

The Rees and Carrington Extracts
from the diaries of
Caroline Kipling

1912

1912

Jan.

Engelberg.



This was their fourth year at Engelberg.

Jan. 23 John leaves by himself for London.

John was now fourteen and a half, and was an experienced traveller, so was fully able to make his own way back to England, and school. (Most private schools then had four weeks' holiday over Christmas and the New Year.)

14 Feb. Leave for Florence via Lucerne.

Feb. 14 We leave at 5 p.m. for Florence.

Feb. 15 Arrive 1 p.m.

3 Mar. Anxious about coal strike at home.

Coal was THE fuel which kept Great Britain running. Industry, transport and domestic heating and lighting all relied on coal in much the same way as we rely on oil and electricity in 2018. Conditions for the miners were bad and there had been strikes, lock-outs and general unrest in the Welsh coalfields since November 1910.

There were confrontations between the police and striking miners seeking a minimum wage, who had damaged property, and later troops were brought in to help the police. Winston Churchill was Home Secretary, and his authorisation of the use of troops blackened his name in the Welsh Valleys for the rest of his life. Miners' strikes were a continuing part of the British industrial scene until the late 20th century.

Mar. 5 Our last days in Florence are overhung with the anxiety and uncertainty of the great coal strike and we wait most anxiously for news from England.

7 Mar. To Venice.



Mar. 7 We leave Florence for Venice where we arrive at 9.30 p.m. *Pension* arrangements 78 lire *per diem* (then exchange 1 Lira = approx. 10d)

18 Mar. Miss Ritchie takes us to see her mother Anne (Thackeray) Ritchie on the Grand Canal.

Kipling had met Mrs. Ritchie previously at a dinner in honour of her father, the novelist. See our note of 26 May 1911.

- 20 Mar. By train to Paris.
- Mar. 20** We leave at noon for Paris.
- 23 Mar. A large party with the Depews, Chateau d'Annel



le Château d'Annel

- 27 Mar. To Dover and home by car.
- Mar. 27** Moore meets us at Dover and we motor home.
- Apr. 1** Miss Ponton, governess, returns.

We believe that Miss Ponton must have come towards the end of 1911, though she had not accompanied the family to Engelberg. (A Miss Sauter is recorded as arriving as Governess on May 16 1911) The role of a governess in a British middle-class family was to educate young girls and boys until they were sent away to school, in schoolwork and behaviour. Miss Ponton became Carrie's Secretary in 1919.

- Apr. 2** We leave at 7 to fetch John home from Wellington. He measures 5' 4" (1.63m)

- 3 Apr. Ulster Verses.

This was the poem "Ulster", Kipling's response to the Irish Home Rule Bill shortly to be introduced in Parliament by Asquith's Liberal Government. Ever since Gladstone's days the Liberals had sought to establish Home Rule for Ireland. See John Radcliffe's notes on the poem in NRG.

Home Rule was violently opposed by the Protestant community in the north-east counties of historic Ulster.

They were led by the implacable Sir Edward Carson, and backed by Kipling, who believed it would weaken the Empire.



Sir Edward Carson

The Ulster Protestants had raised a Volunteer Force and made it clear that they were ready to rebel with force of arms against Home Rule rather than becoming subject to the Catholic majority in Ireland as a whole

7-8 Apr. In *Morning Post* and all loyal papers and Ulster

The text was typed thus, with the gap between 'papers' and 'Ulster'. The poem was published in the Morning Post on 9 April, the day when a review of 80,000 Ulster Volunteers was held, at which Bonar Law, the Conservative leader, was one of those who took the salute. Two days later the Bill was introduced in the House of Commons.

Oliver Locker-Lampson

Oliver Locker-Lampson (1880-1954) was a British Conservative politician, at this time MP for Ramsey, in Huntingdonshire, having wrested the seat from the Liberals in the first 1910 Election.

He later became very right-wing, after seeing the Russian revolution at close quarters in 1917, while serving with a British force supporting the Russian army.



