



# THE KIPLING SOCIETY

FOUNDED 1927

Registered Charity No.278885

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## NEWSLETTER – OCTOBER 2025

### NEXT EVENTS

**Wednesday 26 November** Professor Daniel Karlin, Vice-President, will deliver the Eileen Stammers-Smith Memorial Lecture: 'How Mowgli Became a Monkey'. *Army & Navy Club, 5.30pm for 6.00pm, and by Zoom at 6.00pm*

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88150309998?pwd=oKuwpVf8v4LqWunUIamdbQBZD5AH4b.1>

Meeting ID: 881 5030 9998 Passcode: 414659

*Tea/coffee and biscuits will be served from 4.30pm for those attending in person.*

***For security purposes at the venue, please can any members intending to attend in person let me know no later than Monday 24 November (contact details at the top of this page).***

Please also note the Club's dress code <https://therag.co.uk/club-dress-code/>. Members are welcome after the meeting to dine in the Coffee Room at the Army & Navy Club with the speaker and members of Council. If you would like to do so, please let me know at least one week in advance.

**Thursday 11 December - Members' Reading Evening. 7.00pm.** Jan Montefiore will lead another Zoom session of members' short readings (maximum three minutes) from Kipling's poetry or prose. *If you would like to read, please email [J.E.Montefiore@kent.ac.uk](mailto:J.E.Montefiore@kent.ac.uk) giving details of your choice. If you would prefer just to listen, please join the meeting using this link*

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86290667708?pwd=6rhgTxuciI1D5gtloE0bA3fBcnuYUe.1>

Meeting ID: 862 9066 7708 Passcode: 985634

### MEETINGS IN 2026

- **Wednesday 4 February** Nick Higham, author and journalist. 'Lionel Dunsterville and other mavericks in World War One' *Army & Navy Club, 5.30pm for 6.00pm, and by Zoom 6.00pm*
- **Wednesday 22 April.** Tai Chun Ho, Assistant Professor in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, National Chung Hsing University, Taiwan. 'The Returned Soldier in Kipling's Poetry'. *Zoom only. 2.00pm (Please note earlier time)*
- **Wednesday 1 July** – AGM and talk TBA. *Army & Navy Club, 4.30pm for 5.00pm, and by Zoom*
- **Wednesday 23 September.** TBA. *Zoom-only*
- **Wednesday 25 November** TBA. *Army & Navy Club, 5.30pm for 6.00pm, and by Zoom.*

### WINE TASTING REPORT

Twenty-four members, guests, and patrons of Gordon's Wine Bar ensured a full house at 'A Night of Wine and Kipling' on Thursday 23 October. Gordon's staff member and literature graduate Nick introduced the evening over a welcoming glass of champagne, the wine Kipling wrote most about, after which our meetings secretary, Alex Bubb, gave a short presentation on

Kipling's time in Villiers Street. Gordon's sommeliers then told us about each wine, and Nick related each contextually to Kipling. A nice plate of bread, cheese, pickle and ham complemented the wines, which finished with a delightful glass of 2017 port; not, alas, the 1851, of which Kipling wrote, 'I will be very good to it and invite none but worthy and educated tastes to help me finish it'.



## SEPTEMBER MEETING REPORT

At September's meeting our speaker was Muireann O'Cinneide, lecturer in English at the



University of Galway and author of *Aristocratic Women and the Literary Nation, 1832-1867*. Muireann's brilliant paper, "There's more than engines to a ship": Steamships & Accelerated Unities in 'The Day's Work'",



discussed on steamships, their engineers and owners in "Bread Upon the Waters", "The Ship that Found Herself" and "The Devil and the Deep Sea", three stories that appeared together in Kipling's 1898 volume, *The Day's Work*. Muireann's talk was followed by lively discussion and we ended up running well over time, touching on such matters as the difficulty and danger of turning a ship round in heavy seas (thanks to Christopher Morrison on this point, for a fascinating anecdote from his naval career), and Kipling's mysterious interest in the Dutch East Indies, which he hardly visited and yet which provides the setting for several of his stories. The speaker informed me afterwards that she was delighted to speak to an audience that combined a genuine love of Kipling with a technical understanding of ships and marine architecture.

