

1884 Diary of Sir Horace Curzon Plunkett (1854–1932)

Transcribed, annotated and indexed by Kate Targett. December 2012

NOTES

‘There was nothing wrong with my head, but only with my handwriting, which has often caused difficulties.’

Horace Plunkett, *Irish Homestead*, 30 July 1910

Conventions

In order to reflect the manuscript as completely and accurately as possible and to retain its original ‘flavour’, Plunkett’s spelling, punctuation, capitalisation and amendments have been reproduced unless otherwise indicated. The conventions adopted for transcription are outlined below.

1) Common titles (usually with an underscored superscript in the original) have been standardised with full stops: Archbp. (Archbishop), Bp. (Bishop), Capt./Capt’n., Col., Fr. (Father), Gen./Gen’l, Gov./Gov’r (Governor), Hon. (Honourable), Jr., Ld., Mr., Mrs., Mgr. (Monsignor), Dr., Prof./Prof’r., Rev’d.

2) Unclear words for which there is a ‘best guess’ are preceded by a query (e.g. ?battle) in transcription; alternative transcriptions are expressed as ?bond/band.

3) Illegible letters are represented, as nearly as possible, by hyphens (e.g. b----t)

4) Any query (?) that does not *immediately* precede a word appears in the original manuscript unless otherwise indicated.

5) Punctuation (or lack of)

- Commas have been inserted only to reduce ambiguity. ‘Best guess’ additions appear as [,].
- Apostrophes have been inserted in:
 - surnames beginning with O (e.g. O’Hara)
 - negative contractions (e.g. can’t, don’t, won’t, didn’t)
 - possessives, to clarify context (e.g. Adams’ house; Adam’s house). However, Plunkett commonly indicates the plural of surnames ending in ‘s’ by an apostrophe (e.g. Yeats’).
- Initials preceding names reflect the original as nearly as possible (e.g. TP Gill, T.P. Gill, T P Gill, T. P. Gill).
- Plunkett’s symbols for ‘about’, ‘therefore’ and the ‘long (double) s’ have been expanded.

6) Text in parentheses () is Plunkett’s; text in brackets [] is editorial.

7) Capitalisation, particularly of the letter C and common nouns, is inconsistent and has been retained if unambiguous.

8) Words crossed out in the original are usually reproduced in the transcript, as their frequency or content may indicate Plunkett’s thinking at the time.

9) Cd (could), wd (would), wh: (which) and Plunkett’s symbol for ‘about’ and ‘therefore’ have been expanded; the ‘long f’ (J) has been expanded to ‘ss’.

10) Approximate monetary equivalents were derived and adapted from Lawrence H. Officer and Samuel H. Williamson, “Five Ways to Compute the Relative Value of a UK Pound Amount, 1830 to Present”, and Samuel H. Williamson, “Seven Ways to Compute the Relative Value of a U.S. Dollar Amount, 1774 to Present”, www.measuringworth.com, 2011. The index used was the Gross Domestic Product Deflator, a measure of average prices covering a ‘bundle’ of all goods and services produced in an economy (making it broader than just the consumer goods in the Retail Price Index). Figures

rounded to the nearest £ or \$. See website for alternative and more detailed measures of relative worth.

Although great care has been taken to ensure accuracy, some misinterpretations will inevitably have occurred in transcription. For clarification, readers are advised to consult microfilm copies of the diaries available in several libraries.

Correspondence

The diaries are associated with, and cross-referenced to, an alphabetical indexed collection of nearly 4000 items of correspondence donated to the Plunkett Foundation in the years following Sir Horace's death.

- Letters with an identifiable date are noted beside the diary entry for the corresponding day. Letters attributable to only a particular year or month are indicated at the beginning of the relevant section.
- Letters sent by Plunkett appear in Roman type, alphabetically by addressee (e.g. To Balfour, Arthur); letters received by Plunkett appear in italics, alphabetically by sender (e.g. *Fr Balfour, Arthur*).
- Letters between correspondents other than Plunkett appear in parenthesis and are filed with the letters of the first-named correspondent: (*Fr Balfour, Arthur to House, E.M.*).
- If, for some reason, a letter between two correspondents is filed with neither recipient nor sender, the file location is indicated: (*Fr Anderson, R.A. [BAL]*).

For additional holdings, see <http://www.nra.nationalarchives.gov.uk/nra/searches/> (National Register of Archives) and Archives in 'Plunkett, Sir Horace Curzon (1854–1932)', Bull, P., *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* (Oxford University Press) 2006.

Abbreviations

1) Frequently occurring abbreviations and contractions:

Names

Æ	George William Russell	JGB	John George Butcher
AJB	Arthur James Balfour	KW	Karl Walter
EVL	Ernest V. Longworth	Lady B	Lady Elizabeth (Betty) Balfour
F / Fs	Fingall / Fingalls	LI.G.	David Lloyd George
GBS	George Bernard Shaw	RAA	Robert Andrew Anderson
GH	Gerald Heard	SHB	Samuel Henry Butcher
GWB	Gerald William Balfour		

Organisations

AAOS	American Agricultural Organisation Society	IH	<i>Irish Homestead</i>
AOS	Agricultural Organisation Society	IS	<i>Irish Statesman</i>
AOS & SHL	Allotments Organisations Society and Small Holders Ltd.	IIA	Irish Industries Association
BB Co	Berthon Boat Company	IRA	Irish Reconstruction Ass'n./ Irish Republican Army (depending on context)
CDB	Congested Districts Board	IUA	Irish Unionist Alliance
CWS	Co-operative Wholesale Society	K St Club/K.S.C.	Kildare Street Club
DATI	Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction	NAOS	National Agricultural Organization Society
FO	Foreign Office	NFU	National Farmers Union
H of C	House of Commons	RDS	Royal Dublin Society
HPF	Horace Plunkett Foundation	RIC	Royal Irish Constabulary
IAOS	Irish Agricultural Organisation Society	TCD	Trinity College, Dublin
IAWS	Irish Agricultural Wholesale Society	UAOS	Ulster Agricultural Organisation Society
ICAS	Irish Co-operative Agency Society	UI	United Irishwomen
IDL	Irish Dominion League	UP	Union Pacific
		Wyo Dev Co	Wyoming Development
		WO	War Office

General

&c	etcetera (etc.)	Gt	Great
a/c a/cs	account/s	HR	Home Rule
ADC	aide-de-camp	Inst/Inst:/Inst'n	Instruction
agricl / agric'l	agricultural	I.Q.	Irish Question
ag / agric're	agriculture	legisl'n	legislation
Amer'n	American	Ltd.	Limited
ass'n / assoc'n	association	moted	motored
ass't	assistant	MP	Member of Parliament
betw'n	between	Mov't	movement
bd	board	Nat / Nat'l	National
CC (by context)	Catholic curate	Nat's	Nationalists
	Cricket Club	o'c	o'clock
	County Councillor	Parl / Parl't	Parliament
Ch: Sec	Chief Secretary	parl'y	parliamentary
coll / coll:	college	PP	parish priest
co / co.	company or county	Powder R	Powder River
com'n/comm'n	commission	Pres't	President
Conv'n/Conv'tn	Convention	Prot	Protestant
coop/coop:	co-operative	Qn	Question
coop'n	co-operation	RC	Roman Catholic
ct'e/c'tee/c'tte/ com'tee	committee	Rel'n / Rel'ns	Relation/s
DD	Doctor of Divinity	RR	Railroad
dep't	department	R'y	Railway
Do / do	ditto	Sec / Sec'y	Secretary
ed'n / educ'n	education	Soc'y	Society
Eng'd	England	SS	steamship
Ex / Exs	Excellency/ Excellencies (usu. Lord Lieutenant)	TD	Teachtai Delai (representatives in lower house of Dail)
exhib'n	exhibition	Tech/Tech:/Tec'l	technical
gen'l	general		
gov't	government		

N.B. The apostrophe in a contraction usually indicates that in Plunkett's handwriting the word ended with underscored superscript letters (e.g. Parl^x is transcribed as Parl'y).

2) Less frequent or ambiguous contractions are expanded in brackets for clarity and easier reading (e.g. rec[eive]d, originally handwritten "rec^d"). If the same usage occurs in close proximity, the expanded version is generally not repeated.

1884

Events:

Jun – Dynamite campaign in Great Britain; Thomas Clarke and three others sentenced to life imprisonment

Oct – Brother-in-law Chambré ('Chum') Ponsonby dies, leaving HP guardian of his sister Mary's four children

1 Nov – Gaelic Athletic Association founded

1 Dec – Bill to redistribute parliamentary seats introduced by Gladstone

6 Dec – Franchise Act gives vote to householders; immense increase in Irish rural electorate

Government:

Prime Minister: William Gladstone (Liberal)

Chief Secretary: Sir George Trevelyan (to 23 Oct), Henry Campbell-Bannerman

Lord Lieutenant: John Poyntz Spencer

Approximate monetary equivalents (2010): £1= £109 ; \$1 = \$22

Correspondence [Notes]	1884	Diary Entry
	1 Jan, Tue	Business in Dublin all day. Went over by night mail. Met on board Lord Mowbray & Stourton & had a long talk about Killeen family in which we were both much interested. His views of their future are very gloomy – Fingall socially & financially hopeless. The girls matrimonially bound to be unlucky. Lord Spencer crossed over watched over by detectives at every step.
	2 Jan, Wed	Arrived at 7 Grosvenor Place. Met Johnny who expressed himself determined to try & do something for the revival of the family. In the evening Pater & Mary arrived. Both showed signs of the deep sorrow which had been before their eyes. Pater looked, however, less worn than I had expected.
	3 Jan, Thu	Much business to talk over with Pater & on the whole I find it better for him to keep his mind distracted than to allow him to brood over his sorrow. In business matters it is evident that he is no longer as clear as he was and indeed that he will not be able to conduct his own many concerns much longer. Whether he & Johnny can work them together I cannot say. Johnny is no man of business. If they do not work together there is nothing for it but for me to give up my American affairs and take up the family affairs.
	4 Jan, Fri	Though poor Randal did not leave any will he left an expression of his wishes which Pater will carry out. All today we went over his things and did our best to find a letter he left for Julia Ducie. It is not found yet. It is sad work unpacking the property of the departed. So much touching history & character written in little possessions & displayed in little tastes. Mary, Conny, Raymond, Buller & I met at 71 Chester Sq. to talk over R[andal]'s finances &c.
	5 Jan, Sat	[No entry]
	6 Jan, Sun	Called on Moreton Frewen & found him excited over an agitation to get the restrictions on Store cattle removed. Chum arrived from Ireland.
	7 Jan, Mon	[No entry]
	8 Jan, Tue	[No entry]