Oliver Locker-Lampson

Apr. 21 A letter from Mr. Haviland offering us 'Keylands' Farm which adjoins our property and cuts into it in part. The price asked is £650. Too much we think.

*Keylands lay to the west of Bateman's. We suggest that the price was for the land alone, not including the cottage which went with it. (But see further note to the entry of **July17**).*

28 Apr. "The Benefactors"

This poem, not published in full until 1919, expresses Kipling's antipathy to strikes and industrial unrest. See the notes by Geoffrey Annis in NRG.

Apr. 30 Rud busy with his speech to "The 12", a literary society at Wellington.

May Rud reads a paper for the Literary Society at Wellington. They occasionally visit Trix who seems to be at Tisbury under care of a doctor.

The paper, on "The Uses of Reading", appears as No. XI in the first collection of Kipling's speeches, A Book of Words. (See our NRG notes by Leonee Ormond who dates it to 25 May.) The talk was actually given not to the College Literary Society, but to John's House, Pearson's, up to 50 boys aged from 12-18, of all interests (or lack of them). John later said that the talk "wasn't so bad after all" (Kipling's letter to FND (PINNEY, Letters, Vol. 4, p. 114).)

May 11 Second lot of proofs for 'Verses from Books' comes – former lost on the *Titanic* and Rud gets to work at once.

RMS Titanic had sunk after striking an iceberg while on her maiden voyage to New York on 15 April 1912. The original proofs were being sent to Doubledays for the USA publication.

May 19 Rud finishes his Royal Geographic speech

20 May Rud speaks at RGS (Royal Geographical Society).

May 20 We go to town, Rud to his Royal Geographic dinner.

This speech (No. X in A Book of Words) was entitled “The Verdict of Equals”. Lord Curzon was in the Chair. See Leonee Ormond’s notes in NRG.

May 25 We leave by motor for Wellington. Stop the night with the Pearsons (John’s House master). Rud reading his paper with great success.

See annotation to ‘May’ above.

1 June A weekend with Lord Roberts
John Fortescue among the guests [Historian of the Army]
He shows them over Windsor.

The Castle, that is.



John Fortescue

Hon. John Fortescue (1859-1933) (later Sir John) was the librarian at Windsor Castle, 1906-1926. He was a noted military historian, whose great work was the History of the British Army, published in 20 volumes (14 of text, 6 of maps) by Macmillan, 1902-1930.

For Lord Roberts, see Index.

4 June To see Oliver Baldwin at Eton.

Oliver (1899-1958) was the son of Stanley and Cissie Baldwin, and so John’s second cousin, twenty months younger. The Fourth of June is celebrated as a holiday at Eton, in commemoration of the birthday of King George III, the school’s greatest patron. Eton educated a substantial portion of the British aristocracy, and the Fourth of June ranked high in the calendar of the social Season.

Kipling wrote to John (PINNEY, Letters, Vol. 4, p. 117-8), describing the events of the day in some detail.

June 5 Rud starts on his American edition of his collected verse to correct and re-arrange for the English publication this summer.

The previous edition of Collected Verse had been published in the USA in 1907. Hodder & Stoughton published this English edition in September this year.

15 June Speech Day at Wellington.

Speech Day was the Wellington equivalent of the Fourth of June at Eton. Lacking the aristocratic traditions of Eton it was scarcely so much of a Society occasion, more like a regimental re-union of old comrades.

Talk of making a play from Soldier Tales.

22 June A visit to the Allens.
Sir V. Chirol and Sir W. Wilcox fellow-guests.



William Willcocks



Ignatius Valentine Chirol

Sir William Willcocks (1852-1932) was a distinguished civil engineer who had built the Aswan dam on the Nile at the turn of the century. His first post had been with the Indian Public Works Department.

Sir Ignatius Valentine Chirol (1852-1929) was a British journalist and author, and a committed imperialist. He had been head of the foreign department of The Times and was a confidant of Lord Curzon. He had been knighted in January 1912, and had now returned to the Diplomatic Service.

June 22 Rud thinking out his play to be made from the Soldier stories.

