

1899 Diary of Sir Horace Curzon Plunkett (1854–1932)

Transcribed, annotated and indexed by Kate Targett. December 2012

NOTES

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

Horace Plunkett, *Irish Homestead*, 30 July 1910

Conventions

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

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

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

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

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

5) Punctuation (or lack of)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Correspondence

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

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

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

Abbreviations

1) Frequently occurring abbreviations and contractions:

Names

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

Organisations

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

General

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

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

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

1899

Events:

16 Jan – Elder brother John dies; HP’s nephew Edward John Moreton Drax Plunkett becomes 18th Baron Dunsany

May – Irish Literary Theatre founded

4 Mar – First no. Arthur Griffith’s *United Irishman*

18 Mar – First no. official Gaelic League organ, *An Claidheamh Soluis*

24 Jul - Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction (DATI) bill passes

2 Nov – HP appointed DATI Vice-President

Publications:

- “Co-operative Credit as a Remedy for Usury” (letter), *The Times*, 22 Feb, p. 7

- *IAOS Annual Report*, pp. 88-90

- Attributed articles in *Irish Homestead*

Report of address at Manchester, “The New Economic Movement in Ireland”, V:4 (28 Jan 1899), pp. 69-70

Report of speech at Reform Club, Belfast, V:5 (4 Feb 1899), p. 89

Text of speech at Queen’s College, Belfast, V:5 (4 Feb 1899), pp. 89-90

Reprint of article in *Lords and Commons*, V:7 (18 Feb 1899), pp. 124-5

Text of address at TCD, “Bankers and Farmers in Ireland”, V:47 (11 Nov 1899), pp. 765-7

Text of address to Conference of Co-operative Societies, Dublin, V:48 (9 Dec 1899), pp.812-3

Preface to 5th IAOS Annual Report, V:8 (9 Dec 1899), supp.

Government:

Prime Minister: 3rd Marquess of Salisbury (Conservative)

Chief Secretary: Gerald William Balfour

Lord Lieutenant: Earl Cadogan

Approximate monetary equivalents (2010): £1= £102; \$1 = \$24

Correspondence [Notes]	1899	Diary Entry
?Jun-Jul: 5 letters between Betty Balfour and Mrs. Grunelius re possible treatment by German doctor of HCP’s broken leg.]		
	1 Jan, Sun	The day restful except for a melancholy afternoon spent with Johnny who was at Dunsany with the Gurneys in a very unhappy state. He is drinking too much & injecting morphia & cocaine & of course was in the usual cantankerous humour. He has got miserably thin again & all my hopes of reform have vanished. The Leonards & Murphys dined at Killeen.
	2 Jan, Mon	To Dublin where a busy I.A.O.S. day. Slept at Club.
	3 Jan, Tue	Morning with R.A.A., Russell, Gill & Dunning. Then by 2.45 PM train to Thurles & on to Kilcooley where Mary & her whole family & Eddy were entertaining the Ernest & Emily James, Dick Levinge & a militia friend of Tommy’s.
	4 Jan, Wed	Morning with Campbell, afternoon with Tommy. Also a talk with 3 leaders of Urlingford Agric’l Soc’y who came to see me. They admitted that the whole I.A.O.S. programme could be carried out “if only we had somebody to lead us”.
	5 Jan, Thu	A long talk with Mary. She roundly accused me of having completely neglected my duties as Guardian for which my fortune was left me. “How diff[eren]t it would have been if R[andal] & Chum had lived”. (I remember how Mary & Conny used to

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		inveigh against R for his social uselessness). But the burden of the charge was my infatuation for Daisy, a clever actress &c &c. Dorothy had said "Uncle Horace may be ashamed of me but he can't be of Alice" & so forth. So I left Kilcooley for Dublin without great regret.
	6 Jan, Fri	Tremendous I.A.O.S. & general business day.
[Leslie Edmunds]	7 Jan, Sat	With R.A.A. to Castlebar where we met Hannon & Doran (with his new English assistant Edmonds [<i>sic</i>] aetat 26, socially & ?philanthropically inclined). Drove to Partry to see the Port Royal estate which the C.D.B. has bought. Squalor & destitution. Had a talk with Fr. Corbet[t] P.P. & determined to go back tomorrow to Tourmakeady & have a talk to the people. Had a very wet cold drive.
[Quirk]	8 Jan, Sun	Drove with Hannon & R.A.A. to Tourmakeady & addressed a school room full of Congests on Coop'n, Frs. Corbet[t] & O'Malley being present. Spoke unreservedly on land Question & found people quite reasonable. Drove back to Westport where we picked up Doran & went on to Rossmoney Coast Guard St[atio]n to join Granuaile. My letters had not reached there & Capt. Quirke [<i>sic</i>] did not expect us till morning. He lay 1½ miles off. Coast Guard rowed us out.
	9 Jan, Mon	The wavelets beating on the "belting" of the Granuaile made it hard to sleep. By daylight we were at Clare Island & after b[rea]kfa[st] went ashore to the C.C. (Fr. Michael Donnellan). Men were sent round the Island to bring every head of family to the West School house & we had a gathering of about 85 people. We discussed the whole Economy of the Island & explained all possible combinations. Finally we made them thoroughly up in Agric'l Banking which we had explained in October & actually started a Bank. I spoke quietly & convincingly this time. Landed at Rossmoney & went via Westport to Castlebar.
	10 Jan, Tue	6½ hours rail Castlebar to Dublin. Then letters with Dunning.
	11 Jan, Wed	I.A.O.S. & American correspondence. Then to Ch: Sec's Lodge where Betty & Daisy. Quiet evening spoilt by a Command to dine with His Ex who wanted to secure my support for his improvement on Gerald Balfour's Agriculture & Industries Bill. He wants to "popularise" it by "decentralising the initiative" and the administration. Ignorance, folly.
	12 Jan, Thu	I.A.O.S. &c & then quiet evening with Lady Betty & Daisy.
[Pres. Queen's Belfast – Thos. Hamilton; Ld. Mayor Belfast – James Henderson]	13 Jan, Fri	Irish Mail train broke down & Gerald Balfour did not arrive in Dublin until 11.30. I only saw him for a few minutes before I left with T P Gill for Belfast. I explained the difficulty with Cadogan & he told me he would stand firm. Unhappily his attitude on the A & I bill is only less objectionable than C's. He does not understand the Question. Andrews who took us at night out to Cultra for the night dined us with some 14 leading Belfast men, Sinclair, Pres't of Queens College, The Ld. Mayor &c &c. Good useful talk.
	14 Jan, Sat	Saw the Oceanic the longest ship in the world – 705 feet I think – launched. The vast structure solemnly slid down her birth [<i>sic</i>] bed into the water & was a most impressive sight. The Ismays, Pir[r]ies, Geoffrey Drage & all the elite of Ulster were there. The

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		<p>day was lovely & we felt proud of the Irish performance.</p> <p>Decided to go back to Dublin & see Gerald Balfour again while he is preparing his Bill & try & make him see our view.</p>
	15 Jan, Sun	<p>After a morning at correspondence lunched with Gerald Balfour & had a long & earnest talk over the proposed "Agriculture & Tech Ed'n Bill" which he showed me. I criticised it freely & told him that I stood by the Recess C'te which after patient study came to a definite opinion as to what was wanted. I discussed other Irish affairs and left him I think impressed. He wants to do right but does not want it ever to be thought – still less said – that he does not make up his own mind.</p>
[Report of address in <i>IH</i> , V:4 (28 Jan 1899), pp. 69-70]	16 Jan, Mon	<p>Poor Johnny, my only remaining brother died today. That is all I know writing in a midnight train from Manchester to Crewe where I get into a night express for Holyhead. I left Dublin this morning to lecture on The New Economics Movement to a R.C. audience at the Church of Holy Name Hall. At 11 P.M. Fr. Finlay who had got me to come over brought the news wired from Gill.</p> <p>Poor dear loveable unhappy Johnny. It was the saddest life I have known. But he at any rate is happier now. He had his punishment in this world for any sins that may be charged against him.</p>
	17 Jan, Tue	<p>After a rough passage rushed through Dublin & down to Dunsany. Gurney & Eddy were there. Poor Johnny lay in the Rose room showing no signs of a struggle for life – peaceful & calm for the first time for many a year. It was a sad farewell and then after the struggle with tears I got to work at the final scene. Telegrams & letters all day & poor Eddy not very helpful. Gurney a trump – Wilkinson ill. Reid faithful. Dunning came too & was a comfort.</p>
[Reprint of previously published article in <i>IH</i> , V:7 (18 Feb 1899), pp. 124-5]	18 Jan, Wed	<p>Tommy & Harry Ponsonby & John Hawksley arrived at night & went to Killeen where Eddy also sleeps. I plodded along with the arrangements & heard all day the sad incidents of the wrecked life from really sorrowing friends. Oliver Brighton turned up but was housed by Dr. Laffan. I inspected the vault & arranged all for the morrow, wrote endless letters & sent hundreds of words over the wires. How glad I shall be when it is all over.</p>
[Earlier letter to <i>Freeman's Journal</i> reprinted in <i>IH</i> , V:4 (28 Jan 1899), p. 65]	19 Jan, Thu	<p>Last scene of all. I had advertised 'privacy by request of deceased['] and kept the house dark. So very few outsiders came & poor Johnny was carried to the vault he took such a morbid interest in preparing by the labourers of the estate. Oliver Brighton read the service well & showed feeling. Raymond, Eddy, Tommy & Harry Ponsonby, Valentine & Denis were the relatives present. Fingall represented the kinsmen. It was all very very sad. I could not restrain the tears & was heartily glad when the last funeral guest was gone.</p>
To Balfour, Lady Betty	20 Jan, Fri	<p>Exhorting Eddy Harry & Tommy. Making future arrangements for Dunsany which will return to the old Eliz'n basis of equipment & scale of management.</p> <p>Decided to discharge all but Browne from stables, the gardener & garden maids & keep on the "pipe smokers".</p> <p>Then to Dublin (with Harry & Tommy who went to Eton & Oxford meeting Oliver B. in train) for a few hours work in the evening.</p>