Correspondence [Notes]	1884	Diary Entry
	9 Jan, Wed	Breakfasted with Dick Frewen & talked Ranche matters.
	10 Jan, Thu	Breakfasted Wm. Martin at British Hotel, Jermyn St. Johnny, Chum & I had a conference over Johnny's patent with his Traveller & Engineer. The latter appeared to be a worthless fellow & unfortunately part of the patent is secured in his name. However with some inconvenience he can be dispensed with & the business can proceed.
	11 Jan, Fri	Letter from Coleridge finally deciding not to join me in America. It's no use getting him against his will & so I shall stop trying to draw him.
	12 Jan, Sat	[No entry]
	13 Jan, Sun	Spent day with Johnny & family at Melbury Lodge, Kingston Hill. Family all well, children blooming. Had a long talk with Ernle & did all I could to try and persuade her to back up Johnny in an attempt to take their place as the future heads of the family. Johnny looked in better health than for years past. He came with me to London.
	14 Jan, Mon – 16 Jan, Wed	[No entry]
	17 Jan, Thu	Pater & I went to Down Lodge chiefly to look for a letter left for Julia Ducie by poor Randal. We did not find it. Castletown & Denis Lawless dined with me at St. James' Club.
	18 Jan, Fri	Went to City with Denis Lawless to try & find out whether we could go into the tile business with Bulwer in Brooklyn on a Limited Liability basis. Paid our solicitor 10/- & for gratuitous opinions from others. In all cases nothing was known though some knew people who ought to know in America.
	19 Jan, Sat	[No entry]
[?William Page-Roberts, dean of Salisbury]	20 Jan, Sun	Pater & I heard an excellent sermon from Page Roberts.
	21 Jan, Mon	[No entry]
	22 Jan, Tue	James Pender dined with me at St. James Club & we talked America. Denis Lawless & I are working up the Bulwer tile factory & I should not wonder if we invested heavily in it before long. D. is thoroughly bitten with its prospects.
	23 Jan, Wed – 25 Jan Fri	[No entry]
	26 Jan, Sat	Dined with Herbert Magniac, his sister, Vesey Dawson & 2 others at New Club (late Evans').
	27 Jan, Sun – 29 Jan, Tue	[No entry]
	30 Jan, Wed	Charles Martin, Denis Lawless, Boughton dined with me at St. James Club.
	31 Jan, Thu	Went with Berthon to inspect works of Berthon Boat Co. Got let in for Conservative working man's club dinner & speech in answer to toast of visitors.

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		In morning met young Bulwer & old Bulwer at D. Lawless's lodgings. Settled finally to go in if Denis L. reported favorably.
(Fr Frewen, Moreton to "Fred" [?Hesse])	1 Feb, Fri	Inspected Berthon Boat Co's works. General economy & division of labour apparently good. No finance ability – no discretion in determining selling price &c. No head of the finance department – a/cs kept by a London secretary who takes no part in management.
	2 Feb, Sat – 5 Feb, Tue	[No entry]
[query in original]	6 Feb, Wed	Herbert Magniac, ? Ames, Denis & Fred Lawless dined with me at St. James. Finally settled up the Tile Co's affairs.
	7 Feb, Thu	Denis Lawless & Otway Cuffe sailed in City of Chicago for New York. Sat with poor Lady Verney. She is a martyr to arthritis & completely crippled. Her intellect is as clear as ever & she is as delightful to talk to as ever. I had only seen her once before since her kindness to me when I was so weak & miserable that bitter winter some 16 years ago.
	8 Feb, Fri – 13 Feb, Wed	[No entry]
	14 Feb, Thu	Johnny had an epileptiform fit, & wrote in very low spirits about it. He has no doubt much injured a naturally robust constitution by "nipping" and physic. However having abandoned the former folly & reduced the latter we may hope he will recover his natural health & strength.
	15 Feb, Fri	Dined & slept at Johnny's. Found him rather unhappy about his condition which may or may not be serious. His minute study of symptoms & constant expectancy of new diseases doubtless makes it hard for his abused constitution to mend.
[James W. Barclay]	16 Feb, Sat	Dined with W [sic] Barclay M.P. for Forfarshire. Met W Cross, a high government official. Rest of company uninteresting.
	17 Feb, Sun	Called Barclay, Ld. Moreton, Mrs. Gaskell, Ulick Burke. Left London by night mail.
	18 Feb, Mon	Arrived early at K St. Club. Met Bulwer father & son in Dublin & went to Dunsany where I found dear old Smith with everything as comfortable as if the house had been inhabited for years. She was in high spirits & quite enlivened my own which are apt to be "damped" in this old ruin full of associations.
	19 Feb, Tue	Business at Dunsany.
	20 Feb, Wed	Hunted Nebuchadnezzar with Wards at Drumree. Wet stormy day & poor sport. Horse has got very clever & safe & is withal brilliant.
	21 Feb, Thu	[No entry]
	22 Feb, Fri	Hunted Tripod with Meaths. Good run from Warrenstown. Was very sick with bilious attack.

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	23 Feb, Sat	Dublin by morning train & Castlemartin in evening. Had caught a chill & had to go to bed from dinner-table. Had a hot punch to sleep on & it did wonders. Bought (through Coleridge) bay gelding for £100.
	24 Feb, Sun	Feeling weak & sick, but delighted not to be alone at Dunsany – moping. Arranged with Willie to modify present conditions of my agency for him in America. Part of the money to be lent to me at 8 P.C. I am to think the matter over & make a proposal.
	25 Feb, Mon	Left Castlemartin & went to Dunsany.
	26 Feb, Tue	Hounds at Kilmessan. Rode Tripod & Nebuchadnezzar. Poor sport. Dunsany blank. Lunch in Castle much appreciated. Dined the Grange.
	27 Feb, Wed (Ash)	Dined Swainston
	28 Feb, Thu	[No entry]
	29 Feb, Fri	Hunted with Meaths Bellinter. Rode Leonard's "Wiseacre". Bad day.
	1 Mar, Sat	Rode Nebuchadnezzar good run with Meaths from Trimleston to Rathmore. Got telegram from Denis, "All legal difficulties overcome. Wynne very satisfactory, Ivery satisfactory. Foreign Co cannot be excessively taxed."
	2 Mar, Sun	Church Kilmessan. No other excitement.
	3 Mar, Mon	[No entry]
	4 Mar, Tue	Hunted at Hayes Cross Road. Two brilliant runs in second of which Alexis Roche killed his best horse. First run I saw on Tripod. It was from Harristown to Dowdstown.
	5 Mar, Wed	Rode young horse with Wards at Batterstown. Horse kicked & was very unmanageable. Bad run, no sport.
	6 Mar, Thu	Went to Rahinston where I met Stephen Frewen.
	7 Mar, Fri	Hunted Nebuchadnezzar, bad day with Meaths at Rahinston.
	8 Mar, Sat	Returned Dunsany with Stephen Frewen. Conny & Raymond arrived by 12.30 train. Johnny by morning train. Latter brought 2 high scented mastiffs.
	9 Mar, Sun	Alexis Roche arrived.
	10 Mar, Mon	Old Briscoe dined. Johnny had a fit – not serious – but alarming at the time.
	11 Mar, Tue	Mounted Raymond on Tripod, Alexis on young horse, self on Nebuchadnezzar. Hunted with Meaths at Batterstown. Bad day.
	12 Mar, Wed	I hunted with Wards. Rode Leonard's "Wiseacre". Country unrideable with wet.
	13 Mar, Thu	[No entry]

Correspondence [Notes]	1884	Diary Entry
	14 Mar, Fri	Stephen Frewen left after a hunt at Lismullin in which Alexis rode Nebuchadnezzar & G Briscoe mounted me. Two nice gallops.
	15 Mar, Sat	I rode T. Leonard's Wiseacre with Wards. Tremendous crowd & indifferent sport.
	16 Mar, Sun	Johnny, Alexis & I drove over to Rahinston to see (smell?) the silo. They were cordial & pleasant to us.
	17 Mar, Mon	Alexis left. I went to Dublin to see B & O & get hair cut. Johnny & I went to Warrenstown to superintend a football match betw'n Warrenstown & Kilmessan. I "kicked". My own feelings are much in favor of the rich assisting in the amusements of the poor with money & thought. I hope I shall do much to organise amusements for the poor when I am less tied.
	18 Mar, Tue	Hunted with Meaths, Bective. Rode old Tripod for last time. She fenced splendidly & by keeping inside track showed me a good deal of a brilliant gallop from Trimleston. Denis Lawless arrived from America.
	19 Mar, Wed	Attended Petty Sessions. Hunted with Wards, Dunshaughlin. Rode Coleridge's horse which I shall probably buy. Got a fall early & missed nearly whole run.
	20 Mar, Thu	Went to Dublin evening train to meet Denis Lawless who had just returned from America. Johnny dined with Murphy.
	21 Mar, Fri	Returned from Dublin. Rode Nebuchadnezzar with Meaths hounds at Summerhill. Poor day.
	22 Mar, Sat	Dined & slept Dublin, Sackville St. Club, with Maxwell father & son. Spent day with Denis Lawless & the Bulwers. We had to break to Old B. that his son was perfectly useless & had better stay at home. Denis did it with the most gentlemanly tact.
	23 Mar, Sun	Church at Kilmessan. Coleridge & James Thunder lunched. Coleridge spent the afternoon. I tried again to tempt C. to come to the Rockies. But he does not like to take risks so late in his young life.
	24 Mar, Mon	Hunted "Wiseacre" with Wards. Nice run from Rathbeggan to Ashbourne. Killeen party & Murphy dined. James Cullen came & had a long talk in the morning. We have agreed to change the system thus. (1) Land not to be so heavily stocked (2) as many cattle as possible got off without much use of cake (3) some young cattle to be placed on lightest lands.
	25 Mar, Tue	Hunted new horse bought from Coleridge for £105 with Meaths at Garton Cross. Poor day.
	26 Mar, Wed	Hunted with Wards at Drumree. Rode Nebuchadnezzar & had a very good day's sport. This ends my hunting for the season /83 /84. It has not been a very brilliant one & I have, owing to poor Randal's death, only had 32 hunts. My nerve has not been good & I have ridden badly. But I hope next year to be more fit & get more enjoyment out of it.
	27 Mar, Thu	Business at Dunsany all day. Dined at Bellinter. Asked young Reichel who ?couldn't visit us.
	28 Mar, Fri	Johnny & I dined at Killeen. Saw more & liked less of Henrietta's

