

topograph, sold for £750.??

I should like to say to Hattie  
that I have, during the last month  
read aloud to their Bachelors  
who spent it with me, "Pick of  
Pook's Hill" & with the best in-  
crease, enjoyment. It is a little  
chef d'oeuvre. What a wonder-  
ful thing for children to be brot  
up in such an atmosphere  
of long-planted human growth!  
And to have it as a stimulus  
to their whole imagination.

Thursday

Feb 27, 1908 -

Dear George:

I remember that Papa  
in 1874, his first year in London,  
met Dr. Mackay (L.D.D.) was  
indeed introduced to the Reform  
Club by him, & had a certain  
account of intercourse - I  
presume act of that arose  
the interest in his book, but  
it is the first I have heard



of his subscribing thereto. And I  
never saw the copy. I had years  
ago a leaflet with specimen  
page, but knew not how I came  
by it - & remembers nothing of  
any Shakespeare Glossary that  
you quote me as referring to.  
The critics treated his "Fædic  
Etymology of the English Language"  
very lightly. They are most re-  
luctant to admit a Celtic ele-  
ment in English speech, - that  
is, as of any importance -  
But & certainly hold that the  
future will make great changes  
in the whole outlook an etymo-  
logy, & that it is very like Mac-  
Kenzie was 100 years in advance.  
He is the same man, you know  
as the writer of so many stir-  
ring lyrics of democracy etc.

It is odd you should have  
come upon that one volume  
with its note. - And apropos  
of auctions, have you happened to  
see that at Sotheby's a copy  
of White's Selborne, with his au-



outlook. Surely he did well to  
transfer himself from Vermont!  
— seeing that it was not his na-  
tive soil. I am reading at  
present Gaston Boissier's La  
Religion Romaine, the latter part  
of the Republic & the early of  
the Empire. There is something  
fascinating in the picture of anti-  
quity, the rock out of which we  
are hewn. The Mithraic ideas  
have so much of Christian substra-  
tum, — or vice versa. The book, how-



ever, was published in 1874, & since  
then great strides have been taken  
in appreciation of religious notions  
in antiquity as illustrated by pri-  
mitive thought today. He would not  
write it now as he did then. Thank  
Heaven! Generations pass off the  
stage, leaving fresh ideas their chance  
to blossom. A book on Virgil's Mes-  
sianic Eclogue I have just seen  
reviewed in the Athenaeum. It is  
written by three distinguished scholars  
they make out a good case for its being  
drawn from Hebrew thought, & say  
that "two features of Virgil's vision,  
though alien to Graeco-Roman thought  
permeate and dominate Hebrew Cibra-  
ture: the ideas that man's true per-  
fection lies in the future not in the  
past; and that the perfect state is to  
be brought about by the birth of a  
child." "The upshot of the whole mat-  
ter is, that the thought and expressions  
of Isaiah somehow filtered through to  
Virgil, and that the Sibyl was the me-  
dium of communication reaching this  
500 years."

Wishing you & Katie a happy an-  
niversary! Affectionately, C.K.



Kennedy, Louisa C. 1908. "Kennedy, Louisa C. 27 Feb 1908." *George Golding Kennedy correspondence*

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