

The Rees and Carrington Extracts
from the diaries of
Caroline Kipling

1913

1913

Jan. At Engelberg.



9 Jan. An income tax demand for £742
(There is much note of finance in this year's diary. She sends for drafts to Switzerland £500 and £300 for their Egyptian trip.)

Jan. 9 Income Tax comes today for 1912-1913: £742 5s. 0d.

£742, in 2015's money, is about £45,000. However rich they may have been, this demand must have spoiled the Kiplings' holiday. Kipling had been strenuously opposed to the Liberal policy, embodied in Lloyd George's budgets, of taxing the rich to pay for benefits to the less well off.

4 Feb. To Paris, where Elsie stays.

Elsie was now 16: she had never been away to school and was now to stay with a governess in Paris to learn French (LYCETT, p. 425).

Feb. 4 Leave Engelberg for Paris.

6 Feb. To Marseilles, private carriage on train.

Feb, 6 Leave for Marseilles

Private railway carriages, fairly common in the USA, were rare in Britain and continental Europe, though the British railway magnate Sir Edward Watkin had kept his own carriage at Calais for journeys on the continent. In this case, we assume that the Kiplings ignored the expense and hired a private saloon from the railway company.

However, they'd happily travelled on the same railway to and from Engelberg in the last few weeks without complaint. (They used a private saloon in England to travel from Brighton to Southampton on their way to South Africa in December 1901.)

7 Feb. SS *Persia*, P&O, a small primitive boat.
Lord Dartmouth's party has the Captain's table and they sit at the Doctor's. Rud makes some ICS acquaintances.

Feb. 7 Sail on P & O SS *Persia*.



s.s. Persia

*SS Persia was not particularly small (8000 tons), nor very old, being built in 1900 – she was old-fashioned in only having a single screw. Kipling speaks of her as thumping along at about 13 miles an hour in a letter to Elsie and John (PINNEY, **Letters**, Vol. 4, pp. 151-153); she must have averaged 16 knots to reach Port Said in four-and-a-half days from Marseilles.*

She only survived a further two years. On December 30th 1915, south east of Crete, she was torpedoed without warning by a German submarine, and sank.

Carrie clearly resented not being seated at the Captain's table. However, Kipling, in writing to John and Elsie, makes no mention of the matter, nor does he refer to the ship as primitive. In fact, he rather approves of her, because she reminds him of his childhood journeys some forty years before. For an account of this journey, see the first article in Egypt of the Magicians, in Letters of Travel (1892-1913) with NRG notes by John Radcliffe.

Lord Dartmouth had been Queen Victoria's Vice-Chamberlain of the Household.

He therefore out ranked the Kiplings socially in the hierarchical society of those days. (see our entry for 20 Feb 1903 for Carrie's concern with such matters)



Lord Dartmouth

11 Feb. Port Said and Semiramis Hotel, Cairo. V. cold.
Lord and Lady E. Cecil, Sir James and Lady Wilcox (*Wilcocks*)

Feb. 11 Port Said at 3.30. . . The coldest journey I ever knew to Cairo. The Semiramis Hotel.

Chilly it may have been, but compared to a Brattleboro winter we doubt very much if it was in the same league.

The Balkan wars of 1912/13, in which the Turks lost most of their possessions in Europe, were seen as marking the end of the Ottoman Empire. Kipling was concerned at the possible consequences for the British Empire, particularly for India. .

Egypt, at this time, was nominally part of the Ottoman Empire, but had been virtually independent since the mid-19th Century. However, after the acquisition in 1875 by Disraeli's government of a controlling share in the Suez Canal, British 'advisers' effectively ruled Egypt in much the same way as they controlled the Princely states in India. See the NRG notes on Egypt of the Magicians.

Lord Edward Cecil was one of those officials, as financial adviser to the British Agent and Consul-General (Kitchener).



Lord Edward Cecil

For Wilcocks, see the Index.

12 Feb. A fancy dress dance. [All Cairo present](#)

Rudyard was struck by the extraordinary Egyptian society. (See "A Serp the Magicians.)

14 Feb. Left cards on Kitchener and met Fitzgerald, ADC.

Kitchener (Lord Kitchener of Khartoum - 1850-1916) was at this time Agent, Consul-General and Minister Plenipotentiary. He exercised supreme power in Egypt on behalf of the British Government, inasmuch as this was possible, given the many competing interests and entitlements.

He had a distinguished military record, having completed the defeat by Lord Roberts of the Boers in South Africa in 1901/2. Kipling disliked his arrogance. See the entry for March 13th.

Captain Oswald Fitzgerald had been his ADC (assistant) since 1904.



Lord Kitchener

It is interesting that Carrie recorded, and Carrington thought it worthy of note, that they had met Kitchener's ADC.

He had been with Kitchener an unusually long time, but he was of no particular ability. (See Kitchener's entry in the Dictionary of National Biography)

15 Feb. *SS Rameses III* on the Nile. Mrs. Nelson, a nice Canadian.

Feb. 15 Embark on the *SS Rameses III*.



Cook's Nile Steamer

SS Rameses III was a tour boat, run by Thomas Cook, the travel agent.

Feb. 18 At Luxor.

Feb. 20 Leave for Assouan.

Feb. 21 Arrive Assouan.

Feb. 22 To the dam. 12 miles on donkeys there and back.

Feb. 23 By train to meet our Upper Nile boat, *Prince Abass*.

The tour boats on the lower Nile were unable to pass the new dam, so tourists going further south had to transfer to another boat on the upper Nile. The railway still goes no further south than Aswan, though there is a separate system from the border at Wadi Halfa south to Khartoum and the rest of the country.

24 Feb. Above Assouan. Notes in RK's hand: **The desert keeps closing in on us.**

Feb. 24 We sail a different Nile.

