The Heron-Allen Society

Newsletter no. 25 Autumn 2014

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM

Edward Heron-Allen on the Rhine, 1900

As if to emphasise that the EHA Society is not London-Centric, the 14th Symposium returned to Chichester; a welcome break for those who of us who live in or near the smoke. A smooth journey south through glorious countryside, with a comfortable seat in a clean, nearly new, train that had plenty of seats to spare, was treat enough in itself for us Londoners. And, if you were on the right train, a brief practice display by the Red Arrows was thrown in as a bonus as we approached Chichester, complete with red white and blue vapour trails.

I can recall Society meetings that concluded with lunch, and others with lunch in the middle; this year we reinforced the importance of the Society lunch by having it first, thereby ensuring that we couldn't possibly miss it. (and it was definitely a lunch that should not have been missed, especially the Knickerbocker Glories). It was nice to see a sprinkling of new members; later the Chairman informed us that the roll now stands at about 70.

After feasting, we adjourned to the Woolstapler room in The Novium, a new venue, built over the remains of the old Roman Baths, rather than the Record Office as previously (to anyone who puzzled just what a Woolstapler was, I have since discovered that it was a middleman who bought wool from farmers and sold it to manufacturers, presumably taking a significant 'cut' in the process). Locals assured us that there was a spectacular view of the Cathedral and its Bell tower from the window, but brilliant sunshine made it essential to keep the blinds closed, so we had to take that on trust.

After a brief but pertinent introduction by Tim McCann, we were treated to four talks on very different EHA topics, but all similarly delivered with enthusiasm displaying the speakers' specialist knowledge. It is a considerable tribute to all of them

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Left and below right: Society members lunching at Vintage, Chichester; June 2014 Photos taken by Grahame Saxby-Soffe

that, after such a fine lunch and on a warm afternoon, I saw only one head nod and that was for merely an instant.

John and Barbara Mahoney started us off with an intriguing description of the background to The Princess Daphne, an early book that is now little known, difficult to find even in Libraries and very expensive to buy - if you can find one for sale. There are evidently issues concerning the authorship – was it an EHA solo effort or a collaboration with Selena Dolaro. That seems to depend on whether you are in the USA or the UK!

Timothy gave us a fascinating insight into EHA on holiday; as a compulsive diarist he left no fewer than 32 volumes documenting his expeditions. This time, Tim started us off in Venice, where EHA encountered Walter Sickert and the two developed an active social life together. However, while EHA had revisited Venice again and again, Sickert apparently didn't fall under its spell and persuaded EHA to go to Dieppe instead next time –but he didn't fall under its Gallic spell! "The curse of Dieppe is the motor car" he wrote. It was an intriguing insight into fin-de -siècle leisure.

David Bone concentrated on feet – the so-called Selsey feet found in 1909 and 1939 and attributed by EH-A to be Anglo Saxon statuary, made of Caen stone. David convincingly presented his reasons why not! Not Caen stone, and not Anglo-Saxon! Later we were able to examine the said feet downstairs in the museum and we could only agree. They were not convincing at all!

Our final treat was John Whittaker presenting the second string to his bow, (albeit from a seated position due to a surfeit of aforesaid K.....G....., which we won't mention.) This time we had an account of EHA's involvement with the Selsey Tramway, which had been instrumental in bringing him to Large Acres in the first place. To all intents and purposes the tramway seems to have been a disguised railway, thereby avoiding much inconvenient legislation. EHA was chairman of the company for some years and may even have

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The Heron-Allen Newsletter was edited by Timothy J. McCann and designed by Caroline Adams

invested in it. Upgrading the tramway was halted by the outbreak of WWI, and competition from the motor car later reduced the demand for its services considerably.

A commendably efficient and therefore brief AGM followed the talks. Officers were (re) elected, informative reports delivered by the treasurer and chairman, and modifications to the constitution agreed, the most important of which seemed to be the recognition of lunch as an integral part of the proceedings. For future reference, does that mean no lunch – no meeting?

The meeting ended with the raising of the blinds in the Woolstaplers' room, revealing its wonderful view of the Cathedral and its Bell Tower, followed by (for those of us down from the smoke) another relaxed railway journey.

Garry Garrard

PS Contrary to assumptions I heard expressed during the day, the Knickerbocker Glory is evidently a British invention, not American. On the other side of the pond, the nearest equivalent is evidently a Parfait
PPS At the first Symposium that I attended I was informed that it was a tradition of the society that the account of the proceedings in the Newsletter should be written by the newest member who attended. I hope we are not losing our traditions? I was reminded that my introductory write-up coincided with the Gay Pride march through London, that passed very near our venue.

Garry Garrard

HERON-ALLEN SOCIETY WEEK-END IN WOODBRIDGE, MAY 2014

Members of the Heron-Allen Society travelled to Woodbridge, Suffolk on May 24th to visit some of the places associated with Edward FitzGerald, the best known translator into English of the Rubáiyát of Omar Khayám. The weekend began on Friday 23rd at the Ramada Encore Hotel in Ipswich. Five members of the party, Tim and Alison McCann, Sylvia and Gerald Blunden, and Garry Garrard, visited Christchurch Mansion in Ipswich in the afternoon. This Tudor mansion houses a fascinating collection of paintings associated with the area, including works by Constable, Gainsborough and Munnings. Pam and David Thompson arrived in the evening and the seven of us enjoyed a good meal and a few glasses of wine at the hotel.

The official programme began on Saturday. The 'Ramada Group' either drove or was driven to Woodbridge station where John Whittaker, after having fortified himself with cake while waiting at the station buffet, was met. Everyone proceeded to Little Grange where we were joined by Alan and Minoo Lord, who had first suggested the trip. Edward FitzGerald bought Little Grange in 1863, but did not move into it until 1874, although he then stayed there until his death. The house is now owned by Marcus and Penelope Bartlett who are proud of the fact that their house had been lived in by FitzGerald, and to whom Penelope is distantly related.

THE SOCIETY'S WEB-SITE

The Heron-Allen Society has a new website at: http://www.heronallensociety.co.uk The webmaster, Maira Canzonieri, can be contacted through the website or directly by email at: maira.canzonieri@rcm.ac.uk. Maira updates our web-site on a regular basis, and members are encouraged to keep in touch by making use of it. There is an opportunity on the site for members to make comments and suggestions and to post queries.

Marcus and Penelope were pleased to show us around their beautiful garden and charming house. They made us most welcome and Penelope talked to us about the house and later, while we enjoyed coffee and home-made ginger biscuits, David enlightened Marcus about his clock collection. I greatly enjoyed our visit and Garry, to express our appreciation, presented Penelope with an engraving of Fitzgerald playing the organ. Garry then conducted us on a tour of Woodbridge pointing out the houses of John Churchyard and John Barton, as well as the house on Market Hill where Edward FitzGerald stayed as a lodger until 1874, even though he had bought Little Grange several years before. We also visited the Quaker churchyard where Barton is buried. We all then enjoyed an excellent lunch with good beer and wine at the Bull, a hostelry in the centre of town where FitzGerald used to entertain his friends.

Suitably refreshed, we set off for Boulge churchyard where FitzGerald is buried. The journey was not straight forward and directions needed to be sought by some of the travellers. Eventually we all assembled in the tranquil and sunny spot. After looking at some of the FitzGerald family monuments in the church we stood around Edward's grave where Tim read appropriate quatrains from my copy of the Rubáiyát of Omar Khayám, which I was given as a school prize in 1958.The Company then dispersed until the evening when we all met at Minoo and Alan's house in Manningtree. They proved to be excellent hosts supplying us with splendid wine, beer and food, which included a wonderful Turkish/Iranian/Russian dish. In the nick of time we were transported back to the station just in time to catch the train back to Ipswich.

