Mary’s diary,1930-1931

703000

[005]

People coming to I Tatti

Wednesday, September 24,1930

We got back from the Consuma bring with us Theron Damon from Constantinople

who had been spending some days with us. He belongs to the genial class known

in New England as “Loafers”, unable to stick to anything as go deeply into things,

but always amiable and willing and good company.

Thursday, September 25,1930

Naima Löfroth came up, just back from Sweden. Wild and unconversational as ever.

Sunday, September 28,1930

Mrs. Lanier and Mr. and Mrs. Allyn Cox arrived from Venice. The former is considerably decayed since we saw her last 3 years ago, and her little mind seems to run round and round in a narrower circle than ever – about a yard from her own person is its

[006]

utmost range. Whithin those limits it cuts ungraceful capers. She loves more than anything else to recount how she got the better of this and that person. She used to be lovely to look at but is now bloated and pale and unhealthy-looking. She told me, among other things, about the masses of expensive

lace she has brought for her sheets and pillows and towels and table clothes. These laces have to unseen whenever the things one sent to the wash! “Conspicuous expenditure” a kind for us to have such a person visiting here. Her tiny, nervous lap day is a horror.

Allyn Cox is a little fatter, but otherwise much the same. Artistically he

attained his majority very early, and as it brings him success there is little hope of growth.

Jill Cox is tall, pale, slender with

[007]

brown-coloured hair and sharp prudish

features. We could not discover any particular spark of intelligence in her, except a look

sometimes in her legs.

Monday, September 30,1930

Mrs. Lanier brought up her brother, Jim, and his turn-soul (?), Mr. Paul Frerejean, and a young Dame, countess Blücher-Altona, to tea. Mr. Lanier has an even more restricted mind than his sister, but I think more aimable. He has a house in a rose-garden in Provence near Les Beaux and seems to be happy in his homosexual college. Frerejean has the suavity and culture of the best of his type.

The young Dame seemed very wooden.

Later Edith Wharton and Gilliard Lapsley arrived by motor from Salsomaggiore, with two Pekinese.

[008]

Wednesday, October 1,1930

Ruth Wolf, enormously smellowed and improved by misfortune and failure, came to lunch – now a really fascinating man. Also a Graf Erbach Fürstenan and his spouse came. He looked like a coarsely painted Tintoretto. He writes on Manuscripts of the XIII Century. She talks on domestic matters. I thought I should die of sleepiness!

In the evening Cecil Pinsent and Ruth Draper came to dine. The latter

gave us the new “piece”, “Three Women”, and a much longer and more profound thing that she has so far done. Very remarkable. She grows handsomer and handsomer, as intelligence and success touch her features. Mrs. Lanier’s face is going exactly the

opposite way.

[009]

Thursday, October 2,1930

Mrs. Lanier and Mr. “Pinches” left in the morning. Kenneth and Jane Clark spent the day and were very agreeable. To dinner came the Allys Coxes (she looked positively lovely!) and Mrs. Murphy, Geoffrey’s friend, granddaughter of the American painter, W. Hunt. She seemed enthusiastic and intense, yet was agreeable. But BB found the enthusiasm very uninstructed.

Friday, October 3,1930

I had my first treatment for nevritis at the Munari clinic. The ether in the compound made me too seasick to get up all day. Logan arrived at 5 and drank tea in my room.

Saturday, October 4,1930

Baroness Osten-Sachen arrived in the morning. She seems to have got rather petrified but it is awkard with Logan and Mrs. Wharton absorbing all the conversation, and turning it on subject she knows nothing of. And her

[010]

English has grown a bit rusty too. I am distressed at the situation.

In the afternoon Logan and I called on Strong and Santayana, and Lapsley left.

It seems he is a fervent High Churchman. Santayana scarcely knew him at Harvard,

and when Logan said “You belonged to the hard-boiled set, and he must have been

one of the soft-boiled ones”, Santayana said “He isn’t boiled at all”.

Saturday [sic], October 5,1930

Ugo Ojetti came to lunch and was very agreeable and amusing.