The Assouan (Aswan) 'low dam' was a major work on the Nile, about 100 miles north of the Egypt-Soudan border, and was the source of virtually all the irrigation in Upper Egypt, which in turn provided much of Egypt's food and the cotton which was the country's main export.

The dam had been built in 1898-1902 by Sir James Wilcocks (see entry on 11 Feb. above). The present 'high dam', built 1960-70, has had an even more beneficial effect on Egypt in its provision of irrigation and hydro-electric power.



The Aswan 'Low Dam', photo by L Remih

that the country on either bank was different to the green, irrigated lands below the dam – and RK indicated he same when he wrote about the 'desert closing in'.

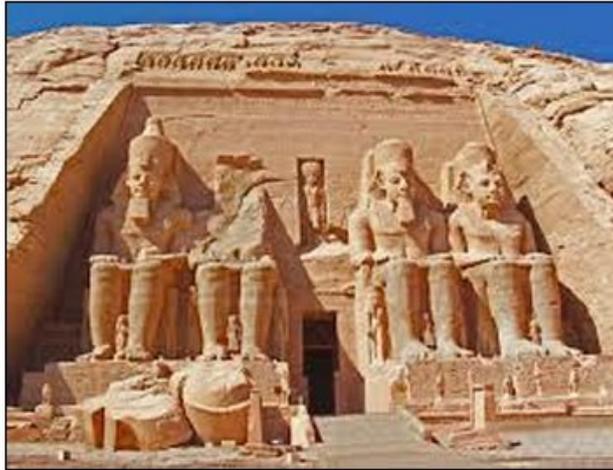
Feb. 25 Kear Ibrahim.

We have been unable to find this location, though it must be on the Nile between Aswan and Wadi Halfa.

Feb. 26 Abu Simbel.

27 Feb Abu Simbel. Sun rose on the Colossae. An awful sight.

Awful, of course, in the sense of inducing a feeling of awe. But Carrie (who had not had the benefit of a classical education) meant "colossi".



Abu Simbel

The temples at Abu Simbel, close to the Soudan border, were then in their original position. They were moved when the Aswan High Dam was built to prevent their being flooded by the lake, Lake Nasser, created by the dam.

28 Feb. Wady Halfa. The Doubledays join them & Mr. and Mrs. C. & N. Williamson. [popular authors]

Feb. 28 Wady Halfa.

Wady Halfa (today spelt Wadi) is a town in Sudan on the Nile at the border with Egypt. For the Doubledays, see Index.

*Kipling described much of this trip in letters to John and Elsie, to Colonel Feilden and to Aunt Georgie (PINNEY, **Letters**, Vol. 4, pp. 151-153 to Elsie; pp.153-156 to John; pp.157-162 to John and Elsie; pp. 163-165 to Col. Feilden; pp. 165-168 to Aunt Georgie; and to John, pp. 168-172.)*

2 Mar. A busy (*evidently a word missing, not supplied by Carrington*): entry by RK: **Hellish night of dog and frog and sheeted crowned kings.**

Mar. 2 Shellal

Shellal is a village on the Nile, about 200 miles from Wadi Halfa.

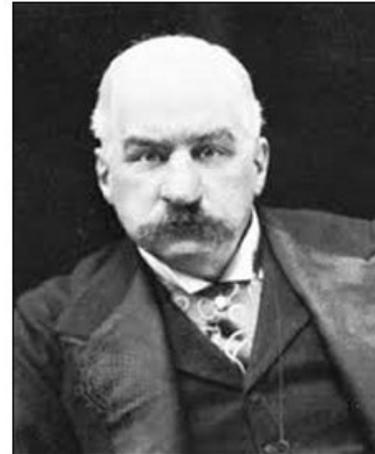
Mar. 5 Arrive at Luxor. Go to Winter Palace Hotel.

7 Mar. At Thebes. Stay in Pierrepont Morgan's house. Shown the diggings by the curator.

Their steamer was now returning northwards. Thebes (part of the city of Luxor) was the site of the temples of Karnak.

John Pierpont Morgan (1837-1913) was a notable American financier in an age of many such. He created General Electric and US Steel to name but two.

He was also a great collector, hence his having a house at Luxor. He died in Rome only a week after the Kiplings had stayed in his house.



J Pierpont Morgan

8 Mar. (Carrie is ill while Kipling goes to the Tombs of the Kings)
People, always people, in the evening after dinner.

A heartfelt remark by Carrie, feeling always on parade.

Mar. 8 Ill and too done up to go with Rud to the Tomb of the Kings.

9 Mar. Back to Cairo. (He never reached Khartoum.)

Mar. 9 Cairo.

12 Mar. Kitchener asks us to lunch – unable to go.

No reason given: possibly Carrie was still unwell; possibly because, as will become further apparent, Kipling did not think much of Kitchener.

13 Mar. Tea at the British Agency, with K. **a fatted pharo (sic) in spurs.**

Mar. 13 Tea with Lord Kitchener. A fatted Pharo in spurs (originally 'with spurs' was written but the 'with' was crossed out and 'in' written above. Was this an RK "revision"?)

Kipling described this 'tea-party' in a letter to Howell Gwynne. RK's view of Kitchener was distinctly unflattering. (PINNEY, Letters, Vol. 4, pp. 173-175)

15 Mar. Left Alexandria by a comfy French boat – Messageries [French Shipping Line] Lady Wingate – Duchess of Roxburghe and other nice English people. The best cabin on the ship.

Mar. 15 Leave Cairo for Alexandria. Sail on the Messageries boat *Cordillère*.

Egypt had become a playground for the European monied classes in winter-time, with the added interest of the historical sites which were being excavated. Kipling wrote about this visit in "Egypt of the Magicians", published in 1914 in the form of seven letters in magazines, and later collected in Letters of Travel (1892-1913). See our NRG notes.

Lady Wingate was probably the wife of General Sir Reginald Wingate, who was the Sirdar (the British Commander-in-Chief of the Egyptian Army) The Duchess of Roxburghe was American, the wife of the 8th Duke. Carrie was clearly pleased that their social status had been recognised by the best cabin.

