

LIFE OF OK

NAME:

Born Olga Aleksieevna Kirieeva; married Ivan Novikov and took the feminine form of his name: Novikova. She was addressed by her Western friends as "Madame Novikoff" or "Madame de Novikoff", and appears to have dropped the feminine endings after 1865 in all dealings with the Western world: she signs title-pages and letters "Madame Olga Novikoff" or "Olga Novikoff née Kiréeff". Her first publications were under the pseudonyms "A Russian lady" or "O.K." (the initials of her maiden name); she continued to use "O.K." both publicly and privately after her identity was disclosed, and signs autographs "Olga Novikoff née Kireeff ("O.K.")". She published little in Russian, in which she may have used the form "O.A. Novikova".

Further confusion has arisen because of the varying systems of transliteration: the "ie" in Kirieeva may appear as "e", "é", "ie", "ie", or "ye"; the final letter in Novikov may be "v", "f", or "ff".

Despite the writer's use of "Novikoff", the Library of Congress uses the form "Novikova, Ol'ga Alekseevna, 1840-1825". This Department has therefore always referred to the collection as the "Novikova Collection"; nevertheless, "Novikoff" seems better for the lady herself. "OK" has been used throughout this description. (The British Museum uses "Kiryeeva, afterwards Novikova (Olga Aleksyeevna)".)

VITA (based on Stead; some additions from correspondence):

Born 1840 into the Russian upper-class. Brothers Alexander (1833-1910) and Nicholas (d. 1876). Brought up in court circles, with a variety of foreign governesses. In 1860 married Ivan Novikoff (ca 1820-1890), who was nominally following a military career (and became a general), but who was interested in educational administration, and became Curator of St. Petersburg University. Novikoff's brother Eugene was ambassador to Vienna and to Constantinople; Eugene's wife may have been a femme fatale.

OK bore Alexander (Sasha) in spring 1861: her only child? In spring 1862 she entered court and salon society in St. Petersburg, where she was a confidante of Lord Napier, the British Ambassador, and a disciple of Count Keyserling, the Estonian scholar. She was greatly interested in theology and science; but in mid-1862 her brother Alexander was sent to Poland which was in a state of rebellion. The English position was anti-Russian, and war between Russia and England nearly ensued. It seems to have been at this time that she developed an interest in international politics, and conceived the need for a Russian spokesman in England, and an English spokesman in Russia.

She followed the social round in Europe, but appears not to have visited England until 1868; thereafter she returned almost every autumn and winter, and by 1873 kept a London salon at whatever deluxe hotel was her base (usually Claridge's). Her English and Continental admirers (most of whom were born ca. 1809 or ca. 1820) represented a broad range of interests and of political beliefs; it is hard not to believe that she deliberately picked elderly men susceptible to her charms who could influence different areas of English public opinion in favour of Russia, and particularly in favour of Pan-Slavism -- the belief that the Slavic nations should be freed both from Turkey, and from Western cosmopolitanism, and should be united under one religion, presumably as part of a Russian Empire. Certainly she was sympathetic, charming, intelligent, persuasive, and demanding: the atmosphere recalls courtly love. (The correspondence does not show any sexual relationship; but certainly Kinglake in 1871 and Froude in 1879 were in highly emotional states.)

Nearly every year she made a progress -- apparently unaccompanied -- round the civilized world: St Petersburg (or Moscow, or the Novikoff family estates at Novo Aleksandrovka near Moscow); Marienbad, and the other spas, courts, and capitals where the upper-class congregated; London, and occasionally some British country houses.

In 1876 the Slavic provinces held by Turkey rebelled. OK's brother Nicholas Kiréeff joined the Serbian rebels, and was killed in battle, becoming a symbol to the Russians of the necessity to fight for their Slavic brethren. OK was obsessed with the idea that England's support of Turkey had killed her brother, and began to publish letters signed OK in English newspapers giving the Russian side. Gladstone, apparently under the influence of OK, came out of retirement and began to arouse English public opinion against the Turks; but Disraeli's Conservative government held to their alliance with Turkey. The Gladstone-OK connection became notorious. In spring 1877 Russia declared war on Turkey; in Nov 1877 OK's letters began appearing in the Durham paper "The Northern Echo", edited

by the radical W.T. Stead; in Dec she published "Is Russia Wrong?" with a preface by Froude.

During 1878 the Anglo-Russian Crisis over the Eastern Question threatened war. OK urged cooperation on both sides, speaking through Stead in "The Northern Echo" and Katkoff in the "Moscow Gazette". Turkey was defeated, and the Treaty of Berlin (distributing the Balkan provinces) was signed in July, but the Balkans remained unquiet. OK found the Austrian rule in the Balkans no better than the Turkish and advocated independence. (She published her Northern Echo letters as "Friends or Foes?", and in the beginning of 1880 collected all her articles as "Russia and England", with a preface by Froude.) Interest in the Eastern Question waned in Great Britain; but Gladstone became Prime Minister for the second time in April 1880. His anti-Turkish position when out of power had committed his Liberal government to a comparatively pro-Russian position; but Gladstone did not cooperate fully with OK.

Stead came to London, and joined the Liberal "Pall Mall Gazette" as assistant editor in Oct 1880. (He was to edit the PMG 1883-1890, turning it into a lively muckraking social and political critic.)

In March 1881 Tsar Alexander II, a liberal reformer who had been making Russia into a Western state, was assassinated, and succeeded by Alexander III, who was anti-West. (OK's enemies accused her of being an agent of the Russian government, and her friends jested about it; it does appear that Gladstone sent up trial balloons in letters to her which she passed on. However, her outspoken statements often annoyed the Russian diplomatic corps; and she considered herself a representative of the "Moscow" pro-Slavic group rather than the "St Petersburg" official government. Presumably she would have been more in sympathy with Alexander III than with his predecessor.)

In 1882 England became distressed over Russia's treatment of Russian Jews; OK defended the Russian official position. She published her anti-Austrian "Skobeleff and the Slavonic Cause" in 1882 or 1883.