In the afternoon there came Hon. Miss George Keppel, Lady Cowley, Mrs. Ruby Lindsay, Mr. Jean Gaigneron, Mrs. Trefusis, Mr. and Mrs. Allyn Cox, Miss Keppel said her sister had come home to roost, for Sir Arthur Colefax has fallen desperately in love with her.

[011]

Logan said Lady Cowley Was very clever, Mrs. Lindsay is an ex-beauty, still beautiful, and M. Gaigneron, blond and blend, seemed intelligent and agreeable.

Sunday, October 5,1930

I quite forget.

Monday, October 6,1930

Carlo Placci came to dine, but was rather boring, as he always is when he comes back from his summer visits to the Great.

Tuesday, October 7,1930

BB and Edith and I went to Torre Acona and saw the park. There we spoke to the owner, Contessa Padova, a lively lady of the Maria Papafava, Pasolini type, and her son-in-law Tenente Gioia, who was out hunting mushrooms with the full paraphrenalia of the chase

Baroness Osten-Sachen left.

Wednesday, October 8,1930

Edith, Nicky and BB got off to La Foce to lunch, and Montepulciano to sleep.

John Brown from Zurich came to lunch and to study in the Library, a sissy type, not very promising, but a nice youth. I like the mother better than any of the children.

[012]

Friday, October 10, 1930

Sir Robert and Lady Crey came to lunch. Not much in it for us. A Mrs. De Wett Verner came to tea – a niece of my old friend, Eva Mc Laren. Still less in it. She has a daughter who is a sculptress in Paris.

BB and Edith and Nicky returned from their trips.

Saturday, October 11,1930

Called for Carlo Placci after my Munari treatment (for nevritis). He came to stay for 2 days. In the afternoon Logan and I called on Nellie Mackay at the Villa Frosino, San Domenico. She was as ‘intense’ and neurotic as ever, and her husband was unnaturally dull. They had a French Countess of sorts staying with him, privately a mistress or ex-mistress of his, an insignificant, off-colour sort of person.

Sunday, October 12,1930

Ugo Ojetti came to lunch. He wants Edith to give him a short story for Dedalo.

Walked from Salaiuoli. Most lovely.

Monday, October 13,1930

Edith left and Sir Robert K.C.M. and Lady Gregg (Julia) came. I drove them to S. Martino alle Palme and came home to

[013]

to find that De Marinis had brought Benedetto Croce to tea. Moravia also had stayed in from lunch. Croce was most interesting, as always, but I was so utterly tired (for the Greggs did not respond enliveningly to the beauty I showed them), that I finally had to excuse myself and creep off to rest. Gregg talked interestingly about his last post, Romania. He said that Antoine Bibesco was a despicable *cabotin* and his wife (Asquith’s daughter) little better.

King Carol is a Worm.

Tuesday, October 14,1930

Friedländer of the Berlin Museum came to lunch, a quiet, able, agreeable man.

Afterwards his friends, frau and Doktor P[erles] came and stayed endlessly looking at the collection. She is a very sub. Rubens plus German type, but no doubt pleasing to the Herr Geheimath Friedländer. He, by the way, said he was ready to collaborate with me in a list of “Sacred” pictures, he doing the early Flemish and Germans, I, the Italians. Kenneth Clark and Jane arrived. He is ill and went at once to bed.

[014]

Wednesday, October 15,1930

Mr. and Mrs. Archie Mackay and Mme de Saint Blancard (?) came to lunch. As Alda said, you don’t meet such people! The French lady complained heavily of people punching her (but not today) under the table, Nellie indulged in high-flown metaphysical sentiment, and her husband bored us all. Late as Mme Serristori and Sophie Bossi-Pucci came to tea, the latter bringing her 3 children (one not yet born). She seemed very distraite, perhaps her condition absorbed her.

Jane came down for tea.

Thursday, October 16,1930

I had my Day in Bed (one of them), and thoroughly enjoyed it, reading Freud’s last book: “Civilization and some of its Discontents” (reasonable, wise, noble) and “Shutters of Snow” a madhouse book, very vivid. Edmund Houghton came with his stereoscopic views of their trips in India, and Pellegrina.

