

9. Thursday.

Came up by 1.10 train. Still showery and ground very damp and air full of moisture Manson was here this afternoon.

10. Friday.

Fine day at last. This morning I had the unpleasant duty of telling Uncle George I would have to get along with the building without him. He has been so dilatory unmethodical unobservant and inaccurate and so easy going with the workmen that the extreme slowness of the job, and its great cost are largely attributable to him. I have another foreman engaged, a man named Williamson who is recommended by Alex Dean and Son whose foreman he used to be.

Was at P.A.H. this afternoon.

11. Saturday.

Came home by 12.20 train. Ellie went to town and brought home in the evening with a bad ulcerated throat.

12. Sunday.

Glorious day. At home all day working in garden. Charlie Gadin & Dr Clark came in to have a look at house. --- Heard today that Artie Purchas lost his little baby girl in the Red Sea, from pneumonia following measles.

13. Monday.

Fine day. New foreman Williamson came this morning. I put on a couple of extra labourers today to make paths and walks.

Came home by 1.10 train. Phyllis much better.

14. Tuesday.

Did not go to Hospital this afternoon as I was expecting to be called as a witness in Supreme Court. Waited, at Club, till four o'clock, and then came home.

15. Wednesday.

Came home by 1.1.0 train today.

Raining all morning. Fine in afternoon.

16. Thursday.

Gave evidence today in Eyles V Friend in Supreme Court before Sir Fredercik Darley. It was a case in which plaintiff was knocked down and run over by Friend & got a fractured skull, and some ocular paralysis as a result. I was subpoenaed for the plaintiff.

Caught 1.10 train home. Manson here this afternoon.

17. Friday.

At P.A.H. this afternoon.

18. Saturday.

Lunched at Club. Home by 1.30 train. Working at strawberry bed all afternoon. Ellie at St Leonards House superintending the moving of the furniture which is stored there from drawing room to nursery. Childrens holidays began today.

19. Sunday.

At home all day. Pegged out carriage drive near house.

20. Monday.

Gave chloroform for Hall to Mrs Mann at Greenwich this afternoon. Home late. Heard that Williamson the foreman had met with an accident through falling astride one of the lower floor joists and had gone home early.

21. Tuesday.

At P.A.H. this afternoon. Home late. Williamson not here. Dr Armstrong his medical attendant telephoned me that he has ruptured his urethra.

Still raining.

22. Wednesday.

Without a foreman. Home all day and directed operations myself.

Raining.

23. Thursday.

Called and saw Williamson today. He says the doctors tell him he will be laid aside for a couple of months. Wrote Manson asking him to get another foreman. Had a letter from Gilly.

Am having row with Eaton as Manson has condemned a lot of shutters and mouldings.

Still showery.

24. Friday.

At P.A.H. this afternoon. Only a few showers today. It looks like clearing tonight. Roads and grounds in a terribly muddy state.

25. Saturday.

Called at Lorne on my way home and had a look at the places the white ants are in with a view of seeing about repairs.

Spent the remainder of the afternoon here helping Ward finish the concreting of back yard so that it should be done before dark.

26. Sunday.

Beautiful day. This afternoon Eric and a Mr. Shadforth came to see us on their bicycles. Tiley & Syer came up by train. Syer stayed to tea. Jack ill with an ulcerated throat.

27. Monday.

Sharp frost this morning followed by a beautifully fine clear day. Lunched at Club. Came up by 2.40 train Manson was here and also the new foreman Crowe.

Mrs I. Cordeaux death was announced today aged 78.

Flo came and saw me at my rooms this morning. She goes to Gunningbar on Thursday for a couple of months.

28. Tuesday.

At P.A.H. this afternoon.

29. Wednesday.

Came home by 1.10 train. Heavy rain with strong & very cold S.W. winds set in again this evening. Jack has a severe quinsy. I went over to Dr Foster after tea and got him some medicine. Miss Fincham is also laid up with a feverish cold. It is very rough on Ellie.

30. Thursday.

Heavy rain and southerly winds all day. All outside work suspended. Ground saturated again just as it was beginning to dry.

JULY. 1898.

1. Friday.

At P.A.H. this afternoon. Still raining heavily. Things are pretty miserable here. Miss Fincham is laid up with influenza. Jack is in bed with a sore throat. Nellie is out of sorts, and Ellie has a great deal to do and is quite worn out. The wet weather and uncomfortable way we are living make it much worse.

2. Saturday.

Raining all day. Invalids no better. Came home by 1.30 train. Worked with Ward in the pelting rain laying drain pipes temporally to carry the water from the downpipes away from the house lest the foundations should be affected.

3. Sunday.

Fine day at last but ground soaking wet. Miss Fincham and Jack a little better but Brian is

4 Monday.

Fine day. Lunched at Club. Home by 2.40 train.
Miss Fincham left today.

5.Tuesday.

Missed hospital. Came up by 2.40 train with Manson
as I wished particularly to see him about some things
here.

Plasterers commenced today.

6.Wednesday.

Home by 2.40 train. Good progress being made
inside now. Carpenters have laid upstairs floors upside
down so as to prevent injury till plastering is done.
All plugging and wooden cielings upstairs finished.
Ceilings of dining drawing morning and smoke room and
part of hall finished. Walls down stairs partly plugged
Painters and plasterers commenced yesterday. Plumbers finished
gas piping and made good progress with water pipes.
Concreting floor of kitchen begun today. Nearly all timber
& joinery on job except timber for main staircase and hall
panelling and some of the shutters.

7.Thursday.

We still have only one servant.

Came home by 1.10 train

Jack has had another relapse His throat is again very sore
and his temperature high. I am going to sleep alongside him
tonight. Poor Ellie is fairly knocked up with the extra work and
strain she has had on her of late.

8.Friday.

Got away early from hospital and caught the 4.10 train
home to help Ellie as the only servant we have was out for
the day. Mrs Ward (gardeners wife) comes in and helps for
part of each day.

Jack seems much better today. Temperature only 99
this morning.

9.Saturday.

Jack bad again today. Refusing food, and crying from
weakness all day. Temperature at 6 o'clock 102 and
apparently higher now 8.30 though I do not want to
disturb him with the thermometer. Mrs Ridge and Rita here
for an hour this afternoon.

