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COTTA
Harry Graf Kessler

Das Tagebuch 1880–1937

HERAUSGEGEBEN VON ROLAND S. KAMZELAK UND ULRICH OTT

UNTER BERATUNG VON
HANS-ULRICH SIMON, WERNER VOLKE (†)
UND BERNHARD ZELLER (†)
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Vorwort


Die Herausgeber
Tagebuch 1880–1891
This morning we have arrived at Ems we are staying at the villa Monrepos which is situated on the Lahn. We travelled in sleeping cars Baby\(^2\), Mamma, Marie and Sophie in one car and Papa and I in another We arrived here at a quarter to twelve.\(^3\)

This morning I took a long walk with Papa by the Concordiathurm. Toilette seems not to be in the étiquette here, (pour le moment, at least,) judging by this morning, a more awful profusion, diffusion, infusion and confusion of colours it is difficult to imagine (it is a regular tower of Babel of them,) the Britishers especially excell in this art and their colours are put together as they might be on the dirty palette of an inexperienced painter. The sensation of having your teeth set on edge must be very agreeable in Ems, at least telling by the colours, for they are certainly chosen to that purpose. The French also bring their contingent of paint by hoisting the colours of the emperor\(^4\) (evidently to honour him) red, white, and black on their faces The dresses are even more awful than the colours, the promenade is a crowd of dresses so short and tight one might take them for underpetticoats or so long and loose you could mistake them for dressinggowns, of cloaks most certainly copied from the assyrian bas reliefs or from the cloaks found with the mummies in the pyramyds (with which they have a strong resemblance,) of exceedingly short and four cornerd waists, of injecting chests, of projecting stomacks, of very flatt and long feet, of red faces and other accomplishments. All at once this colourous and antidiluvian mass begans to move towards the bridge: the music has stopped and flatt-feet, red-faces and anti Crete\(^5\) dresses are going home.

Nota: In coming to Ems we had 19 trunks and 18 parcels in the whole 37 things, Rien que ça!

Papa and I this morning go up the Malberg without taking the way up but by climbing straight up the mountain, the heat is torrid and we are soon as if we had been dipped in a bath; from the tower which is situated on the top of the moun-

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2 Brion, Wilma
3 „Sun rises 3,44 set 816“ wurde nachträglich mit Tinte ergänzt.
4 Wilhelm I.
5 ‘antidiluvian’ meint vorsintflutlich u. ‘anti-Crete’ vor der Kreidezeit
Titelblatt des ersten Tagebuchheftes von 1880; 
Tagebuch Harry Graf Kessler; Deutsches Literaturarchiv Marbach
tain the view is lovely on the first plan Ems, the Lahn and the Concordiathurm on which we were yesterday, on the second the silverworks and mines, Kemmenau, and the road to Nassau and lost in the far horizon the Rheinthal, castel Stolzenfels, a ruin and the Taunus itself. This afternoon there has been a storm with thunder, lightening rain and every thing to complete it as if the weather before setting to „Kaiserwetter“ which means emperorsweather because the emperor allways has fine weather when he arrives; wanted to have one more good rage.

Ems 19 June 1880 Sun rises 3,44 minutes sets 8,18

19.6.1880 Samstag

The whole of Ems is in mirth today for the emperor is coming The Bahnhofstrasse and the Bridge by which he must pass are decorated with flaggs, flowers and shields. The emperor is to arrive at a quarter past five and at five after a most awfull bustle, for the flowers mamma and Baby want to give him have not arrived, we are all ready to go and meet him. Presently I see the carriage with, mamma, papa and baby come back, the emperor is only coming at half past six. At six deputations of school children, masters and men pass our dore, the men and boys with flaggs and drums the girls with bouquets and corn flowers Soon we also go nurse, Sophie and I in the mobb and mamma, papa and Baby to the station. We place ourselves behind the schoolchildren who have made „la haie“ all down the way the emperor must pass. As the festive hour approaches the crowd gets greater and an old policeman taking his airs and graces as if he was the emperor himself making himself everybody’s laughing stock, stalks along, pushing one, shoving the other and making himself generally disagreeable. Soon a screach as if everybody was at least being murdered reaches our ears but it presently appears to be the emperor’s train that has arrived and that the screech was a mere friendly welcome All at once the old policeman begins to run about quicker, wich action is naturally accompanied by making himself more disagreeable, the emperors carriage is coming and the policemen clearing the way; now the emperors carriage comes and a hail of bouquets come down on it probably ment to put out his eyes, next to the emperor sits count Lehndorff. Behind him come all his suite in other carriages.

