An Exile's Cunning: Some Private Papers of George Gissing

Postmus, B.P.

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22 Bures, on the Great Eastern Railway in Suffolk, was the railway station nearest (a distance of about four miles) to the East Anglian Sanatorium in Nayland, where Gissing stayed from 24 June until 10 August 1901. Clearly he first travelled to Liverpool Street Station and then continued on his journey to France where he was to join Gabrielle Fleury, who was staying at Autun. Cf. George Gissing, “To Edward Clodd,” 17 June 1901, The Letters of George Gissing to Edward Clodd, ed. Pierre Coustillas (London: Enitharmon, 1973) 74: “I go to Nayland next Saturday, I think... Nearest railway station, Bures. But probably you know the district. It is said to be very dry and sunny.”

23 Cf. Town Traveller, 129: “The water-bottle on the table was encrusted with a white enamel advertisement of somebody’s whisky, and had another such recommendation legible on its base. The tray used by the girl in attendance was enamelled with the name of somebody’s brandy. On the walls hung three brightly-coloured calendars, each an advertisement: one of sewing machines, one of a popular insurance office, one of a local grocery business.” Also: Scrapbook, “Ideas”.

24 Cf. Town Traveller, 129; Scrapbook, “Ideas”.

25 Cf. Town Traveller, 129; Scrapbook, “Ideas”.
Church Times for lodgings. 26

Golden pollen of palm willows. 27

Tettered bark of young wych elm. 28

Smooth olive green young ash. 29

Alder. Trunk like hazel, but crossed with dashes, horizontally. 30

Worth jew's eye. - gahping - funny -

Ladder - sit on table - child on table - salt - sneeze on Friday 31 - cross-eyed person -

26 On leaving Clodd's Whitsuntide party (31 May-3 June 1895) at Aldeburgh, Gissing went on to Yarmouth, where he stayed for a day looking for lodgings. At Gorleston, a suburb of Yarmouth, he found what looked like a suitable place for his summer holidays. Unfortunately, things did not turn out well when he went there in July 1895. Cf Collected Letters of George Gissing, vol. 6, 'To Clara Collet,' 1 August 1895, p. 8: "We stayed at Gorleston for ten days, and it was an unspeakable time. My experience of evil landladies is large, but this woman went beyond all example - a mere savage, who ended with the coarsest abuse and insult, so that we had to escape with the aid of the police. Yet the lodgings were 30/- a week, and I had foreseen no such horrors." See: "The Tout of Yarmouth Bridge," Human Odds and Ends, 216-17.

27 Cf Scrapbook, "Localities & Notes on Nature. Science." where the entry is dated April [1895]: "The palm-willows a mass of golden pollen standing out among leafless trees (April)." Also: Ryecroft, Spring 25, 75: "I saw the sallow glistening with its cones of silvery fur, and splendid with dust of gold."

28 Cf Scrapbook, "Localities & Notes on Nature. Science." Also: Ryecroft, Spring 3, 10: "Hard by stood a bush of wych elm; its tettered bark, overlined as if with the character of some unknown tongue, made the young ashes yet more beautiful."

29 Cf Scrapbook, "Localities & Notes on Nature. Science." Also: Ryecroft, Spring 3, 10: "When I had looked long at the flower, I delighted myself with the grace of the slim trees about it - their shining smoothness, their olive hue."


31 Cf Athenæum (1848) 142:

"If you sneeze on a Monday, you sneeze for danger;
Sneeze on a Tuesday, kiss a stranger;
Sneeze on a Wednesday, sneeze for a letter;
Sneeze on a Thursday, something better;
Sneeze on a Friday, sneeze for sorrow;"
THE HUNTINGTON MEMORANDUM BOOK

May: umbrella - burn rags or string - pass on stairs - washing water - crossed knives - dry letter at fire - boots on table.

[upside down] 75. 620

Sneeze on a Saturday, see your sweetheart tomorrow;
Sneeze on a Sunday, and the devil will have domination over you all the week!

Cf. George Gissing, "To Edward Clodd," 5 May 1895, George Gissing's Letters to Edward Clodd, ed. Pierre Courthias (London: Enitharmon, 1973) 34-5: "I wonder whether you are aware of the hold that grosser superstition still has on the women of the London lower classes. It is easy to imagine the case of a fairly sensible workman driven mad by his wife's imbecility in this matter; ... My notebook contains a long list of these exasperating barbarisms, still operative. Especially vile is that one which forbids the bringing of may-blossom into the house. Think of it!" Also, Commonplace Book, 63: "A special stupidity and vulgararity is that London superstition which forbids having May blossom in the house."

Cf. Scrapbook, "Slang (Journalistic & Advertising English/London Vulgarisms & Superstitions)": "It is unlucky to: Pass under a ladder. / Sit on the table. / Spill salt. / Help another to salt ('to sorrow'). / To sneeze on a Friday. / To be looked at by a cross-eyed person. / To bring May into the house. [See: Commonplace Book, 63.] / Open an umbrella over your head in the house. / Look at the moon through glass. [See: "A Capitalist," House of Cobwebs, 43.] / To burn rags in the house. / Pass a person on the stairs, and it leads to a quarrel. / Wash your hands in another person's dirty water, and it leads to quarrel. / Sneezing thrice: 'Once a wish, twice a kiss, three times a sorrowful letter.' / Turn your money on seeing the new moon. / Lucky to sneeze on a Monday; unlucky on Friday. / Crossed knives on table indicate a quarrel. / To dry a letter at the fire. / To burn string. / To let child stand on a table. / To put boots on table."

Given Edward Clodd's interest in superstitions (see note 32), Gissing must have copied into his notebook a selection of the superstitions collected in his Scrapbook, with a view to showing them to Clodd at Aldeburgh. The succinctness of the entries in the Huntington Memorandum Book, compared to the more extensive notation in the Scrapbook, would seem to support this conclusion. In addition, it is striking that the entries in the Huntington Memorandum Book are in ink, whereas the majority of the entries are in pencil. We may therefore safely assume that Gissing was working at his own desk, when he transferred the Scrapbook entries on superstition into the Huntington Memorandum Book.


Also: Scrapbook, "Slang (Journalistic & Advertising English/London Vulgarisms & Superstitions)"; 'Ah, that's worth a Jew's eye.' (Cf. 'Shall be worth a jewess's eye.' Merchant of Venice)." [II. v. 42]

"Don't stand gahping at me! (In the ordinary sense, the word is pronounced 'gape')."

"Use of the word 'funny', in contemptuous and maledictory sense: 'He's a funny feller, he is!"

This may have been Gissing's weight on 9 Oct. 1901. Cf. the table on [p.70] below.
"Insolent capon!"36 – [Marked with a cross and crossed out.]

Bosworth Park.37 Lord Huntingtower–
"Oh, that [is] the brazen hussy that goes about in public. I’m his private wife!"
[Crossed out.]

Ruskin’s divorce (H. Hunt)38 [Crossed out.]
“If you came into my study and made water, etc.” 

J. Morley promised memoir of Morrison [sic]; Macmillan and Longmans refused “Service of Man.”

Bernard Harrison.

[p.4]

The “Lotus”

Lymphatic temper. Starts of mirth, followed by deep depression.

Watson and L. F. Austin. Almighty told me I am to be poet laureate. Long telegrams, sent on by A. to Hutton.

[p.5] [Whole page crossed out.]

In 1848, John Ruskin (1819-1900), the most influential art theorist and critic of his age, married a distant cousin, Euphemia Gray. The marriage was in every way disastrous. It had been arranged by the parents of the bride and groom; it was never consummated, and in 1854 it was annulled when Effie fell in love with Ruskin’s friend, the Pre-Raphaelite painter John Everett Millais.

39 Cf. note 36.

40 Cf. Diary, 375-76: “John Morley promised to write a memoir of Cotter Morison, to be prefixed to a collection of papers. But he has backed out of it.” Also, cf. Clodd’s Memories (1926) 116-17.

See: Collected Letters of George Gissing, eds. Paul F. Mathiesen, Arthur C. Young, Pierre Coustillas, vol. 6 (Athens, Ohio: Ohio UP, 1995) 30: “This was James Augustus Cotter Morison (1832-1888), whose book The Service of Man: an Essay Towards the Religion of the Future (1887) was an important contribution to the English positivist movement, in which [he] had participated all his life ... Gissing had met him early in his London years.”

41 Cf. Diary, 376: “Bernard Harrison, my old pupil, now an art student at Paris, has been converted to Roman Catholicism.” Bernard Harrison (1871-1956) was a son of Frederic Harrison. Together with his brother Austin, he was taught by Gissing in the early eighties. He later became a painter.

42 See [p. 6] below.

43 Cf. Diary, 376: “Austin told of Will Watson’s madness. Once, in a hotel, in presence of a stranger, Watson told Austin that the Almighty had declared to him he was to be Laureate. Shortly after, he sent Austin long incoherent telegrams, abusing his publishers – Macmillans; these Austin sent on to [R.H.] Hutton [editor] of the Spectator. It appears that Watson will never talk about anything but his own poetry.”

Watson, Sir William (1858-1935), prolific but minor poet.

Austin, Louis Frederic (1852-1905). Literary journalist and member of the Omar Khayyam Club. Attended Clodd’s Whitsun party at Aldeburgh.
Valley of the Blythe.—A stream glistening and rippling in breeze over sunny brown bottom. Great leaves of water lily floating. The flags rustling and waving. Meadows a sheet of gold—buttercups. Scent from hawthorn a mass of snowy blossom.44

[p.6]
The “Lotus” on a sunny reach,
    And friends aboard her, frankly human,
Chatting o’er all the time can teach,
    Of heaven and earth, of man and woman.
An eddy in the silent flow
    Of days and years that bear us—whither?

**Befall what may**

We know not, but ’tis well to know
We spent this sunny day together.45

[p.7]

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<th>Norwich (Thorpe)</th>
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<td>Yarmouth</td>
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Diary, 376: “On Wednesday [5 June 1895] I left early, for Southwold. Walked from Southwold to Wenhaston, up Blythe valley. Splendid day.”

Gissing used the entry for Ryecroft, Winter 23, 283: “This is the valley of the Blythe. The stream ripples and glances over its brown bed warmed with sunbeams; by its bank the green flags wave and rustle, and, all about, the meadows shine in pure gold of buttercups. The hawthorn hedges are a mass of gleaming blossom, which scents the breeze.”

In Will Warburton (p. 218) Bertha Cross and her mother spend a fortnight by the sea at Southwold.


Cf. Diary, 375: “On Saturday we sailed in Clodd’s boat, the “Lotus”, to Orford, and had our lunch in the banqueting room of the Castle. Splendid view from the top; Sunday we boated to Iken, up the river, and are there on the cliff; perfect weather. On Monday morning we sailed up and down for a couple of hours, returning for lunch. This being our last day, I was asked to write some verses to celebrate the holiday. They were copied seven times, and each copy signed by all of us.”

46 Cf. Diary, 31 July 1895: “All went by the ‘Yarmouth Belle’ up the river to Norwich... Back by train to tea.”
Moscow Lodge. Double-fronted, white glazed buff-grey brick. Bay on one side flat on other. Low wall and ornamental iron railings. Pilastered porch.

Strathclyde. Also double fronted, but smaller. No porch. With pilastered Buff brick. Close fence of unpainted lath.

Asphalt pavement of the Brighton Road, but no brick villas. The milestone: 12 m. to Westminster Bridge. 13 m. to Standard and Cornhill.

When train begins to move it makes an “L” noise—“Ell-ll-ll!”

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47 Cf. Diary, 383, 8 August 1895: “The first very fine day since we left home. I went alone to Cromer, and spent a few hours there.”

Gissing used Cromer as the setting for one of the episodes in The Crown of Life, 198ff.

48 On 27 June 1895 Gissing started his “story for Cassells”, but, not untypically, he made a new and vigorous start five days later on the short novel that was to become The Paying Guest. The book was finished in a fortnight, on 16 July 1895, just before going away on holiday to Gorleston.

These notes were used in the description of “Runnymede”, the Mumfords’ suburban villa at Sutton. Cf. The Paying Guest, 25-6: “Runnymede” (so the Mumfords’ house was named) stood on its own little plot of ground in one of the tree-shadowed roads which persuade the inhabitants of Sutton that they live in the country. It was of red brick, and double-fronted, with a porch of wood and stucco; bay windows on one side of the entrance, and flat on the other, made a contrast pleasing to the suburban eye. The little front garden had a close fence of unpainted lath, a characteristic of the neighbourhood ... Occasionally [Emmeline] walked along the asphalte [sic] pavement of the Brighton Road—a nursemaids’ promenade—as far as the stone which marks twelve miles from Westminster Bridge.”

Gissing’s “Standard” is a reference to the National Standard Theatre, at 204 Shoreditch High Street, a popular place of entertainment.
Gerda.49
Duty of understanding children.50

Inability to understand why women should take more precautions in bathing than men. – And women wear more, too!51

Hatred of country people.52

49 Gerda Leach, a musical friend of Alma Rolfe’s, is a minor character in The Whirlpool (pp. 186-88): “Gerda sang a little, but was stronger on the social side, delighting in festivities and open-air amusements.”

50 By the end of April 1896 – after his trip to Wales and a visit to Wakefield where he had left his elder son, Walter, with his mother and sisters-Gissing started work on his next novel. To his German friend, Eduard Bertz, he wrote in a letter of May 9, 1896: “I have got to work again, quite seriously, & have done three Chapters of my new book, which may perhaps be called “Benedict’s Household.” – The theme is the decay of domestic life among certain classes of people, & much stress is laid upon the question of children.” He returned to the subject of The Whirlpool in a letter to Herbert Stunner (4 Oct. 1896): “You would perhaps care to hear that in the novel at which I am now working I try to deal with the subject of parental responsibility.”

Besides parental responsibility, the education of children is the other major theme of The Whirlpool. Cf. Whirlpool, 156-57; 384. Without any doubt there is a direct connection between Gissing’s domestic situation—particularly his decision to have his son Walter removed from the evil influence of his mother and to have him brought up by his sisters at Wakefield—and Harvey Rolfe’s agonizing over the education of his son in The Whirlpool. Gissing’s views on the matter are expressed unequivocally in a letter to his sister Margaret (31 July 1896): “I think with uneasiness of the great labour he [Walter] imposes upon you—the infinite minutiae—the ceaseless anxiety .... This work of education—especially with the very young—is the highest of our time; no labour is more worthy of respect ....”

51 Cf. Scrapbook, “Mrs Twills”. Although Gissing here keeps a discreet silence about the model for Mrs Twills, it is evident that these observations are based upon the exasperating conduct of his wife Edith, during their summer holiday spent on the Norfolk coast. In his correspondence at the time, he variously described his wife as ignorant, savage, stupid and vulgar, with sane moments. What is remarkable is that Gissing managed to contain the fury and pain caused by Edith’s behaviour, in favour of an aloofness or artistic egotism, cultivated for the express purpose of turning his personal suffering into the raw material for his art. One is reminded of Osmond Waymark, a character from one of Gissing’s early novels, The Undersized (1884), who in chapter 25, “Art and Misery”, claims that “the artist ought to be able to make material of his own sufferings, even while the suffering is at its height. To what other end does he suffer? In very deed, he is the only man whose misery finds justification in apparent result.” In September 1895, about a month after their return from Great Yarmouth, Gissing revised The Undersized for republication, cutting away about a third of the original book and adding a preface.

On [pp. 70-1] there are similarly critical observations of a nameless “She”, doubtlessly
Young girl on Gorleston sands. Legs bare in whole length, with something white drawn tight round loins. Round waist a red petticoat rolled. Blue blouse, tam o’ shanter, and brown hair flying. – Perfect shape of legs – Girl as tall as a woman. Grace in running.

Her only act of self-sacrifice was when, in a rage, she refused a meal.

Disuse of domestic needlework and cheapness of slop-made things a cause of demoralization.

On the harbour side at 7.35 p.m. group of fishermen tarring big ropes – passing it through tar vat. Hands and arms thoroughly tared. – Brutal language.

Smacks moored, rocking on the tide.

Anchoring a steam tug.

The piles of tree-trunks and old masts lying endwise along harbour side.

Whybrow – Mortem

also based on (memories of) Edith on holiday; e.g. “The husband ashamed ever to return to holiday place, because of wife’s meanness.”