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		choice. I accepted trusteeship for Henrietta at Fingall's request.
	29 Mar, Sat	After packing up & goodbyes left by 4.26 train for Dublin. Johnny to leave on Monday.
	30 Mar, Sun	Went with Old Bulwer to Castlemartin where Denis, B & I had a confab on the tiles. Old B. went home again.
	31 Mar, Mon	Willie Blacker & I galloped about the Curragh from early morn, breakfasting with the Rifle Brigade. A review was going on & we saw a certain amount of what appeared very tame manoeuvring.
	1 Apr, Tue	After a gallop before breakfast on the Curragh I took train for Dublin. Spent afternoon & evening in chess. Slept at K St. Club.
	2 Apr, Wed	Went by 1 o'clock train to Gowran Grange where I met the Droghedas, Kildares, Denis Lawless & one Jenkins. Also the Eddy Lawlesses. The new Lady Kildare is very nice, pretty in face & figure & altogether too good for her husband, who is very insipid to say the least.
	3 Apr, Thu	Went to Kildare Red Coat Races. Day fine. Usual cheery Kildare people. Tom de Burgh rode – the Baron mare first in light weights, Willie Blacker won heavy weights with his own Kilbride. Said a good many goodbyes & went off to catch night mail for London. Met old Bulwer at K St. Club en route & talked more tiles.
	4 Apr, Fri	Arrived 7 Gros[venor]. Pl[ace] for breakfast. Lunched Moreton Frewen. Dined in the Wm. Lowthers. Pater looks in best health & good for 15 years more. Had a long talk with Old Ivery which disclosed an apprehension on his part that Denis, Otway Cuffe & I were all plotting with Old Bulwer against the Iverys.
	5 Apr, Sat	Went in morning to see Harold Lowther & his intended partner. Called on Lady Athlumney. Alexis, Boughton, Booth – I lunched together & decided that at a good figure we would at any time sell the EK, E2 herd.
	6 Apr, Sun	Dined Lord & Lady Wharncliffe. He is Deputy Chairman Powder R. Cattle Co. & knew about as much of the business as most English Directors.
	7 Apr, Mon	Eat & drank too much last night. Felt very "seasicky" all day. Took ticket for play with A Roche & Booth & didn't go.
	8 Apr, Tue	Quick business day.
	9 Apr, Wed	[No entry]
	10 Apr, Thu	[No entry]
	11 Apr, Fri	Drove in afternoon to see Johnny & Ernle. Found them getting on apparently well with each other. Poor E. has had very bad health lately & that always makes things go a little roughly. Lately there has been some disagreement. But on the whole they are getting to understand each other.
	12 Apr, Sat	Poor Sir Harrey [sic] Verney has congestion of the lungs, aged 83! He must have wonderful vitality. Andrew Clarke says that

Correspondence [Notes]	1884	Diary Entry
		while the disease progresses in one lung, the other is progressing favorably. Letter from WH Wyndham-Quin asking me to take out his brother to the West.
	13 Apr, Sun [Easter]	[No entry]
	14 Apr, Mon	Saw young Wyndham-Quin & agreed to do what I could for him out west. Wrote his brother that I would take no responsibility at all & would take no trouble with him if he did not appear to be the right sort. Fred Verney called & as secretary to the Siamese Legation offered me post of Commissioner-General of Education. My duties would be to visit the capitals of Europe where young picked Siamese are being highly educated in hopes of civilising Siam.
	15 Apr, Tue	John McCook of Alexander & Green Sol[icitor]s, New York dined with me at St. James. Intelligent Yankee. He is adviser to the Tiles.
Fr Frewen, Moreton (Fr Frewen, Moreton to Fred [?Hesse])	16 Apr, Wed	Lane (Sturgis & Lane) turned up in London. I had a cheery Western talk with him. He reports everything flourishing. Spent day saying goodbyes including Dentist in valedictory visits. Finally left Pater in good health, fair spirits & please God – with 10 years in him yet. The time must come but I try not to anticipate it. It may fall on him by my death. Who knows.
	17 Apr, Thu	Arrived L[iver]pool. Wrote Leonard I consider horse Ranche sound spec[ulation]. Will return money in reasonable time with 7½ % int[erest], or will hold it at 7½. Went on board S.S. Celtic. Got large cabin with Boughton on upper deck, & look forward to healthy and pleasant voyage.
	18 Apr, Fri	Had 8 hours' delay at Queenstown. Went to Cork & returned by mail to ship. Old Bulwer came on board at Queenstown.
	19 Apr, Sat	301
	20 Apr, Sun	348
	21 Apr, Mon	343
	22 Apr, Tue	354
	23 Apr, Wed	363
	24 Apr, Thu	356
	25 Apr, Fri	342
	26 Apr, Sat	346 – leaving 120 to Sandy Hook. Most delightful passage. No rough weather. Played lots of Chess. Had regular chess tournaments in our cabin. Captain, doctor, Boughton, Bulwer & others. One German played well. Could only just beat him. Pilot brought on Papers. News not exciting except that Egyptian mess seems getting worse than ever. All sorts of proposals to relieve Gordon. European concert to be sought to unravel the Egyptian mess.
	27 Apr, Sun	Landed early. Went through the usual ordeal at the customs rather less uncomfortably than usual. Came to Brevoort Hotel. Saw

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		Cuffe, C.W. Wynne. Former looked very seedy. S.S. Oregon has just crossed the Atlantic (to N.Y.) in 6 days, 7 hrs. Made 472 one 24 hours! This seems impossible but my figures are right. Cuffe & Wynne dined with Boughton & me.
	28 Apr, Mon	Visited International Tile Co. Found it a large concern. Some 50 hands employed. Much machinery & much skilled labour. The managers Ivery & Wynne not first rate. Ivery a sanguine conceited energetic goahead bustling practical man. Wynne a fairly shrewd, very hardworking rather unmethodical selftaught businessman. Both, especially the latter I hope, capable of profiting by the lesson they have learnt by threatened insolvency. The demand for tiles in America is unlimited. But the I.T. Co. have not yet mastered the question of production on a large scale. Spent day enquiring into the business.
	29 Apr, Tue	Another day at the Tiles. Finally agreed upon terms on which new company should be formed. Dined with C. Alexander of Alexander & Green solicitors to the future Tile Co.
	30 Apr, Wed	Tiles
	1 May, Thu	Tiles. Final settlement with late partners. Some difficulties arose in which Ivery did not appear to great advantage. But I think he is an honest man with rather a blunt sense of honour in ?small dealings.
	2 May, Fri	Tiles. Boughton & I called on Mrs. Lane & then took evening train Pennsylvania RR to Chicago.
	3 May, Sat	[No entry]
	4 May, Sun	Arrived Chicago & took a 24 hours rest in that very uninteresting city.
[Chicago Burlington & Quincy]	5 May, Mon	Left Chicago by 12.30 on C.B.&Q. Line
	6 May, Tue	[No entry]
	7 May, Wed	Arrived Cheyenne. Found Gilchrist waiting to talk business & got into the whirl of it at once. On the whole my ventures look good except the Electric Light which is to be superseded I fear by gas. Cattle prospects good though I am inclined to think the Powder River range is getting too crowded to be safe.
[Naboth's vineyard – Old Testament, 1 Kings, 21-2; highly desired property]	8 May, Thu	Went to Gilchrist's ranch to brand some bulls for the WP outfit. In the morning in conjunction with Gilchrist I bought 40,000 acres of railroad land near the Wyo Development works for 1.00 an acre in alternate sections. It joins a small ranch we had previously bought 2/3 interest in. Chief merit – its being a Naboth's Vineyard to the great Swan Co.
[casus belli – act provoking or justifying war]	9 May, Fri	Returned to Cheyenne & worked hard at a/cs &c. I fear there is trouble at the EK Ranche. Report says Jack Donahue is breaking loose & getting insubordinate. He has hired one of the worst thieves in the country, which is I fear a casus belli.

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	10 May, Sat	Alexis, Booth & Maxwell arrived. Business.
	11 May, Sun	[No entry]
	12 May, Mon	Gilchrist & I decided to let Boughton join us in adding 95,000 acres of land to our purchase of RR land. Formed the Ione Land & Cattle Co. Capital \$2,000,000. Of course this capital is not yet subscribed, it is only a form to enable us to sell our property or an interest in it without retaining partnership liabilities.
	13 May, Tue	Went with Winn to Hi Kelly's to receive 100 bulls contracted for last Fall. Bought on the honour of Hi Kelly who was good for his word heretofore. But unfortunately he has sold out his house & ranche to Swan Land & Cattle Co. & so didn't care to be too honest. Boughton left for Mandan.
	14 May, Wed	Returned to Cheyenne in the stage. Halfway was picked up by Government ambulance in charge of Major Lord. We simply flew along. The little covered wagon bumped up & down like a kettle on a dog's tail. At Camp Carlin we had to go in [&] take a glass of whiskey with "Mrs. Lord & the ladies". She asked me whether it was usual for Ladies "to drink whiskey in England with the gentlemen".
	15 May, Thu	Found that the deal with the Union Pacific had gone through and that Gilchrist, Boughton & I were in possession of 135,000 acres of land at 1.00 an acre, payable in 10 yearly instalments, interest 6%.
	16 May, Fri	Ione Land & Cattle Co. having been duly registered in the counties of Laramie & Albany the secret was out & much chaff & curiosity beset me.
	17 May, Sat	Business. John Chaplin, a Scotchman – a friend of Gilchrist's who had been clerk on the geological survey at Denver came as book keeper for the Wyo Dev't Co. I also employed him having satisfied myself that he had an honest & trustworthy face.
	18 May, Sun	Gilchrist went to Omaha to fight the U.P. & try & bring them to keep their engagement.
	19 May, Mon	Rec[eive]d telegram from U.P. that they would observe arrangements.
	20 May, Tue	Gilchrist returned.
	21 May, Wed	Business in Cheyenne. Gilchrist & Nettleton went to Ditch.
	22 May, Thu	Maxwell went to Ditch. He has on my advice purchased a half interest in the Wyo Dev Co with Gilchrist. He only pays Gilchrist interest on half his former assessments & then comes in on the ground floor. I think very highly of the Irrigation enterprise & think I have put Maxwell in for a good thing.
	23 May, Fri	A circus in Cheyenne. Usual pomp & circumstance in the advertising & procession – and usual miserable sequel in their tents. Entrance 1.00 which all classes seemed to pay without demur.
	24 May, Sat	Started from Cheyenne in Peters' buggy & got as far as Bards. We started up country a merry party. M. Frewen freighting F. Bennett [sic]. Blair taking Boughton, Colonel Pratt and a real live