10.Sunday.

Sat up with Jack till 2 and then slept along side him.
He is better today. Beautiful day.

11.Monday.

Came home by 2.40 train after lunching at

at Club. Grannie Hooke was here today with Ellie.

Jack still better but not allowed out of the room yet. Labourers concreting the hall. Plasterers nearly finished the first coat.

12. Tuesday.

At P.A.H. this afternoon. Home by 5.30 train. Phyllis Guy and Brian at a childrens party at the Walter Traills at Turramurra. I walked down & brought them home. Back about 10.

Jack not well enough to go though he is getting better.

13. Wednesday.

Lunched at Club. Called at Govt. House afterwards. Home by 2.40 train.

14. Thursday.

Came home by 1.10 train. Manson here this afternoon. Ward commenced pruning.

15. Friday.

At P.A.H. this afternoon. Went to Club and dressed and met Ellie at Quay and drove to dinner at Anderson Stuarts at Bellevue Hill. Other guests were Dr. McCormick, Mr McGeorge, Banff Miss Morehead and Misses Martin (2). Got home about 11.30. Florrie Hooke slept here as Ellie did not like leaving the place without some reliable person here. Ellies birthday.

Home by 12.30 train. Ellie had a visitation this afternoon First Mrs Cope & Rosie Turner. Then on bicycles Mary Davis Portia Old, Nellie and Branth Clarke and Edith and Bessie Hooke. Edith staying here all night. Planted two birches next ferns near nursery steps. Raining again this evening.

17. Sunday.

Bitterly cold day with strong S.W. gale and occasional fine driving showers which however did not prevent my working in the garden all day till four o'clock when Syer came up. He stayed to tea.

18. Monday.

Weather clearing. Home by 2.40 train.

Plasterers getting on. All rooms except kitchen and offices which are now being cemented have had first coat, and several of the rooms the second coat. Painters busy outside Balcony and verandah floors are down. Wooden cielings all but finished. Back staircase under way.

Masons finished front gate posts. Plumbers at hot water service. Annie Peck an old sercant came back to us this morning Ellie and I went down to Boynes store after tea.

19.Tuesday.

At P.A.H.

At 5 o'clock attended meeting of the ophthalmic surgeons at Evans' house to consider an advertisement by Ashfield Friendly Societies for a specialist for Eye Ear & Throat. The Council of the B.M.A. forwarded the advertisement for our opinion. The meeting unanimously condemned the innovation.

Fine day at last. Ward finished ploughing the orchard.

20.Wednesday.

Came home by 1.10 train.

21 Thursday.

Came home by the 1.10 train.

Rev King called this afternoon. He tells me he has heard from Rosie Turner that Harold has gained a scholarship at the Agricultural College at Lincoln.

22.Friday.

At P.A.H. this afternoon.

Went to Horderns this afternoon. Home by the 5.50 train.

23.Saturday.

Rain & S.W. gale all day. Notwithstanding planted climbing roses around the house, brought by Kershaw this morning. After tea went to University Medical Society smoke concert at University. Met old school mate Dr Springthorpe of Melbourne who came over to give the annual address. I proposed the toast of the visitors.

24.Sunday.

Beautiful day, after the rain. Working in garden all day. Charlie Gadin came over in morning and got some more cuttings.

25.Monday.

Came home by 1.10 train. Working in garden all the afternoon.

Mrs Gadin and Miss Ethel Dibbs came over to look over the house.

26.Tuesday.

at P.A.H. this afternoon.

27.Wednesday.

Today was a public holiday for the General Elections. The chief interest centred on the " King" election where G.H. Read the premier was opposed by Edmund Barton. I heard tonight that Reid had won at which I was well pleased. I stayed at home and worked about garden all day. A regular hot nor wester blew very strong all day a most unusual thing for this time of year and at night

do a little gardening in the intervals.

8. Monday.

Came home by 1.10. Got out at Lindfield and went to Lorne, and had a look at the repairs that Uncle George is doing and at the painting. Afterwards came on home and planted some cuttings and plants I got from Lorne. Ward and Hayward put a pile drain across the road to carry surface water away from my frontage.

9. Tuesday.

Very busy morning. At P.A.H. this afternoon. Home by 5.30 train.

Heard from Enid by telephone that Mabel is engaged to some Frenchman (whose name I could not catch) in Brussels. I have not got my own English mail letters yet but expect to find them at my rooms in the morning.

10. Wednesday.

Home by 2.40 train. Have letters mentioning Enid - Mabel's engagement to Belgian named de Rudder a Roman Catholic with salary of £200 a year !!

11. Thursday.

More heavy rain, all last night and all day today. Home by 1.10 train.

12. Friday.

At P.A.H. this afternoon.

13. Saturday.

Mr and Mrs Cottee came up to see us this afternoon.

14. Sunday.

Mrs Hooke & Florrie and Syer came up this afternoon. Syer stayed to tea. Glorious day.

Ward gave me notice yesterday that he wishes to leave.

15. Monday.

Home by 1.10 train.

Meeting at Wahroonga Hall this afternoon re roads.

16. Tuesday.

At P.A.H.

17. Wednesday.

Home by 1.10 train.

18 Thursday.

Home by 1.10 train. Ellie has a laryngeal and bronchial cold. Williamson the foreman who was hurt a couple of months ago is now better and was here this afternoon. I planted some trees(planes) in Burns Road the trenching

a bush fire was burning a quarter of a mile away to the northward.

28.Thursday.

Home by 1.10 train. Manson here this afternoon. Ellie in town visiting and shopping. Strong nor west gale nearly all day.

29.Friday.

At P.A.H. this afternoon. Men setting kitchen range.

30.Saturday.

Home by 12.30 train. Working in garden all afternoon.

31.Sunday.

Strong westerly wind. Pottering about in garden all day.

AUGUST.1898.

1.Monday.

Bank holiday. I made a holiday of it also. Worked in garden greater part of day at a Lattice trellis for grape vines. In evening went to annual supper of Edinburgh medical graduates at Aarons Exchange Hotel. Sat between Chisholm Ross and Dr Read. Sir Arthur Renwick in chair.

2.Tuesday.

