

The Rees and Carrington Extracts
From the diaries of
Caroline Kipling

1897

1897

Jan. Torquay. Bicycling in the mud.
Rud and Hugh go shooting.

Having experienced four snowy and icy Vermont winters, Kipling was unused to the damp, but milder, English weather on what was already starting to be called, optimistically, the English 'riviera': why, there were even palm trees growing in Torquay.

'Hugh' must have been Hugh Poynter, younger son of Sir Edward, and Kipling's cousin. just seventeen at this time. In a speech in Sydney, reported in the Sydney Morning Herald in 1931, Sir Hugh (he had succeeded to the family title) recounted: "Kipling gave me my first rifle, and promised me ten shillings for the first rabbit I shot. For two days, I stalked rabbits, and managed to shoot one. Before Rudyard gave me the money, however, he smelt the rabbit to see if it was fresh." This was probably the occasion for that Reminiscence.

5 Jan Gosse and his mother call.



Edmund Gosse

Edmund Gosse's stepmother lived nearby. LYCETT (p. 288) explains that it had been through a

connection with the Gosses, that Carrie had selected Devon as their initial base on their return to England. (Gosse himself was not Kipling's 'flavour of the month').

11 Jan Rud to Tisbury.

Jan. 11 Rud leaves in the a.m. for Tisbury.

12 Jan 'Bobs' sends Rud his *Life in India*



Lord Roberts

*The full title was **Forty-one years in India.** BIRKENHEAD, p. 176, quotes Kipling's acknowledgement in full; and PINNEY, Letters, Vol. 2, p. 284/5, in a letter to his old chief on the CMG, Kipling wrote ". . . in which I am amazed at the things he does not say. . . ."*

14 Jan R. begins "Slaves of the Lamp".

This was one of the 'Stalky' stories, Chapter 2 of the book as published in 1899, after serialisation in The Windsor Magazine.

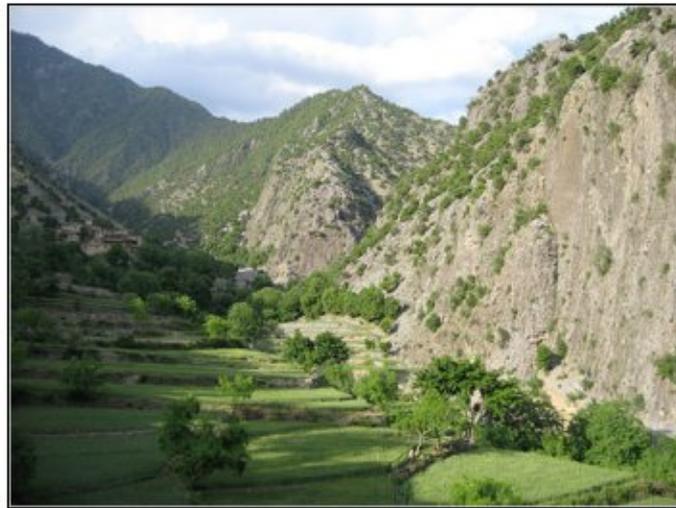
Jan. 14 Rud returns.

23 Jan Sir G. Robertson comes to stay (the 27th). [They talk and talk.](#)

Sir George Scott Robertson (1852-1916) was by training a doctor, and had entered the Indian Medical Service in 1878. His service as a doctor was largely on the North West Frontier (then of India, now of Pakistan). In 1890-91, he made a

personal expedition to Kafiristan, nowadays known as Nuristan, in North-East Afghanistan.

They had evidently met in London, the previous December (letter from Carrie to Mary Cabot, dated 1 December 1896 – see ‘The Mary Cabot Memoir’ on this site). PINNEY, Letters, Vol. 2, p. 289, quotes a letter from Kipling to William Rockhill, in which he writes that “We’ve been having Sir. G. Robertson . . . staying with us and he has been telling us tales of the heathen of those parts which make my hair stand on end.”



Nuristan

2 Feb. R. finishes his engine story.

This was “.007”, which was first published in Scribner’s Magazine in August 1897, and later collected in The Day’s Work. See NRG for notes on the story by Alastair Wilson.

3 Feb. To London. Rud returns 9th by way to Tisbury.
(FND writing to consult RK about setting up on his own).

FND was Frank Doubleday, at this time working for Charles Scribner & Sons, but about to set up on his own, which he did with Samuel McClure in March this year. Doubleday remained Kipling’s American publisher until his death. See PINNEY, Letters, Vol, 2, p. 287.



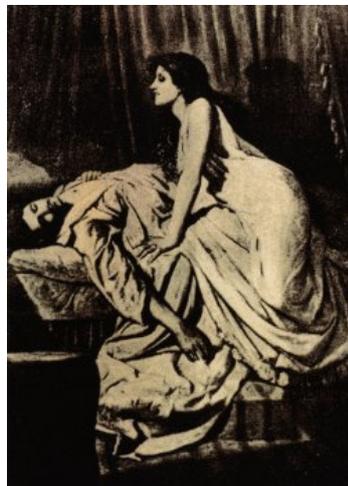
- Feb. 4 Rud, who has arrived at 5, calls at Henry James.
- Feb. 4 Rud comes to see me off.
- Feb. 9 I walk to meet Rud who returns from Tisbury at 3.15.
- Feb. 18 Rud leaves on the early train for town.
- Feb. 22 Rud returns in the p.m.
- 26 Feb Florence Macdonald for a visit.

Florence Macdonald was Kipling's first cousin, being the daughter of Frederic Macdonald, Alice's brother. There is an interesting article in the Glasgow Herald, for 25 December 1965, by Ion S. Munro concerning the article's author's meeting with Miss Macdonald at one of our Society's meetings at some time in the 1950s.

Rud writing verses on Mr. Rhodes. Never published.

