

The Carrington and Rees Extracts
from the diaries of
Caroline Kipling

1914

*We are now able to include the text of the 'Rees Extracts' from the diaries, which were made by Douglas Rees on behalf of Lord Birkenhead, when he was researching his Kipling biography. (See "Kipling's Biographers" by Lisa Lewis.) The 'Rees' entries are identified by having **the date in red**, and with the month before the date – as it is written in the 'Extracts' themselves; A.W. August 2015.*

1914

Jan.

At Engelberg.



- 20 Jan. John returns to England with some other schoolboys.
- Jan. 20** John leaves for England.
- 21 Jan. C, K and E. (*Carrie, Kipling and Elsie*) to Zurich and St. Moritz. The Baldwins and a host of friends.
- Jan. 21** We leave for Zurich on our way to St. Moritz.
- 2 Feb. Our Elsie's 18th birthday, [a dear beloved girl](#).

Feb. 3 We leave at 8.30 for Paris.

4 Feb. They meet the Chevrillons, but mostly Americans in Paris.

See entry for 23 November 1909 for André Chevrillon.



André Chevrillon

7 Feb. Bateman's in heavy rain.

Feb.7 We leave for England arriving at the Secretary's cottage at 7.p.m.

13 Feb. To Bournemouth to see Mr. Lee Evans, a crammer.

John was set on trying to pass the exams for Sandhurst, to join the army. See 2 May 1913. A 'crammer' is a coaching establishment, designed to get boys through exams by intensive study. This was recommended by John's housemaster at Wellington. See "The Moral Reformers" in Stalky & Co.

Feb. 14 We leave for Wellington, on to Cherkley to sleep with The Aitkens. We go to town, Rud to dine with the Royal Geographic Society. I go to hear the paper – a full house and excellent reception.

Presumably their visit to Wellington was to tell John and the College authorities what had been decided. Kipling was the speaker at the annual dinner of the RGS. Although not invited to the dinner, Carrie came along afterwards to hear the speech. It was entitled 'Some Aspects of Travel', and was collected in A Book of Words (No. XII.) See our NRG notes by Leonee Ormond.

17 Feb. [Our Wedding Anniversary a very happy day.](#) (She always says this on the 17th). (*The anniversary was, in fact, 18 January.*)

19 Feb. To Paris (to buy a presentation dress for Elsie).
Rud gives me a dog-collar of pearls.

Elsie was to be 'presented' at Court, at the start of the London social 'Season', which traditionally ran from April until August. A tradition of Victorian England was for upper class young women to be presented to the sovereign at a formal ceremony on reaching adulthood, a practice continued by her successors, and continued until 1958, when it was abolished by Queen Elizabeth. After the presentation these 'debutantes' were regarded as having 'come out' and could attend the various social events of the Season unchaperoned.

There were strict regulations about the style of the debutante's dresses, which were normally white, and various couturiers specialised in making these very expensive ball gowns. We are not told who made Elsie's dress, but the Paris house of Worth was much favoured by English Society. Nor is it clear if Elsie accompanied them – one would expect it, although they might have had her measurements taken during their stay in Paris earlier in the month: if she did accompany them, she went home before they left for Vernet – see entry for 30 March.



Queen Mary

Pearls are traditionally a gift for a 30th wedding anniversary – the previous day had been their 22nd.

Queen Alexandra and Queen Mary were particularly fond of wearing a pearl 'choker'.

Feb. 19 To Paris via Dover and Calais.

*They were evidently travelling by train rather than in the Rolls.
Hence the use of the Dover-Calais route.*

21 Feb. Lunch party. Princess Marie of Greece, M. Briand, M. and Mme. Jean Richepin, Dr. Gustav Le Bon, Vicomte d'Humières.



Aristide Briand



Princess Marie of Greece

Princess Marie of Greece (1882-1962), their hostess, was a great-grandniece of the Emperor Napoleon I: she was married to Prince George of Greece. She was extremely rich, having inherited a fortune from her maternal grandfather, who was one of the principal developers of Monte Carlo.

At this date, she was having an affaire, which lasted for some six years, with the next guest, M. Aristide Briand (1862-1932), the French Prime Minister.



Jean Richepin



Robert d'Humières



Gustave le Bon

Jean Richepin (1849-1926) was a French avant-garde writer, poet and novelist. The Kiplings had known the Vicomte d'Humières since 1900 – see entries for 8 August 1899 and 14 June 1907. Dr. Le Bon (1842-1932) was a psychologist, sociologist and anthropologist.

*See PINNEY, **Letters**, Vol. 4, p.223, note 4, for a comment on this occasion in a letter to Lord Milner. Kipling thought Briand had a distinct likeness to David Lloyd George, the Liberal Chancellor of the Exchequer, whom he detested.*

22 Feb. To Vernet les Bains; both take the cure.
Proofs of *The Dog ~~Henry~~ (Hervey?)* and of *Egyptian Letters [Egypt and the Magicians]*.

Feb. 22 Leave at 7.p.m. for Vernet-les-Bains

*This was their third visit to Vernet – see our entries for 20 February 1910 and 18 March 1911. Kipling wrote to Andrew McPhail (PINNEY, **Letters**, Vol. 4, p.228) “**I have been through a Course of Baths; and, within and without, and even to the marrow of my bones, I am of a purity and cleanliness and delicacy and suppleness which fills me with pride and amazement. Also I’ve drunk the beastly stuff and swum in it..**”*

1 Mar. Lunch with M. Violet the wine millionaire. *Most interesting and delightful day. [*see ‘*The Bull that Thought*’.]

