

The Carrington and Rees Extracts  
From the diaries of  
Caroline Kipling

1925

1925

13 Jan. They see the 'Dream' at the 'Lane' (*as did I - CEC*) and Rud enjoys it.

Why I must drag my weary miserable self up to town and back so frequently I can't think



*The Theatre Royal, Drury Lane*

*Carrie was clearly suffering from an attack of 'the blues'. The 'Dream' was A Midsummer Night's Dream; and 'The Lane' was the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane. This production ran at Drury Lane 1924-25. The cast included Frank Cellier (1884-1948), Edith Evans (1888-1976), Gwen Frangcon-Davies (1891-1992), Miles Malleon (1888-1969) and Athene Seyler (1889-1990) (among others). The last four were stalwarts of the West End stage until well into the 1960s. There is a rather pompous review of the production in The Times, 27 December 1924.*

**Jan. 13** To London. Why I must drag my miserable weary self up to town and back so frequently I can [not] think.

14 Jan. He enjoys the play of *Treasure Island*. (As did I – CEC)

*Treasure Island was a play by J B Fagan (1873-1933), made from the adventure story of the same name by Kipling's literary hero, Robert Louis Stevenson. This production was playing at the Strand Theatre as a Christmas entertainment, presented by the old Etonian actor-manager, Arthur Bouchier (1863-1927) who played Long John Silver. It was also reviewed in The Times, 27 December 1924.*

17 Jan. Creighton again with Wembley plans.

*See our entry for 6 May and **May 6** 1924, which note that Kipling had given up his work on the Wembley pageant.*

23-24 Jan. Rud much **freshened** by a visit from Sir P. Bates.

*Sir Percy Bates (1879-1946) was a Liverpool ship-owner who had recently become a director of the Morning Post and was about to become its chairman. He was also the Deputy Chairman of the Cunard Steamship Company, the premier shipping line in the North Atlantic trade.*

*Kipling had come to know him through the Morning Post connection, but this visit was almost certainly concerned with inviting Kipling to deliver a speech to the United Kingdom Chamber of Shipping (see our entries for 20 Feb. and **Feb. 20** below).*



*Sir Percy Bates*

24-25 Jan. To stay with Lady Roberts, who takes them to church. Rud interested in the Everest climb and in a Major Beck, an old school-fellow.

*The Kiplings were not regular churchgoers, and Carrie seems to have noted when they were carried off to church by their host/hostess at country-house week-ends.*

*“The Everest climb” refers to the British Everest Expedition of 1924-25. At this time, the summit of Mount Everest was regarded as ‘the third Pole’. The North and South Poles had been reached in 1909 and 1912, and the attainment of ‘the third Pole’ was now the desired aim of explorers. There had been an exploratory expedition in 1921 and an unsuccessful attempt to reach the summit in 1922.*



*George Mallory*



*Andrew Irvine*

*The 1924 expedition resulted in an attempt to reach the summit by Mallory and Irvine, who lost their lives in so doing. George Mallory’s body was found in 1999, long after Everest had been finally conquered in 1953; but it is still not known whether he and Irvine actually reached the summit.*

- 1 Feb. Via Dover-Ostend to Brussels to see Elsie.
- Feb. 1 Arrive Brussels. See Elsie after dinner.
- Feb. 2 Train for Amsterdam.
- 3-4 Feb. Amsterdam-Rotterdam sightseeing. Rud pleased to find Elsie comfortably settled in the house he had given her.
- Feb. 4 Rotterdam.

*In a letter to Edward Bok (see Index) (PINNEY, **Letters**, Vol. 5, p. 202), it is clear that Kipling regarded the Dutch with*

*disapproval – they had remained neutral during the war, but had traded profitably with Germany in armaments and their country had become prosperous thereby.*

Feb. 5 Brussels.

9 Feb. Back in London. Happy in my thoughts of a re-found Elsie who had seemed to me sometimes to be dead,

Feb. 9 London.

Feb. 11 Home.

17 Feb. Rud in the chair at The Club. Stan B. introduced.

*Kipling describes this dinner briefly in a letter to Elsie (PINNEY, Letters, Vol. 5, p. 206). Stan B, is, of course, his cousin, Stanley Baldwin, the then Prime Minister.*

18 Feb. Landon and Sir F. Macmillan put him up for the Beefsteak Club. (So much for a legend!) [*that RK and Macmillan were enemies*]



*Sir Frederick Macmillan*

*The Beefsteak was a smaller club than Kipling's other clubs (the Athenaeum and the Carlton): for Landon, see Index; Sir Frederick Macmillan (1851-1936) was the Chairman of Macmillan & Co., and so could be described as Kipling's publisher'.*

*Kipling describes this event in the same letter to Elsie, cited above.*

20 Feb. Rud makes his shipping speech to 500 shippers with effect

Feb. 20 Rud to his shipping dinner. Reports a splendid reception from nearly 500 shippers. They took in every point of his speech and he thinks something may have been gained.