Ems 20 June 1880 Sun rises 3,44 sets 8,18

20.6.1880 Sonntag

This morning the emperor comes on the promenade and speaks to mamma, the weather was lovely but is bad. An awfull storm is on which papa and I have narrowly escaped, the rain is coming down in torrents the thunder is rolling incessantly, it is very dark, only from time to time a lightening lights up my paper, the
Lahn looks like a sive for the rain is making little round holes in it but anyways this storm will cool the air which is suffocating. This afternoon I go out with Baby and leave my window open, I have the pleasure in coming back to find my room completely inondated by the rain This weather is really comical when you shut your window you suffocate and when you open it you are inondated We have had two storms today and this afternoon Bee\textsuperscript{1} and I where caught in storm No 2 This evening storm No 3 took place it beat the two others in to canters earth and sky seemed to be on fire and the thunder was like a bombardement

\textbf{Ems 23 of June 1880 Sun rises 3,45 set 8,19}

This morning papa and I go up to the Concordiathurm and on the way up we see the Heinzelmännchenlöcher which are holes that go so far into the mountain that one has sent dogs in and they have never come out again This afternoon Mr Maxheimer my teacher comes at 6 o’clock. Today there are fireworks, they are very pretty especially those on the water. Bee slept all through the noise and all and did not even wake at the bombardade.

\textbf{Ems 24 of June 1880}

This morning papa and I walked to the Lindenbach which is a little café on the mountain from there we took a somewhat vertical road but we very soon had to leave this and go on a small path which we confidentially followed and which brought us, after having made the round of the mountain back to the very same place of the road we had left it however we went in to the forest and came home safe after having been swamped for the rain was coming down in torrents as usually it does here in fact I believe rain is the speciality of Ems.

\textbf{Ems 25 June 1880 Sun rises 3,46 sets 8,19}

Bee went on the promenade this morning and shook hands with the emperor but she would not speak to him

\textbf{Ems 26 June 1880 Sun rises 3,46 sets 8,19}

This morning as I do not go out with Papa I go out with Bee and nurse\textsuperscript{2} We go on the Nassau road as far as Dausenau village which quite merits its dowdy name for the grown up inhabitants look as if they had smoked opium the whole night. For the rest Dausenau at first view seems a very unhospitable village for in the streets you see nothing but dogs barking, hens chuckling and children screaming at you, one must here remark that as much the grownups seem sleepy

\textsuperscript{1} Brion, Wilma
\textsuperscript{2} vermutl. Sophie
and quiet, as much the children look awake and noisy. The village is composed of two towers of which one is as crookid as a rams horn, an old church four or five restaurants and about forty houses which seem to be as well ment for people as for cows probably they all sleep together cows, pigs, people hens and dogs The perfume in the streets coming from the cow sheds or rather cow houses may be healthy but certainly is not flattering to the nose and the streets, or rather the street does not seem ever to have seen water and they would allmost want a second Herkules to cleanse them. Today Mr Maxheimer sends word he cannot come.

**Ems Sunday 27 June 1880 Sun rises 3,46 sets 8,19**

Today as I am better I go out with papa to go to Kemmenau The beginning of the road is very sunny but soon one has to turn to the left and then one is in the forest. Soon after we turned we met a donkey and a carriage then we turn to the right again and cut across a forest but out of the forest we came on a stone field after we have passed the stones my foot got caught in to the roots of a tree and I fell. I must before say that papa had lent me his „podomètre“. We soon find a path though and go on it on this path papa also fell over a stone but however we got to the top. Here papa asked me for his podomètre. I look in the pocket I had put it in, it is not there I look in my other pockets, in the lining of my west on the ground it is not there neither, : I had lost it where, when I do not know; when all at once I rememberd I had fallen, it must be there I had lost it. Then papa orders some ham and wine we have diner, look at the Rhine and scenery and follow the same road we had come so as to find the podomètre I look everywhere but we don’t find it. We then go down to the silverworks and mines and from there home To day is the first day since we have been here that it has been really fine. Marie’s mother arrived to day Marie went to two trains before she went at the right time for her mother missed Ems and went as far as Coblenz so of course she could not arrive at the right time; she came from Berlin.

**Ems 28 June 1880**

Today the emperor invites papa to diner for this evening. This afternoon Baby, nurse¹, Marie’s mother and I go to the kinderfest at the Lindenbach where I dance with Baby and others. Then all the children taking part to the kinderfest where photographed; we had topfschlagen which I won and other amusements.

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¹ vermutl. Sophie
Ems 29 June 1880

Today the heat is suffocating, 24 degrees centigrade in the shade. Before we could not leave our windows open „sous peine“ of being drowned now we cannot leave them open „sous peine“ of being stewed.

Ems 30 June 1880

Today papa and I went shooting in a heat of 27 degrees centigrade, 86 farenheit and 23 reamur in the shade at 2½ o’clock in the afternoon.

Ems 1st July 1880

Today papa and I walked by the silvermines near the Lindenbach where we tried to get in but it was too dark. I found a silver – and lead stone more of the latter than of the first.

Ems 2 July 1880

Today for the first time since the 26 it has rained today I made the acquaintance of and played croquet with the little Glynkas but whose mothers name is Ukskul because she is divorced and married again.

