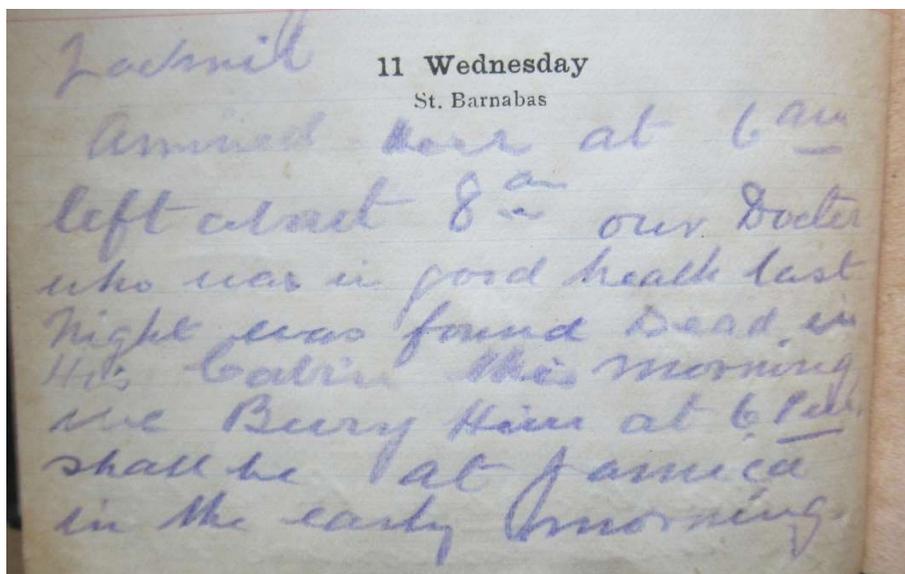


1. **The 1902 diary of a Bedroom Steward, I believe named William Pailly or possibly Bilby, working aboard the S. S. Thames (passenger & mail steamship) and S. S. India (passenger steam liner).**

A Renshaw's Diary, bound in black cloth, lettered and patterned in gilt and blind, somewhat bumped and rubbed. Text block toned and slightly delicate with cracking at the yellow endpapers. The diary is sparsely filled, 36 pages having entries, but what there is gives a rare glimpse of daily life aboard ship around South America and the West Indies, as well as the routes between England and Australia, in the early years of the 20th century from the perspective of a low-ranked member of the crew. Including matters of disease, injury and death at sea, which are a regular hazard; the ship's doctor dies on the first voyage, and there is a harrowing account of an initially trivial injury to our diarist's foot, which rapidly deteriorates into something more serious. The first entry is on Friday 28th March, sailing for Buenos Ayres, the last on Wednesday 29th October leaving for Melbourne. Many entries are short and practical, but interesting, "Permandu [Malaysia?] Beautiful fine, but hot, arrived at 2.30 left 4.20 were guaranteed. The bubonic plague is very bad there.". There is a brief account of a narrowly avoided shipwreck off Fernando de Noronha: "Rough stormy weather. Hazy. Heavy sea running. Nearly ran on Fernando we were not half a mile off when sighted just missed it by full speed astern.". The entry regarding the doctor's death reads: "Jacmel arrived here at 6am left about 8am Our doctor who was in poor health last night was found dead in his cabin this morning We bury him at 6pm. Shall be at Jamaica in the early morning.". There are mentions of snakes, sharks, natives, chronic sunburn and mosquitoes during a hot, intense week running between Colón (Panama), Limon (Costa Rica), a "wild desolate place" which I think is called Savenilla and Cartagena in Columbia, where a parrot is purchased, also lace. On Tuesday July 1st there is this short but intriguing statement: "Off Jacmel There's an insurrection here. Fierce fighting going on.", though I cannot find reference to a significant insurrection in Haiti in July 1902. On the 4th September William joins the S. S. India at Gravesend for a voyage to Australia, after which there are continuous daily entries until 8th October. During this place takes place the saga of the injured foot, illustrating the pressure stewards were under to keep working, with no sick pay provision, it begins with this innocuous statement: "My boot has chafed the skin of left instep which is very sore." Two days later: "My foot very bad, a kind of boil formed, the Dr. opened it & squeezed it, think it will improve now." This activity the next day finally causes him to cease work: "My foot worse. Went alongside took about 200 passengers aboard. Went in stores, took [...] potatoes etc aboard. Carrying bags of potatoes of 120 lb up the ship's gangway as made my foot very bad, the pain is simply agonising.". After this he is hospitalised by the ship's doctor and the consequences of being unable to work are stated simply: "Am very unlucky & the Winter at home means extra expense. Had been hoping to remit wife at Freemantle.". He continues to be unlucky for the next 17 days, receiving no pay and noting being "stoney broke" after about 15 days. On October 3rd his luck changes, at the expense of another steward: "3 stewards disrated to day for broaching stores, pinching a quart bottle of beer. I got a table today thro a passenger complaining of lack of attention by his Steward. Hope they will turn out alright.". There are details of sickness on board and two other stewards being sent home at Aden. A rare glimpse of one of the more exotic jobs potentially open to the working classes at the turn of the 20th century, allowing opportunities to see the world, but with many hazards, much precarity and the necessity of being away from home and family for extended periods.



2. **Aitchison, Major Sir Stephen Charles De Lancey (3rd Baronet) and Lennox Gordon Fraser Aitchison. An annotated scrapbook, relating to their military and Naval training and service during and after WW2, including a large selection of loose pamphlets, photographs and ephemera.**