M. Violet was clearly the model for the impressive M. Voiron in ‘The Bull that Thought’ – but the account in that tale of a wager over the Kipling car’s performance cannot be based on fact – at least not on this occasion – see 18 Mar. below

10 Mar. Princess H. of Battenberg arrives.

[



Princess H(enry) of Battenberg was Princess Beatrice (1857- 1944), Queen Victoria’s fifth daughter. Clearly there was some excitement at Vernet about her arrival. She was a widow, her husband having died of malaria in 1896, while on active service in West Africa.

Princess Beatrice

18 Mar. To Bordeaux. Eaves, chauffeur, meets them with the car.

Mar. 21 Leave (*Vernet, according to DR, but CEC (above) says it was three days earlier*). Avignon.

The Rolls would have been shipped out to Bordeaux, and the Kiplings probably travelled by train from Vernet to meet the car and start their motor tour. However, it is interesting to note the difference of interpretation between the two sets of extracts from the same diary.

22 Mar. Arles, Les Baux.

Mar. 22 Arles.

Arles is near the Crau, where "The Bull that Thought" (1924) is set. See 1 March above.

23 Mar. [Vaucluse place full of English living as is their manner in a world of their own, considering foreigners as deaf, dumb and without sight.](#)

These are Carrie's own words. Vaucluse is a Department in the south, close to Avignon, rather than a town. Possibly Carrie, who was of course American, had in mind a town called Somewhere-en-Vaucluse, of which there are a few..

24 Mar. Avignon, Valence.

Mar. 24 Grenoble.

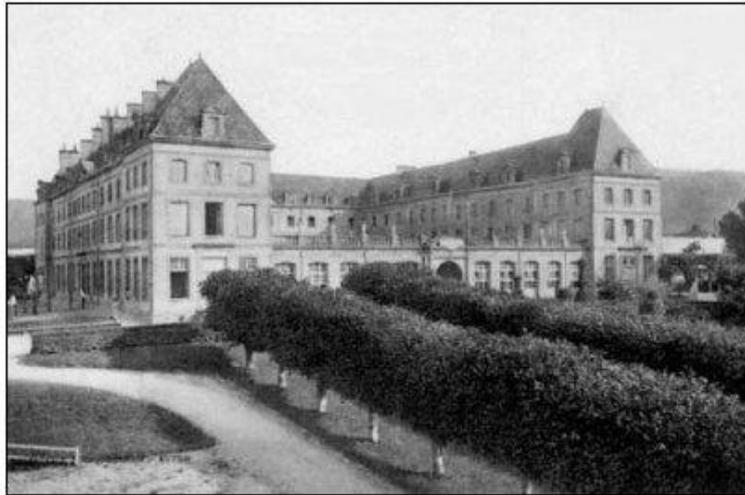
25 Mar. Lyon.

Mar 25. Lyons.

Mar. 26 Autun

They were making their way up the old 'Route Imperiale', today's N.6 (but with a sideways diversion to Grenoble between Valence and Lyon.)

27 Mar. Rud to the military school. Meets a General in the hotel.
They all know him everywhere and are delighted to show him things.



The Autun Military School

This was the Cavalry Military Preparatory School, at Autun, where boys aged from 13 to 18 were educated, before joining the French cavalry. Kipling was widely read in France, and many of his tales had been translated into French.

Mar. 28 Orleans.

Between Autun and Orleans they had left the N.6 to take a departmental route across the north of Burgundy.

29 Mar. Fontainebleau (wild daffodils), Paris.

Mar. 29 Paris.

*In a letter to Edmonia Hill, (PINNEY, **Letters**, Vol. 4, p.231), Kipling wrote that they had “**come up in the car from Vernet – an eight-day trip through at least sixteen varieties of bad weather ranging from snow to howling gales and flooded rivers.**”*

Mar. 30 Elsie arrives at 11.30 for lunch and fitting of her court dress.

This was the year that Elsie was to be presented at Court, marking her ‘coming-out’ into Society. Court dresses had to be of a specified pattern and were expensive. See 19 February above.

6 Apr. Rud working at his 'Spring in France' article (?)

This has not been identified.

8 Apr. John and Rud to see the aviation.

France was then the leading nation in aviation in Europe, if not the world

9 Apr. Rud and John to the Grand Guignol. Had to leave at end of third play because everyone knew and stared and talked to Rud.

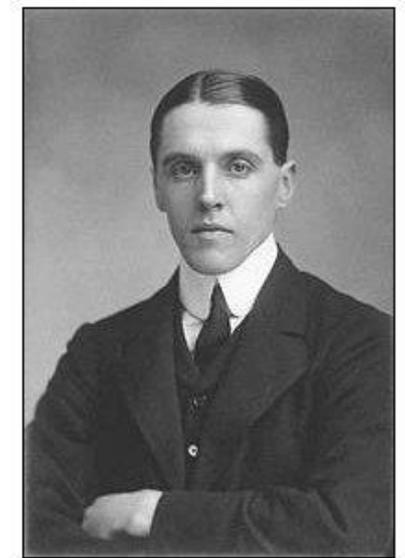
Le Théâtre du Grand Guignol was a small theatre in Paris which made a speciality of horror plays. According to the 'Wikipedia' entry, the then director, Max Maurey, expected an average of two patrons fainting from shock at each performance.

12 Apr. M. Aitken, Bonar Law, F.E. Smith.

Apr. 12 Sir Max Aitken who is here with Mr. Bonar-Law (*sic*) F.E. Smith spends a couple of hours with us.

Aitken was the newspaper magnate, a close friend, Law an M.P. and Leader of the Conservative Party, and Smith also a leading Conservative, and one of the foremost advocates of the day, much feared in the courts of law..

They must have discussed politics, including the situation in Ulster, where the Protestants were in a state of near rebellion against the Liberal government's plans for Irish Home Rule.



F.E. Smith

(Smith's son, who succeeded him as Lord Birkenhead in 1930, was later to write one of the first biographies of Kipling, though its publication was delayed because of Elsie's disapproval. See "Kipling's Biographers" in NRG.)