*This speech was collected in A Book of Words, as No. XXVII (see our NRG notes by Leonee Ormond).*

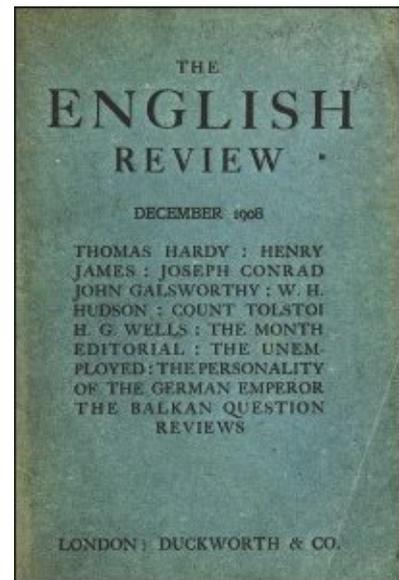
Feb. 21 Home.

23 Feb. Editor of the *English Review* to dine and sleep.

They make their wills and submit them to Medley (*copyright lawyer*).

*The English Review was a literary magazine, which had published works by a panoply of British writers (though never Kipling). It had a new editor, Ernest Remnant (1872-1941) of whom there seems to be little record (he has a brief entry in Who's Who, which tells little of the man).*

*The Wikipedia entry for the English Review suggests that politically his views were similar to those of Kipling.*



26 Feb. To reception at Downing Street.

*PINNEY, Letters, Vol. 5, p. 207-8 has a mention of this reception which was given by Mrs. Cissie Baldwin (see Index) taking up the role of political hostess.*

3 Mar. Rud lunches at the Beefsteak and meets [all the Morning Post editors](#).

*There were three former and present editors of the Morning Post still living They were Spenser Wilkinson (1853-1937, editor 1905); Sir Fabian Ware (1869-1949. editor 1905-11); and Howell Gwynne (1865-1950, editor 1911 to date and for the remainder of the newspaper's life - it was taken over by the Daily Telegraph in 1937.*



Howell Gwynne

*Kipling had known and liked Howell Gwynne ever since encountering him during the South African War when Gwynne was a correspondent for the Reuters news agency. See the Index.*

7 Mar. To an Irish Loyalists' meeting.

10 Mar. Rud to a levee at St. James's Palace and signs his will.

**Mar 10** Rud to a levee at St. James's Palace.

*A levee at Court was the male equivalent of the debutantes' presentation, when young women of the upper classes made their entry into Society. At this time levees were mostly for young officers in the armed services, on first being commissioned or soon thereafter. Other gentlemen being presented were mostly much older, like Kipling, and had made their mark already. The Times (11 March) reported this levee, which was held by the Prince of Wales, deputising for his father, and listed all those who had been presented, with their sponsors. Kipling's sponsor was his cousin, Stanley Baldwin the Prime Minister. It is not clear why it was deemed it necessary for Kipling to be formally 'presented'; he had met the King many times, and dined as an honoured guest at Buckingham Palace on more than one occasion.*

**Mar 12** Southampton. To our boat after dinner.

*They were about to spend the best part of six weeks in France. Between the wars, the Southampton-Le Havre route was regarded as being the most civilised way of getting to France. One came down from London after dinner in the boat train, and was dropped at the ship's gangway (the Kiplings had driven across from Bateman's and dined at the South-Western Hotel, just outside the dock gates). The Normannia loafed across to Le Havre, you were woken at a civilised hour, had*

*you last British breakfast on board, and were on your way on the boat train to Paris at about 9 a.m.*

*The Kiplings had brought their car for another motor tour in France. Kipling recorded the tour in considerable detail in a series of letters to Rider Haggard (PINNEY, **Letters**, Vol. 5, pp. 210-11 (written on board the Normannia); pp. 211-13 (from Chartres); pp. 213-15 (from Perigueux); pp. 215-17, 218-21 and 221-223 (all from Biarritz); and 226-27 (from Paris). These were almost the last letters he wrote to Rider Haggard, who died 14 May.*

**Mar 13** Rouen. To see the big cemetery before we unpack.



*St Sever Cemetery, Rouen*

14 Mar. Chartres.  
Rud writing *The Gardener* every day.

**Mar 14** Chartres.

**Mar 16** Angers. Rud works on his story (*The Gardener*) which he has had on his mind all day.

17 Mar, La Rochelle. Sonnet on Chartres Windows

*The sonnet was entitled merely 'Chartres Windows' and was first published in the Daily Telegraph, 15 April 1925*

**Mar 17** La Rochelle.

- 18 Mar. Poitiers
- Mar 18** Poitiers.
- 19 Mar. Angouleme
- Mar 19** Angouleme.
- Mar 21** Auch.
- 22 Mar. Pau, by way of Lourdes. **Robbers.**  
Rud settles down at once to *The Gardener*.
- Mar 22** Pau.
- 24 Mar. A warm welcome at (?)