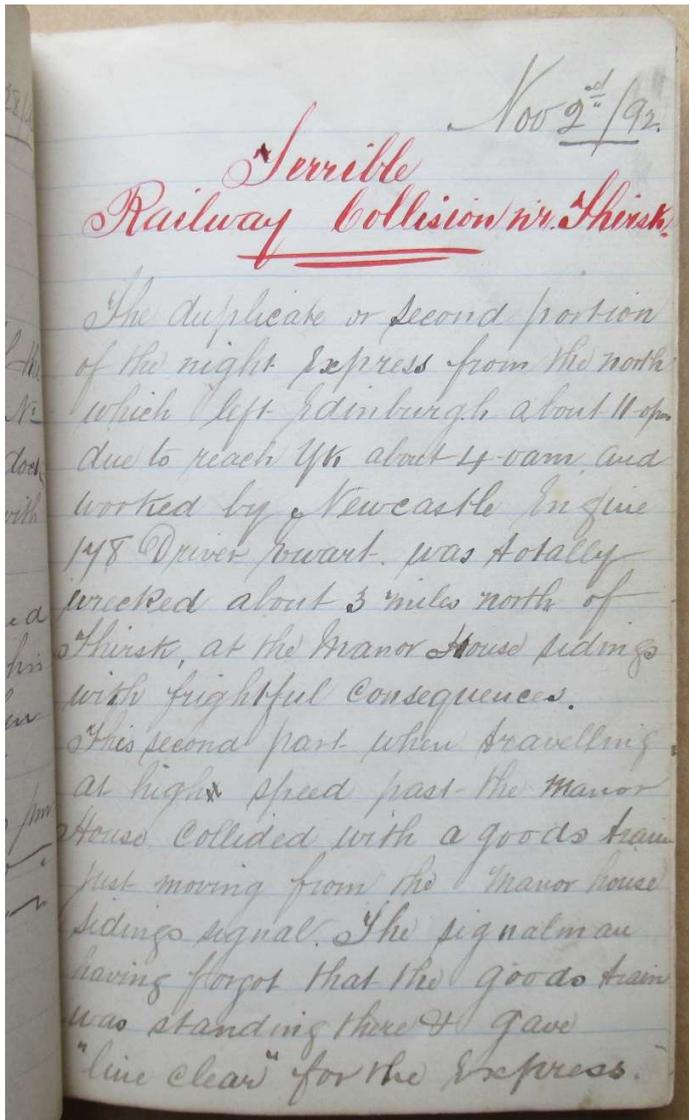
1941 - 1949.

A large and substantial scrapbook, which looks to be custom made, bound in dark red half-leather decorated in blind, with black cloth boards and cotton ties, it is externally quite bumped, rubbed and marked. The first section of the book is devoted to the eldest son, Stephen. There are 2 photographs at the start of the Rugby OTC in 1941, with his call up notice on the next page dated 17th August 1942 at the age of 19. Followed by 9 pages of original photographs and cuttings relating to training at Sandhurst. There is a notice of his acceptance into the 49th Royal Tank Regiment on March 19th 1943 above a photograph of the Regiment. Following this are approximately 40 pages of photographs (including several of a Churchill tank), cuttings and ephemera relating to his active service, with the ephemera including a propaganda leaflet dropped by the



Germans in Normandy in 1944 and an "Escape Aid" in the form of a small sheet of Dutch phrases "NOT TO BE PRODUCED IN PUBLIC". Stephen was injured during Operation Blackcock on January 21st 1945, not returning to action until March 9th during the final stages of Operation Veritable, there is an account of this in his own words. He is released from active military duty on February 11th 1947, having remained in Germany until that time, with both the telegram of release and the follow-up letter from the War Office present. The second section is devoted to Lennox's Naval career from March 1944 – June 1947, the majority of the time is spent on H. M. S. Mauritius, where he is an able seaman. This section covers 50 pages, mostly of original photographs, with a few cuttings, several menus and some Christmas cards. Much space is devoted to the leisure and sporting activities available aboard and ashore, as well as photographs of other vessels and the scenery. Two events stand out, with several pages devoted to Jewish refugee ships met at Haifa in 1946, and 9 pages relating to the second Corfu Channel incident, in which H. M. S. Mauritius was actively involved, with original photographs showing the "Saumarez" and "Volage" striking mines. There are detailed notes and a diagram showing where the explosions took place. Loosely tucked in is a letter from Lennox to Stephen, on blue H. M. S. Mauritius headed notepaper folded once, covering 10 sides, which gives a detailed account of the Corfu Channel incident. Additionally, to the rear of the book are 21 loose items, a mixture of original photographs, souvenir packs of photographs, first aid booklets, certificates, a telegram and an adjustable anti-tank chart. The photos consist of 3 large prints, one showing part of the ruined town of Arnhem in September 1944, the other two appear to be official War Office or Press Photos, showing Radio Mechanics at work on a tank radio and one cleaning & repairing a tank in the Western Desert in December 1940. The pamphlets/booklets are: 'Fishing for His Majesty's Forces', 'The Mauritius Quarterly Review' for the June and September quarters 1946, 'The "Two Types" by Jon', a colour brochure from 1940 for 'Bad Harzburg' and 'First Aid for Fighting Men' 26th May 1943. There are 3 certificates presented to Lady Shena Lennox Aitchison by The Red Cross. The Anti-tank Chart which states "NOT TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS" is in good working order though somewhat grubby and showing signs of active service. A fascinating collection of material relating to one family's service to their country during and shortly after WW2, both in a military capacity and on the home front, with the younger son, Lennox, being involved in one of the early spats of what would come to be known as the Cold War.

£750



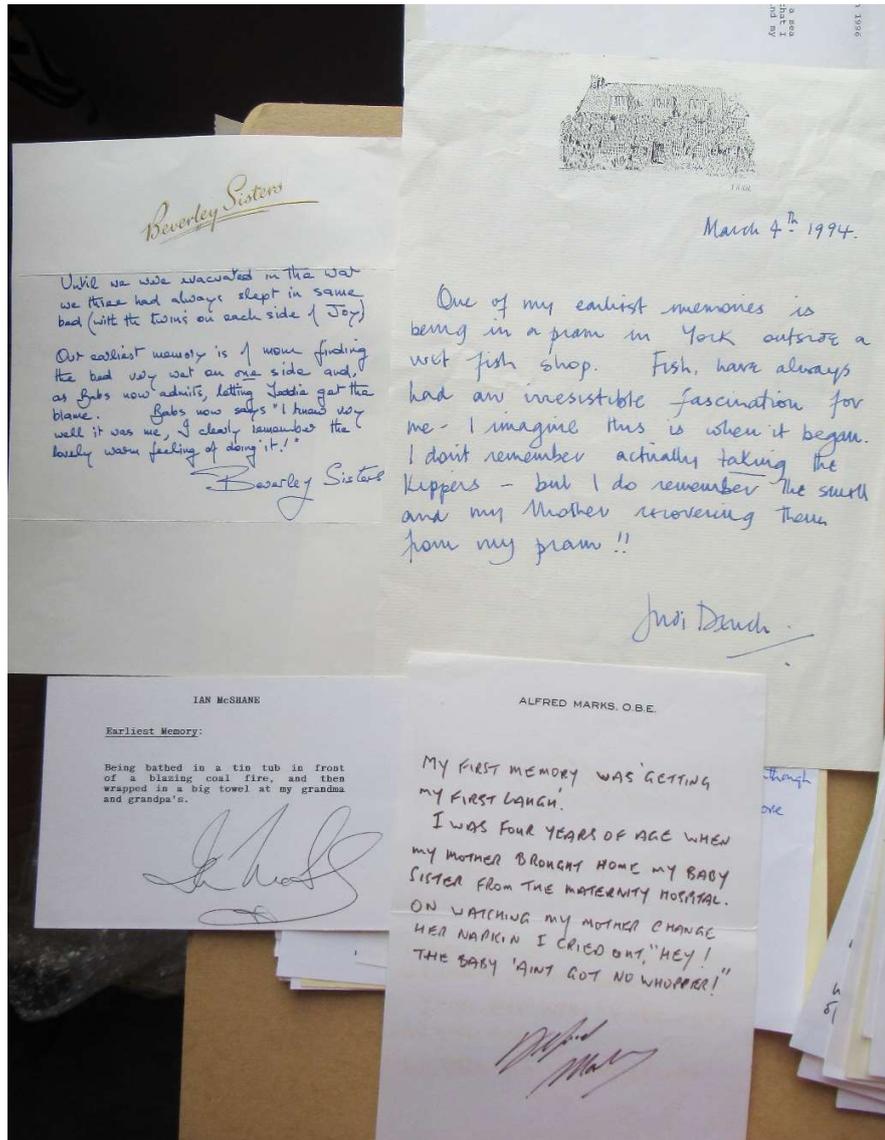
3. **Anonymous. An official railway notebook, covering the period between October 10th 1892 and January 14th 1895, by an unidentified engineering inspector, dealing with locomotive inspections, accidents and incidents between York and Darlington, I think working out of the York Engine Yard.**