The talk can be viewed on our YouTube channel at ["There's more than engines to a ship": Steamships & Accelerated Unities in 'The Day's Work'](#)

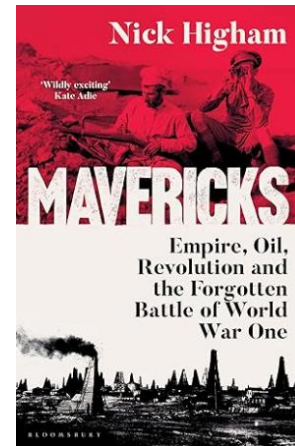
## MAVERICKS

Subtitled 'Empire, Oil, Revolution and the Forgotten Battle of World War One', our February 2026 speaker Nick Higham's new book has the following blurb:

'As the First World War drew to a close and regimes began to collapse across Europe, British officials plotted a daring campaign to send an unlikely band of maverick soldiers, diplomats and spies to the chaotic region around the Caspian Sea. Their mission: to block the advance

of the Turks, to hold back the rising Bolsheviks and prevent a Turkish-inspired jihad overwhelming India, and to secure the vital supply of oil from Baku.

It was an almost impossible task, but *Mavericks* tells the gripping stories of the remarkable and enterprising characters at the centre of it all, who would be tested to the limit. There was Lionel Dunsterville, the inspiration for Kipling's Stalky and commander of the expedition; Ranald MacDonell, a Scottish aristocrat and diplomat who smuggled millions of roubles for the war effort; Edward Noel, a seemingly indestructible soldier who was held hostage for sixty-five days in horrific conditions; Toby Rawlinson, the younger brother of one of Britain's most senior generals and a brilliant inventor; and Reginald Teague-Jones, a spy who printed his own currency and would eventually emerge as an author at the age of ninety-nine.



Drawing on personal diaries, memoirs and once-secret government archives, *Mavericks* brings to life a cast of eccentric heroes who survived against all odds to tell their extraordinary tales. This is a propulsive story of boldness and intrigue, set in a forgotten corner of the Great War where the rules were made to be broken.

*Copies are available from Amazon and good bookshops.*

### **KIPLING IN UKRAINE – John Walker**

Eleven years ago, the Kipling Society was invited to send a speaker to a conference at the Borys Grinchenko University in Kyiv. Titled ‘Kipling Today: New Focuses of Interpretation’, the success of this occasion reflected a real appetite for Kipling’s work in Ukraine. Since then, our Library has been enriched with a succession of translations, beautifully produced, with some striking illustrations and careful attention to accuracy. The latest addition to this welcome store is ‘Knife and Chalk’, a varied collection of Kipling’s tales with a specific theme, illustrated most strikingly and presented in a very crisp and modern hard-backed crown octavo volume of 174 pages.

It would be best to let Volodymyr Chernyshenko, the prime mover in these successes, outline the story of this latest foreign language translation:

*In late 2022, the founder of the Ukrainian publishing house Lileya-NV contacted me with a request to prepare a selection of short stories by Rudyard Kipling for a special Scouts book series. (The Ukrainian scouting organisation Plast was founded in 1911 in Lviv.) His requirements were quite clear: inspiring stories for boys about their native land, a sense of duty, bravery, and dedication. Vasyl wanted something truly captivating and preferably less familiar or even new to Ukrainian readers.*

*The book includes my preface, “How Kipling Did Not Invent Plast,” which discusses Kipling, Baden-Powell, and the Ukrainian story of how Kipling’s works influenced scouting here. It also contains three Puck stories (“Weland’s Sword”, “The Knife and the Naked Chalk,” and “A Centurion of the Thirtieth”) — the latter two published in Ukrainian for the first time. Additionally, the collection features “Wee Willie Winkie” and “The Drums of the Fore and Aft” (previously included in our Children Stories collection), and “In the Rukh,” the Mowgli story, which had appeared once before in a complete Ukrainian edition of *The Jungle Book*.*

The illustrations were created by the renowned Ukrainian artist Maksym Palenko, well known for his artwork in Ukrainian editions of Jeremy Strong's books. Maksym is now serving in the army, defending Ukraine against Russian invaders.