52 Cf. Scrapbook, “Mrs Twills”.

53 Gissing arrived at Gorleston with his wife and son on 19 July 1895. They put up at 1 Sunrise Terrace, where they had taken rooms with a Mrs Bunn. Cf. Our Friend the Charlatan, 387-88: “Leonard informed him that Mrs Woolstan was staying at Gorleston, near Yarmouth, her address Sunrise Terrace! ... Arrived at Yarmouth, he jumped into a cab, and was driven along the dull flat road which leads to Gorleston. Odour of the brine made amends for miles of lodgings, for breaks laden with boisterous trippers, for tram-cars and piano-organs. Here at length was Sunrise Terrace, a little row of plain houses on the top of the cliff, with sea-horizon vast before it, and soft green meadow-land far as one could see behind.”

54 Cf. Scrapbook, “Mrs Twills”.

55 Cf. Scrapbook, “Mrs Twills”.
Pays more than anybody, and has worst rooms in the house.

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0 502651
86 20/-
0 502652
86 July 25. [1895]

The vulgar rustic of to-day lives on maxims and knowledge which have lasted for thousands of years – no progress.\(^{56}\)

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The lake for Birmingham water – Radnorshire.\(^{57}\)

[p. 13] [Whole page crossed out.]

Child: “Why is Sunday called Sunday, when it always rains?” Idea of gloom.\(^{58}\)

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Organ playing “Addio bella Napoli.”\(^{59}\) – As a child he was at Naples.

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\(^{56}\) Cf. Ryecroft, Autumn 17, 199-203; especially 201: “The worst feature of the rustic mind in our day, is not its ignorance or grossness ....”

\(^{57}\) The Birmingham Corporation Reservoirs are situated in the Elan Valley, with much beautiful hill scenery, to the south west of the town of Rhayader in Radnorshire. The Elan reservoirs were completed in 1892-96 and comprise a chain of five narrow lakes, each with its dam, extending some 9m from North to South.

\(^{58}\) Cf. Whirlpool, 385: “Never again, when rain was falling, would Hughie turn and plead, ‘Father, tell the sun to come out!’”

\(^{59}\) Gissing listened to the song during his stay in Palazzo Swift, at Venice, in February 1889. Cf. “To Ellen,” 5 February 1889, Collected Letters of George Gissing, Vol. 4, p. 35: “Now I am waiting for something. I look away past S. Maria, & presently see a gondola with four red lamps coming silently hitherwards. It draws near to our side, & moors itself just in front of a large hotel, two houses distant. I listen intently. There is soft touching of violins, & the deep rich note of a violin cello; then suddenly begins a prelude of music, & in a minute is followed by an outburst of singing voices, a chorus, & their song is the “Addio a Napoli.” When the song is finished, there is clapping of hands from the windows of the houses ... Again a soft prelude, then one voice only begins to sing, a woman’s voice, exquisitely rich & true. This is ‘street’ music, but such a voice I have never heard anywhere but in great concert halls, never.”

Gissing’s novel The Emancipated (1890) is set in Naples and is based upon his stay in that city from October 31 to November 29, 1888.
Orgreave (n. Lichfield)

"The wind nimming everything I've got on."

Withenden — Sparkes

[p. 14] [Whole page crossed out.]

"If I put it down for a day or two, I forget all I've read. My memory's awful bad for reading."

"A doctor's wife as I know she has a diamond and one amethyst — lovely!"

Long talk about rings. Experience with jewellers, when lost rings given them to alter etc. — Three women talking, and often all at once; generally paying no heed to what each other says.

The strange common idea of the

[p. 15] [Whole page crossed out.]

vulgar that gentlefolk "starve" themselves for external appearances. "Oh, he's one of those half-starved" etc.

60 In the short story "The Elixir," written in 1898, Gissing created a Radical politician by the name of Orgreave. The name is included in the list of surnames in the Scrapbook, "Names/Surnames," together with two other names entered on this page, viz. Withenden, Sparkes and Orgreave (in this order).

61 Cf. Scrapbook, "Slang [Journalistic & Advertising English/London Vulgarisms & Superstitions]."

62 See note 60. In the Scrapbook, "Names/Surnames," Gissing gives the name as Withenden.

63 Cf. Diary, 392, 23 October 1895: "There came, for an interview, a young woman called Janet Sparkes, who has replied to the advt for servant." Gissing later used the name for Polly Sparkes in The Town Traveller (1898). Cf. note 60.

64 Cf. Our Friend the Charlatan, 397: "Another couple went by them talking loudly the same vernacular.

"If I put it down for a day," said the young woman, "I forget all I've read. I've a hawful bad memory for readin'." The remark is overheard by Dyce Lashmar and Iris Woolstan, who have gone for an evening walk on Gorleston Pier.

65 Cf. Our Friend the Charlatan, 396: "I know a young lady," sounded in the feminine voice, "as as a keeper set with a diamond and a hamethyst lovely!" The words are spoken by a Cockney girl, out for a walk on Gorleston Pier.

66 Cf. Scrapbook, "Mrs Twills".
“I don’t believe in sea-bathing. Why, there’s the old bath-woman crippled with rheumatism.”

Is Swift’s Moor Park near to Farnham?

The man had little knowledge but much poetry. What does it profit us to be scientific?

Lang’s remarks on Mid. N. Dream. The good old simplicity.

[p.16] [Whole page crossed out.]

How many people in congregations attach least meaning to a single sentence?

Queen of Sheba. She might have made many excuses for not going to Solomon. She might have thought “I shall have something to pay.” People are dreadfully afraid of having to pay. (very solemn).

67 Cf. Scrapbook, “Mrs Twills”.

68 Once called Compton Hall, Moor Park was bought and renamed by the diplomat and ambassador, Sir William Temple (1628-1699) after his retirement from public office in 1681. It lies a little to the south of Waverley, near Farnham, and is also associated with Jonathan Swift, who was Temple’s secretary during most of the last decade of his life. At Moor Park Swift supervised the education of the eight-year-old child, Esther Johnson, who was perhaps Sir William’s natural daughter. Stella (as he later called Esther Johnson, after she had joined him in Ireland) was his first and only “perfect” pupil. Swift’s important prose works A Tale of a Tub and The Battle of the Books were also written there.

69 Cf. Whirlpool, 385: “But perhaps he would be doing far better if he never allowed the child to hear a fairy-tale or a line of poetry. Why not amuse his mind with facts, train him to the habit of scientific thought?”

70 John Lang (born 1825) was a neighbour of Gissing’s mother and sisters at Stoneleigh Terrace, Agbrigg, Wakefield in the 1880s. He was the manager of Messrs. George Cradock and Co., wire rope manufacturers. He helped Margaret Gissing with her German lessons.

71 During his summer holiday in Yarmouth (19 July-13 August 1895), Gissing attended a church service on July 25. Notes to that effect are to be found in his Scrapbook, “Subjects for Essays”: “Quicunque Vult. The seaside congregation (Yarmouth). Lessons: Queen of Sheba. Who does believe, or think of Athanasian Creed? - ‘Unto whom I swore in my wrath!’ Nice idea of God!”
Wie der Herrgott in Frankreich leben.\textsuperscript{72}

[p.17]
The speech of the vulgar is sounding more vulgar than ever. Dialects are lost, and more sluttishness of speech results – mixture of depraved dialect and debased education.\textsuperscript{73} [Crossed out.]

Women’s feeling with regard to widows.\textsuperscript{74} [Crossed out.]

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[p.18] [Whole page crossed out.]

\textbf{Cheeseman}\textsuperscript{79}

\textsuperscript{72} Cf. George Gissing’s Commonplace Book, 42. The phrase is attributed to the Emperor Maximilian I (1459-1519).

\textsuperscript{73} Cf. The Whirlpool, 29: “I know the poor things can’t help it,” pursued Mrs Abbott, with softer feeling, “but it turns me against them. From seeing so little of their father, they have even come to talk with a vulgar pronunciation, like children out of the streets—almost. It’s dreadful!”

\textsuperscript{74} Cf. Scrapbook, “Mrs Twills”.

\textsuperscript{75} A.J. Hone, envelope maker and stationer, 173 Upper Thames Street.

\textsuperscript{76} On Monday, 30 September 1895, Gissing went to Romney, to stay with his old friend Henry Hick. He returned to London on Wednesday October 2. Cf. Diary, 390, 2 October 1895: “Reached London about 12 ....”

\textsuperscript{77} Cf. Diary, 390, 2 October 1895: “Reached London about 12, and made some purchases.”

\textsuperscript{78} Cf. Diary, 390, 2 October 1895: “Left my second ten sketches for the Sketch with Shorter’s substitute.” The Assistant Editor of the Sketch at the time was John Malcolm Bulloch (1867-1938).

\textsuperscript{79} Gissing used the name for a character in his short story “The Foolish Virgin” (written from 30 October to 4 November 1895, published 1896). He had used it before in A Life’s
Write to: Dr Zak. Mrs Travers. Roberts. Hilliard.

Leave latch-key.


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80 Cf. Diary, 407, 9 April 1896: “Wrote to Dr Zakrzewska.”

Gissing had got to know Marie Elizabeth Zakrzewska (1829-1902) during his stay in Boston in the winter of 1876-77. She was of Polish descent and born in Berlin. After emigrating to America in 1853, she graduated from a medical school in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1856. She held the chair of obstetrics in the New England Female Medical College (1859-61). She was the founder and director of the New England Hospital for Women and Children at Boston, from 1862 until her death. With William Lloyd Garrison she was a leader of the abolitionist movement, and the outstanding woman physician in New England. “[O]n Saturday evenings she held literary gatherings at her home, to which Gissing was invited.” (Cf. Collected Letters, eds. Paul F. Mattheisen, Arthur C. Young, Pierre Coustillas, Vol. 6, p. 61).

81 Cf. Diary, 407, 8 April 1896: “Wrote to Mrs Travers.” Gissing first came into contact with the Travers family of Dorney House, Weybridge, through a letter sent to him by Miss Rosalind Travers in March 1895. Later she sent him flowers and asparagus and in July 1895 he was invited to lunch with the family. They were great admirers of his work and Gissing found them “excellent people.” Mrs Florence Travers, née Ellicott (1851-1921), was a daughter of the Bishop of Gloucester. (Cf Collected Letters, Vol. 5, p. 326).

82 Morley Roberts (1857-1942) befriended Gissing when they were classmates at Owens College, Manchester. He was a great traveller, who lived and worked in Australia (1876-1879) and America (1884-1886). Upon his return to England he became a journalist, novelist and prolific writer on a variety of subjects. He and Gissing remained close friends for life. In 1912 Roberts published his “fictional biography” of Gissing under the title: The Private Life of Henry Maitland.

83 John Northern Hilliard (1872-1935), a journalist living in Rochester, New York, wrote an article (“An Eminent English Writer: Mr George Gissing and His Work”), which appeared in The Union and Advertiser (Rochester), 21 March 1896, Supplement, p. 3. A copy of the article was sent to Gissing shortly after publication. It may be safely assumed that the projected letter was to be a note of thanks. Cf Pierre Coustillas, “A Confession Unwisely Revealed: The Uneasy Relationship between Gissing and John Northern Hilliard,” The Gissing Journal, vol. XXIX, number 1, January 1993, 1-20.

In spite of his intention to reply to Hilliard without delay, it seems he did not get round to it until after his return to Epsom. Cf. Diary, 409, 3 May 1896: “Wrote to Roberts, and to Hilliard (Rochester, USA).”

84 Cf. Diary, 26 Sept. 1895: “Late at night made out in rough the draft of my will.” Later that week he discussed his will with Miss Collet and during his stay with the Hicks at Romney he got them to sign it (1 Oct. 1895). When he travelled to Wakefield in the spring of 1896 (April 8), he must have shown the will to his mother and sisters.

{Colwyn Bay}. 87 1.26 p.m.
{Afon Wen} 3.54
{Afon Wen} 4.15
{Barmouth} 5.25

Latin Primers. 88
Historical Atlas. 89
Meiklejohn’s Readers. 90 pts 2 and 3
Philips’ 1/- Atlas. 91
Whitaker. 92
Kindergarten Colour Books.
European Primer.
Miall’s Object Lessons. 93

[8]
Spruner’s Ethnological Tables. (English) 94

86 Cf. George Gissing, “To Clement Shorter,” 8 April 1896: “Herewith I send you three more stories (not of a series). Will you kindly acknowledge receipt of them to the address above.” [8 Westfield Grove, Wakefield].
87 Cf. Diary, 407, 13 April 1896: “Left Wakefield (boy staying behind) at 9 o’clock, and journeyed to Colwyn Bay.”
88 Cf. Diary, 21 April 1896: “In morning went to Leeds to buy some schoolbooks for girls.” Gissing refers to his sisters, who had started a preparatory school for boys.
89 Koeppen, Adolphus Louis. The World in the Middle Ages, an historical geography ... accompanied by ... six colored maps from the historical atlas of C. Spruner. 1854. Cf. note 94.
92 Whitaker’s Almanack. By J. Whitaker. Containing the usual astronomical and other phenomena. Also a large amount of information respecting the government, finances ... and statistics of the British Empire.
"And after this Abraham buried Sarah his wife in the cave of the field of Machpelah." [Gen. 23:19.]

Swathed corpse of Sarah lying flat, with nimbus round head.

Abbey Square [trees amid]. Close by are the Cloisters [very green grass] and the town walls with King Charles Tower [Rowton Moor].

Quinet "Hist. de mes Idées."  

The grossly selfish man who sincerely imagines himself liked by everybody.

Where dead heather-bells" told of the glory that was past, and the glory to come.

was of great value to Gissing in the preparation for the writing of his historical romance Veranilda [1904].

Also, cf. Diary, 389, 22 Sept. 1895: "Busy all day with Spruner's Atlas ...."

This text is found in one of a series of mosaic panels in the north wall of the nave of Chester Cathedral [Abbey Church]. They date from 1883 and were therefore fairly new when Gissing saw them in April 1896. The next entry records Gissing’s wonder at the most striking feature of the mosaic.

This is a reference to Chester Cathedral and the city walls of Chester. On the wall of the Tower an inscription reads: "King Charles stood on this Tower September 24th, 1645, and saw his army defeated on Rowton Moor." Cf. Diary, 407, 13 April 1896: "Had two hours in Chester .... View from Chester to Colwyn seen at its best."

Edgar Quinet (1803-1875). French poet, historian, critic, and politician. His central interest lay in the meaning of history and the role which religion played in the unfolding of events. Histoire d'un enfant [Histoire de mes Idées] was originally published in 1858. A posthumous edition was brought out by his wife in 1903 (Paris: Librairie Hachette et Cie).

In Our Friend the Charlatan, Mr Lashmar uneasily reflects that his son Dyce may be one of the men of to-day whose character and conduct are defined by: "[a] habit of facile enthusiasm ... totally without moral value ... the lack of stable purpose, save only in matters of gross self-interest." He fears that his son is not unlike those "most radically selfish of men" who are capable of persuading themselves that their prime motive is to live for others. Cf. Our Friend the Charlatan, 5-6.

Cf. Whirlpool, 157: "As he sat at the foot of the piled stones, his hands touched a sprig of low-lying heather; the stem was hung with dry, rustling, colourless bells, which had clung
Great pennywort-leaves – Blazing gorse – Promise of foxgloves – Stitchwort – Ferns – Primroses abundant

A little grey town, set amid heath and pasture beneath the mountains and the sea.

The sheep with her little long-tailed lamb, which looked at me distrustfully as I passed.

Ant-like quarrymen scratching from year to year on side of mountain, and doing each his little best to spoil its beauty.

Journey from Chester. Widening of the Dee estuary. The first seagulls.

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100 These notes ([pp. 21-28] Huntington Memorandum Book) were made during the trip to Wales, particularly during Gissing’s stay at Nefyn, 15-18 April 1896. They were incorporated into Part the Second, chapter II, of The Whirlpool, 145-57. Cf. Diary, 407-08.

101 Cf. Whirlpool, 150-51: “The pedestrians took their way along a winding road, between boulder walls thick-set with the new leaves of pennywort; ... Beyond the street they began to climb; at first a gentle ascent, on either hand high hedges of flowering blackthorn, banks strewn with primroses and violets, and starred with the white stitchwort; great leaves of foxglove giving promise for future days.”

