



The
KIPLING JOURNAL

Published quarterly by the

KIPLING SOCIETY



SEPTEMBER 1975

VOL XLII

NO. 195

CONTENTS

NEWS AND NOTES.	2
By Roger Lancelyn Green	
DID SCARRON'S 'ROMAN COMIQUE' INFLUENCE 'THE LIGHT THAT FAILED?'.	5
By Margaret Newsom	
WHO WAS SLATIN BEEMAN?.	10
By W. S. Tower	
DISCUSSION MEETING.	13
HON. SECRETARY'S NOTES.	14
SON OF GOD OR SON OF MAN?.	15
By Peter L. Hays	

THE KIPLING SOCIETY

THE Society was founded in 1927. Its first President was Major-General L. C. Dunsterville, C.B., C.S.I. ("Stalky") (1927-1946).

Members are invited to propose those of their friends who are interested in Rudyard Kipling's works for election to membership. The Hon. Secretary would be glad to hear from members overseas as to prospects of forming a Branch of the Society in their district.

THE KIPLING SOCIETY ADDRESS—

18, Northumberland Avenue, London, WC2N 5BJ (Tel. 01-930 6733).

Be sure to telephone before calling, as the office is not always open.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Home: £2.50. Overseas: £2.00. Junior (under 18): £1.00
U.S.A.: Persons, \$5.00; Libraries, \$6.00.

THE KIPLING SOCIETY

Forthcoming Meetings

COUNCIL MEETINGS

At 50 Eaton Place, SW1, at 2 p.m.

Wednesday, 17th September, 1975, after the AGM at 2 p.m.

Wednesday, 17th December, 1975, at 2 p.m.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, 17th September, 1975, at 2 p.m., at 50 Eaton Place, SW1.

DISCUSSION MEETINGS

At St. George's Club, 4 Wilton Mews, SW1, at 5.30 for 6 p.m.

Wednesday, September 17th, 1975. Mr T. F. Evans of the University of London, formerly editor of "The Shavian", will open a discussion on "The Age of Bernard Shaw".

Wednesday, 19th November, 1975. Mr. C. E. Carrington will open a Discussion on "Second Thoughts about Kipling".

ANNUAL LUNCHEON

The Annual Luncheon of the Kipling Society will be held at the Connaught Rooms, Great Queen Street, London W2, on Wednesday, October 8th 1975. The Guests of Honour will be Professor and Mrs Charles Carrington.

Application forms will be sent out in September.

THE KIPLING JOURNAL

published quarterly by

THE KIPLING SOCIETY

Vol. XLII No. 195

SEPTEMBER 1975

NEWS AND NOTES

FROM STALKY AT SCHOOL

'Only inky schoolboys we are'—but when one of them is Lionel Charles Dunsterville (not yet 'Stalky': his actual school nickname was 'Blobbs') writing from the United Services College, Westward Ho! about himself and his studymates, these 'paper pellets of inky boys' take on an interest that Mr. King could never have foreseen. Dunsterville's great-nephew, Lieut. Colonel J. H. Harvey-Kelly, has come across a cache of his letters to his sister May, from which he has generously allowed some quotations to be made here.

The earliest is dated 10 Nov. 1878, and tells how 'one of the fellows here called Beresford heard it was my birthday so gave me a great hunk of toffee.' Then comes a gap until an undated letter tells of the study which preceded the famous 'No. Five': 'I have rather a curious set of friends here: first, there is a fellow, a very good poet and drawer (his father is an artist). He is strong and short, very short-sighted, has got a moustache, is as clumsy as a bull in a china shop, and is a month younger than me. His name is Kipling. Second, a fellow about my height and age, rather thin, rather neat, rather good-looking, very slow and deaf (Beresford). Third, a fellow of twelve whom I rescued from the prison when he was a new boy and who has clung to me ever since . . . His name is Hulseberg. Remember these three names and their descriptions, as I shall probably often mention them: KIPLING (nickname 'Gigs'), BERESFORD and Hulseberg.'

John Henry Hulseberg, born 1868, was at the U.S.C. from May 1879 to Dec: 1881. The O.U.S.C. Register gives no further information, and there seems to be no mention of him in any published reminiscences.

The next letter is dated 12 Nov. 1881. . . . 'Yesterday Kipling, the third fellow in the same study as me, broke one of the panels of the door because we would not let him in.' Perhaps Kipling was thinking of this incident when he wrote in *Something of Myself* (p. 27) 'We fought among ourselves "regular an' faithful as man an' wife," but any debt we owed elsewhere was faithfully paid by all three of us.'

The next letter, undated, complains that 'I am going to be turned out of my study, if father will not pay £1.10s. for the damages I have done. I don't suppose he will pay it. The damages were some holes bored in the wooden chairs and the door. I am writing this letter in Divinity lesson and hope it will not be collared. . . . Do you know that I am a bully? Yesterday a little chap called Coningham mi called me 'Susy' (I acted as Susan, a housemaid, once) and asked me to cook him a roley-poley pudding. I chivied him and caught him, and by way of a new punishment I took his hand and twisted his arm till he turned round,

and then ran with all my might to the bottom of a hill, making him run after me backwards. When he got to the bottom he had no wind left and he lay on the ground gasping like a fish for about two or three minutes; and the first words he uttered were 'You beastly bully'. Then he began to blub, so I left him. Now, do you call that bullying?' Dunsterville's victim on this occasion lived to become a Major-General with a whole row of medals for distinguished service in numerous campaigns from the North West Frontier in 1894 to Iraq during and Persia after the First World War.

