

1905 Diary of Sir Horace Curzon Plunkett (1854–1932)

Transcribed, annotated and indexed by Kate Targett. December 2012

NOTES

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

Horace Plunkett, *Irish Homestead*, 30 July 1910

Conventions

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

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

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

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

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

5) Punctuation (or lack of)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Correspondence

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

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

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

Abbreviations

1) Frequently occurring abbreviations and contractions:

Names

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

Organisations

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

General

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

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

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

1905

Events:

- Mar – Ulster Unionist Council formed
- 8 Mar – First Dungannon Club formed by Bulmer Hobson in Belfast
- 13 July – Magheramorne manifesto of Independent Orange Order; author Robert Lindsay Crawford
- 26 Aug – Scheme of devolution proposed in manifesto of Dunraven's Irish Reform Association
- 28 Nov – Sinn Féin founded in Dublin by Arthur Griffith

Publications:

- *Ireland in the New Century, with an epilogue in answer to some critics, popular edition, April (John Murray, London; also E.P. Dutton & Co., New York); 3rd edition, June (John Murray, London); also by E.P. Dutton, New York (1908), 340 pp.*

- *The Irish Agricultural Organisation Society and its Aims: to the Farmers of Ireland (Dublin) 4 pp*

- *Memorandum on an Administrative Policy Supplementary to the Irish Land Acts (Dublin) 14 pp*

- Attributed articles in

Irish Homestead:

Text of address to 7th Council of Agriculture, XI:7 (18 Feb 1905), pp. 125-7

Letter to IAOS declining nomination for Presidency, XI:46 (18 Nov 1905) p. 842

Text of address to 8th Council of Agriculture, XI:46 (18 Nov 1905) pp. 854-6

DATI Journal:

Text of address to 7th Council of Agriculture, V:3 (Apr 1905), pp. 416-24

Text of address to 20 Oct 1904 Fruit Conference, V:2 (Jan 1905), pp. 613-26

Government:

Prime Minister: Arthur James Balfour (Conservative) to 4 Dec, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman (Liberal)

Chief Secretary: George Wyndham to 12 Mar, Walter Hume Long to 10 Dec, James Bryce

Lord Lieutenant: Earl of Dudley to 14 Dec, Earl of Aberdeen

Approximate monetary equivalents (2010): £1 = £101; \$1 = \$20

Correspondence [Notes]	1905	Diary Entry
	1 Jan, Sun	368
	2 Jan, Mon	368
	3 Jan, Tue	364
	4 Jan, Wed	382 – 238 to Queenstown – 2809 in all.
	5 Jan, Thu	At mouth of Cork Harbor 2 A.M. By time we (Bailey & I) got through Customs & c it was 4 AM & we decided to get into the 6.35 AM train & wait till it started. At Rock River, Wyo better arrangements would be made for such a contingency. Got to Dublin 12.30 & had a tired rushing ½ day after a sleepless night. Adams had come. Gill & Anderson had failed to get the D.A.T.I. & I.A.O.S. to come together. Dillon & Co are using the distress in the West as a stick to beat the Department with. "Ireland in the New Century" has a hard row to hoe.
	6 Jan, Fri	Very busy & hard official day.
	7 Jan, Sat	¾ official. Went to Foxrock & saw all the work that excellent friend Jim Power had done on my site. To Killeen for week end.
	8 Jan, Sun	A restful wet stormy but not cold day.
	9 Jan, Mon	Dublin, official.
	10 Jan, Tue	The hardest work a man can do is to play the peace maker in Ireland. Today it was betw'n the IAOS & the DATI or rather betw'n Anderson & Campbell. The Executive C'tee of IAOS on

Correspondence [Notes]	1905	Diary Entry
		<p>which Campbell has been put to represent the Dep't met & I attended. I think I brought the quarrel to an end betw'n the two bodies but Anderson remains unreasonable.</p> <p>Dined at Ch: Sec's Lodge. G.W. frank, excited, brilliant, epigrammatic, sanguine, visionary.</p>
[Peter O'Brien]	11 Jan, Wed	Official and dreary dinner at Shelbourne with Lord Peter the Packer of Kilfenora and family & George Moore mentally paralyzed by his surroundings (which included Ld. Fermoy).
	12 Jan, Thu	Official with a trip to Foxrock site with Lady Mayo & Fr. Finlay (with whom I discussed domestic economy) & dear Jim Power who took the usual keen interest in his friend's house!
	13 Jan, Fri	Official
	14 Jan, Sat	Official & to Killeen by evening train.
	15 Jan, Sun	Filson Young came down & I read him my Epilogue. He liked it & gave me some good literary advice.
	16 Jan, Mon – 20 Jan, Fri	Official
	21 Jan, Sat	Ditto. Went to Leopardstown for week end. An Irish (Benedictine) Priest working in England (Fr. Sweetman) turned up & gave me a good insight into the difference of the English & Irish R.C. influences.
To Balfour, Lady Betty	22 Jan, Sun	Rest
	23 Jan, Mon	Official
	24 Jan, Tue	Official
	25 Jan, Wed	Agric'l Bd. Very interesting meeting, all present except Montgomery. Govt proposal that the Board should pay interest on their proposed loans for seed potatoes. Board refused to have its funds drained by other Departments! Then came a discussion on relations betw'n I.A.O.S. & Dept – question whether the Dept should organise directly or through I.A.O.S. It was admitted that organisation was absolutely necessary & the extremely difficult question of how was postponed.
	26 Jan, Thu	A very heavy aftermath from the Agric'l Bd.
	27 Jan, Fri	Official.
	28 Jan, Sat	To Killeen by motor for week end. W.C. Eustis & a perfectly charming wife there.
	29 Jan, Sun	Rest. Went & heard Drought preach his farewell sermon after 12 years. Pathetic enough – a good man. Saw Fingall's orchard (under my Departmental Fruit Development scheme[]) 5 acres excellently done.
	30 Jan, Mon	The motor failed me – clutch slipped – & I was 2½ hours getting to Dublin. Dined with Tyrrells. He is delightful.
	31 Jan, Tue	Official
	1 Feb, Wed	Levee & dinner at Castle, Ball at Royal Hospital – did (1) & (2)

Correspondence [Notes]	1905	Diary Entry
		but rising at 5-6 A.M. cannot appreciate.
	2 Feb, Thu	Official
	3 Feb, Fri	Official. Anderson wrote advising me to resign my official post in order to take up Chairmanship of I.A.O.S.
	4 Feb, Sat	C.D.B. meeting. Wyndham & MacDonnell present & not seeing eye to eye. But we offered de Freyne £265,000 for his hopeless estate! Adams & I moted to Killeen.
	5 Feb, Sun	Inspected apple orchards Dunsany & Killeen. 'Moted' to Slane where a Pierpont Morgan & wife are hunting. Talked with Adams & combined air, exercise mental & physical with comparative rest.
	6 Feb, Mon	Official
	7 Feb, Tue	Preparing address for Council &c &c
	8 Feb, Wed	Another meeting of Agric'l Board – all but two attended. Last 4 meetings out of 48 attendances 44 have been recorded!
[Text of address to Seventh Council of Agriculture in <i>IH</i> , XI:7 (18 Feb 1905), pp. 125-7; and <i>DATI Journal</i> , V:3 (Apr 1905), pp. 416-24]	9 Feb, Thu	Agricultural Council met. Very good attendance and very good discussion. 10 minutes for movers of resol[ution]s & 5 minutes for other speakers, later cut down to 6 & 3 worked admirably. I got up at 5.30 AM to finish my address. Then dictated it to shorthand writers. Tired but did well I think. Produced good effect.
	10 Feb, Fri	Official. The newspapers showed that the influence of the Dept & the Council is growing.
	11 Feb, Sat	½ official & to Killeen for week end. Had long talk with Sir Antony MacDonnell. He told me confidentially the pos[iti]o[n] betw'n him & Wyndham & showed me the correspondence. He is going to force W. to publish this which will prove that he was the author of the Dunraven devolution scheme with W's sanction & that he came with a distinct understanding that he was to have a free hand for administrative reform.
	12 Feb, Sun	A quiet morning at the Epilogue of my book, otherwise a restful day. Walked over to Dunsany & urged Eddie to sell to his Feffars & ?Clouce tenants.
	13 Feb, Mon	Motor to Dublin - ½ day in office & then with Adams to Belfast (Sinclair). Had one of the regular parties of local notables. Adams did well.
	14 Feb, Tue	Harland & Wolff & York St Spinning Co inspected. In evening addressed Reform Club meeting. Followed by Adams who made an excellent impression.
	15 Feb, Wed	Tobacco Factory inspected. Met several more important people & left by mail for Dublin having got a very good idea of Belfast's social and economic problems into Adams' head.
	16 Feb, Thu	Official
	17 Feb, Fri	Official
	18 Feb, Sat	To Dunsany for week end. Eddie certainly improved, more serious, a little less selfish. Beatrice angelic. The house is happy

