

1895 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’ (ſ) 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/	committee	Rel'n / Rel'ns	Relation/s
com'tee		RR	Railroad
DD	Doctor of Divinity	R'y	Railway
dep't	department	Sec / Sec'y	Secretary
Do / do	ditto	Soc'y	Society
ed'n / educ'n	education	SS	steamship
Eng'd	England	TD	Teachtaí Delai
Ex / Exs	Excellency/ Excellencies		(representatives in lower
	(usu. Lord Lieutenant)		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^y 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.

1895

Events:

March - Irish Homestead commences publication

19 Jul - Re-elected Conservative MP for South Dublin

August – Recess Committee launched; HP chairman

Publications:

- “Co-operation in Ireland”, in J.A. Hobson (ed.), *Co-operative Labour upon the Land* (London and New York), pp. 35-46
- *Report of 27th Annual Co-operative Congress, Huddersfield*, pp. 15, 139, 142-3
- *IAOS Annual Report*, pp. 17-18
- “Agricultural Co-operation in Ireland”, *Humanitarian*, vol. 7, new series, pp. 321-7
- “The Agricultural Movement in Ireland”, *The Agricultural Annual* (Mark Lane Express, London)
- “With the Hon. Horace Plunkett, MP” (interview), *Commerce*, 16 Jan 1895, pp. 79-80
- “The Londonderry Mine” (letter), *The Times*, 8 Apr, p. 10
- “The Lesson of the East Wicklow Election” (letter), *The Times*, 29 Apr, p. 10
- Letter proposing Recess Committee to *IH*, I:26 (31 Aug, pp. 414-50; *Irish Times*, 28 Aug, p. 10; *Belfast Newsletter*, 29 Aug
- “Mr. Horace Plunkett on Farmers and Traders” (letter), *Irish Times*, 7 Oct, p. 6
- “The Hon. Mr. Plunkett’s Recess Committee” (letter), *Irish Times*, 19 Oct, p. 5
- “The Hon. Horace Plunkett’s Recess Committee” (letter), *Irish Times*, 21 Oct., p. 5
- “The Recess Committee” (letter), *Irish Times* 24 Oct, p. 4
- Attributed articles in *Irish Homestead*:
 - Report of address at Urlingford, I:8 (27 Apr 1895), p. 116
 - Report of address to IAOS annual meeting, I:10 (11 May 1895), pp. 149-50
 - Letter to *Co-operative News*, I:17 (29 Jun 1895), pp. 260-2
 - Letter to District Conference at Tralee, I:23 (10 Aug 1895), p. 361
 - Letter to Editor proposing Recess Committee, I:26 (31 Aug 1895), pp. 414-5
 - Text of address to IAOS General Conference, I:30 (28 Sep 1895), pp. 476-8.
 - Text of address to International Co-operative Congress, “Agricultural Co-operation”, I:31 (5 Oct 1895), pp. 492-5
 - Letters re IAOS and agricultural co-operation, “To All Interested in Irish Agriculture”, I:32 (12 Oct 1895), pp. 513-4, 515
 - Letter to Sec’y, Great Southern & Western Railway, I:34 (26 Oct 1895), p. 540
 - Report of address at Comber, I:43 (28 Dec 1895), pp. 691-2

Government:

Prime Minister: Earl of Rosebery (Liberal) to 11 Jun; 3rd Marquess of Salisbury (Conservative)

Chief Secretary: John Morley to 4 Jul, Gerald William Balfour

Lord Lieutenant: Robert Crewe-Milnes, Baron Houghton to 8 Jul, Earl Cadogan

Approximate monetary equivalents (2010): £1= £107 ; \$1 = \$25

Correspondence [Notes]	1895	Diary Entry
[9 stone = 126 lb.]	1 Jan, Tue	This Diary was not opened till March 1st for the beginning of the year found me under the strict discipline of the “rest cure”. Very little reading & no writing (except a weekly cheque) allowed. As far as I recollect I was about at my worst at the beginning of the year. My condition was pretty accurately measured by my recorded weight. On Dec. 20 I weighed 9 stone naked – but in the condition I was in the Dr. (Emblater) declared it was “mostly water”. Dec. 27 (they weighed me weekly) I was 9.0 still.
	2 Jan, Wed	[No entry]
	3 Jan, Thu	8.12 naked weight

Correspondence [Notes]	1895	Diary Entry
	4 Jan, Fri – 9 Jan, Wed	[No entry]
	10 Jan, Thu	8.13 Such a miserable result after 3 weeks of the Cure. I can only attribute to over feeding. The cure consists of rest, food, massage in proper proportions. The fault of the system was the is that it is too hard & fast. I could not get in on the food which in quality was no doubt perfect but in quantity was beyond my powers of digestion. The stomach attacks grew worse these first 3 weeks.
	11 Jan, Fri – 16 Jan, Wed	[No entry]
[127 lb.]	17 Jan, Thu	9.1
	18 Jan, Fri	[No entry]
	19 Jan, Sat	[No entry]
	20 Jan, Sun	Allowed to take my first drive.
	21 Jan, Mon – 23 Jan Wed	[No entry]
	24 Jan, Thu	9.1 Five weeks at the cure & I was counting on getting out in 6 weeks! The doctor however has extended the cure to 8 weeks.
	25 Jan, Fri	Daisy came down to B'[ourne]mouth & was allowed against all rules & regulations to see me. She cheered me greatly & did me good. She brought me news of the outside world & I learned that my Irish work was getting on well.
	26 Jan, Sat	[No entry]
	27 Jan, Sun	[No entry]
	28 Jan, Mon	Fingall came down prior to his departure for West Australia to leave his affairs in my hands. I shall certainly do all I can to enable him to bank his luck.
	29 Jan, Tue	Daisy & F. returned to town.
	30 Jan, Wed	[No entry]
	31 Jan, Thu	9.3
	1 Feb, Fri	[No entry]
	2 Feb, Sat	Daisy came down again.
	3 Feb, Sun – 6 Feb, Wed	[No entry]
	7 Feb, Thu	9.5
	8 Feb, Fri – 13 Feb, Wed	[No entry]
	14 Feb, Thu	9.6¾
	15 Feb, Fri – 20 Feb, Wed	[No entry]
	21 Feb, Thu	9.7¾
	22 Feb, Fri –	[No entry]

Correspondence [Notes]	1895	Diary Entry
	24 Feb, Sun	
[9.9 = 135 lb.]	25 Feb, Mon	9.9 final weight at Wychcote. 9 lbs gained. Said goodbye to Wychcote without tears but with kindly feelings towards the matron Miss Stewart who did her best for me. Got to London 12.18 and called first at St. Thomas Hospital where poor Dunning was convalescing after an operation for varicocele. Found telegrams at 104B summoning me to urgent Londonderry Mine meeting at 4. This took up all my afternoon. Dined quietly with Daisy, Fogey Riddell & Beau Watson who came up to see me.
	26 Feb, Tue	Much shopping. Aunt Isabella dying. Conny called in. Mary dined with me to talk over her family affairs. Went with Daisy out to T.P. Gill's in Notting Hill & found him recovering from a break-down similar to mine but worse, for brain fever was threatened. He was convalescent but cannot go back to his work for a year with safety. Determined to offer him £250 for a year's out-door work for I.A.O.S. He will consider it, took it very nicely. I fear he is living from hand to mouth.
	27 Feb, Wed	A Londonderry meeting in the morning then a talk with Myring about Fingall's affairs, a visit to Dunning in St. Thomas Hospital, a call on the Monteagles to discuss T P Gill's affairs, a long letter to Lady d'Arcy Godolphin Osborne about her husband's condition & plans, packing, Daisy to dinner quietly – a crowded day.
[9 stone, 8 lb = 134 lb]	28 Feb, Thu	Daisy came & saw me off with Frank Jameson in SS Massilia for Ismailia. Very cold day & no warming apparatus on the ship though only built in /84. Poor accommod[atio]n compared with luxurious Atlantic service. A "penny in the slot" showed me to be 9.8 naked weight. 10.5–11 lbs clothes. I was very glad to get started. For I was not strong enough to do any work & even the fuss & hurry of departure affected me.
[See also Year-end Summary, 1894]	1 Mar, Fri	254. Weather too cold for enjoyment & actually no heating apparatus in the ship, an open fire in the saloon the sole exception. The food is very unwholesome & I fear I shall not derive the full benefit I had expected from the sea trip.
	2 Mar, Sat	318
	3 Mar, Sun	304
	4 Mar, Mon	323. Weather perfect. Arrived at Gibraltar after dark & left by midnight. Only got the outline of the famous Rock against the sky but had no means of judging of its real strength & strategic value.
	5 Mar, Tue	150 from Gibraltar.
	6 Mar, Wed	310. Snow on the African coast mountains apparently within 1000 ft. of sea level. Ship rolled 35°.
	7 Mar, Thu	294
	8 Mar, Fri	Malta betw'n breakfast & lunch. A barren & not naturally beautiful island with however two lovely harbours. An apparently thick population of Italians with English soldiers & governing

Correspondence [Notes]	1895	Diary Entry
		civilians. The Church of St. John worth a week's study. Hugely massive fortifications.
	9 Mar, Sat	Brindisi at nightfall. Usual Italian stink in harbour. Read papers up to 6th from Eng'd. Got letters.
	10 Mar, Sun	A hard day to put in as the country is not interesting & the town smelly & beggar-haunted. Walked through vineyards, saw the Roman walls & two columns said to be at the end of the Appian Way.
	11 Mar, Mon	Left Brindisi 3 A.M. Stomach upset owing to over doses of cascara to fight sea constipation – aggravated probably by the milk (sterilised) which I am carrying by Emblater's advice. I have lost all my <u>fat</u> but still have a little muscle left to the credit of the Rest Cure.
[sauve qui peut – mêlée; confusion]	12 Mar, Tue	The First Officer of the Kowshing (the English steamer sunk by the Japanese at the beginning of the war while convoying Chinese troops) gave me a graphic account of his experiences. He & the captain were among the very few saved. It appears the Japanese war vessel (the Naniwa) wished to take the Kowshing prisoner. The Chinese military officers on the latter thought the officers of the Kowshing were in collusion with the Japs. Von Hanneken was on board but could not persuade them otherwise. Hence the Capt'n. of the K. was not able to obey the signals of the Naniwa & the latter had no choice but to sink the recalcitrant transport. Torpedo missed. Then broadside. The officers of the K. were escorted about on deck by a guard with executioner in attendance. When they finally jumped overboard in the general 'sauve qui peut' the Chinese soldiers spent their last moments on board firing at them. The Japs treated the English with great kindness. Their conduct in sinking the Kowshing, which sailed before war was declared, is a nice point of International Law.
	13 Mar, Wed	[No entry]
	14 Mar, Thu	Arrived Port Said 3 AM, Ismailia 3 P.M. Cairo 10.30 PM. There Johnny met us at Station having waited in Cairo all day. After a superfluous supper at Shepherd's drove out to Mena & went to bed very tired at 1 A.M. Johnny is nice kind & cordial as ever. But his whole demeanour betokens a fresh inroad of alcohol & morphia upon the mental organisms. Outwardly the Mena air has braced him up. But his thoughts are confused & his nerves evidently under poor control.
	15 Mar, Fri	And now Ernle appears about midday & I hear her side of the unhappy domestic relations. She thinks J's treatment of her due to insanity (from morphia & alcohol) imagines she could be happy if J. treated her right. Certainly J's treatment of her is worse than hers of him, for he has larger scope for annoyance & unintentional cruelty. He wants me to arrange terms of separation liberal enough pecuniarily. But she wants to find liberal settlement without separation. Frank & I went into Cairo to take passage home & do sundry shopping &c – The Anglo-Americanisation has progressed rapidly since I was here 5¼ years ago.
	16 Mar, Sat	A quiet day at Mena. Johnny anxious to talk business but incapable of putting his mind to it. In fact I wasted a day 'fooling

