

1882 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.

1885

Events:

- 21 Jan – Parnell’s ‘*ne plus ultra*’ (thus far and no farther) speech at Cork
- 1 May – Irish Loyal and Patriotic Union founded to defend union of Great Britain & Ireland
- 9 May – Cabinet rejects Chamberlain’s scheme for elected “central board” in Dublin
- 25 Jun – Redistribution Act re-allocates parliamentary seats
- 14 Aug – Ashbourne Act (authorises state to advance entire price of land purchase) and Labourers Act (to improve rural housing stock)
- 23 Nov-19 Dec – General election: Parnell wins 85 seats and holds balance between Liberals and Conservatives
- 17 Dec – Gladstone’s impending conversion to Home Rule revealed by his son

Government:

Prime Minister: William Gladstone (Liberal) to 23 Jun; 3rd Marquess of Salisbury (Conservative)

Chief Secretary: Sir William Hart Dyke

Lord Lieutenant: John Poyntz Spencer to 30 Jun, Henry Herbert (Earl of Carnarvon)

Approximate monetary equivalents (2010): £1= £110 ; \$1 = \$22

Correspondence [Notes]	1885	Diary Entry
<i>(Fr Frewen, Moreton to Fred [?Hesse], year uncertain)</i>		
	1 Jan, Thu	Dined at the Pender’s (18 Arlington St). Very rich people. House very good & dinner ditto. Admirable pictures. I met Sir Erskine May, Lord Saltoun & took in a Lady Tierney. House supposed to have belonged to Nell Gwynne.
	2 Jan, Fri	Dined Denis Lawless & F Kemp at St. James Club.
	3 Jan, Sat	Played two games of Chess with Zukertort winning one.
	4 Jan, Sun	Went down to see Johnny & Ernle at Melbury Lodge. Both suffering from kidneys. Ernle a pain in the back from inflammation. Johnny discharging albumen. Mary dined at No. 7 & we had a talk over her affairs.
	5 Jan, Mon	Gilchrist came to town. He is rather a fish out of water in London. But he naturally feels some pride. When he was here before he was a private in the Life Guards.
	6 Jan, Tue	Dined Gilchrist, W Blacker & Oliver Brighton at St. James Club.
	7 Jan, Wed	[No entry]
[Ralph Heneage Dutton]	8 Jan, Thu	Went to Timsbury. No party as Mary was invited there with her children & of course she is in too deep mourning to be at parties. First time I had seen Timsbury. Uncle Ralph has certainly made himself comfortable. “The place” is not much. But the residence is well built & well furnished & warmed. Servants good & uncle R’s manner to them that of the last generation of masters who were served by “old servants”.
	9 Jan, Fri	Shot rabbits. Walked a long way & looked for rabbits in most unlikely places. I shot one for which I paid the expectant keeper 10/-. A Mrs. Bonteen came. She is half Spanish, very bright & clever – about 55, paints. Reads largely & retails amusingly. Had some religious discussion which always interests me deeply.
	10 Jan, Sat	Returned to 7 Grosvenor Place after inspecting Berthon Boat Co. The business may get back the capital someday. But I don’t think it will do much more.
	11 Jan, Sun	[No entry]

Correspondence [Notes]	1885	Diary Entry
	12 Jan, Mon	Dined with Penders, small Ranchman's party. Sat next Staveley Hill Q.C. Rather interesting but like other Q.C.'s one meets I don't quite see the superiority to other mortals that we laymen expect to go with this distinction.
	13 Jan, Tue	Declined invit[atio]n to F. Higgins, Turvey Bedford for Oakley Hunt ball at Bedford 14th. Gilchrist dined at 7 Gros[venor]. Pl[ace]. He is very awkward, but when one has seen all his peculiarities his sterling good sense seems to predominate. We talked business till midnight. Wound up with a determination to use our joint energies to make the Frontier Co. a success. I offered him half salary to do half my work. He accepted.
	14 Jan, Wed	Dined Moreton Frewen. Met Wharncliffes, Lady R Churchill &c.
[prob. NH]	15 Jan, Thu	Very much put out by hearing that all our claims in the HN [<i>sic</i>] Pasture had been jumped owing to our delay in filing on them. Thus our ditches become the property of others! Attended Powder River Cattle Co. general meeting. Spoke at some length on the present aspect of the business & was well received.
	16 Jan, Fri – 18 Jan, Sun	[No entry]
	19 Jan, Mon	Breakfast with Moreton Frewen. Then a conference in the City with Tallerman & some brokers, shipowners &c over a scheme of Tallerman's to slaughter our cattle out west & bring them straight through to the British markets. Dined with Warner of the St. George's Chess Club and then went to the Salutation Tavern, Newgate St. to play a 20 a side chess match St. George's v City of London Club. Played one Hooke & drew. Match lost by large majority.
	20 Jan, Tue	7.15 mail from Euston. Slept K St. Club.
	21 Jan, Wed	Came to Dunsany early train & hunted Panic with Wards. I fear Panic is too much for me. He is hot tempered. He plunged into a river sending me in over my neck out of temper and refused badly on another occasion.
	22 Jan, Thu	Business at Dunsany all day.
	23 Jan, Fri	Hunted Silo with Meaths at Laracor. Very fine sport.
	24 Jan, Sat	Rode Nebuchadnezzar good gallop with Wards from Kilrue to Dunshaughlin via Brindley Memorial, Ashbourne, Ratoath & Lagore. Well carried.
	25 Jan, Sun	Took a complete rest at home only going over to Warrenstown to have a cattle talk with T. Leonard.
	26 Jan, Mon	Lunched with N. Preston to vet a parson Rev'd. – Lett – for Kilmessan. A rough honest man apparently. Would do if we can't get anything more refined.
	27 Jan, Tue	Rode Panic with Meath Hounds at Kilmessan. Hunted most of day round about Dunsany. In evening ran from Gerrardstown. I fell at first fence & didn't see it.
	28 Jan, Wed	Hunted Silo fast runs from Drumree with Wards. Well carried. Dined the Grange, met Hugh Cullen & T. Leonard who both urged me to try & carry out my scheme of a graziers convention.

	29 Jan, Thu	Business all day. James & Hugh Cullen J. Wilkinson & Nat Preston, G Murphy & Al--- ?.?.S. on various businesses. Wrote 15 letters on all manner of affairs & altogether had a busy day.
	30 Jan, Fri	Hunted Nebuchadnezzar. Corbalton Xroads. Indifferent sport. In evening went to Rahinston for hunt next day.
	31 Jan, Sat	Rode Silo at Scarriff Bridge. Wet stormy day & poor sport. Got a chill & didn't enjoy it. Spoke to several graziers about my scheme for a Cattle Convention. They all seemed to be anxious for it. Heard the merits of the candidates for Bp. of Meath much canvassed. Glad to find that Reichel has many supporters.
	1 Feb, Sun	Returned Dunsany. Found many letters awaiting me. One from Gilchrist saying that as Mrs. G. was coming over he would not sail yet & would pay me a visit. Was to have dinner at Warrenstown but felt seedy & had to lie up.
	2 Feb, Mon	Rode Panic at Somerville. Wet cold unenjoyable day & not much sport.
	3 Feb, Tue	Attended the Levée. Well attended. What a miserable court it is. I hate the flunkeyism of the thing. But Fingall kindly promised that I should not be asked to anything & so I went out of respect to Lord Spencer. Had long tile talk with Old Bulwer & spent night in Dublin.
	4 Feb, Wed	Rode Nebuchadnezzar one of the best runs I ever rode with Wards. Enlarged at Ribstown – S.W. of Batterstown & ran to Greenogue. Wonderfully well carried & greatly enjoyed it. In evening Gilchrist arrived. W. Wyndham-Quin also came to meet A.G. & talk about his brother.
	5 Feb, Thu	James Cullen & son called & went through cattle with Gilchrist. The four of us thoroughly discussed the question of American store cattle & agreed that there was not much money to be made by us ranchmen by stocking Meath lands.
	6 Feb, Fri	Hunted at Garradice, one of the wettest days I ever was out. Very poor sport. Gilchrist drove to the meet & thought we were all mad. Rode Silo. Was cold & wet & didn't enjoy it at all.
	7 Feb, Sat	Sent Gilchrist to see the Wards on wheels and went to see a parson, W. Falkiner, at Swainston. Thought him a good honest sort of a pastor with very moderate mental calibre. But he is very like a gentleman & report says his wife is charming. Hope we shall get him. W.R. Bulwer & Denis Lawless arrived by evening train. Wyndham-Quin left.
	8 Feb, Sun	Bulwer & I to Church at Kilmessan. Then Denis & I walked to the Grange & Warrenstown & secured the Landlords for dinner. We had a great American talk.
	9 Feb, Mon	Gilchrist & Bulwer left & Johnny arrived looking better than he did when I last saw him. He is very fat about the face which I don't like. I think air & exercise will make him all right.
	10 Feb, Tue	Hunted Nebuchadnezzar with Meaths at New Haggard. Fair sport but very wet day.

