

# 1900 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](http://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<sup>x</sup> 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<sup>d</sup>"). If the same usage occurs in close proximity, the expanded version is generally not repeated.

## 1900

### Events:

**447 co-operative societies affiliated to IAOS; total turnover £1 million**

**Jan - Daily Express sold to Lord Ardilaun**

6 Feb – John Redmond elected leader of reunited Irish Parliamentary party

**1 Apr – Agriculture and Technical Instruction Act into effect**

1 Sep – 1st issue D.P. Moran's *The Leader*

30 Sep – Cumann na nGaedheal founded by Arthur Griffith

**Oct – Defeated in South Dublin election**

### Publications:

- "Bankers and Farmers in Ireland", *Journal of the Institute of Bankers in Ireland* (Dublin), v.ii part 1, pp. 18-27

- *IAOS Annual Report*, pp. 105-7, 111-113, 134-6

- "Balfourian Amelioration in Ireland", *The Nineteenth Century and After*, v.48, pp. 891-904

- "Mr. Horace Plunkett and Mr. Gill's Appointment" (letter), *Irish Times*, 4 Aug, p. 5

- "Hon. Horace Plunkett's Candidature", address Dalkey Town Hall, *Irish Times*, 9 Oct, p.3

- *L'Enseignement Technique en Irlande*, Congrès Internationale de l'Enseignement des Sciences Sociales (Paris)

- "The South Dublin Election" (letter), *The Times*, 17 Oct, p. 10

- "The South Dublin Election" (letter), *The Times*, 19 Oct, p. 5

- Attributed articles in

*Irish Homestead*:

Text of inaugural address to Council of Agriculture, VI:23 (2 Jun 1900), pp. 341-44

Report of comments to meeting re formation of British Agricultural Organisation Society,

VI:24 (9 Jun 1900), pp. 372-3

Text of address to flax conference, VI:25 (16 Jun 1900), pp. 391-2

Report of address to Royal Veterinary College, Ireland, VI:41 (6 Oct 1900), p. 645

Text of address to banquet of 20 Nov. in his honour, VI:48 (24 Nov 1900), pp. 575-9

*DATI Journal*:

Text of inaugural address to Council of Agriculture, I:1 (Aug 1900-May 1901), pp. 4-14

### Government:

*Prime Minister*: 3rd Marquess of Salisbury (Conservative)

*Chief Secretary*: Gerald William Balfour to 7 Nov, George Wyndham

*Lord Lieutenant*: Earl Cadogan

**Approximate monetary equivalents (2010):** £1= £98 ; \$1 = \$23

Correspondence [Notes]	1900	Diary Entry
	1 Jan, Mon	Left Kilcooley with Curtain for Cork, Dunning going to Dublin. In train Professor Carroll joined me. We put up at Imperial Hotel and had a good talk over schemes (agricultural) for the new Department. Carroll has knowledge of his subject & of things Irish. He is resourceful & industrious & if he were not a bit old I should be much inclined to give him the agric'l post – especially as he is a R.C.
	2 Jan, Tue	Drove with Carroll to the Cork Butter market where I saw a collection of the chartered middle-man type which one knows so well. Big fortunes have been made by this ring out of the Irish farmer & it is not on my conscience that I have given it a knock down blow. To Munster Dairy School & Agric'l Institute. After looking over the farm & buildings met a dozen or so governors including L Beamish, Colthurst, Barton, Smith Barry, P. Fitzgerald, Ogilvie[,] Dunn &c. A good body of men. I explained the Act to them & enlightened them on future relations with my Dep't. Then Deput[atio]n at Hotel for School of Art. Fr. Roche &

Correspondence [Notes]	1900	Diary Entry
		L. Beamish spokesmen. Quite satisfactory. Dined with Gen'l. McCalmont at Gov't House. He poor fellow fretting himself to death at having only Rebel Cork to watch instead of the Boers.
	3 Jan, Wed	Went over School of Art with Ludlow Beamish & Miss Anderson. Really good buildings & a much better spirit than I expected. It gave me great hope. Back to Dublin. Stopped 2½ hours at Limerick J[unctio]n to meet Anderson & Stokes. We agreed upon a scheme to recommend the English Wholesale to adopt with regard to their creameries.
	4 Jan, Thu	Too hard a day at office. But I must endure it till I get a staff. The Ld. Lieutenant wasted some hours by sending for me to pour out his grievances against me on the Gill extravagance – my desire to put him into the highest post in the Dep't. A very disagreeable interview. I dined quietly with Coyne & asked him if he would accept the post of head of my projected Bureau of Statistics & information. He agreed enthusiastically. I explained that I could not offer it yet & might not be able to at all.
	5 Jan, Fri	Had a talk with Dr. Starkie, Resident Commissioner of Nat'l Ed'n Bd & thought him a very able man. Day spent at over work in office.
[HP consistently spells this Mamie; in <i>70 Years Young</i> her mother, Lady Fingall, spells it Maimie]	6 Jan, Sat	To Killeen by midday train. In afternoon there was a play, Mamie being the heroine & 3 other contemporaries completing the cast. Mamie acted fairly & showed talent for dancing. Mrs. Willie Rowley came with Lady Langford & a child & explained to me that the Ark of the Covenant was really in Tara, that the Irish really were the lost tribes, & much more of the same sort.
	7 Jan, Sun	Rested & wanted it.
	8 Jan, Mon	Telegram from Mary of Saturday (not delivered till this morning) asking me to meet her & Tommy Sunday night in Dublin T having been ordered off, with Gloucestershire Reg[imen]t to which he was attached as militia man. They are off to London to try & get a commission in Cavalry in exchange. So I had to set wires in motion & write letters but could do no more. I had a terribly busy day in Dublin having to leave Dunning seedy at Killeen & Anderson being bad with influenza.
	9 Jan, Tue	After a very busy day in Dublin went with T.P. Gill & Hugh Ryan a Tipperary cooperator to Liverpool by cattle & pig boat. It was not a very comfortable journey but a far less harassing one than the complicated Journey via Chester. Our object was to try and arrive at an agreement with the Manchester English & Scottish Wholesale Societies by which they should transfer their creameries to their suppliers.  Of the Irish delegation (4) to go tonight only I am well enough to travel. Monteagle, Bryan & RAA down with influenza.
	10 Jan, Wed	David joined us at the Hotel & we met the Representatives of the Coop Union (peacemakers) the English & Scottish wholesales, 4 from each body 16 in all. I made a very conciliatory speech and, I hoped, persuaded the wholesales to capitulate to us. But I found that the delegates had no authority except to listen to what we had to say. Still I hope good may result for I think I persuaded those present.
	11 Jan, Thu	Arrived in the Pig boat – no quadrupeds this time but the pig

Correspondence [Notes]	1900	Diary Entry
		<p>jobbing &amp; cattle jobbing fraternity strong – got little sleep.</p> <p>Of course awful arrears of work &amp; correspondence. C.D.B. meeting &amp;c. Doran of the C.D.B. dined with me &amp; I got some information which will be useful to me.</p> <p>Death rate: Dublin now over 50!</p>
	12 Jan, Fri	<p>Dunning still laid up &amp; Dr. says he may have trouble about the “appendix”. I think there is no fear of appendicitis when any little irritation there is detected early.</p> <p>A Deputation of W. Clare priests &amp; politicians was brought to me by Major Jameson who made a great speech. The others talked sense.</p>
	13 Jan, Sat	<p>Ch: Sec arrived &amp; I had a terribly busy day with him &amp; many others. Went to Ch: Sec’s Lodge at night &amp; heard all the latest news from Whittingehame (A.J.B.). Nothing very cheery.</p>
	14 Jan, Sun	<p>Had a long talk with Gerald Balfour &amp; convinced him I should stick to Gill. He did his best to make a case against him as he really distrusts him. But he had no argument. I am quite ready to resign my post if I don’t get the appointment of my own staff into my own hands. G.B. means to do right &amp; won’t thwart me in this.</p>
	15 Jan, Mon	<p>Joseph R. Fisher who is the editor of the Northern Whig spent a good bit of the day in Dublin with me. I indoctrinated him with the new economic movement &amp; trotted out Gill, Fr. Finlay, Russell &amp;c.</p> <p>Finished my Estimates for 1900-1 &amp; left by pig boat for Liverpool to look after Pelton affairs – or rather to preside over Bowes partners Ltd. of which I became chairman.</p>
	16 Jan, Tue	<p>We were told we must disembark at 6.30 AM or wait till 10 AM as the berth was wanted for a transport. I elected the former &amp; journeyed by a slow train to Newcastle. Then too tired to do anything so went to bed early.</p>
[prob. banker/philanthropist T.E. Hodgkin]	17 Jan, Wed	<p>Bainbridge, Walsh &amp; Gardiner joined me early having arrived during the night. I went to see Thomas Hodkin [<i>sic</i>] L.L.D. at the Bank and had a talk with that good sympathetic, clear headed Quaker about Ireland &amp; the War. He takes a keen intelligent interest in Irish progress. He of course deplores the war but thinks it was inevitable. He thinks his friend James Bryce has sunk the historian in the partisan. At lunch met Sir Lindsay Wood the chief director on the new Board of John Bowes Partners Ltd. over which I preside. He said he would not have joined the Pelton owners in the purchase of an interest in J.B. if it had not been the worst managed concern he knew. This is encouraging. The Bd met. Awful old fossils the old Board. I do hope we shall be able to get Gardiner his full influence. Got to London before midnight.</p>
	18 Jan, Thu	<p>Pelton meeting, formal. Saw Dalziel who is still, so he says, ready to run a paper in Dublin. He asked me to be trustee of the settlements of H Lee Dillon &amp; his daughter. I said yes.</p> <p>In afternoon had a long talk with SE Spring Rice of Treasury over my Estimates. Mary dined with me.</p>
	19 Jan, Fri	<p>Without a secretary my whole day was wasted writing letters. I had an interview with Johnson about Eddie’s affairs &amp; Pelton &amp;</p>

Correspondence [Notes]	1900	Diary Entry
		called on S.H. Butcher who was in bed with pleuropneumonia.
[KCB – Knight Commander of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath]	20 Jan, Sat	A full day. Dalziel breakfasted early with me & talked about his daughter & his ducats. He also announced his willingness to run a big paper in Dublin – practically under my control.  Then to Abney – now Sir Wm. K.C.B. with whom I agreed some important things. I am to take over the S[cience] & A[rt] institutions in Ireland with the new Dep't April 1, so as at once to begin using the wisdom of the Museum authorities & others in the general scheme. He will support me with the Duke of Devonshire in standing by Gill's appointment. I wrote G.W.B. that I would resign if I were over-ruled – & I almost agreed to take his man Capt. Shaw R[oyal].E[ngineers]. as Tech: Ass't Sec'y. Then I had Thomas Kelly, son of the N.Y. millionaire Banker Eugene Kelly, to lunch. He wants to spend his days & wealth in Ireland & I hope I may guide him into good economic courses. Came to Westgate for a dine & sleep with poor Denis. He is visibly weaker but fighting as bravely as ever against his deadly foe.
	21 Jan, Sun	A cold raw day. But I felt I made it less miserable for poor Denis. I had to leave him in the afternoon & came to London to be early at work on the morrow. I was seedy. Dr. Heaton said I looked tired out.
	22 Jan, Mon	Shifting papers in cupboards, writing letters & doing other private secretary's work. Then Spring Rice about Estimates, and I stupidly have let myself in for a committee to get up a corps of sharp shooters started by Seton Karr.  Dined at Carlton with Dunraven who agreed with me about Gill. Then 10.15 train to Ireland.
	23 Jan, Tue	To Dublin & the Ch: Sec's Lodge where Lord & Lady Loch & the Gerald Balfours. Ld. L. was most interesting about the Transvaal. He brought out how the bad impression of the Dutch about the English was due to the usual English stupidity – and rudeness.  Dinner party in evening. Daisy came to stay couple of days.
	24 Jan, Wed	[No entry]
	25 Jan, Thu	Today I met the bosses of my Constituency at the annual meeting of the Registration Assoc'n. I knew there were many complaints against me, all for offences against the canons of the higher Toryism. I dealt with few details but explained my political pos[ition], my economic line, necessitating assoc'n with Irishmen of all sections & creeds. I foretold further trouble as I was going to fill the appointments of the new Dep't with fit men irrespective of political or other irrelevant claims. There was some blowing off of steam. Then they unanimously asked me to stand again.
	26 Jan, Fri	C.D.B. Capt. Shaw R[oyal].E[ngineers]. lunched with me. I liked him more on further acquaintance & think I shall make him Ass't Sec'y for Tech Instruction. Cranborne dined at the Lodge. He is with militia in Dublin. He had nothing interesting to tell us.
	27 Jan, Sat	I was to have gone to see the Ponsonby family & Reggie at Dunsany today. But before going I had to get the stump of a back tooth extracted under gas. It was bungled & I had to have two asphyxiations & was too sick feeling all day to go, so I moped