Ems 3 July 1880

This morning it pelts and the promenade looks like a very crowded sea and all sails up, it is nothing but umbrellas colours have disappeared, nothing but umbrellas one has to fight to get through pulling one hat off, taring the other’s umbrella. It is sure if in the east an umbrella is a sign of distinction an oriental coming here would think us all kings.

Ems 4 July 1880

Today there is a Regatta here and the Glynkas come to our house to see it. There was a good bit of cheating about it one boat (my favourite) crushed the other boat against the wall, and broke the steer of it on purpose, and allmost upset it so as to win, which it did. This evening we assist to a firework in a shower which does not prevent the firework being beautiful A firework under umbrellas!

Ems 6 July 1880

Today Papa and I take a carriage and had ourselves driven to Millen at the entry of the Schweizerthal There we got out and walked. When we came in to it the beginning of the Schweizerthal was two high rocks on each side the road only being about 2 yards wide and a torrent with cascades at allmost every half yard
crashing down from the mountain we have to ascend. The rocks on each side were allmost nude with only here and there a birchtree, and of a yellowy colour probably coming from the sulfur settled here since centurys. Little by little the pass widens itself on a clapp-clapp noise like that coming from a mill reached our ears. We reached the mill and then went on a little path to the righ. The scenery allways gets grander as we mount. On our way up we met a postman that had been to Frücht and was coming back again Poor man; he has to go to Frücht twice a day on foot rain or no rain, and rain is no joke in this thal for there are times where one has water up to one knees and these occasions are not rare. When we got up to Frücht we wanted to go and see Steins, the great german minister’s, grave only we could not get in. In coming back Papa allmost broke his leg in falling down the mountain

Ems 10 July 1880

Today Marie’s mother went back to Winsen where she lives and is from there going to Hamburg

In the train 11 July 1880

In coming out of Ems we passed Nassau with it’s Castle and the Stein denkmal, Balduinstein a big castle in the renaissance style, Schaumburg and burg Schwalbach. At Diez Sophie who went home was met by her cousin who allways appears at all possible and impossible occasions to see her. After Diez we came to Limburg with its six towered Dom. The scenery was lovely something like the australian gold mines and darling downs. Then we come to Marburg where the scenery changes. Marburg is a pretty little town with it’s Elisabethencirche and it’s castle: It is lain on a hill like a crown. From Marburg we pass by great plains with allmost nothing growing on them but pines, poplars and grass. Just before Treysa we have to stop before station because there is something on the line. We then saw the Fulda and Wilhelmshöhe, which one can perfectly well see from the train, and directly after Cassel where we have 1 hour and 29 minutes stoppage. Papa, Mamma and I go in to town at Cassel and see the promenade with it’s Bellevue and the barracks of the Husaaren with „Wilhelmus elector condidit” written on their door. We had a luggagecarrier to take us through the town. As a remark the streets are paved with pointed stones instead of being paved with asphalt which luxury the promenade alone enjoys. Poor Mamma got a sore foot

1 Schwanthaler
2 Pfuhl
3 Das Wort „lain“ ist mit Bleistift durchgestrichen, dafür wurde „situated“ gesetzt.
4 Vom Kurfürsten Wilhelm I von Hessen erbaut.
in walking in the streets. We then pass by forests and over the Egge gebirge. We in our whole journey had to change 3 times at Cassel, at Warburg and at Altenbeken We were two minutes late.

**Pyrmont 12 July 1880**

We (Papa and I) visit the palace of the princes of Waldeck this morning. This palace is situated in the Anlagen and surrounded by a wide ditch We crossed the bridge and arrived at the great iron gate which a man opened; this man told us that the prince of Waldeck did not live here and only very rarely came even in the summer, and that he had been here the last year, but not yet this year and that his residence was Arolsten. This palace was built in 1562 and rebuilt in 1706, it suffered many sieges in the 30 years war He then took us on the walls who’s date of erection one does not know but which one thinks to be very old. On these walls there is a beautyfull allee of old trees and at it’s extremity there is an old tree which is supposed to be 700 years old and who’s branches are kept together with chains which are supposed to have been put on a hundred years ago. This tree has six meters round and its roots go right in to the water and have made a regular mountain of the earth. It’s branches touch the ground and spring up again like new trees so that when you are under the tree you are in a regular little forest The man then shewed us the bed of the count of Gleichen and his two wives, which is immensly high and big and all sculpted; at each corner there is a little angel looking in to it and at one of the ends there are three heads and two casks. It is all full of worms the wall of the room in which it is is all painted with views of different places and there is one picture by Tischbein representing the Count of Gleichen and his two wives All the rest of the furniture is made of common unpealed wood like you find on the ground in the forest. Our man then shewed us an underground passage which is said to go right under the waterworks; we then returned and in the afternoon went to the Jägerbuche a tree somewhat like the one in the castle but only smaller. From this beach there is a lovely view and one is supposed to see the Hermannsdenkmal but we did not see the least scrap of it