On Sunday morning the party broke up with some returning home after breakfast and others waiting until after midday. The visit had been a great success and all those who were present wish to thank Garry for arranging the visits, and Minoo and Alan for their very kind and excellent hospitality .However, the final words must go to Omar Khayám, whose poetry we are able to appreciate because of FitzGerald's beautifully philosophical and graceful translation.

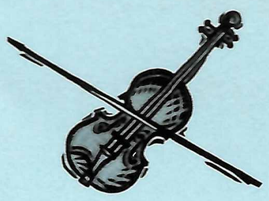
Come, fill the cup, and in the Fire of Spring
The Winter Garment of Repentance fling
The Bird of Time has but a little way
To fly – and Lo! The Bird is on the Wing

Sylvia Blunden

LOST ANECDOTES: EDWARD HERON-ALLEN'S YARNS IN THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC LIBRARY

When we began planning the assemblage of a reference library collection for the violin family of musical instruments, we used a wide range of bibliographic sources from all

Members of the Heron- Allen Society at the grave of Edward Fitzgerald in Boulge church-yard



countries and languages. The single most important source for pre-1894 items remains Heron-Allen's massive work, *De Fidiculis Bibliographia* initially published in 12 separate soft cover publications over the period 1890-1894. (1) The entries varied in detail from quite brief and incomplete to extensive and scholarly. I rarely travelled without my well-worn copy of this book along with Roberto Regazzi's, *The Complete Luthier's Library* with its more contemporary entries. (2) A successful purchase was entirely dependent on information screened from these two references.

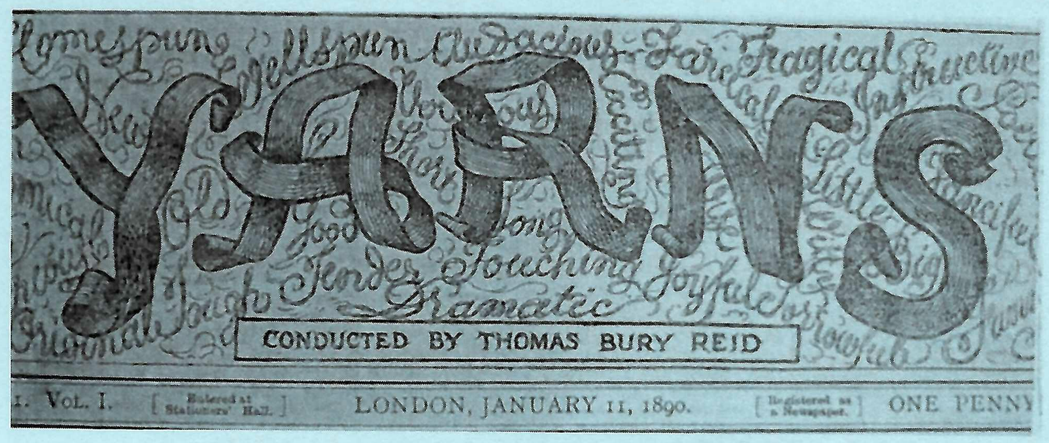
I favoured the Heron-Allen references because of large numbers of 17th through the 19th century entries and each item's scarcity. Many of these entries are not incredibly important in the bibliography of the violin family. What makes his book fascinating was Heron-Allen's ability to record and collect the entire spectrum of stringed instrument topics which were printed: books, periodical, pamphlets, luthier trade catalogues, advertisements, novels, music, poems, loves stories, songs, short stories, dramas, comic books, children's books, method and instruction books, biographies, reference books, unpublished works, theses, medals and even patents. Some of his more interesting ephemera are often listed under the miscellaneous sections. The fact that these were saved from the time's destruction is a tribute to Heron-Allen's obsessive –compulsive trait. Fortunately, Heron-Allen arranged for this collection to survive intact. The recipient on his death in 1943 was the Royal College of Music (RCM) in London. The following represents Part III of my delicious visit to the Edward Heron-Allen Collection.

On entering the locked door to the collection, I had to really organize my thoughts on what I would try to accomplish in the next 4 hours that day. The toll of an adrenalin rush on my body each day limited the search to only 4 hours per day. I have a long list of items that I would love to find, investigate and read. Some items probably represent unique ephemera, unlikely survivors remarkably salvaged from the ravages of time. The largest hurdles of this evaluation are the space limitations and the organization of the collection. I have not been able to rapidly find any article of interest. The organizational layout seems hit -and-miss (to use a Heron-Allen expression, higgledy-piggledy). My first day was spent just looking at book spines and front covers and hoping my brain's "light bulb" would suddenly shine on an important item of personal interest. If I am able to re-visit the collection, I have identified three rows of books of special interests: *The Miscellanea.*

Once I found the Miscellanea section, I had incredible urges for a comfortable couch, a night light and a great bottle of *Pomeral.* The following entry is an example of a Heron-Allen series of articles that are essentially impossible to find anywhere except at the RCM. In his book, listed as No. 529, under Section VI: *Fidiculana, Miscellanea, &c:*

529. "Yarns" (London)
18th January } 1890. Heron-Allen, E.
1st February } *The Anecdotage of the*
15th February} *Violin, or Yarns for Fiddlers*

I have been searching for this entry for years without success.


YARNS
CONDUCTED BY THOMAS BURY REID
VOL. I. LONDON, JANUARY 11, 1890. ONE PENNY

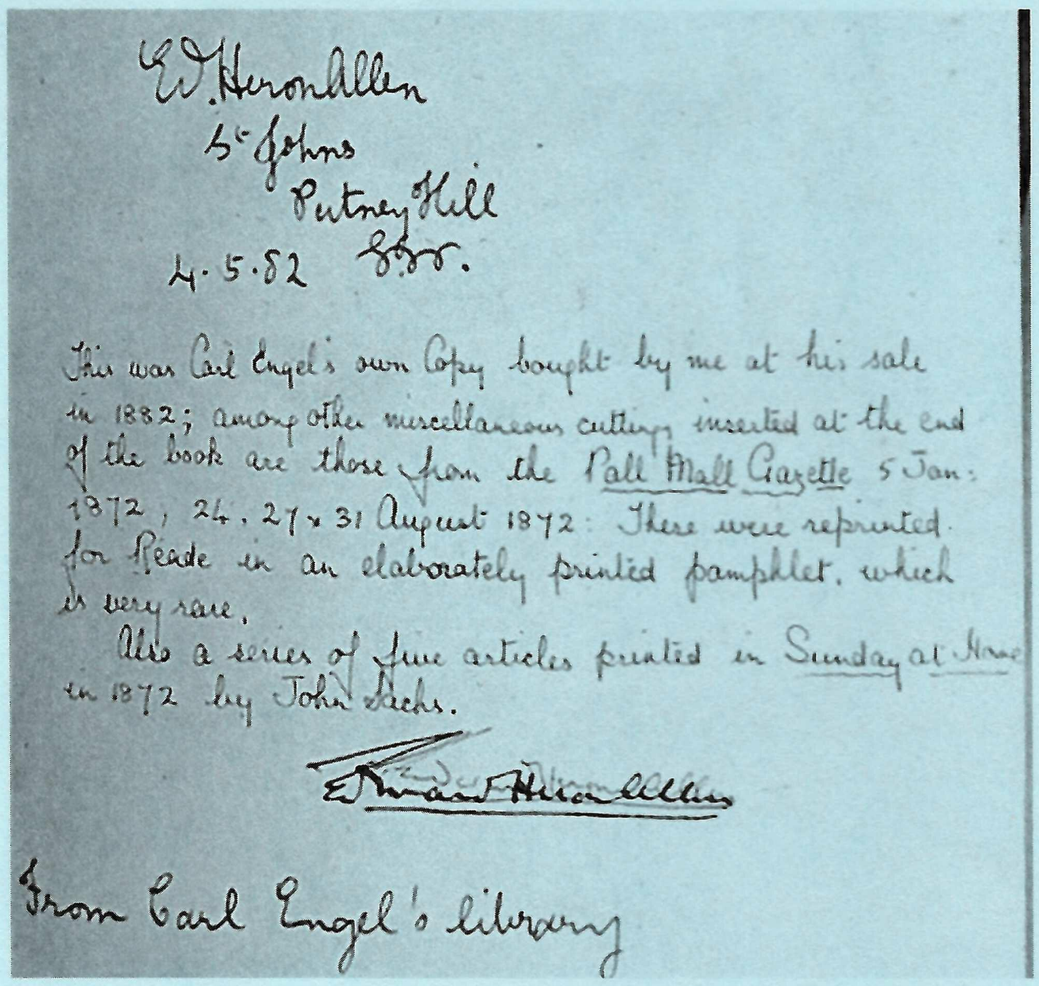
My interest was focused on this style of writing… yarns. The article's title suggested that this might be one of the earliest precursors of one type of Heron-Allen's extensive violin writing style……yarns, as seen in the *The Strad* magazine and *The Violin Times* (3, 4) Unfortunately, the *Yarns* periodical apparently had a very short publication life (as so many of Heron-Allen's chosen vehicles for publishing articles on a wide variety of topics). The Yarn's publisher was Henry J. Drane who also produced the London reprint of Heron-Allen's *The Princess Daphne* and his later book of poems, *The Love Letters of a Vagabond.* (5)

