

The Rees and Carrington Extracts
from the diaries of
Caroline Kipling

1911

1911

Jan.

At Engelberg. The Baldwins there. John gets measles.

Jan. 17

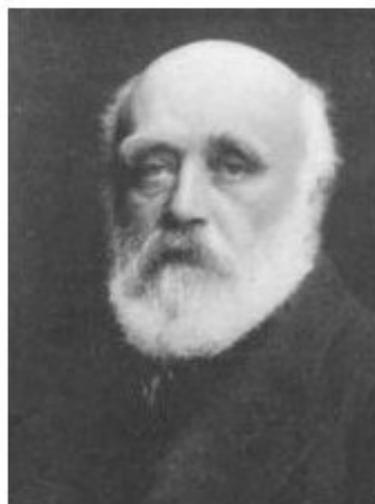
John shows, on inspection, certain signs of measles.



As with Elsie in 1909, the Kiplings must have been worried about John, but their worries were about to be overtaken by another concern.

23 Jan.

News that the Pater is ill at 'Clouds;



Lockwood Kipling

Jan. 23 News from Dr. Ensor at Tisbury to say Pater is ill at 'Clouds' with a bad cold.

'Clouds' was the home of the Wyndham family, not far from Kipling's parents' home at Tisbury. (See our notes on 30 Apr 1894 and 27 July 1895 and LYCETT, pp. 410-11) Kipling had visited his father just before Christmas (see our note on 23 December 1910), and had left him in good health, but four weeks later, Lockwood had contracted a heavy cold while visiting the Wyndhams, and had suffered a heart attack four days later.

27 Jan. News of the Pater's death. Rud leaves for England.

Jan. 27 At noon comes news of Pater's death at 'Clouds' after a ten minutes' heart attack.

According to his obituary (see 30 Jan below), he died "at home". Both Kipling and Carrie returned to England for the funeral.

28 Jan. At Tisbury. George Macdonald sees to business affairs
[Rud's first cousin, a solicitor]

Jan. 28 We reach Tisbury 9 p.m.

30 Jan. Funeral.

Jan. 30 Pater's funeral at 2 p.m.

An obituary for Lockwood appeared in The Times of 30 January. The obituary noted that when the Kiplings were living in Bombay (now Mumbai), Lockwood was the Bombay correspondent of the Allahabad Pioneer.

The 'Court Circular' in The Times of February 1 reported that "Mr and Mrs Rudyard Kipling have returned to Engelberg, Switzerland."

In acknowledging a letter of sympathy from Mrs. Edmonia Hill, his old friend from Allahabad (PINNEY, Letters, Vol. 4, pp. 12-13) Kipling wrote on February 10th: “Dear as my mother was, my father was more to me than most men are to their sons: and now that I have no one to talk to or write to I find myself desolate,”

Jan. 31 We leave Tisbury at 5.30, spending the night at Brown’s.

Feb. 2 Reach Engelberg.

13 Feb. John goes to school.

Feb. 13 John leaves in good spirits.

He went back late because of his measles, which, it would seem, had been a bad attack. In the letter to Edmonia Hill, cited above, Kipling had written of John being “seriously ill”.

15 Feb. Rud sends his verses to the Clarendon Press.

[English History, Fletcher and Kipling]

There were twenty-two poems: see NRG for “Historical Poems” within “The Main Works” and notes on each poem by Peter Keating.

16 Feb. To Paris.

Feb. 16 After lunch, we leave for Paris.

18 Feb. Vernet-les-Bains.

Feb. 18 Leave in through carriage for Vernet-les-Bains.

Once again, they were taking ‘the cure’. This time, they had made the longer, but quicker, journey via Paris.



Vernet-les Bains

Feb. 20 Rud has his first hot tub at home and begins to drink the waters.

Carrie means 'at the hotel', rather than at the public baths.

Feb. 22 Rud has his first massage bath.

Feb. 24 We walk up the hill, but Rud more disinclined than ever for walking



*At Vernet. with Lord and Lady Roberts
and the Bishop of Perpignan*

27 Feb. Lord and Lady Roberts come.
Rud is incapacitated, lamed – crippled.
The Depews. She is now Mrs Trevor Park.

*Lord and Lady Roberts are 'Bobs' and his wife. See Index for
previous entries.*

*Kipling had sciatica during his stay at Vernet (hence the remarks above about being “lamed – crippled” - this editor can confirm Carrie’s remarks: sciatica can be most unpleasant and, very literally, crippling), but it seems to have had no long-term effects. (See PINNEY, **Letters**, Vol. 4, p. 20, note 5.)*



Julia Depew (née Catlin)

The Depews are Julia Catlin (see Index for previous entries) and her new husband Chauncey Mitchell Depew, son of a distinguished American lawyer. The entry is misleading – Julia Catlin had earlier married Trevor Park, but she had been widowed in 1906. She had just re-married Chauncey Depew.

Mar. 1 Rud not able to walk.

2 Mar. Perpignan. A **delightful R(oman) C(atholic) Bishop**.

In his letter to Colonel Feilden, Kipling enlarges on this trip, describing their lunch in enthusiastic detail: the Bishop gets a mention, but definitely played second fiddle to a superb lunch of six courses. Their host was Emile Kiesler, one of three brothers who ran the hotel at which they were staying.