Another, undated, but written late in May, probably 1882, tells her that 'about 30 fellows have had and are having the measles'—perhaps the one epidemic which Kipling remembered as chicken-pox (*Something of Myself* p. 23). In the same letter he notes that 'Kipling is undecided when to go out to India, probably in about a year's time'—which would suggest 1881 as the date of the letter, were it not that in fact Kipling went to Lahore earlier than he expected and at short notice.

The other letters deal with more ordinary schoolboy ploys and games: Dunsterville was an enthusiastic member of the Natural History Society, and even went on special expeditions alone with Mr. Evans ('Little Hartopp'); and he was a very efficient president of the Literary and Debating Society.

And finally there is a letter from Kipling to May Dunsterville, by then Mrs. Armitage, dated from 'The Elms', Rottingdean, 6 Dec: 1898: 'Perhaps I will remember L. C. Dunsterville (No. 10)'—forgive me quoting your words but *don't* you see any likeness between 'Stalky' and L. C. Dunsterville, No. 10? We were only in the same form, same dormitory and same study for five and two years respectively. There was a time when Dunsterville—Beresford—Kipling were pronounced as one word at the U.S.C, and we fell into punishment as one boy. I last saw him in Mian Mir in '90' or '91 on a flying visit . . .'

Colonel Harvey-Kelly also possesses a satiric sonnet and caricature drawing, both written by Kipling at the U.S.C, which we much regret being unable to reproduce here.

THE NORTHAM CATTLE-RAID

The query in the *News and Notes* section of *Journal* No. 192 (Dec: 1974) as to how the Housemasters knew about the cattle-raid described in 'Stalky' has been excellently answered by our Hon. Secretary, U.S.A. Branch, Mr. Joseph R. Dunlap who writes:

'I suggest that the statement 'Therefore the tale has stayed untold till today,' refers to the actions of Stalky & Co., in releasing De Vitre and his comrades and releasing the farmers later. When the three showed up in the form room after their exploit, it was clear that the beneficiaries of their stalkiness had already told the others round the fire of the cattle-lifting and of the rescue. Stalky refused to fill in or round out the story, but its outlines must have become common knowledge in the college.'

This, of course would assume that one at least of the masters heard the story and retailed it to the Senior Common Room—and Macrea's remark suggests that the cattle-lifters came from Hartopp's House, which Hartopp admits to be true. But one of the four cattle-lifters was Orrin, an important member of Prout's House when he next appears in 'An Unsavoury Interlude!'

THE GENESIS OF 'PUCK'

Mr. Dunlap also sends No. 15 (Fall 1974) of *News from Anywhere*, the Journal of the William Morris Society of New York. This contains an extremely interesting article of reminiscences by May Bradshaw Jays, the daughter of Joseph Jacobs (1855-1916) the folklorist who is still remembered for his splendidly readable collections and retellings of English, Celtic and Indian fairytales.

'Among my most vivid memories,' she writes, 'are the Sunday afternoons when Father would take me to Burne-Jones's studio, where pictures of great figures of angels and of beautiful drooping women in blue robes lined the walls. I would sit on William Morris's lap while he held his great handleless bowl of tea in one hand and stroked my pale gold hair with the other.' And a particular recollection was of 'that Sunday when Rudyard Kipling (who was Lady Burne-Jones's nephew) tramped up and down the studio inveighing against the way in which history was taught in schools. He declared that history could be taught in a way which would make it as exciting as any fairy tale, and then children would never forget it. I like to think that this was the hour in which he conceived the idea of writing those superb historical tales in *Puck of Pook's Hill* and *Rewards and Fairies*.'

In support of this idea we have a letter from Burne-Jones to Kipling, written probably in 1897, about reference books for a story to be set apparently in Britain at about the time when 'the Romans left and the Danes blew in', which is given in full on pages 376-8 of Carrington. This early story seems to have been abandoned and forgotten, for, according to Professor Carrington, Mrs. Kipling noted in her diary on 25 Sept: 1904, that Kipling was 'at work on a fresh idea, a set of stories, the history of England told by Puck to Children'. The source of this second and successful burst of inspiration seems to have been a remark by his cousin Ambrose Poynter during a visit to Bateman's which must have been at about this time (*Something of Myself*, p. 185).

The Summer Number (23) 1975 of *National Trust* brings further news of the background to the Puck stories. 'Kipling's mill, celebrated in *Puck of Pook's Hill*, is busy again after 70 years disuse.' The National Trust, aided by a band of willing local helpers, has restored the mill to its original state before 'Kipling had removed the old waterwheel to make room for a turbine which drove a generator and supplied Bateman's with current for lighting . . . The two streams, one from Pook's Hill and the other from just beyond Nether Forge, are filling the pond at need. Guards have been fitted to protect the unwary visitor from injury, and the mill which 'Has ground her corn and paid her tax ever since Domesday Book' will be grinding and paying once more.'

NEW BOOKS ON KIPLING

The interest in Kipling and his works shows a sudden flowering. Philip Mason's *Kipling: the Glass, the Shadow and the Fire* (Cape £6) appeared on 12 June and was well received by most reviewers. It adds little to our knowledge of Kipling, but its study of the later stories is of absorbing interest. We hope to include a full review of it in the next *Journal*.

Two more books dealing in part with Kipling also require fuller treatment: *India in English Fiction* (1971) by Professor K. Visanatham, Andhra University Press, Waltair which gives forty pages to a detailed study of *Kim*; and *The Savage in English Literature* (1975) by Brian V. Street, published by Routledge and Kegan Paul, £5.75 which examines the way in which natives and native customs of India and Africa were presented to the ordinary reader by popular authors ranging from Kipling and Rider Haggard to Edgar Wallace and Edgar Rice Burroughs.