24 June Leave Fern [Free] Chase. Wilcox comes for the day.
Start to drain the millpond.

LYCETT, p. 424, cites a letter from Kipling to John describing the achievements of Willcocks; “he gave me good advice on how to manage the brook”.

June 27 Work on the play progresses.

3 July Rud to a rifle club match.

See our entry on 3 June 1911.

4 July To the Baileys. Jameson and Curtis there. [Lionel Curtis]



Lionel Curtis

Starr Jameson

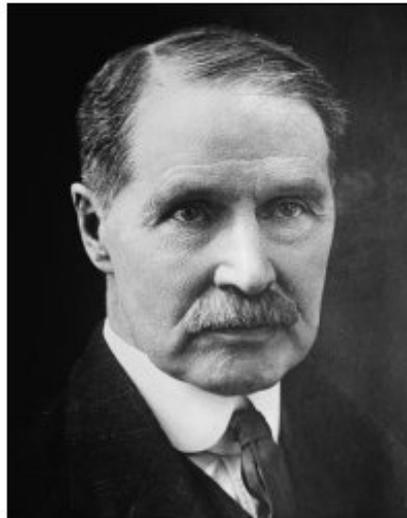
'Abe' Bailey

A gathering of old South Africa hands. See the Index.

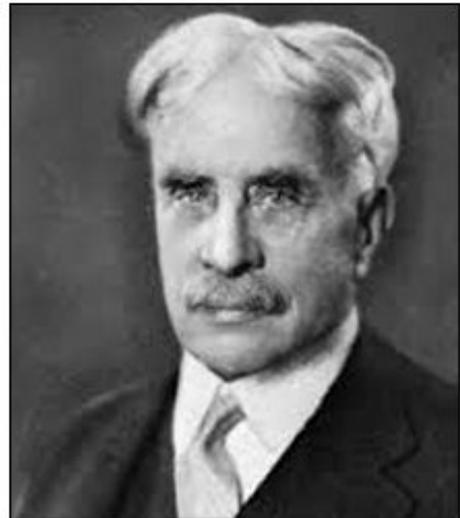
6 July Sir James Walker for lunch.

Sir James Lewis Walker (1845-1927) was the proprietor of the Pioneer and the Civil and Military Gazette, the two newspapers on which Kipling had worked as a young man.

8 July To London. Dined at the Carlton to meet Bonar Law and the Canadian premier.



Bonar Law



Robert Borden

(PINNEY, Letters, Vol. 4, p. 124-5), giving details of who was there (“Lady Londonderry, the big, in every sense, political hostess of the party wearing a necklace of emeralds not much smaller than a breast-plate . . .”).

13 July To Cherkley. Tim Healy a fellow-guest.



Timothy Healy

Cherkley was the home of Max Aitken. Timothy Healy (1855-1931), was a barrister and Nationalist MP for various Irish seats, 1880-1918. He had succeeded Kipling’s friend Moreton Frewen as MP for North Cork in a by-election in 1911.

He was later to become the first Governor-General of the Irish Free State, 1922-28.

The Irish Nationalists, who had been pressing for Home Rule since the 1870s, sustained the Liberal majority in the House of Commons. (The Liberals had 272 seats, the Conservatives and Liberal Unionists 271, and the Irish 74.) Healy opposed any concessions to the Ulster Unionists, and was thus at the opposite end of the political spectrum from Kipling.

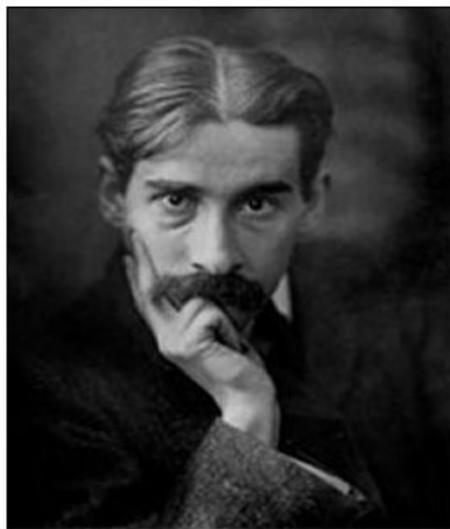
16 July Rud a guest of the Royal Society at the Guildhall.

