

WMW DIARY 1896

Wednesday January 1<sup>st</sup> 1896 Ring in New Year, Parsons lets off crackers and makes a loud noise, the Binbrook bells very fine. Up late, Louie and Lewis for lunch, Champagne. Try on new (Miss Biffins) dress, awfully funny. In evening Rehearsal at Swinhope Top. Very bad cold in head.

Very warm day, quite spring like, Open all 14 Church Windows, Fagans arriving causing excitement, ..... Nothing of note, Alfred Austin poet laureate. Vans of furniture with the new Rector arrive and cause a general excitement in the town.

..... Walk after opening up Church up to Grainsby and pay Mr Thomas £1/1s, the fee for taking S. Bartholomew's Mass and Mattins last August. He not in so pay Mrs. T. After lunch ..... meet Mr and Mrs and Master Fagan with Mother up at the church, they come in for afternoon tea. New dress of 1790 finished off by Mrs Fenwick very brilliant.

Up fairly early. Read Church Times. Feel and look most unwell after drinking heavily of 'stout' go to the Rectory with young Fagan who calls for me. See Mr Fagan and tell him various little points he wants to know, says he hopes to adopt wafer bread at Mass by Easter. I heartily concur with him. .... go with Parsons to Hatcliffe for rehearsal in school room rather a ..... after at supper though I do put my foot into it.

Up for Mass, (6d in bag) full congregation for Mattins and Evensong also nice Children's service at 3.

Up for Mass and serve for the first time. Only 4 present altogether. Walk up to 'Grange = Yon End'. See the first flower of spring out eg aconites. Take round the 'National Church'. Go off to Hatcliffe 5.30. Food with Mrs **Bishop**'s, Dress rehearsal 7pm great success. ....

Very dull and grumpy day. Take flowers Chrysanthemums from the chancel and bring them down, put what are still alive on the Rector's grave, (Mr Fagan only Rector designate at present ) attend Vespers altar lights aglow and so to Hatcliffe with Parsons Ted having preceded. Theatricals 'Good for nothing' in which I am Charlie the Carpenter and 'Popping the Question' in which I am Miss Biffin grand success. Songs etc between acts. Afterwards a great supper at the Haxbys tremendous squash. Lots of vulgar Grimsby people there. Get back 1.45.

Up too late for mattins, take breakfast in my own room. .... go to Louth with Parsons ..... get Grainthorpe deeds. ....

Toothache. Breakfast in library. .... In afternoon Mother and all call on Fagan's ceremoniously. Evensong. Maggie hunts with Southwold. ....

..... Mr Fagan and I take short walk through old garden to Valley and back where he writes a letter to Mr Custance (*Binbrook priest*) which we take for him. Poor Mr Baxter (*Hawerby priest*) remains in the same condition which is very serious (pneumonia). .... Poor young Wilkinson has to go off hurriedly to join his ship HMS Victory at Portsmouth owing to present rows abroad.

..... towards evening we hear Poor Rector of Hawerby and our Rural Dean is in a very bad way, Tom B sent for from Town.

Mass 8 I serve. Mr Baxter prayed for as also at Evensong. Very crowded, Woodie (*Woodthorpe Clark from Binbrook Manor House*,) Herbert Fawcett, Harry B. (*Burkinshaw*) present besides other strangers.

Up latish, awful row going on, Mother in one of her very worst moods unreasonable and passionate and miserable. .... Take down decorations in church, go over to Swinhope to see

Harry B in afternoon and take tea, hear the Binbrook bells 5 pm. After dinner at which Mother does not appear we hear that our dear Rural Dean passed away 5.15pm. .... our oldest friend now gone, mother of course will feel it most.

..... In afternoon get excitement as the hounds go in long array through the village. Make wreath of flowers in the greenhouse and take to Hawerby. ....

..... In afternoon walk up the valley with Maggie ..... Snowdrops coming up apace, in the evening induction of Mr Fagan by Mr Custance, fairly large congregation 7.30 very windy, good sermon by Mr Custance who afterwards comes in.

..... Fagans come for lunch afterwards Ettie Mr Fagan and I go to Hawerby with wreath to be at Poor Mr Baxter's funeral. Six clergy in surplices Mrs Smith plays the organ exquisitely. See Tom and Judith the only two mourners. Very solemn service, the Church looked very quaint beautiful and sad.

Beautiful spring day. Ettie and I at Mattins. Hounds meet in front of house 11am, a brave show of folk. View them pass through the valley, notice Lady Victoria who calls at old Grange. Ettie Parsons Herbert Fawcett and self follow on foot round by Stock Furlong and Hawerby by lose them as they go down into the Marsh. Grand sunset. Maggie returns about 4.30. Bacon busy at 'Park Palings'??

Toothache very bad all through night and finally reaches such climax after breakfast go off to Grimsby to 'Husband's' and get it taken out 10/6d with gass, very short and quite painless. .... Get back about 3pm very wearied but go off to Swinhope for rehearsal at Harry B's. ....

Up for Mass, Mr Fagan reads 39 Articles at Mattins,, preaches well at Evensong. ....

.....busy packing up things ..... Parsons drives me to Thoresby,..... Travel to Louth then Lincoln. .... Phillip (cousin) and two Miss Bowdens meet me ..... Drive in their brougham to Brattleby. Very disappointed that Grace and Bonnie aren't there, awful slow dinner, glad to get to bed 11 o'clock.

..... After breakfast go to Church then walk with Phillip and Hardy, (*Phillip's cousin*) to some farm place, practise dancing on return. .... Tea 4.30, dinner 7.30 dress and off to the ball, Phillip Alice, Miss Bowden and Hardy in brougham, Mrs Timmins and Miss Bowden in handsome, and lastly myself driven by Father Timmins the sporting Rector, arrive easily the first. Grand show of Big Pots who make one feel small all in scarlet coats, Mrs Sibthorp (Alice's nominal chaperon) adorned in family diamonds and little else, as also Mrs Ellison, (*Lincoln Bank?*) very big swell and a vulgar one to boot. Her sons tall and handsome make all the men feel and look green and very small. Go twice into supper, enjoy a few dances with Miss Sophy Bowden eg the gallop. Alice the picture of misery. It all comes fortunately to an end 3am. Return in like order, thought I should be pitched out of Rector's lofty dog cart.

Up late next morning, Phillip and Hardy go out hunting, curious company. Stroll about and talk to Alice and so get the morning over till one. After lunch 'Jubilate' I depart with many loud protests of sorrow and so home 6.30 then spend the evening with the Fagan ready well for bed 11pm.

Up early, Mr Coates (*tenant farmer*) comes on business at 9am, take the parish chest to the rectory. .... Awful dull missionary appears. Ted Parsons and self go to Binbrook for theatricals, ..... In Temperance Hall, grand success, all over about 9.30 very chilly getting dressed. Supper at Woodthorpe Clark's rather a dull do. .... Leave much to Woodie's relief at 11, get back 12.10. Ted and Parsons follow in dog cart, arrive an hour later.

Up late. .... the missionary still on the go but leaves to our joy at 11. Parsons and I take harmoniums to the rectory. Ed Fagan goes to school, poor young feller. ....

.....too late for Mass the next morning rather a bad cold, also at Mattins and Evensong feel rather wicked and sick of it. .... get aconites and first snowdrops of the season, the latter very small. Am introduced to Mrs Fagan's father Mr **Farling** sporting looking old gentleman, .....

Dull fog, miserable, for shame, not up for Mass, going as 'server' too. So sleepy and didn't awake till the bell going, excuse!

