

The Carrington and Rees Extracts
From the diaries of
Caroline Kipling

1933

1933

Jan. Cold. Rud working at *Collected Verse* and *Souvenirs (of France)*.
Peter Stanley from Paris with bad news.

See our entry for 31 Dec. `32. The news concerned his wife, Frances, who had been hospitalised after a nervous breakdown

28 Jan. He sends his Horace verses to the Master of Magdalene.

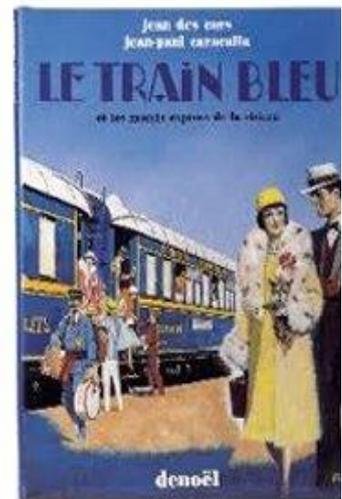
These verses were first published in the USA for copyright reasons, then in The Times, Feb. 23, 1932 on the tercentenary of Samuel Pepys' birth. They were originally published under the title 'To the Companions' (not to be confused with a poem of the same name, published with the Stalky tale, "The United Idolaters.") Pepys had studied at Magdalene College, Cambridge. These verses, though they refer to Latin and Rome, were not Horatian, but a tribute to Pepys. Today they appear under the title, 'Samuel Pepys'

Jan. 29 Two servants down with 'flu and one gives notice.

1 Feb. Dover and the Blue Train. Another rough crossing.

Feb. 1 Leave home for Dover, Amiens, Paris.

Le Train Bleu was a luxury train running from Calais to the Mediterranean resorts along the Côte d'Azur. It went through Amiens (which is why Carrie mentions the town) and went into and out of Paris, but through travellers did not have to change.



2 Feb. Monte Carlo. Hotel du Palais. George and Elsie.



Feb. 2 Arrive Monte Carlo.

7 Feb. Poem: *'Legend of the Virgin'*.

This poem must have been Our Lady of the Sackcloth, published in The Morning Post, 15 April 1935.

!3 Feb. Lunch to meet the Bishop of Norwich,
(They live quietly. She the more ill of the two and much taken up
with investments.)

The Bishop was the Rt. Rev. Bertram Pollock, the Master of Wellington College immediately before John Kipling went there in 1911.

He had left Wellington before the Kiplings first visited, so they had not previously met.



Bertram Pollock

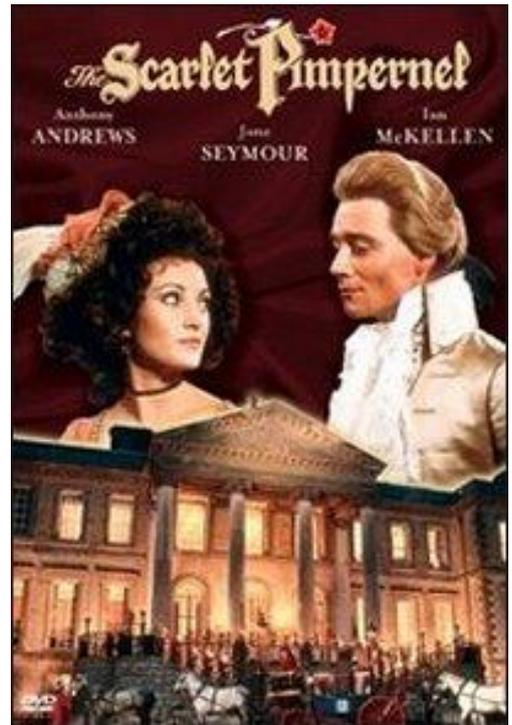
Feb. 18 Send cheques for Income Tax and Super Tax (see end of diary), thus are deprived of the power of spending any money except bare necessities throughout the year. (*Note, entries at end of diary: Income Tax £6,605.0s.9d: Supertax, £9,014 = Total £15,620 approx.*)

3 Mar. The day they lunch with D. of Connaught they hear their secretary's father has died.

5 Mar. To the Baroness Orczy for lunch. [Very Dull.](#)

The Baroness Orczy (1865-1947) was a very successful Hungarian-born author, painter and playwright living in Monte Carlo.

Her celebrated fictional character was 'The Scarlet Pimpernel', the English nobleman who saved many French aristocrats from the guillotine, during the Revolution.



7 Mar. The secretary at Bateman's returns to work

See entry for 3 Mar. above.