Correspondence [Notes]	1905	Diary Entry
		again.
	19 Feb, Sun	A happy restful day – except that epilogue still ‘on my chest’.
	20 Feb, Mon	Back to Dublin. Fr. Maguire, Miss O’Brien & Miss Barry came up from Dromore and Daisy, Lady Mayo, Fletcher, Fr. Finlay & Miss Letty Reynolds joined a conference on domestic economy on the Dromore plan. Decided to try & get up a fund to carry it out.
	21 Feb, Tue	Official.
	22 Feb, Wed	Sligo sawmills meeting at Dep’t. Decided to wind it up. This is very unfortunate as it was a business B Cockran invested £10,000 in to prove the capacity of Irish workers given the capital. To Lim[eric]k J[unctio]n with Adams at night en route for Cork.
[Vocational educational pioneer James Dominic Burke]	23 Feb, Thu	By morning mail to Cork where Adams & I put up Q[ue]ns College with Dr. Windle, a fine cultured Irishman who has succeeded two Presidents who brought the college down to the lowest state of efficiency. Visited first Bro[ther] Burke’s School where things are sadly changed since that hero died. Still it does much good. At lunch there came a wire from Gill calling me back to Dublin or rather saying I ought to be in London as soon as possible. Tried to get on telephone. Failed. Had to go. Found no earthly reason for my return.
	24 Feb, Fri	During big official day had talk with Sir Antony MacDonnell & Dudley over the Wyndham-MacDonnell-Dunraven-Dudley row which has been the chief topic in Parl. The whole story is now in my possession. Half of it is known to the public & the other half makes it much worse – for Wyndham, the others having been sometimes foolish sometimes ‘irregular’ but straight. Arthur Balfour’s loyalty to his colleagues is all that keeps Wyndham up but it may drag the Gov’t down.
[Humphry]	25 Feb, Sat	A dreary crowded meeting (mostly women) of Lady Dudley’s Woman’s Employment Bureau. I spoke very badly, Mrs. Humphrey [<i>sic</i>] Ward & Lord Justice Fitzgibbon very ably. To Killeen for week end.
	26 Feb, Sun	Restful. W F Bailey came down in his motor & I was very glad to be able to show an Estate Commissioner a model landlord. We moted to Randlestown & saw the tobacco Barn.
	27 Feb, Mon	Back to work. Long day trying to finish work.
	28 Feb, Tue	Official & to London by night.
	1 Mar, Wed	Framwellgate & Bowes meetings. Emily Lawless about Epilogue. Dined with SH Butcher.
	2 Mar, Thu	Murray about Book – writing epilogue. Lady Betty conversation with (in which she told me A.J.B. & Gerald both believed in G Wyndham’s sincerity!) Lunch with Carson (who agreed with me that best way out of present muddle was Gerald’s restoration to Ch: Sec[retary]ship!!) Dined with the Protheros.
	3 Mar, Fri	Dined with Whitefriars Club (Shan Bullock my host), Knight of “Where Three Empires Meet” & c & Sir Douglas Straight being chief guests. Club mostly Press men & literary men. They

Correspondence [Notes]	1905	Diary Entry
		received me kindly. Interview with Cudahy's representative London about Irish cattle trade – possibility of converting it into dead meat trade.
	4 Mar, Sat	Interview Jos[eph] Fels' secretary re Labour Colonies for Ireland. Went to Fisher's Hill in afternoon to see Gerald Balfours. Learned a good deal more about Wyndham MacDonnell affair at Cabinet end. W. must resign or the Government must go. That's the situation. Dined with Geoffrey Drages.
	5 Mar, Sun	Saw Atkinson & Campbell at Irish office. E Lawless, Seton & wife, Miss O'Connor Eccles, Lytton, B Holland & Fr. O'Donovan lunched with me. I saw Reggie, Conny & Raymond & Col. Saunderson. I also dined with JG Butcher. So I had a very Irish day.
	6 Mar, Mon	Wyndham resigned. I at once began to work to get Gerald Balfour in his place. Alas I had a slight attack of influenza. Dined out (but did not eat or drink a mouthful) with the Setons.
	7 Mar, Tue	Spent a miserable day with a touch of influenza – aching all over, shivering & feverish alternately. Cured it by starvation, wrote Arthur Balfour strongly urging Gerald's appointment.
	8 Mar, Wed	Still weak but better. Went round some government offices with Adams. Went to House to see Atkinson about Ch: Secretaryship – no news. Saw Gerald Balfour who told me he would take Ch: Sec's post if offered – but feared would not be offered.
	9 Mar, Thu	Letter from A.J.B. saying Gerald could not be appointed unless guaranteed against attacks from our own side! That can't be! Sinclair turned up in town & told me that Belfast opinion must be conciliated after the power Wyndham has given the Ulster M.P.s by letting them drive him out – that G.W.B. would be the choice of himself & Andrews but that it was not practical politics to appoint him. Bigotry has triumphed.
[Laindon]	10 Mar, Fri	Went with Adams to Brentwood where W. Coates & Lansbury showed us (at Langdon) [sic] Poplar Guardians Labour Colony started with Jos[eph] Fels' money. 140 paupers & unemployed were working on 100 acres of stiff forbidding land for their board & lodging. Tin houses, bathes, rough good accom[modatio]n & food. But all too new to teach much. Annual dinner Whitefriars Club. Clement K Shorter asked me there. Met several interesting people. Spender of Westminster Gazette, Sir Ed Grey, Winston Churchill, Lynch just back from Manchuria &c &c.
	11 Mar, Sat	Saw Atkinson about Chief Secretaryship. If I were in the House I should probably get it as the pos[itio]n is almost impossible to fill. Atkinson & Carson have both refused it. I am intriguing to get Gerald Balfour the offer!
	12 Mar, Sun	With Sir Antony MacDonnell & Ld. Dudley trying to get Gerald Balfour appointed Ch: Sect'y. No good. Long is the man. The Ulster bigots & a Landlord clique led by Westmeath defeated us.
	13 Mar, Mon	Various official.
	14 Mar, Tue	Congested Districts Bd. at Irish office. Had a short satisfactory talk with Long. Urged retention of Antony MacDonnell. Hollow

Correspondence [Notes]	1905	Diary Entry
		debate in House on Irish distress. Listened under gallery for 2½ hours. Rather wished I could have had an economic talk to the House.
	15 Mar, Wed	Attended another dreary Irish debate on railway rates – usual ignorance focussing in attack on Dept.
	16 Mar, Thu	Lunched with Gilbert Parker. Trick of writing mistaken for political insight! Nice fellow, a bit pushing. Daisy & Bernard Hollands dined with me. Much fussing at House of Commons &c.
	17 Mar, Fri	St. Paddy. Irish Industry Sale. Nothing unusual. Antony MacDonnell & Walter Long all day closeted together. Result, agreement, I suspect.
	18 Mar, Sat	Treasury with Fletcher about evening Science posts. Hard fight with Sir G Murray. Afternoon with Blair & Fletcher.
[Antony P. MacDonnell]	19 Mar, Sun	To Lady Betty (where Miss Chamberlain) with Daisy. Delightful day. Balmy summer weather. Gerald ?beaming. He told me he would have jettisoned Antony if he had been made Chief Sec’y.
	20 Mar, Mon	Sundry official & debate on Land Com[missio]n in House. Flat.
	21 Mar, Tue	Ditto.
	22 Mar, Wed	Ditto. 2 hours with Walter Long, explaining pos[iti]o]n of Dept & Constitutional experiment being worked out.
[Ailwyn]	23 Mar, Thu	Pelton meeting. Aylwyn [<i>sic</i>] Fellowes about Butter Bill (N.B. How ludicrous making that nice boy a cabinet minister. There are 10 men at least under me in the Dep’t of Ag & Tech Inst’n who would be far more capable of filling the post of President of the Bd of Ag. & Fisheries). To Ireland by night.
	24 Mar, Fri	A terrible day in office & other offices. Long talk with Antony MacDonnell.
	25 Mar, Sat	½ official & down to Dunsany where Eddie & Beatrice still really happy.
	26 Mar, Sun	Marked out a dam for a little lake at back of Gansey cottages and showed where water would go. Quite a pretty spot I think could be made. I hope they will make it beautifying Gansey cottages as part of the scheme.
	27 Mar, Mon	Back to Dublin. Official, hard. Tommy came up from Kilcooley about his eyes, better I am glad to say.
	28 Mar, Tue	Official. Saw Lady Gregory’s Kincora at Abbey Theatre. Very powerful I thought, & Oh! What a ghastly story any old Irish history is. This play deals with Malachy & Brian Boru, the High Kings & the Provincial Kings. Fiends, treachery & the rest.
	29 Mar, Wed	Official & by night to Limerick Junction with Fletcher.
[Bishop Thomas O’Callaghan]	30 Mar, Thu	The day with Dr. Windle F.R.S. Queens College. Inspected schools &c. Very interesting man. He agrees with me that settlement of University Question is key to educational difficulties. I learned that the ban on Q[uee]ns Colleges takes this form. The question of the right of R.C.s to go is a ‘reserved case’, i.e. the ordinary priests permission would be over ridden by the bishop of the diocese of Cork.

Correspondence [Notes]	1905	Diary Entry
	31 Mar, Fri	Haulbowline where the admiral had us shown everything. Got some good ideas re technical instruction in district & also heard ?great complaints of the 'Naval Dwellings'. Back to Dublin after an interesting & informing visit.
[Jonahed – thrown overboard; got rid of]	1 Apr, Sat	Took over formally Geological Survey – coordination! A long talk with Sir Antony on the crisis caused by the Ulster members having coolly announced that they will not support the government. I think that if Antony was 'Jonahed' I should have to resign. Got popular ed[itio]n at last out of printers and circulated it a bit. To Killeen for week end.
	2 Apr, Sun	Rice and Lady Margaret R (Beatrice's sister[]) at Dunsany. Very nice people. Quiet day.
	3 Apr, Mon	Heavy official.
[<i>amicus curiae</i> – "friend of the court"; impartial advisor]	4 Apr, Tue	Went with Antony MacDonnell to The Curragh where we met Major Eustace Loder & a Mr. Blake, big wigs of the Racing world & discussed the question of the right of the many trainers round the Curragh to gallop their horses thereon. I was a sort of Amicus Curiae having been a fox hunter while Antony was after tigers. Dined with Lady MacDonnell. Betw'n the two MacDonnell events much work.
	5 Apr, Wed	Official. Got Iveagh to give me £1000 for my domestic economy (unofficial) scheme. Dined & slept with Gibbons at Foxrock. A nice neighbour he will be.
	6 Apr, Thu	After busy official day had pleasant dinner with Christopher La Touche, Horace Brown F.R.S. & the technical experts at Guinness.
	7 Apr, Fri	Official & to Killeen with Profr. Wilson to study grass lands question.
	8 Apr, Sat	With Professor Wilson about the lands of Killeen & Dunsany studying grass lands problem. Back to Dublin. Night at Rathmines Chess Club where I drew with their best man.
	9 Apr, Sun	Moted down to Heywood, Ballinakil 65 miles in 2 hours 55 minutes to spend six hours with Col. Hutchinson Poe & wife. Nice house & place. He has travelled. Both are rather dull, but good.
	10 Apr, Mon	Moted to Maryborough where I met Gibbons, Chairman of Prisons Bd. & went over gaol, especially its farm on reclaimed land. Then to Palmerston where I discussed domestic economy scheme with Lady Mayo. Then dined (Buck party) with Lord Grenfell. Charming man.
	11 Apr, Tue	Punchestown was on but I was glued to the office stool. Well I am no longer a boy – but the fever comes on me yet.
	12 Apr, Wed	In office to 12 M[idday]. Then to Punchestown in motor in time for first race. Cold but enjoyable enough. Mayos put me up for night. Daisy & Lady Hesketh there.