..... Mother and I lunch at the Rectory, meet Mrs Fagan's father. .... Ted goes back go Lincoln, he having caused rather domestic commotions latterly. If we were as bad as him there wouldn't be much living at Newton as far as domesticity is concerned –

Bright beautiful day. Parsons and I go to Louth partly on Father Fagan's business. In afternoon get snowdrops and aconites at old Grange, rather infuriated about some trees ordered by Ted of ill repute to be cut down, he wants moving, excuse they are about to die – lovely moonlight night.

..... In old grange get aconites for Rector's grave and put them thereon.  
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Festival of Blessed Martyr King Charles. Mr Fagan (at my request) signified the above at Mattins by collect for SS Simon and Jude and hymn for martyrs. Take school accts. to rectory ..... Such a grand morning, sun really hot, no humbug. .... Tom Baxter calls and looks sublime as he always does, Poll and Ettie went to call on his poor mad sister (Poor Mrs Smith the Companion.)

..... After Evensong take walk round Fox Cover, meanwhile Mrs Woodthorpe Clark, her aunt, her clothes and jewellery pay a stately call. ....

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> February Dull cold March day. .... Polly and Parsons go to Hull to see the Pantomime. Should go too if I didn't weigh 6 hours loathsome travelling against 3 hours pleasure. Help Ettie with candles, everything prepared for Candlemas at Evensong. ....

Candlemas. Mattins 1030, Mass 11, Festal, white chasuble, 'Benedictus', 'Sanctus'.

..... After lunch go to Hawerby see Tom Baxter who gives me picture of Old Wold Newton Church,  
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..... Tennis dance in the evening at 'The Grove' Waltham, very jolly, poor supper do. Dance furiously, usual groups of folk round there, get back 2am.

Prince Henry Battenburg's funeral, fear our tennis dance was a little irrelevant to the season -

..... Mr and Mrs Fagan and Mr Farling come to dinner a very good do on the whole everything managed all right, they seem to enjoy their wine and whisky at 11 -

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..... See Bacon the Ashby carpenter about new fence, measure it etc .

..... I take the air alone past the Hall down Canterbury, walk in the old garden where I get snowdrops which are exquisite. ....

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..... I go alone to Yon End call at Mrs Beacrofts and school to enquire about destruction of pump. Ted comes from Lincoln in evening wants to borrow money, oh lor! Music very prolific? after dinner.

..... off to Hawerby with Ettie, the sale begins of Poor Mr Baxter's books at 10.30 I buy nearly £4 worth. 6 vols of Antiquary, 6 vols of Antiquarian library, ..... Swift's works which I resell at once. Go again with Poll and Mag in the afternoon mean to buy a heap of old china but get rather fussed such a crowd there don't get anything but a magnificent Rockingham tea service. In evening ..... Theatricals in schoolroom, 'good for nothing' the old thing we had before, thoroughly sick of it.

..... Go to Louth, ..... see Ingoldby's office about money. ....

*Reading History hard* ..... help Parsons in putting up his fencing. ....  
get in many and various furious passions -

Hear Mass, too late to serve. ....

..... Mr Fagan brings his new horse for inspection – in the evening to 'do' at Ravendale, Mag Ettie and Parsons go to it and perform, .....

Holland (gardener?) very unwell. At Mattins and help Ettie afterwards to remove all the carpets etc etc and make everything as cold and dull as possible. Hounds go thro the village about 2. .... After dinner at which pancakes did their duty, Poll and I go to Fagan's to play Whist.

Ash Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> February. Magnificent spring morning, not at all the ideal Ash Wednesday. Up to Mass 8, Mattins Litany Commination at 11. Evensong 7.30. Candlemas Fair at Louth which is unfortunate. Holland very bad with pleurisy. Ted Mag and Parsons ferreting in the Fox Covert. ....

..... Holland and his wife too both very unwell. Letters from Grace W. and Mrs Johnson, the latter about our premeditated journey to Rome, .....

Awful day, dull cold wet dreary, at Mattins and Evensong, and go to Choir practice in evening as a penance. Holland considerably better .....

..... Ted Parsons and self drive into Grimsby, Ted to depart to Lincoln, ..... I to lunch with Wilson curate of St John's New Clee old St. John's man .....

Up to Mass, serve. .... Cyril J(ackson) comes.  
..... Parsons and I go to Schoolroom to help to amuse the men at their games etc etc. ....

Terribly cold, East wind and frost, at Mattins and Vespers as usual. In afternoon go up Hawerby Hill with bucket and collect grit for hens which is very heavy to carry back. (from pit in Stocky field, now Martin's wood?) .  
..... Maggie out hunting – Cyril J. ditto on an old carriage horse, meet at Thorganby.

Frightfully cold, N wind and frost. Write to Thos. Cook and son. .... In afternoon go with Poll to Binbrook and take tea with Miss Johnson and bring back Ettie. Miss Holdershaw there, Miss Johnson talks about Rome and Florence etc, ..... Maggie goes to Louth on horse, Parsons via Thoresby (and train?), Johnson busy doing cupboard.

Mother's birthday. .... Give Mother lavender water, Ettie a writing case, Poll and Maggie a flask, Parsons a note book, Walton a photo-case. ....

.....letters from Mrs Jell and Cook, the latter makes us change our intended route by Mt Canis and Paris instead of Basle and St Gothard. Ettie and I arrange flowers on Mr Jackson's grave sent by Mrs and Miss J as it is his birthday. .... Eclipse of moon in the evening. Go to choir practise.

..... Write to Meade and pc's to Galte Wolde and Wigan – feel rather to dread coming events. .... Church 3.30. .... Go with Polly to Binbrook to do some shopping, awful pouring with rain. .... Hyacinths in the drawing (room) simply magnificent, .....

Sunday 1st March Sung Mass 11am, ch full of smoke, ..... lovely Sunday afternoon, count the hours as they go one by one. Sun sets gloriously, long shadows over the field fade away. Oh such nervousness comes over me, grand clouds sail up from the west. So adieu to my diary for six weeks DV Start tomorrow Monday at 2.25 from Thoresby. Fate Fate Fate. Now for evensong, Mother playing on the piano, Ettie and Poll reading in the drawing room, Maggie talking loudly to the cook about her dog and so and so. Birds singing gloriously spring in the air and now I shut up this book to open DV (deo volente, god willing) in 6 weeks. 5.59 pm.

Notes in diary,

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March arrive Genoa 6.30pm

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> arrive in the Eternal City 11.30pm, go to Hotel Continental. Travels with Mother.

'Does' Rome both Classical and Christian, incl services in Vatican, and High Mass in Sistine Chapel on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April Easter Day, see Pope, High Mass in St Peter's.

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April, transfer to Orvieto and then Florence. 'Does' Florence churches and galleries.

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> April, leave Florence 2.30, arrive Victoria Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> 5.30, back to Thoresby Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April, 6.30.

..... Fumble about show curios and photo's to the family. Bulk of pack go off to Market Rasen Races. ....

..... go to Mattins and see Father Fagan in his new biretta. .... Help Parsons with his chicken run all the afternoon. ....

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Parsons never appeared the night before and does not turn up till lunch nearly over. (does not say where he had been!) I busy with Churchwarden's accounts, settle them up. Poll and I go to Binbrook for clothes etc etc, very cold, windy magnificent afternoon, feel very sick indeed at having to depart for Oxford tomorrow, feel muddled about what I am to take, what not to take.

Leave home about 8.30. Poll Parsons and self in the Wagonette and pair to Louth, where I catch the 9.40 train, get (to Oxford) about 6.30, go to Alfred Street, Parsons (old Scout) lodgings. Feel very unsettled.