The existence of this poem is mentioned in PINNEY, Poems, Vol. III, p. 2222, based on this diary entry, and under the general title of 'Unlocated Poems', that is, poems whose whereabouts and text are now unknown.

- 28Feb Rud writes some of a second schoolboy yarn.
- 9 Mar. Florence leaves.
- 17 Mar. Rud thinks out "The Vampire."



PINNEY, Poems, Vol. II, p. 1538, describes quite fully the circumstances of the writing and publication of this poem, which was written as a commentary on this painting by his cousin Philip Burne-Jones. He had presumably seen the painting when he was in London, 3-9 February.

27 Mar. Pater comes till 31st.

Mar. 27 We go into Torquay and the pater comes

29 Mar. Gravely annoyed with Thacker and Spink for dedicating 9th edn. of DD (*Departmental Ditties*) to Bobs.

Mar. 29 We are greatly annoyed with Thacker, Spink (Indian Publishers) who are said to have dedicated the 9th Ed, of D.D. to Lord Roberts. Are taking steps.

Thacker, Spink & Co. were Kipling's Indian publishers, and it was distinctly unusual for a publisher to insert a dedication without the author's approval.

Mar. 31 Rud, Pater and I go up to town. We leave the Pater at Exeter. We go on to Ramsgate where we spend the night

1 Apr. Kent househunting.
Then to London.

Apr. 1 We look at a house. On to Minster, so by rail to Tonbridge and advance to London.

In her letter to Mary Cabot, dated 1 December 1896, Carrie had been enthusiastic about the life they were then living at Rock House (she would seem to have had good servants), but, as she wrote, "Its disadvantage is its distance from town, and because of that, I am afraid in the Spring we must make a move." But see Something of Myself p. 134, describing the black depression that both Rudyard and Carrie had felt while in the house.

2 Apr. Family lunch. The three Aunts.



Agnes Poynter



Louisa Baldwin



Georgina Burne-Jones

The three Aunts were Agnes (Aggie) Poynter; Louisa (Louie) Baldwin, and Georgiana (Georgie) Burne-Jones;

Rud elected to Athenaeum. Rule 2.

In Something of Myself, Kipling remarked that Rule 2 provided “for admitting distinguished persons without ballot”. He also writes (SoM, p. 144) that “My life made me grossly dependent on Clubs for my spiritual comfort. Three English ones, The Athenaeum, Carlton, and Beefsteak, met my wants”. (He had been elected to the Savile Club (primarily for artists in the fullest sense of the word), when he first came to London in 1889.) The Carlton Club, founded in 1832, is a club for supporters of the Conservative party, and stands in St. James’s Street. The Beefsteak Club is a dining club, primarily for practitioners of the arts.

The Athenaeum was founded in 1824, in Pall Mall, in the heart of London’s West End, and remains one of the most prestigious clubs in London. It differs from other older-established clubs with particular political affiliation, in that it was “founded as a meeting place for men . . . who enjoy the life of the mind. Over the years the membership criteria have been widened and now extend to persons of attainment or promise in any field of an intellectual or artistic nature and of substantial value to the community”

Apr. 2 Dine with the Moberly Bells to meet Sir A. Milner and Cecil Rhodes. All distinguished London comes later to the reception.
Rud is elected a member of the Athenaeum in committee.
Great honour. Many congratulations.

For Moberly Bell – see Index. This is Kipling's first meeting with Milner and Rhodes, and Carrie's first real introduction into London Society.

Apr. 3 We leave for home.

Apr. 12 Rud gets another chill going to meet his mother who after all does not arrive until 3.30.

Carrie's annoyance is evident.

Apr. 15 Mrs. Kipling's birthday and we have a cake for her. Rud thinks a little of his play.

This may be the earliest mention of what turned out to be The Jungle Play – see Professor Pinney's Introduction to the Penguin edition (2000), its first publication.

Apr. 17 Mrs. Kipling leaves. Josephine and I take her to the station.

19 Apr. To London. Househunting in Kent.

Apr. 19 I leave at 11 for London and Kent. Spend the night at Maidstone. Rud seems better. (He had had a cold.)

They were serious about moving – but house-hunting at that distance (200 miles from Torquay to London), effectively a day's journey (then, a minimum of five hours by express train) must have been time-consuming and tiring.

Apr. 20 On to Canterbury.

Apr. 21 I go early to see a house on the Dover Road. . . then to the station for London. Find Rud at the hotel.

Apr. 22 Get home. An invitation to spend Thursday to Monday at Oxford and from Aunt Georgie to make use of her house at Rottingdean.

25 Apr. The Stanley Baldwins calling. R. writing 'Our Lady of Snows'.

Stanley Baldwin was Rudyard's first cousin, the son of Aunt Louie. A successful conservative politician, he served three times as Prime Minister in the 1920s and 1930s.

The full title of the poem was 'Our Lady of the Snows'. Its subject related to free trade; how far should trade within the Empire be protected by tariffs? This issue had roamed unchecked through British political circles since the 1840s rather like a Holy Cow wandering through an Indian city, see Kim p. 19.

In 1897, the Canadian Parliament introduced a bill calling for Imperial preference, and this poem supports the right of the dominions to introduce measures which suited their case, even at the expense of the mother-country.

The poem was published in The Times two days later and subsequently collected in The Five Nations. PINNEY, Poems, Vol. I, p. 646/7 explains that the MS was dated from another, evidently temporary, address in Torquay, where the family were temporarily staying while they sought another house.