11 Mar. To

They made a number of motor trips from Vernet. Their new Rolls Royce had been damaged in a fire at the coachbuilders in Britain, but they had the use of the Depew's powerful de Dietrich, a celebrated French make of car. (See PINNEY, Letters, Vol. 4, p. 16-25)



5,700 cc. Lorraine-Dietrich, 1911

13 Mar. A little skit – “*How/why snow came/falls to Vernet*”.

It was actually called “Why Snow Falls on Vernet” and was published in a local English-language magazine The Merry Thought (see LYCETT, p. 412 and link). See the link to the article by David Richards in NRG, under ‘For Collectors’.

14 Mar. “*The Spy*” for a collected volume for Prince Francis of Teck (Athlone)

[A bit of blackmail deadly common these days \(?\)](#)

Mar. 14 Rud works on verses called ‘*The Spy*’ to be published in a volume by Prince Francis of Teck for his hospital fund. A bit of blackmail common these days.

This was the poem “The Spies March”, published in a fund-raising book in aid of the Prince Francis of Teck Memorial Fund (see Mary Hamer’s NRG notes on the poem).

Prince Francis had died the previous year, and his younger brother, who became the Earl of Athlone, had become Chairman of the Middlesex Hospital in London.



Sir John Bland-Sutton

The inspiration for the poem probably came from the Kiplings' friend, and surgeon to the Middlesex Hospital, Sir John Bland-Sutton. Carrie's reference to blackmail" may suggest that Sir John had 'twisted Kipling's arm' to contribute to the fund, though as Mary Hamer indicates, the subject of deadly epidemics was one in which Kipling was very interested.

24 Mar. Mr. Landon.

Percival Landon (see Index for previous references) joined them and travelled back with them to England.

25 Mar. Motor trip begins (Rud's handwriting)
Narbonne – Pont du Gard – Arles – Les Baux – Aigue Morts (*sic* - properly *Aigues Mortes*)
(Bogged down and apparently stayed at a farm.)

Mar. 25 (until Apr. 9th the entries are in RK's writing. Start our great trip in motor.

Rolls-Royce had lent them a car and chauffeur (named Fleck) in place of their own new car, whose completion had been delayed in the works of the coachbuilders, incurring Kipling's wrath.

Kipling kept notes of all his motor tours – most of the notes are in the Kipling Collection at Sussex University, but there are a number of details of this tour in PINNEY, Letters, Vol. 4, pp. 31/2 - a ten-day, 1200 mile trip from Vernet to Paris, with a wide sweep to the west - and comments on the hotels at which they stayed (the 'sanitary arrangements' (toilet facilities) received his particular attention.).



*Rolls Royce Silver Ghost,
Photo by Malcolm Asquith, 2004*

*In the letter to Claude Johnson of Rolls Royce, Kipling praised the borrowed Silver Ghost (referred to as a 'Spectre') saying that, although she had been **"a Terror on tires, she busted four – all in the same place"**, she **"carried us from the South to the North without a slip I don't count the bog into which she sank for three hours at Marsillargues and was hauled out by horses"**.*

27 Mar. Beziars – Carcassonne.

*The Hotel Bernard at Carcassonne **"needs a little overhauling to become fair hotel. Sanitary arrangements satisfactory, but no possible baths. Indifferent food"***

28 Mar. Toulouse.

29 Mar. Bergerac.

*In Bergerac they stayed at the Hotel de Londres et des Voyageurs, which was **"not over clean"** and **"Sanitary arrangements old-fashioned and dirty, impossible for ladies until cleaned. No baths."***

30 Mar. Angoulême – Poitiers. Saw Vedrine's aeroplane flying over the town.

After a stop for lunch at the Hotel de France at Angoulême (“very good food and sanitary arrangements clean”), they stayed at the Hotel du Palais in Poitiers.. It was “up to date for baths heating and cleanliness but food and dining room service very bad for so large a town”

Jules Védrine (1881-1919) was a celebrated French aviator At this time, he was specialising in long-distance flights. In April he attracted attention by dropping bunches of violets from his monoplane down to the Place de la Concorde in Paris, and in May he won the Paris-Madrid air race, completing it in three hops.



Jules Védrines

31 Mar. Tours.

Their hotel at Tours, L’Hotel de l’Univers was “exceptionally good and not at all expensive for the accommodation provided”.

1 Apr. Chaumont – Agnes Sorel’s tomb – Blois – Chartres.



Chateau de Chaumont

They were working their way up the Loire valley. Chaumont-sur-Loire is noted for its chateau, which had belonged to Cathérine de Medici and Madame de Stäel, among many others.

Agnès Sorel's tomb (she was the 'official' mistress of King Charles VII) is at Loches, a village on the Indre, which is not on the direct route between Tours and Blois.

*They must have zig-zagged across the country to encompass these two historic sites in a morning (they lunched at Blois – see note below): indeed, their visits can only have been brief. When they reached Blois, their lunch was not up to much: **“Grand Hotel de Blois – one very bad lunch here: bad service, bad food and even bad butter. Charges high.”***

*The afternoon's run to get to Chartres was about the same length as the morning's run, and the Hotel du Grand Monarque was a distinct improvement: **“very good and not expensive.”***



Chartres Cathedral



Rouen Cathedral

2 Apr. Rouen.

Although their destination was Paris (east-north-east from Chartres, they were not going direct: Chartres-Rouen is north-north-west, up the pretty valley of the Eure.

