Autumn 2015

THE HERON-ALLEN SOCIETY

Newsletter no. 27

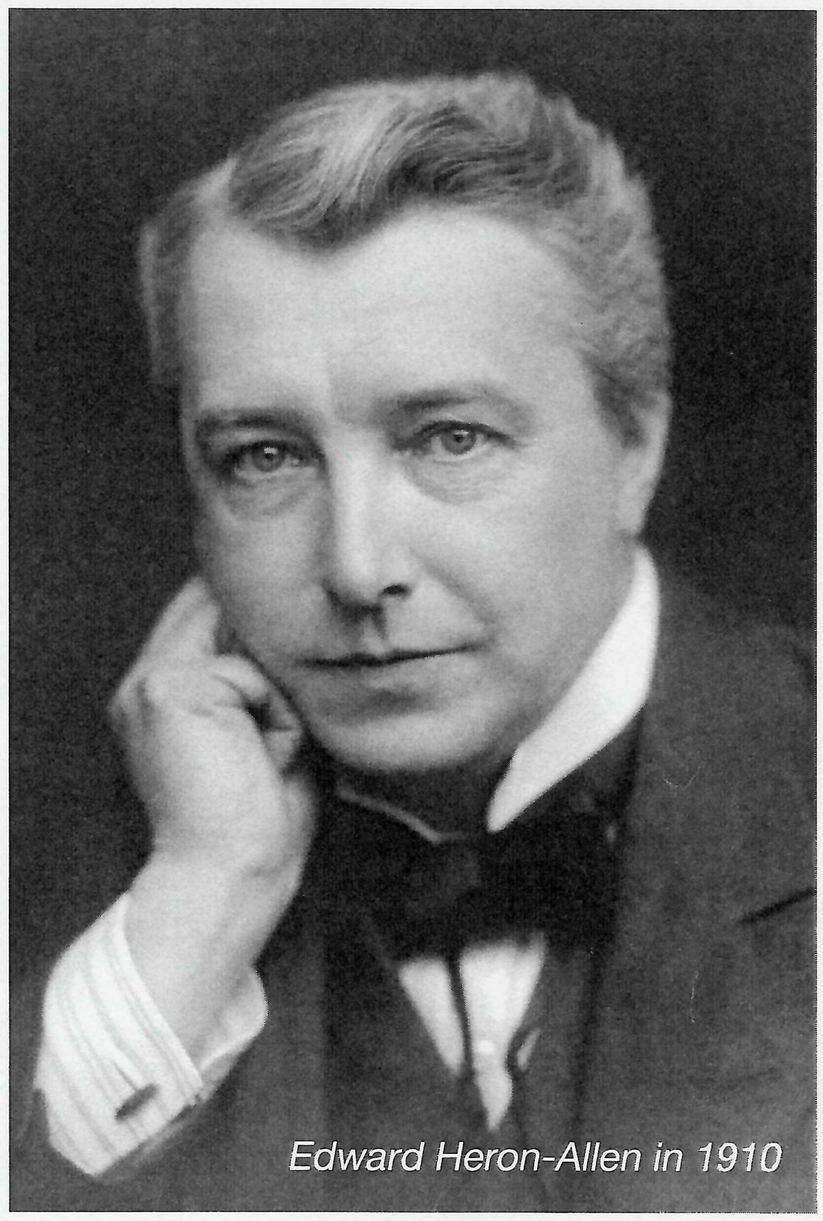
FIFTEENTH ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM

It all began with being able to find the right entrance to London's Natural History Museum. Fortunately we all managed that in pretty good time, as we then handed ourselves over to John Whittaker and Simon Parfitt to guide us up and down winding and mysterious stairways and passages known only to the staff, till we emerged into the Mineralogy Seminar Room where our meeting was scheduled. We were also lucky to have tame IT experts among our number, and all the projection kit got set up and running and ready to start without disaster. These two major hurdles safely negotiated, we tucked into coffee, tea, biscuits and buns in preparation for a rich morning of Heron Allen goodies. While we were sad that a few long-standing members couldn't join us, we were also glad to welcome some new friends.

We had decided to settle down first to our AGM, and we progressed briskly and steadily through encouraging reports from the Chairman and the Treasurer. The Chairman reported on a year of successful meetings, a most enjoyable Italian trip following EH-A's travels, and a highly satisfactory output of publications. The Treasurer reported a good bank balance in spite of some extra spending on bringing our publications list up to date; this was in part due to some generous donations. We re-elected the Committee (losing one member and gaining another), and discussed the possibilities for the next Symposium, which was subsequently agreed by the Committee via email as being scheduled for 2 July 2016 back at The Novium in Chichester.

Then we were ready for the first of the papers, presented by Grahame Saxby-Soffe, and entitled 'Roman sculpture in the Kingdom of Togidubnus: Edward Heron-Allen's Contribution'. Grahame introduced us to two Roman sculptured heads both dug up in the parish of Bosham and both associated at some stage with Heron-Allen. He discussed the discovery of these heads and their subsequent history, the buildings that have been found in the Chichester area, and the relationship between the Roman and British populations. Images on Roman coins were linked to the sculptures from these sites. He sought to identify the heads and to tease out Heron-Allen's association with them.

We stayed in Sussex for the next paper, David Bone's 'Quarrying the Mixon: Heron-Allen's mystery resolved'. Mixon stone is used as building stone only in the very local area around Chichester, and it comes only from an outcrop of rock just off the Selsey coast. EH-A had looked into the history of the quarrying of this rock and tried to find out how it was controlled and eventually stopped but had drawn a blank on resolving the question.



Edward Heron-Allen in 1910

Newsletter no. 27 Contents

Fifteenth Annual Symposium 1

The Sir Vincent Horsley and Edward Heron-Allen Discussions 3

A Centenary Contribution 7

The death of Marianna Heron-Allen 8

Lady Smith Woodward's Tablecloth 9

Patricia Mary Coleby (Jones) 10

Edward Heron-Allen... O What A Mess You Have Created! Why Or Why? You Hyphenator You 11

David has now been able to explore further, and found the evidence which had eluded EH-A. He then firmly disproved some of the recent theories published about the Mixon rock and gave examples of where the quarried rock had been used.

Then John Mahoney introduced us to his and Barbara's researches into 'The 1903 Egyptian rebirth of the Necromancer, Edward Heron-Allen'. In this paper based on astonishing archival discoveries, John gave us insights, gained from the autobiography of another passenger on the Nile trip, into EH-A's trip with his brother-in-law and fellow author Barry Pain. They took this holiday after the death of EH-A's wife Marianna to help him recover from his subsequent depressive illness. John pointed out that all EH-A's diaries and journals give much information about what he did and saw and thought, but little about his interactions with others, so these observations of him show us a side of EH-A that his writings do not reveal. The passenger was an American young lady and her account of her own Egyptian holiday enables us to follow Heron-Allen's programme to witness Heron-Allen's growing relationship with his future second wife, and describes his courtship of the young American.

Making use of the archives of the Natural History Museum and the Heron-Allen collection in the West Sussex Record Office at Chichester, Tim McCann then chronicled the friendship of Heron-Allen and Arthur Smith Woodward, the Keeper of Geology at the Museum. It was Smith Woodward who first invited Heron-Allen to work on the Museum's collections and the two men worked closely on the discovery of the Selsey Mammoth in 1909. They continued to correspond for the rest of their lives and although never close friends their relationship tells us much about the archaeology and natural history of the area.

Finally John Whittaker led us through EH-A's trip to France in his paper 'In the footsteps of Alcide d'Orbigny: Heron-Allen's visit to Paris and La Rochelle, from his Holiday Journal of 1914'. This revealed it to be a fascinating mix of further research on the foraminifera and his enjoyment of the culinary and other delights of Paris and the Atlantic coast. He met with several eminent scientists in the pursuit of information about d'Orbigny and his ground-breaking research on these tiny creatures, studied d'Orbigny's unpublished plates of drawings of them in Paris, visited d'Orbigny's home near La Rochelle and spoke to some of his descendants, also collecting some foraminifera there on his own account. This visit ultimately resulted in his excellent biography of d'Orbigny.