102 Cf. Whirlpool, 106, 151: “Beneath them lay the little grey town, and beyond it the grassy cliffs, curving about a blue bay.” The reference is to Nefyn, a small town in Caernarvonshire. See: “To Algernon,” 22 April 1896: “The place I found in Wales is Nevin (properly Nefyn), 7 miles across the promontory from Pwllheli ... The coast scenery is really grand. You go to Pwllheli by train, & then drive by coach to Nevin. Lodgings are to be had; & I shall certainly use the place before long. Not far off, a great mountain falls sheer into the sea. There is fine sand, shells, rocks with seaweed pools, cliffs—everything one wants at the seaside. I had the beach absolutely to myself. No river to convey pollutions. The sole industry a little quarrying on the mountains. People, I am told, come in the summer, chiefly from Birmingham. I only hope the place may not be found out by the wealthy multitude. At present, it is perfect.”

103 Cf. Whirlpool, 151: “Just above was a great thicket of flowering gorse; a blaze of colour, pure, aerial, as that of the sky which illumined it. Through this they made their way, then
The bagman angry with the Welsh language. “What’s the use of it?” (What’s the use of you?)

The tresses of the larch. [In the margin:] Bodvean.

Splashes of sunlight on deep moss and lichen splinter of grey crag. Here and there a tree felled by the wind, with verdure clinging about its rent root.

Far off, the music of the waves.

Moss glistening with the drops of the night.

The fir scents.

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104 Cf. Whirlpool, 151: “He [Rolfe] had wished to speak Welsh, but soon abandoned the endeavour. He liked to hear it, especially on the lips of children at their play. An old, old language, symbol of the vitality of a race; sounding on those young lips as in the time when his own English, composite, hybrid, had not yet begun to shape itself.”

105 Cf. Whirlpool, 152: “Overhead, the larch-boughs dangled green tresses....”

106 Cf. Whirlpool, 150: “Mrs Abbott wished to climb Carn Bodvean, the great hill, clad in tender green of larch-woods, which overlooked the town.” Also: Diary, 408: “Frid. Ap. 17. [1896.] Unbroken sunshine, till half-past four, then cloudy. In morning climbed Carn Bodvean and lay on top in the glorious air for two hours.”

A good month later Gissing was working his Welsh impressions into The Whirlpool; cf. Diary, 411: “Frid. May 22. [1896.] Wrote only 1½d.; very hard work; description of Carn Bodvean.”

107 Cf. Whirlpool, 152: “Now and then they came out into open spaces, where trees rent from the soil, dead amid spring’s leafage, told of a great winter storm; new grass grew thickly about the shattered trunks, and in the hollows whence the roots had been torn. One moment they stood in shadow; the next, moved upward into a great splash of sunshine, thrown upon moss that still glistened with the dews of the night, and on splints of crag painted green and gold with lichen. Sun or shade, the sweet fir-scentes breathed upon their faces, mingled with many a waft of perfume from little woodland plants.”

108 Cf. Whirlpool, 152.

109 Cf. Whirlpool, 152.
The peak of Eifl, churning cloudlets from the western breeze, to float in fleecy rank athwart the blue heavens.\textsuperscript{110} Snowdon invisible. Great mountain shapes looming faintly at moments through grey haze.\textsuperscript{111}

Below, in the wood, the scream of a jay, or long laugh of woodpecker.\textsuperscript{112}

Buffeting of gusts about the craggy height. Or again, soft whispering among the tree tops.\textsuperscript{113}

Mountain flanks and the broad lowland mapped with wall and hedge into tillth and pasture; plots of smoothness and fertility won by toil of generations. – Then the echoed blasting from the quarries; toil again. And the scattered cottages, far and wide, lonely, each with its garden patch, each a Home.\textsuperscript{114}

\textsuperscript{110} Cf. Whirlpool, 154: “Northward rose a noble peak, dark, stern, beautiful in the swift fall of curving rampart to the waves that broke at its foot; loftier by the proximity of two summits, sharp-soaring like itself, but unable to vie with it. Alone among the nearer mountains, this crest was veiled; smitten by sea-gusts, it caught and held them, and churned them into sunny cloudlets, which floated away in long fleecy rank, far athwart the clear depths of sky. Farther inland, where the haze of the warm morning hung and wavered, loomed at moments some grander form, to be imagined rather than described; a glimpse of heights which, as the day wore on, would slowly reveal themselves and bask in the broad glow under crowning Snowdon.”

\textsuperscript{111} Cf. Whirlpool, 154.

\textsuperscript{112} Cf. Whirlpool, 155: “Below, in leafy hollows, sounded the cry of a jay, the laugh of a woodpecker.”

\textsuperscript{113} Cf. Whirlpool, 154: “As they issued from the shelter of the wood, a breeze buffeted about them, but only for a moment; then the air grew still, and nothing was audible but a soft whispering among the boughs below.”

\textsuperscript{114} Cf. Whirlpool, 155: “Nowhere could be discovered a human form; but man’s dwellings, and the results of his labour, painted the wide landscape in every direction. On mountain sides, and across the undulating lowland, wall or hedge mapped his conquests of nature, little plots won by toil of successive generations for pasture or for tillage, won from the reluctant wilderness, which loves its fern and gorse, its mosses and heather. Near and far were scattered the little white cottages, each a gleaming speck, lonely, humble; set by the side of some long-winding, unfrequented road, or high on the green upland, trackless save for the feet of those who dwelt there.”

Also: Ryecroft, Autumn 17, 202.
Distant bleating of lambs.\footnote{Cf. Whirlpool, 155: “from far heath and meadow trembled the bleat of lambs.” Also: Ryecroft, Spring 15, 46: “from the pasture of the farm below came a bleating of lambs.”}

What is great difference, intellectually, between him and the cottager yonder?

hoary

Stunted larches at the top, matted with grey-green lichens, their “rosy plumelets.”\footnote{Cf Whirlpool, 154: “The larches circling this stony height could not grow to their full stature; beaten, riven, stunted, by fierce blasts from mountain or from wave, their trunks were laden, and their branches thickly matted, with lichen so long and hoary that it gave them an aspect of age incalculable.”}

The cairn of splintered stones on the top.\footnote{Cf Whirlpool, 154: “Last of all came a slippery scramble on broken stones, to where a shapeless cairn rose above tree-tops, bare to the dazzling sky.”}

drawing of oddly twisted tree\footnote{Cf. Whirlpool, 152-53: “It was a larch tree, perhaps thirty feet high; at the beginning of its growth, the stem had by some natural means been so diverted as to grow horizontally for a yard or more at a couple of feet above the ground; it had then made a curve downwards, and finally, by way of a perfect loop across itself, had shot again in the true direction, growing at last, with straight and noble trunk, like its undistorted neighbours.”}

The delight of having such a shore quite to oneself.\footnote{Cf Whirlpool, 152: “Mrs Abbott gazed upward with unspoken delight. “There are no paths,” said Harvey. “It’s honest woodland. Some day it will be laid out with roads and iron benches, with finger-posts, ‘To the summit.’” “You think so?” “Why, of course. It’s the destiny of every beautiful spot in Britain. There’ll be a pier down yonder, and a switchback railway, and leagues of lodging-houses, and brass bands.” “Let’s hope we shall be dead.” “Yes—but those who come after us? What sort of a world will it be for Hugh? I often think I should be wrong if I taught him to see life as I do. Isn’t it only preparing misery for him? I ought to make him delight in piers, and nigger minstrels, and switchbacks. A man should belong to his time.”}
Where the speculator has not yet set his hoof.


Portdynllaen.\textsuperscript{122}

[p.29] [Whole page crossed out.]

Small innkeeper’s wife and daughters, picked up by coach to go to Caernarvon market on Saturday. All dressed in latest fashion.\textsuperscript{123}

The father of hero, after years of subduing rage, breaks into righteous fury. It ends in his death. “He died of his unbearable temper,” says wife.

The man who meets temper with temper, and triumphs.\textsuperscript{124}

\textsuperscript{120} Cf. Whirlpool, 106, 144: “and on Tuesday afternoon Harvey drove the seven miles, up hill and down, between hedges of gorse and woods of larch, to the little market-town where Mary Abbott would alight after her long journey.”

\textsuperscript{121} Cf Whirlpool, 106, 144.

\textsuperscript{122} Port Dinllaen is an attractive fishing village, on a headland of Caernarvon Bay. It was formerly scheduled as a steamer port for Ireland, but its place was eventually taken by Holyhead. The approach is by footpath from Morfa Nefyn. Cf. Diary, 16 April 1896, 407–08.

\textsuperscript{123} On Saturday, 18 April 1896, Gissing left Nefyn by the 9 o’clock coach that took him to Pwllheli, where he boarded a train for Caernarvon. On its way to Pwllheli the coach must have picked up the inn-keeper’s wife and daughters Gissing mentions in this entry.

\textsuperscript{124} Cf. Whirlpool, 356: “... yet he knew too well the danger of once more yielding, and at such a crisis. The contest had declared itself-it was will against will; to decide it by the exertion of his sane strength against Alma’s hysteria might be best even for the moment.”
Gaston Boissier’s book on Italy.125 [Crossed out.]

“The Banner of Israel.”126

British Empire is the 5th great Mon., proph’d by Daniel. England is Tarshish.
Proof that England has inheritance of Ephraim. Her great extension and power. Regenerated Ephraim was to be in “the isles of the sea,” and “north and west.” She will restore Judah to Palestine.
Ezek. prophy power of Gog [p. 31]
under Prince of Rosh, Meshech and Tubal (38. 2-3) coming in battle agst. Israel when resettled in Palestine. “The merchants of Tarshish, with all the young lions thereof” will resist. The “young lions” are Brit. Colonies.

[Woman holding these views. Vainly in love. Has Jewish blood. Marries a base fanatic.]127

Victoria lineal successor of David.
Irish tradition that Jeremiah went to Ireland from Egypt, bringing one of King Zedekiah’s daughters. Hence royal line of Britain.


126 The Banner of Israel. A weekly journal, edited by Philo-Israel, advocating the identity of the British Nation with the lost Ten Tribes of Israel, etc. London, 1877, etc.

127 On 19 November 1899 Gissing started work on a new novel, provisionally entitled Oracles. A few days later he changed its title to Among the Prophets. In a letter to Bertz (11 Dec. 1899) he wrote that it was “an attractive subject—the restless seeking for a new religion, which leads people into Theosophy, Spiritualism, and things still more foolish.” To Clara Collet (29 Dec. 1899) he wrote about the novel, that it dealt “with new religions and crazes of various kinds.” He finished the book in February 1900, but asked his agent, Pinker, to hold it over as he felt dissatisfied with it. In a letter to Pinker, dated 13 March 1901, he asked him to burn the two typed copies of Among the Prophets. These notes (on pp. 30-35 of the Huntington Memorandum Book) may be all that is left of the discarded novel. Cf. Marilyn B. Saveson, “Gissing’s ‘Indispensable’ False Starts: An Annotated Checklist of his Discarded Novels,” Gissing Newsletter, Vol. XXVI, Number 1, January 1990, 13.
There exists a library on Anglo-Israelism.\footnote{Cf. Diary, 492: 8 May 1898: “Reading some queer books about Anglo-Israelism.”} 

Chapl. of House always reads Ps. 67. Remarkable choice, showing we are the chosen people.

Diff. bet. House of Judah and House of Israel; i.e. bet. the Jews and the Lost Ten Tribes.\footnote{Cf. Crown of Life, 179: “The English are an Old Testament people; they never cared about the New. Do you know that there’s a sect who hold that the English are the Lost Tribes—the People of the Promise?” ‘I suppose,’ said Piers, ‘the English are the least Christian of all so-called Christian peoples.’ ‘Undoubtedly. They simply don’t know the meaning of the prime Christian virtue—humility.’”}

Ten Lost Tribes=House of Joseph=House of Israel=Ephraim.

Absurd idea that Jews—the entire Abrahamic race.

“Abrahamic covenant” to be enjoyed by Ephraim. Israel in “the latter days,” before the Millennium, i.e. in our own days, “the present dispensation.” At the Millennium, Israel and Judah will be reunited for evermore.

[Seeing power of Old Testament in England, one could half believe all this.]

Agreed the Second Advent is very near; so, by prophecy, Israel must now be a great multitude, living in “the isles afar off,” and in “the West.”
Isaiah 54. Prophecy of reestab of Israel. Personal application of: “For thou shalt forget the shame of thy youth, and the reproach of thy widowhood shalt thou remember no more.”

[Intellectual results of sex misery. He goes to mystics; she to the prophets.]

End of present dispensation is near. Millen. will come when nations join to reinstate Jews in Palestine. The “seven times” of Jewish dispersion draw to an end.

[Gog the P. of Rosh = Russia.]

Mrs Boughton. 19 Effingham Rd Reigate.130 [Crossed out.]

Mr Wilson131
Paget Prize Plate Co
Watford [Entry crossed out.]

Continental Traffic Manager
London Bridge Terminus, S.E. [Crossed out.]

[diagram]
Marriage of Rosebery's daughter, 1899. Newspaper column of presents—frightful poverty of imagination; biscuit tins, umbrellas, card cases etc.—Bride cake "6 feet high." [Crossed out.]

Men at a removal, swearing because they are not enough tipped (poor widow) and [Crossed out.]
[p.37] [Whole page crossed out.] banging furniture about.

6 new blankets
9 old "
(padlock?)
4 quilts

Mallalieu Velvick

3 Vols. of Plato in Golden Treasury.

About a mile from Epsom. Besides being a leading politician, Lord Rosebery was one of the most celebrated and successful horse racers of the day, winning the Derby in 1894 and 1895. Gissing complained about his associations with the sporting fraternity in a letter to Clara Collet (30 May 1895): "Last night, when midnight drew near and one thought peace had come, suddenly breaks forth a cannonade at the Durdans, I suppose, with uproar of fireworks from snobbish little villas roundabout. Rosebery seems to me the disgrace of the country. He must be very sparingly endowed with brains, and in moral perception totally lacking." Cf. George Gissing's Commonplace Book, 54: "On Jubilee Day I heard a workman by the bonfire on the downs say of Lord Rosebery [sic]-'He was Prime Minister, & won the Derby, & married the richest heiress of the year.' What a British ideal!"

Also, Gissing expressed his disgust of fashionable weddings through Piers Otway in The Crown of Life, 169.

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134 The Trial and Death of Socrates ..., translated into English by F.J. Church. London: Macmillan and Co., 1886. Part of the "Golden Treasury Series."


“Carlyle dealt with the philosophy of clothes in a ponderous vol. which few people have ever finished.”


Cold bath - tea - G’s food.

Gissing may have been thinking of Guernsey as a place suitable for settling down with Gabrielle Fleury and her mother: conveniently halfway between Dorking and Paris.

Gissing was apparently toying with the same idea, when he wrote in a letter to Clara Collet (6 April 1901): “Now & then, my thoughts have turned to the Channel Islands, as a sort of half-way station between France & England. Do you know anything about education in Guernsey or Jersey?”

In August 1889 Gissing had taken his sister Margaret for a holiday to the Channel Islands. They first stayed for nine days at Hotel du Gouffre in Guernsey, and then spent a fortnight on Sark.


Cf. Daily Telegraph, Thursday, May 4, 1899, p. 9: “‘London Day by Day’: Either a walking-stick or an umbrella is now considered an indispensable part of a gentleman’s attire, but few of those who carry these articles know how to use them effectively. Carlyle dealt with the philosophy of clothes in a ponderous volume, which few people have ever finished; but it has been left to Professor Pierre Vigny to illustrate in a practical manner the philosophy of the walking-stick. Last night, in the Salle Bertrand, Warwick-street, W., he gave an exhibition of what can be done with it as a weapon of defense as well as ornament, and gained the applause of an audience which comprised many of the best foilists and esrimeurs in London.”


From 1-6 May 1899 Gissing was staying at the White Hart at Lewes, before departing to France where he was to meet Gabrielle and her mother at Rouen. In the evening of Sunday, 7 May 1899, they went through a private ceremony in their hotel to put the seal on their special relationship. Also, cf. note 300.

This may be a reference to the honeymoon spent in the Hôtel des Terrasses at S. Pierre en Port (May 8-26, 1899).
Hôtel Suisse
" du Lac
" de France

[p.40] [Whole page crossed out.]

