

## Christ Church Library, Carroll Collection

Digitised images notes and captions by Edward Wakeling

### Carroll-Varia-Letters to Hassall

#### Introductory notes:

Arthur Hassall (1853-1930) matriculated at Trinity College, Oxford, in 1873, and was historical exhibitor in 1876. He took his BA in 1877 and his MA in 1880, becoming historical lecturer 1880-81 and tutor 1881-83. In 1884 he became Student and tutor of Christ Church (until 1924), examiner in modern history, 1890-1892, 1901-1903, and 1908-1911, elected member of the Hebdomadal council 1892-1896, senior proctor 1893-1894, censor of Christ Church 1894-1895, re-elected member of the Hebdomadal council in 1897, and hon. treasurer of the Oxford University Cricket Club 1900-1907. He represented Oxford against Cambridge in the three mile race in 1877. He became the tenth Curator of the Common Room in 1896. At the time of the following letters, Dodgson was Curator of the Common Room.

Hassall married Mary Anne Fergusson née Clarke-Preston, and they lived at 8 St. Aldates, Oxford. Mrs. Hassall received one of the Looking-Glass Biscuit Tins, a gift from Dodgson. Hassall was the author of many historical books including: *Life of Bolingbroke* (Statesmen Series) 1889, revised 1915; *Louis XIV* (Heroes of the Nations Series) 1895; *The Making of the British Empire* 1896; *A Handbook of European History* 1897; *The Balance of Power 1715-1789* (Periods of European History, of which he was general editor) 1896; *A Class Book of English History* 1901; *History of France* 1901; *The French People* 1901; *Mazarin* (Foreign Statesmen Series) 1903; *History of France* (Temple Primers) 1903; *The Tudor Dynasty* 1904; joint-editor of and contributor to *Constitutional Essays*; contributor to *Social England* 1895-1897; and to the *Cambridge Modern History*, vol. v.; has collected and arranged *Stubbs' Introductions* in the Rolls Series, 1902, *Stubbs' Lectures on European History* 1904, and *Stubbs' Lectures on Early English History* 1907-1908; *A Brief Survey of European History* 1906; *War and Reform (1789-1837)* 1906; *The Expansion of Great Britain (1715-1789)* 1907; *Castlereagh* 1908; *The Great Rebellion* 1909; *Modern Europe* 1910; *The Restoration and the Revolution 1660-1715* 1911; *The Great Napoleon* 1911; *Christ Church* 1911; *History of British Foreign Policy* 1912; *France, Medieval and Modern* 1918; and a *British History*, chronologically arranged, 55 b. c.-1919.

The letters from Dodgson to Hassall within the archive are transcribed here.

#### Carroll-Hassall\_letterA\_r

This first letter mentioned Joanna Baillie (1762-1851), a poet. The enclosure is missing.

Christ Church [Oxford]

February 21, 1890

Dear Hassall,

Would you let your friend (with whom I had an interesting dramatic talk, and who wanted to see Joanna Baillie's dramas) have the enclosed leaf of a catalogue just come in.

Yours ever truly,  
C. L. Dodgson

Carroll-Hassall\_letterA\_v

The verso is blank

Carroll-Hassall\_letterB\_r

In this letter, it is important to remember that Dodgson was a non-smoker. The last remark is typical of his sense of humour.

Christ Church, Oxford  
October 14, 1890

Dear Hassall,

The "Alexandra Cigarette Company, 4 Arthur Street, New Oxford Street" have sent me some samples of their "Dragoumis" Cigarettes (price not named). You may as well try them: the Smoking Room Committee might like to order some. I can honestly say I have never tasted better!

Yours sincerely,  
C.L.D.

Carroll-Hassall\_letterB\_v

The verso is blank