Heron-Allen could not have accomplished these many extraordinary short, sometimes scholarly and well referenced articles without the development of a complex web of informative sources such as auctions, librarians, book dealers, literary clubs, book markets, antiquarian book catalogues, foreign book agents ('pickers') and journal editors. In addition, he sent many personal appeals to individual donors through his published *An Appendix ToThe De Fidiculis Bibliographia: Libri Desiderati* pamphlets (at least six additional supplements) and in journals' Letters to the Editor. (6, 7) At the same time, he had to develop a central repository to house and categorize this plethora of data: the establishment of his world class personal library.

Heron-Allen demonstrated a life-long obsession in collecting items of personal interest and assimilating and distributing knowledge from his possessions. How this

late 19th century acquisition structure was able to constantly search world-wide resources for his encyclopaedic repository remains a mystery. Pamela Thompson suggests that Heron-Allen would have had access to the late 19th century "press clipping services" (media monitoring services) which had greatly expanded their coverage (subject, content, geography and printed sources) with the introduction of the telegraphy, submarine cables and telephones. (8, 9) These services would have provided him with details about the personal and public lives of musicians, concerts, and newspaper, magazine and journal articles. His antiquarian book and pamphlet collecting would have utilized a much different pathway as postulated above. Did Heron-Allen have a personal staff in his home library to assist him in the cataloguing and assimilating these diverse items in readily accessible formats? Like many highly successful bibliomaniacs, he took these fine details of his personal acquisition and assimilation tricks of the trade to his grave.

Thomson reports that his violin trade collecting began at age 17. In 1879, he planned and began to assemble his opus, *De Fidiculis Bibliographia.* (10, 11) There were three major events in the early 1880s that gained him the prominence he needed to jumpstart his plans for his library, literary and social ambitions. These events gave him wide exposure to both the luthier and antiquarian book trades with its colorful Dickensian characters and publically established him as a recognized


E. Heron Allen
St Johns
Putney Hill
4.5.82 S.W.

This was Carl Engel's own Copy bought by me at his sale in 1882; among other miscellaneous cuttings inserted at the end of the book are those from the Pall Mall Gazette 5 Jan: 1872, 24, 27 & 31 August 1872: These were reprinted for Reade in an elaborately printed pamphlet, which is very rare.
Also a series of fine articles printed in Sunday at Home in 1872 by John Sachs.

E. Heron Allen

From Carl Engel's library

Heron-Allen's Rarely Recorded Personal Acquisition Data.
Royal College of Music's Library.

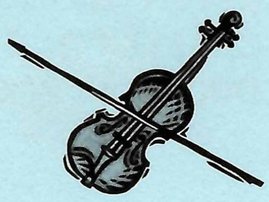
credentialed, world-wide authority on the violin family of musical instruments.

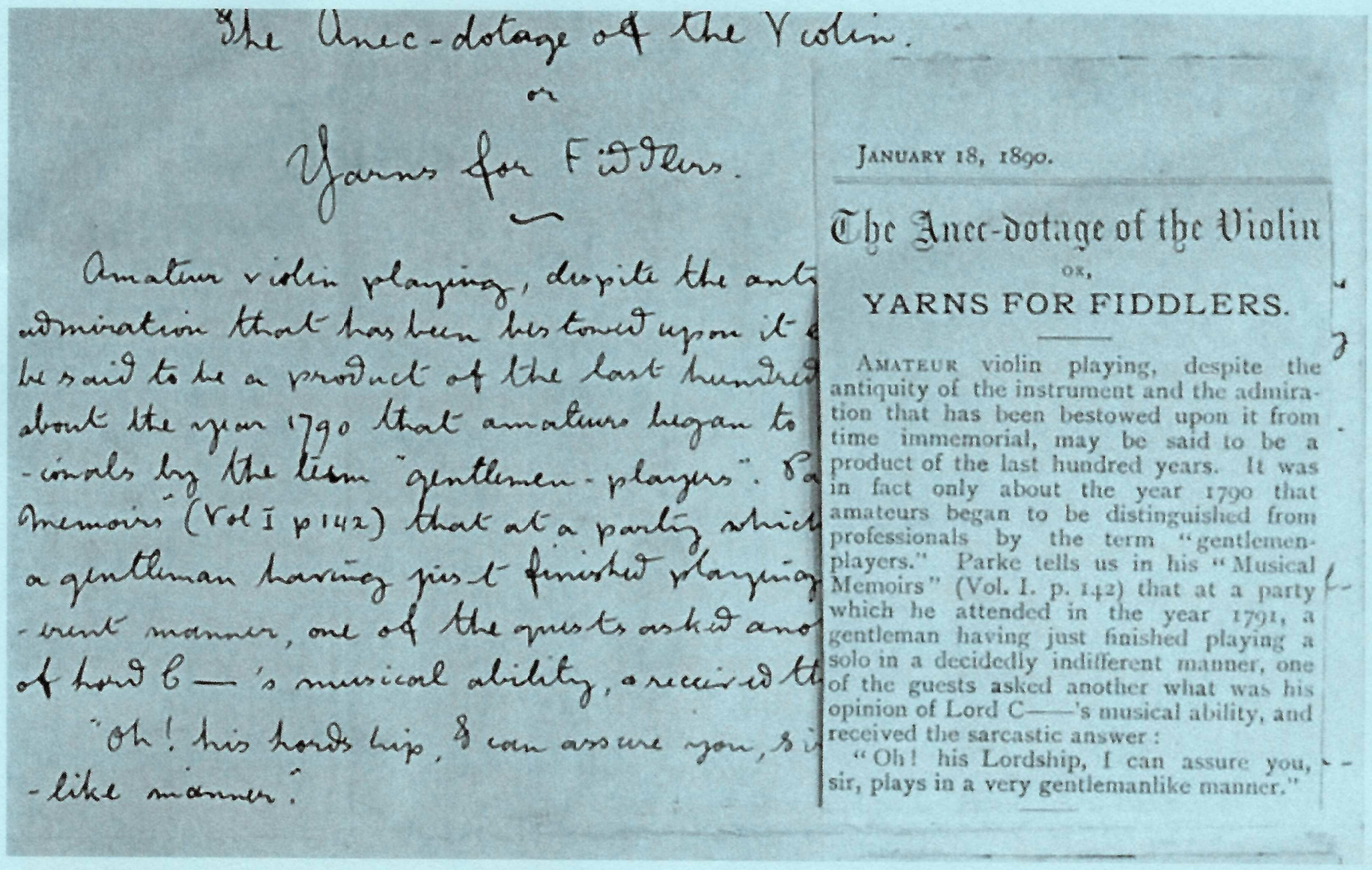
In 1882, while Heron-Allen was attending the estate auction of Carl Engel's violin book library, he was noticed by London's most renowned antiquarian book dealer, Bernard Quaritch. This dealer immediately recognized the young man's impressive knowledge, passions and interests. Quaritch was instrumental in exposing Heron-Allen to a full panoply of future opportunities: granting him immediate access to personal library, gifting him choice books, inviting him to meet with his broad assemblage of bibliophiles and requesting that Heron-Allen write and present his first violin "Opusculum" on "The Ancestry of the Violin" at London's bibliophile club, The Sette of Odd Volumes. (12, 13) Within a year, he was accepted as a Brother in the club. The Sette's membership was far more than merely a dining club of bibliophiles. Obtaining membership in the Sette was evolving into a mark of professional distinction, affluence and, most importantly, a social and political network of influence in London's artistic and literary circles. (14)

