

**EXTRACTS FROM THE DIARY OF GRACE EMILY MACKARNESS  
1883**

**In January 1883, Grace was aged 26 and Charlie 32. They had been married four months earlier, on 14 September 1882, and had just moved into Aylesbury Vicarage.**



*Grace as a girl or young woman*

**Grace and Charlie's first child, Margaret Alethea Sumner Mackarness, was born on 3<sup>rd</sup> October of this year, but before that date there is no direct mention of the pregnancy at all.**

**As Vicar of Aylesbury, Charlie seems to have had responsibility for two churches, St Mary's and St John's; the diary records that St John's was refurbished and had a grand opening in April.**

**Note on some of the people and places mentioned most frequently:**

**Mr Beaulands, Mr Riddell and Mr Jeages were Charlie's curates.**

**Reg, Seymour, Ella, Mai, Lionel, Theodore, Beatrice and Humphrey Milford (of Oxford University Press; father of the composer Robin Milford) were Grace's brothers and sisters.**

**Charlie's siblings were Minnie (aged 32), Freddie (29), Nell (27), Daisy (21), Arthur (18) and Flossie (13). Flossie died five years later, at the age of 18.**

**Grace's parents, the Rev. Milford and his wife, lived at East Knoyle Vicarage (referred to in the diaries as Knoyle). Charlie's father, Bishop of Oxford 1870-1889, lived at Cuddesden. Grace refers to both sets of parents as Mother and Father, but sometimes adds (C) to show she means Charlie's.**

Grace recorded each day, as well as her activities, all the letters and postcards she had sent and received. On the first page of the diary she also noted how many letters she had written and received over the whole year! (557 received, 567 written.)

## THE DIARY

### Monday 1 January 1883

<i>Received</i>	There was Holy Communion at 8, but we only went to the morning service afterwards. I had a lovely card from F & N. Mother & Mr Garry & Frank left by the 10 o'clock NWR train, having all enjoyed their time here. Holy Communion at 11. We had some reading after lunch. Old Canon Russell called. Charlie & I called on Mr Rose, then we separated, & each got through a good deal of visiting. I went to see Miss Watkins & Mrs Bunning (Henry's grandmother); then did some shopping, & finally went to see Mrs Palmer, Fred's mother. I saw various people at home too. Dinner rather late, then to service, at which I waited in the Church for Mr Riddell, & went with him to S John's for the Boys' Temperance Meeting. 2 songs, a story from Mr Riddell (read) & a few words from him. Payments & magazines at the end. Rather disorderly; 3 joined. (This was a partial change & improvement from usual.)	<i>Written</i>
Nunney		Beatrice (sent by Mother)
Ella		
Bob M		Mary Brown
Jack		Frank
James Snook		
Frank Alford		

### Thursday 4 January 1883

I did not get up to 2 o'clock service. Charlie & I had a joint letter from Father. Soon after 10.30 we went to Miss Stevens', for a Private Celebration: she was a Wesleyan for years, but was won over through the instrumentality of Mr. Lloyd. Charlie went to a Ruridecanal Meeting at Canon Evetts', about the Deceased Wife's Sister's Bill. Miss Grenside and Mrs T Hooper came on business, before lunch. After my solitary lunch I went to my district & paid various visits, beginning with Mrs Dickens & going to see Mrs Mason, Mrs Kimbank. I then went to see Butcher, a S. John's S S [Sunday School] teacher, who was ill: a very pleasant young fellow, with a young wife. Afterwards I went to the Infirmary & tried the harmonium, & then went round the wards; only Mrs Robinson saw fit to come with me, so I got only very little talk alone with anyone. Home to find my dear husband safely back, & very glad to see me. Service at 7, and C G T S Meeting at S. John's at nominally 7.30 but more like 7.45. Sarah and Bessie came. Charlie made a nice speech & also Mr Jeages. We began & ended with prayer, & had a hymn & a song. 8 joined as total afterwards.

### **Saturday 6 January**

Holy Communion at 8, followed by the usual morning prayer. Stores. Charlie read to me from the NT Revised Version (as usual) & from the Pilgrim's Progress. I worked at my Sunday lesson, & should have entirely finished it before lunch, only Mr Cooper & Mr Young came, which hindered me. I had a very nice letter from William Smith. Charlie tidied & sorted the mass of Parochial things left by Mr Lloyd in the dining room. Charlie read a little bit of poetry to me in the afternoon, & then I went down to S John's for the Band of Hope meeting, which went off very well. I did most of the work, Miss Clift taking the money. One boy joined afterwards. Service at 5, and then I arranged the flowers & did the linen. Charlie visited in the parish.

### **Sunday 7 January**

Charlie celebrated at 11, so I stayed then, & did not get up to the 8 o'clock service. I had full time for my lesson in the morning: Emma Stevens gave me a pretty little silk bookmark which she had made for me. Mr Jeages preached in the morning, a very nice sermon, referring to the New Year – this being the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday - . Mr. Jeages & Mr Riddell came to lunch. I had my class as usual in the afternoon, and had 12 boys: I had three absentees, but one new boy, Edwin Gurney, whom [sic] seemed a nice lad. Children's service at 3, with a good congregation of others as well as children. There were collections throughout the day for the Sunday Schools, & Charlie preached about them in the evening. Bateman the organist came to 5 o'clock tea. Charlie & I sat in the diningroom in the evening, & he smoked.

### **Monday 8 January**

Church at 8 o'clock. Prayers & breakfast, after which Charlie hurried off to S. John's School, though after all he found he need not come down quite so early another time. I paid the books, a long business, as I counted out 30% worth of coppers. District Visitors' Meeting soon after 10.30: Charlie gave us a kind of lecture, the first of – I hope – a series on S. Mark: it was very interesting. The clergy attend too. Charlie read to me after lunch. Then I went to call on Miss Grenside, & sat some time with her. Home again, & then I went out with Charlie, & we paid visits to Mrs & Miss Cox, Mr & Mrs Crouch, & the Misses Steward. There was a Ladies' CPTS Committee meeting in the diningroom at 5: I did not go, but they elected me as one of their number. Service at 7.

### **Tuesday 9 January**

Church at 8. The clergy came and read with Charlie. I made out a list of bills for my dear boy, private, and parochial. In the course of the morning I went out to see a dressmaker & do a little shopping. Charlie read to me after lunch, and then two Miss Sumners called, connections of our's [sic]. After they left I soon started for my district, and had an afternoon's visiting, principally in Brook Row. I read to two old widows, one of whom was deaf, but was able to hear me. I gave several notices about Weston, and got a few signatures for the petition against the Deceased Wife's Sister Bill. S. S. Teachers' meeting in the vestry at 5 o'clock. Service at 7. Cold. Another young fellow came to take the pledge: a number have come since we have been here.

### **Wednesday 10 January**

Service at 8. Charlie went off to school after breakfast. I had a very interesting letter from Lionel from Gibraltar, & his first sent to me. I helped Charlie with Missionary money. Arthur arrived by the 1.20 train, Charlie going down to meet him. After lunch, Charlie took him over the Church, and then he and we two walked over to Stone, to pay our long deferred visit to the Bartletts: we saw Mrs Bartlett & Mrs Napier (staying there – she is his sister) &c, & later Mr Bartlett. Good 4 miles there & back. Charlie took Arthur to see the Market Square, & after tea took him to the station. Mr Riddell came in to say the Magic Lantern slides hadn't come but happily they arrived later, in time. Band of Hope Tea at S. John's, followed by the Magic Lantern. Heaps of children, some of my boys & girls: two of the latter made me sit by them during the lantern. Safely over, & then as Charlie had to settle about Weston, Mr Riddell took me home.

### **Thursday 11 January**

I did not go to 8 o'clock service, & was very glad of the rest. Charlie read to me. I went out before lunch & did a little shopping, besides, going to the Bank. After lunch Mr Jeages & Mr Riddell came about the distribution of a charity. Lady Rothschild & Mrs Flower called & were very pleasant. The Assizes opened in the afternoon (The Judge opened Commission), & at 4 o'clock nominally there was service in Church (really later), to which the Judge, Lord Justice Colton, came in state, Mr Bartlett with him, as High Sheriff, & others. Canon Roberts preached. Not a very large congregation. The Infirmary Treat was in the evening; Charlie & I went down at about 6.30, being joined by Mr Riddell. There was a small concert first in which I sang 'The Children of the City,' & 'And so will I'. Charlie could only stay for part, as he had to go off to the Sheriff's Dinner. There were a number of visitors Horwoods, Parrotts &c. Mr Jeages was Head of everything. Most of the patients were able to be present. I talked to a good many. A capital Xmas tree followed the concert. Refreshment, & then Mr Riddell took me home. Dancing was going to begin.

### **Monday 15 January**

We had not time to go to Church. Mr Riddell looked in while we were at breakfast to ask if he might have a Committee Meeting in the Parish Room. Off to Knoyle by the 9.10 train from the N.W. station. We went 2<sup>nd</sup> to Euston, & 3<sup>rd</sup> from Waterloo to Semley. We had some spare time in London, & Charlie got some presents for the children. Arrived at Semley we found Caleb & the cart, but the carriage had not come back from Shaftesbury: it came very soon, with Beatrice & Humphrey, & we drove home [Knoyle?]. Lionel was in Spain, & Ella at Cuddesden, but all the others were there. Choir treat at 6.30 (about) till 8.30. All the boys were there, & nearly all the girls. We played games in the schoolroom, Charlie included, & it was a most successful evening. Edwin thanked me for my card. (There is a lovely American organ here now.)

