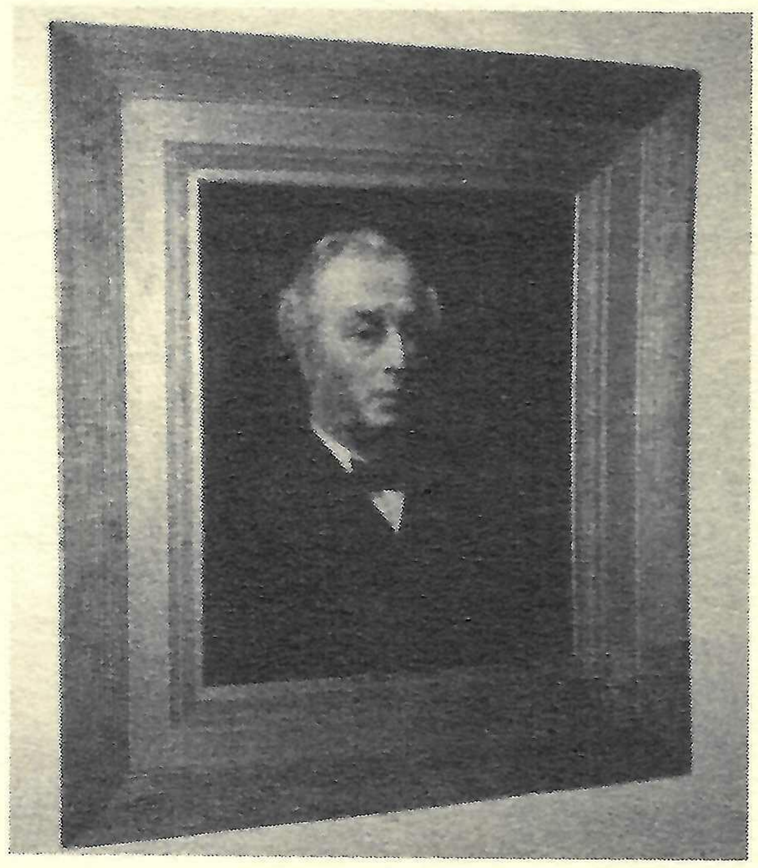
# 'PORTRAITS AND PERSIA: BOOKPLATES AND BOGNOR': PROCEEDINGS OF THE 3RD HERON-ALLEN SYMPOSIUM, 2003

Edited by

TIMOTHY J. McCANN

TALKS DELIVERED AT THE THIRD
HERON-ALLEN SYMPOSIUM, LONDON, JULY 2003
BY
BRYAN BURROUGH, CLAIRE POWELL,
PETER ALLPRESS AND TIMOTHY J. McCANN



*Opusculum VI*
Heron-Allen Society

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'Portraits and Persia: Bookplates and Bognor': Proceedings of the 3rd Heron-Allen Symposium, 2003: Talks delivered by Bryan Burrough, Claire Powell, Peter Allpress and Timothy J. McCann at the Third Heron-Allen Symposium, London, July 2003.

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39

Cover photograph
Portrait of George Allen

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# THE ALLEN FAMILY AND THE ALLEN ROOM

by BRYAN BURROUGH

When Ivor asked me to speak about the Allen family and Soho I rather imagined I should be speaking about the most illustrious of the Allens - Edward Heron-Allen - whose name is celebrated in the title of the Society meeting here today. But the more I thought about the Allens and their part in the history of this parish the more I realised that the most significant of the Allens from the Soho point of view was George Allen - Edward Heron-Allen's father. It was, of course, George Allen after whom this room was named - I'm sorry about that, but it just happens to be the case!

Another realisation is that seated in front of me are the massed ranks of the Edward Heron-Allen Society including - EHA's official biographer - and that you all know far more than I do about the Allens. I ask your kind forbearance therefore and you will understand why I concentrate especially on Soho references on the grounds that I have at least a reasonable chance of getting them right.

To go back a generation or two: Emmanuel Allen was born in the Quantock Hills in 1752 and was articled to a solicitor at Taunton. He served the last part of his articles in London. He was admitted to the Court of the Kings Bench in 1788. At that time he was living in Batemans Buildings off Soho Square. He was in practice there on his own account before moving to Frith Street for a few years and then to Carlisle Street. Allen & Sons as the practice eventually became remained in Carlisle Street until 1989 when it moved to Dean Street on amalgamation with Fraser & Company.



Emmanual Allen was elected Vestry Clerk of this parish soon after his admission to the Kings Bench in 1788. He was also Clerk to the Justices - that is the local magistrates - whose petty sessional court met here in the parish vestry.

I should explain that the Vestry in Soho was an open vestry (as opposed to a select vestry which was more restrictive). Open Vestries were open to all ratepayers who were entitled to attend most meetings and join in the voting. This included women ratepayers incidentally. This illustrious body argued interminably about almost every aspect of Soho's government - about the Watch, the school, collection of the rates, street lighting and many other kindred subjects. But they were amazingly forward looking in many respects - by the time Emmanuel became Vestry Clerk in 1788 the Parish already had a long tradition of educating girls as well as boys and of apprenticing all who wished it - girls as well as boys. So girls here did not have to go into domestic service if they did not want to. The Vestry met in a room on this site probably just about where we are sitting today. The room was situated in the Parish Watch House and Mortuary. There was another Vestry in the ground floor room of the Tower which still exists. When the Vestrymen met together after church on Sundays and sometimes on other occasions they met in the Tower. We know this because every time they had an economy drive and cut out coffee or wine at meetings the Tower room is often mentioned.

Emmanuel Allen became a solicitor for the old County of Middlesex and it is interesting to note that his twentieth century successors were Solicitors to Westminster City Council.

Emmanuel Allen's involvement in parish affairs is still reflected in the Soho of today. It was through his efforts that the Parish obtained an Act of Parliament in 1803 for rebuilding the Vestry (on the site of this house - you may have noticed the original foundation stone of the 1803

building as you came in this morning from Dean Street. It's on the left-hand side of the gate as you come in). The 1803 Act also provided for the rebuilding of the Church Tower which had become ruinous. That church tower survived the bombing of 1940 and was renovated in 1979 by the Parish with the Soho Society in honour of The Queen's Silver Jubilee. I am sure there will be time at some point today to visit the Tower.