Correspondence [Notes]	1905	Diary Entry
	13 Apr, Thu	Moted Daisy back to Dublin where long official day. Two deputations. Interview with new Chief Sec &c. The popular edition of my book is selling well. That means that my work will grow & prosper eventually.
	14 Apr, Fri	Official.
	15 Apr, Sat	½ official. Then had a little swelling inside my mouth, at back of middle front tooth lower jaw, cut out by Dr. Woods. In spite of cocaine rather nasty. He cheerily remarked [“I will get it microscopically examined. I am pretty sure it’s not malignant – just as a matter of routine”]. Then moted Lady Mayo to Killeen & I went to Dunsany where Eddie & Beatrice.
	16 Apr, Sun	Moted Lady Mayo & Daisy to Johnny Pollock’s sale or rather to the goods to be sold this week. Poor fellow he lived among books, prints, silver, china & furniture which should have given him a diversion other than drink on non-hunting days!
	17 Apr, Mon	Moted Lady Mayo back to Dublin & did long day in office.
	18 Apr, Tue	Lunched with Dudley who declared himself disgusted with Arthur Balfour’s behaviour both to himself & the country. Shilly-shallying, casuistical, intriguing &c &c. He declared himself further a Home Ruler at heart, said it must come – present system ridiculous & indefensible. But he had promised AJB to hold on till Gov’t went out. I told him my views, why I was a Unionist in spite of all the objections to present system. Dined & slept with Sir J Barton & saw my site.
	19 Apr, Wed	Last day in office before Easter & rush accordingly.
	20 Apr, Thu	Moted Drogheda to Mount Stewart taking Daisy who wanted to see Smith of Newry’s gardens. At Mt. S., W. Long, Edmund Gosse & Carson. Very cold journey, 2 tyre punctures on road.
	21 Apr, Fri	Rested beautifully.
	22 Apr, Sat	Races (Point to point) close by. L[ondonderry]. had a tent in which he gave a princely feast to all the farmers & others. A cold bracing day. Saw Andrews & a few other influential Northerners. Good talks with Edmund Goss[e].
	23 Apr, Sun	A perfect rest. While on this visit I have got to know Edmund Gosse. W. Long I have fathomed too. Honest, strong but hopelessly English for an Irish Secretary. Lady Londonderry is trying hard to indoctrinate him with Ulster bigotry.
	24 Apr, Mon	Moted Daisy to Newry where we lunched & got tired of bursting tyres & took the train to Dublin. Long & his Secretary dined with me at Club. I got his views in all their intense Anglo Saxonism.
	25 Apr, Tue	Official. Count Afpenny’s, R Mac Leod & daughter Olive turned up for the Congested Districts trip on the morrow. Sent motors (own & Department’s) to Ballaghaderin.
[convent – Irish Sisters of Charity]	26 Apr, Wed	7 AM Mail to Ballaghaderin. Met by P.P. & Dr. Daly of Diocesan College, also Doran of CDB who was to accompany us on trip. Saw College (holiday time) creamery & Convent where we lunched & I saw M[othe]r Morrogh Bernard. Then on to Lough Glynn by circuitous route seeing Waldron, Dillon & de Freyne estates. Very noticeable improvements where Board had operated for some time. At Loughglynn visited Belgian Franciscan nuns

Correspondence [Notes]	1905	Diary Entry
		who have set up an excellent working convent and are giving all kind of useful instruction, industries, domestic economy &c for peasantry. To Castlereagh, rather poor hotel, for night.
	27 Apr, Thu	Poured all day but managed to see a lot of country where C.D.B. had bought, was in process of buying or would like to buy. Great progress verdict wherever they had bought for some time. Via Knock, Ballyhaunis to Kiltimagh where Fr. O'Hara lunched us & explained his benevolent disposition to us. His convent was also visited. On to Foxford where I was amazed at the extension of the Factory. The nuns were as nice & kind as ever. Via Pontoon to Castlebar where we dined Canon Lyons.
	28 Apr, Fri	Rained most of the day. Went to Partry to see Fr. Corbett. Saw a 'sprigging' class, a Pembroke Village Hall (one of the 6 the Dowager Lady Pembroke allowed Monteagle & me to put up in 6 poor parishes). Then to Westport where lunch & called on Wm. O'Brien. Had a good talk which showed me that he is honest, well meaning but utterly impractical. "There's lots of land to be bought & lots of people wanting land – what's the Gov't for" – that sort of stuff. Through Louisburgh to Leenane. Saw much of CDB's work during day. Put up at McKeown's hotel, Granuaile lying in Killary for us.
	29 Apr, Sat	A fine day – the first on the trip – & we took the steamer to Cleggan, Boffin, Clare Island. Sunny glorious and great evidence of progress for C.D.B. work. All gratifying.
	30 Apr, Sun	Moted to Recess for lunch. Did Connemara quarries, on via Maam Cross, Costello, Spiddle to Galway. The Count & Doran remained – Macleods & I went to Aran in Granuaile. Poured nearly all day. 4 days wet, 1 fine so far.
	1 May, Mon	Up 5.30 A.M. ashore 6.30, drove to Kilmurvy & walked with Macleod & daughter to Dun Angus in a cool downpour. No distances again. Back to Killeany whence Fr. Farragher had migrated & had a talk with that astute P.P. Left him my book. Reached Galway by 12.30 & moted on to Athenry where met Gallagher on Dept's Farms & had 2½ hours inspection. Caught Mail at Athenry Station & came on to Dublin, Macleod & daughter going on to London. A most informing & I hope useful trip. Did me good every way I think.
	2 May, Tue	A hideous rush to get off to London by night mail for Colliery meetings & some official business.
	3 May, Wed	Sundry jobs official & other. Murray told me my book is practically sold out (5000 copies of cheap edition) & he wants to print another 5000 straight off. Went to House. Afternoon sitting adjourned early & I met Austen Chamberlain on his way back to Downing St. Walked with him & talked over Wyndham incident. Talk of luck in politics. I could certainly have developed the Austen Chamberlain political power if I had had his father! Went with Bernard Holland to John Bull & his other island. Brilliant satire on Irish & English misunderstandings of Ireland.
<i>[John Bull's Other Island, George Bernard Shaw]</i>		

Correspondence [Notes]	1905	Diary Entry
	4 May, Thu	Meetings of Bowes, Pelton & Framwellgate Collieries. Interview with Joseph Fels about his Farm colony for unemployed scheme. Concluded inapplicable to Ireland. Gathered that he would help in other work if he felt that it was his. Small man I think but unfair to judge so soon. Afternoon spent waiting for and getting interview with Walter Long. The more I see of him the more I feel his limitations. But thank Heaven he's straight.
	5 May, Fri	Treasury. Bd of Agriculture &c. Saw Caroe who told me that the two contractors invited to tender for my house had tendered £10700 & £10800! Looks like collusion. But I see the mistake of building the foundations separately. Left by night for Dublin.
	6 May, Sat	¾ day including meeting of CDB in Dublin & then moted Hanson down to Killeen where 'himself' & 'herself' & the kids offered a quiet restful week end.
	7 May, Sun	Not over restful. Last night Long wired for long official minutes about ?Jane Harbours &c which I had to get off by post from Ratoath. Then Eddie's affairs, Fingall's estate matters & J. Dillon's orchard took attention. I worked a bit at revision of my book too.
	8 May, Mon	Official
	9 May, Tue	Technical Instruction Board. Good attendance. Interesting debate on relation of Ed'n to Industry &c &c.
	10 May, Wed	Agricultural Board, only 5 attended this time. Then left for Belfast for N.E. Agric'l Show. Put up with J Blakiston Houston.
	11 May, Thu	Meeting of Flax advisory committee at Cattle Show. Lasted 2 hours & I think I did some good. Travelled back with Anderson & did some good with him too. So day not wasted. Went into Barn – my summer quarters.
	12 May, Fri	Official
	13 May, Sat	CDB meeting & other work. Then Fr. Finlay, Miss V Magan & Miss Barry came to dine at the Barn, Adams also, & we discussed the domestic economy scheme. The two ladies will act as missionaries. Menlough, Co Galway will probably be the first selected parish.
	14 May, Sun	After a morning revising the book & consulting with Gill (who went by night mail to London en route to Rome for Agric'l Conf[eren]ce) in Dublin, lunched at Leopardstown & spent much of afternoon with probable contractor on site of Foxrock House. Then moted to Palmerston to talk domestic economy with Lady Mayo & to go next day to see Mayo's Electric Peat Coal syndicate's operations near Athy.
	15 May, Mon	Moted to the bogs & back to Dublin, 60 miles, 3 hours. Office & Callan to Barn for night to help me with revise of book.
	16 May, Tue	5.30 A.M. to 8 P.M. Book, office, All Ireland Temperance Bazaar at which I drove people in motor at 1/- per seat per drive!
	17 May, Wed	Official & Temperance Bazaar again
	18 May, Thu	Ditto