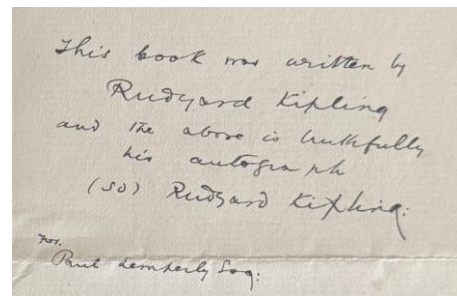
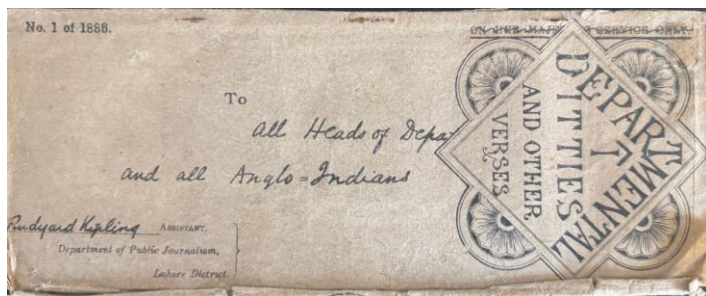
Volodymyr Chernyshenko  
Kyiv 2025

We have been allowed to share one of Palenko's illustrations, that for the first of the tales, 'Weland's Sword'. There is also a photograph of three Scout leaders in Ivano-Frankivsk, displaying the new book. More details and links will be offered in a future edition of the Journal. We are very proud to be part of this flourishing development in Ukraine.



## DEPARTMENTAL DITTIES - David Alan Richards

I've recently taken delivery of what book collectors call a "God's Copy" of a particular title: Paul Lemperley's copy of *Departmental Ditties* (below left). Lemperley wrote from Cleveland, Ohio, to Kipling in Brattleboro, Vermont, asking if Kipling was willing to autograph his copy of the first edition. Kipling jocularly threatened that if Lemperley sent it, and it was in better condition than his own copy, he might keep it (the full text of Kipling's letter can be read in my *Rudyard Kipling – A Bibliography*). He wrote an autographed message on the reverse of his letter which he suggested Lemperley could stick in his book instead (below right). He also asked Lemperley to make a \$5 donation to a children's charity.



Lemperley made the donation, sending the receipt to Kipling. In response, Kipling admitted his joke and invited Lemperly to send his book (below left), which he duly did. Kipling then autographed it (below right)

Maulakha  
Washburn Co. N.Y.

Dear Mr Lemperley -  
My allusion to stealing your  
D.D. copy was in the nature of a /ick  
Thank you very much for your  
dash and recuperation & by all means  
send along your copy of the Dept. Ditties  
& I will suit it; better send it  
registered & I will return it to some  
day

Very sincerely yours  
Rudyard Kipling

Paul Lemperley Esq.

DEPARTMENTAL DITTIES.

by  
Rudyard Kipling.

Brattleboro. Vt.

June. 1896.

Kipling returned the book, reusing the cover in which Lemperley had sent it (below left). Lemperley had also sent a gift to Kipling, a first edition of Stephen Crane's *Maggie*, for which Kipling thanked him in his covering letter (below right)

Book Value \$5.00  
Express. ~~Express~~  
From  
Paul Lemperley  
Cleveland Ohio.  
Rudyard Kipling  
Brattleboro Vt.

This wrapper carries the Kipling's autograph; address also printed by him. (P.)

