May 5 Rud goes to London by the 2.30 to dine with the Lord Mayor to meet Mr. Choat.

Carrie's spelling, again. The gentleman was Mr. Choate, and he was the retiring Ambassador of the United States. This was a very large dinner, given at the Mansion House, at which the Prime Minister was present, and all the representatives of the Great and Good of the City, Commerce and Finance were present. It was extensively reported on May 6 in The Times.

6 May Sir Frank Swettenham (nice man)

Sir Frank Swettenham (1850-1946) was a distinguished administrator recently retired as Governor of the Straits Settlements (now part of Malaysia.) He had served in Malaya (Singapore and the various states of the Malayan peninsula) since 1871 and was also an author. Carrie clearly approved of him.



“In the Same Boat”

This tale was not published until December 1911, when it appeared in Harper’s Magazine: it was collected in A Diversity of Creatures in 1917. (See NRG notes by John McGivering.)

Proconsul verses

See our note for 24 Mar. above.

May 6 Rud returns having seen his mother and Sir John Fisher in his office.

May 27 Miss Ball, temporary governess, returns to the deep joy of the children ourselves and herself.

We remain somewhat confused as to who was what in the Kipling’s staff (governess(es) and secretary.)

May 29 Mr. and Mrs. Kipling arrive for a visit.

30 May Florence Macdonald and the pater

June 3 Mr. and Mrs. Kipling leave.

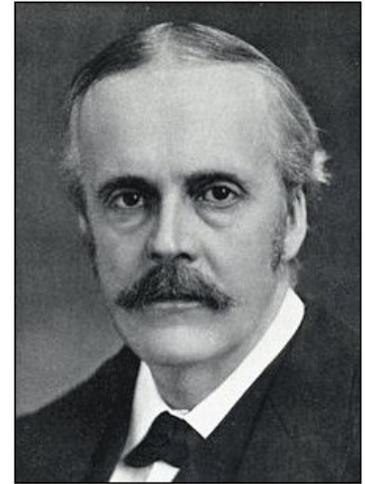
June 14 Rud and I go to town – a dull and empty, not to say tiresome, operation. Have lunch with Mr. Goldman, who is going, like everyone else to the Queen’s Garden Party. Return tired to beautiful Bateman’s.

June A pony – ‘Stella’ – for the children.

23 June Much talk at the Pilgrims’ Club with Mr. Balfour who is amusing.

Arthur Balfour, the Prime Minister, and an extremely wealthy conservative politician from a landed family.

He succeeded his uncle Lord Salisbury as Prime Minister in 1902, remaining in the post until December 1905. Though he was generally seen as a weak leader, the Kiplings rather liked him personally.



Arthur Balfour

With his cautious languid political style, Balfour has been identified as the Cat in Kipling’s 1902 satire, “Below the Mill Dam”. See John McGivering’s notes in NRG.

“The Pilgrims” is an Anglo-American Society, founded in Britain in 1902. Its members did not (and do not) have formal club premises but meet for talks and dinners as required. Their aim is to promote Anglo-American good fellowship.

24 June Rud sees his old ladies, the Misses Craik

See our note on 11 Aug. 1895.

July Roman centurion story.

This would have been the first of the stories about Parnesius, a Romano-British soldier of the 4th century AD, which appeared in Puck of Pook’s Hill.

Mr. Granger (*sic*), an(d) Australian musician: [many wonderful settings of Rud's verses](#).

Percy Grainger (1882-1961) was Australian-born, but came to Europe to complete his musical education. From 1902 to 1914, he was based in London, making a name for himself by collecting English folk music. He was a composer in his own right, and set many of Kipling's verses to music. Brian Mattinson in NRG lists some 38 settings by Grainger of Kipling verses (see "[Kipling and Music](#)").



Percy Grainger

July 5 Rud goes to town and plans to go on to Tisbury tomorrow.

We feel some sympathy for Carrie, in the matter of her in-laws. RK does appear to be dancing attendance on them quite frequently, with no reason given. Given CK's antipathy to Alice Kipling, it must have been rather galling to her.