14-16 Apr. Chartres, Amiens, Abbeville, Boulogne, Brown's Hotel.

Apr. 15. Amiens.

Apr. 16 Abbeville and Brown's.

It became quite usual for them to go to London on return from the continent, and stay at Brown's Hotel before going back to Bateman's.

17 Apr. Home dead tired, then to Cirencester, Lady Bathurst.

Apr. 17 John leaves for Astley and we for Lady Bathurst at Cirencester.

Astley was the Baldwins' home in Worcestershire. Lady Bathurst was the proprietor of the Morning Post, and she and Kipling were political allies.

18 Apr. To the races.

Apr. 18 To the Races at 12.15.

These might have been point-to-point races organised by the Vale of the White Horse (Cirencester) Hunt, of which the Earl Bathurst was Master.

Apr. 20 Bateman's

21 Apr. At Bateman's. Maitland Park.
John has a room of his own.

This was Sir Maitland Hall Park (1862-1921), the Editor of the Cape Times, who had been a colleague of Kipling's on the Pioneer, 1887-1889.



Maitland Hall Park

26 Apr. Dr. Jameson.

See Index for previous entries concerning Dr. Jameson.

Apr. 30 A new car, a Ford, arrives – the idea being it is to take the place of the Rolls Royce for Station work.



1914 Model 'T' Ford

The American Ford Motor Co. had a British subsidiary which made cars in Manchester, from chassis imported from the USA, with locally-built bodies, The basic car was the celebrated Model 'T', at that time the only Ford model on sale in Great Britain, which sold in America for \$440 – some £90. The example above, still running well, was recently (2015) on sale for \$19,500.

It was to be used by the Kiplings to take visitors to and from the station at Etchingham, two-and-a-half miles away.

2 May Rud to Academy dinner.



Sir Edward Poynter

The Royal Academy dinner marked the opening of the annual Exhibition, a showcase for the latest paintings. 'Uncle Ned' Poynter was still President of the Academy. The Times did not think much of the paintings this year ("Lack of imaginative subjects")

5 May John to a crammer at Bournemouth.

May 5 We all take John to Bournemouth where he starts life with his Crammers – one Lee Evans.

See previous entry for 13 Feb.

6 May Lockwood de Forest.



Lockwood de Forest

An old friend of Kipling's father, who had died in 1911.

7 May Rud starts a story on a fault found in the casting of the Rolls Royce.

This tale never saw the light of day.

9 May Writes his Ulster verses, 'The Covenant' in one day.

Kipling was utterly opposed to Irish Home Rule, as were the Protestant people of Ulster, who feared subjection to the Catholic majority in the rest of Ireland. Despite his non-conformist family background, he had no great attachment to any particular form of religion, but saw the Ulster Protestants as hard-working and loyal to the Crown, and the Catholics as feckless and disloyal. His was rather a political objection, based on his belief that the Liberals were dishonest and venal, and lacking in commitment to the Empire, and British imperial authority. It was only eight years since they had ceded self-government to the Boer republics in South Africa, abandoning the fruits of victory in the South African War, See our NRG notes on this poem and on "Ulster", by John Radcliffe, and the text of the speech, among 'Uncollected Speeches'.

10 May Sent to Lord Milner for use in his Covenant paper.

Milner, who in 1899 had been determined to assert British authority over the Boers, was strongly opposed to Irish Home Rule

15 May Elsie's first big dance. Mrs. Saxon Noble's.

May 15 To London. To Mrs. Saxon Noble's to a ball. Our Elsie's first big dance. She looks rather sweet and dances prettily.

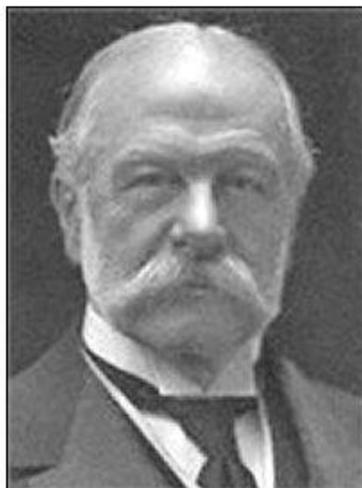
The hostess was Mrs. Saxton (not Saxon) Noble. A report of the dance appeared in the Times 'Court Circular' of 16 May, which included Mr. and Mrs. Rudyard Kipling and Miss Kipling among the guests. Mr. Noble (later Sir Saxton) was Kipling's fellow member of the Athenaeum

16 May Rud makes his long-proposed Ulster speech to 10,000 people at Tunbridge Wells.

May 16 Leave for Tunbridge Wells (*only about 15 miles away, so it was no great journey – 40 minutes at the most*) where Rud makes his Ulster speech from a platform on the Common. 10,000 people, they say, and a good audience.

The speech – virulently anti-government - can be found among 'Uncollected Speeches' in NRG. Thomas Pinney comments (A Second Book of Words, p. 66) that it was: 'more interesting for what it shows about Kipling's notions of political life, than for anything it says about the Irish question.'

17 May Next day to Lord Milner's; Lord Bessborough, ? Lord Basil Blackwood.



Lord Bessborough



Lord Basil Blackwood

For Lord Milner, see Index. The Kiplings had visited Lord Bessborough's home, Stanstead Park in 1910 (see Index). Lord Basil Blackwood (1870-1917) was the private secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.

18 May Floods of letters about his speech.

21 May Rud hard at work, 'Village that Voted'.
Seeing much of London [clearly should be 'Landon'].

This is explained in a letter to Andrew Macphail (PINNEY, Letters, Vol. 4, p.238): Kipling's close friend Perceval Landon had been taken ill with a kidney infection, and spent three weeks in bed in the cottage on the Bateman's estate which he rented from the Kiplings. Kipling writes that "we tramped over to see him twice a day and behold – all his trouble passed from him altogether . . ."