After this we were led on another tour of the museum's warren of passages to the exhibition of some of d'Orbigny's papers and books that Heron-Allen had collected and John Whittaker had put together in the Heron Allen Library, while in a nearby room Simon Parfitt had collected together a number of the surviving bones of the Selsey Mammoth that Heron-Allen had rescued and sent up to Arthur Smith Woodward in champagne boxes. He introduced us to the bones and was happy to answer any questions we had about them.

We then left the Museum and walked together to Pierino's in Thurloe Place, where the committee hold their meetings. We enjoyed a splendid meal together and the last of us rose from the luncheon table shortly after 7pm. In all a splendid day with excellent papers, good food and wine and the very best company.

Juliet Field

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The Heron-Allen Newsletter was edited by Timothy J. McCann and designed by Gregory Whittaker.

THE SIR VINCENT HORSLEY AND EDWARD HERON-ALLEN DISCUSSIONS. SOMETHING IS ROTTEN IN THE STATE OF PALMISTRY

In Christopher Blayre's *Notes upon the Literary, Scientific, and Artistic Activities of Edward Heron-Allen, F.R.S.* dated January 1936, he implied that a major force in Heron-Allen's interest and development of theories of palmistry emanated from his association with Sir Victor Horsley in 1883 (1, 2). The authors have a long interest in understanding what factors motivated a man of Science to have started his life's journey in the field of Palmistry. We found it particularly fascinating that Heron-Allen would reference Victor Horsley, M.D., a world-renown basic scientist, neurologist, neuropathologist and neurosurgeon as a source of his inspiration in defining the scientific basis for Palmistry, and that Horsley was an active collaborator in Heron-Allen's 1886 book, *The Science of the Hand*. This claim was publicized 20 years after Horsley's death. Heron-Allen's published articles and books are devoid not only of a preface explaining how he became interested in palmistry, but also there is a glaring absence of any reference to Dr Horsley (3). In Dr Horsley's impressive and extensive medical publications, there is not a single reference to any of the various facets of Palmistry or collaboration with Edward Heron-Allen (4). This article explores Heron-Allen's claim that the late Dr Horsley influenced the development of his tenets of Palmistry and collaborated with Palmistry publications. Our article begins with the public record, in Heron-Allen's own words, on his arrival in America under the auspices of the English entrepreneur and manager, Major James B. Pond.

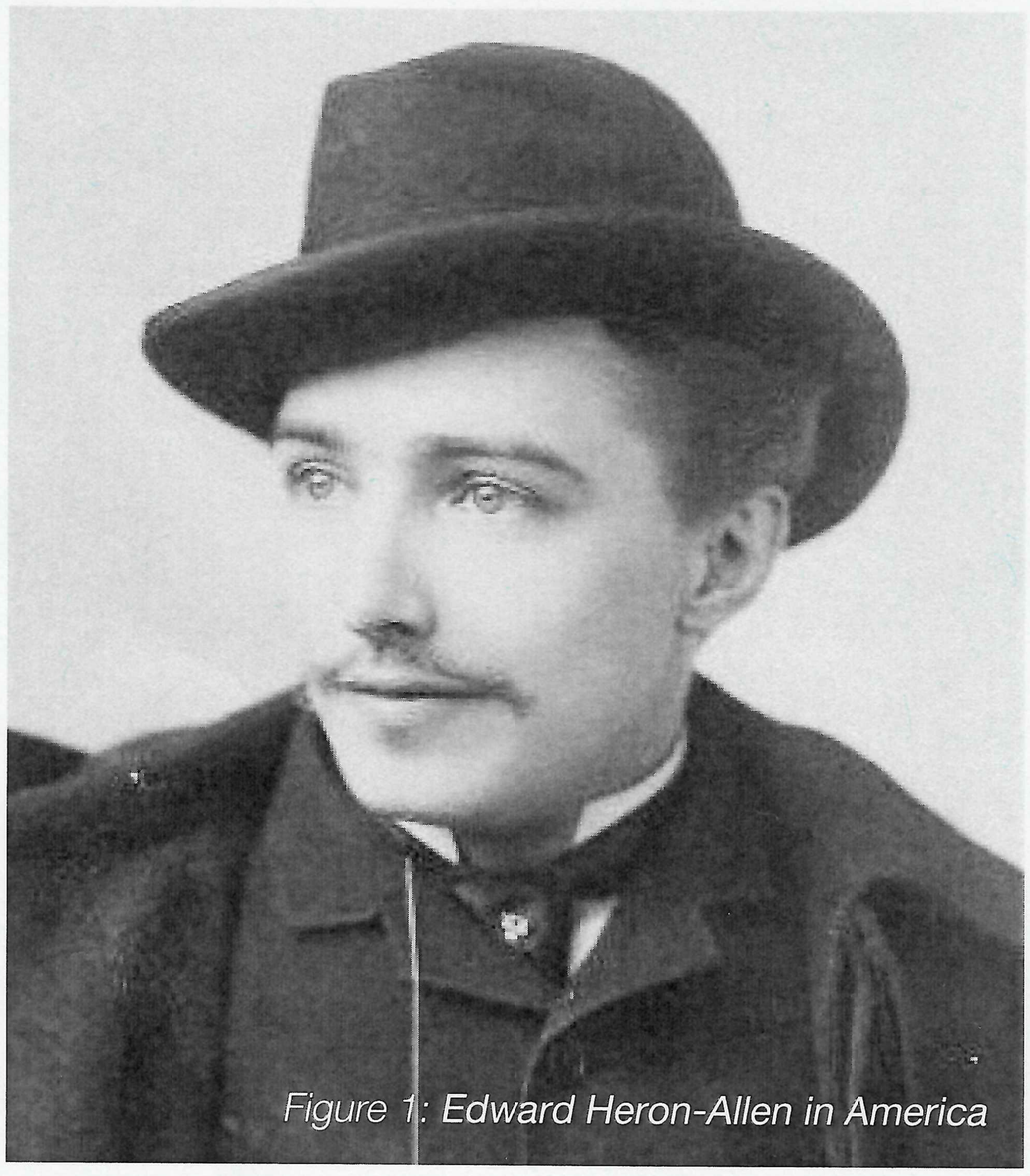

Figure 1: Edward Heron-Allen in America

On November 13th, 1886, just thirteen days after arriving in New York for the opening of his American tour on palmistry, Heron-Allen gave interviews to New-York newspaper reporters at his Everett Hall suite [Figure 1]. Heron-Allen laid out for the public how he first developed an early interest in the wonders of Palmistry (5, 6).

> "From a boy [age 9 years], I attached the greatest importance to the hands of those I met. As a physiognomist [one who practices the art of judging character from facial characteristics], I was and still am a failure, the face to me affording no sort of idea to the man beneath. But always, in greater or less degree, I could tell a man's character by his hands. My father was a lawyer, and in his office, studying law, I remained several years. As a future lawyer he pronounced me useless, but was always glad for me to interview new clients or people who called on business, for I seldom made a mistake as to their character when once I had caught a glance of their hands. Naturally enough, I obtained all the literature on the subject of Cheiromancy and greedily devoured it, only to find it a mass of foolish contradictions and astrological humbug. Eventually I determined to study the subject myself. I visited Paris and became acquainted with the famous [Adrien Adolphe] Desbarolles. From him I learned much, and he it was who advised me to give my life up to the study of the subject which had so fascinated me. I quarrelled with Desbarolles, however, because I insisted on eliminating from the system all the astrological nonsense in which he believes. I surprised him by speaking disrespectfully of the 'Kabala,' [Kabbalah is known as Jewish mysticism] and have since pursued my own course."

Heron-Allen went on to claim that basic physiology of the hand shows that it is more intimately connected with the brain than any other member of the body, with a fuller venous system and nerve centers closer to the skin than elsewhere. His thesis claims it is only reasonable to suppose that the workings of the brain and nerves will affect to a noticeable degree the hand.