At P.A.H. this afternoon. Heavy rain with cold S.W. gale set in this evening, and I got a drenching coming home from the station. Had neither coat or umbrella and the cab was not at the station.

3.Wednesday.

Lunched at Club. Met Ellie at Holdsworth Macphersons & Co. and looked at grates. Came home by the 2.40 train. Ellie stayed in town to do some shopping. Showery all day.

4.Thursday.

Have a man trenching along Burns Road to plant trees.

5.Friday.

At P.A.H. this afternoon. At Horderns afterwards. Home by 6.50 train. Ellie at Mrs Sayers this afternoon getting some plants and cuttings.

6.Saturday.

Home by 12.30 train. Worked in garden all afternoon. Carpenters have just fixed back staircase to first floor. Plasterers finished upstairs.

7.Sunday.

Raining heavily at intervals all day. Managed to

& fencing of which have just been completed.
Letter from mother.

19. Friday.

Did not go to P.A.H. this afternoon as I had some particular work to do here, so came home by 1.10 train. Tilers commenced tiling kitchen floor.

20. Saturday.

Greater part of afternoon planting cedars-- and a very poor lot they are in Burns Road along my frontage. Ellie has a very heavy cold.

21. Sunday.

At home all day pottering about the garden Harry Enid and Marjorie Hinder: also Edith and Bessie Hooke came up this afternoon and the two latter stayed to tea.

22. Monday.

Home by the 1.10 train. Working in garden all afternoon. Ellie in town shopping. Her cold is very bad.

Wrote mother this morning.

23. Tuesday.

At P.A.H. this afternoon.

24. Wednesday.

Home by 1.10 train. Working in garden all afternoon.

25. Thursday.

Home by 1.10 train. Planted out 100 pansies Williamson the foreman who had hurt himself 2 months ago resumed work today as special hand for the staircase and fittings. Crowe remains as foreman.

Got rid of 5 carpenters today who are not sufficiently good for inside finishing work.

26. Friday.

At P.A.H. this afternoon.

27. Saturday.

Home by 12.20 train. Working in garden all afternoon. Eric won the Lawn tennis championship (singles) at Brisbane today and with his partner won 2 out of 4 sets in the double championship which owing to failing light had to be discontinued and is to be played over again in Sydney.

28. Sunday.

At home all day pottering about. Barnett and Charlie Dibbs rode up on their bicycles this afternoon.

29. Monday.

Operation at St Kilda House at 1.45 (Bruce Burton soft cataract. Home by 2.30 train.
Wrote mother.

30 Tuesday.

At P.A.H. this afternoon. Home by 5.30 train.
Raining all day with wind from S.E.

31. Wednesday.

Raining all day. Went to Goodlet & Smiths after
lunch re lead lights for hall windows.
Home by 4.10 train.

SEPTEMBER 1898.

1. Thursday.

Home by 1.10 train. Still raining.

2. Friday.

At P.A.H. this afternoon . Still raining.

3. Saturday.

Home by 12.30 train . Still raining. Planted out some
plants.

4. Sunday.

Fine day at last. Pottering about in garden. Hayne
of the United Insurance Coy came in to look round this morning.
Syer came this afternoon and stayed to tea.
Wrote Ella.

5. Monday.

Fine morning but raining again heavily in afternoon
and evening.Ellie and I went after lunch to
Holdsworth Macphersons and chose grates and
some mantels.

Wrote mother.

6. Tuesday.

Beautiful fine day at last. At P.A.H. this afternoon.
Manson was here this afternoon while I was at hospital.

7. Wednesday.

Home by 1.10 train. With Ward planted some
cedars on Burns Road in place of those sent by
Forestry Department which are no good.

8. Thursday.

Home by 1.10 train. Finished replanting cedars
in Burns Road.

9. Friday.

At P.A.H this afternoon. Home by 5.40 train.

10. Saturday.

Working in garden all afternoon. Rosie Turner here.

11. Sunday.

Pottering about all day. Dr & Mrs Mallam came up to see us
in afternoon and stayed to tea. I knocked the nail off
my left little finger by jamming it between handle of

wheelbarrow and back verandah post. Wrote mother.

12. Monday.

Lunched at Club. Then went to Hiltmans to see about getting a successor to Ward. Then to Flemings in Pitt St to see about Ferns for fernery.

13. Tuesday.

At P.A.H. this afternoon.

14. Wednesday.

Lunched at Club. Cataract extraction (Johnson) at St. Kilda House afterwards and then consultation with Blaxland at Burwood on Giles' boy. Returned via Hornsby Junction. Walked home from there.

15. Thursday.

Home by 1.10 train. Ellie in town calling on Mrs. Wolfhagen at the "Australia". I met Wolfhagen in town yesterday.

16. Friday.

At P.A.H this afternoon.

17. Saturday.

Home by 12.20 train. Top dressing front lawn this afternoon. Brian and Jack at childrens party at the Saddingtons. Ellie went to Amy Sherwins concert with her mother and stayed at Woodstock all night.

18. Sunday.

Stung by bee this morning, and alarming symptoms followed acute urticaria, vomiting, frequency, rigors & collapse. Felt as if I were going to die. Dr Foster came and injected strychnine. Ellie home about 4. Was beginning to get better then but was feverish and restless all night. The poison must have got direct into a vein.

19. Monday.

Feeling very shaky and weak today but went into town as usual. Lunched at Club. Home by 2.40 train.

20. Tuesday.

At P.A.H. This afternoon. Left early and called at Woodstock on way home to see Phyllis, who has one of her gastric attacks.

21. Wednesday. NO ENTRY.

22. Thursday.

At P.A.H. Home early. After tea went with Ellie and Guy to recital by girls of Woodstock at School of Arts North Sydney. Phyllis distinguished herself with her playing, recitation and her Indian Club and Staff drill. She returned with us.

23. Friday.

At P.A.H. this afternoon. Dined at Club with Dr Wolfhagen and Alex Thomson of Hobart as guests. Home by 10.40 train.

24. Saturday.

Home by 12.20 train.

Moved into some more rooms this afternoon. Kitchen pantry scullery, store and study.