Correspondence [Notes]	1900	Diary Entry
		about Dublin all day & did what business I could.
	28 Jan, Sun	Lord & Lady Morris lunched & Prof'r. Carroll & Green (W.S.) spent a good bit of the day at the Lodge. I also had much work to do & so saw little of Daisy who had come up with Mamie to talk over her affairs which, poor little woman, are difficult enough. I feel rather bitterly that I am not the friend I should be to her owing to my absorption in my work. Left with Gerald for London. We both felt like boys going back to school. We were further depressed by sad news from S. Africa.
[Arthur James Balfour]	29 Jan, Mon	After bad night was not up to much. Had a long friendly talk with Spring Rice & learnt much about necessary red tape.  Dined at First Lord of Treasury's official banquet and heard Queen's speech read. This is a thing to have done. Wonderful buoyancy in our public men in the midst of these awful calamities in S. Africa.
	30 Jan, Tue	My first appearance in House as a Minister. Many congratulations.  The speeches on the War were most discouraging – no high patriotic tone, nothing but petty party points. The ministry would certainly fall if there were an oppos[iti]o[n].  The Irish M.P.s have arranged to unite. Whether or not a bogus union I know not.  In morning I had an interview with Londonderry about Gill's appointment. I succeeded in quelling his oppos[iti]o[n] & also that of Arnold Forster whom I met in the House.
	31 Jan, Wed	Professor Somerville dined with me nominally to advise as to a[n] Ass't Sec for Agric're but really to consider whether he would do & could take the post. Lady Betty also dined & I thought S. a very able man. I think she did too. But it is doubtful if he will leave his post a[t] Cambridge University.
	1 Feb, Thu	Saw Londonderry again & he went back on his promise to support Gill, but I made him promise to be neutral. Saw D[uke] of Devonshire who appeared to be asleep but by a letter he wrote me later in the day showed he had taken in the various matters I put before him. Saw Cadogan at the Lords & he protesting sanctioned Gill. The opposition to Gill waxes furious & there will be a rumpus over it. Appointed Shaw and offered appointment to Somerville who probably won't accept. An I.I.A. meeting in the morning at Londonderry House added to the --a--ties of a terribly busy day.
[ <i>ex libris</i> – from the books]	2 Feb, Fri	Saunderson made an insulting attack on the Nationalists which did lots of harm to the relations betw'n them & the English. The Nats are trying to reunite & all they want is a common enemy.  Dined with Sir Edwin Durning Lawrence M.P. in the House. He is a bore. But he is also a Shakespearian scholar. He holds that Bacon not only wrote Shakespeare but also wrote Montaigne's essays & Don Quixote!!  Next Friday I am to lunch with him & he is to prove it " <i>ex libris</i> ".
	3 Feb, Sat	Meeting of John Bowes partners in London to settle a row betw'n



Correspondence [Notes]	1900	Diary Entry
		Gardiner, whose aggressive touchiness is becoming intolerable & the other managing director & ?me & betw'n G & the Auditor.  I dined with Lord Windsor to discuss the S African Assoc'n. The other members were Lorne, Bob Yerburch, Geoffrey Drage & Col. Milward M.P. Beautiful house. Gorgeous flunkies, excellent cook & cellar. But our good host is awfully muddleheaded!
	4 Feb, Sun	Not very well & moped about doing nothing. The strain of last week too much for me.  Saw Lecky about Gill's appointment & also called on Lady Gregory & S H Butcher still in bed – all interesting.
	5 Feb, Mon	A fine speech from Chamberlain, at last in the right tone. Courtney & Dillon both feelingly & eloquently pro Boer.  Gerald Balfour taken suddenly but not I hope seriously ill. Condemned to bed for a fortnight. This will double my work.
[vote re Britain's handling of Boer War]	6 Feb, Tue	Went to see Gerald Balfour who was in bed, a clot of blood from an injured leg vein having passed through his heart into his lungs. He had a narrow escape but is now safe. At the House the vote of censure was defeated by a majority of over 200, the Home Rulers abstaining. Redmond was unanimously elected chairman of the reunited Irish members. How little the English know what this may mean.
	7 Feb, Wed	The Hickox's turned up in town & I took them to a Theatre. He is as nice as ever – I had not seen him for 5 years – & she is as uninteresting.
[Hansard, 4th Series, vol. 78, col. 933, 938]	8 Feb, Thu	Gerald Balfour had another clot wandering about which gave his friends much cause for anxiety. We hope there is no real danger.  I answered my first questions in the House & was sympathetically cheered when I rose to do my first official act in the House.  W E Holmes was over about Evicted Tenants Assoc'n.
[Hansard, 4th Series, vol. 78, col. 1059]	9 Feb, Fri	Irish Debates – Financial relations, Land question &c. Then at 1 AM Closure & “who goes Home?”  Gerald Balfour's condition undoubtedly anxious. I cannot conceive a worse calamity for Ireland than his being superseded in the Chief Secretaryship by a new man who would have to learn it all over again.
	10 Feb, Sat	After dispatching the usual volley of letters came to Westgate to see poor dear Denis still bravely fighting a disease he knows to be in all human probability mortal. He lives all by himself now & is very depressed. My visits cheer him up & when he goes if I am left I shall be glad to have in a small way brightened his last sad days.
	11 Feb, Sun	Weather awful. Bitter north wester with snow just thawing on the ground. I felt seedy & was a poor companion for Denis. I rested sadly with him.
[Hansard, 4th Series, vol. 78, col. 1245-7]	12 Feb, Mon	Back in bitter cold weather. I have developed troublesome eczema and am generally unfit for House of Commons work.
[Hansard, 4th Series, vol. 78, col. 1379]	13 Feb, Tue	The regular House day 3–12 . Had endless letters to write & so heard none of the debates.

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	14 Feb, Wed	Speakers Ministerial Dinner. Deadly.  The Irish had a Local Gov't Amendment Bill in House. I had to stand by for fear a speech should be required. For a "steam boiler & persons in charge" Bill came next & this the Tories did not want to come on! Such is politics.
[Hansard, 4th Series, vol. 79, col. 101]	15 Feb, Thu	Denis Lawless came to 105. I did not see him as I was at the House 9 hours.  Lunched with Emily Lawless & met Lady Sarah Spencer (her house) & "Bobby" Spencer. Emily is taking up Village Libraries in Ireland & will be a great help. Lady Sarah seemed a really charming person. Bobby rather what Johnny used to call a pipsqueak. If it were not for his high stiff collars his head would droop but then there is much to weigh it down.
	16 Feb, Fri	[No entry]
	17 Feb, Sat	Dined with the R Vere O'Briens to meet the Arnold Forsters. But the party did not go & there was not what Pepys called "good discourse".  Went to Wimbledon to see Henry Butcher. He looked weak & ill & I fear is much shaken by his pleuropneumonia.
To Balfour, Lady Betty	18 Feb, Sun	Called in [ <i>sic</i> ] Lady Betty & saw Gerald. He was of course in bed but his physical condition seemed to be improved by the rest.  Lunched with the Gardiners & dined with Conny tête à tête.
To Balfour, Lady Betty	19 Feb, Mon	Began Swedish Exercises, the life I am leading making me dreadfully unfit. Then I was 10 hours at House & thought what folly to imagine that we can remedy the unhealthiness of 10 hours with some rubs & stretches.  Heard de Vesci had had a dangerous clot of blood. I do hope there is not going to be another gap here in the ranks of useful Irishmen.
[Hansard, 4th Series, vol. 79, col. 590-1]	20 Feb, Tue	[No entry]
[Hansard, 4th Series, vol. 79, col. 736-41]	21 Feb, Wed	My first Front Bench work. I had to speak against an Irish Evicted Tenants Bill & incidentally to defend T.P. Gill's appointment from an oblique attack by Saunderson. The Speaker gave me very little chance & the defence was weak. But the attack was contemptible.  Denis came up & Val was in town. I dined them both at the Wellington.
To Balfour, Lady Betty  [Hansard, 4th Series, vol. 79, col. 819]	22 Feb, Thu	Somerville (Professor Wm.) of The Cambridge Department of Agriculture came to see me – with his wife. We had two hours at the House of Commons during which I put before him the picture of Ireland after his administration in certainly attractive colours. He said he was minded to come but would let me know in two days.  Poor young Courtenay, Daisy's friend in the Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders among the list of killed today.
[Hansard, 4th Series, vol. 79, col. 941-2]	23 Feb, Fri	A letter from Somerville finally decided <u>not</u> to come was a great blow.
	24 Feb, Sat	Had a good talk with Gerald Balfour on Irish affairs. He is much

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		better for the enforced rest.  Met Westmeath at lunch at Wellington & had a discussion with him about Catholic University for Ireland. He is one of the many R.C.s bitterly opposed to the project, one of the very few who openly avows his opposition. John Atkinson dined with Denis & me & I think cheered poor Dennis [ <i>sic</i> ].
	25 Feb, Sun	Another talk with G.W.B. Dined Denis & Valentine at Club & called Conny. Thus the day went & yet I had but little time for letters, reading &c.
[ <i>Hansard</i> , 4th Series, vol. 79, col. 1107-9]	26 Feb, Mon	Half a Parliamentary day & then off to Dublin by night train.
	27 Feb, Tue	After rough night arrived early in Dublin. Had long interview with Ld. Cadogan who talked incessantly about nothing important. While I was with him telegram from War Office arrived telling of Cronje's capitulation to Ld. Roberts. Also a rather depressing telegram from Buller who is by no means certain of success.  Had long interview with Capt. Shaw whom I liked much. Spent most of day at office with Gill. Got through much work.
	28 Feb, Wed	C.D.B., I.A.O.S., I.A.W.S. & Bd of A[griculture] & T[echnical]. I[nstruction]. divided my time & attention between them all day long.
	1 Mar, Thu	<del>Back to Dublin.</del> Same as yesterday but went to dine & sleep at Killeen.
	2 Mar, Fri	Back to Dublin & same work all day.
	3 Mar, Sat	Gave Cantrell of Veterinary Department post of Chief Clerk in new Dep't. Busy day & then down for week end to Dunsany where Mary, Dorothy & Tommy. The first time I had stayed at Dunsany since Johnny's funeral. A feeling of sadness but peacefulness pervades the place.
	4 Mar, Sun	Fingall sent for me & left me parting injunctions with reference to his affairs in (probable) event of his being sent with Imperial Yeomanry to S. Africa. A restful day.
	5 Mar, Mon	Back to Dublin where madly busy day. Had a long talk with Cadogan about the state of the country which he considers getting a bit out of hand. Over with TP Gill to England.
	6 Mar, Tue	Went to see Gerald Balfour & found him much better but still in bed. I think he is quite safe now & Ireland is saved from a great danger.
	7 Mar, Wed	Got over a Speaker's Levee. But missed a Levee at St. James Palace stupidly. I ought to have been presented on my appointment.  Committee re transfer of Museums Edinburgh & Dublin from S[cience] & A[rt] Dep't to Scotch & Irish authorities. Ld. Balfour of Burleigh in chair, Abney, Spring Rice, Gill, Sir H. Craik & self. B. of B. aldermanic, beefy. 2 hours in which we did ½ hour's work.
[ <i>Hansard</i> , 4th Series,	8 Mar, Thu	In morning I urged T.P. Gill to go & see J. Redmond & make him

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vol. 80, col. 400-1]		do the right thing in the House re the Queen's visit. J.R. did his part splendidly & I shall be greatly surprised if he has not ensured a royal Irish welcome even from the disloyal.
To Balfour, Lady Betty	9 Mar, Fri	Museums C'tee again. Royal Com'n Paris Exhib'n C'tee on Live Stock at which Ld. Spencer spoke in highest terms of I.A.O.S. work. Dined with Denis & Valentine.
	10 Mar, Sat	Dined with the Geoffrey Drages. Met Moore M.P. & thought him very able & well informed.
	11 Mar, Sun	Lunched with Conny & Raymond to meet Reggie who is growing into a fine man. Dined with Dalziel at the Carlton Restaurant, where his seed forever congregate, & he told me that young Dillon was taking to drink & that he was thinking of forbidding the marriage.
[ <i>Hansard</i> , 4th Series, vol. 80, col. 595-6] [comma misplaced?; prob. Sir John Gorst and Sir Henry Hobhouse, both serving MPs.]	12 Mar, Mon	I learned definitely that S. Dublin was looking for another candidate.  Dined at House Sinclair (Tom), Gill, Shaw, Gorst (Sir H), [ <i>sic</i> ] Hobhouse, TW Russell, G Drage & Arnold Forster. I wanted to talk Tech'l Ed'n in Belfast.
	13 Mar, Tue	Today I am told by TW Russell that W.J. Goulding is to run against me in S. Dublin. J.T. Pim told T.W.R. Gill's appointment seems to be the chief offence, Coyne's the last straw. I shall take time to consider whether I will withdraw or fight the bigots.
	14 Mar, Wed	Mrs Beau Watson had successful operation & the poor husband is happy again. He dearly loves that rather ugly & not very attractive but, I am sure, eminently virtuous & good, personality.
[ <i>Hansard</i> , 4th Series, vol. 80, col. 936]	15 Mar, Thu	[No entry]
	16 Mar, Fri	Lunched with old Lady Pembroke who seems ready to give more money to the I.A.O.S. But she is so odd that I hardly like to take her money.
[Queen Victoria had recently ordered soldiers in Irish regiments to wear shamrocks on St. Patrick's Day to commemorate Irishmen killed in the Boer War.]	17 Mar, Sat	Irish Industries Sale at Mansion House. All London is in green – a regular Irish boom on account of the dear old Queen's kindly thought.  Emily Lawless came up for the inside of a day & I had a good talk with her about Denis. We are half persuaded that he may recover but fear to indulge the hope. Took Daisy & Miss Burke to a screaming farce.
	18 Mar, Sun	Lunched at Wellington Club a Colonel Wm. Cary Sanger sent over by President McKinley to enquire into organisation of Auxiliary forces, and his wife. They were introduced to me by Alexander Orr who was courteous to me in N.Y. & I must return the courtesy. Daisy & I dined with the Gerald Balfours.
[ <i>Hansard</i> , 4th Series, vol. 80, col. 1198]	19 Mar, Mon	[No entry]
To Balfour, Lady Betty	20 Mar, Tue	Received a Deputation of M.P.s, peers & business men from Ireland who urged me as V.P. of the new Department to press the Ld. Lieutenant to support a Vice Regal Com'n on Irish Railways. Some 15 speeches I should say. Among the speakers John Daly, Mayor of Limerick whose release from prison I had a hand in procuring. He was one of the Dynamiters.