The Messageries Maritimes was the French equivalent of P&O: for Britons going to the Middle East, the journey by train to Marseilles and onwards by steamer was a quicker and more comfortable way of making the journey.

It involved making changes at Dover, Calais, Paris and Marseilles, but avoided a sea crossing of the Bay of Biscay, which, particularly in winter, could be distinctly unpleasant. The ship's name was evidently Cordillère (letter to John, (PINNEY, Letters, Vol. 4, pp. 176-178)).

Mar. 16 The Captain very pleased to meet Rud – a charming man looking like Savonarola. We change our cabin in the evening to the largest cabin I ever saw.



Girolamo Savonarola was a Florentine friar (1452-1498) who was, in today's terms, an 'activist', being 'agin' more-or-less everything involved with the 'establishment' – the Papacy and its corruption (in every sense, religious and secular); the Medici, the all-powerful despotic rulers of the city. Presumably Carrie had seen this striking portrait during their stay in Florence.

19 Mar. Marseille. Mr. Landon meets us with our car. Terms arranged for producing “*Harbour Watch*” in April.

Mar. 19 Marseilles. Mr. Landon comes with our motor

For Percival Landon, see Index. They were about to motor back together through France, as they had done in 1911. “The Harbour Watch” was the only play that Kipling wrote himself, and that reached the stage with his formal agreement. Its main character was Petty Officer Pyecroft.

Mar. 20 Avignon. Arrange through Mr. Landon to accept terms offered for the production of *The Harbour Watch*, to be produced in April.

22 Mar. Drive to Albi.

Mar. 22 Albi



Albi, the Cathedral of Saint Cecilia

Albi is in SW France, on the river Tarn. It has a magnificent cathedral, dedicated to St. Cecilia, started in 1282 and built of red brick. It was also the home of the painter, Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec. The Kiplings had reached there via Avignon, another fine ancient city. The letter to John cited above is dated from Avignon on 20 March.

24 Mar. Long journey to Bourges.



Bourges, the Cathedral of Saint Etienne

*Bourges lies about 200 miles due north of Albi, up the middle of France. PINNEY, **Letters**, Vol. 4, p. 179, note 2, gives details of their itinerary taken from Motor Tours.*

Business conferences with Watt and Doubleday. Watt to go to America to look into American affairs.

They had meandered up through central France, coming in to Paris on 30 March from the east. We presume that the business meetings took place in Paris.

Mar. 26 Limoges.

Mar. 28 Rheims

Mar. 30 Paris. Elsie arrives at 3. (She has been staying in Paris during her parents' absence, with Miss Howard.

Miss Howard was the Bailey's governess – see Index.

(Editor's note; Carrington was in the habit of not dating every entry, or of entering subsequent events which lasted over a period under the last dated entry – as here, when events in Paris were entered as if taking place in Bourges. And the Rees extracts are inaccurate – either Carrie's geography was shaky, or her memory was at fault when she wrote up the diary, perhaps a day or two after the event.

At all events, the itinerary given in the PINNEY reference is correct – Albi – Limoges – Bourges – Rheims – Paris.)

Apr. 5 Abbeville.

6 Apr. To Folkestone via Abbeville, pleasant old-fashioned hotel.

Two years earlier they had stayed at the Tête de Boeuf hotel in Abbeville, describing it as “not over clean. Obliging: speak English”. (See our entry for 7 Apr. 1911.)

Apr. 6. Boulogne and Folkestone.

7 Apr. Home.
John has a motor bike.

*They evidently stayed overnight at Folkestone, although it is no more than an hour’s drive to Burwash. The crossing had apparently been a bad one (PINNEY, **Letters**, Vol. 4, pp. 179, letter to EL White, dated 8 April, “I am still heaving after the channel passage”).*

Apr. 7 Bateman’s

10-11 Apr. Rud signs 1050 sets of Bombay Edition.

There were 26 volumes of Macmillan’s special ‘Bombay Edition’, printed on handmade paper.

Apr. 10 Rud, with John’s help, starts to sign the first volume of 1000 sets of the Bombay edition.

14 Apr. Rud to rehearsal of “*Harbour Watch*”; depressed by the caste (*sic*).
Puts up Baldwin for his club.
(There is also Baldwin, our old chauffeur who has been in America.)

Apr. 14 Rud goes to town for a rehearsal of *The Harbour Watch*. Rud is depressed over the cast of the play but works hard with them

It is not certain whether Kipling ever saw the play itself – see 29 Apr, below. Kipling had already proposed his cousin, Stanley Baldwin for membership of the Athenaeum (see our note on 17 Nov. 1897.) This may have been for the Beefsteak, a dining club. Baldwin was already a rising Tory politician. The relevance of the note about Baldwin the chauffeur is not clear.

Apr. 22 Rud, John and I to town. Rud takes John to his first music hall. Rud's play, curtain raiser *The Harbour Watch* is produced. Several telegrams to say how excellently it was received.

23 Apr. *Harbour Watch* produced and well received.

In fact, the opening night was on 22 April: there was a report in The Times, 23 April, which described the plot in some detail and said, of his characters' dialogue, "You cannot choose but believe every word of it". At the end "there was a hearty call for Mr. Kipling, but he was not in the house."

29 Apr. The whole family to a matinee which they enjoy.

Apr. 29 To town with both children. . . to see *The Harbour Watch*. Good house and excellently done. Rud comes up in the evening and we all go to a music hall.

PINNEY, Letters, Vol. 4, p. 181, note 6, states that Kipling did not accompany the family to the matinee, but according to these "Rees Extracts", he went up to meet the family after the show and they all went to a music hall.

2 May To Wellington to see Mr. Pearson. John now wants to go into the Army.

Mr. Pearson was John's housemaster, so presumably the purpose of the visit was to discuss John's future.