Friday, October 17,1930

Day in bed, but up to see Percy Lubbock at dinner. He made a charming impression of detached and humorous observation and of shrewd kindness upon us all.

[015]

Saturday, October 18,1930

Corrected BB’s “Homeless Pictures” article till Mr. and Mrs. Hammer came to lunch. I wish I liked them more. We went down to see the new car.

Barbara writes, *a propos* of the music in the Chapel of New College… “It was too much for a poor creature who hasn’t been to Church for 4 years! But I think it’s one of the greatest pleasures in life to feel that a thing is too beautiful to be borne one second longer and yet if it stops you will be heartbroken”

Naima came for the weekend.

Sunday, October 19,1930

Carlo Placci came to lunch bursting with “important secret information”, which of course turned out to be nothing at all. I thought BB was too hard on him, but he was very good natured, and there was no real quarrel. At lunch Logan uttered the interesting technical observation that novellists [sic] often convey and individualize character by reproducing actual tricks of speech, but BB was dreadfully contentious, and when he was proved wrong said “It hasn’t the slightest interest”. I suppose it is his digestion! Alda and Bertie came to dine. Jane Clark was rather ill in the night.

[016]

Monday, October 20,1930

Logan left at two.

Tuesday – Monday, October 21-27,1930, Siena

We had a truly enchanting week in Siena, sight and landscape seeing. Alda came with us, but returned to Florence on Saturday when we went with the Superintendent ofart at San Geminiano to see his improvements there (Peleo Bac[c]i).

One day we drove to Castagneto del Bosco and lunched with De Biondis. We met our old Mrs. Godfroy, who spends her life dancing, and her Sec.? Mr. Whitaker. Also a rather deaf brother of Biondis.

Tuesday, October 28,1930

Nelly Mackay came to lunch and was *larmoyante* and sentimental, and yet rather appealing. Vavalà came for the day and have a gap at the Lists.

Houghton and the Waterfields came to tea, and a Mrs. Virginia (Francis) Peabody from Cambridge to dine, an attractive cultivated young widow. Fausto knocked BB down and hurt his sciatic nerve so that he failed and had to go to bed.

[017]

Thursday, October 30,1930

Was X-rayed to see (is possible) what cause my nevritis.

Lina Waterfield and Carlo Placci came to lunch, but I was too tired to enjoy

the talk.

Friday-Saturday, October-November 31-1,1930

Trying to rest in bed, but BB kept coming in and saying it was bad for me to stay in bed, so at last I got up Friday afternoon and had tea with Edmund Houghton and Vavalà and Naima. Read “My Mortal Enemy” (by Willa Cather) aloud is the evening.

Sunday, November 2,1930

Edmund and Mary Houghton came to lunch. Tho’ they are over 70, they are going 3^ class to Java, plucky people! They stayed to dine with Naima while BB and I went to

[018]

dine at the Consul’s to meet Mr. and Mrs. (Julia Marlowe) Sothern, charming personalities. The rest of the guests, Mrs. Matteini, Mr. Cooksaw, the Struisons, were just people.

Monday, November 3, 1930

Nesta de Robeck came to lunch, a dear, but a trifle too eager in agreeing with me. She sees the Origo situation just as we do, also the character of Lady Sybil, but BB is more lenient to the latter. I called on the Struisons. I think it is (for us) a *cul de sac*.

Tuesday, November 4,1930

I had my tiresome nevritis treatment. Ugo Ojetti, *Sua Eccellenza*, came to lunch, very pleased with his election to the Academy and his visit to the King at San Rossore. I feel very seasick from the ether in my ointment and went to bed, and then the Countess Rosales found me. I liked her better than I used to. John Walker 8°, BB’s new Disciple, came to tea. He will be nicer when he is older and some of the American paints is washed off him. His laugh is painful. But he seems intelligent and fun and agreeable.