30 Apr. R. goes to Academy Dinner.

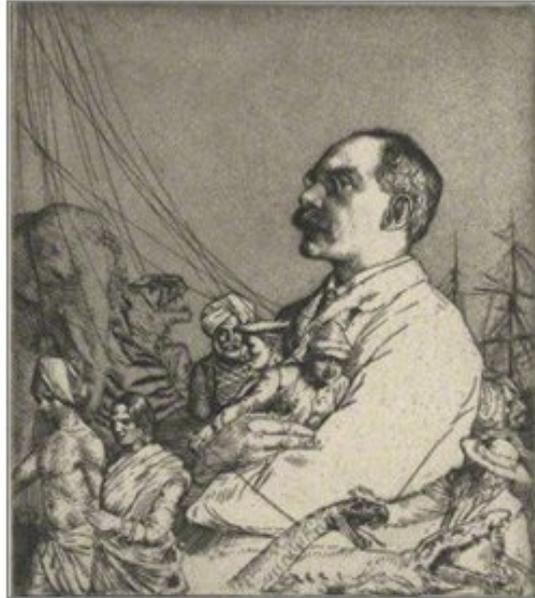
Apr. 30 Rud goes off at 10.20 to town for his Academy dinner.

This Academy banquet (always held on the evening of the opening of the Summer Exhibition) was the first to be held under the presidency of Uncle Ned Poynter, who had succeeded Sir John Millais as PRA. The Times of 3 May reported the banquet, listing Kipling among the distinguished guests. It was, as were most, if not all, public functions at that date, an all-male affair

See letter from Kipling to Stanley J Weyman in PINNEY, Letters, Vol. 2, p. 297, in which Kipling gives his views on Alfred Austin, the new Poet Laureate: they were not very complimentary,

May 2 Rud returns in the evening.

4 May Rud sits to William Strang till 6th.



The Strang portrait

William Strang, RA (1859-1921) was primarily an engraver, being a founder member of the Society of Painter-Etchers. The resulting portrait, in pencil, is now in the National Portrait Gallery (Ref NPG2919)

May 11 Rud goes forth to do his last errands on his wheel and I plod on sending all manner of things off. 28 pieces to be warehoused.

12 May To R. Palace Hotel, Kensington.

The whole family moved here, and it became their base for the next six weeks or so of that Jubilee summer. It is likely that they would have had trouble finding a hotel which could accommodate them - London was full to bursting point for the Jubilee.

They may well have tried Brown's, normally their choice when they visited London, but found that there were no rooms available. See PINNEY, Letters, Vol. 2, p. 301/2/5

May 12 We make a very early start . . . to the Royal Palace Hotel, Kensington High Street. 2 very large rooms on the 6th floor.

There is still a hotel on this site, now known as the Royal Garden Hotel, immediately adjacent to the SW corner of Hyde Park.

14 May Househunting in Kent.

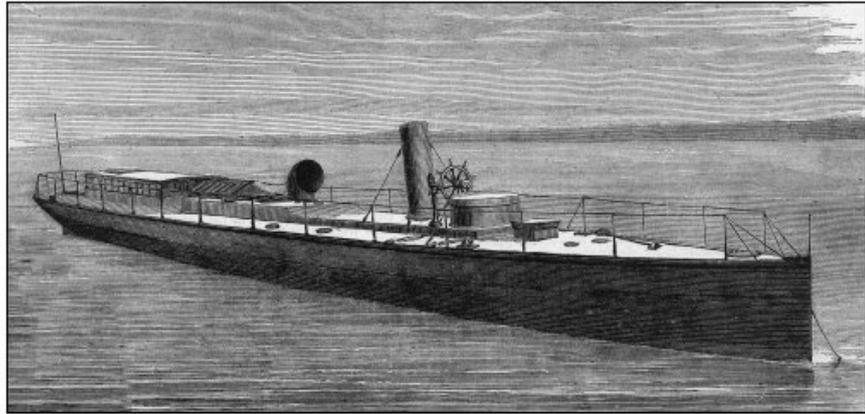
May 14 Rud and I spend from 10 until 6.30 in Kent, house-hunting, weary dreary work. The children have a happy day in the park

Why Kent? So far as this editor knows, Kipling never explained why he chose to live in the south-east. It was a given that he had to be within reach of London (see Carrie's letter quoted above in the entry for 1 April), and the railway services were slightly better in the south than they were north of London, not so much in quality, but in availability and frequency.

18 May Rud to Thornycrofts Chatham to go on trial trip of a destroyer.

May 18 Rud leaves early in the morning, 8.30, for Chatham to go on a trial trip of a torpedo [boat] destroyer. He returns a tired and much jolted man and goes early to bed.

Thornycroft's was a major builder of small torpedo craft for the Royal Navy, as well as pleasure boats. Their yard was then at Chiswick, but for the purpose of these acceptance trials the boat was based at Chatham. Kipling's invitation to attend these trials had come through Hamo Thornycroft, a sculptor, and brother of John Isaac Thornycroft (1843-1928) the founder of the shipbuilding company.



HMS Lightning , the first torpedo-boat, built by Thornycroft in 1876

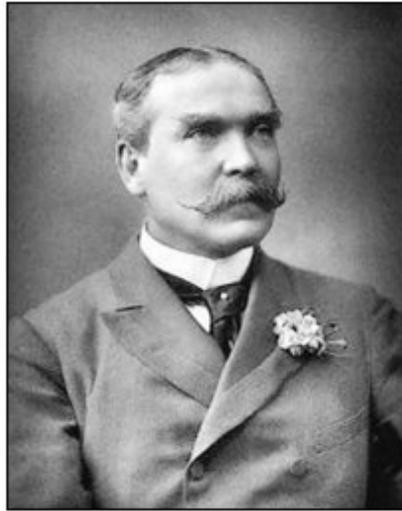
This trip was comprehensively and enthusiastically described in a letter to Dr. Conland (PINNEY, Letters, Vol. 2, p.298-301) and later formed a basis for 'Their Lawful Occasions' in Traffics and Discoveries. It is also quoted in part in BIRKENHEAD, p.179-181 (where there is a misprint of the boat's dimensions, 91ft for 19ft beam!)