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1. The handwriting is later crossed out with a pencil.
2. The word "lain" is later crossed out, replaced with "situated".
3. Kessler has later crossed out and replaced the penmanship to "beautiful alley".
4. Seine wirkliche Frau, Gräfin von Orlamunde, u. die sarazenische Prinzessin Melechsala, die ihm das Leben gerettet haben soll.
5. Kessler has later crossed out and replaced the penmanship to "helms".
Pyrmont 13 Juli 1880
This morning the band brought us a Stänchen which was composed of the following peaces1 „Einleitung and Brautchor“ of Lohengrin „Le Bouquet“ „Wer weisz ob wir uns wiedersehn?“ „Boccacio walze“2 „Blau Veilchen“ This afternoon Mamma and I brought Papa to the station. We came back in the hôtel omnibus with some tiny Jews who’s noses seemed like a house hung on to a balloon. Many an eagles beak must have envied them! This afternoon we had an awfull3 thunder storm the bouquet of which was a knock4 like that when a racket goes up. Poor Baby5 who’s criminality was endeavoursing to throw her bricks at me as a pass time instead of shying them jumped over the bricks and ran away

Pyrmont The 17 July 1880
Today is the 17 of July and Mamma’s birthday and poor Bee6 is not at all well she has had a very bad night We have to go away from the Badehôtel where our rooms are let and go to Ockel to add to the confusion. Baron von Weida (po-n) is coming. I have to go to the station to fetch him.

Pyrmont 18 July 1880
A word that has often been repeated this summer is today repeated again „Rain!“ I am writing at this very moment in my room with my umbrella open over my head for if I had it not, there would be very few traces of my writing or rather bigger ones than any one could wish to make without upsetting the inkstand. I have to stop for my umbrella is allready dripping all over the paper perfectly fulfilling its functions of a gutter which has been erected to wet you and instead of turning the rain off it is conducting it on

Pyrmont 23 July 1880
Today Mamma and I went to the Erdfälle. These are two ponds (anciently three, only two or three years ago the separation between the two first one crumbeld) which were formed in 1645 by the crumbling of the earth the scenery around them is very pretty and rugged. This evening the prince of Waldeck arrived and dined at Goethe’s

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1 „peaces“ wurde nachträglich mit Bleistift zu „pieces“ verbessert.
2 Strauß
3 Das zweite „l“ ist nachträglich mit Bleistift gestrichen.
4 Das Wort „knock“ wurde nachträglich mit Bleistift gestrichen und stattdessen „bang“ gesetzt.
5 Brion, Wilma
6 Brion, Wilma
Pyrmont 24 July 1880

We went to the „Dunsthöhle“ this morning. It is a hole in the earth of the form of a circle. We went down to the bottom by a staircase, at the bottom the keeper opened a little gate and we again went down a few steps to the bottom of the pit. Here the keeper told us to stoop a little which we did. A strong smell of carbonic acid pervaded us and we were almost suffocated for the gas was then at a height of about 3 feet and any living thing or person whose respiratory organ is under that height would have been suffocated. In the time of the roulette lots of people used to come and lie down here to commit suicide. The keeper then took some straw, lit it, and plunged it in the gas at the very minute the flame went out and when he held it over the gas again it began to burn; the same thing happens to any human or living being that inhales this gas in the acid; it faints and out of it it revives. The gas sometimes in less than five minutes mounts to the height of the second gate and higher so that one can not even get to this gate, it comes out of a cave which the man shewed us, this grotto is like the grotto of Capri in Naples with the only differences of being much smaller and there being no water here and there being some at Capri and the gas being non visible here and being visible at Naples. There are only two such places in the whole world here and at Naples. This pit here was discovered in 1724 by doctor Philippe Seife and an inscription relating the fact was put there in 1740. This afternoon there were races at one of which three running two were thrown. When the labourers raced one of them fell and broke his head at the donky race the boys all fought.

London Saturday the 7th of August

Today we have arrived at London. We travelled on double boats; they are like two steamers joined into one by a bridge and do not shake as much as the other boats. Poor Bee was sick and I think it did her good for her head seems better.

London Monday the 8th August

This Morning aunt Rose had her horse brought to ride him. She got up once, Satanella through her off she got on a second time this time he got up sat on his haunches and bent back like an acrobat forming a regular C. When she had

1 Seip, Johann
2 Hier am Ende ist ein Stück Papier eingeklebt: ca. 1,5 cm breit und 3,7 cm lang. Es sieht aus, als sei das größte Stück davon abgerissen. Es steht darauf: „N. B. Fr or“
3 Brion, Wilma
thrown aunt Rose off she began to kick as hard as she could so as to dash aunt Roses brains out But aunt Rose was quicker than she and was up in a minute The mare broke the reins turned the saddle and lifted the coachman and the groom up in the air.\(^1\)

**London 16 August 1880**

today we receive news of Mis Nelsons Death who died in the night from the 14 to 15 of spasms of the heart.

**London 24th August**

Today is Baby’s\(^2\) birthday. She has had lovely present grandmama\(^3\) gave her a teaset and aunt Rose a frog and I some reins Mamma a house with animals Cicie Connoughltor is coming to tea today.