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	21 Jan, Sat	Saw Fr. Finlay, Russell & TP Gill about I.A.O.S. matters. Back to Dunsany by midday where Dunning was busy with poor Johnny's papers & effects. Put up for night with the Fingalls. Angelica Keenan, Eddy, Dunning & I the party.
	22 Jan, Sun	Part of the day spent at Dunsany, part at Killeen. Gill down for day. LECTURED Eddy who went off by night train en route to ?P--sh--.
	23 Jan, Mon	To Dublin & then terribly busy all day.
	24 Jan, Tue	C.D.B. nearly all day.
	25 Jan, Wed	The day began at 7.30. I.A.O.S. office early with Dunning to deal with correspondence. Then C.D.B. 11.30 to 1.30. Then IAOS 2 to 3.30, annual meeting Registration Soc'y 4 to 5.15. Deputation of IAOS to Ch: Sec 5.30 & work work work.
	26 Jan, Thu	C.D.B., I.A.O.S. sundry. Temperance meeting at Rathmines Town Hall – a tiring busy day. Letter from Fingall telling me bluntly that Dalziel will run Express for all it is worth if he gets a knighthood. Otherwise he will drop it.
[Text of address in <i>IH</i> , V:5 (4 Feb 1899), pp. 89-90]	27 Jan, Fri	Drage arrived from Eng'd & we went on by 9 A.M. train to Hopefield, Belfast – chez Sinclair. I read my paper at night to Queens College debating society. Paper not in good form for popular consumption, still less for a lot of boys. However the newspapers may do something with it. Went over the Oceanic in afternoon with Pir[r]ie. It is still little more than a shell. But its enormous size is the more impressive.
[Report of speech in <i>IH</i> , V:5 (4 Feb 1899), p. 89]	28 Jan, Sat	Morning preparing speech for night. Then with Sinclair & Drage to Newcastle where Adam Duffin & I played a round of golf vs Sinclair & Heyn. Bright frosty day. A grand spot to brace me up. Back to B[el]fast to be the honoured guest of 110 citizens at the Reform Club. I spoke 55 minutes & I think spoke well. I flagged at the end. But Wolff MP & Haslett MP said I never spoke like it in the House which is true. I advertised the new movement well & am pleased.
	29 Jan, Sun	Drage & I (with Andrews in train) crept back to Dublin. I was exhausted by yesterday's effort. But it was worth it – well worth it. T.P. Gill put up Drage & I slept at Club.
	30 Jan, Mon	Sinclair & Andrews arrived. They with Gill, Finlay, Monteagle & self formed deput[at]io[n] to Ch: Sec to discuss coming economic legis[at]io[n]. I think we impressed him & on some points, he us. So we hope for a good bill. After desperately busy day went to Ch: Sec's Lodge with Drage for a couple of days.
	31 Jan, Tue	Levee took much of the day. Then correspondence prior to departure tomorrow.
	1 Feb, Wed	Drage & I left Ch: Sec's Lodge 6.15 AM for Broadstone & the West. At Athlone Hannon & Rev. J O'Donovan C.C. a young cultured gentlemanly priest who is supposed to have influence on his Bp. (Healy D.D., Bp. of Clonfert) joined the organising tour. He also writes for the Eccles[iastica]l Record which the

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		Priesthood consult & I wanted him to study our movement in hopes he will educate the clergy about it. Via Westport to Mulranny. Then a meeting at Ballycloy where the Parson met us in the Priests house & entertained us while the P.P. was away at a funeral – outdoor cold meeting. I was no good. We went on to Belmullet for night.
	2 Feb, Thu	After a morning with correspondence held a meeting in Schoolhouse which I addressed at length & I think well. Drage spoke fairly the others ditto. We collected wonderful evidence of the value of the coop: mov[emen]t from the priests who are a good lot at Belmullet except Monsignor Hewson whom I distrust. Then a long 40 mile drive in our brake to Ballina which we reached at 9 P.M. We put up at the Moy Hotel where I found my old friend JEW Booth doing his rent reduction work.
	3 Feb, Fri	8 A.M. train to Roscommon & thence by long car to Mr. Cornwall's at Thomasfort Ballygar. Had a meeting at Ballaghlea schoolhouse of the Bank & Agric'l Society members. They were in bad humour & we did little good I fear. I don't know what was in their minds. We went to Mrs. Bellew for the night. Poor Lady Sophy had lost an uncle during the day which made the visit rather sad. Drage during day studied Ffrench Estate.
	4 Feb, Sat	Sleet snow & wind. By good luck we got Bellew's brougham and went in comfort to Glenamaddy. We had a stifling crowd in a small schoolroom which we all addressed with great success. The meeting was saturated with the doctrines of the United Irish League but we nevertheless persuaded them to start an Agric'l Bank. We formed it there & then. I lent the £100 to enable them to get to work at once. Father Walter Conway of Carraroe & Poteen fame was P.P. & he entertained us to lunch. We broke up our tour – Hannon & O'Donovan going back to Loughrea, Drage to London & self to Killeen where I met Daisy, Dunning & Miss Angelica Keenan. Rev. J O'Donovan was quite converted to I.A.O.S. doctrine & will I think help us greatly.
	5 Feb, Sun	Quiet Sunday at Killeen. Dunning seedy again & unable to help me much. Went to Dunsany to settle up affairs with Wilkinson & Barton. B. Haigs & a young soldier from Glebe dined.
	6 Feb, Mon	To Dublin & then a mad rush all day to get through the arrears of the Recess. Dunning seedy & unable to do much work. I left by night mail for London but he could not come.
	7 Feb, Tue	Arrived after a rough passage & bad sleep. Attended Parliament but had no time to listen to debate as I had to write all the time. Dined with J.G.B. & saw his step daughter & Fr-in-law. An uninteresting lot poor chap. But very domestic & I daresay that is what he wants.
	8 Feb, Wed	House 1 to 6. Then dined Mary & Dorothy prior to their departure abroad. In the intervals letters & no exercise.
	9 Feb, Thu	A lady typewriter in the morning. The House, a meeting of Irish Unionist M.P.s nothing to do or done. Redmond to dinner at Wellington Club.
	10 Feb, Fri	Did the House conscientiously. Ernle called & I had a good talk with her over her affairs. She certainly is much improved.
	11 Feb, Sat	Dunning turned up again. Sundry callers in the morning wasted

