



HGDT, career, talks, family travels, shipwreck and publications

Compiled by David Byers, 05 February 2023

Morning Post, Monday 25 January 1897, p.6

The following elections have been today announced [Saturday 23 January 1897] at the undermentioned [Oxford] colleges: – ... At University College. – To Classical Scholarships – H. G. D. Turnbull, of Bath College; ...

Harold George Dalway Turnbull (HGDT) was a sportsman in his youth – rowing for Bath College (1897) and then representing Oxford University in swimming and water polo in 1900 and 1901.



The photograph of the Oxford University Water Polo Team is from page 13 of the *Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News* for Saturday, 07 July 1900. HGDT is at the bottom centre.

Then came graduation. *Oxford Chronicle and Reading Gazette*, Friday 02 August 1901, p.2:

THE CLASSICAL "GREATS" LIST.

The Examiners in the Final Classical School on Wednesday afternoon issued the following Class List: — ... Class II. – [list includes] H. G. D. Turnbull, University [College]; ...

HGDT enrolled in the Ceylon Civil Service on 25 October 1901, though his leaving date is not recorded. Did he just stay for one year or did he return for a second year?

(Source: *Ceylon, Its History, People, Commerce, Industries and Resources*, Plâté, Colombo, 1924)

On 22 November 1901, Mr H. G. Turnbull, 'Gent.', said to be aged 26 (slightly inflated!), and a cabin passenger, sailed from London to Colombo aboard the Glasgow-built *Ormuz*.

In September 1902 Mr H. G. D. Turnbull, a civil officer, embarked at Colombo for London on board another Glasgow-built ship, the freighter S.S. *Kanagawa Maru*.

In October 1903, Aberdeen University appointed HGDT as senior assistant to Professor Ramsay of the Humanity Chair. (Source: *Dundee Courier*, Wednesday 14 October 1903, p.6)

And then came the major move to India. (Source: *Homeward Mail from India, China and the East*, Monday, 16 October 1905, p.21)

BOMBAY GOVERNMENT. CIVIL.

BY THE RIGHT HON. THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL.

(From the *Bombay Government Gazette* of Sept. 28, 1905.)

Turnball [sic], H. G. D., B.A., is appd. Prof. of English Literature, Deccan College, Poona.

Before taking up this new post (officially from 25 September 1905), HGDT married Lucia in London on 6 September. The two would spend nearly the next two decades of married life in Poona, India.

It's unclear if the Mrs H. Turnbull who travelled alone to Bombay on the SS *Circassia*, departing Liverpool on 7 January 1906, might have been Lucia.

Madras Weekly Mail, Thursday 01 October 1908, p.26

Turnbull — On the 17th September, 1908, at Poona, to Mr. and Mrs. H. G. D. Turnbull, a daughter.

The new arrival was named Beatrice Ianthe Dalway Turnbull. In later years this seems to have become Ianthe Beatrice Dalway Turnbull.

After five years it was time for a break – and perhaps to think about Ianthe’s schooling:

Homeward Mail from India, China and the East, Monday 22 September 1913, p.19

BOMBAY GOVERNMENT.

BY THE RIGHT HON. THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL.

(From the *Bombay Government Gazette* of Sept. 4, 1913.)

Turnbull, H. G. D., prof of English, Deccan College, Poona, is granted furl., from Oct. 1 [1913] to March 10, 1915, in combination with the summer vacation of 1915.

The family’s travel plans were revealed just a few days later:

Homeward Mail from India, China and the East, Saturday, 27 September 1913, p.29

Per S.S. *Egypt* to London on Oct. 4: – Mr. Agashe, Mr. P. J. and Mrs. Arnot, ... Mrs. Turnbull and child, Prof. H. G. D. Turnbull, Mr. A. C.[sic] L. Wilkinson*, Mrs. H. D. Wood.

* Is this the A. G. L. Wilkinson we meet in Poona in 1919 (see below)?

All three travelled on the *Egypt* from Bombay, arriving in Plymouth on 22 October 1913 (based on the ship’s arrival date in London one day later). They travelled second class, described on the passenger list as Prof. Harold Turnbull, Indian Educational Service, aged 35; Mrs Evelyn Turnbull, aged 29; and Francis [sic] Turnbull, aged 5.

(*The Homeward Mail from India, China and the East*, Saturday 18 October 1913, p.29, listed them as ... Mrs Turnbull and child, Professor H. G. D. Turnbull, ...)

The family’s safe arrival in London was confirmed by the *Civil & Military Gazette (Lahore)*, Friday, 28 November 1913, p.8:

INDIA OFFICE

From Oct. 31 to Nov.7: Arrivals Reported in London

... [included] Mr. H. G. D. Turnbull ...