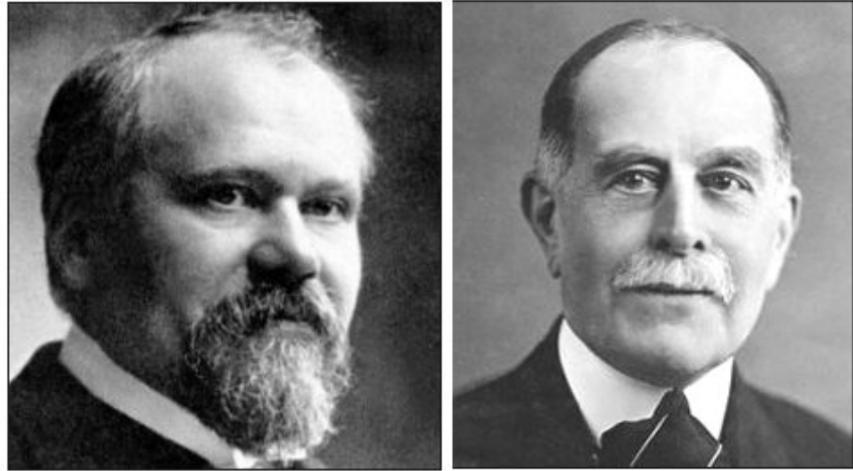
*This must have been at their hotel, the Hotel du Palais (letter to Rider Haggard: PINNEY, Letters, Vol. 5, p. 215.)*

- Mar 24** Biarritz.
- 25 Mar. San Sebastian.
- 26 Mar. Mr. Landon leaves us – great sadness.
- 27 Mar. *The Gardener* finished. Mr. Landon gone, Rud for once is bored.
- 7 Apr. They leave for return journey.
- Apr. 9** Tours.
- 10 Apr. Chartres
- Apr. 10** Chartres.
- 11 Apr. Paris. American friends, the Harrimans.

*The Kiplings evidently met the Harrimans at the home of their friends the Stanleys (see Index). They were Oliver Harriman, Jr. (1862-1940) and his wife Grace Carley Harrison (1873-1950): they have not appeared before, and it is not clear from when their friendship dated.*

Apr. 11 Paris.

15 Apr. A dinner party – Lord Crewe, Poincaré, the British Minister.



*Raymond Poincaré*

*The Marquess of Crewe*

*The Marquess of Crewe (1858-1945) was the British Ambassador in Paris: Raymond Poincaré (1860-1945) had been the President of France 1913-20. We believe that in adding “the British Minister”, Carrie possibly did not appreciate that an alternative title for an Ambassador was ‘Minister’, and so she was referring to Lord Crewe twice.*

(This is the tour to describe in detail – CEC)  
(Note for biographer)

Apr. 19 Havre.

20 Apr. Folkestone-Boulogne.

*It is not clear why they made such a detour to Le Havre before going up to Boulogne – they were really covering two long sides of a triangle. They crossed the Channel from Boulogne-to Folkestone. See entry for 15 May below.*

Apr. 20 Folkestone.

21 Apr. Bateman’s  
Never have I returned so sad, depressed and hopeless.

- Apr. 21** Miss Gardner-Smith has done so very well while we were away that there is not so heavy arrears as usual. The garden looking delightful. Never have I returned so depressed, sad and hopeless.
- Miss Gardner-Smith had been with them for nearly two years. However, despite affairs at Bateman's apparently being in good order, it rather seems as though Carrie was suffering from a bout of clinical depression.*
- Apr. 24 He writes *The Benefactors*
- 29 Apr. The Stanley children.
- In another letter to Rider Haggard (the last he wrote to him) (PINNEY, **Letters**, Vol. 5, p. 229-31), Kipling wrote that "Francis Stanley's two adorable babes are with us for a few weeks while their parents go visiting Venice . . ." The children, Jane (4) and Ursula (2) and their nurses stayed for five weeks. (Francis should have been spelt 'Frances')*
- Sat. 2 May Academy banquet and weekend at Chequers. Rud helps Stan with his speeches.
- In his letter to Haggard, cited above, Kipling said that the Academy Banquet was "d---d dull except that FE was richly cooped [drunk]- a small thing in itself but not small when one reflects that his speech was broadcast"*
- 7 May Lord Milner seriously ill.  
*For Lord Milner see Index*
- 9 May Rud asked to be freeman of the Stationers' Company.
- The Stationers' Company is one of the City Livery Companies, and its full title at this time was the Worshipful Company of Stationers: since 1937 it has added "and Newspaper Makers". The Company was founded in 1403, and in its early days held a monopoly over the publishing industry..*
- 13 May To Brussels. Lord Milner dies. Rhodes Trust dinner at the British Embassy. Long talk with the King of the Belgians.
- May 13** We hear of Lord Milner's death. Rud goes to the Rhodes Trust. We

leave for Harwich-Antwerp.