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		much time. Then lunched Denis Lawless & Eddy. Tim & Maurice Healy dined with me to be consulted confidentially about the forthcoming Agriculture & Tech. Ed'n Bill. If their support could be gained for Recess C'tee views G.W.B. would adopt them. Support promised but Tim advised bill not to be introduced till after Easter when Dillon's successor will be appointed & his influence destroyed. Bernard Holland also dined. Interesting evening.
[prob. Major Gen. John Barton Sterling, commander, Coldstream Guards]	12 Feb, Sun	Lunched with Lady Betty & told G.W.B. that the Healys would not block the new Bill. Dined Fingall. ?Cabled Gen. Sterling about Eddy.
	13 Feb, Mon	House 3 to 12 waiting for Irish amendments to the Address which did not come on. Major Jameson had me to dinner to meet Sir Thomas Lipton & Pierpont Morgan (at House). Saw Cadogan & he told me that there was great difficulty in knighting Dalziel in Ireland. The other newspaper men would be furious.
	14 Feb, Tue	The same except that I saw more of Eddy who dined with me in House & talked over his plans. He is finally gazetted to Coldstreams 3rd Batt[alio]n now at Gibraltar.
	15 Feb, Wed	Beau Watson came to see me – lunched at House. Had long conference with Johnson about family affairs & I think cleared my mind upon them.
	16 Feb, Thu	Long interview with Johnson about Ernle's Eddie's & Reggie's affairs. Then the house for 9 hours.
[Hansard, 4th Series, vol. 66, col. 1359-67, 1369]	17 Feb, Fri	Meeting of Irish M.P.s 1 P.M. before which a walk with Dunbar Buller. Then 9 hours 3–12 for Irish Debate. Davitt's amend[men]t urging compulsory powers of land purchase. I spoke at length on I.A.O.S. lines & spoke badly. Lecky said my speech was interesting. It was in good taste, but I was not clear & concise enough.
	18 Feb, Sat	Letters all the morning & then had half a day's golf with Dunbar Buller at Tooting Bec.
[Mrs. Emery was actress Florence Farr.]	19 Feb, Sun	Went to Dunstall where Ernle had her two sons to cheer her up, Reggie having returned after 2½ years absence in Mediterranean squadron. The two boys upon whose future I hope to have some influence for good are extraordinarily different in character. Eddy generous careless self-indulgent lazy clever garrulous – Reggie coolly calculatingly good, plodding, priggish, well ordered & reserved. Dined with Lady Gregory, Yeats, C [sic] Martin, Mrs. Stratford Dugdale & a Mrs. Emery (actress?) a Celtic night.
[Hansard, 4th Series, vol. 66, col. 1476-7]	20 Feb, Mon	Called on Lady Betty, Lecky & the B Hollands on my Bike. The two former about the pending Irish Debate. Then the House talked for 3 hours chiefly upon the I.A.O.S. & on the important question whether it had a political object! Of course the debate was confined to Irish M.P.s.
	21 Feb, Tue	Lunched with B. Holland. Called on Yerburgh & did the House. I ought to be in the Whip's good books. I have been in every division & nearly always dined at House this session . . . so far. Wrote a short letter to Times denying their assertion that rural

Correspondence [Notes]	1899	Diary Entry
		loan Banks on German system are not applicable here.
["Co-operative Credit as a Remedy for Usury", <i>The Times</i> , p. 7]	22 Feb, Wed	After busy morning loafed down to House & loafed there! Then had a dinner party with an object – viz the further promotion of cooperation betw'n the practical men & the dreamers of Ireland. George Moore, Yeats & Edward Martyn inspired by Lady Betty & Lady Gregory & amused by Miss Florence Burke & Lord Lytton while Bernard Holland looked on.
	23 Feb, Thu	Called on Conny & Raymond & found Reggie & Harry – up to have a tooth out. Kept appointment at Johnson's to meet Eddy. He never turned up but subsequently wired Johnson – not me. House & a dinner with Yerburch to meet Lugard & others to talk about Uganda.
	24 Feb, Fri	A mornings golf with Buller at Tooting. Then the House & off to Dublin by 10.15 PM Express.
	25 Feb, Sat	Anderson, Russell, Fr. Finlay, lunch at Castle. To Killeen for peaceful Sat[urday] to Monday with Fingall & Daisy.
	26 Feb, Sun	A real rest. Just went to Dunsany to attend to a few things with Wilkinson. Otherwise dosed [<i>sic</i>].
	27 Feb, Mon	To Dublin morning train & then a rush of work. Letters, interviews with Chairman of Bd of Works about all sorts of projects, an hour or more talk with Cadogan, an office C'tee of I.A.O.S. & a Workmens Club Kingstown meeting at which I spoke <u>very badly</u> but gave £20.
	28 Feb, Tue	Busy all day & dined at Castle. Took in Lady Arran & sat next Lady Dunraven who gave me an account of the relations betw'n Dunraven & the Bp. of Limerick which was amusing.
	1 Mar, Wed	To Limerick & back in the day to attend annual meeting of "The Agency". Only 7 people turned up & I might have made better use of the time & money.
[Lord Mayor – Daniel Tallon]	2 Mar, Thu	Meeting of Paris Exhib'n C'tee to hear a letter from Sec of Royal Com'n to Cadogan announcing that we might dissolve as there was nothing more for us to do & no funds to do it with. Only Ld Mayor & a Cork man attended. Lucky more did not as we should have had speeches galore on this latest grievance. But there was no audience. Meeting of Privy Council to swear in Dunraven. IAOS work most of day. Then to London by night mail.
	3 Mar, Fri	Arrears of correspondence. Then House & dined with the Alfred Lytteltons to meet Cranbornes, Gerald Balfour & Balcarres.
	4 Mar, Sat	Rather fuddled the day away. Dalziel & Fingall dined with me to discuss the terms on which Dalziel would continue the Express. They are practically that he should put by doing some "notable" service to Ireland be knighted.
	5 Mar, Sun	Lunched Chamberlains. He was very interesting on many subjects foreign & domestic. On Irish University Q'n his attitude is go ahead if you can satisfy the Priests & take chances! Called on the Hoyos'. The children are all grown up even "Baby[?]" having her hair up & petticoats down.

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	6 Mar, Mon	Did a Levee & had Eddie to dinner at House to talk over his business affairs.
	7 Mar, Tue	Ordinary business. Dined with Conny to meet Eddy.
	8 Mar, Wed	Dalziel interviewed. Lady Betty consulted about Dalziel. House. Annual meeting of Secondary Educ'n & Tech Ed'n Assoc'n which I have just joined. House & Speakers dinner & Levee.
	9 Mar, Thu	The House & Lunched with the Castlerosses. Met Ld. Lansdowne. Saw Eddie packing up for Gib[raltar]. He sails tomorrow.
[prob. Edward Martyn]	10 Mar, Fri	Breakfasted with Dalziel. CDB in London. Lunched with Lady Gregory to meet Yates [<i>sic</i>] Father & Son (W.B.) & Ed Martin. Attended House & dined with the Sidney Webbs. She who might have been a splendid influence in Society chose the better part of serving the masses. But I cannot help regretting the lowering to his level in the social graces.
	11 Mar, Sat	Had to stay in town to preside over a meeting of the Irish Literary Society at which Michael McDonagh read a paper on Irish life & character which strung stories together for 1½ hours. I spoke badly & was sorry I went.
[Fison]	12 Mar, Sun	Came to Ulsworthy House, Virginia Water where Ernest Beckett M.P., widower, keeps up a luxurious establishment for Saturday to Monday enjoyment. Other guests were Jack Simeon, Banbury, Tommy Bowles, Howard Vincent, Hatch, Fyson? [<i>sic</i>], Wyndham Quin, Herbert Duncombe (all M.P.s) and Gosset, ass't Serg[ean]t at Arms & a Press man. Enjoyed the lawn tennis, biking &c.
[Shield]	13 Mar, Mon	Here my diary is interrupted for eight weeks. See May 8 on which day this entry is made. On this unlucky 13th of March I rode into London (20 miles) with my host Beckett & Gosset (Ass't Serg[ean]t at Arms). Foggy, greasy day. In High St. Kensington going fast among the crowded traffic & passing over a water cart's overflow I think my machine side slipped & I fell violently on my side. I was shaken & in great pain. I could not rise & knew something was broken either femur or pelvis – or possibly the hip joint dislocated. I was wheeled in an ambulance to St. George's Hospital where I saw Marmaduke Shield [<i>sic</i>] Consulting Surgeon. "A beast of a fracture – femur – upper third" he remarked. Dunning who was awaiting me at 104B was summoned & it was decided that I should be moved to Netley House, 15 Henrietta St., Cavendish Sq – a Nursing Home. Accident 12.45, got to my bed about 5 in great suffering. Was under ether chloroform as quickly as possible, the leg being set by Shield [<i>sic</i>] after consultation with Sir Wm. MacCormac. I was in good quarters. I felt wretchedly ill & had to make my mind up to a long misery. Everyone seemed very kind. But the management at St. Georges was defective. There was no provision for pay patients & while I lay in agony in the accident room I had a crowd of students porters patients police &c round me. A delicate woman being subjected to such treatment might be badly affected.
	14 Mar, Tue – 7 May, Sun	[No entry]
<i>Fr Russell, George W. (Æ)</i>	8 May, Mon	The sea at last. At noon today I was put into an ambulance wagon omnibus with Dunning & a nurse driven to Victoria where the