Vorrestei ricordarmi alla Signora quando la vedete, e dirle che io sono felice ch’ella si sia ristabilita, e che mi è dispiaciuto tanto di non averle potuto dire addio.\textsuperscript{140}

Count Lyof Nikolaivitch Tolstoi.\textsuperscript{141}
Yasnaia Poliana
Gouv. de Toula.
Russia.

Björnstjerne Björnson.\textsuperscript{142}
c/o H. L. Brackstad
Nat. Lib. Club. S.W.

[p.41] [Whole page crossed out.]

Solduno – Ponte Brolla – Tegna – Cavigliano – Intragna – Losone.\textsuperscript{143}

\textsuperscript{139} Cf. Diary, 516, 28 July 1899: “Fine railway journey from Annemasse to Martigny, along south shore of Lake Geneva: exquisite light. A long stop at Evian, whence we looked across to Lausanne. Beautiful position of St Gingolf, a little further on.”

\textsuperscript{140} These may have been Gissing’s parting words intended for Signora Simona, the proprietress of the Villa Muralto, Via Sempione 20, Muralto. On 16 September 1899 Gissing, Gabrielle and her mother decided to leave the Villa Muralto, on account of the bad quality of the food. Cf. Diary, 518. Editor’s translation: Would you please give my regards to the Mistress, and tell her I am happy she has recovered and that I am very sorry not to have been able to say good-bye.

\textsuperscript{141} Cf. Diary, 520: 21 October 1899. See also: notes 308 and 314.


\textsuperscript{143} The itinerary of a round trip from Muralto (Locarno). Owing to a gap in the Diary there is no record of it, but Gissing and Gabrielle stayed for a week at the Villa Muralto at Muralto from 9–15 September 1899.
M. Recordon\textsuperscript{144}

Régime

D’Arcis\textsuperscript{145}

Henrik Ibsen
Drammen
Christiania

[p.42] [Whole page crossed out.]

Tarsilla Janka
Muralto\textsuperscript{146}
Villa Janka

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\textsuperscript{144} Cf. Diary, 518: 19 Sept. 1899: “Thence walked to Cannobio, and up to the Badia, where we spent the afternoon with the Recordon family.” Mme [Charles] Recordon was the proprietress of the Villa Badia at Cannobio, on the Italian shore of Lago Maggiore. Gabrielle and Mme Fleury had passed a month there on holiday two years before. (See: Diary, 565.)


\textsuperscript{145} Cf. Diary, 518, 16 Sept. 1899: “Vain attempt to appoint meeting with M. D’Arcis at Cannobio; he telegraphs this morning that he can’t come.” Mme Amélie d’Arcis (1854-1941) was one of Gabrielle’s Swiss friends. She lived at 136, Chêne Bougeries, Geneva. (Diary, 565.) Her husband, Charles Arthur d’Arcis, M.D. (1853-1921), translated Eve’s Ransom into Italian. (The editor is indebted to Pierre Coustillas for kindly supplying this information.)

\textsuperscript{146} Cf. Diary, 518: 9-15 September 1899.
[p.43] [Whole page crossed out.]

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<td>Maman</td>
<td>10.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Croissants</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[p.44] [Apart from the first, all items struck out separately.]

Whale 6 o’clock Tuesday 24th.\(^{148}\)

Goes to Lond. to taste sweetness of retirement.

Purchases.\(^{149}\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ink</td>
<td>Green’s History.(^{150})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>paper-clips</td>
<td>Gregorovius.(^{151})</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^{147}\) These must have been the tickets for the return journey from Locarno to Paris via Lucerne on 22 September 1899. The price of the outward bound tickets (Paris-Samoens) is found on the inside of the back cover (143.25).

\(^{148}\) Cf. George Gissing, “To Gabrielle,” 21 April 1900: “... in the evening [of the 24th] shall go to Whale’s house at Blackheath.”

\(^{149}\) Gissing’s shopping-list during his visit to London in the spring of 1900.


\(^{151}\) Ferdinand Gregorovius (1821–91), Geschichte der Stadt Rom im Mittelalter. Vom fünften Jahrhundert bis zum sechzehnten Jahrhundert, 8 Bde. (Stuttgart, 1859-72). Gissing read the book in the spring of 1897, while staying in Budleigh Salterton. It was this work that gave him the idea for his historical novel Veramilda, that was to remain incomplete upon his death and was published posthumously in 1904.

Also, cf. Whirlpool, 48.
Rail guide  Map
Cotton shirts. Newspapers to order.
Overcoat  Writing paper.
Summer suit  Tea.
Loose collars. René’s pipe.\textsuperscript{152}
Thin socks  Cane.
Tooth powder  Comb – brush.
White shirt. Annandale’s.
MS. paper  Silk hanks.
Jägers\textsuperscript{153} – strap
Bank

Sacher-Masoch\textsuperscript{154}  20 Bloomsbury St.

Autographs: Spencer, Ruskin.\textsuperscript{155}

[p.45] [Whole page crossed out.]

Bullen. Stories.\textsuperscript{156}

\textsuperscript{152} Cf. “To Gabrielle,” 20 April 1900: “... René, I notice what you say about his pipe.”

\textsuperscript{153} Cf. [p. 60] below.

\textsuperscript{154} Cf. notes 166 and 198.

\textsuperscript{155} Cf. Pierre Coustillas, ed., The Letters of George Gissing to Edward Clodd, London: Enitharmon Press, 1973, 61: “It happened that Gabrielle was an autograph collector and, with typical generosity, Clodd selected for her no fewer than twenty-one letters from such well-known public figures as Herbert Spencer, Alfred R Wallace, Grant Allen, Walter Besant, Prince Kropotkin, W B Yeats, Charles Kingsley and Henry James.”

Also, cf. George Gissing, “To Clodd,” 6 May 1900, The Letters of George Gissing to Edward Clodd, 63: “I am bidden, moreover, to thank you very heartily indeed for the really splendid collection of autographs you enabled me to bring back to my wife; she is very grateful, and wishes it were possible to thank you for your kindness by word of mouth. If fate is decent to us all, some day you will look through the autograph-albums of which I spoke to you, and there will be shoutings of joy!”

\textsuperscript{156} Gissing wanted to find out about Bullen’s plans for a second volume of his short stories, after the publication of Human Odds and Ends by Lawrence and Bullen in November 1897.

\textsuperscript{157} James B. Pinker (1863-1922) became Gissing’s literary agent in 1899, after Gissing had grown dissatisfied with the services of William Colles. Gissing got to know him through H. G. Wells, who was Pinker’s neighbour. Pinker established a reputation for effectiveness and reliability and he counted many of the prominent writers of his day among his clients. While in London, in April 1900, Gissing managed to see Pinker twice, having long talks with him. Pinker strongly urged the transfer of Gissing’s books out of the hands of

Adèle Berger (1866-1900) was an Austrian writer, who in 1892 translated New Grub Street under the title Ein Mann des Tages. It was serialized in the Pester Lloyd, a Budapest daily paper, from December 29, 1891 to April 30, 1892. In 1986 Berger’s translation served as the basis for a revision by Wulfhard Heinrichs and Helga Herborth. Their version appeared under the title Zeilengeld (Nördlingen: Franz Greno, 1986).

Cf. “To James B. Pinker,” 21 Feb. 1900: “Will you kindly let me know how long after publication an author retains his right to make translators pay?”

Also, “To Eduard Bertz,” 11 March 1900: “Do you happen to know what is the period during which (under the Berne convention) an author has the right to make translators pay? I have been astounded to discover that my agent, Pinker, is absolutely ignorant of the subject. There is no hurry about this; I ask only out of curiosity. On the 18 August of this year, the works of Balzac fall into the domaine public. French copyright lasts fifty years after the author’s death. I wish we had such a law in England. [It is for 42 years after publication, or 7 years after author’s death—whichever be the longer period.” It seems likely Gissing brought up the subject again, when he met Pinker in April 1900.

“Humplebee” was a short story Gissing had written in August 1899. In October 1899 he wrote to Pinker, his agent, saying he would send him the MS. It was published in The Anglo-Saxon Review, IV (March 1900). On 9 April 1900 Gissing wrote from Wakefield (9 Wentworth Terrace) the following letter to Pinker: “I have received a cheque for £31.10 for “Humplebee” in Anglo-Saxon Review, & have acknow-ledged it. Of course they ought to have addressed it to you, but you will make a note of it. / The letter was sent on from your office to Paris, & thence returned to me. Please let everything for me be addressed to Wakefield (as above) until I see you again.” (Collected Letters, Vol. 8, p. 29).

Gissing met John Wood Shortridge (b. 1852, in Barnsley, Yorkshire—d. 1921) on 20 November 1888 in a restaurant near Pompeii, and spent several days walking with him and visiting his home, Villa Cozzolino, near Sorrento, where he lived with his family and brother Herbert. He was a nephew of Dr William Wood, the Gissings’ physician at Wakefield. He corresponded with Gissing as late as August 1903. Cf. Collected Letters of George Gissing, Vol. 5, 264.

Cf. Diary, 512-13, 22 April 1899: “Said good-bye to Dorking. Mrs Boughton remained to see the furniture removed to warehouse. (F. Kendall, High Street.) I am to pay 2/6 a week. Insured for £100.” Gissing’s furniture and his books remained at Kendall’s until January 1901, when they were finally moved to Paris. Cf. “To H. G. Wells,” 13 Jan. 1901: “just now, I am in fearful disorder, for all my books have just arrived from their warehouse house [sic] at Dorking.” Collected Letters, vol. 8, 127.

Frederick Kendall & Co. advertized themselves as “upholsterers and ball furnishers”, at 33 High Street, Dorking. In a letter to Gabrielle Fleury (January 29, 1899) Gissing had discussed the removal of his furniture on leaving Dorking: “Yes, there is a garde-meubles at Dorking, and I
Museum. Classical Books – Class, flora – Names of country houses –

Visit Alb' Rd., Regent’s Park. Woodpecker Lane, New Cross[.] Rose of Kent, close by.163

[p.46] [Whole page crossed out.]

“The Patriot”164

Ward[e] Fowler’s Roman Festivals.165

must make enquiries about it. It would save a great deal of money. You shall hear about this. I fear it would be impossible to find a room in a house which would be perfectly safe. I should always feel uneasy.” Cf. The Letters of George Gissing to Gabrielle Fleury, ed. Pierre Coustillas (New York: NYPL, 1964) 98-9.


Also: Scrapbook, “Citizen, etc.”, where Gissing entered the following outline of a short story: The Rose of Kent.

Inn so-called by Kentish roadside. The family of “degenerates” – except one. The father, failed as actor, became writer. The elder daughter sings old Eng. songs. Younger daughter (Rose) went away at 17 with man – but through all adventures remained chaste. At opening of story she goes to live at an inn, kept by her uncle and aunt – ruined farmers. (The gloomy man and courageous wife.) Last, a son, who has married badly, and has children growing up to waste. The wholesome young man who woos [sic] elder daughter – she refusing to marry because of care for father and brother’s children. Fair at Lincoln, where lover has his home. Reciter giving entertainment. Wind and trouble. Reciter and girl dine on Sunday with man and his brother [married] – the simple, healthy household.

Seducer of Rose still pursuing her – lost sight of her. Lives now and then at inn; unknown to uncle and aunt, but knowing them, of course. At last, Rose wooed by a wealthy man of Kent, whom she would marry but for entreaties of seducer. The harm made to interpose, by sister. Seducer, a windbag, threatens suicide, and pretends to do it – whereupon Rose, thinking him dead, kills herself.

Rose – the undisciplined modern girl, all nerves. Her seducer an example of wild vanity (something like “Plato Road”). [Cf. George Gissing, “The Pessimist of Plato Road,” A Victim of Circumstances (London: Constable, 1927)].

164 Johnson, Samuel. The Patriot. Addressed to the Electors of Great Britain. London: 1774. On 7 April 1775 Johnon returned to the subject of patriotism in a tavern conversation recorded by Boswell in his Life of Samuel Johnson: “Patriotism having become one of our topics, Johnson suddenly uttered, in a strong determined tone, an apothegm at which many will start: ‘Patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel.’ But let it be considered, that he did not mean a real and generous love of our country, but that pretended patriotism which so many, in all ages and countries, have made a cloak for self interest.” Cf. Crown of Life, 180: “Johnson defined Patriotism, you know, as the last refuge of a scoundrel.”

165 William Warde Fowler (1847-1921), The Roman Festivals of the Period of the Republic, 1899.
Sacher 20 Bloomsbury St. 166

Pet[erborough]. Cathedral, noble amid hideous modern town. 167

Annandale’s Dicty. 168 3/6

Fairyland of Science. Buckley. 169 Price?

Bywater. 170

[whole page crossed out.]

The optician’s tricks. Two pairs of glasses.

Glory of “Fighting Mac.” 171

166 Cf. Diary, 519: 8 Oct. 1899.


168 Charles Annandale, A Concise Dictionary of the English Language, literary, scientific, etymological, and pronouncing, etc. [Based on Ogilvie’s Imperial Dictionary], London: Blackie & Sons, 1886 (1885).


171 Major-General Sir Hector Archibald Macdonald (1853-1903) distinguished himself in many campaigns, but above all in the final battle of Omdurman (2 Sept. 1898), when a Sudanese brigade under his command, manoeuvring as a unit with the coolness and precision of the parade ground, repulsed the most determined attack of the Mahdists. After this battle Macdonald’s name became famous in England and Scotland, the popular sobriquet of “Fighting Mac” testifying the interest aroused in the public mind by his career and personality. In the spring of 1900 he was on active service in South Africa, fighting in the Boer War. To Gissing, whose hatred of war-mongering, jingoism and imperialism is well attested, Macdonald and the public’s idolatry of his exploits, represented tendencies he had decried in his novels The Whirlpool (1897) and The Crown of Life (1899): “We ought to be rapidly outgrowing warfare ... Yet we’re going back—there’s a military reaction—fighting is glorified by everyone who has a loud voice, and in no country more than in England.” (p. 289).
In a letter to his friend Clara Collet (May 21, 1900) Gissing’s uncompromising anti-war stance is expressed without any reservation: “I do not pretend to have studied the merits of the case between Briton and Boer, but I am only too sure that a just and great cause has rarely declared itself in blind violence against all who venture to criticize it. This reckless breaking with the fine English tradition is sad proof of what evil can be wrought by inculcating a spirit of vulgar pride and savage defiance. I am sick at heart when I read of these things... I entreat you, dear Miss Collet, to reflect on this sign of the times and not to allow yourself to be carried away by natural patriotism, which, just now, may lead one into sheer betrayal of one’s country’s better hope.” (see: Letters of George Gissing to Members of his Family, ed. Algernon and Ellen Gissing, London: Constable & Co., 1927, 369).

An uncommon adjective Gissing needed to look up in a dictionary? Its meaning is: “Of or pertaining to a dean or deanery,” and it was applied to the south side of the choir of a cathedral or other church, being that on which the dean usually sits.

Cf. In the Year of Jubilee, 52-3; Whirlpool, 366; Our Friend the Charlatan, 59-60, 105-06; Will Warburton, 68, 290-91, 295.

Cf. Scrapbook, “Ideas”. The Umtata Herald (11 Feb. 1899-25 June 1904) was published at Umtata, a town in the Cape Province of South Africa. In an account of a wedding at Umtata (The Umtata Herald, Saturday, January 13, 1899), entitled “Hymenial,” the South African journalist confused the relatively recent botanical term “hymenial” = pertaining to the hymenium or spore-bearing surface in fungi (first recorded use: 1874) with the older (first recorded in 1602) adjective “hymenical” = pertaining to marriage.

Cf. Ryecroft, Spring 8, 18: “I think with chill discomfort of those parts of England where the primrose shivers beneath a sky of threat rather than of solace ... but that long deferment of the calendar’s promise, that weeping gloom of March and April, that bitter blast outraging the honour of May—how often has it robbed me of heart and hope.”

Chr. name – Alban.

[p.49] [Whole page crossed out.]

Time when I couldn’t afford butter.178

Corn on Nellie’s right forefinger from cutting bread.179

The seriousness of little things in life. E.g. a collar stud. How can life be merely a dream?

Lilac first to come into leaf and blossom.

Paying 1/6 a week, in old days, for child to be taught domestic service.180

Idleness due to long school years.