I reckon that, for educational reasons and war-time concerns, Ianthe remained in England from this time forward, perhaps looked after for the next few years by her grandmother, Ellen Dalway.

The parents – alone – returned to India, travelling second class to Bombay on P&O’s *Kaisar i Hind*, leaving London on 22 May 1915.

It’s unclear from available records as to how often, or when, the Turnbull parents returned to see Ianthe. There might have been a 1918 visit – though war probably did not permit.

Civil & Military Gazette (Lahore), Thursday 13 March 1919, p.5

Bombay Educational Changes – The following educational changes are announced in the *Bombay Gazette*: – ... Mr. A. G. L. Wilkinson, Principal, Deccan College, Poona, to do duty as Principal, Elphinstone College, Bombay. Mr. H. G. D. Turnbull to act as Principal, Deccan College, Poona, vice [in place of] Mr. A. G. L. Wilkinson.

Both parents did return to England at some point in 1920, perhaps for HGDT’s brother’s wedding (Aubrey Marriott Dalway Turnbull married Ina Claire Bellew on 27 March) and also to visit HGDT’s mother Ellen Dalway who may have been in poor health by then (she died that October).

So far I have failed to find a passenger listing for that journey to London. They were listed, however, for the return journey, travelling second class on board the *Kashmir*, leaving London on 22 May 1920 for Calcutta – India being listed as their ‘country of intended future permanent residence’.

They were back in England, at home in Branksome, Poole, for the 1921 census in June 1921. The details are listed on the webpage.

There was another visit in 1922 (or had they stayed since the 1921 census?). The return, or attempted return, to Bombay was much more dramatic. Once again Prof. H. G. D. Turnbull and Mrs Turnbull were second class passengers on board the P&O SS *Egypt*, sailing to Bombay on 19 May 1922. Their UK address was given as 4 Burnaby Road, Bournemouth W.

It was an ill-fated journey. The following day, in dense fog, the *Egypt* collided with the French cargo steamer *Seine* 25 miles off the French island of Ushant. The *Egypt* sank within 20 minutes, only managing to launch six of its lifeboats successfully. The *Seine* picked up the remaining survivors, including the Dalway Turnbells. 71 crew and 15 passengers perished.

Barely three weeks later, the Dalway Turnbells set off for India once again, this time on board the SS *Morea*, leaving London on 9 June 1922.

It wasn't a long sojourn this time. One year later, both parents sailed back to England on the M.V. *Domala* from Bombay, now travelling first class. They arrived in Plymouth on 8 April 1923, heading for the Bourne Hall Hotel, Bournemouth.

I reckon that may have been their final return to England – perhaps with some accumulated leave time, given HGDT's retirement date of January 1924.

TURNBULL, Harold George Dalway, M.A. (Oxon), late Indian Educl. Service. — Apptd. prof. of English literature, Deccan Coll., Bombay, 25th Sept., 1905; retd., Jan., 1924.

(Source: *UK, Registers of Employees of the East India Company and the India Office, 1746-1939* (The India Office List, 1937))

The Dalway Turnbull family settled back into life in Dorset, England, though looking forward to a winter break in 1925 to the south of France (as you do!).

On Monday 23 February 1925, HGDT gave a talk for the BBC's Bournemouth region:

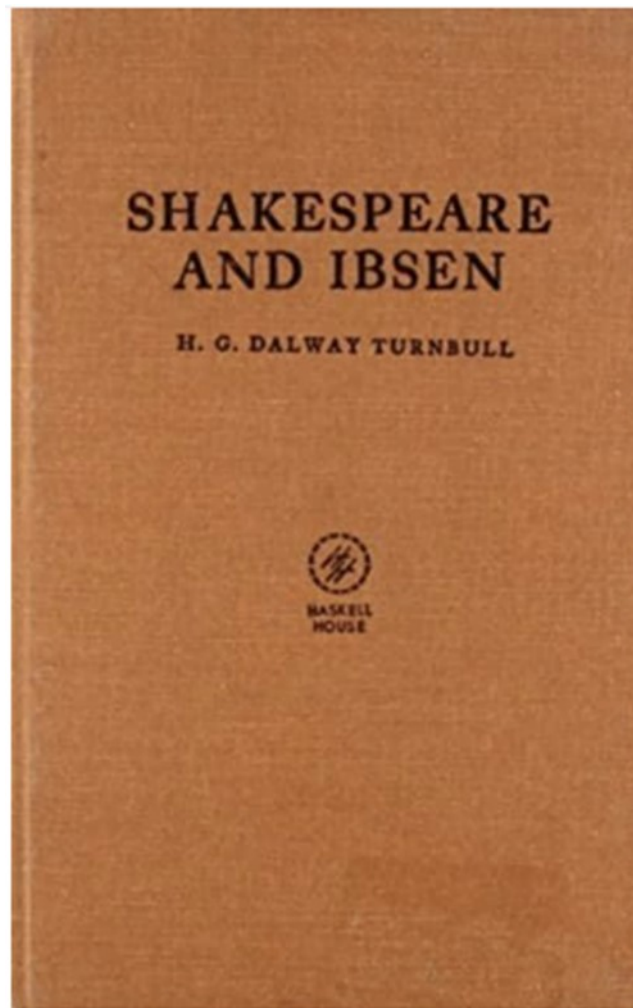
6.30-6.45pm: H. G. D. Turnbull, on “Our First Arctic Explorer.”