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		around' him waiting to come to <u>the</u> or any point.
	17 Mar, Sun	Went with Ernle to lunch with a Major & Mrs. Knott at the Ghesireh Palace Hotel. The major who has struck up a friendship with Johnny (of which I am glad, for he is a man of the world) took us to the Gizeh Museum of Egyptian Antiquities. He is a bit of an Egyptologist & immensely interested me. He took us first through the rooms which illustrate the ancient empire & then showed us the art of 6000 years ago. One thousand years later one sees that it has degenerated, not to be revived till the Graeco Roman days. The jewelry interested me most I think. Bond St. has much to learn from 6000 years ago! Met the Hickoxs & tea'd with them. Frank & I go home with them as far as Marseilles.
	18 Mar, Mon	The C. Bullers & Mrs. Brocklebanks (she Harriet Higgins of early reminiscences) turned up from Cairo to lunch at Mena. In afternoon Frank & I had to go in to Ghezireh Palace Hotel to see Hickox about our passages. Saw polo & a casino where the table has about 12% in its favor. I have quite lost my fat & I fear some of the muscle of Wychcote has wasted away. Pulse getting weaker. Stomach irritable, still tea totalling & no tobacco.
	19 Mar, Tue	Went donkey riding with Ernle, Johnny going into Cairo to get various necessities for a grand fête he is to give the Arab children from the neighboring villages. Poor fellow he honestly thinks it is for <u>their</u> amusement that he is going to have a very costly magic lantern exhibition, a display of fireworks (daylight) for which he will have paid betw'n £30 & £40 before he sets them off. The Hotel people, guests and all, evidently think him mad.
	20 Mar, Wed	Rode with Frank to Sakkara where Hickox & luncheon party met us. Did the tomb of the Bulls, Tie & Mera. Wonderful the preservation of sand buried mural decorations of 5000 & 6000 years ago. But Egyptology must be studied to make such visits really interesting. Frank & I had good ponies & we took as guide a tall well bred looking handsome Arab on a dromedary. On the way back we had to face first a sand storm, then a rain storm which wet us to the skin & was chilling enough. None the worse.
[Travel agents Henry Gaze & Sons and Thomas Cook & Son]	21 Mar, Thu	Frank went early & I in the afternoon to Ghesireh Palace Hotel. (The Bullers lunched with me at Mena.) I was sorry to leave J. & E. but it seemed the only chance of getting a passage home to be near Cairo and fight for it with 'Gaze' and 'Cook'. They are booking everybody & disappointing them at the last moment.
	22 Mar, Fri	Spent the day in Cairo buying odds & ends, getting passage arranged &c. Johnny came in to see about his passage home & buy 'queerosities'. He finds that the fireworks are still at Alexandria & cannot be conveyed further without all manner of red tape concessions and the fête is advertised for tomorrow!
	23 Mar, Sat	Left Cairo 11.15 AM arrived Port Said Suez 6.20 PM. The R'y runs to Ismailia through the fertile strip chiefly, & then through the desert. Suez a wretched decaying town of no interest whatsoever. Our Hotel was rough but fairly clean. Hickox, Frank & I came here to get a better choice of accommod'n on the Messagerie Maritimes Polynesian than we were likely to get at Port Said. For there are hundreds trying in vain to get passages home from Cairo all the boats being full of Indians.
	24 Mar, Sun	Breakfast at 8. Lunch at 12 & boat signaled at 1. Then we had

Correspondence [Notes]	1895	Diary Entry
		about 2½ hours fussing & worrying to get on board. The Polynesian turned out to be a really fine ship, about 7000 tons I think, splendid deck accommodation & fair cabin. Jameson & I managed to be stable companions.
	25 Mar, Mon	Port Said for breakfast. Here Hickox's ladies & some other passengers joined. The day was chilly & the bad food of late was beginning to tell on me. I feared I was about to have an attack & did not know how to avert it – the ship's cookery being vile & the hours of meals unusual.
	26 Mar, Tue	Had to see the ship's doctor for diarrhoea. He was supposed to be bilingual. Perhaps he knew a third language. At my suggestion he put me on milk but I could not understand him or he me. I felt seedy enough.
[½ stone = 7 lb.]	27 Mar, Wed	The ship's doctor gave me a saline purge which led to as thorough a clean out as I ever suffered. I have been reduced ½ stone I am sure this last two days. I consulted an English doctor who chanced to be travelling & who could understand me & also the French doctor. He interceded & got some fresh medicine to stop the diarrhoea the Frenchman had caused. I don't feel ill but awfully low & disgusted at my luck.
	28 Mar, Thu	I am going through a regular attack of dysentery. It has pulled me down terribly which is a great annoyance after all I have sacrificed – time – work – money & pride to say nothing of other people's interest – to a long "cure".
	29 Mar, Fri	Landed at Marseilles at noon. Was very weak but decided to push on to Paris. Took night sleeping car – crowded & stuffy. Got a wire from C.D.B. announcing April meeting on 5th instead of 12th. This attack will prevent my attendance which I greatly regret.
	30 Mar, Sat	Arrived early at Paris where I put up with Frank at Hotel de France et Choiseul (239 Rue St. Honoré) Poppy & Daisy being there. The latter took me in hand at once & got me wholesome food & sent for an Amer'n Dr. who came late & undertook to cure me quick.
[calomel – mercurous chloride (a cathartic)]	31 Mar, Sun	Calomel every hour for 10 hours! Starvation on bouillon – hot water with a soupçon (sans soup – joke). Had to be quiet & mostly alone all day. Frank & Daisy went to Races at Longchamps.
	1 Apr, Mon	Awful purgation. I have now lost all my Wychcote flesh. But I am much better in general health I am sure & shall recover quickly. Kept quiet & did nothing. Frank left for London.
	2 Apr, Tue	Still kept quiet all day. Did nothing. Toby Cairnes & "Boston" lunched with us. A wire came from Fingall "Developments in the mine most unsatisfactory" & another from the L[ondon]derry Co. summoning a meeting for Thursday 4th.
[8 stone, 12 lb = 124 lb]	3 Apr, Wed	Left Paris with Poppy & Daisy a day earlier on account of the Londonderry crisis. On arrival London weighed 8.12 naked or 9.9 with 11 lbs clothes. Thus I have lost 10 lbs since I left mainly owing to the dyensteric attack.

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		Found Anderson waiting for me. He was over to give evidence before the Royal Com'n. on Depression of Agriculture. I hope he did well for the I.A.O.S. De Grey called in evening to talk over Londonderry mine.
	4 Apr, Thu	R.A.A. breakfasted. Then I went to City where I spent whole day over Londonderry affairs. They are desperate. Fingall cables that there is practically no gold! De Grey & I had the painful duty of deciding to publish everything regardless of the effect on the shares. Tomorrow the bottom will be knocked out of Londonderry, possibly out of "Westralians".
	5 Apr, Fri	Londonderry of course all day. The Secretary & Asst. Sec'y did not publish the telegram in this morning's papers. Johnson, De Grey & I were furious & of course thought it was an "accident on purpose". It was not but was most unhappy. We insisted on a full explan[atio]n in the papers which has I believe put us in the light of fools not knaves. Wrote at length to Fingall.
	6 Apr, Sat	Londonderry again. I now tried to sell 3200 shares. I could not get a bid at 15/-. Saw Mary & Conny, dined with "Mrs Willie". Conynghams there. He an alcoholic wreck.
	7 Apr, Sun	Busy writing a letter to North & to papers about Fingall's action towards shareholders in view of Londonderry collapse. Then called on Monteagles (out) Yerburchs, d[itt]o, JGB (in) & Mary. Dined at Carlton. No one knows me with a beard!
["The Londonderry Mine", <i>The Times</i> , p. 10]	8 Apr, Mon	Londonderry meeting. Now being free to sell I sold 1000 shares for £750. Went to House to hear Speaker Peel's farewell address. Very impressive. No one knew me with my beard & the head door keeper (Jennings) saw me going up to the gallery & said "the other staircase to the Peer's gallery my Lord." Dined with Daisy to meet Dease.
	9 Apr, Tue	Did little. City & then attended Agric. Banks Assoc'n. meeting. Saw Myring about Fingall's finances. Diarrhoea.
	10 Apr, Wed	Fenwick called. Londonderry office – Cables from Fingall & c. Packed & went by night mail with Daisy & children to Ireland. Eddy on train.
	11 Apr, Thu	Busy day in Dublin I.A.O.S.
	12 Apr, Fri	Down to Dunsany. Quiet day with Johnny & his boys. Both much improved. Have hope of Eddy.
	13 Apr, Sat	To Dublin for the day. Meeting of I.U.A. to discuss whether Tottenham's candidature for East Wicklow should be supported. Balfour & Chamberlain against. I argued that local feeling, Irish Unionist opinion & Party opinion should be considered in order named. I.A.O.S. office Com'tees all afternoon. Also cabling Fingall. Then T P Gill came to Dunsany.
	14 Apr, Sun	Rested all day. Walked to Killeen. Very seedy with dysenteric diarrhoea.
	15 Apr, Mon	Could not go to Fairyhouse as I had intended as I was suffering from bowel catarrh. I went instead to the Hill of Tara with T P Gill & Daisy. T.P.G. left & Oliver Brighton came.
	16 Apr, Tue	I.A.O.S. organisers came to Dublin & I had a talk with them. More telegrams from Fingall (repeated from office.) Frank

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		Jameson put me up at 29 Kildare St. Very comfortable.
	17 Apr, Wed	Charles Kennedy called at Club to talk over CDB affairs & incidentally told me he thought he could quietly have opposition to my next political canvas quashed if I wanted his help! Lunched with Mayo & met Ld. Wolseley. Monthly meeting I.A.O.S. Committee. Rather seedy. Alas all the advantage derived from the Rest Cure seems to have fled.
[Allsopp – prob. Samuel Allsopp & Sons brewing firm]	18 Apr, Thu	I.A.O.S., C.D.B. Lunched 22 Fitzwilliam Place. Dined with F Jameson & lost £3 at poker. Gambled in Allsopp's shares to try & make up some of Loss on Londonderry Mine.
[Report of address in <i>IH</i> , I:8 (27 Apr 1895), p. 116]	19 Apr, Fri	9.15 AM train with T.P. Gill to Kilcooley. Addressed a meeting of Committee of 5 recently formed agric'l. societies at Urlingford. Spoke for about an hour which was foolish. De Courcy lunched with us & we asked Fr. Lowry, Fr. Healy of Johnstown's C.C. to dine. The C.C. was wooden & useless. Left 11.11 PM train from Thurles for Lim[erick] J[unction]. where we slept, arriving midnight.
	20 Apr, Sat	To Limerick by the mail & then hard at work at agency affairs till 3.10 when TP Gill & I returned to Dublin. The movement flourishes far beyond my hopes.
	21 Apr, Sun	Down to Dunsany for the Day. Found Johnny with Major Knott, wife & 2 boys, last 3 uninteresting. Back to 29 Kildare St.
	22 Apr, Mon	Busy morning. Then to Wicklow to speak for Col. Tottenham who is fighting a plucky 3-cornered fight and has been discouraged by the 'Whips' & whole party organ[isation] on the ground that it would be better to let the 2 sections of Nationalists tear each other. Left by night mail for London.
	23 Apr, Tue	Arrived early & spent most of the day in the Londonderry [Mine] office. Went to the House. Charity Commissioners debated about until human nature could stand it no longer & 40 righteous men were not. After a night in the train I drag about through a long day depressed – useless.
	24 Apr, Wed	The Londonderry Mine again. Then the House for the Irish Sunday Closing Bill. I ought to have spoken. Called on Sir W. Robinson, Governor of W. Australia at the Athenaeum by Fingall's request.
	25 Apr, Thu	More Londonderry! Looked in at the House. Back to meet Myring over Fingall's affairs. Daisy arrived – to let her flat – early from Ireland. She dined at 104B quietly. She is much depressed poor little thing.
	26 Apr, Fri	Long letter to F. City to buy & sell some shares in Mine. Lunch at Carlton, rest on bed for an hour after. This I find a great help. Met Thorne in evening & consulted him about persistent mucous catarrh of bowels. He is trying disinfection by creosote. Pulse very weak. Heart will get wrong again if I don't stop this bowel trouble he says. Gave Mary & Dorothy tea at House & took them to ?Indies gallery. Was to have dined George Eustis & wife at House. But a