Correspondence [Notes]	1899	Diary Entry
		<p>wagon omnibus was driven pushed on to a truck in the middle of the train & we so got to Brighton where the omnibus was driven off the train to Princes Hotel, Hove. The whole journey only meant lifting me on to the bed of the omnibus & off it again on to the bed in the Hotel. Here I am in luxurious apartments with a bed which can be wheeled about between the sitting room & bedroom & even out onto the balcony. Dunning, Curtain & nurse make my "suite". I am still on my back. I long to turn over on my side. But after 8 weary weeks & am still weak. The injured thigh is powerless & it is not certain whether the join is firm. My recuperative power is so miserably low that for the rest of my life I must take care of myself – that is clear.</p> <p>One good came out of my misfortune. My friends old & new showed a sympathy with me I never anticipated. The Irish people are certainly coming round to my views.</p>
[Text of 'The Agriculture and Technical Instruction (Ireland) Bill' in <i>IH</i> , V:19 (13 May 1899), pp. 339-42]	9 May, Tue	Fine day mostly spent on balcony. I feel better. Gerald Balfour introduced Agriculture & Tech Ed'n Bill last night.
[Ionides – mythical Greek nymphs believed to have healing powers.]	10 May, Wed	<p>I am being massaged by a Lieutenant in the Swedish Army who is very violent & I think does me as much harm as good. My doctor surgeon is no Ionides!</p> <p>Raymond Parr spent the day with me. He has been more than kind. He read to me almost every day for the 8 weeks at Netley House.</p>
	11 May, Thu	Not well though I think for no special cause. Weather chill & drear.
	12 May, Fri	A good night sleep has made great change in me & I feel better. I got into a chair but my knee still being rigid it is no great gain as I cannot sit "like a Xian."
	13 May, Sat	Another good day. Professor Robert Wallace (Agric'l & Rural Economy at Edinburgh University) called on me from London. He is of the practical scientific order & might do for the New Department in Ireland – a possibility he probably had in view when he offered to call.
	14 May, Sun	Daisy came down for a day & night which cheered me up. I was carried out to a bath chair which I greatly enjoyed. Pleasure is relative not absolute like pain.
	15 May, Mon	Daisy left.
	16 May, Tue	[No entry]
To Balfour, Lady Betty	17 May, Wed	[No entry]
	18 May, Thu	Today C.P. Johnson came down & got me to sign the papers for the administration of Johnny's estate. He did not die insolvent as I had anticipated. If Eddy buys the effects at Dunsany & the Pelletstown & Laracor properties the debts & legacies can be paid.
	19 May, Fri	[No entry]
	20 May, Sat	Daisy came down again for a week end.

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	21 May, Sun	[No entry]
	22 May, Mon	Daisy left.
	23 May, Tue	Sussex vs Gloucestershire cricket gave me something to look at in bath chair.
	24 May, Wed	Crutches came and I walked about the room a few times with human support as well.
	25 May, Thu	[No entry]
	26 May, Fri	[No entry]
	27 May, Sat	Denis Lawless came for a week end to Princes Hotel. Dear Lady Betty came & had 3 hours with me. She really is the best of friends. She came 3rd class which is like her. We talked the coming Agricultural & Tech Ed'n Department & I explained my hesitation about taking it.
	28 May, Sun	Dalziel, "Trivy", Lady Arran & a Mrs. Bosanquet sent by Poppy Herbert called. I walked out a bit on crutches.
	29 May, Mon	Moved to 104B with the nurse still as I am unable to get in or out of bed without help & have a nasty bed sore on heel which it takes training to dress. Sheild came in & saw me. He says a weaker massage & work at the knee to try & bend it without force must be my progressive aim.
	30 May, Tue	Mary & Ralph Stuart Wortley came to see me. I waddled out to the Park on Crutches. Slow work getting a broken leg to serve its purpose.
	31 May, Wed	[No entry]
	1 Jun, Thu	Bath chaired in Park. Otherwise kept very quiet.
	2 Jun, Fri	Sat afternoon in garden at Addison Rd with Lady Betty.
[8 stone 6 = 118 lb.]	3 Jun, Sat	Naked weight 8.6. Drove with the Nurse up to Hampstead Heath & sat for an hour breathing a genial S.W. wind. It is a good place for invalids.
	4 Jun, Sun	Lunched & sat afternoon in Mrs. Gerald Balfours garden in Addison Rd. She is more delightful every time one meets her. I never knew such sympathy.
	5 Jun, Mon	Doctor ordered me back to the sea. I had got weaker he said & my break might give great trouble. Dalziel & E Fitzgerald solicitor had to be dined to discuss affairs of "Express". So I stayed over night. The doctor is right. I cannot yet stand London which Geo Russell who saw it for 2 days said had a vampirising effect on him.
To Balfour, Lady Betty	6 Jun, Tue	Back to Brighton, valet! nurse & I. Denis Lawless was at Princes Hotel convalescing from something his doctors don't quite understand – kidneys suggested – & his company makes it tolerable.
	7 Jun, Wed	[No entry]
	8 Jun, Thu	[No entry]

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	9 Jun, Fri	Called in on Sir Henry Cunningham & liked him. He is an old Indian official of some sort. Shall try & see more of him.
	10 Jun, Sat	[No entry]
[Entries for 11-19 June dictated (in another's handwriting)]	11 Jun, Sun	Cunninghams came to tea.
	12 Jun, Mon	Left Brighton early for London. I attended House of Commons on crutches to make arrangements for debate on Dublin boundaries [<i>sic</i>] bill tomorrow. Was warmly welcomed by a large number of friends on both sides of House.
	13 Jun, Tue	Spent morning getting up facts & figures for Debate with help of Fawcett of Rathmines. Went out before lunch on crutches to buy sticks. Coming back got faint, fell heavily & refractured thigh. All the old troubles over again. Setting under anaesthetics etc. except that I came to 104B instead of private hospital. Fingall & Dennis [<i>sic</i>] Lawless both with me & most kindly helped all arrangements.
	14 Jun, Wed	Fairly good night – good deal of pain. Dunning returned from Llandeindod. Consultation between Sheild & MacCormac. They decided to try leather splints with extension relying on good air where ever possible to remove me to effect the cure, which will probably [<i>sic</i>] take much longer than first accident.
	15 Jun, Thu	Very bad night. Great discomfort during day. Lady Betty called & otherwise only saw Mary & Fingall. A large number of callers yesterday & today.
	16 Jun, Fri	Good night. Many callers but not allowed to see them. From talk with Sheild gathered that bones never joined properly.
	17 Jun, Sat	Bad night. Going on all right. Dunning went to Birchington near Margate & took a villa for 3 months from the 24th. Hope to get there a day or two after. Read newspaper cuttings about my second accident & am glad to find bitterest opponents in press in Ireland very sympathetic.
	18 Jun, Sun	Sheild decided to have a look at the bones with Röntgen Rays.
	19 Jun, Mon	Allowed to do nothing & see nobody except one or two persons.
	20 Jun, Tue	Ditto.
	21 Jun, Wed	Ditto
	22 Jun, Thu	[No entry]
	23 Jun, Fri	[No entry]
(To Spring Rice, Miss fr Mrs. Robertson, BAL.101/2)	24 Jun, Sat	Röntgen rays again this time a more powerful coil (12 in. spark) & 4 minutes exposure instead of 15 minutes. Had a long talk with Lady Betty who certainly is one of the best friends I ever had.
	25 Jun, Sun	Gerald Balfour called & we discussed the speech he was to make on the Agric & Tech Ed'n Bill tomorrow. Also Alexander Orr of N.Y.
	26 Jun, Mon	Anderson turned up unexpectedly. He had started for the Isle of Man to give evidence about developing agriculture. He over slept

