

1888-1889

In 1888 Grace and her husband Charlie had been at Aylesbury Vicarage for five years. They now had three children: Margot aged 5, Hugh aged 3 and Elfie, who was still a baby.

In January 1889 the family moved to St Martin's Vicarage in Scarborough.

***Note:** from the 9 April entry onwards, selections are shorter; only the most unusual or interesting sentences are reproduced, rather than the whole entry in which they occur.*

1888

Sunday 1st January

Charlie went to church at 8. I had prayers before he came in. There was no Sunday School on account of the diphtheria, so it made it a more or less light Sunday for work for Charlie – especially as Mr Jeages took the (only) Catechising. Mr Jeages preached a very good sermon in the morning – I went to Church, & stayed for the Celebration: Charlie celebrated. Mr Jeages, Mr Vincent, Mr Swayne, & Mr Munn [curates] came to luncheon – Mr Munn's 2nd Sunday here. I had 8 boys at my class – Fred was ringing. A quiet afternoon. Charlie had his girls' class. He went to Church at 6 and preached but – at his wish – I stayed quietly at home. I read various, including old diaries.

Monday 9 January

A foggy day, & Ella [sister] & I did not go out of doors. I paid the household bills, wrote &c. Charlie had a School Managers' Meeting after which Mr Cooper came in to say Goodbye. Ella & I put up pictures &c in the nurseries. We read later. Charlie & I went for a walk, & then to the station to meet the children who arrived safely from Cuddesdon [home of Charlie's father the Bishop of Oxford]: the 'bus didn't get down in time, so they had to come up without it. Margot & Hugh came down after their tea. We four dined quietly (no party) at the Old House, & had a very pleasant evening: a good deal of music. Talk with Ella over her fire.

Tuesday 10 January

Mother & Beatrice wrote, much delighted with their [birthday] presents. Hermann & Ella left, much to our regret, after their short visit, it has been so nice having them. Bessie went away. Charlie went over to Stone & Dinton to inspect the Chuches – as Rural Dean he had luncheon at Stone, so I had mine alone. I had the children down, & then out in the garden, Laura going to meet Lucy Pullen, the new nurserymaid from Sandhurst. I went to the Drakes' later, & then to ask after Mrs Daniels. I had a talk with Lucy & liked what I saw of her very much.

Friday 13 January

A damp day: the children did not go out. I had the children as usual, & gave Margot her lessons. Wrote. Charlie & I had our luncheon as usual – not waiting for Seymour [brother], who arrived at 1.20 – as Charlie had to be at the Cemetery at 2 for a funeral. Seymour had been at Oxford, trying for a scholarship at Pembroke, but unfortunately he failed to get one: there were a lot of men in. I marked socks for Charlie & handkerchiefs for Seymour. Charlie visited & went to the Infirmary. The chicks came down. Seymour & I played 'Reversi' in the evening.

Friday 20 January

Not so cold, & very bright in the morning. Margot's new cot arrived, so Hugh had her's & Elfred Hugh's. I had the chicks, & Margot did her lessons. I went to the Litany. In the afternoon Charlie walked over to Peverel to ask after one of the Bartlett girls who is ill, & then after a cup of tea he went to a Soup Kitchen Committee meeting. The children all went out in the garden. I finished my Sunday lesson. I did up a number of rejected schoolmistresses' testimonials to return. I went to the Infirmary at 5, where Charlie joined me for service. I drew for Margaret. Charlie went to Practice & a Harmonic Committee meeting.

Saturday 21 January

A mild day, some heavy rain in the morning. I had the children. Charlie worked at his sermon in the dining-room. I put out the stores &c., and marked some new linen that came back from being made. The children came down after luncheon, & then Margot & Hugh went out in the garden. Charlie & I started out together but soon separated. I paid an ineffectual visit at the Old House, as Lady Jane was not well & could not see me. I paid some more visits & when I came in I found Lionel arrived by an earlier train than we expected. Church at 5. Charlie had the PTs & Lionel & I had the children.

Wednesday 8 February

Charlie came home safely by the 9.8 train. I had the children, and then they went out in the garden. I packed, & finally Charlie and I left for London at 11.55. Mrs Threlfall was in the same train, on her way to see Moon's, so we had a chat with her at Cheddington, & then travelled together as far as Broom, where she got out. We went to Gloucester Road & then to Minnie's [Charlie's sister Margaret], where we saw Min and Daisy [Katherine, another sister]. To Mr Winterbottom's [dentist?] by about 3, & there (after C had been looked at) I was in his clutches so long that we had to come straight back. After tea Charlie, Daisy, & I went to the Grosvenor & very much enjoyed it. Cousin Sophy came to dinner, & B [Bernard, Lord Coleridge- Min's husband and a judge] was home too: a quiet evening, work & talk. (We met Frank Ellerton in the street & talked to him)

Thursday 9 February

Bernard went off after breakfast, starting on Circuit. I wrote letters. Charlie read up for his lecture. Min, Daisy, & I went to Burlington House to see the Old Masters: I was very glad to have the chance of seeing them again. Daisy went to luncheon with the Furses, & Minnie & I went back to Wetherby Place. Charlie had then gone out. By the 3.3 train we left Gloucester Road & came home. Charlie went to see sick people & I went to the Vicarage. Mr Pilcher of St Clements' Oxford came by the 6.6

train, and spoke at the Temperance Meeting in the evening. There was a good attendance, & several joined afterwards.