		Denis Lawless left by 4.26 train. News came that Mary's 3 eldest children were down with scarlatina.
	11 Feb, Wed	Rode a thoroughbred mare of Wyndham-Quin's with Wards at Batterstown. Goodish run to Marshallstown. Fairly carried. Dined with Preston to see another candidate for Kilmessan Parish. He was a relative of Preston's & quite a gentleman. But he had only been 2 years in the Church and was only 26 yrs old. So we had to reject him.
	12 Feb, Thu	Alexis came by 5.15 train. Went to Dublin to attend preliminary meeting of graziers to discuss the formation of an Association for the protection of the cattle business in Ireland. Found a very apathetic gathering of some 25 rich graziers whose business was being ruined by adverse times but who were unwilling even to attend to our plans for their benefit. However we decided to call another meeting for 26th. Dick Frewen came to Dunsany for the night.
	13 Feb, Fri	Rode Panic & mounted Alexis on Silo with Meaths at Dunboyne. Very good day's sport.
	14 Feb, Sat	Rode Nebuchadnezzar with Wards. Very indifferent day. Alexis hired from Fisty Butler. Tom Hare came for the night & we had an American talk though horses much to Johnny's disgust occupied most of our attention. Very good news of Mary.
	15 Feb, Sun	Missed Church for business. R. Walshe came down to T. Leonard's to consult about the circular convening the meeting for the 26th. I had to write the circular. In fact I have had to do all the writing so far.
[<i>post hoc, ergo propter hoc</i> – "after this, therefore because of this"]	16 Feb, Mon	Business at Dunsany. Dined at Grange & was very sick after. Not "post hoc &c". I was sick all day.
	17 Feb, Tue	Woke to find 6 inches of snow. Business at Dunsany. Indoors with bilious attack. Went thoroughly into Barton's a/cs.
	18 Feb (Ash), Wed	Worked hard at Estate a/cs and found an alarming state of affairs. Had a serious talk with Barton & had to decide on heavy retrenchment.
	19 Feb, Thu	Estate a/cs. Asked Sam Garnetts & T. Hare to stay for hunt next day at Rahinston. But we are frozen out & no hunting. So they did not come.
	20 Feb, Fri	Weather still detestable & hunting stopped. It is the severest spell we have had this year.
	21 Feb, Sat	Drove into Trim to see the Ulster Bank Manager on business. He wanted to take Reilly's house – if Reilly dies as he is likely to do & if the widow gives up the business – for the Ulster Bank.
	22 Feb, Sun	Dined Warrenstown with Johnny. Met Dr. Molloy & he & Johnny did the talking. They argued up hill & down dale, Johnny besting him by a most unapproachable discursiveness.
	23 Feb, Mon	Hunted Wards, Black Bull, rode Panic. Bad day.
	24 Feb, Tue	Johnny left, his visit being shortened by a political visit to W.

		Gloucestershire where he is to loose himself at his future electors.
	25 Feb, Wed	Rode Silo with Wards at Dunshaughlin. Ran through Dunsany to Ringlestown. Very fast but bad country. Went to Dublin by special & attended committee dinner & meeting at Shelbourne. Arranged business for next day. Present Fowler, T Leonard, P Leonard, G Murphy, Armstrong. Walshe, H Cullen & self.
[Probable reference to death of their eldest son, 8-yr-old Cecil; see 13 Jul 1885]	26 Feb, Thu	Meeting 1 o'clock at Shelbourne. Very successful as far as unanimity went. Funds too were amply subscribed & promised. I did not speak as I was anxious not to push myself forward. Nothing could have gone better & so it was best to leave well alone. Went by 5 train to Willie Blacker's. Found them in great sorrow still but getting over it.
	27 Feb, Fri	Returned to Dunsany & found huge pile of correspondence. I am getting too much on my hands.
	28 Feb, Sat	Meaths at Drumree. Rode Panic. Good run from Culmullin to Pratts. Got a bad start but horse went splendidly. Deases (Colonel & Mrs.) came to spend a Sunday with me. Our chief bond of sympathy is the Killeen family whose fortunes or misfortunes we conspired so unsuccessfully to influence.
	1 Mar, Sun	Church at Kilmessan. Fingalls (2), Murphys (2), Gradwells (2), T. Leonard, Misses Coleridge & Supple dined.
	2 Mar, Mon	Meaths at Dunsany. Very bad day, rode Nebuchadnezzar. Deases left. Harry Fowler slept here. We both dined at Warrenstown.
	3 Mar, Tue	Spent the day in the house mostly with James Cullen & Barton talking over a radical reform in estate management. Dunsany is to be made to pay. Harry Fowler hunted, dined & left by last train.
	4 Mar, Wed	Rode Panic with Wards. Got into a ditch & didn't see much of the run. He is a grand horse though a little difficult to ride at times. Went to Dublin & dined at Castle. I took in Lady Castletown which was much above the average luck in take ins.
(Fr Frewen, Moreton to Fred [?Hesse], yr uncertain) [query in original]	5 Mar, Thu	Meeting at 19 L[owe]r Dominick St. of Langford, Crozier, Hemphill & self over Mary's affairs. Decided to go with L[angford]. to Kilcooley Friday 13th. Returned D[unsan]y midday train & went on to Rahinston where I found Hon ? Greville, the de Burghs, a Miss Slator &c &c.
	6 Mar, Fri	Rode Silo with Meaths at Rahinston. Cold March day & poor sport.
	7 Mar, Sat	Came early to Dunsany. Hunted Wards at Ballybrack. Rode Nebuchadnezzar. Fair run. Went to Dunville's for Sunday. Met the Grange people, Dick Harrison & Donaldson. The Dunvilles do one very well indeed.
	8 Mar, Sun	Result of being done very well – symptoms of gout in feet, finger joints &c! I fear I am in for it. Murphy & I went to Downstown to lunch & then to Liscarton for a business talk and a turn at a circular which I had drafted to be sent round on behalf of the "Irish Cattle Association".

	9 Mar, Mon	Hunted Meaths at Bellinter. Rode Panic. Very poor day, the cold March wind abolishing all scent. I hate the stormy morn!
	10 Mar, Tue	Hunted Silo Dunboyne. Still no scent & poor hunting.
	11 Mar, Wed	Hunted Nebuchadnezzar with Wards. Crooked fast run. Old Neb is a splendid hunter & I have more confidence in him than in any horse I ever rode. Stephen Frewen dined & slept & Murphys dined.
	12 Mar, Thu	Dublin by early train. Spent whole day working up the Irish Cattle Assoc'n. I do hope it won't drop to the ground as soon as I go to America!
	13 Mar, Fri	Kilcooley with Langford. Met Townsend at Thurles & drove up together. Poor dear old Chum. How sad I feel over my duties as his executor. Everything seemed to be going well under a good steward □ Campbell.
	14 Mar, Sat	Returned to Castlemartin where I went over Willie Blacker's affairs with him.
	15 Mar, Sun	Church at Kilcullen. Very inconsequent howl at moderate indulgence in alcoholic liquors from the pulpit. Went by 4.30 train to Dublin.
	16 Mar, Mon	Dunsany by early train. Hunted Silo at Garton Cross. Lawn tennis weather. Dust flying out of the banks, very bad on fore legs. Hunting run from Harristown in evening.
	17 Mar, Tue	Football at Warrenstown village in honour of St. Patrick's. Sore work. Oliver Brighton dined with me & we had a talk over old times.
	18 Mar, Wed	Hunted Nebuchadnezzar with Wards at Drumree. Very good run to Lucan. I went about half way & enjoyed it much. Went to Dublin by 4.26 train to select candidate from enormous list of applicants for secretaryship of Irish Cattle Assoc'n.
[Hercules Edward Rowley was six when succeeded as 4th Baron Langford in 1854 .]	19 Mar, Thu	Meeting of Com'tee of Irish Cattle Assoc'n at 17 L[owe]r Dominick St. Elected a secretary Richard Shiel. He was not best candidate but was cousin to all the Leonards & Cullens. Interest! I voted against him. Went to Summerhill where Trotter also dined & slept. Langford is a good host & a good fellow besides. Not by any means clever & rather self-opinionated. But that comes of being a Lord to [sic] early in life.
	20 Mar, Fri	Hunted Silo at Summerhill & rode home. Dined Warrenstown to talk over affairs of Cattle Assoc'n with the secretary R Shiel. This was my 44th & last hunt for the season. On the whole I have enjoyed my hunting. But unless I can live an easier life I fear I must give it up as I have not the strength to waste.
	21 Mar, Sat	Packed as for America, having only one more day April 8th by present arrangements at Dunsany. Left by afternoon train & crossed over by N[orth]. Wall boat.
	22 Mar, Sun	Arrived No. 7 early. Found London under snow. Mary with Pater. Both looking well. Mary's children at Littlehampton convalescent.
	23 Mar, Mon	Business
	24 Mar, Tue	Business

	25 Mar, Wed	Tile meeting. Bulwer, Ivery, Cuffe, Castletown, Lawless & self present. Gave Old Bulwer full powers to go out & act for directors.
(Fr Frewin, Moreton to Fred [?Hesse])	26 Mar, Thu	Business. Keeping up tremendous correspondence about the Irish Cattle Assoc'n. Visit to Dr. Pritchard, D.D.S.
	27 Mar, Fri	Moreton Frewen dined. He offered me £1000 per anno to do his Company work. I of course declined. But if I only had the health how I would have jumped at it.
	28 Mar, Sat	Cable from "Carey Sturgis Gilchrist". Procure \$100,000 mortgage 30,000 acres patented. Will letter reach you, reply. Replied to Carey, Cheyenne. ["Write Queenstown sail 10th." Answer. When satisfied about prospect for loan cable, wrote fully today. Spent much time in dentist's chair.
	29 Mar, Sun	Called Aunt Isabella, Ella & Barclay M.P.
[Smyth]	30 Mar, Mon	W. D. Watson Smythe [sic], D Lawless, M Frewen, Sir J. Rae Reid dined with me at St. James Club.
	31 Mar, Tue	Dined & slept at Johnny's & Ernle's. Poor E. suffering wretchedly from kidneys. J. in a very unsatisfactory mental condition. Bored to death by doing nothing & without any practical ideas of doing anything except getting into Parl't, his mind naturally so brilliant is getting moss grown & fuddled.
	1 Apr, Wed	Returned No 7. Lunched with J B Roche at Bachelor's Club. Worked very hard by American business □ Tiles & Wyo Dev't Co. mortgage and Irish Cattle Assoc'n.
	2 Apr, Thu	[No entry]
(Fr Frewen, Moreton to Fred [?Hesse])	3 Apr, Fri	[No entry]
	4 Apr, Sat	Business & calls. Alston came to town & dined with us.
	5 Apr, Sun	Spent day in goodbyes to family & others.
[Edward, Prince of Wales]	6 Apr, Mon	Left by 7.15 AM Mail for Dublin. Arrived in ev[en]g & slept at T. Leonard's house, 5 Merrion Sq. East. Dublin gaily decorated & people anxiously asking the question How will Ireland receive H.R.H.
	7 Apr, Tue	Attended & spoke at first annual general meeting of Irish Cattle Assoc'n. Meeting badly attended. But a good deal of business was got through. My work is concentrated on getting live weight selling introduced. It is bad luck having to go & leave the work to others just when there seems some prospect of success.
	8 Apr, Wed	Spent day at Dunsany & R[ock]. Lodge finishing up estate business. Dined with T Leonard at his Club & spent evening working up Irish Cattle Assoc'n. During day the P[rin]ce of Wales arrived & aroused much latent loyalty. He could not have been more enthusiastically rec[eiv]ed.
	9 Apr, Thu	Attended Levee. Finished up Irish business & left for Cork where I slept at Imperial Hotel with Maxwell, Booth, Bulwer & Watson. The Levee was well attended, about 1800 people I believe. H.R.H. very well received in Ireland as far as I could make out.