Correspondence [Notes]	1899	Diary Entry
		in the Irish Mail. Hence his visit. Dalziel also called & I agreed with him that if he would give money to some Irish purpose to be named by me & run the Express properly I would try & get him a knighthood. Then I was moved in an ambulance to Birchington on Sea where I have taken a "Bungalow" (Delmont) for 3 months. The journey was painful but the air at Birchington revived me at once. Denis Lawless joined me & will live with me.
(To Balfour, Lady Betty fr Monteagle, BAL.101/1)	27 Jun, Tue	Dr Heaton from Westgate (1½ miles) called. He seems efficient & nice. They moved my bed into the lawn which runs down to the cliff & I spent most of the day out of doors. I really think I shall pick up here.
	28 Jun, Wed	Nothing diary worth recording. I have simply got to lie on my back & breath sea air.
<i>Fr Morley, John</i>	29 Jun, Thu	[No entry]
	30 Jun, Fri	[No entry]
To Balfour, Lady Betty (2) [See undated letters at beginning of 1899 Correspondence column]	1 Jul, Sat	Four letters from Lady Betty all urging me to go at once to Dresden or rather to get Dr. Hessing the wonder worker with broken bones to come & take me. She is persuaded that it is a certain cure. Arthur Balfour says I should be an idiot not to go. Gerald says I ought. The evidence she gets from Germany of Hessing's success is startling. But could I stand the journey? I have postponed the question.
To Balfour, Lady Betty To Sheild, Marmaduke	2 Jul, Sun	Wrote Sheild & Lady Betty. To the former I told all I had heard about Hessing. To the latter I sent a copy of the letter.
To Balfour, Lady Betty (To Balfour, Lady Betty fr Sheild, Marmaduke; BAL.106/1)	3 Jul, Mon	[No entry]
To Balfour, Lady Betty	4 Jul, Tue	Berthon tent was erected. Sheild came down to have a Consultation with the local medico Heaton & especially to persuade me not to go off to Hessing. Lady Betty had had an interview with him. I think he showed that it would be madness to go.
	5 Jul, Wed	Second reading of Agriculture & Tech Ed'n Bill in Commons. Atkinson & Gill both wired me its passage. Slept in tent first time.
To Balfour, Lady Betty	6 Jul, Thu	T.P. Gill spent some hours with me & of course we talked over many Irish projects. He brought newspapers which showed how universally the Bill which passed 2nd reading yesterday is considered to be my child.
	7 Jul, Fri	Mary & my old Friend Tesche came to see me & after they had left Justin McCarthy (led by his daughter for he is blind temporarily after operation for cataract) called. The day was shortened by these visits.
(<i>Fr Bonn, Moritz to Dunning, B. (sec'y); BAL.114</i>)	8 Jul, Sat	Anderson came down for the week end.

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	9 Jul, Sun	Glorious weather. Anderson & I discussed I.A.O.S. most of the day. Young Justin McCarthy from Westgate & Count Moore from Margate & Rev. Cope friend of the McCarthys called.
	10 Jul, Mon	RAA left
(To Balfour, Lady Betty fr Sheild, Marmaduke; BAL.107)	11 Jul, Tue	T P Gill spent the day
	12 Jul, Wed	Started Massage. No Masseur available but a fairly good masseuse from Westgate was sent by the doctor. This will help me for I am wretchedly emaciated.
[Splint from hip to beyond foot; leg elevated at about 45° by pulleys]	13 Jul, Thu	Put on a Thomas splint which is an instrument of torture to a man with no protecting flesh over his bones.
	14 Jul, Fri	Very miserable – the new splint.
To Balfour, Lady Betty	15 Jul, Sat	Tortured by abscess in ear. Had to send for Dr. second time. Laudanum relieved it.
	16 Jul, Sun	Monteagle arrived to stay the night.
	17 Jul, Mon	Raymond arrived. Mrs. Bernard Holland from Canterbury – Justin McCarthy (son) from Westgate lunched. Monteagle left.
	18 Jul, Tue	Five weeks today in bed & if my case were normal I should have a fairly good join by now. As it is the doctor talks as if I were about 3 weeks behind time.
	19 Jul, Wed	Dunbar Buller & Charlton called from London.
	20 Jul, Thu	W. Allen MP & wife called. The doctor today said positively that the bones had united. It is now only a question of time to get a firm union.
	21 Jul, Fri	Fingall wired that Daisy had given birth to a boy.
	22 Jul, Sat	Tom Andrews came down from town & spent between trains with me. The nurse's brother a very nice young Civil Engineer came to visit her.
	23 Jul, Sun	[No entry]
	24 Jul, Mon	The Agric'l Bill passed the Commons Gerald giving in rather badly to Dillon in some ways.
	25 Jul, Tue	Gill & Fawcett both came down about the Agric'l & Boundaries Bills respectively. The latter is emasculated & probably killed in the Lords.
	26 Jul, Wed	Yesterday Sheild wrote that I must be on my back 3 months more before I attempt to walk. Heaton seems to agree!
	27 Jul, Thu	Denis Lawless went to town to see his London doctors. He did not return at night & I fear a consultation was required.
	28 Jul, Fri	Heaton told me Denis was suffering from Splenic Leucaemia a very serious ailment & I feel very low about his chances. Dunning went for another holiday to Leopardstown. Denis returned.
	29 Jul, Sat	Bernard Holland came over to see me on bike from Canterbury. Doctor was to take off extension. But he found the join gelatinous

Correspondence [Notes]	1899	Diary Entry
		and had to put it off a week.
	30 Jul, Sun	The Gardiners called.
	31 Jul, Mon	Heaton brought latest X Ray photos of my bones. They show a fair amount of "callous" [<i>sic</i>] thrown out since 2nd accident.
	1 Aug, Tue	[No entry]
	2 Aug, Wed	[No entry]
	3 Aug, Thu	Denis went to town for the day. F Verney came to see me & also a Mr. Walter Leaf friend of B. Hollands.
	4 Aug, Fri	[No entry]
	5 Aug, Sat	Geoffrey Drage spent the day with me.
	6 Aug, Sun	The Walter Leafs called. Willie Plunket came down & stayed the night. A very nice fellow.
	7 Aug, Mon	Heaton took off the Thomas splint & we went back to the leather splint to my great relief.
	8 Aug, Tue	Lady Betty brought Ruth & her nurse. It made some difficulties with poor Denis. Lady B. went away but I had a long afternoon's talk with her which I greatly enjoyed. The Walter Leafs came to tea.
To Balfour, Lady Betty	9 Aug, Wed	Fingall & Cloncurry came down for the day. I told the latter all I knew about Denis & felt I was unloading some responsibility.
To Balfour, Lady Betty	10 Aug, Thu	[No entry]
	11 Aug, Fri	Bernard Holland spent afternoon.
	12 Aug, Sat	Lady Betty came. Denis was rather annoyed at my having guests but she really did him good.
	13 Aug, Sun	A delightful Sunday with Lady B.
	14 Aug, Mon	Lady B. left. The McCarthy family called.
	15 Aug, Tue	The Lucys lunched.
	16 Aug, Wed	Anderson came & spent some hours with me. We had a great talk.
	17 Aug, Thu	P.J. Hannon came to see me. I was glad of this opportunity to get at the working details of my movement in the west of Ireland. C Tracy came from Ramsgate & played chess with me. Dunning returned looking very fit.
To Balfour, Lady Betty	18 Aug, Fri	Bob Yerburch came to see me. He told me in confidence that he had practically arranged with the party for a Peerage when he felt it his duty to become independent on the Chinese question. Also that Ld. Salisbury had made up his mind to retire from public life after this Parl't.
	19 Aug, Sat	Blo---field Cooke came. He is nurse Cooke's brother & I thought it a kindness to let him spend 2 or 3 days with his sister. He is a C[ivil].E[ngineer]. & has been railroad building on the Gold Coast.
[Bp. – Charles John	20 Aug, Sun	The Bishop of Gloucester called. He is 80 is recovering from

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Ellicott]		double pneumonia but still holds on to his see. He is an old dear & wonderful for his age considering that he was in the Tottenham Railway accident 40 years ago in which the 5 others in his carriage were killed & he broke both legs & was badly scalded. He said he was one of the old High Church Party. He feared the extremists – he reckoned them at 400 clergymen [-] would not obey the ruling of the Archbp. of Canterbury against incense & processions. Disestablishment he would not much mind. But they seemed to be moving towards disruption. The reservation of the sacrament & the confessional he most objected to.
	21 Aug, Mon	[No entry]
To Balfour, Lady Betty	22 Aug, Tue	The Bp. of Gloucester's wife & daughter called. Poor old man.
To Balfour, Lady Betty	23 Aug, Wed	Poor Mrs. Crawley (Augusta Butcher) & her husband were drowned on the Wye near Tintern abbey Monday night & I saw it in the Times today. This is the third tragedy in the Butcher family in my lifetime. First the Bishop's suicide – then Eleanor's sudden death when she was engaged to Furze the R.?G. & now poor Augusta. Too sad. Young Justin McCarthy & Mrs. Henniker (Crewe's sister) called. They are collaborating on a new play.
	24 Aug, Thu	The Bishop's ladies called again. The Dr. examined Denis' blood in microscope & found it much better – fewer white corpuscles than he had expected. But his spleen is not smaller, so he is not comforted.
	25 Aug, Fri	A Major Bell whom Willie Plunket advised me to meet called. The Bishop's wife had told me that a Dr. Woods had cured him with his marvellous magnetic touch! The poor old fellow was stumbling all over & in a miserable condition of nervous prostration. He told me Woods was doing him no good. The Bishop's lady told me the last time she called that the patient would ?set up his ?will ?against the doctor's! ?Hunter, Dunning's friend, the agent of the Queen's property called.
	26 Aug, Sat	Further exam[inatio]n of Denis' Blood showed it to be not as favorable as the Dr. at first thought. Splenic Leuchaemia is undoubtedly the disease & I fear it is only a matter of time. It is too sad. Fr. Finlay came for the week end.
	27 Aug, Sun	Fr. F was my companion all day & I heard a lot of the latest news of Ireland.
To Balfour, Lady Betty	28 Aug, Mon	Fr. F left & Lizzie Lawless came but stopped at the Bungalow hotel for a night. I had not seen her for years.
	29 Aug, Tue	[No entry]
	30 Aug, Wed	At last I got a high boot for left foot & used the Thomas knee splint with crutches & somebody holding on to me all the time. I suppose I hobbled ¼ mile in all which was not too bad. Now I think the calves which are terribly emaciated will begin to mend.
	31 Aug, Thu	[No entry]
	1 Sep, Fri	Daisy & Florence Burke arrived at night for a visit which will