Correspondence [Notes]	1905	Diary Entry
	19 May, Fri	Ditto
	20 May, Sat	Ditto
	21 May, Sun	Had to work hard with Callan on revise of my book.
	22 May, Mon	Official
	23 May, Tue	Official. Alice came to Barn for a couple of days' visit & told me the story of her life at Ballinatrav. It is a sad story. She still loves the father of her child, but his insensibility to the degrading surroundings of the hugger mugger squireen existence in which she is a mere drudge, cooking & housemaiding for the cottage built to her husband's plans without skilled labour, unfenced with no proper sanitary arrangements, no ?water supply, no fence around or road to the residence! can hardly fail to wear out even her loyalty.
	24 May, Wed	Official.
	25 May, Thu	Alice left. Bailey & Finucane came out & dined. Anderson met them. We discussed the resettlement of the grass lands.
	26 May, Fri	Two deputations & heavy official day. Starkie came out to dine & sleep & I had a good talk on primary education.
	27 May, Sat	Heavy day & crossed to Holyhead at night having sent on the motor.
[Anglesey)	28 May, Sun	Moted Daisy Fingall to Kidderminster taking the Oxford road from Holyhead to London. She greatly enjoyed the wild bleak island of Anglesea [<i>sic</i>], the beauty of Betts y Coed, Llangollen &c, the interest of Shrewsbury & the trim & neat country life getting happier as we came south & East.
	29 May, Mon	Stratford on Avon where we saw Shakespeare's House & Oxford where I did showman passably made an interesting day. But the weather was hot, or seemed so, & the dust very bad. Arrived at 105 Mount St. before dark – dead beat!
	30 May, Tue	So tired that beyond a Bowes meeting I accomplished little. Saw Bourke Cockran who took me to say goodbye to Choate, departing American Ambassador at Euston. Adams came to see B.C. & apparently did not think much of him.
	31 May, Wed	Went to the A.O.S. (English counterpart of I.A.O.S.) annual meeting. Anderson over & talked a bit with him. Otherwise work & sundries.
	1 Jun, Thu	Bourke Cockran to breakfast, Bowes Board meeting. A.O.S. public meeting & a stupid play. Most of day at book revising.
	2 Jun, Fri	Alston called & we had a talk about the Omaha business. In evening went to a party at Mrs. J R Green's to meet the Professors of the London School of Economics in history, law & economics.
	3 Jun, Sat	Saw Miss O'Conor Eccles about domestic economy (Home Improvement scheme) in Ireland. She will be helpful but is not very hopeful – of the existing generation! Saw Heath of the Treasury & made some requests. Came to the conclusion that one should go to Treasury with a case for 100 if one wants 25%. The skill will consist in getting the 75% refused

Correspondence [Notes]	1905	Diary Entry
		& not the 25%.
	4 Jun, Sun	A morning talk with John Atkinson, moted to Fishers Hill – delightful afternoon including golf. Back by 9.30 when a talk with S H Butcher.
	5 Jun, Mon	A good business talk with Long. He is so simple & direct that one cannot but like him. He has called CDB to London again this week which keeps me here & prevents my joining an investigation tour to Scotch Congested Districts. Dined Gardiners, Eddie & Beatrice, Connie & Raymond & Mary – a coal dinner at Wellington.
[Susan Dutton, wife of James, 3rd Baron Sherborne]	6 Jun, Tue	Poured all yesterday & all today. Busy most of day over book revise. A tea at Aunt Susan's the only excitement until dinner at Lucy's where Sir James Mathew, Dilke & Trevelyan made the interest of a small party which I enjoyed.
	7 Jun, Wed	Unwell. Idled. Saw Ralph Stuart Wortley on holiday but looking rather seedy.
	8 Jun, Thu	C.D.B. Irish office London.
	9 Jun, Fri	C.D.B. & Treasury & State Ball for King of Spain's edification. He looked pleased & certainly it was a good pantomime.
	10 Jun, Sat	Very busy morning & then set out in motor with Daisy for Holyhead. A succession of thunderstorms drenched us for first 30 miles – seldom saw such rain. Then dust! Slept at Birmingham.
	11 Jun, Sun	Glorious fine cool day. Got through to Holyhead where took night mail boat. Stopped on way at Chester for lunch where we walked the walls. Tea at Abergele. Dinner at George Hotel, Bangor overlooking Menai Straits. On to Holyhead by night.
	12 Jun, Mon	Was very tired. Slept well on boat. But a doze of ½ hour in the morning at the Barn & another solid 3 hours' sleep in afternoon was required to restore energy. Fletcher came to dine & we had a very useful evening together.
	13 Jun, Tue	Back to office. Bowers away, Smith & lady typist hardly able to cope with arrears. S H Butcher with me for a couple of hours before dinner & I had some talk with him on Irish educational problems.
	14 Jun, Wed	Official. Attended a meeting of I.A.W.S. & did something to bring the Anderson & Bryan factions together &, I hope, to save the Concern. Went at night to Military Tournament, Ld. Grenfell taking me into his box where also 'Tony' Traill & wife, Dean Bernard, Mrs. Henniker (Crewe's sister) Lady MacDonnell, &c.
	15 Jun, Thu	Starkie & Fletcher dined & we talked over coordination betw'n Dept & Nat'l Bd. I think with good results.
[<i>The Land</i> by Padraic Colum; opened 9 June]	16 Jun, Fri	All day at office. In ev[enin]g went to a play at the Abbey Theatre by a youth of 22, agric'l labourer's son. It was a surprisingly mature presentation of the rural Irish mind.
	17 Jun, Sat	½ official. Took Lady MacDonnell for her first drive in a motor car &c.
	18 Jun, Sun	Golfed morning. Poured afternoon. Talked to Anderson & Bailey. In evening Fr. Finlay & Fletcher dined to talk over educational

Correspondence [Notes]	1905	Diary Entry
		Coordin[atio]n betw'n Nat'l Bd & Dep't. A too busy day.
	19 Jun, Mon	T P Gill came back from Rome after month's absence bringing me some relief from work. Had a meeting of Consultative Committee on Educ'n & made some recom[mendatio]ns to Nat'l Bd & Treasury.
	20 Jun, Tue	Long busy day at Dept.
	21 Jun, Wed	Caroe, Kaye, Parry & ?Kienan on site. Signed contract for House to be finished July 1, 1906. Third edition of my book issued. Got in 3 hours at office.
	22 Jun, Thu	Expert Committee on Cattle. Then went to Avondale, Parnell's estate bought by board for Forestry operations. Interesting place. Was told that Parnell inherited £1000 whenever he could get into Parliament. So he stood as a Tory in Dublin & was beaten by Col. Taylor or one of the "Dublin Six". Then he swung round & became a Nationalist! The property showed neglect of the worst kind. P. was a tyrannical landlord while he was on the landlord side & then let everything slide to the utter demoralisation of the district.
	23 Jun, Fri	House Committee. Spoke at a meeting at Mansion House to invite British Assoc'n to Dublin 1907. If alive it will be a great interest in the life of that year.
	24 Jun, Sat	½ official day. Had W P Geoghegan at Barn at night & propounded a scheme for making the C.D.B. efficient for the solution of the peasant prosperity problem of Congested Districts.
	25 Jun, Sun	Golf, site, Daisy with Jim Power & to England by night mail.
[<i>Non inventus</i> – not present]	26 Jun, Mon	Pelton & Bowes Boards. House of Commons to see Ch: Sec. <i>Non inventus</i> .
	27 Jun, Tue	Treasury. Very important meeting with Sir G Murray about Irish Ed'n, land redistribution &c. Long talk with Chief Sec – an honest <u>un</u> -understanding sort of person. Went to a --ti--er where The Faddists was produced. Lady Betty was the contributor of all the fun, her collaborateuse being Mrs. Alfred Lyttelton. It was a skit on vegetarianism, Faith healing &c &c. I sat next to the Heroine "Aunt T"! Not <u>very</u> successful.
	28 Jun, Wed	Arrived early and after a terrible day's work left in motor for Dundalk 8 PM, arrived there 10.50.
	29 Jun, Thu	Went to Show at Armagh. I had not been in the town before. Good show, good people. On return journey went via Whitecross & Camlough. Heard the cooperative news & saw Canon Quin. A fine old priest rather too old for new ideas but the best of the old ones. Got back 11 P.M.
	30 Jun, Fri	Official holiday (K[ing]'s birthday kept) worked at The Barn.
	1 Jul, Sat	General Manderson of Omaha looked in & wasted most of my day. So I was kept at office till 5 P.M. Had to see a doctor, Alfred Parsons this time for very annoying eczema in fork. Local applications & tonic. But rest & vegetarianism more useful.

Correspondence [Notes]	1905	Diary Entry
		Letter to Chief Secretary about status of my office which he seems inclined to question. Official jealousy & sectarian (Ulster) bigotry both working against me.
	2 Jul, Sun	Lunched with Starkie to meet Fr. Finlay. Did a good deal of planning in Educ'l matters.
	3 Jul, Mon	Very busy day interfered with by Lady Dudley sending for me to talk to her about domestic economy. She wants me to work my scheme in conjunction with her nurses. Rev. James O. Hannay, Rector of Westport, Editor of The Seething Pot came to stay the night. Interesting man.
	4 Jul, Tue	Busy day again. Included a talk with Dudley. Adams & O'Toole came out to The Barn & were both well impressed with Hannay.
	5 Jul, Wed	Arthur Chamberlain (Joe's brother) came to Dublin to meet a gathering of Irish leading business men with object of getting them to agitate for a share of Gov't Contracts being given to Ireland. He of course was interested by virtue of his high explosives factory at Arklow. But he put the matter on general grounds. We had some 25 people representative of all parts & most big concerns to meet him. He made a fair impression & I think started us on a good line. Moted with Coyle as far as Newry.
	6 Jul, Thu	Left 8 AM for Belfast where a meeting of Ulster swine breeders & bacon curers to discuss improvement of breed of swine. Went to Royal Ulster Agric Soc's Horse Show, where a deputation re Co Down shorthorn breeding. Stayed night with R H Reade at Wilmont.
	7 Jul, Fri	Meeting of everybody interested in Flax culture, spinning & weaving. IAOS & D.A.T.I. Then back to Dublin by motor discussing railway business with Irwin at Newry en route.
[Chambré Ponsonby's sisters Kathleen and Blanche]	8 Jul, Sat	Much official business including a tedious deputation from Co Wicklow with an M.P. & P.P. & a solicitor. A visit to Antony MacDonnell. Also to the Ponsonby Aunts with whom Alice & her boy (seen for first time) was staying. Back to Barn where Callan week-ended with me.
	9 Jul, Sun	Much work, some golf & a lunch with Daisy & Fingall at Killiney.
	10 Jul, Mon	C.D.B. Emily Lawless came to stay with me.
	11 Jul, Tue	Official.
	12 Jul, Wed	C.D.B. Had Holt, Gibbons & Fr. Finlay to meet Emily Lawless at dinner.
	13 Jul, Thu	C.D.B. Adams & Fletcher dined.
	14 Jul, Fri	C.D.B. In evening went to see Kennedy at Chief Baron's House. The old man knows his end is very near – he is 86 & has had 3 'seizures', and he faces it heroically. His faith is perfect.
	15 Jul, Sat	½ official
	16 Jul, sun	Moore (Botanic Gardens) & wife & Fletcher & wife spent afternoon. Wrote a letter of sincere sympathy to Lady MacDonnell on Sir Antony's grave condition. He had to undergo a severe operation