The Royal Society, England's oldest learned society, was marking its 250th anniversary, and there had been a week of celebrations culminating in a great dinner in the Guildhall, which was reported in The Times the next day.

July 18 At 6.30 comes Mr. Tyler, American theatrical manager about the play he hopes Rud will make from *Soldiers Three* stories

22 July Mr. Hoppé, photographer, and Capt. Fox, a game warden from the Soudan.

Emil Otto Hoppé (1878-1972) was German by birth, but a naturalised British citizen, and a celebrated photographer. He visited Bateman's to take a portrait photograph of Kipling.



Emil Hoppé



'Kipling' by Hoppé

Captain Fox was a game-warden from the Sudd marshes south of Khartoum, whom Bland-Sutton and Gwynne had befriended on a visit to Sudan a couple of years earlier. (LYCETT p. 424).

24 July Rud starts “*The Vortex*”, finished 9 Aug. [Just after meeting Lionel Curtis! CEC]

“The Vortex”, one of Kipling’s humorous motoring tales, carried the serious message that it was “ties of common funk” that bound the Empire together. It was first published in Scribner’s in August 1914. (See NRG notes by John Radcliffe.).

July 27 We show Mr. Landon my new purchase, Keylands, which he wants to have for a cottage home.

See our entry for 5 Dec.1912 for the outcome.

5 Aug. Mr. and Mrs Colefax
Mr. Garvin
To the Munsters’ Mess.



Arthur Colefax



J L Garvin

Mr. and Mrs. Colefax were probably Arthur (later Sir Arthur) and Sibyl Colefax. He was a barrister and a Conservative politician: she was a socialite, later becoming the driving force behind Colefax and Fowler, well-known interior decorators in the `thirties and `forties.

Mr. Garvin was J L Garvin (1868-1947), Editor of The Observer 1908-1942, among other publications. Kipling, Colefax and Garvin were all members of the Athenaeum,

“The Munsters’ mess” refers to the officers’ mess of the Royal Munster Fusiliers, one of the Irish regiments of the British army.

Aug. 17 John’s 15th birthday. He has his first shave in the evening.

The safety razor had been patented at the end of the 19th century, but was not yet in universal use.

Aug. 25 To Tisbury to see the gravestones and the Gables servants.

Aug. 26 To Andover to see Trix Fleming and on to Tidworth House.

Tidworth House was the official residence of the local General.

28 Aug. Cavalry manoeuvres on the Plain.
General Sir Charles Douglas.

‘The Plain’ is Salisbury Plain, the British army’s training ground in Southern England. It had been acquired by the War Office in the 1890s. It is a large area of gently rolling downland in Wiltshire, some 24 miles by 12. Salisbury lies about eight miles south of the Plain. It is still the main army training ground in southern England, and has a number of army camps both on the Plain itself, and on its fringes,



General Sir Charles Douglas (1850-1914) was a senior General who had served in India (and Afghanistan with Roberts) and in both Boer Wars. He was now General Officer Commanding in Chief Southern Command, and about to become Inspector General, Home Forces. He must have invited Kipling to attend the manoeuvres.

Charles Douglas

Aug. 27 On Salisbury Plain watching the Infantry do an attack.

Aug. 28 Another delightful day on the Plain seeing cavalry charges.

Less than two years to 'Armageddon', and the army, though they couldn't know it, were training for an obsolete form of warfare.

Sep. 4 John and Rud go for four days fishing with Mr. Walton at Cawsand. Elsie to visit the McKails; I by motor to Aunt Georgie.

Elsie was visiting her second cousins, the Mackails.

Sep. 5 I go to town. Sir John Sutton-Bland (*sic*) tells me I must have an operation to remove a tumour in my back.

Carrie seems to have suffered from a lot of lumps and bumps on various bits of her anatomy over the years, but they all seem to have been benign.