After long service to the parish and community Emmanuel Allen died on 16 July 1829 aged 67.

In "Monumental Inscriptions at St Anne's Soho" we find the following entry: "An oblong white marble tablet at the east-end of the north gallery. In the north vault are deposited the remains of Emanuel Allen Esquire who for thirty years filled the office of Vestry Clerk of this Parish. His long and faithful service gained him the esteem of the inhabitants in general: they lamented his loss, they cherish his memory, and to record his worth have erected this monument. Died 16th July 1829."

But I'm afraid Emmanuel didn't stay in the north vault. The brick roof of the vault was crushed in the bombing and when redevelopment began in 1987 all the remains in the crypts - all 4000 of them - were moved to the City of London Cemetery. The operation was handled by the London Necropolis Company and on their daysheet for 31st December 1987 is entry no. 88 - Emmanuel Allen Aged 67. Died 16.7.1829. The remarks read "very deteriorated lead coffin."

After Emmanuel's death the business was carried on by his two sons Charles Pettit Allen and John William Allen. The latter was appointed Vestry Clerk in 1829 and continued in that position until 1856. He also was a clerk to the Justices. John William Allen gets a mention in the window over there. Of more interest to all here today is George Allen, Emmanuel's grandson who was appointed Vestry Clerk in 1857 and who was Edward Heron-Allen's



father.

George Allen played a really significant part in the life of Soho and has left a legacy still visible today. In playing that significant part he must have been a role model for his son. Much of what Edward Heron-Allen became must have reflected his life as the son of a man prominent and so highly respected in local affairs.

The opening of St Anne's Gardens as a public garden at the charge of the local authority was achieved largely through George's efforts and benefits Soho people to this day. The granite fountain he erected in memory of his son George Maule Allen who predeceased him is still there in the gardens though no longer of course delivering water to the thirsty. The inscription on the fountain reads "Erected in Memory of George Maule Allen 17 Carlisle Street, Soho Square. Born 4 October 1855 Died 29 April 1889. Aged 33 years;" If you care to you will be able to see the fountain later. George Allen was a most generous benefactor to the Parish. Taking an example at random from the parish records, in 1905 he gave £500 to secure 120 tickets for the treatment of needy parishioners at local hospitals. He was a director of the Grand Trunk Railway of Canada and visited that country in 1895.

George Allen stood down as Vestry Clerk in November 1898 after 41 years service. At the vestry meeting on 1 December 1898 Mr W J Fraser (of the practice with which Allens were eventually to amalgamate but not until 1989!) moved a resolution of thanks and acceptance. Fr Vere (who, incidentally was the Roman Catholic Priest at St Patrick's Soho Square) suggested trying to persuade George Allen to change his mind. Edward Heron-Allen said it was a question of his father's health - he felt unable to give the Vestry the attention and care needed. Mr Edward Heron-Allen was then appointed Vestry Clerk *pro tem* though the appointment was confirmed by the Vestry two weeks later.

The Annual Vestry dinner always took place at Frascati's Restaurant in Oxford Street near Tottenham Court Road. It was a large handsome establishment with a winter garden café and grill. At the Vestry's dinner there on 9 February 1899 a presentation was made to Mr George Allen. At the dinner were Mr W J Fraser, Henry Cardwell, the Hon W F Smith MP, the LCC Member, Mr Blackwell JP of Crosse & Blackwell (whose factory was in Soho Square), Fr Vere of St Patrick's and many others. The presentation concluded with gifts of an illuminated address, which we have, and a large silver candelabra which we don't have! The illuminated address is on exhibition over there. The nature of the occasion, the standing and identity of those present I think gives a very good indication of the high esteem in which George Allen was held. It wasn't just token gestures, there clearly was great affection for the man. The dinner at Frascatis concluded intriguingly with Fr Vere (the Roman Catholic) proposing "the health of the Revd Cardwell (the Anglican Rector) "a good churchman whom it has been my great happiness and pleasure to have known." And remember, this was in high Victorian England!

George's activity did not cease with retirement. In 1910 he was the moving force behind the building of St Anne's House - this building - to replace the defunct vestry building built by his grandfather in 1803. The civil responsibilities of the Vestry had passed to the City Council in 1901 at which point the Council promptly claimed possession of the building claiming the major use had been civic rather than ecclesiastical. We show a photograph of the building with Westminster City Council engraved in large lettering over the door. Lengthy negotiations took place which centred on the use of the churchyard as a public garden. There must have been a great deal of legal work involved and the sheer knowledge and competence of both George and Edward must have been a great boon to Henry Cardwell, the Rector. Eventually the City Council vacated the building with the choir boys breaking in the



same day to rip the roof tiles off thus preventing re-occupation!

The decision was taken to rebuild on the vestry site and equip the parish with modern accommodation for two curates (now the Rector's flat); this floor as a Choir Vestry and club and meeting room; a church hall on the ground floor and a club for the boys in the basement. St Anne's to this day benefits greatly from the investment made in this building. In this room by the way the gentlemen of the choir would robe; run through the music and then process into church through a door here entering the south gallery and joining the clergy at the west end. The house is one of the first buildings in London to be built of reinforced concrete.

George Allen was closely involved with the plans. He gave generously of his time and money to see this building completed. In consequence the parish named the principal first floor room, this one, the Allen Room to commemorate the long association of the Allen family with the Parish. The floor, panelling and windows were made of oak the cost being raised in many hundreds of small donations. And the windows were provided by Mr Churchwarden Curtis from his Soho glassworks, Ward & Hughes. If you look closely I think you will agree that EHA probably had a say in the design. And it was the name of the Serving Vestry Clerk on the foundation stone at the door downstairs of course - EHA himself, and not his father.

The dedication in my hand bound copy of "Men & Women of Soho" by JH Cardwell sums it all up. It reads "Dedicated to Mr George Allen of 17 Carlisle Street, whose family for four generations has served the Parish of St Anne Westminster well and faithfully in the office of vestry clerk. To his liberality the erection of the new parish hall and clergy house is largely due." And for that, we in Soho are still grateful today.