19 May R. to a reception at the Royal Society.

The Royal Society is the oldest learned society in England, having been founded in 1660. King Charles II used to attend their meetings on occasions. Its full name is The Royal Society for Improving Natural Knowledge and its purposes are scientific.

Sunday (23 May) with Sir W. Hunter.

May 21 Rud goes to Oxford at 4.45 to stay [to] Sunday with Sir Wm. Hunter



Sir William Hunter

Sir William Hunter (1840-1900) had been a member of the Bengal Civil Service, and is described by LYCETT, p. 166, as “the grand old man of Indian letters.” His review of Departmental Ditties in the Academy in 1888 had been instrumental in bringing Kipling’s work to the attention of the home intelligentsia while he was still in India. See letter from Kipling to Hunter (PINNEY, Letters, Vol. 2, p. 281).

24 May Rud dined at Balliol. (*Balliol College Oxford*) The undergrads gave him a great reception.

To Brighton to discuss taking a house from Aunt Georgie.'

The Burne-Jones had knocked two cottages into one, to make a week-end retreat at Rottingdean, five miles east of the centre of Brighton, on the coast.



North End House, Rottingdean

Nine days later, the Kiplings moved into North End House, which they shared, at least part of the time, with the Burne-Jones's.

May 24 Rud returns from Oxford at noon. He undergraduates gave him a great reception at the dinner in the common room at Balliol and he greatly enjoyed his visit. I go to Brighton after lunch to talk over with Aunt Georgie about our taking their house at Rottingdean.

May 25 (Returns.)

26 May R. has lunch with J.M. Barrie.

Barrie was still only a moderately successful author and playwright.

His great successes, Quality Street, The Admirable Crichton, and Peter Pan were not produced until 1901 and later.

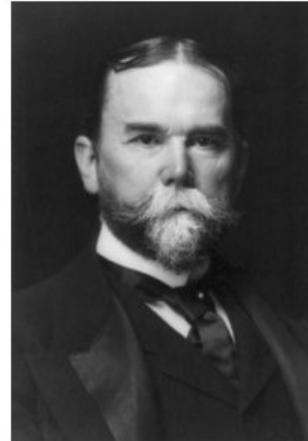


J.M. Barrie

27 May Lunched with John Hay.

*John Hay was now the
US Ambassador in London.*

*(See entry for 2 March
1895.)*



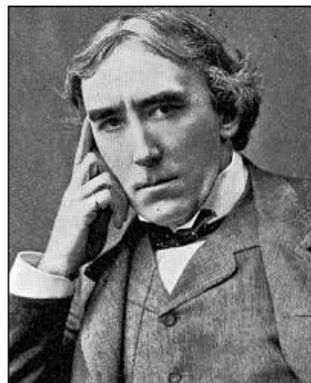
John Hay

28 May To the Lyceum. Met Sir H. Irving and Miss Terry after the show.

The Lyceum theatre stands in London at the eastern end of the Strand. Sir Henry Irving and Miss Ellen Terry were the managers of the theatre, and were at the peak of their acting careers.



Ellen Terry



Henry Irving

Both had had failed marriages, and neither had been divorced, but they lived together without undue social stigma.

31 May Sally Norton called.
R. met Curzon at a dinner to G. Robertson.

Sally (sometimes 'Sallie') was the daughter of Charles Eliot Norton of Brattleboro days, and was visiting England.

Curzon was Hon. George Nathaniel Curzon (1859-1925), an English Conservative politician, at this time Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. He had a very high opinion of his own worth, being the subject, while at Oxford, of the piece of doggerel,



Lord Curzon

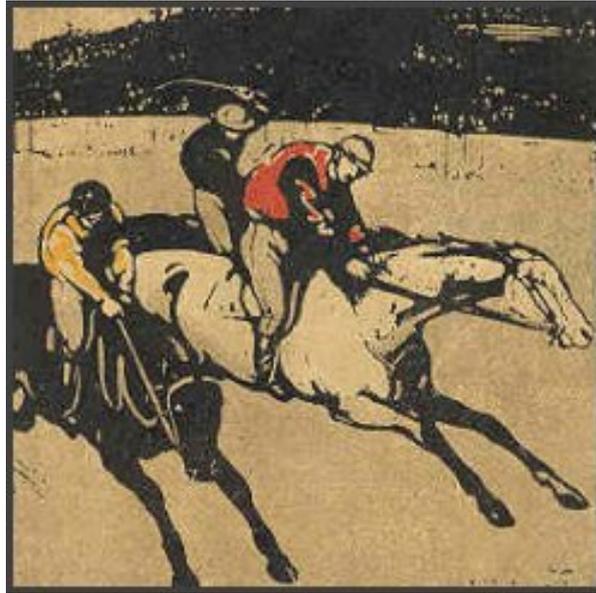
*“My name is George Nathaniel Curzon,
I am a most superior person.
My cheeks are pink, my hair is sleek,
I dine at Blenheim once a week.”*

The Kiplings had met his American wife, then his fiancée, when they were in Washington (see entry for 5 March 1895). Two years later he became Viceroy of India.

2 June Derby Day. To Rottingdean. North End House.

The Derby (the Derby Stakes horse race) was, and still is, one of the major events in the British sporting calendar. It was, and to some extent still is, one of London's unofficial holidays, and two railway companies thought it worth their while to build branch lines to the course primarily for the race traffic on four days, once a year. Along with the Grand National steeplechase, The Derby is one of the races on which many a housewife has a bet.

Kipling had had experience of horse-racing in India, and was not a betting man. For the Almanac of Twelve Sports, published that same year (see the entry for 25 September below), he wrote – in Rottingdean – these sceptical lines:



**The horse is ridden—the jockey rides—
The backers back—the owners own.
But ... there are lots of things besides,
And I should leave this play alone.**

Rottingdean was then a village between the Downs and the sea, five miles east of Brighton, and still quite separate from it, although Mr. Volk's Brighton and Rottingdean Seashore Electric Railway had linked the two places since the previous year.