**London August 25 1880**

Today aunt Rose and I went to the Alexandra Palace where we saw the circus and skating the theatre of Howard Paul and the Hanlon Voltas\(^4\) which are very good gymnasts.

**London Sunday 29 August 1880**

Today we went to Richmond with Marie, Sophie and aunt Rose on the boat. We left old Swan pier and London Bridge at three in the afternoon and after passing by Cleopatra’s Needle, the houses of Parliament and Westminster Abbey, Millbank prison, Kannella club and the castle of the Percy’s dukes of Northumberland and having been stuck in the sands six times infront of Kew gardens we arrived at Richmond where we were due at 5 at \(\frac{3}{4}\) 7. One of the partys on board composed of two women and one man drank before we started, drank when we started and drank when we stopped The long nosed lady who was disgusted at everything and swamped down everything got over the „passerelle“ had to

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\(^2\) Brion, Wilma

\(^3\) Lynch, Caroline

come back over the bride Yes, she preferred stopping in the boat, coming home at midnight sticking in the sands, being tortured; to risking being drowned in water her hated element had it been claret, port, gin, brandy she would have gone willingly, willingly, have been drowned But alas the fat one was first of all hoisted by one man on to the bench but on the passerelle four had to lift her and a fifth hold her and then even she fell back, like a cask of wine which has been lifted by a patent crane and whose cord has broken, and began to eject water instead of wine like a cask would have done if broken, for wine was too precious for her. We came back by train

London Friday 10 September 1880

Today we went to Gravesend by boat. The way there is very pretty. All along the docks, and passing by Somerset House, the Tower and Greenwich hospital. Woolwich and Shooterhill. Just before Gravesend there is a sort of a lac by which the Thames passes In Gravesend itself there is little to be seen except the mouth of the Thames and we soon went away after having taken some Appolinaris and hock at the Clarendon hôtel. In coming to Gravesend one passes the place where the Bywell Castle ran into the princess Alice, just opposite the Gasworks and near the powder Magazine. We had dinner at the Critirion where we had a dozen of Oyster each, kidneys and a tomate with Wilhelmsquelle and hock in the grill room

 Ascot St. Georges School Oct. 13

Went to Eton today and had ourselves Photographed. After that we went up to the castle and heard service in St. Georges Chapel. I sat in Waldegrave’s seat Next to Mr. Cooke. We had breakfast at Layton’s the Confectioners upon real patés. After Chapel we went up on the round tower from where there is a beautiful view. After that went down to Eton by the hundred steps and went to see Eton college where we were to have tea with a certain Miss Hackett but she had gone

1 Viele Streichungen und Sofortverbesserungen.
out for the day. We drove home through Windsor forest. I bought a pretty little vase in Eton. v. Kessler

Ascot 17 October 1880 S! Georges School
This evening Heber-Percy in coming up to bed began to tell us he was a sleep walker. Then he shewed us a place in his room where a funny noise goes on from time to time, and after having put himself and us (Palk and me) in a sort of nervous excitement he retired to his room. The strange noise began again and did not contribute to our quietness as Percy persisted in saying it was a ghost. After about a quarter of an hour a most terrific shreek followed by several others sent the air proceeding from Percy’s room. I fell back on my bed in a violent fit of trembling and Palk began to bite his knee but the screaming went on. The head (Mr. Kynnersley) Mrs. Moss The three housemaids came to the rescue thinking somebody was being murdered. Mr. Kynnersley was in a frightful fright we all thought Percy had been taken by a screaming fit and had died in his bed. It turned out to have been nothing but Emely having walked quietly into the room and having stooped over Percy who was dosing. He seeing a figure, connected with the noise thought it was the ghost come out of his plank and come to take or murder him. He was severely punished for it and is no more allowed to talk in his room. Harry v. Kessler

Ascot. S! George’s School. 23 September 1880 Thursday
I came to school here today and I am already friends with some boys

Ascot September 24 Friday
Papa and Mamma came to see me today and it is also papa’s birthday. They are going away tomorrow. Wee-wee⁴ is not quite well. Harry v. Kessler

Ascot 18 October 1880 S! Georges School
This morning we all went out for a walk with Mr. Chapman and as they all began teasing me I began to beat Thomson minor the consequence of which was that I sprained my finger. It is now bound but hurts very much. It is half holiday.²

¹ Brion, Wilma
² Dieser Eintrag ist auf der Rückseite des letzten Blattes im Heft notiert. Teilweise ist das Blatt verklebt.
Ascot 18 October 1880
To day we went out for a walk and as Thompson minor was teasing me I began to beat him. In beating him my fist not being well clenched my little finger of my left hand struck back and caused it to be sprained. It is now bound up but still hurts.

Ascot 20 October (1880) Sun rises 6.34 a.m
Today the first snow has fallen and it is very pretty to see from my window the valley and the mountains, the trees and the cottages wrapped up in their white shawl of snow. This afternoon we went snowballing and came back sopping wet. We snowballed on Ascot racecourse.