*The entries for these days seem to be confused here, and the Rees Extracts make the most sense: Lord Milner died at his home near Canterbury at 11.30 on 13 May: Kipling attended the Rhodes Trust meeting in London during the day, and they travelled to Antwerp by the overnight boat. The dinner at the Embassy occurred the next day, and had nothing to do with the Rhodes Trust.*

**May 14** Reach Brussels about 11.30. We go to the British Embassy to dine. The King, Queen and Princes are there. Rud sits next to the Queen and talks for 40 minutes after dinner with the King. A dance starting with an 1840 quadrille in which Elsie takes part.

*The King was Albert I (1875-1934): the Queen was Elizabeth of Bavaria (1875-1965) and the Princes were Leopold (1901-83) and Charles (1903-83). The quadrille was a square dance for four couples, who perform a series of figures. The dance originated in the 18<sup>th</sup> century.*

15 May Dover-Ostend and hear of Rider Haggard's death.

*Again, Carrington means 'Ostend-Dover'.*

**May 15** Home. Hear of Rider Haggard's death on our arrival.

16 May Milner's Memorial Service. Amery comes home to tea  
(At Salehurst).

*According to The Times, 18 May 1925, the funeral service was held in Canterbury Cathedral: Lord Milner was interred in Salehurst Church, the parish church for Great Wigsell, Lady Milner's home before she married Lord Milner. For Amery, see Index, L.S. Amery. According to The Times report, Amery's wife was also at the interment – we assume she came with her husband to Bateman's for tea.*

17 May Aunt Louie Baldwin died

**May 17** We see by the papers Aunt Louie Baldwin's death yesterday. The last of the sisters but one.

*She had died on 16 May, at home. There was a substantial*

*obituary of her life in The Times of 18 May. The remaining sister was Kipling's Aunt Edie, who was unmarried.*

18 May London. Haggard's funeral. Then Milner's memorial at the Abbey. Back to Downing Street. Rhodes Trust meeting.

*Rider Haggard's funeral was held in London, at St. Thomas's, in Regent Street (The Times, 19 May): Lord Milner's memorial service was held at 12 noon in Westminster Abbey and was attended by most of the Cabinet. We assume that they all went back to Downing Street for lunch, and that Kipling attended the Rhodes Trust meeting in the afternoon – an extremely busy day. Milner's memorial service was reported in the same issue of The Times*

20 May To Worcester for Aunt Louie's funeral.

*The funeral took place at Wilden (see Index), in the church which Aunt Louie's husband had built and endowed. A notice appeared in The Times of 21 May.*

*This must have been an extremely stressful week for the Kiplings, Rudyard in particular. In the space of four days, three people who had each featured in his life for twenty-five years or more had died: somehow the Kiplings had managed to fit in attendance at each of the funerals, and a national memorial service as well, inside another three days. They must both have been physically and emotionally drained at the end of that week.*

21 May To Court.

*The Times, 22 May, contained a report of this event which commenced at 9.30 p.m.*

22 May Rud takes me to the Academy.

*This would have been to the Royal Academy of Arts Summer Exhibition, which had opened on the day on which Kipling attended the Academy banquet (see 2 May above) and was one of the regular events of the social Season.*

23 May Elsie on a visit to Bateman's.

- May 25** Miss Jefferson and the Roxby children for an hour after tea.
- Possibly a local family to play with the two children of Frances Stanley (see Index) who were staying at Bateman's with their nurse.*
- 28 May To London – Brown's – with the Bambridges.  
To a Colonial Reception.
- This was a reception at 10, Downing Street, given by Mrs. Cissie Baldwin to welcome overseas visitors to the British Empire Exhibition (Report in The Times, 29 May).*
- 30 May Lorna and baby, the Stanley children.
- A letter to Elsie (PINNEY, **Letters**, Vol. 5, pp. 234-35), helps us to decipher this cryptic entry. The Stanley children had been staying since 29 April (see entry above) and their parents had come to Bateman's on 27 May to take them home (see Note 1 to letter cited above). The day after they had gone, Lorna Howard (née Baldwin) and her baby son arrived for a visit.*
- June An invitation to read to the boys at Eton which Carrie thinks [so odd](#).
- June 2** The Headmaster of Eton, one Ramsey, incites his lower-form boys to write Rud to ask him to come and read to them from his books. [20 odd](#) do so. Rud refused to do this last year.
- Whoever it may have been who wrote, the Headmaster of Eton at this date was Dr. Cyril Alington (1872-1956). And Carrington evidently mis-read Carrie's writing – she wrote "20 odd" , meaning '20 or slightly more'*
- 3 June Masonic ritual for Canadians
- PINNEY, **Letters**, Vol. 5, pp. 236-7 has a letter concerning the devising and administration of this ritual.*
- 10 June Lady Milner asks him to write M's life [which of course he refuses to do](#).
- June 10** Lady Milner asks Rud to write Lord Milner's life, which he feels he cannot do.