The person in question was presumably somebody working for North Eastern Railway or HM Railway Inspectorate, and seemingly somebody who was heavily involved with safety. If I counted correctly there are 178 individual incidents and inspections recorded, sometimes two in one day, with major collisions covering multiple pages. The date is noted, as is the engine involved, the time of the call out and the time the tool van department became involved, with descriptions of what the inspector witnessed, immediate actions that were taken, as well as notes on the likely causes of the accidents and the people involved. The notebook is bound in brown marbled boards with brown cloth spine, the boards are very worn and there is minor loss, rubbing and fraying to the spine. The pages are toned, slightly grubby and marked, some pages are loose or detached. The first significant incident included in the notebook is the Thirsk Rail Crash at the Manor House Signal Box on 2nd November 1892, in which nine passengers and a guard were killed. The accident happened primarily because the signaller, James Holmes had fallen asleep due to exhaustion, having been awake for 36 hours because his daughter had died the day before, further compounded by thick fog which prevented Holmes from seeing a goods train already on the track, when he gave the "line clear" signal for a passenger express train approaching at 60mph. Thirsk covers three pages and the author was early on the scene shortly after hot coals had set the wreck on fire: "the foreman platelayer

ran up asking us to be quick with the Hy'c jacks to get two bodies from underneath the Pullman Car before the fire should reach them, with great promptitude & in less than 15 mins we got out the mangled remains of 2 men. The tremendous violence of the collision was apparent from the manner in which the remains of the train were scattered all over the line". On Nov 6th the wreckage from the Thirsk accident was cleared, the notebook providing details which show that injuries continued to be suffered after the collision: "about 60 wagons loaded before dark. One man had his hand badly crushed by the steam crane, another with chain hook.". The other major incident covered is the Northallerton, Castle Hills Junction accident on October 4th 1894, in which the driver of one train was killed and 24 people were injured, again with a return some days later to clear the debris. Most of the rest of the incidents are minor derailments, which are alarmingly frequent, and more concerned with damage to the railway than fatalities: "the above van ran off the rails with all wheels breaking 23 chairs" ("chairs" in this context referring to a part of the rail fastening system). There is an equine casualty on Nov 11th 1893: "385 Engine - The above engine working York to Pickering passenger train when approaching Ampleforth Station, a man in charge of 2 horses & cart laden with straw attempted to cross the line in front of the coming train. The eng caught the leading horse cutting it in two parts and throwing the leading bogie wheels off the line, several chairs and sleepers were broken.". A fascinating insight into railway safety and procedure in the last decade of the nineteenth century. The numerous minor incidents are perhaps of more interest than the major accidents, which are already well documented. Although the first hand account of Thirsk is visceral emotional reading and seems not to have made it into the available records of the tragedy.

4. **Bernhardi, Jill (editor), Mark Wilde (illustrator). First memories of the Famous - A collection of 49 letters by Archbishop Desmond M. Tutu, Tony Blair, Diana Rigg, Tony Benn, Queen Noor of Jordan, Judi Dench, Barbara Cartland etc. Gathered for publication in 1996.**

49 of the original letters from various celebrities, Royalty, politicians and sport stars, contributing their earliest memories to Bernhardi's 3 year fund raising project on behalf of the Macmillan Cancer Relief Fund. Along with 12 of Mark Wilde's original drawings, 3 copies of the finished book and an advertising flyer. There's a mixture of letters and postcards, handwritten and typed, many on headed paper. The length of the accounts varies considerably, as one might expect most of the writers and politicians tend to provide quite detailed anecdotes, though Dame Barbara Cartland's is remarkably brief. Not all anecdotes had an accompanying illustration, but all occupy a whole page of the finished book, so sometimes the shorter anecdote was rewarded with an illustration if it happened to inspire Wilde. For instance the actor, Ian McShane simply writes: "Being bathed in a tin tub in front of a blazing coal fire, and then wrapped in a big towel at my grandma and grandpa's.", but this simple statement is very evocative and leaves plenty of room for one of the most charming illustrations. Whereas Bernard Ingham's earliest memory is quite lengthy and complex, though poignant, involving a biplane crashing into a



hillside in the fog, but was evidently not the sort of heart-warming content the editor was looking for, so it gets tucked in the middle of the book with no illustration to draw it to the reader's attention. Tony Blair, being a consummate politician and on his way up in the mid-1990s, gives two answers, one bland, the other, reading like a scene from *The Omen*, is a terrifying description of being attacked by a flock of magpies in Australia. A fascinating collection of insights into a good cross-section of famous people of the period's lives. It is also an interesting indication of what people consider to constitute a first memory; some are impressions, some are memorable events and some are non-event specific memories of feelings evoked.

£650

5. **Harding, Edmund. Rambles of the Harding Family – A comically written manuscript account of a holiday in Devon in 1880, illustrated throughout.**



“What a glorious feeling comes over the poor City Clerk when he takes his candle and proceeds to his bedroom the night before the commencement of his vacation!”. The account is contained in a small notebook, bound in limp black leather or faux leather covers with gilt borders to the covers and gilt bands to the spine, the covers are quite worn and marked with loss to the bottom of the spine. There are marbled endpapers, with the bookplate of Charles Benson to the front pastedown, also a rather lovely label for “Nissen Arnold Stationers Limited, 45 Mark Lane”, who presumably sold the notebook. The contents are as follows: a manuscript title page in pink and black with pink borders, a dedication page in the same style (“To Miss Rachel Nicholson of Stockwell College and to all other ladies who honour me with their friendship”), a contents page describing the seven chapters, a half-title and then 147 pages of pleasingly legible handwriting, in black with the first letter of each chapter in pink. There are small pen and ink drawings and caricatures plentifully sprinkled throughout, which are bordered in pink, and the volume finishes with a poem all in capitals and the first letter of each line in pink.