AMERICAN EXPRESS CO.  
BRATTLEBORO VT.

To PAUL LEMPERLY.  
MR. BURNHAM'S/KABOLENA.  
CLEVELAND.  
BRATTLEBORO  
OHIO.

Dear Sir.

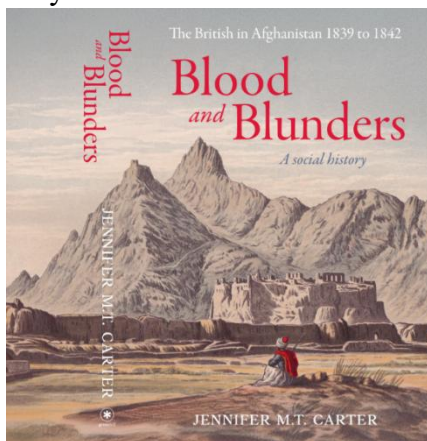
I am sending you today  
by express your copy (which  
is not in as good state as mine) of  
D. D.'s autographed copy.

With many thanks for the 1st Ed  
"Maggie" - believing  
you had better have  
Rudyard Kipling

Paul Lemperley Esq  
June 2. 96

## BLOOD AND BLUNDERS...

...by Jennifer M. T. Carter tells the story of how ignorance, arrogance and greed destroyed the



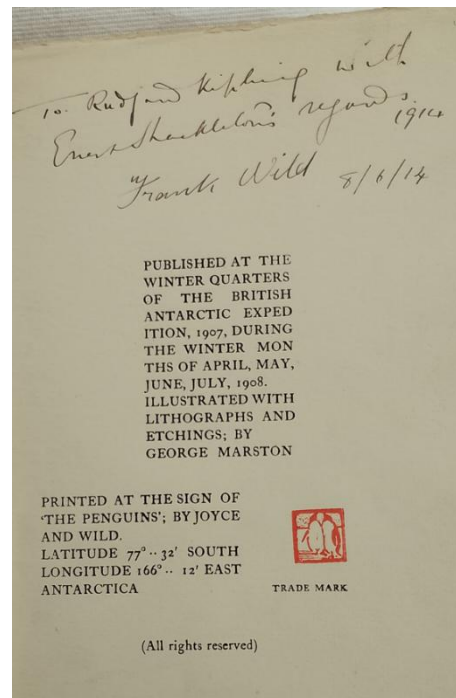
flower of a generation long before the tragedy of World War One. The Honourable East India Company, the London-based trading company founded in 1600, could hardly have foreseen its remarkable success as it moved inexorably from commerce to conquest laying the foundations of Britain's Indian Empire almost by accident. And, as everyone knows, the more you have, the more you must do to keep it. By the 1830s, a buffer was deemed necessary to counter Russia's advance into Central Asia and prevent a move on British India from beyond the River Oxus. That buffer was Afghanistan. The British incursion at the end of 1838 replaced one Afghan ruler with another

and has been termed The First Anglo-Afghan War; in effect it was little more than a shambles. Mismanaged and muddled diplomacy ensured the failure of what proved a totally dysfunctional campaign. Senior officers of the Royal army who last saw action with Wellington in 1815 commanded the so-called Army of the Indus; unable to adapt to local conditions as well as to each other, their petty jealousies and distrust of the local Company forces serving with them mar a bigger picture where individual feats of courage burn like beacons against the gloom of administrative incompetence.

*Blood and Blunders* gives a full picture of the Afghan experience at a time when the machinery of government called for unquestioning sacrifices from its operatives – and by extension, from their womenfolk and families, some of whom were present with the army. Throughout, tragedy and comedy march side by side and high politics as practiced in London, Kabul and Calcutta lacks empathy for the Afghan people and is never far from farce. Finally, *Blood and Blunders* throws fresh light on the disastrous Retreat from Kabul in January 1842 at the height of winter, and asks what is - and what is not - acceptable by way of retribution against people whose way of life is under threat.