Correspondence [Notes]	1895	Diary Entry
		'count' at 7.45 enabled me to dine them at Wellington & take them to 'Empire'.
	27 Apr, Sat	Dined with Leonard Courtney & met John Morley & Henry James (the Novelist). Interesting dinner. As Pepys says, good discourse.
	28 Apr, Sun	Spent the day writing a letter to the Times about the Wicklow Election.
["The Lesson of the East Wicklow Election", <i>The Times</i> , p. 10]	29 Apr, Mon	Letter appeared in Times. I must now see to Unionist leaders & try & get them to see Ireland through my spectacles. Had a Londonderry meeting & the usual Rows. House.
	30 Apr, Tue	Lunched with Lucys. Dull party of "Lions". Attended conference (Ld. Derby in Chair) of agric'l. assoc'n. on Margarine. Preposterous proposition of farmers to <u>absolutely prohibit</u> admixture of margarine-butter. Dined Sir W Robinson, Sir Lepel & Lady Griffin, Daisy, "Fa" Conyngham, the Carsons & E Blake M.P. at Wellington. Not a cheery party.
	1 May, Wed	A dreary lunch with Henniker Heaton M.P. at Bath Club, London 2 hours. Lasted 2 hours. 2 wasted hours!! Then House in hopes Woman Suffrage debate would come on. But it was not ?rushed. Went with Daisy to an Oscar Wilde play "The Importance of Being Earnest". Stupid plot, clever thin, dialogue.
	2 May, Thu	Had a talk with Balfour at the House about Irish Unionism. Explained my views & asked his support for a vigorous propaganda in 3 southern Provinces. He approved. But he evidently feels scared about the Ulster farmers' Land views & can attach little importance to the Nationalist parts of Ireland. Left 8.50 PM for Stafford with Dunning en route for Beguilty. Slept at Northwestern Hotel.
	3 May, Fri	8.50 AM to Knighton via Shrewsbury & Crewe Green. At Norton Arms Hotel where we slept met Young Ferne & went to Beguilty where we had a walk & talk with Edward Price about the property and a long conference with Rev'd. J Pughe Morgan the new parson about the church restoration. I didn't like this man of God. Too slick – too much cant & too many indications of cunning. He is trying to run me in for undue contributions to the Parish. I shall write to the Bp. of St. Davids.
	4 May, Sat	Ferne went early as his father was ill. I liked him much. An abscess in the ear makes this trip rather unpleasant. However on a glorious day a ride with Edward Price over the "Beacons" overlooking the property does good not counteracted by lunch at the parsonage. 4 PM train for Chester which reached 7.20 left 8.25 by new Amer'n. express mail service and got to Holyhead 10.16 & Dublin 2 AM where put up at K St. Club & so got a night of fair length in bed.
	5 May, Sun	Down to Dunsany by early train with Dunning & Anderson. All the Knotts there still, Reggie ?gone by Eddy left. A lovely day but the abscess in the ear painful still. Had to work for the coming week in Dublin.

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	6 May, Mon	Cricket match Dunsany vs Coldstream Guards (Dublin). Could not play as I was too busy & was not strong enough. Glorious day & felt sorry for myself!
	7 May, Tue	To Dublin morning train. C.D.B. Then I.A.O.S. office preparing speech for the morrow. Anon to Kingstown & one of those ghastly constituency 6 PM dinners with the Tandys & a Primrose League meeting in Town Hall. What an audience! Dull no word for it. Got a fearful ear-ache & had to get Dr. Swanzy an oculist & aurist to come to relieve it. He put a leech in which made it much worse. I suffered agonies & at last subsided to a sleeping draught, my head bleeding all night.
[Report of address to IAOS annual meeting in <i>IH</i> , I:10 (11 May 1895), pp. 149-50] [Ld. Mayor – Valentine Blake Dillon]	8 May, Wed	Kept my bed till 2.30 PM, T P Gill coming to help me to prepare my speech for the afternoon meeting of the I.A.O.S. in the Leinster Hall R.D.S. Ld. Mayor, O'Connor [<i>sic</i>] Don, C T Redington & Fr. Finlay spoke well. I read a long address which was I think well written. The meeting was small but of excellent quality. Think it will do good. One Michael Nugent came to oppose us & abused me, fought R.A.A. & had to be removed by the police! The organising staff were up & I conversed them.
	9 May, Thu	CDB & R.D.S. sleep – occupied the day. Johnny arrived & went to Kingstown. Old Lady Cloncurry's death yesterday announced in Papers. What memories the end of that lovely old age awakens. I never have seen such beauty in the old. Such a calm kindly old-world look. Such a lesson to us fin de siecle bundles of nerves!
	10 May, Fri	IAOS & CDB. At the latter proposed a resol[utio]n in favor of compulsory acqu[i]s[iti]o[n] of land for migration purposes. Dined with Christopher Redington. "Good discourse."
	11 May, Sat	A Charming day in the Country with Daisy & TP Gill at Dunsany. Johnny was at Lyons for Lady Cloncurry's funeral & came to Dunsany by evening train.
	12 May, Sun	A day of rest – a real Dunsany day. Gill left.
	13 May, Mon	To Dublin morning train. Aurist. I.A.O.S. & C.D.B. offices. IUA Press Committee to discuss my idea of putting to the Nationalists the Unionist case <u>in Ireland</u> . Hopeless! Left with Dunning by night mail.
	14 May, Tue	Arrived early. Volumes of letters. Myring about Fingall's affairs, House – dreary Welsh Church Disestablishment Committee. Dined R.A. Yerburch at St. Stephens Club to talk over agric'l. Banks.
	15 May, Wed	Short day at House. Dined with Frank Plunkett at St. James Club & told him all about Fingall.
[<i>Hansard</i> , 4th Series, vol. 33, col. 1329-30] [Wigham had developed a more frequently flashing apparatus for lighthouses.]	16 May, Thu	Board of Trade about JR Wigham's Light Question in house, Constituents to show round, much correspondence, busy all day & little to show for it. Dined with Bob Yerburch at Jr. Carlton to talk over agric'l. organisation with a most interesting Dane who told me that Denmark formerly a wretchedly poor country now stands 2nd to England in average wealth of individual, owing to agric'l combination largely. Country purely agric'l. Admirable system of agric'l. educ'n nearly all voluntary. Farmers all free traders! buy Russian corn to feed cattle.

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	17 May, Fri	More villainy at the Londonderry office. I think I stopped it. I am glad I am simply a loser by the whole concern & my hands are therefore clean. Parliament half a day.
	18 May, Sat	Letters & office work. Began a reply to the Belfast Banking Co's criticisms on agric'l. Banks. Called on Conny & stayed to dinner.
	19 May, Sun	Writing for the I.A.O.S. A lunch at the Macmillans (a young Daudet there so we were asked to speak French!) Called Duchess St. Albans & Lady Zetland.
	20 May, Mon	Went to Londonderry office – the nuisance of my life. Worked hard at I.A.O.S. work & went to House for afternoon. Government getting very weak, I fear a summer dissolution. Dined with Frank Jameson.
	21 May, Tue	My correspondence is voluminous. Without a secretary I should collapse. Most of day writing letters. F's business too very harrassing [sic] – Welsh Church at House very dull. I pair whenever I get a chance now.
	22 May, Wed	After a busy morning had to lunch with Col. North at Savoy to meet Londonderry folk. Disgusting. Then Parl't and a Ball at Londonderry House. Knew few people & stayed only a short time. Met Boughton who told me he really has caught a millionairess – so far. Marriage July. Many a slip.
[Hansard, 4th Series, vol. 34, col. 83-4]	23 May, Thu	Londonderry Board. Correspondence. Then a call on Miss Balfour to whom I explained about the I.A.O.S. She is nice. House. Dined Junior Carlton to talk to Yerburch about Banking scheme & my reply to Belfast Banking Co's last letter.
	24 May, Fri	Went down to P[addock]hurst by the 4.30 & revelled in cool country air. Poor Beau rather triste & I rather worn out.
	25 May, Sat	To Forest Row. One round after which Beau rec[eive]d a wire which forced him to try & get to London. He went to 3 Bridges but his clothes did not meet him. So back to P'hurst where we had a long evening in the grass.
	26 May, Sun	A real day of rest till a 7.3 PM train when I went back to town greatly refreshed.
	27 May, Mon	Engaged writing Balfour as to resignation of my Parl'y. career. Difficult letter. Cannot serve party & country, won't give up Irish industrial work. Will he have me for sake of having a combined worker & talker from Ireland on such terms. Doubtful. Took Alice Ponsonby to Ball at Zetlands. Both of us completely out of it.
	28 May, Tue	Casey the Australian vendor arrived & gave me the first part of his evidence about the Londonderry. He thinks F. a fool (honest & nice) in business matters & Myring an adventurer. He strongly urged F. to consult me in all things. If he had only done so! The House. Then a pair & dinner with Yerburch to talk over formation of an Anglo-Irish Political alliance, i.e. a small party of English M.P.s who agree with my Irish views.

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[<i>Hansard</i> , 4th Series, vol. 34, col. 576-9]	29 May, Wed	West Ridgeway breakfasted. Attended the House and spoke (badly) on Irish Local Gov't. Bill of the Healyites. Dined with Sir Wm. Robinson.
	30 May, Thu	A busy morning. Then a lunch of Lions at Bath Club. Hostess Mrs. Craigie (John Oliver Hobbes) Lions – Thomas Hardy, Stanley & wife, T. P. O'Connor & various literary critics.
	31 May, Fri	Came to Westgate on Sea with Daisy. Poppy & an old Miss Plues made excellent chaperones. Forty eight hours by the sea will do something for me between working spells. Weather perfect. Before leaving town saw Ion Hamilton about resigning constituency. Came to conclusion that he & other leaders would be very sorry to lose me – that they could not easily get a candidate till Iveagh's eldest son (just of age) is old enough to take on the seat.
	1 Jun, Sat	Went with Daisy to Westgate on Sea (St. Mildred's Hotel) where Poppy & an old Miss Plues chaperoned us. Simply rested.
	2 Jun, Sun	Ditto till 6.15 when I left for London, dined Coleridge at Wellington Club & left by night train for Manchester en route for Huddersfield.
	3 Jun, Mon	Met R.A.A. at 7.15 AM breakfast & went on to Huddersfield (George Hotel). The usual dullness of Coop Congress. A paper on agric'l. coop'n largely brought me there. I learned that the Cooperators were absolutely hopeless on matters agric'l. They are 99 per cent of them – shopkeepers & nothing else.
[Report of Congress proceedings re CWS creameries in Ireland in <i>IH</i> , I:16 (22 Jun 1895), pp. 245-9]	4 Jun, Tue	Today I moved a Resol[utio]n condemning the policy of the "Wholesale" in building creameries in Ireland. A stormy debate ensued in which dear old Tom Hughes warmly supported Anderson & me. We lost. I came on to Station Hotel, Newcastle where I met R S Gardiner the new Pelton manager.
	5 Jun, Wed	Visited Pelton with Gardiner & met the officials, Old Armstrong the "viewer" & his son & Henderson. Looked over the property but did not go down the pits. Lunched (a function) with the Armstrongs – champagne! – Back to Newcastle for the night. Long talks with & much information from Fenwick Gardiner.
	6 Jun, Thu	Drove to Tyne dock & saw SS Spero loading. Then to office where I mugged over the a/c's. Left by a Dining car express for London where met a huge pile of correspondence at midnight.
	7 Jun, Fri	Naturally a busy day. Ernle 12 pages to be answered. Mary, Johnny to be written to, I.A.O.S. work, Constituency work. Londonderry mine & so on. With difficulty caught the 4.30 train to Paddockhurst where I go to rest after my racketing about.
	8 Jun, Sat	Golf at Forest Row, Daisy taking it en route for Brighton. Hot & delightful. We only went in time to lunch at Brambletye & have one lazy round tea-ing at the old lady's cottage at the 11th hole.
	9 Jun, Sun	Beau worked at his a/cs. I spent the day at Brighton with Daisy &