Sunday 12 February

I stayed with the children at 8 as Laura [nanny or nurserymaid] went to Church. Charlie went to the Schools – teaching in the Upper Sunday School. I had the children. We went to the Parish Church in the morning, and Charlie preached. There was no late Celebration at the Parish Church, & the day was lovely, so Charlie & I had a little walk on the Hartwell Road before luncheon. The 4 clergy came to luncheon as usual. I had 10 boys at my class. Margot & I went to the Catechising. Charlie had a pretty afternoon tea set (for 4) given him by his Bible Class girls. Miss Lodge and Miss Otway came to tea. I stayed with the children in the evening. I had a headache & went to bed before prayers.

Monday 13 February

We woke up to find snow on the ground, & snow falling. I gave Margaret her lessons. The children could not go out all day. Charlie worked at his Sunday lessons. He looked out a number of books for Lent reading which I did up to send out in the parish. I went to the Library, but had only one customer beside myself. I corrected the S S lesson proof. I had Margot & Hugh. We went to service at 7.30, in the snow. Charlie took the Sunday School Teachers' Instructions afterwards, but I went to the GFS [Girls' Friendly Society] meeting: Miss Gibbs was the only other Associate there. Only 14 girls came – being such a snowy night.

Monday 20 February

Charlie spent a great part of the morning down at the school. I had the children, and gave Margot her lessons. Elfred has two teeth through now. I went down to the school for the Boot and Shoe Club. The children were not able to go out all day. I had them after luncheon. Charlie and I started out together, but soon separated. I went to various shops, paying bills &c, and I went to see Mrs Ivatts, and sat some time with her and her twins. I had Margot and Hugh. Church at 7. I went to the Boys' Temperance Meeting in the evening, with Mr Vincent. Mr Munn sang, & Groom gave an address: 21 boys. A cold night.

Tuesday 21 February

Church at 8. A cold wind: the children did not get out all day. They came down as usual – Hugh comes to prayers regularly now - . Charlie had his Ruridecanal Chapter: beginning with the Litany at 11, then the Chapter at the Clergy House, and finally the luncheon in our diningroom nominally at 1.30, but really a good deal later, & even then only 2 out of the 3 subjects on the agenda paper were discussed. The weather kept several away, & it ended in there being 14 at the Chapter & 13 (with me) at luncheon. Charlie went to inspect Horsenden & Ilmer Churches – leaving at 3.20 - & preach at Horsenden. I had the Library at 3, & then shopped & called. I had Margot & Hugh. Church at 7. Charlie came home safely.

Monday 5 March

X Hugh's birthday . 3.

A very nice day. Church at 8. Hugh was very lucky in the way of presents, as he not only had some from us & Laura, but from Knoyle (2/-) Ella, Eleanor, & the Clergy House. We gave Margot 2 1d toys,

but she was rather envious, poor little soul. District Visitors' Meeting at 10.30. The children went out in the garden. Charlie walked over to see Mr Bartlett before luncheon, & Mr Swayne with him. Mr Harvey came to luncheon, & there was a Ch. Hist. Lect: Committee afterwards. I went down to my district and paid several visits. Charlie had the PTs. I had Margot & Hugh. Church at 7. I went to the Boys' Temperance Meeting with Mr Vincent.

Tuesday 6 March

Church at 8 – Charlie went also to the Celebration at 7. A bright, pleasant day. I had the children, and then they went out in the garden. Hugh had a nice book from Mother. Charlie left at 11.50 for Bournemouth for one night, so see his Father. I wrote. Phillis has whooping cough, so I wrote to Min to condole. I had the chicks again after luncheon, and they they went out for a walk. I went about the town paying Boot and Shoe Club bills, and also went to see Minnie Gregory, who is in consumption. Lois began making marmalade. I went to Church at 7. I had Elfled to sleep with me.

Friday 9 March

Windy but mild. The children came down as usual The Emperor of Germany died I went to the Litany. The children all went out in the garden. I wrote letters. Charlie went out for a short walk, before meeting Mr Meeres of Risborough who came to luncheon, to see Charlie on business. I went down to S John's at half past 2 for the Women's Service: Mr Jeages gave a very nice, helpful address. Afterwards I went in to the Hedges' & stayed some time: it came on to rain hard for a time. I went to see Mrs Jas. East, & then to the Infirmary for service.

Thursday 15 March

Church at 8, but we did not stay for the 2nd service as Mr Norris left at 9.20. I had the children, & then they went out in the garden. Charlie went to teach at the Stedmans'. I paid the household books, wrote about a place for Bessie, and worked at the parochial accounts. After luncheon the children came down as usual, and then went out for a walk. I went out in the parish, visiting: I called on Mrs Ginger, who was out, the Sam Paynes, Minnie Gregory, Miss Gurney (out), & the Jefferies'. Church at 5. Charlie went to Monks' Risborough to lecture on Church History. I had Margot & Hugh. Church at 7. I had a long talk with Fred Thorne: he is home for a holiday. Charlie came back. There was a robbery of 60£ &c in Granville St on the day of the Races.