**£750**

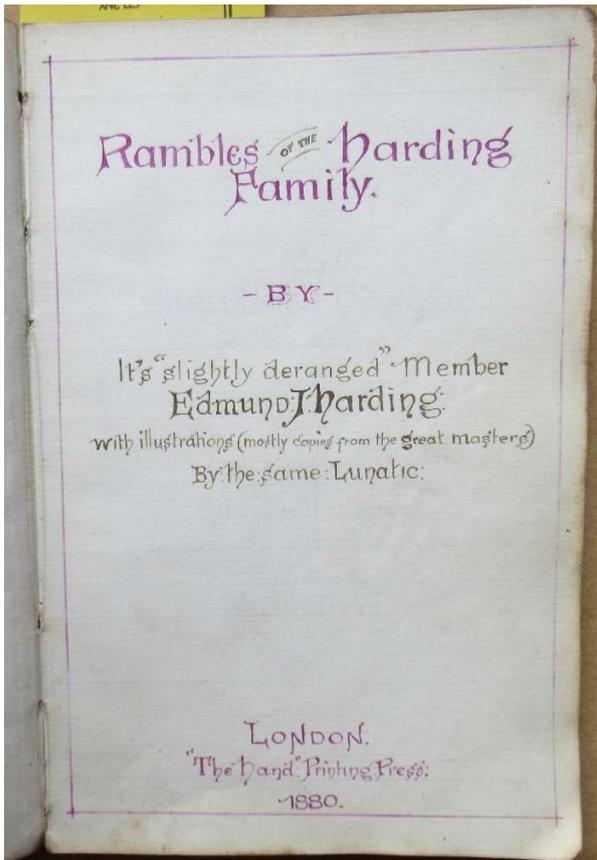
The account is eminently readable and entertaining, Edmund Harding could be described as a young “Pooter” in his bachelor days, part of the emerging lower middle-class, with a modicum of free time and disposable income, who would be satirised by the Grossmith Bros. eight years later in ‘The Diary of a Nobody’. The family are staying in Ilfracombe, with trips to the Torrs, Watermouth, Lynton and a visit to Clovelly by steamer. Some sample quotes are below:

Chpt 1 - “Yes it was true! I was going away, not as a common “excursionist” with a ticket for Margate at 5/- there and back\_\_ no! I was going right away [...] with a thirty-five shilling “tourist” ticket to spend a fortnight in the County of Devon the “English Switzerland””

Chpt 2 - “Beyond the parade are masses of rock [...] when the tide is low, these form a pleasant retreat for an afternoon’s rest. It was here that I enjoyed a peaceful pipe, [...] the calm & mighty ocean washing around my feet, while those great ornaments to a coast, the Gulls wheeled majestically around my head. Here I could lie at full length and read Westward Ho! And appreciate somewhat the enthusiasm which moved the pen of its author. But suddenly the calm of the scene was broken by the crack of a rifle, and one of the gulls fell upon the water. This aroused my indignation. Surely it was hard that so great an ornament should be shot down, not because it is a useful article of food, but simply to gratify the selfish satisfaction to be obtained from looking along the barrel of the gun.”



Chpt 5 - “we [...] smoked like furnaces, & addressed all the natives in affectionately familiar terms. On we sped, stopping now and then to refresh the inner man with ale, or to bring a little “lacteal fluid” to the ladies, and varying the monotony of the proceedings by occasionally getting out to walk up the hills, or pluck such flowers as the hedges afforded. Still we dashed on, now trotting round a winding path, anon diving down into a dale only to ascend the hill on the other side;

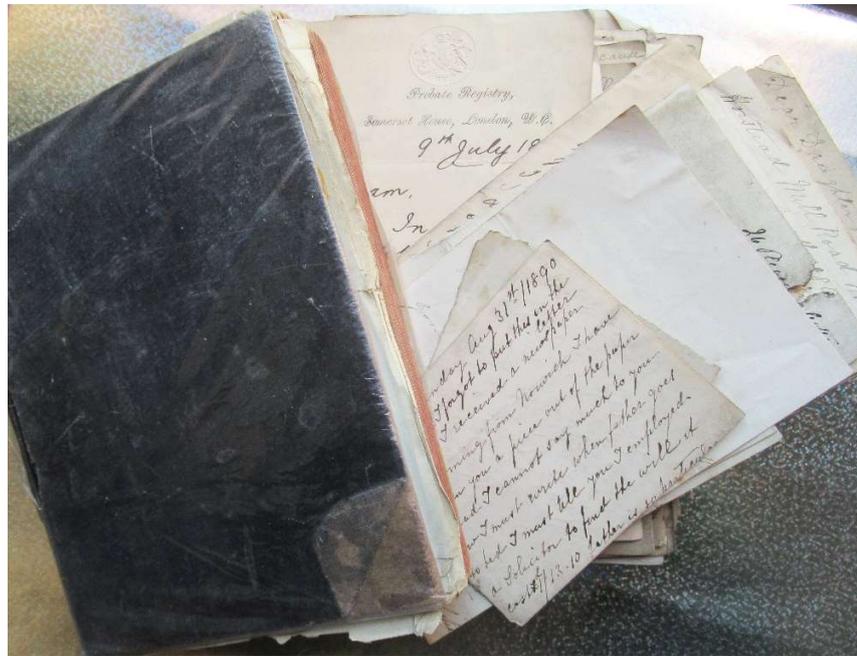


now stopping a moment at some halfway house to partake of “Brighton Tipper” (strong ale, a Martin Chuzzlewit reference), now shouting the call of the Tyrolese: and now, like Barnaby Rudge & Madge Wildfire rolled into one, trimming our hats with fern leaves & singing snatches of songs, principally in reference to a “night in June upon the Danube River.””

Chpt 6 - “The “Velindra”, although a large vessel, is not a very pleasant one for passengers, being somewhat dirty, and some of those mixed odours – such as the engines & the greens produces – is not over savoury, especially to people who are looking anxiously forward to being ill. [...] We steamed along at a good rate, the vessel only indicating that we were on the sea by rising very gently as if it were breathing, & then sinking softly down again. [...] we passed the Morte Rock [...] then came the Bullfinch Light & then we passed through Bideford Bay [...] till after a journey of about an hour & a half, we became conscious of being surrounded by a number of small boats which looked like a lot of goslings around the mother goose. We got into one of the little boats as quickly as we could & were landed on a beach composed of huge stones. Of course beer was our first thought, but the delightful little inn to which we proceeded was so stormed by our fellow passengers that the poor hostess was unable to supply them quick enough. Indeed she told my Brother that she only had such a crowd as this once a week “and then”, said she, “it just kills us!””