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		her mother.
	10 Jun, Mon	A round at Forest Row & up to town where the usual pile of correspondence. However early to bed.
	11 Jun, Tue	I sold out my remaining £1000 in Londonderry at 11/3 per share when a cable came from Fingall which sent them up to 17/6. I have no luck in these things! Attended meeting of Co. Also attended House. Wrote many & long letters & dined with Edmund Dease, “Johnny” Mulhall & wife being the other guests & by the way Lady Gainsborough, stupid.
	12 Jun, Wed	In the House 12 to 5.30 today. Irish Municipal Franchise Bill. I ought to have spoken but didn’t feel up to it. Dined with Mrs. Willie & took her & Daisy F. to a gorgeous Londonderry House Ball. Sent in my letter of resignation to Ion Hamilton. He cannot understand my position & will I fear put me in a great difficulty.
	13 Jun, Thu	C.D.B. Agricultural Committee, Verschoyle to lunch. Negotiations with Ion Hamilton re resignation took whole day.
	14 Jun, Fri	C.D.B. monthly meeting. House and Political “at Home” Londonderry House.
	15 Jun, Sat	Brighton with Daisy & Poppy Herbert, Bristol Hotel. Comfortable.
	16 Jun, Sun	Dined Mr. & Mrs. Comyn & talked over their sad case. Huge family absolutely ruined by Land League. But she is a marvel of energy & enterprise. The family are all placed somehow somewhere & the parents just keep body & soul together in Brighton.
	17 Jun, Mon	To Town. Long day at House. Government proposed to put up a statue to Cromwell at Westminster. Debated question 12 to 2 when Gov’t. gave in to Irish M.P.s. R G Casey & wife, Daisy & Col. Dease dined 104B & we had a Londonderry night of it.
	18 Jun, Tue	Did Ascot. Hot & crowded. Saw some people I knew but found I was awfully out of it. Stopping hunting is a mistake if one wants to know soldiers &c. And I ought to for Dorothy & Alice. But I have chosen another part. Dined Boughton & his fiancée Miss Foster, her mother, the Conyngham’s, Daisy & old Jimmy Naper. The party was to qualify my old partner in the eyes of an ambitious mamma. We did it well!
[prob. Aretas Akers-Douglas]	19 Jun, Wed	Welsh Church Committee – I had a talk with A. Douglas & Balfour about my resignation. They both saw the situation and are to tell me what they think. The latter told me incidentally that they did not contemplate Irish legis[atio]n next Parliament “at least not much”. They will make a great blunder if they don’t take the great – perhaps the last – opportunity they will have of making a Unionist settlement of the Irish Q’n. Dined with Yerburgh.
	20 Jun, Thu	Lunched with the Conynghams to meet Lady Kilmorey who was to convert Ld. K. to I.A.O.S. support. She promised £5

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		subs[criptio]n! Was paired but did not go to Ascot.
	21 Jun, Fri	The Government were beaten today on army Estimates – Campbell Bannerman's salary reduced £100 on "Cordite" question. Lobby decided that dissol[utio]n would be practically announced Monday. I was thought driveling idiot because I did not see why it should be before Jan[uar]y. Dined with Dunbar Bulls.
	22 Jun, Sat	Saw Mrs. T.P. Gill after getting a long letter from T.P. giving me the story of his sad life & his terrible embarrassments. After a long consultation with Mrs. T.P. I exercised the greatest privilege of friendship and gave her £500 the am[oun]t needed to set him quite on his feet. Came with Daisy & Mrs. Willie to Stowlangtoft for a Sunday in the country. Geo. Haig & Andrew Carden of the party. Restful.
	23 Jun, Sun	Bicycled, slept, wrote to T.P. Gill & Mrs. T.P. Weather glorious. It was good to be alive & I felt grateful very. Oh the sadness of faithlessness! I mean the want of a religious faith. The end[,] & worse the approach of the end – the down hill road are ever before me. I could be a good man as well as a useful one.
[Letter to <i>Co-operative News</i> in <i>IH</i> , I:17 (29 Jun 1895), pp. 260-2]	24 Jun, Mon	A telegram from Dunning that Gov't has resigned. Spent a quiet morning & then to town by 6 P.M. Sent off long letter to Cooperative News about Irish cooperation. Dined at Carlton but got no fresh news.
	25 Jun, Tue	In House we simply adjourned till Wednesday. The St. James Gazette mentioned me as a possible Chief Sec'y for Ireland. I know if I had been able to work at Parl'y work I could have been strongly in the running for the post. It would probably have killed me physically unless I took it easy, when it would kill me in other ways.
	26 Jun, Wed	In House Harcourt announced that Salisbury had formed a Gov't & it looked as if all parties would consent to an immediate dissol[utio]n. Dined Hoyos', Boughton & girl, Conny & Raymond, Mayos & Daisy at Wellington.
	27 Jun, Thu	Wearisome unsettlement & uncertainty as to plans. Mary today seedy. She thinks her heart is affected. I hope not. Those poor girls would be in a sorry plight if she could not look after them. Dined with Mrs. Willie.
	28 Jun, Fri	Letter writing. Chiropodist, barber. Call on Mary whose heart is weak she thinks & I fear with reason. Garden party Holly Lodge. Had to send Gamble North £150 for Fingall being a bet made after dinner that Londonderry shares would be £3 by July 1st.
	29 Jun, Sat	Came down to Stowlangtoft with Daisy, Mrs. Willie & Andrew Carden following, George Haig having stayed over from last Sat[urda]y to Monday. A little bicycling – 1½ hours sleep after lunch & so forth. This is the best preparation for the coming canvas [<i>sic</i>].
	30 Jun, Sun	Rested well. Bicycling – a long sleep in afternoon &c.

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	1 Jul, Mon	Returned from “Stow” and attended H. of C.
	2 Jul, Tue	Meeting of Londonderry. Worked at my Address. Lunched with Mrs. Foster, E.S.R.B.’s future ma-in-law. Said good bye to 1892 Parliament. Dined quietly with Daisy at 104B.
	3 Jul, Wed	Chiefly packing. Also had interviews with Farrer, Ernle’s solicitor & Johnson, Johnny’s & mine with a hope of getting the two together on some proposal for a settlement or an agreement to live apart. Dunning & I left by night mail for Dublin where the next 3 weeks – or less I believe – are to be spent electioneering.
	4 Jul, Thu	Arrived rather tired & spent the day at I.A.O.S. office & Registration office. At latter met Council of South Dublin Registration Assoc’n and gave them a talky talky. Saw D. J. Wilson who is candidate for North Dublin where the register is apparently hopelessly against him. He has worked so hard & is promising so much that I daresay he will be returned.
	5 Jul, Fri	The same sort of work plus a meeting of canvassers at Rathmines very satisfactory & promising.
	6 Jul, Sat	Canvassing – a Tandy dinner at Kingston & meeting of canvassers – a long speech chiefly on Leasehold Enfranchisement.
	7 Jul, Sun	Came down to Dunsany with T P Gill & rested well.
	8 Jul, Mon	Back to Dublin & canvassing but only by afternoon train.
	9 Jul, Tue	Made up a speech for my most important meeting on Thursday. Had a sharp attack of “shingles” & went to Dr. Richard Hayes, 82 Merrion Square. Internal & external physic to remedy same. Meeting of canvassers at Blackrock after dinner with Gordon To-- -.
	10 Jul, Wed	Congested Districts Board, Irish Section Cooperative Union, I.A.O.S. (monthly meeting of Committee), meeting of Canvassers at Killiney after dinner – oh such a dinner with Micks chez the new Mrs. Micks – such a “hard frau”. And the poor candidate suffering from shingles.
	11 Jul, Thu	Most of the day thinking of my speech for the night. It was a joint meeting for the candidates for Stephens Green (W. Kenny) N. Dublin (J D [sic] Wilson) & S. Dublin (self). David Plunket backed us in a fine speech. I spoke quite my best. But the effort will cost me dear. T.P. Gill helped me with my speech. He is a real & dear friend to me. I told him today the sorrow & the folly of my life.
	12 Jul, Fri	Canvassing – meeting of Leaseholders at T Pim’s, Greenbank Monkstown[,] meeting City & County Conservative Club Dublin to support Dublin candidates. The last late at night was too much. I failed lamentably. Awfully over-tired.
	13 Jul, Sat	Canvassing. Doctor (shingles painful & troublesome. He says won’t get well till I stop work. Nervous affection not skin disease in ordinary sense.) Correspondence & down to Dunsany by evening train with Dunning & Gill.
	14 Jul, Sun	Rested as much as one could at such times.

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	15 Jul, Mon	To Dublin. Canvassing – preparing speech. Dined at Dalguise, Monkstown (Minnie Fitzgerald's) & spoke at Blackrock. Spoke fairly. David Plunket backed me & said I had greatly improved. So say all. I am getting on.
	16 Jul, Tue	Monteagle, R.A.A. & T.P.G. breakfasted with me. Spent day mostly canvassing & preparing speech for the morrow. Had an anti vaccination meeting which I received with open (though vaccinated) arms. T.P.G. & I dined at St. Georges Yacht Club.
	17 Jul, Wed	Speech preparing most of the day. Then a 6.10 P.M. Tandy Gorge and a splendid meeting at Kingstown. I did better than Monday. It was my last election speech. My popularity seems growing.
	18 Jul, Thu	Eve of the Poll. Drove to Dundrum (garden party) Kingstown on wire from Mrs. Tandy about nothing & to Loughlinstown for dinner.
	19 Jul, Fri	My Poll. Jim Power drove me to all the Polling stations lunching me at Leopardstown. Morning I went to Bray & spoke for Col. Tottenham (East Wicklow). It was a hard day. Fortunately fine. Well received everywhere far better than before. Expect big majority – betw'n 1500 & 2000! Day saddened by hearing of death of Ulick Burke. Poor fellow after getting a brilliant S. American billet (Peruvian Corporation) he dies on arrival of dysentery – his poor wife & 3 daughters just preparing to join him, their effects having gone on. I must look after his son Henry.
	20 Jul, Sat	<u>1892</u> Poll Self 4901 Self 4371 Burke <u>2962</u> Ffrench Mullen 2261 Majority 1939 Esmonde 1452 A good humoured crowd to whom I spoke. My opponent ditto in not a conciliatory speech. My majority beyond my expectations. Dragged by mob in a hack victoria with Mrs. Tandy at my side to her house, where lunch. Then back to Dublin & to Dunsany where Johnny's labourers dragged me up the avenue. So it all ended. <u>Well</u> .
	21 Jul, Sun	Rested well. M Nouffland of the Journal Debate who came to Ireland with introd[uction] to T.P. Gill came down to Dunsany. He speaks English perfectly, is young (25) but extremely well informed and very nice.
	22 Jul, Mon	Back to Dublin where many congrat[ulations] & much work. Met Land Agents Assoc'n or rather a half-dozen members of it to get their support for I.A.O.S. Arranged meeting Horse Show week of whole body. Went to a very stormy meeting at Clontarf Town Hall to support Wilson's candidature. Dined Clontarf Castle with Col. E Vernon. Came out to Dalguise Monkstown to sleep chez dear old T Fitzgerald & "Miss Minnie". Daisy came too.
	23 Jul, Tue	Drove over to Leopardstown to lunch & on on Jim Power's coach to a garden party at Loughlinstown. Back to dine & sleep again at Dalguise.
	24 Jul, Wed	Poured all day, so wrote letters to constituents, did a little I.A.O.S. work. Dined one Harold Brown of Pall Mall Gazette at St. Georges Yacht Club & talked Irish affairs. Slept Dalguise