Afghanistan precipitated another Anglo-Russian Crisis in 1884-1885, and Stead and OK set up their journalistic hot line between London and Moscow again. The Russian invasion of Afghanistan in March 1885 brought Gladstone to the brink of war, but the crisis collapsed in May. Through the 1880s OK continued to produce articles for the PMG on Balkan troubles and other Anglo-Russian sore points.

In 1886 OK began a correspondence with Max Nordau, a young many-sided social critic who was to become the Grand Old Man of Zionism; in 1888 they began a sporadic affair. In 1890 her husband died.

During the 1890s she continued her rounds of propaganda, but with less effect: her elderly admirers were dying off. Gladstone broke with her in 1895 over Russia's attitude towards the Armenians. The 1891 famine in Russia (for which her son had set up a fund), Russian prison conditions, and the schools which her son founded on the Novikoff estates in the 1890s took up much of her time.

She permanently "discontinued her receptions" at the outbreak of the Russo-Japanese War in 1904, according to Stead. Stead considered the Anglo-Russian Entente of 1908 the culmination of all their efforts. In 1909 he wrote "The M.P. for Russia: reminiscences and correspondence of Madame Olga Novikoff", based partly on some of the letters in this collection and obviously done in close collaboration with OK. It is not a very reliable work: OK apparently hid some material from him, and was still thinking in terms of propaganda, and his contribution is flawed by flattery and mistranscription. In 1912 Stead went down on the Titanic.

Her son died in 1913 (according to OCLC). By 1915 she seems to have settled permanently in London with "one of her nieces" (according to the Times obituary of 22 April 1925). The Russian Revolution of 1917 apparently marooned her in London without influence, friends, or money. She continued writing; and died in England in 1925.

OK'S ADDRESSES:

Appendix B lists in geographical order the addresses which appear on the envelopes sent to OK, with date and call-mark. Appendix A indexes the Item-lists as a whole by date: it should be remembered that the envelope itself must be examined in the case of skeleton Item-lists which do not give addresses.

MATERIAL BY OK: Full description in Item-list Section A.

MAJOR CORRESPONDENTS

Napier. (Napier, Francis, baron Napier, 1819-1898; from July 1872, baron "Napier and Ettrick".)

Diplomat; Indian administrator; politician; man of letters.

From the talented and prolific Scottish Napiers. Born in Thirlestane, Selkirkshire, Scotland; in 1834 became 9th Baron Napier of Merchistoun (head of that branch of the family) and 11th baronet of Scott of Thirlestane. Married Anne J.C. Lockwood, granddaughter of the Earl of Arran, in 1845.

1840-1860: Diplomatic posts at Vienna, Constantinople, Naples, St. Petersburg, USA, the Hague.

1860 Dec-1864 Sep (or Nov?): Ambassador at St. Petersburg during the Polish Crisis which nearly led to war between England and Russia.

1864 Sep-1866 Jan (?): Ambassador at Berlin.

1866 Mar-1872 Feb: Governor of Madras.

1872 Feb-May: Acting Viceroy of India after Mayo's assassination.

1872 July: Returned to England. Created Baron Ettrick of Ettrick. Lived in London for some years, pursuing political and public life. (A Liberal until 1886.)

18???: Returned to Thirlestane and took up Scottish public life.

Very able, both as diplomat and administrator. Charming, intelligent, persuasive. Wife excellent ambassadress. DNB says he was destined for a great career; but retired from English foreign service and politics because of poverty. (Based on DNB, Cokayne.)

Portrait: Stead v.1 p.51.

CONNECTION WITH OK.

Stead believes that OK began to take part in St. Petersburg court and salon society in spring 1862, and developed an interest in international politics after her brother Alexander was sent to Poland as a member of Grand Duke Constantine's staff in mid-1862. Napier may have been her first foreign diplomat--perhaps even her first politician. They met almost daily at Court and social gatherings, and at her at-homes, and exchanged confidences concerning diplomacy and the Russian character round the tea-table at night. (Judging from the correspondence the relationship was close, flirtatious, but non-sexual.) Presumably it was then that OK learned how to form a friendly and persuasive relationship with an older man whose official political position was in opposition to her own. According to Stead, Napier cherished her friendship until his death; but the letters in hand show little communication after 1873.

MATERIAL IN MS 30M.

115 letters and one playful verse in English and French, 94 of which are probably dated 1862-1864 (Napier usually dated letters only by a weekday). The rest are probably dated 1864-1891. Most addressed to "(My) dear Madame Novikov" (Novikoff after 1865); a few addressed to "My dear Friend" or a variant. Most signed "Napier"; a few signed "N" or "Napier & Ettrick" or "Napier & E".

Many of the St. Petersburg letters are excuses for missing her at a social occasion or witty descriptions of people, places, and occasions she had missed, with passing references to diplomatic duties and family news. Exclamations over and explanations of the state of foreign relations crop up in the middle of ephemeral social notes. Finland is described in M:71 (addressed to OK at Hapsal, Estonia).

The letters after Nov 1864 are more detailed. The Madras letters (M:99-105) describe India and his unhappiness.

Most of the letters are accompanied by hand-delivered envelopes lacking address and postmark.

Stead partially published M:25-28, 71, 74, 96, 99, and 100. He also published parts of nine letters which do not seem to be in the collection now (v 1: pp 66, 72, 76, 80, 80, 187, 241, 241, 267).

See Item-list Section M before use.

ITEMS REMOVED to other sections of the collection:

N letter to the Earl of Charlemont, Madras, 25 Nov 1869 (?): MS 30T:1

OK letter to N, 21 Dec/2 Jan [1863?], beginning "Me pardonnez vous, MiLord...":
MS 30Aa:1

OK letter to N, Mardi soir [1863?], beginning "Merci, bien merci!!...": MS
30Aa:2

Note in Russian on the sailing of the *Mirabelle* (?): MS 30Aa:3

Keyserling. (Keyserling, Alexander, graf von, 1815-1891; full name Alexander Friedrich Michael Leberecht Nikolaus Arthur graf von Keyserling.)