John would be 16 later that summer, and Carrie's reference to John's desire for an army career is significant when set against the views of critics who have wrongly suggested that, sixteen months later at the outbreak of the war, Kipling pushed John into the army, and, after John's death, was haunted by feelings of guilt.

Wellington was known as an 'Army' school. Since John had no other career in mind, and was not academically inclined, and many of his contemporaries would have been intended for the army, it is not surprising that he had decided to be a soldier.

Kipling's visit would have been to enquire of Pearson what John's chances were of passing the exams for Sandhurst, the Royal Military Academy. John only spent two more terms at Wellington, leaving earlier than might have been expected, to go to a 'crammer', where he would have been intensively coached for the exam the following autumn.

6 May [Rud asked to take Mr. J M Barrie's place in making a speech.](#)

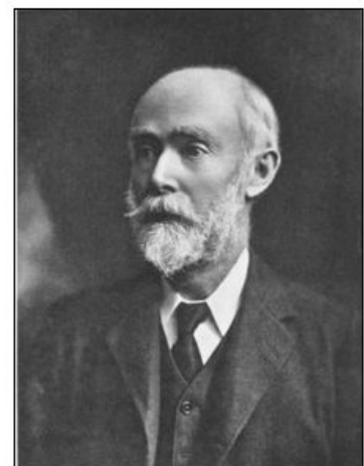
May 6 Rud asked to take Mr. J M Barrie's place in making a speech.

We have been unable to determine whether Kipling agreed to take Barrie's place, where the speech was and what about.

10 May At the Allens. Met the S. Colvins.

For the Allens, see Index. For the S. Colvins, see entry for 29 May 1903. Kipling had attended a dinner to Joseph Chamberlain, probably at the Athenaeum, where there was also one S. Colvin.

This was probably Sir Sidney Colvin. a distinguished critic and friend of Robert Louis Stevenson.



Sir Sidney Colvin

This seems to have been Carrie's first encounter with the Colvins.

12 May The Baden Powells call.

Baden Powell, the soldier and founder of the scout movement, had married his wife Olave the previous year. This seems to have been the first time the Kiplings had met her.



Robert Baden-Powell

See the Index for earlier encounters with him.

May 17 Many telegrams re arrangements for John's medical exam for Army. ~~Vedrens~~ (m/s note alongside "(of Vedrenne & Barker, Court Theatre)" to call about plays for the future and other arrangements for *The Harbour Watch*.

John Vedrenne was no longer associated with Harley Granville-Barker, and the Court Theatre. At this time he was the co-owner of the Royalty Theatre, which was where The Harbour Watch was running.

19 May Rud and John go to Aldershot for John's medical. His eyesight found below standard.

May 19 John's preliminary medical exam. John's eyesight found below standard.

PINNEY, Letters, Vol. 4, pp. 183-4 has two letters from Kipling to John about this medical exam, the one dated 16 May telling him about the arrangements.

(Kipling evidently expected –rather optimistically – to get from the College to Aldershot in 15 minutes, about eleven miles.) . In the second letter Kipling says nothing about the results, and since John continued to study for the Sandhurst exam, it appears that the Kiplings intended not to discourage his ambitions – at least not yet.

23 May A Mr. Warrington Dawson who has been in Africa with Roosevelt brings messages from him.

Much business talk. *The Harbour Watch* running in London. Rud busy at his *Egyptian Letters*. (They call at Keylands almost every day.

Keylands was the cottage at the western end of the Bateman's estate which they had re-furbished for Percival Landon to rent. See entry for 5 December 1912. Landon was evidently in residence.

24 May Lord Milner and Lady E. Cecil for the day. A delightful Empire Day Meeting

Their celebration of Empire Day together had become a regular feature of their annual calendar.

25 May Sir Edward Ward [the Military Secretary] from the War Office promises that he will do what he can about John.

May 25 Sir Edward Ward (War Office) promises to do what he can to help us about John getting into the army.

Since John had evidently decided he wanted to become a soldier, Kipling was pulling all possible strings. The Military Secretary was responsible for policy direction on personnel management for members of the British Army. However, Sir Edward Ward was not the Military Secretary at this time (it was, in fact, Lieutenant-General Sir William Franklyn).

We believe that Sir Edward Ward was probably Colonel Sir Edward Willis Duncan Ward (1853-1928) who was at that time Permanent Under-Secretary at the War Office, and who would have been in quite as good a position as the Military Secretary to pull strings on John's behalf.

27 May London – Gwynne – Dr. Jameson

South African affairs must have been discussed, but neither was now active in South African affairs.

28 May Rud starts a poem for the French President's visit.

See entry for 23 June below.

The President was M. Raymond Poincaré (1860-1934), who had been elected in January 1913.



M. Raymond Poincaré

June To Eton. Lunch with the Headmaster.

The Headmaster was the Rev. Hon. Edward Lyttelton (1855-1942), the brother of Hon. Alfred Lyttelton (see Index).

13 June Dined with Mr. Stewart who has just returned from 2 years' imprisonment in a fortress for spying. Most amusing. Elsie dines with us.

Mr. Stewart was Captain Bertrand Stewart (1872-1914), a former officer who had been imprisoned in German for spying on the German navy. See LYCETT pp. 431-2.



Bertrand Stewart

To say they dined with Mr. Stewart suggests that they were his guests in his house.

The fact that Elsie dined with them suggests that the Kiplings were the hosts at Bateman's. Aged seventeen, she was not yet formally 'out' in society, and it would not have been proper for her to attend an adults' dinner party, certainly not in London. However, in the country, Carrie might have been prepared to relax the rule and allow Elsie to accompany them to Mr Stewart's house if she had been invited.

16 June Rud sacks Moore the chauffeur after six years' service. His hot temper makes him do impossible things.

June 16 Rud gives our motor man Moore notice to leave after six years. This is a serious move but necessary because of his hot temper which leads him to do impossible things.