Correspondence [Notes]	1899	Diary Entry
		cheer us all I hope. I spent afternoon with dentist.
	2 Sep, Sat	Owens chief creditor of Maunsell & Co came down. Of course I could tell him nothing & he told me nothing.
	3 Sep, Sun	[No entry]
[8 stone, 10½ lb = 122½ lb]	4 Sep, Mon	Dentist again. I weighed at Margate 9.10 with 8 lbs clothes & 5½ splint = 8.10½ net!
	5 Sep, Tue	David Roche came & told me the news of the Agency. On the morrow he will go by the Margate boat to “Boulong” and be able to say he has been to France.
	6 Sep, Wed	B. Holland lunched. The Dr. told me the callous [<i>sic</i>] in my leg had reduced quicker than he wished & he stopped all massage.
To Balfour, Lady Betty	7 Sep, Thu	Drove with Daisy to Sandwich to see the old town – not as interesting as Rye. On the way we passed a bicyclist, a clergyman, lying on the side of the road having fallen under a steam traction engine which killed him instantaneously.
To Balour, Lady Betty	8 Sep, Fri	Almost decided to stay another 3 or 4 weeks down here, “lazing”, as I am not yet strong enough to think of work. I might be 6 weeks hence.
	9 Sep, Sat	[No entry]
	10 Sep, Sun	A tea party of frumps to repay small attentions of neighbours.
	11 Sep, Mon	Weighed 9.10 gross, 8.10½ net. Very light.
	12 Sep, Tue	[No entry]
	13 Sep, Wed	The Dr. said definitely that I was going back & advised a change of air – even to Margate. I think I will go there for a while & if necessary farther on. Meanwhile tonics including heart tonic at night to try & “buck me up”. My right leg below the knee has troublesome oedema.
	14 Sep, Thu	At a tea at the Bishop’s met Rev. H R Haweis (Music & Morals). Clever little Mountebank. He spoke enthusiastically of my father but I felt that it was the “Lord” which he liked[,] not the man. Chose rooms in Cliftonville, Margate at Kimber’s Hotel for next week.
	15 Sep, Fri	Feeling better. How I long to get back to active life where I can lose myself in the service of others. It is the only anodyne & the only pleasure.
	16 Sep, Sat	Poor Denis was worse today. His blood shows 1 white corpuscle to 7 red. This proportion should be 1 to 500!
	17 Sep, Sun	Called on the McCarthys & saw Father & daughter. The son called on us.
To Balfour, Lady Betty	18 Sep, Mon	Dunning & Florence Burke left.
	19 Sep, Tue	St. Oswald bounced into my room “How are you my dear Horace?”. I had forgotten his face. The nearest resemblance was Harry de Robeck & I introduced him to Dunning as Col. de Robeck! Dunning recognised him at once as Harry de R whom he had met at Glenbeigh in /91. More cross purposes. He had come

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		to see Denis who poor fellow is now afflicted with piles.
To Balfour, Lady Betty	20 Sep, Wed	[No entry]
[9 stone = 126 lb]	21 Sep, Thu	Weighed 9 stone net – 10 stone with 8½ lbs clothes & 5½ splint. Moved to Kimber[']s Hotel, Cliftonville, Margate. Poor Denis got here without heroin. But he is going down hill fast. Two London doctors are to consult with Heaton next Monday.
	22 Sep, Fri	X rayed again
	23 Sep, Sat	Daisy & Miss Burke came down for few days.
	24 Sep, Sun	[No entry]
(To Balfour, Lady Betty fr Pembroke, G.)	25 Sep, Mon	Saw photo of fracture. Not nearly enough callous [<i>sic</i>]. Evidently a still weak join & one which it will be very hard to save from further accident. Denis at last moment decided to go to London for consultation, instead of having Drs down.
	26 Sep, Tue	[No entry]
	27 Sep, Wed	Denis went to London with Heaton. I learn by wire that the Drs expect he will live about a year, that he cannot recover & that they have not told him. The poor fellow wires “Believe consultation fairly satisfactory”. West Ridgeway called. He considers the Boer War very unjust & would say so if he could afford it!
	28 Sep, Thu	Denis returned none the worse for the journey. W.E. Holmes called to see me.
To Balfour, Lady Betty	29 Sep, Fri	Heavy rain. The first really wet day since I came to Thanet & I get wet twice. Long talk with Heaton about Denis. The medical chances are dreadfully against him.
	30 Sep, Sat	Emily Lawless came. I told her the exact truth about poor Denis. It is dreadfully sad that D. has a repugnance to family visits or expressed sympathy.
	1 Oct, Sun	[No entry]
	2 Oct, Mon	[No entry]
To Balfour, Lady Betty	3 Oct, Tue	Emily Lawless & I with Dunning to support me went to Canterbury to see the Cathedrals. Bernard Holland met us & showed us round. I liked the outside East End better than anything else in the buildings. We went to tea with some Peters, uncles of B.H! & met Sir Alfred Lyall. But he only came just before we left.
	4 Oct, Wed	Called on the McCarthys. Heaton at his house showed me Denis' blood in the microscope & explained the marvellous methods by which the proportion of white to red corpuscles were estimated.
To Balfour, Lady Betty	5 Oct, Thu	A cheering letter from Lady Betty apologising for a rough letter about the Express which I answered “more in sorrow than in anger[’]”. The soft answer turned away wrath.

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To Balfour, Lady Betty	6 Oct, Fri	[No entry]
	7 Oct, Sat	A rather sad goodbye to Denis & came to 105 Mount St. Saw Sheild who warned me after examining the skiagrams of my femure [<i>sic</i>] to be very careful “for an indefinite time[”] & not to put any weight on the leg till the two bones are consolidated into one. This may be months hence. Daisy dined with me.
	8 Oct, Sun	Old Iveson lunched & dined with me. Daisy dined. I hobbled about in the Park but spent most of the day among my papers.
	9 Oct, Mon	After a busy morning Daisy & I came down to Beau Watson’s new house where he is installed with his new wife. She is a good sort but I fear has bad health. She is sensible but not clever. The house (Monks Farm, Balcombe) is very pretty & the country it is in delightful. They are really comfortable. But Beau feels his position insecure. I must try & get him something in Ireland.
	10 Oct, Tue	A glorious October day & autumn in all its melancholy splendour. I walked to Paddockhurst & back 3 miles..
[<i>dolce fa niente</i> – sweet nothing; carefree idleness]	11 Oct, Wed	More walking & <i>dolce fa niente</i> . News of the day makes its first appearance after lunch! Dickson agent to ?N----e manufacturers in Dublin turned up here – god knows what for, before lunch. He had no business to talk but evidently hoped I might commit my Irish associates to something. However he brought news that the Boers had given us an insulting ultimatum practically declaring war.
	12 Oct, Thu	Daisy left.
To Balfour, Lady Betty	13 Oct, Fri	I came to town & tried to get at my papers. Very difficult while I am so lame.
	14 Oct, Sat	Hobbled about but got through no work.
[Scarborough]	15 Oct, Sun	Called on the Scarboroughs [<i>sic</i>], Lady Sherborne & West Ridgeways. I found the latter (him) now reconciled after the Boer ultimatum to the war. Daisy left for Ireland & I shall miss her companionship.
To Balfour, Lady Betty	16 Oct, Mon	Gill came over & I spent most of the day with him. Dalziel is still in Paris & so Gill goes tomorrow to Nice with his two school boys to be there educated & we meet D. next week.
	17 Oct, Tue	Opening of short Parliament. I hobbled down to House & shook many hands.
	18 Oct, Wed	Meeting of Pelton Co-partners & Pelton S.S. Co. Gardiner wishes us to invest £95,000 in John Bowes Partners Collieries & I am nervous about the scheme. G. dislikes the suggestion that we should consult Johnson about it. I insist & G. intimates that he will if I like chuck the deal. Unpleasant. But tact & firmness will make all come right. Dined quietly with T. Lough.
	19 Oct, Thu	My character as a party man being suspect I thought it well to make sure of scoring my divisions on the Boer question so I stayed till midnight which was rather a strain. Hundreds of M.P.s have spoken kindly to me about my mishaps. Had a long conference with Johnson about Gardiner with whom he had an interview since.