14 Mar. *Souvenirs* in the *Daily Telegraph*.

The first of eight instalments had appeared in the Telegraph on 13 March, but the first half of the whole short book had appeared, translated into French, in the Revue des Deux Mondes in Paris on 1 March

Elsie and George have taken from April 15 to Aug. 15, Lord Clifden's house, Wimpole near Cambridge.



Wimpole Hall

This marks the start of the association of the Bambridges with Wimpole Hall. The then owner, Viscount Clifden had succeeded to the property on the death of his father in 1930, but his family home was in Cornwall, and Wimpole had been let for some years. George Bambridge and Lord Clifden had served together at the British Embassy in Madrid, so the families were well-acquainted.

Mar. 17 We leave for Cannes.

24 Mar. *Souvenirs* in translation in *Revue des Deux Mondes*.

But see the entry for 14 Mar. above.

(Carrington) *(A few days' gap.)*

(Rees) *(The diary is blank from Mar. 25 to 31.)*

30 Mar. Fontainebleau to Paris. George and Elsie. Rud ill; pains and sickness.

*The period they spent on the Riviera is covered in greater detail in letters to Colonel Hughes and the Bambridges (PINNEY, **Letters**, Vol. 6, pp. 163-4 (Col. Hughes): pp. 164-5*

and 166-7 (*the Bambridges*); pp 167-8 (*Frank Doubleday*); pp. 168-9 (*the Bambridges*)

- Mar. 31** Leave Fontainebleau for Paris.
- 8 Apr. Dr. Roux comes to examine Rud. He reports **no serious discovery**. A new and very strict diet.
- See Rudyard Kipling in Sickness and in Health by Dr Gillian Sheehan in this Guide.*
- 14 Apr.** Doctor says laboratory tests still show blood and he does not think it wise for Rud to travel.
- 24 Apr. After many consultations (with Dr. Jarvis) Dr Roux **thinks Rud's trouble can be held** and pain relieved.
- 5 May They diagnose an ulcer at the mouth of the duodenum. A fortnight's treatment in each month.
- May 5** Drs Roux and Jarvis come for 'marching orders'.
- See PINNEY, **Letters**, Vol. 6, pp. 172-9. This entry suggests that the Doctors gave Kipling clearance to travel home.*
- 8 May Home by the 'Golden Arrow' (Rud slowly improves.)
- May 8** Home.
- 28 May Working on the King's speech for South Africa House.



South Africa House

May 28 Rud thinking out the speech he has been asked to do for the King opening of South Africa House.

South Africa House stands on the east side of Trafalgar Square, in London. It houses the South African High Commission and was designed by Sir Herbert Baker. .

30 May Via Tilbury to stay at Wimpole.

May 30 We leave for Wimpole Hall.

There was then no road crossing of the Thames, east of the Blackwall Tunnel, and access to East Anglia from Kent and Sussex via London involved struggling through the London traffic, which by now was becoming very congested. There were car ferries at Woolwich and Gravesend: they chose to use the Gravesend-Tilbury route.

1 June Cambridge. Pepys Library. Lunch with Ramsay Rud enjoys his visit to Wimpole and is well.

See entry for 14 Mar. above. The Bambridges were now (briefly) ensconced in Wimpole Hall which was only eight miles from Cambridge. This was probably Arthur Ramsey (1867-1954), President of Magdalene College (and father of the future Archbishop of Canterbury).

Samuel Pepys, the 17th Century civil servant and diarist had been a member of Magdalene College and had bequeathed to it his very extensive library

3 June Home.

June 3 Home.

6 June He accepts a post on India Defence Committee at proposal of O'Dwyer.

June 6 He writes Major O'Dwyer re India, accepting a post on the Indian Defence Committee.

The Indian Defence Committee was the precursor of the Indian Defence League, a new pressure group dedicated to ensuring that India remained within the Empire. Kipling became a Vice-President, along with Winston Churchill and other prominent politicians

We have been unable to identify 'Major O'Dwyer' with certainty. Sir Michael O'Dwyer, who had been Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab at the time of the Amritsar massacre in 1919, and who had been dismissed, was a member of the Indian Empire Society; he debated Indian affairs and corresponded with Sir Winston on the subject of India. However his Times obituary makes no mention of any involvement with the League. Major O'Dwyer may have been one of his brothers.

8 June Numerous letters, telegrams, reporters about the Indian Defence League.

9 June Vice-President.

The status of India within the Empire was a controversial issue at this time, which culminated in the Government of India Act, 1935, which granted a form of Dominion status to India. The Indian Defence League opposed this.