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		James S. Gordon came to see me re an appointment under Department.
	21 Mar, Wed	Introduced a deputation of creamery proprietors including English Coop Wholesale Soc'y & the Reps (R.A.A. & Monteagle) of the I.A.O.S. to Sir Matthew White Ridley to ask for a relaxation of the Factory Acts to suit Creameries.  Dined my annual dinner with Ducie. Dreary dreary.
	22 Mar, Thu	Had a long talk with Arthur Chamberlain (Joe's brother), who as chief proprietor in Kynochs Ltd. owned the Arklow Cordite Factory, upon the southern Irish as artisans. He said they were as good as English while they worked or better. Discipline was very uneasy. Lower standard of living & so lower wages. He sees no difficulty in gradual introd[uctio]n of manufactures. But it must be slow. He did not believe much in technical educ'n, did not want it in his business!  Financial Rel'ns in House. I had to vote against the Irish!
	23 Mar, Fri	A really fine debate on the R.C. University Question. I had such a bad toothache I heard but little of it but whenever I could sit still I enjoyed it. Arthur Balfour made a great effort. But I doubt its dispelling bigotry outside the House.
	24 Mar, Sat	C.H. Oldham came over from Dublin to consult me as to whether he ought to take a libel action against Express. Advised strongly against. Rev. W.S. Green came to talk about future Fishery developments. I called on Cadogan about various Irish affairs & then on G.W.B. Those four people took my whole day.
	25 Mar, Sun	Had to work hard most of the day. <del>Went to see Gerald Balfour about many</del> Lunched W.S. Green & talked Fisheries. Dined at Carlton Restaurant with all the Dalziels.
[Hansard, 4th Series, vol. 81, col. 331-2]	26 Mar, Mon	This day week the new Department begins work. Green (W.S.), Spring Rice, Manders & the attorney general were all helping me to get things into shape. In evening I dined Colonel Sanger to meet George Wyndham & Col. Denny. Excellent discourse on the army.
[Hansard, 4th Series, vol. 81, col. 452]	27 Mar, Tue	A long talk with Chamberlain at House. He told me many interesting things about Gladstone's rapid changes of <u>conviction</u> apropos of my declaration that he was sincere. Only 6 weeks before the Home Rule change G. declared to Chamberlain that it was unthinkable. He told me that in his opinion if Rosebery had on G's disappearance from public life openly cast off Home Rule & stuck to it he would have a strong party now & that it would have been hardly possible for the Lib[eral] Unionist party to have kept up the Tory alliance. He was very interesting on party organisation which is an indispensable servant but a bad master. Campbell Bannerman's subserviency to the Liberal organisation stamp him as a hopeless leader.
	28 Mar, Wed	Lunched Lady Pembroke who was madder than ever. She wanted me to stop the Q[uee]n going to Ireland because it was Lent.  Dined with me Lady Betty, Miss Alice Balfour, Lucys, B. Hollands, Gardiners & J Atkinson.
[Hansard, vol. 81, col. 716-7]	29 Mar, Thu	John Bowes meeting in London. Certainly my directors' fees in this concern are too easily earned!

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		Oliver Brighton came to town & dined with me at House. He looks a bit of a wreck! He has been threatened with Locomotor ataxy but will get well.
[ <i>Hansard</i> , 4th Series, vol. 81, col. 816-8]	30 Mar, Fri	Lunched at Canon Wilberforce's & sat next Madame Novikoff – supposed to be a Russian spy. Interesting woman, wonderfully well informed. She told me the hatred of England in Russia even exceeded that of Germany.
	31 Mar, Sat	Packing. Lunched with the Brownlows where I met the three sisters Lady B, Lady Lothian & Lady Pembroke. The latter still anxious to do good in Ireland & will I think subscribe to the I.A.O.S.
	1 Apr, Sun	Spent the Day at Killeen to take final instructions from Fingall about his affairs after his approaching departure for S Africa. Came up at night to the Ch: Secretary's Lodge.
	2 Apr, Mon	First day at the New Department since coming into operation of the Act (Ap. 1st). The beginning of my responsibilities. I get a bad start as the Queen's visit has prevented the Bd of Works from getting the offices ready. Henry Butcher & Lady Castlerosse arrived at the Lodge a perfect party.
	3 Apr, Tue	All day busy getting the Department to work.
	4 Apr, Wed	The Queen disembarked at Kingstown and drove to the Vice Regal Lodge. She had an enthusiastic reception all along the route. The weather was what she always brings and the scene was simply brilliant. I have never seen such decorations. I went as M.P. for the Constituency in which she landed to Kingstown in P[rivy].C[ouncil]. uniform & saw her start. Then I got back to K St. Club & saw her pass. After at Lodge met Sir Fleetwood Edwards & Sir Arthur Bigge, Lady Londonderry & the Cadogans. They were all delighted.
	5 Apr, Thu	Presided at C.D.B. Only Geoghegan, Kennedy & Green there & our enormous agenda paper.  Began to organise the work of the Dep't. But it is a desperate big job at the start.
	6 Apr, Fri	CDB again. I brought Lady Castlerosse & Capt. Shaw together & they discussed future industry developments in Kerry.  Professor Somerville accepted the appointment as Ass't Sec'y to the Department. He will start under the disadvantage that he cannot exceed the expectations we have formed about him.  The de Vescis came & we have now a delightful party.
	7 Apr, Sat	Tried to get a half holiday but had to work all day. I have had a terribly full week & feel a bit exhausted.
	8 Apr, Sun	News came that Stephen Spring Rice, the poor Monteagle's eldest son, had died of typhoid yesterday. It saddened us all. The second boy Tom is a musical genius but not as Stephen was, a natural successor to M. & his Irish work.
	9 Apr, Mon	All the party left & Gerald, Lady Betty & I were left alone. I was quite as happy. Indeed I don't remember enjoying a put up more than this. Compared with the Kildare St. Club __ !!

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	10 Apr, Tue	<p>Letter from Somerville accepting appointment for August. Telegram cancelling acceptance. Is he after all a weak vacillating creature &amp; is his robust masculine frame &amp; countenance deceptive? I think still he is the man &amp; if he vacillates any more must clinch the matter.</p> <p>Poor Anderson told me his wife &amp; he must separate. She has taken on another man &amp; on A's forbidding him the house she defies his authority.</p>
	11 Apr, Wed	<p>Somerville still wobbling. Says he will come to Dublin next week and decide finally.</p> <p>Dreary dinner at Castle after heavy day's work.</p>
	12 Apr, Thu	<p>Left Dublin by 9.15 train for Clifden with Green &amp; Anderson. Westerly gale &amp; driving rain. We feared the Granuaile, our house for the night, would never reach Cleggan from Blacksod Bay. However she got round Achil Head all right &amp; we drove to Cleggan, where we saw the preparations for the Irish mackerel trade which the C.D.B. has built up, and went on board. We went a little further north &amp; got more snug anchorage in Ballinakill harbour. I was glad to get another breath of Atlantic 'air'.</p>
	13 Apr, Fri	<p>A glorious morning after the storm. Visited E.W.L. Holt who has a marine Laboratory (for the RDS) on a hulk in Ballinakill Harbour. He told me many interesting things often illustrating them from his strange specimens about the inhabitants of the Deep. I talked to him about future fishery development which would probably come under my Department &amp; we discussed some plans.</p> <p>Round Slyne Head in heavy sea &amp; into Roundstone where a brisk fishing trade is shaping up. Then into Kilronan Harbour for the night.</p>
	14 Apr, Sat	<p>Went to South Island to examine possible sites for a small boat shelter, pier or slip. The 86 families formerly wild &amp; lawless are now taking to fishing in "Green-Castle yawls" &amp; canoes &amp; the C.D.B. wants to encourage them. Back to Kilronan harbour &amp; spent the day looking at various C.D.B. works &amp; projects. This sort of work which keeps me many hours in the open air – &amp; the best of air – will store my battery for future work. Aran is most satisfactorily responding to the C.D.B's improvement schemes.</p>
	15 Apr, Sun	<p>Left Aran after early breakfast for the Shannon. Very Rough passage. I learned today that the sails of the Granuaile would not save us from this terrible coast if the steering gear or engines broke down. This is all very well with twin screws but it certainly is risky with one set of engines, one propeller &amp; shaft! Could not land any where on Clare Coast till we got well into the mouth of the Shannon to Carrigaholt. There Green &amp; I made some enquiries as to possible fishery &amp; agricultural developments of Fr. Glynn the P.P. He was in despair of his parishioners. They were all set on America &amp; were unimprovable at home. Anderson told us that was his experience of West Clare. Green &amp; I drove also to Goleen Moveen where we can improve a little fishing cove.</p>
	16 Apr, Mon	<p>Anderson left us. He came to sea to think calmly over his domestic crisis. His To be or not to be involved the continuance of an undivided family or a separation he taking his own 3 boys, she taking the fourth, a love child. He heard last night that she</p>

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		intends to bring divorce proceedings against him! Poor fellow. If his story is true it is a hard case.  Green & I went by train to Miltown Malbay where we saw the coast guard officer & got a little information. He was rather an ass. Then on to Caher-rush, Quilty & Seafield along the coast by car & back to Kilrush where we anchored again in the Scatterry Roads. I heard a good deal about Clare coast problems.
	17 Apr, Tue	[No entry]
	18 Apr, Wed	Dined with the Hoggs to meet Prof <sup>r</sup> . Ewart of Edinburgh who is over with 11 Zebra Hybrids. He is experimenting with a view to settling how far back we need go to blame the right ancestors for our asinine qualities – & some other problems. He is a very interesting man.
	19 Apr, Thu	Office & cattle show all day. The President of Queens Coll: Galway (Anderson) & Prof <sup>r</sup> . Townsend called to discuss the utilisation of the Department by the Q[ueen]'s Coll: or as they put it the Queen's Coll by the Dep't.  The Hoggs, Cunningham, Prof <sup>r</sup> . Ewart, The Plunkets, Leckys & Lady Sybil Lascelles dined & we had a really jolly evening. Good discourse. I think I melted Hogg & Cunningham a bit & so I hope prepared the way for peace in R.D.S. and constituency.
	20 Apr, Fri	Spring Rice & Abney came over for C'tee of a Royal Coll of Science. Somerville came nominally to give evidence, really to make up his mind whether to come to Ireland. All day was spent in miserable vacillation & indecision. I left him with Gill late in afternoon still undecided.  The Leckys & I were commanded to go to the Queen's evening party. We were taken up to talk to her. She certainly is a pathetic figure this little old woman who cannot walk without support & still has the dignity & some of the burden of her great empire upon her. During day saw Prof <sup>r</sup> . Ewart's Zebra Hybrids which seem almost to disprove alleged infection of females equinals with qualities of previous sires. The hybrid sire stripes its offspring from the mare. The 2nd offspring of the mare by horse stallion has no striping at all.
	21 Apr, Sat	The Committee sat again & I worked hard at my desk with one ear turned their way. Then an interview with F.E. Ball who strongly urges me to give up S. Dublin. I agreed to ask the Executive Council to meet me. Walked with Atkinson to Ch: Sec's Lodge & looked on at Review. Glorious weather all day.
	22 Apr, Sun	Gill & Spring Rice came to the Lodge to talk Department shop. After that I went to tea at Lord Meath's to meet a Princess (Christian) who did not come and saw the place which is quite beautiful & most interesting. It was confiscated from the Cistercians about 1540 & still shows in its tall beech hedges, the finest I have ever seen, & planted to represent cloisters, cells &c, its fish ponds cut in the shape of the 4 aces of cards, its bowling green & sylvan theatre what jolly folk these old monks were.
[Princess Henry of Battenburg was female.] [Moderator – Rev. Norman Macleod]	23 Apr, Mon	Dined with the Queen at Vice Regal Lodge. Party Princesses Christian & Henry [ <i>sic</i> ] of Battenburg, Lady Southampton, Misses Phipps & Cochrane. The Mayos, Sir Peter O'Brien, The Moderator of the General Assembly, Lord Wm. Cecil, Lord