### **KIPLING AT DULWICH - Hannah Miles, House & Collections Manager, Bateman's**

Along with Freddie Matthews, our Cultural Heritage Curator, I recently had a lovely research visit to Dulwich College recently to see the Aurora book gifted to Rudyard by Ernst Shackleton and Frank Wild when they came to Bateman's. The Aurora books are simply amazing, they were written, printed and bound by Shackleton and his crew when they were in the Antarctic. These books were printed and bound using recycled materials the crew had on the voyage, the copy gifted to Rudyard is bound with parts of wooden pallets as covers, which once formed a box for the ship's petit pois. Only a small number of Aurora books were ever produced, and one was gifted to Rudyard personally as an incentive by Shackleton and Wild who were visiting their rich friends to seek funds for future expeditions. To the very best of my knowledge Rudyard did not give generously to Shackleton and Wild despite the gift of the Aurora book. The book was given to an auction house by Elsie as part of a charity auction, after Rudyard has died. After passing through various hands the book was donated to Dulwich College, where Shackleton went to school.





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### LEGO BATEMAN'S - Hannah Miles

This Lego build was created by John & Mark Tasker over a period of 2-3 months and used 8,041 pieces. The model is currently in the conservation storeroom at the house, awaiting a display case so it can be enjoyed by visitors. John and Mark have previously built Scotney Castle and Ightham Mote out of Lego too.



### ALS NEWSLETTER



The autumn issue of the Alliance of Literary Societies newsletter contains several items relating to the AGM we hosted in May, including accounts by some of those who attended, and a short piece by our Chairman, Andrew Scragg, on Kipling's displeasure at our foundation. It can be read at [also-als-newsletter-autumn-2025.pdf](#)  
We reproduce below one article from it which might be of particular interest to members.

### CONNECTIONS: KIPLING AND CARROLL Mark Davies, [Lewis Carroll Society](#)

At the Brighton ALS Gathering I was told that Rudyard Kipling (1865–1936) was a great fan of 'Alice', and was advised to investigate via the Kipling Society website.

*From Sea to Sea.* This is a series of newspaper articles written by the young Kipling about his journeys around India, Burma, China, Japan, and the United States between 1887 and 1889. In the spirit of the talk given by Winifred Wilson at the 2024 Gathering, on interconnections between different ALS authors, here are a couple of examples:

Japan: ‘The passengers themselves were altogether delightful. A large number of them were modified Europeans, and resembled nothing more than Tenniel's picture of the White Rabbit on the first page of *Alice in Wonderland*.’



‘Never have I seen such a wild dream of equitation as the Tokio parade-ground showed. Do you remember the picture in *Alice in Wonderland* just before Alice found the Lion and the Unicorn; when she met the armed men coming through the woods?



I thought of that, and I thought of the White Knight in the same classic, and I laughed aloud.’

India: from ‘A Break in the Line’ in *Kipling's India*, reporting on railway tracks undermined by a flood in 1887: ‘At the stations, very wet gentlemen in white uniforms, with lanterns, talked about the Gap. There was a certain ‘Bill’, like Bill the Lizard in *Alice in Wonderland*, supposed to have done or left undone everything that was possible.’



I also found a couple of Alicean references in Kipling's fiction. In ‘An Important Discovery’ (*Civil & Military Gazette*, 17 August 1887) Kipling playfully suggests that Carroll's ‘coruscation of genius, *Jabberwocky*’ could only have been inspired by having seen the British equivalent of the Punjabi newspaper compositor who created the mangled English of ‘The Poligs of the Oern Vent in dugard to the Brounincinl Coutrick is the colic of the unscrifulouse Gawler’ instead of ‘The policy of the Government in regard to the Provincial Contract is the policy of the unscrupulous lawyer.’ Kipling concluded, ‘What Lewis Carroll did must have been this. He must have seen the rough proof of a very vilely written poem and used it bodily for *Jabberwocky*. Perhaps, knowing the value of misprints, he made the printer drunk beforehand.’