And we may look forward to *Rudyard Kipling and his World* by Kingsley Amis, to be published by Thames and Hudson towards the end of this year. And a book on Kipling by Angus Wilson is promised for next year.

R.L.G.

DID SCARRON'S ROMAN COMIQUE INFLUENCE THE WRITING OF THE LIGHT THAT FAILED?

by Margaret Newsom

In *Something of Myself*, Kipling wrote—"Now here is a curious thing. At the Paris Exhibition of 1878 I saw, and never forgot, a picture of the death of Manon Lescaut, and asked my father many questions. I read that amazing 'one book' of the Abbé Prévost, in alternate slabs with Scarron's *Roman Comique*, when I was eighteen, and it brought up the picture. My theory is that a germ lay dormant till my change of life to London (though that is not Paris) woke it up, and that *The Light That Failed* was a sort of inverted metagrobolised phantasmagoria based on Manon." (Pages 227-8).

Charles Carrington, in a wonderfully informative, and helpful, article in the Kipling Journal for June, 1975, told us that Kipling read French Literature voraciously, under his learned father's eye at Lahore. I have since learnt from him that Lockwood Kipling had once earned his living in London as a French teacher. These facts would explain why his son read Scarron's long novel, which he thought was "dreary"—(see *Souvenirs of France*, Page 11).

Paul Scarron was born in 1610, in Paris. His father, a judge of the Paris High Court, decided that his pleasure-loving and difficult son—his verse-writing he thought was the last straw—should not follow in his footsteps but go into the Church.

Young Scarron became a clerical servant in the house of Monseigneur Charles de Beaumanoir-Lavardin, Bishop of Mans, who was a good man, gentle, and indulgent where the frailty of others was concerned. In time, the bishop, and many of the people of Mans (Le Mans) came to think of Scarron as the champion of life, of beauty, of laughter, and simplicity.

In 1635, Scarron accompanied his master to Rome where he lived a life of debauchery of which he repented on his return. He was offered a canonry in the Chapter of the Cathedral of Mans but his right

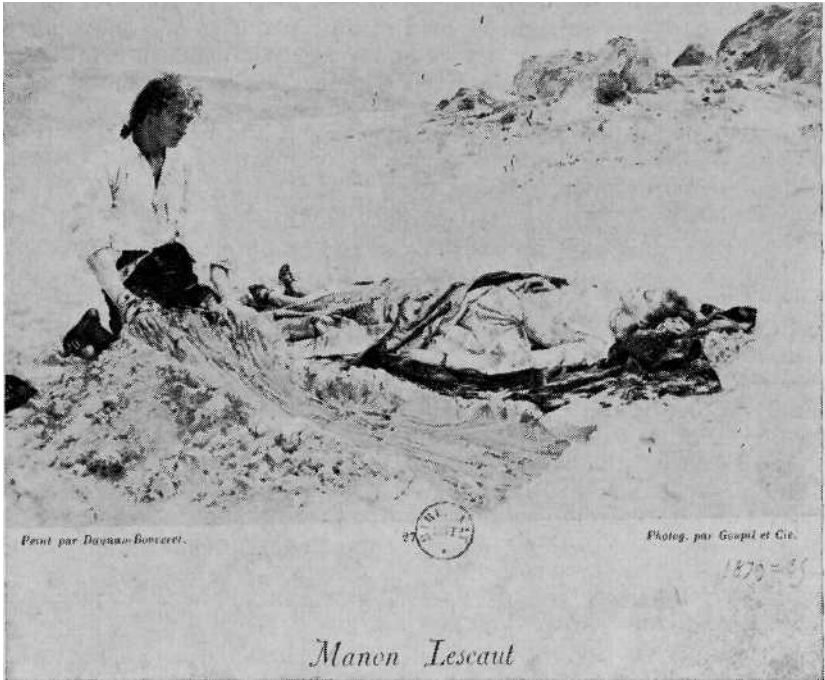
to the office was contested. During the years of legal proceedings he continued to live as a cleric, but from this time he began to meet people of the town by going at night to the taverns. He was known as "the best buffoon of Mans". The noise he sometimes made annoyed a certain lieutenant of the police. The two men were soon enemies. He met the noblemen of the region when they came from Paris in the summer, and enlivened their circles too. He travelled everywhere in the provinces with the bishop, and was lavishly entertained with him in the great houses.

When the bishop, who was his friend and protector, died, Scarron left the episcopal palace and lived somehow, but cheerfully, in the town of Mans. But, during the Carnival of 1638, he was foolish enough to coat himself with honey, roll in a bed of feathers, and, dressed only in this way, appear in the streets of the town; then, escaping the frightening crowd which chased him, to jump into the river and hide among the reeds in the icy water until nightfall when he could quietly go home. This innocent escapade was the cause of rheumatic fever, and racking pain in all his joints for the rest of his life. Two years later he won his ecclesiastical suit and became a canon. The following year he returned to live in Paris, hoping there to find a doctor who would give him back the zest to live, but none was found able enough. It was he, himself, who discovered the best remedy for the agonising pains: which is laughter. His tribulation did not stop him from writing or enjoying food and wine.

He became famous for his doggerel verse and poems, but, having also to support a nurse, he had barely enough to live on. One day in 1650, while meditating on his past life, he saw in his mind the images of the tavern of 'La Biche', in Mans, and the people he once knew in the beautiful province of Maine, some remembered by their characters only, others only by their faces. He decided, with great joy, to write a story about them, and he would call it *Le Roman Comique* (The Comic Romance). The book was a success. The readers soon realised that the characters in it were real people, disguised in varying degrees, and there seems to have been a vogue of investigating who they all were, until a probably final and most erudite key was published in 1904.