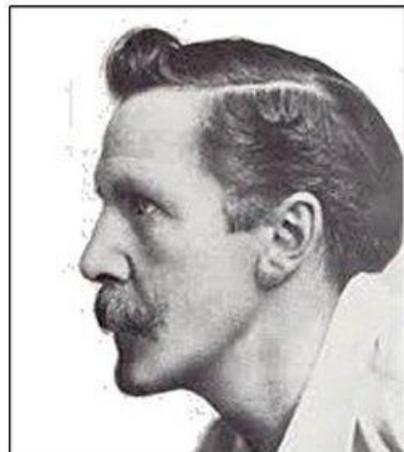
May 21 Rud's story is called "The Village that Voted the World was Flat."

23 May To the Desboroughs again. Lady Elcho, Lady Derby, Harry Cust.

See our 22 November 1913. This seems to have been a house-party of 'The Souls', the loose grouping of politicians and intellectuals, many of whom the Kiplings knew.



'Ettie' Desborough



Harry Cust

*'Ettie' Desborough, their hostess, was a prominent 'Soul'.
For Harry Cust, see 6 November 1910*



Mary Wyndham, Lady Elcho



Lady Derby

Lady Elcho was born Mary Wyndham, the daughter of Percy Wyndham, of 'Clouds' – her father, brother George and husband were all of the group: see Index for Percy and George Wyndham. Lady Derby (1862-1957) had been one of Queen Alexandra's ladies-in-waiting.

27 May Sally Norton, [the dear Doubledays](#).

Sally Norton was the daughter of their old friend from Vermont days, Charles Eliot Norton. Frank Doubleday, Rudyard's American publisher, and his wife, were also old friends. See Index.

4 June Elsie presented. The functions spoilt by a demonstration by a suffragette.

June 4 After lunch to the photo-man to have Elsie's picture taken in Court Dress. We go to court at 2.30, return at 11.20 – the function spoilt by a demonstration by a suffragette.

This demonstration, one of many for votes for women, seems not to have been noticed by the press. Rudyard did not approve of the suffragettes.

6 June Ellen our parlour maid retires on a pension after eleven years. Stan Baldwin. Lady Hely-Hutchinson.

Lady Hely-Hutchinson was an old acquaintance from South African days – her husband had been Governor of Cape Colony 1901-1910 and her son Victor had played with the Kipling children at Muizenberg.

June 6 Elsie (*Ellen*), our parlour maid for 11 years leaves on a pension.

*See entry for **Sep. 29**. Carrie was an exacting employer, but to give a pension for eleven years of service was generous.*

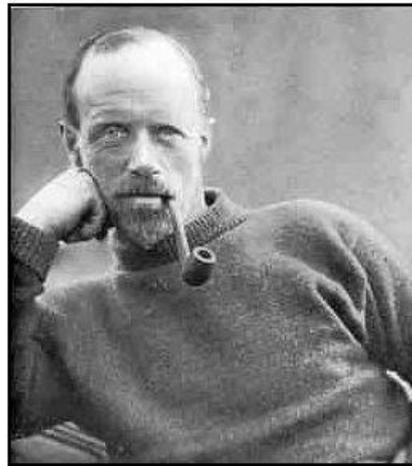
7 June Rud asked to stand for a Birmingham constituency. Refuses.

See 'Rees' entry for June 10 below.

8 June Sir E. Shackleton and Mr. Wild.
'Village that Voted' finished.



Ernest Shackleton



Frank Wild

Ernest Shackleton was an Antarctic explorer who had served in Scott's expedition of 1901-04 and led another in 1907-09 for which he received a knighthood. Frank Wild was one of the Petty Officers who had served with Shackleton.

10 June Carrie to town, to the Ulster Women's Meeting.

June 10 A letter to the Birmingham political agent refusing his decision to accept nomination for Parliament (Note. C.K. made no mention in her diary in March 1904 when R.K. received his other offer of the South Edinboro' seat).

This note reads as if Rudyard had accepted the offer at first, but had second thoughts. However, given his general view of parliamentarians, this seems unlikely.

12 June Rud at work on two stories:
'The Stolen Tide?
The --- of Humanity ?

Neither is recognisable as having been published.

16 June Rud to executive meeting English Covenanters.
Lunch at the Reform (?)

'English Covenanters' refers to the Ulster Covenant – see our entry for 9 May.

17-19 June To Dartmouth. Visited the College.

Kipling had visited the old training ship, Britannia in 1896 (entry for 26 Sept. 1896) This was his first visit to the new Naval College, opened in 1905.

21 June Daisy Leonard and her nephew Charlie Lyttelton* *[Lord Cobham]
At Bateman's, sociable, Rud off work. Nothing written.

Daisy Leonard was an old friend from South Africa – see Index: Charlie Lyttelton (1909-1977) was, in fact, her great nephew, being then aged just under five. He was to have a long and very distinguished career as a soldier, colonial administrator, courtier and businessman.

June 26 Rud ill in the night. Overwork and over-smoking. Better today.
(R.K. forbidden smoking by Bland-Sutton on Oct. 8 `08)

See entry for 8 October 1908.

4 July Party at Cliveden. Mrs. Astor, Dr. Jameson.

See PINNEY, Letters Vol. 4, p.240 to Sir Charles Crewe. Of Jameson, Rudyard wrote, ". . . found him very fit and well. He is openly against the Government on Irish matters and takes, for him, a very gloomy view of matters,"

Mrs Nancy Astor was their hostess. Her husband, Waldorf Astor, Junior, had been given Cliveden by his father (who had bought the estate in 1893) and it became a centre of social life for the 'Cliveden set' between the wars. Mrs Astor later became the first woman MP, and served her Devonport constituency for 26 years.