(Source: Nottingham Evening Post, Monday 23 February 1925, p.6)

That summer he gave a lecture on Shakespeare and Ibsen for the Oxford Summer University Extension Meeting in Oxford, 31 July to 20 August 1925. The summer's theme was ‘The Drama: Ancient, Medieval and Modern’. (Source: *Oxford Chronicle and Reading Gazette*, Friday 24 April 1925, p.9)

The lecture's text was most likely contained in this publication:

Harold George Dalway Turnbull, *Shakespeare and Ibsen*, Oxford, Basil Blackwell, 1926.
(A comparative study of the Elizabethan and the modern playwright.)



Aside from talking and writing, broadcasting seemed to be in the family's genes.

On Friday 04 September 1925, again for the BBC's Bournemouth region, HGDT gave a talk:
7.40pm: Mr. H. G. D. Turnbull, "The Second Voyage of Martin Frobisher".

That same month, September 1925, the Turnbull family travelled first class to Marseille on board the P&O *Naldera*. Harold Dalway Turnbull, aged 47 was 'retired', Mrs Evelyn T and Miss Ianthe T were not categorised. Their last UK address was Hotel Quebec [sic], Fir Cliff, Broadstone, Dorset.

In April 1926, the family made the return journey, travelling first class from Marseille to London, on board the P&O *Cathay*, destined for Fir Cliff, Broadstone, Dorset. Harold G.D.T was a lecturer, aged 48; Evelyn L.T., aged 40, was classified as 'nil' (i.e. no 'profession, occupation or calling') and Ianthe B.T. was a 17 year old student. Their last permanent residence was given as England.

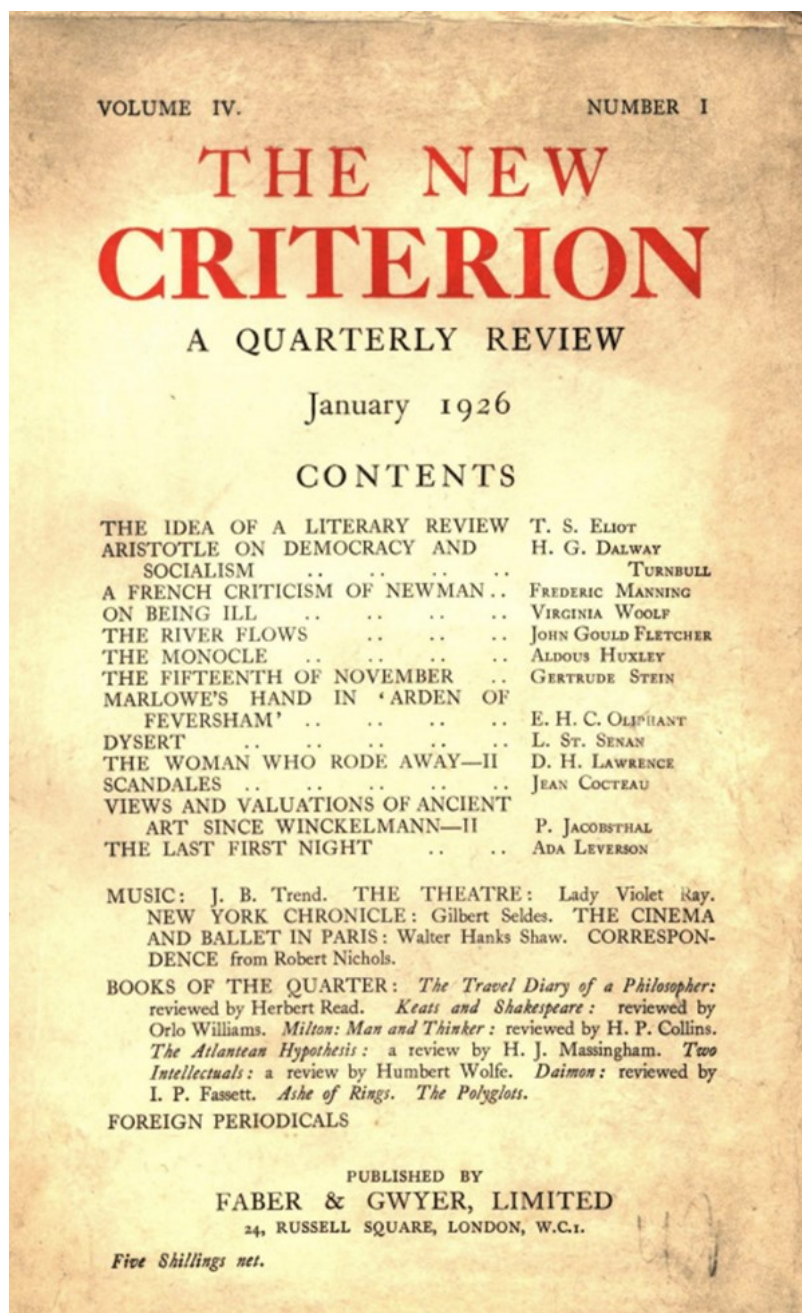
HGDT contributed a lengthy poem, *The Golden Age, or Account Rendered*, to the right-wing political journal *The National Review*, January 1926, Vol.86, Iss 515, pp. 766-768.