Tuesday 27 March

Church at 7 and again at 8. A fine, nice day. Mr Holmes left at 10.5 for Oxford, for Confirmations. I had the the children and then they went out. Father and Mother (C) sent Elfled from Bournemouth a delightful birthday present, in the shape of a pretty pelisse. Charlie had a walk. In the afternoon I went with Mr Swayne to Mrs Woodbridge's for the final Cottage lecture which was well attended. Shopping. Soup Kitchen Committee at 4.30 – Charlie in the chair. Mr Holmes came back at 7.30, and preached in the evening. The clergy came in to tea. More diphtheria at Hailybury.

Thursday 29 March

Elfled's birthday – 1

Church at 8. Charlie worked at his sermon. We gave Elfled some presents, & she wore little black shoes for the first time. I got ready cards for the schoolchildren &c. The children went out. In the afternoon I went out in the town, and tried to do my best at Easter shopping, but did not find it an easy matter. I had Margot and Hugh. Mr Daubeny of Winkfield arrived at 6.45. Service at 8, with an address to Communicants, which Charlie gave. Afterwards there was a C E T S Committee Meeting, so we were in late. Charlie went up to Victoria Park after prayers, to see Mrs Loveless, who was very ill.

Tuesday 3 April

I slept in the night nursery [the nanny or maid Laura was on holiday] & was up in good time, & we had the 3 children washed & dressed by soon after 8 o'clock. There were sleet & snow storms during the day, but bright sunshine at intervals: the children all got out in the morning, & Margot and Hugh for a little while in the afternoon. Charlie went to the Burial Board, & afterwards worked at his Sunday lessons. I had luncheon in the nursery, & had a terrible tussle with Hugh over his meat. Mrs Drake, Gertie, & Emily called, & they saw all the children – in nursery garb. Charlie visited. I put the children to bed. Church at 7.30, but I did not stay for the Teachers' Instruction.

Wednesday 4 April

I had a very good night with the children, & was up in good time. The children all came down after prayers (& Margot & Hugh to prayers, too) ... We were very sorry to hear of Queenie's death at Florence, from burns received while trying to put out Florence's dress, which was on fire, some weeks ago, now The children went out in the garden. I had luncheon with them. Charlie had the available clergy to read with him. I went with the children to the Prebendal Garden in the afternoon. Charlie visited in the parish. I put the chicks to bed.

Monday 9 March

..At 3.20 Charlie & I left for Knoyle. We met the Sturgeses on the way. Arrived at Reading we found that there was no train on to Basingstoke till 6.50, too late for the last train to Semley! So we telegraphed home for the carriage to meet us at Dinton, & to the White Hart at Salisbury for a fly to drive us to Dinton. We went to S. Mary's Vicarage, Reading, & Canon Garry gave us tea. When we got to Salisbury at 8.41 a telegram awaited us to say one of the horses was ill, & that we should be met next morning. So we went to the White Hart for the night, & were very comfortable.

Tuesday 10 March

Charlie & I just caught the 8.20 to Semley, but only just. We found the carriage awaiting us, & I drove home, dropping Charlie on the road, to walk up. Father & Mother were in Exeter, & Reg & Humphrey at Kelly, but the rest were at home, & it was delightful to see them all again. Read, talked &c. Emma came & sat with some of us. In the afternoon we all (except Mai, who is not strong) went for a lovely walk on Summerleaze. Beatrice had to come back first, for a Candidates' Class. Mr

Suffrin (curate) came to tea: he is a Roumanian, & has odd ideas. I played a new game called 'Ringoal'. Reading & music in the evening.

Wednesday 18 April

Violet and I and the nursery party went to Payne's, & the children & I were photographed. Hugh was rather hard to manage, but was overcome ... Rather before 7 we 3 went to S John's for the Band of Hope Entertainment, which went off very well. Ventriloquism by Cheshire, banjo songs &c. Over soon after 9 (distribution of buns as the children went out).

Thursday 26 April

At 11.50 Charlie and I left for Oxford for a concert in which Violet was to play in the orchestra. In the Broad we met Theodore (who had come up to take his MA degree) & Reg, and we 4 went together to the Sheldonian, which was very well filled for the concert. We sat in the Ladies' Gallery. The concert was first rate and we thoroughly enjoyed it. The instrumental pieces were lovely, and Miss Liza Lehmann sang beautifully.

Saturday 12 May

A most lovely day. Church at 8. The children came down as usual, and then went out, Margot & Hugh much enjoying being able to run about on the lawn, which had been mown ... I made a cross of primroses, white tulips and box, for Mrs Morton's funeral ... I inquired after Annie Ivatts who has just had her 2nd pair of twins.

Wednesday 16 May

I heard from Mother [-in law, Alethea Coleridge Mackarness 1826-1909] so disappointed at our not coming till Thursday, & so much wanting us to come that day, that we telegraphed to say we would come at 7.15.