## **Tuesday 16 January**

A lovely day. Humphrey had measles, so had to be banished upstairs. Dr Wilkinson came later, & definitely said that it was measles. Charlie read to me in our room. I wrote various letters. Beatrice, Mai, & I went to see Mrs Wass, who was very pleased. I saw Henry Lampard, & had a few words with him: he was very glad to see me. In the afternoon most of us went out. Charlie & I paid a little visit to the school. We went to the Church, & saw the decorations, which were very pretty, & then to Knoyle House: it is very nice. The boys, Beatrice, Violet, & I went to see old Allen & Holmes, & then I had a chat with Tuck. Father & Charlie went to Knoyle Down (after Knoyle House). The Band came in after dinner & played splendidly, a Teetotal band consisting of Henry, Charles, Edwin, Willy, John ?Truswell, John Maidment &c. Charlie made them a little speech afterwards, & promised a subscription. Sisters had their workmen's class. Henry Allen came to see me, & was very nice.

## **Wednesday 17 January**

Charlie, Reg, Seymour, & I left for Aylesbury by the 9.49 train, going up to Waterloo, across to Euston, & so down to Aylesbury. We had not time for lunch at Euston, but we got it there, & had it in the train. We forgot all about our hamper, & left it at Waterlook, so Charlie had to telegraph about it from the Post Office. We found all well at home. Mrs Cooper had kindly sent me a cineraria in a pot, which was put in the drawingroom. After tea I unpacked, & Charlie took the boys out for a little while. E P Weston, the great American walker came to speak at the Corn Exchange. He dined with us first. We all went to Church. Meeting soon after 8. Not a very large one. Charlie in the chair. Weston was very amusing, & I was very interested. All the curates were there. Charlie had to go to the Threlfalls afterwards, as Mrs Threlfall was ill.

## **Saturday 20 January**

My cold kept me a prisoner to the house the whole day. Humphrey seems going on well. Father at home I am glad to say. I put out stores as usual. Wrote letters. Ella, Reg, & Seymour went out before lunch. I finished my boys' Sunday lesson. I also wrote to a man in the Infirmary called Batson, & asked him to try & keep quiet & give himself a chance of getting better, &c. Charlie had the pupil teachers after lunch. Mr Fremantle came for a little visit. Later Charlie took Ella, Reg, and Seymour for a walk. I wrote the notes of my girls' lesson from Charlie's notes. Practised. Holloway, one of the choir boys came to have his voice tried, & Charlie & I gave him a practice. Charlie had to work at his sermon after dinner.

## **Tuesday 23 January**

I did not go to the morning service. I heard from Minnie to say how sorry she was that we cannot come to Cuddesden on her account & Geoffrey's (for fear of the infection from measles). The clergy came for their morning's reading. The study chimney caught fire a little, so the sweep was sent for & swept the chimney. Mr Jeages stayed at lunch, to settle about the S John's Concert. Reg & I went down to the station to meet Lionel by the 3.30 train: he arrived safely. He was delighted with the house. He brought Charlie & me presents, very kindly. S S Teachers' meeting at

5. Church. Later I had Amy Hutchins – pupil teacher - & gave her a lesson in French. And then I went with Charlie to Frederick Mayne who took the pledge (as well as Nunn, S S Superintendent) & I left some blue ribbon for him. He signed his name. He has been given to drink.

### **Sunday 4 February**

Charlie thought it better for me not to go to school, so I stayed at home and read. But I went to Church, and stayed to the Holy Communion. Mr Jeages, Mr Riddell, & Mr Beaulands came to lunch as usual, and also Miss Riddell, who was staying with her brother for the Concert. I had a delightfully large class in the afternoon, 17 boys: viz. all those on the list, and a new one, Edward Clarke, the Macclesfield lad, whom I had talked to the other day: I was so pleased. I went to the Children's service as usual: a nice large congregation. I finished Charles Kingsley's *Life*, which I am very glad to have read. My boy preached a nice simple sermon in the evening, about Blind Bartimaeus: Mr Riddell preached in the morning.

### **Monday 5 February**

A pretty busy day. At 10.30 was the District Visitors' Meeting in the Lady Chapel: Charlie gave us a very interesting lesson on S Mark. A little before 12 I went to Mr Riddell's, & fetched Miss Riddell, & joining Charlie in the town, we went to S John's for a Rehearsal [sic]. Father arrived from Cuddesden by the 1.20 train, & after a little lunch, went on to Ivinghoe for a Confirmation. Miss Kitty Bennett arrived between 5 & 5. Mr Russell MP called, & talked most interestingly. Father came back. Soon after 8, the Concert began at S John's, & was very successful: the room was perfectly crammed. The Painting Works' Band was the only real failure; they did not play in tune. I sang 'A bird sat on &c', & 'Friendship' with Charlie – which last was encored. Miss Riddell was loudly encored. I accompanied a good many things. Miss Parrott sang very well & was encored. So home, & not sorry – after refreshment &c – to go up to bed.

### **Wednesday 7 February**

Charlie wished me to stay in bed, so I did & the end of it was that I spent the day there. My cold was pretty heavy. There was Holy Communion at 8, services at 11, 5 & 8, but of course I could go to none. I did a good deal of reading of one kind and another in the course of the day. I read 'Specimen Glasses from the King's Minstrels', 'Gray's Elegy' with lovely illustrations &c. Mr Beaulands came & worked at his Examination papers. Charlie had Mr Wilcox to see me, & he sent me some medicine. My dear lad sat with me on & off, & also went to my district with the magazines.

### **Monday 12 February**

I was fortunate in the way of letters by the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> posts. Charlie & I wrote &c. The day turned out hopelessly wet, and I did not get out all day. Between us we sent off a large budget of letters, papers &c. Charlie went out in the parish in the course of the afternoon, & then met Mr Field – of Lancing - & brought him home. He came to conduct the Quiet Day tomorrow, & also promised to speak at the Guild meeting in

the evening. The Archdeacon turned up soon after: we had not expected him, but he said he had been offered a bed here. It didn't matter. There was enough to eat & his room was made ready later. He brought me some violets. The gentlemen all went to the Guild meeting, but I had to stay at home.

### **Tuesday 27 February**

A very good post for me. Charlie had the curates for their reading as usual. I wrote letters, and put down ideas for my Sunday lesson. Charlie went to teach at Mrs Steadman's in the afternoon, & I went down to my district, & visited at the Owens', Clarks' Masons' Kimbers', & Atkinses. I enjoyed my visit at the Clarks', having a chat with Edward in the room upstairs. I am afraid I have some very bad people in the district, unmarried people living together &c. I came away, saddened. S S Teachers' Meeting in the Lady Chapel. I didn't go to evening service. Charlie had his men &c.

### **Wednesday 28 February**

I went to the Litany at 11, and later into the town. The Market Square was not very pleasant for walking in, as it was the day of the Christchurch Steeple Chases, which brought a number of loafers, & also the Wednesday Market. In the afternoon Charlie & I went by the 2.35 train to Kimble, and called on the Parrotts, the Clays, & Mrs Byam Davies. Only the Clays were at home, & we stayed there some time. We had some time to spare before our train was due (3.58), so we got some catkins, white violets etc. Mr Currie (coming to preach) & Mr Noel, a friend of Mr Riddell's, came by the same train. Mr Currie went for a walk with Charlie later. A nice service at 8, with a very good sermon from Mr Currie. The curates & Mr Noel came to tea afterwards.

### **Friday 2 March**

Litany and instruction at 11 to which I went: a very nice Instruction as usual from my dear husband. Afterwards I did some shopping, and then got rid of all my magazines for the month. In the afternoon I went to the Mission Working Parky at Mrs Cooper's ( a very small attendance), & read aloud most of the time. I worked at my Sunday lesson after I came home, & then went with Charlie to the Infirmary, for service. There was a very sad case in one of the By Wards: a man came to his brother's funeral, got drinking, fell down the cellar steps, & was so injured that he will probably die. His wife had been sent for, & was very sorrowful. Boys' Practice. Then Amy Hutchins.

### **Tuesday 6 March**

Charlie and the curates had their weekly reading together. I wrote letters &c. It tried to snow on & off, but was fine between. Charlie read to me (the Revised Version only, not the Pilgrim's Progress) after lunch. He went over to teach at Mrs Stedman's, & I went out shopping in the town. Amongst other things I bought a little frock & a pair of boots for one of Mrs Brown's little children, so that she could be brought to be christened. I paid a visit to Mrs Tibbatts, Miss Bennet, & also to Mrs Mayo, an old woman, formerly a nurse, whom Mr Riddell had asked me to go & see.

S S Teachers' meeting. Charlie had his class (9), the Teachers & finally went to the Infirmary.

### **Thursday 8 March**

Charlie was going down to Brighton for the day, to see Uncle Georgie, leaving by the 7.5 in the morning, & he got up before 6.15: but he felt so wretched that he settled not to go, & finally came in & lay down (dressed) on the bed & went to sleep again. He did not get up again till Mr Sawyer was gone. He got better, I am glad to say, & was wise & stayed indoors all day. There was snow on the ground, & it snowed on and off during the day. Charlie read to me. Sunday lesson work. I went to morning service at 11. In the course of the afternoon I went to the Girls' School, and looked at the work, &c. I sat with Mrs Mason (Mt.St.) some time. Later I went to afternoon tea with Mrs & Miss Drake. Charlie & I had a quiet evening together, he at work though.

