

INTO HIS 90TH YEAR

(Copy of original letter, written in very minute and extremely neat hand-writing)

Lew Trenchard, North Devon. 16th February 1923.

Dear Mr. Head,

Thank you so much for your letter. It was my 89th birthday on Jan. 28th, and my entry into my 90th year. I spent the day in bed to which I have been confined for 3 weeks. I am only now emancipated from it, and I got out yesterday and the day before for a short time. I have given up my house and household to my eldest son and his American wife, or rather they have been taken from me, as they supposed me to be too old and infirm to be able to manage them myself. The change is not altogether to my liking, but I have to submit to it. American ways of thought and habits are so foreign and distasteful to me.

I should dearly like to see you here, but I dare not ask leave for any friends to come to me, as all sorts of objections would be raised.

I do not suppose that my time here can be much prolonged, and I shall not be sorry to go to my great Master and Lord and to meet again the dear ones I have lost.

I remain,

Yours truly,

S. Baring-Gould.

SBGAS Newsletter 1992/93, No. 10, p. 3