> "The use of a member of the body is indicated by its aspects. By looking at a member with a sophisticated eye, you can get at the uses to which it has been put, and when you get at them, you can tell the mental characteristics, the habits and intellectual faculties which have prompted and directed those uses. Therefore by looking at the hand, you have a complete analysis of the character. The hand is more intimately connected with the brain than any other member of the human body. Its nerves are more perfect and more highly developed than in any other member. The hand is really the medium of all action in the human race: it is employed in the

performance of all its rites and ceremonies. There is a very intimate connection between the brain and the hand. The brain relies upon the hands for the expression of its conceptions. The lines on a man's hand are as fully developed in infancy as in manhood or womanhood – in fact they are formed before birth. I find that the lines of the hand are formed by rows of touch corpuscles – the sensitive heads or ends of the nerves. Any great affection of the nerves – any great pain which acts upon them – will mark itself at the points where the nerves are most highly developed which are in the hand."

Thus began his grand leap of faith and alleged scientific logic:

> "Events [after birth] undoubtedly leave their impressions on this delicate member [the hand] and from these delicate traces of past events we can by analogy conjecture roughly the happenings of the future. The science is deductive, but so exactly deductible has it become to be that the most startling results are now to be gained."

Victor Horsley was born in 1857 in London (7, 8) [Figure 2]. His father, John Callcott Horsley, was a well-known English academic painter of landscape and historical scenes and an illustrator. Following the death of John C. Horsley's first family, he remarried Rosamund Haden who came from a distinguished family of surgeons. The author of Victor Horsley's 1919 biography was trying to decide which of Victor's inherited traits came from which of his parent's families. The author chose to describe his hands!

> "The Horsleys were proud of their hands, the long slender fingers and well-shaped nails: the Hadens had square hands with square nails. Victor's hand was a blend of the two [families]: it was rather square, but with well-shaped fingers and nails. His mother had a thoroughly Haden hand" (9).

When Victor was in grammar school at Cranbrook, he and his father decided that he would train to be a Surgeon since his father could not afford the expense of becoming an artillery officer. Through 1873, Horsley was proficient in laboratory microscopy, the classics, Greek and Latin languages. He had a love of sports, but was not skilled at any of them. In 1874, he entered the University of London Medical School and spent the next four years studying anatomy and physiology. He was scholastically in the top of his class and passed his qualifying examinations in 1880 for the Royal College of Surgeons.

Rosamund Brunel Horsley, Victor's younger sister married his medical school classmate, Dr Francis Gotch. Rosamund would become the primary illustrator for Heron-Allen's major books on Palmistry [Figure 3]. Victor was quite close to his sister and her husband. Victor Horsley and Francis Gotch co-authored ground breaking basic science studies in Neurology. Despite this working relationship between Rosamund and Heron-Allen, there is no known scientific correspondence between Victor Horsley and Heron-Allen. There is a short personal letter from Horsley to Heron-Allen accepting an invitation to the Sette of Odd Volumes (10). There is a recorded note of Dr Victor Horsley attending the November 6th, 1885 meeting as a guest of Edward Heron-Allen at the Sette of

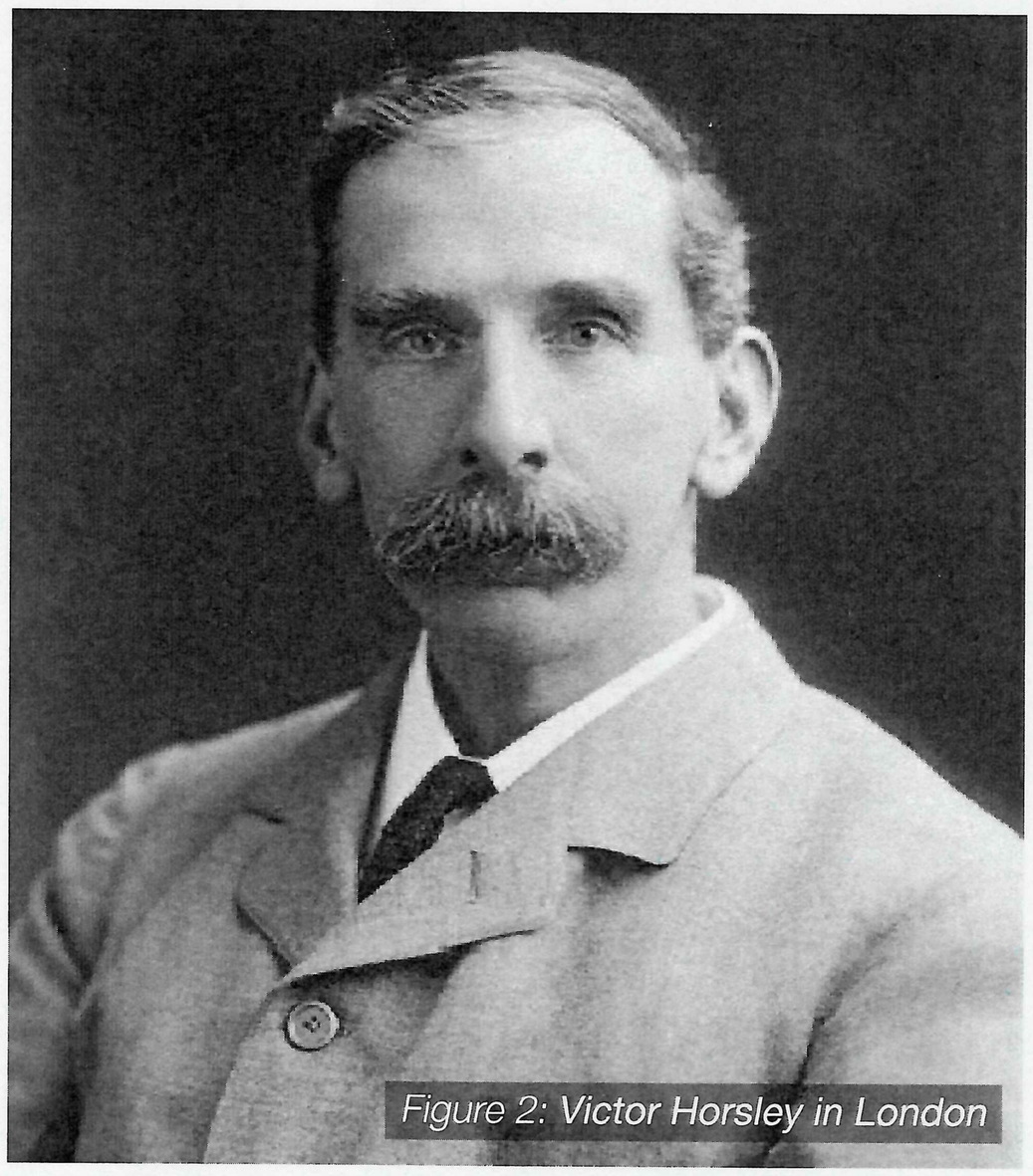

Figure 2: Victor Horsley in London

Figure 3: The illustrator Rosamund Horsley

Odd Volumes (11). The lecture at the Sette that night was not on Palmistry. Yet, one month later, Heron-Allen did not invite Horsley to his December 4th, 1885 lecture at the Sette on "Hand Superstitions and Customs." Rosamund B. Gotch (neé Horsley) was never recorded as a guest attendee at a meeting of the Sette. Rosamund and Heron-Allen were not merely business acquaintances as evidenced by a Presentation copy of his deluxe limited edition of his De Fidiculis Bibliographia to her, a work in which Rosamund did not contribute any illustrations: (11) [Figure 4]

> "Rosamund Brunel Gotch. From her faithful friend & servant. The Author. St. Valentine's Day, 1894."