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	20 Oct, Fri	Went to lunch at Chelsea House & afterwards to Westgate (Kimberley private Hotel) to see Denis who is staying at a boarding house with Lizzie. He looks much the same & I fear there is no hope.
	21 Oct, Sat	Spent most of the day with poor Denis & Lizzie. I went down intending to tell D. of his hopeless condition. But Dr. Heaton advised me not for fear he should in despair discard all remedies.
	22 Oct, Sun	Back early to London which I found in fog. Called on the Alfred Lytteltons.
	23 Oct, Mon	Attended the House till dinner when I had an evening with Gill & Anderson, both in London. Gerald Balfour told me practically that I was to be the Vice Pres't of the new Department.
	24 Oct, Tue	Dalziel had an interview with Gill & me at 105. Gill told D. his terms & D. did not object in principle. They are £1000 salary & £500 income from profits when enough made to pay that. G. to have share in property to produce this.
	25 Oct, Wed	Gerald Balfour told me at House that I was to be offered the Vice Presidency of the new Department in Ireland. It will probably shorten my life & I would far rather go on as I am. I don't want the money & shall give it to the I.A.O.S. But the work will be terribly hard. There is no one else so I must take it. B Holland & Gill dined with me.
	26 Oct, Thu	A wet day finds me rather helpless as I cannot hold up an umbrella. Gill still about & Dalziel able to settle nothing. Gill learned from Abney that he would take the Technical secretaryship if offered it. Gill himself now inches towards office & on the whole I am not sure it would not be a good thing for the Gov't to take this chance of getting a R.C. appointed.
	27 Oct, Fri	[No entry]
	28 Oct, Sat	Packing for Ireland. Gill with me most of day. Left 10.15 train for Dublin with Dunning & Curtain. W.J. Goulding, who is supposed to want my seat, called. I had a quite frank talk with him about my intentions. If Constituency preferred him to me I would step out. Otherwise I would sit tight.
	29 Oct, Sun	Morning with R.A.A. where I met Fr. F[inlay]. & Coyne. Afternoon with Lady Betty at Lodge. They kept me for dinner. Ld. Roberts came & was most interesting.
	30 Oct, Mon	Very busy at I.A.O.S. all day. Went by 5.50 train to Palmerston where the Mayos put up Daisy & me. Very kind hospitable people & charming house. Minnie Winn came over from Lyons & gave a very unhappy account of poor Valentine who lives a lonely selfish sour life.
<i>Fr Ginnell, Lawrence</i> [<i>venaticus</i> – the chase or hunt]	31 Oct, Tue	Opening meet of Kildare hounds. I hobbled out to see it at a safe distance. The fever (?v---us venaticus) came upon me.
	1 Nov, Wed	Back to Dublin. Spoke at inaugural meeting of College Historical Society. My own subject, "The State of Ireland" considered economically. But I did not do it well for want of preparation. Fr.

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		Finlay spoke magnificently.
	2 Nov, Thu	Her Majesty's approval of my appointment as Vice President of the Department of Agriculture & Industries & for Technical Instruction in Ireland (!) arrived. My day in Dublin was wasted by swarms of office seekers whose "intelligent anticipation of events" had I suppose moved them to bother me. Dunning & I came down to Killeen where the Fs received us with old time welcome & hospitality.
	3 Nov, Fri	Spent day seeing Barton & working at my forthcoming paper "Bankers & Farmers in Ireland".
<i>Fr Ginnell, Lawrence</i>	4 Nov, Sat	Ditto Minnie Fitzgerald & TP Gill & wife came down Sat to Monday
	5 Nov, Sun	An old time restful Sunday.
[Text of "Bankers and Farmers in Ireland" in <i>IH</i> , V:45 (11 Nov 1899), pp. 765-7]	6 Nov, Mon	Worked at all day & at night read my paper on Bankers & Farmers in Ireland to the Bankers Institute at Exam[inatio]n Hall T.C.D. Charles Martin Gov[erno]r of Bank of Ireland in chair. My object was of course to get recognition of associated credit. I think I made an impression which was all I could hope for. A supper in my honour followed another speech. To Ch: Sec's Lodge at night.
	7 Nov, Tue	Meeting of I.A.W.S. Committee, callers, office seekers &c. Professor Flinders Petrie the great Egyptologist is at the Lodge but he is in bed & only his wife appears.
	8 Nov, Wed	IAOS Committee meeting.
	9 Nov, Thu	Busy day at Castle & I.A.O.S. office – at former arranging to start my new department. Dined with Wm Moore Q.C.M.P. to meet Sinclair.
	10 Nov, Fri	After busy day in Dublin came with Dunning to Killeen – only the F.s there.
	11 Nov, Sat	Rest
	12 Nov, Sun	Rest most of the day
	13 Nov, Mon	To Ch: Sec's Lodge for night after busy day in Dublin. I.A.W.S. meeting.
	14 Nov, Tue	Busy at new office at Castle most of day. Concert at Ch: Sec's Lodge at night.
	15 Nov, Wed	The same & likely to continue so.
	16 Nov, Thu	Harassed by the affairs of Pelton which I must attend to, being trustee for many living & more unborn.
[Mother – Edith Bulwer-Lytton; sister Constance Lytton]	17 Nov, Fri	By 12.30 to Drumree with Lady Betty, her mother & sister (Con) – to Killeen where they lunched & I stayed. The Everards there for night. Did a good stroke for the movement by talking him a bit into line. Good fellow, plodding, abilities above average & vastly above Meath average – public spirited – wife ditto. Lady

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		District Councillor.
	18 Nov, Sat	Rest
	19 Nov, Sun	Ditto. Gill came down & Father Morrissy called on me.
	20 Nov, Mon	To Dublin. Lunched with Ld. Cadogan who wanted to see me about trumpery matters & wasted most of my day.
[Letter to inaugural meeting of British Agricultural Organ'n Society in <i>IH</i> , V:48 (9 Dec 1899), p. 834]	21 Nov, Tue	Had a talk with G.W.B. in which I explained to him my reasons for insisting as strongly as I could on Gill's appointment. Dined with the latter to meet & talk with Rolleston.
	22 Nov, Wed	Practically whole day at C.D.B. Dined with Commissioner Fitz---d.
[London & North Western]	23 Nov, Thu	C.D.B. again all day. Dined with Gill to meet Burgess agent of L&N.W.R'y in Ireland. He struck me as a Live railroader & as one with whom I might have useful discussions on questions of freights &c. Dunning went to London to be with Mrs. Jim Power.
	24 Nov, Fri	CDB, dentist, Rontgen Rays took body of day. To Killeen where F & Daisy alone for week end.
	25 Nov, Sat	Rest. Called on Fr. Morrissy & Nat Preston.
	26 Nov, Sun	The Leonards called & brought Count Moore M.P. with whom I had a good talk over the new Department, its relations with the I.A.O.S., the Educational problems before the former &c.
	27 Nov, Mon	To Dublin & tearing day. Dentist, X rays – Friday's were a failure – so were today's – official business I.A.O.S. Called at Lodge on Ch: Sec who was seedy. Heard that Ardilaun had purchased the Express. Went to England by mail boat.
[Gertrude is daughter of Gertrude and George Price]	28 Nov, Tue	Arrived early. Had long & important conference with Johnson. Then lunch & long talk with Bernard Walsh the new Pelton partner. Then long talk with Capt. Abney who could told me he could not possibly take the technical post under the new Bd. Dined with Conny & Mary at Chester Sq. James Hawksley RN & Gertrude Price married today.
	29 Nov, Wed	Dalziel called 9 A.M. & we had a long talk over Express. It will pass out of his hands & probably under Ardilaun's control in the liquid[atio]n. D. will then very likely start a new paper whose policy I shall control. Gardiner called & we had words. Bainbridge dined & Walsh came in after dinner. I spoke very plainly to all about the unbusinesslike conduct of Pelton affairs.
	30 Nov, Thu	Pelton meeting. Bainbridge, Walsh & self present & Gardiner, Johnson & Armstrong in attendance. I scored a diplomatic triumph, harmonised all interests & soothed Gardiner. Now I hope the John Bowes scheme will go through. It looks like a good spec for Pelton partners. Went down to dine & sleep with Denis at Westgate. Found him very bright but disease progressing. Evelyn Ashley called early at 105.