### **Friday 9 March**

Charlie sent to ask Mr Riddell to take the morning service for him (he was responsible), & so did not get up till nearly 8 o'clock. He was himself again, dear lad: I think he has had too much work since he came, & yesterday's feelings were from his being overdone. He worked at his Instruction till nearly 11. Litany, & Instruction, very nice as usual. Very cold. Charlie had Amy Hutchins before lunch, & I had her after. Later I paid two new visits to Mrs Poulton, and Mrs J Jenns; both pleasant. Home for a time, & then with Charlie to the Infirmary. I had time to go round the Men's Ward after service. A woman & child were waiting to be admitted to the CPTS when we got back, so, as we were already late, dinner was a short meal. Choir boys.

### **Tuesday 13 March**

A lovely day. The curates came & read with Charlie. At about 12 o'clock Charlie & I went down to Mr Rose's, as he wished to receive the Holy Communion. I distinguished myself by getting very faint, & Charlie had to help me out in to the air before the service was quite over. People were most kind, & Mr Rose offered the carriage for me to go home in: but I walked back all right. Charlie & I went by the 2.35 train to Cuddesden for one night. Daisy & Kate met us, & Charlie & Katie walked, & Daisy & I drove up. It was very nice being at Cuddesden again. Frank Haverfield was over for a few hours. Father & Mother were at Brill, but came home later. Bessie Furse came in & was very pleasant. Talk, work & music in the evening. We had the Lilac Room.

### **Wednesday 14 March**

Chapel at 8.45. After breakfast I went to the schoolroom, & watched Daisy, Katie, Flossie, & Lily dance a quadrille &c, & Flossie practise her expanders & so forth – she is having dancing lessons. I wrote some papers for Father. Bessie Furse came in. Father & Mother had lunch early, & then went away. After lunch packing &c. Charlie & Katie walked, & Daisy drove me, to the station to catch the 2.50 train. We carried off various spoils: a hyacinth in a pot, flowers, Charlie's stuffed birds &c. Home safely, after a delightful visit. The Bartletts called. Mr Loelée arrived by the

5.50 train. After dinner, before Church, Mr Riddell brought in Mr Vallings of Wendover, who knew Mr Loelée: he sat with me in Church. Mr Loelée preached a very good sermon. Mr Gipps, a cousin of Mr Loelée's, in the Bank here, came to tea. Mr Vallings came in again for a little while. Charlie had the Men's Teachers' Meeting.

### **Monday 19 March**

Charlie went off to Brighton by the 8.25 train: he would have had some time in town both going & coming back, & was to dine with Minnie in the evening. I did the household accounts. Church at 11, and then I had a talk with Mrs Horwood about decorations, & we went in to church together. I wrote before and after lunch. Rain came on, so I stayed indoors, & unpacked some Cuddesden things of Charlie's &c. Solitary dinner at 6.30. Rest, & then to Church in the rain to the 8 o'clock service. Good choir and congregation & a very nice sermon from Mr Jeages. My dear husband came home safely by the 10.7 train, & we were not sorry to see each other again.

### **Wednesday 28 March**

I went to the Litany at 11. The magic lantern slides did not come Tuesday night, so Charlie telegraphed about them, & besides the return telegram, the slides themselves came, between 11 & 12. Charlie went to the Threlfalls' for a private celebration. In the afternoon I went down to my district, and paid visits to Mrs Turner, Mrs Brown &c. Later I went to Miss Grenside's with a note from Charlie, & sat with her for a little. Charlie had a meeting of Mrs Horwood, Mr Threlfall, & Capt Drake, the result of which was the establishment of a regular Curates' Stipend Fund. They came in to tea in the drawingroom afterwards. Early dinner, & then we went to S John's for the Day School Entertainment, which went off very well. Magic Lantern. Finally buns & oranges. Charlie read & sang to the children in the interval between 2 lots of slides: his song 'The little crayfish' delighted them extremely. It was hard work getting them out and in: the girls were quite as pushing & rough as the boys – or more.

### **Thursday 5 April**

Another glorious day. Aylesbury steeplechases: I went up into the attic, and saw the tents and people from the window. In the afternoon, much to my delight, Charlie ordered the pony carriage from the Bull's Head, and took me out for a most delightful drive. We first went to Monk's Risborough and called on the Evettses, then to Chequers, to call on Mrs Astley, and finally to Ellesborough, where we called on the Shadwells, Hawkinses, & Sumners. Everybody was out but the Sumners, which was a good thing. Dr Coleman – an American clergyman – came to speak at our CGTS Meeting, & spoke very well. We had a nice meeting, 5 joining afterwards. A number signed the Sunday closing Petition.

## **Tuesday 10 April**

I paid the household bills. Mr Jeages & Mr Beaulands came to read with Charlie. I worked at my Sunday lesson. In the afternoon I went to the Library. I did not have a very great many people to change their books. Afterwards I went to the Post Office and paid in 17%, opening a Boot and Shoe Club acct. in my own name. Mr Anderson had come back when I came in, but I did not see him till later, when I had to give Mr St Aubyn (S John's Architect), tea. (S S Teachers' meeting at 5). Charlie & I didn't go to Church. A C A meeting, when Mr Anderson spoke about his going among the thieves' haunts in some large town, & displayed knuckleduster, jemmy &c. Very good attendance. Mr Jeages came back to tea.

## **Wednesday 11 April**

Charlie and I left by the 9.10 train for Euston. We tried to catch the 11.10 from Waterloo, but failing, we telegraphed to Knoyle, & came on by the next train, reaching Semley by the 3.23, to find Ella and Humphrey come to meet us. Mr Oldfield was also at the station. We drove up in the open carriage, & found the whole of the rest of family – except Lionel & Seymour – at the door to greet us: also Constance Still. The Stills are now established at The Cottage (Enterprise), & a good many of us went up there & paid them a visit later. Reg had to go back to Winchester, but he was able to stay till the 7.15 train. In the evening some of them danced in the schoolroom & I played. Music in the drawingroom. Father's gout was somewhat better.

## **Wednesday 18 April**

I had an anonymous letter about the goings on of the servants, which worried me, but Charlie was very kind & dear about it: there were some palpably untrue things in the letter, so perhaps all is false. Little 'Lucy Christian' Threlfall was received into the Church (after the Litany). Charlie & I talked to the Threlfalls & Miss Bartlett (who stood godmother) afterwards. I went to see Miss Stevens & Mrs C Boughton in the afternoon (& to Mrs Ridley's in the morning). Miss Steward & later Mr Jeages called, on business matters. We two & Mr Jeages & Mr Beaulands went to a tea at S Cuthbert's College given (we paid 6d each) by the Xtians' men's Association. I poured out tea at the top table. Some 60 or so present & the room got very hot. Charlie spoke very well. Dr Mensa was there.

## **Monday 23 April**

### **Church Opening**

Not a very favourable day, as regards weather. There were storms of sleet, snow, & rain on & off. Mr Kiddle came soon after breakfast, & stayed some time writing & chatting. Father & Daisy drove over, & Daisy stayed the night, which was very nice. Father went to a Confirmation at Stone in the afternoon & then home. A box of good things from Cuddesden came. The next arrival was Mr Russell MP who sat with Daisy & me in Church. Service was nominally at 11.30. The Church was crammed. The Choir headed by Butcher with the banner, & Mr Jeages, & then the procession of clergy, waited in the Aisle for Father, who had to receive the petition at the door before coming to his place. It was a very nice service. Father preached very well. Holy Communion afterwards, to which I stayed. The collections in all came to

151.9.0 (throughout the day). Father & Daisy had lunch at home, but Charlie & I were at the public lunch in the Corn Exchange. The Archdeacon had to preside, & I sat by him & Mr Russell. Good lunch & speeches. I saw various people to speak or nod to, Mr Bigg Wither, the Brookses, Mr Williams &c. Mrs Randall came home for a few minutes. (We were introduced to Mr Danbery, formerly at Salisbury). Mr Tyndale called later. Daisy & I arranged flowers from Cuddesden. The dean (Bickersteth) of Lichfield arrived by the 5.50 train: Charlie met him. Mr Lloyd came by the 7.12, so we were nearly through dinner before he came. Service at 8, & sermon from the Dean to a large congregation. It was terribly hot, & Charlie had to send Mr Beaulands to open some of the windows. A very successful day altogether.

### **Saturday 28 April**

I had a long, interesting letter from Mother about the Synod &c. Coroner Wilson had a fit in the Synod, & died: he had just been talking & exciting himself about the Sunday Closing question. Father went to a Confirmation at Aston Clinton, & Charlie with him as Chaplain. I altered a dress. Father went off by the 2.35 train, and Charlie & I saw him off. (While I was at lunch Henry Bunning came, & brought me a rose: he had had two given him). We had a Concert Glee practice at 5.30. Evening service at S John's at 8 – but no sermon. I went, as throughout the week. Mr Wood came by the 7.45 train, & was at service.

### **Sunday 29 April**

I wrote out the notice paper for S John's. As Charlie went to S John's in the morning I went too. Mr Wood preached; a good, but long sermon: he preached on a text about the eagle stirring up her nest, & acted the eagle in a very ludicrous way. Mr Jeages & Mr Riddell came to lunch: Mr Beaulands was away at Wolverton taking Mr Wood's duty. I had 13 boys at my class, but some of them came in pretty late. Children's service at 3. I sat out in the garden before tea, & Charlie had his girls' class. Mr Jeages preached at S Mary's in the evening, & Mr Wood at S John's which we heard was crowded. S Mary's was not so full as usual.