21 July [Unexpected return of Lord Milner](#) making a change necessary in *Proconsul* verses.

Milner had returned from South Africa in April 1905, this had not been generally expected, but had been known to Kipling in advance (see our note for 27 August 1904).

(There are now two Miss Blaikies, governess and secretary.

We do not know who the second Miss Blaikie was, but it seems likely that she was related to the governess, probably a sister. (See our entries for [Apr. 26](#) and [May 27](#) above) CARRINGTON, p. 412, records that the governess Miss Blaikie "remained a dear friend", and records her name appearing in the Bateman's visitor's book in the years after World War I..

July 29 Rud goes by motor to be present at the meeting of the Conservative Party.

We assume this was a local constituency meeting.

Aug. To the Leonards at Maesllwch castle fishing.

This was presumably Charles Leonard and his family; their daughter Daisy was a friend of Elsie Kipling. They had met in South Africa, where Charles was a prominent lawyer.



Maesllwch Castle

Maesllwch Castle, owned by the de Winton family was a big Victorian Gothic pile at Glasbury-on-Wye in Wales, some four miles from Hay-on-Wye. It was presumably let to the Leonards who were holidaying in Britain, The river Wye is noted for its good fishing.

To the Baldwins at Astley.

This visit would have been to Aunt Louie: Kipling's cousin Stanley lived not far away at Wilden.

Aug. 2 Leave by train and arrive at Maesllwch about 7.

Aug. 6 Motor drive in the afternoon to Brecon.

Aug. 9 Leave for Astley Hall, arrive at 7. A cordial welcome from the Baldwins.

12 Aug. To Cambridge, [to see the Backs](#)

The Backs are an area of green lawns in Cambridge where a number of colleges 'back' on to the river Cam. They were probably travelling by car from Astley, in Worcestershire, via Cambridge, to visit the Haggards in East Anglia.

Aug. 12 The children leave with Miss Blaikie for London. We leave by motor for Cambridge at 9.30 and are there by 6.

As on a previous occasion their car had evidently been driven there separately. Probably, it could not accommodate five people and their baggage, so if they were travelling en famille, it had to be by train. Or possibly, the children suffered from car-sickness.

Aug. 13 Leave Cambridge at 4.30 p.m. for Bury St. Edmunds where we stumble into a Commercial Hotel by mistake. Comfy enough but not luxurious.

No 'TripAdvisor' for Carrie to check on her hotel bookings. A Commercial Hotel specialised in providing hotel accommodation for commercial travellers – see any of the 'Montague Egg' stories by Dorothy L Sayers – they disappeared, or moved up-market in the 1950s when commercial travellers nearly all travelled by car.

14 Aug. To the Haggards

Sir Henry and Lady Rider Haggard lived at Ditchingham On the Norfolk/Suffolk border, not far from the coast.



Rider Haggard

Aug. 14 Arrive at the Haggards at 12.

To the [dear old Jessops in their Rectory](#)

This entry in the Carrington Extracts appeared immediately under the 'To the Haggards', as above.

Aug. 15 Leave at 3, tea at Newmarket and sleep at Brown's, London.

We think that that the Jessops were contemporaries of Kipling's parents, and that they were the 'tea at Newmarket' The particular reference to "their Rectory" is interesting. Today, with declining congregations, the address "The Old Rectory", "The Old Vicarage", "Church House", for houses

no longer owned by the Church of England, is quite common. But it seems likely that Mr Jessop was a practising vicar.

The Kiplings seem to have made quite an ambitious motor tour around the southern half of England – from Glasbury-on-Wye to Astley (55 miles): Astley to Cambridge (110 miles): Cambridge to Ditchingham (70 miles), and Ditchingham back to Burwash (about 150 miles, but broken by a stay in London) This editor's parents' generation would have referred to such a tour as a 'sponge' from Soapy Sponge's Sporting Tour by Robert Surtees.

Aug. 16 We leave Brown's by motor and arrive at dear Bateman's at 6.30

These journeys could not conveniently have been made by rail, and given the state of the roads, the problems with tyres which punctured quite frequently, and the lack of petrol stations, to have achieved this circuit without mishaps and breakdowns seems remarkable.