Correspondence [Notes]	1905	Diary Entry
		(for stone I think) and when I called a few hours before the operation I met Lady M who told me her husband wished to see me. He showed a fine courage & please God will pull through.
	17 Jul, Mon	One of the busiest days of my life. 6 AM to 9 P.M. minus lunch. Ended up by presiding at lecture on teaching art to short summer course students.
	18 Jul, Tue	Morning mail with Fletcher to London. Dined with Mary. Had 2½ hours with W. Long at House. Good honest fellow. Introduced Fletcher to him. He admitted that evil influences were exercised upon him against the Department. We had a fight over our respective spheres of responsibility. His attitude was – I shall not interfere with you but I shall have it on record that I do not accept your view of your position.
[Nat'l. Board of Educ.]	19 Jul, Wed	Starkie & Fletcher at 9.30 A.M. Then a joint attack on Treasury (Sir George Murray) re Coordination betw'n DATI & Nat'l Bd. Met with Board of Agriculture. John Atkinson &c &c. Then off to Newcastle on Colliery business 5.30 train from Kings X. Busy day in a busy life. At Newcastle found Gardiner, E.Y. Western & Walsh vetting a "fitter" for Bowes. Warham, one of the three possibilities, was under examination & I liked him.
	20 Jul, Thu	Began day by vetting 2 more "fitters". Gardiner liked one of them 'Nimmo' best. Lindsay Wood & I, Western & Walsh preferred another, Warham. But we were all unwilling to force Gardiner in the matter. So on my suggestion it was left to Gardiner & me to decide. I left Newcastle, having to be back in Dublin next morning before G's mind was made up. Went via Leeds to Haysham & took little Land Line boat to Dublin. They reserved me <u>the</u> deck cabin which was very comfortable.
	21 Jul, Fri	Back early & busy till 8 P.M. with 3 days' arrears. Monteagle to dine & sleep. Gardiner wired that he had agreed to appoint the Fitter Sir Lindsay & I wanted.
	22 Jul, Sat	¾rds official. Then O'Toole came to Barn & I engaged him to give literary assistance to me. The Bowes Fitter which Gardiner & I selected, owing to Gardiner's procrastination took another job & here we are back in all our difficulties.
	23 Jul, Sun	A restful day. Daisy brought Lady Howard of Glossop to the Barn. She is a dear old gossip – influential with English R.C.s, D[uke] of Norfolk &c. She is in Ireland for first time & 'takin notes'. Fr. O'Donovan & Anderson lunched also. Anderson dined & I had much I.A.O.S. talk.
	24 Jul, Mon	Official. During day suggested to Fingall that he should use his ?horses to farm his estate under Departmental advice but not assistance.
	25 Jul, Tue	Fletcher gave an excellent lecture at the RDS Theatre on Method in Science teaching to large audience of summer course teachers & others. Made a good impression & I am sure strengthened his influence.
	26 Jul, Wed	Meeting Tech Inst'n Board. To Cork by 6.15 train. Motor sent by 3 PM train.

Correspondence [Notes]	1905	Diary Entry
[Richard Frewen had drowned in Aug. 1896]	27 Jul, Thu	By motor to Clonakilty via Inishannon & Bandon. The former reminded me of the 76 Home Ranche days. 'Clara' & Moreton are now at their Irish Home Ranche inherited from poor Dick. I am not on speaking terms with MF over a cattle transaction in 1884! Dr. Kelly met me at Clonakilty where I saw the Convent & went over the Department's newly acquired agric'l station. Then to Dunmanway where I made a dreary speech at the meeting of the Domestic Economy School of the Convent. Tired, went on to Skibbereen where I slept after a gorge with Dr. Kelly's Priests.
	28 Jul, Fri	Early start in motor with Fr. Hurley of Inchigeelagh. Went via Bantry where I called on the P.P. & visited the Convent, and Ballinageary where I called in at the "Summer School of Irish" to Inchig---- where I saw the Dept's example Fruit plot &c. Then across the mountains into Kerry where I put up with the Kenmare's at Killarney House. Poor SH Butcher was to have met me but had a fall off his bicycle. Explained my Domestic Economy experiments to Lady K who agreed to join our C'tee.
	29 Jul, Sat	Via Castleisland, Abbeyfeale to Monegea where I saw a creamery (new) & the P.P. who bred a Grand National winner & so should be a useful ally. On to Newcastle West where nobody met me & to Ardagh where the Committee & I had a long & I hope useful talk. Dermot O'Brien gave me tea. Then Shanagolden Creamery & Mount Trenchard. There I met interesting Party. Hon. Bertrand & Mrs. Russell, Douglas Hyde, Emily Lawless, Mrs. J.R. Green, a 'Casement' & others. Gaelic League meeting at Village Hall.
[Roger Casement, on leave from diplomatic service from 1904-6, had joined the Gaelic League and become outspoken critic of the Empire.]	30 Jul, Sun	A delightful Sunday. My work was to Convert Douglas Hyde & so the Gaelic League to my domestic economy views. I think I succeeded. I had long talks with Mrs. JR Green & Mr Casement with a view to ascertaining their real political opinions. They are so predominantly anti English that I fear there is nothing constructive in them.
	31 Jul, Mon	Moted Douglas Hyde to Limerick where we parted, he going by train to Roscommon & I to Dublin. There I had the usual arrears of work after a brief absence.
	1 Aug, Tue	Official. Gordon & Coyle to Barn in ev[enin]g to talk over work of Agric'l Bd.
	2 Aug, Wed	Agricultural Board. Voted £108000! Pretty heavy budget statement for me to make & get through. Completely tired me out. Emily Lawless came to Barn again.
	3 Aug, Thu	Very heavy office day including a meeting of commercial men & manufacturers for Arthur Chamberlain. I was so tired that I made an execrable chairman & the meeting did nothing in consequence beyond forming a sub committee which may do something.
	4 Aug, Fri	Official heavy
[Wiley]	5 Aug, Sat	After a busy half day official had to rush off an article on Ireland for the International Quarterly of New York to appear in October. Bad work – hurried. Dined with Jim Power & met Wylie [<i>sic</i>], Bureau of Soils or Chemistry? Dept of Agriculture, Washington.
	6 Aug, Sun	Moted down to Eddie & Beatrice. Found them playing a cricket match Dunsany vs Killeen! I never rose to Sunday cricket. It is an

Correspondence [Notes]	1905	Diary Entry
		excellent idea.
	7 Aug, Mon	Moted to Randlestown where I picked up Nugent Everard & on to Ballyhaise where we met delegates of bodies concerned in a big creamery row. Did my best as peacemaker but doubt whether such a cussed lot of farmers exist as the Cavan fellows. Moted back to Dublin & en route learned to drive Department's (Daimler) car. Back to Barn.
	8 Aug, Tue	Caröe came by morning mail & I spent most of the morning with him at the site. He has certainly let me in for a much bigger house than I ought to have built. It will probably be a hospital or something of the sort one day & it will be more useful for that than for a bachelor! Lots of office work, about 5 hours & then to London by night mail.
	9 Aug, Wed	Only the day in London, returned by night to Ireland. Got through a little work. Had a meeting with Long, Fellowes & the Veterinary officers of Bd of Ag & D.A.T.I. which we made useful though it was not worthwhile having it just now. Moritz Bonn turned up & dined with me. He is as interesting as ever.
	10 Aug, Thu	Official hard
	11 Aug, Fri	Ditto. Young McCabe (American economics student from Harvard studying at Dept for a year now nearly ended) came for night to Barn. Very interesting to hear his impressions. He liked my book, is a Home Ruler because he sees the failure of Unionism but has no suggestions for getting over the difficulty of a scheme.
	12 Aug, Sat	Very tired after half day's work. Work too much for me. The American Consul (Moe) & McCabe dined.
	13 Aug, Sun	Spent half day in bed & I hope to be restored thereby. I think whole Sundays in bed will be necessary if I cannot restrict my work.
	14 Aug, Mon	Daisy & family to the Cottage. T A Brassey dined & slept. I had heavy official day & was not at all well. A deputation came from Youghal about an absurd steamship project. They brought Rowley with them.
	15 Aug, Tue	Brought out to stay at Barn Rev. J Hannay (author of The Seething Pot) & his wife – a very nice little woman.
	16 Aug, Wed	Official
	17 Aug, Thu	Very hard official. Adams now on sick list.
	18 Aug, Fri	C.D.B. Long present. Lunched at Club with him & had a good talk over Irish Gov't. It was a day of bad news. Willis the principal of the Art School had died of heart disease two days ago at Ballinskelligs. Sir Antony had an ominous relapse, Adams developed typhoid. His is a precious life for Ireland & if we lost him after losing Coyne we should be in desperate straits. The Atkinsons dined & J.A. had a tussle over the Irish language with Hannay.