### **Thursday 10 May**

The day began with snow, & turned to rain. Beatrice packed, and Charlie and I saw her and Violet off by the 11.50 train for Cuddesden. I think we all enjoyed their visit most thoroughly. Charlie and I went to Fields to choose a wedding present for Mary Furse, and decided on a silver napkin ring, & a silver gilt sugar sifter: both to have her initials put on. Mr & Miss Riddell came to lunch, & the latter went away in the afternoon. Charlie & I went to the school about the Parents' Entertainment. Then I went to my district. Service at 7, and afterwards a Temperance Meeting, when Greenhill discoursed on Summer drinks, which the audience had the privilege of tasting: there was some discussion afterwards. The meeting began & ended with hymn & prayer. A few joined afterwards.

## **Monday 21 May**

A lovely morning. I worked at household matters. Charlie had the clergy, at least Mr Jeages & Mr Riddell, but Mr Beaulands did not stay. He left later for his holiday. I took the boot & shoes club. By the 2.35 train Charlie & I left for Cuddesden, & also Sarah: Bessie was to go home by a later train, & Mrs Morton remained in charge of the house. We arrived safely at Cuddesden. It was delightful to be there again. Arthur came, as he is going in for Matriculation. Some of the party played LT. Church at 6.30 (Bessie & Mary came over). The party in the house when all assembled consisted of the Bishops of Calcutta (Johnson) & Bloemfontein (Webb), Canon Liddon, Sir John, Lady & Miss Mowbray, Archdeacon & Mrs & Miss M Pott, Archdeacon Hayward & Mr Houblon, besides Aunt Jue, Katie & the home party & us. Sir John took me in & was very pleasant. Music. Glees &c.

## **Tuesday 22 May**

A glorious day for the Festival. There was Holy Communion at 8, but I didn't go. The service was at 11.30, & the procession came from the Palace Chapel door to the Church: I saw the clergy afterwards, but most of us went into Church before the Procession. Mr Jeages & Mr Riddell were there. Mr Holland preached a very good sermon. The large body of male voices sounded very well in the singing. Lunch was in a tent. I went in with Mr Maul, & Charlie was next but one to me. The tent was well filled. After lunch there were many speeches, Father, Canon Liddon, the 2 Bishops, the Principal (his last Festival as Principal) &c. We weren't out till past 4. The Aubrey Moores, Archd. Palmer, Mr Hill & Mr V Hughes were about, amongst others. People strolled about, had tea, & gradually dispersed. Church about 5.30. Archdeacon Farler & Mr Mowbray dined. Archdeacon Pott took me in. Music in the evening.

## **Tuesday 29 May**

I heard from Theodore that he had won the single L T (Lawn Tennis) Championship. Charlie had the clergy. I got ready tickets for the evening. Engaged a maid, Emma Carter. I shopped in the afternoon, after making out the programme. Called on Mrs Cooper. Later I joined Charlie at S Mary's Schools, & we had a Rehearsal for the evening. Charlie had been down there before lunch, with the other clergy, distributing tickets. Charlie & I did not go to Church, but at about 7 we went down to the Schools for the Parents' Entertainment, which began at 7.30 nominally & was very successful. The Nursery Rhymes went capitally. There were few fathers, but a good many mothers &c. The room was fearfully hot. (Infant School).

## **Wednesday 30 May**

I had a note from Nellie. I went to the Litany at 11, and then into the town to a few places, amongst others to Miss White about having a dress made: my first attempt here. Some kind of mantles came from Bath for me to choose from, ordered by Mother. My little clothes came yesterday. I sat out in the garden and read. At about 4 o'clock I went down to S John's where I was joined by Charlie, & presently Mr Jeages came. A long rehearsal followed. Charlie went down again directly after dinner, & I followed later. The Entertainment was a great success. Mr Jeages had

written Introductory and Concluding Poems, which were said by two different girls. The Nursery Rhymes went off well.

### **Saturday 2 June**

Stores &c. Bessie showed me her wedding dress – a sensible claret coloured one - & hat. I wrote letters & did up magazines. I wrote a note to thank Mr Kiddle for the photograph of himself which he sent me. Charlie had a schoolmaster to see him after lunch, & then took the pupil teachers. I went down to the Band of Hope Meeting. It was well attended, 75 present, probably because of the Treat this month, for which they must pay up. Service at 5. John Petty came to practise 'O rest in the Lord'. Charlie and I went to call on the Drakes.

### **Saturday 9 June**

Household business as usual. I wrote to Daisy for her birthday. Worked at my Sunday lesson. Mr Strahan, an old Winchester friend of Charlie's, came to look at the Prebendal, with a view to coming there with a small boys' preparatory school. He came to lunch. A pleasant man, & teetotaler: I hope he may come here. Miss Fuller, Flossie, Charlie, & I drove out to pay some calls, & paid off two, the Bartletts & Bayneses: both at home. Back in time for service at S John's at 5. Miss Fuller, Flossie, & I went on a fruitless hunt for a cricket match, which proved to be not going on in the town at all. Arranged flowers.

### **Wednesday 13 June**

Charlie had the curates in for reading. I went to the Litany at 11, and then on into the town. Mrs Ridley came about the CETS Children's Treat. In the afternoon Charlie went to Mrs Stedman's. I went down to my district, and paid several visits, to Mrs Barber, Mrs Room &c. I then went into the Market Square, & called on Mrs Marshall, Henry Allen & on Mrs Wilson, but she was away. Home nearly roasted, & sat out in the garden. Church at 7, and later Charlie & I went to pay a farewell visit to Miss Clift, then to see Millie Dawe about the Temperance Treat, next to see Mrs Crook, who is also going away, & then at 8.30 to the Lady Chapel for a CETL Committee Meeting about the Summer Excursion.

### **Thursday 14 June**

I went out in the course of the morning and did some shopping, and also paid a long visit to Mrs Pearce (pron. Purse), sister to the Miss Stewards, who was staying at the George. She has two dear little children, & a black nurse with them at present. In the afternoon I read & dozed. Nominally at 4.15, but really not till later, Charlie & I started for the Sunday School Teachers' Association Meeting at Waddenden, in the usual pony carriage: we picked up Miss Sheen & Annie Nevell, & took them with us. Two waggonettes of our teachers started before us. We arrived rather late. Tea in the School, service at 6, and finally – after some waiting about – the meeting in the garden. Mr Meara of Stewkly read an interesting paper, & discussion followed. We were not home till past 9.30.

### **Wednesday 20 June**

Charlie went to school. I had not letters by the first post, but by the 2<sup>nd</sup> came a letter from Beatrice, enclosing (besides one from Sam Sanger to Ella) a very interesting, long letter from Theodore, of whose doings lately I seem to have known very little: he asked that the letter might be sent to me. I had a cold, and tried the effect of staying indoors all day, to see what that would do towards getting rid of it. Charlie went out visiting in the parish in the afternoon. I sat over a fire in the study, and read 'Ruth' by Mrs Gaskell. I had Mrs Room up & gave her a new hat for one of her children & new stuff for a little suit for another: for their christening: she was not very grateful.

### **Thursday 21 June**

Miss Winny Steward came in the morning to see Charlie about her eldest sister: he was at school – S John's – so I saw her, & she told me all her woes. Charlie came in before she left. Free & Endowed Schools' Prize giving at 11.30: Charlie went, but I couldn't, as I was busy with a few Committee ladies, cutting bread & butter & cake for the Temperance Treat. Thunderstorm in the afternoon, but it cleared again. The children marched from the school, through the town, with flags & banners, to Church, where we had a short service. Next came tea in our garden, the children sitting on benches, mostly on the gravel, but some on the grass. Various people came to help with the tea. Rain came on before the end of tea, still Charlie would not send the children home, as was gloomily suggested, but took them to Tack's field (lent), where they played till about 2.30, when they had their running prizes outside the Prbendal gate & separated. After having tea with most of the helpers in the parish room &c, I went down to the field & played. Mr Jeages & Mr Riddell (who had been away at a cricket match) came to supper.

### **Sunday 24 June**

My dear Charlie had an attack of diarrhoea, so he did not go to 8 o'clock service or to the 11 o'clock. I went at 8, & afterwards to Mrs Horwood's for remedies. Charlie went to school, & also took his Bible class. I went to S Mary's, where Mr Riddell took the service & Mr Jeages preached. Charlie came in to lunch, but Mr Beaulands went to school for him. I had my boys. Fred King brought me some pinks. Flower service at 3, which I am thankful to say Charlie got through safely. The Church was crammed. Messrs Jeages & Riddell marshalled the procession, & Charlie received the flowers within the rails in a basket, which Mr Beaulands emptied. Crowds came to see the flowers afterwards. We packers had the hampers brought in to Church, & packed there. 16 small & large went off by the 6.20 to the Evelina Children's, & King's Coll. Hospitals, & several baskets to the Infirmary. Charlie had his girls, & preached too.

### **Wednesday 27 June**

Charlie was by no means right, & his going with his Bible Class girls to Wycombe for their excursion was quite out of the question, so I went to ask Mr Beaulands to take them, which he was most ready to do. He was delighted to have a visit from me in his lodgings. I read the morning Psalms & lessons to Charlie, wrote letters, and did a little shopping in the course of the day. Charlie did not get up till late in the

afternoon. Mr Beaulands brought the girls safely back in time for tea at about 7, in the diningroom, & as soon as they left, the choirboys came, & we gave 34 tea in the parish room & pantry. Tuesday's remains were cleared up & a little more. Mr Riddell helped me in the parish room, Mr Beaulands presided in the pantry, & Charlie went from one to the another [sic]. All over before 8.45.