[019]

Wednesday, November 5,1930

Mrs. And Miss Hermann came to lunch. The daughter was very enthusiastic, and so was a Freulein Fülterer who came and photographed our Gagini statue. John Walker and his friend, Eugene Williams, an upper-faced lady, came to lunch, had a walk with BB, and finally Lucy Donelly and Edith Frick came to tea and to stay for 2 or 3 nights.

Thursday, November 6,1930

Lucy and Edith staying- Vavalà and Walker to lunch; the Waterfield and Cecil Pinsent to dine.

Friday, November 7,1930

Mr. and Mrs (Julia Marlowe) Sothern to lunch. A bit disappointing. She has a lovely voice.

Saturday, November 8,1930

Lucy and Edith Frick left. Walker and his friend Eugene Williams came to lunch and we took the Guadagni walk. Naima came.

Sunday, November 9,193

No one but Naima.

[020]

Monday, November 10,1930

Vavalà and Walker to lunch and to take an excursion to Santa Brigida to

see a fine very early altarpiece by Daddi. Mr. and Mrs. Faust (3 children: boy of 11, girl of 13 and little One 2 ½) to dine, also Walker.

Tuesday, November 11,1930

Going down with bronchitis.

\* \* \* \*

Monday, December 7,1930

All this time and too ill and listless to write a word. All sorts of people have been here, but most of the time I was in bed and heard only echoes of this presume (?)

We had the Lützows twice and countess Kühn, Mrs. Calderon and Percy Lubbock, Casa twice Mrs. Eustis, Mr. and Mrs. Blaw, Van Marle, Cecil Pinsent (3 times to dine), Countess Harrach, Diana Draper, Iris (twice), De Filippis, Miss Harrison, our neighbours (several times), Miss Paget, Rosselli (lawyer), Mme. Naischkine and Baron Stiebel,Vavalà, Hammer and Kaufmann, his pupil Mr. Gondner (cal[ifornian] architect, city planner)

Wednesday, November 26,1930

Morra came to stay, Miss Morrow and a friend to tea.

[021]

Thursday,November 27,1930

Pancrazi to lunch. Dursts, Anreps, Walker, Matilde Loeser to dine.

Saturday, November 29,1930

The Doro Levis.

Sunday, November 30,1930

Miss Ursula Garvin

Monday, December 1,1930

Lina Waterfield came for 6 days. Exciting proposal for developing the Medici Vermouth business

Tuesday, December 2,1930

Miss de Robeck and poor old Flora Priestley, inkling away like a music box out of order. Toëplitz and the musician Fried to tea.

December,1930

Wednesday 3

Giuliana Benzoni.

Thursday, December 4,1930

Loria, the poet to lunch. BB, Nicky and Morra dined with Fausts.

Friday, December 5,1930

Pellegrina Paulucci to lunch.

Saturday, December 6,1930

Walker left for Pittsburg, Hazards, Coper, and Pinsent to dine.

Sunday, December 7,1930

Iris Origo to lunch. Miss Wiskermann to tea. She has come to lecture in Miss May’s preposterous school. Countess Maria Papafava came to dine. She said that a widespread Roman poster for table-silver represented 3 men running, one carrying a fork, one a spoon and one a knife. They call it *La Marcia su Roma*!

[022]

Tuesday, December 9,1930

For a wonder, no-one outside the house…Morra read to us.

Wednesday, December 10,1930

Pancrazi and his sister came to lunch, and by our error, mistaking

the day. Prof. and Mrs. Hart from Berkeley College. He is “English Literature”, she is

commonplace. Ojetti came to tea and Miss Wiskermann.

Thursday, December 11,1930

Young Brown (John) from Zurich came to tea and stayed till 7, thrilled first by BB’s and then my talk about art. At least he seemed so.

Friday, December 12,1930

No one to lunch, for a wonder and BB called on Strong to avoid my pushing visits, whom I hope never to see again. One was a Miss Spencer from Cambridge Mass. whom I have pointedly avoided, but this time I let her come, thinking she was someone else. A horrid woman. The

[023]

others were nice little France von Millizen, who had the tactlessness to bring her (paid?) hostess, a Mrs. Earle, one of the last people I want to know. Both ladies said: “Now that we know you, dear Mrs. Berenson, you will let us come again, won’t you? The dead faintlessness of such acquaintances!