Ascot 21 October 1880 sun rises 6.36 sets 4.54
Today almost all the snow is gone for it is thawing. Three boys were swished to day: Sellon, St John and Trelawny.

Ascot Friday 22 October 1880
All the snow is gone. This evening there was repetition of the concert after which for those who sang refreshments and another song. Those that had not sung did not have any refreshments.

Ascot 23, October 1880 S. rises 6.39 sets 4.50
We had a paper chase today. We went in the train to Virginia Waters and from there we were to run back to Sunningdale. But I, Tomlin, Mackenzie, Scott, Mortimer minor and Webb lost our train so that we had to walk back the whole way to Ascot, on our way where we were followed by some ruffians one of which had a black eye.

Ascot Thursday 28 October 1880
Today the concert came off. It came off all right and it was great fun.

Ascot 1st November 1880 s. rises 6.55. s. sets 4.32
We had a paper chase to day we ran all the way to Virginia Waters, where we saw the ruins and climbed down the Waterfall, and back.

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1 Beginn des zweiten Heftes; der letzte Eintrag des ersten Heftes wurde umgeschrieben.
2 Mehrere Kreuze in schwarzer Tinte markieren Umstellungen, die aber semantisch nicht eindeutig sind.
Ascot Wednesday 3rd November s. r. 6.59 s. sets. 4.29.
I received nothing but bad news today. 1º That poor grandmama in Hamburg had fallen and hurt herself badly and had her brain shaken 2º That Wee-wee’s cough is no better. This evening we were all sitting listening to the head (Mr. Kynnersley when Caddie, the dog, began barking furiously; directly we all jumped up and asked if we might make a sally and see what was a’matter. But the Head sent two boys (Bowring ma. and Bell) alone to see what it was. It turned out to be a man who was stealing the wood of the Bonnfire for the fifth of November but he ran away so we were not allowed to go out although while we were singing in the drawing room some other boys that were not singing came in once or twice to give news of what was going on but the Head sent them back every time saying it was nonsense so we had chapel and are going to bed.

Ascot 4th November 1880 Thursday.
Today Bonnemaman came to see me and brought me a dreadful shock. Poor dear Grandmama in Hamburg is dead from a fall which she had on Monday and which proved fatal. To think that an unfortunate step can bring death! Papa is in Hamburg because as soon as he heard of the accident he went there. I hope it will not shake him too greatly for he loved her so dearly! and she was so good. She died on the 2nd of November

Ascot Friday. 5th November 1880
M. Today the bonnfire is to be lit and the fireworks let off
Evening: The fireworks went off splendidly one of them fell down and going off burnt one of the cad’s trousers

Ascot. Wednesday 10th November 1880
I went in to the drawing room to day and spoke with a german lady.; lady Gordon’s governess.

Ascot Saturday 13th November.
The head has just begun this evening to read Holmby house by White Melville after having finished the Maid of Sker by Blackmore.

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1 Kessler, Henriette
2 Brion, Wilma
3 Lynch, Caroline
4 Sneyd-Kynnersley
Ascot. Monday. 15th November

Today I took my 1st german lesson with Mrs Kynnersley we are reading „Wilhelm Tell“ by Schiller Mrs Kynnersley takes one part I the other

Ascot Monday 22 November

It is freezing hard to day as it has been yesterday

Ascot Wednesday. 24 November 1880

We went for a long walk to day for about 10 miles. On our walk lots of chaps tried to hurt me but the big chaps were on my side so that Hill was hurled into a ditch Powell and Schuster when they were charged begged pardon and said to Tomlin „I thought you wanted to have him (me) prisoner“ Wormald got a licking from Mr Chapman so I came home all right

Ascot Friday the 26th November 1880

We began digging today. We are digging away part of the hill so as to make a lawn tennis field. We are to level the ground by building a wall and filling it up with earth which is to be covered with gravel. Mrs Kynnersley is very ill and the doctor is frightened that her cold will turn into rheumatic fever. Dr Fragg comes very often.

Ascot Saturday 27th November 1880

This afternoon in coming in from digging Hill and Thompson (minor) harassed me by not letting me into the lobby. I got into a terrific rage I jumped up flew at Thomson (minor) jumped on to him pale with fury, caught hold on him by the scruff of his neck, pulled his hair and ears till he screamed, hacked, kicked bit like an infuriated bull – then I let go my grip rushed upstairs banged my door and poured forth on him every name I could possibly think of said that I would like to throw him out of the window that he would murder me; Percy¹ tried to interfere I encountered his remonstrances with a hoarse laugh at last Mr Cook came up attracted by the row and told me not to make such a noise. At last I dropped on to my bed exhausted, panting breathless my head reeling with all the guilty conscience of having badly hurt somebody as I thought. To my rage succeeded tears to my bad language prayer. My excitement had been too much for me I was half mad, pale and hardly able to stand I left my room and went down into the library. If only my passion does not bring me to a bad end one day!