Nancy Astor

6 July To London. Memorial service to Chamberlain.



Joseph Chamberlain

Joseph Chamberlain had died, 2 July, of heart failure and was buried in Birmingham on this day. A memorial service was held at St, Margaret's, Westminster (regarded as the church of the House of Commons).

7 July Kermit Roosevelt.

*See Index and PINNEY, **Letters** Vol. 4, p.255-6.*

10 July Eton and Harrow match.

The annual cricket match between Eton and Harrow, seen as the two leading English public schools, was held at Lords' and was, for most of the spectators, more of a social event than a sporting occasion. The Kiplings had no direct interest in either school, but Oliver Baldwin, Kipling's nephew, was at Eton, and no doubt the invitation to attend came from his Parents

11 July Eton and Harrow match.

18 July To the Naval Review, Portsmouth.
HMS *Exmouth* Maxse's ship.

Jul. 18 To Portsmouth for the Naval Review.



The Naval Review at Spithead, July 1914

For the last thirty years, the Royal Navy had held manoeuvres for about six weeks every summer, but in 1914 the manoeuvres took the form of a test mobilisation and an informal review by the King on 18 July, with all the ships of the various reserve fleets being brought forward, manned by all the men of the Royal Fleet Reserve and the Royal Naval Reserve.

Ten days later, when the fleet was due to disperse, in view of the worsening situation in Europe, Winston Churchill, the First Lord of the Admiralty, cancelled the dispersal and the ships were sent to their war stations.

HMS Exmouth was a pre-Dreadnought battleship of the 'Duncan' class, completed in 1903, of which Lady Milner's young nephew, Henry Maxse, was the Torpedo officer.

19 July (Sun) John lunches with us and we go directly after to St. Peter's Church to see John baptised and be his witnesses. We leave at three for home arriving for supper.

The baptism took place in Bournemouth: St. Peter's is the main Church of England church, situated in the centre of Bournemouth. See LYCETT, p.442 for the reasons behind John's desire to be baptised.

July 21 We meet at Waterloo to go to Sherborne to stay with the Lawrence Drummonds.

This may have been Major-General Laurence George Drummond, who was of an age with Kipling, and had been in South Africa in 1899-1900 when Kipling was there.



Laurence Drummond

22 July Sherborne.

23 July Via Liverpool Street to Kessingland Grange. (Helen and Elsie there, bathing. Not John.)

July 23 We leave for Kessingland. Arrive to find the house deliciously clean and in good order.

See entry for 31 Aug. 1913, and Index. They were intending to spend a summer holiday at Kessingland, a house in Suffolk owned by Rider Haggard.

27 July Mr. Whigham, Metropolitan Mag(azine).

Metropolitan Magazine *was a rising New York publication, and James Whigham was its editor. They had been the first publishers of "Friendly Brook" in March 1914. Theodore Roosevelt, the former President of the United States and a good friend of Kipling's, was also closely connected with the magazine.*

28 July John arrives from his crammer with a good report. Carrie to town to an Ulster women's meeting.

July 28 To town to Ulster Women's meeting. Back at 6 p.m.

*Carrie was a member of a committee of ladies formed to help the women refugees who were expected to flood in to mainland Britain in the event of civil war in Ireland, which many saw as inevitable. Carrie was a member of a sub-committee on clothing for the women and children. Kipling had asked that if there were any proceeds from the sale of printed versions of his Ulster speech, they should be given to Carrie "who wants it for Ulster refugees". (PINNEY, *Letters* Vol. 4, p.239).*

31 July Helen Cecil [later Lady Hardinge of Penshurst] called. Her father must go to Egypt [at once recalled by the war](#). (*This is the first allusion CEC*).

Events in Europe were already moving towards war. The heir to the throne of the Austro-Hungarian Empire had been assassinated by a Serbian nationalist on 28 June. Austria declared war on Serbia on 28 July and Russia mobilised to support Serbia. Germany warned Russia to stop the mobilisation on this day. That was the state of affairs at this date.

2 Aug. Cruisers in the sea and Carrie starts a most dreadful cold.

On 2 Aug. Germany invaded Luxembourg.

4 Aug. My cold possesses me. (In RK's hand) **Incidentally Armageddon begins. England declared war on Germany.**

Aug 4 My cold possesses me. (C.K's sole entry for this day, but R.K. has added "**Incidentally Armageddon begins. England declares war on Germany.**")

On 3 Aug. Germany declared war on France, and Germany invaded Belgium (to outflank the French defences on the Franco-German border). On 4 Aug. Britain declared war on Germany over the 'scrap of paper' (the Treaty of London, concluded in 1839) which guaranteed Belgian neutrality.

7 Aug. Always cruisers passing. A report of firing in the North Sea. To Lowestoft for provisions: cold better.

Aug. 7 Always cruisers passing. A report of firing in the North Sea.

9 Aug. A seaplane at 7 a.m. and submarine about nine. The first seen so far.

10 Aug. John leaves at 8 a.m. to go to town to the War Office to apply for a commission in Kitchener's new army. Elsie, Rud and I leave at 2 p.m. for town, stay at Brown's Hotel, find that John has gone to (Burwash), spending the night with Col. (Fielden) (*sic, recte* Feilden). Mr. ? calls after dinner to give us the news.

Aug. 10 John leaves at 8 a.m. to go to the War Office to apply for a Commission. We leave at 2 p.m. for town.

The next month was much occupied with trying to get a commission for John. Much uninformed criticism has been levelled at Kipling for pushing John into the army, but it must be pointed out that John had made up his mind that he wanted to make the Army his career (see entry for 2 May 1913). Kipling merely aided and abetted his desire to the best of his ability, making sure that John was not 'wasted' by enlisting as a private soldier in Kitchener's 'New Armies'.