		Felt very sorry to have to leave Ireland just when the fun was beginning. I hated missing Punctestown with a put up at Mrs. ?Baron's too. News came during day of fight betw'n Russian & Afghans.
	10 Apr, Fri	Went on board old favorite ship Celtic at Queenstown. Party of 7 on board AC Roche, HP Maxwell, Booth, Boothby (cousin of ACR), W Watson & Old Bulwer. At Queenstown met Horace Townsend & had talk over Mary's affairs.
	11 Apr, Sat – 17 Apr, Fri	[No entry]
(Fr Frewen, Moreton to Fred [?Hesse])	18 Apr, Sat	Pleasant voyage on the whole. One short gale: I spent my leisure time writing a pamphlet on the Irish cattle trade □ a last attempt to bring my late exertions to some successful definite issue.
	19 Apr, Sun	Arrived at N.Y. 11 A.M. & after going through that sink of vice the custom house, went to Everett House. The Hotels in N.Y. are either very exorbitant or very bad. The weather was like an English fine July and yet the steam heating apparatus was going at full blast. The thermometer is subjected to the calendar. Besides this the Everett House smells & is not clean.
	20 Apr, Mon	Went early to the Tiles. Found Ivery & Wynne as usual at loggerheads. The business on the verge of bankruptcy. But we (Bulwer & I) have £3000 more capital offered if we can report favorably. Horrible responsibility! Made member of Union League Club. Most comfortable, best furnished & best served club I was ever in. Visitors are made thoroughly at home. Real hospitality.
	21 Apr, Tue	Tiles all day. Maxwell, Booth, Boothby, Watson went West.
	22 Apr, Wed	Tiles all day. Came to a decision. The business is prospectively a good one. Mismanagement in past has nearly wrecked it. However so good are the possibilities that I decided to continue the business by asking the new investors to come in. I made it a condition that Old Bulwer should come out for a year to educate Ivery to business. Wynne must go.
[Franklin H. Work]	23 Apr, Thu	Dined with Old Work. Funny people. Old man a thorough Yankee millionaire. Believes his own gov't the most honest & the English the most corrupt in the world. Daughters (Mrs) B. Roche & Miss Lucy) have benefited with the old man's money & have bought education & manners. Son George a nice boy. But has the father's Americanisms without his brains. More presentable though. Tiles all day.
	24 Apr, Fri	Still Tiles. I think the business has been got into shape now. An extension of the works is needed & an alteration in details of construction & working system.
	25 Apr, Sat	Finished up N.Y. business and went to Chicago via West Shore Grand Trunk & Michigan Southern RRs.
	26 Apr, Sun	Traveling all day. Went through a good slice of southern Canada. The people across the Line somehow differ from the Americans. They are less active minded & worn looking. Not the drawn, keen look about eyes. Country full of orchards. Spring not visible. Blocks of ice still on lake shore & snow in drifts. At night put train on to boat at

		Windsor & went across to Detroit & so on by night to Chicago.
	27 Apr, Mon	Arrived Chicago (Leland Hotel) for breakfast. Found Boothby. Wrote several letters & saw a rather good burlesque.
	28 Apr, Tue	Business & letters in Chicago all day. Left at 9 PM for Superior.
	29 Apr, Wed	Arrived Superior, Wis[consin]. 4.45. Met F.R Lingham, M Frewen's manager & went by boat over to Duluth. Weather very cold. Lake still unnavigable from ice. Apparently a magnificent harbour, good scenery and signs of life & activity.
	30 Apr, Thu	Spent much of the day at Powder R Co's feeding station about 4 miles SE of Superior. Investig[atio]n showed M.F.'s figures as inaccurate as usual. Superior is not a favorable spot to feed as no produce is grown there. But by utilising lake route, cattle can be got via Superior to N.Y. as cheap as to Chicago by usual Ry's. Hence Superior may be the store market for the East instead of Chicago. Had a tremendous day's exercise. Air keen & invigorating. Healthy spot.
[Paul (sometimes Paul's informally)]	1 May, Fri	Spent whole day looking over the Superior side of the harbour and in revisiting Frewen's feeding yards. Wound up figures on experiment and found that it cost \$25 to feed each beast. They sold for 61.50. This leaves them at \$36 in their stores condition at Superior without profit. Am sure there will be a large town all round head of Lake Superior in five years. Left with Alexis & Boothby by night train for St. Pauls [sic].
	2 May, Sat	Spent day at St. Paul's with Tile Co's agent. Found good prospects but Co. much damaged by unbusinesslike fulfilling of orders. Wrote advising Bulwer or Ivery come St. P. and left for Omaha & the West.
	3 May, Sun	Arrived Omaha early. Found no train going to West till evening & so spent day there. Met J Coble, G.B Goodell & heard lots of news. Went to see a baseball match & had the game explained. It is much simpler than cricket but requires more agility & strength & less skill. It only lasts from 1 to 2 hours instead of days & so is better for business men. Players were all professionals. Much excitement at the match.
	4 May, Mon	Arrived Cheyenne at night. Found all the usual faces & Britishers galore. Gilchrist up north with Windsor.
	5 May, Tue	Found that Gilchrist proposed to make Windsor manager up north. This I entirely disagree with. I have summoned a meeting of the Frontier Co. for the 12th to discuss the affairs of the Co.
	6 May, Wed	Everything terribly depressed out west & I fear we shall all be hard up for money for a while. However good times will come again. Problem <input type="checkbox"/> what are The Roches, Maxwell, Booth, Watson, Boothby, Quin &c. to do out here. I will certainly do my best to help them to get into some profitable schemes. But it is a handful.
	7 May, Thu	Woke to find 4 inches of snow! Winter weather regularly set in.
	8 May, Fri	Business. Went out to Crow Creek Ranche where I slept. Found young Watson laid up with bad chill from over-work before he was "acclimated".

	9 May, Sat	Rode all over Crow Creek pastures & drove with Edmund R & Watson into Cheyenne in evening. Put Watson in Doctor's hands.
	10 May, Sun	Business all day I am ashamed to say. Gilchrist came in from Powder River & reported terrible anarchy during winter in EK outfit. Of course we had much to talk over.
	11 May, Mon	Business all day except one game of lawn tennis in afternoon which I played badly & got very still.
	12 May, Tue	Informal meeting of Frontier shareholders to discuss the situation. I stated that business had been badly conducted during winter & much money lost. But capital still untouched & shares worth par & I advocated a feeding place in Nebraska and the use of the southern ranches for wintering cows □ vealing calves & selling cows.
	13 May, Wed	Business all day. In afternoon went out to Crow Creek Ranch. Slept in same bed with Gilchrist who ground his teeth all night & kept me awake.
	14 May, Thu	Went over Crow Creek Ranch with Gilchrist. Found everything running very well indeed. In afternoon tried to ride a bucking pony. Found I could sit the bucks but was unseated by rearing. Got a shake in the yard at the house. None the worse.
	15 May, Fri	Business all day.
	16 May, Sat	Went with Boughton to Crow Creek to look over some cattle he (B) proposes to buy from the Frontier Co. It snowed & rained on us all day while it was fine in Cheyenne.
	17 May, Sun	Business broke in on the day of rest which is my usual fate in this busy life. Well one might as well be doing something as one's brain is employed all the time anyhow.
	18 May, Mon	Spent the day branding & buying WP bulls with Shocky, one of the Union Cattle Co's foremen. Was helped by Booth, Watson & Charley Quin all good workers.
	19 May, Tue	Gilchrist returned from Iron Mountain & reported well of affairs there.
	20 May, Wed	[No entry]
	21 May, Thu	When all arrangements were made for starting the bulls on the morrow □ Winn, Watson & I to drive Winn's bulls from stock yards to Schwartz's □ Blair arrived & told us he expected 50 head of bulls on Saturday. So to be "neighbourly" we offered to drive his up. So a complete change of plans was made during the night.
["Croppy" – a rebel in the 1798 United Irish rising]	22 May, Fri	Watson & I left Cheyenne 9 A.M., dined at Crow Creek where we picked up Watson Smyth's horse "Croppy" and slept at Fred Schwartz's. There is no road from Crow Creek to F. Schwartz's & I was rather broad of striking the Cheyenne & Fetterman road at Schwartz's. 33 miles.
	23 May, Sat	Dined at Hi Kelly's where we had to leave "Croppy" as he was lame behind from kidney trouble I think. We are rather overloaded in the buggy now. But with care I expect to get through safe. Slept at Jack Hunton's. 46 miles.
[query in original]	24 May, Sun	Dined at Laramie River Bridge. The road to the bridge passes through the Sabille flats and I had a good look over them in their desert state. It will be a pleasure to see the gradual or rapid?