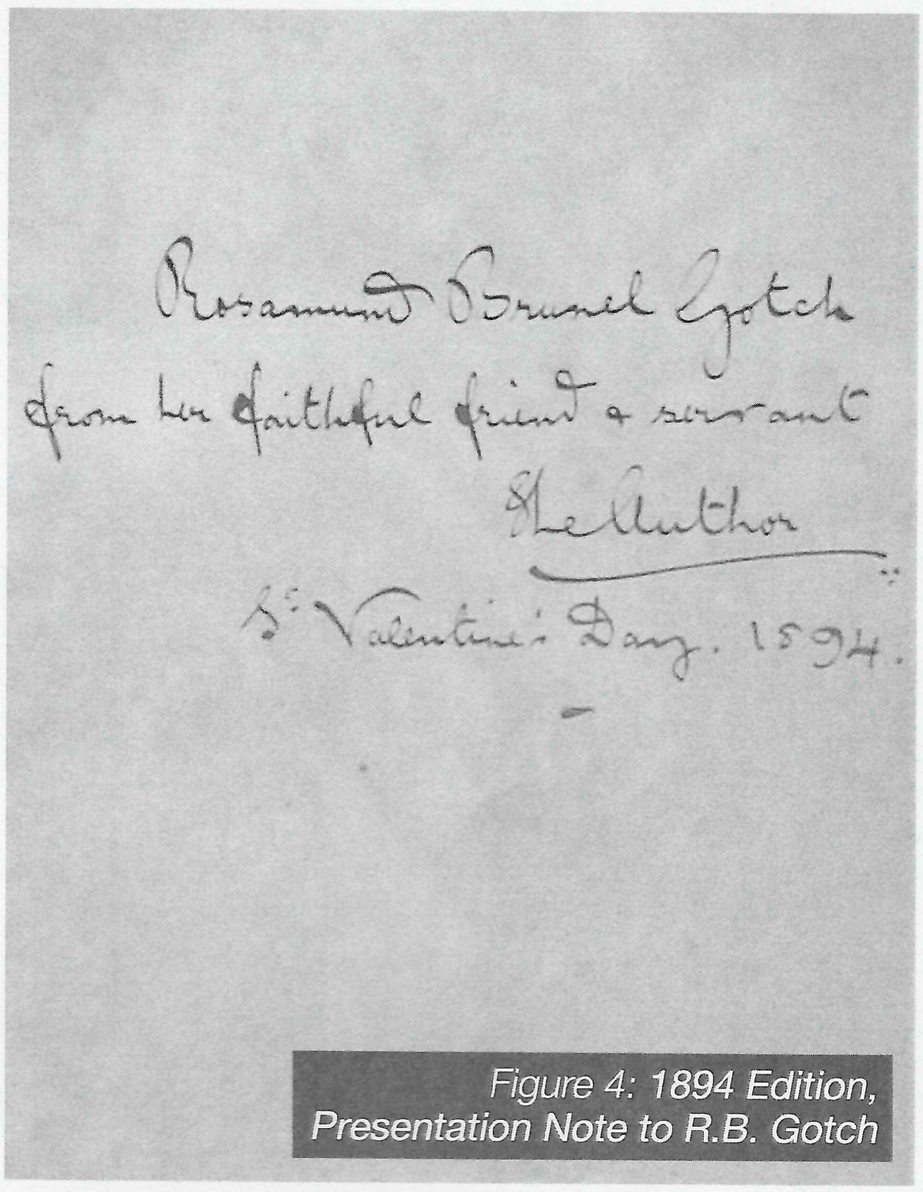

Figure 4: 1894 Edition, Presentation Note to R.B. Gotch

Rosamund also wrote Heron-Allen a letter in 1885 addressing both personal and business matters (12). There is very limited comment in Horsley's 1919 biography about his scientific and research areas that involved the brain and its effect on the hand:

- In 1879, he described the connection between brain dysfunction (localized atrophy) and the absence of the development of the hand.

- In 1887, he described the movements of the upper limb and hand and its superiority over the lower extremity as evidenced by the amount of brain tissue that is needed to implement movements of the hand.

But these limited anatomic studies that extended to the hands were a very small part of the extensive works that he was involved in prior to his death: basic neurologic animal research, human neurology, neuroanatomy, neuropathology, neurosurgery, thyroid diseases, rabies, infectious diseases, nicotine and alcohol medical disorders and avid public health campaigns to fight smoking and drinking.

Horsley did have some personal traits that are pertinent to evaluating Heron-Allen's insinuations of a mutual scientific relationship. Rosamund reported that as early as 1878, Horsley would have tremendous verbal battles with his friends at his home on topics of metaphysical and religious subjects (14). He was known to employ an attitude of withering scorn, using blasphemous language in his arguments. He could be pugnacious and impatient with other people's opinions. A fellow medical student reported Horsley had "a strong hatred of humbug of all kinds. He enjoyed having his knife into anybody – not surgically speaking, but metaphorically: anything that seemed to him an abuse, real or imaginary, he loved to attack" (15). In 1878, a life-long and close friend stated that to Horsley, "now and always, everything was a matter of principle. He did not stop at renouncing theatres and wine and tobacco. He hated loose talk, and would not let it pass; and he obeyed all his life the rule of absolute chastity" (16). At the end of his life, his biographer stated, "We wanted him to be like the rest of us, and that just what he was not. We could be content with compromises and measures of expediency: he could not, all or nothing. He despised expediency, he believed in principles" (17). If he disliked a person's actions or beliefs, he disliked the person and would try to defeat him with ex cathedra statements and heavy sarcasm regardless of one's stature in English society or medicine.

Which brings us to a close in evaluating the credibility of Heron-Allen's claim that he was "deeply interested WITH [my emphasis added] Sir Vincent Hoarsley *(sic)* in the scientific basis of Cheirosophy (Chiromancy, or Palmistry)" and that Horsley was an active collaborator in his Palmistry book (18). Timothy McCann, President of the Heron-Allen Society, has recently identified the only known written description of an informal meeting between Heron-Allen and Victor Horsley from Heron-Allen's personal diary dated December 2, 1885, one month after their meeting at the Sette of Odd volumes. The Palmist records his impressions: (19)

> "During the day, I received the annexed delightful pen & ink drawing from Rosamund Horsley [There is a delightful pen and ink drawing of a sad and forlorn young girl standing in the snow with a sigh behind her B.M. & Bedlam, 'I ain't got no work to do - Boo hoo !!!]. She has been very useful to me looking out notes & in the British Museum & this is a delightful way in which she indicates that she is ready for more. I am very fond of her & of her brothers Gerald & Victor. Her Father (J.C. Horsley, R.A., Treasurer and Trustee of the Royal Academy) I do not know much about, but her brother Gerald, the architect is one of the most high-minded & pure

gentlemen I ever knew, notwithstanding the fact that he is at heart a complete socialist. Her brother Professor Victor Horsley is one of the cleverest young men I ever knew. He was the discoverer & mapper out of the trunk nerves. He is the holder of the 'Brown' post & is immensely looked up to by the medical profession as one of the most rising surgeons of the time. I have known him for some time, but never I think really appreciated him till I stayed with him at Sir Fredk Bramwell's in August, where in the middle of a heated discussion upon my then unpublished 'Manual of Cheirosophy', I exclaimed, 'But my dear fellow, you seem to ignore the discoveries of your namesake Horsley & Schafer, which prove my contention.' To which he replied with calm superiority born of his sense of power, 'I am Horsley' & I curled up accordingly."

It always seemed within the realm of reasonableness that these two would have met and discussed the ancient and historical aspects of Palmistry. The authors also had little doubt that Heron-Allen selected and utilized basic neuroanatomy research from those times to lay down his "scientific" foundation for Palmistry so that he could "reasonably deduce" his own scientific tenets for performing such acts. With the known complexity of Horsley beliefs, life style choices and strict reliance on evidence-based basic science, it is incomprehensible that these two individuals could have mutually agreed upon the science of Palmistry or collaborated in writing his Palmistry book.

How would Horsley have responded to Heron-Allen claims of the scientific truths of his tenets of Palmistry thanks to Horsley's assistance? Rosamund Gotch claimed that one of Horsley's favorite retorts to a humbug fact was, "What rot!" The "Pet of Putney" was lucky that Horsley was twenty years in his grave when he penned that claim.

In Amara, Sir Victor Horsley while assisting the war effort as a colonel and Director of Surgery of the British Medical Services unit in Mesopotamia, died of heat stroke complications on July 16, 1916. Rosamund Brunel Gotch's husband, Francis died in 1913. Rosamund died in England, age 85, in 1949, six years after her favorite ex-Palmist, Edward Heron-Allen.