*They only lunched at Rouen (**Hotel de la Poste “Fair lunch only”**) before going on eastwards to Beauvais, where the Hotel de France et d'Angleterre was **“not modern but comfortable and moderate in price.”***

3 Apr. Amiens –Paris.

Their last day's touring evidently took them north to Amiens where they lunched and reported that the Hotel de l'Univers had raised its price for lunch from 3 francs (two shillings and sixpence – 12.5p) to 3 francs 50 centimes (two shillings and elevenpence – 14.5p), before turning south again to reach Paris.

5 Apr. A motor collision near Paris.

*Kipling reported this accident (a collision with a tram), in his letter to Claude Johnson (cited above in our note dated **Mar. 25**) It resulted in a bent axle, which the R-R chauffeur, Fleck by name, was able to put right within 48 hours.*

7 Apr. Abbeville. Tete de Bourg [Boeuf]

*This hotel, the last one reported on, was “**not over clean. Obliging: speak English.**”*

8 Apr. Bateman's via Boulogne.

Apr. 8 Leave Abbeville 9 a.m. for Boulogne. Blessed Bateman's at 4.30.

*Kipling had been expressing a wish to be back at Bateman's since mid-March (letter to Colonel Feilden - PINNEY, **Letters**, Vol. 4, pp. 17- 20 - in which he said “. . . **never have I so keenly wished to return to Bateman's.**”*

11 Apr. Aunt Georgie has sadly aged.

But she lived on for another nine years. She was now 71.

12 Apr. First draft of new motor story.
Suffragette verses [“*The Female of the Species*”]

Out of the next collection of tales, A Diversity of Creatures (1917) there are three ‘motor stories’ “The Horse Marines” ,(already published in 1910): “The Vortex” (first published 1914) and “The Village that Voted the Earth was Flat” (first published 1917). This may have been a first draft of “The Village that Voted ...”, though the poem was dated by Kipling to 1913.

The “Suffragette verses” had been maturing for some time – see our note on 21 July 1910. They were completed this summer, and appeared in the Morning Post in October 1911 (See NRG notes by Geoffrey Annis).

- Apr. 14** We finish out and post our super-tax returns.
- Apr. 18** We motor to The Gables, Tisbury to break up the little home there
- Apr. 19** We stick at our work, Rud and John in the library, Elsie and I at the house.
- 20 Apr.** We all go to Tisbury and visit ‘Clouds’.
Lady Goschen, Lady Edward Cecil and her children
Lord Salisbury and children.
Lawrence Clark
Lord Selborne.

LYCETT, (p. 411) confirms (based on the ‘Rees Extracts’) that their stay at Tisbury lasted three days, while they disposed of his parents’ goods and chattels.

Lady Goschen was the wife of the 2nd Viscount Goschen, who had been a Conservative MP until the Liberal landslide of 1906, and later became a colonial Governor in the 1920s: they were much the same age as the Kiplings and lived at Flimwell, some eight miles from Bateman’s, not far from Great Wigsell where Lady Edward Cecil and her family lived.

Lord Salisbury was the son of the former Conservative Prime-Minister, and brother-in-law of Lady Edward Cecil. he was four years older than Kipling and had two sons and two daughters.



Lord Selborne



Lord Salisbury

Lord Selborne was a Conservative politician who had been British High Commissioner for South Africa until 1910 (see Index for earlier entries). We have not identified Lawrence Clark.

Apr. 21 Finish our job.

Apr. 22 Drive to 'Free Chase'.

They called at the Allens on the way home.

Apr 26 A couple of hours cleaning out the mill for the Tisbury furniture.

May 1 A van load of such furniture, books and china as we are keeping comes from Tisbury.

3 May John's eyes still worse.

LYCETT, p. 447, says that John's eyesight (visual acuity) was only 6/36 (which means that he could only read at 6 metres (20 feet), what someone with 'normal' eyesight could read at 36 metres (120 feet). It is not clear whether the meaning is that John's eyesight had deteriorated still further, or that it was still bad (improvement having been hoped for).

6 May [Mr. Lewis \(gunner\) comes on his bike.](#)
A Stalky story, 'Regulus'.

*Mr Lewis was probably Lieutenant William Lewis of the Royal Artillery - hence 'gunner' - (see LYCETT, p. 433) who was a friend of the Leonards (see Index). Kipling wrote to him nearly three months later (PINNEY, **Letters**, Vol.4 , pp. 41-2) congratulating him on his appointment to a mountain battery in India, and advising him to wear flannel next to the skin at all times, not to drink the water, and if in trouble, to go to 'Stalky' for advice.*

May 9 Meet Annie Maidment, a servant from the Gables who is going to help me to put the Cottage in order and keep house for the Governess and the Secretary.

May 16 Miss Sauter, governess, comes to start work.

24 May Talk about the annual visit to Lord Milner on Empire Day.

Empire Day was instituted on 24th May 1902 as an annual event, particularly for children, to teach them what it meant to be a citizen of the British Empire. (24th May was the birthday of Queen Victoria). It became Commonwealth Day in 1966, and the date has twice been changed. Carrington probably means that they had visited Milner at his home near Canterbury for the day's celebrations.

26 May Rud dines at the Inner Temple, Thackeray Centenary.



Anne Isabella Thackeray



William Makepeace Thackeray

William Makepeace Thackeray (1811-63) was a celebrated Victorian novelist, author of Vanity Fair. He had, 1831-32, studied law in the Middle Temple, though he was never called to the bar. At the dinner, Kipling met Thackeray's daughter, Anne Isabella Thackeray Ritchie (1837-1919), herself an author and Thackeray's only surviving child.