11 June Best weight for years – 9 stone 13 lbs [63.18kg].

June 14 The draft of the King's speech on opening of S.A. House sent by motor to Windsor.

- 21 June [Bothers about the Germans who do not like *Souvenirs de France*.](#)
- June 22** We go at 2 p.m. to the opening by the King of South Africa House, His speech, one hears, a great success.
- The occasion was reported in The Times, of 23 June and the Speech, written by Kipling for the King, reported in full.*
- 24 June Letter from Wigram saying how pleased the King was with his speech.
- 26 June Elected to the Institut de France. Many congratulations,
- The Institut de France is an overarching organisation which includes, among others, the Académie Française, and the Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres. (Perhaps the nearest English equivalent is the Royal Society.)*
- 4 July V. hot. Lord and Lady Dunsany.
- For the Dunsanys, see Index.*
- 7 July To Wimpole. Glad of some quiet hours.
- July 7** Leave at 4 p.m.
- 10 July London, to the zoo and then to the Mansion House. Rud speaks to the Canadian Authors Society,
- July 10.** Leave by car for London. Rud to the Mansion House for a reception to the Canadian Authors Society.
- The reception was reported in The Times for 11 July Kipling's presence as a member of the "special committee of welcome" was noted.*
- 11 July Miss Nicholson's name mentioned, the first time (*the secretary*)
- 12 July To lunch with the Royal Literary Society. Rud [allows his first broadcast of a speech.](#)
- The lunch was for the Canadian authors whom Kipling had met on July 10th. It was reported in The Times on 13 July.*

14 July Mr and Mrs F N D (*Doubleday*), Mr and Mrs F Reeves (Edgar Wallace's daughter) and Colonel Lawrence, now calling himself Shaw.

July 14 Colonel Lawrence, now calling himself Shaw, formerly called Lawrence of Arabia, to tea.

Lawrence (see Index) had found the transition back to civilian life, together with the publicity given to his wartime exploits, hard to bear, and had sought anonymity by enlisting as an Aircraftman in the RAF, under the name of Shaw.

22 July Rud writes the Poet Laureate declining to serve on a committee to award the Royal prize for poetry.

July 22 Rud writes the Poet Laureate declining to serve on his Committee to award the annual prize for poetry – a Royal order, we gather from such a committee. Excuse: he is not and never has been a critic.

The Poet Laureate was John Masefield (1878-1967). The letter cited by Carrie appears on pp.199/200 of The Letters of Rudyard Kipling, Vol 6. In a note, Professor Pinney states that the first award of what was 'the King's Gold Medal for Poetry' was made in 1935: it was awarded by the King personally, advised by a committee, chaired by the Poet Laureate.

26 July Call at Downing Street to get Stan to sign the Bambridge Settlement.

This related to Elsie's finances.

1 Aug. He finishes '*Proofs of Holy Writ*', begun long since.

See entry for 5 Feb. 1932; and also our NRG notes on the tale.

Aug. 3 We leave for Southampton to meet Peter Stanley. Lunch and dine and sleep on his new yacht *Trenora*.

*Kipling described their visit in a letter to the two Stanley girls, Jane and Ursula (PINNEY, **Letters**, Vol. 6, pp. 202-4). *Trenora* was a luxurious yacht, 821 tons and 210 feet long.*

Aug. 4 We leave and are home by 3.

8 Aug. Mr. Barry from Toronto to lunch.

Mr. Barry was James Watson Barry, a Canadian businessman who had been corresponding with Kipling since 1932. He later wrote up his lunch at Bateman's and asked Kipling's permission to publish it. Kipling's reply dated November 1933 was "please no. Very much No." and appears on pp. 222/3 of The Letters of Rudyard Kipling, Vol 6.

15 Aug. Sidney Cockerell to dine and sleep. He asks Rud to write a life of Aunt Georgie which Rud will not do. (However, he gives S.C some MSS for the Fitzwilliam.)

Aug. 15 Rud has a long talk with Mr Cockerell about Aunt Georgie. He is anxious Rud should do a monograph of her which, if course, he will not do.

Sydney Cockerell (later Sir Sydney, 1867-1962) was the Director of the Fitzwilliam Museum at Cambridge. He had been associated with William Morris and the Kelmscott Press, and also with Emery Walker (qv).

Kipling followed up this visit with a letter (PINNEY, Letters, Vol. 6, p. 206)



Sydney Cockerell

30 Aug. CK lent Mabel Leigh £200 and demanded her diamond necklace as security. (Repaid 25 Oct.) [See above on 18 June 1924].