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John P. Mahoney and Barbara P. Mahoney

REQUEST FOR HELP

A colleague has recently bought a letter to Heron-Allen from Gilbert James, the well-known book illustrator. In it, James offers to sell the originals of his pictures for the 1907 Foulis edition of the Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam. Does anyone recall hearing anything about those pictures or, better still, remember seeing them at *Large Acres*, or anywhere else?

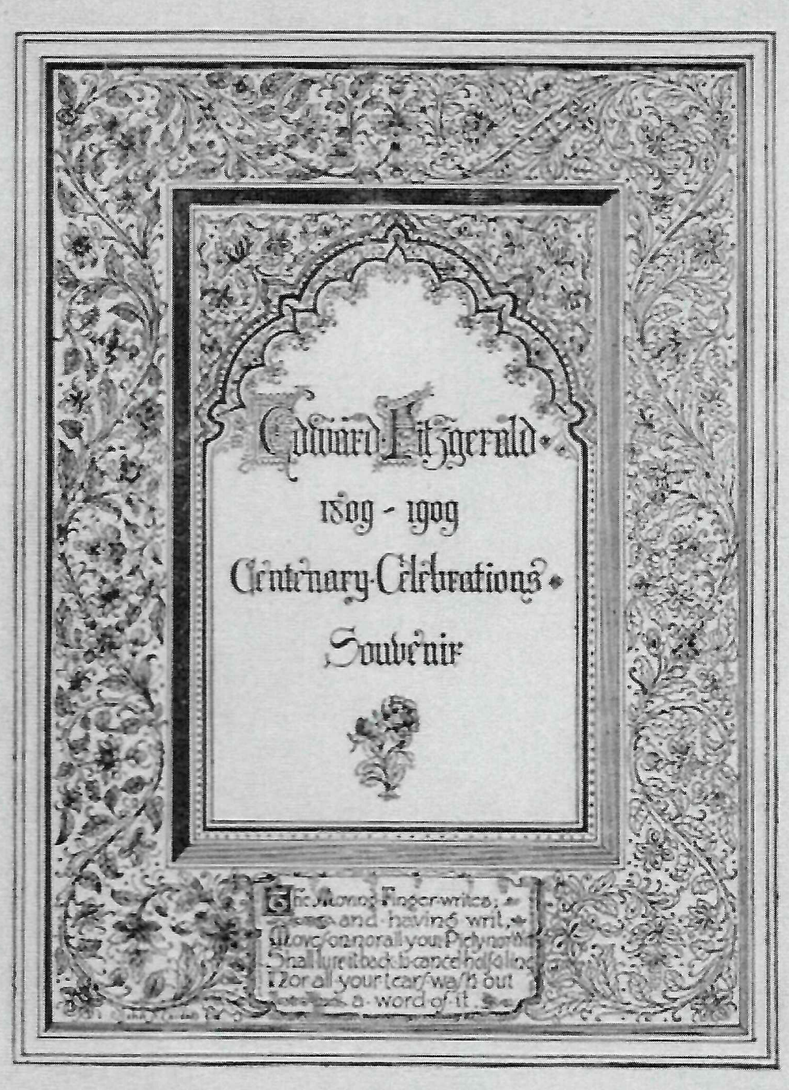
Any assistance would be welcome.

Garry Garrard

A CENTENARY CONTRIBUTION

Back in 1909, centenaries were rarely celebrated as enthusiastically as they often are nowadays. That year saw the centenary of the birth of Edward FitzGerald, as well as the 50th anniversary of the first publication of the first edition of his superb translation of the *Rubáiyát* of *Omar Khayyám*, but there were few events to mark the occasion. Publishers at least must have recognised the opportunity, because a couple of new illustrated editions of FitzGerald's work were issued (illustrated by Willy Pogany and Edmund Dulac, both of these editions are now eagerly sought by collectors), as well as another version by Gilbert James but there were few other tangible or intangible mementoes.

There was one other notable, not to say unusual, publication: *Edward FitzGerald, 1809-1909, Centenary Celebrations Souvenir*. Nowadays even by the standards of *The Rubáiyát*, it is quite rare; apart from my own copy and those in the British Library and Cambridge University Library I haven't come across any others. Published by the *East Anglian Daily Times* of Ipswich, this book is notable for several reasons, not least of which is the quality of the ten photographic illustrations. I have seen many of the pictures included reproduced in other books but never with the clarity displayed here; they are crisper and sharper than any photograph in a modern newspaper. This slim book is, above all, a Suffolk celebration of one of its own most celebrated and well-remembered citizens, and much of the content is by local dignitaries, many of whom are in the literary field even if they are minor players. Some contributors are fortunate enough to be able to write from their own memories of FitzGerald; perhaps they knew him well or maybe just saw him in the town.



The attractive cover for the Centenary Edition published by the East Anglian Daily Times, also used as the title page. The design is by Mr John S. Corder, a distinguished Ipswich architect.

This notable volume needed some gravitas if it was to be taken seriously, so the editors also approached recognised luminaries in the field of Edward FitzGerald and his *Rubaiyat* – which is where Edward Heron-Allen comes into the picture. His two highly successful books analysing FitzGerald's *Rubáiyát* of *Omar Khayyám* had been published more than ten years previously, but his name and reputation in this field lived on, and the editors must have been very pleased when he agreed to contribute an article. Not only that, he consented to being one of the 80 or so named patrons of the slim book; he was in good company, other literary patrons included Thomas Hardy, Anthony Hope and H.G. Wells.

Edward Heron-Allen was alone among the Rubaiyat and FitzGerald "experts" in contributing a new piece of prose, albeit quite a short one. The contribution by A.C. Benson had been published before, in *The Bookman*, and was reproduced courtesy of the Editor of that journal. Lord Tennyson (not Alfred the poet, who had died by this time, but his son Hallam who had inherited the title) gave permission for an extract from his Memoir of his father to be used, as well as his father's well-known and moving prologue to *Tiresius* entitled *To E. FitzGerald.* Publisher Macmillan too was generous in giving permission for reproduction of the latter work. There was one other contribution that seems to be original, or at least I don't remember seeing it anywhere else. It is a set of whimsical verses by Justin Huntly McCarthy that seems perhaps more suited to one of Andrew Lang's Fairy books.

The most charming element of the book comes, however, not from the literary notables already mentioned, but from the genuine heartfelt tributes by local people to one of their own. One at least, James Rhoades, was a well-known poet and mystic, but there were contributions from purely local dignitaries including Rowley Elliston, the Mayor of Ipswich, and Frank Woolnough, the curator of Ipswich Museum. Perhaps the most moving tribute to FitzGerald comes in an article titled *Personal Impressions of Edward FitzGerald: by one who knew him 50 years ago*. The author was Herman Biddell, known nationally as a breeder and expert on heavy horses (he had written three volumes on the Suffolk Punch horse alone). He had been a good friend to FitzGerald and a frequent visitor to *Little Grange*. Terhune's famous four-volume edition of *The Letters of Edward FitzGerald* itemises no fewer than 25 letters from FitzGerald to his friend. It was Biddell's sister, Anna, who came up with the name *Little Grange* for FitzGerald's final

home, a name he was delighted to adopt.

Edward Heron-Allen's article is titled *The Philosophy of 'Umar Khayyám*. The editor's preface makes it clear that, where necessary, spelling and accents of the content of the articles have been corrected "except in the contribution by Mr Heron-Allen…in the case of that article it was deemed advisable to accept the author's preference"; hence Umar rather than the more familiar Omar (EH-A had a few somewhat unorthodox views on Persian pronunciation and transposition). It has to be said that this article is not one of EH-A's most lucid pieces although its basic messages are simple enough – a repetition of Epicurean philosophy usually summed up as *Carpe Diem* (live for the day) – and an observation that the philosophies of Khayyám and FitzGerald coincided. These messages are, however buried in somewhat convoluted language. What is important, however, is that EH-A willingly made a contribution for which he received no direct return, it was an act of charity in memory of a cause which he had already served well (and which, you could say, had served him well in return!).