*There has been no hint of trouble previously in the extracts, but LYCETT p. 430 says that Carrie was probably the instigator And in PINNEY, **Letters**, Vol. 4, p. 188, Kipling writes to John "Moore leaves us on Saturday. I'm rather sorry and very glad." Evidently, Moore worked out his notice (see **Jul. 12**).*

*However, over a month later, Kipling still hadn't found a permanent replacement: PINNEY, **Letters**, Vol. 4, p. 191 has a letter to Arthur Gibbs, an acquaintance, setting out the requirements: married, to receive a cottage and garden and*

£2 per week; “He has about 2 months to himself in winter and he don’t have anything in the way of hard work. But he has to have entire charge of the car, and to be civil,”

23 June Poem “*France*” in *Morning Post*.
Great enthusiasm in France. Translations in many papers.

See entry for 28 May. See also “The Song of Seventy Horses” (Debits and Credits). In “France”, the language is high-flown, expressing the common heritage of Britain and France, despite centuries of enmity. The poem also suggests that Britain and France will have to stand up to Germany before long. “The Song of Seventy Horses”, written some 18 years later, is a more lyrical evocation of France and her countryside

28 June Farnborough. Col. Ivor Maxse. Col. Marker, guardsman.

‘Farnborough’ has figured in visits to Wellington, or to the nearby flying area; it was also near Aldershot and the army.

Col Ivor Maxse (1862-1958) was a brother of Lady E. Cecil, and was, in fact, a Brigadier-General, commanding the 1st Guards Brigade. In the Great War he commanded an Army Corps in France, 1917-18 and retired as a General.



Ivor Maxse

*Col. Marker must have been
Colonel Raymond John Marker
(1867-1914), Coldstream
Guards, at this time
Assistant Quarter-Master-
General, Aldershot Command.*



Raymond John Marker

29 June A tableful of guardsmen going on
manoeuvres.

*These seem to have been local manoeuvres – possibly
involving only the brigade of Guards. There is no report of
them in The Times during this period.*

30 June (She home to Bateman's. He on manoeuvres with Gwynne.)

June 30 Rud and Mr. Gwynne go in the motor to join the Camp at Elstead (for
army manoeuvres)

1 July Rud home from manoeuvres. Had a wonderful time and next day
begins a story of his experiences at the camp.

*Elstead is over near Godalming: and were it not that The
Horse Marines had been written three years earlier, we might
have suggested that it had germinated there, since Elstead is
within easy marching distance of the presumed site of the
'battle' which features in that tale (see our NRG notes on the
tale).*

*But the tale begun next day was a tale of troops on manoeuvres
in England on a sweltering day, finding themselves in among
the dead of the South African War, seen through drifting haze
under a lowering sky. He began to write it, but set it aside. See
Something of Myself pp. 213/4.*

- July 1** Rud comes home having had a wonderful time in camp, immensely enjoying himself.
- 3 July Miss Bowman succeeds Miss Hogg as secretary.
- July 3** Miss Hogg, Secretary, leaves our service and a Miss Bowman comes
- July 4** The new secretary, Miss Bowman proves slow in her work, and I greatly fear for her wits.
- She did not stay long – see entry on 22 July.*
- 5 July Stalky's son to stay
- PINNEY, **Letters**, Vol. 4, pp. 185-87 has a letter from Kipling to Stalky about the visit of his son (also Lionel (1902-70?). He was at Cranbrook School, about ten miles away in Kent. He came for the week-end.*
- 7 July Photographer from the *Sphere*.
- The Sphere was a weekly illustrated newspaper(1900 to 1964), very much like the Illustrated London News*
- July 12** George Moore, chauffeur, who has been in our service six years ends his time. (See entry for **June 16.**)
- July 13** I have a long and tiresome talk with Martin the gardener who has of late grown slack in his work. He promises to do better.
- 13 July Photographer from Eliot (*Elliott*) and Fry.
- Elliott and Fry was a noted firm of photographers, in business in London since 1863: they specialised in portraits of social and public, artistic, scientific and stage 'celebrities'*
- 14 July Rud dines with the King's Guard at St. James's Palace.

The King's Guard (in 2015, the Queen's Guard) is a detachment of troops, mainly from the Foot Guards regiments of the 'Household Brigade', the Grenadier, Coldstream, Scots, Irish and Welsh Guards. The Foot Guards provide the ceremonial guard and sentries for the royal residences and the Tower of London. The Captain of the Guard established his headquarters in St. James's Palace. He has the privilege of inviting whom he likes to dine with him and his junior officers

Visit to Scarborough to see Trix [with her nurse](#).

Trix was still living a peripatetic life with various carers.

July 15 Leave for Scarborough to see Trix Fleming who is staying in a nearby village.

*They must have gone by train – their chauffeur had just left, and they had not yet got a replacement – see entry for **July 25** below.*

July 16 Trix coming in with her nurse. (Home)

19 July The Bland-Suttons, Miss Ellaline Terriss, the Moreton Frewens, Steel-Maitland and Lady Edward.

This was probably their own house party (19 July was a Saturday).



Miss Ellaline Terriss

Ellaline Terriss (1871-1971) was a popular singer and actress, best known for her performances in musical comedies. She was married to Seymour Hicks, also an actor and playwright.

Arthur Steel-Maitland
(later Sir Arthur, 1876-1935)
was Chairman of the
Conservative Party.

*For Moreton Frewens and
Lady Edward (Cecil see
the Index*



Arthur Steel-Maitland

22 July Miss Veysey secretary.

*The sole mention of her – presumably she didn't last long,
either.*

(Tyler, an American theatrical manager, now cultivating Rudyard.)
*See entry for **July 18 2012**. Nothing seems to have come of his
approaches.*

July 22 To town to see a Secretary, a Miss Veysey. I engage her on trial for a month. Home by the 4.50.