### **Friday 29 June**

Today was the anniversary of our engagement. Charlie was much better, & came down to breakfast. Mr Riddell & Mr Beaulands came to see after him. Holy Communion at 11. I went in the town afterwards. I sat a little while with Mrs Horwood. Charlie has School Managers' Meetings before and after lunch, and he had lunch at the Coopers', so I was alone on this special day. After he came back, though, we had a pretty drive, & called on the Bonuses at Hulcot, where we had tea. We had not time to get to Wingrave. As it was we were very late at the Infirmary. Only W Fellows & J Petty came in the evening. A lovely, very hot day.

### **Tuesday 3 July**

There was a fearful thunderstorm in the night, & I was thankful to have Charlie with me. About 10 o'clock I went to the Library, and worked at re-covering books, with Miss Horwood and a Miss Stone. I did a little shopping before lunch & also went to Mr Cooper's & saw Miss Thackeray, her cousin, home for a few months from Mission Work in Zanzibar. I went to the Library in the afternoon, as it was my turn, but had very little to do. The Judge was to have come to Church at 3.15, but owing to his clerk missing his train, service was not till 4.15. Charlie (& Mr Beaulands) received the Judge – Baron Huddleston – at the West door. Mr Williams of Waddesdon preached, being Chaplain to the High Sheriff, baron F de Rothschild. Miss Williams & her niece sat with me, & came to tea afterwards. Charlie went to the Sheriff's dinner at 7.

### **Wednesday 4 July** (mother's birthday)

Charlie & I left by the 9.20 train for Cuddesden for one night, it was showery all day. From Tiddington to Wheatley we travelled with Canon Ashurst, who talked & laughed loudly. Father was not at Cuddesden, but Audrey and Cousin Ellen (ie Mrs Edwin Coleridge) extra. We saw and spoke to Bessie Furse at the station. Charlie and some of the others had various setts [sic] of lawn tennis in the course of the afternoon. I sat about lazily and read. After Church, Mother, Charlie, & I went for a stroll in the park and kitchen garden. In the evening music. The children were allowed to stay up to Chapel, being Mother's birthday.

### **Tuesday 10 July**

Charlie went down to introduce Mr Rudd to the school. I heard from Beatrice that poor Mai nearly had rheumatic fever. Some of the home party including Violet & Humphrey were going today to the Crystal Palace Temperance Fete. Charlie had the clergy. I opened missionary boxes – unknown to Charlie - & put on fresh labels. I quite forgot about the Library until Mrs Groom sent for me. Afterwards I shopped,

and called on Mrs Bennett & Mrs Tooley. Mr Carter came to dinner. I went to service. Charlie went to a meeting, later, about the reception of the Prince of Wales on his way through to Waddesdon on Thursday. Mrs Tooley sent us some roses & strawberries.

### **Thursday 12 July**

There was a great deal of rain on & off in the course of the day. It was settled that I should not go to the Temperance Fete at Claydon. The little Drakes brought me some lovely flowers. After lunch, Charlie left with the Temperance party for Claydon Park. Rather before 4 o'clock I went to the Friarage, & then with Mr Cooper, Miss Baynes, & 2 other ladies, to the bank, where we stationed ourselves at a window to see the Prince drive through. Mr Cooper joined the Committee &c on the platform. It was very interesting to watch the crowd. The Prince of Wales arrived by a special train at 4.35, drove up the New Rd, & then stopped at the platform to receive the address, presented by old Gibbs, & finally drove on to Waddesdon to stay with Baron F de Rothschild. We had a very good view. There was a tremendous crowd. The Volunteer Band played in the square afterwards: they & the Corps had met the Prince at the station. Back to the Friarage to tea, then home. Church. Mr Beaulands came back early from Claydon, & took the service. Charlie came back at about 10 o'clock & then I went out with him into the town to see the illuminations. The CGTS Fete was very successful. Mr Riddell came in to supper: at least he had some tea only, as he had been to Miss Horwood's.

### **Friday 13 July**

We were very sorry to hear from Mother that Father had had his gold watch stolen from him at the Crystal Palace: it used to belong to grandmother. A rather better account of Mai. I went to the Litany, and then on into the town for shopping. The square &c were still gaily decorated. In the afternoon I went down to my district, & first went to see Mrs Mason, whose baby was born on Wednesday: Lily Turner came up to tell me today, & ask me to come & see her sister. Then to Mrs Woodbridge's, Mrs Atkins', & finally to see old Scutchings. Charlie & I went to the Infirmary for service, & then to old Jenns' about a picture of the Church for Mother (C.)

### **Tuesday 17 July**

Charlie had breakfast early, & started with the Choir & Mr Riddell for Oxford between 7.30 & 8. They went in one brake & 4, & 2 pair horse carriages: I went up into the attic, & saw them drive along the road in the distance. Mrs Thrlfall sent us some beautiful strawberries. I went out shopping, & also to Mrs Stedman's to see the Schoolchildren's toys & prizes. In the afternoon I went to the Library, where I had very little to do: I afterwards went to see Mrs May. Mrs Stedman came over, & she & I wrote the names &c on prize labels, & put them into the Prize books. Service, & then I went to ask after old Mrs Stubbs. Charlie was not home till about 11.30, after a thoroughly successful day. Mr Riddell came in to supper. They went to Cuddesden on their way to Oxford.

**Sunday 22 July****Charlie's birthday 33**

My dear husband & I knelt side by side at the Holy Communion in the morning. He had a number of presents, including 'The Casket' and a purse from me, and a packet of letters from Knoyle, and one from Nellie. I read in the robing room. Service at 11, with a sermon from Mr East. Charlie helped both morning & evening, but did not preach. Stroll before lunch. In the afternoon I sat out for some time with Minnie. Charlie walked down to Wheatley, later, to post some letters. Service at 6.30, when Mr East again preached. He came in to supper after church. Poor Minnie was not well. Chat in the evening after supper.

**Friday 27 July**

We were much delighted to hear from home that Reg had brought home the 2<sup>nd</sup> prize in the Lower Sixth Book: he was only 30 marks behind the 1<sup>st</sup> boy. Father was away all day. I finished 'John Inglesant'. Charlie & Arthur, & Charlie & Michael Furse, had some cricket practice, & I watched for a little while. Charlie & Arthur had their lunch early, & then went to the field to play in a match v. the Cowley Military College Servants. We all went over by degrees, & several of the Furses. I was there most of the afternoon, with an interval for tea. Cuddesden won easily. Charlie made 11 & 7, & Arthur 47 in the 1<sup>st</sup> innings. I lay down, & Charlie read me the Psalms & lessons. (Mrs & Miss Dawkins called, & the latter came to the field after tea).

**Sunday 5 August****Ella's birthday 23**

Ella had various nice presents. Charlie gave her a copy of the SPCK Prayerbook Commentary, & I gave her 'Seventeen to twentyone'. Mai did not go to Church I the morning, & had her breakfast in bed. My dear husband helped in the morning service. Lionel preached a very nice sermon on 'How long halt ye between 2 opinions?' The bell tolled in the morning for old Allen, who died the evening before. Holy Communion. Charlie took Mother's class for her in the afternoon. I rested. There was some rain. I sat both times in the Crosses' seat. Charlie preached a very nice sermon on Sins of the tongue. We went for a walk on the hill in the evening & met various people. I spoke to Henry Allen in the churchyard. Singing in schoolroom & drawingroom.

**Wednesday 8 August**

Charlie had a very impudent letter from Nunn. The day turned out very wet. Mai did not get up to breakfast. We had some singing, partsongs &c. I sat up in our room with Charlie, and read. In the afternoon Lionel and Theodore sang duets & I accompanied them. The family adjourned to the nursery (the end room – as the boys now have the former nursery), & an attempt at making cocoanut candy went on, but it was not very successful. Father, Charlie, & Lionel went for a walk. There was to have been a garden party, but no one turned up but Mrs Mair & the Hutchinsons. We 3 girls & Charlie went out after dinner & had a chat in the summerhouse.

## Friday 10 August

The day was showery. Charlie, Father, Lionel, and Theodore went in to Salisbury by the 9.47 train. I wrote to Aggie – as also did the others – for her birthday. I read Lady Bloomfield's Reminiscences. In the afternoon Mai drove Beatrice up to Sheep House to see Mrs Edwin Fletcher. I sat out of doors a little and read 'All sorts & conditions of men'. When Beatrice and Mai came back, Mai drove me out (my first drive with the new pony, Duke); first to Underhill, where I paid a visit to Mrs Arthur Feltham, then to Green to see Holmes, & finally to Upton to Chapel Farm: we were fortunate in finding John Corbin at home. Charlie brought me a pretty little picture of Salisbury Cathedral. Theodore's mouth was very painful: he had been to the dentist's.

## Sunday 12 August

Charlie heard from Mr Maul that he has accepted the living of Henley. Charlie preached in the morning on 'She hath done what she could'. (We had three hymns in morning service for the first time, one before the Litany.) We had a stroll in the garden before lunch. In the afternoon Charlie and I read and dozed up in our room. The four brothers went for a walk, and later Charlie went for one with Violet and Humphrey, and paid a visit to Bessie and John. Father preached in the evening. After service we all (but Theodore – on account of his tooth) went for a walk on the hill. Singing in the drawingroom & the schoolroom.