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		Denbigh, Sir Fleetwood Edwards, Sir F Carrington & Sir Arthur Bigge. The Queen was most domestic. The dinner was excellent but informal. After dinner I had a talk with the Queen. She was very kind about my work. I also talked with the Princesses. P[rinces]s Christian showed the royal gift of memory. She remembered seeing me at Bad Nauheim! We talked about Dr. Schott! At dinner I sat betw'n Lady Southampton (not interesting) & Miss Phipps very pleasant talker. I enjoyed my evening beyond my expectations & gave my Cab 10/.
	24 Apr, Tue	Left the Ch: Sec's Lodge after the longest & in many ways most enjoyable visit I ever paid. The office all day & then the first day of Punchestown, and all my old hunting friends arrived just before I left for England in their tall hats & Field glasses. What a change in my way of life! Dunning & I left for England.  Somerville finally decided not to come to us.
	25 Apr, Wed	Meeting of Pelton owners (Bainbridge & self present) in London. Agreed to extend Gardiners agreement till 1910 & to give him a secretary & understudy. The coal business is booming and if only I could unload that American burden I should be a rich man. Dined quietly with Conny & Raymond & saw their two boys. Bad sore throat.
	26 Apr, Thu	Shirked Bowes meeting at Newcastle. Much too seedy. 9 hours Parliament.
	27 Apr, Fri	Found Denis Lawless here having arrived after I had left for House & gone to bed before I returned last night. He is evidently no better & the case appears to be, humanly speaking, hopeless.
	28 Apr, Sat	Talked with Beau Watson about taking Eddie's agency if offered to him. Spent some of the day with poor Denis who is visibly worse now. Otherwise wasted the day as I was oppressed by heavy cold.
	29 Apr, Sun	Another wasted day. But I saw a Doctor Vernon Jones (7 Arlington St) & he gave me a sudorific draught & a tonic. He said I was in very low health & ought to be careful. My throat is inflamed and ulcerated.  I saw Mrs. Beau Watson still in her private Hospital.
[BAOS – British Agricultural Organisation Society]	30 Apr, Mon	Still useless for work. I went to the first annual gen'l meeting of the B.A.O.S. the English analogue of the I.A.O.S. About 10 persons in all. It reminded me of 10 years ago in Ireland.
	1 May, Tue	Ralph Stuart Wortley turned up from America & had a walk with me. He told me there was unquestionably a big majority Pro-Boer in the U.S.  My official private secretary Heaney arrived.
[prob. Sir Charles Wentworth Dilke]	2 May, Wed	Lunched with Lucy – the lions were cubs this time – & dined with Dilke a small male party (7) with 4 footmen to wait on them and certainly an excellent dinner. Courtenay Boyle was there and the rest appeared to be hangers on. But D. did all the talking & certainly is a most delightful raconteur. I have never met a man of wider information.

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	3 May, Thu	Still seedy & unable to work.
	4 May, Fri	[No entry]
	5 May, Sat	Went down to Westgate to my poor dear friend Denis Lawless. Found him as plucky as ever & rather better in general comfort. But the disease goes on & must be fatal. I golfed on the Margate links with Heaton & found I enjoyed it.
	6 May, Sun	The day with Denis. Then back to London.
["With prudes for proctors, dowagers for deans, And sweet girl-graduates in their golden hair", <i>The Princess</i> , 1847, Tennyson]	7 May, Mon	To Newcastle where I arrived 3.30 & met Coyne. We went to the Durham College of Science. Large, many-pupiled, fairly well equipped. I was not greatly impressed. I saw for the first time "sweet girl graduates" in their caps & gowns.  Coyne is a delightfully restful companion. He has a clear suggestive mind.
To Balfour, Gerald	8 May, Tue	By an early train to Morpeth to inspect the Cockle Park Farm worked by the Durham College of Science for the Northumberland Co Council. Professor (of Agriculture) Middleton was a possible ass't Secretary for Agriculture vice Somerville declined. Curiously a deputation from a rural Department of Agriculture of the Yorkshire College at Leeds came by same train to Morpeth & drove us out in their brake to the farm. With them was a Professor Campbell, another possible ass't sec we had heard of. We liked him better than Middleton. The farm was interesting but not of much value for our information. We decided to go back by sleeping car train to London.
	9 May, Wed	Spent day with Coyne over my address to Agric'l Council. Went to Music Hall with him at night.
	10 May, Thu	Robertson of Canada gave Coyne & me many hints – one of general applic[atio]n Always to see the good & be blind to the defects in subordinates & make the lieutenants do the same.
	11 May, Fri	C.D.B. met in London. The C'tee meetings had been held in Dublin & Wrench, O'Hara & Kennedy had accepted Doran's advice that no further Banks should be started on the Dillon Estate. So the struggle goes on. But I adhere to my confident belief in the ultimate victory of any policy economically sound.
	12 May, Sat	The day mostly with Coyne. Robertson of Canada, W.S. Green, Stephen Gwynn & he dined with me at Wellington Club.  Last night Mary overheard at conversation at a dinner reflecting on Eddie's behaviour at Magersfontein & saying he was practically dismissed [from] the army. I went to General Sterling (late Colonel of & with a son in Coldstreams) & asked if he had heard anything. He was very sympathetic & said he had not & would have if there had been anything to hear. He will make enquiries.
	13 May, Sun	Had a long talk with Cadogan. He knows the I.A.O.S. financial needs & the importance of maintaining that institution as an essential factor in Irish development. He would like to knight Dalziel, ennoble Cochrane or do anything not to[o] flagrant to help us. He suggested going for the ambitious Pirrie who might make identification with I.A.O.S.ism the avenue to titular distinction. We talked of many things & he spoke the mind of the

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		Cabinet & was interesting. He certainly trusts me.
[Brother – Alan Richard Montagu-Stuart Wortley and Maud Winn]	14 May, Mon	Chamberlain in a 2 hours speech introduced the Australian Commonwealth Bill. I had to work in my official room all the time & heard not a word of it. That is always happening to me. However a man physically weak cannot get more than a certain amount into his life.  Lunched with R Stuart Wortley and a brother back from Ladysmith who is going to marry one of my best girls “Tommy” Winn.
	15 May, Tue	Nugent Everard turned up & I tried to secure his intelligent cooperation for 29th (at meeting of Agric’l Council).
	16 May, Wed	A ?deadly dinner party in Addison Road with the David Arnotts. Two interesting guests – a soldier wounded at Spioen Kop and a Dr. Macnaght Jones whose early career was in Cork. He told me that he recollected when there was an aristocracy – county & city – & many forms of bright attractive social life in the now dismal city.
[Hansard, 4th Series, vol. 83, col. 425-6]	17 May, Thu	Went & had a talk with the Sidney Webbs in the morning on Irish economics. They are all for bonuses in Ireland. They say there is nothing wrong in the state supplying the balance of requirement in this way. In afternoon J F Taylor Q.C. the talented author of “Owen Roe O’Neill” came to the House & I had a long talk with him over the new Department. He is a strong nationalist. But we agreed on everything except Home Rule.
	18 May, Fri	Scotch -oti-----s! Relief of Mafeking redeemed the night.
	19 May, Sat	Went to Felixstowe with Mary to see nephews Harry and Lionel at Cowles’ Coaching establishment.
	20 May, Sun	Cowles’ institution inspected. Healthful every way. Cowles old varsity oar, sensible manly. He likes Harry & says he will pass all right into Sandhurst. Work no trouble to him – that’s his danger.  I had to spend most of the day working at my inaugural address.
	21 May, Mon	Back to the House – 8 hours of it – & not at all well.  Rec[eive]d deputation from Coop Union & English & Scottish Coop wholesale.
	22 May, Tue	Had a talk with Arthur Balfour about the South Dublin situation. He said it the Irish Unionists were often trying enough. But their opposition to the one Irishman of their party who had ever worked for Ireland without some selfish motive was beyond all bounds of political decency.
[Hansard, 4th Series, vol. 83, col. 939-40]	23 May, Wed	Dined with Dalziel to talk over Fingall’s affairs. Nothing interesting.
	24 May, Thu	John Bowes Partners and Pelton Steamship Co meetings took all the morning & early afternoon. Then Irish estimates which I had to watch.
	25 May, Fri	Anderson in town for the day & more Irish estimates.
	26 May, Sat	Packing & looking after poor Denis & calling on the Gerald Balfours took all the day. Left by night train for Ireland.
	27 May, Sun	Most of the day with Gill, Fr. Finlay & Coyne. Went out for

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		afternoon tea & croquet! to Leopardstown.
	28 May, Mon	From 7 A.M. till midnight hard at work on my address for the morrow. Robertson of Canada turned up.
[Text of address in <i>IH</i> , VI:23 (2 Jun 1900), pp. 341-4; photo p. 337; and <i>DATI Journal</i> , I:1 (Aug 1900-May 1901), pp. 4-14]	29 May, Tue	A great day. At 6 A.M. I had still much of my address to write. At 11 A.M. I met the Council of Agriculture & read them what was I think an inspiring address. I handled the meeting successfully & I believe must have strengthened my position in the Country. The Boards elected are satisfactory.
	30 May, Wed	Met the bosses of my Constituency at 60 Dawson St. & spoke my mind to them. I told them quietly but firmly that acting on the advice of A.J.B. I intended to seek re election whether the Regist[ratio]n Assoc'n supported me or not. I left them to make up their minds & on the morrow I am to hear their decision. I expect it will be that I can do as I d—d please but I shan't be elected.
	31 May, Thu	A Deputation from "Vets" of Ireland & a meeting of C.D.B.  In the papers a pronouncement of the Landlords (I.U.A.) Denouncing Govt & my appointments.  The war practically ended.
	1 Jun, Fri	After a long days work came up to Willie Plunket at the Private Secretary's Lodge. I think I have now slept in all the official residences in the Park. They are all delightful but I think the Ch: Sec's first, this second, Under Sec's third & Vice Regal Lodge last.
	2 Jun, Sat	Went to look at the Forester's house in the Park. Ld. Cadogan told me that he thought I could get it for an official residence if I wished. But it is too far off & is too surrounded by trees – almost choked. I don't like it.
[Argyll]	3 Jun, Sun	Down to Killeen where only Daisy & a Captain Kirk of the Argyle [ <i>sic</i> ] & Sutherlands. He was shot through both lungs at Magersfontein & is quite strong & well. "The bullets are so small & go so quick". He was a stupid honest fellow. Cross examination elicited a good deal of information about the war which was interesting.
	4 Jun, Mon	Lazed all day. A walk to Dunsany & a talk with Barton, Brown & Reid the greatest effort!
	5 Jun, Tue	Back to Dublin where after a hard office day I interviewed Campbell, the Leeds Professor whom I have chosen for the post of agricultural assistant secretary. I think he will turn up trumps.  An evening at T.P.G[ill]. 's where J.F Taylor & Fr. Finlay made the night extremely interesting.
	6 Jun, Wed	Came to Belfast Wednesday afternoon with Shaw & drove out to Wilmont, Dunmurry, R H Reade's House. He had a son back invalided from Lady Smith [ <i>sic</i> ] who was interesting.  Wire from Campbell the Leeds Professor that he like Somerville had changed his mind about the Irish work. I am in difficulties – great difficulties about filling that important post.