Scarron gave up his Canonry to marry Françoise d'Aubigné (who married Louis XIV in 1684, and became Madame de Maintenon). He wrote a second part to his Roman and was well advanced in writing a third when he died in October 1660. Did Mme. Scarron, disapproving of his work which offended her prudery, destroy the chapters and notes left by her husband? Or did she entrust them to a third person?—enquires Emile Magne, from whose Preface to the Classiques Garnier edition these notes on Scarron's life are compiled. One cannot be sure, he replies. In 1662 or 1663 there appeared an edition of *Le Roman Comique* with an anonymous third part. There has been no general agreement as to who wrote it. More of the story was written and added to the third part, signed by "le sieur de Preschac." It appeared in 1679, and finally there was a conclusion, by a "sieur D.L.", published in 1771.

In the last chapter but one, of the collected third part, is a story which is told by one of the characters of the main story, and having no bearing on its plot (a favourite device of Scarron, and it is these interruptions that make the reading of his novel such a trial). This parti-



cular story is called *Historie De La Capricieuse Amante* which is here reproduced, slightly abridged from a fairly literal translation by my husband.

"THE STORY OF THE CAPRICIOUS LOVER"

"In a little Breton town called Vitré there was once an old gentleman who had long been married to a very virtuous lady, without having children. Among a number of servants whom he had, were a butler and a housekeeper through whose hands passed all the household expenditure. These two persons who did as most men and women servants, and made love, promised to marry one another; and each pulled so hard from his or her own side that the good old gentleman and his wife died in very embarrassed circumstances, while the servants lived richly and were married.

"Some years later the butler found himself in trouble, so that he was obliged to flee which meant leaving his wife to live alone. Having waited in vain for two years to hear news of him, she put about a report that he had died, and she put on mourning. After a bit, several men sought to marry her. One of them was a rich merchant and she married him. After a year she gave birth to a daughter.

"Margaret, the daughter, grew up. She was graceful rather than beautiful and had enough wit for a person of her position in life. However, as you know, the most important thing about marriage is money, and so she was never short of men to run after her. One of them was the son of a rich merchant. His name was Saint-Germain. In his frequent meetings with the girl, he did not fail to offer his services and give evidence of his passion for her and his desire to marry her. She did not in any way repulse him and even let him visit her at her home, with the consent of her father and mother who favoured his suit to the best of their ability. But when he asked for her hand in marriage she rebuffed him furiously. He went away, the most confused man in the world.

"He let some days pass without seeing her, thinking that she could stifle his passion. But it had taken too deep roots and so he could not help returning to see her. He had hardly entered the house when she went out of it and joined a group of girls from the neighbourhood. He followed her, but only after complaining to her parents of how badly their daughter was treating him. They said they were very sorry and promised to make her more sociable. But as she was their only daughter, they did not dare to gainsay her, contenting themselves with remonstrating gently with her at treating this young man so severely after having given him reason to think that she loved him. She did not answer any of this and continued in a bad temper. She even went so far as to get people to pick quarrels with him and landed him in four duels from which he emerged gloriously—this enraged her, at least in appearance. This ill-treatment only poured oil on the flames: he was even more transported with passion and did not in any way relax his visits.

"One day, she let him approach her and listened attentively to his complaints which were in some such words as these: 'Why do you run away from him who does not know how to live without you?' 'Well,' she replied, 'if it is true, as you say, that I have some power over you, I think that the best thing would be for you to join the troops that are being raised. When you have been in several campaigns you may find me more yielding to your desires . . . and don't come to say goodbye.' She allowed him to kiss her and went into another room, shutting the door. The unhappy lover took his leave of her father and mother who could not restrain their tears. The next day he joined a company of cavalry which was being raised for the siege of La Rochelle, but the night before his departure he serenaded her. The capricious girl opened the shutter of her window and laughed so loudly that she only succeeded in making Saint-Germain despair. He left with his company for the camp at La Rochelle where, as no doubt you know, the siege was very hard fought.

"After the surrender, many of the troops were discharged, including Saint-Germain's company, and he returned to Vitré. Hardly had he got there when he went to see his severe Margaret who allowed him to greet her. But she only said that he had come back too soon and she asked him not to see her again. He answered with these sad words—'I must avow that you are a dangerous person and only desire the death of the most faithful lover in the world. I am going to search where some people more unfortunate than I have found death. I shall search for it in so many places that in the end it will be obliged to satisfy me and content you. Adieu then, most cruel being in the universe.' He got up

and wanted to leave, but she stopped him to say that she did not desire his death, and if she had landed him in duels it had only been to have some proofs of his valour and to ensure that he was more worthy to possess her. However, she was still not minded to try the experiment. She threw poor Saint-Germain into so furious a despair that he kept seeking occasion to show this cruel woman the violence of his love by some sinister mode of death, which he thought he would find.

"One evening, when he and seven of his comrades came out of a public house wearing their swords, they met four gentlemen, including a cavalry captain, and disputed with them which should step off the pavement for the other in the narrow street along which they were going. The four had to give way, but they said that the numbers would soon be equal, and went off to find four or five others. When they had found them they went to look for the seven who had forced them off the pavement, and found them in the main street. As Saint-Germain had not been the most forward in the original dispute, the captain had noticed him and knew him by his hat bordered with silver which glittered in the dark. Having seen him, he addressed himself to him and struck him on the head with a cutlass. This cut through his hat and a part of his skull. Thinking that Saint-Germain was dead and that they had taken sufficient revenge, they went away. Saint-Germain's companions picked him up and carried him home, where he was visited by surgeons who found him still alive. They dressed his wounds and bound up his skull.