July 24 Miss Bowman who has tried my sole (?soul) as Secretary leaves after bothering my morning. Miss Veysey arrives.

Veysey/Voysey? We shall never know.

25 July Rud starts some verses called "~~Gahasi~~" (?) ["Gehazi"] moved thereto by the rumour of Mr. Isaacs being about to be made Lord Chief Justice.

This was one of Kipling's bitterest political poems.

He was outraged that Rufus Isaacs, a leading Liberal politician, who with various colleagues had apparently been implicated in insider-trading in Marconi shares, was to become the second senior judge in the land.



Rufus Isaacs

See John Walker's notes on the poem in NRG, and the linked paper by Julian Moore.

PINNEY, Letters, Vol. 4, pp. 194-5 is a letter to Arthur Steel-Maitland, (see 19 July above), in which Kipling thanks him for the idea of comparing Isaacs to Gehazi.

July 25 Flick, chauffeur, who was with us twice in France, arrives to act as a stop-gap.

He had brought them back from Vernet to Paris in March/April 1911, but Kipling, in writing to commend him, had spelt his name 'Fleck'.

26 July Weekend at Newlands, the Stracheys, Lord and Lady Strachey, Lord O'Hagan, George Lloyd, Locker-Lampson. [Too utterly tired to understand what people were saying.](#)

Newlands was the home of John St. Loe Strachey, the editor of the Spectator (see Index). Lord Strachey was his elder brother. Lord O'Hagan (1882-1961) was a Liberal politician, a government whip in the House of Lords



Lord O'Hagan



George Lloyd

George Lloyd (1879-1941, later Lord Lloyd), on the other hand, was a very right-wing Conservative. Locker-Lampson was probably Oliver (see entry of 7-8 April 1912), also a Conservative, but possibly his brother, Godfrey, also a Conservative MP.

PINNEY, Letters, Vol. 4, pp. 193-4 has a letter to Max Aitken in which Kipling writes, "We spent the week end with St. Loe Strachey and, whatever we did, the talk turned to Marconi."

July 26 We leave for Wellington, to find John in bed with mumps.

This would have been at the end of term, to bring him home. It is not clear how they were going to have brought John home, AND visited the Stracheys for the week-end.

30-31 July A weekend at Kessingland Grange [Norfolk], tired out.

Kessingland Grange (actually in Suffolk) was a house owned by Rider Haggard, on the cliff top at Kessingland, some six miles south of Lowestoft on the east coast.

1 Aug. Carrie tired and ill. (Not stated, but presumably back at Bateman's).
One of my dreadful nights. Rud busy at "Gehazi"

Sarah Anderson and Chas. Scribner from the USA call.

The American publishing house of Charles Scribner's Sons had published Kipling for some 20 years, both in their Scribner's Magazine and as a collection of books, the Outward Bound Edition.



Charles Scribner II

This was probably Charles Scribner II (1854-1930) who had been head of the firm from 1879 to 1900.

Discussion probably skirted delicately around the fact that Macmillan was about to produce a new set of Kipling's works, the Bombay Edition, which would compete with Scribner's Outward Bound Edition.

*In the USA, the Bombay Edition was published, by Doubleday, as the 'Seven Seas' Edition. PINNEY, **Letters**, Vol. 4, pp. 189-90 has a letter, dated 13 July, from Kipling to Frank Doubleday in which matters concerning the 'Seven Seas' Edition' are mentioned*

See Index for Sarah Anderson, (formerly their secretary).

The children now grown up. John drives the car and runs a motor bike. They go off for jaunts, Lorna Baldwin, ~~Lance Dale Lacey~~ (L de Salis (?)), Charlie and Isabel Law, Cecil Bailey: a dance for 20 young people. Then John has mumps.

Lorna Baldwin (1896-1989) was the daughter) of Stanley and Cissie Baldwin, and second cousin to John and Elsie. Charlie and Isabel Law were the children of Andrew Bonar Law: Cecil Bailey was the son of Sir Abe Bailey.

- Aug. 2 Rud fetches John from Wellington.
- Aug. 15 John's inflamed glands proves to be mumps. Our guests all leave at different times.
- Aug. 16 The new chauffeur, Eaves, comes.
- Aug. 25 We leave at 10 a.m. Arrive at 1 at Kessingland Grange, a house we have taken from Sir Rider Haggard for a few weeks. (Night of 24th spent at Chelmsford.
- 28 Aug. To Kessingland Grange (taken from Haggard). All the family pleased.
Trips on the Broads. Sir M. Aitken.

See entry on 30-31 July above. On that occasion, they were merely lent the house for the week-end. The Broads are a series of shallow inland lakes in eastern Norfolk. They were just starting to become popular as a holiday destination.

- 31 Aug. They agree to rent it for a year at £50 and Haggard to come when he likes.
- Aug. 31 We arrange with Sir Rider to take the house for a year at £50, the rates and the gardener's wages.

They seem to have spent two weeks at Kessingland, and there is no record of their going there again until July 23 1914.

- 1 Sep. Teddy Price. Oliver [Baldwin] and Margot Baldwin. Miss Blaikie (quite her old place in the household). Stella Drummond. Mr. Landon.

*A children's holiday party. For Teddy Price, see Index.
Oliver Baldwin (1899-1958) was the elder surviving son of the
Baldwins, and Margot (1897-1976) was his elder sister. For
Miss Blaikie and Landon see Index.*

10 Sep. Back to Bateman's by Gravesend Ferry.

Sep. 10 We leave Kessingland for Bateman's.



Tilbury-Gravesend Ferry, embarking 1901

*The Tilbury-Gravesend Ferry was the most seaward of all the
regular crossings of the Thames. If they were
travelling in the Rolls-Royce, the car would have had to be
carried across the river by lighter. Car ferries were not
introduced until some years later.*

15 Sep. Bland Sutton reports on John. Thyroid Troubles. Switzerland is
barred.

Greatly distresses us.