11 Aug. Brown's full to overflowing with stranded Americans, noisy, restless and exacting.

The outbreak of a general continental war with all its uncertainties caused a general rush back to the USA by the many American tourists who were holidaying in Britain and Europe.

12 Aug. Lunch with the Bland-Suttons and to Bateman's.

For Bland-Sutton, the distinguished surgeon, see Index.

Aug. 12 John's Commission antedated to take effect from today.

This entry may be found confusing. John had not yet been granted a Commission – see entries for 10 and 12 September. Presumably Carrie inserted this entry later, although from the later texts, the date given here was inaccurate.

14 Aug. Wrote and received many letters asking for help.
Busy with work for the Red Cross.

*We assume this was Carrie speaking – asking for help, probably for the Red Cross. In a short time, the main focus of charitable work was for Belgian refugees, who started arriving on 20 August. See PINNEY, **Letters** Vol. 4, p.261 to Theodore Roosevelt for comments about the 'vivisection' of Belgium and PINNEY, **Letters** Vol. 4, p.263-5 to Edward Bok for a more detailed description of some of the German atrocities*

15 Aug. A basket of linen to the London Hospital.
The Aitkens.

In the days before a National Health Service, hospitals were funded by their own efforts and fees. It was expected that hospitals would be under severe strain for supplies and so household linen was collected and sent to individual hospitals to help furnish the extra beds.

For the Aitkens, see Index.

17 Aug. John's 17th birthday. Rud takes him to Hastings and Maidstone. They will not have him on account of his eyesight. Talk of enlisting.

Aug. 17 John's 17th birthday. Rud takes him first to Hastings then to Maidstone about his commission, but they will not have him because of his eyes.

Field Marshal Kitchener had issued his appeal for recruits for his 'New Army' on 7 August 1914, and 478,000 men, all volunteers, joined the army between that date and 12 September.

'Hastings' and 'Maidstone' refers to the recruiting offices in those towns. John was trying for a commission as an officer in

the New Armies; it was the general view that officers had to be 'gentlemen', which implied a public school education. The whole ethos of the Victorian and Edwardian public school system, including Kipling's school (USC) and Wellington (John's school) was geared to turning out young men with 'officer-like-qualities' to serve in the armed forces, or to administer the Empire.

In tune with the prevailing sentiment, if he couldn't be an officer, John seems to have talked as enlisting as a private soldier. Like so many other young men - in their ignorance - he would have been keen to experience war and 'do his bit'. Shortly afterwards, in his articles on the New Armies for the Daily Telegraph, Kipling described how those who had enlisted expressed themselves about those who had not.

25 Aug. Rud starts to do some verses.

27 Aug. Stan to dine and sleep. Very little news.

Stan was Stanley Baldwin, at this time a rising Tory politician.

Aug. 28 John goes to town to have a first inoculation for typhoid.

The British Army was the first to introduce immunisation against Typhoid - as a result, World War I was the first war in which casualties from combat injuries exceeded those of disease. It seems probable that Kipling, having seen the effects of Typhoid in South Africa, 1899-1902, persuaded John to get himself immunised.

29 Aug. The hottest day I ever knew in England.

The monthly weather report from the Meteorological Office stated that the hottest days of the month were 13th or 14th, with a temperature of 86°F (30°C) at Brighton. For the last days of the month the temperatures were up in the 80sF.

31 Aug. Mr. Landon makes an excellent suggestion about the verses and takes them to town.

On 1 Sep. 'For All We Have and Are'. [In] all the papers (?) (and) stolen by Hearst's newspapers. (without copyright permission? CEC)

These were the verses started on 25 August, which Landon had taken to town the day before. They contain the memorable lines ‘The Hun is at the gate!’ and ‘Who stands if Freedom fall? / who dies if England live?’

Hearst’s newspapers referred to the chain of American newspapers owned by William Randolph Hearst (1863-1951).

Sep. 2 Rud and John to town to see about John’s commission. Decided to ask Lord Roberts for nomination.



Lord Roberts

*This was Field Marshal Earl Roberts, Kipling’s old friend – see Index. It also appears that Kipling attended a meeting of the about-to-be-formed War Propaganda Bureau – see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wellington_House - for which he later worked (see our note for **Mar. 29, 1915**)*

7 Sep. Rud gives a recruiting speech at Brighton twice and to an overflow meeting.

Sep 7 We leave at 6 p.m. motoring to Brighton, dine at the Ship. Rud does his speech twice, at the Dome and an overflow meeting. A splendid reception.

Now known as the Old Ship Hotel, the Ship is a fine Georgian building on the sea-front at Brighton. The Dome was (and is) a large concert hall, formerly the stables of the Prince Regent’s Royal Pavilion. The speech was reported in The Times the next day under the headline ‘Mr. Kipling on German Barbarism.’. Kipling shared the platform with Mr. Herbert Samuel, MP, (1870-1963), then a Government minister, later Viscount Samuel.

The speech is to be found in A Second Book of Words (Ed. Pinney, ELT Press 2008, p. 74) and in NRG as an 'Uncollected Speech'.

9 Sep. Julia Depew arrives and tells of her flight from Compiègne.

For Julia Depew see the Index. The Depew's home, the Chateau d'Anel (or d'Annel), had been over-run by the German First Army as it advanced on Paris on about 1 September. Four days earlier, the Depews had opened a volunteer-run 50-bed military hospital in part of their house: she and her family had to leave when the Germans came.

*After the Battle of the Marne (5-12 September) in which the British and French forced a German retreat, she and her family returned and re-opened the hospital. Part of her account is repeated in Kipling's letter to Frank Doubleday (PINNEY, **Letters** Vol. 4, p.253-5).*

10 Sep. Rud to town to meet Lord Roberts at Irish Guards HQ about a commission for John. The Colonel says he is to report at once.