Percy Lubbock came to dine, but it wasn’t easy going. He, though, is worthwhile.

Friday [sic] [Saturday], December 13,1930

Nicky’s 43rd birthday. Cora came to lunch. The Maresciallo of Fiesole called to ask if, Alys was really my sister and how long she meant to stay! Naima came for the night. She leaves for Stockholm tomorrow, and Lina arrived unexpectedly from Aulla.

Sunday, December 14,1930

Naima left. The Anreps and Cecil Pinsent came to dine, but I felt too ill to enjoy anything.

[024]

Monday, December 15,1930

Vavalà came up to stay 2 nights, hoping to break the evil spell of her illness. Also Miss Wiskermann, who disguises perhaps an intelligent person by a mask of giggling.

She and Lina and Morra went to a concert. BB and Nicky left for Hyères.

Tuesday, December 16,1930

The same. Called on Mrs. Clark at Poggio Gherardo, and tasted the Vermouth Lina spent the day making. Lina told us some of her 7 – ex experiences in the evening. She was most entertainy. Barbara arrived at midnight, pretty tired from a week wild sociability in London.

[025]

Tuesday, January 20,1931

With BB away, I lost the desire to record our days. I had a splendid long visit fromAlys, from Karin and her children, from Christopher and Barbara and their father

(Ray stayed at home to get a new set of teeth and finish her book on Mrs. Fawcett).

We had great doing, 2 Fairy dress parties. Barbara and I went to Aulla and Lerici for 3 days, Alys and Olivier and Ann to Aulla for a night. The 4 Waterfields and their nice pupil, Peggy Macdonnell came and stayed and meet with me.

At last I had to say goodbye to all my beloved guests. By that time Senda Abbot had come, and presently van Rensselaer Lee. We had the Kennedys and Vavalà to dine

and a Mrs. Stern to lunch.

[026]

Today Lina came to tea, and Frau Lene Schneider-Kainer[[1]](#footnote-2), fresh from Thibet and Siam and China. Very interesting. She made studies in the Thibetan Monastries, and special studies of the women of the East.

Lee is still here. Senda stays till we go to Africa. Lovely to have BB and darling Nicky at home again!

Wednesday, January 21,1931

John Walker turned up to lunch and walked with BB and Nicky and me.

Thursday, January 22,1931

Lee left at 7.45. Byba and Harry Coster came to lunch and made friends with Walker. I left flowers for Miss Franck and poor old Coppoli.

Friday, January 23,1931

John Walker, Lina to tea with Kinta and Miss Grant.

[027]

Saturday,January 24,1931

Lunch: signor Rufino, Miss Cora, Placci, Lina. We all feel that Placci has suddenly get very old.

BB and I read Karin’s first lecture.

Sunday, January 25,1931

Miss Draper, Kinta and Walkers came to lunch and afterwards went to the concert. Alda and Bertie came to dine.

Read one of Edith’s stories.

Monday, January 26,1931

BB and Nicky dined with the De Filippis, Senda with the Anreps, I had a glass of milk and one apple in bed, which I love!

Tuesday, January 27,1931

Mr. T.H. Fokker[[2]](#footnote-3) arrived from Rome. Mr. and Mrs. Spelmans and Walker dined.

Wednesday, January 28,1931

Fokker here. Signorina Accascina (from Palermo) and Miss Strong (Senda’s Smith College friend) came to lunch. Nicky and I went to Vavalà lecture.

[028]

Morra /Trevy / Senda, Gordon Waterfield and wife 2 nights

Tuesday, February 3,1931

I have been ill with a sharp attack of cystitis. They had Placci and Lord and Lady Howard of Pembroke and their son to dine, Giuliana Benzoni and Placci to lunch. Mr. and Mrs. Law and Miss Law to lunch and so on.

Trevy and Morra are staying here. I am up to night and feel like a revenante, with my place fully taken, it makes me free. I have engaged Betty Macdonnel as Secretary

a dear little creature.