# THE EDWARD HERON-ALLEN COLLECTION OF EDITIONS OF OMAR KHAYYAM AND EDWARD FITZGERALD AT THE LONDON LIBRARY

by CLAIRE POWELL

The London Library was founded in 1841 as a subscription library to serve the needs of scholars by lending books for use at home. It was not the first subscription library but is now the largest independent lending library in the world containing over one million volumes.

Library records show that Edward Heron-Allen joined the London Library in 1922. From then onwards he donated a large selection of his own works on music, antiquities, natural history, palaeontology as well as his well-known work: "Asparagus as a hobby" written in 1934.

In 1939 in a codicil to his will Edward Heron-Allen bequeathed his "entire collection of the works of or connected with Edward FitzGerald including all translations, texts both manuscript and printed, manuscripts in all languages including my own, correspondence and all miscellanea of any and every kind connected with his works especially Omar Khayyam and Salaman and Absal to the London Library ... It is my wish that this collection shall be kept together intact in The Heron-Allen Collection of FitzGerald's works." The London Library Committee accepted the bequest and the Collection delivered to the Library in 1943. The Collection was catalogued in 1948 and is housed in a large cabinet near the Library's Reading Room.

The Collection consists of 300 books and portfolios divided into:

1. Works, letters and biographies of Edward FitzGerald



2. Various editions published in Britain and abroad of FitzGerald's five versions of the Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam including 72 versions of the 1st edition.
3. Versions of the Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam by other translators sent to Edward Heron-Allen
4. Parodies of the Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam e.g The golfer's Rubaiyat (1903) and the Rubaiyat of a Persian kitten (1905)
5. Copies of the Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam in Persian and translations into foreign languages e.g. Chinese, Gaelic, Norwegian and Turkish
6. Critical works on the Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam including works by early FitzGerald scholars as Friedrich Rosen and Arthur Christensen.
7. Edward Heron-Allen's own manuscripts and proofs of his books and translations of the Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam.
8. 3 bound volumes and 7 portfolios containing small books, correspondence, newspaper cuttings, invitations to Omar Khayyam Club dinners &c.

There is also a manuscript catalogue of the Collection with detailed descriptions of the books written by Edward Heron-Allen and a copy

Most books in the Heron-Allen Collection contain extra items bound into the volumes including letters and envelopes, newspaper cuttings, bills &c. The correspondence are mainly replies to Heron-Allen's own letters with some letters included with translations of the Rubaiyat sent unsolicited to Heron-Allen.

The re-cataloguing of the Heron-Allen collection onto the Library's computer system will finish in 2004. Detailed bibliographical records have been created with notes on provenance, inscriptions, style of bookplates and details of enclosures. The records also contain Heron-Allen's own Collection catalogue number and the catalogue numbering

from A.G. Potter's Bibliography of the Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam.

Future plans include a database listing all letters included in the Heron-Allen Collection as well as a conservation assessment of the Collection.



# NOTES ON SOME BOOKPLATES OF EDWARD HERON-ALLEN

by PETER ALLPRESS

The Ex Libris Society was founded by a few keen collectors meeting at Anderton's Hotel in Fleet Street on the 10th. February 1891 and by end of that year had 216 members. The first Chairman was John Leighton F.S.A. Edward Heron-Allen was elected a member of the Society on the 18th. January 1892. This was reported in the February 1892 issue of the Ex Libris Journal which continued to be issued monthly until the demise of the Society at the end of 1908. He was a member of the Society until the end, his address always being given in the list of members as Edward Heron-Allen, F.R.M.S., 3 Northwick Terrace, Maida Vale, London N.W.

Heron-Allen's first mention in the Ex Libris Journal (Vol. I March 1892) occurs when he commented on a query as to whether a certain ornamental woodcut with the name inscribed "J.W. Bouton, Bookseller and Importer, 706 Broadway, New York" was a genuine bookplate. He commented that the woodcut was the ornament of the title page of Bouton's second-hand book catalogue and that the original, a watercolour, hung in his shop on Broadway, New York City.

Early in the existence of the Ex Libris Society, it was decided to establish an album containing the bookplates of all the members. In the Journal of October 1892, it was noted that the armorial bookplates of "Heron-Allen" and the joint one of "Edward and Marianna Heron-Allen 1891" were represented in the Ex Libris Album.

In November 1894, a letter from Heron-Allen appeared in the Journal asking for readers to let him know what

bookplates contained representations of Violins (1) in the armorial bearings or (2) among the general decorations of the plate. He wished to acquire any such bookplates and was prepared to make generous exchanges from a large quantity of ex libria that he had collected years before. There is no information as to the result of this request but it implies that he had been an early collector.

Several members of the Ex Libris Society and owners of bookplates were members of the "Sette of Odd Volumes", a club which met to dine once a month. A series of articles on the bookplates of the members were published in 1898 in the Ex Libris Journal by Walter Hamilton, a prominent collector and member of the Sette where he was the "parodist". These articles were reprinted in a book entitled "Odd Volumes and their Book-Plates" and published in London by George Redway in 1899.

In the introduction, Walter Hamilton referred to the Club as follows:

> I might as well explain that I am referring to a Club (Sette, they call themselves) which has now been in existence in London for rather more than twenty years, which meets monthly to dine and read papers, and whose proud boast is-
>
> > "We're Poets, Savants, Painters; we are Authors now and then:
> >
> > We're Doctors, Critics, Scientists, we all are Bookish men".

Heron-Allen became a member of the Sette in 1883, but Walter Hamilton writing in 1898 mentioned that he had then retired. However, he must have rejoined the Sette as he was President in 1927 and according to the autobiographical details in the Heron-Allen Society Opusculum 1, he presented Opusculum No. 85 to the Sette in 1928. Reference to Heron-Allen's bookplates by Walter Hamilton is as follows:



> "Mr Heron-Allen's plate is armorial, the shield being surrounded by elaborate mantling, and surmounted by two crests. The plate exists in two states: on the first the name is given simply "Heron-Allen"; after his marriage it was altered to "Edward and Marianna Heron-Allen. July MDCCCXCI"
>
> Mr. Heron-Allen read several papers before the Sette on his favourite hobby, Chiromancy, and gave us, as Opusculum No. 28, "The Ballades of a Blasé Man." He is also well known as an authority on the history of the violin, on which he has written several works."