"The first dispute had caused rumours in the neighbourhood, but the final blow caused an uproar. The noise reached Margaret's house and she got out of bed and, without stopping to dress, went to her lover's house where she found him in the state that I have described. When she saw death in his face, she fell down in a faint and they all found it difficult to bring her round. When she recovered, all the neighbours accused her of being the cause of the disaster, pointing out that if she had let Saint-Germain be with her he would have avoided this accident. At this, she began to pull out her hair and act like a person off her head with grief. After this she waited on him with such care that all the time he was unconscious she never took off her clothes or lay down, and she would not let even her own sisters wait on him. When he began to revive, people thought that her presence would do him more harm than good—for reasons that you can understand. At last he recovered and when he was fully convalescent he married his Margaret to the great contentment of them both as well as of her parents and many other people."

On reading through *Le Roman Comique*, there seemed to me to be only this extraneous story, and one small incident, which could be related to *The Light That Failed*. It may also be relevant that both novels are veiled autobiographies.

It is, however, the central theme of 'The Capricious Lover', with one or two details—the woman who encourages, then refuses in a bizarre and selfish way, and then accepts her man; the wound on the head which, in the end, causes her to return to him; the name of the town; and the kiss—which are so strongly reminiscent of the shorter version of *The Light That Failed*, with the happy ending. The butler and housekeeper seem to reappear also, as the Beetons.

The origin of these counterparts in Kipling's story is surely apparent. Why else should the author of *The Light That Failed* have referred to Scarron's *Roman Comique* in the same context as his theory that "a germ lay dormant till . . . London . . . woke it up"?

WHO WAS SLATIN BEEMAN?

By W. S. Tower

In Chapter Two of *Captains Courageous*, Kipling makes Dan Troop say that he has seen the private railway car of one Slatin Beeman, who "owns 'baout every railroad on Long Island . . . he's bought 'baout ha'af Noo Hampshire an' run a line fence around her, an' filled her up with lions an'tigers an' bears an' buffalo an' crocodiles an' such all. Slatin Beeman he's a millionaire." As long ago as 1940, it was pointed out that two characters in *Captains Courageous* can be traced to American originals—the boy Harvey Cheyne, and Pennsylvania Pratt.¹ While Slatin Beeman is not exactly a character in the story, he too derives from an American original, a man named Austin Corbin.

Austin Corbin was born and brought up in Newport, New Hampshire; he graduated from Harvard Law School in 1849. After a successful banking career in Iowa, he moved his operations to New York City in 1865, and soon thereafter became interested in railroads. "At that time the Long Island railroads were isolated systems, badly managed and in constant financial difficulty. After gaining control of the principal line, his ambition was to develop a great system which should bring the railroads on the island under one management. This ambition he attained in the early part of this year, when he became the owner of the majority interest in the system which now controls the transportation on the island."² The last great enterprise in which he engaged was the establishment near Newport, New Hampshire, of a game park embracing 26,000 acres. He spent a million dollars in stocking this preserve with animals.³ He had a private railway car, and even a private station near his summer home in North Newport.⁴ Kipling was obviously thinking of Austin Corbin when he described Slatin Beeman.

We do not know which, if any, newspapers Kipling read while he lived in Dummerston, but he must have known of Austin Corbin's death on June 4, 1896. Corbin's obituary made the front pages of not only the New Hampshire papers, but also the *New York Times*. It seems almost certain, however, that Kipling knew about Corbin before the latter's fatal accident. Kipling began *Captains Courageous* early in 1896, and was weighing offers for serial rights in May.⁵ The book must have been substantially finished by that time. Where, then, did Kipling acquire his knowledge of Austin Corbin?

In *From Sea to Sea*, Kipling tells us that in July, 1889, in Yellowstone National Park, he met "a very trim maiden", her "delightful mother, and an equally delightful father, a heavy-eyed, slow-voiced man of finance". They came from New Hampshire, had been to Alaska, to the

Yosemite Valley, and were going to Saratoga. It is tempting to think that this man of finance was Austin Corbin. In spite of his interests elsewhere, Corbin maintained and improved the family property in Newport, New Hampshire, and paid frequent visits to it until his death there.⁶ Mrs. Corbin and their third daughter Anna (who was 16 in 1889) spent more time in Newport than did Austin. In 1889, Kipling was still an obscure newspaperman, and Corbin had already become a nationally-known figure. Yet when Kipling settled in Vermont in 1892, his fame was such that the Corbins must have known of his arrival. What more natural than for them to recall the pleasant encounter in Yellowstone three years before, and to make some gesture of hospitality to the newly-weds? Newport is only about forty miles in a straight line from Dummerston, and it was then possible to travel by train between the two towns—perhaps in Corbin's private car! Such a relationship would account for Dan Troop's description of Corbin in *Captains Courageous*, and the private car might well have served as the model for Harvey Cheyne's "Constance". It could have been Corbin who gave Kipling the technical background for the Cheynes' trans-continental dash by train. Corbin's private railroad station in North Newport might well have inspired Kipling's rather un-English idea of having a private station of his own.

Unfortunately, there does not seem to be any solid evidence to back up this tempting theory. Mr and Mrs. Corbin were reported as at their Newport farm on June 30, 1889, and again on August 2nd. They might have gone to Yellowstone Park in the interval—the one-way trip by rail then took about five days—but they could hardly have gone first to Alaska, then to Yosemite, and returned via Saratoga, as reported by Kipling. Also, it seems likely that the assiduous *Argus* would have mentioned such a trip, had it been made. From the beginning to the end of the Kiplings' stay in Vermont, there is no mention in the *Argus* of any contact between them and the Corbins, although there are perhaps a hundred references to the latter during this period. Finally, Professor Carrington, who had access to Mrs. Kipling's diaries and other private papers, does not mention Corbin.