		fertilisation of this stretch of wilderness. At dinner time Johnson, Maxwell & Boothby came over from the Irrig[atio]n lands & we had a good talk about them. We camped out (Watson's first camp) half way betw'n Cottonwood & Horseshoe. 40
[prob. Pollard]	25 May, Mon	Camped out again on Wagon □ stayed most of the day at Pollett's [sic] of La Bonté where he & I had a great talk on the future of the cattle business. Came to conclusion that cattle must be wintered to a great extent. Free range business played out. Those who have control of the land in the future will make money out of the cattle business & those only. Met Judge Carey on his way to a meeting of Directors on the Development Co's lands. Wish I could attend it. The Judge reported lots of dead cattle north. 34 miles
	26 May, Tue	Nooned at Fetterman & slept Brown Springs. 45 miles.
	27 May, Wed	Nooned Antelope & slept 17 Mile Ranche. Disagreeable rain storm from North made the journey very unpleasant. 45 miles.
	28 May, Thu	Drove to EK Ranch 55 miles. Found Old Pete in solitary glory. Felt in low spirits at the break up of the old partnership and the desertion of the Ranche. Of course it is the best plan as there was not work for Alexis, Boughton, Edmund, Booth & self. We have made a good journey 298 miles in 7 days, 2 small mules drawing 2 men & about 200 lbs baggage.
	29 May, Fri	Windsor – Ass't Manager now □ came over and we had a talk which lasted pretty nearly all day. We talked over the very aggravating winter expenditure, the changing cattle business and the necessity for wintering our cattle & depleting our ranges.
	30 May, Sat	Rode with Windsor over the lands we have "ditched" on North Fork. One Roach Chapman, cowboy in EK outfit came to Ranch. We have the worst possible foreman now & want another. R.C. is a possible candidate & I believe he has the capacity for the post. The whole question is as to his character. And here comes the judgment which makes or loses money in this country. I tried hard to study Roach Chapman.
	31 May, Sun	Discharged Phil du Fran. Always unpleasant discharging persons from positions of responsibility. But in this case the incompetence was so serious to the company that there was little compunction. Sorry for the man, who is a good worker but the antipodes of a business man. Put Roach Chapman in Phil's place & hope he may prove a success.
	1 Jun, Mon	Round up commenced. I attended & had some talk with the new foreman. Had long talk with Fred Hess[e]. He is a good business man and it would have been well for us if we had had him as our foreman □ as we might □ when we took J Donahue.
	2 Jun, Tue	Went to Round up again.
	3 Jun, Wed	Round-up all day.
	4 Jun, Thu	Went to Buffalo with Phil Du Fran to settle up all a/cs & try & unravel the winter books. Saw Fred Hess' [sic] wife at Crazy Woman on the way & thought her pretty & nice.
[Foote owned a general store; Conrad, a supply store; Organ, the	5 Jun, Fri	Buffalo very dull, over-boomed last year, then spent the day going over a/cs & told Foote (?B---castle), Conrad (Simpson), C.P Organ, McCray & Buell that Frontier Co. would not hold

hardware store; and McCray & Buell the Occidental Hotel]		itself responsible for orders of employees. Consulted Hinkle & Mann about jumped claims & other land matters.
	6 Jun, Sat	Returned to Rancho. Fit of indigestion caused by atrocious feeding. Met a man from other side of range who told me that Nowood Round up was to be at Flagstaff rancho today. Must go over there tomorrow.
	7 Jun, Sun	Went to Nowood country with Watson. Stopped at Jim Winn's Home Ranch on the way. J.W. away. Had miserably cold ride across the mountains.
[Peirce]	8 Jun, Mon	Found Round up on Nowood where Trout Creek runs in. Handed over Watson to Johnny Pierce [sic] who gave him a string at once and started him in to work. Sure he will do well.
[Peirce]	9 Jun, Tue	Rode a good part of the winter Range with Johnny Pierce [sic] □ all through the Nowater country. Saw no dead cattle. Came back & cut cattle. I sleep with Watson having no bed of my own. He is an excellent bedfellow. Never moves all night. Still I often lose a night's sleep owing to the hardness of the ground. Bony people with wide hips need a mattress.
	10 Jun, Wed	Camp moved to Mahogany Buttes. Rode "on circle" & then went to meet Jim Winn at Home Ranch. Talked over range matters together & discussed plans for trying to hold the range against settlers.
[Peirce]	11 Jun, Thu	Went with Johnny Pierce [sic] to Tensleep Ranch to look over affairs there. Rode with a stock inspector who joined us on the road. He was a man of the cool daredevil type one sometimes meets who are quite an interesting study. I knew his history & know that he is a man who carries his life in his hand. A strong cool nerve one would have credited him with. But the careless, sleepy manner which seemed unaffected didn't look like the energy which his callings required.
	12 Jun, Fri	Rode over same country S of Tensleep & returned late to Round up on Canyon Creek.
[Peirce]	13 Jun, Sat	Rode on circle. The weather lately has been cold wet & wintry. But this day was fine & bright & I enjoyed the morning freshness. Watson & I took a ride on the mountain & drove in our quantum of cattle. Spent afternoon most pleasantly over a/cs with Johnny Pierce [sic]. Johnny is so honest & honourable with his money matters that it is most satisfactory going over his books.
	14 Jun, Sun	Had a cold wet ride to the EK Home Ranch. Found letters but all business ones. Had to come over to meet some bulls for the WP herd, but must go back again soon as possible to attend to some land matters for the Union Cattle Co.
	15 Jun, Mon	Rode down to 15 mile pen to meet Bulls being driven up by Edmund Roche, Booth & Boothby. Bulls came having been driven too fast. Windsor came to EK Ranch in evening & I propounded my scheme for moving steer cattle over the mountains & starting a Steer Range on upper Nowood. He opposed it at first but I argued him into the scheme.
	16 Jun, Tue	The moving of a large body of cattle altered whole summer plans and gave me a big day's figuring & writing. Spent whole day letter writing & planning the cattle campaign for the summer.
[prob. NH]	17 Jun, Wed	Went to K.C. Ranch for dinner & to head off the mail carrier. Met Windsor there en route for Cheyenne. Went up & slept at HN

		[sic] Ranch.
	18 Jun, Thu	Came over to EK Ranch with Edmund Roche, Booth & Boothby. Pleasant to have some old partners at the "Home Ranch" again. Rode over ditch on North Fork & did general business.
	19 Jun, Fri	Rode down to 76 Home Ranch & met M Frewen just arrived. The bad times had taken down even Moreton's spirits. Heard that Gladstone had resigned & the Tories were coming in! M.F. is going to declare himself "an agnostic in politics"!
[Bennet]	20 Jun, Sat	Went again to 76 Home Ranch. F.A.K. Bennett [sic], Kemp, Jim Winn, F. Hess[e], M.F. & self. Quite an old time party. Talked over business matters with M.F. He is much more sensible now that he has bought some experience. Slept at 76 Ranch.
	21 Jun, Sun	Spent morning at 76 Home Ranch and rode to NH Ranch. There I learned that a surveyor with whom I was to go over the mountains next day would be several days behind his appointment. This upsets my plans & makes me reflect what an outlandish country this is do to business in.
	22 Jun, Mon	Came over to EK & did business of various kinds, chiefly looking over the irrigating works on North Fork. Cold wet rain all day. Glad enough of a huge log fire at night.
	23 Jun, Tue	Rained torrents all last night & most of today. Did a long day's letter writing.
	24 Jun, Wed	Started off on another cattle trip. Rode via 76 Home Ranch & KC Ranch to Round up on Murphy Creek. Had long hot ride south of K.C. not having been in the country since /80 & not knowing my way. Roughest country, not mountain, a man could find. Slept at Round up where I made several arrangements for future work.
	25 Jun, Thu	Rode to NH. No surveyor came. Slept at Bar C to get mail.
	26 Jun, Fri	Went to NH. In afternoon surveyor arrived. He seemed a man of moderate intelligence. But what a miserable lot they are. Why is it that all professional men – doctors, lawyers, clergymen, architects &c &c. in the west are so inferior to the unprofessional men[?] I suppose because the material advantages of this western country enable a man to do better for himself than by working for wages. Perhaps too the majority of western men had the common school education which though far superior to our national education is hardly a first class one.
	27 Jun, Sat	Crossed the mountains to Winn's home Ranch, surveyor following with buggy.
	28 Jun, Sun	Started with Pack outfit down Nowood. Finding nothing to take up we camped at Bar X Bar Ranch on Tensleep. Very hot western country again infested with Indians. A Cheyenne Indian asked me to mend his rifle. I replied "No savey." He pointed to a man working in a blacksmith's shop & said, "Hot man savey".
	29 Jun, Mon	Surveyor walked us all off our legs. I bathed in the ice cold torrent of Tensleep. But felt very weak in the heat. 87 in shade. Not great. But too much for walking all day.
	30 Jun, Tue	Finished work on Tensleep and returned to Bar X Bar Home Ranch.
	1 Jul, Wed	Looked for "corners" all day. Terrible hot work. You find a corner and know that a certain distance off in a certain direction by compass there is another corner. You then forget your direction & step a distance, try to find the horizontal distance