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		again.
	25 Jul, Thu	Back to Dunsany after much writing in Dublin en route. The Frenchman M Nouffland was still with Johnny.
	26 Jul, Fri	Letters. Reggie arrived in his Britannia uniform. A satisfactory boy & will be a man – perhaps of mark. Dunning & I walked over to Kilmessan to see the secretary of the agric'l. soc'y. there. He was not at home.
	27 Jul, Sat	Writing hard till afternoon train as I was to leave Dunning in Ireland. Then crossed over night mail.
	28 Jul, Sun	Arrived early. Spent most of day talking to Daisy about Londonderry matters. Also saw Mrs. Gill about T.P. Gill, wrote several letters without Dunning's help.
	29 Jul, Mon	A miserable day. Morning in the Londonderry office. In afternoon Fingall came home. He, Myring & Daisy dined. Cosy evening in after dinner.
	30 Jul, Tue	Fingall breakfasted with me & all the rest of the day was devoted to his affairs in the City – a hateful business but it is labour of love after all.
	31 Jul, Wed	Fingall to breakfast, Beau Watson to lunch, "Tesché" to dinner. Otherwise Londonderry all day.
	1 Aug, Thu	Was to have left this morning. But had to give another day to Fingall & the Londonderry. So went by night mail.
	2 Aug, Fri	Mail 1½ hours late, so passed rapidly through Dublin transacting business with Dunning at K St. Club & on to Kilcooley with Gill, R.A.A., J. Gore Booth (of Lissadel Sligo) on the Council as volunteer organiser, & Seman of the Agric'l. Banks Assoc'n. Conference of 6 society committees at Urlingford – 70 present, best & most encouraging business meeting yet held. Lunched & dined at Kilcooley where Tommy & Harry just arrived from school & slept at Limerick J[unctio]n.
	3 Aug, Sat	On to Foynes adding Scott to our party at Limerick. 2nd conference for Shanagolden, Ballyhahil, Glyn not represented, Labasheeda & Kildysart Committees. Successful & suggestive discuss[i]o]n. Monteagle lunched delegates at Foynes Hotel, good fellow – but a mistake – bad precedent. Gill & I took refuge in Mt. Trenchard for a quiet Sunday, the others going to Listowel for a conference tomorrow.
[Letter to District Conference at Tralee in <i>IH</i> , I:23 (10 Aug 1895), p. 361]	4 Aug, Sun	A day of Rest – real rest – except by the way a letter to be read at Dairy conference which I could not attend.
	5 Aug, Mon	Left Mount Trenchard & came to K St. Club where Gill & Gaskell dined with me. The latter is a dear old man & I think the I.A.O.S. can employ him <u>in the office</u> with advantage.
	6 Aug, Tue	Down from Dublin by 12.30 train after a morning at I.A.O.S. Found Kildare cricket XI at work against the Dunsany team. Oliver B[righton] had got up the match, delegated his powers to Eddy & gone to Scotland. Then Eddy was sent to Monkstown to go on to a tutor in disgrace. So Reggie was in charge. Poor

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		Johnny quite disordered with all kinds of domestic & other worries. M Nouffland still with him. He Dunning & I went over to dine & sleep with Daisy. Fingall whom I saw on arrival went off to London to prepare for Londonderry Co meeting.
	7 Aug, Wed	Bicycled & looked on (rather tantalising) at the 2nd day's cricket match. The Murphys dined.
	8 Aug, Thu	Tired & seedy. Got through no work though tried hard.
	9 Aug, Fri	Up for Dublin by morning train with Johnny & his boys. West Ridgeway came to lunch with me from the Isle of Man to talk over his own affairs & to get me to interest myself in his promotion. He is self seeking as his enemies say. But why should he not be. He has ability and alas, without push ability availeth little in a public servant. Dined Gill & Gaskell at St. Georges Yacht Club.
	10 Aug, Sat	Down to Killeen with T.P. Gill 12.30 train. Bicycled & rested.
	11 Aug, Sun	Preparing a speech for the Debate – an Address which is designed to give a new tone to Irish politics. It is a big venture & the worst of it is that I shall have to make many enemies before I can make myself heard. Still I do believe my Irish middle course is the only possible way out.
	12 Aug, Mon	Morning at speech – & bicycled over to Dunsany to see Johnny who had just come back for a cricket match. Dublin with TP Gill by afternoon train & over by night mail. On boat had long talk with Maurice Healy – the cleverest of the Bantry gang – on H[ome].R[ule]. His attitude is – H.R. would be a “humdrum” affair. The Irish Parl't would be little more than a big Bd. of Guardians. No very practical reasons but sentimental ones more weighty! Ennobling sentiment. Irish language – literature.
	13 Aug, Tue	Arrived 104B. “Swore in” to new Parliament. Dined with Yerburgh & talked over possible joint action betw'n agriculturists (English) & I wish M.P.s of all kinds by my intercession. Rest of day spent with Fingall discussing Londonderry affairs.
	14 Aug, Wed	Londonderry meeting of directors. Dined with Courtney to talk over Irish Question. He is with me in determination to force Gov't to give Ireland substantial justice.
[Hansard, 4th Series, vol. 36, col. 114-9]	15 Aug, Thu	A Long day at the House ending with a speech in answer to Redmond's H. Rule & general Irish policy amend[men]t to address. I did not do very badly & certainly not very well. I had a good speech in my pocket but had to make a debating speech.
	16 Aug, Fri	Londonderry general meeting. Col. North carried the whole thing with bounce & bluff. Fingall came out well. I resigned directorship. Then long afternoon & ev[enin]g at House. Negotiated betw'n the 2 Balfours & John Redmond (which showed much confidence in both sides) as to Irish business this session.
	17 Aug, Sat	Tired. Got through no work worth mentioning but got out of London in afternoon to Sarsden where I found [Ld.] Moreton & wife, wife's father, mother & sister, Smiths with Dudley prefixed to distinguish them from all other Smiths. It does not make them more interesting alack. Bourgeois very!

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	18 Aug, Sun	Paid the penalty of over work but wrote. However a day's rest with dull & unexciting people left me more comfortable in the evening than I was in the morning. What a useless life poor M's is to what it might be. He has practical common sense & intimate knowledge of country affairs. He might do far more for Eng'd than ever I hope to do for Ireland & that is a good deal.
	19 Aug, Mon	Back to town where letters had accumulated already. Beau Watson to lunch. Then to House & dinner with Yerburgh. Back to House. Much business of sorts there & so home to bed.
	20 Aug, Tue	Lunched with Lucy. Met the Bryces, the Gullys (new Speaker – very nice) &c. Then the House, dull. Talked with some Irish M.P.s. They will I think work with me for good of Ireland.
	21 Aug, Wed	Worked at letters & address for forthcoming Coop Congress all day. At night drove to Holly Lodge where the "Baron" entertained some 50 M.P.s most royally. Professor Egan of Notre Dame Indiana lunched with me at the House. He is T P Gill's chief Amer'n. friend & I was much interested as to what he could [do] to help T.P.G. Resigned directorship of Londonderry.
	22 Aug, Thu	Busy with my lecture for tomorrow. Prof'r. Egan rather heavy in hand. He "blows" a bit & talks of his influence on public affairs in America in altogether too high a key.
[Text of address in <i>IH</i> , I:31 (5 Oct 1895), pp. 492-5]	23 Aug, Fri	Read a paper on Agric'l. Coop'n. to the International Coop Congress – opened the Crystal Palace cooperative Flower Show. Dined with Myring to find out Fingall's financial prospects & went to the House where I stayed till 2 A.M.
	24 Aug, Sat	Wrote letters – saw the Treasury (Hanbury) about some 2nd Div[isio]n Clerks in Ireland. Got photographed for one of the newspaper Parl'y albums. Left town 4.10 P.M. for Dublin. Fingall joined us at Crewe.
	25 Aug, Sun	Reached Dublin 2.30 A.M. To bed at K St. Club. Down 9.30 AM train to Killeen, Johnny having told Daisy that he could not put up Dunning & me as he had a house full. I found only F. Lawless & his 2 boys at Dunsany. He must have been muddled. Fingall's Best girl (Miss Ethel Waters) Miss Angelica Keenan & Daisy's mother were all at Killeen.
	26 Aug, Mon	Went to Dunsany intending to stay the night. But on second thought came up to Dublin where I had a room for the Show opposite K St. Club. Ernle has arrived at the Gresham, Mary & daughter are at Angelsey Arms Hotel, Kingstown. I am a steward at Horse Show & I have much to watch & do in public life. It is too much. Called late at night on Fr. Finlay.
[Letter proposing Recess Committee to <i>IH</i> , I:26 (31 Aug 1895), pp. 414-5; <i>Irish Times</i> , 28 Aug, p. 10; <i>Belfast Newsletter</i> , 29 Aug]	27 Aug, Tue	The Horse Show at which I was a Steward of the Yard. A nice day – the old venatic instincts took hold of me. But saw lots of nice people of all kinds. During day wrote a letter to all the Irish newspapers advocating united action among all Irishmen for promoting the material welfare of the country. Ernle came to Gresham Hotel, saw her poor thing. It is sad & hopeless trying to reconcile her & Johnny.

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	28 Aug, Wed	The Show again. My letter came out & was favorably commended on all sides. It will be interesting to see how my suggestion works out. Evidently I have caught hold of the Irish mind. The Ld. Lieutenant asked me to dinner today & I of course accepted. He met me at the Show meanwhile & I was introduced – also by command – & told him what I thought of the situation. It is funny what a muddle they are all in. The fossils are greatly puzzled.
	29 Aug, Thu	A meeting of the Cattle Traders Assoc'n. at Smithfield. How they smelt – the show and a long speech on the I.A.O.S. at a dinner of the Irish Land agents made the day hard enough. Myring was over. I gave him £2500 – borrowed from Pelton to invest for me. Foolish & risky but I want to get even with the Londonderry if possible.
	30 Aug, Fri	My letter <u>has</u> 'Caught on'. I find I am a bigger personage than heretofore. The K St. Club distrusts me more than ever but I feel I am getting the confidence of the people. I have surely earned it for bad as I may be in other respects[,] to Ireland I am a disinterested friend. Bought a bicycle, attended I.U.A. Executive meeting. Spoke for Kenny at Leinster Hall, Molesworth St. on his election candidature (caused by appointment as solicitor general) for Stephens Green.
	31 Aug, Sat	Bought a bicycle – rode it to Viceregal Lodge where put down my name & so to Broadstone & came to Dunsany. Ernle & Johnny on worst of terms & the unedifying sight spectacle before the eyes of Alice & Dorothy, Eddy & Reggie. JG Butcher came down at night.
	1 Sep, Sun	Daisy, Mary Murphy & "Fogey" Riddell came over. But cheery though they were the day was made miserable to me & I fear to the others too by the wretched squabble betw'n Johnny & Ernle.
	2 Sep, Mon	Daisy, JG Butcher, Dunning & I left Dunsany at 8 for the 10 AM for Enfield. Train brought Jim Power's & 7 other ladies (not very interesting) Jim Power's coach and horses – 6 hours to Ballina. There 1½ hours late for no apparent reason – then great delay in starting the coach & carts with all the ladies' luggage. Daisy & I rode on bicycles in a deluge of rain to Lough Conn Hotel, 10 good Irish miles. We arrived 8 P.M. drenched & had to go to bed to wait for clothes. Ten o'clock the coach & long car &c. arrived with the drenched party. At 11 we got dinner. The Hotel was built by one Knox (called his 'folly') in the middle of a field with not a tree, walk, lawn or shrub visible. It over looks the lake. Fine airy spot. Knox it ruined & now it is a hotel which lives on[,] an occasional fisherman & his party ought to keep it running a year or two more.
	3 Sep, Tue	Spent the day bicycling and sleeping. I was tired after yesterdays journey & bicycle tour from Ballina. Dined at Castlegore. A Ball after dinner which we (Daisy & the Jim Powers) escaped, getting home by midnight.
	4 Sep, Wed	To Foxford in Jim Power's coach. A <u>lovely</u> drive all round Lough