25. Sunday.

Arthur Purchas and his brother George & Miss Ethel Morse paid us a visit this morning. Purchas is here for 2 days on route from Auckland to England. He was brought back from England shortly after reaching there by the N.Z. Government as witness in the "Orpen" case. Syer came up to lunch and he and I and some of the children went down to gully for ferns. Took possession of kitchen, pantry & smoke room.

26. Monday.

Lunched with Purchas at "Australia". Afterwards went to consultation with Hinder at Ashfield.

Ward left today and William Vile came in his place.

27. Tuesday.

Went to "Australia" Hotel and said goodbye to Purchas.

At P.A.H. in afternoon.

28. Wednesday. NO ENTRY.

29. Thursday.

Home early by 1.10 train. Finishing work going on very slowly.

30. Friday.

At P.A.H. Dined at Club afterwards and attended monthly meeting of B.M.A.

Manson was here today. I wrote him a letter at the beginning of the week complaining of the infrequency of his visits.

OCTOBER 1898.

1. Saturday.

Home by 12.30 train. Working about place all afternoon.

2. Sunday.

Pottering about all day. Late in afternoon went to gully opposite Hayes' Ellie and whole family coming. Got some maiden hair and other ferns for fernery. Wrote mother this evening.

3. Monday.

Public Holiday." Eight hour day" Worked in garden in morning and in afternoon went to Garden Party with Ellie at the T.A. Dibbs. (Gray ~~95~~ lines)

4. Tuesday.

At P.A.H this afternoon.

5. Wednesday.

Ellie went to Garden Party at Government House.

I came home by 1.10 train as I had some particular things to do here in afternoon.

6. Thursday.

Home early this afternoon.

Fixing of main staircase commenced today.

Hot wind all day.

7. Friday.

At P.A.H. this afternoon.

Hot wind all day. Light southerly in afternoon.

8. Saturday.

Working in garden all afternoon. Temporary borders of flower beds around house.

9. Sunday.

Enid and Flo here this afternoon.

10. Monday.

Home by 1.10 train.

Wrote mother this evening.

11. Tuesday.

At P.A.H. this afternoon.

12. Wednesday.

Intensely hot day. Home by 1.10 train.

Manson here this afternoon. Main staircase being fixed.

Deans men fixing wardrobe fitting in Ellies room.

13. Thursday.

Very hot and dry. Lunched at Club. Then spent an hour in the gardens studying rockeries. Home by 2.40 train. Ellie had a faint attack just before tea I suppose as result of the intense heat.

14. Friday.

Very hot and sultry. A strong southerly with terrible dust came on at 5.45 as I was coming home in train.

At P.A.H as usual.

15. Saturday.

At home all afternoon. Edith brought Phyllis home this evening and stayed all night. Phyllis had been to prize distribution at S B Missionary Society. She gained the first prize in Junior Division for girls in all the

participating schools in Sydney.

16. Sunday.

Very hot day. Hot wind. Syer came up in afternoon.
Edith and he went home by 9 o'clock train.

17. Monday.

Terrible morning with hot wind and shade temperature of nearly 90. At noon a very strong southerly came in and in afternoon it was quite cool.
Came home by 1.10 train and worked at temporary borders and filling up a few hollows in lawn with top dressing.
Kershaw has finished the brick guttering round the paths near the house.
Crowe the foreman away ill.

18. Tuesday.

At P.A.H. this afternoon. Manson here for a very flying visit.

Crowe back again but Williamson away.

19. Wednesday.

Intense heat again today with hot nor~~o~~ wester. A light southerly came in at two o'clock.

20. Thursday.

Raining today. Next Sunday has been proclaimed a special day of prayer for rain.

21. Friday.

Rained all night and all day. Some of the showers very heavy.
At P.A.H.

22. Saturday.

Rain ceased last night. It has done a world of good and has been pretty general over the colony. Over 2 inches fell here. Paid off 2 carpenters on Thursday and five more today. Planted out some shrubs this afternoon. A few showers fell again.

23. Sunday.

Fine warm day. Pottering about at home.

24. Monday.

Very hot morning. Came by 1.10 to Gordon. Then walked to "Lorne" and viewed the repairing and got some azalea roots and a few other plants. Home by 3.7 train from Gordon. After tea Ellie and I strolled into Wades and enquired after his boy Burton who I fear has meningitis.

25. Thursday.

Coolday: light southerly. At P.A.H. Home by 5.50 train. Mr Manson here for about 20 minutes this afternoon.

26. Wednesday.

Harry came to see me this morning. He returned yesterday from his 6 months trip to the "Gulf" country in northern Queensland. Lunched at Club and came home by 2.40 train.

27. Thursday.

Harry came to see me this morning bringing Cameron his companion on his second trip to Queensland and also a little Gregory River blackboy whom Harry has adopted. Came home by 2.40 train (lunched at Club). Harold Lassetter and his brother came up in train as far as Turramurra.

28. Friday.

At P.A.H. this afternoon. Dressed at Club and went with Harry to the first annual dinner of the old Grammar School Boys which was held at Aarons Exchange Hotel. Edmond Bastin occupied the chair and Weigall responded for the school.

29. Saturday.

Ellie went into town with me and returned by the 12.30 train with me. This afternoon made a commencement with the getting ready of the upstairs rooms by laying matting and putting up bedsteads in the upstairs room over the hall which Flo is to occupy on Monday.

30. Sunday.

Beautiful day. Pottering about at home. No visitors.

31. Monday.

Flo came to us today to stay.

Ellie and I slept upstairs also for the first time. We occupied the small bedroom over the morning room.

NOVEMBER. 1898.

1. Tuesday.

Did not go to P.A.H. this afternoon. Had an operation at Wahroonga (removal of eye with sarcoma of conjunctiva from J.L. Hordern.) Hughes assisted and Reg. Bowman of Parramatta gave chloroform. Bowman had tea with us and afterwards stayed at Horderns all night as the patient wished it. He is the most nervous man I ever had for a patient.

Tiling of hall finished today.

2. Wednesday.

Came home by 1.10 train. Very hot day.

3. Thursday.

This is the third consecutive day of hot norwest and westerly winds. The new house is proving as we expected delightfully cool but it is very hot outside and the garden is suffering terribly. Came home by 1.10 train.

Ellie very much worried today because of the tradespeople do not carry out their promises. Be a ~~P~~ Watsons man came up to lay mattings linoleum etc but the delivery man had made a mistake and did not bring the floor coverings. Flo went away to Ashfield for a few days.