		therefrom & there is your stone □ if the rascally contract surveyor had done his work conscientiously, a big if.
	2 Jul, Thu	Returned via NH to EK. A big lot of letters waiting. Can take a day or two to answer them. Good to get back & rest awhile.
(Fr Frewen, Moreton to Fred [?Hesse])	3 Jul, Fri	Letter writing all day. Much annoyed by letters from Gilchrist & others showing that G is jealous of my interference on Powder R. I only interfered from necessity and because G. could not come to Powder R. He imagines that he can run the business up here from Cheyenne which is impracticable. He resents my interference out of pure jealousy I am afraid.
	4 Jul, Sat	Cleared lower pasture of all cattle except beeves and wrote more letters.
	5 Jul, Sun	Wrote letters and did a/cs & then went to Bar C home Ranch for the night.
	6 Jul, Mon	Went to NH Ranch to wait for the surveyor. He didn't come.
	7 Jul, Tue	Surveyor came late in afternoon. We did no work. I got a heavy mail & many other letters, one containing my pamphlet on Irish Cattle Trade. On reading it over it is rather too thin & perhaps to [sic] polemic □ though I had an object in trying to stir up a little energy in the way of a fight rather than have no energy at all.
	8 Jul, Wed	Surveyed ditches in NH pasture. I worked part of time on instrument & part of time with level rod. Very tiring work in hot weather.
	9 Jul, Thu	Surveying all day. Got a cable from Tile Co in London "Matters urgent. Shareholders twenty second July. Duplicate letter to Cheyenne New York". Do they expect me to leave my business out here & go & stew in the Brooklyn Tile factory. I suppose it is another crisis & probably the last and I am the man to go & set things right having most time on my hands!
[Peirce]	10 Jul, Fri	Surveyed in NH pasture all morning & returned to EK Ranch by noon. Glad to be at rest again. Millais & Johnny Pierce [sic] were the guests of the day.
	11 Jul, Sat	Letter writing all day which is a rest to one's limbs at any rate. I wrote a long letter to Gilchrist to try & get some understanding about the limits of his & my authority which there seems to be some dispute about in his mind.
	12 Jul, Sun	Desk work and some outdoor exercise such as getting firewood in the mountains behind the ranch & doing some riding in the pasture.
	13 Jul, Mon	Went down to K.C. to catch mail carrier. Went with him as far as Round up which I found at 76 Home Ranch. Slept with round up in a stinking bed & caught very unpleasant cold. Had long consultation with F Hess[e] & Chapman about work on range for summer. Letter came from post. News very sad. Poor Mary Blacker's melancholy has ended in death "from an overdose of laudanum taken to procure sleep". What a terrible cloud hangs over that family. Poor dear good honest soft[-]hearted Willie. I fear the shock to him will be almost beyond his power of endurance.
	14 Jul, Tue	Weather very hot. Worked up to 76 Home Ranch & on to EK home Ranch. My cold had weakened me & I felt very miserable.
	15 Jul, Wed	Rode to KC ranch with mail including letter of condolence to Willie Blacker in his terrible sorrow. Went with Round up & rode back with Chapman & F. Hess[e] by night to Ranch. Strange day. Hurricane. 96 in shade, then cold night! almost 40° probably.
	16 Jul, Thu	Spent day writing up Chapman's a/cs & trying to make a simple system for him to keep with the company & the employees without getting them mixed.

	17 Jul, Fri	Went to Round up & held council with Roach Chapman. He is I think going to be an A1 foreman.
To Mr. Lingham (FREW)	18 Jul, Sat	Rode over North Fork lands and did washing. Tossed with Edmund & Dood which should wash for the 3 & lost.
	19 Jul, Sun	Went to Round up at Twin corrals, mouth Dry Creek on N Fork. Went to NH Ranch by night. Rode into bog hole & got into wet black mud up to my waist. Horse got away & was out with saddle all night.
	20 Jul, Mon	Found horse early. Nothing lost except 6 shooter. Horse none the worse. Rode over mountain & struck yearling steer drive about a mile W of Old Shield Ranch at night. Slept in a smelly cowboy bed.
	21 Jul, Tue	Rode all day over our new steer range with Billy Burnett our wagon boss & after long hard day got to Winn's ranch for supper. Found Winn, a younger brother and one Sir Henry Lawrence. Winn told me his father was made a Peer – Ld. St. Oswald.
	22 Jul, Wed	Rode back to NH for noon. Found Windsor. Letter from Gilchrist anent our recent quarrel saying "My candid belief is you have argued your case so forcibly & well I must own up to being the vanquished foe." This is manly. Letters from Coleridge, Mary & Pater. Altogether a most satisfactory mail and most cheering after hard dragging work. Returned EK Ranch.
	23 Jul, Thu	Business at EK & with outfit on North Fork. "Roach" Chapman appears to me to have the makings of a first class foreman.
	24 Jul, Fri	Business at Ranch. A/cs. Laying out work, &c. &c.
	25 Jul, Sat	Rode over fences-lines on North Fork & did other business.
	26 Jul, Sun	Spent day writing up foreman's a/cs. Heavy thunder storm prevented my starting for Cheyenne.
	27 Jul, Mon	Started on my solitary weary journey for Cheyenne. Went to P.O. 40 miles Took Company buggy & p[ai]r small mules. They are tough but horribly slow. They "get there" but it would bust up Job in business driving them.
	28 Jul, Tue	Camped out at night on Wind River. 38 miles.
	29 Jul, Wed	Made Fetterman 52 miles. Diarrhoea (bilious) upon me. Canned food □ & there is hardly any other, gets away with my weak digestion.
	30 Jul, Thu	Got to Horse Shoe. 44 miles.
	31 Jul, Fri	Nooned at Laramie Bridge & stopped at Hunton's. 46 miles. Met R. Trimble who told me Boughton was in Hospital at Cheyenne with typhoid, poor chap.
	1 Aug, Sat	Drove within 12 miles of Cheyenne & camped out. Spent miserable day in some anxiety about Boughton. Going all day along a telephone & a telegraph line. But heavy thunderstorm night before had smashed many posts & communication was cut off. Camping out alone in the prairie is dismal work. The silence of the prairie broken only by the howl of wolves & coyotes is very dreary.
	2 Aug, Sun	Arrived Cheyenne 7 A.M. Washed & fed & went at once to see Boughton. He looked very ill though not reduced in flesh. A new doctor attending him seems a good man for Cheyenne. Hospital very nice & airy. I doubt on the whole whether he could be in better quarters. Poor fellow is anxious about his business. I assured him I had nothing else to do & would act for him with my whole soul. This was a white lie. I never was so busy. Charlie Egerton, Dick Frewen's director, was awaiting me here to ask me to help the Dakota Co. out of the greatest imaginable muddle.

		Gilchrist is in from the feeding place. Peters waits to talk to me about Powder River affairs. Wyo Development Co., Union Cattle Co., Electric Light Co. & many other affairs demand attention & if I don't go mad during this month I shall die sane.
	3 Aug, Mon	Boughton better. Not allowed to see him. Dick Frewen went to see him against all orders of doctor. Terribly busy all day. Dined on business with T. Sturgis.
	4 Aug, Tue	Business
	5 Aug, Wed	Business
	6 Aug, Thu	Business all day & then went to Laramie City en route for Ione Land & Cattle Co.'s location on the Laramie River. Allowed to see Boughton before I left. He was glad I was going to look after his business.
	7 Aug, Fri	Off early by freight train to Hutton Station where I found a pony tied to the telegraph post. The station master (age 15 about) explained to me that I was to steer straight for a certain mountain peak in the distance, & I should come on the Ranch. Quite unnecessary. The pony knew the way. Found A. Pryce at the Ranch (Ranch borrowed pending building of one by company) and rode over the lands with him going into all the affairs of the Co. in hopes of being able to tell Boughton everything was going right.
	8 Aug, Sat	Returned from Ione Lands & did business all day. Left Boughton's scheme in fair shape. Work rather scattered and situation not quite grasped. However I think while B. was sickening for his illness he probably loosened his hold.
	9 Aug, Sun	Spent day writing letters home, visiting Boughton & business!
	10 Aug, Mon	Left by morning train for Omaha.
	11 Aug, Tue	Met Gilchrist at Paxton House at breakfast & went out in afternoon to Herman about 41 miles up the Missouri on the right bank. Our feeding place lies about 6 miles back from the River. Fine corn country, good hay. Land flat & wet but only from surface water - easily drained & seeded down into tame pasture. Found AC Roche at the Farm house we boarded at.
	12 Aug, Wed	Spent the day at the sheds. Gilchrist is a capital man for that sort of work, far better than at range work which is not his forté. The landlady who boarded us temporarily did us as well as a Cheyenne Hotel keeper would but charged 4.00 a week instead of 3.00 a day. Everything is cheaper & there seems to be no capital & no enterprise in the country. The mental capacity of the foreman well exemplified by the determination of owner to sell us nothing as our coming would raise the value of his property & so increase his taxes!
	13 Aug, Thu	Drove with Alexis over the lands and left for Omaha. Got a telegram from Moreton Frewen saying Peters wanted to ship cattle direct to Chicago & asking me to advise Board to contrary. Unfair request! P.S. Thursday 13. On way from Herman to ranche saw Lantry from whom we bought most of the land. He is to come with me to Powder River & decide whether he will take his money in cash or better in shares. First impressions of the man were smartness without great ability. Hardness, blunt sense of honour.
	14 Aug, Fri	Drove out with Gilchrist to Union Cattle Co's feeding place at Gilmore. Their plant & machinery is to feed 3750 cattle at a time, the largest feeding establishment in the world probably. They will feed their corn in a liquid or "slop" state. We prefer the porridge consistency - great will be the anxiety of cattle men to see which system succeeds best. We feed 1600 at a time but can expand.