Scholar, scientist (geology, zoology), educator, philosopher, free-thinker, member of Baltic nobility. Curator of the University of Dorpat (now Turgu State University, Estonia) 1862-1869. Lord of the manor of Rayküll, Estonia (south of Reval, which is now Tallinn). School-friend of Bismarck; traveller; member of St Petersburg intellectual society. (Based on Der Grosse Brockhaus; Stead; pNUC.)

Portrait: Stead v.1 p.82.

CONNECTION WITH OK.

In 1866 they met in St Petersburg at the salon of the Grand Duchess Helena Pavlovna. He seems to have adopted her as his intellectual protegee, largely by correspondence. In 1873 she published his observations on the lack of evidence in the Old Testament for a future life as an anonymous pamphlet; she re-published it in 1895 as "Christ or Moses? Which?". Stead believes that OK's Pan-Slavism caused the correspondence to cease ca. 1876, but this is not borne out by the letters in hand.

MATERIAL IN MS 30I.

201 letters in French, 1868-1887 and n.d. (using some Russian, German, and English phrases). Most of the early letters are without salutation; most of the late ones begin "Chère amie". Usually signed "Keyserling" or "le vieil ami" (a few signed "Alexandre" or another phrase). Most are written from Estonia; some from St Petersburg or Weimar.

Unread; but appear to be frank letters to a close friend on a broad range of subjects: Russian, European, and British foreign relations; political, religious and educational philosophy; literature and other cultural matters; natural history; social, political, and administrative gossip; family news; daily life of a retired nobleman. Includes a printed betrothal announcement. Few envelopes.

ALSO: 8 solitary envelopes

1 printed announcement of K's death (MS 30I:199) addressed to Pobedonotsev. Stead translated and published a very few excerpts.

See Item-list Section I before use.

Letters from OK to K have been removed to MS 30Ab:1-4.

Kinglake, A.W. (Kinglake, Alexander William, 1809-1891.)

Man of letters; traveller; amateur military historian; moved in literary, political, and social circles, although shy. In 1835 travelled in the Near East. His famous account of these travels, "Eothen", was first published in 1844; he was thereafter nicknamed Eothen. He followed the army to the Crimea in 1854, and wrote a detailed military and diplomatic history of the Crimean War in memory of Lord Raglan: "Invasion of the Crimea", 1863-1887, in 8 vols. He stood for Parliament as a Liberal, but held old-fashioned views. Intensely interested in Near East politics; pro-Turk, anti-French, and largely anti-Russian; agnostic; bachelor. (Based on Stead, Tuckwell, DNB.)

From Somerset; Eton and Cambridge; constant attendee at the Athenaeum and Travellers' clubs. Lived at 28 Hyde Park Place (London) from 1870 or earlier to Sep 1877; 7 Park Villas West, Richmond Hill, Surrey, Sep 1887-Jan 1889; 17 Bayswater Terrace, Kensington Gardens (London) Feb 1889 to death (2 Jan 1891). The correspondence shows him summering in southern England and in Wales, but seldom visiting the Continent.

Photograph: MS 30J:484; portrait: Stead v.1 p.161.

CONNECTION WITH OK.

They apparently met in 1870 in London at Lady Holland's (so Tuckwell; Stead says they did not meet until 1873). From then to death he had a close and sentimental relationship with her, dancing attendance when she was in London, writing her regularly when she was not. In 1877 he added a Preface to a new edition of Vol 1 of his "Invasion", describing the heroism of her brother Nicholas; the Preface, however, also attacked Russia until OK censored his draft. In 1880 when OK published "Russia and England" the Quarterly Review prepared an unfavourable review; he was able to add to the review an encomium of OK as a person. His letters chide her fondly for her "pranks" in stirring the English up against the Turks. Note that K spoke several times in the 1863 Parliamentary Debates deliberating war with Russia over Poland; OK probably had read reports of the Debates.

MATERIAL IN MS 30J.

470 letters in English, 1870-1890 and n.d. Most lack formal salutation, but address the recipient in the body of the letter as "Miss", or "Dearest", or "My dear friend"; almost all signed only with scribbled initials; one signed "Stella"; many refer to himself as "poor dear me".

Asks questions and gives opinions on Russian internal and external politics, Near Eastern politics, and English politics in general. Characterisations of and gossip about literary, political, and society personages. Theology; observations of cynical onlooker. Teaches her English style. Personal: playful and extravagant compliments, analyses of their characters, news of his life, of his illnesses, reflections on her letters. Literary jeux d'esprit: imaginary conversations. The early expressions of affection are fervent, apparently reaching a peak in Sep 1871 which they spent together at Ryde. Many brief notes concerning appointments.

Includes 6 letters by K's nurse, Alice Dumper, written for or about him after he underwent an operation for cancer of the tongue in April 1889.

About half the letters are accompanied by envelopes, usually mutilated.

ALSO: Photograph of K (not in Stead, Tuckwell, or de Gaury). (J:484)

Limerick. (J:46)

Notes for a critique. (J:485)

10 stray envelopes.

Stead seems to have seen few of K's letters, relying on Tuckwell (W. Tuckwell, "A.W. Kinglake...", 1902); Tuckwell devotes a chapter to OK in which he quotes a number of unidentified short snippets, perhaps all from this collection. (The copy of Tuckwell in Watson Library is annotated by Farley, the previous cataloguer of this section.) Gerald de Gaury's "Travelling Gent...", 1972, quotes no letters.

See Item-list Section J before use.

ITEMS REMOVED to other sections of the collection:

K letter to Whittingham (1871 Oct 23): MS 30T:3
K letter to Charles Lever (1872 May 6): MS 30T:4
K letters to Miss Irby (1880 Jun 9; 1882 Feb 16): MS 30T:13-14
Henry Bulwer to K (1870 Sep 21): MS 30T:2
CE Trevelyan to K (1878 Nov 28): MS 30T:9
William Smith to K (1880 Feb 19): MS 30T:10
OK memo "Le 20 October (Jeudi) Kinglake etait exige...": MS 30Ac:3
OK memo in Russian 23/11 Oct 71: MS 30Ac:2
OK draft letter "My today's scrawl...": MS 30Ac:1

See also MS 30T:15. Froude letter to K, 1889 Aug 25.