Aug 30 I have Mabel Leigh to lunch and she gives me her diamond necklace to keep as security for £200 cheque I sent her. (See Oct. 25 below.)

Undated In Sept. at Bateman's he is ill again. Working over proofs for *Collected Verse*.

This was Inclusive Verse (1933)

14 Sep. To Bicester.

Sep. 14 We leave about 3 for Bicester.

On their way to Attingham Hall, near Shrewsbury.

15 Sep. Attingham Hall where Elsie and George are staying.

Sep. 15 Attingham Hall.

George and Elsie's lease of Wimpole had ended, and they had rented another large country house. (see LYCETT, p. 575-6).

16 Sep. Shrewsbury.

19 Sep. London. Proposal for a film of *Thy Servant a Dog*

Sep. 19 London.

Sep. 20 Mr. Watt diverts Rud and he is interested in a proposal to make a film of '*Thy Servant a Dog.*'

Sep. 21 Home.

22 Sep. Mr. Philip Gosse to lunch.

Philip Gosse (1879-1959) was the son of Sir Edmund (qv) and as a boy of 13 had been present at the Kipling's wedding.

He had qualified in medicine, and was now a naturalist and author. He wrote several books on the history of piracy.



Philip Gosse

27 Sep. Florence Macdonald to dine and sleep. Amuses Rud with family gossip.

Florence (see Index) was a cousin.

30 Sep. To Rottingdean: the Roderick Joneses.

For Sir Roderick Jones – see Index.

2 Oct. Trix Fleming – a very pleasant visit.

5 Oct. Advance copies of *Collected Verse*. Rud. very pleased.

Oct. 5 The advance copies of collected verse 1885-1932 come and Rud is greatly pleased with it.

This edition of Kipling's verse was published as Rudyard Kipling's Verse Inclusive Edition 1885-1932. The inclusive, or collected editions of Kipling's verse, published from 1919 onwards, were published by Hodder and Stoughton, rather than by Methuen, who had published all the English editions of Kipling's books of verse.

8 Oct. Elsie and George visiting. George to church and gets very wet.

9. Oct. Rud ill. He has to decline the invitation of the French Institut.

See entry of 26 June above

Oct. 9 Rud wires to the Institute of France to say he can not now come to Paris as arranged for the Introduction to the Academy on Oct. 29th. A disappointment but he is not well enough to go,

16 Oct. Agrees again to help with the King's broadcast.

Oct. 16 Rud writes Col. Wigram saying he will, of course, help again with the King's message for Christmas.

For Wigram, see Index and entry for 6 Dec. '32, et. seq.

Oct. 25 Secretary takes to Mabel Leigh a parcel from the Bank – her property.

*See entries for 30 Aug. and **Aug. 30** above.*

1 Nov. Finishes 'Mason's Song'.

8 Nov. He dines at Grillons and [stays till 9](#).

For Grillions Club – see Index and entry for 6 June 1928.

9 Nov. *Bonfires on the Ice* in the Morning Post.

The title under which this poem was published was The Bonfires. It was an indictment of all the political platitudes inflicted on the public by political speakers.

23 Nov. A *Captains Courageous* film afoot.

Nov. 23 To London. Rud signed *Captain's Courageous* film contract at the American Embassy.

The film was completed after Kipling's death, and Spencer Tracy, who played Manuel, the fisherman who saves Harvey from drowning, won an Oscar for his performance. The contract was signed in the Embassy because the contract was to be subject to United States laws.

Dec. 11 Our head gardener leaves after three years' indifferent service. The first papers in regard to our Canadian Co. to be called Kamouraska Investments Ltd.

The Kiplings had evidently been taking financial advice to protect their investments. The company had been incorporated on 5 December. It was dissolved in 1981, presumably as part of the winding up of Elsie's estate after her death in 1976.

16 Dec. He again discusses the Christmas broadcast with the King. ['Amusing'](#)

Dec. 16 Rud to see the King at 10.30. An amusing and satisfactory interview. The King gives him a signed photo of himself and the Queen.

22 Dec. To Bath for Christmas with G(eorge) and E(lsie).

Dec. 22 We leave by train for Royal Pump Room Hotel.

Dec. 25 We exchange presents. A happy time

Dec 30 Give my maid Smith notice as she cannot get on with her fellow servants, and is always dissatisfied no matter what is done for her comfort.

Dec. 31. A most rare birthday for me since the children (G & E) make a great fuss with charming little presents.

This is the first time in 41 years that mention of Carrie's own birthday appears in the Extracts.

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