**6. Johnson, Emma Mrs. William Jennens (The Miser of Acton) : Correspondence, manuscript material and clippings relating to a claim on the estate 1875 – 1917.**

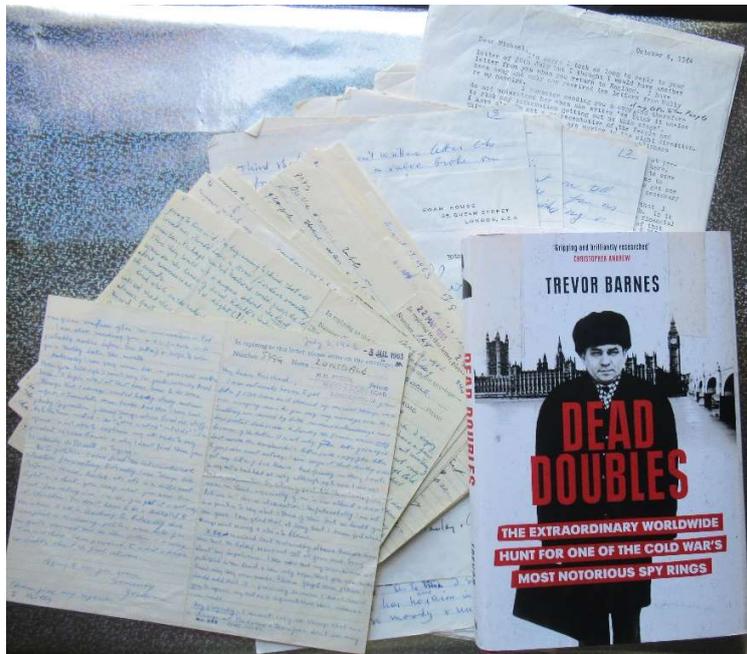
A collection of material, approximately 155 letters and documents, as well as a 210 page manuscript. Mainly written or compiled by a Mrs Emma Johnson, who seems to have spent a significant number of years, and a not inconsiderable amount of money, attempting to establish a claim on the Jennens estate, which was famously contested at various points between William Jennens’ death interstate in 1798 and the final exhaustion of the estate in 1915. It chiefly consists of plaintive but feisty and determined letters to her children and grandchildren on the subject, with replies from churches and probate offices responding to requests for wills and records relating to the case, as well as replies from various relatives, manuscript accounts of the history of her pursuit of the claim, manuscript copies of newspaper articles, newspaper clippings and assorted ephemera, including a card belonging to a Walter Johnson (Emma’s grandson) from The Royal London Friendly Society, dated Nov 29 1875 assuring him of a sum of £8 on his death. At some point in early 1892, Mrs Johnson’s husband dies and approximately 10 letters have a black border indicating that she is in mourning. There is a much older looking piece of paper, with a patterned border to one side, and a page of handwriting, possibly on the subject of architecture, to the reverse, which is perhaps relevant to the case. There is a 3 page letter from a Helen Hope in North Sydney Australia inquiring from Emma what she knows about the case. In addition to this abundance of material there is a fairly



substantial notebook, bound in black cloth with red edges to the text block, with a prominent label to the front pastedown proclaiming it to have been sold (and probably made) by “Andrew Tasker Manufacturing Stationer [...] Manchester”, which is a manuscript copy of a large proportion of ‘The Great Jennens Case’, a book published in 1879 especially for the numerous would-be claimants, it is filled front to back, covering approximately 210 pages, in a hand of varying neatness, ending in the sad sentence: “This book followed on in another book”. Which I take to mean, as it is “followed” rather than follows and continues from a break in mid-sentence towards the top of the page, that that was all the writer had access to. The most concentrated period of activity seems to be between 1889 and 1902, particularly so in the first 3 years, with hopes flagging subsequently. A few quotes give a fair sample of the contents, this from Aug 31st 1890: “I must tell you I employed a solicitor to find the will at cost £1 /13.10 father is so particular about that little money he have left because he is so afraid it will not last out so I asked him to let me get 2£ for to buy some bedding which I must have so I spent all the money for the will I did not think it would cost so much you know their old trick they must rob you first before they will let you have the right one so they deceived the solicitor & gave him William of Acton’s will instead of William Thomas Jennings of Shottle so you can see by that there is a right will. There is much about family history: “the book calls our Robert Jennings a Proscribed rebel as if he had to hide up to escape death according to what I see in dougals he died in Wilts I think if we get the will we shall know where he is buried”. Over the 117 years the case embroiled many hundreds of people, in various countries, with consortiums of similarly situated people forming the better to pursue their claims, e.g. this suggestion in the letter from Helen Hope in Australia: “I have often heard my mother say, there was a great deal of money in the family and she fully expected the money to come to her before she died [...] she said as the money didn’t come in her time it would be sure to come in mine. [...] I think between us all we might be able to employ a real good solicitor to work our case.”. The Jennens case is ineradicably linked in the popular imagination with Charles Dickens’ Jarndyce vs Jarndyce in Bleak House, and with good reason, as this dense mire of paperwork demonstrates. It represents the struggles of hundreds, if not thousands, of people who became ensnared over more than a century, a testament to how the legend of the case could enter a family and inspire a sense of mingled grievance and hope, which would cause them to spend what little fortune they had in pursuit of their perceived rights.

£500

7. **Lonsdale, Gordon (Pseud. Konon Molody). Portland Spy Ring : Letters of an imprisoned KGB ‘Illegal’, 1961 – 1964.**



41 letters written from various British prisons (Wormwood Scrubs, Strangeways and Birmingham), and six typewritten letters from Moscow following Lonsdale’s release. With a further 9 copy letters and related documents. Lonsdale, the master-spy, was arrested in central London on January 7th 1961 in the act of receiving stolen documents from Harry Houghton and Ethel Gee, who both worked at the Royal Navy’s Portland base. Peter & Helen Kroger (American communists trading as antiquarian book dealers under false Canadian identities, who smuggled the documents out of the U.K. for Lonsdale as microdots concealed in books) were arrested at their Ruislip bungalow shortly afterwards, the 5 being known collectively as the Portland Spy Ring. The majority of the letters are written to Lonsdale’s friend, Molly Baker (Mrs Caroline Mary Mieville Baker), with the rest to his solicitor, Michael Hurd. Two of the three people who were closely connected to Lonsdale through the legitimate U.K.