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		Conn crossing the head of the lake at "Pontoon" on a stone bridge. Foxford very much en fête. Ld. Ashbourne, Arran, the Ld. Mayor of Dublin the chief speakers besides myself who seemed to be as popular as any of them! Priests & people believe in the sincerity & the practicality of my scheme. The Foxford Exhib'n was a great success apparently.
	5 Sep, Thu	Took a "day off" from the Exhib'n & went for a picnic on the lake shore with the Arrans & Ashbournes. Got another dinner invit[atio]n to the Castle for tomorrow.
	6 Sep, Fri	Lady Power and daughter left. Drove in the coach this time round the other side of the Lake but more inland to Foxford Exhib'n. Delightfull [<i>sic</i>] day. Subscribed £100 towards debt of institution. Lady Arran was bossing the subscription list – alas another philanthropist who at least does not hide her light under a bushel. Poor Daisy got a wire from Fingall – will you or won't you sell Killeen – will you let the flat for 10 months &c &c. She is greatly worried.
	7 Sep, Sat	Journeyed viâ Ballina to Dublin. Daisy & I left the party – we were joined by Miss Maguire who was acting as Reporter for some papers at Foxford & by Max Green the engineer of the woolen factory. So our 5½ hours trip was all taken up working out a scheme for raising a fund to pay off the £14,000 debt the poor nuns had incurred. The Cadogans invited me again & I had an interesting chat with Gerald Balfour & Cadogan on Irish affairs. The former is sympathetic & will I think be <u>most</u> useful.
	8 Sep, Sun	Came to Kilcooley where poor Mary & the 4 children, Lizzie Lawless & Blanche Ponsonby.
	9 Sep, Mon	Seedy. Dysenteric diarrhoea. Took a short drive – otherwise rested & slept. Alice & Dorothy went to Col. Wood (x Hussars) at Curragh.
	10 Sep, Tue	Up to Dublin. Met Ld. Plunket in the train & he told me his views on the Christian Brothers Question.
	11 Sep, Wed	C.D.B. and I.A.O.S. (monthly). Went in evening down to Dunsany where Johnny & Ernle were living their miserable cat & dog life.
	12 Sep, Thu	To Dublin. A meeting Lady Arran in the Chair to get up a Fund to pay off the debt in Foxford. Then C.D.B. monthly meeting & innumerable letters. Daisy went to London to join Fingall. I told her to try & get F. to look after his & my money in Myring's hands.
[<i>quâ</i> – in the manner of]	13 Sep, Fri	Left Dublin for Mount Trenchard via Limerick where we, Anderson & I, met Monteagle & some others to discuss "Agency" matters. At. M.T. found the Gerald Balfours whom I was to take charge of on the morrow <i>quâ</i> Thos. Cook. Redington was there too & we had a pleasant evening.
[prob. Alexander W.]	14 Sep, Sat	Left M.T. early for Lahinch, R.A.A., the Balfours, Dowling private sec & I. Arrived for a late lunch & had a game of golf – a foursome. R.A.A. & I foolishly playing G. Balfour & Shaw. I was

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Shaw – Lahinch co-founder]		very seedy & played wretchedly. But the course is excellent – air invigorating – hotel fair. I felt getting better towards evening. Got to like G.B. & found his wife Lady Betty quite charming.
	15 Sep, Sun	Drove the Balfours & I to Cliffs of Moher in the morning & played golf in the afternoon. I played with G.B. against Shaw & R.A.A. We beat them very easily. Had much talk with G.B. I think he understands me & my work. I gave him some broad views on the Irish Q'n. He is receptive.
	16 Sep, Mon	Rose at 6 & off at 7 in car via Lisdoonvarna to Ballyvaughan. We went round the coast road & got to B'Vaughan at 11. There we took a hooker & sailed across Galway Bay to Galway. Quite perfect weather greatly enjoyed by the Bs & me. At Galway Major Rutledge Fair joined us to Recess where Dunning who had made all arrangements ahead met us with 2 wagonettes. We all 6 came on to Johnny O'Loughlin's Zetland Arms Hotel at Cashel where we found 4 fishermen & were sumptuously entertained. I am getting stronger rapidly.
	17 Sep, Tue	Chief Secretary & I drove on tandem car to Letterfrack, rest of party following in wagonette. Weather wet & scenery obscured. Visited the Industrial (Xian Brothers) school. Boys band played God Save the Queen. Lunched & then G.B., Rutledge Fair & I drove through Renvyle Estate – entered Congested Cottage & on to Leenane where to bed in comfortable hotel.
[Doo Lough]	18 Sep, Wed	Spent the day walking by Lough Doolough [<i>sic</i>]. We were about 7 hours out & it did us all a lot of good. Long talks with G.B. which I think impressed him.
	19 Sep, Thu	Left Leenane early & drove (beautiful drive) to Ballinrobe – past the scenes of Ld. Mountmorres' murder & the Maamtrasna horrors. Not much congestion. Glorious day. At Ballinrobe took train to Claremorris where we spent an hour's delay inspecting the convent. Then on to Foxford where the Bs were delighted with the splendid work of the nuns. So far we kept our visit quite private. But at Swinford where we slept the people turned out in force, lit bonfires, presented an address & had to be addressed from the window of the Hotel as this is John Dillon's Constituency.
	20 Sep, Fri	Drove via Charlestown to Ballaghaderin (where we inspected the convent & lunched or gorged with the genial Bishop) to Castlerea, whence by mail to Dublin. Saw the Bs off at Westland Row. The trip was a complete success from beginning to end. I taught B. something about Ireland I am sure. Slept at K St. Club where letters are accumulating again.
	21 Sep, Sat	Usual arrears of correspondence to be worked off. Sundry business to be done, then to Dunsany where I found J[ohnny]. & E[rnell]. getting on better together but the usual hugger mugger in the house. Servants had been discharged & others engaged – when the time came for the departures the effort of settling up seemed too great. Hence 2 cooks, 2 butlers (my valet & J's) 2 footmen & a page, 2 laundresses &c. Also 1 secretary & another expected, an architect from London. Poor J. looks to me to be failing. He is falling away in flesh & though cheerier & less oppressed I fear kidney disease is at work.

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	22 Sep, Sun	A quiet day enough. Poor Dunning wrote a pile of letters for me.
[Lord Mayor – Valentine Blake Dillon]	23 Sep, Mon	The hounds cubhunted a lovely morning at Dunsany. I should have been out but Eddy wanted my horse. Then he could not ride him & when I got up I found I might have hunted. Came to Dublin, saw Fr. Finlay, the Ld. Mayor & Sexton about the Recess Committee. The two latter admitted that the Nationalist objection was that I was killing Home Rule by kindness. Dined oh so dreary with Harold Brown & his new wife at Shelbourne.
	24 Sep, Tue	A hard day's work preparing for the conference tomorrow – writing Presidential address &c. T.P. Gill got back from Denmark. Monteagle came up & Fr. Finlay & they twain joined Anderson & me at dinner chez Mrs. A.
[Text of address to IAOS Conference in <i>IH</i> , I:30 (28 Sep 1895), pp. 476- 8]	25 Sep, Wed	The Conference was a great success. The societies were well represented, the Ld. Mayor, a couple of Parnellite M.P.s, several agric'l experts &c &c attended. We sat 12–1.45 & 3–5.30 & the discussion was interesting throughout. I had a tiring time in the Chair. But the feeling of the meeting to me personally was of the warmest. Certainly whatever I have done for the Irish is more than repaid. R.A.A. got up a meeting of organisers. I was too tired & dined quietly with Monteagle & T.P. Gill at Kingstown.
	26 Sep, Thu	Quite exhausted by yesterday's meeting. Only able to do ½ day's work. Had a meeting of organisers or rather Agency & I.A.O.S. leaders in morning, wrote some letters, went to Monkstown with Daisy & Minnie Fitzgerald in afternoon & on to Malahide to sleep at Grand Hotel. Fr. Finlay & Monteagle dined there. But after dinner I slept! The papers are very friendly except Independent.
	27 Sep, Fri	Back to K. St. Club & pretty hard work all day. Dined with Jonathan Hogg, all doctors. Annoying as I was asked to the pleasant party at Abbotstown to say good bye to Ld. Wolseley.
	28 Sep, Sat	After a busy morning went to Bray & joined a picnic of the Fingalls – he having brought over Myring & 2 other financial friends – enjoyed the most glorious weather we have known in this country or England at this time of year for 50 years – saw Dargle scenery Monck's & Powerscourt's demesnes &c. Dined Fingall & his friends at K. St. Club.
	29 Sep, Sun	Drove to Killeen with the Fingalls. Myring, Longtree (a steamer acquaintance of F's) & T.P. Gill. Never saw finer weather at any time of year. Enjoyed a really restful day.
	30 Sep, Mon	Fingall, Myring & Longtree left. TP Gill & I stayed on to enjoy another day in the country before going back to work in Dublin.
	1 Oct, Tue	“Lazed” at Killeen & Dunsany till afternoon train. Then to Dublin where I had to speak (briefly) at a lecture given at Trades Hall on some impediments to Irish industries. Did it very badly.
	2 Oct, Wed	Thermometer dropped I suppose 20°. We plunged from summer into winter. I.A.O.S. chiefly occupied my day.
	3 Oct, Thu	Went out with Daisy to see The Rev'd. Mother General (M[othe]r. Margison) at The Sisters of Charity Miltown, to talk

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		over the Foxford & Ballaghaderin industries. Work galore at I.A.O.S. Then gave a little dinner party to Johnny Mulhalls[,] Daisy & sister[,] Miss Minnie Fitz[,] Miss Jenny C. La Touche[,] R.A.A.[,] T.P. Gill at Metropole.
	4 Oct, Fri	I.A.O.S. & went to Bray to see W. Larminie who had written some propagandist literature for I.U.A. at my suggestion.
	5 Oct, Sat	Lunched with Ld. Mayor to meet J Redmond. Thaddeus the painter was there & took too large a part in the talk. Still I made some progress with Redmond & think he will come to the Round Table. Dined with La Touche with R.A.A. at his house.
	6 Oct, Sun	To Dunsany (where Mary, Dorothy & Alice) with R.A.A. Spent most of day writing a letter to Dublin newspapers on the relations betw'n I.A.O.S. & shopkeepers. Sent it up by Arthur Barton.
["Mr. Horace Plunkett on Farmers and Traders", <i>Irish Times</i> , p. 6]	7 Oct, Mon	By midday train to Navan whence to Randlestown with R.A.A. for night. In afternoon had a meeting to get up an agric'l. society at Donaghpatrick. Good attendance. Society will result. Nugent Everard made an excellent address as chairman & will be a good organiser for me.
	8 Oct, Tue	Back to Dublin. I.A.O.S. & I.I.A. Losing lot of time over this Recess Committee. Cannot get things any "forrader". Curtis wants to back out. Sexton definitely refuses to come in.
	9 Oct, Wed	An awfully busy day. Worked hard at CDB 2 committees, lunched with Prof'r. Dowden to discuss progressive Unionism. Afternoon at I.A.O.S. & all the time thinking out & negotiating about Recess Committee. Too much. I must get off to America for a rest.
[Letters re IAOS and agricultural co-operation in <i>IH</i> , I:32 (12 Oct 1895), pp. 513-4, 515]	10 Oct, Thu	Yesterday over again but much less accomplished. I hate those hanging negotiations. Dined with Minnie Fitzgerald & went to Trilby at the Gaiety. Beerbohm Tree the best acting I have seen for many a day.
	11 Oct, Fri	I.A.O.S. & Recess Committee. A long letter to Gerald Balfour on latter. Saw Dorothy & Alice off on steamer. Dined Eddy at St. Georges Club & played chess with him. Too horribly slow.
	12 Oct, Sat	Another futile attempt to catch J Redmond. Then down to Dunsany where I went to bed for 2 hours in afternoon & was too seedy to go to Killeen to dine where the Fs, Myring & a Frenchman had arrived for a Sat[urda]y to Monday.
[Cuénod] [Letter to Sec'y Great Southern & Western Railway in <i>IH</i> , I:34 (26 Oct 1895), p. 540]	13 Oct, Sun	Most of the day spent scheming with Fingall & Myring & M. Quenod [<i>sic</i>] over the Londonderry muddle in which I have now no financial interest. At night the Killeen party dined at Dunsany. Johnny cheered up & Ernle too & we had a cheery party which temporarily brightened the gloom of Dunsany under the present regime.
	14 Oct, Mon	To Dublin early. I.A.O.S. chiefly – then waiting to move Redmond & the Ld. Mayor so that I can get the Recess Com'tee. to work. Dreary delay this. Dined with Redington (bad dinner – not very good discourse) at Killiney. Fingall & party passed through D[ubli]n en route to Eng'd.