¹ Heber-Percy
Ascot Sunday. 28 November

There is a new altar cloth in chapel today purplish blue and silver it is very pretty and looks very well with the new curtains

Ascot 2: December. Thursday

This morning I put down Uffington a peg, at breakfast. We were talking together when Uffington says: „Who is that blunderbuss, that fat female who came to see you. -. I never knew I had any blunderbusses or fat females in my family“ I answer with the greatest calm. This only shews too well how I and all my family are hated here by allmost everybody.

Ascot December 7 1880

Today the spring which we discovered yester day has allready filled up a lot of holes and is running fast

Ascot December 9

Percy¹ says he knows more about geology than the head²

Dec 10

Today they formed a meeting at football calling it .F.K.O.S. = funky Kessler of scrimmages. In the evening in coming home I tried to chloroform myself; but Palk saved me by looking into my room with his glass, for smelling the chloroform he thought there was something up; at last he managed to calm me down and I walked into my schoolroom but having been, what I deemed insulted, by Wormald I jumped up and collared him nailing him down onto the form trembling with rage but he jumped up and knocked me in the eye. At tea the head said that if there was any fighting we would be severely punished. In the evening in Mr Samson’s schoolroom Thomson (minor) attacked me and told Mason to hold „He wont hurt you“ said he but I in my rage sent Mason flying against the bookcase and knocked a hole into his head then I with fury attacked Thomson (mi.) who gave me a hack then all at once Mr Cook and Mrs Kynnersley came in and we went down to the concert

¹ Heber-Percy
² Sneyd-Kynnersley
Ascot Dec 11.

I very nearly got into a row this morning the head\textsuperscript{1} told me to come up to his room after chapel But I think Hall ma. and Bowring ma. said that the others also teased me so he lectured us all and let us go.

Ascot Dec 13 Monday

Today is the distribution of Prizez At 3 o’clock Aunt Rose and aunt Lulu arrive At 2 ½ there is a great scuffle in the passages; we have been told to go down into the library we all take our seats and presently the ladys and gentlemen take their seats. The head gets up and makes a short report of the third set and 4\textsuperscript{th} division. The head sits down and says „I leave the other reports to Mr Macdonald, upon which Mr Macdonald gets up and gives the following report\textsuperscript{2}"

St. George School, Ascot

TRIALS, CHRISTMAS, 1880.

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After I had set the papers for these trials, I felt afraid that they would be too hard for the boys, but as soon as I began to look over the answers, I found that, though the standard was much higher than that of last trials, the boys were generally up to it. I have been much struck with the great neatness displayed throughout, and the even character of the work in the school, which shews that in this school the dull boy is not sacrificed to the clever one as is so often the case, but all pains are taken with each individual.

In „Arithmetic,“ the work is very good and above the average, the Practice sums being particularly well done, while the Proportion and Algebra are rather weak: Fry, Tomlin, and Jay are deserving of great praise, while I notice the accuracy of Waterhouse, and the reverse with respect to Hall, ma. and Heysham.

In the „French“ which is generally good, Fry, Ferguson, and Bowring, mi, are preeminent.

The Scripture astonished me; it was excellent throughout, but Fry and Tomlin, who both got full marks, Olliver, Whittaker, Bell, Palk, Scott and Kessler, are particularly deserving of praise; Bald must pay more attention to this subject.

The „History and Geography“ were well done, Fry, Mackenzie, and Kessler shewing most proficiency.

\textsuperscript{1} Sneyd-Kynnersley

\textsuperscript{2} Hier war ein beidseitig bedrucktes Blatt eingeklebt, das wohl einem yearbook o.ä. der Schule entnommen und mit „Kessler“ unterzeichnet ist. Jetzt ist das Blatt lose in die Seiten des Tagebuches gelegt. Breite: 11,1 cm, Länge: 18,1 cm. Der Text lautet wie folgt (Nicht alle Formatierungen wurden übernommen):
The „English“ paper was answered as well as I expected, and I should imagine that essay writing was practised a good deal, as nearly every boy gave me his opinion as to the advantages and the reverse of either ,, or 
In the Classical subjects, the „Grammar“ in all divisions was good: the papers were difficult, but still in Division I. there was no boy who did not obtain half marks, while Fry, Heysham, and Ferguson were within 100 of full marks: in Division II., Mackenzie and Bowring, ma, were preeminent, but Thomson, mi., and Hall, mi., some way behind the rest.
In Division III. the was particularly good; Bald heads the list, and Trelawny who is worst, has obtained nearly half marks.
In, there is little fault to find, but Division I. must be careful about the use of the Subjunctive: Fry and Ferguson, did excellent papers.
In Division II. Powell and Bell shewed that they had taken great pains, while Jay and Schuster lost marks through carelessness, and Hall, mi. and Watson evidently consider Latin Prose beneath their attention.
In Division III. Kessler is far above the rest.
In the, Division I. all did well except Hall, ma., who I fancy lacked perseverance; in Greek Translation they were weak, but this is accounted for by the fact that they have not attempted idiomatic Greek.
Division II. Bell did well, but Watson, Hall, mi., and Thomson, mi. were weak. The papers of this division on this subject, shew that they are well grounded and carefully taught.
Division III. had too difficult a paper, but Kessler and Blundell did so well that they led me to think that some of the others might have done better; this division evidently knew more than they could express on paper.
In Latin Verses, the standard is not high, Division II. did better than those above them.
To sum up, the work appears to be thorough – there is great uniformity. Where all branches of education are attended to equally, it is difficult to mention any one point in which the boys particularly excel, but, if anything, I am inclined to think that the French has been the most satisfactory work in an examination which has been decidedly above the average of attainments amongst boys of this age.
(Signed), F.W. MACDONALD, M.A., Oxon.
Vicar of Stapleford and Berwick, Wilts.¹