Up early, breakfast with Meade and Galte, then after cogitation borrow Ollard's notebooks and leave Oxford by the 12am and get home about 9. Walk up from Thoresby, naturally startle the family somewhat. Oh so nice to be home again.

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..... Maggie Poll and Parsons struggling to learn the bicycle on the lawn. ....

..... Chilly, ride down village with Maggie on bicycle me on short ladies concern, Maggie on Parsons'.

..... Mother Ettie and Parsons drive to Louth, I go on bicycle, ..... Go on switchback roundabout with Parsons. Herbert Fawcetta and Ettie walking about. .... I ride back on Low road. .... sweep comes, and excitement.

Parsons' birthday. Mother gives him turquoise pin from Florence, Polly Maggie and self a pipe rack like a stirrup strap. (How old is he?) Busy beginning to put my Roman photos in (album) ..... Walk with Ettie to Yon End and Skallows (sic).

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May Up for Mass, Parsons serves. Only Ettie Maggie and me present. ....

..... Maggie and Mother go to Louth about a cook, Ettie and I drive to Binbrook, ..... call at the Skallows and pay bill to Lord Grimthorpe, (for what?) and get forget-me-nots and on getting back put them on the rector's grave.

Sung Mass 11, everything except Sursum Corda. ....

Off to Oxford again. Leave home 9 ..... slow train to Peterborough. .... get to Oxford 5 – 6 pm. Feel most awfully awfully unsettled. However must bear it this time. Go to digs at 10 Wellington Square, dinner 7 then write this feeling so very very uncomfortable. 5 weeks of it.

Fine morning but hazy. Thoughts away far from 10 Wellington Square. The view embraces a row of houses, small bushes in the foreground. May Haxby spinster and Harry Simpson Burkinshaw to be married today at Hatcliffe Church. .... See WHH (*Hutton, tutor,*) about 5.30. ....

Read all morning, go to lecture at Balliol in the afternoon. .... Dine with Cooper, Assinder, Ollard, Wolde. Rather a joke. Try and read with Meade. .... Archery lunch in Meade's old rooms in College, afterwards shoot a bit in gardens which look really very beautiful, .....

Review of Yeomanry in St Giles. Marbbro Duke there (*sic, Duke of Marlborough?*) *still working/lectures* .....

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Service in Chapel 9.15, ..... High Mass St Barnabas.

Attend lectures at Keble 10, Balliol 12, walk from 2 – 3 in Parks with Meade, an exquisite early summer day, come in alas and work 3.15 to 7, after dinner in Ollard's rooms from 9 – 12, and do over 9 hours, record.

Magnificent day, sky deepest blue. Go to Hutton, then with Joseph to Cowley to dedication of the new convent church, ..... In afternoon so exquisite couldn't refuse Galte's invitation to go on the river up the Char. Hawthorn in full bloom, .....

Work most of day, very hot, ..... Buy new hat, drawers etc etc, .....

Ascension Day. Up for Mass in College Chapel, ..... Solemn evensong in St. Barnabas. ....

Reads with Meade, about 11 hours! .....

Work and social . ....

Usual Sunday services .....

Hot , terrifically hot, work most of the day, Pay two guineas entrance fee for exams, - what result?? .....  
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2 lectures and work (ish) read Hobbes, .....

Beautiful day, 1<sup>st</sup> day of 'Eights', Meade has his cousin and Miss ..... And Miss ..... up. Lunch with them and spend afternoon making myself pleasant, .....

..... work nearly the whole time, don't even go down to the Eights, clothes no gorgeous enough –  
..... read all morning ..... practice at the Archery and break cucumber frame, ..... Ollard's brother comes.  
.....

Very hard day of work. .... Walk on towpath ..... to see 2<sup>nd</sup> division rowed, .....

Another hard day for work. ....

Last day of Eights, work most of the day, ..... rather out of it, hardly know a soul.  
..... Go to gardens in the evening and remove the targets.

Beautiful day, read of course all the day, Archery lunch, Meade gets very screwed and is very funny. Very doleful letter from Motheer, everything seems wrong at home, .....go to Medly in Keble 3<sup>rd</sup> time.  
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Read, lecture Balliol, Archery photo, read.

Very hard day indeed, work from 10am to 3pm short break for lunch, Walk alone to Cowley, look into new church of the Brotherhood, as also SS Mary and John. Get two new ties, one quite unbearable for its gaudiness, read 5.30 – 7 again 9 – 11, altogether 8 hours hard work. Head rather bad, a very bad dinner makes me very grumpy.

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Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June. Work all the day, ..... the hottest day we have had.

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..... After lunch in Assinder's rooms we view him and Joseph off in a handsome, howl with glee viewing Joseph going head first thro the window shattering the glass in iridescent sparks around. ..

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..... fearfully hot and sultry, can't do much work, .....

..... College photo 1.30, .....

Chapel 8 for Mass, otherwise read the whole day and not to Church at all.

Fine day, Meade Assinder, Galte Ollard Wolde and self go down to the Schools to begin our History Exam. Have the first paper of Constitutional History in the afternoon have Pol Econ and Economic History, .....

Constitutional History No I don't do very badly, in the afternoon Constitutional II a regular **take in**, nobody expected it.

..... Political Hist. no 2, In the afternoon Political Philosophy, rather a caution but hope for the best. ....

Final day of the school, Foreign History I in the morning, II in the afternoon, the former not too bad, the latter perhaps my worst failure, afterwards moon about Oxford, .....

Stroll about most of the morning, sit in the gardens , see Hutton and president and get leave to go down. Lunch with Galte Meade and Walton, pack up and go to Warwick. (*stays with Jackson (deceased rector) family, till Monday 15<sup>th</sup> when returns to Wold Newton.*

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> Took it easy generally, ..... Trifle hot, ..... trifle thundery, .....

..... In the evening we all go to **Communicants**(*Communists?!*) guild meeting in School room. See Mr and Mrs Fagan afterwards, talks about the present troubles, eg frontals. ....

Grand day, up at ECU mass, very nice, little Fenwick serves, very late, get in during creed, ..... Roses very beautiful feel sorry I am off to Oxford next day. ....

*Travels to Oxford with Parsons, Ettie and Maggie travel with then en route to stay with Jacksons in Warwick.*

In morning take Parsons over Oxford. Collections 9.15. .... In afternoon pay bills and go on Char in Galte's punt, Meade and Parsons, rather windy, don't get far, tea in my rooms, dine with Ollard and Wolde and Lascelles, .....

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..... Meet Janie Iles at NWR, Parsons meets Ettie Maggie and Cyril (Jackson) at GWR. In evening go to **Trilby** after dinner, very good, company. ....

Up rather late after breakfast we all go down to Lower River, I take Ettie Maggie and Jeannie in a punt up river to Magdalen meadows, Cyril and Parsons have a cockle lunch somewhere about 2. Go out and about arrange flowers for the ball, dinner about 7, leave for the ball in great fuss about 9, dance furiously till 7am,

dawn breaks, photo of men, go to bed and get up later and go to **Encainst** 11am. John Morley and Joseph Chamberlin get DCL. Great **Corner** lunch in Hall 1.30, rather a failure, feel very uncomfortable. Photo in gardens later on, view College library, stroll about Oxford, show them New College and Magdalen, rather a rowdy evening after dinner .....

Great fuss, go down to Schools with Miss Harrison, Mrs Ollard and Assinder ..... getting viva **voced** in ..... Hurry back great fuss, leave quarter to 12, Parsons drunk or incapable, finally get off by 12 train, leave Ettie and Maggie with glowing faces with Cousin Fanny at Bedford, get to Peterboro, ..... leave Jeannie Iles at Louth get home 9 o'clock.