Heron-Allen's first bookplate seems to have been an armorial simply inscribed "Heron-Allen" [Fig. 1], which was followed after his marriage in 1891 to Marianna Lehmann by a similar armorial (Arms: Allen quartering Heron) inscribed EDWARD AND MARIANNA HERON-ALLEN JULY MD.CCC.XCI [Fig. 2]. This plate was replaced in 1900 after giving nine thousand impressions and "refusing to produce anything but what looks like a tenth-rate lithographic reproduction".

In 1896, Heron-Allen commenced his intense study of the Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam and in 1900 had a new bookplate made which included certain references to Persian literature. This bookplate [Fig. 3] was described and illustrated in the Ex Libris Journal (Vol. XI, March 1901) in the following terms:

> BOOK-PLATE (JOINT) OF EDWARD AND MARIANNA HERON-ALLEN
>
> By the kind favour of the owner we are enabled to give impressions of this remarkable plate from the original plate engraving by Mr. Harry Soane. The following is a description:
>
> "The frame is surrounded by a quotation from the Meditations of Marcus Aurelius, Book, III, 15, 'be

not deceived; for thou shall never live to read all which thou hadst provided and laid up for thyself against thine old age'. The general design and appearance of the plate is intended to be oriental, to symbolise my work in connection with Persian literature, the *khusk-i-khatt* ('elegant writing') or *tughra* ('Sign-manual') over the central design being my name, 'Edward Heron-Allen', written by the *Katib* ('writer') Mirza Mohammed Ali of Shiraz. The ornamental corners are suggested by an oriental bookbinding.

"The central design is surrounded by the snake with its tail in its mouth, a symbol of eternity which I have affected for many years; the winged heart bears the motto of my house, `Diligenter et fidelis', which makes up in sentiment what it lacks in latinity. Between the wings the pentacle (or pentagram), signifying mystery, perfection, and the universe, which plays a prominent part in the Faust legends, symbolises my early work in the fields of occult science and psychology. The roses filling the ground suggest the cult of Omar Khayyam, and the sentiment attached to the sentimentally inclined to red roses all over the world.

"The date 1900 commemorates the birth of the new century, as well as the death of our old plate, which, after giving nine thousand impressions, refuses to produce anything but what looks like a tenth-rate lithographic reproduction."

The plate is designed by Miss Ella F.G. Hallward, whose illustrations to Coleridge's "Raven" drew the attention of artists to her black-and-white (properly speaking, white-on-black) work a few years ago, and concerning whose work an exhaustive article is about to appear in the *Studio*.

It has been engraved by the well-known heraldic



engraver Harry Soane, of Hanway Street.

In 1902, his wife Marianna died and the following year he married Edith Pepler and soon had another joint bookplate made for himself and wife Edith dated 1904 with the quartered Heron-Allen arms impaling Pepler [Fig. 4]. In 1925, a further bookplate was made [Fig. 5] with the same arms but enumerating several of the societies to which he belonged "EDWARD HERON-ALLEN, F.R.S., F.L.S., F.G.S., F.Z.S., F.R.M.S. and EDITH his wife 1925".

There is a very large armorial bookplate [Fig. 6] with the Heron-Allen arms impaling Pepler, inscribed "TO NOUR-I-MÁH, ITHA AND ARMOREL". As we know from the notes by Ivor E. Jones on the Heron-Allen family in Opusculum II, NOUR-I-MÁH (Lady of Light in Persian) was Heron-Allen's second wife Edith Pepler, ITHA the elder daughter Ianthe Theodora Heron-Allen and ARMOREL the younger daughter, tragically killed in a motor accident in July 1930. This bookplate was also engraved by Harry Soane as were his previous ones. The actual purpose of this bookplate or its date of production is not evident but it was perhaps for books presented to the family in general.

Finally, there is a non-armorial bookplate inscribed "Edward Heron-Allen F.R.S." [Fig. 7]. This could not have been produced before 1919 when he was elected to the Royal Society and is the only one since the very first to be ascribed to Edward Heron-Allen alone. It contains illustrations of his main interests such as violins, palmistry, the microscope, foraminifera, auriculas and Persian literature. Perhaps this bookplate was confined to use in his more scientifically oriented books.

One of the bookplates is listed in the catalogue of the Franks Collection of Bookplates in the British Museum as No. 362, being the joint one dated MD CCC XCI. There are therefore 7 Heron-Allen bookplates that have come to my notice. It will be interesting to know whether he used any other bookplates in his extensive library.

Editors Note:

1) NOUR-I-MÁH actually means Lady of the Moon.
2) Bookplate 7 was more probably produced for his friends and family.
3) Due to Peter's health this talk with slides was delivered by Ivor Jones, the Society's Secretary.

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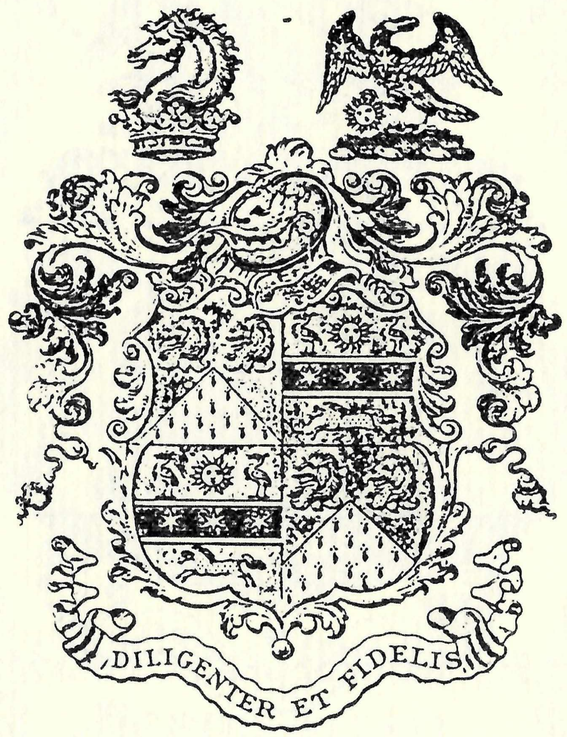
"CATALOGUE OF BRITISH AND AMERICAN BOOK PLATES BEQUEATHED TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM BY SIR AUGUSTUS WOLLASTON FRANKS, K.C.B., F.R.S., P.S.A., Litt. D." By E.R.J. GAMBIER HOWE F.S.A. 3 Volumes published by the British Museum 1903-4.