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		During the day they had changed all the plans we had agreed upon the day before & I shall have to help them to make new ones. Myring is nice but a doubtful companion for F.
	15 Oct, Tue	Rush of I.A.O.S. work &c & off to Killeen for a dine & sleep & to talk over the Fs plans quietly with Daisy who certainly carries his brains.
	16 Oct, Wed	Up to D[ubli]n in evening to dine & go to a play with La Touche. But rested from work.
	17 Oct, Thu	I.A.O.S. & Recess Committee. Dined with Wrench at Ballybrack.
	18 Oct, Fri	Sent another letter to the Papers on Recess Committee – not as good a letter as the first by a long way & written under pressure as I had a long meeting of the Committee of I.A.O.S. & had to dine with the College of Physicians. They received me well & gave me the place of the honored guest.
["The Hon. Mr. Plunkett's Recess Committee", <i>Irish Times</i> , p. 5]	19 Oct, Sat	Parnellite organ Independent definitely rejects my Recess Committee proposal & Irish Times writes a stupid article on my last letter pointing out certain political heresies lurking under the wording of the last paragraph. To Dunsany last train after hard days work at I.A.O.S.
	20 Oct, Sun	Wrote a letter in answer to Irish Times leading article with help of TP Gill who came down morning train.
["The Hon. Horace Plunkett's Recess Committee", <i>Irish Times</i> , p. 5]	21 Oct, Mon	To Dublin. 4½ hours C.D.B. G. Balfour in Chair. Saw Redmond at last & induced him to accept invit[atio]n to Round Table.
	22 Oct, Tue	After a very busy day dined the Balfours. Daisy, Miss Fitzgerald, Fr. Finlay, TP Gill, R.A.A., B.S.D[unning]. at Metropole. Most interesting evening.
	23 Oct, Wed	Justin McCarthy's reply to my Round Table invit[atio]n arrived – a refusal on absurd grounds. I spent the day replying to it, sending it & my reply to Press Assoc'n. & various Irish papers. If argument is any good I have scored. Went up to Redmond & found him at dinner with T.P. Gill. Dined with him & got him to consent to go ahead with me.
["The Recess Committee", <i>Irish Times</i> , p. 4]	24 Oct, Thu	Had an interview with Gerald Balfour in the morning & discussed Irish affairs generally. Left by 2.40 train for Belfast where I dined & slept with T. Sinclair, at the station met one Magee & a Fr. Falloona who are getting up a Coop agric'l. soc'y. in the Downpatrick district. Inoculated them for 40 minutes. Went out just in time for dinner to Hopefield where I had to meet one Sir W Ewart, Messrs John Young, Andrews, M'Neight (Northern Whig) Henderson (Newsletter).
[Likely reference: <i>Quem Deus vult perdere, prius dementat</i> – "Those whom God wishes to punish, he first deprives of reason", Anon.]	25 Oct, Fri	Left B'fast 10 arr[ive]d Dublin 2.10! Meeting Executive I.U.A. Refused to adopt my scheme for putting Unionist case before Irish people. Quem Deus.
	26 Oct, Sat	Went with Fr. Finlay to Loretto Convent, Dalkey to help to start a cooperative embroidery society. Down to Killeen where Poppy

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		Herbert & the Fs.
	27 Oct, Sun	To Dunsany to see Johnny & Ernle & back here with them to lunch. A real quiet Sunday with only a moderate amount of Johnny & Ernle's lives. Poor J. told me he would pull himself together & begin life over if he could only come to some amicable settlement by which he & E. could go their own ways. They are quite irreconcilable. It would be far the best plan.
	28 Oct, Mon	Up from Killeen early. Monteagle came to Dublin. 11 AM conference with Bacon Curers represented by 3 Dennys, R.A.A. & I for I.A.O.S., 3 Recess Committees met – only Redmond & Monteagle & I & Ld. Mayor who had told the others it was to be Tuesday! However we got forrader, agreed upon much and settled to meet tomorrow. I wish I were freer. I could make it a success. M & I dined with the Gerald Balfours.
[<i>labour omnia vincit</i> – work conquers all]	29 Oct, Tue	Labour omnia vincit but will it make the Recess Committee a success. I think so. Today we met again at the Mansion House, Field having joined us. We are beginning to get things into shape. I got up a dinner party to talk matters over. Monteagle, TW Russell, Atkinson, Jonathan Hogg, T Pim Jr., F. Pim, W. Larminie, D.J. Wilson. "T.W." took all the time & was a great nuisance. However we domesticated him a little.
	30 Oct, Wed	Another interview with G.W. Balfour. Talks with Johnny about his affairs & conference betw'n him & Gavin Low who lets his grass lands for him. A further meeting of Recess Committee & many letters &c prior to departure. In fact a most exhausting day.
	31 Oct, Thu	Down by 6.40 mail for Dublin. Wrote in train a memo re Recess Committee to Belfast merchants &c whom I met at T Sinclair's House. Came on board Majestic & set sail noon. Rather seedy from over work. Found Cleeve of Limerick my room-mate a rough not very congenial companion. Ship full – not a soul I know or care about. J. Bruce Ismay on board but did not see him.
	1 Nov, Fri	447
	2 Nov, Sat	491
	3 Nov, Sun	380 Heavy weather. But I don't mind it a bit.
	4 Nov, Mon	457
	5 Nov, Tue	478. There have been 4 "auction pools" on the 'run' in the smoking rooms. A German Jew has won them all! He pockets about £160 I am told. Never never had such a dull crowd. But I have profited in health. There is one good chess player with whom I have had a few games.
	6 Nov, Wed	478. 52 to Sandy Hook. But unhappily Sandy Hook was enveloped in a thick fog and could not be reached. We had to anchor for the night.
	7 Nov, Thu	Another thick fog. The Wednesday steamers only got out as we were getting in at noon. I went to Brunswick Hotel. After lunch went down town – saw T

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		Sturgis, Ralph Stuart Wortley (who dined with me) did a little business.
	8 Nov, Fri	A dragging day. Professor Egan had asked some interesting literary people to call on me. They did not turn up. I did some business down Town. Called on Miss Emmet (89 Madison Avenue) to get the address of Mrs. White, Chicago. She could not give it to me. But I talked Irish politics with her to hear what the Irish Amer'ns. were thinking. They seem utterly at sea & much disgusted.
[ILPU – Irish Loyal and Patriotic Union]	9 Nov, Sat	<p>Thomas Burke Grant an Irish newspaper man called & told me a lot about Irish Amer'n. feeling. He said the next move would probably be a convention of the Irish race with the object of forming an Irish Com'tee to take the charge of the movement out of the hands of the Irish politicians. He is not a Nat[ionalis]t himself but is reported to be one. The I.L.P.U. with accustomed stupidity got on his track.</p> <p>Went after lunch to Eden Musee & won two & drew one game against the famous automaton chess player. Took 4.30 train (North Shore Limited) for Chicago. Heat in N.Y. intolerable in winter clothes – 74° at 6.</p>
[CStP&M – Chicago, St. Paul & Minneapolis Railroad]	10 Nov, Sun	Woke up to a white world. Such is the Amer'n. climate! A good train. Passed through Chicago, no time to do anything or see anybody. Left 6.30 P.M. for Omaha C.St.P.& M. R.R.
	11 Nov, Mon	Arrived 11.30, 2 hours late at Omaha. Stayed with Harry Windsor. Found F[rank].A.K[emp]. & him rather at loggerheads. The outlook was simply desperate and I fear stormy interviews. They ought to have had their a/cs ready. But they had not. So I could do little. However one soaks in information, “catches on” “gets back” & gradually prepares for action. I hope to do some good. I fear F.A.K. has been drinking. He seems a bit degenerated. I will try & tone him up.
	12 Nov, Tue	A very disagreeable day with partners. Both bankrupt. Harry Windsor frank & prepared to do anything. F.K. sulky, unwilling to face facts & silent when I accuse him of unfairness to me.
	13 Nov, Wed	A busy morning but little accomplished. Windsor & I took 2 P.M. “over land flyer” (25 miles per hour) for Cheyenne. Buffalo Bill “on board” but too worried to enjoy his society. George T. Beck my old friend of Buffalo Wyo. has organised a party to start from Sheridan Wyo. Nov. 18th & hunt in the Big Horn Basin, Buffalo Bill being of the party. If I were not worried & overworked I would leave my world for 3 weeks & join the party. It cannot be.
	14 Nov, Thu	Arrived 7 AM at Cheyenne & put up at the Club. How changed from ten years ago! Nothing but an elevation of 6000 feet saves me from the “Blues”. John Chaplin was at his post & with him I plunged into my affairs & discussed plans for meeting the difficulties F. Kemp's appropriation of my funds & reckless speculation he led me into. Poor Henry Hay lost his wife a week ago & is terribly depressed. I was glad to take his hand again. He is the soul of honour & equally staunch in fortune & adversity. “Judge” or “ex Senator” Carey & his cheery wife were also seen. John Harrington has married & sells dry goods at the old stand. The other faces were mostly new.

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[Johnston]	15 Nov, Fri	7 AM departure after a 6.15 AM breakfast with Carey & ?tea ?poured Mrs. C for Wheatland. H.J.W[indsor]. came too. M. R. Johnson [<i>sic</i>] the Sup[erintenden]t met us & drove us over the lands. I was astonished at the progress. Our money will all come back out of that investment though of course we shant get interest. The little village looks like progress too. We got back to Cheyenne after midnight having left at 7 P.M. It is 95 miles but the train is chiefly 'freight'.
	16 Nov, Sat	Up early – finished up work and left with Chaplin & Windsor for Omaha. Glorious weather.
	17 Nov, Sun	Train 2 hours late. Arrived 12.30. Found Frank Kemp at office – sulky – admitted that he could give me no cash for a debt of some \$30,000. Would tell me later what security he can give me. Outlook very blue. Did no business but talked with W. & Chaplin. Did social call on ?Barber's wife.
	18 Nov, Mon	Lawyers & partners & troubles. Told F.A.K. that he had misappropriated Trust funds, that he had abused the confidence of his absent friend who had certainly treated him with generosity. Told him he must leave the Firm, give me what security he could. Henry Hay, son & daughter lunched with me.
	19 Nov, Tue	Ditto from early morning to late night. Fingall wired asking me to be trustee to his Exploration Co. Telegram had to be repeated.
	20 Nov, Wed	Cabled Fingall accepting trusteeship. Also there arrived the guarantee of his overdraft of £5000 at Hibernian Bank to be renewed from December when due for another year. Finally proposed terms of settlement with partners. F. Kemp balked. Harry accepted it in generous spirit. At night F.K. was to come down to office to settle up some a/cs. He did not meet us & I wrote him a strong threatening letter.
	21 Nov, Thu	Worked hard with Chaplin, Harry & the lawyers to get the old partnership finally closed up & the new one started. Frank Kemp was, naturally, at his worst. He accepted my terms because he had no option. He never thanked me for my conduct to him or even admitted that he had done wrong or protested his regret. I shall probably never see him again. He has either got my money put away or he is penniless. In either case he will probably go to the dogs. I lose what I thought a friend and some £8000 to him & God knows how much more through him. Left for Chicago.
	22 Nov, Fri	Arrived early & went to Auditorium. Saw Mrs. Annie White of the I.I.A. (179 Wabash Avenue). The usual pictorial advertisement of (1) Lady Aberdeen and (2) Lord Aberdeen met the eye. Had a talk over Irish industries & the Amer'n market therefor. Dined with John Clay with object of learning about some transactions betw'n Kemp & Clay & Forrest on behalf of W[indsor].K[emp]. & Co. Unsatisfactory day. But had to stay over.
	23 Nov, Sat	The interview with Clay & Forrest proved that FAK had robbed me more than I had anticipated & lied into the bargain about it. Had a further interview with Mrs. White and left by