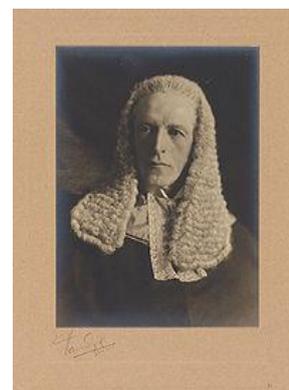
## Monday 13 August

A glorious day. Mother was very busy helping get ready the Cricket lunch in the School. By degrees we all went down to Garston, to watch the match between Knoyle and Donhead. It was very hot, but there was, happily, a breeze. The 2 Johnstons played for us. EKCC went in 1<sup>st</sup> & made 53, & Donhead made 42. Mother, Father, & Beatrice could not come again in the afternoon as they had to go to a lawn tennis party at the Glyns' – Father driving, to spare Mike. The rest of us watched the cricket again. Our side was grand: no one made less than 2 – Charlie made 39, & the side 120. Charlie got 6 wickets in the 1<sup>st</sup> innings, but got out 1<sup>st</sup> ball himself. Donhead did not go in again – there was very little time - & we won by the 1<sup>st</sup> innings. The Johnstons (staying at Fonthill) stayed to high tea.

## Sunday 19 August

### Bernard's birthday

A most beautiful day. Morning service was at 10.30. Mother, Flossie, Charlie & I sat together in a most uncomfortable seat. Holy Communion. After Church Mother, Charlie & I went with ?Magnie to her house, which is close to the Church & Heath's Court, & Charlie & I (for my benefit) went all over it. In the afternoon Charlie & Bernard\* walked over to Alfington. Having found a book to read in the big Library, with Father's help, I lay down (before Charlie left) in my room & read & dozed. Later I sat out, & then went for a stroll with Daisy, in the course of which



father joined us. Service at 6.30, with a sermon from Charlie: I had a comfortable seat under the tower. Bernard, Daisy, & we two sat out of doors in the evening, & the gentlemen smoked.

*\*Charlie's brother-in-law – later Lord Coleridge, and an MP- pictured*

### **Monday 20 August**

A fine day. I sat in the Library with Charlie, & read Lady Bloomfield. Between 11 & 12 we started for Sidmouth, Bernard, Daisy, & we two: the gentlemen walked to the station, but we drove. We all walked from Sidmouth station to the beach, - about a mile – Charlie & I taking it easily. Charlie came across various old acquaintances. Bernard went out in his boat, the 'Duckling', Charlie had a bathe, & I sat on the beach alone, or with Daisy. The sea was lovely. Lunch on the beach (except B) & finally off by the 2.30 train after a very pleasant time, Daisy & I driving to the station, & also to Heath's Court. Rested & read. Charlie, B, Daisy & Flossie, had some capital l.t. before dinner. Some rain. Mr Rade of Alfington, & Magnie, dined. Music.

### **Friday 24 August**

A hot, beautiful day. Louisa did nearly all my packing for me. Magnie came in. Charlie & I had an early lunch, and then Daisy drove me to the station, Charlie & Bernard walked down, and Charlie & I left for Knoyle. It was very hot indeed travelling, & we came by express (which I do not care for), so altogether I was not sorry to get to Semley (by the 2.33 train). Father, Mother, & Humphrey were on the platform, & we all drove up together. Soon after we arrived Lionel, Beatrice, Ella, & Theodore went to a lawn tennis party at Wincombe. Charlie, Father, Reg & Seymour had lawn tennis at home. Watched & read.

### **Saturday 25 August**

Some of the family picked some flowers & did them up into a newspaper parcel for us. Charlie & I left Knoyle by the 9.49 train, & had a hot journey to Aylesbury: happily the train reached Waterloo punctually, so we had time to get across to Euston, & catch the 1.55 down to Aylesbury. Charlie had ordered a fly, so we drove up from the station, & found Emma & Sarah flourishing, at home. Tea, unpacking, arranging. Mr Riddell came in & was very pleasant. I arranged the pretty Knoyle flowers. Later came Mr Jeages, also very pleasant & friendly, & he sat with us while we were having our dinner. The Strahans have come to the Prebendal.

### **Thursday 30 August**

I wrote letters, and struggled over my Sunday lesson beginnings. After lunch Charlie went to see Mr Strahan, and when he came back I found that he had also been to order the pony carriage to take me for a drive. So it presently appeared, and we drove to Wingrave to pay a very long owed call on the Butts. We found them at home, and stayed some time. Old Mr Butt is Vicar, & his young niece, Miss Butt, lives with him, & seemed very pleasant. She gave me some sunflowers &c. I did not go the the 7 o'clock service, but to the Guild Service at 7.30: Charlie put in a special petition for me (not of course) by name [sic], which was very nice.

### **Monday 3 September**

District Visitors' Meeting at 10.30. Charlie went afterwards to give Mrs Stubbs the Holy Communion. I went down to my district to take round my magazines, some of which I distributed before taking the Boot & Shoe Club, and the rest after. I was home rather late. After lunch Charlie read to me, and then he opened the box from Knoyle (which came some time ago), containing bassinett, basket, pelisse &c. Later I lay down in the drawingroom, read and rested. I intended going to the boys' temperance Meeting with Mr Beaulands, but I did not feel up to it, so Charlie went for part of the time.

### **Tuesday 4 September**

### **My birthday 27**

I had some delightful presents & letters. Charlie gave me a pretty framed marriage card, 2 books (one had to be changed) & (though it didn't arrive that day) a medicine cupboard. Mother sent me a Parcels' Post letter weigher; Father an 'Elijah', the brothers, Tennyson; 3 sisters, Liberty handkerchief; Violet (before I left Knoyle) a Japanese parasol; Humphrey a pencil. Charlie had his reading with the curates. After lunch he read to me. There was a mistake about the pony carriage, so we did not get till late, & then we drove to Stone, where we had tea with Mrs Challis &c, & to Haddenham. Back too late for church. We sat in the study. Mr Jeages came in, & stayed for a time.

### **Wednesday 5 September**

I had birthday letters from Otley, & 2£ from Father & 1£ from Mother. Beatrice also sent me 10<sup>s</sup> most kindly, because Mr Heywood was sending her 5£. Charlie went to school. I arranged flowers. The nursery guard came & looks very nice. There was a meeting in the Lady Chapel, after which Charlie brought in the Archdeacon. Charlie & I went out together later, and I went to do some shopping, and he to pay visits. I went to church in the evening, & had a little talk with Miss Angles and Miss Brown afterwards. Mr Jeages & Mr Beaulands came in for a few minutes, & then the former went to the Women's Temperance Meeting.

### **Friday 7 September**

I went to the Litany at 11, and then into the town to do some shopping: I invested in two more pictures for the nursery. Started writing my Sunday lesson. In the afternoon I read 'Jane Eyre'. I also worked at my Sunday lesson, and succeeded in finishing it all but the notes. Charlie visited, and also went to the Infirmary for service. Service at 7 as usual, to which I went. There was a nice congregation, including Mrs Strahan and her brother Mr Browning: she stopped after service and we had a little talk. There was rather a larger attendance of boys at our practice. Charlie went to church afterwards for choir practice. I read.

**Wednesday 12 September****Wedding day of Heywood, & Agnes Benson**

Father, Mother, & Beatrice were at Alresford for the wedding, & Beatrice was one of Agnes' bridesmaids. Ella wrote from Much Wenlock, where she and Mai were staying. I went to the Litany, and then on in to the town – Mr Beaulands with me as far as Clark's where I did some shopping. The day was warm, & eventually turned out lovely. After lunch I arranged my babyclothes in the new press in the nursery. Mrs Drake sent me a basket of flowers. Mrs C Bennett, Market Square, called. I sat out in the garden and read. A heavy storm of rain came on later. Service at 7. Charlie & I framed pictures for the nursery in the evening.

**Wednesday 26 September**

There was a very high wind, & some rain. I did not go to the Litany, as I did not want to meet all the decorators I got and arranged flowers. Charlie went to S John's. I wrote out the October Calendar. A dear little table for my room arrived, which Charlie had got, unknown to me. After lunch Charlie read to me. Mother went over to the Church, & worked at the decorations. Charlie established me out in the garden with my book & I sat out & read for some time. Service at 7, followed by a very nice Guild service, to which Mother did not remain: Charlie gave the address. Special petition again for me. I didn't go to the CGTS Committee. Mr Jeages came to tea & try a duet with Charlie, &c.

**Thursday 27 September**

Charlie went over to the Prebendal to give his Scripture lesson. I had a talk with Mrs Chambers: I hope things may come to an end before very long now. I passed rather an unsettled, restless sort of day. The glee rehearsal came off in the Corn Exchange in the afternoon, & later Mr Jeages & Miss Stedman came up, & the latter accompanied Charlie & Mr Jeages in their duet. Read. The Harvest Festival Tea in the Corn Exchange was at 6, & in the course of it glees &c were sung, & seem to have been very successful. Mr Riddle arrived meanwhile, & Mother & I entertained him. Service at 7.30, a very nice service, & a good sermon from Mr Riddle, & a splendid congregation. The choir came out from the Lady Chapel & up the transept to the Chancel, for the 1<sup>st</sup> time, an entrance having been made.