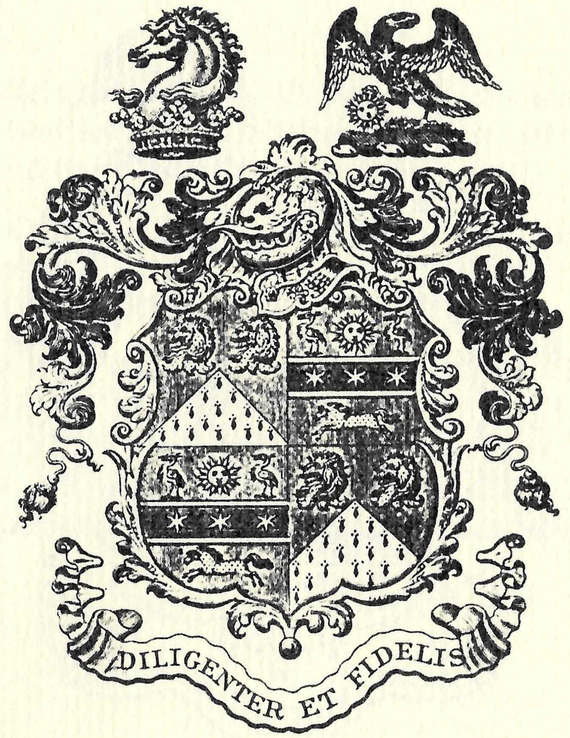


# ILLUSTRATIONS




HERON-ALLEN.

Fig. 1 - An armorial bookplate with the arms of Allen quartering Heron, inscribed simply HERON-ALLEN




EDWARD AND MARIANNA
HERON-ALLEN.
JULY, MD.CCC.XCI.

Fig. 2 - A similar heraldic plate inscribed EDWARD AND MARIANNA HERON-ALLEN JULY MD. CCC. XCI.



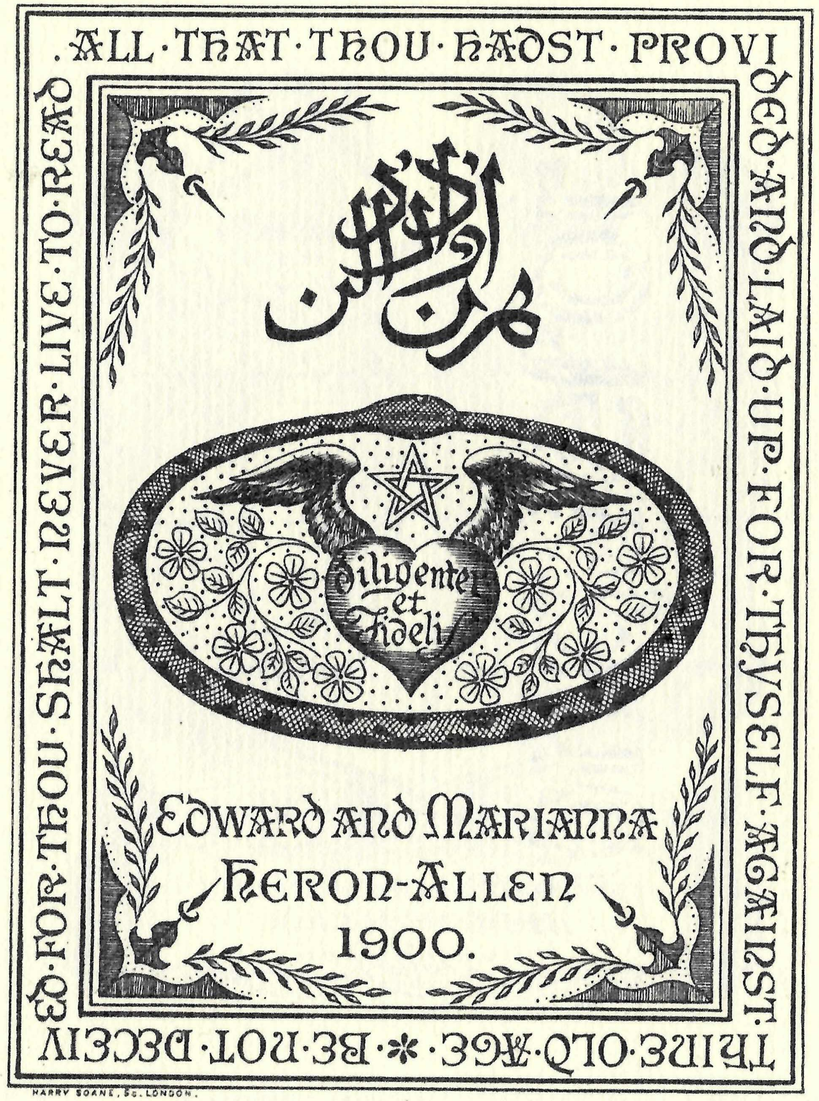



Fig. 3 - A pictorial plate in an oriental style inscribed EDWARD AND MARIANNA HERON-ALLEN 1900.

Fig. 4 - An armorial plate inscribed EDWARD AND EDITH HERON-ALLEN 1904 with the Heron-Allen arms impaling the Pepler arms after his marriage to Edith Pepler in 1903.

Fig. 5 - A similar armorial plate to that dated 1904 (perhaps after it was worn out) giving the details of several societies to which Edward Heron-Allen belonged and inscribed EDWARD HERON-ALLEN, F.R.S., F.L.S., F.G.S., F.Z.S., F.R.M.S. and EDITH his wife 1925.