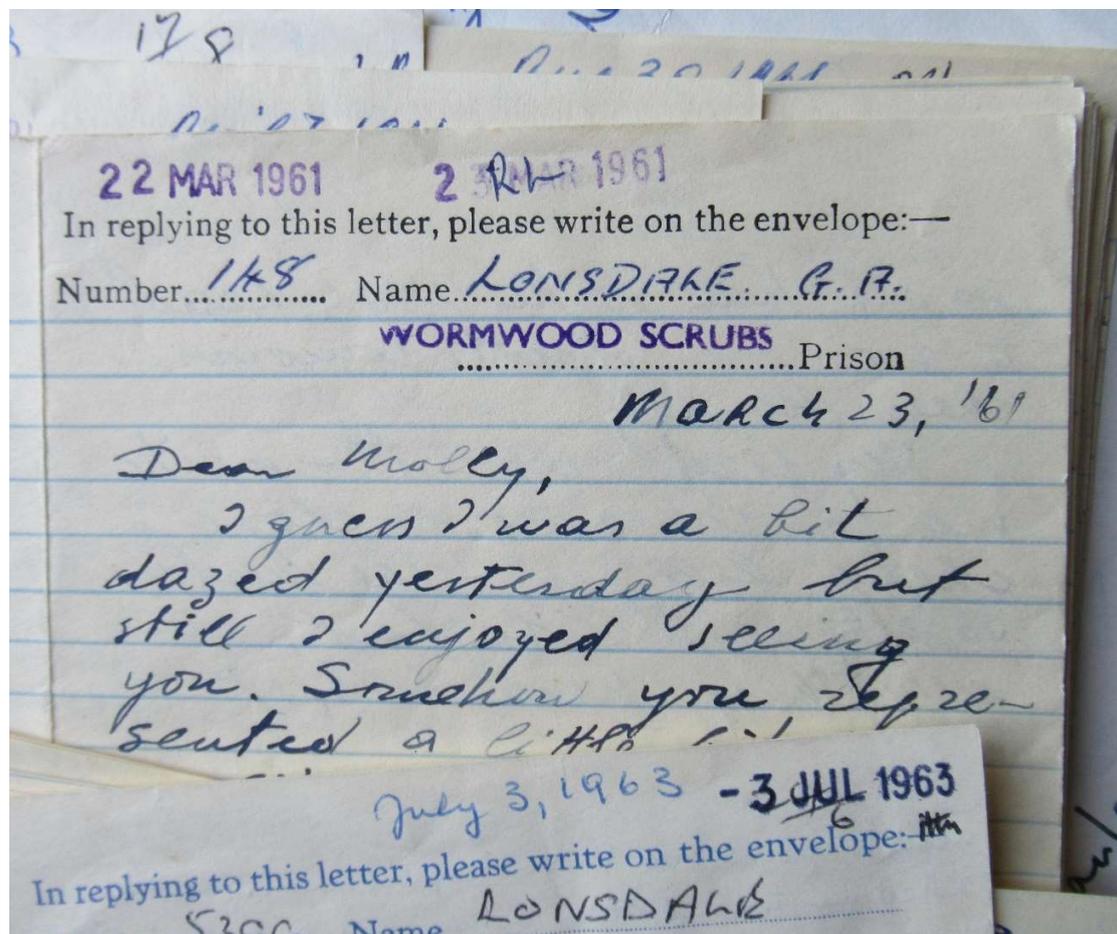
business activities which he used as cover for his espionage work, the third being Michael Bowers, who appears as a character in the letters but who Lonsdale cut contact with following his trial, due to several betrayals of trust. One of the leading MI5 agents in the case, Charles Elwell, identified Molly as a potential bridge in negotiations with Lonsdale: “From studying intercepted phone calls and correspondence over the months, Elwell knew that the person who visited

Lonsdale in prison regularly on Saturdays, and for whom he appeared to have most respect, was his former business partner, Molly Baker. She agreed to act as an intermediary to gain Lonsdale's trust. Lonsdale confirmed to her that he was prepared to provide sensitive information in exchange for a 'substantial reduction' in his and the Krogers' sentences." (Barnes, Trevor – 'Dead Doubles', 2020). She was also present at the first meeting between Elwell and Lonsdale on May 31st 1961. Lonsdale had aspirations as a writer, translating 5 novels while in prison, and on his return to Moscow (following a spy-exchange with captured MI6 'courier', Greville Wynne in Berlin on April 22nd 1964) he commenced work on his memoirs, entitled 'spy'. The memoirs were edited by another notorious spy, Kim Philby, and the publishing deal was brokered by a book dealing friend of the Krogers (who also knew Lonsdale, Baker & Hurd), Oswald Frederick (Freddie) Snelling, already famous for his 1964 book analysing the James Bond phenomenon, which was written with the blessing of Ian Fleming. The correspondence reveals that both Molly and Michael nearly became part of these negotiations, and Snelling's name crops up frequently. Lonsdale is an engaging, intelligent and often humorous correspondent. He was brought up in the U.S.A. and made the decision to reject western ideals and embrace those of communist Russia at 16, but having also spent a good deal of his espionage career in the west he recognises that he is "neither fish nor fowl". The letters convey his contradictory nature, long passages criticising capitalism and arguing the case for communism are juxtaposed with equally long passages regarding his western business interests and money. Lonsdale would have been sure that his mail was being read by MI5, so one wonders whether at times he was amusing himself by creating a caricature of a communist extremist for their benefit. Further details of the content of the letters below.

### £8500

Lonsdale's letters to Molly from prison are lengthy, chatty and revealing, the first three written during the trial, on March 18th/19th, 21st and 22nd 1961. Lonsdale's true identity was not discovered until mid-July 1961, and the first of the letters contains hints about his past, he writes re his capture: "In fact I think I was very fortunate that what has happened happened here. In other places, where I spent many a year, the penalty is death.", a clue that he was an experienced spy who had operated in more than one country. It is snippets such as this that must have convinced Elwell that Molly Baker was a potentially valuable asset in MI5's post-trial endeavours to extract information from him.