A prefatory line comments that it is 'founded on the narrative contained in the recently discovered books of Livy, which throws a fresh light on a somewhat obscure period of Roman history'.

Victorious o'er the Carthaginian foe,
 Rome breathed again, though sore from many a blow.
 Her blood and treasure she had poured like rain,
 In agony of effort and of pain.
 Throughout the years of anguish and of want
 The people heard the politicians' cant:—
 "This is the last great war; and, if we win,
 The Golden Age will certainly begin.
 For all our suffering shall Carthage pay;
 On her the costs and losses we shall lay. ...

The full text is appended at the end of this PDF.

That same month, he also contributed an essay to T. S. Eliot's literary review *The New Criterion* (Faber & Gwyer), Vol.4, No.1, pp.7-18, January 1926.



And wasn't HGDT in great literary company? Following the opening article by Eliot himself – *The Idea of a Literary Review* – comes HGDT's substantial essay, *Aristotle on Democracy and Socialism*.

The *Aberdeen Press and Journal* (Thursday 21 January 1926, p.2) commented:

In view of what is known of Aristotle's dicta on some of the main problems of government, it is an interesting speculation what would be his attitude, if he were alive today, towards modern Socialist or Communistic schemes.

This constitutes the theme of a thoughtful article by Mr H. G. Dalway Turnbull in the January issue of the *New Criterion*.

All schemes of predatory legislation (the writer observes) Aristotle would have sternly condemned. To the exercise of voluntary and friendly charity he attached a high value, but he insisted on the fundamental principle that a man's work is worth (economically) what it will fetch, and that his salary or wages should be fixed not by his own desires, but by the market value of his work. ... Aristotle, properly interpreted, annihilates all Marxian doctrine.

But HGDT was seen as a provocateur. On 03 February 1926, Mr P. N. Rowe wrote to T. S. Eliot expressing hope that readers would not be 'treated to any more anti-communist propaganda'. His letter is quoted in *The Letters of T.S.Eliot: Vol.3, 1926-1927*, edited by Valerie Eliot and John Haffenden (Faber & Faber, 2012. No.179).

It surely cannot be that our Tory Prime Minister has found a positive political ally in the *New Criterion*, and yet after reading Mr Dalway Turnbull's outburst *vide* Aristotle, one was led to say: 'Was T.S.E. just leg pulling when at the end of his somewhat aloof discourse – *The Idea of a Literary Review* – he wrote: "Must protect its disinterestedness, must avoid the temptation ever to appeal to any social, political or theological prejudices." Well, what is Dalway Turnbull doing if he isn't appealing to political prejudice?' ... Frankly, sir, some of us are keen on being loyal to you in your professed desire to make known the true basis of culture.