Sep. 7 I meet Miss Blaikie, ex-governess at Heathfield and we start for Salisbury

8 Sep. To Salisbury and to a service in the Cathedral.
Rud and John fishing with Walton at Cawsand.

Sep. 8 We leave for Exeter to find Rud and John.

The 'Rees Extracts' give greater details of this tour (see Note 1 to the Pinney reference in our note on 20 Sep. below). The Kiplings had visited the Waltons at Cawsand. Having fished, they returned to Exeter to meet Carrie, who had been consulting Sir John Bland-Sutton. They then evidently went back 100 miles eastward to Ludgershall to collect Elsie (who had been staying with the Mackails) and back westward to Falmouth, and then onward as described on the succeeding days, a testing schedule for the chauffeur in those early days of motoring. (We wonder if Rees made an error, or if there had been a last minute change of plans – the most straightforward itinerary would have been Salisbury – Ludgershall – Cawsand – Falmouth which would have saved a great deal of duplication.

Sep. 9 Meet Elsie at Luggershall (*sic*) and leave for Falmouth where we spend the night.

10 Sep. Tintagel and Lands End.



Tintagel Castle

Sep. 10 Tintagel via Lands End and St. Ives.

Tintagel and Tintagel Castle (the reputed birthplace of the legendary King Arthur) stands on the Atlantic coast of Cornwall, some ten miles north east of Padstow.

11 Sep. Westward Ho! Gloomy and depressing.

Sep. 11 Barnstaple via Bideford, going on to Westward Ho! At Bideford we went to see the printing room in a shed upstairs where Rud used to correct the proofs of his school paper.

(See Stalky & Co., 'The Last Term' and Something of Myself, Chapter II, 'The School before its Time')

Westward Ho gloomy and depressing to a degree - all going to seed and the old school low class lodging houses.



*The United Services College had merged with the Imperial Services College at Windsor in 1906 (which merged with Haileybury in 1942 – hence the Kipling Society’s association with Haileybury). The terrace of “**twelve bleak houses by the shore**” (above) was now in private hands, and today still looks gaunt and uncompromising, out of place by the sea-side.*

12 Sep. Glastonbury and Tolland where we found graves of Wolcott ancestors. [Balestier ancestors. See Oct. 1913 CEC]

They would have gone to Tolland first – it lies about half-way between Westward Ho! and Glastonbury, nine miles NW of Taunton. The ‘ancestors’ would have been the forebears of Henry Wolcott, Carrie’s ancestor, who sailed to America in 1630, and had settled in Windsor, Connecticut, by 1636.



Glastonbury Tor

Glastonbury’s Tor stands above the ancient site of the Isle of Avalon, where King Arthur’s sword Excalibur was forged. (It was then associated with the Arthurian legends, rather than today’s celebrated – if muddy – pop music festival.)

Sep. 12 Glastonbury, Salisbury.

Sep. 13 Home at 5

20 Sep. Carrie to a London nursing home to have a tumour removed from her back.

*Kipling wrote a detailed description of this event in a letter to his mother-in-law, (PINNEY, **Letters**, Vol. 4, p. 127-130).*

21 Sep. Operation by Bland Sutton.

Sep. 21 Bland Sutton operates on me at 9 a.m (in London)

22 Sep. Home.

Sep, 22 I am put into the motor and drive home.

1 Oct. The brook in flood.

See our entry on 24 June above. The advice from Sir William Willcocks had evidently not been enough to prevent Nature from taking its course. But the house was not flooded.

(By the end of Oct. she's at work again.)

Carrington means that Carrie has taken up the reins of the household again. He may have meant 'by the end of September'.

Oct. 4 Go for a drive to Cross-in-Hand.

Cross-in-Hand is a village on the main road to Brighton about ten miles west of Burwash.

Oct. 5 A small walk.

8 Oct. Rud to a political meeting in village.

Oct. 10 Rud dines with his Rosicrucian Society

18 Oct. Rud makes a political speech in the village.

Oct. 18 Rud, Elsie and I to town. Rud goes to Ashton at 2.30, meeting Sir Max at St. Pancras They have a large meeting, 3000 folk and all goes well, the speech going at full pace.