Correspondence [Notes]	1905	Diary Entry
	19 Aug, Sat	Office till 4. Hannays went back to Westport having really enjoyed their visit.
[Under Secretary – Antony P. MacDonnell]	20 Aug, Sun	Lunched with Long, called on the Under Secretary (his relapse proved to be a recurrence of India fever & not, as I feared, mischief in the wound) the Private Secretary & the Ld Lieutenant. Heard all views of Irish Government – a chaotic body of official opinion. Good news of Adams. Not a very serious case so far.
	21 Aug, Mon	The Geoffrey Drages came by day mail for Horse Show.
	22 Aug, Tue	Having all the Departmental work to superintend I saw little of my Horse Show guests. But they enjoyed themselves.
	23 Aug, Wed	Worse news of Adams – lung complications. Gill’s doctor says he must not return till end of October! Had a meeting of Wholesale Society, Privy Council, Conference on Dairy Cattle, I.A.O.S. added to day’s work. Could not do the show or look after my guests. Professor Ewart & wife dined at The Barn. Nice & interesting people.
	24 Aug, Thu	Again no time for Horse Show. But the Drages looked after themselves ideally.
	25 Aug, Fri	Poured all day & I worked all day at office.
	26 Aug, Sat	In 24 hours ending 12 midnight yesterday, 3.4 inches of rain fell over this part of Ireland. Short office morning & then Hill Climbing Competition at or near Newtown Stewart. Hill washed away! so took another hill only partly washed.
	27 Aug, Sun	Prof’rs. Campbell & Wilson golfed & talked shop with me at The Barn. Campbell is better but not well & not fit for hard work.
	28 Aug, Mon	Poured all day. Stuck to office.
	29 Aug, Tue	Official day & then moted to Greystones to meet Ld & Lady Harrowby (chez Dunbar Barton). H. was by way of studying Irish Question & wanted to meet me. He seemed to me to be the most woodenheaded student.
	30 Aug, Wed	Long interview with Long (one might almost as well be called Aud) and also dined with him. I have established quite right relations with him.
	31 Aug, Thu	Heavy office day. Fr. Maguire of Dromore dined & slept. Rather a load as, though a splendid young priest (economic), his reading and experience are purely parochial.
	1 Sep, Fri	After very hard office day went down at night to Cork for tomorrow’s work. Met Dermot Trench, nephew of SH Butcher by appointment to discuss his career. Wants to serve Ireland, is 23. I.A.O.S. thought of as a beginning. Would like Dept but alas no vacancy.
	2 Sep, Sat	Attended Cork C’ttee of Agriculture & heard them doing important business. They did it very well. Then moted to Dept’s Farm near Liscarroll & back to Cork where I had a near midnight

Correspondence [Notes]	1905	Diary Entry
		interview with a Dairy & poultry instructors.
	3 Sep, Sun	In motor with Gordon via Youghal where we saw Sir Walter Raleigh's house to Ballinatrav where we lunched. There saw poor Alice in her new surroundings in a miserable house built by that donkey of a husband about 300 yards up the hill (across fields with no road to it) from Ballinatrav. Just below them there is the old Lady Harriette with 2 worthless buckeen sons & 3 or 4 daughters all intending to hang on to the place indefinitely unless matrimony finds an outlet! On to Lismore.
[L&NWR – London & North Western Railway]	4 Sep, Mon	To Dungarvan via Cappoquin. At former met Committee of Agriculture of Co. Waterford & arranged scheme for coming year. A Dr. ?Dunachy doing excellent work as Chairman, all goes smoothly. After meeting took Chairman of Co Council (member of Ctee) in motor to Ballymacarbery where he lives. Learned a good deal about local politics. Left Gordon at Clonmel & went on to Abbey Leix where Ld. Stalbridge was staying with Lady de Vesci. Three hours spent mending tyres brought me to Abbey Leix at 9 P.M. After a hurried dinner had some talk, very little, with Lady de Vesci. She is one of the most charming of the elder women I know. She is pluckily facing the departure from what was her home. She has Mary, a charming girl – alas not boy – to console her & nothing else. Then she went to bed & I had a talk with Ld. Stalbridge chairman of L&NWR. Not a big enough man.
	5 Sep, Tue	To Naas where Stephen Brown lunched me and then same function with Kildare Co C'tee as at Cork & Waterford. At all three meetings the feeling towards me & the Dep't excellent. Learned much in trip of agric'l economics. Back to Barn where Monteagle & Rev. W. Tulloch D.D. (recommended by Hannay & son of Principal Tulloch) dined & slept. Latter a little queer – drink I fear. He maudled about golf & nothing else.
	6 Sep, Wed	Usual arrears after few days absence. Managed to call on Sir Antony & discuss future of himself & Ireland. Poor old fellow. He is full of pluck & is I think a fine character. His understanding is narrow in some ways.
	7 Sep, Thu	To Belfast & back in day to attend a Conf[eren]ce re Flax industry. Met Tom Sinclair.
	8 Sep, Fri	Official, hard.
	9 Sep, Sat	At end of tiring week had a very busy 2/3rds day at office including a stormy deputation from Co. Leitrim headed by P A McHugh.
	10 Sep, Sun	Rest! and badly wanted.
	11 Sep, Mon	Long official day. The questions of real importance I had to deal with made me reflect on the evil day when my successor has a popular reputation to make by his munificence. My administration has been clean in every sense. The Auditor General takes care of big frauds but the little frauds of doing the popular thing & being repaid in popularity no public opinion in Ireland would even question. Yet on saying no the edifice I have reared rests.
	12 Sep, Tue	Official. Rev. John Verschoyle came to see me, a nervous wreck

Correspondence [Notes]	1905	Diary Entry
		poor fellow. Paralysis threatened.
	13 Sep, Wed	To Dublin in time to catch 6.40 AM mail to Limerick. Met County C'tee of ag & Tech Inst with Gordon & Turnbull. Monteagle present & did well, E--ly ditto & made an ass of himself. A rather hopeless C'tee – an awful warning to Home Rulers. But Gordon says much better than they were 3 years ago. Back to Dublin & the Barn by night.
	14 Sep, Thu	Manager of 'Peat Coal syndicate' called. Fear it is a fraud – so says Tatlow our Peat expert. Heavy official day. Callan came to Barn for 2 nights.
	15 Sep, Fri	Heavy Routine day.
	16 Sep, Sat	By 9 AM with Daisy, Fr. Finlay & Lady Mayo to Omagh, our put up for the night whence with the aid of the Department motor car we visited the Dromore peasantry – those who have taken up our domestic economy scheme. Fr. Maguire & Miss O'Brien showed us round & we were greatly delighted with the extraordinary enthusiasm with which they had taken up the scheme.
	17 Sep, Sun	Via Dromore to Enniskillen. At Dromore had a public meeting at Chapel Gates which Fr. Finlay & I addressed. Satisfactory. Then visited more cottages – very few as motor behaved badly – then an Irish Play & concert showing the enormous power of the Gaelic League to brighten home life. A crying pity that the baser sort of Leaguers get control of things when the people have less character!
[Duke of Abercorn]	18 Sep, Mon	Met the Fermanagh Committee of Agriculture with Gordon. Amicable, businesslike. Archdale ex-M.P. who was competition with me for my post showed his narrowness & utter unfitness for the work of the New Movement. On to Baronscourt with Gordon, a family party, Duke away. Duchess very kind & nice. Daisy & Lady Mayo went back from Enniskillen early. At Baronscourt got wire from Daisy. "Fingall had bad trap accident last night. Concussion but no bad symptoms." Poor fellow I do hope he has not shaken his nerves badly. His calm is angelic.
	19 Sep, Tue	Had a walk on the Baronscourt Farms with W Ball the manager & Gordon. Very interesting talk on the ducal economy. On to Lifford by motor where Gordon & I met Donegal Committee of Agriculture. The <u>bad</u> Fr. McFadden of Gweedore & Monsignor McGlynn attacked the Dept & I defended it in the matter of a rule we have made & intend to stick to – not allowing natives of the counties to be employed therein as experts. Got through the meeting & moted on via Omagh where I visited the Xian Brothers school to Castletown, where cheering telegram from Daisy about Fingall arrived & cheered me.
	20 Sep, Wed	Early to see two properties for sale near Castletown – the second Loughry suiting well for an Ulster Dairy School for Women. Then on to Armagh where I met another Co C'tee (Co Armagh) & went on to train to Dublin & the Barn. At the latter got excellent news of Fingall.
	21 Sep, Thu	Very heavy day ending up with a Tech Inst function at Blackrock. Fingall much better.

Correspondence [Notes]	1905	Diary Entry
	22 Sep, Fri	As yesterday. Fingall getting steadily better. Called on Sir Antony MacDonnell whose recovery is a bit retarded & I think comforted him.
	23 Sep, Sat	¾ official day. Fr. Dowling from Cork came to see me & I had a very straight talk with him about his behaviour to the Department.
	24 Sep, Sun	Moted Jim Power down to Killeen & back at night. Fingall was not to be seen but Lentaingne told me that although the skull might be fractured there was no bad symptom & he would probably be as well as ever in a short time.
	25 Sep, Mon	Official.
	26 Sep, Tue	Ditto
	27 Sep, Wed	Ditto 6 AM to 8 P.M. Interlude & Long to lunch.
	28 Sep, Thu	To Kilkenny & back by train. Attended County C'tee of Agriculture & got on well. Saw wood carving industry, Tech school, &c. R.A.A. to dine & sleep.
	29 Sep, Fri	Chevenix (alias Dermot since he became a Gaelic Leaguer) dined & slept. He is a young Oxford man of great promise, nephew of SH Butcher whom we hope to enlist in the new movement in Ireland.
	30 Sep, Sat	½ day in office & then a game of golf at Dollymount. This after rising at 5 AM.
[usually spelled Maretimo]	1 Oct, Sun	In bed till noon! Then got F Lawless from Maritimo to see my plants &c at 'The Site'. Then moted to Phoenix Park, say [sic] Antony MacDonnell, Dudley, Callan. At Antony MacD's met Sir Wm. Butler. A brief talk showed me what fools the Gov't were to put him at the head of such an important Commission as that which was to disguise into the War Stores Scandals. Interesting but emotional & irresponsible sort of person.
	2 Oct, Mon	Very heavy day in office & a function at night – distrib[utio]n of prizes at Kingstown Tech School in Town Hall – where I have addressed crowded audiences of mixed feelings towards me. I was astonished at the attendance & the interest. Even Kingstown is broadening!
	3 Oct, Tue	Caroe arrived & I gave ½ day to my own affairs & I might almost say ¾ day to official work!
	4 Oct, Wed	Most of morning with Caroe. Then office till dinner.
	5 Oct, Thu	To Larne for prize distrib[utio]n Tech: School. Put up with Sir Hugh Smiley. Fisher there. Made very bad speech. Much too tired.
	6 Oct, Fri	Moted into Belfast (26 miles) in time to catch 7.30 AM to Dublin. Attended long C.D.B. meeting. Walter Long presided. He is a delightful change from Wyndham. Long office afternoon. Very tired.
	7 Oct, Sat	Tom Ponsonby came to The Barn to dine & sleep. Very nice boy – greatly improved. He was interesting on his American experiences. Got off my recommendation to Irish Gov't on an administrative