Beust, Friedrich Ferdinand, graf von, 1809-1886.

A Saxon nobleman, minister of foreign affairs for Saxony 1849-1866, and the leading member of the government of Saxony. He led the smaller states of Germany in opposition to Bismarck's Prussia; after Prussia defeated Austria in 1866, Beust was forced to resign. The Emperor made Beust foreign minister of Austria in 1866, and Austrian minister-president in 1867. He was responsible for restoring constitutional government to the Austro-Hungarian empire; in 1867 he was made Chancellor of the empire, and a Count. In July 1871 he announced that the empire had reached an entente with Bismarck, which was consummated at an August 1871 meeting with Bismarck at Gastein. He was dismissed from office in 1871, and succeeded by Andrassy; he was Austrian ambassador to London 1871-1878; to Paris 1878-1882; retired to his villa at Altenberg near Vienna 1882-1886. (Source: EB.)

Portrait: Stead v.1 p.43.

ALTENBERG: See Baedeker *Osterreich-Ungarn* 1903. Index: "St. Andrä bei Tulln 305"; p 305: (from Passau to Vienna) "Km 432 St. Andrä; weiter das ehem. Beutsche Schloss Altenberg... 456 Vienna." (Present-day reference sources omit these places, and describe other places by the same name. The postmark St Andra presumably refers to this neighboring village.)

CONNECTION WITH OK.

In 1871 OK met him in Vienna while he was still Chancellor. He took to her, wrote her verses, and while ambassador to London was a member of her salon and sympathized with her anti-Turkey stand. (Stead complained to OK that Beust's handwriting was unreadable, and she replied "No one can read them. They are meant to be read by the heart, not with the eye".) (Based on Stead)

MATERIAL IN MS 30B.

64 letters in French, 1871-1882 and no date; many of these letters are undated. Addressed to "Cher Madame de Novikoff"; signed "Beust", "B", or unsigned. Many are ephemeral social notes; some are fuller and contain political gossip or confidences; some concern the foibles of the English.

Verses appear in items 14, 28, 32, 67.

Many with envelopes.

ALSO: 2 invitations.

1 stray envelope.

Not read; not in any apparent order. A previous user considered the following items of research value: 4, 6, 14, 16-17, 19, 22-24, 26-29, 33-35, 39, 41, 45, 47-56, 58-59, 62-63, 65, 67.

See Item-list Section B before use.

ITEMS REMOVED to other sections of the collection:

Andrassy calling-card to OK (1871 Nov 5): MS 30S:1.

Gladstone. (Gladstone, William Ewart, 1809-1898.)

Prime Minister 1868-74; 1880-1885; 1886; 1892-94. Began as Conservative politician; became Liberal ca 1859; but held own principles, not party principles. MP 1832-1895; chancellor of exchequer and similar posts. Disraeli's rival. Financial reformer; political theorist; theologian; broadly read scholar: history, philosophy, classics, lit. For Irish home-rule; for Christians; against colonialism; for moderate political and economic reform. A Scot, born in Liverpool; MP for Midlothian (Scotland) from 1879; home after his marriage in 1839 Hawarden Castle (Hawarden, Flintshire, Wales). Friend of Tennyson.

(Based on DNB)

Portrait: Stead v.1 p.348.

CONNECTION WITH OK AND RUSSIA.

1853-55 supported Crimean War for the sake of the balance of power.

1873 Jan. Met OK. She sent him her brother's pamphlet on the Old Catholic conference, and the correspondence began (Stead says ca 150 letters by G.). 23 Feb visited her salon at Claridge's.

1876 Aug. G distressed by news of Turkish atrocities against Bulgarian Christians ignored by GB government. Sep 6 G published pamphlet "Bulgarian Horrors..."; Sep 9 denounced Turkey and backed Russia. Dec 8 Liberals' national conference at St. James's Hall protesting the government's support of Turkey; G made strong speech, took OK's arm before the crowd, and walked her home. Thereafter certainly anti-Turk; usually pro-Russia; somewhat anti-Austria.

(See DNB & Stead)

Stead says that G used OK as a go-between when he wished to approach the Russian government informally.

MATERIAL IN MS 30G.

92 letters in English, 1873-1896. (Bulk: 1876-1880.) Addressed to "My dear Madame Novikoff" or "Dear Madame Novikoff"; signed "WE Gladstone". Concern foreign politics (Russia, Turkey, and other); domestic politics, both great (eg Irish Question) and small (eg electioneering); religious matters; personal and family news; personalities; and a broad spectrum of subjects of general interest. Frank; detailed; easy in manner.

About half are accompanied by envelopes.

ALSO: 1 calling-card

3 solitary envelopes

40 of these letters and excerpts from 30 more appear in Stead. NB: Stead's selection is biased toward material concerning Russia or Turkey.

See Item-list Section G before use.

Laveleye. (Laveleye, Emile Louis Victor, baron de, 1822-1892.)

Belgian political economist; socialist; professor at University of Liege; man of letters; traveller. Interested in philosophical solutions to Russia's problems, and in problems of small nationalities, particularly the Balkans.

His family's country home was at Gheluveld (see Columbia Gazetteer and Times Atlas "Geluwe, West Flanders", about 10 miles SE of Ypres). Their city home was in Bruges. Emile was the second surviving son; his elder brother Jules remained at Gheluveld until his death in 1890. Emile married in 1853, and lived near his work in Liege; he usually spent summers in Gheluveld until 1883, when he began using Hermalle-sous-Argenteau (7 miles NE of Liege); he usually spent Christmas with his friend Louis Bourguet at Doyon. He travelled a good deal, visiting Paris or London almost every year.