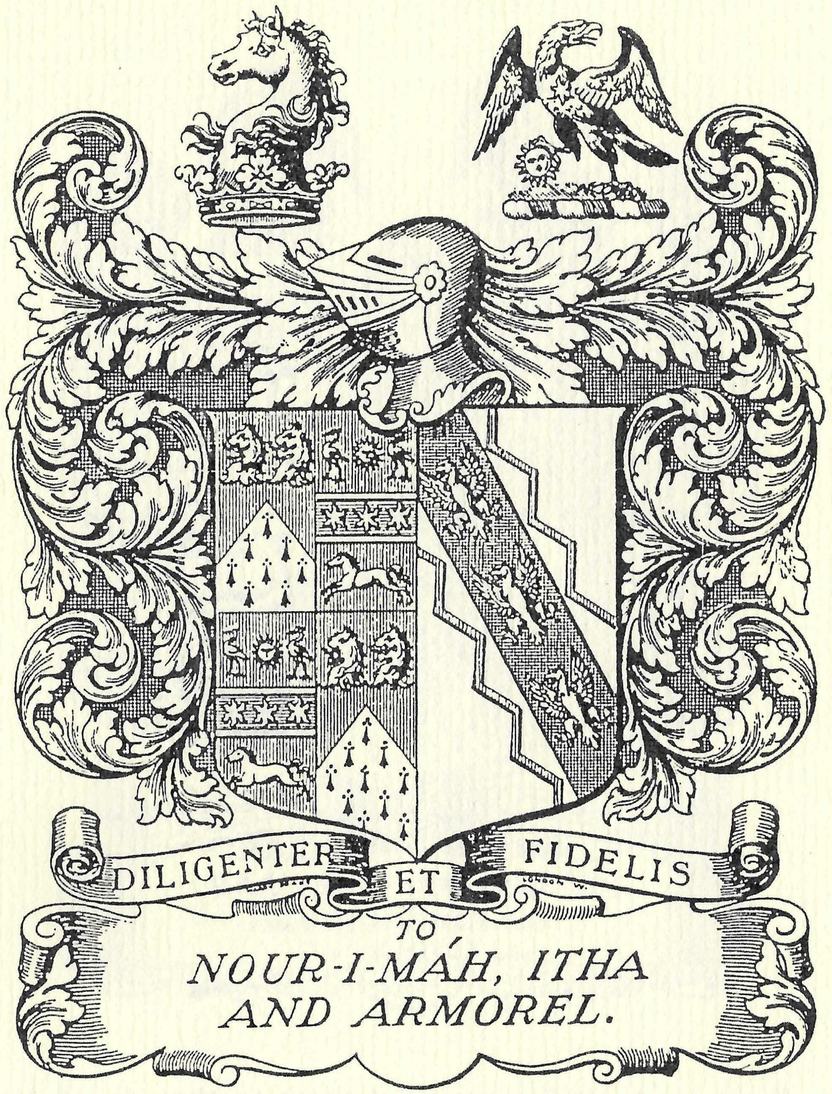



Fig. 6 - A large undated armorial (Heron-Allen impaling Pepler) inscribed to his wife and two daughters - NOUR-I.MÁH, ITHA AND ARMOREL.



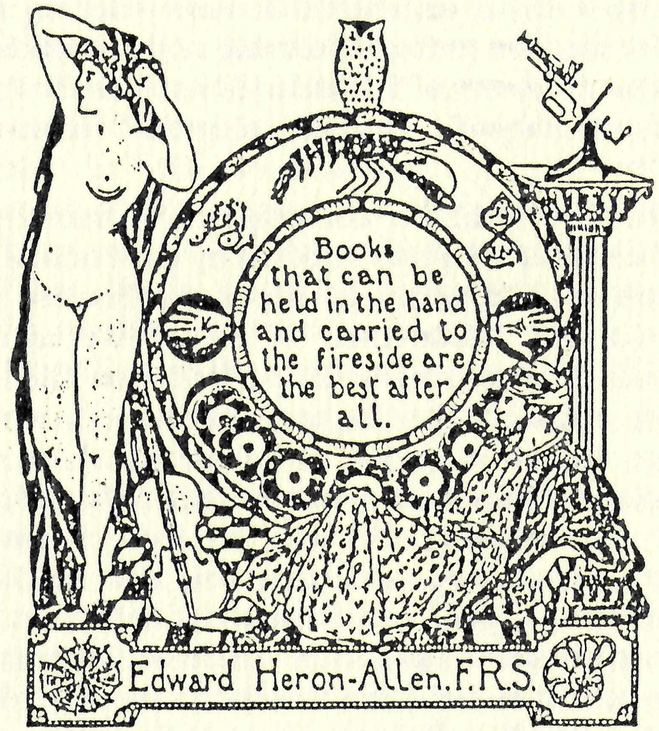



Fig. 7 - An undated pictorial plate which cannot be before 1919 when he was elected to the Royal Society, as it is inscribed Edward Heron-Allen F.R.S. It contains illustrations of objects of his main interest.

# '"MY FIRST APPEARANCE IN PRINT": EDWARD HERON-ALLEN, THE REV. W.B. PHILPOTT AND THE GEOLOGY OF BOGNOR'

by TIMOTHY J. McCANN

In 1919 Edward Heron-Allen of Large Acres in Selsey was among a list of eminent scientists selected by the Council for election to the Fellowship of the Royal Society. The *Bognor Observer* of 5 March 1919 under the heading 'the Highest Scientific Honour' recorded Heron-Allen's distinction:

> 'We observe in our contemporaries among the list of eminent scientists selected by the Council for election to Fellowship of the Royal Society, the name of Mr. Heron-Allen of Selsey. We take a personal pride in congratulating Mr. Heron-Allen on having attained the highest distinction which science has to offer, for, as we recorded on the occasion of his election to the Presidency of the Royal Microscopical Society, his first scientific studies were made on our coast, and his "first appearance in print" was made in our column in the very early seventies, in a short article on the geology of Bognor. Mr. Heron-Allen was then a pupil residing with the Rev. W.B. Philpott, Vicar of South Bersted, himself a keen amateur geologist'.