*Kipling might have been the ideal author to interpret Milner's life as an imperial pro-consul in his African years.*

*However, there would have been a substantial risk of offending Lady Milner, a long-time friend, if he wrote anything with which she disagreed.*



*Viscount Milner*

11 June To the Military Tournament.

*This was the Royal Tournament, held at Olympia, the show venue in West London. This year it particularly featured the Royal Artillery. It had opened on 28 May and was reviewed in The Times, 29 May.*

15 June Talk about Rud's retirement from the Rhodes Trust, [he so greatly mistrusts the appointment of the new Secretary](#) (Philip Kerr)  
Rud the only objector.

**June 15** Rud to London for the extra Rhodes meeting. They gave the appointment of Secretary to Phillip Kerr, Rud bringing the only objections against him.

*Philip Kerr had been appointed Secretary of the Rhodes Trust. Evidently Kipling had not been consulted, nor had any other candidate been considered. Kerr had been one of Milner's young men in South Africa, and was also a journalist. He was a Liberal, and Kipling considered that his politics would not have met with Rhodes' approval.*



*Philip Kerr*

- June 16** Rud and I discuss his resignation from the Rhodes Trust. He so greatly mistrusts the appointment of the new Secretary.
- 18 June He writes to Sir Otto Beit – resigning. P. Kerr's appointment [opens the Trust to grave misrepresentation](#). He is sad about it. (This business goes on for days and days.)
- June 18** Rud write to Sir Otto Beit saying he would like to be relieved of his Trusteeship, P. Kerr's appointment to Secretaryship opens the trust to grave misrepresentations and as Rud has protested against the appointment it will be difficult for P. Kerr if he stops on as a Trustee. He is sad to have it so as he felt he was doing useful work on the trust.
- Kipling's letter of resignation is collected in PINNEY, **Letters**, Vol. 5, p. 237. Professor Pinney's note to that letter gives considerable detail about the appointment and Kipling's feelings. It also quotes L.S. Amery (see Index) who expressed the opinion that Kipling hadn't contributed anything material to the Trust. Sir Otto replied and Kipling answered him further (PINNEY, **Letters**, Vol. 5, pp. 238-39).*
- 25 June Downing Street garden party. They try to persuade him to resign from the Trust for some innocuous reason. He insists on the truth.
- July 2** Lord Lovet ( *Lovat*) to see him about the terms of his resignation. Rud does not see his way to saying he resigned for ill-health or for lack of time – when neither is true and he did resign on account of the Secretaryship.

*LYCETT, p. 530 summarises the event, concluding with the fact that Kipling required that the Trustees, in announcing his resignation, should say that it was on a matter of principle. Kipling's letter to Lord Lovat (following their meeting) is also in PINNEY, **Letters**, Vol. 5, p. 241, and he gave Elsie a fairly full account which is in PINNEY, **Letters**, Vol. 5, pp. 242-3.*



*Lord Lovat*

*Lord Lovat had become a Trustee at the same time as Kipling, and was later to become Chairman of the Trust. See the Kipling Journal for March 2012 for an article by David Richards on Kipling's membership of the Trust.*

3 July Speech at Stationers' Hall and freeman of the City of London.

**July 3** We leave for Stationers' Hall where they give Rud the Hon. Freedom and he makes a speech and goes on to the Guildhall to be made a Freeman there and so home

*See entry of 9 May above. By virtue of becoming a member of the Stationers' Company, Kipling became a Freeman of the City of London. His speech on this occasion was a light-hearted one, and appeared in The Times of 4 July, and was later collected in A Book of Words, as No. XXVIII, with the title 'Stationery'.*

9 July The Resignation announced.  
To St. James's Palace Garden Party.

**July 9** Rud's resignation from the Rhodes Trust is announced.

*The notice appeared in The Times of 9 July. There was no reason given for Kipling's resignation. Nor did the Times article make any mention of Philip Kerr's appointment as Secretary.*

10 July The Eton-Harrow match. Lady Milner most distressed at the resignation.

V-President of the London Library.

**July 10** Rud to the London Library where they confirm his Vice Presidency.

*The London Library, in St. James's Square, was the brainchild of Thomas Carlyle and opened in 1841: it is the largest independent lending library in the world. The position of Vice-President was an honorary one (Sir Winston Churchill was another).*

13 July Dines at the House of Commons with Joynson-Hicks.

*Sir William Joynson-Hicks (1865-1932) was a Conservative cabinet minister at this time, having become Home Secretary the previous year.*

*His nickname in the press was 'Jix'.*



'Jix'

16 July - do. - the Sykes

*'The Sykes' were Air Vice-Marshal Sir Frederick (1877-1954) and Lady Sykes. He was then an MP, and his wife was Isabel, the elder daughter of Conservative leader and former Prime Minister Andrew Bonar Law. She was a friend of Elsie and had been visiting her on the fateful day in October 1915. when the telegram announcing that John was 'missing' arrived.*

Met the King of Greece at Claridge's.

(Very social)

Met the Queen of Belgium

To the Sargent pictures, hoping to buy one.