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[Text of conference address in <i>IH</i> , VI:23 (16 Jun 1900), pp. 391-2]	7 Jun, Thu	An excellent conference betw'n Flax Spinners & Flax Growers under the auspices of the I.A.O.S. (R.A.A.) took the whole day. I think we shall be able to <del>make</del> have a great effect on the flax industry by a combination of organised effort & State aid. Dinner party (male) in evening. Sinclair, Andrews, Musgrave & Co. Good discourse.
	8 Jun, Fri	Meeting of Tech Ed'n C'tee of Corporation. I addressed them with effect I think. They were going ahead with the expenditure of £55000 on a Tech: Coll: without an idea of what or whom it was to teach. I had not mastered the subject but had accurately guaged [ <i>sic</i> ] my own ignorance and theirs. A dinner party at Musgraves sat down some 20. They kill me with kindness whenever I visit Belfast. Shaw will I think do well. But we have to teach him more than he teaches us!
	9 Jun, Sat	Up at 6. Host in pyjamas bid us God speed & off we went to Dublin. There 3 hours office work & I off to Abbeyleix where Brownlow, Shaw Stewart MP & Lady Alice & some others were with the de Vescis. I interviewed the chairman & secretary of the Raiffeisen Bank & showed them that in essentials they ?had ?realised the opposite of that great reformer's ideals! I fear the population is too dependent on the great houses <del>to be</del> for a dose of organised self-help. Glorious trees here. Much of the woods the natural forest – not the work of the landscape gardener.
	10 Jun, Sun	Poured nearly all day which forced me to break my rest with official work. But I drove out with Lady de Vesci in the rain a bit & got to know her better. I don't wonder at her universal popularity with high & low. She certainly is the embodiment of sympathy.  The place is lovely but too much surrounded by trees – the old forest though dark is interesting.
	11 Jun, Mon	Back to Dublin & a hard day at the arrears which even a week end holiday accumulates.  The Daily Express (Ardilaun) has taken up the cudgels for the Bigots in my constituency & it Daily Expresses its opinion of me which is not flattering. So I went tonight to the Editor of the Irish Times (having first seen the Proprietor Arnott) and told him my policy. He must I suppose preserve the character of the I.T. for judicious trimming. But I think he won't oppose me.
	12 Jun, Tue	A very stormy meeting of my Regist[ratio]n Assoc'n which, I think, cleared the air. I fell fowl [ <i>sic</i> ] of Hogg the Chairman & made the angriest speech I ever made. Professor Dowden attacked me savagely, called me a traitor, a sophist & so on. But the meeting was after all mostly with me & I think I shall hold the seat.
[ <i>per contra</i> – by contrast]	13 Jun, Wed	C.D.B. meetings all day. Shaw Stewart M.P. & the de Vescis came to town & I dined with them at the Shelbourne. There dined also Miss White, Principal of the Alexandra College. She took us all to the College which was dark & empty, no sweet girl graduates lurking in the academical retreats which we explored in a long queue with a flat candle. But we saw "Silence is Required" (not requested) in the rooms not given up to needle work & gabble, <i>per contra</i> in the various societies insubordination is punished by "ceasing to be a member". A delightful garden. Tea

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		under trees. Bicycle shed.
	14 Jun, Thu	C.D.B. 11.30 – 2. Then Agric'l Board 2.30. Perfect harmony – Gill elected on Coordination C'tee. Dinner at Marine Hotel Kingstown by Chairman (newly knighted) of Urban District Council. Speech of course & after a weary day to-- was all I could say was left to me. I did not offend badly though I admitted that my hobby agric'l & indust[ria]l development had interfered with the minor duties of M.P. which was unwise.
	15 Jun, Fri	CDB again and today first meeting of Board of Technical Instruction. They appointed a Presbyterian Todd Martin D.D. on Coordination C'tee & in other ways acted in spirit of the Act & policy. Thus was fully constituted the new Department with all its subsidiary bodies and a great success it has been in its preliminary steps, of course it has done nothing or little practical. But the spirit is everything & that had to be displayed. All looks promising.  Gerald Balfour came over for the meeting of the CDB as it was critical & went back by mail. I saw a bit of him & talked over the political (Irish Unionist) situation. He approves my action.
	16 Jun, Sat	Did my duty as Constituent. Picnicked with the Township Commissioners of Rathmines & their Counsel at the Water Works – a really beautiful spot in the Dublin mountains. Left at night for London.
	17 Jun, Sun	Spent the day mostly with poor Denis who is no better but still undaunted in spirit. Dined with the George Haig's where Daisy was staying. He was selected Liberal candidate for South Derbyshire but his Irish relations were so furious with him for being a Home Ruler that his ambitious wife refuses to let him stand.
	18 Jun, Mon	Back to the House – 9 hours of it – and all a waste of valuable time.
To Balfour, Lady Betty	19 Jun, Tue	Ditto. Dr. Heaton came to see me at the House. He had a very bad opinion of Denis' condition. He is slowly but surely approaching his end.
	20 Jun, Wed	Poor Denis took the strange notion into his head that he would like to do a play & I took him to a naughty one which he enjoyed. Of the party were the Mayos. They share the bitterness at the Government's disregard of Irish Unionist opinion.
	21 Jun, Thu	Professor Campbell our new Ass't Secretary for Agric're came to see me & we had a morning together. He is surely a capable man & hard working. 36 years of age & looks as strong as a bull – built rather like me. I believe I have made a good appointment. He rather discouraged me by pointing out the enormous difficulty of finding agricultural teachers really qualified.
	22 Jun, Fri	Anderson was over. Attended at Committee on Rural Educ'n meeting but did not speak. Bowes meeting – harmonious.
[Temple]	23 Jun, Sat	After busy morning with two secretaries took Daisy down to the Eugene Kellys at Tempe [ <i>sic</i> ] House, Gt Marlow. Oldish house with some beautiful things in it. But the situation must be delightful in real summer weather. It is on the Thames but not on the main stream but just off it on a weir – deep cool & wooded.

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		Party of 10 or so. But uninteresting very.
	24 Jun, Sun	The millionaires had a steam launch, punts & canoes, carriages & all the paraphernalia of picknicking. But it poured all day!
[Hansard, 4th Series, vol. 84, col. 917-8]	25 Jun, Mon	Back to town & work. I called Arthur Balfour's attention to a letter in the Morning Post. Got JG Butcher to ask a question about it – see below. [Newspaper item pasted in]  Morning Post 26/6/00:  IRISH BOARD OF AGRICULTURE  Mr. BUTCHER—I desire to ask the First Lord of the Treasury a question of which I have given him private notice, namely, whether his attention has been called to a letter which appeared in the <i>Morning Post</i> on Friday last from the hon. member for Stoke (Mr. Coghill), in which he refers to the recent appointment of Mr. Gill to a post in Ireland, and uses these words : “Now we know what the bargain was between the Government and the Nationalist Party. The Nationalists were not to object to the creation of a new office for Mr. Horace Plunkett's benefit, and in return they were to be allowed to share of the booty in the minor appointments.” I should like to ask the First Lord whether the statements contained in that letter as to a corrupt bargain having been made between the Government and the Nationalists have any foundation in fact.  Mr. BALFOUR—In answer to my hon. and learned friend I have to state that there is not a shadow of foundation for the statement. (Hear, hear.)
	26 Jun, Tue	Lobbying business about an Electric Lighting Bill. Mary & Alice came to tea.
	27 Jun, Wed	Took a rest & wanted it. Had a little dinner party. Col. Sanger & his wife, Daisy, Conny, Raymond, Alice, Capt. Kirk, Denis, Mary Studd. Quiet but cheery party. Red letter day for Denis, the poor fellow said.
[Hansard, 4th Series, vol. 84, col. 1350-1]	28 Jun, Thu	Tithe Rent Charge Bill 2nd Reading. Had to sit on Front Bench & look as if I understood it.
	29 Jun, Fri	Denis had a consultation on his case, a renowned Dr. Osler of U.S.A. being the new authority I brought in. The verdict is I fear – hopeless.
	30 Jun, Sat	Went down to Broadlands, Romsey & had a B.B.Co meeting. Ashley talked a good deal about his disappointed career. He has stood 9 elections & lost 6 or 7 consecutively. He hopes to get into Parliament next session. But he is regarded as an unlucky candidate. The place is rather depressing – a charming view & nice trees. But Meath air! The House most interesting.
	1 Jul, Sun	Loafed & Lazed. Rather a stupid party – both male & female.
	2 Jul, Mon	Back to town & House 9 hours.
	3 Jul, Tue	Tithe Rent Bill in House again. A terrible dinner with T Lough M.P. & all his female entourage.
	4 Jul, Wed	Tithes Bill obstructed by opposition English as well as Irish.  Took Dorothy & Alice to a Music Hall.
[Hansard, 4th Series, vol. 85, col. 645-6]	5 Jul, Thu	The same minus the Music Hall.
[Hansard, 4th Series, vol. 85, col. 797-9]	6 Jul, Fri	Ought to have gone to a Levee – first since appointment. Asked Denbigh to get me excused as I had to give evidence for Rathmines before Joint C'tee of L[or]ds & C[ommon]s on

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		Boundaries Bill. Then left for Crewe where I put up for the night with Dunning, who wanted to come with me, in order to look over Holmes Chapel Agric'l School. Gordon the Principal is shortly coming to the new Department & I am to meet Campbell there.
	7 Jul, Sat	Spent the day in the open air with Gordon & Prof'r. Campbell who joined us from Leeds going over the Holmes Chapel School & Farm. I was delighted with it & with Gordon who is evidently the father of most of what I saw. Campbell is also the man for his post. He is strong both on the theoretical & the practical side & will be a great success. Back to Crewe where we dined & over to Ireland.
	8 Jul, Sun	Down with Prof'r. Campbell to Killeen where I walked him all day over the "richest pastures in the world". I also showed him two such types of ultra-selfish grazier as T Leonard & G Murphy. He was delighted with Killeen dairy & the land.
	9 Jul, Mon	With Campbell to Dublin & with him all day. He will be an A.1. man for his post – the most important in the Department, & will I think make his name.
	10 Jul, Tue	After the days work, which included an interview with Seddall my election agent & an understanding that he & the Regist[ratio]n staff would work for me, I had to undergo the awful infliction of a public dinner at Kingstown. Of course I did a little electioneering. I begin to think I have not seen enough of my constituents. When we meet we agree.
	11 Jul, Wed	The Agricultural Board held its second meeting & we got on very well though Colonel Nolan who did not attend <del>before</del> at the first meeting was over voluble & very stupid. I did badly in the Chair being tired. But we got the Board to pay all the Technical Ed'n expenses of the I.A.O.S. from April 1st & to pay their teachers in future.
	12 Jul, Thu	First meeting of Consultative C'tee on Education. Archbp. Walsh, Starkie & T.P.G. present. Walshe [ <i>sic</i> ] is certainly intellectual in a high degree. He seems to lack judgment & foresight & vanity dominates him. Otherwise he would be a big Irishman.
	13 Jul, Fri	Abney & Spring Rice came over for meeting of Coll: of Science C'tee. I had C.D.B. monthly, a deputation from Christian Brothers & many other things to do.  Dined with J.G. Barton at Foxrock.
	14 Jul, Sat	Official day & then went out & slept at Ch: Sec's Lodge with Daisy Fingall & Miss Dalziel.
	15 Jul, Sun	Drove with Campbell over Fruit farms of N. Dublin & Meath – Gormanston to Drogheda. Very interesting & promising. At Drogheda called on T.A. Dickson who put us up for the night.
	16 Jul, Mon	Up at 6 & off by mail to Belfast, on to Downpatrick where Dunleath, Somerset Ward & a Mr. Tate met us & showed us the "Henry Trust" farm which Campbell decided to be unsuitable for proposed school & experiment station. Useful talk. In Belfast Andrews got together our old Recess C'tee friends & some others to meet Campbell. He caught on at once with them. I put up at Hopefield, Campbell going to Leeds.



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	17 Jul, Tue	Back to Dublin.
	18 Jul, Wed	Meeting of Board of Technical Instruction. All went smoothly. Left by night mail for London.
	19 Jul, Thu	London grilling. Two Irish Education Bills in House & dreary discourse thereon.
[ <i>Hansard</i> , 4th Series, vol. 86, col. 669-70, 728-30]	20 Jul, Fri	Irish estimates. Spoke briefly on Irish Language.
	21 Jul, Sat	Down to Hazelhatch, Gomshall (Emily Lawless's and Lady Sarah Spencer's joint home in Surrey) with Denis. A pretty country but the heat was so great that I felt suffocated by the copse which surrounds the house & which is such a treasured amenity. Denis however braced up by the country air & was cheery enough.
	22 Jul, Sun	Perfect rest which I wanted.
[ <i>Hansard</i> , 4th Series, vol. 86, col. 885-6]	23 Jul, Mon	Back to House & nine hours stewing & idling.
[ <i>Hansard</i> , 4th Series, vol. 86, col. 1064]	24 Jul, Tue	Grilled again in House. Horribly unhealthy.
	25 Jul, Wed	A most interesting debate on the war in which the Liberals were split up with "peace at any price", "jingo as the Tories" and "do not know our minds" parties.
[ <i>Hansard</i> , 4th Series, vol. 86, col. 1341]	26 Jul, Thu	House 11 hours.
	27 Jul, Fri	I did not say goodbyes but it is probably my last day at the House this session & this Parliament. And as my future is so uncertain in the Constituency it is not unlikely that I may never see many of my Parl'y colleagues again.
	28 Jul, Sat	Went down for Day to Ashridge, Berkhamsted a lovely place in a lovely country to see Lady Brownlow & her sister Lady Pembroke, the latter in hopes of money for I.A.O.S. She poor thing is getting very "dotty", & I did no business with her. She was not fit for it. Back to London & over to Ireland, I hope not to return for some time.
	29 Jul, Sun	Spent the day in perfect quiet with Daisy & Mrs. Waldron at the Ch: Sec's Lodge. Had a nasty attack of mucous diarrhoea which made me very weak.
	30 Jul, Mon	Tried to do work at office & only made a farce of it. I ought to have been in bed nursing my stomach trouble. Came to Kildare St. Club which I must get out of as soon as I can.
	31 Jul, Tue	Went out after trying to work to Loughlinstown to see Domville on Constituency matters. His step son back from Bloemfontein was there. He had extraordinarily little information for one who had been at the relief of Ladysmith & then at the delay in Bloemfontein. I never knew such a case of going through the world with closed ears & eyes.
	1 Aug, Wed	Still sick.
	2 Aug, Thu	After a days work went out to J.G. Barton, Foxrock for a few "dines & sleeps". He is a hopeless old bachelor like myself & makes himself comfortable enough. The air is good & anything is