The phrase "first appearance in print" was Heron-Allen's own and it was a phrase, which was clearly important to him. Heron-Allen had been quick to respond to the Observer four years earlier, when, in 1915, they mentioned his Presidency of the Royal Microscopical Society. On that occasion in a letter dated from Large Acres on 26 April, and published on 28 April, he wrote rather grandly that: 'when I look at the mass of titles which appear on the page



> devoted to my name in the Catalogue of the Library of the British Museum, and at the records of the Zoological Literature for the past 20 years or more, it is curious to observe to observe that I made my "first appearance in print" in your pages - on page 6 of your issue for the 23rd February 1876, in a paragraph headed "Geological Formation of Bognor". I well remember how proud I was, as a boy of fourteen on this great occasion!'.

The phrase remained in his thoughts, as evidenced by the fact that when Martin Venables, the noted amateur geologist from Bognor, presented Heron-Allen with a copy of his article: 'On the London Clay of the Bognor District' published in the *Proceedings of the Geologist's Association*, vol. 40, pages 41-51, Heron-Allen replied from Large Acres on 28 September 1929 that: 'the Geology of Bognor has always occupied a significant place in my mind, for my "first appearance in print" was a paragraph upon the subject in the "Bognor Observer" in 1874 or 5'.

Heron-Allen's continuing pride in his first publication is reflected in the fact that when, in 1936, under the pseudonym Christopher Blayre he wrote his *Notes upon the Literary, Scientific, and Artistic Activities of Edward Heron-Allen, FRS*, he recorded against the year 1876: 'At a tutor's, the Vicar of South Bersted, in Sussex, where he made his first appearance in print in a local paper. This was a short article on "The Geological Formation of Bognor". We know from the same source that after leaving Elstree School, the preparatory school for Harrow, which he had entered in 1872, and where he delivered, at the age of thirteen, his first lecture on the Foraminifera (Globigerina ooze) before a small audience of his school fellows, he entered Harrow School in the autumn of 1876. Presumably his family had sent him to a tutor to prepare him for entrance to Harrow.

The tutor chosen by his family for Heron-Allen was the Rev. William Benjamin Philpott. Philpott was born at

Southwold in Suffolk in 1823, the son of Benjamin Philpott, the Archdeacon of the Isle of Man. He was brought up in the rectory at Great Cressingham in Norfolk. When he was sixteen he became a member of the sixth-form at Rugby School under both Dr. Thomas Arnold, the renowned reformer of the education system, and Dr. Randall Tait, who later, as Archbishop of Canterbury, was to present Philpott with the living of South Bersted in 1875. He studied at Trinity College Cambridge, and after two years residence, migrated to Oxford, having obtained a scholarship at Worcester College. He graduated second class in 1848. He was ordained deacon in 1848 and priest, by the Bishop of Oxford, the following year. In 1851 he married the daughter of Lieutenant Colonel Obina of Armagh, who had fought with Wellington in the Peninsula War and guarded Napoleon on St. Helena, and had two children. In 1857, he married as his second wife, the sister of Professor Conington.

Philpott declined a mastership at Rugby, offered him by Dr. Tait, and, after holding curacies at Cressingham in Norfolk, from 1848 to 1849 and Oldberrow from 1850 to 1852, he accepted the living of Walesby in Lincolnshire in 1852, which he held for the next thirteen years. In 1865 he retired and settled in Littlehampton, on the Sussex coast, and ran a private academy at 20 South Terrace, where he prepared the sons of gentlemen for university. The 1871 Census for Littlehampton list seven student boarders. The house, one of the finest regency buildings in Littlehampton, later housed the Princess Louise Children's Hospital and then the Mary MacArthur Holiday Home for Working Women. H.J.F. Thompson, in his *Littlehampton Long Ago* (1974) describes 'a lively academy whose pupils provided the nucleus of Littlehampton Cricket Club, which was founded in 1871, the saviours, on one occasion, of Littlehampton Bonfire Society, whose bonfire had been destroyed by vandals, and practical jokers, who slung a rope between the main Academy in South Terrace and the



annexe on the opposite side of the road and slid various utensils down the rope to clash in the middle'.

In 1875 Philpott was appointed to the living of South Bersted. An obituary in The *West Sussex Gazette* of 25 April 1889 mentions that he had a number of private pupils at South Bersted. In the 1881 census for South Bersted his household include three scholars, none of whom were from Sussex. In his 1906 Holiday Journal, written while he was staying in Bognor at Lansdowne Mansions opposite the Royal Norfolk Hotel, Heron-Allen describes a family outing to the vicarage at South Bersted, where 'I spent the autumn and winter and spring of 1874-5'. While he was at South Bersted, Philpott rebuilt the parish schools, restored the old parish church, and carried out extensive alterations and repairs to the vicarage. For many years he served as a Poor Law Guardian.

Philpott was a man with a wide range of interests, and the obituary mentions that he published articles on religious subjects and poetical pieces, many of which have been re-published in book form. The feature of Philpott's religious writing was a virulent anti-Catholicism, which shows in his hard-hitting pamphlet *Rome versus England*, and in many of the stanzas of his twenty-three page poem *A Welcome to the New South Bersted Church schools*, published in 1885. He also published *A Pocket of Pebbles*, which received a fulsome review in the *West Sussex Gazette* of 27 December 1877, and a volume of essays entitled *England that is to be*.

It was while staying with Philpott, that Edward Heron-Allen made the scientific observations that he precociously offered to the editor of the *Bognor Observer*. On page 6 of the newspaper for 23 February 1876, the following article was printed;

> 'It may interest the readers of the *Observer*, and the inhabitants of Bognor, to know the geological formation of the town in which they are residing. It

is part of the London clay, which is one of the subdivisions of the Eocene period, in the Cainozoic epoch. The basement bed of the London clay seldom exceeds a few feet in thickness, but yet it contains many fossils. In plants we find the following distributions: Sapindacae 15 species; Conifers, 13; protaecae, 7; Leguminosa, 45 and others. It is rich in Echinodermata, Crustacea, Xanthopsis tuberculata, Brachiopeda, Lingula tennis &c, Conchiferae, Carlitae, Pectunculi, Cardia &c. besides numerous Cephalopeda, Gasterpoda, &c.

