

your necks. Reginald joined his regiment at Woolwich. I took rooms at Harrington Gardens for a few days, then Dominion steamer for Montreal and C. P. R. for Victoria.

1890

The first electric railway was constructed and operated under the management of D. W. Higgins. The access given in this way to the suburbs caused a boom in land and much building. Unfortunately soon after this prosperity, smallpox broke out. Many people left Victoria and many houses were unoccupied, remaining so for years. Attended Parliament. This year Flora and Gavin Burns were married.

1891

Attended Parliament. My wife, Edythe and Tiny met me at Ottawa. Took train for Montreal and New York and on to Liverpool and London, taking rooms at Miss Barkes, Cromwell Road, where we were comfortable, and met many nice people. At this time Reginald was at Woolwich, Willie in the gunnery ship at Portsmouth, and Douglas at the Bedford Grammar School. The Schofields were very kind to us and to the sons. Flora came to London this year, where Flora Alfreda was born. She returned to Victoria the end of the year, taking Jane Gorden as nurse to the child. This winter my wife, Edythe, Tiny and self went to Paris, Madame Blum taking apartments for us at a house kept by Miss Chapins in the Rue Druo, where we met people from all parts of the world, all gentle people. Madame Blum and daughters did all they could to make us comfortable, and piloting us to different galleries, museums and places of interest in Paris. Douglas joined us for a time.

1892

This new year I, in company with four French gentlemen, attended the reception held by President Carnot at the Elysee Palace. Our names called in rotation, we passed in. I was looking for the President on a dias at the head of the room. Instead he stood by the door as we entered, made our bow and passed on through two salons to a large central hall at the head of which sat the different ambassadors' wives, along with Madame Carnot, all blazing in diamonds. On one side of this hall was a large room with refreshments, consisting of champagne, rum punch, sweets and cake. On the other side was a large room decorated in Oriental style in which a band of a hundred musicians played. The Palace of the Elysee is not an imposing looking building, nothing so grand as some of the castles in Great Britain.