A French governess.

The Mackail children. He reads them two 'Puck' stories.

Angela and Denis Mackail.

22 Aug. Editor of the Paris *Figaro*

This was Gaston Calmette. Le Figaro was and is a French national newspaper, whose politics have always tended to be right of centre. Nine years later M. Calmette was assassinated by Henriette Caillaux, the wife of the Minister of Finance, who considered that her husband's integrity had been impugned by a letter published in the newspaper. She was acquitted on the grounds that it was a crime of passion.



Gaston Calmette

25 Aug. Mr. Landon, always amusing.

See the Index for earlier references to Perceval Landon, a lifelong friend.

He had worked with Kipling on the "Friend" newspaper in Bloemfontein in March 1900.



Landon, Gwynne, Kipling and Ralph, Bloemfontein 1900

Aug. 28 Pater arrives by 5.30 train.

Sep. 2 Pater leaves at 9.35.

Sep. 8 John and Elsie (note the order) each open a bank account at P.O.

The Post Office Savings Bank was founded in 1861, and provided a near-universal basic banking service for everyone. It was primarily for savings, and could not, in those days, be used as a current account for withdrawals, cheques etc.

Sep. 13 We enter into possession of Jarvis field on a line (?) with Little Suttons.

Sep. 17 Lusted reports agreement with Noaks to sell part of Ashlands, 31-odd acres at £50 per acre.

*For Lusted, see Index.
The Kiplings were continuing to build up their estate.*

18 Sep. He takes out a £4000 life policy to cover death duties.

Sep. 18 A man comes to arrange for an insurance policy or £4000 Rud proposes to take out to partly cover death duties.
'Death duties', substantial taxes on the value of inherited property, had been introduced in 1894.

21 Sep. Mr Jameson – looking ill and wretched.

A close associate and friend of Cecil Rhodes, Dr Jameson shared his views. He was now Prime Minister of Cape Province.

(Bricklayers building a wall.)

Oct. 21 An invitation from the Bishop of London to lunch and notice of Rud's being made Poet Laureate of the Burns Lodge.

For the Bishop's lunch, see entry for 2 Nov and Nov. 2. As regards the Poet Laureateship, we suggest that this referred to an honorary appointment to a Masonic Lodge, possibly that in Burns, Oregon.

Oct. [Miss Hooper a dear old friend of Rud's childhood](#)

We are not sure of the identity of "Miss Hooper". The fact that she was evidently connected with Kipling's childhood, suggests that she may have been related to George Hooper, one of Kipling's parents' friends when they were in India. We wonder if the lady was, in fact, Miss Hannah Winnard, sister-in-law of George Hooper, and the third of Kipling's 'old ladies' (the Misses Craik being the other two) with whom Kipling and Trix had boarded in holiday times, as children.

"Recessional" sung in 300 churches on Trafalgar Day.

Oct. 22 300-odd churches that we know of sing the Recessional for the Nelson celebration.

October 21 had been the centenary of the Battle of Trafalgar and had been celebrated appropriately. The Times was full of various accounts of the battle and the celebrations, but the latter were in no way official, all being organised by the Navy League.

In view of the Entente Cordiale of April 1904 this was probably tactful. Nor was there a fleet review.

2 Nov. Lunches with Bishop of London.

This was Arthur Winnington-Ingram. The Bishop had been a clergyman and suffragan (junior) Bishop in the East End of London from 1889 until becoming Bishop of London in 1901. His parishes had included the sort of poor working-class streets which Kipling had written of in "The Record of "Badalia Herodsfoot" in 1890.



The Bishop of London

Noc. 2 Rud goes to town and lunches with the Bishop of London which he wires was a success. He goes on o Tisbury.

4 Nov. Returns from Tisbury. His mother feeble, his father bored. Trix will see them through their troubles.

Nov. 4 Rud returns at 5.30.

7 Nov. **Dined with the Moberley Bells to meet the Joseph Chamberlains – dull!**

Nov. 7 We leave for town to dine with the Moberley Bells to meet Joseph Chamberlain – dull. Doctor Morrison sits next to me.