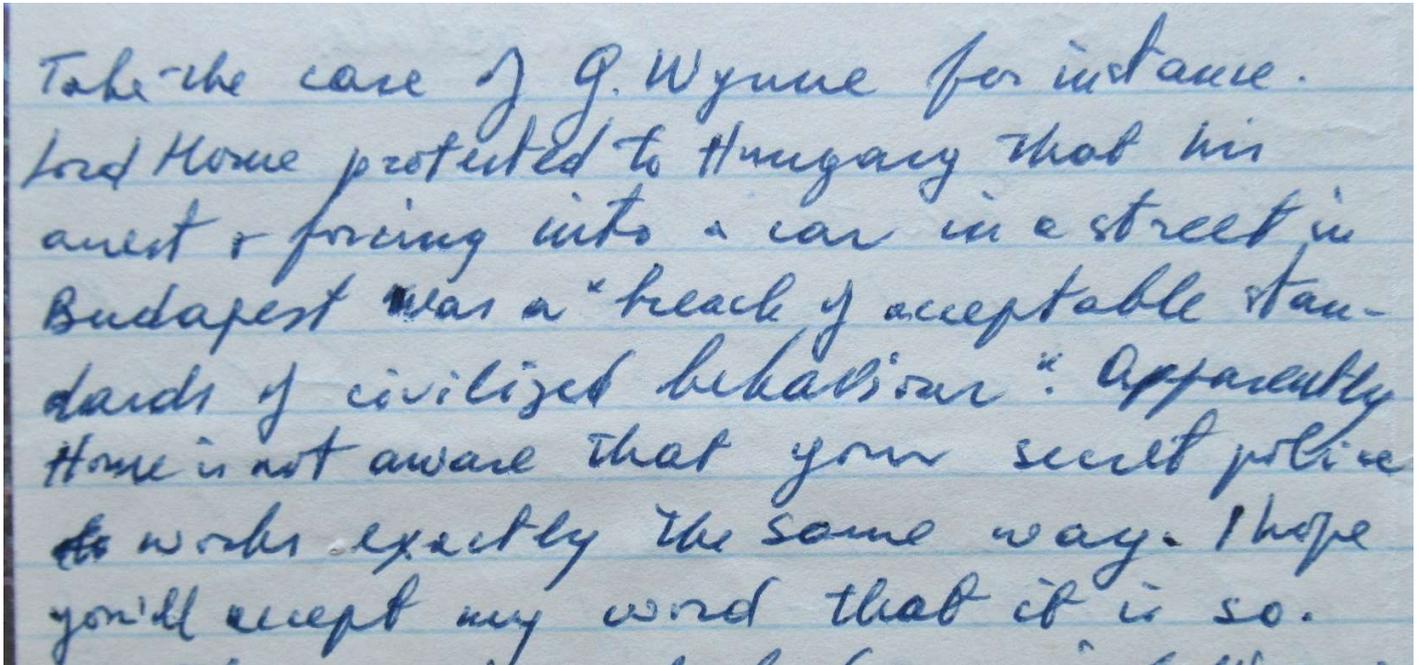
Lonsdale's reputation as a womaniser is confirmed to be true, as is his regard for Molly: "I am very happy to hear about Maxine's feelings on the matter. Don't tell her but only fear of catching hell from you prevented me from starting an offensive in that direction. I know you don't believe in mixing business with pleasure: you are right of course. But I am only human." He then indicates that he had contemplated just such a mix with Molly in



some sexist musings on women & espionage: "I often wanted to get to know you better & closer but decided against it because a woman with brains is very dangerous for my profession. The dangerous thing is intuition. Add brains to it & you've had it." The second letter is from Tuesday 21st March 1961, the penultimate day of the trial, Molly was present, and Lonsdale gave his only statement. Trevor Barnes notes: "Elwell watched with fascination as Lonsdale accepted full responsibility [...] It was a brilliant performance. Not for the first time, Elwell admired Lonsdale's ingenuity and boldness." ('Dead Doubles', 2020). Lonsdale's letter reveals his feelings on the events: "Tell me what you thought of the court proceedings. Don't forget you were in real V.I.P. seats. I don't know if you knew but very big shots were practically next to you, including members of the government. Don't think I'm crazy if I appeared to be too cheerful. It's just that to me the whole performance is only a performance. We were going through the motions – with everyone knowing the result beforehand." There is an indication of how long he has been an agent and the toll this has exacted: "while here I slept more & rested more than any time in the last ten years. It is so strange just to eat, sleep, read & nothing else. I believe I lost about 7lb & feel extremely well. The routine here relaxes me – I'm used to self-discipline – but it drives some people nuts." The third letter, written on the day of the trial verdict, is fraught, Molly has evidently written regarding the previous day's revelations, and Lonsdale responds: "I will first reply to the part that hurt me. You ask: 'are you a human being with normal feelings'. Etc. Yes, Molly, I am a human with normal feelings.", further writing: "My life has been not exactly usual and most people would have found it very hard. I value certain things in life (perhaps I should have said ideals instead of things) [...] Where I differ from many people is in my attitude to money. [...] I hate the idea that 'everyone has his price', and no matter how hard I try I can't respect people who belong to that category.". Molly's business partner, Michael Bowers, was ordered to go through the Kroger's bungalow after their arrest and found a bag with false compartments containing forged passports and other documents, which he held for 2 days before passing to the police, regarding this Lonsdale writes: "And now to Mike. I do not for a second blame him for turning those things in. That action has nothing to do with my 'about face'. What did affect me is that he, whom I considered to be my friend, should snoop amongst my property looking for money. Did I ask him to? No!!". Regarding his relationship with Molly, Lonsdale writes: "I must make it clear that my association with you was purely personal & business. As you say that's why you aren't in the dock today."

The letters once the sentence has been passed are calmer and more reflective: "Luckily for me I am cheerful by nature. [...] the old Latin saying 'DUM SPIRO SPERO' is true. I am sure that as long as one breathes one has a chance. In my case half a chance is good enough." The letter of April 17th 1961 is a crucial one, revealing that Molly has told Lonsdale that she has been approached by the War Office: "I was thinking (there is nothing else to do here Sundays) about our little discussion. As you know it was no surprise to me so even after thinking for a few hours I still can't add much to what I said at the time. Suggestion of money is really pathetic. In fact that's where most of the trouble starts in this world : both sides judge each other by their own standards.". He later writes: "Thanks to your new 'friends' we didn't get a chance to discuss any personal matters. [...] I only hope that on your next visit we'll get more time – if your 'friends' can't arrange even that – what can they arrange?!". In the next letter (22nd April), Lonsdale writes: "Thanks for digging up all that stuff re my appeal. I think I shall kiss you next time I see you. Might as well because local gossip says that last Saturday I saw my girlfriend & we fell into each other's arms. "Experts" say that although you look English it was obvious that you are a foreigner.", Molly appeared in various articles at the time and evidently suspicion was rife, at least in Wormwood Scrubs, that she was also a Russian spy. The end of this letter is an explicit confirmation of their situation: "You say that 2 months ago you wouldn't believe it possible to be a 'go-between' for a 'master spy' & 'friends'. Well, now you know what the expression 'Life is stranger than fiction' means.". Lonsdale's appeal was rejected on May 8th 1961 and he first met Elwell on May 31st, a letter to Molly on May 12th indicates that in the intervening period she was trying to persuade Lonsdale to agree to the meeting, but he writes: "now to your 'friends'. [...] I am in no hurry. [...] Personally I can think of several good reasons for delay, some of them to my advantage, indirectly of course. I doubt that my interests are considered. Hey, how's that for British understatement?!". In a neat passage on June 1st Lonsdale manages to get in a dig about the Bay of Pigs invasion and Suez: "Kennedy should know better after the Cuban fiasco. I read that CIA spent \$75 million to train & arm the rebels. This really makes me laugh. I suppose that even Suez was cheaper (financially speaking – politically the two events are at least equally important.)". His attempts to convert Molly to the communist cause are frequent, this from August 7th 1961: "a new programme of the Soviet Communist Party has been published (1960 – 1980). [...] I hope you might glance through it yourself – then you'll see just what we stand for &