Tuesday 29 May

By the 10.5 train (being Thame market day) Charlie & I started for Cuddesdon, for the Festival. We arrived in plenty of time for Charlie to robe & go in the procession ... There were 6 Bishops present, Father, Bishop Michinson, Bishop Smythies, Bishop Coplestone, Bishop Jones of Capetown, & Bishop Webber of Brisbane.

Sunday 10 June

Charlie heard from his Mother, not a good account of Father [John Fielder Mackarness] – I am afraid it will end in his having to resign.

Thursday 14 June

I did not get up to Church, and was very croaky, but my voice improved as the day went on. Beatrice & I went out in the town in the course of the afternoon and got some prizes, and finally went to the cricket field so see how the match against Wendover was going on, & stayed till about 5. Charlie was out when we got there, after making 23. The whole side made 93, & beat Wendover in one innings (they had to follow on).

Friday 16 June

We were very sorry to hear of the death of the good German Emperor Frederick, husband of the Princess Royal.

Monday 13 August

I helped my dear Charlie to pack, & then he left for Cuddesdon by the 11.4. [to be with his father John Fielder Mackarness]

Saturday 18 August

I had a telegram [at East Knoyle in Wiltshire, where Grace was staying with her parents] between 11 & 12 summoning me to Cuddesden, so by means of many kind helpers my things were packed, & I got off by the 12.53, Mai & Violet coming with me to the station. I travelled some little way with Bishop Smythies till I reached Basingstoke, where I changed & had a long time to wait. Trains were late & full, but I happily caught them all, & got safely to Wheatley, where Charlie met me. Dear Father no worse than in the morning.

Saturday 1 September

Charlie stayed with Father till about 6, when he came to bed. Father had a good night, & a good day with the exception of one sort of threatening of an attack. Seven years ago today Charlie & I met for the 1st time.

Tuesday 4 September

My birthday – 32

Father did not have a good night, & was not very bright during the day. I had a delightful number of letters & presents. Daisy and I did the flowers before luncheon. Freddie and Mr Sankey went out shooting. I sat out & read, & had a chat with Arthur. Later I sat with Father: he was very sweet about my birthday, & later he gave me one of his books as a present, which I shall value most highly.

Thursday 6 September

I sat a little while in Father's room & then had to fly for Nurse, as he felt faint ... Nell & I sat with Father after tea & I fanned him: he was low, & cried several times – the result of his illness.

Saturday 8 September

Charlie & I ... hardly liked to come away, but ended by keeping to our original plan & leaving at 6.29. We got safely home & found all clean & nice, but books, pictures &c in very wrong order in the rooms!

Thursday 13 September

I answered some servant advertisements in the Guardian – happily not for myself ... I went to see Lady Jane. Old Mrs Gregory was out in a Bath Chair in the Old House Garden, & I had a talk with her & her daughter before Lady Jane came down.

Sunday 14 October

We heard from Cuddesdon that Father has twice been out for a little while – a great improvement.

Wednesday 24 October

Charlie went at 6.7 to Cuddesdon for one night. I finished Hugh's quilt, much to my joy.

Saturday 27 October

My throat was ulcerated, & I did not go out all day. The children came down as usual, but I did not have them near me more than I could help.

Sunday 27 October

Dr Hilliard came soon after 10 o'clock and found me better. It is tonsillitis I have, not diphtheria ... Charlie ... sat with me after supper & read some of Tennyson's poems aloud.

Saturday 3 November

Charlie had a letter from the Archbishop of York about Scarborough, but not offering it to him.

Tuesday 6 November

Uncle George [Sumner] has been appointed (Suffragan) Bishop of Guildford. A cold east wind, so the children did not go out in the morning ... Elfie was not very well, troubled with her teeth. Charlie heard in the morning from the Archbishop of York about Scarborough, & went over by the 2.35 train to Cuddesdon to see & consult his Father.

Wednesday 7 November

The Archdeacon came to see Charlie before the Infirmary Meeting, & Charlie asked his advice about Scarborough; he was in favour of its being accepted if it is offered.

Thursday 8 November

At about 7 (I dressed in evening dress, but with a high body ie neck filled up with India muslin) we went to the Corn Exchange. First came a meat tea, then a Concert (in wh. ee helped), then prize giving ... & finally dancing.

Thursday 13 November

Charlie went off at 7.5 to London to have an interview with the Archbishop of York about Scarborough. Hughie had a bad night with sickness & diarrhoea & was not well all day ... Charlie came back safely: he had a satisfactory interview with the Archbishop, but I expect S. Martin's Scarborough will not be an easy parish.

Monday 19 November

We had what I particularly dislike, viz. a domestic broil, complaints among the servants: I don't know what the upshot of it all will be.

Tuesday 20 November

Charlie heard from the Archbishop of York offering him the living to S. Martin's Scarborough, and also had a letter from Archdeacon Blunt: the Trustees unanimously elected Charlie, which was satisfactory.

Wednesday 21 November

Charlie wrote to Father (who went on Monday with Mother to Bath to ward off gout) about Scarborough.

Saturday 24 November

Charlie came home safely by the (late) 7.12 train: S. Martin's Scarborough will, apparently, be a very difficult parish to manage. Charlie had Confirmation candidates. We talked a good while after prayers.