May 29 The Daimler motor sold last week for £150 delivered today by Moore.

3 June I open the little rifle range.

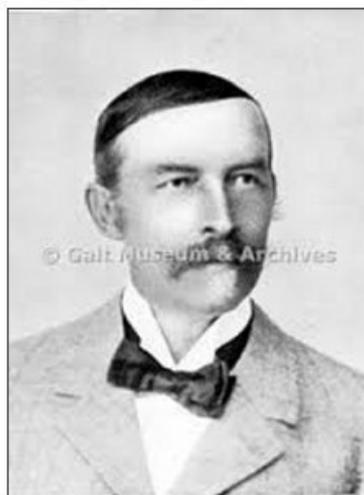
See John McGivering's notes in NRG on "The Parable of Boy Jones", published the previous year. Kipling continued to be concerned about the need for England to be ready for another war, if it came.

6 June To London to choose a Coronation gown.

June 6 I spend the day in London choosing a coronation gown and the clothes that go with it.

They had evidently received an invitation to attend the Coronation, in Westminster Abbey.

9 June Lunch with the Hammonds. Mr. Burdett-Coutts house.



William Burdett Coutts



John Hays Hammond

William Burdett Coutts (1851-21) was the Conservative MP for Westminster. He was American by birth, but with British grandparents, and had married the heiress Baroness Angela Burdett-Coutts. He had been in South Africa during the Boer War, as a correspondent of The Times, especially concerned with the sick and wounded. He was a philanthropist, using his parliamentary position to forward his ideas.

'The Hammonds' may well have been John Hays Hammond, an American-born mining engineer and his wife. The Kiplings had met him on their first trip to South Africa in January 1898 (LYCETT, p. 303). He was an associate of Cecil Rhodes.

June 13 Our new R.R. motor comes down and has to be returned - faulty carriage building – a great disappointment.

14 June Mr. Blumenfeld.

R D Blumenfeld was the Editor of the Daily Express. See our entry of 22 July 1909.



R. D. Blumenfeld

17 June Rud to a lunch of Colonial Prime Ministers.

All the Dominion and colonial Prime Ministers were in London for the Coronation. Balfour, the former Conservative Prime Minister, presided at the lunch, at the Constitutional Club.

June 17 They are sent a stock Rolls Royce which they try but return as it is most uncomfortable.

The next entry about their car is in Rees, and is dated Dec. 21 (Rees's underlining). It is not clear what they did for a car in the intervening six months – they clearly had the use of one,

21 June To stay with the Baldwins at Queen's Gate.

June 21 We leave at noon for London. Rud goes for a walk in the Park to see the soldiers in Camp.

This was for the Coronation ceremony. The Baldwins had a house in Queen's Gate, South Kensington, at this time, and offered a bed for the previous night to their cousins. Hyde Park became a huge tented camp for the Empire-wide contingents who formed the Coronation procession.

22 June Coronation – good seats in the Abbey. Left at 5.45 a.m. home to Bateman's 6.15 p.m.

June 22 In our seats in the Abbey at 8.45. Excellent places, all the Royal processions pass within six feet of us. A splendid sight. At Bateman's at 6.15 – very tired.



*Kipling gave a description of their day in his letter of thanks to Stanley Baldwin (PINNEY, **Letters**, Vol. 4, pp. 36-7) written at 9.a.m. the following day. Their car dropped them in Deans Yard at 6 a.m., and they breakfasted (by courtesy of Mr. Baldwin) in the House of Commons. Their seats in Westminster Abbey were “**all among acquaintances**”, so the hours of waiting would have passed tolerably pleasantly. After the ceremony, they returned to the House of Commons for a cold lunch, found their car, and were driven home to Burwash, through deserted streets, in two and a quarter hours.*

25 June Rud starts some verses about the “*Declaration of London*”.

The Declaration of London, which was the result of a conference held at the end of 1910 on trade in time of war, was to be ratified by a Naval Prize Bill. Kipling was scathing about the fact that the Bill, which he considered a matter of national interest, was to be voted on along Party lines.

*See John Radcliffe’s NRG notes on the poem, published on 29 May. In the end, the Bill was thrown out by the House of Lords, and (see PINNEY, **Poems**, Vol. II, p. 1522) in 1919 Kipling wrote to Frank Doubleday that this act by the Lords had enabled the Royal Navy to “**save the world**”. In the first three years of the war to come, the question of neutral trade and contraband (in particular the trade of the USA) was a bone of contention in Admiralty circles.*

Kipling later wrote a tale, “Sea Constables” (written in 1915, but not published until 1926) in which the Royal Navy prevents a neutral American vessel from supplying oil to German submarines. The right of neutrals to trade freely in time of war was a delicate matter.

26 June Sir Starr Jameson and Sir Thomas Smartt



Sir Thomas Smartt



Sir Starr Jameson

For Jameson, see Index. Sir Thomas Smartt (1858-1929) was an Irish-born South African politician who had been an associate of Jameson, and succeeded him as the leader of the Progressive party.

June 26 John has chickenpox.

It was not John's year – first measles, and now chickenpox, within six months.

29 June Declaration Verses in the *Morning Post*.



Howell Gwynne

The Morning Post was about to become Kipling's newspaper of choice for publication of his 'national importance' poems.

Gwynne would become Editor, in succession to Fabian Ware, on 8 July.