Take it easy, ..... get gooseberries, ..... get strawberries, .....

Up late, still very sleepy and tired, ..... Mr Fagan comes up to ask one of us to serve.

Present at Mass, Parsons serves. ....

Grand morning, went up to Mass, no-one there, read lessons for the day etc etc, ..... get wild roses and honeysuckle at Stock Furlong. ....

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Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July. .... Parsons playing cricket at Grainsby.

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The Louth 'sports' chief interest of the day, George (groom) with Ettie's pony and cart off to Louth, Poll Ettie and Maggie in dog cart, Parsons on his bicycle, Mother and self left in our glory. After lunch 3.30 walk over to Hawerby call on Mr Lowry new rector, dirty externally and minus manners, in no way prepossessing and a sorry successor to the Rural Dean. Then on to the Hall take tea Miss Harneiss, .....

..... See by the paper Assinder and Galte have got thirds in their law finals, write them congratulatory cards. ....

..... read papers, get rasps. .... get flowers at Grange, ..... Play croquet, ..... get strawberries, .....

..... High Mass 11, large congregation, .....

..... Mother Poll and Parsons off early to London. .... get photos from Oxford Ball and **Corner** groups, ..... After lunch go with Ettie to Swinhope tea at the Hall, see over the Church, .....

..... Maggie and I pick blackcurrants Yon End, ..... get rasps.

..... ride on Parsons' bicycle round Mary and Harry Burkinshaw's, .....

..... (tennis party and croquet,) give fuschias to Miss Naptail, show vestments after dinner,  
.....

My birthday. Down rather late, Mag gives me photos and flowers, Ettie 'Bleak House', Mother a fine rocking chair and lovely china vases. Letters etc ..... In afternoon Miss Harneiss and Fagan's come, also Tom Baxter, tea and croquet, grand procession after dinner with vestments.

..... letter from Mr Sharpley a propos of Holland. ....

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..... Go off to Louth on Parsons' bicycle, see Mr Ingoldby etc and Dr Haydn of St Michael's who shows me the vestments. Rather a wind on the return, pours with rain in the evening and so stops the intended procession.

..... Telegram to say I can be vivaed on Saturday which I refuse with thanks. ....

Hot again and no mistake, ..... Get berries in 'Yon Garden' .....

..... get Mr Coates, sort accounts and fumble about money affairs.

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Terrifically hot, try and read a little history both in the morning and afternoon, but don't succeed very well. Play croquet, then just as I am getting ready for dinner comes the telegram, my Viva is to be tomorrow at 10, now 7pm. Pack off and swallow food. Parsons drives me to Thoresby where I catch the mail, get to Peterborough about 1030 have to wait until 1am, Leave for London and get into Kings X about quarter to 3, go to Paddington in a handsome, get a room at the hotel and doze in a chair until 5am,

take tea and then leave Paddington 5.30, get to Oxford changing at Didcot 7.30, see Playfair, walk up to College, take breakfast Randolph Hotel, go to Schools 10 and again 12.15, viva 12.45, take 2 o'clock train to London, go Inns of Court Hotel, after dinner go to the Lyric 'Sign of the Cross', most impressive.

Next morning up late, go to 10 Bedford Square then to Galte's restaurant, then to St James' Park and catch glimpse of the Wedding Procession, then to the Academy 3.30, , go with Galte and view return of wedding party from Buckingham to ..... House, go to West Central get telegram to say I am a fourth in History. Then get a splendid view of newly married couple Maud and Charles of Denmark driving to St Pancras, ... very nice looking. In evening go to Charley's Aunt, not quite so good as I expected. ....

Up latish. Send telegram to August, "le diable est mort enfin". ....

..... Visits churches and walks around Bond St area with Galte. .... Leave 4.14 get to Thoresby 8, ..... return flags flying, 'the Wonder of the Age'.

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Showery thro day but no rain as required ..... Help Teddie taking down flags, ..... Go with Maggie to view the pond at the Grange, nearly dried up. Grand procession in the evening.

Get late to mass ..... tremendous rain in afternoon. ....

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Fine day and sun out. .... The 'Binbrook Show' leading features ..... Holland gets 4 first prizes and four seconds. Go there in the afternoon, heaps of folk, walk back early, look into the Church at Binbrook to see new window in S. Gabriel's chapel, very beautiful, .....

..... After lunch, storms in (*the family*) tea cup. ....

Waltham Flower Show, also show at Yarborough. Ettie Maggie Polly go to the latter, self Ted and Parsons to the former. .... Inclined to be dangerous domestic divisions. Take a pill an event of interest to me though perhaps to no-one else.

..... letters from Wigan and Ford, write to them, and send essay and crucifix. .... read ..... and play tennis in the afternoon. Have our finest melon for dinner, this also is of local interest, as is the fact that the pill acts. Domestic feuds as usual. ....

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> August. .... get corn for the altar, being Lammas day. .... Mr Fagan comes about standards and curtains. ....

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Leave home, Parsons drives me to Louth, catch the 9.45, ..... get to Oxford 8.15, pours with rain, go to 18 Wellington Square, see Joseph and Assinder, .....

Up at 8.30, breakfast, pay College dues, get BA gown, go to Divinity Schools, where we get formerly (sic ! formally?) instituted to Bachelors degree, get photos taken in every conceivable attitude, lunch at Randolph with Ollard's 'people' do shopping, leave alone 4.45 , get to Lichfield ..... 8.30 stay the George.

(*Newspaper cutting in the diary, "University Intelligence, Oxford August 4<sup>th</sup>. In a congregation holden this day, being the last day of (the extended) Trinity term, the Rev. Dr. Magrath presiding, the following degrees were conferred:- ..... (amongst BA's,) George F. Assinder, Algernon E Hollis, Geoffrey Lawson, Sidney L. Ollard, Alfred EM Taylor and William M. Wright, St. John's, ..... also a Phillips and a Hodson of BNC, and a Vander-Meulen of Keble .....*)

Views Cathedral, leave 12.00 ..... via Derby and Lincoln, ..... Get home 6.30 .....

Dull summer day such as there are in Lincolnshire frequently. .... In afternoon go with Mother in the field, and go with Ettie to tea Rectory to play croquet, .....

..... play croquet furiously later on and go to Evensong. .... Fuss about the harness, crest etc etc, letter from Ollard. Think he as well as everyone else are overcome by a wave of insanity which is passing over the country –

Beautiful day for a change, Mr and Mrs Iles (*former inhabitants of the Manor who moved away to Grimsby when William's father bought Wold Newton Estate from Yarborough's in 1874*) come by the first train from Grimsby

and spend the day, ..... after heavy hot lunch Mr and Mrs Fagan and son, ..... play croquet,  
..... show photos and vestments etc etc. ....

.....  
Horncastle Fare. .... Polly Maggie and Parsons off early 7am driving in dog cart.  
After lunch walk with mother, ..... harvesting going on, they arrive back 7.30 not having sold Maggie's  
horse, seems to have been very fatiguing and not over pleasant day, .....

Warmer considerably, nail up rose tree, see ruined frontals after the drying process, (*from what?*), come out  
brown and cinnamon. After lunch Polly Parsons and self drive to Louth, get several things, ..... get back  
in shower, groceries fruit and chickens in a lovely mangled mass beneath the cart seat.

Fine day. Take Eno's (*powders, indigestion etc.?*) fruit salt etc etc in hopes of effect internally. ....  
(*friends visit, get shown estate, curio's and photos etc etc,* ) ..... Telegram from Wigan, can't arrive till 10  
which takes place. The cat finishes his supper up etc etc. Wigan looks pale and very unwell.