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[?FAK Bennet]		general. 4 buggies in all. We looked forward to a trip, pleasurable weather permitting. 31 miles.
	25 May, Sun	Nooned at Hi Kelly's. At Hunton's I had a horse – my old one-eyed sorrel which I rode on with the buggies to Hank's, 12 miles short of Fort Laramie. We had to go to F.L. because the upper bridge had done what it has threatened to do for 3 years & gone down stream. Colonel Pratt & the general stayed at Hunton's declaring the place too hot & prophesying all manner of calamities as the consequence of our impetuosity. 50 miles.
[cf Pollett at 25 May 85] [ex parte – uncontested opinion of one person]	26 May, Mon	Fort Laramie about 9 A.M. There we held a council of war as to whether we will take the route north of the Platte or come back to the Cheyenne & Fetterman road. Latter much best road & none of us know the other. But was La Bonté fordable. One Pollard who owns the hotel at La Bonté met us at Ft Laramie. He declared that we could ford the stream. So we took his exparte statement & made Cottonwood. 40 miles.
	27 May, Tue	Cottonwood to La Bonté 36 miles. En route we had a horrible hail & rain storm. I was in Blair's buggy & kept fairly dry though we had to get out & hold the horses at the worst. What will La Bonté be like? We began to wish we had gone north of Platte.
	28 May, Wed	Started in afternoon. Got across La Bonté dry. Stream just not swimming. West to Fetterman in another storm. Party broke up, Peters & Blair laying off in camp 12 miles S of Fetterman.
	29 May, Thu	Made Brown Springs with Frewen. Had another drenching rain storm from the North. Never saw so much rain in 3 days. But the slickers & Chaps of the country keep a man dry or fairly so in the saddle. All along the road I have had comfortable beds. I started with a sore throat & cough & had I not slept well should have been bad enough.
	30 May, Fri	Heard that the other buggies had gone by Andrews' ranche. Went there & found them. Talked over with Willie Peters the idea of forming a strong cattle co. with Blair's, Windsor & Coble's, Peters & Alston & our cattle.
	31 May, Sat	Got to 17 Mile Ranche. Sounded Blair about new company. Liked B. very much. He is the very best type of pure business man. He has no ideas outside business but inside that little sphere he carries a broad honour which is too rare in this Western Hemisphere.
	1 Jun, Sun	Got to Frewen's Home Ranche where we found the Round up. The evening was gloriously fine & the whole camp some 100 strong was camped on an unfordable river. They were passing the time racing and playing cards &c. The mountains are gloriously white which means a certain amount of natatorial misery for a month or so. My happiness temporarily checked by the news that Mary Plunkett is to be Lady Mary Murphy. What a case of pearls & swine!

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	2 Jun, Mon	Spent day at Frewen's Home Ranch. Round up, stile racing &c. No chance of moving from the look of things for some days.
	3 Jun, Tue	Came with Jack Donahue to Home Rancho. Found everything that hadn't been stolen in a state of filth. One Jennings & his wife are in possession. She is a dull apparently sulky woman who does not seem to be on for doing any work. There is however next to nothing to eat. Possibly when we feed her she will work. Old Pete had given notice. But I have persuaded him to hang on a while. When the Co. is formed he will be useful.
[Maverick Law – under which stray calves from roundups were sold by Wyoming Stock Growers Association]	4 Jun, Wed	Went down to Home Rancho to buy mavericks under the new Maverick Law. The Round up had only worked 2 or 3 days & most of the cattle had been too weak to be worked. Hence only 14 mavericks were for sale. I bid \$10.00 a head for the EK outfit & bought them. Did accounts with Jack and returned.
	5 Jun, Thu	Have a nasty sore throat – now without cough or cold. Spent day at a/cs (NH chiefly). There is a report that the Shoshone Indians are breaking out in the Nowood country. The mountains have been so covered with snow that news is scarce & scattered. Report says 500 have left Indian reservation where no doubt they are starving and are “caching” their squaws. They passed a round up on Nowood while beef was being killed & did not ask for their usual 5th portion. An Arapahoe buck came here today to beg. I had a long talk in sign language & he told me that there were lots of Indians over the mountains. That the Arapahoes were killing buffalo, the Shoshones cattle. He saw them kill 2 of Jim Winn's cattle – skin them & run away. I think this was true as he described the brand on the cattle. But then the Arapahoes & Shoshones hate each other.
[Streatfeild]	6 Jun, Fri	Rode over N.H. Range with Boughton. It is rather smaller & less valuable than I had thought. Jim Winn & Oswald Streatfield [sic] came here & slept. I decided to postpone my trip over the m[oun]t[ain]s till next week as there is a good deal to do here & the streams will in the meanwhile be subsiding. Heard from Gilchrist that he had sold Swan 50,000 acres of the Lone L[and] & C[attle] Co's land at a profit of 50¢ an acre. He hopes to sell the rest.
[“Stretty” – Streatfeild]	7 Jun, Sat	A Deluge nearly washed away our garden. We rushed out & diverted the water every way we could & not much damage was done. Winn & “Stretty” lost their way betw'n here & Peters' & came back.
	8 Jun, Sun	Piloted Winn & Stretty on to the Sioux trail & then went with Booth to the Round up – this camped at the K.C. Rancho. Slept at Frewen's where we met Blair & Pratt. M.F. talked wildly about range policy & disgusted the two Americans. He gave us the figures by which he established the vast profits of importation of stores to England. He had mixed up the gross stone, 14 lbs, & the dead stone, 8 lb, & so forth with other statistics. What a man he is!
	9 Jun, Mon	Blair & Pratt came to the Red Rancho with Alexis & self. We showed Blair our pasture & did all we could to talk him into joining the proposed Co. If petty jealousies don't prevent its coming off we shall have the most honestly stocked company in

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[John 10:13 The hireling fleeth, because he is an hireling, and careth not for the sheep.]		America. Weather getting gradually warm. But rivers still very high & storms not over. Have to cross the mountains. Report says Indians are liable to break out any moment. Must go as I am paid to look after the cattle on the other side, & can't flee like the biblical hireling.
	10 Jun, Tue	I went over to Peters & Alston's where I joined Winn & Streatfield [sic].
	11 Jun, Wed	Intended to cross the mountains. But a heavy rainstorm made it almost impracticable & we, Winn, Streatfield [sic] & I, only got to the NH ranche. Was not sorry to lay over as the round up was there.
	12 Jun, Thu	We crossed the mountains & had a cold wet day for our journey. Lots of snow still unmelted at 8000 feet elevation. Camped at Winn's Home ranche which had no roof on it as yet. It has little indeed but a lovely site by the waterfall of Cañon Creek. In the creek we caught some fish.
	13 Jun, Fri	Found the Round up at Crawfords camp on Fish creek. Saw some Indians begging but not looking at all warlike. It seems they are starved but not immediately intending to fight. If they don't get something to eat soon of course they will break out. Affairs at Round up going on smoothly.
	14 Jun, Sat	Moved with Round up to Harvey Booth's ranche.
	15 Jun, Sun	Moved to Cañon Creek corral. Rode the mountains for cattle. Saw a good deal of country & of Blacker[']s late cattle. I think it is a really good property. But the profit justified its sale.
[9 st, 4 lb = 130 lb]	16 Jun, Mon	Worked from Cañon Camp & branded a large number of calves. Round-up life is pleasant enough for a change. But I am not strong enough for the life. The long day's healthy work wears me out & I find that I go to bed fagged & in low spirits. I keep horribly thin – naked weight about 9 st[one] 4 lb – I am some 5 ft. 10 in. & my weight is altogether inadequate. My nerves are my weak point. But I am inclined to think that they are improving under a more vegetable diet.
[Peirce]	17 Jun, Tue	Rode over a large portion of the WP range with Johnny Pierce [sic] the foreman.
[prob. NH]	18 Jun, Wed	Packed my bed on "Crow" & myself on a borrowed horse & crossed the mountain to Peters & Alston's where I found Boughton. Nooned at HN [sic] Ranch. Heard there that our E.K. race horse Nat had been stolen.
	19 Jun, Thu	Returned to Ranch. Found Blair who had made up his mind not to join the Co. Was much disappointed. Found letters from Cheyenne saying U.P.R.R. still were conspiring with Swan to rob us of our land. Must go down there at once. Peters left for Cheyenne taking our Ranche en route. He agreed subject to Alston's consent to form a Co. of C, EK & NH herds – properties to be valued by arbitration. Board of directors to manage through a manager to be appointed by them.

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[prob. Hinkle (attorney)]	20 Jun, Fri	Finished packing up my little baggage & drove down to Moreton Frewen's with Blair. There I heard that a corpse had been discovered – killed some 4 or 5 days on the ragged bluffs on the North side of Powder R. just where Red Fork comes in. Four theories (1) Deceased a stock detective (2) Stealer of our horse murdered by his comrade in the theft (3) Killed by Indians (4) one of two deserters seen with one horse in country some day ago & not accounted for. The poor man was shot & “snaked” by the heels some 50 feet & thrown into a gulch. “Judge” Hinkey [sic] from Buffalo to hold an inquest.
	21 Jun, Sat	Rode one-eyed sorrel to 17 Mile Ranch. Miserably sick. Throat swollen & sore, back aching & generally miserable. Don't know what can be the matter. Inquest resulted in nothing except a verdict of some person unrecognised by some person or persons unknown.
	22 Jun, Sun	Tried to ride on but too weak to saddle the horse. So led horse & drove in stage 45 miles to Brown Springs. There heard that Campbell of Antelope was going down in a buggy from Andrews Ranche & so decided to try & get a seat.
	23 Jun, Mon	Cut off Campbell at Sage Creek. He had to my horror a passenger in his buckboard. However passenger only went to Fetterman & then the rest of the journey I was free to “ride” in the buggy. At Fetterman a doctor had recently set up in practice. He had a hospital full of broken & bullet pierced cowboys. I showed him my throat which was still very bad. He said it was “a Hell of an old throat”. On being asked for further particulars he said it was a diphtheria [sic] soar [sic] throat but that he would “scatter it”. He gave me some powders – mercury I believe – & certainly he did me much good. He was the roughest looking practitioner I ever saw. Slept at La Bonté. 50 miles.
	24 Jun, Tue	Left La Bonté at 3 A.M. & made Fort Laramie – 64 miles. Hotel at Ft Laramie beastly. Slept in a filthy bed with some ten others in the room.
	25 Jun, Wed	Drove to J. Hunton's where I left my horse & on to Hi Kelly's.
	26 Jun, Thu	Left Hi Kelly's at 3 AM. Arrived Cheyenne 2.30 P.M. This journey has been the quickest I ever performed under the circumstances. From Frewen's to Cheyenne round by Ft. Laramie in 6 days, 288 miles or 48 miles a day. Arrived in Cheyenne worn out. But the Club, bath, beds & table restored me almost by magic. Found the Land Scheme in bad shape as the UP R'y are still trying to go back on their bargain.
[prob. NH]	27 Jun, Fri	Coble arrived & fully endorsed the consolidation scheme for the EK, HN [sic] & C Ranches. Had interviews with AH Swan & got him to consent to adhere to his contract. In evening rec[eiv]d more satisfactory letter from U.P. people. Finding we would not be “bluffed” out of our contract they seem inclined to adhere to it. Alston not yet arrived in New York. Company awaiting his arrival.
[Desert Land Act – 1877 law granting US citizens up to 640 acres of semi-arid land at \$1.25/acre if	28 Jun, Sat	Business all day. Desert Act in danger of being repealed. Are sending surveyor to Powder River to try & file upon desirable locations before it is too late.