Sep. 10 Rud to town to meet Lord Roberts at the Irish Guards HQ. The Colonel says John is to report at once for duty.

Sep. 11 John orders his uniform

12 Sep. Rud busy writing letters to America about the war. Lord Milner to tea. John's commission comes antedated 16 August.

*PINNEY, **Letters** Vol. 4, p.253-5 and 255-6 contain letters to Frank Doubleday and Theodore Roosevelt, dated 11 and 15 September.*

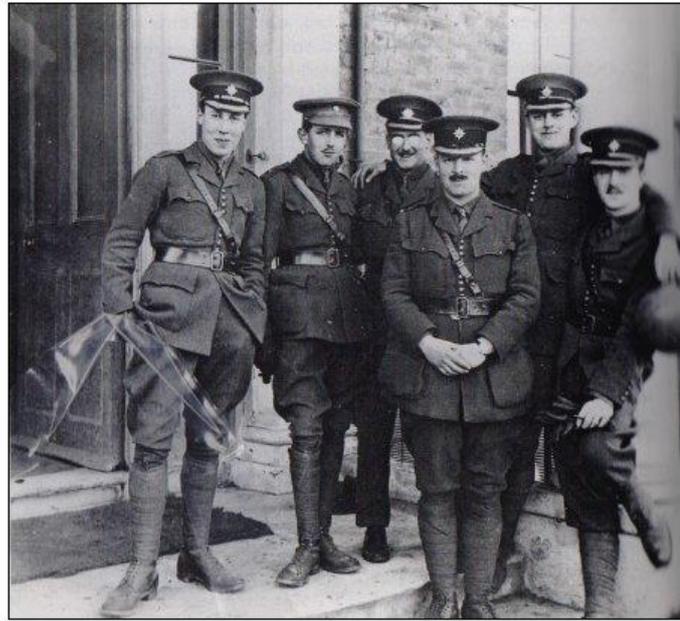
Sep. 12 John's commission given today antedated later to Aug. 15th.

13 Sep. They all take him to town.

14 Sep. John reports at Warley Barracks.

Sep. 14

John has his uniform tried on. Joins us at brown's for lunch, leaving directly after for Warley Barracks where he joins his Regiment, the Irish Guards.



Warley, 1915, John Kipling third from the left

Warley Barracks was the Irish Guards depot at Brentwood, in Essex. The Irish Guards were then the junior regiment in the Guards Division, having been formed on 1 April 1900 on Queen Victoria's orders, to commemorate the bravery of the Irish people who fought in the Boer War. Lord Roberts was their first Regimental Colonel and they were often known, in the early years, as 'Bobs' Own': later, their universal nickname became 'the Micks'.

Rud has to see Dr. Craig about Trix.

21 Sep.

To Cherkley where Rud is ill, great pain in the face, sleeps constantly and restlessly.

Rees makes no mention of the visit to Cherkley, and gives Burwash as the location for Kipling's illness. He was probably taken ill at Cherkley, and came home on 22nd to suffer in his own bed.

Sep. 22

Rud wakes ill with great pain in his face and a temperature.

Sep. 26

Rud had a decidedly better night and wakes with a normal temperature.

26-27 Sep. Only recovers when John arrives for a week-end leave, already much set-up.

*Cf the lines from 'In Partibus'
– “It’s Oh to meet an Army
man, / Set up, and trimmed
and taut.”*



Sep. 28 Rud gets up at 9 a.m. and does 1½ hours at his desk. This tires him and gives a hint he must go slower.

Sep. 29 Elsie, Rud and I to Canterbury for lunch to facilitate a change-over of parlour maids. The new one, Ada Buckle, comes in the p.m.

(There is a pencilled note alongside this entry “October (?)” (Not likely – see annotation below, re quarter days.)

Household comings and goings went on as usual. However, this entry reads slightly oddly with that of 6 June which reported the retirement of the previous parlour maid, Ellen. Perhaps the June entry reported Ellen’s intention to leave her post at the next quarter-day – Michaelmas quarter day being 29 September. Lord Milner’s home was at Sturry Court, near Canterbury, and it may be that that was where they lunched.

1 Oct. Lady Edward calls and tells of her adventures in Paris.

*Lady Edward Cecil had been in Paris trying to find out about her son, George, an officer in the Grenadier Guards. He had, in fact, been killed on 1 September, but as yet she did not know this for certain – see entry for 3 Dec. below. Kipling describes her travails in a letter to Andrew Macphail dated 5 October (PINNEY, **Letters** Vol. 4, p.259-60). They were a foretaste of what the Kiplings themselves would undergo in 13 months’ time.*

4-5 Oct. Lord Milner.

See Index.

8 Oct. Stan Baldwin and Julius (?) Lay, US Consul at Berlin.

Julius Gareché Lay (1872-1939) was an American career diplomat.

He had just completed a posting to Rio de Janeiro, and did not get to Berlin until 1916.[Internet].



Julius Lay

13 Oct. To Territorial Camp at Crowborough.

Kipling had been commissioned by the Daily Telegraph to write a series of articles which duly appeared as six articles, published 7th-24th December, and later collected as The New Army in Training. Although it does not specifically say so, the articles were virtually all written about Territorial units, not units of Kitchener's 'New Armies'. This was the first of his fact-finding missions. [See the NRG notes by Roger Ayers]

21 Oct. Elsie and Rud to see wounded at Crowborough.
John has a small car.

[On this copy of the 'Extracts, there is a gap in the pencilled pagination sequence - a jump from 67 to 69: but there is no gap in the date sequence of the entries.]