..... Afternoon Ettie drives Wigan and self in her cart to Rothwell, Bossiere do in the  
garden, examine the church with a new insane altar, need a ladder to celebrate on. Play croquet, pleased to  
depart, get home 7. Parsons and Basil Morcom at Mablethorpe for horse show.

..... Go to Beverley, start 10, get to Grimsby 11, leave by 11.15 train, (*use ferry from New  
Holland*) get to Hull about 12.30, lunch Cross Keys, leave Paragon by the 1.40, get to Beverley 2pm view the  
magnificent Minster and St Mary's, leave 4.30, and leave Hull 6.30, get home driving from Grimsby at 9.30.

..... Do nothing particular, fumble about during the day in garden, croquet and tennis etc, Mother and Maggie  
drive and take the air, Wigan views the church and plays the organ, dinner quite a success –

Up for Mass. Walk in Valley and Yon End in afternoon.

Beautiful day, Mr Bland arrives 10.25 train, very jolly. Take him to the Church, talk politics and church, show  
him my photos and vestments after lunch, play croquet, Ettie drives him in her cart to station, rather dangerous.  
Play croquet. Telegram from Annie Tootal, can't come.

Beautiful day, play croquet in morning. Cyril (*Jackson?*) comes, great joke at lunch, very noisy. Ettie takes  
Wigan in her cart to view Binbrook church, go to the Fagan's 4.15 with Wigan, return 5.30. dress for dinner,  
drive to Grimsby, get there 9pm. Tremendous swell do, coming of age of Ernest Sutcliffe, very jolly indeed,  
dance furiously, Cyril there and the round of the neighbourhood. Leave Grimsby 2.30, get home 3.35, getting  
light,

Get up 9.30, see Annie Tootal (kisses me) surprise!! Play croquet with Wigan, ..... Go to Berry garden,  
Annie Tootal and Parsons and get little apples of big tree. After dinner grand skirt dance in **both** get up, Parsons  
clown. Talk with Wigan in library and go to bed 1am.

Fine day, Parsons drives Wigan and self to Thoresby, get to Lincoln 11.30, visit St Peter at Gowts (church on  
High St.) and walk up to the Minster, examine the Cathedral well both outside and inside, especially Chapter  
House windows, lunch White Hart! Wigan departs for Ely 2.35, I depart for Market Rasen 3.40. Walk from  
Market Rasen to the top of Tealby Hill, where I arrive 3.35 (!?! – 5.35?) Mother and Maggie meet me there with  
Ettie's cart.

..... Rains, ..... Ettie Maggie Annie Tootal and Parsons drive to Market Rasen en route to Lincoln to go up the river on Teddie's steam launch. .... They arrive back about 9 minus Parsons. My red cassock and heaters from Miss Jackson arrive –

Fine day. Mother had toothache and swollen face. .... Annie T and I go to meet Parsons on Louth road on our bicycles, meet him and Basil Morcom halfway. Teddie likewise turns up for a day or two. Full house for dinner, rather a failure. Mother didn't come down, Last Melon of the Season.

Attend Mass, 10 present altogether. ....

Pouring with rain, up in Church to serve for Mass, ring the bell light candles etc etc. In afternoon Annie T and I bicycle to Binbrook and back. The interesting young man (in his own estimation) Basil Morcom smashes up Parsons' bicycle and gives us the delightful charm of his presence at dinner in his elegant sweet scented garb. Play whist after dinner, -

..... In afternoon ride with Annie round Barnoldby le Beck, Waltham Waithe and back by Grainsby in an hour and a half. Play croquet Ettie and Annie and Polly and Maggie return in bad temper (eg funny) from Louth. ....

Very cold and rainy wet and miserable, tremendous clouds with thunder rolling around, Ettie and Annie depart for Grimsby to call on Mrs Sutcliffe, only get half way and return owing to rain, I follow on bicycle and likewise only get as far as Ravendale. Parsons at Louth for cornet practise, met at Thoresby, tremendous storm there, Dr. George's house struck, play croquet in evening, very damp.

Attend Matins. Pours with rain, streaks of sunshine, awfully cold. Do in afternoon in spite of lawns like marsh, the Sowerby's and Sharpley's and Coates turn up – rather slow, relief when they depart, peradventure on both sides. Fire in the library, finish 'Bleak House'

Maggie and I go on bicycle up Louth Road, eat nuts below the Hall wood, Annie joins us at Lambcroft cross roads, ride round by Hall roads in teeth of strong wind. ....

..... Cyril Maggie Anne and Parsons all go forth on bicycles in afternoon, walk to Yon End with Mother, then follow Annie Maggie Ettie and Cyril to Kelstern and the Sharpley's, arrive about 5.15, play croquet, examine interesting church with monument renaissance of Lady South. Altar slap with crosses beneath present wooden substetale, get vack at 7 pm punctual.

.....  
Off by 1025 from Thoresby to Bradford, adieu to Cyril before he sails again for India. .... via Grimsby Retford Doncaster and Wakefield get in to Bradford about 3.30, drive up to Oak Lane, Meade away in Leeds, returns later on. Grand dinner party, ..... music etc afterwards.

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September *Visits church and orphanage*, wonderful place so clean and nice, .....

Another gloomy day, give up Bolton Abbey as was intended. .... Goes to Brighouse, , in evening go to the Rouse's for dinner followed by dancing, Glad when it was all over, ..... Mrs Rouse rather a caution, Miss R more so, Mr R most so.

At last the long desired morning comes, *leaves Bradford returns to WN*, ..... Sit in library and describe visit to Meade family 10, .....

..... ride with Annie on Ravendale road round by Clickham. (*sic*).  
Mother Ettie Maggie and Annie go to Stock furlong for blackberries where I follow them about 3pm, it begins to rain and it sticks to it cats and dogs for nearly four hours, .....

Pouring cats and dogs, has been doing so the whole night. Shooting party out of the question, Mr Coates looks in the morning. After lunch about 3 the waters abate, ..... go up to church get mushrooms in 'Middle Bottom'. Tom Haxby comes in the evening. Parsons entertains us with music. Mr Alington says the end of the world is to come next year.

..... sermon on psalm quite extraordinary! ..

..... In the afternoon, ..... Maggie and I cycle round by Ravendale, Ashby Hill, Barton Street where Maggie loses a nut, round by Job's lane where an eccentric cultivator amuses us trying to get thro a hedge with full steam up. ....

Fine day, start for Louth with Annie and Parsons cycle cog wheel refuses to move when nearly at Lambcroft, walk back with it , ..... Mrs Fagan, niece Miss Fagan and Miss Morcom gorgeously attired come in the afternoon, play croquet and tennis etc

Major thunder storm, ..... we go mushrooming and find quantity in Middle Bottom, Teddie out shooting with Woodie,

Fine morning, see Father Fagan about chalice veil .... Etc ..... In the afternoon Mrs Harry Burkinshaw's great afternoon crush comes off, quite 60 folk there, ..... Play croquet at Burkinshaw's with 'le diable'.

Bright day for a wonder. Attend Mattins, clean Annie's bicycle. The Ingoldby's come for lunch, start to the station with Annie, accident at the top of the hill causes us to return. Rather a slow afternoon, show Ingoldby's vestments, Miss Fagan and Mr Fagan come for tennis and croquet, tea in the library, rain during dinner, wounds of accident smart, show curios, Mother shows her jewellery, also Ettie.

..... After Mattins, Ettie and Annie arrange flowers in altar vases, I go off on bicycle to Louth to take it back to Hodson the Cycle hire, pay £1/10s, ..... Leave by 1.32 train for Thoresby, where I meet Parsons, Ettie and Annie, also Teddie and Miss Fagan. See Annie safely off by 2.25 for Ipswich, ....