June 2 We pack in the a.m. and leave for Rottingdean at 3.50. Arrive at [North] End House at 6.50, tired. Children to bed at once.

3 June Rud does verses on the Destroyer.
Househunting towards Lewes.

'The Destroyers' was not published until next year, when it appeared in McClure's Magazine in the USA and in The Windsor in Britain. See our comprehensive notes on this poem in the New Readers' Guide on this site.

Lewes was, and still is, the County Town of Sussex, about twelve miles away, on the other side of the Downs.

June 10 We buy £2000 nominal consols (£2266) in Rud's name

'Consols' (Consolidated Annuities) were (or was) a British Government stock, with no maturity date. They provided as near as possible, an absolutely guaranteed fixed income. At a time when inflation and the value of the pound sterling was steady, they were the bedrock of any portfolio of stocks and shares.

11 June R. to town to a Colonial lunch.

June 11 Rud leaves for town to go to his Colonial lunch.

CARRINGTON, p 258 confirms that this was an occasion when most of the Prime Ministers of Canada and the other colonies, being all present in London for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, lunched together. Canada was then the only self-governing Dominion of the Empire - it would be four further years before the Commonwealth of Australia would be formed, to become the second of the overseas dominions, followed by New Zealand and Newfoundland in 1907, and the Union of South Africa in 1910: later, the Irish Free State, India, Pakistan and Ceylon (Sri Lanka) all had dominion status for varying lengths of time.)

June 12 (Returns)

15 June R. starts some verses on the White Man's Burden.

'The White Man's Burden' was not finished until November 1898 and published in February 1899. This poem, along with 'Recessional' and 'If', was probably the most widely quoted of his poems, as well as one of the most argued over. We will return to it in 1898, when the 'Extracts' record its completion.

17 June R. writes out some of his Just So Stories done in Brattleboro long ago for four-year-olds.

June 17 Rud. writes out some of his "Just So" Stories done in Brattleboro long ago for Four-year-olds.

The 'Just So Stories', as collected and published in 1902, comprise twelve tales, the first of which to be published was 'How the Whale Got his Throat' published in December 1897 in St. Nicholas Magazine. For details of the remainder see our notes in the NRG on this site.

18 June Uncle Ned writes urging us to stop on at North End House for the baby.

June 18 A letter from Uncle Ned urging us to stop on at North End House for the coming of the new baby and we decided to accept

This is the first intimation in the 'Extracts' that Carrie was pregnant again. They did stay, and their son John was born at North End House on 17 August.

19 June More verses which do not come off. Pater comes.

June 19 Pater comes in the evening.

It would be interesting to know what these verses were. PINNEY, Poems, has not made any suggestions as to whether any of them have survived.

21 June A tandem cycle comes, 'Two Tails'. R. 'plays long and lovingly with it'. (Gift of SS McClure).

In Something of Myself, Kipling implied that this had been received while they were at Torquay: it is apparent that this was not so. He and Carrie evidently rode it together until (SoM, p. 134) "it decanted us on to the road-metal. Almost before we had risen from our knees, we made mutual confession of our common loathing of wheels, pushed the Hell-Spider home by hand, and thereafter rode it no more."

Works at verses.

22 June Jubilee day, dull and foggy morning.

This was the day of the public holiday, to celebrate the Jubilee. The actual anniversary of Queen Victoria's accession in 1837 was on the previous Sunday, 20 June. In his letter to Dr. Conland (PINNEY, Letters, Vol. 2, p. 302), written on 1 June, Kipling had said "London is simply packed and double packed... There are 80,000 extra Americans in town, and Cook the tourist man has practically chartered all the suburb of Richmond for their accommodation,"

Rud does verses.
We see bonfires. 'Recessional'.

Kipling had written in March, (PINNEY, Letters, Vol. 2, p. 296) to Stephen Hallett Phillips, "I believe I'm the sole, solitary, single and only 'poet' who isn't writing a Jubilee Ode this year. There will be a ghastly crop of 'em."

However, the general spirit of the occasion finally had its effect on him, and on this day, he set out to write a poem to which he gave the working title 'After'. It didn't satisfy him, and in his usual fashion he laid it aside.

June 22 Rud does a verse ('Recessional')

June 23 Rud does verses in p.m.

24 June Rud and pater to the Spithead review and back.



The Spithead Review, 1897

This was not the day of the actual review, which was carried out two days later by the Prince of Wales, but the warships had been gathering for about a week beforehand, and he and the Pater would have taken a train from Brighton to Portsmouth Harbour (probably a special excursion – about one-and-a-quarter hour's journey out and the same back again, with the trip round the fleet in a 'sixpenny sea-sick' included in the price.

For a vivid description of such an occasion, readers are invited to read Naval Occasions, by Bartimeus', Chap. XV, "The Look-See".

27 June R. sends a 'colonial premier dialogue' to the St James anonymously.

*We have not been able to identify such an article in the archive files of the **St. James Gazette**.*

28 June Starts to do explorer verses.

This poem, 'The Explorer' was not published until it appeared in The Five Nations in 1903.

June 29 (Pater) leaves 9.50.

30 June Note from Capt. Bailey (*sic*) asking him to join the ship tonight.

June 30 A wire from Captain Bailey summons Rud to join the ship by tonight as they leave early a.m for the manoeuvres (off the Irish coast).

His name was Captain Bayly, and he had invited Kipling to come to sea with him as a guest on board his ship, the small cruiser Pelorus, which had been present at the Review, and was now about to take part in the annual manoeuvres.

