



Pelican Biographies

Charles Carrington

# Rudyard Kipling

His Life and Work

批评







## MORE ABOUT PENGUINS AND PELICANS

*Penguinews*, which appears every month, contains details of all the new books issued by Penguins as they are published. From time to time it is supplemented by *Penguins in Print*, which is a complete list of all books published by Penguins which are in print. (There are well over three thousand of these.)

A specimen copy of *Penguinews* will be sent to you free on request, and you can become a subscriber for the price of the postage. For a year's issues (including the complete lists) please send 4s. if you live in the United Kingdom, or 8s. if you live elsewhere. Just write to Dept EP, Penguin Books Ltd, Harmondsworth, Middlesex, enclosing a cheque or postal order, and your name will be added to the mailing list.

Some other Pelican Biographies are described on the following page.

Note: *Penguinews* and *Penguins in Print* are not available in the U.S.A. or Canada

THE PELICAN BIOGRAPHIES  
OTHER VOLUMES IN THIS SERIES

ISAMBARD KINGDOM BRUNEL\*

*L. T. C. Rolt*

'As Brunel's biographer, Mr Rolt is almost too accomplished. He has every admirable quality. He is an excellent writer in love with his subject' – A. J. P. Taylor in the *New Statesman*

LAWRENCE OF ARABIA\*

*Richard Aldington*

'There is a passion behind this book which strangely puts one in mind of a personal vendetta' – *Guardian*

MR CLEMENS AND MARK TWAIN

*Justin Kaplan*

'Gives us a better and deeper Mark Twain than we have ever had. . . . The place of a mind in a culture is superbly caught, and the narrative remains throughout human and sympathetic while catching it' – Malcolm Bradbury in *Punch*

SCOTT FITZGERALD

*Andrew Turnbull*

'A most sympathetic and entertaining volume. . . . Mr Turnbull writes with understanding about Fitzgerald's rather formidable friends Hemingway, Thomas Wolfe and Edmund Wilson' – Cyril Connolly in the *Sunday Times*

TOLSTOY

*Henri Troyat*

'Nothing less than this magnificent, massive, 700-page biography could even begin to do justice to one of the most complex, baffling and grand men that ever lived . . . a masterly book! – *Sunday Telegraph*

\*NOT FOR SALE IN THE U.S.A.

OTHER TITLES NOT FOR SALE IN THE U.S.A. OR CANADA

002.6  
批评

PELICAN BIOGRAPHIES

---

RUDYARD KIPLING

HIS LIFE AND WORK

Charles Carrington, writer and lecturer, was born in 1897 and educated in New Zealand and at Christ Church, Oxford. He served as a young soldier in the First World War, and again in the Second as a Lieutenant-Colonel on the Staff. After several teaching posts he became one of the managers of the Cambridge University Press. From 1954 to 1962 he was Professor of Commonwealth Relations at the Royal Institute of International Affairs (Chatham House). He has organized conferences on Commonwealth affairs, has lectured for the British Council, and has reviewed regularly for *The Times Literary Supplement*. His principal publications besides his life of Kipling are *The British Overseas*, *Soldier from the Wars Returning*, and the two books written under the pen-name of 'Charles Edmonds': *A Subaltern's War* and *T. E. Lawrence*. He has also contributed to the *Cambridge History of the British Empire*, to several international surveys, and to various learned journals.



L516.6  
E601

93 - 00233

外文书库

CHARLES CARRINGTON

# Rudyard Kipling

His Life and Work



PENGUIN BOOKS  
*in association with Macmillan*



Penguin Books Ltd, Harmondsworth, Middlesex, England  
Penguin Books Australia Ltd, Ringwood, Victoria, Australia

---

First published by Macmillan 1955  
Published in Pelican Books 1970

---

Copyright © Charles Carrington, 1955

---

Made and printed in Great Britain  
by Hazell Watson & Viney Ltd  
Aylesbury, Bucks  
Set in Linotype Baskerville

This book is sold subject to the condition  
that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise,  
be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated  
without the publisher's prior consent in any form of  
binding or cover other than that in which it is  
published and without a similar condition  
including this condition being imposed  
on the subsequent purchaser

*The Curse of all Art is that the devotee or disciple  
is always more certain than the Priest*

RUDYARD KIPLING





## Contents

PREFACE	9
PREFACE TO THE PELICAN EDITION	11
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	13
CHRONOLOGY	15
<i>A Fragment</i>	17
PROLOGUE	19
GENEALOGY – KIPLINGS AND MACDONALDS	27
<i>The Puzzler</i>	
1 KIPLINGS AND MACDONALDS	31
From <i>The City of Sleep</i>	
2 CHILDHOOD: BOMBAY AND SOUTHSEA (1865-77)	41
From <i>A School Song</i>	
3 PUBLIC SCHOOL (1878-82)	55
From <i>The New Knighthood</i>	
4 LAHORE AND SIMLA (1882-7)	79
From <i>Jobson's Amen</i>	
5 SIMLA AND ALLAHABAD (1887-9)	127
From <i>The Song of the Banjo</i>	
6 A RETURN TO LONDON (1889)	163
From <i>In the Neolithic Age</i>	
7 KIPLING IN LONDON (1890-91)	197
From <i>The Miracles</i>	
8 KIPLING AND THE BALESTIERS (1891-2)	221
From <i>The Fires</i>	
9 A HOME IN VERMONT (1892-6)	249
From <i>The Second Voyage</i>	