It is unusual for EH-A to be a minor player in anything and in this particular publication, although his contribution may be limited, we should not underestimate its importance. If nothing else, the fact that he was included at all was a fine tribute to his continuing reputation among those who still appreciated FitzGerald's Rubáiyát of Omar Khayyám.

Garry Garrard

[PS. If anyone would like a copy of the full article, I will email a facsimile. Just send your email address to gagarrard@lineone.net].

THE DEATH OF MARIANNA HERON-ALLEN

The traditional account of the death of Marianna Heron-Allen on 26 January 1902, is that she died after a long illness faithfully nursed in the closing stages by her husband Edward Heron-Allen. In his own account of his life under the pseudonym Christopher Blayre, *Notes upon the Literary and Scientific, and Artistic Activities of Edward Heron-Allen*, FRS, he wrote: '1902. In January, his wife Marianna, who had been seriously ill for some time, died' (1). The obituary of Edward Heron-Allen published in the *Times* on 30 May 1943 went further, recording that: 'In 1891 he married Marianna the daughter of the painter Rudolph Lehmann, whom, after she became a complete invalid, he nursed with devoted affection until her death' (2). These two accounts helped to give rise to the legend of Marianna's ill health and eventually to suggestions that she was a victim of consumption.

I first became suspicious of these accounts when I read Heron-Allen's holiday journal of his visit to Dieppe together with Marianna in September 1901 at the invitation of Walter Sickert. In his diary Heron-Allen records long bicycle rides through the surrounding countryside with Marianna only four months before her death, and describes her bathing in the sea most days often accompanied by her painter friend Altamura (3). These are hardly the pursuits of a woman who was a permanent invalid or who was dying of consumption. However, she seems to have been taken ill shortly after this final holiday. Heron-Allen evidently informed Sickert who wrote on 8 October 1901, 'I am very grieved that your wife is souffrante. I hope it has been only temporary as they say in America & that by now she is well again' (4). Again, no suggestion that her illness was part of a chronic condition.

In June 1902 Heron-Allen wrote to Thomas Bird Mosher, 'I had a very anxious time all last autumn with my sweet Saint, who died suddenly in January last. My life is absolutely shattered, & every week is harder to bear than its predecessors' (5). Again no suggestion of a long illness but rather a suggestion that her death was a surprise. Unfortunately there are few surviving letters from Heron-Allen in the last months of his wife's life and none that allude to her illness. However, a surprising piece of evidence has recently come to light, in the volume labelled, 'Heron-Allen and Pepler Pedigrees' in Ivor Jones's collection now in the West Sussex Record Office. Following a note of the death of Marianna, an unidentified writer has added in pencil that Marianna 'had contacted a family planning medic and his treatment enabled her to overcome blood incompatibility & carry a child.

Marianna Heron-Allen

Understand death was due to form of septicaemia' (6). Armed with this clue, I ordered a copy of Marianna's death certificate from the General Register Office. The certificate records that Marianna died on the 26 January 1902 at 3 Northwick Terrace and that the cause of death was ''Vomiting (uterine reflex) cardiac syncope'. This rather disposes of the idea that Marianna died of a chronic illness such as consumption, and suggests instead that she died of cardiovascular collapse as a result of acute complications for the treatment of infertility. Marianna Heron-Allen was aged 38 at the time of her death and it would seem that she died as a result of a final unsuccessful attempt to bear a child (7). She was buried at Brookwood Cemetery near Woking in Surrey.

NOTES

1. Christopher Blayre, *Notes upon the Literary, Scientific, and Artistic Activities of Edward Heron-Allen, FRS.* Heron-Allen Society, Opusculum I (2002), 7.
2. 'Edward Heron-Allen', in *The Times*, 30 May 1943.
3. Edward Heron-Allen, Holiday Journals, vol. VIII., Dieppe, September 1901. W(est) S(ussex) R(ecord) O(ffice), Heron-Allen Papers, 1/2/1/8.
4. Walter Sickert to Edward Heron-Allen, 8 October 1901. H.P. Getty Research, Institute, Los Angeles, USA.
5. Edward Heron-Allen to Thomas Bird Mosher, 12 June 1901. Houghton Library, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA.
6. W.S.R.O. Heron-Allen Papers, 1/8/1.
7. I am grateful to Dr. John P. Mahoney for his medical advice.

Timothy J. McCann

LADY SMITH WOODWARD'S TABLECLOTH

Arthur (later Sir Arthur) Smith Woodward, Keeper of Geology at the Natural History Museum, London, and his wife Maud were known for their hospitality towards visiting scientists at their home in Kensington and after his retirement in 1924, at Haywards Heath in Sussex. Instead of using a Visitors' Book, guests were asked to sign a linen tablecloth in pencil which Maud subsequently embroidered in coloured silks, a tradition which continued until Sir Arthur died in 1945.

During the 2015 Annual Symposium of the Heron-Allen Society this tablecloth was pointed out to our attendees, it being sited behind a large glass panel on a wall on the 4th Floor of the Earth Sciences Building (in the Natural History Museum). It contains 342 signatures of 331 individuals (some having signed twice). The background to the tablecloth and a full list of signatories will shortly be published by my colleague Dr Angela Milner, in an impressive paper containing the signatories' full names, nationality (where not British), dates of their births and deaths, and summaries of their research fields and career positions. Different specialities include geology and palaeontology (the largest number), but also all the branches of the natural sciences, as well as physicians, engineers, industrialists, lawyers, clergymen, and many private individuals; women as well as men; friends and colleagues.

Heron-Allen's had a long friendship with Smith Woodward – the latter gave him access in 1909 to the Museum's collections and offered him all subsequent facility, he sponsored Heron-Allen for several learned societies and in the same year the two of them were much involved in the excavation of the Selsey Mammoth and its subsequent transfer to the Natural History Museum (superbly written up by Simon Parfitt in Opuculum XX and by Ruth Mariner in the Heron-Allen Society's Newsletter no. 26 and in Selsey Life). Under the circumstances one would have thought that Heron-Allen would have been one of the signatories on the tablecloth. Unfortunately the answer is he is not.