Correspondence [Notes]	1905	Diary Entry
		policy to Long & MacDonnell. It is a strong document I think.
	8 Oct, Sun	Tom Ponsonby moted home. Daisy & Miss Burke took off the two girls to School at St. Leonards & I am left to finish my Foxrock season alone! Moted Long to Randlestown to see Everard's tobacco experiments. Real object to get an opportunity of teaching him Irish agricultural economics. I think he was impressed. Dined with Lady Doreen & him, only Monteith present, & moted back late to Barn. Fateful day – perhaps.
	9 Oct, Mon	3 hours with Long over my Irish Gov't new policy. He accepts it entirely & I am to précis it for his execution!
	10 Oct, Tue	Nugent Everard came to dine & sleep & I talked over the future of rural Ireland & how it could be built up with him.
	11 Oct, Wed	Dudley kept me some hours talking over Irish affairs. He tried to get me to admit that the Devolution programme was quite sound. I said I would welcome an inquiry into Irish Government which seemed to satisfy him. Dr. Windle of Cork came out to The Barn.
	12 Oct, Thu	Two bishops, Col. Plunkett, Dr. Windle & Everard took my whole day. In the evening I went to Kingstown & found Adams convalescing.
	13 Oct, Fri	Official & dined with Madden to meet Arts Institutions Committee.
	14 Oct, Sat	Took Fr. Finlay to Palmerston where we picked up Lady Mayo. Then on to Athlone for the night en route to Menlough where another Dromore is to be created. The motor car is a tiring & cold conveyance to drive.
	15 Oct, Sun	To Menlough via Clonmacnoise which Fr. F & Lady Mayo were both very interesting about. Roads skiddy & a bad skid at Moate forced us to stay the night there for repairs to the motor. Comfortable & clean Hotel luckily. Menlough bids fair to succeed I think. We had a good meeting in the "Pembroke Village Hall". Miss Violet Magan & Miss Amy Barry have set up in a cottage & will I think do well.
	16 Oct, Mon	Back via Palmerston to Dublin for lunch. Busy afternoon. Dined Adams at St. Georges Yacht Club & had interesting talk.
	17 Oct, Tue	A new complication. Conrad Young writes (Oct. 6) that Windsor's health has altogether broken. Grave nervous disease. What on earth will happen to the poor wife & children!
	18 Oct, Wed	Not very well & got through no work worth talking of though many hours at it. Had a conference betw'n our Veterinary officers & the military V.O.s at Royal Hospital, Ld. Grenfell presiding. He is a good administrator.
	19 Oct, Thu	Fletcher came back to my great relief. Began day with an explanation of my Irish administrative policy to Sir Henry Robinson who took it in but "feared Antony". Spent part of afternoon with Moore in Botanic Gardens – very interesting. But oh for a little, even the most elementary knowledge of plant life.

Correspondence [Notes]	1905	Diary Entry
	20 Oct, Fri	Worked hard on Finucane & I think converted him to my policy.
	21 Oct, Sat	Friday entry should be here. On Friday had long official day.
	22 Oct, Sun	A most interesting day. M E Sadler arrived from Eng'd early & I spent the day with him, Fr. Finlay, Fletcher, Smail & also John E Healy, Times correspondent coming in to help ?enable S. for tomorrow's lecture.
	23 Oct, Mon	Busy day & then Sadler's lecture in Rathmines Town Hall. Brilliant speech – will do great good. Fr. Finlay also spoke admirably, I badly.
	24 Oct, Tue	Sadler & I took morning mail boat to Holyhead. He went off at Chester & I on to London with Bowers. Dined Fr. O'Donovan at Club.
	25 Oct, Wed	Examined before Royal Com[missio]n on Motor Cars. Took a liberal view I think. Called on Mary & saw Dorothy first time after the engagement.
	26 Oct, Thu	Bowes meeting & other colliery work with Gardiner. Interview with Caroe & some official work. Dined with Conny & Raymond.
	27 Oct, Fri	Rather seedy with eczema (acute). Saw SH Butcher, Harrel & Geo Holmes. Drew Treasury blank. Dined with Bernard Holland.
	28 Oct, Sat	Bd. of Agriculture interdepartmental action. Interviewed two "Fitters" with Sir Lindsay Wood. Wrote Gardiner recommending one. Back by night to Ireland.
	29 Oct, Sun	Called on some neighbors & spent afternoon & ev[en]ing with R.A.A. Much affected by eczema.
	30 Oct, Mon	Official.
	31 Oct, Tue	Quarterly Committee meeting of IAOS.
	1 Nov, Wed	Left The Barn & came to Kildare St. Club. Family removal took nearly ½ day! Good talk with Long over agrarian situation.
	2 Nov, Thu	Official only.
	3 Nov, Fri	Ditto
	4 Nov, Sat	½ day in office. Then moted to Killeen for week end. Saw Fingall for first time after accident. The Moores (Glasnevin) were there.
	5 Nov, Sun	½ rest. Could not keep head off work.
	6 Nov, Mon	The Dr. (Lentaigne) told me that a troublesome complaint (acute eczema with external piles) could not be treated without either an ideal physiological existence – golf &c, or an operation with at least a week in bed! Neither is possible without a great sacrifice of important work.
	7 Nov, Tue	I tried a game of golf with Anderson to see whether that variant on the 6 AM to 8 P.M. work would relieve my discomfort, attributed by Dr. Lentaigne to my sedentary habits. But it only tired me.
	8 Nov, Wed	A 2½ hours' deputation of Limerick Butter merchants & other wild folk. Did some important work.

Correspondence [Notes]	1905	Diary Entry
	9 Nov, Thu	Official. Dept's Smoking Concert – a very good institution. Excellent feeling.
	10 Nov, Fri	Official. Seedy & unable [to] attend C.D.B.
	11 Nov, Sat	½ day & to Killeen for week end.
	12 Nov, Sun	½ day in bed & absolute rest.
[Letter to IAOS declining nomination for Presidency in <i>IH</i> , XI:46 (18 Nov 1905) p. 842]	13 Nov, Mon	Back at it at office. Gill came back after 4 months absence. ---
[Text of address to Council of Agriculture in <i>IH</i> , XI:46 (18 Nov 1905) pp. 854-6; and in <i>DATI Journal</i> , VI:2 (Jan 1906), pp. 216-26]	14 Nov, Tue	Eighth meeting of Council of Agriculture, 70% attendance. Good businesslike discussion. I gave them some straight advice which they took well. Had a consultation Drs Cox & Lentaigine on my condition of general over fatigue and local trouble – acute pruritis & external piles. They decreed that I must go into private hospital for a week at least & I go on 18th.
	15 Nov, Wed	Whole day taken up with meeting of Agric'l Board.
	16 Nov, Thu	Long busy day at Dep't.
	17 Nov, Fri	To Coleraine with Fletcher & Bowers by 9 AM train. Dictated a speech on Technical Instruction on the way. Opened a technical school, suffered a banquet & a public meeting. Stood it all.
	18 Nov, Sat	First winter day. Bright, keen, frosty. Through Belfast where Technical Institute & Sinclair used up a profitable 3 hours & then to Dublin where after a wind up in the office I went into hospital – very nice private hospital attached to St. Vincents, 96 L[owe]r Leeson St. Had fine big formal drawing room, on street. But airy. A week is asked by the doctors. I hope I may get out in two!
	19 Nov, Sun	In bed. Solitary confinement. Drugs!
	20 Nov, Mon	A badly bungled & utterly useless surgical treatment. Stretching the sphincter muscle, painting the affected parts with nitrate of silver was the scheme. The first blunder was that the bowels were found not to be empty after I was under ether. They had to be emptied in that condition, so I was under the poison 1½ hours & made very sick. Absolutely no good came of the treatment.
	21 Nov, Tue	Still sick & the local affection is bad as ever.
	22 Nov, Wed	No improvement & now the Dr. admits the whole business was a mistake. A Radical cutting operation is required. So I think, but ought I to trust him? A masseur came & gave a deplorable account of my physical condition. Smith was admitted & Anderson also looked in.
	23 Nov, Thu	Daisy came up & had it out with Lentaigine. If he has to operate – he is to wait till Saturday to decide – he is to call in another surgeon who has done the operation. The Technical Instruction Board met & the IAOS General meeting was held. I was absent from both, though fixed for my convenience. Everard was elected President of IAOS to succeed Monteagle. Montgomery backed by Loftus Bryan being a formidable competitor.