4. Friday.

At P.A.H. this afternoon.

5. Saturday.

Home by 1.10 train.

6. Sunday.

Harry came up this morning to dinner and Syer came in afternoon and stayed to tea.

7. Monday.

Nineteenth anniversary of our engagement.

Ellie and I occupied our own bedroom in new house for the first time today.

Flo returned from Ashfield to stay till Wednesday.

Enid and Marjorie having gone to Wentworth Falls, Flo is wanted there to keep house.

~~Ellie-went-to-St-~~

8. Tuesday.

Ellie went to St Leonards House to superintend moving of furniture. She came up in 1.10 train with me.

Whitehead moved the furniture in 2 runs, the first arrived here about 3 o'clock but the pole of the larger waggon broke coming up Pymble Hill and did not arrive here until nearly eight o'clock. Consequently we were all in a muddle this evening.

9. Wednesday.

Public Holiday. Stayed at home to help arrange furniture. Spent greater part of day in hanging pictures. Ellie fit for nothing after yesterdays exertions. The carpenters are going on with paneling of hall. Nearly all the other work except painting is finished.

Flo returned to Ashfield today.

10. Thursday.

Home by 1.10 train.

11. Friday.

At P.A.H. this afternoon.

12. Saturday.

Spent afternoon on varnishing brasswork in doors woodwork.

13. Sunday.

At home all day. No visitors. Spent greater part of day in unpacking and arranging books.

14. Monday.

Home by 1.10 train to Chatswood whence I went to J.F. Fitzhardings to lunch. He gave me a splendid lot of conservatory plants which W, Vile my gardener brought away in cart.

Letters from Mabel and Ella. They had definitely arranged to leave England by the Konigen Louise on 21st Nov.

15. Tuesday.

At P.A.H. this afternoon. Home at a quarter to seven very tired.

16. Wednesday.

Lunched at Club and afterwards went with Ellie and Florrie Hooke to wedding of J.L (Lorrie) Brown of Bowenfels to Helen Mackenzie daughter of Colonel Mackenzie. Wedding was at St Johns Darlinghurst and afterwards we went to the Colonels House-- the Bungalow at Victoria Barracks. Hot day followed by cool southerly.

Carpenters getting on with panelling of hall- Expect them to finish next week.

17. Thursday.

Home by 1.10 train this afternoon.

18. Friday.

Missed P.A.H this afternoon. Went immediately after lunch to meet Ellie to look at drawing room carpets at David Jones and Beard Watsons and it took so long that it was useless my going to the hospital. Went to Hordern Bros Farmer & Co and Anthony Horderns also.

19. Saturday.

Home by 12.20 train. Very hot day. Spent afternoon hanging pictures and varnishing brasses.

Mr & Mrs Wade here in evening.

Gladys Brown is staying with Phyllis till Monday morning.

20. Sunday.

At home all day. Cool day after yesterdays heat, a southerly having come up during the night.

21. Monday.

At home this afternoon.

Charlie and Mrs Gadin dropped in after tea.

Thunder storm after 9 with small shower of rain.

22. Tuesday.

At P.A.H. this afternoon.

Manson was here while I was away.

Crowe was half drunk again today, so I have determined to get rid of him.

23. Wednesday.

Gave Crowe his conge this morning.

Home by 1.10 train.

24. Thursday.

Home by 1.10 train. Busy about house all afternoon.

25. Friday.

At P.A.H.

26. Saturday.

At home all afternoon.

27. Sunday.

Harry came this afternoon and stayed all night. Syer here to tea. Vernon Saddington came in in afternoon.

28. Monday.

Ellie went into town with me this morning.

I came home by 1.10 train.

29. Tuesday.

At P.A.H.

30. Wednesday.

Home by 1.10 train.

Brian hurt at school by being hit in mouth by piece of wood which knocked a tooth out and loosened 2 others.

DECEMBER. 1898.

1. Thursday.

Home by 1.10 train.

2. Friday.

Ellie went into town with me taking the 3 boys to buy their Xmas presents.

Missed hospital as I had some business in town.

Home by 4.10 train.

3. Saturday.

At last the carpenters have finished inside the house.

Today they cleared out from the hall of the panelling of which was the last thing they did. There only remains the planing of the front verandah (already partly done) and the polishing of hall panelling to complete everything in house.

4. Sunday.

Harry Hinder drove Flo up from Ashfield this morning & drove Enid and Marjorie back. Flo returning by train. Harry here to dinner and tea. Ellie very seedy all day. Wrote Ella to Fremantle.

5. Monday. NO ENTRY.

6. Tuesday.

At P.A.H this afternoon.

Stpehenson and Osman began demolishing the "humpy" in which we used to camp up here and which we occupied with the back wings of the large house for so long. They they are going to move the skeleton of the humpy on rollers to its new site in Ellies paddock where it is to be used as a gardeners dwelling.

7. Wednesday.

Home by 4.10 train.

8. Thursday.

Home by 4.10 train. Had to go to University at 2 o'clock to be present at the exam in ophthalmic medicine & surgery. Afterwards attended meeting at Hospital to consider equipping a second operating theatre for "septic" cases.

9. Friday.

At P.A.H. this afternoon. Cool day.

Editha and Bessie Hooke came up this afternoon to stay till Sunday. Phyllis who has been ill all week with one of her gastric attacks but is now recovering, came here with them.

10. Saturday.

Cool day. Home by 12.30 train.

Polishing of woodwork of hall nearly completed.

11. Sunday.

Weather getting warmer again. Janie Mc Farland here to dinner. Wrote Mabel to Fremantle.

12. Monday.

Home early this afternoon.

13. Tuesday.

Left hospital at 4 and drove with Harry Hinder to Ashfield where I had a little operation. Had tea at Summerlees and did not get home until nearly 10.30.

14. Wednesday.

This afternoon had viva voce examination of my students-- Dr Maher co-examiner- They are a very poor lot this year as was only to be expected as they have been very remiss in their attendance at out patients and wards.

Dined with Maher at Union Club afterwards and got home about 10.30.

15. Thursday.

Lunched at Club. Home by 2.40 train.