10	AT TORQUAY (1896-7)	297
	<i>From A Song of the English</i>	
11	THE WHITE MAN'S BURDEN (1897-8)	313
	<i>From Merrow Down</i>	
12	LAST VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES (1898-9)	343
	<i>From The Settler</i>	
13	THE SOUTH AFRICAN WAR (1899-1902)	359
	<i>'When 'Omer smote 'is blooming lyre'</i>	
14	KIPLING AND HIS CONTEMPORARIES	393
	<i>From Sir Richard's Song</i>	
15	A HOME IN SUSSEX (1902-8)	431
	<i>From The Fabulists</i>	
16	AT 'BATEMAN'S' (1908-14)	459
	<i>My Boy Jack</i>	
17	THE FIRST WORLD WAR (1914-18)	497
	<i>A Charm</i>	
18	AFTER THE WAR (1919-24)	523
	<i>The Storm Cone</i>	
19	THE LAST PHASE OF HIS WORK	539
	<i>Non Nobis Domine</i>	
20	THE LAST YEARS OF HIS LIFE (1924-36)	559
	EPILOGUE: Memoir by Mrs George Bambridge	587
	SOURCES	598
	NOTES	601
	GENERAL INDEX	607
	INDEX OF KIPLING'S WORKS	629
	MAP: Kipling's India	122-3

## Preface

My qualifications for writing this book are not unique, but are shared with thousands of my contemporaries.

I learned to read in the year when *Just So Stories* was the children's book of the season, and when I asked for more the *Jungle Books* were waiting for me. In a manner of speaking, I went to school with *Stalky & Co.* I discovered English History with 'Dan' and 'Una' and, as I remember, *Plain Tales from the Hills* was the first 'grown-up' book that I found out for myself. In 1914, as a very young soldier, I formed my notions of the grandeur and misery of army life upon the *Barrack-Room Ballads*, and knew from the story of the 'Brushwood Boy' that a hard conventional exterior might conceal a strange and sensitive inner life. It was my good fortune when young to travel a great deal about the world, always with the rhythms of *The Seven Seas* singing themselves in my ears. Every later publication of Kipling's was an event in my life, though I could not in maturity give him the uncritical support I had given in youth; and when he died I judged – rightly – that an epoch had ended.

At times I have been infuriated by some facets of Kipling's sparkling talent; but, looking back on my life, I find no other writer who has seen through the eyes of my generation with such a sharpness of observation. I owe far more to Kipling than to some of the great classic figures of literature, who inspire my reverence but do not draw me with them into their higher sphere. There is no other writer, great or small, whose work I know so well, and I have been often astonished to find how many others, of all ages, knew him as well as I did, even when the critics told us he was clean out of fashion.

I never set eyes upon the man! He shunned publicity



and begged his critics not to question other than the books he left behind; but such a desire was too much to expect of a generation which had watched the progress of his work with such attention. Even before his death Mrs Kipling had been putting some materials together for the use, as it seems, of a biographer. This was the exception she made to the rules that every in-letter was destroyed as soon as it was answered, that no unauthorized scrap of her husband's handwriting should be taken out of their house.

To draw out the elusive, retiring figure of Rudyard Kipling from behind the screen of his published works required the willing cooperation of those few who knew him well. When his surviving daughter, Mrs George Bambridge, authorized me to begin my work upon the family papers, I knew little of his personality and doubted whether a stranger could break through his rule of privacy. The frankness with which I was received soon dispersed my fears and – far more than that – Mrs Bambridge has given me so much good advice, has corrected so many errors I had fallen into, has contributed so many comments, anecdotes, side-lights, and episodes, in addition to providing me with several long descriptive passages, that her name should properly appear with mine as part-author, on the title-page. I hasten, however, to assert that the final responsibility for what appears in this book is mine, and that I must accept the blame for any errors which Mrs Bambridge has not eliminated.

At the end of our long and pleasant cooperation I can express my gratitude only by dedicating the book to the lady who is already known to thousands of readers as 'Una'.