Tuesday 27 November

Charlie went over to Cuddesdon & talked over matters with his Father, and came back by the 4.10 train, & in the evening he wrote to the Archbp. of York & accepted S. Martin's ... After prayers we told the maids about Scarborough.

Wednesday 28 November

The children were pleased with the idea of the sea.

Monday 24 December

Various cards & presents came in during the day & evening: the most important being a beautiful study clock for Charlie, & an M.A. book, from the district visitors, with a very nice letter, signed by them all.

Tuesday 25 December

I went to the 8 o'clock celebration, taken by Charlie: there were a great many present. We & the children had heaps of presents, cards & letters. Some the children had in the morning, & some in the course of the afternoon. Charlie preached in the morning at the Parish Church. Mr Vincent, Mr Swayne, & Mr Munn came to dinner. It rained part of the afternoon & evening. I had the children most of the afternoon. Soon after 4 the Christmas tree was lighted in the nursery, & all the members of our household & the Clergy House came to see it. We gave the maids and Beatrice present(s). Service at 5, with carols, & sacred poetry read by Charlie in between – very nice.

1889

This was the year of the Mackarness family's move to Scarborough from Aylesbury, and also of John Fielder Mackarness' retirement as Bishop of Oxford.

'Aunt Jue,' who appears a great deal from this year onwards, was Julia Sophia Mackarness (1836-1912), the sister of John Fielder Mackarness and the youngest of Charlie's aunts. 'Katie' seems to have been Aunt Jue's companion.

Tuesday 15 January

Charlie ... went to see his Father and Mother on their way to London, & went with them to West Wycombe: they have left Cuddesdon for good.

Margot, Hugh and Elfie



Tuesday 22 January

We went to the Vicarage, where I spent most of the morning packing up a lot of Charlie's best books in paper. Charlie went about paying farewell visits ... Mrs Drake gave me a gold bangle, & Mr Jeages (in the morning) a card case ... Chat with Lady Jane in the evening.

Wednesday 23 January

Prayers & breakfast, then goodbyes to the Kenney Herberts – after a very pleasant little visit -, & off to the station in the omnibus. The maids were there all right. Mr Vincent came and saw us off at 9.20, & so goodbye to Aylesbury & all our happy days in our first home. We had a number of changes but not much waiting time. We got to Scarborough at 5.55, and drove to S. Martin's Lodge (where Aunt Jue lives), & then Charlie went on to 1 Prince of Wales' Terrace with the maids. Later he & I had a little walk before dinner, & looked at the outside of the Vicarage. Letters of welcome from the dear home people.

Thursday 24 January

Charlie went to the 7.45 Celebration – taken by Mr Finch (an old clergyman), but I did not go into Church till Matins at 8.30, which Charlie took. After breakfast Charlie & I went to look over the very nice vicarage, & then fetched the maids to see it. Then we two, Aunt Jue, & Katie spent some time over carpets at Tonks'. In the afternoon we all went to the Vicarage, & finally settled the carpets &c there. We later chose a nice table. Tea at 4.30, Evensong (Charlie read the lessons) at 5, after which Charlie visited some sick people.

Sunday 27 January

Before dinner at 1 we & Katie went down to the shore; the sea was lovely.

Thursday 24 January

Charlie and I went to the Vicarage in the morning, but he could not be there long as he had to catch the train to York where he went to be instituted. I worked away at the books in the study. In the afternoon the study carpet was put down, and looked very nice. Evensong at 5, after which I went round again to the Vicarage where I found Charlie, now Vicar of S. Martin's.

Thursday 31 January

Old Marflitt got on with the carpets. The putting in the new kitchen range is the real hindrance to our getting into the house.

Saturday 2 February

Katie went to Malton to some theatricals. Snowy on and off during the day. Evensong at 5; coming home afterwards it was very slippery & I fell down: several ladies helped me up, & mercifully I was not really hurt. More work at the Vicarage. Charlie visited.

Sunday 3 February

Charlie read the 39 Articles, which took about half an hour with introductory & closing remarks ... Charlie & Katie went to school. Aunt Jue had her Bible Class. Catechising at 3: the S S boys had their prizes given them in Church ... There was a tremendous gale, & we sang the hymn for those at sea, kneeling, before the blessing.

Monday 4 February

I received some of the first callers at the Vicarage, Mr & Mrs Bower. Charlie & I went over the bridge into the town to do some shopping, and coming back had a look at the sea – there were some good big waves rolling in ... Evensong at 5. We finally entered into possession of the Vicarage, and had our 1st meal there – dinner. We hung drawingroom pictures in the evening. Katie gave us 2 lovely white hyacinths in pots.

Sunday 10 February

Before luncheon Charlie & I had a nice little walk down on to the shore. At about 2.30 we went to school, & I had my first experience of a class of Yorkshire boys – some of them (certainly) fisher boys: there were only 5 present, but I had a hard time of it, & felt pretty well disheartened at the end.

Tuesday 12 February

In spite of the snow on the ground there were over 30 at the Celebration at 7.45, when special prayers were offered for the Bishop of Lincoln who is to be tried today for alleged illegal practices; & for the Archbishop of Canterbury, who is one of those who have to try him.