Phyllis returned from school for the holidays bringing Irene Shaw with her. Phyllis has gained 3 prizes and has also got a special certificate for having passed the best examination of the whole school.

16. Friday.

At P.A.H.. Home early 4.10 boat.

Ellie at breaking up of the boys school.Jack got a prize for " Grammar and poetry"

17. Saturday.

Brian Jack went to stay at Summerlees.

At home all afternoon.Painting park fence along avenue and fixing stair rods on main hall staircase. Drought continues.Guy went to a picnic given by Janie McFarland to Balmoral.

18. Sunday.

At home all day. No visitors except Flo and Irene Shaw who are staying here.

19. Monday.

Sir Alfred Roberts died this morning at Wentworth Falls.

20. Tuesday.

At P.A.H. left early to attend meeting of examiners.

Eric passed his fourth years exam. Several of the fifth years men were plucked.

21. Wednesday.

Lunched at Club.Afterwards attended funeral service Sir Alf Roberts at Cathedral. Did not follow the coffin Waverly. Home by 4.10 train.

22. Thursday.

Home by 1.10 train.

23. Friday.

At P.A.H. Hinders coachman drove Brian and Jack to the Hospital and I brought them home.Had to take a cab from Hospital as it was raining heavily and on reaching home was glad to find it raining here.
- the first rain we have had for many weeks.

24. Saturday.

Did not go to town. Am taking 4 days holiday.

Rain which cleared off during night came on again about 11 o'clock and continued heavily all day breaking the drought here. Frank Syer came this afternoon and fitted up the staircase clock which he has made for me.

25. Sunday.

Fine day but cold with strong southerly gale. Very unlike usual Xmas weather.At home all day. No visitors except Flo who is staying here.

26. Monday.

At home all day- painting front gates.

In afternoon went into Wades and had a game of tennis the first game I have had for nearly 3 years.

He had a large party there. Ellie and Flo went in also.

27.Tuesday.

At home all day. Painting back iron gates.

Syer came up this afternoon to adjust the clock.

He did not stay to tea. .

Papers report arrival of Konigen Louise (with mother and girls on board) at Fremantle.

28.Wednesday.

Lunched at Club. Home by 2.40 train. Painting.

Uncle Tom called to see me this morning. He returns to Singleton tonight.

29.Thursday.

Lunched at Club. Home by 2.40 train. The directors of Gas Company came up by train to Hornsby to drive round the district to decide whether they will lay on gas or not.

30.Friday.

Did not go to P.A.H. this afternoon having to go with Dr Hall to see Capt. Mann at Greenwich who is suffering from gastric catarrh, and is in a rather critical condition.

31.Saturday.

Home by 12.30 train. Theo Barder came up with me and stayed here all night.

Ellie Phyllis Jack went to Manly to see the Ridges.

THE 63rd YEAR OF THE REIGN OF QUEEN VICTORIA.

INCOME TAX. 6 pence in £ on incomes over £200.

No tax on incomes earned outside N.S.W.

TARIFFS. Spirits. 14/s per proof gallon.
9 pence per gallon on Beer.
Opium and derivatives £1 per pound.
Tobacco 3/s per pound.

Mails. From England 33 days to Sydney.
32 days to Melbourne.

POSTAGE. one penny.
CHEQUES one penny.

1. Monday.

Public holiday. At home all day. Working
at brick guttering to front avenue. Very hot day.

2. Tuesday.

At P.S.H. Dined at Club. Met Ellie and Phyllis
at Circular Quay, and saw Phyllis off by 9.20
train to Queanbeyan where she is to stay with the
Craces at Gungahleen, Quindooora. Went to
supper with the Charlie Gadens (who now live at
Milsons Point.) whom we met on Railway Station
and returned by 10.40 train.

3. Wednesday.

Another hot sultry day. Home by 2.40 train.
Working at brick guttering and spraying trees
Harry anxious to go with "Bush Contingent" to
South Africa.

Had news this morning of an advantage gained
by General French who with cavalry had
caused the Boers to retire from Colesberg which
he has occupied. Buller is still tied up at Chievely.
White in Ladysmith. Methuen at Modder River.
Gatacre at Stormberg, Thodes and Mc Kernoh in Kimberly and Baden-Powell
in Mafeking.

4. Thursday.

Another very hot sultry day until nearly 4 o'clock when a
thunderstorm came on followed by a strong southerly.
The storm kept me at the Club from 3.30 till 4.30. Home
by 4.50 train.

5. Friday.

Did not go to P.A.H. as R.J. & Mrs Roberts from Forbes.

came up (I with them) by 2.40 train to afternoon tea, and as a drizzling rain was falling they stayed to dinner.

6. Saturday.

Light drizzling rain at intervals. Went on in afternoon at my job of brick guttering.

Very sleepy and had a doze after midday dinner.

7. Sunday.

Very close day with occasional light drizzles. Overcome with sleepiness and dozed off both before and after lunch, a most unusual thing for me. Syer here in afternoon, and to tea.

8. Monday.

Still drizzling rain very light. Home by 4.10 train and did an hours brick guttering before dinner.

Plague (bubonic) reported at New Caledonia some days ago.

9. Tuesday.

At P.A.H..

News today of concerted attack on Ladysmith which Sir G. White repulsed after 17 hours fighting.

Sir Redross Buller at Chienly only 22 miles away with 33,000 troops appears to be quite blocked by the Boers, the Tagela River and insufficient transport.. Methuen in the West is blocked at Modder River by Cronje and Gatacre at or near Stormberg French has been able to advance with cavalry and artillery to Colesberg

10. Wednesday.

Intended taking boys to Randwick to see the camp of the men who are going to the Transvaal but a storm came up mid day. Came home by 2.40 train. Did some guttering till storm returned about 6 o'clock.

11. Thursday.

This afternoon took the boys to Randwick to the military camp formed there for the purpose of training volunteers for the Transvaal. There was nothing very exciting on. Only some squad drill & riding exercise.

Harry went into camp today to try and get some training to qualify him for a lieutenancy in the Bushmens contingent.

12. Friday.

At P.A.H.

Flo here this morning.

13. Saturday.

Took Ellie Flo the three boys and Nellie for a picnic. Drove in Kings wagonette to Bobbin Head

and then got a boat. Caught a couple of dozen fish. Home about 7. Lovely day.