Also in 1882, the 21 year-old Edward Heron-Allen undertook the production of his book, *Violin-Making as It Was and Is,* first in serial parts in the periodical *Amateur Work Illustrated*. (15) The first edition was published in 1884. (16) Heron-Allen also provided buyers of his book with his own personalized detailed diagrams of the internal violin moulds and the violin ff-holes. This 'bible' was the most important and comprehensive book on violin making and its history to have been written that century.

Lastly, also in 1882, he started a paid apprenticeship with London Soho luthier, Georges Chanot III. In this two year period, he produced two violins. He started his first violin, a Stradivarius model on April 20, 1882. The last violin, he copied exactly from the French violinist Prosper Sainton's Guarnerius violin labelled as No. 2, and finished on September 15, 1883. (17) This duel experience of recognized world-class publications and then personal violin instrument production gave Heron-Allen the keys to his future literary credentials: He had "walked the walk and talked the talk" by the age of 23.

When he returned from his peculiar 1886-1889 American bohemian and literary adventures, he had accumulated and collated an enormous amount of violin-related printed material. He had just submitted for publication the first of his twelve individually published pamphlets,





The Anec-dotage of the Violin.

or

Yarns for Fiddlers.

Amateur violin playing, despite the anti
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"Oh! his Lords hip, I can assure you, s
-like manner".

JANUARY 18, 1890.

The Anec-dotage of the Violin

OR,

YARNS FOR FIDDLERS.

AMATEUR violin playing, despite the antiquity of the instrument and the admiration that has been bestowed upon it from time immemorial, may be said to be a product of the last hundred years. It was in fact only about the year 1790 that amateurs began to be distinguished from professionals by the term "gentlemen-players." Parke tells us in his "Musical Memoirs" (Vol. I. p. 142) that at a party which he attended in the year 1791, a gentleman having just finished playing a solo in a decidedly indifferent manner, one of the guests asked another what was his opinion of Lord C——'s musical ability, and received the sarcastic answer:

"Oh! his Lordship, I can assure you, sir, plays in a very gentlemanlike manner."

Manuscript of Yarns at the Royal College of Music, London

Bibliography of the Violin, Part I. The Construction of the Violin.

But, Heron-Allen was not an obsessive-compulsive hoarder; he had a long term productive and ambitious plan for publishing the educational and academic contents of his library's collection.

The *Yarn* articles are of interest to us since these writings occurred in 1889 and appear to lay or demonstrate the foundation for formatting how he would present some of his library's strengths in later years as a contributor to *The Strad* magazine and as Co-Editor and subsequently contributor to *The Violin Times* journal. These short series of humorous notes and articles were published in three parts from January 18th to February 15th, 1890. Yarns have existed since the earliest oral stories with written forms appearing in the earliest printed publications. Our two favourite urban definitions of literary yarns are:

1) To tell a story, which more or less at any given moment contains a dubious amount of exaggeration. (To spin a tale)
2) To have conversation with someone, most likely pertaining to trivial matters.

Writers may have a particular desired architecture to their personalized tales: breadth of subjects, contemporary versus historical events, emotional content, parts of truth and purposeful fabrication, structure (dialogue, story, poem, quotation, and song), wit or sarcasm. Many lack any redeeming academic qualities on the subject discussed. Yarns are really for fun and entertainment and are even today a great marketing tool for both written and oral medias. Yarns can give you a quick glimpse at life and make you smile after each day trials and tribulations whether occurring in the 16th century or contemporary times. Heron-Allen had collected an enormous numbers of stories about the vagaries of stringed instruments and their players and wove these into marketable literary tales that actually generated income. The extent of subjects he scribed in these three small Parts was impressive. There was an underlying redeeming educational value to these exaggerations and his quips had a ring of truth. Heron-Allen saved his handwritten yarns and neatly attached each of the subsequently published articles. (see above)

Some of the subjects discussed included:

January 18th, 1890
Part I: amateur violin playing, violinist's performance variations, morality of professional violinists selling instruments, differences between an artist and virtuoso violinist, Cremonese violin prices, Jacob Stainer prices, effect of bow instruments on animals, English Royal family as amateur players.

February 1st, 1890
Part II: mistranslation of Welsh word "crythan", Charles IX of France, Amati violins, the spectre of pre-show violinists' tune-ups, the ancestral value of amateur fiddling, story of a young girl sounding like a violin while fast asleep, musicians

THE HERON-ALLEN BIOGRAPHY

Joan Navarre is writing a biography of Edward Heron-Allen. Any information concerning Heron-Allen (e.g. letters, manuscripts, photographs) will be greatly appreciated. E-mail: jnavarre@hotmail.com

preferring their own types of instruments, how to construct the scene for a painting of a "enraged musician", story of dying violinist and his unusual request not to separated from his violin, the historical dignified position of leader of the band, humorous story about a falling brick and a violin.

February 15th, 1890
Part III: All these stories were by special request "Humorous": jokes were about violinists (five), instruments (two) and the non-musicians (two).

Heron-Allen's style was simple: nothing is sacred, give a brief theme, weave in a tale structured as an actual historical event, poem, advertisement or song, etc., stir in one or two quotations and especially a Library reference, and top it off with a tart personal quip.

We will end our Part III venture with a classic example of a Heron-Allen Yarn:

"I have before called attention to the fact that it is only during the past century that the amateur has increased and multiplied exceedingly. To our ancestors, the practice of fiddling ranked with that of wife-kicking as practiced by the modern costermonger, and this, long before Lord Chesterfield told his son that 'fiddling puts a *gentleman* in a very frivolous and contemptible light, and takes up a good deal of time which might be better employed.' We learn from the diary of Anthony à Wood, preserved in the Ashmolean Library, at Oxford (written in 1653), that 'Before the Restoration, gentlemen played three, four and five parts with viols. They esteemed a violin to be an instrument only belonging to a common fiddler, and could not bear that it should come among them for fear of making their meetings to be vain and frivolous.' Nowadays the violin has ceased to be a synonym for disgrace of any kind – except, perhaps, when used in a lepidopterous sense: - I refer, of course, to the Caledonian Cremona." (18)

We too had drag out our Webster's English dictionary multiple times in order to interpret his quip!