Thursday 14 February

I worked at getting the nursery in order. After lunching rather early I hurried off to the station, where Charlie followed me & saw me off for York at 1.20 to meet the children. I had a little time to wait before, punctually at 3, their train came in: they were very well, & had managed their journey capitally.

Friday 15 February

After having the children down I took them out in the garden, as Laura & Lucy [nurserymaids?] were busy: it was a lovely morning. Afterwards I went in to the town to do some commissions, & scurried home in time for luncheon ... Charlie had a Women's Guild meeting at 7.30, so I went to meet Father & Mother, who arrived safely at 7.25. They were delighted with the Vicarage.

Tuesday 26 February

I learned from Beatrice that Mr Suffrin had proposed to her!! By writing, while Father & Mother were away! Such an idea: when she doesn't like him at all, even, to put it mildly.

Wednesday 27 February

I began, what I hope to do regularly, to read aloud from the Bible to Margaret & Hugh.

Thursday 28 February

Charlie ... and I went out to luncheon with a quaint old person called Mrs Fox. Afterwards I paid a good many calls. I had some little time with the chicks in the nursery before their tea.

Tuesday 5 March

Mr Swayne came in to luncheon, & before, he & we two had sext together in the study, which we hope to do regularly.

Saturday 16 March

I paid several visits, & amongst them went to see a dear little girl of 12 named Lizzie Humphrey, who is in consumption.

Friday 29 March X Elfie's birthday .2.

Penitential Psalms & Celebration. A lovely, mild day. Darling Elfie had some very nice presents. Charlie went to school. The children had a holiday & all played about in the hall. They went out in the garden in the morning, & in the afternoon joined Molly & Gladys, who were riding on donkeys & kindly let the children have rides.

Sunday 21 April EASTER DAY

A showery day, but splendid congregations, & an increase of 77 communicants on last year ... My dear husband gave me a book, card, & a very nice prayer desk, & I had various cards & letters.

Friday 24 May

We were much grieved at Lizzie [parlourmaid] being obliged to leave next week on account of her mother's illness ... At 2 o'clock Aline Monson & a nice girl – Miss Wall – called for Margot, Hugh & me, & we drove to Forge Valley: we picked a few flowers & then had to take shelter in a cow-shed from heavy rain. We came back by Hackness in a thunder storm by about 5.35 after a lovely drive in spite of the weather.

Tuesday 28 May

No one gave me any tidings of a parlourmaid ... Aline & I made an expedition to Oliver's Mount to get ferns &c for the Church: moss there was scarcely a scrap to be found. I was delighted to hear the cuckoo.

Thursday 30 May

It was bright part of the day, but we drove to the station at 2.40 in rain. We went to York, & arrived there safely & drove to the Deanery, where we found the Dean and Lady Emma.* In the evening there was a special service at 8, when Charlie preached a good sermon. The Choir sang 'Lauda Sion' – a fine thing, but very long to stand through as it took over 35 minutes!

**Arthur and Emma Purey-Cust; Arthur (photo from ancestry.com) had been Vicar of Aylesbury before Charlie.*



Friday 31 May

Matins in the Minster at 10, after which we spoke to some of the Monsons who were there. We went over a good deal of the Minster, which is lovely. Then Lady Emma took us into the Abbey Gardens where she left us. We walked about there & went into the Museums. Finally we went back to the Deanery. A number of clerics came to luncheon after a Meeting (Archdeacons Brooke & Blunt amongst them), but we had to leave soon after they came to catch our train. Back to Scarborough to find all well. Evensong at 5. Aunt Jue & then Katie came in later.

Friday 14 June

I hope I have at last heard of a likely parlourmaid. I had the children & then they went out in the garden. I went in to the Home for a few moments before going to the town for a Friendless Girls' Association Meeting which lasted some time.

Wednesday 19 June

Sisters and I went to matins ... I wrote to engage Alice Lee in spite of some flaws in her character. Beatrice, Mai [Grace's sisters, then staying] & I drove up to the cricket field to see a match between Mr Douton's XI and S. Martin's ... S. Martin's was getting the worst of it when we left.

Monday 24 June

In the afternoon Beatrice, Mai, and I went to Hayburn Wyke by train and spent a very pleasant time there in the woods & by the sea: it is a lovely place. We ended up having tea in the inn; home

between 5 & 6. Mr Swayne [curate] came to dinner, and Miss Okes and Katie came in afterwards, and we had a pleasant musical evening, all performing but Miss Okes & Katie.

Thursday 27 June

We 4 [Grace, Charlie, Beatrice and Mai] went at 2.50 to Whitby, not coming home till about 9: we had a delightful expedition. We went over the lovely old Abbey, & admired the red roofs of the old town. We had tea in some refreshment rooms by the harbour, & afterwards went on the pier, where Charlie enjoyed a quiet pipe.

Sunday 30 June

The Flower Service (a novelty at S. Martin's) went off very well indeed, & the packing afterwards was expeditiously done. Elfie [aged just 2!] talked a great deal in Church, & Laura took her out before the end.

Monday 1 July

In the afternoon we three sisters sat on the Esplanade and red, & afterwards went to a pleasant garden party at the Simpsons'. Mr Swayne brought in his 'cello later & we had plenty of music.