whether you find our aims desirable.”. Much space is devoted throughout the correspondence to the “Master Switch Company”, referred to only as “Switch”, which seems to be developing a new electronic lock, with details about shareholding, squabbles among the various participants, registering patents and possible names, re this Lonsdale writes: “(Elektro or Lectro-Lock etc) and/or register the style of writing. [with an arrow to Lectro-Lock] This is a bit too American but that might be a selling point these days.”. Comparisons between the USSR and non-communist states are frequent, a passage written in May 1962 regarding nuclear fallout from the testing of atomic bombs in various countries ends with a sarcastic remark that: “the unbiased Western press knows that only Communist fallout is dangerous.”. Fascinatingly, in a



Take the case of G. Wynne for instance. Lord Home protested to Hungary that his arrest & forcing into a car in a street in Budapest was a "breach of acceptable standards of civilized behaviour". Apparently Home is not aware that your secret police works exactly the same way. I hope you'd accept my word that it is so.

letter dated 2nd December 1962, Lonsdale devotes a long paragraph to Greville Wynne, his arrest, extradition to the USSR and subsequent treatment, comparing it with his own experience in Britain: “Take the case of G. Wynne for instance. Lord Home protested to Hungary that his arrest & forcing into a car in a street in Budapest was a “breach of acceptable standards of civilised behaviour”. Apparently Home is not aware that your secret police works exactly the same way. [...] Last but not least the Foreign Office made representations about Wynne’s property. They should ask the Home Office what happened to my property & money.”. Wynne gets another mention in a letter to Lonsdale’s solicitor, Michael Hurd: “As to Mr Wynne it will probably surprise you to learn that we take a far more humane and practical view of such matters. Who knows, perhaps you will be in a position to see this at first hand.”. There is a mention of the Profumo scandal: “As to politics I also find the international situation fascinating. Naturally I see things like Profumo, Ward, Keeler, etc. etc in a different light – in that you reap what you sow. You want “free enterprise” – well, you got it & not only at Cliveden.”. Lonsdale’s letter of July 17th 1964 from Moscow is “a short note to let you know that I have finally decided to write my memoirs.” going on to say re publication contracts: “Your advice and help in this matter would be of great value to me, [...] I think it would be useful to discuss this matter in person. I could see you in Warsaw or Berlin whichever is more convenient for you.”. There are letters discussing the contract made with the People, and a copy of this 2 page document, dated 2 February 1961, which stipulates that they will have the rights to publication, but Lonsdale is clear that this is not binding. There is an official original letter from Stanley & Co. to Michael Bowers dated 30th March with a note in what I take to be Michael Hurd or Molly Baker’s hand: “This is the [something?] If you wish to answer you may!”. Snelling and the Krogers receive frequent, mainly brief, mentions throughout. Much of the correspondence relates to Lonsdale’s “property”, which he regards as having been stolen by the British authorities, a Parker 5 pen, for instance, is pursued and eventually arrives broken in bits, MI5 presumably having dismantled it none too carefully.

8. **Various. A collection of 42 photographs and three postcards(one mechanical), relating to Miklós Horthy, dating from approximately 1914 to 1938, relating to his time in the Austro-Hungarian Navy and as Regent of Hungary.**

I believe the collection was amassed for a book, one of the photos(A Portrait of the Regent) has "frontispiece" pencilled to the rear and most have notes and measurements. Some are stamped: "Hungarian National Office for Tourism", many have the appearance of press or publicity photographs and some appear to have been tipped into an album and retain traces to the reverse. There are two photographs of Horthy with Mussolini on board a ship in 1936, one of Horthy riding across the Danube Bridge in 1938, one of Horthy among his horses and another with his pet spaniel, one showing Horthy attending a Remembrance Day gathering in Budapest, probably in the 1920s, two of Horthy in Ipolyság in 1938, one of Horthy on board a ship with an Italian admiral in 1936 (I believe at La Spezia) and one from 1927 of Horthy at the funeral of Cardinal Janos Csernoch. The novelty mechanical postcard, "Hungaria 896-1918", with a thumbwheel that moves segments of a map, representing the changes which the Treaty of Trianon made to Hungary's borders, is in good working order. Many of the other images are of monuments, buildings or paintings. An interesting collection of original photographs, including some quite famous images such as those taken at La Spezia.



£200

9. **A.R.P. – "Post 14" – Official log – Epsom 27th October 1940 – 14th March 1941.**

Covering a significant portion of the Blitz and unsurprisingly recording much activity, Epsom being an important strategic area of the home defence of London in the event of an invasion. A day to day account of the times of raids, the shift patterns of the air raid wardens and transcriptions of messages sent to A.R.P. posts, e.g. Oct 28th: "the enemy is using a new weapon in the form of a flare cylinder about 4 inches by 3 ins containing shot & an explosive charge operating by a spring lid.". There are also details of reports made by the public: "Oct 30th 22.40 Householder called regarding light showing at Little John's bungalow." And more alarmingly: "10th Nov DPW 12 reported that 21 Bs had been dropped in Ruxley Lane. 1 in the road outside Nos 7 & 9. Other at rear of same numbers. No damage.". There are also details of salaries and supplies and mention of the siren warning "Raiders passed" is frequent. As the log goes on there is an increasing sense of routine, confidence and competence, presumably

an indication of the general mood in the country that we were getting through the worst and that the danger of invasion had receded. The log is bound in its original buff covers, which are very worn, stained and fragile with some loss. The pages are also toned, stained and dog-eared with minor loss, but it is all eminently readable. The log covers approximately 140 pages, written in a variety of hands, in a mixture of pencil, ink and crayon, mostly divided into two columns.

£350

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