CARRINGTON, p. 246, quotes a letter dated March 23-29, 1897 (PINNEY, Letters, Vol. 2, pp 291-293) in which Kipling tells Dr. Conland that he has re-made Captain Bayly's acquaintance and has been invited to go to sea with him. This is the result of that invitation. So it was back to Portsmouth Harbour again and off to sea. See "Kipling and the Royal Navy" in the New Readers' Guide on this site.

8 July R. wires to say dining with Louis of Battenberg on flagship.



Prince Louis of Battenberg

Prince Louis of Battenberg was a member of the House of Hesse, in Germany, who joined the Royal Navy as a naturalised British subject in 1868 at the age of 14.

He rose in the service, and at this time commanded HMS Magnificent, flagship of Admiral Sir Henry Stephenson, Commander-in-Chief of the Channel Squadron. His son, Lord Louis Mountbatten, had a distinguished military career in World War II, and was the last Viceroy of India. Prince Louis was the great-uncle of Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, the Queen's consort.

12 July Sallie Norton comes.

July 12 Sallie Norton comes.

14 July Rud and Aunt Georgie come.

July 14 Aunt Georgie comes at 6 p.m. and Rud at 9.

15 July Rud reads Sallie his hymn called '**Recessional**', later reads to Aunt Georgie. Decides to polish it off and send it to The Times.

July 15 Rud reads Sallie his hymn called '**Recessional**', later reads to Aunt Georgie. Decides to polish it off and send it to The Times.

An amplification of this entry is to be found in CARRINGTON, pp.264-5; BIRKENHEAD, pp 184-188; and LYCETT, pp. 299-300

16 July Aunt Georgie and Sally take a fair copy up to town. **The Times** were delighted and will publish tomorrow.

July 16 Rud polishes and makes a clear copy of Hymn and Aunt Georgie and Sallie (Norton) take it up to town when they go in afternoon. Send by express messenger and we have a wire at 7.30 to say they are delighted and it will be printed tomorrow

17 July 'Times gives it a leader.'

July 17 The Times print the Hymn and give it part of a leader.

See Mary Hamer's notes on the poem in the New Readers' Guide on this site.

The poem itself was printed in the right hand side of the front page immediately below “THE QUEEN’S THANKS. Her Majesty’s Letter to her People.”

19 July [Sullivan writes to ask if he may set it to music.](#)'

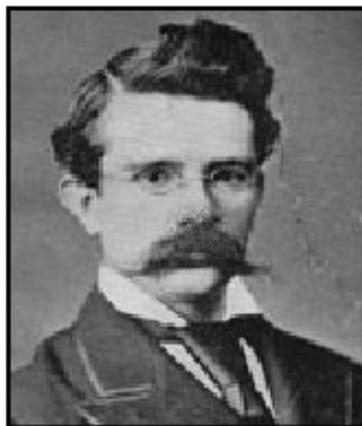
July 19 More letters of congratulation and a wire from Sir Arthur Sullivan to ask if he may set to music the hymn. (*Vide SHANKS pp. 100-103*)

Out member Brian Mattinson lists 69 different musical settings of this hymn, including Sullivan’s attempt – in the end he found it impossible to compose a tune to his satisfaction.

(**Note – Rees.** The Jubilee celebrations apparently started on June 21 but RK did not do any work for it – worthy of CK’s mention at any rate – till June 22, then drops it altogether for over three weeks, over a fortnight of which is spent on a cruiser during naval manoeuvres.)

21 July Mrs. Kipling for a visit. (*This was Rud’s mother Alice*)
The Wm. Blacks.

William Black was a novelist, Scottish by birth, who lived in Brighton. His work was very popular at this time, though he is scarcely remembered today. He had suffered, as had Kipling, Hardy, and Besant from the lack of copyright law in the USA, and along with the others had lobbied hard to get a law protecting foreign authors’ interests through Congress.



William Black

The first steps were taken with the 'International Copyright Act' of 1891 was passed 3 March 1891. In 1890, feeling that he was not getting adequate support from the other authors, Kipling had denounced them in "The Rhyme of the Three Captains."

(She has a bad time before John comes. Rud working at a 'Stalky' story and going to dentist!) Henley staying nearby.

'She' of course refers to Carrie. The 'Stalky' story was presumably 'In Ambush' (see 17 August).

July 21 Mrs. Kipling arrives for a little visit.

July 26 Rud goes up to town after lunch to dine with Eustace Balfour,

Eustace Balfour was an exceedingly well-connected architect, the brother of the future prime minister, Arthur Balfour.

Mrs. Kipling and I have a walk after dinner

The whole tone of Carrie's entries about her mother-in-law is much more accepting. She seems happy to be left alone with her.

July 27 (Mrs. Kipling) leaves 9.30. Rud returns at 11.35.

Aug. 3 Josephine and Miss Blogg leave at 9.15 for Tisbury. Little maid in good spirits but leaving a surly dreary mother behind.

Aug. 7 I re-invest money formerly in Coun (?) River stock in Newnes £1600 cost £1675.

George Newnes Ltd was a well-known publisher of popular magazines – not, perhaps, a blue-chip investment, but akin to investing in, say, Trinity Mirror in 2018.

Aug. 8 Mr. Beerbohm Tree calls at lunchtime to ask Rud to do a play for him. He stops to lunch. (Note. Tree played

Austin Limmason in *The Man Who Was* – vide (A) Kipling Dictionary page 128. No date shown.)

They had met Tree in Washington in 1895 – see our entry of 1 Apr. 1895.

?17 (Aug.) John born at 1.50am. Both well.

It is not clear why Carrington dated this entry thus in the 'Extracts'. John's birthday was indeed 17 August. John was the Kiplings' last child: he was killed at the battle of Loos in October 1915, but his body was never found. In 1992 a grave was identified as his, but the identification is doubtful.

Revised 'In Ambush'.