The absence of mention in the *Argus* of visits by the Kiplings to Newport might be explained by their passion for privacy, but there is still no positive evidence that Kipling knew Austin Corbin, unless it exists in private papers of the Corbin family, or in those of Austin's grandson, the late Professor George Harold Edgell—if in fact there are any such papers. Nevertheless, the nagging thought persists that Kipling would not have used Corbin as the model for Slatin Beeman if they had not met.

If not from Corbin, where did Kipling obtain the technical background for the senior Cheyne's railroad dash across country? According to one report, he told interviewers that he "wrote to the railroad companies concerned, explained the situation, and they worked out the run".⁷ But as Kipling himself once admitted, he "said anything that came uppermost" when talking to people he did not particularly care for.⁸ This may have been one of those instances. Furthermore, it directly contradicts Carrington's tantalizing and unsupported statement that "F. N. Finney, a real railway magnate, supplied the railway technicalities. He then beat the record claimed in the book for a trans-con-

mental journey by running a train over the route".⁹ Finney was certainly a real railway magnate; trained as a lawyer, he went into railroad construction when he was still a young man, and held positions of authority with ten different railroads during his 46-year career.¹⁰ The problem is to find out how he and Kipling ever could have met.

None of Finney's positions from 1878 on was east of Chicago. In 1889, he was general manager of the Wisconsin Central Railroad, with his office presumably in Chicago. There is nothing in Kipling's account of his brief visit to that city in 1889 to suggest that it resulted in any lasting friendship. When Kipling spent some time in St. Paul, Minnesota, in 1892, Finney had already left the Minneapolis, St. Paul & Sault Ste. Marie Railway (The Soo Line), and was living in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.¹¹ Late in 1893 he went as superintendent of construction to the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway, with his residence perhaps in Sedalia, Missouri, and remained in that capacity until 1904, when he became president. It appears that after 1889 Kipling and Finney were never in the same place at the same time.

Incidentally, it was not Finney who named the Soo Line railroad stations "Rudyard" and "Kipling" (both in Michigan). They were named by F. D. Underwood, general manager of the Soo Line from 1888 until 1899, presumably after Kipling's visit to St. Paul in 1892, when Finney no longer had any connection with the railroad.¹¹ Will Professor Carrington please come to the rescue?

NOTES

1. Carpenter, William M., *Kipling Origins*, Kipling Journal No. 55 (Oct. 1940) p. 10.
2. Obituary notice, *Manchester Union*, Manchester, N. H. June 5, 1896.
3. *Dictionary of National Biography*, New York 1930, vol II pp. 436-7.
4. Edes, Sam H., *Tales from the History of Newport*, Newport, N.H. 1963, p. 71 Corbin's private car "Oriental", out-shopped by Pullman in 1889, may still be seen at the Adirondack Museum, Blue Mountain Lake, N.Y. She is now identified as Louisville & Nashville private car number 362.
5. Carrington, Charles, *Rudyard Kipling*, London, 1955, p. 230 and page 238.
6. This and other such information in this and the following paragraph is from the *New Hampshire Argus and Spectator*, a weekly newspaper published in Newport, N. H. at that time. (It is now the *Argus-Champion*).
7. Davis, R. H. and Maurice, R. B., *Caliph of Baghdad*, quoted in Kipling Journal no. 19 (Sept. 1931), p. 94.
8. Kipling, Rudyard, *Abaft the Funnel*, New York, 1909, p. 250.
9. Carrington, op cit., p. 231 footnote.
10. This and most of the following information about Finney comes from *Who Was Who in America, 1897-1942*, Chicago, 1943. This is supplemented by information from the *Traveller's Official Guide* for June 1893, and Finney's brief obituary in the *New York Times* for March 20, 1916. Neither this last nor *Who Was Who* mentions any record-breaking train trip.
11. Letter from Mr. James W. Lydon of Minneapolis, unofficial historian of the Soo Line.

DISCUSSION MEETING — 16th April, 1975

Rear-Admiral P. W. Brock C.B. D.S.O.

SOME OF KIPLING'S NAVAL CONTACTS

The speaker acknowledged that in undertaking this talk he had knowingly contravened sound words of advice impressed on young American Army officers, namely, 'Keep your mouth shut' and 'Never volunteer'. He thus had only himself to blame for some dismay on finding that material he had hoped to use had already arisen in discussion meetings and in our *Journal*. He had to fall back upon a fresh presentation and some amateur illustrations.

He recalled that Kipling had been introduced to the Royal Navy by Captain E. H. Bayly, C.B., who he had met on board the S.S. *Mexican* on his way to join H.M.S. *Mohawk* at the Cape. In *SOMETHING OF MYSELF* Kipling disguised the merchant-ship as 'The Moor' and Bayly as 'my friend Captain Bagley'. On their arrival at Simon's Town, Kipling recalled, 'The Navy Club and the tales of the junior officers delighted me beyond words.' They supplied some of the basis for his first naval story, 'Judson and the Empire.'

Five years later, one of the officers he met there, Ronald Hopwood, was inspired by 'The Law of the Jungle' to write a naval version, 'The Laws of the Navy'. For at least a generation of British naval officers, this became the law and the prophets, more than squaring any debt Kipling may have owed the Navy.