John P. Mahoney and Barbara P. Mahoney

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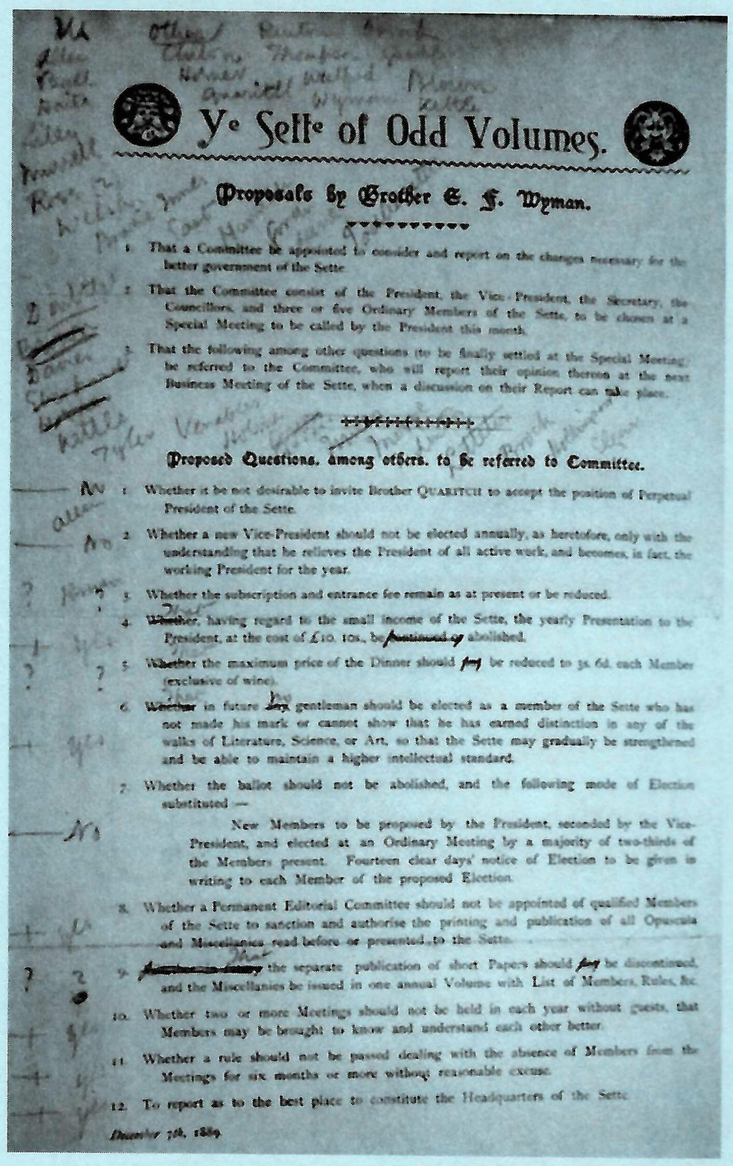
Le Gallienne versus Heron-Allen incident, Postscript 3: The Clouds of Discontent at The Sette of Odd Volumes, the missing document, no. 1 *Bye-laws Special* Meeting, by Brother Edward F. Wyman 7 Dec 1889

All good adventures must come to an end. We have been searching for years for Edward Wyman's letter, sent to his Brothers and the Oddship (President) concerning proposed By-Laws changes to the Sette of Odd Volumes. This proposal set into motion one of the most disruptive firestorms with a nearly fatal outcome to the Sette of Odd Volumes in 1889 and produced the unsettled

atmosphere leading to Edward Heron-Allen's surprising voluntary resignation in 1893 (1). After reading the document, The Sette's younger members produced two scathing lampoons that skewered the Sette's encrusted Founding members, "the Elders". (2) The Elders had charged that Edward Heron-Allen authored these lampoons.(3)

On a trip this year to the Clark library at the University of California at Los Angeles, I reviewed the fabulous Sette of Odd Volumes collection previously owned by Ralph Straus, former Oddship during the Great War years 1913 through 1918. While perusing these massive bound volumes, (4) the following printed two page document was found.



Ye Sette of Odd Volumes.

Proposals by Brother E. F. Wyman.

1. That a Committee be appointed to consider and report on the changes necessary for the better government of the Sette.
2. That the Committee consist of the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary, the Councillors, and three or five Ordinary Members of the Sette, to be chosen at a Special Meeting to be called by the President this month.
3. That the following among other questions (to be finally settled at the Special Meeting) be referred to the Committee, who will report their opinion thereon at the next Business Meeting of the Sette, when a discussion on their Report can take place.

Proposed Questions, among others, to be referred to Committee.

1. Whether it be not desirable to invite Brother QUARITCH to accept the position of Perpetual President of the Sette.
2. Whether a new Vice-President should not be elected annually, as heretofore, only with the understanding that he relieves the President of all active work, and becomes, in fact, the working President for the year.
3. Whether the subscription and entrance fee remain as at present or be reduced.
4. Whether, having regard to the small income of the Sette, the yearly Presentation to the President, at the cost of £10 10s., be continued or abolished.
5. Whether the maximum price of the Dinner should not be reduced to 3s. 6d. each Member (exclusive of wine).
6. Whether in future any gentleman should be elected as a member of the Sette who has not made his mark or cannot show that he has earned distinction in any of the walks of Literature, Science, or Art, so that the Sette may gradually be strengthened and be able to maintain a higher intellectual standard.
7. Whether the ballot should not be abolished, and the following mode of Election substituted —

   New Members to be proposed by the President, seconded by the Vice-President, and elected at an Ordinary Meeting by a majority of two-thirds of the Members present. Fourteen clear days' notice of Election to be given in writing to each Member of the proposed Election.
8. Whether a Permanent Editorial Committee should not be appointed of qualified Members of the Sette to sanction and authorise the printing and publication of all Opuscula and Miscellanies read before or presented to the Sette.
9. Whether the separate publication of short Papers should not be discontinued, and the Miscellanies be issued in one annual Volume with List of Members, Rules, &c.
10. Whether two or more Meetings should not be held in each year without guests, that Members may be brought to know and understand each other better.
11. Whether a rule should not be passed dealing with the absence of Members from the Meetings for six months or more without reasonable excuse.
12. To report as to the best place to constitute the Headquarters of the Sette.

December 7th, 1889.

Letter Face sheet to the Sette's Brothers & Oddship

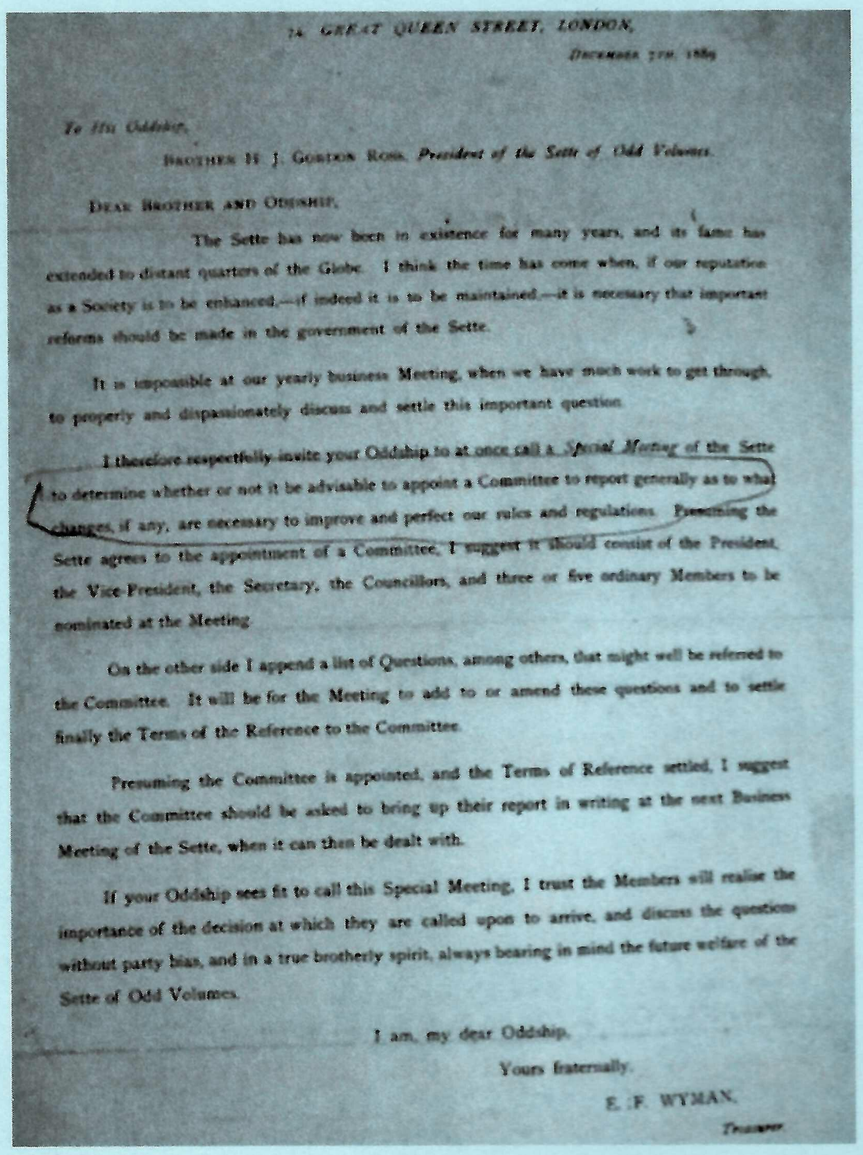
There is no new information in the printed text. What was most fascinating was the handwritten marginalia tally of supporters ("US" group) representing the opposition, (the thirteen Conspirators) to the Wyman proposal which was written and supported by the Sette's Elders ("OTHERS" group). This marginalia (see below) confirms the previous unknown identities and number of opposition members to the Sette's autocratic Elders' group. Previously documentation by Brother John Lane implied that the likely conspirators were Heron-Allen, Todhunter, Ball, Douglas Gordon and Lane (5)