*Kipling had been asked by The Times to write something about the Coronation, but had declined (PINNEY, **Letters**, Vol.4, pp. 38-9).*

30 June Miss Coates, secretary, leaves to better herself,

June 30 Miss Coates, secretary, leaves after two years' service, having decided to try her luck in Canada

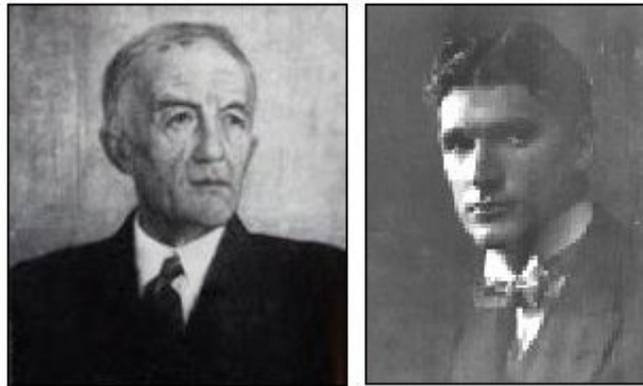
LYCETT, p. 430 comments that the Kiplings had 'staff problems' at this time; two years later, in writing to Neltje Doubleday, Kipling noted that "an epidemic of notices to leave our service has set in", and Lycett, linking this to the general atmosphere of industrial confrontation which pervaded the whole country at this time (in Socialist circles it is still referred to as "the great unrest"), writes that "over a couple of years from mid-1911 Carrie had run through four secretaries".

3 July To Brede Place. Tea with the Frewens.

July 3 To Brede Place to have tea with the Frewens to meet the Crown Princess of Roumania (See our note of Oct. 1910)

4 July

To the Bakers near Gravesend.
The hottest days I ever knew in England. The Doubledays



Sir Herbert Baker Frank Doubleday

“The Bakers” were Sir Herbert Baker, the architect of The Woolsack (the house in South Africa lent to Kipling by Rhodes, see Index) and his wife, who had settled at Cobham, just inland from Gravesend in Kent. The journey would have taken about an hour from Bateman’s. Kipling’s American publisher Frank N Doubleday (‘Effendi’) and his wife were visiting, both as family friends and to discuss business.

A heatwave had set in on 2 July, lasting till mid-September, with record temperatures which were not exceeded until 1990.

12 July

Sir Max and Lady Aitken (twice)



Sir Max Aitken

This is the first mention of Sir Max Aitken, later Lord Beaverbrook, Canadian millionaire businessman, M.P., and future newspaper magnate. He and Kipling shared similar political views, and became close in the turbulent political times of the second decade of the 20th century. Kipling also valued his financial advice.

20 July "In the Presence"

This story concerns 'honour' as seen through the eyes of Sikh soldiers. The story's 'frame' is the lying in state of the late King Edward VII, and it recounts the actions of the Indian Army men who keep vigil in Westminster Hall. It was first published in March 1912. See the NRG notes by John McGivering.

21 July Ian Colvin.

Ian Colvin (1877-1938) was a journalist and author. He was a witty and polemical leader writer for the Morning Post, whom Kipling had first met in South Africa. Later, as Gwynne's deputy, he was often in touch with Kipling, and at Kipling's suggestion wrote a biography of Jameson.



Ian Colvin

29 July To Lady Bathurst's at Cirencester.

July 29 We leave for Lady Bathurst's, near Cirencester

Kipling had taken an interest in the editorship of the Morning Post, writing to Lady Bathurst, the proprietor, to propose Gwynne as a candidate.

*Gwynne had now been in post for three weeks. (PINNEY, **Letters**, Vol. 4, pp. 34-5 & 37-8)*



Lady Bathurst

4 Aug. A trip abroad with the Aitkens

They had become intimate with the Aitkens very quickly. Max

Aitken (1879-1964), a Canadian and the son of a Presbyterian minister, might be described as a 'wheeler-dealer'. He became a millionaire before he was thirty, largely through company mergers and acquisitions. He had moved to England in the spring of 1910.

Aitken became friendly with Bonar Law, another Canadian from a similar background, and persuaded him to allow him to stand, in the Tory interest, in the second 1910 election. (Law became Leader of the Conservative Party in 1911.) Aitken was elected, and also started on his career as a newspaper proprietor. At this time, he had invested in the Daily Express but did not have a controlling interest. He was also a major shareholder in Rolls-Royce, though Claude Johnson resisted his efforts to gain control of the company.

Aitken's wife, whom he had married in 1906, was Gladys Henderson Drury, with whom he had three children. His second son, born in 1912, was given 'Rudyard' as his second name.

Aug. 4 We leave at 7 for Folkestone

5 Aug. Rouen

*The Aitkens only came for two days or so, returning from Le Havre. The Kiplings, including Elsie and John, continued in their own 'Silver Ghost' (but see our notes on **June 17** above.). This was a spacious vehicle; if John sat alongside the driver, the rear could accommodate five people. The Kiplings knew Rouen, having lunched there on their way back from Vernet in April.*