Nothing till 30Aug. Rud goes to Tisbury for 2 days.

'In Ambush' became Chapter 1 of Stalky and Co. but, insofar as there is any exact chronology in the tales, it was not the first – a later tale in Land and Sea Tales, entitled 'Stalky', was set before they had been promoted to No. 5 study.

Aug. 17 (in RK's writing) **The boy John is born at 1.30 a.m. of this day. C and he doing well. C quiet with no temperature. Dr. calls again at 9.a.m.**

Aug. 18 **Dr. calls and reports all well. This is the time of reaction but she is pulling through nobly. Inundation of letters, cables, p.c.s (post-cards) and advertisements.**

Aug. 19 **I think she is more cheerful than ever before and the boy John he says nuffin' and takes his vittals.**

John's name was settled before his birth: Kipling first-born males alternated between John and Joseph. It is not clear how the news spread to produce the "inundation" of correspondence on the day after his birth. No doubt Kipling had sent some 'wires' to family members but there was no report in The Times – nor could there have been before the 18th anyway.

The entry about saying “nuffin” and “vittals”, is taken from Joel Chandler Harris’s Uncle Remus – Kipling used the book and the language later in one of the ‘Stalky’ stories ‘The United Idolaters’

Aug. 27 Josephine returns.

Aug. 30 Rud goes to Tisbury.

Sep. 1 I saw my first visitor today, Mrs. Stanley Baldwin.

Cissie (Lucy) Baldwin was Kipling’s cousin Stan’s wife, whose parents lived opposite North End House.

Sep. 2 Rud returns from Tisbury.

3 Sep. Rud and Stan Baldwin foregather.

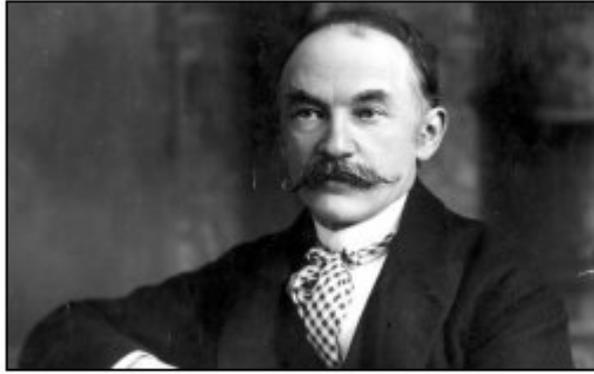
5 Sep. - do. -

Stanley Baldwin had married the daughter of the house at ‘The Dene’, opposite North End House, and visited frequently. In Something of Myself p. 137, Kipling writes of “packing farm-carts filled with mixed babies – Stanley Baldwin’s and ours – and despatching them into the safe clean heart of the motherly Downs for jam-smearred picnics”.

11 Sep Rud leaves for Dorchester, house-hunting.

Sep. 11 Rud leaves for Dorchester to hunt for our new home

He was helped by Thomas Hardy, whose own house was nearby.



Thomas Hardy

- 15 Sep Rud returns.
- Sep. 15** (returns)
- 16 Sep Daughter for the Stanley Baldwins.
- Sep. 17** Rud leaves in the afternoon for Hastings to hunt houses
- 18 Sep Rud finds a likely house near Hastings.
- Sep. 18** Rud returns in the evening having found a house he likes near Hastings.
- Sep. 20** Rud and Aunt Georgie leave for Hastings to explore Ockham Farm.

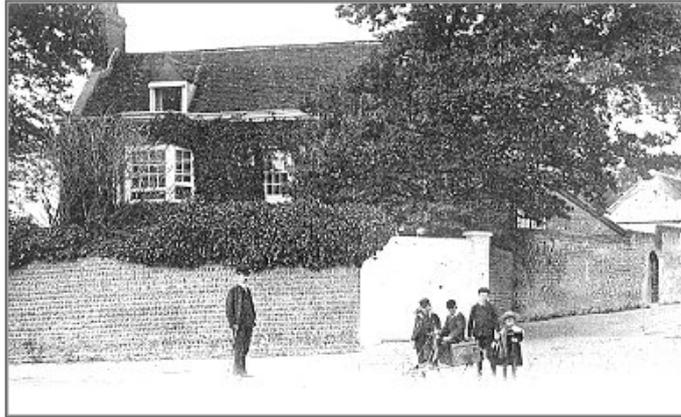
But negotiations fell through. Ockham Farm was at Ewhurst Green, about eight miles north of Hastings, quite near to Bodiam Castle.

We start to pack for our departure for our new home across the green, called 'The Elms'.

Until they found somewhere to buy, they were lucky enough to find a suitable house to rent in the village.

- Sep. 24** Rud and Aunt Georgie return. The moving is largely accomplished.
- 25 Sep We pay £3.30 a week for 'The Elms'.

'The Elms' was, in effect, right under their noses, being virtually next door, facing south across the village pond at Rottingdean. In today's decimal currency this is £3.15.



'The Elms' as it was in Kipling's day

R's Calendar Verses.

*These were verses for
An Almanac of Twelve
Sports, published by
Heinemann(W.H.), with
twelve woodcuts by (Sir)
William Nicholson.*

*LYCETT, pp. 308-9 describes
how Kipling and Nicholson met.
See also John Radcliffe's notes
on the collection in the New
Readers' Guide.*



Sep. 25 We move to 'The Elms' and have lunch there.

8 Oct. Letter from Uncle John. I send signed notes for one year's interest on BSB's Estate Advance.

This relates to affairs in Brattleboro.

Oct. 16 Rud and Uncle Ned have a long walk in the p.m. with Uncle Crom who has come down for Sunday. McMillans (*sic*) *Captains Courageous* and their first volume of the 1000 edition of the 'Outward Bound' come in. Both most successful as books.