*Kipling had met the King of Greece previously – see entry for 10 Sep. 1924. Claridge's was, and is, one of the leading London Hotels. The Queen of Belgium, whom he had met earlier this year (see entry for **May 14**) wanted Kipling to lay*

*out a tour of India, which she and the King proposed to make later in the year. Kipling described the event in a letter to Elsie (PINNEY, Letters, Vol. 5, pp. 244-6). A PS to the same letter described their visit to Christie's to look at the Sergeant (sic) "drawings (designs, sketches and sweepings of his studio generally)"*

24 July To the Garden Party – a few minutes' talk with the King  
Lord Milner memorial committee.

*The memorial took the form of the dedication of the Chapel of St. Martin, in Canterbury Cathedral, as a memorial to Milner.*

July 24 The garden party at the Palace where we meet many people we know.

30 July (A version of the Stanford-Tennyson story. It was in discussing his own successor that Tennyson paid the tribute to young Kipling.

July 30 Brander Matthews tells us that Villars Stanford told him he was talking to Lord Tennyson and Lord T. speculating on his successor in the Laureateship, said that young Kipling had more of it in him than any of the others. Interesting when one considers the age of Rud.



*Brander Matthews*



*Alfred, Lord Tennyson*

*Alfred, Lord Tennyson (1809-1892) had been the Poet Laureate 1850-92). Brander Matthews (1852-1929) was an American Professor of Dramatic Literature at Columbia University where he held a Chair, 1892-1924. We believe that 'Villars Stanford' refers to Sir Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924), the composer. Kipling can only have been 26 years old at the time of this conversation. In the event, Tennyson was followed as Poet Laureate by Alfred Austin, but not until 1896.*

13 Aug. A Stalky story (again, he has just been meeting an old schoolfellow – Griffiths)

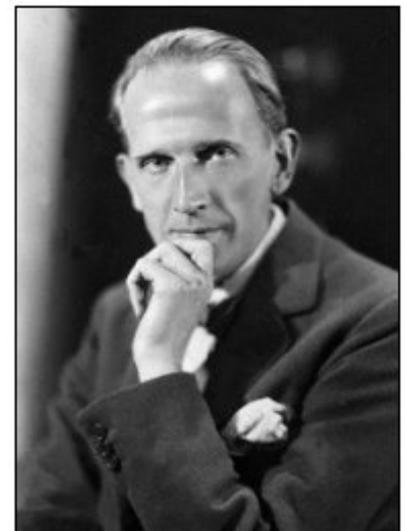
*Roger Lancelyn-Green identifies this as being ‘The Propagation of Knowledge’. See our NRG notes ‘The Writing of the Stories’. It would seem that no-one has been able to identify ‘Griffiths’ to determine what connection, if any, he had with the tale.*

15 Aug. An American – Mrs. Wellhead – whom Rud once asked vaguely arrived at 1145 for lunch.

!

Mr. Milne of *Punch*.

*Punch was a British humorous magazine, to be found in most middle-class homes, and in every club and doctors’ or dentists’ waiting room. Mr. Milne was the author, poet, playwright and screenwriter, A.A. Milne (1882-1956). He was no longer on the staff of ‘Punch’, but it had been in ‘Punch’ that he made his reputation (1906-13). At this date, he had written When We Were Very Young, but not Winnie-the-Pooh. He had just bought a home some 15 miles away, at Hartfield.*



*A A Milne*

17 Aug. [John’s birthday never easier for me to face, or the days between now and Sept. 27<sup>th</sup>.](#)

[Aug. 24](#) Leave by road for Oxford.

25 Aug. To Oxford to tea with Robert Bridges, taking Dorothy Price. He stays at the Randolph and shows her the sights.

*(NB the typescript text is quite clear – it is “He” and “stays”, which suggests that Carrie did not accompany them: but the*

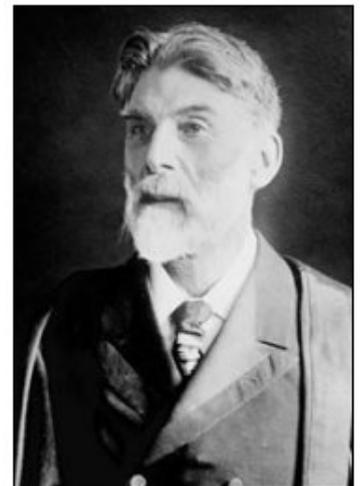
*text from the Rees extract which follows could only have been written if Carrie was with Rud and Dorothy.) For Dorothy Price – see Index.*

To the Bathursts.