25 Oct. Rud writes a story about dream-children, finished 28th. 'Swept and Garnished'.

6 Nov. Trouble over Trix.

She had been suffering psychiatric illness for some years.

9 Nov. A happy day at Aldershot with the New Army.
Verses for the King of the Belgians' Book – *The Outlaws*.
Articles on the New Armies.

'The Outlaws' was an attack on the Germans, without mentioning them by name. The King of the Belgians' Book' was published in support of Belgian refugees.

'Articles on the New Armies' were a series of articles for the Daily Telegraph, which appeared between 7 December and 24 December (see our NRG Notes by Roger Ayers. See also the article by Hugh Brogan on "The Great War and Rudyard Kipling"]

13 Nov. In the car to see New Armies at Maresfield and Uckfield.

Tented camps were springing up all over the south of England –Maresfield was about six miles WNW of Burwash, Uckfield about ten miles. The visits would have been in search of copy for his articles for the Daily Telegraph. From clues in the second article, published 14 December 1914, we suggest that the Uckfield visit may have been the source of his article on the Army Service Corps.

14 Nov. Naval Brigade at Crystal Palace.

The Navy, initially, had little use for untrained personnel – the Royal Naval Reserve had been sufficient to man up the ships of the Reserve Fleet (see our entry for 18 July). The Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve, having been embodied at the outbreak of war, was deemed to be surplus to requirement by the Fleet, and Winston Churchill, as First Lord of the Admiralty (in effect Minister for the Royal Navy) , decided to use them as 'supplementary Marines' for use as 'Naval Brigades' ashore, as the Navy had done for two-and-a-half centuries. They became the Royal Naval Division, and fought at Antwerp, at Gallipoli, and on the Western Front until the Armistice. The naval view was that they had been mis-used as 'cannon fodder'.

The Crystal Palace, originally erected In Hyde Park for the Great Exhibition of 1851, had been removed an re-erected on a ridge of high ground at Sydenham, in the southern suburbs of London, where it was used as a venue for all manner of exhibitions, and later for sporting events. In 1914-1918 it was used as a depot for war-time naval ratings, who were enlisted in the RNVR.

15 Nov. Lord Roberts' death changes our plans.

Nov. 15 Lord Roberts' death changes our plans for this week.

Roberts had died of pneumonia in France on 14 November, while visiting Indian troops in France. His body was brought back to England for a State Funeral and interment in St. Paul's Cathedral on 19 November.

16 Nov. Territorials at Sevenoaks.

Although the Territorial Army had been embodied at the outbreak of war, and was at least partly, if imperfectly, trained, its units could not, initially, be sent overseas, since their terms of service specifically confined them to the UK. However, by 25 August a substantial majority of Territorial battalions had opted to serve overseas. Many were used to replace trained regular Army battalions in overseas garrisons, and on October 31, the London Scottish were in action on the western front, at Messines.

17 Nov. Verses about Roberts, finished 18th.

They were published in the Daily Telegraph and the New York Times on 19 November, entitled "Lord Roberts". See "Kipling and Lord Roberts" by Rodney Atwood, in NRG

21-22 Nov. Indian troops in the New Forest.

Nov. 22 Rud out to inspect the gun battery and to talk with his Indians (newly arrived in a nearby camp).

These entries are misleading. The visit resulted in article V of the Telegraph series, published 21 December 1914. The 'Indian troops', were in fact, largely British regiments brought home from India, although one unit, 'screw guns' (mountain artillery) had a large number of Indian drivers.

23 Nov . Canadians, Salisbury Plain – 24th.

2 Dec. New Army articles finished.

See 9 November. Kipling had spent most of the previous month travelling round the south of England visiting training camps.

3 Dec. Met three Grenadiers who saw George Cecil killed.

*Kipling wrote to Lady Edward Cecil (PINNEY, **Letters** Vol. 4, p.267-70).*

4 Dec. Rud writing to Roosevelt.

*See PINNEY, **Letters** Vol. 4, p.271-3.)*

8 Dec. Rud goes to dine at 'The Club' for the first time.

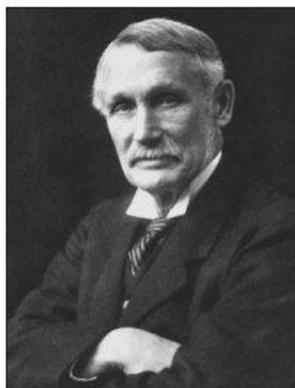
10 Dec. The brook flooded.

See the Index. The brook's flooding is mentioned annually, from 1909 onwards, in the autumn months of October, November, December. If Carrie mentioned any floods in earlier years, Carrington did not see fit to mention them. Alternatively, there may have been an interesting shift in weather patterns.

20 Dec. Cherkley. Lord Murray, Lord Rothermere, Sir G. P(arkin)



Lord Rothermere



George Parkin



Arthur Murray

Lord Rothermere (1868-1940) was the younger brother of Lord Northcliffe and with him owned the Daily Mail and Daily Mirror. Sir George Parkin (1846-1922) another Canadian, was the Organising Representative of the Rhodes Scholarship Trust. 'Lord Murray' was probably Lord Arthur Murray (1879-1962), Parliamentary Private Secretary to the Foreign Secretary, Sir Edward Grey.

23 Dec. To *Raffles* (the play) as the Hornungs' guests.

This was for a first night at Wyndhams Theatre, with Gerald du Maurier playing A J Raffles, the amateur cracksman. For their host, the author E W Hornung, see entry for 27 Dec. 1910.

25 Dec. John for Christmas spent with the Aitkens and the Bonar Laws.

Presumably at Bateman's.

26-7 Dec. Carrie ill.

30 Dec. No presents for Rud's birthday, the first time in our married life.

Dec. 30 Rud's birthday with no presents for the first time in our married life.

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