Closer to home, in ‘The Brushwood Boy’, published in *The Century Magazine* for December 1895, seven-year-old Georgie is taken, appropriately enough to Oxford. At a play: ‘Next to him sat a little girl dressed all in black, her hair combed off her forehead exactly like the girl in the book called “*Alice in Wonderland*,” which had been given him on his last birthday. The little girl looked at Georgie, and Georgie looked at her. There seemed to be no need of any further introduction.’ Georgie had recently discovered the joy of composing stories in his head, so when his imagination leads him to a brushwood-pile, ‘it was perfectly right and natural that ... he should find her waiting for him, her hair combed off her forehead, more like *Alice in Wonderland* than ever, and the races and adventures began’.

Carroll owned 14 works by Kipling when he died in 1898.

## **LETTER FROM AMERICA #2 – Steve Russ** **On investigating Bliss Cottage...**

The "kick-off" event for the rehab of the Kipling stable at *Naulakha* was a modest invitation-only affair, with about 20-25 people total (and half of those associated with the Landmark Trust USA in some capacity). The Landmark Trust USA President made an introduction,



followed by the Executive Director Susan McMahon providing some background about project and concluded with the contractor (with a background in similar work) hired to do the building conversion talking about the intended plans for the stable. The intent is to keep



intact most of the ground floor (the stable itself), with the loft converted into a living space for short-term rentals. Those of us attending had the opportunity to look at the stable loft (usually off-limits to visitors). Time well spent, and worth the trip.

Prior to going, I reached out to the Brattleboro Reformer newspaper to get a copy of the original photo of Bliss Cottage from the December 1964 relocation of the building, only to find out that the newspaper a) has no photo morgue, and b) the newspaper keeps photos only a short time and then destroys them. While in town, my wife (my partner in crime in this endeavor) and I did some digging for information on Bliss Cottage. We came up empty handed with a visit to the Brattleboro Historical Society (BHS). The BHS volunteer suggested we stop at the town property assessment office (in the same building as BHS) to see if they had anything about Bliss. The clerk in that office said the property records would be online - Bliss Cottage's current address is 189 Kipling Road - but she checked the paper files to see if the files had any supplemental information not found online - but the paper files had no additional information. We then went over to the town permit office to see if they had anything, as Bliss Cottage underwent various changes over time - but the permit office has no permitting records older than 1990.

And one final point about Bliss Cottage. I paid another visit to Bliss and noticed that the shutters on the front windows of the left wing of the building differ from the shutters for the middle and right wing. The left wing shutters are functional, being able to fully cover the windows, whereas the shutters in the middle section and right wing are decorative, not able to fully cover the windows there. IF these are all the original shutters, then that would suggest that the left wing is the oldest, as a decorative shutter would have little to no value or use as protection for the windows in those early years.

*(Editor's note: Photo of Bliss Cottage (undated) from 'Rudyard Kipling in Vermont' by Stuart Murray)*

## KIPLING IN SPACE



**Kipling** is a crater on [Mercury](#). It has a diameter of 164 kilometers. Its name was adopted by the [International Astronomical Union](#) (IAU) in 2010. There is a large, irregular depression within Kipling that is probably a volcanic pit. It was likely caused by multiple eruptions and it is called a compound vent. Kipling is north of the smaller [Capote](#) crater. To the northwest of Kipling is the small but prominent crater [David](#).

## AI BRAIN FRIEZE – Ian Bell

I asked Google Lens to identify the picture below. It told me ‘The images is a relief from the East Gate of the Sanchi Stupa in India, dating to around 140BC, it depicts a scene from the story ‘Her Majesty’s Servants’ from Rudyard Kipling’s *The Jungle Book*.’