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		better than Dublin.
	3 Aug, Fri	Sent a letter to Papers (tomorrow's) re Gill in reply to an (arranged) letter from Domvile asking me how I could appoint a man with such a record.
["Mr. Horace Plunkett and Mr. Gill's Appointment", <i>Irish Times</i> , p. 5]	4 Aug, Sat	A half holiday & a golfing afternoon. I like Foxrock & think of building myself a cottage there. The air is good & there is not as yet a social atmosphere which would interfere with one's quiet.  Guy Pilkington an important Constituent & Henry Guinness another dined. I had a Constituency talk which brought out some of the objections to the sitting member. I am supposed to be sworn foe of the Railways & have the shareholders down on me. Monteagle & Gill had got me this reputation.
[Archbp. Michael A. Corrigan]	5 Aug, Sun	A round of golf in the morning and then to Dublin where I wrote my letters at the Club & went on to the Ch: Sec's Lodge. Thence with Daisy & Minnie Fitzgerald to Castletown where Tom Kelly had the Archbishop of New York on show. I had an evening with him which greatly interested me. I think I shall get him to help me to raise funds.  Weather awful for harvest.
[ <i>imperium in imperio</i> – a government independent of the authorised government]	6 Aug, Mon	Tom Kelly is a fool to take such a shabby palace for 3 years. He will spend thousands on it before it will be comfortable. The Archbishop told me a good deal about the anti Catholic feeling in the U.S. They evidently dread the Church as an imperium in imperio & so anti American. Dined with Cadogan. Tiring talk after dinner. He <u>is</u> dull witted, but a really good man.
	7 Aug, Tue	Poor dear Denis has come to Maretimo & I went out to see him. Still brave & philosophical. He has dismissed all thoughts of the possibility of recovery. It is only a question of whether weeks or months. Poor fellow, I shall remember the dignity of his resignation to my dying day.
	8 Aug, Wed	Walked all over Howth with Professor Campbell – each of us looking for a possible retreat for the evenings of working days – after an early breakfast. Found nothing. Had a busy & useful day at the Department.
	9 Aug, Thu	Left 4.30 P.M. by Killarney express – 4 hours only en route – & put up with Henry Butchers.
	10 Aug, Fri	A flower show at Killarney House. Lady Kenmare over doing the Grande Dame spoiled what otherwise might have had immense social (small s) value. Lady Castlerosse was absent with a sick child in London so I missed the official purpose & excuse of my visit. A Mr. Sandes of Tralee called on the Butchers & I tried to get into his landlord head the ideas of the new economists. He had never heard of the I.A.O.S. & was incapable of understanding it.
[ <i>O si sic omnes</i> – Oh, if everyone were like that!]	11 Aug, Sat	Got Henry Butcher to join Green & me in my Fishery work in the Granuaile. He was still weak after his illness & I am sure it will do him good. Went on Board at Valencia & had interesting talk en route with Rev. Canon O'Riordan P.P. of Cahirsiveen. He was educated at Paris: Oh si sic omnes. Anchored for night in Berehaven. Fine sunset – the first for months they said.
	12 Aug, Sun	Half a day's work. Then anchored in Glengarriff. Most glorious weather & certainly one of the loveliest spots on earth.

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	13 Aug, Mon	Again glorious & many inspections. Then back to Valencia.
	14 Aug, Tue	Butcher left us. Green & Oliver C[ivil].E[ngineer]. & I went on. The Coast was too lovely for words especially when the sun went down on the grand headlands of the Kerry coast. Anchored in Brandon Bay.
	15 Aug, Wed	In course of today's inspections visited Kilkee & there saw a quite numerous autumn watering place crowd. But somehow there was something missing. The whole thing looked unnecessarily shabby. It was not well done.  An awful coast. Wind off shore & had been for 3 days. Still there was the eternal swell which got angry as it approached the cliffs. It takes a stout heart to face the Atlantic in a curragh! Anchored in Mutton Island Road.
	16 Aug, Thu	Finished the Clare coastwork, today the fine weather putting us ahead of time. Landed 10 miles from Lahinch & drove there for a few days rest. Found Sinclair & family (9 in all!) Platt Higgins M.P., Sir Hickman Bacon, Eton contemporary – rather a muff – & mixed golfing tourists.
	17 Aug, Fri	Did some golf under difficulties. My weak undeveloped stiff leg aches horribly. Prof'r. Campbell looked in with Goulding the organiser of the Yorkshire Co Council's Agric'l Educ'n work. They stayed ½ hour & bicycled on to Limerick.
	18 Aug, Sat	Two foursomes in glorious weather.
	19 Aug, Sun	A real day of rest. Went to morning service at the little church with the Sinclairs & abstained from golf rather out of sympathy with these excellent good people.
	20 Aug, Mon	After a foursome with Platt Higgins, Sinclair against the Pro & self left for Dublin. Professor Campbell & his friend Goulding the organiser of the Yorkshire (W[est].R[iding].) County Council dined with me. The latter is too English I fear. Otherwise he is admirably suited for organising work among bucolics.
	21 Aug, Tue	Fisheries C'tee of Department took most of day. It poured & great was my luck to get my sea & Lahinch outing just while the weather was fine.
	22 Aug, Wed	C.D.B. Department & a dinner of Nat'l Veterinary Assoc'n which was called at 6.30 for 7 & only rose at 12.30 AM!
	23 Aug, Thu	CDB. After my days work went out to Dunbar Barton who has hired a little Norwegian (wooden) house at Foxrock. Golfed. J. Mulhall & Monsignor Molloy to dinner.
	24 Aug, Fri	Back to work. C.D.B. again. Dined with poor Denis at Maritimo. Such splendid calm courage as his I never witnessed.  At night Ardilaun held a meeting of my opponents in S. Dublin. 300 went (5000 about voted for me last time) & they unanimously called upon me to retire.
	25 Aug, Sat	I should say by the newspaper comments that the net result of all the abuse to which I <del>have been</del> was subjected last night will be to strengthen my position. I believe I shall win.  Went to Kingstown to vet The Helga, a yacht the Department would purchase for their work if they could get it at sale.

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		Went by Command to talk (2 hours!) to Ld. Cadogan who is just recovering from Appendicitis! He was in a flutter over a letter just rec[eive]d from Archbp. Walsh resigning his 2 Educational posts!
	26 Aug, Sun	Spent day at Dunsany with Beau Watson introducing him to Barton & Reid, showing him Wilkinson's House in which I hope Eddy will get him to reside &c. Mary with 2 girls & Harry & Reggie were at Dunsany for the Horse Show.
[ <i>in propria pesona</i> – in person]	27 Aug, Mon	Bought the Helga S[team].Y[acht]. for the new Department's Fishery work from Major General Gore. He held out for £12250 & I beat down Mrs. Gore who appeared in propriâ personâ to £10250.  Went on board Dalziel's yacht Clementina. Luxury at sea but as usual entourage awful. Dined with poor Denis.
	28 Aug, Tue	First day of the Horse Show. Club crowded. Crowd I think less unfriendly. The reaction is setting in. I'm right & have only to wait.
	29 Aug, Wed	More Horse Show. Dined on Board Dalziel's yacht.
	30 Aug, Thu	A committee on Calf Mortality. Horse Show. Dined & slept at Ch: Secty's Lodge.
	31 Aug, Fri	2 Committees (Horse & Live Stock) held first meetings & I got on well with both. Then opening of Electric Light plant by Cadogan, a function at Town Hall Rathmines at which I smirked & smiled in frock coat & hat in hand. I hope I gained votes. In conversation I gathered that I have mightily prospered in public favor since Ardilaun's article.  Dined with Cadogans. Large party, dull.
	1 Sep, Sat	Gill wisely off to Donegal for a holiday. Did half a day's work & then went to see Denis & on to Greystones where Ashbourne put me up for week end. Such a family! However Col. N Chamberlain new chief of R.I.C. & one Bouchier correspondent of Times on Eastern Europe were there which redeemed the party from absolute boredom.
	2 Sep, Sun	Oh those pompous platitudes. How they sicken one. Of course they would be simply ignored if the source of them were not the most successful office seekers in Ireland. Lady A. is a really honest believer in Christian science. Her bible was given to me to take to poor Denis which I did. "Do you think he will turn to us" said Lady A. ["If he will the spleen will resume its normal size."] Alas poor Denis must die & he is not exactly the man to be persuaded that his sufferings are imaginary & that death is a sign of degeneracy.
	3 Sep, Mon	Slept at Dunbar Bartons & had a round of golf in evening. I must get outdoor exercise or I shall never stand office work.
	4 Sep, Tue	Met my Registration Assoc'n Council & had a talk with them. They are perhaps getting to know me a little.
	5 Sep, Wed	Campbell & Carroll left. Gill is away all the week & my hands are over full. I have also to prepare for a meeting – an eventful one probably at Kingstown.

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		Annaly & I went to a music Hall at night for auld lang syne. He certainly is harmless though nice.
	6 Sep, Thu	Out to Dunbar Barton's for a night in the Country air. I am now in the thick of the S. Dublin contest prematurely forced upon the Constituency by Ld. Ardilaun's bigoted & intolerant opposition. I shall have a hard fight but I hope the issue may be decided before the Election.
	7 Sep, Fri	Another evening's golf which certainly helps out office work. I got up at 7 A.M. & did 2 hours work before breakfast – then in to office & so out early enough for a good 2 hours golf.
	8 Sep, Sat	A morning's golf – an afternoon's work at my first campaign speech to be made at Kingstown on Monday. Then to the Ch: Sec's Lodge for a quiet week end with Daisy, her sister & children.
	9 Sep, Sun	Not a day of rest as I had to work hard at my speech. But for all that a day of calm.
	10 Sep, Mon	Got up at 5.30 A.M. took a cup of tea & worked at my speech for the night – my first reply to the attack of the Ardilaunites. Then all day I worked & at night I made the best speech I ever made. I think it will have increased my influence & my power for good. There was opposition in plenty at the meeting but that only brought me out. They have no case.  During the morning the memorial requesting me to withdraw was presented by Prof'r. Dowden, Nutting & Ball (the last is to oppose me). It was signed by 750 so they said by affidavit. But I am not to have the signatures.
	11 Sep, Tue	The effect of my speech has been good, undoubtedly good. I took the bold line & it has paid. I was knocked up all today. But it was worth spending oneself a bit on the effort.
	12 Sep, Wed	Agricultural Board met again. Bishop Healy very nearly kicked over the traces but not quite. I am getting quite a lion tamer.  Blackburne gave an exhib'n of simultaneous chess at a restaurant and I looked in but ought to have been there at the opening of the proceedings & made a humorous speech. The more one unbends the better in a stern electoral contest.
	13 Sep, Thu	Dined with Starkie Res[iden]t Com[missione]r of Educ'n at Killiney. He certainly is a strong & able man and one whom we must enlist on our side to promote the new movement.
	14 Sep, Fri	Monteagle up for I.A.O.S., dear right-thinking, weak creature. Long office hours & then a sad visit to Denis who tore my heart out by his dissertations on his fast approaching dissolution.
	15 Sep, Sat	Work, golf & put up at Leopardstown.
	16 Sep, Sun	John Atkinson came to lunch at Leopardstown & we discussed Constituency affairs. He will help me on Friday next on Rathmines platform.  Bertram Parr having to go back from Rusko (Dumfriesshire) to Harrow via Belfast and Dublin - fitting in Sunday trains so that it took 26 hours to get to Dublin. I went in to meet him & brought him out to dinner. He explained that his reason was to see the