Two members were not listed: Hermann Vezin and Charles W.H. Wyman (chronic illness, disabled).

This document confirms our thesis that the 1889 Oddship, H.J. Gordon Ross, was indeed considered to be a strong supporter of the conspirators' position. This document lends additional support that H.J. Gordon Ross was a prime contributor to the lampoon (2nd document. (6)

The handwriting of the marginalia in the first document is definitely not Edward Heron-Allen or his Oddship H.J. Gordon Ross. We have excellent examples of handwritten letters and book presentation notes on all thirteen Conspirators. (7, 8, 9) It is our opinion based on close analysis of the handwriting, the document's marginalia was scribed by Douglas H. Gordon, F.G.S (Geology) the Sette's Remembrancer. Gordon joined the Sette in 1888, was elected its Secretary in 1889 and elected its Master of Ceremonies in 1892. Gordon shared in an all-Conspirators' 1892 election of Sette officers with Murrell as President,

US	**DOUBTFUL**	**OTHERS**
Edward Heron-Allen	Alfred J. Davies	George Clulow
Wilfrid Ball	Daniel W Kettle	Burnham W. Horner
George C. Haite	George Robert Tyler	Bernard Quaritch
Henry George Liley	Thomas Charles Venables	Edward H. Renton
William Murrell	Charles Holme	W. Mort Thompson
H.J. Gordon Ross	Frederick H. Gervis	Edward Walford
Charles Welsch	Henry Moore	Edward Wyman
John W. Brodie Innes	Sir James D. Linton	James Orrock
Alfred East	Alfred H. Littleton	W. J. Goode
Walter Hamilton	E.P. Loftus Brock	James Roberts Brown
Douglas H. Gordon	Alexander T. Hollingsworth	Daniel W. Kettle (repeated)
John Lane	Francis Elgar	
John Todhunter	Charles Leopold Eberhardt (name crossed off)	



74, GREAT QUEEN STREET, LONDON,

DECEMBER 7TH, 1889

To His Oddship,

BROTHER H. J. GORDON ROSS, *President of the Sette of Odd Volumes.*

DEAR BROTHER AND ODDSHIP,

The Sette has now been in existence for many years, and its fame has extended to distant quarters of the Globe. I think the time has come when, if our reputation as a Society is to be enhanced,—if indeed it is to be maintained,—it is necessary that important reforms should be made in the government of the Sette.

It is impossible at our yearly business Meeting, when we have much work to get through, to properly and dispassionately discuss and settle this important question.

I therefore respectfully invite your Oddship to at once call a *Special Meeting* of the Sette to determine whether or not it be advisable to appoint a Committee to report generally as to what changes, if any, are necessary to improve and perfect our rules and regulations. Presuming the Sette agrees to the appointment of a Committee, I suggest it should consist of the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary, the Councillors, and three or five ordinary Members to be nominated at the Meeting.

On the other side I append a list of Questions, among others, that might well be referred to the Committee. It will be for the Meeting to add to or amend these questions and to settle finally the Terms of the Reference to the Committee.

Presuming the Committee is appointed, and the Terms of Reference settled, I suggest that the Committee should be asked to bring up their report in writing at the next Business Meeting of the Sette, when it can then be dealt with.

If your Oddship sees fit to call this Special Meeting, I trust the Members will realise the importance of the decision at which they are called upon to arrive, and discuss the questions without party bias, and in a true brotherly spirit, always bearing in mind the future welfare of the Sette of Odd Volumes.

I am, my dear Oddship,

Yours fraternally,

E. F. WYMAN,

Treasurer.

Page of Proposals

Heron-Allen as Vice-President, Todhunter as Secretary and Hamilton as Keeper of the Archives.

Little is known of Mr. Douglas Gordon. In 1875, he reportedly was employed at the Geological department of the British Museum. He was also recorded to be the Secretary to two institutions supportive of Artists interests in 1888: the Artist General Benevolent Institution and the Arundel Society. In 1890, Gordon published the Sette's Opusculum #23: *Neglected Frescoes in Northern Italy*.

Douglas Gordon voluntarily resigned from the Sette at the same time as Edward Heron -Allen in 1893 following the Le Gallienne incident. Despite his five years in Sette leadership, there is no known portrait of Gordon. In the installation day, Odd Minutes of 1892-1893, Gordon is described as "a man of genial presence, with a face beaming like the sun.....he is indeed the *Priest of John Bull* {national personification of the United Kingdom}, who is none other than the Greek God Dionysus, whom they call Bacchus". (10) Unlike Heron-Allen, Gordon achieved total public obscurity after his resignation despite the Sette's attempts to communicate with its former Brother. (11) We are unaware of any further communication between Heron-Allen and Gordon following their Sette resignations.

Finem Bonorum

John P. Mahoney and Barbara P. Mahoney

References

1.)Mahoney, John P. et al: *The Le Gallienne versus Heron-Allen Incident*. Heron-Allen Society, Chichester, West Sussex, Opusculum #XVII, 2011, pp. 1-42.

2.)Ibid, pg. XXXXXX.

3.)Correspondence Relating to the Election of 1889, Sette of Odd Volumes. Private Printing, 1890, 8 pages, Boston Athenaeum Library, Massachusetts.

4.)http://www.oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/c8pn974c/admin/

5.) Lane, John: Letter To Edward Heron-Allen dated Dec. 16, 1889. The Fales Library & Special Collections, MSS 00, Elmer Holmes Bobst Library, New York University, NY.

6.) Mahoney, John P. et al: 'Postscript: The Clouds of Discontent at the Sette of Odd Volumes. Those Pesky Missing Edward Heron -Allen Papers'. *Heron-Allen Society Newsletter*, Chichester, West Sussex, Spring 2013, pp. 7-11.

7.)http://www.indiana.edu/~liblilly/lilly/mss/index.php?p=williamszon

8.) Heron-Allen, Edward: Opuscula #28: *The Ballades of Blasé Man*: Author's Proof Copy and Autographed letters of the Sette of Odd Volumes. Private Collection.