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irrigated within 3 years.] [Ld. Fingall's sister]		Wedding cake with cards enclosed Mr. George Murphy Lady Mary Murphy came today. What a shock! God bless her poor child. But I wish she was Lady Mary Plunkett still.
	29 Jun, Sun	New idea flashed across my mind for the "Great Divide Land & Cattle Co". Why not take in Gilchrist & his pasture. That would give just the very "Land & Cattle" hue to our enterprise which is so necessary to conform with the times. Suggested to Gilchrist & he seems to like it. Coble left for Powder River conveying the new idea to Boughton for approval.
	30 Jun, Mon	Dick Frewen arrived looking much as usual after his typhoid. Business all day.
[query in original; Sir John Lubbock had no sons with initial C.] [prob. NH]	1 Jul, Tue	Moreton arrived & went on to England to try & induce Privy Council to remove restrictions on importation via Canada of Western store cattle. What wonderful energy that man has. Dined with Lane to meet C? Lubbock, son of Sir John L. Doubt as to whether evening or Sunday clothes were to be worn! A year or two ago a flannel shirt would have been "de rigeur". Told M.F. that we should not sell EK but should consolidate with HN [sic] & perhaps C. Windsor arrived.
	2 Jul, Wed	Went with Windsor over Gilchrist's farm. Think W. liked the idea of amalgamation with G. In evening returned to find a long growl about things in general from Boughton. Says he won't go in for a Co with W & C outfit. This vacillation makes all action impossible. Why isn't the duty to one's partners added to the catechism?
	3 Jul, Thu	Business in Cheyenne. Waiting for telegram from Boughton to say whether he will consent to my proposals for the "Frontier" Co. as it is to be called.
	4 Jul, Fri	A great day of joy for Americans & of humiliation for Britishers. Processions, speeches, races, religious exercises, fireworks & whiskey. Idea entered my head & I consulted Gilchrist about it. Why not start a stock exchange in Cheyenne for the sale of Western stocks. It would have the grand effect of bringing enterprises which are blindly valued on distant exchanges to their proper level.
	5 Jul, Sat	Business in Cheyenne all day. Then slept at Gilchrist's new Cheyenne house so as to get an early start next day.
	6 Jul, Sun	Started at 5 AM in Gilchrist's buggy. Got to Hi Kelly's (50 miles) for the night.
	7 Jul, Mon	Drove to Jack Hunton's where I had left my horse. This I rode & G drove to the engineers camp some 19 miles along the Main

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		Ditch. We found a large force of men, 3 camps of them, at work with pick, shovel, scrapers, ploughs, blasting materials & the other implements & materials of ditch & Railway grading. The engineers seemed a very slow lot. In afternoon Gilchrist drove me over the lands which are to give forth their abundance in the near future. We laid out a town – lakes, roads, groves and all the other amenities. One would hardly believe that such a desert would ever grow the staff of life.
	8 Jul, Tue	Went up to the Tunnel through the mountain – which is the great feature of the scheme. We climbed about 1000 feet & got into the very heart of the mountains when we suddenly looked down into a little valley & there saw tents & wooden shanties, a huge engine house & mules & men. It looked strange to see these habitations in the middle of such a wild country. But the scene is familiar to mining life in the Rockies. The tunnel 3100 feet in length through solid rock had only advanced 200 feet. We were doing it ourselves at \$15 the lineal foot (Tunnel 7 ft. x 8 ft.) Found Maxwell learning the business & wonderfully up in details.
	9 Jul, Wed	Drove early over the mountain on to the Laramie Plains where we hold the 83,000 acres of land still. Was much pleased with purchase & found a flat of some 35,000 acres which if it can be irrigated is a fortune. Shall send engineer to take levels. Made a tour of some 70 miles & in evening arrived at Allen & Co's ranche, where I found said Allen my hitherto unseen partner & Charlie Wyndham-Quin. The latter I was glad to see was taking hold like a man & was really learning to be useful. Shall make him a partner. Allen an ex-coal miner is honest, hard on himself & those under him at work, but brainless & tactless. It will be necessary to buy him out.
	10 Jul, Thu	Spent day riding over the property. Was much pleased with it & feel sure it will grow into money. It lies under the mountain, has streams & springs in abundance all through it, has many kinds of the best grasses & has the best shelter I ever saw. 5000 acres owned – 20,000 controlled & nearly fenced. In evening told Allen we must get some one to buy him out. He was reasonable.
[Boughton] [John Thomas Dutton]	11 Jul, Fri	Drove into Cheyenne 45 miles by 1 P.M. Stopped for breakfast at Tait's Ranche. Tait had proposed to Wyndham Q to sell him a ½ interest for \$1500000 & I was to give WQ my opinion. I think \$15000 would more than cover the entire value and Tait's physiognomy did not please me. Shall advise accordingly. Found telegram from E.S.R.B. approving scheme of Frontier Co. Spent busy afternoon in office. Heard from Pater that Uncle John had died. Never saw much of him (or any other of our mother's relations). He was not genial but good & sterling. Cynical & hard but not in the worldly society way which is so offensive. I liked him.
	12 Jul, Sat	Business in Cheyenne all day.
[Smyth]	13 Jul, Sun	Alston arrived & now the Frontier Co. can either be shelved or developed. Watson Smythe [sic] is in Cheyenne and thinks to taking shares.
[prob. NH]	14 Jul, Mon	Alston decided against joining the Co. & so HN [sic], EK & Gilchrist can go ahead alone. Perhaps it is better so as neither

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		Peters nor A would add much to our mental or physical energy. Business all day.
	15 Jul, Tue	Played lawn tennis before breakfast. Found the ground at the L.T. Club excellent. Certainly Cheyenne has changed marvelously. It is a pleasant place enough in the summer now. Business as usual.
	16 Jul, Wed	Windsor arrived.
	17 Jul, Thu	Frontier Land & Cattle Co. agreed upon & organised. Cattle at £35 throwing in calves. Range rights & all real property improvements. 200 per head of cattle. Horses, equip[ment]s & c at valuation. Gilchrist puts in hay land at 2000 & RR lands at 250. Hereford stock at \$75, calves 6000. Other stock at same prices as other firms. Capital of Co 1,500,00000, shares, \$100 each: Self president, G. V[ice]. Pres.
	18 Jul, Fri	Unpleasant negotiations [sic] with G. who found that he had put in his property for less than he had thought & wanted to back out. On the whole he was quite honest about it. But not quite as delicate in pushing his claim for a rebate as I should have expected. Was disappointed in him.
	19 Jul, Sat	My old form at lawn tennis (fair second rate only) is coming back to me. Being busy all day in my office it is very pleasant to have a good outdoor amusement in the cool of the evening.
	20 Jul, Sun	I fear my nerves are wearing out very fast. I see many signs of it. Terribly disturbed sleep, restless excitable sensation all day, alternate high & low spirits all tell me that the life out here is a severe strain to nerves naturally [sic] high strung & weak.
[Smyth]	21 Jul, Mon	Maxwell & Watson Smythe [sic] left for EK Rancho. The latter will I fear be a troublesome partner. Had an Electric Light & Wyo Dev Co. meeting. Former assessed me \$2000 more nearly. The only hope for that spec is an amalgamation betw'n Gas & Electricity & a bloated monopoly. Tom Sturgis buys out Warren in Wyo Dev't Co. which is a grand thing for the rest of us.
	22 Jul, Tue	[No entry]
	23 Jul, Wed	Went to Denver to do some business for Development Co. & to meet the RR people with a Wyo Delegation on subject of cattle freights. Sturgis, Carey & Simpson formed rest of delegation. Had several conferences in which I took active part persuading the U.P. that I represented a large area of country which bordered betw'n the Northern & Union Pacific & practically controlled the situation.
	24 Jul, Thu	Interviewed two men for Development Co. – one a contractor who rumour said was “going back on” the tunnel contract. The other a man who offered as general superintendent to our great enterprise. The former I judged to be a solid man. The latter I liked immensely & feel sure is the very man to bring us out of our investment triumphantly. I hope we shall get him. He wants \$3000 salary & we offer \$2500. It is on our judgment of men we make money in this country & I think I am right about these two.
	25 Jul, Fri	Came to Cheyenne in President of U.P.'s (Charles Adams) special car. Luxury on wheels. Went round by Boulder, Longmont, Ft. Collins and Greeley. First three places Gussy B & I drove our mules through in /79. The desert now converted into the most beautiful & refreshing corn lands, orchards & gardens by

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		irrigation. I felt hopeful of the Sabille scheme when I saw what sun & water can do. Dined the R'y people at Club.
	26 Jul, Sat	Business in office all day. Heard from Chum & Mary of a foolish quarrel which has broken out betw'n Ernle & Mary. If the latter's story is true the position taken by the former can only be explained by something verging on insanity. I hope it may not be so. Poor little Eddy & Reggy who look so superior physically to the last generation of Plunketts may be sadly inferior in the qualities which make a name.
	27 Jul, Sun	[No entry]
	28 Jul, Mon	Ione Land & Cattle Co. sold 24,000 acres more land to Swan Co. for \$150. Closing business all day & started for Powder River with Gilchrist. Slept at Rock Creek where the old R'y eating house is shut up and accommodation of a very slim kind is afforded at a saloon.
	29 Jul, Tue	Off at 6 AM on stage, an open vehicle, not quite a buck board but something like one. Misery all day & all night. For 30 miles in the night we had a "stage coach". It rained cats & dogs while we were under that cover, so we were lucky. Spent an hour at Fetterman where at the hostelry (whiskey saloon) we found half stupefied cowboys still keeping the bar open. Blouzy, drunken looking lot – at 1 AM started off in a buckboard. Cold morning & we in summer clothes felt miserable.
	30 Jul, Wed	Got to Powder River at 6.30 P.M. 36½ hours very good for that miserable concern. Found Booth waiting for us. He had been there 3 days owing to the line being down & no telegram having come from me.
	31 Jul, Thu	G & I drove & Booth rode to Ranche, our two big buggy horses broke up a good deal of the rigging crossing Powder & we very nearly had a smash up. Got to Ranche by noon where we found all partners.
	1 Aug, Fri	All here agreed to take remaining Ione Lands at 150 and Allen Ranche for \$40,000. So that consolidates a good deal of my interests & makes it easier for me to take the post of Gen'l Manager of the Frontier Co. It looks to me as if we had a very good thing. I don't see why our shares should not be worth a good deal one of these days.
	2 Aug, Sat	Gilchrist, W[atson]-Smyth, Boughton & I went all over W.C.& P. Range. W.S. got a fall & horse ran home, so the other three did the inspection. That mountain country is as fine a range as I ever saw & G, who pointed out many acres which could be irrigated, was most pleased with our prospects.
[du Fran]	3 Aug, Sun	Our whole trouble now is to change our system entirely. J. Donahue will have to go & probably Phil Du Frand [sic]. Then much depends on the new man. He must be a stranger & so everyone will be against him. But if he is a good new broom & sweeps clean he will find ample scope for his abilities. We took a day of rest & consultation.
	4 Aug, Mon	Gilchrist left, Watson Smyth driving him to Post. All members of Co. up here seem willing to do their best to assist me to get the Frontier Co. well started. There is great trouble ahead as we don't