C. E. CARRINGTON

*London*

*March 1955*

## Preface to the Pelican Edition

I AM obliged to readers, especially to Mr Roger Lancilyn Green, for pointing out several minor errors in the first edition; they have now been corrected. The only substantial changes are a more accurate itinerary of Kipling's world-voyage in 1891, prepared by Mr J. B. Primrose (*Kipling Journal*, March and December 1963), and a fuller account of the background to *The Light that Failed*. Both revisions remove obscurities in his domestic affairs. I owe particular thanks to Mrs J. H. Robertson and to Dr G. Kitson Clark for reminiscences of Miss 'Flo' Garrard and Miss Mabel Price, who saw much of Kipling in 1890.

I now offer a belated apology to my friend, Mr A. F. Scott, whose name was accidentally omitted from the acknowledgements. Chapter 14 owes much to his judicious advice.

C. E. C.

*August 1968*



## Acknowledgements

HER Majesty the Queen has graciously approved the publication of those paragraphs which describe Rudyard Kipling's relations with the Royal Family.

My obligation to Mrs George Bambridge, without whose constant help this book could not have been written, is recorded elsewhere. I next mention Miss Cecily Nicholson, Secretary, successively, to Rudyard Kipling, to Mrs Kipling, and to Mrs Bambridge. The Kipling Papers have been arranged and indexed by her with such skill and judgement that my task has been much lightened. Her transcripts are models of accuracy. I am also obliged to Miss R. D. Groom for secretarial assistance, to Mr P. G. Burbidge for making the index, and to Mr C. P. Snow for editorial advice.

It is a privilege to mention the owners or curators of the larger collections which have been thrown open to me: Mrs W. M. Carpenter, Mrs Nelson Doubleday, Mr and Mrs F. Cabot Holbrook, Mr John Connell, Mr Howard C. Rice, Jun., Mr W. A. Jackson (the Houghton Library, Harvard), Mr John Gordan (the New York Public Library), Mr Frederick R. Goff (Library of Congress, Washington), the Librarians of Rhodes House and of New College, Oxford, of the Toronto Public Library, and of the Yale Library.

For personal information about Kipling I am obliged to several of his relatives: Mrs G. L. Thirkell, Miss Florence Macdonald, Sir Hugh Poynter, Bart; and to the Viscountess Milner, Mrs H. Babcock, Mrs B. Lee-Booker, Mrs A. Ogilvie, Lord Beaverbrook, Lord Dunsany, The Rt Hon. L. S. Amery, Mr F. H. Andrews, Sir S. C. Cockerell, Dr Philip Gosse, Mr Edwin Haward, Mr E. C. Kyte, Mr E. Price, and Mr W. P. Watt. I must specially mention a group of friends in Vermont: Mr Howard Rice, Sen., Mrs H. Gale, Mrs W. S. Grey, Mrs Holbrook, Mrs Knapp, Miss Ruth Knapp, and Miss Manly.

I am obliged to the following ladies and gentlemen who have helped me on particular points: Mr E. E. Allen (of the P. & O. Company), Mr B. M. Bazley, Lady Violet Bonham Carter, Mr J. H. C. Brooking, Sir F. Brown, Lieut.-General Sir F. M. Browning, Mr T. S. Eliot, Mr T. E. Elwell, Mr R. E. Harbord, Mr I. Kaplan, Sir George Malcolm of Poltalloch, Mr E. C. Matthews, Sir Owen Morshead, Mr Carl Naumburg, Mr F. C. Pritchard (of Woodhouse Grove School),



Mr E. E. Reynolds, Mr R. H. Rogers (of Rochester, New York), and Dr T. G. P. Spear.

My general thanks are due to Mr Archibald Lyall with whom I planned the first draft of this book many years ago, to Mr and Mrs Christopher Morris for their kindly but penetrating criticism, and to my brother the Archbishop of Quebec who may usually be held responsible for any bright ideas that find their way into my work.

I have also received countless suggestions and hints from others who are too numerous to distinguish here, and I beg them to accept my general thanks.

For permission to quote copyright passages I am also indebted to the following: the *Atlantic Monthly* for extracts from articles by Edmonia Hill and C. E. Norton; the representatives of Rupert Brooke and Messrs Sidgwick & Jackson, Ltd; Mr William M. Cruikshank for extracts from letters by Theodore Roosevelt; Mr T. S. Eliot and Messrs Faber & Faber, Ltd; Messrs Victor Gollancz, Ltd, for the extract from *Schooldays with Kipling*, by G. C. Beresford; Mr Rupert Hart-Davis for the extract from his *Hugh Walpole*; the Estate of the late Henry James; Messrs MacGibbon & Kee, Ltd, for an extract from *Memories*, by Sir Desmond MacCarthy; Messrs Methuen & Co., Ltd, for quotations from their editions of Kipling's verse; Messrs John Murray, Ltd, for the extract from *The Lost Historian*, by D. Chapman-Huston; Miss Dorothy Ponton; The Times Publishing Co., Ltd; the author's Executors for the extract from *The New Machiavelli*, by H. G. Wells; and Mrs Yeats and the Clarendon Press for the extract from the Introduction to the *Oxford Book of Modern Verse*, by W. B. Yeats.

—