After this Mr. Macdonald sat down again and the head gets up and says „Now I will proceed with the prizes.“ „Fry first division Prize.” Fry walks up amidst thunders of applause.

„Bell second division Prize,“ more applause After some time he says „Kessler french prize“ I go up trembling after some time he again calls my name for Geography this time there is a good deal of applauds soon the prizegiving is finished We all go upstairs and at 3 ½ the concert begins. We all that sing have to sit on the staircase. Aunt Rose and aunt Lulu go away before the end of the first part. The concert lasts 3 hours: from 3½ to 6½. Then we have tea to which we have turkey and buns but in the evening after chapel I am very sick.

Ascot Dec, 14.
14.12.1880 Dienstag
This morning we all go away Fry who is going for good gives me a little porcelain turtle as present d’adieux and promises to send me his photograph. In the afternoon aunt Lulu, aunt Rose, Mademoiselle Hohé and I go to the Aquarium where we see Dr. Carver who shoots wonderfully well. I also buy a microscope

London. Dec 15
15.12.1880 Mittwoch
This evening we all dine at 7 o’c at uncle Stephen’s. We also go to the Soho Bazaar

London Dec 16 Thursday
16.12.1880 Donnerstag
Today I take aunt Lulu to see Westminster abbey in the afternoon aunt Rose and aunt Lulu go to the Crystal palace but I stop at home

London Dec 17 Friday
17.12.1880 Freitag
This morning aunt Rose aunt Lulu and I go to the Tower and St Paul’s where aunt Rose and I go up to the whispering gallery and the library and clockworks and to the first outer gallery. In the afternoon we go and see the Midgets who are little people 22 inches high and the girl weighs 4¾ pounds and the boy 9 pound the girl is 18 and the boy 16. with them are also Jennie Imgly and Commodore Foot who are also dwarfs they are in Piccadilly hall

Paris Dec 18 Saturday
18.12.1880 Samstag
Today we came from London the sea was pretty rough We live 89 Boulevard Malesherbes in the premier sans entresol

Paris Dec 22 Wednesday
22.12.1880 Mittwoch
Today in coming from the Bonmarché we took a cab and I being very tired leaned back; and just as I was going to sleep I heard a loud crash: I started up and to

1 Lynch
my horror beheld a horses head just infront of me and the glass coming in, the carriage leaning most frightfully on one side and the coachman flying head over heels off the box. I throw myself on aunt Lulu so as not to get my face cut by the glass; at last the other carriage goes away and we jump out but aunt Lulu forgets her parcels in the cab and has to go in again; I in my fright run over the place de la Concorde and we get into another carriage and drive home but this one asks aunt Lulu 2 francs to drive home being a club carriage and aunt Lulu not giving him any pourboire he gets very angry and says „ce n’est pas avec vous que je m’enrichirai“¹

**Paris Dec 24 Friday 1880**

This evening aunt Lulu and I go on the Boulevards to see the little shops. Afterwards I and Papa go to see aunt Evvy’s² Christmastree. Uncle Clement³ gives me a book called: „l’Amérique du Nord pittoresque“⁴ and uncle Willy⁵ gives me a tort pistol

**Paris Dec 27 Monday 1880.**

This afternoon aunt Lulu and I went to see the „Sainte Chapelle“. The windows are beautiful and represent the whole bible history. They also shew you a stéréoscope with a coloured view of the „Messe du St. Esprit“ in it.

**Paris Dec 28 Tuesday**

Aunt Lulu and I went to see the Louvre his afternoon; we saw the Venus de Milo and the picture gallery afterwards we go to the grands magasins du Louvre it was very full there

**Paris 29 December 1880 Wednesday**

This morning Prince Reuss arrived. I went to Crasse⁶ the dentist (7 rue Scribe), accompanied by aunt Lulu, and had 2 teeth pulled out and my teeth cleaned Mamma gave me 10 francs as a reward

¹ Ein Teil dieses Eintrages steht auf einem fest eingeklebten Streifen Papier. Breite: 14,9 cm, Länge: 2,5–3 cm.
² Auffm’ Ordt, Evelyn
³ Auffm’ Ordt
⁴ Bryant
⁵ Auffm’ Ordt, William
⁶ Crane