Sep. 15 To town. I see a secretary. Rud takes John to Bland Sutton who
reports a slight thickening in the thyroid gland and says Switzerland
is barred and all running must be discontinued.

*John had had glandular problems during the summer term.
(LYCETT, p. 441, refers to glandular fever) – PINNEY, Letters,
Vol. 4, p. 205, note 5, cites a letter from Kipling to Lady E
Cecil, which refers to John having mumps, followed by spells
in the college sanatorium with glandular problems.*

Kipling had consulted their surgeon friend, Bland-Sutton, who partially removed John's tonsils on Nov 5th. (See PINNEY, Letters, Vol. 4, p. 205, note 5

Col. and Mrs Crew. Sir Abe Bailey.

Col. and Mrs. Crew were, in fact, Colonel (later Brigadier-General Hon. Sir Charles) Crewe (1868-1936) and his wife. He was a long-time member of the Cape Province legislative Assembly, and later of the House of Assembly of the Union of South Africa. PINNEY, Letters, Vol. 4, p. 204, note 5 cites the Bateman's visitors' book in confirmation.

23 Sep. Miss Chamberlain, new secretary at £65.

Sep. 23 Miss Chamberlain, new secretary, arrives. Salary £65 with board and lodging and ten weeks at home in the year.

Miss Chamberlain became Carrie's secretary, staying until 1917 (LYCETT, p. 478)

24 Sep. Sir E. Poynter to paint Bateman's.



o
g

25 Sep. Rud presides at village meeting on National Service. All the papers report it.

Sep. 25

Rud acts as chairman making a short speech in the village about National Service. All the London reporters infest little Burwash.

Kipling apologised to John (PINNEY, Letters, Vol. 4, p. 199) for the fact that “I had to attend a National Service meeting at Burwash. I’m awfully sorry, for your sake, that I couldn’t get out of it. Lord Roberts asked me and as I want to keep solid with him for your sake you ungrateful little devil, I agreed.”

The National Service League in Kipling’s own words on this occasion, “supported a system of national training for the young men of England”. Two speakers, Coulson Kernahan and Nevill Edwards, were going round Sussex, addressing similar village meetings to put the case for compulsory military training. Kipling was the chairman of the meeting, and opened his introductory remarks by saying “To show you that I am a perfectly impartial chairman, I may as well tell you that I have not heard their arguments yet but I strongly support them”

Coulson Kernahan (1858-1943) was an author and novelist, and an associate of the Conservative M.P. Frederick Locker-Lampson: see the entry for April 7th 1912.



Coulson Kernahan

The speech was reported in The Times and was the subject of a leader in that newspaper on 26 September. It is among the previously uncollected speeches which have been published in A Second Book of Words, edited by Professor Tom Pinney.

26 Sep.

Beset by reporters.

As a result of the above.

27 Sep. Call on Lady Sackville at Knowle (*Knole*), a wonderful woman. (Rud working at “*The Dog Harvey*”)



Knole House

*Knole, near Sevenoaks, had been in the hands of the Sackvilles since 1603. Rudyard commented to John on Lady Sackville’s recent success in the courts in a case in which she “**certainly wiped the floor of the courts with F E Smith**”. (See note 3 to the Pinney reference above). F. E. Smith was one of the great advocates of the day, and much feared in the courts.*

2 Oct. To Brooklands and New Romney. [*Should be Brookland.*]



Brookland Church. (Romney March.)

New Romney is on the edge of Romney Marsh, in Kent, and Brookland is a village nearby. The Kiplings had a particular liking for Romney Marsh. See "Dymchurch Flit" in Puck of Pook's Hill, and "Brookland Road" in Rewards and Fairies.

4 Oct. *Songs from Books* published. We are pleased.

Oct. 4 Rud's *Songs from Books* comes out and we are pleased with its looks.

These now appear in Vol. II of PINNEY, Poems.

5 Oct. R. sat to Sir E. Poynter for a portrait in charcoal.

This portrait was commissioned by Sir Max Aitken, and is now in the Beaverbrook Gallery, Fredericton, New Brunswick.

8 Oct. Mr. Astor of Hever, Lady Sackville, Sir E. Poynter.

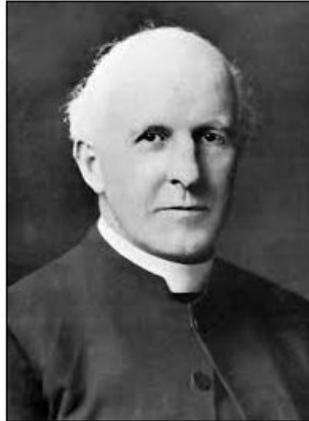


William Waldorf Astor

Victoria, Lady Sackville

Mr. Astor was William Waldorf Astor (1848-1919), a member of a wealthy Anglo-American family; he had been a naturalised Briton since 1899, and was later ennobled (1917) as Viscount Astor of Hever. He owned the Pall Mall Gazette and the Observer. For Lady Sackville, see entry of 27 September.

10 Oct. Sir M. and Lady Aitken, Mr. and Mrs. Hussey bring the Archbishop and Mrs. Davidson for tea, Mr. Landon.



Randall Davidson

For the Husseys, see entry for April 1910. The Archbishop was Randall Davidson (1846-1930) (Archbishop of Canterbury 1903-28).

His wife Edith (née Tait) was herself the daughter of a previous Archbishop of Canterbury.

Sir E. Poynter painting hard.

We assume this was still on the Bateman's painting. Poynter made two paintings of Bateman's in this year.

13 Oct. Mr. Durand who has done a sort of explanation of Rud's verses calls and has tea. (Rud has helped him with this.)

Ralph Durand (1876-1945), wrote A Handbook to the Poetry of Rudyard Kipling, published by Hodder and Stoughton in 1914. He annotates Kipling's poems rather as we have done in the New Readers' Guide, and our contributors have been glad to draw on his work. He did not, however, cover every poem that Kipling had written by then.