[p.50]

176 In the first draft of An Author of Grass Gissing used this name for his protagonist. Later he changed Wrycroft into Ryecroft. Also, cf Mr Wrybolt in Our Friend the Charlatan.

177 These names were incorporated (in precisely the same order) into the lists of names in the Scrapbook, “Names/Surnames”. Robb became the Conservative M.P. for Hollingford in Our Friend the Charlatan, and, in the same novel, Lady Ogram’s maiden name was Arabella Tomalin, a minor adaptation of the name entered here. Rawcliffe was the name used for a young lodger in one of Gissing’s last short stories, “Miss Rodney’s Leisure” (written early 1902, published Christmas 1903).

178 Cf. “To Algernon,” 8 April 1887: “... have long since dispensed with butter.”

179 Nellie was Gissing’s sister Ellen. Cf. Scrapbook, “Ideas”. Also: Ryecroft, Spring 1, 4: “The penholder shone with its new varnish, now it is plain brown wood from end to end. On my forefinger it has made a callosity.”

180 Cf. Ryecroft, Spring 16, 49: “The other day she told me a story of the days gone by. Her mother, at the age of twelve, went into domestic service; but on what conditions, think you? The girl’s father, an honest labouring man, paid the person whose house she entered one shilling a week for her instruction in the duties she wished to undertake.”
Civiliz[1] in minutiae – natural shaped boots and stockings with big toes.\textsuperscript{181} [Crossed out.]

Clarkson and his carriage.\textsuperscript{182} [Crossed out.]

“When the Heart is Young.”\textsuperscript{183} [Crossed out.]

\textsuperscript{181} Cf. Scrapbook, “Ideas”.

\textsuperscript{182} Cf. Scrapbook, “Ideas”. The anecdote is recorded in Henry Clarkson’s Memories of Merry Wakefield, 2nd edition (Wakefield: W. H. Milnes, 1889) 144-47. Clarkson (1801-1896) was a surveyor and the son of a prominent Wakefield woollen mill owner. He resided at Alverthorpe Hall.

\textsuperscript{183} “When the Heart is Young”, by the Manchester-born poet, Charles Swain (1801-1874), from the volume Songs and Ballads (London/Manchester, 1867). In 1884, it was set to music by the American composer Dudley Buck (1839-1909). It became one of the most popular songs of the period.

WHEN THE HEART IS YOUNG

Oh! merry goes the time when the heart is young,
There is nought too high to climb when the heart is young;
A spirit of delight
Scatters roses in her flight,
And there’s magic in the night when the heart is young.

But weary go the feet when the heart is old,
Time cometh not so sweet when the heart is old;
From all that smiled and shone,
There is something lost and gone,
And our friends are few—or none—when the heart is old.

Oh! sparkling are the skies when the heart is young,
There is bliss in beauty’s eyes when the heart is young;
The golden break of day
Brings gladness in its ray,
And every month is May when the heart is young.

But the sun is setting fast when the heart is old,
And the sky is overcast when the heart is old;
Life’s worn and weary bark
Lies tossing wild and dark
And the star hath left Hope’s ark when the heart is old.

Yet an angel from its sphere, though the heart be old,
Whispers comfort in our ear, though the heart be old;
Saying, “Age, from out the tomb,
Shall immortal youth assume,
And Spring eternal bloom, where no heart is old!”

The man at Lincoln who declared at breakfast table that he often made a breakfast of apples. Observing half contemptuous smile on hearers' faces, he added, bluffly, "I can make a good breakfast of a couple of pounds of apples. (Bettering his position by increasing the quantity he ate.)"  

The rough, bluff manner of Lincoln folk.  

The common north country error - "I want this taking up to the house."

Humour of the tap. Man comes in and orders drink just as landlord (a friend of his) is going out. Guest shouts: "Hye, Rasdall, I want a word with you." Landlord replies, facetiously, "I won't take anything, thank you." "Who asked you?" roars guest. And repeats it several times, amid great laughter. Then landlord: "I was before with you, there! That's one to me! I got in before you, there!" And so on, twenty times, with air of immense jocosity, and amid general laughter.

184 Cf. Ryecroft, Summer 21, 133-34: "At an inn in the north I once heard three men talking at their breakfast on the question of diet. They agreed that most people ate too much meat, and one of them went so far as to declare that, for his part, he rather preferred vegetables and fruit. 'Why,' he said, 'will you believe me that I sometimes make a breakfast of apples?' This announcement was received in silence; evidently the two listeners didn't quite know what to think of it. Thereupon the speaker, in a rather blustering tone, cried out, 'Yes, I can make a very good breakfast on two or three pounds of apples.'"

Gissing must have witnessed the incident during his stay at the Saracen's Head, 298 High street, Lincoln, from 13-18 April 1900. The hotel was owned by one William Rasdall.

In Our Friend the Charlatan Dyce Lashmar, in his capacity of Parliamentary candidate, sets up his headquarters at the Saracen's Head in Hollingford. Cf. Our Friend the Charlatan, 183, 221, 356-57, 360.

185 Cf. Scrapbook, "Ideas": "The kindness of northern people, utterly lacking in tact ...." Also: Ryecroft, Winter 14, 258: "The rude man of the north is ... but just emerged from barbarism ... But the frank brutality of the man in all externals has been encouraged, rather than mitigated, by the course his civilization has taken, and hence it is that ... he seems even yet stamped with the half-savagery of his folk as they were a century and a half ago."

186 William Rasdall was the owner of the Saracen's Head, Lincoln. The same entry is found in the Scrapbook, "Ideas". Cf. note 184.
Outside a chapel – A-a-a-a-a-ally-loo-oo-yah!  

The English virtue—the magnificent virtue of Common Sense!  

St Neots

The Woolpack.  
Houses plastered with buff or dull pink salmon tint here and there.  
The osier-beds (palm-willows) by the slow Ouse. Masses of celandines.  

[p.54] [Whole page crossed out.]

Here no “monuments.” Nothing beautiful made by man—except church and a 
cottage or two or old garden. People have merely lived the decent lives, tranquil and 
laborious, which have built up English freedom. 

Godmanchester Vicarage. Tithe rent charge £29. Net yearly value from 187 acres of 
glebe £304.

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187 Cf. Scrapbook, “Ideas”.

188 Cf. Ryecroft, Summer 20, 132: “This characteristic of theirs [Englishmen] they call 
Common Sense. To them, all things considered, it has been of vast service; one may even 
say that the rest of the world has profited by it not a little.”

189 The Woolpack was a public house in Church Street, St Neots. The landlord in 1900 was 
a Mr Lawson.

pathway leads me by the winding of the river Ouse. Far on every side stretches a homely 
landscape, tilth and pasture, hedgerow and clustered trees, to where the sky rests upon the 
gentle hills. Slow, silent, the river lapses between its daised banks, its grey-green osier 
beds. Yonder is the little town of St Neots. In all England no simpler bit of rural scenery;” 
Also: Letters of George Gissing to Gabrielle Fleur, ed. Pierre Coustillas, 131: “Ahh! if you had 
been with me at St Neots! The delicious silence of the fields! No sound but the larks 
singing! And the sense that no hateful city was anywhere near!”

In Will Warburton, Gissing situates The Haws, the house where Will Warburton’s 
mother and sister live, at St Neots. It stands “[o]n rising ground, overlooking the green 
valley of the Ouse.” (Cf. Will Warburton, 50-1).

191 In 1900, the Vicar of St Mary’s, Godmanchester, was Arthur Sloman. Crocket’s Clerical 
Directory for 1900 gives his gross income as £349, i.e. inclusive of a tithe rent charge of £30.
At Grass.

To quit man's world is not hard—rather a blessing. But the song of the lark—the summer fields—the chime from grey old towers—the plash of tide in sandy coves—the quiet of a scented garden—

Cross Keys at St Neots. Kept by 2 girls.

Big houses in London divided into two, with kitchen at top.

Wakefield.

In 1863 culminated the hopes of Liberalism and Cosmopolitanism. J.S. Mill and Gladstone in ascendant. Bright, Darwin etc. great forces. Conservative and patriotic reaction began with F[ranco]. P[ussian]. war. [death of T.W.G.]

Ceylon Pudding. (Silon)

192. Cf. Ryecroft, Autumn 12, 182-83: "... for death inspires me with no fear ... I read the names upon the stones, and find a deep solace in thinking that for all these the fret and fear of life are over."

193. Cf. Scrapbook, "Localities & Notes on Nature. Science." In 1900 the Cross Keys hotel, Market Square, St Neots was owned by Miss Edith Ellen Cranstone. St Neots owes much of its development to the Old Great North Road which passes through it, and which left a rich legacy of important coaching inns and courtyards. The Cross Keys is one of them.


195. Cf. Scrapbook, "Ideas". Also: George Gissing’s Commonplace Book, ed. Jacob Korg (New York: NYPL, 1962) 46: "Between 1850 & 1874 unexampled prosperity in England, & it was the time of predominant Liberalism. Bet. 1854 & 1874, the fortunes paying Income Tax increase from £287,000,000 to £515,000,000. Especially the trading middle class—just come to power—which was enriched. Hence resulted a revival of the English conservative instinct; the prosperous class lost its interest in political & social progress. In 1874 & in 1886, the country answered loudly to Conservative appeal."

Gissing's father, Thomas Waller Gissing, was born in Halesworth in 1829 and died of some respiratory disease at Wakefield in 1870.
Dork[ing]. 196 4.5 L[ondon]. Bridge 5.33

Lond[on]. B. 6.14

[p.57] [Whole page crossed out.]

Sat. Savile 197
Monday Sacher. 74 Cheaps. 198
Tuesday { Whale 199 / Tailor. Dorking Dorking
Thursd. Pinker 1 o’clock. Savile. 201
Frid.

S.E.R. [South-Eastern Railway.]

Redhill 10.33 dep.
Tonb. J. 11.52 dep. [Tonbridge Junction, between Redhill and Ashford.]
Sandgate 202 1.23 arr.

196 Cf. note 199 below.
197 On 21 April 1900 Edward Clodd and Gissing dined together at the Savile Club.
198 Cf. “To Gabrielle,” 21 April 1900: “On Sunday I hope to see Sacher (though he has not yet replied to my invitation).” The meeting took place a day later-on Monday—at Slater’s, a restaurant, at 74 Cheapside. Demetrius (Mitchi) Sacher-Masoch was the son of the Austrian novelist Leopold von Sacher-Masoch. The latter’s divorced wife was a friend of Gabrielle Fleury’s. Gissing had met young Sacher-Masoch for the first time at Paris in October 1899. Also: Diary, 519: “Sun. Oct. 8. [1899] ... In afternoon to call upon Mme Sacher-Masoch, the repudiated wife of the novelist, who married another woman in Heligoland. Has a son in business in London.”
199 Cf. George Gissing’s Letters to Edward Clodd, 61: “Then, on April 24: ‘To Whale’s dinner, Gissing and Shorter there.’” Also: “To Gabrielle,” 21 April 1900: “On Tuesday I shall go down to Dorking, and in the evening shall go to Whale’s house, at Blackheath, where I am to pass the night.”
200 Cf. “To Gabrielle,” 21 April 1900: “Yesterday I saw Bullen, and he invited me to dine with him next Wednesday.”
The Grove, Highgate.203

Ladbroke Grove and neighbo.204

Young man doing day's work thro' love agony of some kind.

10 1/2 in. black Lisle thread socks 2/-

Rev. of Reviews205 4/3 to Oct. 15.

Athenaum 9/- to Oct. 20.


The invalid woman who will not allow her family to be sacrificed to her.206

The Lincolnshire Poaching song207 (Chappell). "For it's my delight."

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202 On 28 April 1900 Gissing travelled to Sandgate where he stayed with H.G. Wells and his wife until 30 April, when he went to Newhaven to cross the Channel on his way back to Paris. Cf. Diary, 524.


205 Record of payments made, during Gissing's stay in London in the spring of 1900, for publications he subscribed to until the autumn of that year: Review of Reviews, Athenæum, and Public Opinion. Cf. [p.69] below.

206 Cf. Scrapbook, "Ideas".
Incivility of women. The two who came into Jaeger's and burst upon my talking.\footnote{208}

Fortnightly £56.14.\footnote{209}

[p.61]

The Lincolnshire Poacher

When I was bound apprentice, in famous Lincolnsheer,
Full well I served my master for more than seven year,
Till I took up with poaching, as you shall quickly hear –
Oh! 'tis my delight of a shiny night, in the season of the year.

As me and my comrades were setting of a snare,
'Twas then we seed the gamekeeper—for him we did not care,
For we can wrestle and fight, my boys, and jump o'er everywhere:-
Oh! 'tis my delight of a shiny night, in the season of the year.

As me and my comrades were fighting four or five,
And taking on him up again, we caught the hare alive;
We caught the hare alive, my boys, and through the woods did steer:-
Oh! 'tis my delight of a shiny night, in the season of the year.

Bad luck to every magistrate that lives in Lincolnsheer;
Success to every poacher that wants to sell a hate;
Bad luck to every gamekeeper that will not sell his deer:-
Oh! 'tis my delight of a shiny night, in the season of the year.

Cf. Early Ballads: Illustrative of History, Traditions, and Customs; ALSO Ballads and Songs of the Peasantry of England, edited by Robert Bell (London: George Bell & Sons, 1885) 436-37: “It is often very difficult to trace the locality of countrymen’s songs, in consequence of the licence adopted by printers of changing the names of places to suit their own neighbourhoods; but there is no such difficulty about The Lincolnshire Poacher. The oldest copy we have seen, printed at York about 1776, reads ‘Lincolnshire,’ and it is only in very modern copies that the venue is removed to other counties.”

Chappell was the leading publisher of music in London.

\footnote{208} Cf. Scrapbook, “Ideas”.

\footnote{209} Pinker, Gissing’s agent, wrote to him on 20 February 1900, that the Fortnightly Review had accepted By the Ionian Sea for serialization. The rights were sold for 120 guineas. We must assume that it was agreed to pay Gissing in two instalments of £63 each. Allowing for a deduction of Pinker’s 10% commission from £63, we arrive at the sum of £56.145. entered here. As the first part of By the Ionian Sea appeared in the Fortnightly for May 1900, it seems reasonable to date this first payment to May 1900.
H.H. Champion
215 Collins St.
Melbourne.

The shouting of the birds at Box Hill. [Crossed out.]

Sandgate. 211 4.55 }
Lond. Bridge. 7.20 } [Crossed out.]
Paris 7.15 [Crossed out.]

Letters for England posted at S. Lazar 213 up to 8.30 p.m. without extra stamp.

[p.62] [Whole page crossed out.]


Champion was a friend of Morley Roberts and it was through him that Gissing became friendly with him too. After his emigration to Australia he founded and edited The Book Lover of Melbourne, for which he reviewed Gissing’s novels. In January 1900 Champion had published a review of The Crown of Life in The Book Lover which Gissing liked a lot. We know of at least three letters sent to Champion by Gissing, one of which was dated 9 May 1900. The present entry is clearly connected with this letter. Cf. Collected Letters of George Gissing, Vol. 6, eds. Paul F. Mattheisen, Arthur C. Young, Pierre Coustillas [Athens, Ohio: Ohio UP, 1994] 79.

211 Cf. Scrapbook, “Localities & Notes on Nature. Science.”, where the entry is dated to 1900. Also: Ryecroft, Spring 21, 64. Gissing was a regular visitor at Flint Cottage, George Meredith’s home at Box Hill. He went there again for a visit during his trip to England on 27 April 1900. Cf. “To Edward Clodd,” 27 April 1900, George Gissing’s Letters to Edward Clodd, ed. Pierre Coustillas [London: Enitharmon, 1973] 61: “Meredith seems to me in much better health than when I saw him a year ago. There is no somnolence, and a good vein of sprightly talk, inclining to reminiscence. He kept me to dinner and was abundantly kind.”

212 Gissing’s return journey from the Wellses at Sandgate, via Newhaven, to Paris on 1 May 1900.

213 Railway station in Paris.
Untenability of old idea that women should be bowed down to and held free from obligations.

Domestic cleanliness etc. Yes, but in moderation. And how few women have the common sense to secure that.

The tragedy of man imparting his moral and intellectual progress to a woman whom he wrongly thinks able to understand him.

Only envy the rich for their power of hospitality.