		Left at night for Cheyenne.
	15 Aug, Sat	Arrived Cheyenne. Boughton doing well. His brother & wife having arrived.
To Moreton Frewen	16 Aug, Sun	Business all day and an attack of bilious diarrhoea & indigestion.
To Moreton Frewen	17 Aug, Mon	A very sickly day.
	18 Aug, Tue	Business
	19 Aug, Wed	Business. Felt very sick & low. Feared I should not be able to get through the season's work. Saw a doctor who told me rest was absolutely necessary for me every year.
[go-devil – a wide, horse-drawn rake for dragging hay to the rick]	20 Aug, Thu	Started on a long journey north. Went to Crow Creek where I looked over the haying &c. Miserably wet weather. But go devils & stackers make one almost independent of any ordinary bad weather. Started with Watson & Smyth, the two mules I went north with before.
	21 Aug, Fri	Drove to Iron Mountain, David Gilchrist showing me the way across. Found Maxwell hard at work & of great use to company. The foreman Noble had installed his wife in the new Ranch and she made us comfortable & fed us excellently on plain food.
	22 Aug, Sat	Spent day surveying ditches & riding some 25 miles round the "property". Noble is a grand rustler and really works as if he owned the property himself.
	23 Aug, Sun	Left Iron Mountain - drove with Maxwell to the Sabille. Where the road crosses M. took on the buggy to the Two Bar Ranch and lent me his horse to ride to the Tunnel. Found work going on well with new machinery - air compressor worked by water power (turbine). Work at both ends by means of air pipe over hill. Hot air in compressor condenses in pipe & will freeze in winter. This I fear will stop the work.
	24 Aug, Mon	Rode to Two Bar Ranch & then drove with Maxwell over Development Co. lands. Camped with engineers on Sabille near Mule Shoe Ranch. Crops on lands did badly for want of water. But they showed well for the chance they had had.
	25 Aug, Tue	Drove to Horseshoe.
	26 Aug, Wed	Drove to Fetterman where I found one Lantry waiting for me to take him up to Powder River. Lantry is the vendor of the Herman lands and comes to decide whether he will take his pay in cash or shares. He is a hard bargainer, a Jew in his dealings & were the company able to do without him it would be better.
	27 Aug, Thu	Made Antelope Springs. Fare for man & horse miserable. Lantry better than nobody during a lonely drive over the wilderness.
	28 Aug, Fri	Reached Powder River P.O. Met Windsor who had to go East to his wife as his children were dying. This will give me killing work to get through up here.
	29 Aug, Sat	Drove to E.K. Ranche & was glad to be at journey's end. Never saw the Range so terribly eaten off. Yet the cattle look well & Lantry seems pleased. Found old Pete cooking at the Ranche for a crowd of passers by. Everything in the house filthy. I have to go out into a tent to sleep!
	30 Aug, Sun	Surveyed ditches on North Fork. Had long talk with "Roach" Chapman on work to be done. The more I see of that man the more convinced I am that we have turned up a trump in our new foreman. Put Pete in charge of "granger" work for outfit.
	31 Aug, Mon	Surveying ditches & fences on North Fork all day.
	1 Sep, Tue	Rode with Lantry to Peters & Alston's comfortable, luxurious ranch. Chapman & Fred Hess[e] came & we held a great pow-

		wow.
	2 Sep, Wed	Went over mountains to Winn's ranch. W. away. Ed Carruthers came over to act as Lantry's guide in the Nowater country.
[plug – horse] [Peirce]	3 Sep, Thu	I rode to WP ranch & heard round up had gone north. Borrowed a very poor plug & started off. Took wrong road & had a hard 27 miles more to mouth of Paint Rock. Found Johnny Pierce's [sic] wagon with that very nice boy Watson. Slept there well after 52 mile ride on tiring horses.
	4 Sep, Fri	Up long before first signs of dawn & out with first light for a gallop "on circle" of some 30 miles. Then saw the cattle worked and talked over business with all the foremen & returned to WP Ranch where I found Lantry & E Carruthers & also Booth out of the mountains.
	5 Sep, Sat	Rode with Lantry, 'Dood' & Ed Carruthers over Northern trail to EK Ranch. Cold fog over mountains but the light air & fast riding kept us tolerably warm. Old Lantry is a wonder in the saddle. The 40 miles on end tried him no more than if he had been in the saddle all his life. I admit I was tired by the trip & found it hard to settle down to a heavy letter writing which I had to do.
	6 Sep, Sun	Started with mules & buggy for Tebbetts' Ranch via Powder River P.O. where I was to leave Lantry en route for Cheyenne. Booth came with me.
	7 Sep, Mon	Said goodbye to Lantry & drove (Booth & I) to Buffalo where we did business & slept.
	8 Sep, Tue	Drove down Clear Creek about 43 miles. Nooned at Col. Pratt's Ranch but was not offered any dinner. Fortunately had some grub with us. Col. Pratt not at home of course. I only hope the open house system is going to be done away with. But it won't do to be the victim of both systems. Clear Creek a beautiful stream - clear rocky sparkling - nearly whole way down a beautiful bottom easily irrigated (all controlled by Pratt & Ferris) stretches along the N. bank. The banks of the creek every now & then show rich broad strata of coal. On Powder River below mouth Clear Creek there is a 36 foot seam. Camped out.
	9 Sep, Wed	Started early. Meant to strike Dick Frewen's Ranch for dinner. But thinking it was on Powder R instead of Bitter Creek we passed it by & had to dine off our only article of food □ 2 eggs apiece. Struck Tebbetts' Ranch near sunset. T. out but came in after dark.
	10 Sep, Thu	Spent the day examining into the capability of a fine 1400 acre tract T. has taken up for irrigation. Had the instruments with me and first went over a proposed plan for irrigating out of Powder River. But muddy water, deep cutting made it almost impracticable. Only other way to irrigate land by making huge reservoir in Bloom Creek, a little tributary at top of land which runs very little water. Put this off till Friday & wrote up the a/cs for the year.
	11 Sep, Fri	Finally made up balance sheet which showed a loss on the transactions of T[ebbetts] & Co. since first start. If the lands can be irrigated the Real Estate a/cs will make this a gain. But otherwise it is a poor business. The fact is T. is a poor manager. He doesn't get on with men. He has not much head and does not see that he has neither got a breeding establishment nor a free range horse business but a mixture of the two. He has the expense of the former with the want of control of the mares belonging to the latter. Spent day examining into Bloom Creek reservoir scheme. On paper it is practicable but a good engineer must decide commercial practicability. I don't much believe in irrigating from reservoirs. Seepage & evaporation are too great.

	12 Sep, Sat	Left T. & Co.'s - nooned at Dick F[rewen]'s ranch but did not find C. Barber, his manager, at home. Camped at night with a 76 round up wagon run by Charley Ford, one of our /81 & /82 employees. The general opinion of the cowboys is that Wyoming is dangerously overstocked. Unquestionably our policy must be to lighten up the herd.
	13 Sep, Sun	Drove to Buffalo. Found there that the sherriff [sic] & his posse had arrested the two Indians who were caught killing an E2 cow, on the Wind River agency & had them safely lodged in Buffalo jail. Slept at Buffalo after trying to write home amidst the din of whiskey, gambling & the braying of the band which goes on the same on Sundays as on weekdays at the Occidental Hotel.
	14 Sep, Mon	Drove to EK Ranch & was mighty glad to have got over the trip.
	15 Sep, Tue	Surveying fences, ditches &c. on N Fork. I like this work a good deal better than travelling though it is tiring enough.
	16 Sep, Wed	Got & answered a heavy mail, North Fork all afternoon. Weather bright cool & enjoyable.
	17 Sep, Thu	Riding & writing all day. Roach Chapman & I had a long business talk & I was immensely pleased with the business capacity of our new foreman.
	18 Sep, Fri	Surveying on North Fork and tallying horses with some a/cs took up the day. Weather still glorious.
	19 Sep, Sat	Surveying & attending ditch work.
	20 Sep, Sun	Correspondence & a/cs
	21 Sep, Mon	Surveying & general business
	22 Sep, Tue	Surveying all day <input type="checkbox"/> very tiring work. Weather glorious.
	23 Sep, Wed	Weather up to July heat. Got huge budget of letters among others from Castletown, Dick Frewen & Egerton all asking advice which I can give & assistance which I can't give for Dakota Stock & Grazing Co. Cable from Denis Lawless dated 17th - "\$10,000 required to save company. Last appeal shareholders that you & Boughton do Tesselive Lawless[?]. I replied via Buffalo to Chaplin "Cable Lawless Tesselive London as follows: Plunkett three thousand if you cable company saved. Ask Boughton to risk one thousand same terms. If consents charge cable Plunkett."
	24 Sep, Thu	Busy all day at ditch work. Rode over to Peters & Alston's on way to Nowood country.
	25 Sep, Fri	Rode to 11 Ranch on Box Elder. Miserable cabin, one man there with one dirty bed which there were 4 of us to share, 2 cowboys having come in from Round up.
[Peirce]	26 Sep, Sat	Started out in a fog & got lost up Nowood. Not for long however. Found Pierce [sic] & WP outfit camped at Lysaght.
[Peirce]	27 Sep, Sun	Cut the beef & found only some 800 including 2 yr olds & cows by the score. This will be a terrible disappointment to the Union Cattle Co. who will now find that the herd is short. Pierce [sic] told me confidentially that the calf herd kept by Windsor was 200 short of tally. He said he didn't cook it meaning that Windsor did. What on earth can I do. Conscience money would imply that I took Pierce's [sic] word before Windsor's which of course I have no right to do. I must consult Gilchrist who is straight. Fine cold weather. But I can't sleep at night well in camp without a very good bed to myself.
	28 Sep, Mon	Long ride from Lysaght back to Peters & Alston's. Hard traveling. But I was in a hurry. Arrived at nightfall quite played out, horse ditto. Alston & Peters both gone. Millais not enlivening. Early to bed & slept sound.