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	1 Dec, Fri	Back to town. Had Capt. Shaw whom Abney told me was the best man he new for post of Technical Secretary to the new Department to lunch. He was not demonstrative & hard to gauge. Saw Dr. Haig (7 Brook St.) about my dyspeptic troubles – emaciation, weakness &c. He advised vegetarianism – chiefly bread. He didn't look a good advertisement for his system!
To Balfour, Lady Betty	2 Dec, Sat	Busy day in Dublin & down to Killeen where (Daisy & F) with Dunning for quiet week end.
	3 Dec, Sun	TP Gill came. Wet all day. Rest broken by impending speeches.
	4 Dec, Mon	Back to town. Very busy preparing for speech to be delivered on the war at Kingstown Primrose League meeting. Campbell & Moore both Q.C. M.P. also spoke. I spoke much too long as there was a variety entertainment to follow. Otherwise I spoke rather well I think on the Irish sentiment of revenge & hates towards England.
	5 Dec, Tue	Dentist, a visit to Gerald Balfour (in bed) a deputation at Rathmines about the post office there and presiding at a lecture on the electric supply of the Township took my day.
[Text of address in <i>IH</i> , V:48 (9 Dec 1899), pp. 812-3]	6 Dec, Wed	Whole day occupied by Annual Conference of Coop societies. I read a successful address. Attendance better than heretofore. Excellent business and patriotic spirit prevailed. Went to Ch: Sec's Lodge to sleep. Two Misses Chamberlain there. Lady Betty at IIA sale in Belfast.
	7 Dec, Thu	Another excellent discussion at the Conference. Fr. Finlay delivered an eloquent & magnificent address. Annual meeting of I.A.O.S. at which I resigned Presidency, Monteagle being put in my place.
	8 Dec, Fri	Dublin still full of organisers & friends, lay & clerical of the IAOS movement. I saw Dr. Lentaigne who tells me my leg has got shorter than it was. He makes it 2 inches shorter than the other which is rather alarming. Lady Betty returned.
	9 Dec, Sat	Office work all day. Daisy came to Lodge till Monday.
	10 Dec, Sun	Rested really.
	11 Dec, Mon	Got X rayed again.
	12 Dec, Tue	Official business all day. Went to theatre at night with Balfours, Misses Chamberlain & Daisy. ?S--a-g--a- in and of widows & orphans.
	13 Dec, Wed	Official business all day. News of heavy fighting on Modder River. Ld. Methuen found himself opposed by 12,000 Boers & failed to dislodge them from entrenched pos[iti]o]n. "Our losses great". Eddie with him.
	14 Dec, Thu	C.D.B. committees. Deputation of RDS men (Horsebreeders Assoc'n) Naper, Lucy, LaTouche, Ussher Roberts, Rathdonnell &c to me as V.P. of Bd of Agric re horse breeding. Letter from W Blacker to say he had lost £2000 to £3000 speculating in S. African shares & asking me for an immediate

Correspondence [Notes]	1899	Diary Entry
		£1000. Told him to see me tomorrow. List of casualties in fighting on Modder River awful. But Eddie safe.
	15 Dec, Fri	C.D.B. at which I presided. Then deputation of Hotel Proprietors of Ireland. T. Cochrane MP, TP Gill & R.A.A. dined at Ch: Sec's Lodge, GWB having gone to London.
	16 Dec, Sat	News comes of Buller's defeat on the Tugela – the gloomiest news of this disastrous war so far. Poor Ld. Roberts was to have dined at Vice Regal Lodge but his son is severely wounded & the dinner party of tonight & tomorrow is put off. Chamberlain arrived at Vice Regal to receive his degree on Monday at T.C.D. I did all I could to get the authorities to put him off as his glorification is inopportune. T. Lough M.P. lunched with me at K. St. Club. Unattractive personality!
	17 Dec, Sun	Ld Roberts' son died. But the Vice Regal people asked us all from the Ch: Sec's to dine. After dinner I had a long & interesting talk with Chamberlain. I chiefly avoided the War as he must be sick of it. But he introduced the subject & told me he believes the generalship had been simply incomprehensible. On old age Pensions he admitted that people had been led to expect the impossible. But he evidently thinks the Bill for the war will relegate the whole question to future consid[eratio]n. Dufferin, ?Conyngham, Green & T. Sinclair there.
	18 Dec, Mon	After very busy morning came with Sinclair who housed me to Belfast for some meetings with various bodies who ought to help the New Department.
[underscored blanks in original]	19 Dec, Tue	In the morning met North East Agric'l Soc'y Council & discussed their relations with new Department. In afternoon had small very businesslike meeting with C'tee of Flax Supply Assoc'n at which G. Reade, T. Andrews, a __ Thompson & __ Richardson gave me excellent advice on scheme to be adopted for development of Flax Culture. Then a late afternoon talk with Sinclair & Andrews. They will support me in Gill's appointment as Secretary. Then a dinner at Sinclairs with Reade, Pirrie, Jaffé (Ld Mayor), Musgrave, Buller, Andrews, Sharman Crawford.
	20 Dec, Wed	Morning meeting with C'tee of School of Art & visit to buildings. In afternoon meeting at Town Hall with Tech Ed'n C'tee of Corp[oratio]n & Tech Ed School C'te. Tried & got Ld. Mayor & Corp'n to get up informal C'tee to work up a scheme for remodelling whole system of Tech Ed'n in Belfast. Had interview with Prof'r. Maurice Fitzgerald of Queen's College, candidate for Ass't Secretaryship for Tech Ed'n. Doubted his having force enough. Dinner at Musgraves 24 (sexes equally divided) concluded visit. I gained much information & did good.
To Balfour, Lady Betty	21 Dec, Thu	Left Belfast by lamplight. Felt rather seedy all day after the overwork & dinners.
	22 Dec, Fri	Busy in office at I.A.O.S., CDB & Castle with Cadogan who wanted to consult me about his "season". On the one hand the guests would not come, on the other the traders would be furious. I promised to take advice of best people I could find. Dined with W.J. Goulding who wished to pump me on many

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		things.
	23 Dec, Sat	After day in office went to Palmerston with Dunning for Xmas. Only the Mayos there.
	24 Dec, Sun	A delightful restful day though I had to do a little work.
	25 Dec, Mon	I neither give or get presents at Xmas. I have no children about me. I have no home. Many I think respect me. Very few can have affection for me – oh but work work work. Thats the anodyne. My life is really given to others & it is not fruitlessly given. Surely that is some compensation for my strange lot. The Earl of Clonmel, 21 years of age came to lunch with his mother. A young puppy.
To Balfour, Lady Betty	26 Dec, Tue	A regretful goodbye to the Mayos who had been more than kind & back to Dublin.
	27 Dec, Wed	I.A.O.S. work, a visit to Glasnevin Farm, office work, an interview with my sturdy supporter Tom Pim who told me of the bitterness of the feeling against me on my supposed nationalist leanings – these took the day.
	28 Dec, Thu	Reggie turned up & I took him, Dunning & Curtain down to Kilcooley for Tommy's coming of age. All the Ponsonbys were there & it seemed like a real Xmas gathering. Eddie keeps us all anxious. Yesterday his mother got a cable from the Modder River "Happy Xmas".
	29 Dec, Fri	Tommy came of age & my duties as guardian & trustee ceased. The festivities were postponed until a more convenient date as the "natives" might not have recovered from Xmas festivities. But the Workmens Club marched up at night as Fife & Drum band with which they nearly blew off the roof of the Hall & read an address. Tommy replied better than I could have done at his age. Peter Fitzgerald arrived & we talked over Estate matters.
	30 Dec, Sat	A wire came from Tommy's militia adjutant asking if he would "do duty with any Battalion in S Africa". I advised him to say yes but to express a hope that he would get a Com'n in the regular army. A responsibility. If he were killed one would have an additional pang. But a soldier must be eager for the fray when his country is at war.
	31 Dec, Sun	Frost & snow – good Xmas weather. A Deputation from the Urlingford Society came to congratulate me & of course I had to give them a lecture on Cooperation. Otherwise a day of much enjoyed rest.
		[Page torn out]
	Year-end Summary	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>1899</u></p> <p>My only remaining brother's death at the beginning of the year, a serious accident on March 13 & another on June 13 made 1899 a dreary year for me. Eddy came of age on July 24 while he was at Gibraltar & in October he went to South Africa. He was with Methuen in all his battles & escaped unhurt. Tommy Ponsonby also passed out of my guardianship on Dec. 29 & he too may soon go to the war.</p> <p>The chief event of my own life was my appointment, with almost</p>

Correspondence [Notes]	1899	Diary Entry
		<p>unanimous approval, to the Vice Presidency – the actual working headship – of the new Department of Agriculture & Industries which I had the chief part in originating & getting through Parliament. My influence was strong enough to do this when I was unable to attend the House. It pleases me to see my economic policy prevail. But my own political success as some would regard it is no joy to me.</p>