19 Oct. Rud and Carrie to the Astors at Hever Castle. [A large party, a wonderful and rather appalling place.](#)



Hever Castle

See entry for 8 October above. Hever was sold by William Waldorf Astor's grandson in 1983 to a private property company, which has continued to own and improve it as a tourist attraction and venue for social events.

24 Oct. To Mrs. Charles Leonard's funeral at Brompton.

See Index for Charles Leonard, her husband.

Oct. 25 We take John to Bland Sutton (from Wellington). He decides John must have an operation.

The operation was to remove part of his Thyroid gland.

27 Oct. "My Son's Wife" [see 12 Sep. CEC]

The Sep. 1912 entry describes their visit to Glastonbury and Tolland, where they found graves of Balestier ancestors. However Carrington is incorrect to connect this with "My Son's Wife". He was probably thinking of "An Habitation Enforced" (1905), in which ancestral connections between English and American families are discovered.

"My Son's Wife" was published in 1917 in A Diversity of Creatures, dated '1913'. This entry must mark its completion.

31 Oct. Brown's Hotel. Rud with Landon to a Music Hall.

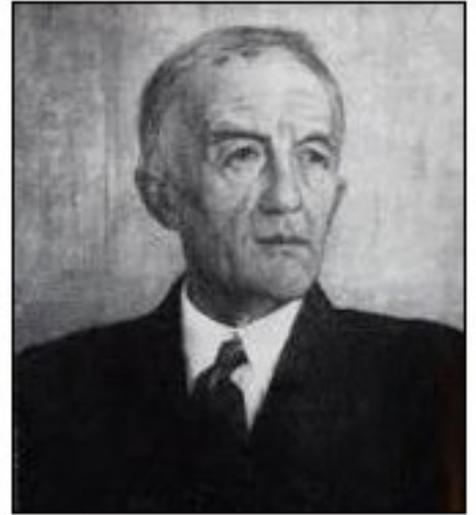
Kipling had always enjoyed music halls ever since he had lived in lodgings in Villiers Street, just off the Strand, when he first came to London in 1889, and before he had met Carrie.

4 Nov. Mr. Baker [our old South African friend](#) to stay on his way to Delhi [The architect]

Nov. 4 Mr. Baker, our old South African friend comes. He is on his way to Delhi where he is doing plans for new Government buildings

Baker had returned from South Africa earlier this year to set up practice in London.

He was immediately called on to assist Edwin Lutyens in designing the public buildings for the new administrative capital of British India, to be built alongside the old city of Delhi, and to be named New Delhi. He was knighted in 1928.



[*Sir Herbert Baker*

11 Nov. Flood. Mr. Cameron Forbes, late Governor of the Philippines. Mary Lyttelton for Elsie.

The brook was up to its old bad flooding habits again. Speaking from practical experience from about five miles further down the valley of the Rother, into which the Dudwell falls about two-and-a-half miles below Bateman's, this was an annual occurrence.

William Cameron Forbes (1870-1959) was an American investment banker and diplomat, who served as Governor-General of the Philippines, 1908-1913.

He was a Republican, appointed by President Taft.



William Cameron Forbes

Mary Lyttelton was the daughter of Rt. Hon Alfred Lyttelton and his wife – see index.

17 Nov. 2 dancing mistresses come to teach John and Elsie the 'Tango'.

The tango was a dance from Argentina, where it originated in about 1890. It came to Europe in the 1900s, first to Paris, and later to London, where it became all the rage.

22 Nov. Elsie's first grown-up house-party. We all go for week-end to the Desboroughs at Taplow Court. The Asquiths there.



Taplow Court

Elsie was now 17, although she had not formally 'come out' (i.e. been presented at Court). Lady Desboough ('Ettie') was one of the great Edwardian hostesses, and Taplow Court was one of the great country houses. 'The Asquiths' refers to Herbert Asquith (later Lord Oxford and Asquith) the Liberal Prime Minister since 1908 and his (second) wife Margot.

26 Nov. The doctor changes his plans and says we are to go to Switzerland for Christmas.

Nov. 26 The doctor changes all our plans and says now we are to go to Switzerland for the Xmas holiday.

The doctor refers to Bland-Sutton: quite why his advice should have been so couched, in the imperative, is not made clear. But they went.

Nov. 29 Rud and I leave by the 10.45 to see the Stan Baldwins. Arrive 5 p.m.

Dec. 1 We leave for home.

11 Dec. Carrie lunches at the rectory.

Probably simply a social call. The Kiplings were not great church-goers. It might have been connected with the following entry

15 Dec. [A meeting at Mrs. Hussey's to try and start the sub-committees for looking after women and children from Ireland when civil war comes.](#)

Dec. 15 A meeting at Mrs. Hussey's to try and start the sub-committees for looking after women and children from Ireland when civil war comes.

For Mrs. Hussey, see Index. This entry is significant as being the first mention in the 'Extracts' of the situation in Ulster, which was in the forefront of political discussion at this time. The Third Irish Home Rule Bill had been introduced in 1912, and was being ferociously opposed by the Ulster Unionists, led by Sir Edward Carson, who were fervently supported by Kipling. It was widely expected that civil war would ensue in 1914, and well-meaning bodies attempted to prepare for the refugees who, it was expected, would flee to Britain.

22 Dec. Leave for Folkestone. Through to Compiègne for a visit to the Depews.

Dec. 22 We all four leave for Compiègne on a visit to the Depews.

For 'the Depews' see Index. Compiègne refers to their home at the Chateau d'Anel.

A cosmopolitan party.
Villagers dancing round a tree.

27 Dec. Paris, Hotel Bristol. Heavy snow.

Dec. 27 We leave the Chateau for Paris.

29 Dec. Engelberg.

Dec. 29 Arrive at Engelberg 4.30.

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

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