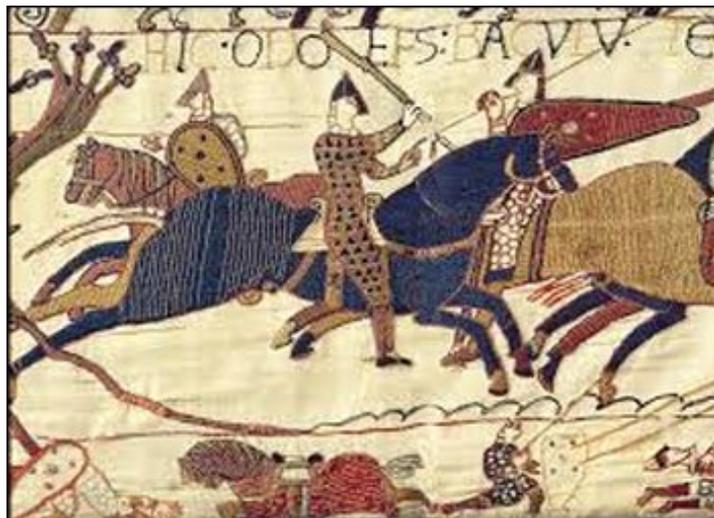
Aug. 5 We walk to the boat. Lunch at Boulogne. Delay of at least 25 minutes for customs duties on Sir Max Aitken's cigars. Off to Rouen via Abbeville.

6 Aug. Le Havre

Today Le Havre is an industrial town, and most Britons, arriving by ferry, hurry on southwards. But in the days before the motor car became universal, people made the the overnight journey, by train with a dining car from Waterloo to Southampton.

Then one could settle in a comfortable cabin on board the Normannia for a peaceful night's sail across the Channel, followed by a morning train to Paris, the most civilised way to travel from London to the French capital. The Aitkens left them here to return to England.

7 Aug. Bayeux, Normandy coast.



The centre of Bayeux is still attractive, and its Cathedral is the original home of the Bayeux Tapestry. This commemorates the fight in 1066 which the British call 'The Battle of Hastings', in which William, Duke of Normandy, defeated King Harold's Saxon army and went on to conquer all England.

The first four tales in Puck of Pook's Hill celebrate the union of Normans and Saxons to make the English people. Kipling, who called the battle 'Santlache', may well have taken his children to see the tapestry.

10 Aug. Mont St. Michel.



le Mont St Michel

11 Aug. Mortain: 2 English artists.

*They were clearly following Duke William around his Duchy, Rouen, Bayeux, Mortain and Falaise (not mentioned here, but included in an itinerary which appears as a note to a letter to Gwynne (PINNEY, **Letters**, Vol. 4, pp. 42-3). We have not been able to find out what was special about the two English artists at Mortain.*

13 Aug. Visit to the Depews at Chateau d'Annel (?) [Annel]



le Château d'Annel

For Depews, see Index. The Chateau d'Annel was near Compiègne, north of Paris. Kipling was concerned about the possibility of a strike on the railway steamers which provided the services on all the channel crossings (see our note on 30 June about the general industrial unrest in England at this Time).

18 Aug. Gwynne advises them that strikes don't prevent travel. Back to Bateman's.

The letter to Gwynne cited above was dated 16 August, and asked Gwynne to wire advice. According to Pinney's note, Gwynne responded extremely promptly, and the Kiplings crossed the Channel on 17th. They started for Boulogne immediately on receipt of Gwynne's telegram, and were driven straight there (no booking needed: no panic-stricken horde of tourists trying to beat the strike) They would have been home at Bateman's as the strike started at midnight, 17/18 August. In the event it lasted only two days, as a national strike.

Aug. 18 Arrive home 1.45, tired but oh so thankful to be back. No strike troubles.

19 Aug. New secretary (Miss Hogg?)
Laying in food in case of further strikes.

Already such grocery chains as International Stores existed, and relied on the railways for their distribution. Carrie most likely ordered much of the household's supplies from local butchers, dairies, grocers and greengrocers, but it was quite commonplace (in the Home Counties near London anyway) to obtain foods from London stores such as the Army and Navy Stores. (The narrator in "The Edge of the Evening" in A Diversity of Creatures was in London to "buy stores" at the 'Army and Navy' at the start of the tale; and this editor's grandmother, living in Kent, had a weekly delivery of groceries from the same company in the early 1930s) So, although the railway strike would probably not have affected the necessities of life in rural Sussex, Carrie was not taking any risks.

Aug. 19 New secretary has done excellent work. Make serious preparations for food supplies in case of continued strike.

20 Aug. 'Female of the Species' finished.

21 Aug. To Lord Milner at Sturry Court.

See Index for Milner. Sturry Court was his home near Canterbury. They had been there earlier (24 May).

22 Aug. Miss Howard, the Bailey children, Lady E. and George Cecil, the Nelson Spencers,

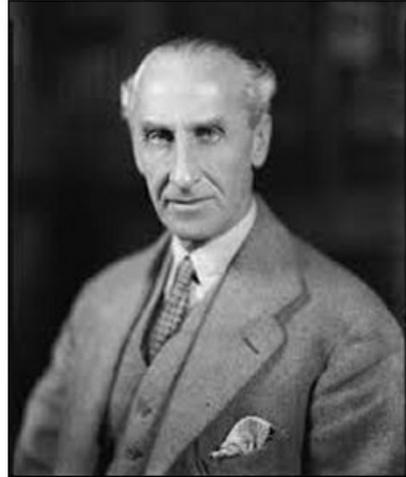
Miss Howard seems to have been the governess to the Bailey children (see 28-29 December below). George Cecil was presumably a relative of Lady Edward Cecil's husband, and a member of the extensive Cecil clan, but we have not been able to establish exactly where he fitted in.