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		want to make either of the present foremen the head foreman & neither will play second fiddle. They both know that we have no man in view & that work can't go on without a foreman. Don't know how it will all turn out. Must only keep a clear & cool head.
	5 Aug, Tue	J. Donahue after 4 years work in the EK outfit resigned. We could not put him in charge of all the cattle & he was above a subordinate position. So there was no help for it. With the wagon no man in the country can outwork him & he is honest as far as I know too. But about the ranche he was intolerable & being careless of property & negligent of all work except cow punching pure & simple. He was a strange character – a desperado by nature and by education. But he had his good points too. He had no respect for anyone & was very intractable. So on the whole it is best to replace him. His strange western humour – terribly profane & blasphemous at times – was generally amusing. He thoroughly understood the expressiveness of the western language & some of his sayings will long be remembered by Plunkett Roche & Co.
	6 Aug, Wed	Interviewed Phil Dufran & told him I would put him in charge on J. Donahue's departure at \$125 a month to be lowered to \$100 a month in case company put another man over him.
	7 Aug, Thu	Went to outfit who were working on North Fork. Found J. Donahue doing all he could to make the boys all "quit". So decided to put Phil duF in his place at once. Sent Boughton over to NH Ranche to send Phil over at once.
	8 Aug, Fri	Phil came over & I placed him in charge of the E.K. wagon vice Jack Donahue resigned. This coup seems to have put everything right. The growlers who talked about "quitting" have reconsidered the position & concluded to stay on.
	9 Aug, Sat	Settled a/cs with J Donahue who left us in low spirits. After four years of somewhat rough experiences together one is sorry to part with an employee.
[prob. NH]	10 Aug, Sun	I went to HN [sic] Ranche where I slept.
	11 Aug, Mon	Rode to WP Ranch on Tensleep. Got there after dark on a played out horse. Had to share a cowboy's bed & so slept not at all.
[Peirce]	12 Aug, Tue	Rode over a good deal of country inspecting the cattle and range. Had a long day's talk with Johnny Pierce [sic] and settled many matters relating to the herd. It was the hottest day I have felt this year. Thunderstorm relieved us.
	13 Aug, Wed	Rode from Tensleep to Winn's. Terribly hot weather. Found Winn greatly alarmed by sudden disease which had broken out among his horses. I found three of them with hugely swollen heads being lanced by "Plenty bear", an Indian. The savage said it was snake bite. We all decided that it must be disease as 3 cases of snakebite in one day is about unprecedented. But the "untutored" was correct. Was very tired & so stayed at Winn's Home Ranch for the night & had a good refreshing sleep.
	14 Aug, Thu	Rode from Winn's to EK Ranche. Declined offer of \$18.00 for 500 calves yet to be branded. These figures may some day be interesting.
	15 Aug, Fri	Business at Ranche in morning & went to Frewen's Home

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		Ranche in afternoon en route for Post.
Fr Moreton Frewen	16 Aug, Sat	Drove with Stuart Wortley to Post & back to Frewen's Home Ranche. Found at Post good news from Wyo Dev't Co. The granite in the tunnel had been pierced & the soft rock was come upon again. A long letter from J. Chaplin on business matters was so business-like that I decided almost that he would suit me as an "alter ego" for America in event of my having to give it up. Went to Post to telegraph about Texas fever which has broken out along the U.P. Operator away for a month!
[132 lb = 9 st, 6 lb]	17 Aug, Sun	Weighed at Frewen's 132 lbs in clothes (almost 8 lbs). This is the lightest I have been for years. I certainly ought to take it easy for a bit. Returned to Ranche & spent afternoon riding through beef in pasture. They are improving visibly day by day.
	18 Aug, Mon	[No entry]
[Smyth]	19 Aug, Tue	A very remarkable day. It rained in torrents and was miserably cold. We huddled over the fire all day and the only amusement was a bet on my part that I could walk a measured mile in 12 min[utes] in the mud. Watson Smythe [sic] bet \$45 to \$35 the other way. It cleared up late in the afternoon & the ground was fairly walkable. I walked the mile in 10.50.
	20 Aug, Wed	Phil Du Fran & I drove up to Buffalo to do some shopping & local business. I had not seen the town "city" since /81 when it was not. Now it has a population of some 600 and is the centre of a little irrigating community. I prophesy a population of 6000 in 10 years at least. The town is beautifully [sic] situated on both banks of a beautiful mountain stream (Clear Creek). The Occidental hotel was a regular gambling Hell. Monte, Pharo, Keno & other iniquitous games occupy the large hall of the building while whiskey & music make night hideous for those who do not drink gamble & swear. They will have hard times for a while before things settle down to prosperity.
	21 Aug, Thu	Shopped & did various business all the morning & then drove out to 76 Ranche on Crazy Woman where we slept. If I could carry out my views in the Frontier Co. I would buy land round Buffalo, irrigate it & enable the Co. to feed nearly all their cattle in one place & another in the winter. It is our only hope of safe cattle business.
[Streatfeild]	22 Aug, Fri	Drove to E.K. Ranche where I found a heap of letters requiring answers. So rode down to Home Ranche where I found Kemp, Stuart Wortley, Thynne, Streatfield [sic] & Jim Winn. It is pleasant to have a meeting of old-country folk occasionally.
	23 Aug, Sat	Returned to Ranche after writing answers to all my correspondence.
	24 Aug, Sun	Business at Ranche all day.
	25 Aug, Mon	Went over to NH Ranche where beef was being gathered. Slept at Peters & Alston's. Had long talk over future of cattle business. Strongly advocated securing land to assist the business. We all agreed that the danger from overcrowding must eventually swamp us. I think the danger more imminent than most people. But I also

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		think that it can be met by wintering cattle on irrigated land.
	26 Aug, Tue	Returned to Ranche. Found Boughton & Maxwell returned & Tebbetts with them.
	27 Aug, Wed	Had a hard days work over Tebbett's & Co's a/cs or rather the memos which he had preserved in lieu of a/cs. A whole year & the first year two [sic] had been jumbled up in a little pocket book.
	28 Aug, Thu	Brought Tebbetts & Co's a/cs to a satisfactory issue. Profit for year ending Aug. 16/84 27%. This depended on a valuation of course but I think it was a fair one. In afternoon rode down North Fork to try with Boughton's pocket level some locations for a ditch.
	29 Aug, Fri	[No entry]
	30 Aug, Sat	Wilcox the engineer for our ditch work up here arrived. Now I shall be busy in a new line of business which will be added to my labours.
	31 Aug, Sun	Had a very serious row with Alexis. He had a row with old Pete & I declined to discharge Peter or interfere because altho Pete was in the wrong his incivility arose purely out of Alexis' ill treatment of him on former occasions. I had to tell A. that it was his own fault & that he ought to learn how to treat men under him. The truth is he has no manners at all & is altogether intolerable in his disregard of everyone's feelings except his own on which point he is very touchy. Went with Maxwell, Smyth & surveyor to NH Ranche to survey ditches. Slept at Peters.
	1 Sep, Mon	Surveying all day. Poor man traveling the country, shot in stomach accidentally, brought into Peters' & A's at day-break. Hope he will recover. Doctor at Post fortunately. Cowboys kindness itself to patient.
	2 Sep, Tue	Surveying all day. Slept at Peters'.
	3 Sep, Wed	Returned to Ranche.
	4 Sep, Thu	Went to Winn's Ranche where I slept. Storm of wind on mountains & weather looked very threatening.
[Peirce]	5 Sep, Fri	Rode to Lysaght Meadows on Rattlesnake M[oun]t[ain]s & found Johnny Pierce [sic] with most of his beef gathered. Weather cold & wet. One of the boys had just broken his collar bone by a horse fall & dislocated his shoulder.
[cut – to separate some cattle from the herd]	6 Sep, Sat	Lay in camp all day, weather cold foggy & wet & we could not cut the beef. Spent the day keeping myself warm over a sage brush fire which required constant reinforcement.
	7 Sep, Sun	Cut the beef in the afternoon. Weather very cold & miserable. Lucky that we had a tent. But the cold nights & wretched days made me feel rather miserable & say to myself that I had chosen the wrong vocation.
[prob. NH]	8 Sep, Mon	Rode back to HN [sic] Ranche driving E.K. horses. Found surveying going on with Maxwell & Smyth in charge.
	9 Sep, Tue	Surveying party & self returned to EK Ranche. I went down to Powder R for letters & found practically none Home Ranche

Correspondence [Notes]	1884	Diary Entry
		having heard that Phil Du Fran was badly hurt. Found him at 15 mile ?farm with beef wagon. Not as bad as I expected to find him. During night corpse of poor fellow shot at Peters & Alston's was brought along. He died painlessly.
	10 Sep, Wed	Returned to EK Ranche. Found surveyor resting from his labours.
[erysipelas – acute streptococcal infection]	11 Sep, Thu	Spent day surveying on North Fork. When we came in in the evening found our broncho-buster with a head terribly cut on a rock – skull exposed for 2 inches. He seemed quite careless about it but I feared erysipelas.
	12 Sep, Fri	Surveying on North Fork all day.
	13 Sep, Sat	Surveying on North Fork all day. Our surveyor is cheap conscientious & a fool. But we know a little about it ourselves & treat him as a kind of appendage to his instrument.
	14 Sep, Sun	Cut & started the beeves from the pasture in charge of Coble.
	15 Sep, Mon	Business at & about Ranche. Spoke to Roche about the accusation he had brought against me viz that now that I could have got on without him I was trying all I could to drive him out of the Ranche & business. He took it all back saying that he was in such a state of anger that he did not know what he was saying.
	16 Sep, Tue	Went to Peters & Alston's to survey take a look at some land of theirs & give them my counsel as to irrigation &c. Met Evan Hanbury a Cheam, Eton & Oxford acquaintance. He was older than me & being good at games altogether my superior.
	17 Sep, Wed	Rode all day over the Peters & Alston range. They have the best range I have seen. While our cattle are being starved they have oceans of grass yet untouched.
	18 Sep, Thu	Saw the water turned into Blue Creek ditch and then returned to EK ranche to close up range matters for the year. I have had hard, though interesting work and shall be glad to get to the low level & sea breezes again.
[Desert – see 28 June]	19 Sep, Fri	Surveying with hand level on North Fork. The lands we can irrigate there are extensive but will require a large expenditure to develop them. The whole question for me now is will the Desert entries, made as we have to make them through third parties, be held good. If so my affairs are most prosperous. If not, I still shall have done well out here. I have everything to be thankful for.
	20 Sep, Sat	“Settling up” & packing all day.
	21 Sep, Sun	Left Ranche & drove to Powder R. where we slept. Met Edmund stranded at Powder R with no horse to go to Ranche. He had returned from his trip to Utah where he had bought 148 horses for the Frontier Co.
	22 Sep, Mon	Only got to 17 Mile Ranche. When starting from there the horses broke loose before we were in the buggy & smashed up our conveyance. It then only remained to go by stage so we had to put in 24 hours at that charming pleasure resort. One of the horses trod on Alexis' toes & hurt him badly through no serious damage done.