9.) Gordon, Douglas: Opuscula #23: *Neglected Frescoes in Northern Italy*. Chiswick Press, Sette of Odd Volumes, London, Presentation copy by Author, No. 31/133, 1890. Private Collection.

10.) The Year=Boke of the Odd Volumes. An Annual Record of the Transactions of the Sette. Fifteenth Year – 1892-1893. Bedford Press, London, 1893, pp. 33-34.

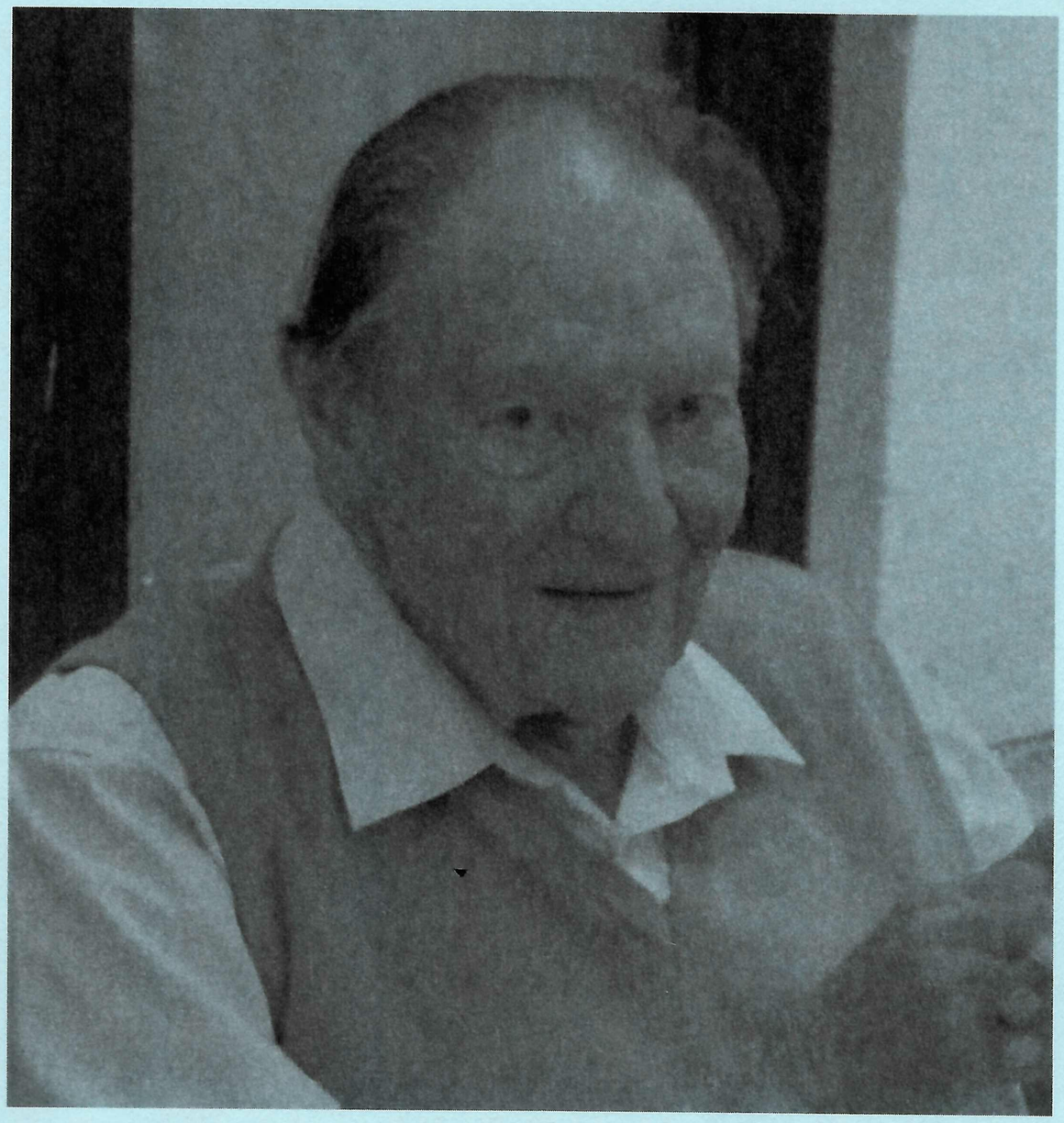
11.) Williamson, George C.: Opuscula #65: *Ye Roll of Ye Set of Odd Volumes*. Chiswick Press, Sette of Odd volumes, London, 1913.

PETER ALLPRESS, 1921-2014

The first time I remember Peter was when he came to live with our family in Cornwall in the late fifties. We would remember, remember, the 3rd of November, having our fireworks and bonfire on Peter's birthday instead of Guy Fawkes Day. He was born on the 3rd November 1921, in Steyning, at his grandparent's house. His father was in the army, so he was sent early to prep school, and later educated at Beaumont, the Jesuit school near Windsor, now closed. There, he was a keen sportsman, but also developed a great interest in history, music, art and literature which led to his enjoyment of a great variety of all these throughout his life.

He also had much enjoyment in cooking, and I remember him spending all day in the kitchen preparing exotic fish dishes for our parents in Cornwall (though rather less exotic ones for us children). He also appreciated fine wines, and it is possible that his interest in wines started his thirst for collecting. I heard that his visits to people in the UK were often preceded by a delivery of a case from his wine collection at Averies.

Peter studied economics at Sydney Sussex College in Cambridge, and was a member of the Oxford and Cambridge Club in London for 63 years, one of the most long standing. The war interrupted his studies, but he was sent to Africa as an administrator, instead of the forces. After the war he stayed in Africa, working for about fifteen years in Nigeria, until he returned to the UK to buy a farm on the Isle of Wight with his brother, Rex, my father.



Peter Allpress

After about a year of trying farming, he decided it was not really what he wanted to do, and he would prefer to go back to Africa. He spent a year in Paris studying French, lodging with a French widow and her two daughters. Yet he still remained a bachelor at the age of forty. He then went to work for the Overseas Development Agency in the Camerouns, as Technical adviser and Administrator to the Minister of Transport and Aviation. There he was smitten with the beautiful Lucille, the French Canadian working for the United Nations. He proposed to her in Fernando Po, which always sounded so romantic, and they married in Yaoundé almost fifty years ago.

Peter's mother was on one of the last ships out of Singapore when it fell to the Japanese, who took Peter's father as a prisoner of war. The ship dropped his mother off in South Africa, where she waited for four years until she found her husband was still alive, and he was able to join her there. After the war, food was plentiful in South Africa, so his parents decided to make their lives there. When his father died in 1967, Peter and Lucille took the fifth commandment to honour their mother and father seriously, and moved to Pietermaritzburg in South Africa to be near his mother. Peter there worked in the city's Engineers Office until his mother died in 1977. Then they were free to move to Europe, where they could pursue their cultural interests, and Lucille could practice her Spanish and speak French again. As Andorra was between France and Spain, they decided to settle here, in a flat in Anyos, where Peter first started to collect book plates.

Peter and Lucille travelled throughout Europe, attending conferences of the English Book Plate Society, the French Ex-Libris Society, the Map Collectors Society and the Heraldry Society.

Each year they spent several weeks during the winter in the south of Spain and about two weeks in the summer with us in our house near Bergerac in France. In 1988, they decided to move to Montreal to be nearer Lucille's family, but after three years they missed Europe too much, so returned to Andorra in 1991 and have lived in their flat here in Ordino ever since.

A true academic, Peter made serious studies and wrote many articles for the societies. His first collection of maps started many years ago, but when he went to the Camerouns he left much of this in a warehouse on the Isle of Wight which had a fire. This loss upset him greatly, but he did continue to collect more maps. He then developed an even greater passion for Book-plates, amassing a very large and varied collection. Through these, he became curious about many other subjects. He was a member of the Nelson Society and studied military history. He read a lot about French canals, and subscribed to the Railway Antiques Gazette. He was very interested in heraldry, knighthoods, decorations and medals, and also in the engravers and other book-plate artists.