Wednesday, February 4,1931

Still in bed, but better. Vavalà came, but oppressed by some secret mis fortune she closely heirted at poor thing. Morra’s friend, Loria, came to lunch, Fokker to tea.

Thursday, February 5,1931

Morra stayed in his room with a cold, but his novelist friend, Alvaro came to lunch, looking half negroid, a Calabrese. Mr. and Mrs. Law and Aubrey came to dine.

Friday, February 6,1931

Vavalà, Ojetti and Pancrazi to lunch, Lützons to dine.

[029]

Saturday, February 7,1931

Miss Rose Nichols came to lunch. BB, Nicky and Morra dined with the Spelmans, Trevy at the Waterfields and I had some toast and milk and a baked apple in bed.

Sunday, February 8,1931

Mr. Mahlon Sands arrived at the Villino and came over to lunch.

Monday, February 9,1931

Vavalà to lunch. Mr. Sands tea.

Gordon and Kitty Waterfield moved at 11.45 unexpectedly. Telegram, sent at 4 from

Rome did not come till

Tuesday, February 10,1931

at 11!! We had the Sanminiatellis (she is lovely) to lunch, Placci and Cora and Mr. Sands, and the 2 young Waterfields to dine. BB found him full of commonsense on the Near East situation.

Wednesday, February 11,1931

Hammer came to lunch. BB and I had tea with the Toeplitzes. Mr. Sand had tea here.

[030]

Thursday February 12,1931

Senda, Trevy, Morra

Signorina Accascina from Palermo came to lunch. The Waterfields and Mr. Sands to dine. I took Johnny and Mr. Sands to see Lochoff, and then left flowers on Mr. Lathrop, who is very ill. Vavalà and Sig. Castelfranco (of the Uffizi) came to tea.

We have alas all come to the conclusion that poor Senda is a thundering bore.

Friday, February 13,1931

Nesta de Roebeck to lunch Mr. Sands to tea.

Saturday, February 14,1931

My 67th birthday. Bag from Nicky and Anreps. Leather box from Senda and vase from Naima. Table linen from Byba. Flowers from Lina. Sweets from Johnny.

Sunday, February 15,1931

My birthday party and I made a little speech thanking each one for what they

were and did. BB for never boring me, Senda as representing a sympathetic family-in-law, Nicky for being Nicky, Alda for her sunny presence, Naima for keeping me from being a cripple, Cecil for the house and gardens, Bertie for his wise management of our affairs

[031]

Morra, our male Nicky, an adopted son.

John Walker for his pleasant cooperation in my List of sacred Pictures.

Trevy for his long and tried friendship.

Mr. Sands as the type of friend I like to make.

The evening went off pleasantly.

Monday, February 16,1931

Vavalà for lunch. The Toeplitzes to dine. Pleasanter than I expected.

Tuesday, February 17,1931

The Marangonis to lunch. She is rather awful.

Wednesday, February 18,1931

Miss Rose Nichols and her young friend Mr. Newton. (full of youthful paradoxes) to lunch, also Mr. Shapiro, much improved from 2 years ago, a very talented young man, prof. of Mediaeval Art in Columbia College. Mr. Sands and Aubrey for tea, Mrs. Sands, the Hammer and Dr. Fokker for dinner. I read my Preface (Sacred Pictures) to BB who said it was good.

[032]

Thursday, February 19, 1931

Senda, Naima by work end, John W[alker]

I suddenly went down with a sharp attack of cystitis “and the subsequent proceedings intended me no more “, but Mrs. Sands (I call her Evelyn now) came to dine.

Friday, February 20,1931

Still in bed. Placci and Conte Gamba and Vavalà came to lunch. A quiet family evening reading Aldous Huxley’s “After the fireworks.”

Saturday, February 21,1931

Vavalà to lunch. Mrs. Sands and Iris Origo to dine.

Sunday, February 22,1931

Quiet day trying to cure my boil. Clotilde Marghieri and her sister and brother-in-law came to tea and stayed endlessly!

Monday, February 23,1931

Vavalà to lunch.

Tuesday, February 24,1931

Rezia Corsini and her daughter to lunch. Clotilde to tea.