In 1897 and '98 Kipling, accepting Bayly's earlier invitation, joined him for a cruise in H.M.S. *Pelorus*, recording his impressions in some newspaper articles collected in *A FLEET IN BEING*. This carried on its front cover a handsome drawing of the fleet flagship, H.M.S. *Majestic*, by a young artist who was still productive seventy years later, Norman Wilkinson, a benefactor of the National Maritime Museum.

The Kiplings lunched with 'Jacky' Fisher when he was Commander-in-Chief, Portsmouth, in 1903-4, but the occasion does not appear to be recorded in detail. It is possible that the offer of a nomination to Osborne for John Kipling stemmed from this visit. Your reporter has often reflected on the possible consequences of John Kipling joining what was then called the Paymaster branch when his eyesight was found to be unsuitable for executive duties: he might have survived the War and thus spared his parents that second tragedy.

Kipling presided at a dinner in honour of Lord Charles Beresford when the latter retired from the Navy.

During the 1914 War he was invited to write articles on the work of the Naval forces, and met submariners and light forces at Harwich. This latter appeared as *THE FRINGES OF THE FLEET*, *TALES OF THE TRADE* and *DESTROYERS AT JUTLAND*.

The Pyecroft stories have been a constant delight to naval enthusiasts, despite Professor Carrington's reservations and some technical slips. The detailed accuracy some readers find in Kipling is from time to time a confidence trick—on naval ranks and ratings, for example—but though the words may go adrift, he usually gets the tune right, and as some perceptive Frenchman has observed, 'Truth is a tone of voice'.

The speaker recalled that in his time afloat Kipling's books figured prominently on the shelves in the cabins of officers who read at all seriously. The future Admiral of the Fleet, Lord Keyes, kept 'If—' on his shaving-mirror. It was a great pity that some of his seniors in 1915 did not.

The discussion which followed produced a variety of anecdotes and threatened to turn into a naval reunion! The ladies may have been somewhat out of their depth, although naturally, nothing was said that was unfit for them to hear.

Finally, the thanks of the meeting was given to the Admiral for a glimpse of Kipling's navy presented in an entertaining and seaman-like manner.

J. H. McG.

HON. SECRETARY'S NOTES

Bateman's Visit, 1975. More than 20 members and guests spent a delightful "non public" day at Batemans on May 9th, thanks as usual to the kindness of Mrs. Betty Sutherland. After a good lunch in the new National Trust Restaurant near the house, we were shown round the newly renovated mill at the bottom of the garden, the public opening of which successfully took place next day. The Bateman's Shop is now a great attraction, being well stocked with tempting material, including several of the latest books on R.K.

Farewell, Miss Punch. We are sad to report the passing, on May 17th last, of Miss Agnes Punch, the Society's friend and devoted servant for many years. We feel we cannot do better than reprint what we wrote of her when she was forced to give up work two years ago :

"We are very sorry that we must soon lose, through failing eyesight, the services of Miss Punch as Assistant Secretary. During more than 13 years she has taken in her stride four moves of office, addressed at least 52,000 envelopes, and packed up and posted well over 100 large and heavy parcels. If your Journal has ever arrived late, she has certainly not been to blame, and, needless to say, the number of other ways in which she has helped us is uncountable.

"The Council has been delighted to recognise her services by making her an Honorary Member, and a Vice-President, of the Society."

Soon after her death, a delightful memorial service was held for her at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Old Bailey, London.

Sir Archie Michaelis. Our Melbourne Branch report the sad news of the death of Sir Archie, a Founder Member and past President of the Branch. Those of us who were lucky enough to attend the Annual Luncheon of 1953, at which he was Guest of Honour, will remember his enthusiastic proposal of the toast to R.K's "unfading memory". See Journal 108 (Dec. 1953).

A.E.B.P.

SON OF GOD or SON OF MAN ?

By Peter L. Hays

J. I. M. Stewart, commenting on Kipling's 'The Man Who Would Be King,' speaks of 'the deliberate artistry with which it is constructed.'¹ Specifically, Stewart is referring to Kipling's careful development of his frame and the juxtaposition of that frame to the story proper, but his comment is more true than perhaps he realised in even the lesser details of this masterpiece.

Kipling was only twenty-two when he wrote "The Man Who Would Be King"; it was first published in 1888 in Indian Railway Library pamphlet No. 5, *The Phantom Rickshaw and Other Tales* (collected in 1892 with the other railway pamphlets into the volume *Wee Willie Winkie* by his English publisher, Sampson Low, et al.). Not only is the author's conscious artistry evident in the development of the frame, with its resulting contrast between the narrator's code and ambitions and those of Carnehan and Dravot, but also in what seems to be a critically neglected detail.

Just before his death, Peachy Carnehan crawls along the street begging and singing a hymn. The fragment is quoted in most versions thus:

The Son of Man goes forth to war,
A golden crown to gain;
His blood-red banner streams afar—
Who follows in his train?

As such, it is recognizably a hymn by Reginald Heber, Bishop of Calcutta, published posthumously in 1827 in the Bishop's *Hymns Written and Adapted for the Weekly Church Service of the Year*, and frequently anthologized thereafter in Church of England hymnals. Kipling was undoubtedly familiar with it, not only because Heber had served in India and Kipling's curiosity would have interested him in the man, if not the poet, but also because, as C. E. Carrington says, Kipling's "more serious efforts (in verse) were made in a sonorous and didactic style that directly derived from *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, by far the most popular volume of verse in nineteenth-century England."² And "The Son of God Goes Forth to War" is in *Hymns Ancient and Modern*.³

However, as written and published by Bishop Heber, and as anthologized thereafter, the hymn is titled "The Son of God Goes Forth to War":

The Son of God goes forth to war,
A kingly crown to gain. . . .