Peter not only studied a great variety of subjects, he also enjoyed a great variety of entertainments. He and Lucille spent many

hours watching tennis on television and the New Year's concert from Vienna was a highlight of the Christmas season. He took us to see Flamenco dancing, where we found watching Peter's enthralment of it as fascinating as the dancing. He was a big fan of the Marx Brothers. Peter would also amuse us greatly by quoting rhymes or verses he had picked up over the years, such as our favourite:

This is the story of Archibald Grey
Who died protesting his right of way.
He was right, just right, as he sped along,
But just as dead as if he'd been wrong.

Peter was a devout Catholic, reading daily the lives of saints. He also read the Saturday Financial Times and Investment Magazines, and tuned into the BBC World Service to keep abreast of world news.
With all these activities and interests, Peter also made time for many people. He endeared himself to many of our friends he met with us, all of you here, and very many who are not here. We thank you, Peter, for all the kindness you have shown to our family, especially for giving us the privilege of knowing Lucille. Together with the interesting and lively conversations, often including culinary delights, time spent with Peter was always such great fun.

Felicity Guille

Peter was one of our earliest members. He offered to deliver a talk on Edward Heron-Allen's bookplates at our third symposium at the Allen Rooms in London in July 2003. Sadly ill-health prevented Peter from travelling and his slide talk was delivered by Ivor Jones. Peter's talk – 'Notes on some Bookplates of Edward Heron-Allen - was published in our Opusculum, no. VI in 2004. Peter continued to support the Society and was corresponding with us as late as last year.

PROFESSOR BRIAN HARVEY, 1936-2014

Members will be sorry to hear of the death in May of one of our founder members, Professor Brian Harvey Educated at St. Michael's College, Tenbury, Clifton and St. John's College , Cambridge, where he was a choral scholar. Brian Harvey had a successful career teaching and practicing law and singing and writing about music. His academic life took him to Nigeria during the Civil War, Hong Kong, Singapore and to the north of Ireland during the troubles. He was Professor of Law at Queen's University, Belfast, and, for many years, Professor of Law at Birmingham University.. Among his publications are *The Law of Consumer Protection and Fair Trading* (2000); *Auctions. Law and Practice* (2006; *Violin Frauds* (1997); *The Violin Family and its Makers in the British Isles* (1995) and *Elgar, Vicat Cole and the Ghost of Brinkwells* (2007).

Brian first got in touch while researching his violin book, which has a great deal about Edward Heron-Allen and was present at the lunch in Chichester which resulted in the formation of the Society. He, and his wife Carol were regular attenders at our early symposia. Together they edited *Edward* Heron-*Allen's Journal of the Great War. From Sussex Shore to Flanders Fields(*2002), and they both gave talks at our second symposium, which were published as Opusculum V. Brian Harvey gave us his final talk at our symposium at the Royal College of Music in 2006, which was published in Opusculum IX. He wrote a number of articles on Heron-Allen as well as the entry in the new *Dictionary of National Biography.*

Brian was an enthusiastic supporter of the Society, a regular contributor to our deliberations, a welcome attender at our symposia, a looked-forward to visitor on his summer holidays and a friend.

TJM

Professor Brian Harvey

The Heron-Allen Society

Minutes of the Fourteenth Annual General Meeting, held at the Novium Museum, Chichester, on 28 June 2014 at 3.30pm

1. ***Apologies for Absence***

Apologies had been received from Andy Henderson, Francis Dinely, Joan Navarre, Alan and Minoo Lord, Armorel Wood, Merlin Holland, Robin Edwards, Brian Davidson, Chuck Backus, Tim and Evelyn Collins, John Lonergan, Armorel Wood, Chris and Liza Wood, Mary Roe, Jane Stanley, and Peter Wilkinson.

The meeting was attended by 16 members and 4 guests (see below).

2. ***Minutes of the Thirteenth Annual General Meeting on 29 June 2013***

The minutes were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting on a show of hands, and a copy was signed by the Chairman.

3. ***Matters arising***

None.

4. ***Election of Officers and Committee***

The Officers and Committee were re-elected en bloc, no-one opposing.

5. ***Chairman's Report***

Tim McCann delivered his report on another busy and productive year.
The committee has continued to meet regularly in London and at Ivor and Venetia Jones's home in Dorset.
Two Newsletters have been published, but unfortunately a delay in the completion of one of the papers meant that the Opusculum reporting on the last Symposium has not yet appeared. However both this and the next Opusculum should be in production soon.
The Society arranged a very successful and enjoyable weekend in East Anglia in the steps of Edward Fitzgerald and Omar Khayyam, and in September a group of members will visit Verona and Venice following EH-A's journals of his visits.
Last year's Symposium, held in the British Library thanks to the efforts of David Thompson, was very successful with a wide range of excellent papers.
To mark the 70th year of the Heron-Allen awards Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford held a one-day conference on developments in Biological and LifeSciences at which the Society was represented.
Membership has held steady, as we have welcomed new members as well as losing some long-standing friends. We do need to actively look out for new members.
Tim thanked all the committee, and especially Maira Canzonieri for her workon the website. At the West Sussex Record Office he thanked Caroline Adams and Clare Snoad for their help with the Newsletters. He also thanked today's Symposium speakers, and all the members for their support, especially those who had travelled far to attend today.

6. ***Presentation of Accounts***

Pam Thompson presented the accounts for the year to 31 May only, the June bank statement being not yet available; thanks to further substantial donations the Society's finances are in a relatively strong position. There is always room for more membership income. The accounts were accepted nem con, with a vote of thanks to her for her work as Treasurer during the year. A copy is to be found appended to these minutes.

7. ***Reports:***

A. *Website*
No developments to report.
The webmaster will report on footfall to the site for the next AGM.
The webmaster was thanked for her efficient maintenance and development of the site.

B. *2015 Symposium and AGM*
It is hoped that this can be held at the Natural History Museum in London. We will also explore the possibility of Selsey Town Hall in case the NHM does not work out.

8. ***Any other business:***
None

9. ***Date of next meeting:***
Next year's AGM will be held on 27 June 2015.

The meeting closed at 4pm.

Appendix: Attendance List
Guests
Cathy Hakes (The Novium), Caroline Adams, Charlie Roe, John Graves.
Members
Anne and David Bone, John and Ruth Mariner, Sue Bullivant, Juliet Field, Garry Garrard, Peter Horton, Timothy McCann, Barbara and John Mahoney, David and Pam Thompson, John Whittaker, Graham Soffe, Roger Cline.

Changes to the Consitution approved at the meeting; changes in bold italic

Officers
The Officers of the Society consist of a Chairman, a Secretary and a Treasurer. Edward Heron-Allen is the permanent President of the Society. Hon. Vice-President(s) may also be appointed at the discretion of the committee, and their name(s) reported to the ***Annual Symposium.***

Committee
The Committee of the Society consists of the officers together with not more than ***four*** ordinary members, ***all to be*** elected at the Annual Symposium.
The committee may co-opt up to two non-voting members having a special expertise (e.g. website design and management, copy editing, typesetting and design).
The Committee shall meet at least once a year in addition to the Annual Symposium, the timing of such meeting or meetings to be determined by the Committee.
Committee meetings shall require at least four voting members to be present in order to be quorate; the Chairman shall have a casting vote in the event of a tied vote.

Definitions
The term 'Annual Symposium' shall be deemed to comprehend the research talk or talks, the meal or other social gathering, and the Society's Annual General Meeting, at which elections are held and annual reports presented, and at which this Constitution may be amended.