On Thursday 23 September 1926, HGDT gave another talk for the BBC's Bournemouth region: 7.40-8.00pm: Mr H. G. Dalway Turnbull, on "An Elizabethan Voyage to the Spice Islands." (Source: *Newcastle Daily Chronicle*, Thursday, 23 September 1926, p.12)

1926 was certainly a busy year. The *Western Gazette* for Friday 01 October 1926, p.4, carried the following advertisement:

SHERBORNE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION SOCIETY. — Mr. H. G. DALWAY TURNBULL, M.A., Oxford, will, commencing on MONDAY, OCTOBER 4th, deliver Two Short Courses, each of Six Fortnightly University Extension Lectures, as follows: — Afternoons: "On Shakespeare, Milton, and Dryden," at 3 p.m., at Sherborne School for Girls (by kind permission of the Governors and Miss Beatrice Mulliner); Evenings: "Life and Adventures in India, at 8 p.m.. in the Church Hall. Tickets for Single Lectures, Course, or Membership may be obtained at the Abbey Book Shop, Cheap Street, Sherborne. Prices range from One Shilling to One Guinea.

HGDT was listed in the 1927 Kelly's Dorsetshire Directory for Broadstone. His address simply Fircliff.

On Tuesday, 08 February 1927, HGDT gave a talk for the BBC's Bournemouth region:
7.00-7.15pm: H. G. Dalway Turnbull – "The Madagascar Pirates."
(Source: *Westminster Gazette*, Tuesday, 08 February 1927, p.12.)

With the naming of his daughter as Ianthe, just as Shelley had done, it's not surprising to find that HGDT was a fervent advocate of Shelley's poetry.

He was invited to be a guest speaker at a dinner and conversazione at the Black Horse Hotel in Horsham on Friday 03 June 1927 to launch the Shelley Memorial prizes. The press covered his speech on 'Shelley and Science' (see the *West Sussex County Times and Standard*, Saturday, 04 June 1927, p.7).

That news report provoked the following letter on page 13 of the *Worthing Herald*, Saturday, 09 July 1927:

SHELLEY OR SCIENCE?

Sir, - I have recently seen, in a West Sussex newspaper, a notice of an inaugural dinner held at Horsham, when the announcement was made of prizes to be awarded at West Sussex Schools in memory of the poet, Shelley.

... may I ask you to accept these remarks on what seems to me a terribly misguided proposition?

At the above dinner, Dr A. P. Scott is reported to have said he 'thought it a happy idea for the Trustees to say these Shelley prizes should be given for some form of science'. Unfortunately, Professor H. G. Dalway Turnbull, of University College, Oxford, at the same dinner, made the rather damaging confession that 'to argue that Shelley's mind and temperament were essentially scientific, was to maintain an impossible paradox'.

No wonder the movement to couple Shelley's transcendent genius with mundane matters of science has taken 25 years to materialise! Though rejoicing to think that a step has at length been taken to keep alive in Sussex schools the memory of our greatest poet, yet in the present circumstances, as an admirer of Shelley and a student of English literature, I would go further than Professor Turnbull and say that I have rarely met with any proposal so grotesque, so misleading, so pathetically absurd as the attempt to link Shelley's memory with the promotion of science. Better have left the poet alone than make such a travesty of his immortal genius. ...

The letter is signed by Gerald Blunt, 'of forty years scholastic experience' from Worthing. The Blunt family had been in Horsham from at least the 17th century when Samuel Blunt built a new house, Springfield, before 1758. By 1888 the house had become Horsham College, a successor to which was opened in 1904 by none other than Gerald Blunt.

(Source: *A History of the County of Sussex*, Vol.6, Part 2, London 1986.)

And then there was the double act:

Golden Deeds of India, etc.,

by Eleanor [sic] Lucia Turnbull and Harold George Dalway Turnbull, London; Mysore City printed: Humphrey Milford, 1927, 1928.

Along with more writings and talks:

BBC Regional – 6BM Bournemouth, Tuesday, 18 October 1927

7.00-7.15pm: Mr. H. G. Dalway Turnbull: ‘A Blandford Worthy – Governor Pitt’

(Source: *Daily Mirror*, Tuesday, 18 October 1927, p.19.)

H.G. Dalway Turnbull, *Hinduism and Christianity in India*, article in *Hibbert Journal*, 26:608, 1927

HGDT had an honourable mention in a survey of Periodical Literature, specifically about the *Hibbert Journal*, in *The Occult Review*, Vol. XLVIII, September 1928, No.3, p.196:

... Professor H. G. Dalway Turnbull would dissuade readers of Dr. Stanley Jones and his ‘Christ of the Indian Road’ from believing too quickly that India ‘is ready to be converted to Christianity.’ On the contrary, he concludes that if ever the great western Religion overcomes those obstacles which he enumerates at some length, ‘it will have accomplished a marvel a hundred times more wonderful than the conversion of the Roman Empire ...’