In 1868 he travelled through Austria-Hungary with Bourguet and Nicolas Reyntjens, making a political survey for Buloz, editor of the Revue des Deux Mondes. He returned to the Balkans in 1883, and publicized the Turkish atrocities in the Balkans in the English press from 1882-1885, ranking with Gladstone as a hero to the Bulgarians.

He was the centre of a circle of early social scientists (in the broadest sense) and developed his own socialism. He published in literary, historical, economic, contemporary political, and anti-clerical fields; he joined an evangelical Protestant sect. In 1891 the king made him a baron.

(Based on his "Lettres Intimes", 1927.)

Portrait: Stead v.2 p.151.

CONNECTION WITH OK.

Stead believes they met at the end of 1875 or the beginning of 1876. They shared most interests, although he was pro-Austria and pro-Russian Nihilist. They seem to have met seldom, but corresponded as equals on both the philosophy and the practicalities of politics.

MATERIAL IN MS 30K.

48 letters in French, 1875-1889 and n.d. The earlier ones are addressed to "Chere Madame" or "Chere Madame et Amie"; the later ones bear no salutation. Some are signed, and some are initialled. Written from Liege, Gheluveld, Argenteau, the Ardennes, Brussels.

Unread, but skimmed (see Item-list Section K for notes by a previous evaluator). Appear to be primarily political and philosophical, but reflect all L's interests, and his personal life.

6 letters are accompanied by envelopes, mostly mutilated.

ALSO: 1 copy in another hand

1 translation in another hand

1 solitary envelope

Stead seems to have had access to more letters than these, but not to all of these. He found them difficult to read, and published passages only--sometimes a single paragraph from a long and interesting letter. We have only discovered 28 letters drawn on by Stead, but there may be more.

See Item-list Section K before use.

Froude. (Froude, James Anthony, 1818-1894.)

Historian; man of letters; radical; agnostic; anti-Gladstone; pro-Slav. Dabbled in politics and foreign relations. Lively, controversial, prolific writer. Friend of Carlyle, Kingsley, Clough, M. Arnold, Coleridges, Carnarvon, Derby, Salisbury, Lytton, Kinglake... Disliked both Liberal and Conservative parties.

Lived at 5 Onslow Gardens (London) 1865-92; at Cherwell Edge (Oxfordshire), 1892-94; at The Woodcot, Kingsbridge (Devonshire), 1894. Summer residence usually The Molt, Kingsbridge, Salcombe, Devonshire. Second wife died in 1874; children Margaret, Ashley Anthony, and May. He died 20 Oct 1894.

1874 and 1875 sent by Carnarvon on semi-political tours of S. Africa; opposed annexation of Transvaal. 1878 opposed Disraeli's Eastern Europe policy. Carlyle died 5 Feb 1881; F, his literary executor, edited his *Reminiscences* (1881) and *Mrs Carlyle's Letters* (1883), and wrote 2 biographies of C (1882; 1884), angering C's friends by muck-raking. Visited Norway 1881 (poem "Romsdal Fiord", 1883); Australia 1884/5 (book "Oceana", 1886); West Indies 1886/7 (book "English in the West Indies", 1888): all controversial. Regius Professor of Modern History, Oxford, 1892-94. Attacked by many (including E.A. Freeman) for inaccuracy. (See DNB)

Portrait: Stead v.2 p.321.

CONNECTION WITH OK.

Read the articles which OK published in the "Northern Echo" in Nov 1877; praised them; and supplied a preface to the collection of them entitled "Is Russia Wrong?" which was published just before Christmas 1877. The correspondence in hand indicates a close intellectual relationship thereafter, subject to emotional storms on both sides.

MATERIAL IN MS 30H.

182 letters in English, 1877-1894. (He omits year-dates; most have been assigned years by Gretchen Nygard.) Most salutations: "My dear Lady" or "My dear Friend"; some "My dear Madame de Novikoff"; some without salutation. Many initialled; some signed; some unsigned.

Begins by treating GB's relations with Eastern Europe; but soon is discussing all his interests. Analyses OK's character and emotions, his own character and emotions, and refers obscurely to their relationship. Elegant, malicious, humorous style.

About half are accompanied by envelopes.

ALSO: 3 letters from Margaret Froude to OK (1884 Aug 22; 1891? Nov 24; 1894? Dec 15:
H:130, 176, 183)

2 calling-cards (Leger; Leroy-Beaulieu) in H:98

1 quotation (H:191)

3 solitary envelopes

Stead was not allowed by Froude's family to publish more than a few excerpts.

See Item-list Section K before use.

ITEMS REMOVED to other sections of the collection:

F to Miss Irby (1880 Mar 10; 1880 Apr 3): MS 30T:11-12.

F to Kinglake (1889? Aug 25): MS 30T:15.

F to Stead (1878? Oct 9): MS 30T:8.

Nordau. (Nordau, Dr. Max, 1849-1923; born Simon Maximilian Südfeld; LC form Nordau, Max Simon.)

German Jew (born in Hungary; living in Paris); physician; journalist; social critic; philosopher; novelist and dramatist; co-founder of the World Zionist Organization. At the time when the correspondence starts he is a practising general physician with an interest in neurology and drug abuse, a promising figure in German belles lettres, and has published in German the controversial works "The Conventional Lies of Our Civilization" and "Paradoxes".

In 1892 he wrote (as well as plays and novels) the influential work "Entartung" ("Degeneration") denouncing European art and literature and predicting a general catastrophe; he continued to write belles-lettres and philosophical works on civilization to the end of his life. (He also produced hack-work, and children's books for his daughter Maxa.) In Nov 1895 he became interested in Theodor Herzl's Zionism, and became a founder, preacher, and president of the movement; he was particularly sensitive to the plight of Russian Jews. (The correspondence hints that he was not himself interested in Jewish tradition, but felt a duty towards a suffering class of people.)

His daughter was born in 1897; from the correspondence it appears that he remained unmarried until about then. (Based on Enc. Judaica; pNUC; the MS)

Portrait: The Bookman v.I no.3 (Apr 1895) p.157.