..... 11 folks at Mass, .....

.....

Magnificent morning, get up with Parsons 6am and get mushrooms in Mid Bottom, .....

..... After lunch ..... Maggie and I go to Binbrook, quite chilly, Cloe very bad in the wind. When we get back, we go off for mushrooms in the Middle Bottom. Just got a nice lot when it comes over black as ink, furious shower about six, only ¼ hour long, Maggie gets caught, I run and save my clothes. Ettie and Polly arrive wet. ....

..... I off on my bicycle en route to Mablethorpe, leave Louth 12.05 with Miss Iles in blue goggles, very pleasant bar appearance. Mr Parkinson meets me at Mablethorpe, lunch with him and ..... Take short walk on sands, furious wind. ....

..... attend Mattins, go with Ettie to Stock Furlong blackberrying arrive back 2pm very tired, - go mushrooming with Poll and also walk with Mother and Ettie round by top barn, Mr Coates leading barley at last. Look after the bulbs. In evening trial trip of 'the Savoury', very funny - .....

Grand day, Ted's shooting party, Mother awfully fussed. Poll drives me to Station, leave for Louth 2.25 with Mrs George, get to Theddlethorpe 3.15, go to 'All Saints', ..... full description of church and contents ..... walk from Theddlethorpe to Mablethorpe on sands, quite a good step, get back (*home*) walking from Thoresby about 9.30, grand moon light night.

..... attend Mass, walk with Mr Fagan in afternoon, large congregation at night.

Fine day, busy leading barley, cold and windy, ..... the Guardians meeting to which however I don't go. .... In afternoon go with Mother to Stock Furlong and get blackberries the last of the Season. Parsons also helps. Pope declares against the validity of Anglican orders which is a little too bad. However it does not quite close the question.

Horrible day, both in anticipation reality and memory. .... Mother reads me the acct of the Pope's denunciation. About one the worthy folks arrive, eg Mr and Mrs Casswell, Mrs Nainby, Mr and Mrs Ingoldby. After a dismal forced lunch we adjourn to the library to hear a good deal of talk, but not much result, this continues until 5.30 when 'jubilate' they begin to depart.

..... Busy writing letters to the Bishop, Mrs Wallace, *etc* ..... In afternoon get down apples from three trees in the orchard, and go mushrooming after tea and get a good show of them. .... Discuss difficulty of waggonette, what is to be done under the present difficulties, I don't know.

..... Maggie goes to Louth, settle against the waggonette, ..... Local familiar storms, as usual legend "Keep out of Dining room" . Harvest festival Binbrook, .....

wind and rain, trem tempest whole day, ..... finish "David Copperfield", am glad. ....

..... dismal uneventful day on the whole, After dinner Parsons and I give a cats concert.

Not up for Mass, alas. ....

..... In afternoon help Ettie up church, prepare white hangings etc .....

*Michaelmas Day*. Up for Mass, not many folks. In morning busy reading "Phillip Augustus" (*by Hutton, his tutor*). .... In afternoon Mother and I go to Binbrook in pony carriage to examine Church and decorations, the latter very beautiful as also the former, ..... Large goose for dinner. ....

Beautiful morning, very autumnal and misty. Ted drives me to Market Rasen, pass the Ham and his wife near the Skallows woods, latter gives me 10s to Jacobson memorial. Get to Lincoln about 12, get bicycle and ride out to Brattleby, arrive 12.45. See Arthur, Alice, Bonnie, Mrs W. (*Wright's, cousins.*) two friends, also new Rector Howe, the latter the best of the lot to look at and to talk to. Leave 2.45, get to Lincoln 3.20. ... get home about 7. ....

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October. .... ECU day, George drives me to Louth, High Mass S. Michael's 11., not very good music, Fagan gives an excellent sermon, lunch Forman's, meeting 2.30 in Town Hall – till 4.30, really rather interesting. ....

..... Church been decorated for Harvest Festival causes a great deal of excitement, Mrs Fagan Ettie and Maggie and self helping, also Mother, finish about 3pm, Evensong 7.30 with excellent sermon by Baldwin, a good church-full, collection about 15s, not really bad, been so called first evensong of Feast.

.....Parsons helps in getting down the pears also apples etc, store them in false roof. In afternoon Parsons Mother and I go to Waltham in pony carriage, come back full speed. After tea walk thro fields meeting and talking to Mr Coates, (*tenant farmer?*) to tea Ravendale where get grapes for the altar and bring them back and put them thereon. In evening Teddie mentions Coates Sharpley's (*other tenant farmer?*) probable intentions –

..... High Mass 11 , use scarlet cassock. Harvest Festival total £4/7s/3d + 2/6d.

Busy getting apples in morning. .... Decorations etc all taken down in afternoon, ..... In evening Parsons gives musical entertainment, ..... Terrible commotion, crash in library, whisky decanter water jug and glasses smashed to atoms.

Up early (eg 9am), off to Louth with Parsons to Mr Ingoldby's office, see Casswell and Sharpley and Ingoldby,(*solicitor/advisor, forerunner to Falkner's?*) Wold Newton finally let to Sharpley ( **my** end) (*not sure which end* ) £720 and shooting and **two fields and a bit** - £60 less than I wanted. Can't be helped. Return with Parsons via Thoresby, rain and wind. **Iles and Hamy** at home owing to Coates' sale on today. I do a deal of bulb potting in greenhouse, write letter as Rector's (*church*)warden.

..... get down apples and so get asthma. Man from Grimsby mending dining and drawing room grates, so spend day in library, Bacon putting wheels on hen house. ....

Bright day with wind still very high, busy fumbling about and preparing everything for the barn, - lunch 12, supper in the barn began 4pm considerably over 100 sat down, speeches afterwards then left to amuse themselves, quite a good day on the whole, Mother, Ettie, Polly, Louie, Maggie, Willie, Teddie, Parsons, Lewis B. Mr and Mrs Fagan present,

..... Polly drives me to Louth in Ettie's cart 9.30, catch the 9.42 express,..... Peterborough, ..... Mkt Harborough,..... get to Oxford about 5.45. drive to Balliol Hall then finally get rooms 10 Wellington Square, Galte gives us a good feed and champagne. Meade, Gilzean, Reid, Galte, self and **Bodgers**.

Brilliant morning, breakfast 8.45, ..... put on cap and gown an go to the Divinity Schools, see the degrees conferred including Doctor of Music whose gown of white silk and pink causes great mirth – Meade Galte Rogers Wolde, ..... 'It' etc etc all took their BA. .... Get photo taken with Meade and Galte, Leave Oxford 2.20 get home 10 minutes to 12, awful walk.

Awful day, howling with rain and snow the whole time. Arch Bp dies.

Showery, library been cleaned. Busy changing orange tree and gardening, putting in tulips etc, - very cold – Teddie shooting with Mr. Sharpley, gets pheasants. In evening Meade comes about 9pm from Oxford, sit and talk talk until 12. Hear with consternation with of the Archbishop of Canterbury's death the previous day. ....

..... Meade and self go fro stroll to Yon End and back in morning, in the afternoon we go to Cadeby down across Mushroom Close, Stock Furlongs, Beesby and the Avenue, go round the garden and the Nun's Bath. Get back about 6, Louie and Lewis do not turn up for dinner as expected. ....

Go to Market Rasen leaving 9.30 a good 15 minutes too late and so miss train by 10 minutes easily and can't get to Lincoln, Stay about an hour at 'Greyhound' go into the parish church and the RC church, the latter very

beautiful. Return via Walesby, ..... get down apples off the last tree left with them on. Dinner in the evening quite a success, - do the skirt dance in 10<sup>th</sup> Century costume. Get bottled in library until a late hour.