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		Dublin & Holyhead mail Boats. Interesting boy!
	17 Sep, Mon	Work & play (½ round of golf)
	18 Sep, Tue	Saw Starkie about R.C. University Question. Had a meeting of Regist[ratio]n Assoc'n at which I was implored to evade it! Dined with Minnie Fitz[gerald] & met Fr. Flood P.P. of Monkstown. His sympathies were all with me & he said the sympathies of the Nationalists were too. But they would rather have a Nationalist candidate & win back the seat.
	19 Sep, Wed	Went to a Cottagers Show at Stepside on the borders of the Constituency. Hannon was anxious I should help him to start a Home Industries Society. There were hardly any men there & I had to make a speech out of doors to a crowd of women & sucklings. Rot.
	20 Sep, Thu	Grinding at my speech all day long. Dined with Denis & called on Emily at ?Monkstown.  Heard that I could get very likely South Derry seat if I chose to chuck S. Dublin instead of letting S. Dublin chuck me. I shall fight whatever happens.
	21 Sep, Fri	Meeting (open) at Rathmines Town Hall. Fully 1000 people. Building packed. Organised Orange rowdyism. I was not given a hearing. About 4/5ths audience on my side. But 1/5th shouted all the time. It was the roughest platform experience I ever had. I got through with credit I think. John Atkinson got a better hearing and made a splendid speech for me & the Gov't.
	22 Sep, Sat	The morning finds me semi collapsed physically but full of fight. I went to Rathmines in the evening & met my canvassers. They seem earnest. It is evidence that the bigotry & intolerance of my opponents is turning against them.
	23 Sep, Sun	Went out to Jim Powers. He drove me round a few constituents.
	24 Sep, Mon	Heard that I am to have a three cornered fight and that W. Field is to oppose me.
	25 Sep, Tue	Read a paper on the R.C. University Question to the Orange Lodge of Dublin. After they broke up my meeting at Rathmines they asked me to express my views on this subject in a letter. I declined to do this but offered to go & address them at a meeting they had arranged to support Ball against me if they would give me ½ hour free from interruptions. They accepted. They kept their terms and there were no expressions of approval or disapproval.
	26 Sep, Wed	Canvassing. I find the result of my effort of yesterday on the whole good. I shed some bigots but gathered in some moderates & made it much harder for the RCs to oppose me.
	27 Sep, Thu	Meeting at Blackrock. I made a concession to my supporters which was no concession – viz that if they called upon me to resign I would do so & seek re election, of course I should be re elected by the Nationalist vote. I made the concession to repay concessions to me. But I feel it was a mistake. I should have stood firm & had no compromise.
	28 Sep, Fri	[No entry]

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	29 Sep, Sat	To Killeen for a week end rest which I badly needed.
	30 Sep, Sun	Quiet Sunday with Daisy & the Children.
	1 Oct, Mon	The Nationalists put up a candidate J. Mooney barrister & publican.
	2 Oct, Tue	Worked as much as I was allowed at speeches for Thursday & Friday. In evening had a cattle meeting in W. Acason's House (94 Moyne Rd. Rathmines) in which I addressed many doubtful electors. I found it only needed explanation to utterly smash the case of Ball & Ardilaun. I had to decide much against my wishes not to go to Kilcooley for Tommy's coming of age celebrations. The strain of the Election is too great.
[Report of address in <i>IH</i> , VI:41 (6 Oct 1900), p. 645]	3 Oct, Wed	Had to make an impromptu speech about Vets at inaugural meeting of Royal Veterinary College. Did it badly.
	4 Oct, Thu	A splendid meeting at Rathmines. I was in my best form & certainly got votes. But the strain is awful.
	5 Oct, Fri	Another good meeting at Kingstown. But I was not in as good form.  In the morning I acted as best man to Dunbar Barton who was married to Miss Mary Manly to whom he had been engaged some 15 years – at Christ Church early in the morning. Very private & informal. Drove back to Leopardstown where was Daisy.
	6 Oct, Sat	Canvassing. Vile work. After a day at it one feels that all "respectable" people ought to be disfranchised.
	7 Oct, Sun	Rested fairly considering all the excitement.
	8 Oct, Mon	A meeting at Dalkey & much canvassing.
[Text of speech, Dalkey Town Hall, <i>Irish Times</i> , p. 3]	9 Oct, Tue	Going round the polling stations all day, driven by Jim Power. It poured incessantly all day which is against the representative of the "wealth & intelligence". I could not say whether I should win as all the indications are deceptive when one does not know who is ones friend & who is ones enemy. But the things said by typical voters & organisers convince me that I shall win.
	10 Oct, wed	The declaration of the Poll. Mooney 3410, Plunkett 2906, Ball 1539 showed that some hundreds of nationalists who had promised to vote for me – lied. I was deeply affected at the time by the setback to my movement. But I kept my temper & made I think a dignified & conciliatory speech.
	11 Oct, Thu	Letters & telegrams poured in. The Times, whose Dublin correspondent is the Editor of the Express, & the Morning Post whose Irish leaders are written by Ardilaun's (the Express') London Correspondent are for Ardilaun. The rest of the Press indignantly against him. I think I have gained strength as a public man. I hope great things from my Movement yet.
	12 Oct, Fri	Drove to Lyons to bury poor dear Denis' ashes brought solemnly back from Woking. Val, Fred, Willie & Freddy Blacker, Baron & Harry de Robeck & self made the procession. A few natives followed to the Church yard where the parson in full attire read the service. I could not feel that this was the funeral or that the half pound of dust was Denis. It was unreal &, however rational,

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		was not worth doing.
	13 Oct, Sat	Went to see the Helga (a very comfortable 340 ton steamer for the new Department) in Kingstown Harbour. Then letters by the score thanking people for helping me to be defeated & for condoling with me thereon. Down to Killeen for week end.
	14 Oct, Sun	Wrote a long letter to the Times getting up early to do it. Sent for the Dunsany schoolmaster to copy it out for me but found him too hopelessly ignorant to do it. Then had a quiet day.
	15 Oct, Mon	Back to Dublin. I learned today that a committee was being organised to give me a testimonial on my defeat! Indeed Sir R Martin, Col. Lindsay & E M Hodgson came privately to ask me what form the substantial part of it should take. I said a subscription to the I.A.O.S.
	16 Oct, Tue	Horse Committee met & I managed to get them to agree on a middle course in the great Hackney vs Thoroughbred controversy – than which no issue between Prot & R.C. or Loyalist & Home Ruler is more acute.
["The South Dublin Election", <i>The Times</i> , p. 10]	17 Oct, Wed	Bd of Tech Instruction met. Passed unanimously reso[lutio]n asking me to continue in my office. I certainly have grown in public favour.
	18 Oct, Thu	Committee on Calf Mortality. Another on Live stock. And dined at R[oyal] Coll. of Physicians (St. Luke's Day). I was very well received at my first semi public appearance since my defeat.
["The South Dublin Election", <i>The Times</i> , p. 5]	19 Oct, Fri	More Committee meetings and after a long days work went on board the Helga at North Wall with Green, Holt & Heaney of the Department. Object to organise this new service. We found the ship very comfortable.
	20 Oct, Sat	A cold fine enjoyable day. What a change after the rush & worry of the last few weeks. Inspected Dunmore, Tramore & Ardmore. Anchored for night in Queenstown.
[Haulbowline]	21 Oct, Sun	Went to see Ludlow Beamish & met James Penrose Fitzgerald & another local squire. Found them all ignorant upon but very prejudiced against R.C. demands for higher educ'n. Saw Admiral ?Lake and had a good talk with him about the Haulbowline [ <i>sic</i> ] dockyards which he has utilised. He told me a good deal about the difficulty of getting the Irish to accept strain of employment. English & Scotch skilled labourers won't stay because they cannot get the social life they are accustomed to. Moral – organise a social life.
	22 Oct, Mon	Held an inquiry at Kinsale. Heard what the local liars had to say ?---d --- of Fishermen. Found that Green & Holt (Gill consenting) had entered into a correspondence with one ?Georgeson which bound the Department to a most unbusinesslike & improper arrangement for subsidising a private firm of Fish curers. I must establish my authority more firmly. Steamed back for Kingstown.
	23 Oct, Tue	Arrived Kingstown 4.30 A.M. Had a long rushing morning at office & went on Board again to go North on a trawler hunting rehearsal. The search light proved rather a failure. I could see better without it. But then there were no trawlers or other objects in sight. The atmosphere was thick & that seems to use up electric light very quick.



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	24 Oct, Wed	Landed at Ardglass, Co Down to take an 8.20 AM train. But it only went on Tuesdays & Saturdays which the guide forgot to mention. So I was late at a Flax C'tee meeting which however went off well. At night I had one of Sinclair's political dinner parties at which the university Q'n was taboo. So it was not very successful.
	25 Oct, Thu	The early breakfast train. In it I met a remarkable man – a Dr. O'Neill, Health officer of Belfast, who told me that his mother, a very poor but remarkably able & thrifty woman raised 10 children on 11 acres! He was a great admirer of mine & indeed on my defeat sent me a dozen pocket handkerchiefs I suppose to dry my tears upon. I must see more of him. Office till mail train left when I started for Eng'd.
	26 Oct, Fri	Back to town. Meeting of Bowes, Pelton Colliery & Pelton S.S. Co. Saw Eddie, dined with him tête à tête at the guardroom at the Bank. Clever interesting – generous & yet selfish. A bit of his mother's narrowness & of his father's self indulgence. Physically loose coupled & I fear no back bone.
	27 Oct, Sat	Called on Cadogan. He knows absolutely nothing about his & Gerald Balfour's fate. He regards Ardilaun's oppos[iti]on as very serious & thinks it likely Salisbury will be affected by it. He evidently thinks Gerald will be Secretary for Scotland.  Saw more of Eddie. He is clever & nice but dreadfully ill disciplined. We went together to a good performance of School for Scandal. His interest in it was very bright & lively.
	28 Oct, Sun	Lunched with Cadogan & had another struggle with that mulish intellect & character. Like the tribe good plodding as far as he goes. But there is no further to be got.  Had a long & interesting talk with Lady Gregory. Spent evening with Eddie. I fear he is in the smart society jargon of the day a "rotter". He has been frequently passed over for promotion and has no hope of doing any good in the service. He hankers after public life, but I fear only because he could be his own master & could work as much or as little as he liked! I am distressed about him.  Had also long talk with Lady Aberdeen.
[CIV – City Imperial Volunteers] [Mafficking – boisterous celebration]	29 Oct, Mon	Dentist & hair cutter & tailor & banker & Spring Rice on Department's Estimates 1900-01 & voluminous correspondence. Beside all this the C.I.V.s marched through London in Khaki with their guns & their sick & wounded (in ambulances) & the business of the great heart was given up for "Mafficking".
	30 Oct, Tue	Eddie & Beau Watson met Johnson & me at 9 New Sq. & we fixed up an agreement by which Eddie made Beau his agent & private secretary. The more I see of Eddie the more hopeless I get of his future. He will I fear have to leave the army simply because he cannot do as others do and behave like an officer. He is slovenly & courseless – nothing worse. But that is bad enough. Dined with Dalziel.
[Sir Wm. Walrond, Government Chief Whip; see 28 Jan 1901]	31 Oct, Wed	Told Waldron [ <i>sic</i> ] that I must get a seat to hold my office – that I could not get one in Ireland therefore must in Eng'd. He had practically offered me Wm. Johnston's seat in Belfast. He gets £300 to £400 a year to hold it. But his is of all seats the most anti

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		Catholic. Heard that Gerald Balfour does not go to Ireland, that G. Wyndham does & that Russell loses his post & so does Macartney. Went to Ireland.
	1 Nov, Thu	After rough passage had to do a day's Departmental work. Did it badly. Horse Committee most of the day.
	2 Nov, Fri	Cattle Committee all day.
	3 Nov, Sat	Departmental work till ev[enin]g train & then to Killeen for week end.
	4 Nov, Sun	Real quiet & rest.
	5 Nov, Mon	Ld. Dufferin consented to preside at my banquet to be held on Nov. 20. That will make it a brilliant affair. But alas the outlook in Ireland is not good – the United Irish League policy with Wm. O'Brien's money acting as a great secret service may be too strong for social & economic reform in my life time. The ideas won't die with me. That's one comfort.
	6 Nov, Tue	The Agricultural Board occupied most of the day. They were as nice as ever & genuinely anxious that I should remain at my post.
	7 Nov, Wed	I got a letter from Dr. O'Dwyer Bp. of Limerick proposing that some discreet sensible person (myself preferably) should meet the Bishops <u>confidentially &amp; without prejudice</u> to discuss a settlement of the University Q'n. This in reply to a letter of mine thanking him for kindly references to myself re the subject. Something may come of this.  Lady Betty arrived at the Lodge & I paid her a flying visit. We were sad & philosophical over Gerald's departure. We agreed that Wyndham was the ideal successor.
	8 Nov, Thu	Betty Balfour arrived to say goodbye & I went to the Ch: Sec's Lodge. Daisy came up to see her but had to go on to London. We (Betty & I) dined with the Harrels & had a saddish evening.
	9 Nov, Fri	Gerald Balfour came for two days of sad goodbyes. He was affectingly spoken to by Dr. O'Donnell on behalf of the C.D.B.
[Philip Hanson]	10 Nov, Sat	George Wyndham arrived with a clever secretary (Anson) [ <i>sic</i> ] & had an hour with Gerald Balfour before the latter said a sad good bye to us all. I told him we would all take care of his work! Then began the study of his successor which we continued till bed time.
	11 Nov, Sun	Lady Betty, G Wyndham, Anson [ <i>sic</i> ] & I spent the day together. Lady Betty left – a sadder goodbye than the one to Gerald. I began to come to terms with G.W. I hope we shall thoroughly understand each other & work together towards the fruition of Gerald's work. We three men dined with Harrel & G.W. kept me up talking too late when we got back. He is quite brilliantly clever – most understanding but <u>possibly</u> too opinionated for safety in Ireland.
	12 Nov, Mon	A morning with Wyndham finished my exchange of views on Irish Govt. I shall try & keep <del>my</del> in touch with him & hope he won't be got at.