The scolding mistress, and mean, who is astonished that servant "takes no interest in her work."

How absurd to generalize about women!

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214 Cf. Scrapbook, "Ideas": "The country parson who preaches a sermon agst. 'too much house-cleaning.'"

Cf. George Gissing, "To Ellen," 13 September 1888, Collected Letters of George Gissing, eds. Paul F. Mattheisen, Arthur C. Young, Pierre Coustillas (Athens, Ohio; Ohio UP, 1992) 239-40: "Then again, she [Gissing's mother] seems strangely to have had eyes for nothing but a few defects of kitchen management ... Now, is it worth sacrificing this human progress & peace for the sake of making sure that there is nothing in the kitchen that might not be better? ... No, but then of course the inhabitants of a house must unite in recognizing that the mind is of more account than the body. Mother would grant you that, hypothetically; but we know sadly enough that her practice is in precisely the opposite direction. It is a sad, sad thing that anyone should be rendered incapable of spiritual activity by ceaseless regard for kitchen-ware & the back-door steps."

215 After the evident failure of his efforts to (re)educate his two wives, Gissing may well have been thinking of his own (tragic) fate.

216 Cf. Ryecroft, Winter 3, 231: "That is one of the bitter curses of poverty; it leaves no right to be generous."

217 Mrs Cross in Will Warburton.


See: "To Gabrielle Fleury," [December] 18, [1898], Collected Letters of George Gissing, ed. Paul F. Mattheisen, Arthur C. Young, Pierre Coustillas, vol. 7 (Athens, Ohio; Ohio UP, 1995) 248: "Then again, I much dislike generalisations about women. They are just as unfair as generalisations about men. A woman is an individual. I utterly resent the thought that Gabrielle should be classed among a multitude. She is herself; a woman, yes, but also a
The gentle, delicate-fibred husband who has become slave to coarse wife and daughters—all his hopes in life long over.

[p.64] [Whole page crossed out.]

Vandesess[e]. \textsuperscript{219} 22.95 (3)
Vandesess[e]. 15 (1)

Baggage .10
Pourboire .20
Omnibus 8.0
Omnibus 8.0

The Eng. Sunday\textsuperscript{220}—the French servant—Dickens said French Sunday “uncomfortable.”\textsuperscript{221}

human being.”
Also, cf. Our Friend the Charlatan, 141: “I hate talk about women. We’ve had enough of it; it has become a nuisance—a cant, like any other. A woman is a human being, not a separate species.”

\textsuperscript{219} Cf. Diary, 524: “Frid. May 25, [1900] ... Left Gare de Lyon at 10.30, evening, and reached Vandesess[e] at 8 in morning, whence an hour’s drive to St Honoré.”

Also, cf. George Gissing, “To Edward Clodd,” 6 May 1900, George Gissing’s Letters to Edward Clodd, ed. Pierre Coustillas (London: Enitharmon Press, 1973) 63: “Our departure is fixed for the 25th of this month, and we go to St Honoré (Nièvre) in the centre of France, where we have taken the Villa des Roses until the end of October. This will be easier, as regards journey, than going to the Alps; the distance is only six hours from Paris. The villa is roomy and comfortable; I hope to work there very steadily all through the months of sunshine.”

\textsuperscript{220} Cf. RyeCroft, Summer 4, 85-7.

\textsuperscript{221} Cf. John Forster, The Life of Charles Dickens, ed. A.J. Hoppé, vol. 1 (London: Everyman-Dent, 1969) 442: Next day he [Dickens] took another long walk about the streets [of Paris], and lost himself fifty times. This was Sunday, and he hardly knew what to say of it, as he saw it there and then. The bitter observance of that day he always sharply resisted, believing a little rational enjoyment to be not opposed to either rest or religion; but here was another matter. ‘The dirty churches, and clattering cars and wagons, and the open shops (I don’t think I passed fifty shut up, in all my strollings in and out), and the work-a-day dresses and drudgeries, are not comfortable. Open theatres and so forth I am well used to, of course, by this time; but so much toil and sweat on what one would like to see, apart from religious observances, a sensible holiday, is painful.’ At Arcachon (Dec. 1901 to January 1902) Gissing undertook for Chapman & Hall an abridgment of Forster’s Life of Dickens.

Nature’s cruelty. The green-yellow little spider on cup of sparge, and the dead bee.

22.95\textsuperscript{222}

frayed – dowdy –

Tea. 2 bis Rue du Havre. Souchong (5 francs).

14 Rue. Cavallotti.\textsuperscript{223}

[p.66] [Whole page crossed out.]

Pine-wood under sunshine. Dark-roofed; no glint on leaves; a few trunks sunlighted down one side, and sun falling on moss below, in strips of bright green.\textsuperscript{224}

She prides self on having no habits.

My dreams under a thousand forms, always suggest obstruction or embarrassment.\textsuperscript{225}

\textsuperscript{222} Cf. [p.64] above: “Vand[enesse]. 22.95 (3).”

\textsuperscript{223} This was the address in Paris of Mme N. Mortier, a friend of Gabrielle’s, whom Gissing mentioned in a letter to Morley Roberts of 16 January 1903. Gissing suggested she might translate Roberts’ novel The Colossus.


\textsuperscript{225} Cf. Jacob Korg, ed., George Gissing’s commonplace Book (New York: NYPL, 1962) 26: “Twice or thrice a year I dream of my Father, & always with one circumstance characterizing the dream. Though he appears to me in very different places, & under very different conditions, he is invariably, for a reason unknown, held beyond the possibility of intimate association . . . I remember one dream in which he seemed to be living in the same house, but hopelessly shut away. At times I have felt a passionate desire to approach him, & have even done so with words of affection, but he never responded; his manner was always abstracted, unconscious, at best coldly aware of me.- Very strange, this characteristic of dreams about one long dead.” Also, cf. Pierre Coustillas, “Gissing’s Reminiscences of His Father: An Unpublished Manuscript,” English Literature in Transition, Volume 32, Number 4, 1989, p. 419.
Her brother, who will never marry, frightened by the example of his parents.226

The struggle over “going into society.”

Absolute disregard of other people’s convenience et

Her wrangling when he paid liberally or gave money et

Father of heroine. Study of good man made hypocritical by weakness.

The husband ashamed ever to return to holiday place, because of wife’s meanness.

Reciprocity of evil infl. bet. England and US.227

Bourget 31 Oct. the last number.

Cartland [Birmingham]228

226 Evidently the reference is to Herbert James Underwood (1847–1907), the brother of Gissing’s second wife, Edith Underwood. He was the oldest of the six children of James Underwood and Annie Underwood, née Neville. Herbert James Underwood was a monumental mason, like his father. Gissing was correct in pointing out his reluctance to getting married. Herbert James Underwood waited until he was 53, before he decided to take the plunge in 1902. In a letter to Clara Collet (23 Jan. 1897) Gissing described him as “the only one of Edith’s relatives who has either sense or decency.” (Collected Letters, Vol. 6, p. 223). Also, cf. Collected Letters, Vol. 1, p. xxxix.

227 Cf. Ryecroft, Summer 22, 136: “Easy to understand that some there are who see nothing but evil in the influence of that vast commonwealth.” [USA]

228 James Cartland and Son Lim., Brassfounders, 68 & 72, Constitution Hill, Birmingham. The firm had showrooms in London at 57, Holborn Viaduct, E.C.
There is a sacredness about the meal of tea. It is prepared with smiles. It marks end of
the domestic work—for mistress at all events.\(^{229}\)

\(^{14}\) à 11
\(^{154}\)

[p.69]
Rev. of Reviews to Ap. 1902.

Slippers – Razor – Matches – Note paper and envs\(^{230}\)

\(^{231}\) L. C. Elson
811 Beacon St.
Boston, Mass.

Aug. 3. [1901] weight in clothes stone 11.3\(^{3/4}\)

without 10.8\(^{1/4}\)\(^{31}\)

\(^{229}\) Cf. Commonplace Book, 26. Jacob Korg, the editor of the Commonplace Book, dates that entry 2
June 1900. Also: Rycroft, Winter 6, 236-38.

\(^{230}\) List of items Gissing brought with him on arrival at the East Anglian Sanatorium at
Nayland, Suffolk, June 24, 1901.

\(^{231}\) Elson, Louis Charles (1848-1920), Boston-born music critic and teacher, was music editor
of the Boston Advertiser (1886-1920) and for forty years a teacher at the New England
Conservatory of Music. Gissing first met him in Boston 1876. In letters to Rachel White (8
December 1901) and Pinker (2 March 1902) Gissing refers to Elson’s visiting him in the
Sanatorium at Nayland. (Collected Letters, vol.8, 284, 354).

\(^{232}\) Cf. George Gissing & H.G. Wells: A Record of their Friendship and Correspondence, ed. Royal A. Gettmann
I have got up to 10 stone 9, without clothing—which I think I ought not to go beyond.”

Also, Henry Hick’s Recollections of George Gissing, ed. Pierre Coustillas (London: Enitharmon,
1973) 62: “To Hick,” 8 Aug. 1901: “My weight (puris naturalibus) is now about 10 st. 8, and I
don’t think I can stand more.”

Cf. Suffolk Record Office, Bury St Edmunds Branch, Register of Patients 1896-Dec.
1920, ID 507/6/1, East Anglian Sanatorium Company Ltd., p. 10, No. 138: Mr Geo. Gissing of
Arundell St., Strand. C/o J. B. Pinker Esq., Effingham Ho. Complaint P. T. Came 24.6.01. Went
10.8.01. Result: Slightly improved. Died 1906. [sic]

\(^{233}\) Dr Robert Koch (1843-1910), Nobel prize winning, German bacteriologist (Berlin) and
discoverer of the tuberculosis bacillus. He attended the International Tuberculosis
Koch on Sanatoria,\textsuperscript{233}

[p.70]
F. G. Stringer,\textsuperscript{234} J. W. Fell,\textsuperscript{235} Dr Mabel Paine,\textsuperscript{236} Miss R. E. White,\textsuperscript{237} Miss Althea Gyles.\textsuperscript{238}


\textsuperscript{234} Cf. Suffolk Record Office, Bury St Edmunds Branch, Register of Patients 1896-Dec. 1920, ID 507/6/1, East Anglian Sanatorium Company Ltd., p. 13, No 173: “Mr Stringer, 20 Thames Street, Kingston-on-Thames. Complaint P[ulmonary]. T[uberculosis]. Came 2-4-01. Went 15-3-02. Result: Worse.” In another column there is the additional entry: “Dead.”

\textsuperscript{235} Cf. Suffolk Record Office, Bury St Edmunds Branch, Register of Patients 1896-Dec. 1920, ID 507/6/1, East Anglian Sanatorium Company Ltd., p. 12, No 162: “Mr J. W. Fell, 6 Plane Trees, New Pellon, Halifax. Complaint P[ulmonary]. T[uberculosis]. Came 4-3-01. Went 6-1-02. Much improved.” In a later column there is the additional comment: “Quite well.” John William Fell (Bethnal Green, 1860-Dewsbury, 1909) kept in touch with Gissing. Cf. Diary, 545: “Letter from J. W. Fell, who is seemingly strong and well after fearful winter at Halifax. In his case the Sanatorium cure seems to have been genuine.”

\textsuperscript{236} Dr Mabel Paine (1874-1937) was resident medical officer at Nayland Sanatorium from 1901 till 1903. She graduated M.B. and B.S. from the London School of Medicine for Women in 1900.

\textsuperscript{237} Cf. Suffolk Record Office, Bury St Edmunds Branch, Register of Patients 1896-Dec. 1920, ID 507/6/1, East Anglian Sanatorium Company Ltd., p. 11: “Miss R. E. White of Craig Tag, Dundee, Newnham Coll. Cambridge. Complaint P[ulmonary]. T[uberculosis]. Came 2-4-01. Went 10-09-01. Much improved.” In another column there is the additional comment: “Quite well.” Rachel Evelyn White (1867-1943) was a teacher of classics at Newnham College. Gissing later borrowed some of her character traits for the heroine of his short story “Miss Rodney’s Leisure.”


Althea Gyles (1868-1949), Irish artist and poet. She designed the covers for Yeats’s The Secret Rose (1897), Poems (1899 and later editions), and The Wind Among the Reeds (1899). Yeats wrote an essay on her in The Dome (1898), and a note on her verse in A Treasury of Irish Poetry,
Miss Walker M.D.\textsuperscript{239}

On leaving San[atorium], weighed in clothes 156 lb.

\textbf{Weight}

\begin{tabular}{|c|c|}
\hline
Aug. & 14 \text{ K.} \\
Aug. & 21, 200\textsuperscript{240} \\
Aug. & 29 \text{ 300} \\
Sept. & 3 \text{ 400} \\
Sept. & 10 \text{ 73} \\
Sept. & 19 \text{ 400} \\
Oct. & 2 \text{ 75 (nearly)} \\
\hline
\end{tabular}

\textsuperscript{239} Dr Jane H. Walker (1859-1938) was the director in charge of the East Anglian Sanatorium in Nayland, Suffolk, to which Gissing was admitted on 24 June 1901. He left the institution on 10 August 1901. Cf. Martha S. Vogeler, “People Gissing Knew: Dr Jane Walker,” Gissing Journal, vol. XXIX, number 2, April 1993, 1-10.

\textsuperscript{240} Cf. George Gissing, “To Wells,” 21 Aug. 1901: “That I am not likely to lose here what I gained at Nayland is clear from the fact that last week I gained a little more than 1 kilo in weight.” Also: Gabrielle Fleury, “To Clara Collet,” 25 Aug. [1901]: “... in the last week he gained 1 kilo 200 ....”
Oct. 16 76
Oct. 26 77
Nov. 6 75
Nov. 13 76
Nov. 21 77
Dec. 2 78 (over)

[p. 71]
Eng. lb. 453 gr.

[Crossed out.]

Now and then, lancinating pain just under right (left, rarely) last rib.

Nevers. 12.53 | Paris 8.50
Paris. 5.37 | Nevers 2.25 [Crossed out.]

Noise in going to sleep.

Eczema.

Burning cheeks at 6 o’clock.

[p. 72]
Tanner - Crickmay - Grew - Popplewell.

Commercial Knowledge - A. Warren. Murray 2/6. [Crossed out.]

241 Cf. Gabrielle Fleury, “To Wells,” 22 Nov. 1901: “George is now weighing 77 kilos.”

242 Cf. Diary, 540: “After that we were guests [of the Saglios] at Tazières till end of November. I then went up to Paris, and saw Chauffard, who shook his head and advised the winter at Arcachon. To Arcachon I went.” The nearest railway station for Tazières was Nevers.

243 Gissing continuously complained of his inability to sleep during his stay at Arcachon.

244 Cf. Letters of George Gissing to Gabrielle Fleury, 23 Jan. 1902: “The forehead is better. Also: 20 February 1902: “My forehead is considerably better.”

245 Warren, Algernon. Commercial Knowledge: A Manual of Business Methods and Transactions. London: John Murray, 1901. In January 1902, while staying at Arcachon, Gissing began to think seriously about a new novel “that the expenses of 1902 may be provided for.” (Letters of George Gissing to Gabrielle Fleury, 146). The thinking out of the novel that was to be Will Warbuton was completed by the end of the month. In a letter (22 Jan. 1902) to his agent Pinker, Gissing asks him to send Warren’s book. (Collected Letters, vol. 8, 319).
The ideal of honesty and pride. Cannot bear to give pain or humiliate. Over-generous in payment of services. Excessive delicacy towards inferiors—yet vehement self-respect. Optimism as regards prosperity. Delight in giving.—English art of life—scorn of the little and inessential—Hatred of anything underhand, mean complicities\textsuperscript{246} etc.: Can't bear to humiliate even a blackguard.\textsuperscript{247}

Ms. paper—pens—ink—hair—Rubempré.\textsuperscript{248} [Crossed out.]

A. Saglio's\textsuperscript{249} loss of 800 fr. and selling books. [Crossed out.]

Art is the satisfying and abiding expression of the zest of life.\textsuperscript{250} [Crossed out.]

Valescure, St. Raphael.\textsuperscript{251}

[p.74] [Whole page crossed out.]