Rain and fog the whole day with wind rising towards the evening. May Jane Robinson's wedding in the morning at which I preside at the organ and represent the humourous side of the ceremony in surplice and hood. .... Attend Evensong, stroll to Peterhills with Meade. ....

"Rain, why it always rains" – find Meade already down when I arrive - ..... Lunch 12.30, Meade departs in pouring rain to Thoresby for 1.45 train Continues to pour cats and dogs until unknown hours, catastrophe in the chimney, soot descends and blackens lower regions, excitement accordingly –

.....

Attend Mass. Awfully cold. .... First fire in church. ....

Fearfully cold and showery, ..... In the afternoon I plant bulbs etc in the front beds (by front door), fire in 'the Lobby' - ..... write to Wigan also to 'Church Times' about the Commemoration of S. Hugh –

..... Plant white dahlia bed, ..... songs in the evening, get to bed rather late.

Grand morning. Mother Louie and I walk down to Grange view the trees in their splendid autumn tints, have a squirt for nuts. .... In the afternoon, show Holland intended alteration to railings as also field. ....

Grand morning, a bit of a frost. .... rake leaves and so get warm. After lunch fumble about, show Parsons what I want a propos of the railings, play organ at church and view the new fittings when put in chancel – dinner 6.30 concert 7.30, Custance comes also Mrs Halsworth – Parsons and Mr Fagan on the whole partly a success.

..... dining room been cleaned and so library very full of folk. Mother and Lou accompany us in pony carriage to station en route to Scarbro'. Get church papers at Grimsby which amuse me for the rest of the journey. .... get to Scarbro 6.45, Ettie meets me. ....

.....

..... read with astonishment the new appointment to Canterbury Dr Temple Bp of London, certainly might be worse, strong man and not alarmed by public opinion, .....

..... Ettie sees me off at the station 11.15am, ..... Thoresby 5, Louie meets me in dog cart, ..... Mother got us lovely presents, me a grand Chinese bowl and prayer book. ...

..... Walk down to Thoresby, take the 11.25 to Louth, ..... Poke about in Curiosity shops and pick up two chairs with carved backs for Lobby. Return by 1.30, got goloshes the first pair I ever had in my life. Walk back via Stock Furlong where the hips and haws are beautiful, ..... In evening examine new purchases and very pleased, sit up till about 1.15 with Lewis Burkinshaw.

Pouring with rain on and off the whole day, go to Mattins in new goloshes, ..... Parsons returns from Louth 12.30 and leaves for Scarbro at 1 pm. Fagan comes in with designs for new Pentecost window, very beautiful also veil burse. Rain siling on and off, fires in library and lobby, everyone has colds. Guild meeting in church after dinner, .....

.....  
..... place frame over the violets. Mrs Kirkham calls, Teddie Fagan calls me to church to decide about Standards and curtains, both of which look beautiful. .... Mrs Kirkham talks of Cadeby and ghosts etc. After dinner Evensong and dedication of gifts eg Burse and veil by Mrs Fagan, Burse and veil Miss Jackson, my chasuble, altar standards Mr Fagan and Mother curtains and small candles.

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November,** Mass 8am, 12 folks present, High Mass 11, 10 present. , ..... of Kelstern preaches in the evening.

All Souls Day. .... letter from Wolde from Leeds Clergy School with enclosed caricature from Meade. .... After lunch Mother and I got to Petterhills and examine little trees, Very dead 50 per cent I should think. Cut down pink thorn on lawn. ....

..... Down very late 10.30. Write to Wolde and Ollard. .... Games for men in the schoolroom really quite a failure. ....

Bright frosty morning. Write history of York Minster. Parsons and I go by Market train to Louth. Get curious old chair for library, see Mr Ingoldby, walk back looking at Elkington Church all decorated for Festival, prefer our own. .... Parsons appears about 11.15 walking from Thoresby. ....

..... Busy most of the morning writing acct of York for small Teddie Fagan. In afternoon drive Mother to Rothwell to see the Church and new alabaster altar. Break splash board turning round. .... After dinner Parsons has a torch light procession and fireworks.

Tremendous hard frost. George drives me down to Thoresby, take return ticket to Lincoln. Meet Teddie who shows me his launch (just sold to Norfolk man). Get measured for clothes at Hall and Andrews, get boots and things at Mawer and Collingham, ..... leave 4 get to Thoresby minus boots, very tiresome.

..... day quite uneventful, Louie and Lewis leave Thoresway for Marr Grange, Doncaster.

Octave of All Saints, present at Mass only 4 of us. ....

..... Holland and Fenwick busy with the railings, pushing them out. Get my lost boots. In afternoon plant 20 ash trees at the Peterils .....

..... go with Mother and George in dog cart to the station en route to Lincoln, ..... considerable delay at Louth getting on to 12 when we get in. .... lunch at White Hart, spend time in the Minster.

..... George meets us 5.45 at Thoresby, discuss carriage, I make the unfortunate remark alluding to Maggie and Polly as servants,

..... George drives Parsons and I into Louth. See about oak table for Lobby and Hall about Ted's 21<sup>st</sup> and ask Mr Ingoldby about my will. Leave by 1.30 train, walk up from Thoresby. See Bacon about fencing and Coach house. Come in to tea when thread of discourse of previous evening taken up by Poll eg that they are like servants. Un fortunately the remark went home, because Polly knows very well that her speech and manners are becoming more and more like servants – fearful commotion. We do good however – new lobby table quite a success, matches chairs.

..... Write to Canon Randolph and Joseph and Dixon about trees. Change the frontals in the church by myself, ..... help Holland with the railings. ....

..... Go to Grange for apples, get holly and arrange in cross on Mr Jackson's grave. Stone mason arrives with new tombstone granite cross. Hounds come through while I was Yon End, Maggie out hunting. .... Ethel Jackson comes ..... Commotion about Holland, I don't know what to do.

Ted's birthday, 21<sup>st</sup> birthday. .... Up early (for me) to show off to Ethel Jackson. Speak to Holland, reprimanding him. .... Ted arrives by the 5.45 train for his birthday dinner – champagne, Parsons sings, very sleepy, 12.30 go to bed. Put peg in library door for BA gown. Mother's suggestion.

Attend Mass, Parsons serves. Ethel Jackson plays organ in the evening, Ted departs in afternoon.

Bright day, cut out designs for new flower beds, busy with it most of the day. .... We discuss photos and phrenology in the evening.

..... S. Hugh. .... Busy with new lawn levelling and taking up sods. In afternoon go up to Hawerby to meet Ethel J., go into the Hall. Mr Coates to dinner in the evening, play whist, cat very naughty. Miss Harneiss said "she would be glad to see me at any time in any guise I might be in."

..... Busy with taking up sods preparatory to lawn extension. Parsons at Louth returns with antique piano more size and weight than music. Polly and Maggie off early to London..... The Rector his wife and father in law take the whisky (*after dinner*) .....

Beautiful clear frosty day. Ethel Jackson departs for **Leadon** en route following day for Warwick ..... Busy with lawn as usual. .... Help Parsons up with his musical and curious instruments to his room. ....

..... Take measurements of the window for Ward and Hughes - results I fear will be doubtful – In the afternoon Parsons and I busy with lawn, and do a lot. In the evening (bright clear night) Polly and Maggie return from London with new-fashioned nature's shoes. Sleep in library as usual, no reading –

..... Do altar vases for Ettie, Mrs. **Barcroft** buttonholes me with strange and weird information from varied sources. Do lawn until nearly five. New flask for Ted's birthday arrives, very nice. Mother plays after dinner. ....