Correspondence [Notes]	1905	Diary Entry
	24 Nov, Fri	Much better. For first time I have managed to do without cocaine (external of course) & I now suspect that the relief thus gained has been my undoing. What fools doctors are – are patients to believe them.
	25 Nov, Sat	Again better. But the local trouble shows little sign of yielding. Had massage twice. The Fingalls both called.
	26 Nov, Sun	Fr. Finlay called.
	27 Nov, Mon	Gradually getting back nerve strength. But it is only when one stops working that the extent of the break down appears. Whether the local trouble will cure itself with improved general health remains to be seen.
	28 Nov, Tue	Daisy came up & made Lentaigne call in Sir Charles Ball to see my local trouble & advise. He is to come tomorrow.
	29 Nov, Wed	A miserable day. Sir C Ball came in & was as decided as Lentaigne was undecided. If he were I he would be operated on at once for pruritis. He had operated 9 times in last 3 years, always successfully. He did not believe I could be cured except by severing the nerves. I might go to America & treat the part with a great variety of drugs & have fair comfort. But sooner or later an operation & the sooner the better for general health. Lentaigne seemed to agree & I made all arrangements, a very tiring job. In the evening L. came & said I had decided on the operation now against his judgment. I might be cured without it! He is hopeless.
	30 Nov, Thu	Up 6 AM to prepare for the operation – purgatives &c. Wrote to Anderson, Lady Betty & others while all was being made ready. Just before the hour appointed Lentaigne rushed in to say that it was not too late to postpone it till after my return from America, he advised that course. Then came Ball & I said to him do you think the trouble can be cured without an operation. He said no. So I took the anaesthetic & after 1½ hours' work by Lentaigne under Ball's eye the operation was performed. I came to in about 3 hours & was very sick & sorry.
	1 Dec, Fri	All day very miserable but wound doing well.
	2 Dec, Sat	Began to feel myself again & wound healing fast.
	3 Dec, Sun	Starvation diet much against everybody's advice. But it gave me some internal comfort while the Bowels could not act.
	4 Dec, Mon	Government resigned today.
	5 Dec, Tue	Progress maintained. Very weak.
	6 Dec, wed	First day to touch solid food. Toast?
	7 Dec, Thu	Up 1 hour.
	8 Dec, Fri	Up in chair 3 hours. Cure a little retarded by necessity of thinking out plans in view of unexpectedly sudden resignation of Gov't. Another is to be appointed in my place for purely party reasons. The wishes & interests of the Country would keep me in my post. But the M.P.s are down on me & Gill's fear of them prevented a policy of strengthening the Council & Boards against the M.P.s & so preventing the job being done. It is a pity.

Correspondence [Notes]	1905	Diary Entry
	9 Dec, Sat	More restful & progress to recovery.
	10 Dec, Sun	Up all day
	11 Dec, Mon	Lady Dudley called & had a long sensible talk. Got into out of doors clothes! T W Russell came. He had not heard of his appointment. I got him to take on Smith as his private Secretary.
[8 st, 4 lb = 116 lbs.]	12 Dec, Tue	Dudley called and I had a long pow-wow with him. He is a really fine fellow & if fortune had not been cruelly kind to him he would have made his mark in the world. He may yet. Naked weight 8 st[one] 4 lbs.
	13 Dec, Wed	A great event in my life. Sir Antony has arranged with the Liberal government to continue me in office during their pleasure – the office to be non-political except that it requires re-appointment by each successive Government. I am very glad. I saw TW Russell & told him the news. He took it very well indeed.
	14 Dec, Thu	Privy Council to swear in Aberdeen & Bryce. Both very anxious for me to accept Government's offer. But alas when I afterwards talked it over with Bryce it appeared that he had not consulted Campbell Bannerman & the appointment rests practically with the Prime Minister. After long interview at the new Ld. Chancellor's (Walker's) house we had to leave the matter in suspense. I doubt much whether I shall be able to accept. Bryce wants me to run the Dept. But he is quite ignorant of the conditions so that his offer does not amount to much.
To Balfour, Lady Betty	15 Dec, Fri	Greeted by a violent attack in the Freeman & modified support in the Independent. Wrote a long letter to Sir Antony saying I would continue provisionally if (1) I could do so without embarrassing the Government and (2) the Irish people would approve. I hope the matter can be postponed till I return when the latter condition would become known. Wound still discharging slightly in one small spot. But every hope of rapid healing. Saw Dr. Lentaigne for last time.
	16 Dec, Sat	Said goodbye to chief members of staff at Dept – probably an official farewell – to Jim Power, Daisy, to the dear nurse at the Nursing home & her admirable nurses, packed for America & left by night for London. I see now that I cannot accept the retention of my office even if it is definitely offered by the Cabinet.
	17 Dec, Sun	Stood journey well. Had an hour with James Bryce. He had seen the Prime Minister & had got authority for asking me to hold on provisionally. This I must do. Saw also Lady Aberdeen & had long talk with her on the Irish situation. She asked me, if I had to give up the Vice Presidency would I become her private secretary!! Saw something of Mary & Conny & Reggie. All very nice. Reggie developing really well. He is I think the best Plunkett of my time.
	18 Dec, Mon	Solicitors. Antony MacDonnell, Gill, Bd. of Ag, W F Bailey & endless parting correspondence. Final decision on my position to be made tomorrow. Dined Monteagle. Limp but vegetarian which may change the man! Good and loyal as ever.
	19 Dec, Tue	A heavy day. Rose early. Ikerrin at 9.30, Gardiner at 10. Then Irish office with Gill. Arranged with Bryce, Antony MacDonnell

Correspondence [Notes]	1905	Diary Entry
		consenting, that Home Secretary should ask [me] to stay on temporarily & that I should consent. Then lunched Seton & Bullock at club. Say [<i>sic</i>] Bernard Holland at Colonial office, J. Sinclair at Scotch office. With Gill to Bd. of Agriculture. At 10.30 P.M. got back to 105 to find letter from Sir Antony to effect that Home Secretary Herbert Gladstone funk'd asking me to stay on in teeth of Nationalists! Sir A. sent a letter from himself in name of Aberdeen. I declined to sign as this would virtually acknowledge right of Irish Gov't to control Vice Presidency. Got to bed about 1 P.M. [<i>sic</i>]
	20 Dec, Wed	Up at cock crow – long before light – to tackle situation of night before. Wrote a memo to Bryce saying I would deal direct with him but not with Sir A. Went to see him & gave my ultimatum. Then by White Star Special (10.45 AM) to L[iver]pool taking Bowers to whom I dictated all my important letters in the train. Met Bruce Ismay who gave me a suite of two fine state rooms & a bath room. Physically comfortable but mentally anxious not having decision of Govts. Cabinet met today.
	21 Dec, Thu	Wrote 20 letters & several telegrams. News came at last that the Gov't had decided to accept my terms. So I stay on as Vice President of the Dept pending further developments. I want to go on with the work. Most people want me to. Dillon & Sexton are determined I shall not & I suspect T W Russell is scheming for my post. The only way the post can be made right for me is that it should be non-parliamentary & yet non-Castle. This by developing the responsibility to public op[inio]n in Ireland & making responsibility to Parlt. less important as it yearly becomes in fact. Principal Fairbairn turned up on the boat. He seemed more dry & egotistical than when I met him in Belfast.
	22 Dec, Fri	309 W gale
	23 Dec, Sat	336 W gale
[Czar – Nicholas II; Dowager Empress – Maria Fyodorovna]	24 Dec, Sun	380 Freak N.E. gale. Eugene Baron de Ferson aged 31 sat next to me at table. He belongs to the Russian nobility. Alexander II held him in his arms at the Font. He is related to Tolstoi for whom he has not much respect as he does not “forsake all” by any means. The family of which de F. is head had estates in 26 districts, 750,000 acres in all. Before the recent troubles, through the agency of the Peasant Bank (state controlled) he sold whole estate to peasants (who pay the Bank in 10 yearly instalments) at “ridiculously” low price. Sale included House! Demesne near Moscow (palatial as seen in photo). Before transfer of the House, which was guarded by Cossacks privately retained, the peasants broke into it and burned it down. Fifty family portraits (many VanDycks & Rembrandts were destroyed, besides priceless historical treasures, e.g. the crown of Poland 500 years old). 1500 similar estates though few as large as the nobility have been similarly treated by the peasantry & in these cases the owners, not having sold, were absolutely ruined. De F. says the Czar is personally popular. He attributes his failure to meet the people to the Dowager Empress – a perfect fiend if he is not biassed. The Grand Dukes are the real curse of the country.
	25 Dec, Mon	362

Correspondence [Notes]	1905	Diary Entry
	26 Dec, Tue	188 Whole gale WNW & high sea. One of the worst storms I have seen at sea & yet we eat our Xmas dinner in comfort while the bulwarks were being carried away on the weather side. I never so appreciated the comfort of the big ships.
	27 Dec, Wed	289
	28 Dec, Thu	383
	29 Dec, Fri	406 – 125 to Sandy Hook. Lay at anchor all night. Never benefited so much from a voyage. The heavy sea is splendidly counteracted by the heavy ship (21000 tons in this case!)
	30 Dec, Sat	Landed 10 A.M. Pressing invitation from James Byrnes to put up with them again which I did. Bourke Cockran was away in California after pneumonia. Did some business & called on Wallace Buttrick of the Gen'l Ed'n Board & Robert C. Ogden. John D Rockefeller has given them \$10,000,000 (& more to come) for their work. I felt they knew little of their problem. Conceived idea of trying to get R. to do for Ireland what Carnegie has done for Scotland!
	31 Dec, Sun	Met F. C. Bosler who had come from Carlisle Penn[sylvani]a to see me about the Ranch & other matters. He might help me to get out of Omaha property. Took Lake Shore Limited to Chicago.
		[Page torn out]
	Year-end Summary	<p style="text-align: center;">1905</p> <p>A very hard year's work. Brought out a popular ed[iti]o[n] of my book (1/-) with an epilogue in answer to my most violent critics. No doubt this made matters worse with them but with others I gained by getting the book read. It has certainly stirred thought as well as passion and when the Government fell at the end of the year I found that all the best opinion in Ireland was in favor of my being retained in office by the Liberal administration. The year ends with the future of my office & of my tenure of it still unsettled.</p> <p>In the summer Gill, Campbell, Fletcher & Adams – my four chief officers were all ill & away. The extra strain on myself very nearly brought on a nervous collapse. But I was providentially kept 4 weeks in hospital for two trifling surgical operations & the rest saved the nerves. I feel a bit aged & hope to take life easier in order to get more work done before I go.</p> <p>While I was absorbed in public work Jim Power who undertook to look after the building of my house let me in for a house twice as big as I wanted. I hope I may be able to live in it but I am quite as likely to illustrate a well known proverb!</p>