In the electoral register for 1929, HGDT and Lucia were living in Grange Cottage, Liberty Lane, Addlestone, Chertsey, Surrey.

On Thursday 24 January 1929, HGDT gave the first of six talks on India via the BBC’s not so new-fangled radio transmitters, 2LO London and 5XX Daventry. The *Radio Times* illustrated the new series with ten pictures illustrating ‘Types from amongst India’s three hundred millions – [and] More types from India’s chaos of races and castes’.

This was the blurb for the series:

PROFESSOR TURNBULL, who is to give a series of six talks on the subject of India, is a Lecturer under the Oxford University Extension Lectures Committee. He was formerly Professor of English at Deccan College, Poona. In the course of his talks he will deal with the history of India, the religions and customs of its peoples, and in particular with the effects of British rule on the general welfare of the country as a whole. In his first talk he deals with the country and its inhabitants.

He points out that India is larger than all of Europe, excluding Russia, and contains 200 languages and dialects, with fifty different scripts. He draws comparisons between old India and modern India, and explains the differences between the three chief racial divisions: Aryan, Dravidian, and Mongolian.

It was a series commented on by Lawrence James in his book, *Raj: The Making and Unmaking of British India* (St Martin’s Press, 2000):

During the first part of 1929, Professor H. G. Dalway Turnbull outlined the tenets of India’s principal religions in a series of lectures which, while largely factual, included some personal comments. Hinduism, he observed, was a powerful social cement in times of upheaval, but its doctrines drained men of any ‘spirit of adventure’. It was also, as it had been for nineteenth-century reformers and missionaries, an impediment to progress. Describing Hindu festivals and pilgrimages, the professor remarked that India was still ‘a regular jungle of popular superstitions ... much like those of the Dark Ages in Europe’.

Harold George Dalway Turnbull, *India*, published by the BBC, London, 2 editions, 1929 (described as being ‘from a series of radio talks, broadcast Thursdays, January 24 to February 28, 1929, at 7.25 p.m.’)

The BBC talks also led to an invitation from the Swindon Education Committee for a series of autumn lectures, given fortnightly on Wednesday evenings, beginning 9 October. Mr H. Dalway Turnbull, M.A., would talk on *India, its peoples, religions and problems*. (Source: *North Wilts Herald*, Friday 26 July 1929, p.8.)

And there were more publications:

Harold George Dalway Turnbull, *Miss Mayo and her critics*, in *The Fortnightly Review*, London, Vol.125, Iss. 747, Mar 1929, pp.355-369.

Katherine Mayo’s book, *Mother India*, has been described as ‘a polemical attack against Indian self-rule ... [it] was met with a storm of controversy when it was published in 1927’. (Source: University of Michigan Press blurb for a new edition, 2001)

Sarojini Naidu, 1879-1949, Select Poems, chosen and edited by Harold George Dalway Turnbull, Oxford University Press, Calcutta and Bombay, 1930.

‘Sarojini Naidu is the foremost Indian English poet of Nature. She shares this love for nature with her ancient Vedic sages, poet Kalidas, Rabindranath Tagore and Allana Iqbal and sings of her intense delight in Nature in their unique tradition. She is primitively involved in Nature; its freshness and loveliness infatuate her. Even as a young girl she was deeply impressed by the beautiful scenes of Nature in Italy ...’

(Syed Amin Ashraf, *Major Themes and Imagery in Sarojini [sic] Naidu’s Poetry*, Chapter 4, p.196, Doctoral Thesis, Aligarh Muslim University, 1993)

A short but fascinating digression here:

According to the electoral registers for 1930-1932 inclusive, HGDT and Lucia, living at Grange Cottage, Liberty Lane, Addlestone, Chertsey, Surrey, were not alone. There was also an Iris Dalway Turnbull. Who she?

Iris had gone by 1933, but then in 1934 there were two more mystery add-ons: two Kershaws (note a possible link to Lucia’s Kershaw Walker family – but what is that link?): Frederick Dunnington Kershaw and Amelia Sarah Kershaw.

The *Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette*, Saturday, 27 November 1937, p.6, has the death of Frederick Dunnington Kershaw on 07 October 1937. Aged 67 years, he was ‘a gentleman of Independent means’, ‘late of Limpley Stoke Hydro Hotel, Limpley Stoke, in the County of Wilts., formerly c/o Barclays Bank Limited, Luton, in the County of Bedford’. The gross value of the estate was £13,441 12s. 11d. He left £3,000 to his sister-in-law, Amelia Sarah Kershaw; £1,000 to his wife, Caroline; £600 each to his sister-in-law, Betty Kershaw, and his sister Ada Kershaw, etc.