\textsuperscript{246} Cf. Rycroft, Winter 25, 290: "I see the true-born son of England, his vigour and his virtues yet unimpaired. In his blood is the instinct of honour, the scorn of meanness;"

\textsuperscript{247} Cf. Commonplace Book, 67: "Why is it so painful to me to see even a blackguard humiliated?"

\textsuperscript{248} Lucien de Rubempré is the name of a young poet from Angoulême, who goes to Paris to make his fortune. He is a major character in Balzac's Les Illusions perdues (1837-43) and Splendeurs et misères des courtisanes (1838-47). It is not clear why Gissing should refer to him in this context.

\textsuperscript{249} Alfred Saglio (1823-1893) was the manager of the foundry at Fourchambault. He was a relative of Gabrielle's.

\textsuperscript{250} Cf. Rycroft, Spring 20, 59: "It has occurred to me that one might define Art as: an expression, satisfying and abiding, of the zest of life." Also: Commonplace Book, 69: "Might one define Art as a satisfying and abiding expression of the zest of life?"

\textsuperscript{241} Cf. Letters of George Gissing to Gabrielle Fleury, 150: "The Williamsons have spoken to me of a place called Valescure, near St Raphael, which is called the Arcachon of the South. Do you know anything of it? It seems to be situated among pines, inland, and to have a climate less exciting than that of the Riviera. The Williamsons are going to make inquiries about it for me." (26 January 1902).
Bligny, Champrosay, Versailles, Forges les Bains, Ormesson, Buzenval, Noisy le Grand, Villiers s. Marne, Bois-Colombes – all in Seine et Oise.\textsuperscript{252}

Je suis laid, et je souffre d’être laid. Je vois d’ici que ça te contrarie. Mais tranquillis-toi. J’essaierai de me faire beau au dedans.\textsuperscript{253}

Les étalages des bouchers le vendredi saint à Paris.\textsuperscript{254}

Bells go to Rome.\textsuperscript{255}

Il y a des engueulades! J’aime bien quand il y a des enges\textsuperscript{256}

Fluctuation, proving struggle. S’agit to find a climate, to eat and sleep. Sea? – Objects to Medit., but not to Manche, and Ocean.

\textsuperscript{252} Cf. Letters of George Gissing to Gabrielle Fleury, 160: “I have just seen a map of France, where are marked all the places chosen for sanatoria. In the dept of Seine-et-Oise, I note the following: Bligny, Champrosay, Versailles, Forges-les-Bains, Ormesson, Buzenval, Noisy-le-Grand, Villiers-sur-Marne, Bois-Colombes. Is this list any use, I wonder?” (27 March 1902).

\textsuperscript{253} Editor’s translation: I am ugly, and it distresses me to be ugly. I can see from here that it’s upsetting you. But set your mind at rest. I shall try to make myself beautiful on the inside.

\textsuperscript{254} Cf. George Gissing’s Commonplace Book, 65: “At Paris, on night before Good Friday, there is a great slaughtering of beasts, and the butchers make exhibition of the meat on Friday—the shops being closed, but inside visible through the grillage. Sale begins on Sat. morning.”

\textsuperscript{255} Cf. George Gissing’s Commonplace Book, 49: “Bells do not ring in Catholic countries from morning of Thursday to evening of Saturday—before and after Good Friday. In France they say: ‘Les cloches vont à Rome.’”

\textsuperscript{256} These words [“They are cursing and swearing, I love it when they are cursing and swearing.”] were spoken by Cognat, one of Gissing’s blackguardly fellow lodgers at Arcachon.

\textsuperscript{256} Cf. MS of Gissing’s Commonplace Book (Berg Collection, NYPL) 45: “Cognat’s cry of delight in opening his newspaper: ‘Il y a des engeulades [sic]! J’aime bien quand il y a des engeulades!’” The entry was omitted from Korg’s edition of George Gissing’s Commonplace Book (1962).
C’est la grande question, quand arrive la fin de saison, de savoir où envoyer les malades.\textsuperscript{257}

You ought to have made much more progress.\textsuperscript{258}

Cognat and Anthier exulting in humiliation of aristocrat as soldier.\textsuperscript{259}

[p.76] [Whole page crossed out.]

Life of Cruikshank. Blanchard Jerrold.\textsuperscript{260}

Hatred of uned. French (including peasantry) for Eng\textsuperscript{4} due entirely to newspapers—esp. Petit Journal\textsuperscript{261} and Rochefort.\textsuperscript{262}


\textsuperscript{257} Gissing’s notes of Dr Festal’s findings and advice. See next footnote.

\textsuperscript{258} On Wednesday April 23, 1902 Gissing said good-bye to his doctor at Arcachon. Dr Alfred François Festal (1858-1936) had been treating Gissing from December 1901 to late April 1902. These must have been his final recommendations. Cf Diary, 542.

\textsuperscript{259} Cf George Gissing’s Commonplace Book, 65: “The malicious glee with which Anthier and Cognat spoke of humiliation of a rich man’s son in military service. ‘C’est bien ça. Ça lui apprend qu’il ne vaut pas mieux que les autres.” Louis Marius Cognat (1878-1903) and Anthier were two young Frenchmen who were staying with Gissing at the Villa Souvenir in Arcachon. He wrote about them in his Diary for 8 April 1902: “Companions two young Frenchmen—Cognat, a Normalien, and Anthier, in business;... Nevet have I lived so long in the company of blackguards. Cognar is an educated peasant; Anthier only to be described as a cad. Impossible to give an idea of the filthiness of their minds and the grossness of their talk. They are petty, envious, malicious; always jeering or sneering at someone or other.”


\textsuperscript{261} Cf George Gissing’s Commonplace Book, 46: “Hatred of England among French lower folk is due mostly to influence of the Petit Journal.”

\textsuperscript{262} Henri, Marquis de Rochefort-Luca (1831-1913), French journalist, republican politician and writer. In 1868 he established La Lanterne. He defended the Commune of Paris, for which he was exiled to New Caledonia (1872). After escaping from there, he lived at Geneva until he was granted an amnesty in 1880. Upon his return to Paris he set up L’Intransigeant.
{ 7.47 Arc[achon].  
  11.23 Bayonne

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>[p.77]</th>
<th>Arc[achon].</th>
<th>7.42</th>
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<tr>
<td>S[t].J[ean]. de L[uz].</td>
<td>12.5</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

| Arc[achon]. | 2.37 |
| S[t].J[ean]. de L[uz]. | 7.51 |

2d class, 17 francs
3d class, 11

"Friend, I know nothing of your technical terms. My razor is blunt, and I want it sharpened!"

---

"On n’est jamais honnête que par prudence – n’est-ce pas? Par temp[érament] tout le monde est plus ou moins filou.” Assent!°

"Prof – has detected the variability of a star in the constellation of Lyra."°

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261 Cf. Diary, 542, 24 April 1902: “With great gladness, said good-bye to Arcachon. Took the 7.42am train, and reached S. Jean de Luz at mid-day.”

After spending a month in St Jean de Luz in search of suitable lodgings, Gissing returned to Paris to fetch Gabrielle and her mother. They then settled in St Jean de Luz in July 1902, staying until July 1903, when their year’s lease expired. Very soon after their arrival Gissing started work on his novel, Will Warburton, making use of St Jean de Luz as a setting for some of its scenes. Cf Will Warburton, 131–32, 243–55.

264 Cf. Commonplace Book, 65: “Remarked Thibault: ‘On n’est jamais honnête que par prudence, n’est-ce pas? Par tempérament, tout le monde est plus ou moins felon [sic].’ And there followed a general murmur of assent as to a commonplace.” In all probability Thibault was a fellow lodger of Gissing’s at the Villa Souvenir in Arcachon. Gissing had used the name (marginally modified) for one of the characters in The Crown of Life: Thibaut Rossignol, Dr Derwent’s personal servant.

265 Cf. Athenæum, No 3886, April 19, 1902, p. 502: “Science Gossip Mr Stanley Williams, of Hove, Brighton, has detected the variability of a star in the constellation Lyra...”

Also: Athenæum, No 3897, July 5, 1902, p. 56: “Mr Stanley Williams, of Hove, Brighton, announces (Astr. Nach. No. 3796) a new variable star in the constellation Lyra...”
Migne's Patrologia Graeca et Latina.266 387 Vo (£210)

"Ne vous expliquez point, si vous voulez vous entendre."
Diderot (Paradoxe sur le comédien).267

A small child was chanting that primitive lay,268 which strongly recommends the ladybird to go home as fast as she can, adding a purely gratuitous fabrication as to the charming condition of her house and family.” [Crossed out.]

Mlle Julia
Hôtel Julia
Pont-Aven269
Finistère.

266 Jacques-Paul Migne (1800–1875), French priest who edited and published hundreds of volumes of the writings of the Church fathers. Gissing consulted various volumes when preparing for Veranilda.


267 Cf. Diderot, “Paradoxe sur le comédien” (1773), Oeuvres, ed. André Billy, Bibliothèque de la Pléiade (Paris, 1951) 1035: “Et demeurez plus que jamais attaché à votre maxime: Ne vous expliquez point si vous voulez vous entendre.” [And more than ever you must remain attached to your maxim: If you want to be understood, do not explain yourself.] In an earlier version of the work Diderot made clear that this was his adaptation of the Latin motto: Nil explicare, adding that it had long since been his favourite aphorism, the utility and wisdom of which he found confirmed every day.

An identical entry occurs in the MS of George Gissing’s Commonplace Book (p.46); it was omitted from Korg’s edition of the Commonplace Book (1962).

268 The reference is to the familiar nursery rhyme: Lady Bird, Lady Bird, / Fly away home, / Your house is on fire, / Your children will burn.

269 Dr Festal, Gissing’s doctor at Arcachon, had suggested either a resort on the Channel coast or on the Atlantic Ocean as suitable for his further recuperation (cf. note 236). Pont-Aven, with its colony of painters, was in all probability suggested as a likely place by the Williamson (see next note).
Mrs Williamson
White Hall
Hampton Court.

[p.80]

Expl' of the saignant idea about Eng. meat.

L{ouis}. C{oognat}.
Aux soins de –
Madame Cognat
7, rue Lacépéde
Paris. V.

a.m.   p.m.
S: Jean  8.31   Cambo  5.34
Cambo     9.59   S: Jean  7.51 [Crossed out.]

Thro' ticket permits stop at Bordeaux.

270 Alice Muriel Williamson (1869-1933) and her husband Charles Norris Williamson sent Gissing a bouquet of flowers when he was staying at Arcachon. The next day, Christmas Day 1901, Gissing called on the couple who had come down from Calais to Bordeaux in an automobile. There is a reference to Gissing in their book The Lightning Conductor (1903), a popular account of their motoring trip through France. Cf. The Letters of George Gissing to Gabrielle Fleury, ed. Pierre Coustillas (New York: NYPL, 1964) 145.


272 Cf. note 259 above.

273 Before finally deciding on S. Jean de Luz as a suitable resort, having spent the winter at the Villa Souvenir in Arcachon, Gissing toyed with the idea of going to Cambo, a small resort in the Basque country. In a letter to Gabrielle (25 April 1902), written from S. Jean, he informs her of his plan to visit Cambo: “Of course I shall go and have a look at Cambo .... Probably one day will be enough—unless I saw something which required thinking about.” (Letters of George Gissing to Gabrielle Fleury, ed. Pierre Coustillas, 162).

An entry in Gissing’s Commonplace Book (p. 66) is based upon a visit to Cambo; the connection is established through Gabrielle’s “Recollections”: “The little invalid at Maison Bortigarray. His father, at table, sends out for bottle of wine. ‘Faut-il la payer?’ asks child anxiously. And the mother—‘Naturellement! Il faut tout payer!’ And she adds—‘Pauvre petit! Il n’y a qu’à se laisser vivre et il s’inquiète de tout.’”
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>S: Jean</td>
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<td>Arrival at S: Jean</td>
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<td>Bordeaux</td>
<td>5 May 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paris</td>
<td>17 May 74</td>
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<td>22 May 74</td>
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**Villa Destraces**

Villa Catalina (R. du Midi)

<table>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>71 1/2</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 May 74</td>
<td>73 1/2 (600 g. clothing extra)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 May 74</td>
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275 In the StJean de Luz Gazette and Visitors List for Saturday, 12 December [1903], there is a reference to a local villa named “villa Destraces”. As the pronunciation of the name is similar to that of “Detraces”, Gissing may have been misled by a name he had only heard.

276 Cf. Diary, 543, 30 April 1902: “Went into S. Jean, and saw a villa which seemed likely—Villa Catalina. Wrote to the owner about it—a Miss Watson at Pau.”


278 Cf. Letters of George Gissing to Gabrielle Fleury, ed. Pierre Coutiillas, 151, 4 Feb. 1902: “I like to think of you in my poor little study. Have you put my books on the shelves—those that came from Autun by petite vitesse, and those you brought from Tazières? No doubt, you have.”
Not only the monk, but the man of letters, has his fits of acedia.\textsuperscript{279}

Church bells only good far off. And this applies to all things of men—I only care to view them from afar.\textsuperscript{280}

The lack of music—gratitude to those etc.\textsuperscript{281}

Health and joy in old days after good bout of work.\textsuperscript{282}

Old delight in reading a novel.\textsuperscript{283}

[p.83] [Whole page crossed out.]

Bank holiday.\textsuperscript{284}

Towns without booksellers.

We feel that ostensible is not the same as real writer.\textsuperscript{285}

\textsuperscript{279} Acedia: torpor; intellectual or spiritual lethargy; apathy.

\textsuperscript{280} Cf. Will Warburton, 232: “From away down the river sounded the bells of Lambeth Church, their volleying clang softened by distance to a monotonous refrain....”

\textsuperscript{281} Cf. Ryecroft, Summer 26, 147-48: “Of late, I have been wishing for music ... It is well for me that I cannot hear music when I will; assuredly I should not have such intense pleasure as comes to me now and then by haphazard. As I walked on, forgetting all about the distance, and reaching home before I knew I was half way there, I felt gratitude to my unknown benefactor.”

\textsuperscript{282} Cf. Ryecroft, Winter 5, 234-35.

\textsuperscript{283} Cf. Commonplace Book, 46: “Reading in youth is so delightful and profitable because we have then no responsibilities and no preoccupations.”

\textsuperscript{284} Cf. Ryecroft, Summer 8, 98: “I remember an August bank-holiday, when, having for some reason to walk all across London, I unexpectedly found myself enjoying the strange desertion of great streets, and from that passed to surprise in the sense of something beautiful.”

\textsuperscript{285} Cf. Ryecroft, Autumn 21, 211: “Starvation, it is true, does not necessarily produce fine literature; but one feels uneasy about these carpet-authors. To the two or three who have a measure of conscience and vision, I could wish, as the best thing, some calamity which would leave them friendless in the streets.”
Autobiography form only possible to D[ickens] at maturity of his talent.286

Thack[eray]'s Esmond and Lyndon.287

Ch. Bronte288 sees world.

[p.84]

Author at Grass.289


Around 1848 Dickens came to realize that only an open confrontation with the dark unhealed wounds and sorrows of his past by committing them to paper might serve to rid him of the burden. Thus the conception of writing his autobiography probably owed more to a deeply-felt psychological need than to the maturing of his talent. After attempting to write a straightforward autobiography, he found the demands of the genre too painful and instead used his own youthful experiences as the basis for the story of David Copperfield. David Copperfield always remained his favourite book, especially on account of its autobiographical elements. Yet it is well to remember Forster's warning not to assume "a full identity of Dickens with his hero, [nor] a supposed intention that his own character should be expressed in the narrative."

287 Thackeray, William Makepeace (1811-1863). The reference is to two of his novels: Barry Lyndon (1844) and Henry Esmond (1852).


Also, Commonplace Book, 29: "In no modern writer have I such intense personal interest as in Charlotte Brontë. It has stirred me strangely to hear George Smith speak of his remembrance of her."

289 This was the original title of the work that was later published under the title The Private Papers of Henry Ryecroft. It had first appeared, under its original title, in four instalments in the Fortnightly Review (May, Aug., Nov. 1902, Feb. 1903). Gissing wrote it at Saint-Honoré-les-Bains, from September 1 to October 23, 1900. However, during his stay at Autun (mid-August to mid-October 1901) he revised and lengthened the work. Cf. Gissing: Les Carnets d'Henry Ryecroft, translated and edited by Pierre Coustillas (Paris: Montaigne, 1966) 35. Also: Diary, 530-33, 540.
Life without romance. Too late now. Others will love. Wailing of a violin, heartache. Yet what matter, once all over? 