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	23 Sep, Tue	Stage or rather buck board had only one passenger. Driver brought report that Gillie Leigh had fallen from a precipice behind Peters & A's Rancho & was found 4 or 5 days after death. I was fond of the honest, good natured genial Gillie & was most shocked with the report which I feared must be true. At midnight at Fetterman it was confirmed.
	24 Sep, Wed	Very cold night drive saddened by the news of poor Gillie. Arrived Rock Creek 6.30 PM & slept sound.
	25 Sep, Thu	Took 4.42 AM train for Cheyenne. Glad to be where one can travel without fatigue again. Found terrible arrears of business.
	26 Sep, Fri	Business in Cheyenne all day. Never was so "crowded". Closing out the affairs of Plunkett Roche & Co. & Windsor Coble & Plunkett greatly adds to my labours.
	27 Sep, Sat	Business.
	28 Sep, Sun	Business. Fall weather enjoyable as usual.
	29 Sep, Mon	[No entry]
	30 Sep, Tue	Business
	1 Oct, Wed	Business.
	2 Oct, Thu	Went to Rock Creek to ship WP beeves. Got there at midnight & had to roll up in blankets on the floor of the dining room of the Wyoming House. This is the most miserable place in the West. Food beastly – water ditto. Accommodation filthy all round.
	3 Oct, Fri	Loaded WP cattle. Cattle had driven gently. But they turned out mean to handle. Besides had very poor help & did not get away till 9.30 P.M.
	4 Oct, Sat	Returned Cheyenne arriving 6 AM. Business. Dined with Charlie Wright the lawyer. Had not dined in Cheyenne for some time. Company & dinner much improved. Horrid mixture of wines but they are just as bad in New York for that. Table manners getting less grotesquely formal.
	5 Oct, Sun	Started off for Rock Creek with Dudley Leigh to meet remains of poor Gillie.
	6 Oct, Mon	Arrived about 2 o'clock & found Tom Morgan from Powder River & the Cheyenne Undertaker in charge of poor Gillie's remains. All night We tried hard to make some suitable arrangements to have the remains treated with some show of respect. But the idea of what we wanted could not be instilled into the hard, unsympathetic hireling heart. So at 5A.M. we carried poor dear Gillie into the baggage car & with a heavy heart I said good bye to Dudley & my departed friend. It was still dark & I crept into a bed a passenger going east had vacated & slept till 7 A.M.
	7 Oct, Tue	Gilchrist & Maxwell, Roche & W Quin arrived & we cut the cattle & prepared for the journey to Chicago.
	8 Oct, Wed	Started off 260 head to Chicago of the best beeves we ever shipped. The rest of the day Gilchrist & I spent at Rock Creek finishing up various businesses. The rest went for the Iron Mountain Rancho with 459 feeders to be hay fed & sold in the

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		spring & early summer.
	9 Oct, Thu	Left Rock Creek early and nooned with the Feeders on the Laramie River. Then rode with Alexis, Gilchrist driving, to Iron Mountain Ranche where we were to make a final inspection & arrange the winter work.
	10 Oct, Fri	Spent day looking over cattle fences &c. &c. at Iron Mountain Ranche. At sundown the Feeders arrived 459 strong. Discharged all except winter hands.
	11 Oct, Sat	Rode from Iron Mountain Ranche with Maxwell to Cheyenne & finished my outdoor work for the season /84.
	12 Oct, Sun	A very busy day as Sunday usually seems to be with me.
	13 Oct, Mon	First annual general meeting of the Frontier Land & Cattle Co. Officers for ensuing year, self president (\$3000), Chaplin sec, Gilchrist V. Pres, Boughton Treas. Trustees – Gilchrist, A C Roche, Windsor, Coble, Boughton, Chaplin & self. All shareholders attended. Second ditto of Development – officers elected Carey Pres, H.C.P. V. Pres, Sturgis Sec, A.G. Gen'l. Sup[erintenden]t., M E Post, Treas.
	14 Oct, Tue	Business all day. At night the Americans at the Club gave the Britishers a dinner and a miserable failure it was for too many of the hosts were drunk before the dinner began. I had to answer for the Britishers & made a miserable failure of it. Struck a wretched market in Chicago & that with the best beeves we ever sent.
	15 Oct, Wed	Business all day. Presentation of Sturgis Testimonial in evening at Opera House. I had the pleasure of pushing this well deserved tribute through and completing all the arrangements without the pain of having to appear in public. Tom Sturgis made one of the best speeches I ever heard.
	16 Oct, Thu	Business of course all day & terribly hard work too in the attempt to get through before leaving. In the evening I dined with Judge Carey. He is perhaps the richest resident, except A.H. Swan, in Cheyenne and has a nice house & good-looking wife. He teetotals & makes his guests do ditto. Result of a good dinner without the accustomed alcoholic accompaniment is naturally indigestion which clogs post prandial converse & makes it a weariness.
	17 Oct, Fri	After a wildly busy day & no time for goodbyes left Cheyenne for home with something of the old schoolboy going home for the holidays feel. I suppose I shall soon outgrow the feeling – more's the pity.
	18 Oct, Sat	The dreary "ride on the cars" through Nebraska & Iowa.
	19 Oct, Sun	Passed through Chicago – took Limited Pennsylvania train for N.Y. I fail to see how traveling can be improved for comfort & despatch.
	20 Oct, Mon	Arrived in New York. Went to Grand Central – a miserable second class hotel in B[road]way.
	21 Oct, Tue	Spent the day with the Tiles. Found Ivery & Wynne at loggerheads already. Wynne was on his way from London where he had been reporting to the directors adversely to Ivery. Since Wynne left Ivery had conducted the business better than it had

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		ever been conducted before. On the other hand, Wynne is the steadier man of business. I don't know what can be done to get them to work together.
[Gustav Reichard Gallery]	22 Oct, Wed	Paid Tiffany & Reichard for the Sturgis Testimonial silver & picture. The glimpse I got of Tiffany's convinced me that it is the first shop of the sort in the world. I never saw so many pretty things together. Spent afternoon at Tile works & decided in my mind that the only solution of the management difficulty was for a director to come out, decide betw'n the rival managers & appoint one to full authority.
	23 Oct, Thu	Came on board Celtic with Maxwell, Booth & Alexis. Former & I had deck cabin together which greatly adds to the comfort & healthiness of the voyage. 28 from Sandy Hook at noon.
	24 Oct, Fri	331. My birthday. Turned into 4th decade! The third has seen has improved my financial & I hope my moral condition. My physical condition is still very unsatisfactory. But that may improve.
	25 Oct, Sat	340
	26 Oct, Sun	328
	27 Oct, Mon	320
	28 Oct, Tue	321
	29 Oct, Wed	341
	30 Oct, Thu	350
	31 Oct, Fri	355. 128 to Queenstown.
	1 Nov, Sat	Liverpool at nightfall. Found telegram at L[ondon] & N[orth].W[estern]. Hotel informing me that "C Ponsonby" had died. Was it Catherine or Chum.
	2 Nov, Sun	Arrived for breakfast at No. 7 to find Pater looking very well, but with the sad intelligence that poor Chum had died of heart disease on his way from America. He leaves in my & his widow's charge 4 children. Poor Chum. I had no better friend. He had a noble character though not a high intelligence. Surely life is uncertain when death sweeps off men of his strength. He lived a good life & was true to his religious instincts which were strong.
	3 Nov, Mon	Business all day. Poor Mary now relies upon me to manage her affairs. Gladly do anything for her & poor Chum's memory. But have I not as much as I can do justice to on my hands already. Had a meeting of the Tile Co. Only Cuffe appeared.
	4 Nov, Tue	Went to Crawley Down Lodge to see what Pater tells me is to be my future home. The house is charming & luxuriously comfortable. It is in a very fairly pretty district very near a R'y station & would make a charming summer residence for a man with a family.
	5 Nov, Wed	Walked & drove all day. Liked the country. It is the first time I have seen any leaves on the trees since /79 in England. This year

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		they are hanging on longer & I am home earlier. Played with Mary's 3 eldest children. They are very good & simple & Tommy the heir is one of the most taking children I ever knew.
	6 Nov, Thu	Had to leave Down Lodge to meet Valentine & Mary on poor Chum's estate affairs. The younger children seem to be well provided for, £5000 each on Mary's death £5000 at once. Dined with Mary & Conny.
	7 Nov, Fri	Business & shopping. Dined with Moreton Frewen at New Club & talked over his new craze – a town to be boomed on the shores of Lake Superior near Duluth. No better man alive to boom anything. But has he the ballast to reap the reward.
To Moreton Frewen	8 Nov, Sat	Lunched with Denis Lawless & he dined with me at Naval & Military & St. Ja[me]s Clubs respectively. He was full of going out to America. He would do well I think.
	9 Nov, Sun	Left London with poor Mary by night mail to do necessary business at Kilcooley – a sad trip for her, poor thing.
	10 Nov, Mon	Did some business in Dublin & came to Kilcooley by 1.0'clock train & Kilcooley bus. Poor Mary was much affected at the sad arrival at her bereft home. However she bore it well. Fatigue gave sleep and on the morrow business would be absorbing.
[in media res – into the middle of things]	11 Nov, Tue	Horace Townsend the confidential agent arrived and we plunged in medias res. I was glad to find that the younger children are well provided for, that Mary will have ample means & that in the meanwhile the estate will accumulate into a handsome heritage for the eldest boy. We liked T[ownsend]. and the arrangement for the future is that he is to manage the estate. Whether it will be put into chancery or not is for future decision.
	12 Nov, Wed	Worked away at Kilcooley estate affairs. T[ownsend]. left at 2.30 & the clergyman & priest (the latter a very liberal Yahoo) called. Robert Staples (Dunmore) called for a night. He is a dear old friend of Mary's & was very kind & sympathetic. He gave us much useful advice.
	13 Nov, Thu	Geo. Langley & wife (nearest neighbours) called & were very kind in their offers of assistance.
	14 Nov, Fri	Left Kilcooley. Mary went to London and I went to Enniskerry to talk over the Tiles with Old Bulwer. Concluded more capital a necessity & if raised some director must go out & over look the management. Old Bulwer proposed to go to London & tout for capital & said he would consider going out for a year to the works.
	15 Nov, Sat	Business chiefly shopping in Dublin & Dunsany by late train.
	16 Nov, Sun	Lunched Swainston after church at Kilmessan. Found all the congregation had deserted. Poor old Briscoe evidently breaking down & no longer fit for his work.
	17 Nov, Mon	Meant to hunt but had a headache & felt generally "out of fix", so loafed about Dunsany. My health I fear is getting rather worse on the average than it has been before. I never get very ill but never feel very well. My stomach is weak & my nerves are very shaky. My body is thin & wasted. I fear I shall not be good for work much longer. A break down would be very sad for I had hoped to