*(At Pinbury, near Cirencester)*

**Aug. 25** Have tea with the Poet Laureate and Mrs. Bridges, such a very nice woman.

*Robert Bridges (1844-1930) had been appointed Poet Laureate, in 1913, in succession to Alfred Austin – see our note of **July 30** above. He had qualified and practised as a doctor before ill-health forced him to retire, to devote himself to poetry. His wife was Monica Waterhouse, the daughter of an Architect and RA who had designed the Natural History Museum in Kensington.*



*Robert Bridges*

28 Aug. To Badminton – [such a charming Duchess.](#)

*They went with the Bathursts for lunch. Badminton was the seat of the Duke of Beaufort. The 10<sup>th</sup> Duke (1900-1984) had just succeeded to the title and estates. His duchess had been Lady Mary Cambridge (1897-1987) who had been born Princess Mary of Teck, and was a cousin of King George VI. Kipling described these visits in a very long letter to Elsie (PINNEY, **Letters**, Vol. 5, pp. 256-60).*



*The Duchess of Beaufort*

- Aug. 29** Home.
- 7 Sep. A Malaya rubber planter called Whitehouse who used to live at Bateman's comes on a visit – very happy.
- Another letter to Elsie (PINNEY, **Letters**, Vol. 5, pp. 261-3) describes this visit. In fact the old man's name was Whitehead, and it was his son who was in rubber, in Malaya.*
- 9 Sep. To the Wembley Tattoo with Creighton. Rud delighted and glad of the help he had given.
- For Creighton, see Index.*
- 10 Sep. Mr. Watt **as usual** sends Rud some books.
- 12 Sep. To meet Major E A Belcher (*CEC's schoolmaster*) at Keylands, we decide to buy a field from him, adjoining.
- Sep. 12** We decide to buy from Major Belcher a field adjoining Keylands, part of Judins (?) farm adjoining the house on the West side also a strip in the field above and the show (?) (*probably 'shaw', a small wood or coppice*) bounding the lower field on the south. Price £140. Rud pleased at the small addition to the estate.
- This land was at the west end of the Bateman's estate.*
- Sept. All month Rud busy with his 'Stalky' story.

Elsie on a visit.

*See entry for 13 Aug. above,*

24 Sep. Teddy Price from India to dine and sleep.

*For Price – see Index.*

27 Sep. John's day and George B's (33<sup>rd</sup>) birthday.  
(Rare old doings about the private road with the Ticehurst RDC)

*Ticehurst was a village, much the same size as Burwash, which lay about three miles away on the next ridge northwards, on the other side of the Rother valley. It was the seat of the local authority (the Rural District Council). See 'Ticehurst Will' in "Hal of the Draft" in Puck of Pook's Hill.*

3 Oct. Off for a tour, Winchester – the war memorial – Salisbury – Tisbury – the graves.



*The Winchester War Memorial was the College War Memorial, designed by their old friend Sir Herbert Baker (letter to Elsie (PINNEY, **Letters**, Vol. 5, pp. 265-66). See Index for Hon. George Cecil, the son of Lady Milner, who had attended the College, and was killed in action on 1914. Kipling had opened a rifle range at the College, in his memory on 11 Dec. 1915. He was deeply impressed by the Baker memorial (note 3 to the letter cited)*

- Oct. 3 Cook's finger which has been poisoned is now useless so we anticipate our holiday and start for Salisbury.
- Oct. 4 Minehead. We stop at Tisbury Churchyard to see Rud's parents' graves.
- 5 Oct. Minehead – Westward Ho.
- Oct. 5 Drive to Westward Ho arriving about 5. A walk around all Rud's schoolboy haunts.



*USC in Kipling's day*

6 Oct. Clovelly.

7 Oct. Exeter. Rud has greatly enjoyed it.

Oct. 7 Exeter.

8 Oct. Winchester - the cathedral.

Oct. 8 Winchester.

*The letter to Elsie cited above covered the whole trip in greater detail.*

9 Oct. Talk with the Vice-air-Marshal at Winchester.

*His rank was Air Vice-Marshal, an excusable error on Carrie's part. She had followed naval usage, but the new RAF was a law unto itself.*

Home. Aberdeen terrier arrives to Rud's great satisfaction.

*The puppy was given the name 'Wop'*

Oct. 9 Home.

Oct. 10 The second man in the garden who has been here 8 years, since he was a child, gives notice to better himself and the Secretary (Miss Gardner-Smith) says she has become engaged to be married. All this told me on my arrival yesterday.

11 Oct. The Doubledays.

*See Index. 'Effendi' wanted to discuss a publishing project with Kipling, which didn't come off (PINNEY, Letters, Vol. 5, pp. 267-68).*

Oct. 16 We decide on the volume of MSS to be given to St. Andrews University - *Traffics and Discoveries*.

17 Oct. Weekend at Panshanger. Air Marshal Salmond, etc.

*Air Marshal Sir Geoffrey Salmond (1878-1933) was a member of the Air Board at this time.*

*Panshanger was now the home of Lady Desborough (see Index). Kipling described their visit in a letter to Elsie (PINNEY, Letters, Vol. 5, pp. 268-9). The majority of the letter consisted of a description of the various titled ladies who were also guests.*



*Sir Geoffrey Salmond*

22 Oct. [Our Elsie has been married a year – so sad and lonely for me.](#)

27 Oct. They present a MS (*Traffics and Discoveries*) to St. Andrew's. (Carrie most jealous, unwilling to let it go.)

Oct. 27 Today by rail goes to St. Andrews the copy of MSS of *Traffics and Discoveries* as Rud's Rector's gift. I find it difficult to let it go – so much of my life is dated by the MSS – in fact, all of it. We took

much care and trouble to collect and keep the MSS and have it bound and now its to pass out of the life.