But for significant reasons, Kipling changed "God" to "man" in the hymn's first line and "kingly" to "golden" in the second.

Heber's hymn was published in his text for Saints' Days: The Church Triumphant. It is clearly a hymn to the followers of Christ, those who humbly do His bidding, even to the point of suffering martyrdom. The biblical text it was intended to accompany was Revelation

19:14: "And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, followed him on white horses." Of course, the army assembled by Carnehan and Dravot is not an army of heaven, it is not arrayed in white linen, nor does it ride white horses. Moreover, its leader is not described as is the One in Revelation; there, Christ has "eyes like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems" (Rev. 19:12). Like Christ, Carnehan is crucified and returns after the event; and Dravot wears a diadem: "a heavy circlet of gold studded with raw turquoises." But Dravot's head, as Carnehan dumps it from a sack on the narrator's table, has "blind, sunken eyes."

Thus Kipling, by altering the words of Heber's hymn, contrasts the selflessness of Christ's followers with the aggrandizing nature of Carnehan and Dravot, the kingly crown of God to the golden crown Dravot gains and dies for. And he emphasizes Dravot's and Carnehan's hubristic pride, courage, and mortal fallibility. However, not all editions contain these changes—certain editions of Kipling's "The Man Who Would Be King" contain all of Bishop Heber's words, and not Kipling's. Without a complete search of all editions of Kipling's works and all anthologies, it is impossible to say where and when the restoration of Heber's hymn first occurred,⁴ or by whom. It may have been a pious, hymn-singing Anglican typesetter who thought he was correcting an Anglo-Indian author's near-pagan ignorance, but in doing so he obscured very careful artistry by a young but already sure writer.

NOTES

1. *Rudyard Kipling* (New York: Dodd, Mead & Co., 1966), p. 56.
2. *The Life of Rudyard Kipling* (Garden City: Doubleday & Co., 1955), p. 273.
3. It is hymn number 263 in the edition of 1867 by Rev. Louis Coutier Biggs (London: Novello & Co.), p. 321.
4. Kipling's alterations are present in the Indian Railway pamphlets and their English reprintings, in the Sampson Low volume (1892) of *Wee Willie Winkie*, and in the first Macmillan editions (1895) of the same text. Among the editions in which the alterations are expunged and Heber's text restored are the W. Somerset Maugham collection, *A Choice of Kipling's Prose* (London: Macmillan, 1952, p. 202), and the recent reprint of *The Collected Works of Rudyard Kipling* (New York: AMS Press, 1970, III, 232), "Reprinted from a copy in the collection of the Harvard University Libraries/From the edition of 1941, Garden City" (p. viii)—undoubtedly the Burwash edition of Doubleday, Doran & Company, for Heber's first stanza appears there intact (Vol. III, p. 232).

NEW MEMBERS

We are delighted to welcome the following: *U.K.*: Messrs W. G. Bebbington, T. Hanley, D. R. Johnson. *CANADA*: Dr. C. Gordon-Craig.

STOP PRESS! A few copies of James Mc. G. Stewart's *Rudyard Kipling: a Bibliographical Catalogue* (1959), are still available at \$20.00 (twenty dollars). Any member wishing to purchase a copy of this, the fullest Kipling Bibliography to date, should apply to :-

Dalhousie University Library,
Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada.

The Kipling Society

Founded in 1927 by J. H. C. BROOKING, M.I.E.E.

President:

The Rt. Hon. the Viscount Cobham, K.G., P.C., G.C.M.G., T.D., LL.D.

Vice-Presidents:

The Rt. Hon. the Earl Baldwin of Bewdley	J. R. Dunlap, U.S.A.
Mrs. George Bambridge	P. W. Inwood
Professor C. E. Carrington, M.C.	Carl T. Naumburg, U.S.A.
E. D. W. Chaplin	Dr. Joyce M. S. Tompkins, D.Lit. F. E. Winmill

COUNCIL:

Chairman: R/Adml. P. W. Brock, C.B. D.S.O.

Deputy Chairman: W. H. Greenwood

S. W. Alexander, M.B.E.	W. H. Greenwood
Lt.-Col. A. E. Bagwell Purefoy	R. E. Harbord (permanent)
R/Adml. P. W. Brock, C.B., D.S.O.	P. A. Mortimer
T. E. Cresswell, M.C.	J. H. McGivering
Cmdr. C. H. Drage	Philip Randall
Roger Lancelyn Green, B.LITT., M.A.	Mrs. G. H. Shelford Dr. T. H. Whittington

Hon. Treasurer: P. A. Mortimer.

Hon. Librarian: J. H. McGivering

Hon. Editor:

Roger Lancelyn Green, B.LITT., M.A.

Hon. Secretary:

Lt.-Col. A. E. Bagwell Purefoy

Subscriptions Secretary:

Hon. Auditors:

Milne, Gregg and Turnbull

Asst. Secretary & Librarian:

Mrs. P. Crosby

Hon. Solicitor: Philip Randall

Meetings Secretary: J. H. McGivering

Office :

18 Northumberland Avenue, London, WC2N 5BJ

Tel.: 01-930-6733

Melbourne Branch :

President:

J. V. Carlson

Hon. Secretary:

Mrs. Ivy Morton

Victoria, B.C. Branch (Canada) :

President: Mrs. D. A. Copeland.

Vice-President: Mrs. C. Fairhead.

Hon. Secretary: Mrs. A. R. Cornwell, 5 Chown Place, Victoria, B.C.

Hon. Secretary, U.S.A.

Joseph R. Dunlap, 420 Riverside Drive, Apt 12G, New York, NY 10025