CONNECTION WITH OK.

The first letter (Aug 1886) implies that she has just sent him a fan letter; he replies that he has been admiring the political ideas shown in her newspaper articles, the independent spirit which allows her to tease the coarse English, and her exploit in enslaving that old idiot Gladstone. They rapidly become intellectually and emotionally close; in Sept 1888 they appear to have an affair. Thereafter they see each other only when both are free and in Paris: not as often as once a year. He continues to tell her everything. She appears to cool; by 1896 they have taken up opposite positions on the Russian Jews issue. By 1902 the relationship appears to be friendly, superficial, sporadic. Mentioned only in passing by Stead.

MATERIAL IN MS 30N.

291 letters in French, 1886-1902. Bulk: 1888-1894. All signed; addressed to "Ma grande et chère amie", "Ma bien chère amie", "Madame et grande amie", "Ma grande amie", and similar forms. Most are written from Paris; some from Berlin, Leipzig, Borkum (Germany), Barcelona, Denmark, Baden, London, and French and Belgian sea-side resorts.

Unread but skimmed. The daily thoughts and actions of a broadly-cultured man, including his private horrors, in a witty, facile, strong style. Political and social philosophy, politics, the publishing business, medicine and medical advice, theatre, family troubles, gossip in Germany and France, position of Germans in France, position of Jews, dislike for the English, the morganatic wife of Prince Leopold of Saxe-Cobourg, difficulties in finding lodging for OK, his meetings with the Orientalist G.W. Leitner, rehearsals in the Lessing-Theatre, techniques of writing, literary figures, qualities of woman, analyses of his own and OK's characters... N:194 reports his shocking experience in Borkum when he found people of the professional classes exhibiting virulent anti-Semitism against him, a notable German man of letters; after that point he shows a growing concern with the position of Jews.

Most of the letters are accompanied by envelopes, mostly mutilated. Some letters are "petit-bleus" and some are "carte-lettres" (see p. 148 for explanation); postcards and correspondence cards are also used.

ALSO: 2 stray envelopes

1 prescription (N:33)

3 printed calling-cards (Nordau (N:42); Prinz Nicolas von Nassau; Comtesse de Merenberg)

1 printed poem by Nordau: "Poetische Epistel au Prof. W.L.", on the philosophical pleasures of Saint-Trojan, a seaside resort (N:147).

Apparently unpublished; not in Stead.

See Item-list Section N before use.

ITEMS REMOVED to other sections:

3 OK letters to Nordau: MS30 Ad:1-3.

Letter to OK signed "Marie", asking for help with her opium addiction: MS 30S:4.

5 newspaper clippings: MS 30Z.

Dufferin. (Dufferin and Ava, Frederick Temple Hamilton-Temple-Blackwood, 1st Marquis of, 1826-1902.)

A charming and broadly-cultured Irishman, Dufferin was a diplomat who became Governor General of Canada and Viceroy of India.

1826: Born Frederick Temple Blackwood, son of the 4th baron of Dufferin and Clanboye. Principal residence Clandeboy Castle, Belfast. 1841: Succeeded to the title. Travel, especially in Near East. 1850: Created Baron Clandeboye, and became a Liberal member of the House of Lords.

1860-61: Special Commissioner to Syria.

1862: Changed family name to Hamilton-Blackwood; married Harriot Rowan-Hamilton, of Killyleagh Castle, County Down. 1862-71: Held numerous posts:...Under Secretary for India...for War... 1863 Jul 28: Son Archibald b. at Dufferin Lodge, Highgate. 1868-72: Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.

1866 Mar 16: Son Terence born. 1870 Nov 4: Son Ian born.

1871 Nov 13: Created Viscount Clandeboye and Earl of Dufferin.

1872: Changed family name to Hamilton-Temple-Blackwood. 1872-78: Governor-General of Canada. 1879-81: Ambassador to St Petersburg. 1881-84: Ambassador to Constantinople.

1884-88: Viceroy of India.

1888: Created Earl of Ava and Marquess of Dufferin and Ava. 1888-96: Ambassador to Rome; to Paris.

From 1841 he is usually referred to as "Lord Dufferin".

(See DNB)

CONNECTION WITH OK.

Dufferin apparently knew Eugene Novikoff (1826-1903; OK's brother-in-law) and his wife in Syria: presumably in 1860-61. (See "My Russian and Turkish Journals" by Harriot Dufferin and Ava, p.128.) Stead, v.1 p.14: "Eugene...was for many years Russian ambassador at Vienna and Constantinople. He was married to Miss Titoff, the niece of the Russian ambassador at Constantinople." See also MS 30M:74-75, which may refer to the relationship between D and Eugene's wife in 1864. Item 1 (1868) indicates little acquaintance with OK; it may even be the first chance they had to meet (cf. item 8). Stead speaks little of him: OK was unable to persuade him to oppose the Berlin Treaty in 1879; OK disliked his actions as Viceroy of India.

MATERIAL IN MS 30E.

16 letters in English, 1862 [?], 1868-71 and n.d. 12 are definitely or probably to OK (1868-71); 1 is to "My dear Novikow" [perhaps Eugene Novikoff] (1862?); 1 is to a **Madame Novikoff** who is not OK [perhaps Eugene's wife] (1869); 2 are probably to the same Madame Novikoff (1871). Those to OK are light social notes to a new acquaintance, with family news; those to the other Novikoffs reflect a deeper friendship, but scarcely touch on politics. All are signed "Dufferin" or "D"; envelopes initialled D.C.; most salutations are "My dear Madame Novikow" or "My dear Madame Novikoff" or "Dear Madame Novikoff".

Apparently not in Stead.

Full description in Item-list Section E.

Villiers. (Villiers, Charles Pelham, 1802-1898.)

English politician and administrator; brother of Lord Clarendon.