As to the beach, many Agates, Chalcydonys, Jasper, &c. may be found, but for Madrepores, Choanites, &c., one must get more up towards Pagham harbour, as the heavy seas which dash upon the Bognor coast wear the pebbles down so much that the fossils inside get completely spoiled. In the Bognor beds, too, we very frequently find fossil wood and Lignite, and sometimes even Sigiliarae, and bits of Calamites'.

The article is simply described as 'communicated' and no author is credited.

It is tempting to speculate on the influences of such a man as Philpott on the character of the teenage Heron-Allen. Despite his short stay at Downside in May 1886 as a guest of Dom Oswald Rawlinson, the brother of a friend of his, there is nothing to suggest that Heron-Allen had a particular interest in religion. In 1884, at the age of 23, he was appointed Commissioner for Italy of the Music Loan Exhibition held in London in 1885. He travelled to Italy bearing credentials from the Cardinal archbishop of Westminster to the Papal authorities, and the Prince of Wales to the Civil Government to collect and forward to England for exhibition, musical instruments, manuscripts and other relevant material, but there is nothing to suggest any attraction to Catholicism. His religious observance was



confined to the support of the Established Church, whether as clerk to the parish of St. Anne in Soho, or chronicler and generous benefactor of the parish of Selsey in Sussex, where among other benefactions he presented a new pipe organ in memory of his father, and the oak tablet commemorating the former rectors of the church. Certainly there is no evidence of Philpott's bigoted anti-Catholic polemics in Heron-Allen's writings.

Rather his sojourn in the vicarage at South Bersted provided Heron-Allen with his first experience of a house where reading, scholarship and research were actively encouraged and his first taste of the Sussex coast, which can only have forwarded his juvenile enthusiasm for foraminifera. Moreover his time in the county will have been in his mind thirty year later in 1906 when he was recommended to leave London and find a home by the sea on account of his daughter's health. Heron-Allen travelled down to Bognor on 18 August 1906 to join the rest of his family, who had been enjoying a seaside holiday. His original intention was to build a bungalow, to be called Nour-Khana, by the sea in the resort. He also looked further afield in Aldwick, where he fell in love with Nyewood House, Littlehampton and Nyewood. Eventually he was encouraged to look around Selsey, decided that it was the place and by 1 September had put down a deposit of £70 on a piece of land off the High Street called Parsonage Croft which was to become 'Large Acres'.

As soon as he settled in Selsey, Heron-Allen determined to continue the work he had begun in Bognor and to make a systematic study of the foraminifera of the Selsey shore-sand. He tells us that his enthusiasm was fired by a paper on the foraminifera of Bognor published in the Proceedings of the Quekett Microscopic Club in 1905 by Arthur Earland, and 'my own earlier and desultory studies of the same sand'. In other words his first appearance in print. He reported his initial findings to his mentor F.W.

Millett and obviously hoped to collaborate with him in his proposed study. Millett, was a sick man by then, and while agreeing 'that the specimens are interesting' added that 'I cannot see how you are to make a useful monograph out of this jumble of fossils washed out of uncertain beds from unknown localities', and suggested that Heron-Allen should approach Earland. Undeterred, Heron-Allen wrote to Earland in 1907 and their association began with the first of several studies of the foraminiferous deposits and shore-sands of Selsey published by the Royal Microscopical Society in 1908.

This study is prefaced with an introductory note by Heron-Allen which begins with a rhapsodic justification which perfectly combines his scientific and musical enthusiasms. 'I opine', he wrote, 'that if there might be a special heaven for Rhizopodists, it would be one whose leading feature would be a calm sea, in the surface waters of which a record number of living pelagic Foraminifera might have gathered in the terminal bottle of a common tow-net. If this may be postulated as the Walhalla of the student of the Foraminifera, his Niffelheim may be certainly found in the material which, for the past year, has occupied my leisure moments, and the appellate jurisdiction of my friend and collaborator Arthur Earland. I refer to the material which may be scraped at any time between tide-marks, from the surface of the shore-sand of Selsey Bill, which extends from the point of the Bill north-westwards, through Bracklesham Bay, to the brakish waters of Chichester Harbour, opposite Hayling Island and the Isle of Wight'.

Heron-Allen's "first appearance in print" was the beginning of a literary, musical and scientific career, which resulted in some hundred publications. It gave the impetus to his association with Arthur Earland, which produced 38 papers and at least 200 new species and varieties of foraminifera. Finally, it led to his residence in Selsey from 1906 until his death there in 1943.



*Opusculum I* *Notes upon the Literary, scientific, and Artistic Activities of Edward Heron-Allen, F.R.S.* Extracted from his Diaries and other Documents by Christopher Blayre (2000).

*Opusculum II* *Edward Heron-Allen.* A Talk delivered by his grandson Ivor E. Jones at the first Edward Heron-Allen Symposium, Chichester, July 2001 (2001).

*Opusculum III* *The Quest for the Heron-Allen Society.* A Talk delivered at the first Heron-Allen Symposium, Chichester, July 2001, by Timothy J. McCann (2002).

*Opusculum IV* *"The Beauty and Mystery of the Foraminifera". The Foraminiferal research of Edward Heron-Allen FRS, with an assessment of his scientific career.* Based on a talk delivered on the beach at West Street, Selsey, to members of the Heron-Allen Society and guests of the West Sussex County Council, following the unveiling of a plaque in honour of Edward Heron-Allen by Ivor Jones, 15 July 2002, by Richard L. Hodgkinson and John E. Whittaker (2003).

*Opusculum V* *Reflections on Heron-Allen's War Journal.* Talks delivered at the second Heron-Allen Symposium, Chichester, July 2002, by Brian W. Harvey and Carol Fitzgerald (2003)

*Opusculum VI* *'Portraits and Persia: Bookplates and Bognor': Proceedings of the 3rd Heron-Allen Symposium, 2003.* Talks delivered at the Third Heron-Allen Symposium, London, July 2003 by Bryan Burrough, Claire Powell, Peter Allpress and Timothy J. McCann. (2004)

Copies of these Opuscula may be obtained for £5 each from Ivor E. Jones, Secretary of the Heron-Allen Society, Sweets Farmhouse, Stour Row, Shaftesbury, Dorset. SP7 OQH.