Ashton was Ashton-under-Lyne, Max Aitken's constituency. It was then a separate mill town, just east of Manchester and he was away for the night so clearly Carrington's "political speech in the village" was misplaced. Kipling's speech, supporting Aitken, has not survived.

Oct. 19 Rud wires his speech was a great success

26 Oct. To Hackwood, to Lord Curzon's. Lady Rodd and 12 strangers as Guests: [very dull and long and dreary.](#)



Lady Rodd



Lord Curzon

Hackwood Park, about three miles south of Basingstoke, had belonged to the Dukes of Bolton, and had been let to a succession of well-to-do tenants since 1850, at this time Earl Curzon, leading Conservative peer, former Viceroy of India, and future Foreign Secretary. Lady Rodd was the wife of the British ambassador in Rome – see Index.

Trix is with the James Walkers at Worplesdon.

For Sir James Walker, see Index. Worplesdon was a village in Surrey, now pretty well submerged by later development, between Guildford and Woking.

28 Oct. To the Christening of Peter Rudyard Aitken.

See Index for our earlier entries on the Aitkens.

1 Nov. With John to see flying-machines at Aldershot.



Avro 504 two-seat trainer, designed 1912 first flew 1913

1 November 1912 was a Friday – it must have been a half-term holiday or something similar, for John to have been allowed out of school. The Royal Flying Corps (RFC) had been formed seven months earlier.

Kipling and John probably went to Laffan's Plain, now part of the Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough (lying between Aldershot and Farnborough) which had been a centre of military aviation since Samuel Cody first brought his man-lifting kites there in 1901. 8000 of the Avro 504 pictured above were built for the RFC in the Great War.

3 Nov. Mrs. Raymond Asquith.



Mrs Raymond Asquith

Mrs Asquith (1885-1976) married to Raymond Asquith, son of the Liberal Prime Minister, who was one of the brightest stars of his generation. He was killed on Western Front in 1916. Through her husband she was acquainted with many of the literary figures of their time.

6 Nov. The 'Friendly Brook'.
'The Kingdom'.

'Friendly Brook' was first published two years later in magazine form, and collected in 1917 in A Diversity of Creatures (see our NRG notes by John McGivering).

'The Kingdom' comprised three stanzas which had appeared as a chapter heading in The Naulakha, plus a fourth. Kipling was preparing it for a new collection of his verse, Songs from Books, which was published in 1913.

Nov. 10 Rud and I spend the greater part of the morning looking over my diaries to discover dates for stories and verses to be dated for the new Florence edition.

There never was a 'Florence' edition. There is a pencil note alongside: "i.e. Bombay". The Bombay edition started to appear in 1913. However, it was originally to have been named the 'Florence' edition, because it was to be printed in a typeface known as 'Florentine'.

12 Nov. Editor of the *Express* couldn't come. Exciting political situation.



R D Blumenfeld was the Editor of the Daily Express. The Express later became the flagship of Aitken's newspaper empire, but at this time it still belonged to Sir Arthur Pearson. The two issues which were particularly exercising the political classes were Irish Home Rule, and women's suffrage.

There was soon to be a big Unionist conference in London on 13, 14 and 15 November, and The Times published a list of the resolutions to be debated in its issue of 6 November. This may well have kept Blumenfeld at his desk.

16 Nov. Rud at his Ziegler story (Edge of the Evening)

This tale (full title 'The Edge of the Evening') can be seen as Kipling's version of the many spy tales which started with The Riddle of the Sands (Erskine Childers) in 1903, and which were immensely popular in the decade before 1914. It was published in magazine form in December 1912 and collected in A Diversity of Creatures. (See our NRG notes by John McGivering).

Nov. 17 Rud busy with s letter about our motor and his disgust at its requiring repairs after only 7000 miles run.

This car, their first Rolls Royce, was causing them a lot of grief.

20 Nov. A volume of Collected Verse comes out (*Songs from Books?*)

Nov. 20 The Volume of Collected Verse comes out in England, beautifully printed and bound.