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	13 Nov, Tue	Privy Council swore in George Wyndham. What a handsome fellow he looks! He will be a great & popular Chief Secretary.
	14 Nov, Wed	Dined with His Ex after a dreadfully hard day struggling with an article for the Nineteenth Century.
[Salisbury]	15 Nov, Thu	Dined again with the Cadogans. He told me that Ld. S. behaved very badly to him & was not friendly disposed towards myself. I sat next Lady Cadogan at dinner. She also poured out her soul. Her scorn of Londonderry (& Lady L. especially) was not edifying.
	16 Nov, Fri	[No entry]
	17 Nov, Sat	Eddie arrived & went to Dunsany to be welcomed by the "hereditary pipe smokers" who acted as the motive power of his vehicle up the avenue. I was not there as I had official work. But I went down in the evening for week end rest. What changes I have seen in the old place!
	18 Nov, Sun	Coyne came down & I was practically at work all day over my article for XIX Century & my speech for Tuesday. Back to Dublin at night.
	19 Nov, Mon	Rushing through an article for the XIX Century & my speech for the banquet which had to go off by post to English newspapers! Ld. Dufferin apparently does things this way too.
[Text of address in <i>IH</i> , VI:48 (24 Nov 1900), pp. 755-9] [Lords Mayor: Dublin, Thos. Devereux Pile; Belfast, R.J. McConnell]	20 Nov, Tue	The banquet came off. Ld. Dufferin presided brilliantly. The Lords Mayor of Dublin & Belfast were present & some 290 others. The thing was excellently done. The only failure was my speech! It will read well as I wrote it. But I broke down physically in the attempt to remember it. However the cause was greatly advanced & I have every reason to be happy, and proud.
To Balfour, Lady Betty	21 Nov, Wed	Left early for Queenstown where I wanted to have an afternoon with the admiral about the Housing of the Haulbowline employees & the improvement of social cond[itio]ns in order to induce the Gov't to develop their works there. The Adm'l kindly entertained Russell & me to dinner – morning dress, Russell has no other – & I think we advanced the work.
	22 Nov, Thu	Came on board the Teutonic, G.W. Russell seeing me off. The Ismays had given me a luxurious upper deck cabin for an ordinary first class fare. The Passenger list contains not a name which I can remember having heard before.  I told Dunning to see that I got the English papers re my speech. He sent the papers published on the day of the banquet! I gather that it was well noticed.
	23 Nov, Fri	403
	24 Nov, Sat	363 Fresh W. gale. Very sick – I think the first time I have succumbed for 18 years. I fancy I brought a disordered stomach on board with me.
	25 Nov, Sun	316 Strong to Mod[erate] SW to NW gale.
	26 Nov, Mon	336
	27 Nov, Tue	450
	28 Nov, Wed	455 (422 to Sandy Hook)

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[Wernher]		Had a talk with one Butters – great metallurgist – employed by Werner [ <i>sic</i> ] Beit & Co 8 years in Transvaal. Member Reform C'tee. Was imprisoned after Jameson Raid. Interesting man. Born & educated California. Enthusiastic admirer of their state university and Stanfords d[itt]o. Owed his success in life thereto. Had intended to make his <del>living</del> home in Johannesburg but found Krugerism intolerable. Would have liked independence under a fairly enlightened regime. Asked what chief grievance was replied insolence & brutality of Kruger's police.
	29 Nov, Thu	Thanksgiving day. Bourke Cockran's clerk met me on Wharf & told me to go out to his place at Port Washington. Found him, James C Carter & Montagu White, late consul general of the Transvaal Gov't in London. Terribly pro Boer atmosphere. But the conversation was moderate & really interesting. The Consul had facts & the two lawyers dealt with them with great ability.
	30 Nov, Fri	In N.Y. all day & then a tête a tête with Cockran at night at his charming house. Saw poor Ralph Stuart Wortley looking wretched. His bankruptcy has evidently preyed upon him – unnecessarily for it was altogether honorable & I have no doubt he will fall on his feet again.
	1 Dec, Sat	In early again to N.Y. Then took train for Chicago & Omaha.
	2 Dec, sun	Nothing new in travelling since two years ago. Have they reached perfection? Ventilation & temperature leave much to be required. The heat at night is paralysing.
	3 Dec, Mon	Arrived Omaha. Harry Windsor on platform & genuinely glad to see me as I him. I went to his house (3007 Pacific St.) & found Mrs. Windsor unchanged & the two girls – two years older. Plunged into business & <u>did</u> South Omaha. Census shows this suburb to have risen in 10 years from 8000 to 26000. Omaha has fallen from 140,000 (a stuffed census) in 1890 to 102,000 in 1900. But the town is immensely improved in many ways. They are music & golf mad at the moment. This shows that the day of the old granger control is gone. I see great wholesale houses everywhere.
	4 Dec, Tue	After business went to see the Creighton University. The Creightons are old timers – Irish R.C.s, illiterate, large hearted, superstitious. The Church got hold of them and have got them to found a University with medical <del>school</del> college attached, a hospital & I think a convent – all under ten Jesuits. It struck me that the spiritual professors were not very intelligent. But I am no judge of academic qualifications. Old Colonel Pratt turned up & talked old times.
	5 Dec, Wed	Went over S[t.] Joseph's (the R.C.) Hospital. Nuns did not look like trained nurses. Whole administration seemed unbusinesslike & slack. But buildings were very good. Of course heat intolerable.  Saw some Röntgen ray work being done. The current came from a large mica wheel worked by a ½ H.P. engine. The screen one looked through showed the bones admirably. The apparatus was far ahead of anything I saw in London or Dublin. I looked through one man & saw his heart beating plainly. Took train to

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		Cheyenne.
	6 Dec, Thu	At Cheyenne found the Club no longer able to supply food. So for the first time for 20 years had to put up at a Hotel. Carey was at Wheatland & Mrs. Carey at the Ranche at Casper. John Chaplin & Henry Hay seemed to be the sole survivors of the old crowd. I spent the day with the former mostly. Young Bosler, John Coble's partner introduced himself to me at the Hotel & we had some cow talk. We went to a minstrel show in the evening. It was not too bad & as I was far too sleepy & tired to read it did well enough.
	7 Dec, Fri	Windsor came in from Omaha & Schmidt, Ladenburg Thalmann's representative from Pueblo, & we started by 7.45 A.M. train to Wheatland where we were met by Carey. We spent the rest of the too short day driving round the Colony interviewing Wheatland folk & generally collecting information. I was put up at M. R. Johns[t]on's & had an excellent bed with all the absurd superfluities in the way of quilts ("bed spreads") and worked linens which have to be piled elsewhere before you get down to the commonplace sheets & blankets.
	8 Dec, Sat	Carey & I were driven via the old Reservoir, the Two Bar ranche across Sybille Creek & the blue grass then through the Halleck & Plumbago Cañons on to the Laramie Plains & so on to the new Reservoir works. There was the usual engineering & contractors camps – rough but sheltered entertainment. The job consists of a mighty dam across the Laramie River which backs it up into a natural reservoir of 6600 acres enabling us to hold back in the flood time ample water for far more than a years supply for all our lands below. I think it looks a good job & it is a very interesting one.
[Union Pacific]	9 Dec, Sun	Carey snored like a blast furnace & kept me awake most of the night. Started at 8 AM for a bitterly cold 3 hour (15 miles!) drive to Lookout Station across the Laramie plains. There got into a warm sleeper for Omaha. En route to Cheyenne saw the new grade of the U.P.R'y which gets round Sherman summit. The wisdom of this was illustrated by our train breaking in two climbing up the hill. At Cheyenne dropped Carey & picked up Windsor.
	10 Dec, Mon	Back at Omaha to finish up.
	11 Dec, Tue	Dined with Rev. Campbell Fair D.D., Dean of Trinity Cathedral, Omaha – one of the Mayo Fairs – a very good clergyman of a most philanthropic type. He told me a lot about the poor & unemployed of Omaha, a small class for a 100,000 population city, but very typical. He was struggling with the problem of finding profitable employment for the incompetent and was very interesting on the subject. I took some notes of his experiences.
	12 Dec, Wed	Business all day. Dick Allen & his clerk J L T Ployart came in from Ames to see me. These old friends of my ranching days bring back associations which are of value to me yet.
	13 Dec, Thu	Finished up at Omaha & left Harry Windsor to manage my affairs for another year.
	14 Dec, Fri	A long dreary day. But what comfort – what an idiot one is to complain when 1000 miles can be covered in 24 hours & not a jar

Correspondence [Notes]	1900	Diary Entry
		or shake.
	15 Dec, Sat	G W Smalley, James C Carter, the Dana Gibsons & I made up a delightful little week end party at The Cedars, Port Washington, Long Island & Bourke Cockran a delightful host. I was tired out & went to sleep after dinner when Carter & Smalley had a duel over the Hay Pauncefote treaty which appears to be likely to be sent skyward by the Senate. The former treaty was that neither one should build the Nicaragua Canal without the other's consent. The present treaty states terms agreeable to both. This the Senate won't have. Irish influence!
[jeunesse dorée (species venaticus) – golden boy (species horse)]	16 Dec, Sun	Miss Barnes – stage name Miss Irene Vanbrugh the successful heroine in “The Gay Lord Quex” & her lady companion Miss Downes joined the party. Miss V. was lively, pretty & fairly clever. Also came “Foxy” Keene & his wife – she nice – he of the jeunesse dorée (species venaticus) who hunts 6 days a week for Melton & comes & talks for nought else by hunting & racing. Interesting day on whole & very restful. Cold.
	17 Dec, Mon	Came in to town & had a meeting of the Wyo Dev Co at 46 Wall St. all present except T Sturgis. Had to decide to tax ourselves again. I shall probably have to put <del>up</del> another £3000 into this bottomless pit!  Cockran had Carnegie to dine at Delmonicos just we three. Cockran argued economics with his guest & utterly collapsed when he got on to Carnegie's own dunghill. The question was whether Ireland could be made industrial. Carnegie said “a second Denmark” was the only possibility. Cable from Lady Betty “warmly & gratefully approve article” (Balfourian Amelioration in Nineteenth Century).
	18 Dec, Tue	Another meeting of Wyo Dev Co. Called on Mrs. T Sturgis still a dreamy philanthropist but a good woman. Dined with John Sinclair who appeared to have a circle very like his brother's at Hopefield. Indeed we had a regular Hopefield night, I discoursing after dinner on Ireland & the new movement therein.  Lunched with Cockran & “Tom Ryan” a lawyer friend of his who is rich & public spirited. I expect a big subs[crip]t[io]n for the I.A.O.S. from him.
To Balfour, Lady Betty	19 Dec, Wed	Cockran gave up his morning to me & saw me off on Majestic. Small passenger list but a rich quiet gentlemanly lot, I thought.
	20 Dec, Thu	380
	21 Dec, Fri	430
	22 Dec, Sat	424
	23 Dec, Sun	427
	24 Dec, Mon	410. A concert at which I had to preside & make one of those bricks without straw speeches which I hate. However I made a good collection for the seamans charities – that's something.
	25 Dec, Tue	440 – 297 to Queenstown.  For a lone bachelor this is not a bad way to evade Xmas with its reminders of the ghastly failure of one's life – on its domestic side. We have had a delightful passage. Some high seas but

<b>Correspondence [Notes]</b>	<b>1900</b>	<b>Diary Entry</b>
		always following & with the S.W. winds which my soul loves.
	26 Dec, Wed	Too rough to land at Queenstown and I was carried on to L[iver]pool. This is the first time this has happened to me in 20 homeward voyages. W. French & I came by pig boat to Dublin.
	27 Dec, Thu	Arrived early after a sleepless night & had a day with Gill. Heaney & Dunning were both in attendance & I gradually got into Departmental affairs. G. Wyndham showed signs of having been influenced by my enemies on my own side during my absence.
	28 Dec, Fri	Busy office day & then down to Dunsany for week end to meet Eddy. Mary & her girls & Harry were in possession.
	29 Dec, Sat	Long talk with Eddie. He is still very childish. He won't take any interest in or trouble about his estate & little about his career. I fear he will be a "waster". He has extraordinary mental capacity but absolutely no application. He is self indulgent to an appalling degree.
	30 Dec, Sun	Walked the place with Barton after a dreary duty attendance at Kilmessan. Decided to advise Eddie to restore the "river" to its old proportions & do away with the "lake" – a stagnant weed & frog producing pond.
	31 Dec, Mon	Back to Dublin & tackled arrears of work. T.P.G off for a holiday & my normal work doubled. Still I am fit for it after my rest.
	Year-end Summary	The most eventful year of my life. I lost my seat in Parliament in the General Election in October but gained immensely in public reputation & influence. I made a few of my enemies more bitter but a good many I think now understand me. I end the year a minister without a seat in Parl't – a widely felt desire that I should obtain a seat is likely to get me back to the House. But the future is a bit cloudy & all I can see clearly is that my main principles are winning the hard long fight against bigotry & prejudice.