*The AI confusion is partially explicable when the middle rear architrave of the Eastern gateway at Sanchi is compared. Lockwood Kipling may well have been aware of it.*



## ROTTINGDEAN POND – David Alan Richards

A painting by John Moss RIBA, c1930, showing Kipling's former house, 'The Elms', across Rottingdean Pond.



# STARCH AND STEEL.—A New "Ballad of East and West."

(Not at all by Rudyard Kipling.)

Oh, East is East, and West is West, as KIPLING truly swears,  
And "Infuldel dogs" have a taste in togs that your Afyhan hardly  
shares;  
And steel is steel, and starch is starch; and a starchy style looks  
silly;  
Yet a Masher's a man in Afghanistan as he is in Piccadilly.

RIHU-BUB is out with his pal BAAR-LAM, the banes of the Border-  
side,

And they have spotted the Masherman who is Peshawur's pride.  
A Johnny he of true Burling-  
ton breed, and the  
good old Gaiety stock,  
With knickers neat, and  
grey-gaiter'd feet, and  
a puggree'd billy-  
cock.

Then up and spake RIHU-  
BUB THE RED: "O  
BAAR-LAM BLACK, I see  
A stiff-starched guy, with  
a collar high, an ac-  
cursed Feringhee!"

Then up and spake BAAR-  
LAM THE BLACK: "O  
RIHU-BUB called the  
Red,

Let us sharpen our steels to a razor-edge; we'll  
have his berlooming  
head!

The Feringhee fool is too  
cursed cool, with his  
'gingham,' glass, and  
guide;

And he putteth on too  
much of what the Kaffir  
dogs call 'side.'

I loathe the pig, from his  
'spatted' shanks,  
which be shrunken  
shapeless things,

To the corn-cob pipe  
whence he blows his cloud in a series of puzzle-  
rings!"

So the Black he set his turban tight, and the Red  
whipped out his steel,

While the Masherman strolled on, as cool as the  
shadow at his heel;

And the Red and the Black his tread did track like  
jackals swift and sly.

Till RIHU-BUB THE RED he pounced, and said, "Now,  
Kaffir, you must die!"

The Masherman he has turned him round, with a  
cool, brief British bow,

And clear as a bell responded, "Well—old chappies—  
what 's the row?"

Then he was aware of a fiendish glare in the eyes of  
Black and Red.

And he knelt him down on the sand-flats brown,  
smoked on, and nothing said.

RIHU-BUB THE RED he felt the edge of his broad and glittering blade.  
And he measured the Masherman's comely neck, in six inches of  
collar arrayed.

That snowy cylinder, God wot, was tall and stiffly starched  
As that of the best-groomed Masherman who hath ever proudly  
marched

In the Burlington Brigade. Right well the local laundrymaid  
Who had scrubbed, clear-starched, and ironed the same, knew her  
ingenious trade!

RED RIHU-BUB raised his broad keen blade, and strongly, swiftly  
smote

That coolly puffing Masherman midway his long fair throat;  
That mild and unmoved Masherman he abode the swashing stroke.  
And from his placid lips forth puffed three regular "rings" of  
smoke;

And where starched linen met sharpened steel, behold RED  
RIHU-BUB's blade  
A rugged, jagged, six-inch gap in its razor-edge displayed,—  
As when some hungry urchin bites at a hunk of bread-and-  
butter!—

RED RIHU-BUB glared, BLACK BAAR-LAM stared; no word might  
either utter.

But up and spake that Masherman, still puffing regular rings,  
"I—rather think—that 's gapped it—eh, old chappie?"—

Like two things  
Fate-stricken, those two  
swart Afghans flopped  
face-forward on the  
sands,

And buried foreheads  
worshipful in reveren-  
tial hands,

What time the unscathed  
Masherman, whose  
stride no wonder broke,  
Marched onward, musing  
as he puffed forth per-  
fect rings of smoke:

"Guillotined — and still  
going strong! That  
floors the nigs, no  
doubt!

Our civilisation then is not  
so uttawly played out!