**Friday 28 September**

Little Arthur Payne, one of the choirboys, died of diphtheria: Charlie had been constantly to see him. Mother went to Cheddington again to see the cook who did not come last time she went. I went to the Litany, and afterwards into the town. It was the day of the Harvest Thanksgiving at home, & they were going to decorate, for the first time. In the afternoon Mother and I went out for a walk as far as the Printing Works, & round home by the New Road, & New Street, where we stopped to look at Mr Strahan's boys playing rounders. I rested and read. Evening Service at 8, with a sermon from Mr Jeages – being the Eve of S Michael's Day. Mother and I went.

### **Saturday 29 September**

The day turned out very wet. Charlie had the pupil teachers after breakfast. I put out the stores. Charlie put up a pretty little bookcase in the nursery. I worked at my Sunday lesson, which I had thought earlier in the week there would be no need for me to do: happily it was not a difficult one. I finished the notes after lunch. Mother and I counted some money for Charlie. Charlie read to me. Later he went out and visited. I read. Mother and I went to church at 5. I did the clothes. I lighted the fire in the study, our first this season. Mother and we two sat in the study in the evening.

### **Sunday 30 September**

We heard that Mandie has a little girl.

As I had some slight pains, it was thought wiser for me not to go to church, so the result was – though nothing whatever happened – I stayed at home the whole day, a most weary thing to do. Charlie and Mother went to the Parish Church both times. I lighted the drawingroom fire before they came in from morning service. Mr Riddell came back on Saturday night, & we had all three clergy to lunch. It was very nice to see Mr Riddell again. I had a large class of boys, several new ones, some who oughtn't to have come I think, as they were 1<sup>st</sup> Class S Mary's boys. Charlie came in at the end & spoke about Confirmation. I went out in the garden & walked about & read. It rained on & off. Mrs Chambers came & had a long chat, while the rest were at evening service. Harvest Thanksgiving service at S John's.

### **Tuesday 2 October**

The first day of the Church Congress at Reading. I passed the day pretty much between the South room (Mrs Chambers') and my own. I read part of the time. Mother and Charlie were with me on and off, and also Mrs Chambers. Mr Wilcox was sent for & came, leaving again to come back later.

### **Wednesday 3 October**

Early in the morning, at a quarter to 2 o'clock, our dear little baby girl [Margaret Alethea Sumner Mackarness] was born, and truly thankful we were. She is a most healthy little mortal with a lot of dark hair, which I think will get lighter: her eyes were brown, but changed afterwards to blue. (This was, of course, written some time after, as I did not use ink till I was allowed to get up).

Telegrams and innumerable letters were sent off. Mrs Cooper sent me some flowers.

### **Saturday 6 October**

Mother put out the stores, and took my place generally, as she kindly did for me while she was with us.

She was constantly with me every day, on and off, and read to me and did anything I wanted, like a good kind Mother as she truly is.

### **Thursday 11 October**

Charlie's Mother arrived from Cuddesden by the 1.20 train. She brought various things with her, grapes, partridges &c, a pair of wool slippers for me, and two robes, one being the family christening robe, in which my own dear husband (for one) was christened. (Mother – C's – saw dear Baby in my room very soon after she came). Mr & Mrs Strahan came over. Afterwards Charlie took his Mother to see S John's. Everyone had tea in my room, & Mother left by the 6.7 train. Charlie had a long meeting in the diningroom, in the evening, about the Christian Men's Association, Groom, Butcher &c.

### **Saturday 13 October**

The dear Babe had a cold, caught, probably, from Charlie and Mother who both had them. Charlie had the pupil teachers in the morning. There was a fair for hiring servants, & Mother saw numbers of girls in the Market Square. Mother went to pay return calls on Mrs Cooper, and Miss Grenside. Charlie had a Confirmation Class before Church, and later Mr Beaulands had one in the Parish room, which is in frequent use just now for Confirmation classes, all the curates holding them there. Charlie read his very nice sermon to me in the evening.

### **Sunday 14 October**

I heard from Beatrice, who is delighted to be one of our dear Baby's Godmothers. Daisy told the sad news that poor Roy is dead. The day was lovely but turned rainy later. The curates came to lunch, and afterwards were brought upstairs to see Baby, who was very good and much admired, dear little pet. Charlie and Mother had tea in my room. Charlie went to S John's in the evening, but Mother went to the Parish Church. Charlie sat with me. (Mr Jeages took my boys).

### **Monday 15 October**

Lionel was very pleased to be Baby's Godfather. Mother did household business for me as usual. I wrote, read &c. Mr Wilcox paid me his final visit, and gave leave for me to get up on Wednesday. Charlie sat with me and read the Guardian. Mother went over to the Prebendal and changed my books. Later Charlie took her to the Manor House to return Mrs Threlfall's call (on her). Charlie had Confirmation classes in the evening.

### **Tuesday 16 October**

Charlie had the curates in the study again. I wrote letters. Mother sat with me part of the morning. Baby and Mrs Chambers moved into the nursery, though they came back one more night to sleep in the South Room. After lunch Charlie came up and sat with me. Mother went to the Baldwins', Hartwell Farm; she has engaged Mary Baldwin as house & parlour maid. Charlie had a very successful ?men SS Teachers' Conference in the evening: Mother went in & made tea. (Violet & Humphrey were to go to a fancy dress children's dance at the Morrisons' in Swiss peasants' costumes.)

### **Wednesday 17 October**

Mother went away by the 9.50 train, Charlie going with her to the station & seeing her off. I got up for the first time, & was lifted by Mrs Chambers & Emma on to a couch by the window, where I stayed till the evening. Mrs W J Green sent me some delicious grapes by Charlie. Charlie sat with me before and after lunch. I had my afternoon rest. Mrs Cooper kindly sent me two books to read, but, unluckily, I had read them both. Charlie had some of the children to practise for the Entertainment. I was put back into bed after my tea &c. There was evening service & sermon at 8; Charlie preached. Read. Charlie slept in the South Room, or I should have been alone in this part of the house.

### **Thursday 18 October**

The sad news was in the Daily News of the death of Studley's sister & another lady, at Westward Ho; they are supposed to have been swept away by a wave. I was moved on to my couch for the day. Charlie went to S John's, and then to Mr Strahan's. Later he sat up with me and wrote. I had Baby. After lunch Charlie sat with me again, and later went out. Mrs Albert Smith called to inquire. I had my afternoon sleep. In the evening was the Annual CGTS Tea in the Corn Exchange, 6.30 till 10. The proceedings were, music, dancing, & games. Baby was referred to by John Edwards in a topical song. Charlie was there, of course, & we could let all 3 maids go, as Mrs Chambers kindly answered the door, & brought up my dinner.

### **Sunday 21 October**

Mother was very glad (as well as sorry) to have Daisy back, & very grateful for her being spared. I was allowed to put my feet down & sit by the fire for a while: it felt very funny using my feet again. While people were at church, Baby had her first outing, in the garden, wrapped up in my brown shawl. I read. The curates came to lunch. Mr Pilcher preached thrice in the Parish Church, very good Temperance sermons indeed, so I heard. Charlie came up on and off, but had not much time to be with me, because of Mr Pilcher (as well as his work). He brought up his Bible Class in detachments to see Baby. (Mrs Horwood sent in some grapes).

### **Tuesday 23 October**

Mr Gardiner left by the 7.50 train, and Mr Pilcher by the 9.20. Mr Hobbis came in to breakfast. Between 10 & 11 o'clock Charlie carried me downstairs to the drawingroom, where I was established on the sofa. Ada Clark came to try over some pieces, to see about playing one for the concert: I rather trembled for the piano. Mrs Chambers brought down my sweet Baby, who was very good, & lay on my lap some time. Beatrice arrived by the 3.30 train, Charlie meeting her at the station. Charlie carried me upstairs after my dinner. Beatrice sat with me. Charlie had service at 8 & then the SS Teachers' Instruction.

### **Thursday 25 October**

Charlie carried me downstairs in the morning & up again in the evening. The Archdeacon came in for a few minutes before the beginning of the Clergy

Conference, over which he presided in the Lady Chapel. Charlie came in to us before going to the lunch, & before the afternoon sitting too. Later he brought in Mr Kiddle, & exhibited Baby: after Mr Kiddle left, Charlie had her for some time: he is such a dear Father. The S Mary's girls were brought in to the drawingroom for me to see them do their Nursery Rhymes, which they did splendidly. Lovely flowers from Mrs Threlfall. Beatrice went to church for the evening & Guild services. I had to have a visit from Mr Wilcox who sent lotion + a draught (my darling husband had a nice talk with me).

### **Saturday 27 October**

As yesterday I spent the whole day up in my room, but not in bed: I even got up for my breakfast, the first time I had done that since Baby was born. I wrote my diary. Beatrice found, on examination, that numbers of the pears stored in the attic were ripe, so she brought down a lot. I helped Beatrice do up programmes for post. Charlie had the PTs. In the afternoon I had a sleep. Beatrice went for a solitary walk. Mr Wilcox came & pronounced a favourable verdict on me, though he said I must not build on being able to go to the Christening! Charlie had a Confirmation Class before Church. He came up later & sat with us for some time. He had neuralgia. (Mrs Grantham sent Baby a bib).

### **Wednesday 31 October**

Baby had two lovely presents, first a beautiful striped rug for her basinet or perambulator from Mother, & then a lovely cream coloured cloak from the Cuddesden grandparents. Mr Wilcox came to see me before I got up. I came down & wrote & read. I was allowed to go out for the 1<sup>st</sup> time after lunch to my great joy: I went in a Bath Chair, drawn by my dear husband, & attended by Beatrice, over to the Prebendal, where I had a very pleasant time, & saw the Strahans, & the boys. Saw Henry Bunning, who seemed very pleased. Mr Riddell came in for a few minutes, he wanted some Pledge cards. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Entertainment went off very well & was very full again. Mr Jeages came to supper: the other two couldn't. Charlie slept with me again.