(Full details in the *Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette*, Saturday, 20 November 1937, p.3)

And more double acts:

Famous heroes of India [with illustrations]

by Eleanor Lucia Turnbull and Harold George Dalway Turnbull, London, Bombay printed, Oxford University Press, 1931.

Through the Gates of Remembrance – First Series: A Trilogy of Plays Centred Round Glastonbury by E. Lucia Turnbull and H. G. Dalway Turnbull, with illustrations by Marjorie Quennell, London & Edinburgh, T. Nelson & Sons, 1933

Gopal Krishma Gokhale, a brief biography

by E. Lucia Turnbull and H. G. Dalway Turnbull, V. Sundra Iyer & Sons, 1934

And more talks:

Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette - Saturday 15 March 1941, p.4

In place of Mr. S. C. Gould, who was to have addressed the Bath Rotary Club next Tuesday on the subject of “Undaunted France,” a talk on “India and the War” will be given by Professor H. G. D. Turnbull.

Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette, Saturday 22 March 1941, p.6

OFFICERS FOR INDIAN ARMY
Striking Response To Appeal

The Indian Army appealed for 11,000 more officers and the response was greater than could be dealt with — a striking proof of the ineffectiveness of Ghandi’s non-violence attitude.

This was stated by Professor H. G. D. Turnbull at Bath Rotary Club luncheon on Tuesday. He added that India, to a man, was on our side.

They hated Nazi-ism like poison, he said. Indian Mohammedans remembered how the heavy hand of atheistic Bolshevism had been laid on their ancient seats of learning in Bokhara and Samarkand, and recalled with displeasure the non-aggression pact between Germany and Russia.

Professor Turnbull was of the opinion that the recent visit to India of a number of members of the British Ministry of Supply with the object of conferring with representatives of British interests in the East had increased the general momentum of our war effort, and was destined to produce great results.

In the October 1945 electoral register, HGDT, Lucia and Ianthe B.D. Kidd were all living at Grange Mead, Liberty Lane, Addlestone, Chertsey, Surrey.

Harold George Dalway Turnbull, *English Elegies* [referring to an article *The Man Shelley* (T.L.S., 4 May 1946)], in the *Times Literary Supplement*, 11 May 1946.

HGDT was suggesting that Swinburne’s *Ave Atque Vale* should have been numbered with *Lycidas*, *Thyrsis* and Cowley’s *On Mr. William Harvey* among our ‘grand elegies’.

(Mentioned in Frederick S. Boas, editor, *The Year’s Work in English Studies*, Vol. XXVII, 1946, Chapter 13, Dorothy Margaret Stuart, *The Nineteenth Century and After*, p.223.)

I’ve found nothing else after this date in terms of his creative output.

In the 1946-1951 electoral registers, HGDT and Lucia were still listed at Grange Mead. However Cecil and Ianthe are listed at Fircroft, Addlestone Park, Chertsey, Surrey in the 1946 register – so quite close by!

HGDT, of 33 Dawson Road, Cheadle, Cheshire, died on 20 December 1959, granting probate to his daughter Ianthe.

His wife Evelyn Lucia had predeceased him just five months earlier, on 31 July 1959 in Ulverston Lancashire.

Ianthe Beatrice Dalway Kidd, of 'Shortlands', Heyes Lane, Alderley Edge, Cheshire, died on 24 December 1968 at the age of 60.

Her husband, Cecil Dowker Kidd died on 20 December 1978, in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, but 'late of "Shortlands", Heyes Lane, Alderley Edge, Cheshire', when he was 70.

See overleaf for a transcript of HGDT's 1926 poem *The Golden Age, or Account Rendered*.

The complete poem was published in the right-wing political journal *The National Review*, January 1926, Vol.86, Iss 515, pp. 766-768.

THE GOLDEN AGE, OR ACCOUNT RENDERED

[Founded on the narrative contained in the recently discovered books of Livy, which throws a fresh light on a somewhat obscure period of Roman history.]

Victorious o'er the Carthaginian foe,
Rome breathed again, though sore from many a blow.
Her blood and treasure she had poured like rain,
In agony of effort and of pain.
Throughout the years of anguish and of want
The people heard the politicians' cant:—
"This is the last great war; and, if we win,
The Golden Age will certainly begin.
For all our suffering shall Carthage pay;
On her the costs and losses we shall lay.
We'll search her pockets and take all her change;
If not enough, a debit we'll arrange.
Then Rome for Roman heroes shall be fit;
Keep us in power, and we'll see to it."