Bai Jove! but that was a  
rippin' sword! Those  
Johnnies thought, you  
bet,

That razor-edge would  
hurt my neck; now I  
guess 'twill want a whet.

Starch is the modern  
Chappie's mail, you may  
lay your bottom dollar!

I 'm aw'fly glad the laun-  
dress put such a lot in  
my new collar!

"I—rather think—that 's gapped it—eh, old chappie?"—

It took the starch clean out of them!—Say, that is  
a rippin' 'wheeze'!

Well, serve 'em right! They've made me spoil my  
knickers at the knees!"

RIHU-BUB and BAAR-LAM raised a shrine in Candahar,  
whereon  
They placed a private Idol, called "The Invulnerable  
One,"  
Four-arm'd, cross-legged, with a pale profile in the  
Oriental style,  
Which reproduced most skilfully the Masherman's  
placid smile,  
With Burlington accessories, book, gingham, pipe,  
and glass,  
Where to they make a special point of bowing when'er  
they pass!

Oh, East is East, and West is West; mail's mail, and starch is  
starch,  
And the modern Masher's linen is as hard as the Marble Arch.  
And when Gaiety "Cuff-shooter" against Afyhan thief's arrayed,  
You may bet your bottom dollar upon Burlington Arcade.

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## HARCOURTIANA.

"MY dear CHAMBERLAIN," I once said to an old friend, "the  
greatest ambition adroitly conceals itself when it finds that what it  
aspires after is unattainable." It was to another friend I remarked:  
"We had better affect to appear to be what we are not than present  
ourselves as we are." I cannot say that in either case the observa-  
tion was enthusiastically received.—Extract from Harcourt MS.  
To err is human, to forgive feminine.—The Harcourt MS.



1. "Here is an accursed Feringhee!"



2. "Kaffir, you must die!"



3. "I think that's rather gapped it, old Chappie!"



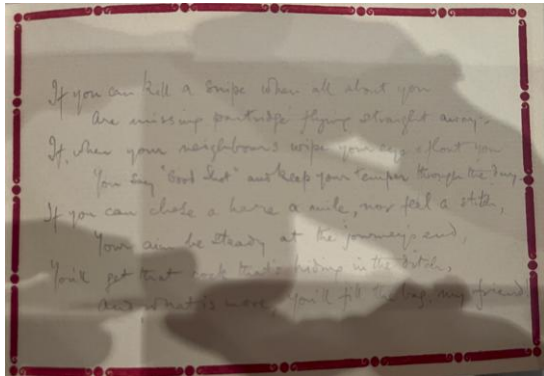
4. "I'm awfully glad my Laundress put plenty starch in this Collar!"



5. And they erected a shrine to the "Invulnerable One."

## PARODY OF 'IF' - Selina Speight

I found the attached book amongst my parents' books and thought it stood out and wanted to see if it was worth anything at all. It was given to my grandfather by his sister, and came with a letter saying she'd found this book "somewhere" and thought she'd give it to him because of the handwritten verse in the back about shooting. I'm fully aware that this verse could either make the book worth something or devalue it entirely!!



The verse, alas not in Kipling's hand, reads:

*If you can kill a snipe when all around you  
Are missing partridge flying straight away,  
If, when your neighbours wipe your eye & flout you,  
You say 'Good shot' and keep your temper through the day -  
If you can chase a hare a mile, nor feel a stitch,  
Your aim be steady at the journey's end -  
You'll get that cock that's hiding in the ditch,  
And, what is more, you'll fill the bag, my friend!*

## HOW THE MAMMOTH GOT ITS TRUNK?



An early-Cretaceous period crocodile-like creature has been named *Goniopholis Kiplingi*. Its fossilised remains were found in 2009 in a crumbling cliff (right) at the north end of Durlston Bay, near Swanage, Dorset. It can be viewed at the Dorset County Museum in Dorchester. The name was chosen in recognition of Kipling's "enthusiasm for natural sciences".

## ... AND FINALLY (SEEN ON THE TUBE)