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		be of use to so many people.
	18 Nov, Tue	Hunted at Laracor with Meaths. Rode the two new horses. Silo very easy to ride – good safe mount. Panic a brilliant performer all round but altogether too much for me in my present weak state.
[Ld. Plunket (William Conyngham), Archbp. of Dublin]	19 Nov, Wed	Went to Dublin partly to see Lord Plunket about Rev. Francis Briscoe's resignation & partly to see Coleridge, who is convalescing after severe blood-poisoning at Lucan. Ld. Plunket listened very kindly to all I had to say about the Parish and its future. We had a long talk. He struck me as a very good amiable man but not a very capable one. The archbp. of Dublin resigned yesterday and report says Ld. Plunket is to be his successor. I am glad if so. But I fear in heavenly matters Title counts. Coleridge was getting well but very much pulled down. Slept at Kildare St. Club.
	20 Nov, Thu	Returned to Dunsany.
	21 Nov, Fri	Hunted with Meaths at Priestown. Rode Nebuchadnezzar. Lots of hunting but of an indifferent sort. In evening got a telegram summoning me to go at once to London about the Tiles. I don't seem to get much rest.
	22 Nov, Sat	Went to Dublin in morning to try & get off going to London. But had to go & so left by night mail.
	23 Nov, Sun	Arrived London & had a meeting at Cuffe's lodgings, present D Lawless, Ivery, Bulwer, W Blacker, Cuffe & self. Had to decide weighty question whether to close up the works & pocket our losses or go ahead & invest fresh capital. We have run through all we have at present & must get more or go under. The business is a good one but the managers are squabbling among themselves & threaten to sink the ship.
[Escott]	24 Nov, Mon	More tile meetings. Dined with Moreton Frewen & met Hurlburt of the N.Y. World, the probable American minister under Cleveland's admin[istratio]n, also Escott [sic], editor of the "Fortnightly". Pleasant evening. What a pushing fellow M.F. is, and what a lot of good there is in him too. He certainly will make his mark. In 5 years I think he will be a prominent Englishman.
	25 Nov, Tue	Tiles. Tiles. Tiles. Bulwer & I wrote a prospectus to raise more capital. Fred Dutton is staying with Pater. I had never seen him before. He seems a good hearted fellow in an emergency but rather egotistical in every day life. He is up to help Mary as trustee, & shows well. Ducie, Langford, Fred Dutton, self & Townsend met Mary at Ducie's house and discussed Mary's affairs. All very kind. Decision – Keep property out of Chancery. Langford & Fred Dutton to be trustees to manage estate.
	26 Nov, Wed	Finished up business & returned to Ireland. Have felt so low & washed out lately that I went to see Dr. Dickinson (W.H.) 9 Chesterfield St. Verdict – organically sound. But urine shows a waste of phosphorus which indicates over work. Prescription strychnine. Nitro Hyd chlor acid but strict orders to do less work & take life easy. Butchers meat 3 times a day, wine (claret preferred) once. How doctors differ on diet!

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	27 Nov, Thu	Arrived K St. Club early to find Old Bulwer in a woebegotten state over the tiles. Wynne had written saying the whole business was going to the dogs. This is frightful. We cannot ask for money & without it we bust. Personally I would not put a farthing more in it. But considering the awful consequences of a failure & the amount of family & friends fortunes involved I have decided to throw away £2000 more on the business to keep it afloat while we make one more attempt to save it. I give Old B. Frontier stock & he puts up the money. Erskine Booth & I came to Dunsany.
	28 Nov, Fri	Rode Nebuchadnezzar & mounted Booth on Silo for Meaths at Kilcairne. Splendid run from Harristown to Clushagh well carried. Most enjoyable. Another telegram in ev[enin]g to go up to Dublin about tiles.
	29 Nov, Sat	Booth hunted & I attended meeting at Kilmessan Church to decide on future course of Parish on Briscoe's resignation. Decided to try & hire an independent and parishioners seemed inclined to be liberal with subscriptions if a good parson could be obtained. Went to Dublin by 4.26 train & met Old Bulwer. Fresh correspondence from Brooklyn giving the Ivery side of the matter which puts a very much more satisfactory appearance on our prospects.
	30 Nov, Sun	Returned via Kilmessan to Dunsany. Bowels giving me much trouble. My condition is alarmingly low.
	1 Dec, Mon	Hunted Panic with Wards at 8 Mile Stone. He pulled me & went badly or rather, I rode him badly & saw very little of the sport.
	2 Dec, Tue	Rode Nebuchadnezzar with Meaths at Hatchet. Had very poor day.
	3 Dec, Wed	Rode Panic with the Wards. He carried me very well for the short burst at the beginning. Rest of the run very twisty & bad. I have now three rattling good horses & if I had a little flesh on my bones & could keep well enough to enjoy anything I might have great "divarsion" out of hunting.
	4 Dec, Thu	Spent day doing R[ock] Lodge & Trim and in evening entertained Fingalls (2), Murphys (3) O Brightons (3) & T. Leonard.
	5 Dec, Fri	Meaths met at Dunsany. Found in Athrona & ran a ring over Belper, Clushagh, Killeen back to Athrona – killed. Then found in Ry Wood & ran to ground in Warrenstown. Coleridge came out but having a lame horse I gave him Nebuchadnezzar. I rode Silo & liked him. He is one of those lazy horses you have to rouse up all the time. But when roused he is a "nailer".
	6 Dec, Sat	Business at Dunsany.
To Frewen, Moreton	7 Dec, Sun	Went to Church at Kilmessan but no service as old Briscoe was ill. I went to see the poor old man & there he was in the cold lonely house all alone, his wife having gone & taken most of the furniture with her. I don't think he will last long. Booth & I dined at Warrenstown. Letter from Chaplin (now 21) told me that EK Home Rancho had

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		been jumped.
	8 Dec, Mon	I rode Nebuchadnezzar with the Wards at Dunboyne. Bad deer & no sport.
	9 Dec, Tue	Hunted Silo at Philpotstown. Fair sport. In evening went to Dublin to have a last word with Old Bulwer before his departure for Brooklyn.
	10 Dec, Wed	Old Bulwer left early but not by the train he should have caught to sail today. Was stranded at Queenstown till Friday! Booth & I hunted with Wards at Batterstown. Fast 22 minutes. I rode young horse & was very pleased with him. He was too fresh & a little hard to steer but he is safe & brilliant.
	11 Dec, Thu	Shot at Dunsany. Hope Johnston from Ardsallagh, G. Briscoe, 2 Murphys, Booth & self were the guns. Nothing much to shoot as usual. But not bad fun. Shooters dined here.
	12 Dec, Fri	Rode Nebuchadnezzar with Meaths. Went to Cheeverstown (meet at Woodlands). Poor sport.
	13 Dec, Sat	Booth & I hunted with ?Pendon's Harriers at Laracor. I rode Silo. Don't care for harriers but I believe the sport was voted good.
	14 Dec, Sun	Went round stock with ?Crohe. Dined at Warrenstown.
	15 Dec, Mon	Hunted Nebuchadnezzar with Meaths at Somerville. Very good sport, 3 runs, one in the evening from Slater's via Slanduff, Hill of Skryne round into Lismullen particularly good. Booth's horse struck him on the ankle while he was jumping a fence and harmed him.
	16 Dec, Tue	Hunted Silo with Meaths at Dunshaughlin. Nice gallop from Poor House Gorse via Pelletstown to Drumree where we lost our fox. Then short gallop for Culmullin towards Summerhill but went to ground after a mile gallop. Then another fox from Culmullin ran & was killed at Parsonstown. But not a soul got away with the hounds who doubled back suddenly through Culmullin & were lost for the rest of the day.
	17 Dec, Wed	Attended P[etty]. Sessions & hunted Panic with Wards. Horse coughing and had to come home early in the run. However I had a bad start & so was not to be pitied. Dined with Booth at Grange. Asked to Castle Hacket, Tuam to shoot. Declined.
	18 Dec, Thu	Business at Dunsany. Dined & slept at Rahinston where we met one Brown in the Royals, T de Burgh, R. Fetherston of L----ia & daughter & the Billy ?Farrises.
	19 Dec, Fri	Hunted Nebuchadnezzar with Meaths at Laracor. Good run from Trotter's to Bullring which I did not see. Then nice gallop from Pratt's, very fast ring. Got two falls in gallop but managed to see it all till Booth fell badly & got his wind badly "bagged". I hunted for his horse till long after dark the hunters having run through Kilcock to Maynooth & beyond. At 6 o'clock gave up the chase and returned home after making arrangements for getting the horse brought to McNeil's and getting a car for Booth who had in reality gone home.
	20 Dec, Sat	Distributed Pater's Xmas bounty.
	21 Dec, Sun	Expected & sent for JG Butcher by morning train. Butcher was

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		delayed at Holyhead by a storm which prevented his bringing over his 2 horses. Dined with Booth at the Grange.
	22 Dec, Mon	Hounds met at Dunsany. The earth was frost bound & I never saw hounds out on such a day. Roads all ice, banks hard & slippery. Lots of foxes in Dunsany & we galloped about to the danger of our horses' sinews & our necks. I had a good many lunchers & breakfasters in including His Ex.
	23 Dec, Tue	Dublin by morning train. 7 PM North Wall boat for London.
	24 Dec, Wed	Arrived No. 7 at 8.15 a much more comfortable hour than the mail arrives. Found Pater looking well. Tile meeting – present Ivery, Lawless & self at 3.15. But no news from Brooklyn, so we did nothing.
	25 Dec, Thu	Xmas. But it is not a season of rejoicing being the anniversary of poor dear Randal's death.
	26 Dec, Fri	[No entry]
	27 Dec, Sat	[No entry]
	28 Dec, Sun	Called on Mrs. J.B. Roche with Denis.
	29 Dec, Mon	Committee meeting of the Tile Co. Denis & self present. Still no word from Old Bulwer so telegraphed him “\$20,000 more capital (over & above £35660 already subscribed) can be counted on. Can we allot. Telegraph prospects.”
	30 Dec, Tue	Went to see “The Candidate” at Criterion theatre. Very good & funny clever dialogue & cleverly absurd plot.
	31 Dec, Wed	Telegram from Old B. “Allot. Success probable, full particulars as soon as possible”. Met ?Mr. Jackson, editor of the Farmer at Moreton Frewen's. He broached my father's scheme of making Isle of Man a quarantine station. Then had an interview with D Tallerman a huge exporter (from abroad) of beef & tried to arrange some plan by which we could get our prairie beef connected with the British markets.