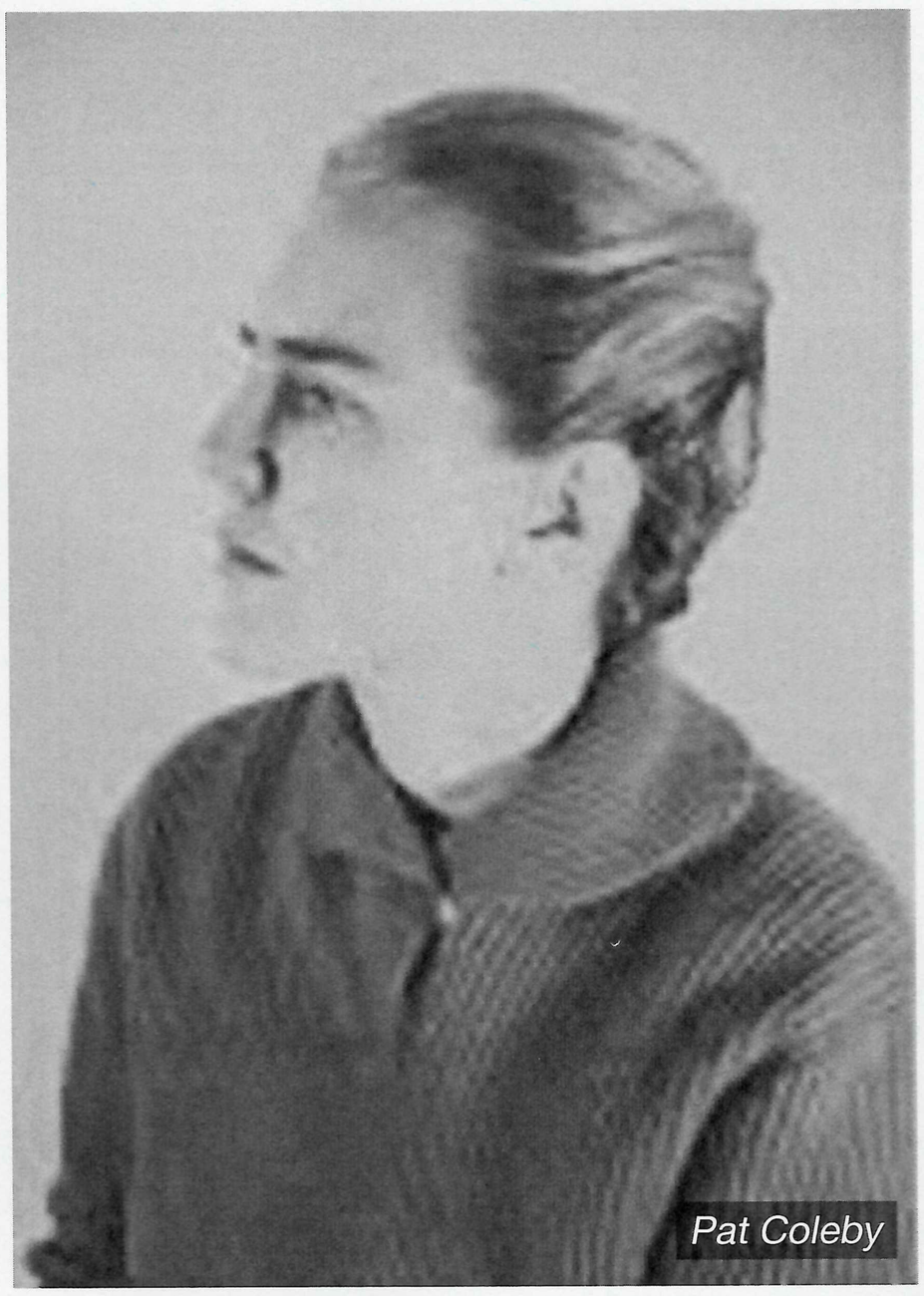
What could be the reason? Sir Richard Armen Gregory who lived in Apuldram and was one of the co-excavators of the Selsey Mammoth is there, as are two of Heron-Allen' zoological friends – Sir d'Arcy Wentworth Thompson and Sir Peter Chalmers Mitchell (the latter worked with Heron-Allen in the propaganda division of the War Office in 1918). On the other hand, Heron-Allen's "greatest scientific friend", Sir Ray Lankester, sometime Director of the Natural History Museum, is not. Can something be deduced from this – the Smith Woodwards had a wide circle of friends, scientific or otherwise, others may have been less "acceptable". Heron-Allen was a most charming and gregarious person, and after 1919 (and his FRS) a respected scientist and would have made good company at one of the Smith Woodwards' soirees, but he was somewhat controversial, both as a scientist and in his personal life. I might be reading too much into this, but for some reason or other Heron-Allen never signed Lady Smith Woodward's tablecloth and does not seem ever to have been invited. Also, most curiously, Venetia Jones tells me that the Smith Woodwards are not included in the "Large Acres" visitors book either!

John E. Whittaker

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

PATRICIA MARY COLEBY (JONES)
3rd February 1928 – 1st June 2015


Pat Coleby

Mum was the daughter of James and Itha Jones and sister of Ivor, Liza, Fenella (deceased) and Quentin. She was the Granddaughter of Edward and Nour (Edith) Heron–Allen.

Since I was quite small I recall mum talking about EH-A and her family in England. We had migrated to Australia in 1959 and it took me many years to gradually thread together mum's family, her past life she left behind in England and how we became to be living in Australia.

Mum met and married our father Peter Coleby while working as a secretary for Ryan Price at Findon. Shortly after, my oldest sister Caroline was born followed by me then my younger sister Jocelyn and once living in Australia my brother Hugh.

Life was quite tough for English migrants at that time in Australia and many did not last and returned to the homeland. However our parents were stubborn enough to put up with all the hardship and eventually make themselves a comfortable home in Australia.

Mum took an interest in goats and goat breeding very early in her life in Australia and went on to be a very successful goat breeder. Her successes were rewarded at many shows and right to the end of her life with accolades and awards in recognition of her contribution to many goat societies and organizations.

Mum's goat breeding and subsequent animal health interests led her to explore many aspects of animal husbandry and veterinary science. This became an absolute passion of hers and culminated in her writing many books on the subject covering all animals and all aspects of natural farming. Although I did not appreciate it at the time she became a very early crusader in healthy living and what is now called an alternative lifestyle.

Mum's passion for healthy living became further fuelled when my young brother was stricken with cancer at around twelve years of age and through her efforts was given a clean bill of health at around eighteen years of age with no medical aid. Mum went on to help many cancer sufferers and was quite famous although never really acknowledging it.

In her later years after the death of our father she moved several times and eventually settled in Maldon, a small historic country town in Victoria. She loved Maldon and her home with a few goats, horses and various pets.

It was here in Maldon her writing really took hold and there are many books about natural farming and animal husbandry with Pat Coleby on the spine still being sold throughout the world. Mum was pressured to become a consultant on all matters natural farming and was quite popular on the speaking circuit for some time. There are various writings about mum including a DVD produced by an organisation wishing to promote her called "A Woman of Genius" She also took a very active interest in EH-A and the society and was very proud of the association and relationship to her Grandfather.

Mum was a very fit and strong woman until not long before her passing when unfortunately Alzheimer's disease quickly took hold over her.

Mum is survived by her children, Caroline, Bill, Jocelyn and Hugh. She was the mother-in-law of Helen and was the much-loved Granny of Sean and Monique, Keegan and Nicole, Liam and Erica, Sinead, Greg, Damien, Robyn and Hilton, and Angela. She was Great Granny to Edward Coleby and Sass Coleby.

Mum is now resting in peace and I know my Great Grandfather (EH-A) is very proud of her.

Bill (Peter William Edward) Coleby

EDWARD HERON-ALLEN (ED. H. ALLEN, ED. HERON ALLEN, E.H. ALLEN, EDWARD H. ALLEN, EDWARD HERON ALLEN). O WHAT A MESS YOU HAVE CREATED! WHY OR WHY? YOU HYPHENATOR YOU

When we read Heron-Allen Society's Opusculum II by Ivor Jones, we assumed that Edward Heron-Allen's surname was created when he was christened Edward Heron Allen and then he hyphenated "at this time" his name to the present Heron-Allen [Figure 1]. We also assumed that he was born Edward Allen and he added Heron later to his surname with a hyphen. We wondered if he had a middle name at birth or like his father had no middle name.

The England & Wales, FreeBMD Birth Index, 1827-1915, documenting his birth, was registered in the January, February, March 1862 Vol. 1a book, page 520 as "Allen, Edward Heron", but an actual certificate is not available. He was born 17 December 1861. When a copy of his baptismal/christening certificate recently became available, we were surprised to find that he was baptised as "Edward Heron Allen" on 26 February 1862, recorded in *London, England, Births and Baptisms, 1813-1906,* Parish of All Saints, St John's Wood, Middlesex, Pg. 155, No. 1238 [Figure 2]. He obviously was unable to hyphenate his name at the age of two months.

The question arose when and why did he formally change his surname by hyphenating his middle and surname. Hyphenated names today are common, and yet, in many western societies, these hyphenations are considered undesirable, annoying, snobby or may demonstrate a lack of commitment to one's husband. Giving a child a hyphenated name can be confusing especially when they enter school. Some positives for keeping your name include: preserving your own identity in a marriage or staying connected to accomplishments one has achieved before marriage. In British tradition, a double surname is heritable, and may imply an upper class origin. This might suggest a woman of higher class marrying below her social status. A double surname would preserve her social class and be a gain for her spouse in a higher social status. None of these reasons for a double-barrelled surname seem to apply to Heron-Allen excepting to portray an upper class origin. We are unaware that Heron-Allen explained the reason for his surname alteration, but we have identified the proximate year of his decision.

of the day to day affairs begun by Edward Heron-Allen on the 1st December 1885."

He was actually christened Edward Heron and it must have been at this time he hyphenated his name to the present Heron-Allen. He was known at Harrow School as Allen, E.H.