14. Sunday.

At home all day. Training creepers and tying up chrysanthemums most of time. Miss Minnie Maud & Emmie Mann here in afternoon.

15. Monday.

Home by 4.10 train. Tied up some chrysanthemums and other plants.

After dinner had a shot at some flying foxes which are very troublesome this year in the neighbourhood, though they have not descended on to my fruit so far.

A large camp of them estimated at 120000 has been found at Tumble Down Dick in the Pittwater Road.

16. Tuesday.

At P.A.H. this afternoon.

17. Wednesday.

Another contingent of N.S.W. troops went away this afternoon amongst great enthusiasm. - mounted infantry Australian Horse and medical staff corps making a total of 1300,000 N.S.W. has sent to date. Stanley Arthur Antill went with this lot. ^{Sic} Also Dr Scot Skirving & Mac Cormick. Ellie the three boys and Nellie saw the procession from my rooms in Macquarie St. Some friends there also. Reckoned that 150000 people at least witnessed the show. The troops embarked at Woolloomooloo in the Moranian "Southern Cross" & Surrey.

18. Thursday.

This afternoon went to a consultation with Abbott at Stanmore. Home by 10 to 5 train.

19. Friday.

At P.A.H. Left early to go to consultation (2nd with Abbott at Stanmore. Caught 20 to 5 train home.

The Sargoods Remingtons and Parishes here to dinner.

20. Saturday.

Very hot sultry day. Occasional showers of "heat drops" Southerly came up about 10.30.

Dr & Mrs Willie Hinder here this evening. I did some brick guttering.

21. Sunday.

At home all day. No visitors.

22. Monday.

Buller has got across the Tagela and with Sir Charles Warren, Lord DunDonald General Cleary Hillyard and others is slowly drawing near to Ladysmith which has been beleaguered for I think nearly 3 months.

Had another row with Dominic about Bella washing her clothes with ours. He has given me a months notice.

23. Tuesday.

Home by 1.10 train. Ellie had a lunch party consisting of Miss Kirby and Alan Manns little girl Edie who has been under her care for a long time, having had to have many operations for club feet. Also Mrs Walter Church and 2 Miss Gregorays from Melbourne (Tony Carters sisters) and Rosie Turner. In afternoon Dr & Mrs Jones, and three children drove over from their country cottage near Waitara.

25. Thursday.

A tremendous down pour of rain began about 1.30 this morning. I think about 6 inches fell in about 2 hours (at Beecroft it was measured $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches) Some of the properties here that are steep and hilly had put drainage and water found its way through roofs. No damage done here. Fine day afterwards but threatening. Phyllis came back from Queanbeyan this morning. Home by 4.10 train. Bought Ellie a Watteau set of silver backed brushes tray etc.

26. Friday.

Anniversary day. Public holiday. I took Brian & Jack to the intercolonial cricket match. Guy preferred going to the picture gallery with his aunt Flo (Hooke).

27. Saturday.

Got a letter this morning announcing Arthur Purchas return from England with his wife and family. He has been away about 2 years. He called this morning. We went to cricket match and he came home with me to stay a few days. His wife & family have gone to Mulgoa. Mabel returned from Melbourne today.

28. Sunday.

Hot day. Discovered "borers" in nearly all my "Liphosermmons" Syer came up in afternoon. He and I and Purchas went to Lorne to afternoon tea. Rosie Turner left. Edith Hooke staying here tonight.

29. Monday.

Purchas lunched with me and he & I went to Randwick to see the Bushmens camp. Saw them shooting riding and drilling. Harry was there drilling. Being late away Purchas dined with me at the club and we returned here by the 9.40 train.

Bad news again from the Transvaal. Part of Bullers forces have met with another "reverse", at Skions Kop. After they had taken it from the Boers they were driven out with heavy loss and had to retire again south of the Tagela.

30. Tuesday.

Purchas lunched with me at Club, and afterwards went to P.A.H. when I had a few operations. He came back here to dinner, and stayed all night. Great gloom and anxiety here as in England over Buller's second reverse. Particulars are very meagre and unsatisfactory.

Phyllis returned to school.

Purchas returned to New Zealand today by the "Elingamite" with his wife and 3 boys and nurse. He lunched with me at the Club and then I went to Metropole and saw Mrs Purchas and the 3 boys. Ellie and Nellie came in too to see them. Did not go to the steamer. Said goodbye to them in their cabs as they left the Metropole. Miss Morse who came to see them off had a cup of tea with me at the Allora and then I came home by 4.10 train. Ellie and Nellie had gone into town shopping. Boys recommenced school.

1. Thursday.

FEBRUARY. 1900.

Home by 4.10 train.

2. Friday.

Am taking a months holiday from Hospital so this afternoon went to cricket match specially arranged to assist the funds for the Bushmens contingent between the last Australian eleven that went to England and the rest of Australia. Australian eleven all out for 237. Rest of Australia 59 and 2 wickets gone. Being late dined at Club and came home by 9.40 train.

3. Saturday.

Left rooms at 12 and came went to cricket match. Rest of Australia all out for 281. Australian eleven second innings one for about 60. Ellie Phyllis & Nellie went to Manly to see Edie Rossitter who is very ill there in Nurse Bonnors private hospital.

4. Sunday.

Quiet Sunday. At home all day. Edith Hooke came up in afternoon and stayed to tea. She had a Miss Dorothy Robey one of her boarder pupils with her.

5. Monday.

Very hot all day. Home by 2.40 train.

6. Tuesday.

Home by 1.10 train. Working at brick guttering along western side of front avenue near front gate. Very hot day.

In evening Mr & Mrs Ireland & Mrs Wade dropped in for a chat. News from Transvaal very scanty for some days.

7. Wednesday.

Home by 1.10 train. Working at brick guttering.
In evening went to Irelands to card party
Ellie was to have gone but felt too seedy
Still no fresh news from Transvaal
Buller is supposed to be making a fresh forward movement
for relief of Ladysmith.

8. Thursday.

Home by 2.40 train. Mr Frogatt Government
Entomologist came up in train with me to see my
trees affected with borers. He did not tell me much that
I did not know before.