Wednesday, February 25,1931

Vavalà, Accascina to lunch.

[033]

Thursday, February 26,1931

Placci, the De Filippis, Frau Holstein, Miss Nichols to lunch. Fokker to tea.

I read my first chapter of BB’s Life to them and they liked it. What a relief!

We dined at the Costers’ with Cecil and the Fausts and a Prof. Scaravelli.

Friday, February 27,1931

Clotilde, Nesta and Scaravelli for lunch. Vavalà and a young Sienese (Brandi)

superintendent of art to tea. Jane Herman to call.

Saturday, February 28,1931

Aubrey and Kinta Waterfield for lunch and Flavia Darina and Dr. Fokker. Signora Giovannelli – Pirelli to tea.

Sunday, March 1,1931

The Anreps and Cecil came to dine.

Monday, March 2,1931

The Coras and Clotilde Marghieri came to lunch. Vavalà and Herr Peters (from Budapest) to tea. Ray arrived at midnight …..

[034]

Tuesday, March 3, 1931

Senda, Ray, Morra, the Sessions

Miss Stanton and Placci to lunch.

Wednesday, March 4,1931

Iris Origo, Clotilde and Morra, (just arrived) to lunch. Senda and Ray and I went in to see the Javanese Prince danse, while Morra stayed with BB.

Thursday, March 5,1931

A trembling visit from Vavalà in the morning. I cannot see into it, and both BB and Nicky seem to me rather in the wrong. I must just pay her out of my own pocket.

Rezia Rasponi and her daughter came to lunch.

BB and I went down to the Consulate to sign our Italian wills.

Friday, March 6,1931

I was in bed with fever and apnea, on by an inoculation against Maltese fever etc. But I crawled out after dinner to see the Sessions. Ray dined at the Anreps with May Boyle.

[035]

Saturday, March 7,1931

Senda, Morra, Ray, Alys

Miss Lowenthal, Professor of Economics at Smith College, came to lunch, and Moravia to dinner.

Saturday, March 8,1931

A real parrot-house to lunch, all shriebing: the Sanminiatellis, Marchesa Fossi and her daughter, Moravia.

Sunday, March 8,1931

In the evening we went to see the Jarvel Company, playing “Le Medecin malgrè lui”, and found it – not for us. Childish horseplay. Ray and BB and Jeanne away before the 2nd piece, La Carosse du Sacrement.

Monday, March 9,1931

The Pancrazis, Moravia, and Pasquali (philosophist) to lunch. Another parrot-cage.

Alys arrived at 3.20. what a pleasure.

Tuesday, March 10,1931

Miss Lowenthal and Kennedy came to tea. The later made BB miserable by showing him photos of the wretched Pistoia monument which he insists on publishing as Verrocchio’s own work. Cecil Pinsent came to dine, most agreeable. Morra left.

[036]

Wednesday, March 11,1931

Ray, Miss Lowenthal, Senda, Alys

Miss Gibson and May Boyd came to lunch.

The De Filippis and their friends, Mr. and Mrs. Galsial dined here.

Thursday, March 12,1931

Alys left at 5.

Friday, March 13,1931

Miss Prestley, Nesta de Roebeck and the Costers lunched, Rohr and Blaw to study and tea, a Miss Accascina and Professor Castelfranco. They all dined out so Ray and I were alone. She left at midnight.

Saturday, March 14,1931

Iris, Mr. and Mrs. Curtis of Boston and Cecil lunched here. Miss Stanton and Count and Countess Rasponi came to tea. Miss Lowenthal, professor of Economics at

Smith College came to spend the week on.

Sunday, March 15,1931

Edmund and Mary Houghton to lunch, arrived yesterday from India. Lochoff came to tea and the Anreps to dinner.

Monday, March 15,1931

Lunch to ourselves for a wonder!

[037]

Tuesday, March 16,1931

Called on Mrs. Lathrop. Countess Lützow.

1. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. # VIAF ID: 42864085 (Personal)

   # Permalink: http://viaf.org/viaf/42864085

   [↑](#footnote-ref-3)