The blank hours—revival of old longings and passions—books a weariness. Dose of medicine. O, the materialist result!

Horror of a crowd. Hence, think with dread of America.

[p.85]
Nowadays, cannot risk a classic quotation except in academic society. This is disheartening.

Illusion of thinking that if we went again to a place we should feel as we did when there before.

κάθανε καὶ Πάτροκλος, ὁ περ ἕνο πολλόν ἀμείνων!

Future punishment? Why, every sin—every mistake—has its adequate punishment forthwith.

[p.86] [Whole page crossed out.]


\(^{291}\) Cf. Ryecroft, Spring 8, 20: “I remember afternoons of languor, when books were a weariness.”

\(^{292}\) Cf. Ryecroft, Spring 16, 47.

\(^{293}\) Cf. Whirlpool, 325: “Talking with travelled friends, he was wont to praise himself in humorous vein for the sober fixity of his life, and to quote, in that mellow tone which gave such charm to his talk, the line from Claudian, “Errat et extremos alter scrutetur heros” [Let who will be a wanderer and explore farthest Spain]; for he [Basil Morton] had several friends to whom a Latin or Greek quotation was no stumbling-block.”

\(^{294}\) Cf. Ryecroft, Summer 10, 104-05.

\(^{295}\) Iliad, xxi. 107. [Translation: Even Patroclus died, a man greatly superior to you!]
The glory of the country when I first went to Exeter. Town for years and years. Really had never seen country. Pear and apple trees etc.  

Ideal is to link age with youth.  

Cracking of broom pods in July sun.  

Dislike of the people. Yet my odd delight in their music.  

[p.87] [Whole page crossed out.]  

The misery of a good young wife, who finds herself again enceinte.  

Landlady and barmaid blocking door of W[ite]. Hart. Surliness of everyone or rather insolent indifference.  

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297 Mark Storey in the “Introduction” to his edition of The Private Papers of Henry Ryecroft (The World’s Classics, 1987) seeks to establish a significant contrast between Henry Ryecroft and his creator by arguing that it was Gissing’s lifelong ambition to bridge the gap that separates the present from the past, while Ryecroft seems to insist on the discontinuity between his past and present selves. Storey aptly quotes from a letter written by Gissing to his sister Ellen (31 July 1886): “With me it is a constant aim to bring the present and the past near to each other, to remove the distance which seems to separate Hellas from Lambeth. It can be done, by grasping firmly enough the meanings of human nature.” (Collected Letters of George Gissing, vol. 3, 48-9.) Ironically, in Ryecroft Gissing created a man who subverts his creator’s long held conviction about the essential stableness and continuity of human character.  

298 Cf. Ryecroft, Summer 10, 105: “... as I smoked a delicious pipe, I heard about me the crack, crack, crack of broom-pods bursting in the glorious heat of the noontide sun.”  

299 Cf. Ryecroft, Spring 16, 47: “I am no friend of the people.”  

300 Cf. Ryecroft, Summer 16, 120-21: “One inn I remember, where, having to go in and out two or three times in a morning, I always found the front door blocked by the portly forms of two women, the landlady and the barmaid, who stood there chatting and surveying the street .... This was the best “hotel” in a Sussex market town.” On the eve of his sailing to France for the “wedding” ceremony in a hotel at Rouen, Gissing stayed at the White Hart at Lewes (1-6 May 1899).
Jansénius read 10 times the folios of St. Augustine, and wished to be on desert island with Aug. alone.  

"La plus expresse marque de la sagesse, c'est une esjouissance constante." Montaigne.

fastidious - fastidieux (assommant)
ignoble - ignoble (disgusting)
délibéré - deliberate (pondéré) (with decision)
enervate - énerver (excite)

Prévarication = betrayal of trust.

Talent. In Fr. = ability of complete artist. In Eng. = capacity to become.

Déception = disillusion, never deception.

complexion. Physical structure (our physique)
timide. Shy, not timid (peureux)

Inconsistant, that won’t hold together.

Cf. Sainte-Beuve, Charles-Augustin (1804-69), Port-Royal, Tome premier (Paris: Eugène Renduel, 1840) 307: "Saint Augustin l’occupe de plus en plus; ... On assiste chez Jansénius au commencement de cette longue et irassasiable étude qui lui fit lire comme il l’assurait, dix fois tout saint Augustin ... et trente fois les traités contre les pélagiens. Il disait encore qu’il aurait passé agréablement sa vie dans une île déserte en tête-à-tête avec son saint Augustin;" [editor’s italics.]

Also: “To Bertz,” 8 Sept. 1901: “Gabrielle & I are reading the history of Port-Royal by Sainte-Beuve.” [Collected Letters, vol. 8, 245].

Cf. Ryecroft, Autumn 8, 171: “I have been reading Sainte-Beuve’s Port Royal, a book I have often thought of reading, but its length, and my slight interest in the period, always held me aloof. ... One is better for having lived a while with ‘Messieurs de Port-Royal’; the best of them were, surely, not far from the Kingdom of Heaven.”

Montaigne, Essais (Livre Premier), chap. 26, “De L’institution des Enfants.”
Vandenesse. Fourchambault. 15.45 f. 1500 f. 675 f.

Anti-Tobacco league. Proceedings etc.

Rue de Larochehoucauld. At top on right hand side. Seocan.

Chez Mme Alix (Prop. de l'auberge)
A la dune
St Marie du Mont
Manche.

303 Cf. Diary, 533: "Wed. Nov. 21. [1900]... We left St Honoré about three weeks ago, and went to stay for a week at Chasnay (Fourchambault), with the Eustaches." It seems reasonable to assume the Gissings travelled from St Honoré via Vandenesse to Fourchambault.

304 This is the annual rent of the Villa Lannes at Ciboure, S. Jean de Luz. Cf. Diary, 544: "Mond. May 12. [1902]... Went to see the rooms again at Mme Lannes', Place de la Mairie and decided to take them. Rent for 6 months, f. 1200, with right to prolong for a second 6 months, at f. 300."

Also: "To Mme Fleury," 12 May 1902: "Les six mois, de juillet à décembre, nous payer [sic] 1200f, et nous sommes libres de nous réengager pour les six mois suivants, janvier-juin, au prix de 300f - 1500f en tout."

305 Annual rent of the flat at Boulogne. Cf. Diary, 546: "Tues. July 1. [1902]... Having decided to take a cheap flat as pied à terre at Paris, decided at length for Boulogne, 6 rue de Billancourt, 4th floor, to the right. Decent little place; rent only 675fr. On Saturday last [28 June 1902] did the removal."


In nineteenth century England there were two organizations fighting the evil of tobacco: in 1853 the British Anti-Tobacco Society was established and based in London. Its leading light was Thomas Reynolds, the secretary, at 10 Camden Square, N.W. Its official organ was The Anti-Tobacco Journal (1858). In 1867 the British Anti-Tobacco and Anti-Narcotic League was founded at Manchester (24 Market Street) to continue the work of its London-based forerunner. It was finally wound up in 1930 and its monthly publication was The Beacon Light. Clearly it was the latter organization, whose address Gissing was interested in. Also, cf. Will Warburton, 204.
(Carentan ou Chef du Pont, the stations.)

[p.91]
St. Clair
Upton House
Ryde Isle of Wight.

Tooth brush
Boots.

[p.92] [The names marked with an asterisk are crossed out.]

Bertz
Wakefield
Self
McCarthy

3°7 Colonel William Augustus Edmund St Clair (1854-1923) in 1886 married Louise Crawshay, a daughter of Walter Crawshay, of Le Chasnay, Fourchambault, Nièvre. St Clair was the brother-in-law of Mme Gabrielle Eustache of Le Chasnay, Fourchambault, Nièvre, with whom Gissing and Gabrielle stayed in the first week of November 1900. (Cf. Collected Letters, vol. 8, 394).

3°8 The list of recipients of presentation copies of The Crown of Life. Cf. Diary, 520, 21 October 1899: "Yesterday came copies of The Crown of Life. Sent presentations to Ibsen and to Tolstoi, also Bertz’s copy."

3°9 Cf. George Gissing, "To Clodd," 7 November 1899, The Letters of George Gissing to Edward Clodd, ed. Pierre Coustillas (London: Enitharmon, 1973) 57: "All the same, I shall send you a copy of it [The Crown of Life]-for my pleasure, not for yours. I await only the arrival of copies from America, for the few English ones I had to dispose of were sent to addresses rigorously indicated by piety or self-interest." On 28 November Gissing received his American copies and the next day he sent one to Clodd.

From this passage we may conclude that the names in the second column on [p.92] were those of the recipients of presentation copies of the first American edition.

3°10 The reference is to the presentation copy Gissing sent to his mother and sisters at Wakefield.


3°12 Alice Hall Ward (1859-1939) was an English journalist living in Paris, correspondent of the Author. She was a close friend of Gabrielle Fleury's.
313 Clara E. Collet (1860-1948), contributed to Charles Booth’s massive sociological study, Life and Labour of the People in London; became a Labour Correspondent with the Labour Department of the Board of Trade in 1893. She lectured and wrote on Gissing’s novels, before they first met in 1893. Her friendship for the last ten years of Gissing’s life was of great importance to him. After his death she was appointed joint executor, with Algernon Gissing, of Gissing’s will.

314 Tolstoi’s copy, inscribed “To Count Leo Tolstoi with sympathy and respect./G. Gissing. October 1899,” is held by the Yasnaia Poliana Library.

315 Algernon Gissing (1860-1937), Gissing’s younger brother. Doggedly pursued an unsuccessful career as novelist, with some thirty titles to his name. Gissing hardly ever refused to lend him money, which was never repaid.

316 George Whale (1849-1925), solicitor and author. He was one of the guests at Clodd’s Whitsun party at Aldeburgh in 1895 and the founder of the Omar Khayyám Club, which Gissing joined in July 1895.


318 Edward Clodd, who visited Meredith on 28 October 1899, recorded the latter’s first impressions of The Crown of Life in his diary: “[Meredith] liked Gissing’s Crown of Life except the closing chapter.” And three days later, in a letter to Gissing, Meredith said that he “had enjoyed the book, for the story, the writing and the reflections. Irene is my love. I complain that you drop her midway for too long a space, and when she is recovered she is not moving. I speak plainly because you have given me a right to her.” Cf. The Letters of George Gissing to Edward Clodd, ed. Pierre Courtillas (London: Enitharmon, 1973) 55.

319 Morley Roberts (1857-1942). Novelist and lifelong friend of Gissing since their student days at Owens College, Manchester. He wrote The Private Life of Henry Maitland (1912), a fictionalized biography of Gissing.

320 William Henry Hudson (1841-1922). Naturalist and writer. His correspondence with Gissing
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Cannobio,321

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[p.94]


Le bon air vaut mieux que la bonne nourriture.324 [Crossed out from top of page.]


321 On 19 September 1899 Gissing and Gabrielle rook a boat across Lago Maggiore to Brissago and from there walked to Cannobio, where they spent the afternoon with the Recordon family.

322 Cf. Diary, Sat. Sept. 23 [1899], 518: “Left Locarno early, in heavy rain and cloud. Travelled to Lucerne, and spent night there, Hôtel Monopol.”

323 Cf. Diary, Sund. Sept. [1899], 518: “Glorious day. The garden here [Hôtel Belvedere, Locarno] is very picturesque; in the middle a great magnolia, giving broad shade; then a lot of palmetti, agaves and flowering shrubs unknown to me. Many pergolas, heavy with fruit, and also pomegranates and a few lemon bushes. Bamboos. Peaches abundant. Every road about here on the mountain side is bordered with vineyards, and peaches can often be picked up, fallen from trees.”

324 Cf. Diary, 518, 17 September 1899: “Remember a good moat of the man Simone [sic], at Villa Muralto: ‘Le bon air vaut mieux que la bonne nourriture,’ excellent, considering the meanness of his pension.”

Quartermaster Lieutenant-Colonel Giorgio Simona was the owner of the pension “Villa Muralto.” He was the author of Note di arte antica del Canton Ticino (Locarno: Tipografia Pietro
Perhaps the play I love best.325

The hawkweeds.326 Names.

How the mood for a book rushes upon one for such a book. Never read again.327

Places that rise unbidden.328

G. [Goethe] and Schiller—One of books which give hope for world which has such brave spirits in it.329

[p. 95]
Pr déménagement à l’étranger—Faire un inventaire. Avoir un certificat du commissaire de police du quartier ou du maire dont la signature soit légalisée par le conseil suisse à Paris.330


325 Cf. Ryecroft, Summer 27, 150: "To-day I have read The Tempest. It is perhaps the play that I love best . . . ."

326 Cf. Ryecroft, Autumn 1, 157: "I am busy with the hawkweeds; that is to say, I am learning to distinguish and to name as many as I can."


328 Cf. Ryecroft, Autumn 3, 160: "I am reading or thinking, and at a moment, without any association or suggestion that I can discover, there rises before me the vision of a place I know."

329 Cf. Ryecroft, Autumn 2, 158-59: "Not long ago, I awoke one morning and suddenly thought of the Correspondence between Goethe and Schiller; . . . A book which helps one to forget the idle or venomous chatter going on everywhere about us, and bids us cherish hope for a world which has such people in’t."

330 This entry is in the hand of Mme Janka, the proprietress of Villa Janka at Muralto. Cf. Diary, 518. Cf. [p. 42] above.
Winter dream of summer England.  


Folk songs – what they were, what they are. Cash is best.

Brook Farm.

Henri Bach
31 Rue de Naples
(Rue. Monceau)
6 Rue Rembrandt
29 Rue Tronchet
(Boul. Hausmann)

Printemps.

331 Cf. Ryecroft, Winter 23, 282-83: “Yesterday I half believed that the winter drew to its end; the breath of the hills was soft; spaces of limpid azure shone amid slow-drifting clouds, and seemed the promise of spring. Idle by the fire-side, in the gathering dusk, I began to long for the days of light and warmth. My fancy wandered, leading me far and wide in a dream of summer England....”

332 Cf. Ryecroft, Autumn 16, 196: “I stood to-day watching harvesters at work, and a foolish envy took hold upon me.”

333 Cf. Ryecroft, Autumn 17, 201: “There is no help in visions of Arcadia.”

334 Cf. Ryecroft, Autumn 17, 202: “They had their folk-songs, now utterly forgotten.”

335 Cf. Ryecroft, Autumn 17, 203: “The husbandman of the future will be, I dare say, a well-paid mechanic, of the engine-driver species; as he goes about his work he will sing the last refrain of the music-hall, and his oft-recurring holidays will be spent in the nearest great town.”

336 Cf. Ryecroft, Autumn 17, 200: “Oh, labour is the curse of the world, and nobody can meddle with it without becoming proportionately brutified. Is it a praiseworthy matter that I have spent five golden months in providing food for cows and horses? It is not so.’ Thus Nathaniel Hawthorne, at Brook Farm.” Also: Commonplace Book, 37.

337 This was the address of Mme Hermine Lardin de Musset (1819-1905). She was a friend of Gabrielle Fleury’s and Alfred de Musset’s sister.
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sixt</td>
<td>9.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[inside back cover: various sums]

120 : 40

| 156 | 156 |
| 400 | 453 |
| 62,400 | 468 | 32.75 | 63 |
| 80 | 2 |
| 624 | 126 |
| 70,668 | 16 |
| 142 |

20 à 15 [stamps?]

10 à 10

12 cartes

4.65 Bagg[age].

20.40 to Bell[inzona].

3.45 to Locarno

**HM 26182³⁴⁰**

³³⁸ These in all probability are some of the expenses of the holiday trip to Samoëns and the village of Trient, in the summer of 1899 (18 July - 30 August). Gissing used some of his Swiss experiences in Will Warburton (12-3, 46).

³³⁹ Cf. Diary, 515, 28 July 1899: “We went first of all to Samoëns, in the valley of the Giffre, and there (at the Hôtel des Glaciers) spent a week. Elevation is about 750m. Glorious scenery, but a damp situation. Made an excursion one day to Sixt, at the valley head, where is a good hotel in an old monastery.”

³⁴⁰ Shelf mark of the Memorandum Book in the Henry E. Huntington Library and Art Gallery, San Marino, California, USA.