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		Penn[sylvani]a Limited for N.Y.
	24 Nov, Sun	Arrived in N.Y. disgusted with my Western trip & feeling terribly guilty of having wasted money I might have done so much real good with, in these Western enterprises.
	25 Nov, Mon	Miss K Madel[e]ine Barry – Fr. Finlay’s Irish Canadian friend called to talk IAOS & Irish industries generally. A pretty & nice girl & really fond of Ireland. If I were marriageable she might be a help mate. Down town saw T. B. Adams about W[estern].U[nion]. Beef shares. No market for them but one expected. Interview with T. Sturgis. Dined Ralph Stuart Wortley. He was as much astonished about F.A.K. as I was. He told me of another iniquity. F.K. gambled through him in one of the most speculative stocks on the N.Y. market.
	26 Nov, Tue	Saw Charles Barton (T.B.’s son) & learnt that he was getting on well. T.B. Grant the strange Irish newspaper man came & told me a lot more about Clan-na-Gael & Irish organisations in America generally. R. Davis Carey, brother of J[oseph].M[aul].C. called – we had a long talk over the Wyo Dev Co. He is a business man & will greatly help to pull the scheme through. Rest of day hard at work at business.
	27 Nov, Wed	Very hard worked trying to finish business correspondence, pack to get off. Had a letter of introd[uctio]n to Theodore Roosevelt & sent it 5 days ago. He only got it today & so I had to content myself with a ¼ hour interview with him at Police Headquarters. A man of clear brain, lofty character, quick insight and indomitable purpose I should say. Shall get to know him later I hope. Went on board Germanic – now done up in style of the two larger White Stars. Had the only deck cabin – a real luxury.
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	29 Nov, Fri	378
	30 Nov, Sat	381
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	4 Dec, Wed	392. 207 miles from Queenstown – arrived after midnight. The pleasantest passage I ever had known. I got better all the way. I tee totalled. I think it suits me at sea. I shall try it on land. If my brain would only work actively without tea & coffee I should doubtless have better digestion & assimilation.
	5 Dec, Thu	To bed 3 A.M. Too chilled to sleep. No news – so no very bad news. Got to K St. Club 7 P.M. having been met by a male & female angel Jim Power & Daisy Fingall at the station. T.P. Gill still away sick but not in a Home of Rest. Dunning in good liver apparently. Castletown at Club now cuts me. Funny ill conditioned creature.

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	6 Dec, Fri	Naturally a busy day. No news from T.P. Gill. Still in dark as to Recess Com'tee progress – CDB monthly. I.A.O.S. Com'tee. Conversazione at Arts & Crafts after a dinner with Mrs. Browne, am fairly well. Was greatly pulled up by the voyage. But landing at 3 AM & journey to Dublin next day tired me. What a wretched physique to try to do great things with.
	7 Dec, Sat	Similar work. Also saw John Redmond, Smith Barry, GW Balfour & others & gradually got au fait with what has been going on in my absence. A long letter from T.P. Gill expressing a desire to work at big schemes with me if only his own domestic problem could be solved.
	8 Dec, Sun	To Dunsany by morning train in which Fingall, Myring & their lawyer. Hence my day has to be mostly spent helping them with Londonderry affairs. Miserable state of things betw'n Johnny & Ernle & Daisy in a state of the most awful demoralisation. Everyone – & they are legion – a law unto themselves. Randal Hawkesley – one Rogers late Sec to Sir H. James hanging on to Johnny & Maple's men in the House. Johnny has the wild idea that he can force Eddy to support Reggie in event of his death by leaving R. his personalty in the shape of costly decoration of the walls of the old castle.
	9 Dec, Mon	Two I.U.A. meetings, at office & Mrs. Browne's (where lunched). Then Fingall's affairs at his Club with him, Myring & the lawyer. Monteagle came up & we dined at La Touches. That accounts for a full day.
	10 Dec, Tue	T. Sinclair from Belfast & Monteagle with me all day. Had to fit in long letters to Johnny & Ernle, also to go into Omaha business on receipt of letters & papers from Windsor, a very very busy day. Recess Committee begins to take shape – in my ('big fat') mind.
	11 Dec, Wed	Meetings all day. I.A.O.S. & I.C.A.S. At I.U.A. the small committee appointed to consider my suggestion for economic Irish propaganda very coldly assented to a partial & inadequate experiment. Dined & slept at Abbotstown – <u>appallingly</u> stupid party.
	12 Dec, Thu	Back to Club early and more meetings of I.C.A.S. Also Royal Dublin Society Agricultural Committee. I headed the poll in the ballot for Agric'l Committee which is a sign that the old Tory landlord influence is not as predominant as it was. Mary passing through Dublin with Alice. Had a brief interview with them. Was to have dined with Cattle Show people at Ball's Bridge. But was very seedy with indigestion. Took no dinner & hope to be well tomorrow.
	13 Dec, Fri	Chilled liver. I am curing it by semi-starvation – no medicine or doctors. The plan works. But I had to attend I.A.O.S. business 4 or 5 hours & that went hard with me.
	14 Dec, Sat	Still seedy – midday train to Drumree. Put up at Killeen where Fingall & Daisy, Donaldson & Miss Burke were the party. Poor Daisy was in bed with a threatened miscarriage.
	15 Dec, Sun	Two liver pills last night. Much better today. Johnny had gone to Kingstown for Sunday. Went over to Ernle & had a good talk to

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		her. Things brightening betw'n J. & E. a little I think.
	16 Dec, Mon	Heavy mail from America & elsewhere so stayed at Killeen till afternoon train. Then came up to dine Buller at K St. Club & talk him into Round Table. He was not as bright as I expected. It was tiring work. I had to take 1/3rd bottle of champagne & a cup of coffee to keep up the argument. This is bad. He who had only to listen & who is not much stronger than me drank the 2/3rds a large glass brown sherry, a Chartreuse with his coffee & a Brandy & soda. He won't live long as his over stimulation is as bad as my over work.
	17 Dec, Tue	A madly busy day. I.A.O.S., Amer'n. correspondence, Recess Committee &c &c. Poor Anderson lost his father & had to go South to bury him.
	18 Dec, Wed	Met the Constituency Bosses & gave them a talk. They were very nice. Awfully busy preparing for Belfast where I go tomorrow. Had Scott up about agency.
[Report of address in <i>IH</i> , I:43 (28 Dec 1895), pp. 691-2]	19 Dec, Thu	Monteagle passed through & I had a useful morning with him. Left Dublin 2.40 PM for Belfast. Thence to Comber, Co. Down where I put up with Tom Andrews, Chairman of Lib[eral] Unionist Assoc'n., a splendid fellow he seemed. On arrival I had to go to a meeting of farmers in the school house of his flax & spinning mill. Spread the Coop: agric'l. doctrine but hardly laid foundations of a society as the farmers were already doing too well individually with Belfast consumers 8 miles off.
	20 Dec, Fri	Morning making notes. Except 3/4 hour devoted to looking over an excellent farmstead (of Herbert Andrews') and seeing the Flax mill at work. 2.30 meeting Lib Unionist Assoc'n. at Reform Club, Belfast. It was a good meeting – <u>all</u> best men there & from distance some of them. I explained Recess Committee. I was tired & not in form. But I kept to my line & argued my case fairly well. Resol[utio]n in favor passed by acclama[tio]n. In evening T. Andrews gave a dinner to self & 26 leading Unionists of both wings. Pommery /84 inspired me & I spoke at great length & with apparent success. All were enthusiastically favorable. Dr. Kane most of all. Slept Grand Central Hotel.
	21 Dec, Sat	Up at 6 AM and took breakfast car train at 7 for Dublin. Very comfortable except that it was freezing hard & they for some unexplainable reason could not give us any steam heat till they got to Portadown. Arr[ive]d Dublin 10.45 & found poor Anderson back from burying his father. Hard days work & then awful dinner at Mrs. Tandy's at Kingstown.
	22 Dec, Sun	Down to Killeen for Sunday. Wretched interviews with Johnny & Ernle. Otherwise restful.
[Lord Mayor – Valentine Blake Dillon]	23 Dec, Mon	Back to Dublin. Lunched with Ld. Cadogan & discussed Round Table idea with him. Experienced, smart, stilted & narrow in his thought, <u>outwardly</u> sympathetic. I explained the idea. I ought perhaps to have kept my counsel. I am not sure whether I can trust him. Dined with Lord Mayor, gloomy function, about 100 mostly uninteresting males.
	24 Dec, Tue	Very busy all day in Dublin. Long interview with J. Redmond about Round Table. He is weak & never will be a leader. He follows. He is simply an orator. I heard the other day that he has

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		<p>practised it from a child. But he is fortunately manageable & I have got him to think the Round Table will help his party as no doubt it will if he is loyal to it.</p> <p>To Killeen (Dunsany in hands of patrons & miserably demoralised & uncomfortable) for Xmas. Dunning & I, Fingall & wife & 2 children & Miss Burke. Quiet, restful.</p>
	25 Dec, Wed	<p>To Kilmessan. A laboured sermon & Ernle & the boys there, so we put in a respectable appearance. But E. went out before Sacrament as she must do the wrong thing when possible.</p> <p>J & E & the boys & 3 Murphys made 12 to Dinner. We played silly games after & it was all smiles, though Ernle tried to provoke Johnny to wrath. <u>She</u> is generally the agent provocatif.</p>
	26 Dec, Thu	Came as near doing nothing as possible.
To Balfour, Lady Betty	27 Dec, Fri	Had half a day's hunt at Lismullin on the Chesnut. Was not at all fit & did not enjoy it much. Got a fall but not a shake. Had heavy cold. Still it was a cheery sight & I began to get the venatic fever on me.
	28 Dec, Sat	<p>Came up to Viceregal Lodge to talk politics to Cadogan. No party only the family. I seem to have risen to a dangerous eminence as an unofficial adviser of the Irish Gov't. If they don't take my advice I am despised[,] if they do – well "the Castle" will see that I am destroyed. One cannot do good without hurting vested interests – in Ireland.</p> <p>Ernle ended her miserable visit to her husband at Dunsany.</p>
	29 Dec, Sun	<p>Tried to work at Recess Com'tee. &c but <u>had</u> to rest. They were very kind to me.</p> <p>Telegram came from the Queen just before midnight sympathising with the widows & orphans of the men lost in a terrible life boat accident off Kingstown on Xmas eve. Cadogan wanted to get it into all the papers. So I had to go round with it & did not get to bed till 1.45 AM.</p>
	30 Dec, Mon	<p>Off at 8 AM & down to Kingstown to make arrangements for "Her Excellency" to visit the widows & orphans with the Queen's message of sympathy. Took her round 17 cottages with Priests & clergy in attendance. Great difficulty to keep it quiet & decent. Took whole day & in middle had to go to Chamber of Commerce to explain to their council Recess Committee. They endorsed it. Dined in Hall of Trinity College, H. Brougham Leech L.L.D. being my host. Slept at K St. Club.</p>
	31 Dec, Tue	Very tired. Got through little work, though at it all day.
	Year-end Summary	<p>My doings this year are recorded elsewhere in this diary. For I have taken an active part in public affairs of Ireland. I have grown in influence & my ideas find favor in quarters where my party have no hold. The year ends just as the principles I have advocated are being put to a practical test by my Round Table proposal. With infinite labour I have got together some 20 representative men of all parties, Tory & McCarthyite M.P.s being the only recusants. What will come of it all I cannot say. But if those who have joined me are loyal to the scheme it will take its place among the moments of the Age.</p>

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[9 stone 9 lb. = 135 lb.]		<p>The Agricultural Organisation Society – my first love in the public way – has done splendidly. That is a success and will revolutionise Irish agriculture – that is 9/10ths of the work & wealth of Ireland.</p> <p>Of my private life not much to record. The year opened upon me undergoing the ‘Rest Cure’ at Bournemouth. This carried me through Jan’y & Feb’y & then I had 5 weeks ‘after cure’ going to Egypt & back. Returned to find the Londonderry mine collapsed. Lost some £3000 over this. Then came the general election in July costing £1000 & finally I found when I went to America in November that my partner Frank Kemp had robbed me of some £8000.</p> <p>Add to this very bad times in America & it is easy to see that I am a poorer man than I was. I am stronger in health & better able to work. But though I got up to 9.9 in the Home of Rest I lost it all in a dysenteric attack which came on after leaving Egypt. The Rest Cure did me good however.</p> <p>Parliament dissolved in July & I tried to retire. However I was pressed to continue & I think the pressure was real as I increased my majority from 657 to 1939. Much of this was Registration but not all.</p>