The Nelson Spencers may have been an American clergyman of the episcopal church and his wife. Robert Nelson Spencer (1877-1961) later became a bishop, and was well known as a hymn writer.

27 Aug. Lord and Lady Lytton Lockwood de Forests.



Lockwood de Forest



Lord Lytton

Lord Lytton was Victor, 2nd Earl of Lytton (1876-1947). His father had been Viceroy of India shortly before Kipling reached India in 1882, and this Lord Lytton was later Governor of Bengal in the 1920s and briefly acting Viceroy in 1925. He was one of that nebulous body known as ‘the Establishment’, or ‘the great and good’, being variously Chairman of sundry Royal Commissions, a politician, a colonial administrator, a businessman and an author, etc. His Who’s Who entry is extensive.

The Lockwood de Forests were Kipling’s father’s old friends – see Index.

29 Aug. ‘In the Same Boat’.

This tale was first published on Harper’s Magazine in December 1911 (see NRG notes by John McGivering.)

Sep. 2 Rud busy arranging his verses from vols. To be printed spring of 1912.

He published two books of verses in 1912, Chapter Headings, which was mostly, though not exclusively, verses from his first two novels, and his books of tales set in India; and Songs from Books, which contains more poems from his earlier works, and also poems from the ‘Puck’ stories, and later collections of short stories.

3 Sep. To lunch with Sir Abe Bailey (he has a new young wife).

See Index. Bailey's first wife had died in 1902. He had just re-married, and was about to start a second family. His new wife, Mary, was aged 20. She later became a celebrated aviator (after having appointed a DBE (Dame of the British Empire) in 1930 for her exploits.



Sir 'Abe' Bailey

9 Sep. Margo [Baldwin] and Oliver Baldwin.

The children of Stanley and Lucy (Cissie) Baldwin and so second cousin to Elsie and John Kipling. The two Baldwins were each slightly younger than their Kipling relations.

12 Sep. He is redrafting 'As Easy as ABC'.
Aunt Georgie and Teddy Price.

Teddy Price, 'Uncle Crom's' son, was a regular summer visitor. (See Index).

Sep. 19 We discover error in date of John's return to school.

Panic stations! John had left St. Aubyns at the end of the summer term, and was about to go to his public school.

Sep. 20 Great rush to get John ready for Wellington. Entire family give helping hand.

21 Sep. John to Pearson's House at Wellington [College].

Sep. 21 Leave at 9.10 for Wellington, by motor. Arrive 12.30. Race about to discover and buy all sorts of things for John's room.

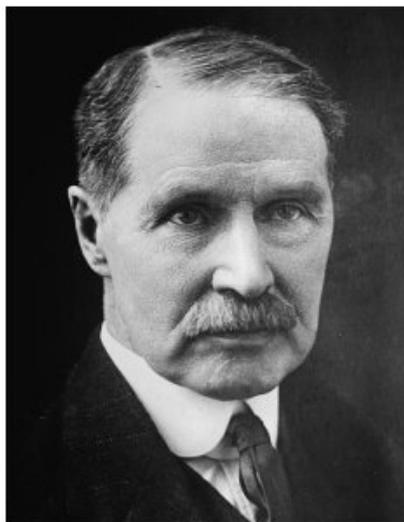
Wellington College (see note on 30 Sep. 1910) is at Crowthorne, Berks (a village better known as the home of Broadmoor, the UK's prime secure mental hospital).

It is also close to Sandhurst and the Royal Military Academy (to which many of Wellington's former students progressed) and is in the heart of 'Army country', from whose families many of the boys came (in 1948 the fees were £50 per term (some £2000 in 2014's money): they are now £11,375 per term.)

Pearson's house was amalgamated with another out-house, the Wellesley, in early 1914, and John is in the college records as having belonged to 'the Wellesley' when he left the college.

The college was divided into 'dormitories', all within the main college block, and all named after Wellington's generals from the Peninsular War, and 'houses' named after various worthies involved in setting up the college in the late 1850s. Each boy had his own cubicle/room ('tish', short for partition) where he slept, did his 'prep', and could be private. Each dormitory/house also had a common room. The houses had their own dining rooms: the dormitories used a large communal dining room in the main college buildings.

22 Sep. Bonar Law to dinner. Wonderful news of the Conservative win in Canada comes in.



Bonar Law

Andrew Bonar Law (1858-1923) (see our brief note on 21 July '09) was a Canadian-born politician who grew up in Scotland with his late mother's family from the age of 12 when his father remarried.

After a successful business career in Glasgow, Law entered politics in 1897 as a Conservative.

By 1911, he was a prominent member of the party, and in two months' time would become leader of the Conservatives and Leader of the Opposition. In Canada, Kipling's bête noire, Laurier, had been defeated by Sir Robert Borden.

28 Sep. Rud goes to see Mr. Gwynne at his office.

Gwynne was now Editor of the Morning Post and would remain so until the paper amalgamated with the Daily Telegraph in 1937. No doubt they discussed politics and the Morning Post's editorial policy.

30 Sep. Rider Haggard for two days.

See Index for previous entries.