### **Thursday, November 1**

Baby had some more lovely presents during the day: pink & white & blue & white shawls from Ella & Mai, & socks from Ella: a beautiful Bible from Lionel & Beatrice & a Christian year from Maynie. I came down to prayers & breakfast. I saw Baby washed. A little before 11 Charlie took me to Church in the Bath Chair, & I was churched. As was Mrs Lehman, whose Baby was christened with our's [sic]. Morning service followed, & there was a good congregation. Millie Dawe had (unkown to us all) decorated the font. (Walters sent the flowers & asked her to do it) Mother, Maynie & Flossie came in time for service, but Lionel did not arrive till just the last part of the Baptism service, so Mr Riddell stood proxy for him, as Mother did for Minnie. Baby cried during the early part of the Baptismal service, but her bottle quieted her, & she was very good afterwards. We had 'In token that thou shalt not fear'. Miss Brown gave me a lovely bouquet of flowers afterwards. We went in the Prebendal after Church, I in the Bath Chair. Mrs Strahan came out & joined us later. Beatrice gave an excellent christening cake, with Baby's name on. The Cuddesden

party left at 2.35, Lionel by the 4.something: the clergy were asked to tea at a qr. to 4: Mr Meages came, & later Mr Beaulands. Mr Riddell met Lionel at the door & walked to the station with him, looking in later. Charlie went to speak at a Temperance meeting at Waddesdon. Mr Wilcox (who had been earlier) had to be sent for again in the evening. Beatrice read aloud to me.

### **Friday 2 November**

Beatrice went away by the 9.55 train; she was to stay some hours in town on the way home. Mr Wilcox came & put on some fresh strapping. After he went I got up and went downstairs. Some pelisses came for selection: eventually we settled on a very pretty grey one: it was Father's present, as he sent 2£ to be spent on Baby. Mrs Strahan came to ask after me in the afternoon & sat with [sic] a little: Baby was down before she came. Later Mrs Astly called. Charlie was in & out. There was a 3<sup>rd</sup> Entertainment in the evening, for those who couldn't get in the other nights &c, some of both nights' performances: well attended again. Mr Riddell had tea with Charlie afterwards.

### **Tuesday 6 November**

I expected Mr Wilcox, but at last as he did not come I went into the nursery to have a fresh poultice before dressing, & then he arrived. Rainy. Charlie had the curates to read with him. I worked at accounts, making out the Sick & Poor Bills &c. At the end of lunch Baby was brought downstairs, & we had her for a little while. Mrs Hamblen called. Charlie went to Mrs Horwood's for a glee practice. I saw Baby undressed and washed. Later I nursed her while she had her bottle, & then presently Charlie came up too. Church at 8, and then the SS Teachers' Instruction.

### **Tuesday 13 November**

We heard from Beatrice the sad tidings that little Willie Smart was drowned in the well at green: I wrote to poor Henry & Rose. Miss Fuller send [sic] Baby a nice little pink & white jacket, & Ella sent her 3 very pretty pairs of shoes, directed to her herself. The clergy could only have a short reading, as they all went to a Ruridecanal Chapter at Canon Evetts'. I had Baby down after lunch. Mrs Threlfall took me for a nice drive in her brougham to North Marston, where I called on the Jameses. Charlie was back, having a class, when I came home. We had a very largely attended female SS Teachers' Conference in the evening. Mr Jeages came a little before the end, & left before tea was over. Mr Riddell came to tea only, &c.

### **Sunday 18 November**

Mother sent me some embroidery which she had worked when Lionel was a baby! I was very glad to hear that Mai (2) & Ella (1) have begun a course of singing lessons in Salisbury, from a Miss Weldon. I went to the Parish Church with Charlie: all the clergy were there but Mr Beaulands, & Mr Jeages preached. There was Holy Communion, & I was very glad to be able to be there for it, - the last time I had

received it was Sept 21<sup>st</sup>. The 3 curates came to lunch. I had 10 boys, & a specially nice class. I went to the Catechising, & sat on a chair behind the pulpit to look after a row of Upper SS boys. Charlie preached at the parish Church in the evening, & gave a special address afterwards to the Confirmation Candidates on the Holy Communion. I stayed at home with Baby. We sat in the study after supper & I read Charlie's sermon.

### **Friday 30 November**

Mother (2) & Father (1) (C) were to be in London today for the Consecration of the new Bishop of Central Africa, Mr Smythies, for which Mr Riddell also went up. We went to the Holy Communion at 11. Afterwards I came home, and later went out into the town and did a few things. A Mr Dixon, a clergyman from High Wycombe, called just at lunch time, so we could do no less than give him lunch, & he left soon after. Mrs Strahan came over to ask me if I should like to drive with her, & we went to see Miss Baynes, who was at home, & had a Miss Flower with her. Infirmary at 5: I went nearly round both wards.

### **Sunday 9 December**

I went to 8 o'clock service. It was my turn to stay with little Margaret in the morning, so I got Emma to dress her before she went to Church, and then took her over to the Prebendal gardens for an hour & made my arms ache very much. The curates came to lunch as usual. I had a new boy at my Bible Class called Walter Axtell, a boy from Weston Turville, whom Mr Malaher wrote to Charlie about & Charlie went to see him: he could not get away in time for Charlie's class, so came to mine. The singing got terribly flat at the Children's service. I went to S John's with Charlie in the evening: it was crowded. It was the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the new organ, Miss Stedman playing in the morning & Mr Threlfall in the evening. We sat in the study after supper & Charlie smoked.

### **Thursday 13 December**

Charlie & I left home by the 2.25 train, to spend the day in London. Baby Margaret was not dressed before we went, but looked a little darling wrapped up in a blanket. When we got to Euston we went to Paternoster Row, shopping, then to S Paul's for a few minutes, next to Tattersalls's, & then to Westbourne St. We got a nice lot of pictures & cards altogether. 'Charlie' & Katie Dick & their little Bernard were at Minnie's, & Arthur came to lunch (from the Furses'). After lunch & c Minnie, Geraldine Coleridge & we 2 drove in the Sussex Square carriage to do some shopping. We dropped Charlie eventually & left him to finish his shopping & walk home. I went up to the nursery with Minnie, & took my little Phillis, who was very good. All the children came down, & I helped build for them. Bernard came home before dinner. After dinner we two left, & walking to Paddington with our parcels, came home by the 8 o'clock train.

## **Saturday 22 December**

Household business. Eva sent a dear little blue & white knitted petticoat for Baby. Vegetables, flowers, and a hare came from Cuddesden. I went to the Latin School to decorate. Miss Horwood was there at first, then I was alone, & finally the two Hedges came. After lunch I went to the Free School & inspected the Boot & Shoes Club boots with Mrs Mayne & Mrs Ridley. After that I went to the Latin School & worked away for a while at decorations, alone, till I had done. Church at 5. (Heard in the morning of the death of the eldest Miss Parrott of Kimble, who had been ill some time). Worked at Sunday lessons.

## **Tuesday 25 December**

\* Beatrice sent me a very good cabinet photograph of herself.

There was Holy Communion at 7, 8, 9.30 & 11: I went to the last, as Charlie wished me not to get up to the 8 o'clock. Mr Riddell gave us each a book, with which we were very pleased. I had prayers & breakfast, & read my letters. Charlie didn't get his breakfast till 10.30 or so. I went to morning service. The clergy had lunch with us, & Charlie gave them each a book, & we also gave them our photographs. The Lord Wharton Books were distributed at a little service at 3.30: Charlie catechised on Bibles & Prayerbooks. Baby Margaret had her presents. Everyone went to Church at 5 (a very nice service, I believe, with no sermon, but carols & addresses) except me, & I stayed with Baby Margaret, who was very good, & asleep most of the time, so I read. We didn't get dinner till late as after (long) service Charlie had to go & see Mrs Hesketch, & Strahans, & to ask after Thorp. After dinner we gave the maids their presents (boxes with 6 handkerchiefs in) & cards, & a present each from Mother too &c; & then had our own. I gave Charlie 'The Victories of Love', & a card, he gave me some views on the Isis, a lovely little stamp box, & 'The Heir of Redclyffe'. I had slippers, Eau de Cologne, a little basket, & a book from home, & we had cards from all but Father; also from the Hedgeses, & I had from H Bunning, Laura, Marie, & Miss Slaughter.\*

## **Monday 31 December**

I sent a card to little Phillis. Household business. I went to Mrs Ridley's, & then to Mrs Horwood's for a Cookery Lessons Committee Meeting. Afterwards I went with her to the Printing Works Institute in Silver Lane & saw the room where the Cooking Classes are to be held. I had Baby Margaret down after lunch. Later I went out to various places with Cookery Class Papers: Mrs Wilson in the Market Square was in & I sat there a little, & also at the Fellowses', where I went to see after little Bertie. Glee practice at Mrs Horwood's. Service at 8, after which the ringers rang & then came to the Vicarage about 9.30: they had supper in the diningroom, & then smoked & had barley water in the parish room .....Charlie & I read the home Psalms together in the study, 39, 90 & 103. I have been very blessed in the past year in my husband, our little child, my own safety, & many ways; may I ever be truly thankful, & show my thankfulness in my life.