Free-trader and Benthamite; a reforming MP (1835-1898). His great success was the repeal of the corn-laws in 1849. "In foreign politics Villiers took broad views, and in his later years he often found himself...in agreement with the [Tories].... In conversation he had few superiors; and with the retention of his mental faculties to the close of his life he continued...interest in...politics...at home and abroad. With the expansion of the empire...he had little sympathy..."

Died on 16 Jan 1898 at his residence, 50 Cadogan Place, SW1, London.

(See DNB)

Portrait: Stead v.1 p.99.

CONNECTION WITH OK.

Stead says they met at Ems in autumn 1866. They appear to have carried on a voluminous correspondence until 1870 in which he gave her his news and opinions on politics and foreign relations, and asked for hers. After 1868 Villiers was one of the habitués of her London salon.

MATERIAL IN MS 30R.

4 letters in English. Only one is signed: it is possible that not all are by Villiers. No dates; no envelopes.

Stead appears to have had access to a large quantity of correspondence from which he quotes a number of excerpts (v.1 pp.99-122); none of the letters quoted are here.

Full description in Item-list Section R.

Clarendon, George William Villiers, 4th earl, 1800-1870.

Clarendon was a diplomat from 1820 to 1838, when he succeeded to the earldom. Thereafter he was a frequent figure in whig or liberal ministries and received the Garter in 1849. He was Foreign Secretary 1853-58; 1865-66; and 1868-70. In 1853 he backed Turkey and opposed Russia; the Crimean War followed. He died on 27 June 1870.

He was a noted conversationalist, and figured as Lord Everingham in Disraeli's novel "Coningsby". He met OK in 1867: Stead (v.1 p.109) intimates that it was in Paris, but the correspondence in hand may indicate that it was in Weisbaden. She was far more friendly with his brother, Charles Villiers.

(See DNB; Cokayne)

MATERIAL IN MS 30D.

14 letters in English, 1867-69 and n.d. Addressed to "Dear Madame Novikoff" or "Novikow"; signed "Clarendon" or "C". The earlier ones are playful; most of the later ones are notes explaining why he cannot meet her in London or on the Continent. Only two hints at politics at all. (Note that the letter of 7 Feb 1868 which Stead prints is not included in this collection.) Half with envelopes.

ALSO: 1 stray envelope.

Full description in Item-list Section D.

Stanhope. (Stanhope, Philip Henry, 5th earl Stanhope, 1805-1875; styled Viscount Mahon 1816-1855.)

Conservative politician; 18th-century historian; proponent of national projects concerning the arts, history, archaeology, etc. (He may have had a special interest in Russia: his 4th son, Philip James Stanhope, 1847-1923, married Alexandra, widow of Count Mathieu Tolstoy, at St Petersburg, 11 May 1877. See Cokayne sub Weardale and Burke's Peerage sub Stanhope.) (See DNB)

CONNECTION WITH OK.

Stead mentions as an acquaintance before 1874, and says that he supplied autographs of notables for her autograph collection. Kinglake advised OK to make Stanhope's acquaintance in MS 30J:95 (Nov 1872). Presumably their acquaintanceship was brief, since he died 24 Dec 1875.

MATERIAL IN MS 30P.

4 letters in English, 1873-1874 and n.d. Addressed to "(My) dear Madame de Novikof(f)". Signed "Stanhope".

Superficial social notes, with a little family news. From London, Chevening (Kent), Madresfield Court (Worcestershire).

1 satirical poem attacking the politician **Robert Lowe** (later Viscount Sherbrooke). No envelopes.

Full description in Item-list Section P.

ITEM REMOVED to other sections:

Stanhope letter to Mrs Spottiswoode: MS 30T:7.

Tyndall. (Tyndall, John, 1820-1893.)

Scientist (physicist); philosopher of science; Alpine mountaineer.

Irish-born self-made man. Research in Germany to 1851.

1853 appointed to the Royal Institution of Great Britain; "to the end of his active life his best energies were devoted to the service of the Royal Institution". Succeeded his friend Faraday as Superintendent in 1867. Retired in 1887 and elected honorary professor.

Pioneer in many areas of physics. Excellent lecturer and popular writer; much translated. 1866-1883 scientific advisor to Trinity House (lighthouses, fog signals, etc) and the Board of Trade.

1874 Aug 14 raised a notorious controversy by his presidential address to the Belfast meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science in which he proposed examining theology by the scientific method.

1876 Feb 29 married his student Louisa Claud Hamilton.

Appears to have divided his time between London and the Alps. From 1877 summered at Bel Alp, above Brieg in the Valais, Switzerland. In 1885 built a cottage at Hindhead, Surrey, to which he retired in 1887.

A Liberal; opposed Gladstone's home-rule policy.

(Based on DNE)

Portrait: Stead v.1 p.150.

CONNECTION WITH OK.

Stead says that OK wished to meet the spirit behind the Belfast Address, and that Kinglake introduced him during a December walk in Hyde Park. But item Q:1 seems to indicate that she had been inspired by the Address to write him a letter in Sept 1874. He seems to have joined her Brook Street salons, and to have been put in touch by her with Professor Frohschammer of Berlin (the Old Catholic philosopher), Count Keyserling (see section I), and Aloys Riehl (professor of philosophy at Gratz). He also introduced her to his hero, Thomas Carlyle.

MATERIAL IN 300.

35 letters in English, 1874-1881 and n.d. Most addressed to "(My) dear Friend". Signed "John [or J.] Tyndall". Hand varies; item Q:34 may be in a different hand.

Open, friendly, rather superficial letters giving news about himself and his varied friends. Progress of his publications; intellectual interests; illness; his bad brain responsible for his lack of success.

Most are accompanied by hand-delivered envelopes.

Stead published a few excerpts.

Full description in Item-list Section Q.

Irby. (Irby, Adeline Paulina, 1831-1911; referred to as Miss Paulina Irby. Reference works vary in dates and spelling.)

Traveller and relief-worker in the Balkans; founder of schools for Christians in Bosnia; disciple of Florence Nightingale; fund raiser for "Southern Slavs"; pan-Slavic sympathizer.