9. Friday.

Home by 1.10 train. Jas Gedley and wife came up
to see about married couples situation.
Worked at brick guttering.

10. Saturday.

Home by 12.30 train. Doing brick guttering all
afternoon. Jas Gedley & wife came up to see
me about situation as gardener and laundress
after tea called in to Mrs Wades to doctor a water tap
that had gone bung.

11. Sunday.

At home all day. Ellie lying down with bad
cold. Wrote Harold in evening.

12. Monday.

Harry has been appointed 2nd Lieutenant in
bushmens brigade. For this he has to thank Sir
George Dibbs whom I got last week to use his
influence with the Minister of Defence to get Harry a
commission. He is very well suited for the position
but political influence was at work to put some other
fellows: lawyers and city men in over his head.
Home by 2.40 train. Working at shed for passion
fruit to creep over. Jas Gedley and wife not coming.

13. Tuesday. NO ENTRY.

14. Wednesday.

Early this morning we had a phenomenal fall of
rain. Some very heavy showers fell before daylight
but the bulk fell between 7 and 8.30. I could not
start for my train and for the first time since I have
lived up here did not go by it but by the 10 train.
Those who tried the early train had to wade through water
which was over the railway line at the crossing
and knee deep all over the road going to the station I think
6 inches must have fallen. No more during day.
Home by 1.10 train.

15.Thursday.

Operation at Craigend Hospital. Home by 4.10 train. Ellie came with me. She had been to dentist and shopping.

Home by 1.10 train. Working at trellis for passion fruit vines. Fred Rossitter came up this afternoon. Weather damp dark dull and lowering since Wednesday morning's storm but no more rain.

17.Saturday.

Ellie in town at dentists. Came home with me by 12.30 train. Working at passion fruit trellis all afternoon. Syer came up to attend to clock which has been losing lately also Mrs Ward & Katie Mrs Luscomb & 2 children & Mabel here in afternoon. Good news from Africa. Kimberley relieved by French under Roberts.

18.Sunday.

At home all day. Ellie in bed with cold all day. Theo Bader here to dinner. A few showers fell.

19.Monday.

Fine day. Busy morning in town. Home by 2.40 train. Mrs Campbell of Chatswood (Aunt Jessie's sister) and her daughter Muriel came up with me in train from Chatswood to call on Ellie.

20 Tuesday . NO ENTRY.

21. Wednesday.

Ellie and I went to Lorne after dinner this evening to see and say goodbye to Harry.

22.Thursday.

News from Africa is that Cronje who was at Magersfontein has bolted before the relievers of Kimberley and has been followed up and brought to bay by Kelly- Kenny, French, and Hector Macdonald.

23.Friday.

The prizes for last half year were given this evening at Mr Pages school- in the new school room just completed. I gave them out.

24.Saturday.

Syer came up again this afternoon to attend to the clock.

At home all day training Virginia Creepers and roses. Edith and Bessie Hooke here to tea.

26.Monday.

This afternoon went to see Harry at Bushmens

camp Kensington. Stayed with him all afternoon. Was introduced to several people including Capt(Dr) Machettie the commander of Harry's (C) squadron and the Kings of Goonoo Goonoo. Being late away dined at Club with Harry and came home by 9.30 boat. Harry going to Lorne for the night this being his last leave before he sails on Wednesday.

27. Tuesday.

Home by 1.10 train. Carpentering in afternoon. Showery weather.

28. Wednesday.

News today that Lord Roberts has captured Cronje. Today public holiday for departure of N.S.W. Bushmens Brigade 500 strong for South Africa by imperial transports " Atlantian" and " Maplemore" I was at my rooms all morning and after lunch Ellie and all the children came onto my verandah to see the procession. The bushmen rode through the streets and looked very workemlike. Col Assing is in command Capt(Dr) Machattie in command of 6 squadrons in which Harry is 2nd lieutenant. After procession had passed went down to wharf and managed to get on board the " Maplemore " staying till 6 with Harry. Shortly afterwards the steamer moved out into the stream.

MARCH 1900.

1. Thursday.

The " Maplemore " & " Atlantian" lay at moorings all day. The Atlantian sailed at 5.p.m.

None of the contingent were allowed on shore so I saw no more of Harry.

Home by 2.40 train.

2. Friday.

The " Maplemore" left at 6 this morning. She was delayed by having to take aboard a lot of oats for the Imperial Army.

Home by 2.40 train.

3. Saturday.

Syer up again this afternoon to attend to the clock.

News came of relief of Ladysmith by General

Buller after 3 or 4 months seige by the Boers.

4. Sunday.

Home all day.

5. Monday.

Home by 2.40 train. Working at gate.

Ellie came to me this morning to be tested for new spectacles.

6. Tuesday.

Hot day.

Resumed work at hospital this afternoon after a months absence.

7. Wednesday.

Busy day. Lunched at Club .Home 2.40 train.

Considerable anxiety in Sydney over the onset of bubonic plague.

8. Thursday.

Home by 2.40 train.

9. Friday.

Dinner party this evening guests Mr & Mrs Adams of Tasmania and a lady friend of theirs Mrs Pitman of Melbourne, Mr & Mrs Tom Robin & Norman.

A case of plague in Sydney Hospital, and one in Childrens hospital at Glebe, as well as several others about city.

Good news from Africa continues: the only bad bit being that Mafeking is hard pressed.

10. Saturday.

Home by 2.40 train. Syer came up and put cap on newel of staircase - a job that has wanted doing ever since house was finished. Edie Rossitter who has been ill came to stay.

11. Sunday.

Dull day with a few spots of rain. Ella & Norman here to dinner. The rest of the Lorne people have gone to Katoomba for a month.

12. Monday.

Went to Glebe in afternoon to consultation on Whiddon M.P. with Dr Graham. Afterwards to Club for cup of afternoon tea. Home by 5.30 train.

Some fresh cases of plague and some more deaths amongst those already affected.

13. Tuesday.

At P.A.H. this afternoon.

14. Wednesday.

Operation this afternoon at Forest Lodge. Eneucleation of right eye of Mr Whiddon M.P for haemorrhagic glaucoma. Dr Grahams patient. He gave chloroform.

Home by the 4.50 train.

Jack laid up with another of his gastric attacks.