Thursday 4 July

About 2 o'clock we had a short service for the G.F.S. girls & Associates, & then left in two breaks for Langale End, a lovely place, where we had tea out of doors (a most sumptuous Yorkshire tea) & then rambled about, finally leaving with beautiful flowers, honeysuckle &c, about 7.20 and getting back about 9.10 after a very enjoyable afternoon. A little drizzle did not spoil our pleasure.

Friday 5 July

Litany at 12, & later I went in to Aunt Jue: I found that I had been committing dreadful breaches of etiquette in the way of card (or rather non-card) leaving, so resolved to amend my cards.

Monday 22 July X Charlie's birthday 39

Charlie had a number of letters (nearly all by 2nd post) & some nice presents: I shared with Hermann & Ella in giving him an oak table for his study ... There were some good fireworks on the Spa, some of which we saw from the windows.

Tuesday 23 July

By the 2.10 train we started for the C. G.T.S. excursion to Hunmanby: it rained when we got there, but it did not last long, & we had a thoroughly successful afternoon. Cricket & other games went on in a field, & then we had a capital Yorkshire tea in the Swan Inn ... One child came out with measles – a Wheatcroft child.

Tuesday 30 July

At 8 o'clock Charlie & I went in to the Home for the opening of the little Chapel. Charlie first dedicated the Altar, sacred vessels, & then came the Address, Celebration, special prayers, & hymns

... It was a very nice service, & Aunt Jue was very pleased. I rushed home for prayers, & then back to the Home for breakfast. The children went on the sands ... Archdeacon Crisp of Bloemfontein came.

Saturday 3 August

Directly after luncheon Mr Munn & I went to the Loudesborough Theatre to see 'The Yeomen of the Guard'. It was very pretty & we enjoyed it very much.

Sunday 4 August

A lovely day. I stayed at home with the children & read aloud in the garden. Mr Swayne, his Aunt, & one of his sisters & one brother came to luncheon, so Margot and Hugh had their dinner upstairs ... the nursery chimney caught fire, but happily was put out again.

Sunday 11 August

Charlie preached a good sermon on Spiritual Sloth. Mr Swayne & his Aunt came to luncheon. I had my Choir Class, & then joined Mother & the nursery party at the Catechising.

Monday 12 August

In the evening we went in to the Lodge & Edith, Katie, & some of the ladies acted some charades very well – Edith was splendid. Charlie & I helped with the music.

Tuesday 13 August

I went with Mrs Harrison to the Spa Hall for the opening of the Helmsley Bazaar. It was opened by the Duchess of Leinster.

Wednesday 14 August

The day turned out hopelessly wet, a bad thing for the Bazaar. I went out to get flowers &c for the party. In the afternoon I braved the weather & made my way down to the Bazaar where I stayed some time & finally came up with Aline in the pouring rain. Evensong. Then Mr Swayne came in to practise. We dined early & then made preparations for the At Home, which began at 8.30. We were 31 in all, counting ourselves. Very few people sang, but we managed to have a good deal of music from Aunt Jue, Mr Swayne, & our 2 selves. Tea & coffee in the diningroom first, & sandwiches, cakes, fruit &c at the end. It went off very well. Katie slept here, as they were short of beds.

Wednesday 28 August

We had an early breakfast, & then started by the 8.20 train for Ashbourne, for a few days' holiday in Dovedale. At first it was cold & dull but gradually got brighter & warmer & turned out lovely eventually. We had some time to wait at Derby, so explored a little in the town. Arrived at Ashbourne we found a carriage awaiting us: we first drove to the Church & going over it fell in with the Mays of Kelly College*! A lovely drive brought us to the Izaak Walton Hotel, kept by Mrs Prince. After tea we roamed about on Bunster (a beautiful hill) & down by the Dove, finally coming back for dinner. This is a most lovely place. Charlie smoked outside after dinner & then we came in & read.

** Kelly College, founded 1877, is in Tavistock, Devon*

Thursday 29 August

A lovely morning. Down to a late breakfast. We went down into Ilam & tried in vain to get into the Church, & presently went to the Vicarage (Mr Granville's) where Aunt Gertie* was staying. She was very surprised & pleased to see us, & after going to see the Church & c we stayed to luncheon. Several other people were staying there or came to luncheon. In the afternoon Charlie & I had a most lovely walk up Dovedale, & then crossing the river by stepping stones came home another way, stopping for a drink of milk at a farmhouse on the way. It was a 7 or 8 miles' walk & I was not sorry to rest after it.

** Charlie's aunt by marriage: second wife of George Richard Mackarness 1823-1883, Bishop of Argyll and the Isles and previously Vicar of Ilam. Her maiden name was Gertrude Granville.*

Monday 16 September

... A much worse account of dear Father (C)*: I went in with it to Aunt Jue. An unsettled day. Aunt Jue went off by the 4.55 train, but came back at 7.35, as the news which came to me about 5.45 or so was telegraphed to her at York Darling Father (C) died this afternoon at 4 S Martin's bell was tolled.