*There is a m/s note in the margin Actions and Reactions which suggests that it may, in fact, have been the latter which was sent to St. Andrew's.*

1 Nov. The Joynson-Hicks staying. Carrie takes them to church.

*For Joynson-Hicks, see entry for 13 July above. Kipling commented on their visit (and their personalities) in a letter to Elsie (PINNEY, **Letters**, Vol. 5, pp. 271-2).*

3 Nov. MSS for the British Museum.

**Nov. 3** A day of frantic work for me. Rud's books of MSS got ready to take tomorrow to the British Museum, not to be made public until after his death.

4 Nov. A dinner in London at the Larkins (HC for Canada). The Austen Chamberlains, the U.S. Minister and his wife, Lord and Lady Willingdon, the Laverys – [including the Free State HC and his wife.](#)

*For the Larkins – see Index.*

*Sir Austen Chamberlain, recently knighted, was a Conservative politician, at this time the Foreign Secretary. He was the son of Joseph Chamberlain (see Index) and a half-brother of Neville Chamberlain.*

*The US Minister was the newly-appointed Alanson B. Houghton (1863-1941) who had come directly from being the US Ambassador to Germany.*

*Lord Willingdon (1866-1941) had been a Liberal politician, who subsequently became an all-purpose dominion administrator. He was successively Governor of Bombay (1913-17) and Governor of Madras (1919-24). He became the Governor-General of Canada (1926-31) and Viceroy of India (1931-36). Lady Willingdon was a grand-daughter of the great railway construction magnate, Thomas Brassey.*

*'The Laverys' were almost certainly Sir John Lavery, the celebrated portrait painter and his wife.*

*The Irish High Commissioner in London was James MacNeill (1869-1938), who had started his career as a member of the Indian Civil Service.*

Revising 'Fairy Kist' and 'The Recording Angel'..

*'Fairy Kist' appeared under this title in a Canadian magazine in September 1927, and in England in Strand Magazine in February 1928. It was collected in Limits and Renewals. We suggest that 'The Recording Angel' was the tale which was first published in Limits and Renewals under the title of 'Uncovenanted Mercies'. See NRG for notes on it.*

10 Nov. Dover-Boulogne. And to Brussels. George and Elsie

**Nov. 10** We leave at 8.40 for Dover. Arrive at Boulogne at 5 p.m. Elsie sends footman and motor.

*They spent three days in Brussels with George and Elsie, who were about to leave Brussels for another diplomatic posting to Madrid.*

13 Nov. To Paris.

**Nov. 13** Paris.

15 Nov. The President's box at the theatre.

17 Nov. To London. Rud with a bad cold.

**17 Nov.** London.

19 Nov. Rud to first meeting of 'Wireless Commission'. (?) (BBC)

*Kipling was a member of the Commission set up to determine the future governance of the BBC, which resulted in the granting of the Royal Charter under which the BBC operated for the next 80 years.*

**Nov. 20** Rud [working] on his speech until he hears that the dinner is postponed because of Queen Alexandra's death. The dinner was to have celebrated the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Royal Literary Society at which Rud was to receive a gold medal.

*Queen Alexandra (1844-1925) was the Queen Mother, the widow of King Edward VII. She died on this date, so the dinner had to be cancelled at very short notice. The presentation did not take place until July 1926 largely because*

*of Kipling's illness – see 30 Nov. and Nov. 30 below et seq.*

- Nov. 21** Home.
- 30 Nov. Very cold. Rud down with pneumonia.
- Nov. 30** The doctor says (*that RK has*) pneumonia. I get a nurse by night but do duty myself so he may not be frightened.

*Kipling was seriously ill. Note 1 to a letter from Kipling to Edmund Gosse (PINNEY, **Letters**, Vol. 5, pp. 273) gives some details of the illness and its aftermath (for eleven days The Times printed bulletins about his health).*

- 3 Dec. Elsie and George come from Brussels.
- Dec. 3** Elsie and George come from Brussels which they have left for good.

*See Nov. 10 above.*

- 5 Dec. He is sleeping better, but very weak. Elsie looking very ill. Peter Stanley here – a help and comfort.

*Peter Stanley, their friend from Paris – see Index – was a doctor.*

- Christmas. Better, but still ill.
- 30 Dec. Rud's 60<sup>th</sup> birthday. Many telegrams.  
[A very sad year with nothing ahead.](#)
- Des. 31** George and Elsie leave about noon. Her last visit before she goes to Madrid. Rud cheered by her visit and not too depressed by her departure. He sits up these last few days a little in a chair. A very sad year for me with nothing ahead for the other years but the job of living.
-

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

©The National Trust and the Carrington Estate 2014 All rights reserved