	29 Sep, Tue	Up at 3 A.M. and off to EK by 6 A.M. Cold moonlight ride. Found 3 EK wagons at work in pasture trying to get started for Railroad. I wish they were gone.
	30 Sep, Wed	Ditch twice - got water in & it played fast & loose with the banks of the ditch. Turned it off. Beef cattle did not come up to expectations by a long way. Cattle business gets more disappointing each year!
	1 Oct, Thu	Cow herd started for Iron Mountain.
	2 Oct, Fri	North Fork ditch & beef herds kept me busy enough all day. Cold wet fog. First real wintry day this Fall.
	3 Oct, Sat	Cut & started beef herd. Only some 500 head instead of 800! Roach & I rode over to see F. Hess[e] at Crazy Woman on important range business. Hess[e] gone away for 10 days. This puts out all our plans & delays me here.
	4 Oct, Sun	Returned to EK Ranch via the ditch camp and EK cow camp. Found the cook all alone at EK. Yesterday there were two EK wagons there & the day before three. It seems quite deserted. Gave me a chance to write some letters.
[res augusta – limited means; narrow resources]	5 Oct, Mon	Went down the River to see the beef herds before they left the range. Slept at “Hard Winter”, Davis’s ranch where his wife was most hospitable. She is by way of being a lady. But she has reconciled herself to ranch life & she & a Lady Help do all the cooking & other housework. It is wonderful how comfortable we were made & how little we (Chapman & I & two other chance guests) were made to feel the “res augusta” of a house with 4 rooms in all, two of which were occupied by Mr. & Mrs. D & the “Help” & the other was the kitchen. So the rest of us slept on the “Parlor” floor & slept well too on improvised but clean & fairly soft beds.
	6 Oct, Tue	Returned with Chapman to EK Ranch. Got big budget of letters en route at 76 Home Ranch.
	7 Oct, Wed	Rode about the North Fork Lands with Chapman nearly all day.
	8 Oct, Thu	Left EK Ranch in the morning with Chapman to survey the Beaver Creek ditch. Chapman had to go back hearing that his arrangements for wintering the EK horses had fallen through, a man having failed to fill his contract to put up hay in the mountains. So I went on & surveyed during the afternoon. The cow outfit was camped at the NH & I got two cowboys at the rod & chain. Rode over to Peters & Alston’s Ranch to get a good bed at night.
	9 Oct, Fri	Got up early & rode over to NH to find even the outfit cook in bed. Days getting very short! Worked all day along the prospective ditch. Three miles in all to lay out. Had 9000 feet layed [sic] out when I left off. Slept with the cowboys. They subscribed a good (though rather smelly) bed with their usual hospitality. A cold wind blew all night & I lost my sleep. I am getting tired out & long for the rich damp air & enforced idleness of the Atlantic trip.
	10 Oct, Sat	Up before light & out on the Beaver Creek flat with the instrument. Finished the line of ditch & returned to EK Ranch with Edmund Roche who came over to help me survey □ weather this Fall glorious till this afternoon when a cold threatening wind with rain not far off looked like the end of the warm weather.
	11 Oct, Sun	Woke to find 6 inches of snow on the ground & snow still falling. How thankful I am to be in the shelter when cold or wet weather comes. The big pitch pine fire in our huge open fire is very goodly. Spent the whole day writing up arrears of

		correspondence.
	12 Oct, Mon	Bright day & sharp frost. Surveyed the line of much talked of ditch round the ?Horn on to the big flats and surrounding country. Found it altogether too expensive, the country being terribly gulchy rocky "bad land"y & generally impracticable.
	13 Oct, Tue	Spent another day looking through the level on North Fork.
	14 Oct, Wed	Rode to Peters & Alston's for mail & then to NH battleground to look up ditch line, claims & other matters with Chapman. Riding 12 hours.
	15 Oct, Thu	Buggy started with Booth. I went over with Chapman to Crazy Woman in hopes of finding F. Hess[e]. Did not find him. Spent all morning & part afternoon surveying &c on North Fork.
	16 Oct, Fri	Stayed till evening. No signs of Hess[e] whom I wanted very particularly to see on general range business. Rode over to Trabling by dark & took stage at midnight. At last I begin to go towards home.
	17 Oct, Sat	Caught up buggy at Brown Springs where I had a welcome night's sleep.
	18 Oct, Sun	Drove Brown Springs to Point of Rocks. Took a cut off crossing Platte at mouth of Box Elder. Passed cow herd in the morning. All well.
	19 Oct, Mon	Drove in buggy to 27 Mile Ranch & then took stage to Rock Creek & freight train to Laramie City. Got on Railroad after my too hard work with great sense of relief. Traveled in stage with a sherriff [sic] from Illinois in charge of a murderer (a nigger soldier from Ft. McKinney) who was chained loosely by the feet & left otherwise free. Foolish confidence. But he didn't break loose.
	20 Oct, Tue	Arrived at Cheyenne & plunged into business. Found budget of letters. Among them a lot from Tile Co. It seems that Verney is abusing me for advising him to invest.
	21 Oct, Wed	Business all day.
	22 Oct, Thu	Business all day.
	23 Oct, Fri	Dined with Willie Peters & wife. Brighton's sister in law was there. She seems very nice. Gilchrist came last night & we had a meeting of Wyo Dev't Co. Decided to issue bonds to raise money. But the bonds all had to be taken by shareholders in proportion to their stock. Bonds bear 8% & ought to be very marketable at home.
	24 Oct, Sat	Business all day.
	25 Oct, Sun	Business all day. No commandment will be more surely vindicated, in this world at any rate, than the 7th . Six days a week is enough for mind & body to work.
	26 Oct, Mon	Meeting Stock Assoc'n. Not much done though we sat for six hours. Got up a league to establish a fair but reduced scale of wages for cowhands and to abolish free board at Ranches. Gilchrist went back to Herman.
	27 Oct, Tue	Drove out with Edmund Roche to Iron Mountain Ranch. Met Maxwell & Boothby there.
	28 Oct, Wed	Spent the day riding over the Ranch & surveying ditches &c. Found the place improving fast & think it a good investment. We bought it very much in the rough & it will cost a good deal of money to reduce it to order. But I have no doubt of its value provided we have no difficulty in "proving up".
	29 Oct, Thu	Spent the morning surveying ditches & then drove into Cheyenne with Maxwell leaving Edmund Roche to represent me at Iron Mt. on the arrival of the cow herd.

		This is my last out of door day's work for the year & I feel like a schoolboy going home for the holidays. I have been worked pretty hard. But I daresay it is best so. An idle day would hang heavily in my hands.
To Moreton Frewen	30 Oct, Fri	Business all day. Weather cold but still fine. The finest season I ever saw this Fall taking it all together.
[éclat – brilliance]	31 Oct, Sat	The last day in Cheyenne. Closing up my year's business. Arranged range work for next year. Made all necessary financial arrangements with my admirable secretary John Chaplin & got through packing with great éclat. Seldom did more in a day.
[Peirce]	1 Nov, Sun	Left Cheyenne early by freight train & went to Pine Bluffs to see WP cattle shipped. Said adieu to WP outfit & Johnny Pierce [sic]. Got on to passenger train & went with Boothby, Booth, Maxwell & John Chaplin for Herman.
[ACR – Alexis Charles Roche]	2 Nov, Mon	Arrived at Herman where we met ACR & Gilchrist. Coble came too & we had the Annual General Meeting of the Frontier Co. I was elected President again & other officers reelected. General feeling (except on part of Coble who would rather see Windsor in power) was that it was necessary for me to take charge of the Range part of the business. Telegraphed for young Watson to come & work in Herman office of Co.
	3 Nov, Tue	Hard business all day.
	4 Nov, Wed	Early train to Omaha where I met Watson & told him I wanted him to do his best to attach himself to Frontier Co. as John Chaplin's assistant. I went to Nebraska Nat[ional] B[an]k & volunteered to join with A[ndrew].G[ilchrist]. in endorsement of Frontier Co. notes. Left by 4.20 train for Chicago.
	5 Nov, Thu	Went through Chicago taking Limited fast train on Pennsylvania RR.
[Peirce]	6 Nov, Fri	Arrived Philadelphia 5 PM where I laid over a couple of hours to see Windsor. Asked him about Johnny Pierce's [sic] allegation (see Sept. 27). He satisfied me that Pierce [sic] had made a stupid mistake about it. I am very glad of this. I did not before see how Pierce [sic] could have got the impression. At the same time after 3 year business with Windsor I can say I never knew him do a crooked thing. Went to Everett House, New York by 7 o'clock train.
	7 Nov, Sat	Went to Tile Works & found both Iverys, Wynne and Wilson. The old story. More money or bankruptcy.
	8 Nov, Sun	Had to have a meeting of the above at the Tile Co & go into finances.
	9 Nov, Mon	Tiles Tiles Tiles. Booth, Boothby, Maxwell & Edmund Roche arrived at Everett House.
	10 Nov, Tue	Tiles all day. Theatre at night.
	11 Nov, Wed	Tiles all day. Dined at night with Moeran, the Tile lawyer & went to the opera (L'Africaine). Alas that I have no ear for music. The long choruses & the few songs which I could enjoy the air of chiefly characterised the performance, as far as I was concerned.
	12 Nov, Thu	Went on board my old favorite the Celtic & sailed at 8 A.M. Felt great relief at getting away from all business for 10 days. Deck cabin with Booth. Expected great benefit from sea breezes night & day. 27 miles from Sandy Hook.
	13 Nov, Fri	328 - Got vaccinated.
	14 Nov, Sat	328 - Was sorry I had suffered vaccination for I found I had picked up in New York one of the thousand ills which though