The books which Carrie refers to are the author's copy of Captains Courageous and the first volume of the Macmillan 'Edition De Luxe'. This latter was added to over the years as later books were published, the print runs varying, but never exceeding 1050; hence Carrie's reference to '1000 edition'.

17 Oct J.M. Barrie, Uncle Crom and the Burne-Joneses with R. for a great walk.

Oct. 19 Pater comes from Brussels.

21 Oct. Rud reads stories to the Pater.
'A Little Prep'.

'A Little Prep' was another of the 'Stalky' tales.

Oct. 28 ((Pater) leaves).

9 Nov. Josephine swims 50 yards.

Nov. 9 Rud leaves in the a.m. for Tisbury to see Pater who is not very fit.

Nov. 12 Rud returns in the evening.

13 Nov. Mr. Cornford and Rud discuss a civil pension for W.E. Henley.

*Mr. Cornford was Leslie Cope Cornford, a journalist who had written for Henley's **National Observer**. See LYCETT p. 302.*



Leslie Cope Cornford

Henley was something of a grand old man of English literature at this time – though only 47 years old - and his output had not been especially distinguished. However, as an editor he had been responsible for nurturing the talents of a number of young writers – including Kipling.

He was a fine phrase-maker, and a glance at The Oxford Dictionary of Quotations reveals a number of Henley's lines which are still well-known: "My head is bloody but unbowed", and "I am the master of my fate: I am the captain of my soul" – both from his volume Echoes: and "I was a King in Babylon, and you were a Christian Slave", also from Echoes: and "What have I done for you, England, my England" from For England's Sake.



W. E. Henley

Henley's Echoes is not to be confused with the volume of that name by the young Kipling and his sister Trix)

17 Nov. Uncle Ned and RK put up Stanley Baldwin for the Athenaeum.

Nov. 17 John, Rud and I go up to town.

Nov. 20 We return home at 1.50.

24 Nov. G. Courthope comes to arrange for a W.E. Henley memorial (petition).

This was almost certainly George Loyd Courthope (1877-1955), from a well-connected 'county' family, and later Kipling's MP when he was living at Bateman's.

It is hard, nowadays, to appreciate how far British society before 1900 outside the cities was stratified on the basis of land ownership.



George Loyd Courthope

At the top were the great noble families, with vast estates, sitting in the House of Lords, and dominating many a Conservative government. Below them, across the green shires of England, came 'county' families who had often held their land for generations, intermarrying and socialising within a finely graded hierarchy. In "An Habitation Enforced", Kipling was to write later, with approval, of the Conants, a fictional 'county' family of Sussex who saw the local villagers as 'their people'. Courthope was a member of a 'county' family.

The memorial is mentioned in PINNEY, Letters, Vol. 2, pp. 317, 320 and 326-7. It was successful, and Henley received a 'Civil List' government pension of £225 p.a. (some £15,000 at 2014 prices).

Nov. 25 Rud goes to town at 2.45 to a dinner in honour of Sir Wm Gowers.

Sir William Gowers (1845-1915) was a noted clinical neurologist (he had been knighted in that Jubilee year)

Nov. 26 Rud comes back full of cold.

Nov. 27 He goes to town to dine with folk in honour of Sidney Low.

Nov. 28 I drive to Brighton to meet Rud. He does not come till the next train 1.40.

“I drive” suggests that the Kiplings had ‘set up their carriage’ in England, in much the same way as they had in Brattleboro, but there has been no previous mention of their having done so, nor of Carrie’s driving. But she may have hired a ‘self-drive’ vehicle from the local job-master.

20 Dec. R. does some verses on the latest insanity of the German Emperor.

Dec. 20 Rud does some verses on the latest insanity of the German Emperor.

Thanks to Mary Hamer, we can say with reasonable certainty that the reference is to an extremely bombastic speech made by the Kaiser at Kiel, on the occasion of the departure for the Far East of a German naval squadron, under the command of the Kaiser’s brother, Prince Henry, who was a professional naval officer in the German Navy. The Germans had obtained from the Chinese government a concession to occupy and govern the port and surrounding area of Tsingtau (now Qingdao) in northern China. The Times for 17 December 1897 reported a translation of the Kaiser’s words, and added a leader of which we have reproduced a part below. We consider that, although not a direct commentary on the ‘Extracts’, the leader would have been read by Kipling, and would have coloured his thoughts in composing his verses.

“Our Berlin correspondent reminds us this morning that the speeches delivered in the castle of Kiel on Wednesday night are not to be judged by English standards. Every

nation has its own conceptions of eloquence and good taste and, as our Correspondent observes, the language of German patriotism differs from that with which we are accustomed to express ourselves almost as much as English rhetoric differs from Chinese. This warning will certainly not be deemed superfluous by those of our readers who peruse our report of the astonishing effusions to which we refer.”

We are unable to identify any published verse which might refer to this incident. Given the tone of The Times' leader, it may well be that the verses turned into something too scurrilous for publication.

22 Dec. Trix comes for Xmas & Mrs. Kipling and Pater.
[I am full of labour and preparations.](#)

Dec. 22 Mr. and Mrs Kipling and Trix Fleming come for the Xmas holiday

This is the first mention in the 'Extracts' of Kipling's sister, 'Trix'. She had married John Fleming, a soldier, in India in 1888, and they had now come home.

Dec. 25 A good and happy Xmas. The children most joyful and delighted with the tree. Rud gives me a writing case for travelling and a ring of diamonds and pearls from John.

Dec. 28 Mr. & Mrs. Kipling and Trix leave by the morning bus.

The horse omnibus which connected Rottingdean and Brighton.

Full of comings and goings of cousinry and endless visits to the dentist - by all.

Post-script by RK

Here ends the 6th Vol. - In all ways the richest of the years to us two personally. 'She shall do him good and not evil all the days of her life'.

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

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