** John Fielder Mackarness, Bishop of Oxford, Charlie's father*

Saturday 21 September

Dear Father's (C) funeral was at 3 O'clock at Sandhurst. Canon Furse and Randal* took the service. I did so wish I could have been there. They were to have Hymns 428 and 281. Katie came in & we both read the service & hymns to ourselves

** Rev. Randal Parsons, husband of Charlie's sister Nell*

Sunday 22 September

Celebration at 8. Seymour was caught to collect on my side, much to my amusement. Hugh went into knickerbockers – a little black sailor suit - & looked such a duck: Margot & Elsie wore white frocks & black sashes. Archdeacon Blunt preached in the morning & alluded to Charlie's dear Father. We had the Dead March in Saul after service.

Saturday 5 October

Margot & Hugh went with Laura to the Humes', & spent the day with them, going out on a long blackberrying expedition into the country, & then going back with them to tea.

Tuesday 8 October

Father, Violet, & Freddie went off for the day to Robin Hood's Bay & Whitby & much enjoyed themselves ... Charlie came in later before leaving at 5.10 for Hunmanby, where he preached at the Harvest Festival.

Wednesday 16 October

I took Margaret to Mr Browne Mason's about her teeth & he took 2 loose ones out, & charged nothing for it: she was as good as anything. I took her shopping with me afterwards & to see Aunt Jue. The kitchen, drawingroom & nursery chimneys were swept. In the afternoon I paid a call or two, & then went to Mrs Bolton's where I heard Mrs Charles Bolton sing & sang myself.

Friday 18 October

The sweep came to do the diningroom, study, & night nursery chimneys, so I had prayers & breakfast in the hall. I had the children & then they went out in the garden ... Margot & Hugh went to a party at Dr John Taylor's ... I had Elfie & then put her to bed. I finished covering the 2nd sofa.

Sunday 20 October

Catechising with the children. Margot got a card for answering whereupon Hughie wept!

Wednesday 30 October

Aunt Jue & Katie were to have dined with us, but they couldn't as Aunt Jue had a bad cold ... In the afternoon Katie came with me over to Malton at 2.40 & from there we walked about a mile to Old Malton to call on the Pitmans. They were out so we went straight back & caught the 4.23 train home ... Molly & Gladys came to tea in the nursery, & there were great games afterwards downstairs.

Sunday 10 November

A glorious day almost like summer. Celebration at 8. I stayed home with the children in the morning & sat out in the garden in the lovely sunshine ... the Bishop of Lincoln ... came to tea ... The children were very good with the Bishop, even Elfie, & he was very pleased with them.

Tuesday 19 November

A busy morning. Children, packing, packing household books &c. ... By the 1.20 train Charlie & I left for London: we had to go second from York & pay the difference, as we travelled by the Scotchman, a splendid train. We got in soon after 6.30, but it was a long drive from King's X to 8 Wetherby Place*. It was a very pleasant gathering there, B & Min, Randal & Nellie (staying close by), & Arthur. Charlie, Randal & B worked at trustee work in the evening. The startling news came out (still to be private) that Arthur is engaged to a Pattenden†.

** Possibly the home of Bernard Coleridge and Charlie's sister Min?*

† Arthur married Ada Pattenden the following year, when she was 38 and Arthur 26. Ada had an illegitimate son (Thomas Orde-Lees who later took part in one of Shackleton's Antarctic expeditions) although there is no evidence that Grace and Charlie knew this. It is mentioned on Orde-Lees' Wikipedia page.

Thursday 21 November

I was very sorry to hear from Violet of Cate's having proved dishonest & taken to drinking spirits, so of course she has to leave.

Monday 2 December

In the afternoon I went to Marshall's sale & other shops before going to Mrs W Woodall's to tea: she distinctly wrote that it was not a party, only 2 ladies, but it had turned into a tea party! So I soon came away.

Tuesday 3 December

I had a humble apology from Mrs Woiodall both by letter & in person: she did not know of our being in deep mourning.

Thursday 12 December

Charlie had all the maids for a class soon after 9 so I sat up in the nursery while it went on.

Saturday 21 December

Household business, & sending off parcels &c, & finally Sunday lesson. Rainy and then fine and bright ... We were sorry to hear that Mrs Reynard has gone over to Rome.

Wednesday 25 December

A beautiful Christmas Day, fine and bright. The maids went to the early Celebrations at 6, 7 and 8, but I did not go till the Choral one at mid-day. Presents, cards, & letters for us & the children from heaps of people, which we looked at at various times. Elfie came down to dinner & was very good. Mr Swayne joined our family party. The maids had their dinner together, except Alice who had a bad headache. We had the children with us in the afternoon, & then about 4.15 came the Christmas tree & present giving. Katie & eventually Aunt Jue came & saw the tree & had tea before Evensong & Carols at 5. Supper at 7 followed by a nice long quiet evening.

Wednesday 26 December

About 6.30 Charlie went to Mrs Wormald's to her Harbour girls' tea, & Aunt Jue & I went to the School for Miss Beckwith's fisher boys' tea & entertainment.

Thursday 31 December

Charlie read me Psalms xxxix and ciii before I went to bed about 12 o'clock, but we had had Psalms XC in Church. No bells to be heard to ring out the old year & ring in the new.

So ended 1889, a year of many mercies.