The people hailed the words of specious hope,
And gave their "statesmen" all the longed-for scope.
Alas! the Carthaginian pocket proved
A mere bag's-end — the cash had been removed.
And Carthaginian promises to pay
Somehow postponed themselves from day to day.
The Roman citizen, o'erwhelmed by debt,
Began to doubt, and then began to fret.
Prices and taxes soaring to the sky
Forbid to think the Golden Age is nigh.

The Empire, weak from years of storm and hell,
Rolled like a ship in heavy after-swell.
Her grand old timbers, worn by many a strain,
Though sound at heart, seemed like to burst in twain.
All enemies whom Roman peace had bound
To trade like honest men or till the ground
Resolved to strike a blow, in hopes to gain
What peaceful labour never could attain.
The blood-red flag of "Freedom" waves on high,
And "self-determination" is the cry.
Rome's neighbour island, raised from savage life
By Roman arts, by Roman peace from strife,
Rises in fierce revolt. Her sacred right
To rob and kill inspires her to the fight.
From craven statesmen and war-wearied Rome
The islanders regain their tortured home;
Henceforth in happy barbarism to fight,
And break each other's heads is their delight:
All but a faithful remnant, who refuse
To sell the loyalty they freely choose.
Elsewhere, by favour of the kindly Gods,
The Empire stood, albeit against the odds.

Amid these jars from enemies and fate
 Three rival parties claimed to save the State.
 The Optimates first, who took their stand
 On the prestige and power of the land.
 Greater than any class they held the State,
 And old example strove to emulate.
 The laws they revered, to the Senate bowed,
 And held it wiser than the noisy crowd.
 The Populares next; their daily cry
 “Free imports from the East, or Rome will die.
 What matter though the Roman farmer fall,
 If corn from Egypt be bestowed on all?
 What harm though Roman industry be killed,
 With cheaper goods if Italy be filled?”
 The Sociales last — a motley crew,
 In which discordant elements we view:
 There was the sentimental “friend of man,”
 With pleasing catchwords marching in the van
 (Macdoniensis was their leader’s name,
 In future ages marked for dubious fame):
 “All shall be equal — neither rich nor poor.
 All men shall work for others. I am sure
 That human nature has been much maligned;
 It’s really quite unselfish, wholly kind.
 In us alone the brains, in us the will
 To free the land from every mortal ill.
 Ten million sesterces to Scythia lend,
 The gesture shall the world’s misfortunes end:
 Give me a chance, and in a trice you’ll see
 The Golden Age well introduced by me.”
 With loud applause the very welkin rings;
 Macdoniensis’ praise the people sings.

Him followed all the lofty-minded throng
 That always find their country in the wrong.
 Parthian to them and Scythian were brothers,
 But Roman soldiers lower than all others.
 Then followed certain of the baser sort,
 Whose hope was all free rations, wine, and sport.
 Yet others in the rear — who counted most —
 Began of loot to talk, of spoils to boast.
 “These Optimates all are out of date;
 They must resign their goods or meet their fate.
 In Scythia, that most enlightened land,
 No Optimate survives th’avenging hand.
 The bow, the sword, the torture-chamber too,
 Have rid the country of the useless crew.
 We’ll do the same unless” — but here their leader
 For caution and restraint became a pleader.

To Mercury they pray; 'tis said that he
(While Jove was dozing), subtle deity,
Around the Romans' wits a mist diffused;
None doubts the people were at least bemused.

The Populates, out of ancient spite,
To dish the Optimates, quit the fight:
"Let Rome be ruined sooner than that we
Forbear to score a party victory."
And so, though by minority selected,
Macdoniensis consul was elected.
"The Golden Age approaches," is the cry;
"The end of all our ills is drawing nigh."

Months pass, but life and things remain the same;
The Roman people know not whom to blame.
Still prices rose, and work grew scarcer still;
Macdoniensis failed to cure one ill.
The Golden Age, in light of reason cold,
Was evidently not an age of gold.

'Twas then that Jove — for so the pious say —
Awoke from slumber and resumed his sway.
"Disperse that mist," to Mercury he cries,
"Let Romans ne'er again be fooled with lies."
He said, and nodded. Great Olympus shook;
The winged God to earth his passage took.
The mists dispersed, straightway the Romans see
Macdoniensis' full futility.
Good Roman money he would fain bestow
On Scythian brigands, lowest of the low.
He fell, and Rome, from these delusions freed,
Prospered again beneath her ancient creed.

H. G. DALWAY TURNBULL