.

.....

..... Book from Ollard. Begin to level the lawn addition, terrible hard work. Go up to Church to see Mr Fagan about screen, give up the proposal as too much. Trees for new plantation come. In evening sleep and read, the former I fear predominating. Must give up menial work as detrimental to the mind –

Dull day, Maggie goes hunting, hounds meet at Hawerby cross roads. Go to Rectory about the window in the morning see Mr Fagan who is irritable. ....

A busy day, Fenwick and Holland busy with the new lawn extension. Parsons and self planting new trees with stakes, planted six altogether. .... Mother wants to get to Grimsby and can't, a great shame. Three old maids do not do their best in the matter, too busy over other interests. (*ref to his sisters three at home?*)

..... I very busy planting trees in 'Park extension'. Maggie helps me. .... 'Do' at Binbrook, to which Polly Maggie and Parsons go, the latter performing - asthma bad. .... Magnificent sun rise, up early 8.30, begin to plant trees and with Parsons' aid plant a total of 13 throughout the day. Rather commotions in the house – pamphlets come from Mowbrays. .... Clock man comes. Choir practice. They say Mr Fagan is very irritable.

..... Tiny Iles for the day. Busy planting trees morning and afternoon, ..... Grand  
..... invitation from Mr Fagan at 9pm of which I did not avail myself. ....

SPCK preacher ..... awfully cold, black frost.

..... Plant trees later on, Maggie helping. Finish 2<sup>nd</sup> sipering and all chestnuts. Freezing again in the evening, 2<sup>nd</sup> concert of the season. Two Miss George's of Thoresby, Miss Ingoldby of Louth, Mr Turner of Ashby stranger performances, also H. Burkinshaw, very crowded house, Parsons' brass cornet sustains an injury, culprit unknown.

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December.** Hard frost but thawing. Get and send off snowdrops to Ethel Jackson. ....  
plant trees again, two oaks and beech in the field. Write to the Bishop a propos of the Pentecost and Our Lady.....

Mass for foreign missions, do not go, ashamed afterwards. .... Finish planting laburnum and two beeches opposite Blacksmith's house, cut my finger very badly, so don't go to Evensong. .... Central Africa mission meeting 7pm in the schoolroom, very interesting. ....

Intend to go to Lincoln but owing to finger and rain put off till tomorrow. .... Plant out few small larches and spruce in afternoon. ....

..... Parsons drives me to Thoresby, arrive after a journey of tribulations and meet Teddie, go to Tailor Hall, lunch at West Cottage, ..... pours with rain, get home in pitch dark. ....

..... In afternoon move stones with Parsons' help. Plant trees with Maggie's aid, gets dark soon after 3.30. Poor Dick Fagan's dog has to be finally shot. "He does such things and says such things in Newton." -  
.....

Mass at 11, gloomy wet, read book on Armenian atrocities.

Dull day, busy in gardens. Plant trees in field in the afternoon. .... Parsons digging hole for gate.

..... Parsons digging hole for gate. They bring wood for fencing.

Dull and wet in morning. Bacon and co doing the fencing, in difficulties. ....  
History lecture in evening on the church in school room. Hear that Card. Wolsey's father was butcher, Becket's was tradesman, Dunstan himself was blacksmith ???

..... Dig up old cluster rose, after lunch plant bed in front of greenhouse with roses. ....

..... Attend mattins and litany, ..... School inspector or examiner in drawing comes and I have to be present, Mr Fagan being away. Maggie out hunting, gets her new habit ( the topic of the last month), saturated with rain and mud, as also the rest of her gear. ....

Bright early morning. Finish planting trees, spruce and larch on the park, fenced off to make more park-like appearance. ....

.....

Busy transplanting rose trees from the front and plant them in the single Dahlia bed, manuring etc, Mary Iles comes to stay few days. Cut my left hand badly with a razor. ....

Very cold. Cut finger hinders my dressing and general comfort. .... Parsons goes with Holland to get briars for budding. Show Mother new palings, trees, etc. Read Dombey and Son most of day. Very musical evening, Mother Ettie Mame and self all singing and playing, show the vestments.

..... Write to Mr Bennett on the subject of the picture of Capt Hardy. The results remain to be seen. .... Dance skirt dance to Mame in the evening.

.....  
More snow. .... After lunch walk down village with Mother and go to Mrs Charles Smith, take rent. Dancing in the evening to amuse Mame -

Magnificent bright sunny day. Letters from Louie and Hargreaves, all about the recent earthquake, which of course we were quite unconscious of tho' felt all over the country. Write to Loo and Aunt Hargreave sending the latter my photo. .... In afternoon go with Mag and Mame to get holly for the latter, beautifully full of red berries at Grange. Mame leaves in afternoon. ....

.....  
Up for Mass. Rector in the red Italian chasuble I bought in Old Clothes sale in Campo del Fiore in Rome last spring. It looks very nice and dignified. Wonder what Mass and where and by whom it was last worn?  
.....

Cold slippery dull and rainy. Parsons self Maggie and Polly all start to Louth in dog cart but give up attempt, roads and weather been so awful. So I walk in galoshes to Thoresby to 2.25 train and do my shopping in Louth, walking back from Thoresby. Entertainment in schoolroom very good, just look in the end of the performance.

..... Get holly. .... Busy helping Ettie making wreaths most of afternoon, tie up the pulpit wreath. ....

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> December. .... Tremendously busy helping Ettie with Church decorations, getting holly, sending off Xmas cards. .... When Ch finished, decorate house, .... get to bed all done 12.30.

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> December. Bright sunshine, magnificent morning, clear and frosty. Mass 8.30, ought to have been more full. High Mass 11am, very good and hearty service with only one hitch. Afternoon service, carols and prize giving 4pm, carols rather a failure. The Fagans come in afterwards to tea. Dinner 6.30 well cooked but in spite of Xmas 3 bottles of champagne lacking real Xmas mirth, certain folks been gloomy. Dance, caper about in village with Ettie and Parsons, annoying the gloomy members of the family by our hilarity.

St. Stephen's day, complete change, strong hot relaxing wind, go to Ch. in morning and read services of day. Write to Duke Westminster sending cheque £2 6s 7d result Xmas offertories. Write to thank Pal Assinder for two brass vases, a very handsome present. .... In the family a spirit of dissatisfaction Alas with our services, very painful to me at any rate.  
.....

.....Rector and family depart for fortnight's holiday. Terrible day, wind and rain in torrents till about 3.30pm. .... Parsons goes to Binbrook to evening Performance in Temperance Hall. Boiled rabbit for dinner which is uninteresting but fills up both diary and otherwise.

..... Bricklayers busy at Library fireplace. .... Being St Thomas Beckitt's day we incensed the church well, busy in garden, plant a few trees. Ettie and Parsons go to Rothwell entertainment. ....

Very hot, windy. .... Leave Louth 2.45 train for Lincoln, met there by Brattleby coachman who drives me into Brattleby, all the folk in library taking tea. Dance 8.30, only about 130 people, some in scarlet rather a joke, dance on till about 2.30am.

Hot and warm for year up about 9.30, .... Phillip drives me, adieux said, to Lincoln to catch the 1pm train to Grimsby where I arrive 2.45, Polly and George with waggonette drive me back. Fearful shock and annoyance greets my arrival, my most valued and dear present from Mother, old china bowl smashed by d – d servant, awfully upset, makes me depressed the rest of the evening, mend it miserably. Last words of 1896, away to talk out year - Amen.