Possibly the gentlemen were discussing Tariff Reform and Empire Trade. Chamberlain had resigned from the cabinet in 1903 (see our note, 18 Sep 1903) to pursue the cause of Tariff Reform, to encourage trade within the Empire. Sir Arthur Pearson, chairman of the Tariff Reform League, was negotiating to take over The Times (but never did), of which Bell was the Editor.

"Hal o' the Draft".

This was one of the 'Puck' tales, first published in August 1906 in the Strand and McClure's: and later the same year collected in Puck of Pook's Hill. See NRG notes, by Donald Mackenzie.

Nov. 21 Martin cuts his hand badly on the saw. Utter carelessness. His hand is dressed and as he has cut the tendon will be useless for some time.

To Oxford, the Randolph
R. dines with the Rhodes Trustees and Scholars.

“The Puzzler”

First published in magazine form in the Tribune in London, 15 & 16 January 1906 and in the North American in Philadelphia in the USA. (See NRG for notes by John McGivering).

Nov. 24 Rud leaves at noon for Oxford.

The ‘Randolph’ Hotel was one of the two main hotels in Oxford (the ‘Mitre’ – now closed - was the other).

Nov. 25 Rud returns from Oxford where he has dined with the Rhodes Trustees and Scholars – 150 in number – to his immense satisfaction and theirs evidently for they cheer and applaud him.

Kipling had been involved at the start of the Rhodes Scholarship scheme (see our note for 1 February 1901), though he did not become a Trustee himself until 1917, when he was invited by Dr. Jameson, shortly before the latter’s death. Kipling resigned on a point of principle in 1925.

Ambrose Poynter comes at 6.30 full of excitement and rage with his prospective mother-in-law who will not have him at any price.

He married in 1907 – whether his wife was the fiancée in the entry above we are not sure.

Dec. 6 We go to town to find Charing Cross Station has collapsed so to our great inconvenience we go to Cannon Street.

Part of the roof of Charing Cross Station (an arch) had collapsed the previous afternoon, killing six people and seriously injuring eight others. It was not rebuilt in that form, but in the 1980s, as part of its redevelopment, the space over the platforms was rebuilt as office accommodation and shops in the arch shape which had caused Kipling to describe it in ‘An Habitation Enforced’ as “an ash-barrel of a station”.

17 Dec. A Siddely car on trial.

Dec. 17 Go in trial motor trip, Siddley car left by Mr. Lawrence.

In the highly fragmented, infant, motor industry in England at this time, there was a Siddeley Autocar Company, which ultimately became Armstrong-Siddeley Motors. In 1905, their cars were largely Peugeot-designed, though made in Britain. They were about to be taken over when Kipling tried this car.

Dec. 22 We leave by 2.39 train going by London Bridge and thence to Brown's.

23 Dec. Sailed for Africa with Duke and Duchess of Connaught. Rud talks daily with him, Remembers Rud in India.

Dec. 23 Travel down to Southampton. Our usual cabins. The Duke and Duchess of Connaught with their daughter Patricia – chief interest.

Their ship was the Armadale Castle.

The Duke of Connaught (1850-1942). third son of Queen Victoria, was a 'working' member of the British Royal family, and was later Governor-General of Canada, 1911-1916. In the 1880s he was Commander-in-Chief of the Bombay army, and it was from that time that he remembered "Rud in India". On this voyage he was travelling to visit British troops in South Africa – a 'morale-boosting' tour which would last eight weeks (The Times, 25 December 1905).



The Duke of Connaught

Dec. 24 The Duke talks to Rud, as does the Duchess, both remembering him from the Indian days.

Dec. 25 The Duke asks to be presented and is very civil.

Dec. 27 Rud talks daily with the Duke who also talks with me – a pleasant man – charming manners.

Kipling wrote some verses “The Silent Army”, which he presented to the Duchess shortly before their arrival at the Cape. These had not previously been collected before appearing in the Cambridge Edition of the verse (2013) Ed. Pinney, p. 3072, but were quoted in BIRKENHEAD, p. 212.

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