In 1861-1864 she and Georgina Muir MacKenzie made expeditions through the Slavic provinces held by Turkey, and wrote anonymous articles on the country, the downtrodden Slavic natives, and the brutal Turkish regime, culminating in "Travels in the Slavonic provinces of Turkey-in-Europe...", 1867. They raised funds in England for training Bosnian teachers, and in 1870 founded a school in Sarajevo for Christian girls, which PI ran herself from 1871 to 1911. Between 1869 and 1875 she usually spent summers in England, and winters in Sarajevo.

In 1875 rebellion broke out in Bosnia, which was to spread to the other Slavonic provinces; Russia entered the war in 1877; and in 1878 the Treaty of Berlin dismembered the Ottoman Empire. From 1875 to 1879 PI dedicated herself to the refugees, living part of the year in their camps on the borders of Bosnia, feeding and clothing the children and women, and setting up a network of schools; and part of the year fund-raising in England. As English popular feeling rose against the Turks, PI became known at home. Gladstone recommended her "Travels" to OK in Dec 1876 (MS 30G:16); he added a preface for the updated 2nd edition in 1877. Florence Nightingale took care of the English side of the fund-raising when PI was abroad.

In 1878 the Austrians took Bosnia over from the Turks, not without bloodshed. The country did not settle again until 1882. The Slavic culture and the Orthodox believers found the Austrians no more sympathetic than the Turks. In June 1879 PI was able to return to Sarajevo, where she refounded her school as an orphanage-school. She continued alternating Sarajevo and England until 1882, when she became a permanent resident of Sarajevo. After July 1887, when she gave a lecture in Manchester, she no longer left Bosnia except for occasional visits to Rome and Naples, and to the US in 1893.

After the refugee orphans had grown, the school served Orthodox Christian girls, emphasizing the necessity of preserving Slavic culture despite the Austrian rule; in 1906 it was thought that the school was a front for pan-Slavic agitation. PI had lost most of her ties with England, and was forgotten by the English; but kept in touch with OK. Her papers were destroyed at her death. After Yugoslavia was created in 1918, she was adopted as a Yugoslavian heroine. (From Dorothy Anderson's "Miss Irby and her friends", London, Hutchinson, 1966. HV 28 .I7 A7.)

CONNECTION WITH OK.

PI met OK in Sept 1876 in England, and found her a fellow pan-Slavic enthusiast. In Feb 1880 she stayed with OK at Oliphants Hotel, and visited Gladstone with OK; in summer 1880 she visited OK in London, and went with her to Edinburgh. When PI's friend Arthur Evans (the archaeologist) was jailed by the Austrians for pan-Slavic activity in 1882, their letters tried to disguise OK as "Madame N." In 1884 OK spent a summer at Sarajevo with PI, and wrote an article about it in the Pall Mall Gazette, 16 Aug 84. PI kept in touch with OK after she had given up almost all outside contacts. (Anderson)

MATERIAL IN MS 30F.

2 letters and 1 env in English, 1863.
Full description in Item-list Section F.

MATERIAL IN MS 30T.

Froude to Irby, 1880 Mar 10 and Apr 3: MS 30T:11-12.
Kinglake to Irby, 1880 Jun 9 and 1882 Feb 16: MS 30T:13-14.
Full description in Item-list Section T.

MATERIAL IN MS 30J.

Kinglake transmitting message from Irby to OK, Mar 1882: MS 30J:268.

Campbell-Bannerman, Henry, Sir, 1836-1908.

Henry Campbell was a member of the affluent Glasgow family of wholesale drapers. He was MP for Stirling 1868-1908. He was a Liberal and a supporter of Gladstone, and held various political offices. In 1868 he married Sarah Charlotte Bruce. They were a constant pair; her health was poor, and they usually spent autumns at Marienbad. In 1872 he assumed the name and arms of Bannerman.

In 1879 OK met the C-Bs at Marienbad [source: Stead], and often met them there in later years: the friendship appears to have been social rather than political. In 1899, during the troubles over the Eastern Question, the South African War, and Irish Home Rule, he became head of the Liberal party. In Dec 1905 he became Prime Minister. In the vacation of 1906 his wife died at Marienbad. On the eve of the Hague peace conference of May 1907 he reiterated his plea for arms reduction, but Germany refused to discuss it. He had a heart-attack in Nov 1907, and recuperated at Biarritz, 27 Nov 1907 to 20 Jan 1908. He never quite recovered; resigned on 4 April; died at Downing Street 22 April.

See DNB for detailed life. Stead has a few references, several letters, and a portrait. "Russian Memories" p.77 says OK met the C-Bs at Carlsbad; pp 76-80 discuss her visits to them.

MATERIAL IN MS 30C.

5 letters in English, 1900-1908. Addressed to "Dear Madame Novikoff", signed "H. Campbell-Bannerman". Item 4 is political; the others are relaxed and friendly.

No envelopes.

- Listed in Item-list Section C.

Lyall. (Lyall, Sir Alfred Comyn, 1835-1911.)

Anglo-Indian administrator; man of letters; man-about-town in London from 1887.

1878-1881. Foreign Secretary to Viceroy of India; advocated treaty with Russia about Afghanistan (led to 1907 Convention between England and Russia). 1881 KCB.

Retired to England 1887. Many interests: poems, essays, philosophy, Hindu religion and customs, history, biography... Backed Indian local self-government. (See DNB)

CONNECTION WITH OK.

Not mentioned by Stead. Wrote a biography of her acquaintance Lord Dufferin in 1905.

MATERIAL IN MS 30L.

7 letters in English, 1905-1910 and n.d. All signed A.C. Lyall, and addressed "(My) dear Madame Novikoff". Polite friendly notes, occasionally mentioning Russian politics.

Most with envelopes.

This group was separately acquired from Wreden: letter Rubinstein to Wreden 21 Jan 1955 "Thanks...for the seven letters from Lyall to Mme. Novikoff. It is romantic to think of their being reunited." (see MS Records).

Full description in Item-list Section L.