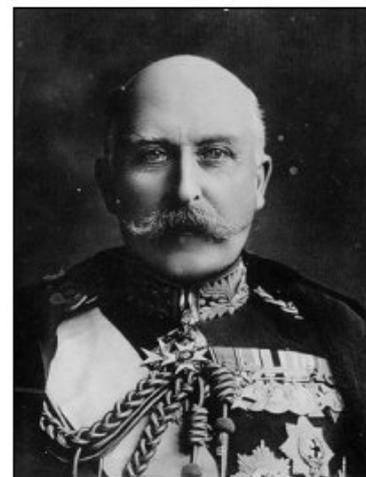


Rider Haggard

3 Oct. Rud writing Canadian notes for guidance of the Connaughts
[The Duke going as Gov-Gen. CEC]

The Duke of Connaught was on the point of sailing – he became Governor-General on 11 October 1911.

Kipling had known the Duke, brother of the late King Edward VII, since Indian days. See the Index for 1905 1906 and 1910.



The Duke of Connaught

Oct. 9 Hear from John that he has been given a remove at the end of the first fortnight.

His chickenpox (see entry for June 26 above) may well have prevented him from taking some or all of the exam papers for entry to Wellington (the Common Entrance exam for Public(private) Schools had been instituted in 1904), and might have resulted in his being placed in a form below his true ability. This had become apparent during his first two weeks, and he had been moved up a form.

16 Oct. Rud goes to Andover to see Trix.

After her mother's death 11 months ago, and her husband's return to India, it had been agreed that Trix would reside in the care of a suitably qualified person (see LYCETT, p. 416)

In the days before the National Health Service, and a general provision of psychiatric care, such nursing homes were the sole means of caring for mentally-disturbed persons whose family could not, or would not, care for them at home.

Oct. 16 We meet at Brown's at 6.30.

It would seem that Kipling had gone to Andover, probably the day before, to see that Trix was comfortably settled, and joined Carrie in London, before their Irish jaunt.

17 Oct. C & R [K] to Dublin, sightseeing.

Oct. 17 Take the Irish Express for Dublin.

They would have travelled from Euston to Holyhead to take the steamer to Kingstown (today, Dun Laoghaire) the port of Dublin.

19 Oct. Drove to Belfast. To the cinematograph.
To Portrush. Giant's Causeway. Delighted, would like to come again.

Irish Home Rule, strongly opposed by Kipling, was once again very much in the air. However, LYCETT (p. 419) makes it clear that this was essentially a light-hearted family jaunt.

Kipling enthused over the neatness and air of purpose to be seen as soon as they crossed into the largely protestant Northern province of Ulster, in comparison with what he saw as the general air of indolence and backwardness to the south. He thought little of the cities of Dublin and Belfast, but was enchanted by the countryside.

Oct. 19 We take a motor car and drive to Belfast. Go for a walk and a sight of the place ending up at a cinematograph (*sic*)

Oct. 20 Portrush.

A holiday resort on the north coast of Co. Antrim.

Oct. 22 Trip to Giant's Causeway.

The Giant's Causeway is a natural geological feature, up the coast to the north-east of Portrush, formed of thousands of vertical columns of basalt, in (mostly) regular hexagonal form jutting out from the coast.

24 Oct. Back to Brown's Hotel, London.
Dr. Jameson.

Oct. 24 (Home)

Jameson (see Index) had, in fact, received his baronetcy on 2 January 1910 "in commemoration of the establishment of the Union of South Africa".

Working at his "*Archangel of the English*" (?) [Story?]

There is no collected tale which might have such a title, and clearly Carrington himself could not identify it.

28 Oct. To see Henry James.

Presumably at Rye. But see PINNEY, Letters, Vol. 4, pp. 65-66) and note. The letter from Kipling to Henry James is dated 4 November, a week later, and suggests that they haven't met recently.



Nov. To Chertley [erk] Court. The Aitkens.

Cherkley Court, near Leatherhead was Max Aitken's new home, and remained so until his death. No doubt this was a 'political' visit. Balfour was about to be succeeded by Bonar Law as leader of the Conservative Party. He was a fellow Canadian who was close to Aitken.

8 Nov Rud working on an Irish story [?]

Again, we cannot identify such a story.

12 Nov. Floods in the brook.

Kipling recorded that the drought had broken while they were in Belfast, three weeks previously. Clearly the brook (the river Dudwell) was full, though not overflowing.

(Songs from Books)

This entry must imply that Kipling was working on this collection of chapter headings and incidental verse, not that it was published on this date. It appeared in the USA in late 1912, and in Britain in early 1913.

22 Nov. Verses for the Aitkens' visitors' book.

*These were the six stanzas of "This is the prayer the Cave Man prayed". This remained uncollected and unpublished until it was included in PINNEY, *Poems*, Vol. III, pp. 2095-6. The final line has the subscription "Xmas 1911 Rudyard Kipling". (See entry for 25 December below.)*

Dec. 21 First drive in the new Rolls Royce.

*See our entry for **June 17** above. This entry, and its date, appeared back in June out of sequence, but with the December date underlined, so presumably Rees was aware that the timing was unusual.*



Cherkley Court

25 Dec. The Aitkens and the Bonar Laws on Christmas Day, and many children. 22 for dinner, 17 in the house.

Evidently the visitors' book for Cherkley Court was a Christmas gift from the Kiplings to the Aitkens.

The Aitkens had two children at this time, aged 3 and 1. Andrew Bonar Law was a widower (his wife had died in 1909) and had six children, the oldest of whom was aged 10.

28-9 Dec. To Engelberg with Miss Howard and the Bailey children.

Dec. 28 We leave Bateman's at 1.30 for Folkestone.

*See our note on 22 Aug.
Once again they were off for six weeks in Switzerland.*

Dec. 29 Engelberg at 4.30.

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