The American edition of Songs from Books was published on 9 October 1912, but the British edition did not come out until the following year. Contrary to Carrington's note, it seems more likely that this was the limited edition of "Collected Verse", published by Hodder and Stoughton in September 1912 (RICHARDS, A, Bibliography, p. A 258).

24 Nov. At Farnborough (where they stay at the 'Queen's' [Hotel] to see John). He (*Kipling*) has a long interesting talk with a Flying Corps Major and Lieutenant.

As indicated above (note on 16 Nov.) Kipling was writing a tale which involved some knowledge of current flying techniques.

? Nov. Lady Aitken and a Canadian friend Mrs. Ogilvie to dine and sleep.

[We met her in Canada in 1958 – CEC]

Next day, Roderick Jones.

See Index.

5 Dec. Rud correcting *Naulakha* for new edition, The Bombay Edition.

The Bombay Edition was a limited edition of 26 volumes published by Macmillan between 1913 and 1927, with a further five volumes published in 1938. The Kipling Society has deposited its own full set in the Kipling papers, now in 'The Keep', University of Sussex.

Much talk of Landon's new house at Keylands, within a walk of Bateman's.



*Landon with Kipling
Bloemfontein, March 1900*

*Perceval Landon had been travelling for most of his life since he was 21, and the Kiplings offered him the tenancy of a cottage at Keylands, about a mile and a half west of Bateman's, up the Dudwell valley. See PINNEY, **Letters**, Vol. 4, p. 131.*

8 Dec. Ashmead-Bartlett, back from the Balkan War.

Ellis Ashmead-Bartlett (1881-1931) was a British war correspondent now working for Reuters news agency. (see LYCETT, p. 425). He had served as a Lieutenant during the Boer War, and later reported on the Russo-Japanese war of 1904-5 and in 1911 on the Italian campaign in Libya.



Ellis Ashmead-Bartlett

During World War I his reports from Gallipoli were influential in telling the epic story of the Anzacs, the Australians and New Zealanders who fought their first major action there in 1915. His reports helped to bring about the dismissal of the British commander, Hamilton.

In December 1912, the Balkans were in turmoil. The Balkan League (Serbia, Macedonia, Bulgaria and Greece) attacked the Ottoman Empire in October 1912, and defeated it. By the Treaty of London (30 May 1913), Turkey lost virtually all of her European possessions, holding only a small area of European territory south of the Bulgarian border.

16 Dec. Lady Londonderry
Sir E. Carson.

Theresa, Lady Londonderry (1856-1919) was the wife of the 6th Marquess, and a leading supporter of the Protestant cause in the Province.

She was the President of the Ulster Women's Unionist Council, and a prominent society hostess in Conservative circles.

See our note of 8 July above.



Theresa, Lady Londonderry

She should not be confused with her daughter-in-law, Edith, wife of the 7th Marquess) who ran the Women's Volunteer Reserve during the Great War, and was also a noted society hostess in the 20s and 30s.

Sir Edward Carson (see our note on 6 Sep. 1900 and 3 April above) was now the leader of the Unionists in Ireland, to which cause he was committed for the rest of his life.

Christmas at Cherkley, Bonar Laws and Aitkens

They had hosted the same families at Bateman's, Christmas, 1911.

26 Dec. Crossed Channel, drenching rain.
Dec. 26 Start at 10.30 by motor for Folkestone.

27 Dec. Engelberg.

Dec. 27 Arrive Engelberg 4.

*As had become their habit, they went to the same hotel at Engelberg. This was their fifth successive year. They were intending, as before, to explore further afield after having had their fill of winter sports, but Kipling was nervous about the state of affairs in the near East, as a result of the Balkan war. he had written to Frank Doubleday ('Effendi') in November (PINNEY, *Letters*, Vol. 4, p. 133-4) wondering "**whether the Mediterranean will be open.**"*

31 Dec. **A year of heavy work behind me with no courage to start on a fresh year and very little strength.**

These are presumably Carrie's words, a return to their habit of writing a coda at the year's end: all the early ones had been written by Kipling, but none had appeared (in the Extracts anyway) since 1899.

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