Figure 1: Opusculum II: Statement by Ivor Jones

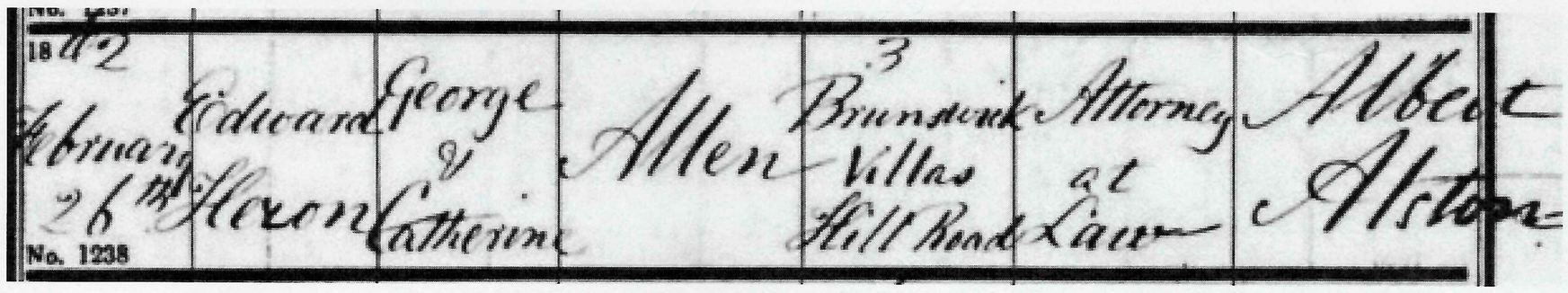


Figure 2: Baptismal Certificate of Edward Heron-Allen

Entrances, Easter—Midsummer 1878.

Allen, Edward Heron (*The Head Master's*), son of G. Allen, Esq., St. John's, Putney Hill, S.W. Left 1878[2]; Solicitor, 1884; author of two translations of the "Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam," "Love Letters of a Vagabond," etc.; F.L.S.; F.R.M.S.—*E. Heron Allen, Esq.*, 3, *Northwick Terrace, N.W.*

Figure 3: No Evidence of Hyphenated Surname

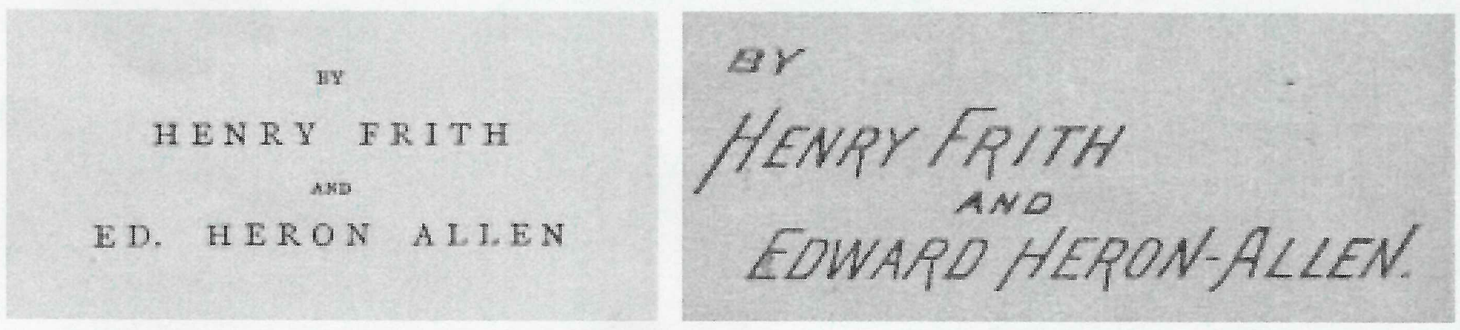
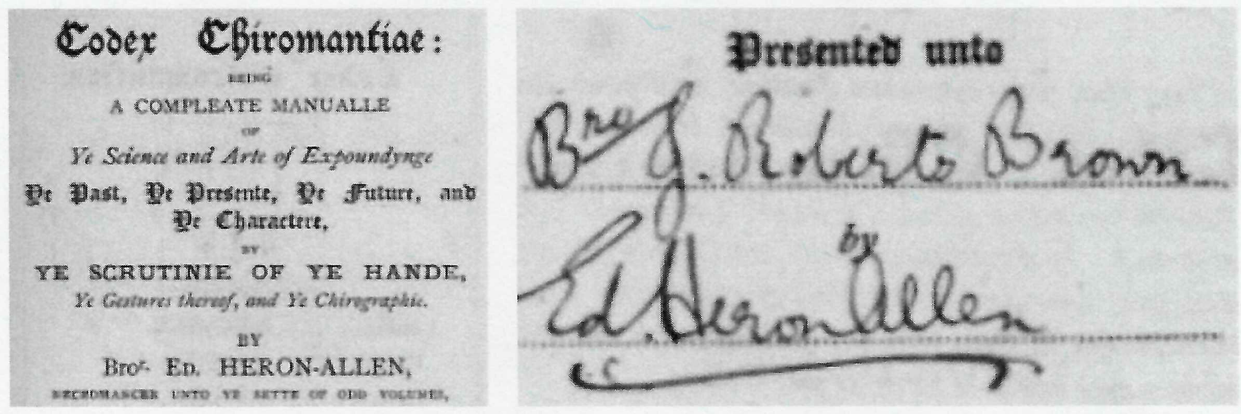


Figure 4: Hyphenation on Front Cover, but no Hyphenation on the Title Page



Codex Chiromantiae:
BEING
A COMPLEATE MANUALLE
OF
Ye Science and Arte of Expoundynge
Ye Past, Ye Presente, Ye Future, and Ye Characteire,
BY
YE SCRUTINIE OF YE HANDE,
Ye Gestures therof, and Ye Chirographie.
BY
Bro. Ed. HERON-ALLEN,
NECROMANCER UNTO YE SETTE OF ODD VOLUMES,

Presented unto
Bro J. Roberts Brown
by
Ed. Heron Allen

Figure 5: ***Hyphenation on Title Page, but no Hyphenation on the Presentation Signature***

1876-1878 Harrow School Registrar: Allen, Edward Heron, no hyphenated surname [Figure 3].

1881 Three Heron-Allen Publications in, *The Florist and Pomologist, and Suburban Gardner*: Edward H. Allen, no evidence of a hyphenated surname.

1882, May 5 Ownership Inscription in Book acquired, Famous Engel Estate Auction of 1882: Ed. Heron Allen, no evidence of a hyphenated surname.

1882, June 2 Violin Opusculum No. 1: *The Ancestry of the Violin:* Ed. Heron Allen, no evidence of a hyphenated surname.

1882 Violin Opusculum No. 2: *Hodges against Chanot Being the History of a Celebrated Violin:* Ed. Heron Allen, no evidence of a hyphenated surname.

1883 *Chiromancy or, the Science of Palmistry* [Figure 4]: Edward Heron-Allen on front cover, but Ed. Heron Allen on title Page, confusion reigns supreme.

1883 Sette of Odd Volumes, *Miscellanies #2: Codex Chiromantiae, Appendix A. Dactylomancy, Or Finger-Ring Magic, Ancient, Mediaeval And Modern:* Ed. Heron-Allen, hyphenated surname present but no hypen on Presentation Signature.

1883 Sette of Odd Volumes: *Opuscula #7: Codex Chiromantiae, Being A Compleate Manualle Of Ye Science And Arte Of Espoundage Ye Past, Ye Present ,Ye Future And Ye Character, By Ye Scrutinie Of Ye Handde, Ye Gestures Therof And Ye Chirographie:* [Figure 5] Ed. Heron-Allen, hyphenated surname present. but no hypen on Presentation Signature.

It is now quite clear that Edward Heron-Allen began hyphenating his name in 1883, the same year he joined the highly prestigious bibliophile club, The Sette of Odd Volumes, some 21 years after his baptism. But he obviously needed many more years of practice in including the hyphenation clearly in his signature. Perhaps this might be an additional negative consequence of creating a double-barrelled surname.

John P. Mahoney and Barbara P. Mahoney

THE SOCIETY'S WEBSITE

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 e-mail 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.