		thoroughly understood by & tractable to the doctor will in conjunction with the effects of vaccination deprive me of the entire benefit of the voyage & the much needed rest.
	15 Nov, Sun	?319
	16 Nov, Mon	314
	17 Nov, Tue	339
	18 Nov, Wed	309
	19 Nov, Thu	312
	20 Nov, Fri	321 - 213 to Queenstown
	21 Nov, Sat	Arrived Queenstown where Booth, Maxwell & Edmund Roche disembarked 5 AM. Long delay & so have to sleep another night on Board. No bad news from home this time. Poor Randal's hopeless illness & Poor Chum's sudden death greeted my last two returns. Had a smooth but miserable trip owing to my disorder & the vaccination. Both nearly well. But being in low health, such upsets are hard.
	22 Nov, Sun	Landed early in Liverpool & went to London where I found the whole family. Pater looked very well indeed. He says he is getting weaker which alas is to be expected. Johnny is a new man with an object in life. He really works at his canvas [sic] & will I hope get in.
	23 Nov, Mon	Tile meeting (Directors) in afternoon. I prepared a report to read at a shareholders meeting tomorrow.
	24 Nov, Tue	Shareholders meeting of Tile Co. Present Cuffe, Lawless, W.R. Bulwer, Raymond, Pater, Boughton & self. I read a report to the effect that we have still a good prospect of pulling through if we only stand by our investment. Decided to send the report round to shareholders.
	25 Nov, Wed	Rewrote & condensed Tile Report with help of WR Bulwer & Mary.
	26 Nov, Thu	Directors meeting at Tile Co. Decided to issue my report at once. It appears we shall get the money required, my father subscribing £1000, Bulwer £1000 & others making it up to £8000.
	27 Nov, Fri	Began to suffer from inflammation of the Bladder. Dined with Conny to meet a Tile shareholder, one Starkey. Persuaded him that he ought to take his share of the new issue of debentures & support the concern.
[9 st, 7 lb = 133 lbs]	28 Nov, Sat	Inflammation of the bladder very severe. Saw W.H. Dickinson (9 Chesterfield St) & he sent me to a surgeon T. Holmes, 18 Gt. Cumberland Place, to see if surgical treatment was required. Both prescribed starvation & physic & absolute rest. The latter I have no doubt on general grounds will do me no harm. Weighed naked 9.7, the best weight for some time. But so much depends on fill of stomach. Moreton Frewen & J.G Butcher dined.
	29 Nov, Sun	A very quiet sofa Sunday. Inflam[matio]n slightly better.
	30 Nov, Mon	Spent on the sofa.
	1 Dec, Tue	Went to the doctor: was sent back to sofa.
	2 Dec, Wed	[No entry]
	3 Dec, Thu	[No entry]
	4 Dec, Fri	Went to doctor & was pronounced doing very well. Allowed to go on my visit to Timsbury tomorrow.
[poss. Francis Charles Baring, married to	5 Dec, Sat	Went to Timsbury. Found Alfred Baring & wife (a Miss Schuster), Sir Peniston Milbank[e] & wife (the owners of

Isabella Augusta Schuster]		Eartham, a house near Goodwood we took 14 years ago. Lady M. was very pretty then but now she has gone off sadly) the Simeons & Sclater Booth (Board of Works last Conservative Government) & daughter & a Mr. Wade - amateur artist & tenor. Apparently a pleasant party.
	6 Dec, Sun	Rather a long Sunday but we made the best of it & began to get agreeable to each other. Old Sclater Booth struck me as the stupidest old stick-in-the-mud I had met for an age.
	7 Dec, Mon	Spent most of the day at the Berthon Boat Co. Their affairs are dead enough: But not quite hopeless. Old Berthon is the worst business man I ever met. But what is worse he won't let his son, who has some business about him, alone but treats him as a child (aetat 50). Went to London by evening train.
	8 Dec, Tue	[No entry]
	9 Dec, Wed	Took Daisy Fingall, "Fogey" Riddell, Mrs. Gaskell, Charley Egerton & Denis Lawless to the "Mikado", dining at New Club.
	10 Dec, Thu	Spent the day packing up &c &c.
	11 Dec, Fri	Left by morning mail for Dublin & slept at Kildare St. Club.
	12 Dec, Sat	Business in Dublin all day & down by evening train to Dunsany.
	13 Dec, Sun	Church at Kilmessan. But oh how changed. Old Briscoe, with whom alone I associate the Kilmessan pulpit gone, & in his place a large boned young clergyman with energy & ambition but (judging by his sermon which was very much of the Mother Hubbard type) of small mental calibre. I lunched with the Nat Prestons & then came back to evening service at Dunsany. Here again what a change from old B. who only came to Dunsany for gossip & a glass of water with a "slight admixture of spirits". The parson stopped to dine & talk over a bazaar which he had run us in for to change the pews of the church! Details were discussed. Fortunately Fingalls dined & made a trio - we singing the hunting hey - & broke the monotony.
	14 Dec, Mon	Drove Fingall to the meet of Wards at Dunboyne (his last day before going abroad to economise). Had a good gallop on Silo. Took the Deer in Dunsany but I did not ride the whole run being still unwell.
	15 Dec, Tue	Booth & Henry Maxwell came to Dunsany.
	16 Dec, Wed	Coleridge came to Dunsany & made up a party of four <input type="checkbox"/> very cheery party too. House is full of stall holders for the bazaar to be held tomorrow. We hunted with the Wards & had a good fast gallop. I rode Nebuchadnezzar & found the old horse very fit.
	17 Dec, Thu	Bazaar for Kilmessan Church Restoration Fund! A crowd of people I never saw before came. There was most iniquitous dunning which resulted in about £80 worth of rubbish being disposed of at exorbitant rates. We had some very poor singing and I conjured <input type="checkbox"/> not without success considering I had not conjured for nearly 8 years.
	18 Dec, Fri	Hunted with Meaths at Laracor. Rode Silo. Good hunting run. Trotter's Gorse to Kilcarty & Curtistown.
	19 Dec, Sat	Booth & Coleridge hunted. I was rather seedy & stayed at home writing letters. Very bad news of the Frontier Co. arriving these times. Our great Feeding establishment at Herman looks like proving a failure. Many of my spec[ulation]s are failing me. I fear my American investments will result badly.
	20 Dec, Sun	Coleridge & I walked to Church & lunched at Swainston. We all dined at Warrenstown.

	21 Dec, Mon	Shot at Dunsany. Guns - Coleridge, Booth, Maxwell, 2 Murphys (G & F) G. Briscoe, T Leonard & self - 5 cock, 7 pheasants, 2 hares, 1 pigeon, 19 Rabbits.
	22 Dec, Tue	Hunted Meath Hounds at Dunboyne. Good fast gallop in afternoon. Rohanstown to Waringstown the chief part of the sport. Maxwell left & JG Butcher came. We dined at The Grange.
	23 Dec, Wed	John Watson brought Peter Flower to see my horse Panic. He didn't buy but kept me in all day so that I missed the hunt.
	24 Dec, Thu	Coleridge & JG Butcher hunted at Trim Station. I went by early train with Booth to Dublin. He went home & I went to Palmerston after a day's shopping in Dublin. Found Charlie Bourke & Charlie Wyndham-Quin & Mr. & Mrs. Fleetwood Rynd the only other guests. Lady M[ayo]. (junior) extremely nice, not pretty, nearly an albino. But as nice as possible, sensible - the very wife for that eccentric vagarious creature.
	25 Dec, Fri	Church at Kill - a dreary pulpit drone to spoil the first half of Xmas. Then I walked over to Oldtown to see the de Burghs & walked back for dinner.
['Irish mile' = 1.27 English statute miles (unofficial measure after Jan. 1826)]	26 Dec, Sat	Left Palmerston & went to Lara, 15 Irish miles by car from Bray. Found Old Booth, his daughter & Erskine. One storeyed house. Old Booth in his young days inherited a fortune from his father who was high up in the Board of Trade. He bought a small shooting box in Wicklow rather to become a country gentleman probably than from any other reason. Added to the house & bought some land. Preserved, planted &c. Old B. has a circle of shooting acquaintances, Drogheda, Carysfort, Naper & Cox. He is a Lord among his keepers, growers &c, a Petty Sessions magnate but withal a kindly man.
	27 Dec, Sun	Old B. gained my affection by taking me into his confidence in his family affairs. It appears that by a mistake in settlements his children had their fortunes left to them independent of him. The daughter looks after him. But the sons have shown their independence. We played lawn tennis - they never go to Church. Then we walked over to Charles Barton's place - Glendalough - a beautiful conservatory - fine house, electric light &c. Never goes away or entertains - has an ugly wife and gets ugly children.
	28 Dec, Mon	Drove to Rathdrum & went by train to Dublin. J.E. Booth & I went down to Dunsany.
	29 Dec, Tue	Hunted at Drumree. Very cold snowy day & moderate sport. Rode Nebuchadnezzar. JG Butcher came.
	30 Dec, Wed	JGB hunted at Kilcairne. JEB & I went to Wards at Batterstown. Had a good hunting run.
	31 Dec, Thu	Went to Dublin to attend United Irish Cattle Assoc'n meeting. Gave notice of a resolution committing the assoc'n to use every effort to bring in live weight. Booth hunted my cob at Kilmoon. J.G.B. hunted & left.
	Year-end Summary	Thus ended /85, my most disappointing year. The last few years looked as if I was to be a rich man & I hope if I had been I should have used my wealth for the advantage of others as well as myself. But now my affairs are at a low ebb. The bad times all the world over have hit me all round and my financial prospects are not cheerful. I am determined not to let my backers lose however, for there would be no pleasure in the memory of my Western struggles if the picture were darkened by the losses of my friends. Physically I think I am by no means weaker than I was a year ago. But I have not gained the strength which I had hoped. However I understand my shaky constitution better & can probably preserve the hinges of the shaky door for a while yet.

		The only great regret I have for the past year is that I cannot now hope for years to come to exchange Home comforts for the wear & tear of Western life. Hence no matrimony is possible. But who knows what /86 may bring forth.
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