

## CHAPTER SIX

### *CONCLUSIONS*

We have seen many opportunities for the Dupuis family to have met the Eardley Family. As much as I would like to have, I have failed to find any direct connection between **H.J.C.** or his wife Julia Harrietta and St. Tudy.

I have recorded more detail for some of the family members to emphasize their activities and to show that the families were all large, 'well to do' and well connected, well travelled and all involved with the Church.

In 1909 Julia Harrietta Dupuis married **H.J.C.**

She wrote to the Reverend Henry Edwin Eardley in 1921. At that time she resided at 39, Royal Avenue, Chelsea. Through B.T. Phone books <sup>(31 & 31a to 31L)</sup> there are records of H. J. Cannan from 1913 to 1916, through the 1920's and later in 1936 <sup>(31L)</sup> it records H. J. Cannan (Mrs), nursing home, 39, Royal Avenue, Chelsea. Provided that this was the wife of **H.J.C.** she would have been 70 years old. It looks as if she ran and I presume owned the nursing home in Royal Avenue.

In the 1901 census <sup>(31m)</sup>, it shows Dupuis Julia Harriet with occupation as *Superintendent of nursing home, Nettley Nursing Home, 15, Henrietta St.*

**H.J.C.** was formerly a Volunteer, resigning in 1900. In the 1901 census it shows his profession as *mining Engineer*. We know that he was manager of The Herald of the Star, up to the outbreak of the War <sup>(3)</sup>.

There is a record of him writing an article, '*The star, the mother and the child*', in the Herald of the Star, printed 3rd April, 1914. There are also records, in July and October <sup>(10dv)</sup>, of his wife, Julia, giving an address to The Magnet, a theological institution. Quite clearly, they both believed in theism and were involved in studying the same. We also have four large families all heavily connected with the Church. They are the Dupuis and the Balston families on Julia Cannan's side and the Travers and Smythies on Julia Mina Eardley's side.

The following extract from Gertrude Ward's biography, "Life of Charles Alan Smythies, Bishop of the Universities' Mission to Central Africa", shows us how devoted these '*Muscular Christians*' were in their personal study of and in their group discussions on theology: -

*Trinity College Cambridge about 1863 - 1865.*

"We were much thrown back upon ourselves, and our experiments were often more credible to our heart than to our judgment. Evangelical parents were wont to arm their sons with an invitation to Mr. Clayton of Caius, a good man whom a portion of the mantle of Charles Simeon had fallen. The letter would be duly presented and as duly honoured by an invitation to breakfast, and there, for the large number of course, the matter ended. For those, whom it was the fashion of the time to call '*Muscular Christians*', there were the occasional visits of Charles Kingsley.

Men read his books with enthusiasm, and applauded his lectures, and listened to his sermons with the attention that they gave to no one else. It was a wholesome, bracing, stimulating influence, but I do not think that it touched Smythies directly. The 'High Church' undergraduate had not much choice of spiritual guides. The only organization for his religious benefit was the "Theological Society" (S.T.C.) at the time under the presidency of the Rev. George Williams, senior Fellow of King's, a man of great learning and real piety, and profoundly interested in the Eastern Church. Those of us who had the courage to brave the frost of a far from encouraging manner found at last beneath it a warm and sympathetic heart. At his rooms we met from time to time for prayer and the study of theology, and so far as our awe of him allowed – for discussion."

We can understand that the priestly brotherhood within the well to do families of the 1800's quite obviously socialized within Church circles and through theological meetings such as with S.T.C., the Herald of The Star and the Magnet to name those that I have come across during my research. We only need to look at our four families.

Their paths crossed and somewhere along the line they must have met.

Let us look: -

The first possible connection may have occurred in Suffolk where the Reverend George John Dupuis was rector of Creeting from 1840 to 1862. Over these twenty years with the Creeting and indeed the Cambridge association, the family must have lived in and visited Suffolk many times. This would have included his two sons that followed him into the Church. Namely, the Reverend George Richard Dupuis, born Eton, 1835 (to be Julia Harrietta's father) and the Reverend Edward John Gore Dupuis, born Suffolk, 1844. In 1862 when their father moved from Creeting, George Richard would have been 27 years old and Edward John Gore 18 years old. They were both somewhat older than Julia Mina Travers, (who was to be wife of the Reverend Henry Eardley); Julia being 9 years old in 1862. They were however the right age to have known and socialized with her father the Reverend Robert Duncan Travers and the rest of the family. Robert Duncan's father was Sir Eaton Stannard Travers. He married Ann Palmer the eldest daughter of William Stewart from a large family in Great Yarmouth. The Travers, another large family, lived in Gorleston near Great Yarmouth. Gorleston is only some 30 miles from Creeting. Both were on the railway and connected either through Norwich or down the coast via Ipswich. The two families must have known of each other through the Church.

Before we leave East Anglia lets return to Isabella, daughter of Admiral Sir Eaton Stannard Travers. Remember, her brother was the Reverend Robert Duncan Travers who was the father of Julia Mina. Isabella was living in Colchester, also a train's journey from Creeting. Isabella could well have met George John Dupuis either in Gorleston at her father's house or in Creeting in the Dupuis house; and of course there were the two Dupuis boys, George Richard and Edward John Gore Dupuis living in Creeting. They were both to become Reverends, The latter being the same age as Isabella's son, Charles Alan, who was also destined for the Church. So here is another possible way that the Travers met the Dupuis family.

Later on in 1863 to 1867, whilst up at Cambridge, Charles Alan may have come across George Richard Dupuis during one of his cricket visits to Cambridge or during a theological meeting with Rev. George Williams. We can see that George Richard continued to visit Cambridge, after he graduated, as he is recorded as being resident there in the 1861 census. We can even speculate that Charles Alan met George Richard Dupuis, Edward John Gore Dupuis and or even Edward Balston in Eton whilst he was priest at Great Marlow from 1871 to 1874.

Before leaving for his African mission in 1883, Gertrud Ward tells us in her biography of Smythies that he 'besought the prayers and council of his friends'. Charles Alan may well have contacted any one of the Dupuis churchmen for advice and consultation, certainly, if he had met them as a boy in Creeting or Richard in Cambridge or even whilst in Marlow and had kept in touch. Around this time of 1881-1883, through Charles Alan, the Dupuis brothers or Edward Balston may have met Charles Alan's cousin Julia Mina Travers or even her husband to be, the Reverend Henry Eardley. In her turn, Julia Dupuis (wife to be of **H.J.C.**) would be introduced to them by her father but let's not jump to conclusions!

The next possible connection is through the Reverend Edward Balston. In 1873 he was Archdeacon of Derby and vicar of Bakewell. Henry Edwin Eardley was from Litchurch in Derby and as previously stated Edward Balston must have known of Henry Edwin when he was being prepared for Theological College.

The Balston and Dupuis families were inter-related and seem to have been very close with their connections in Kent and Eton. Although it was ten years before Henry Eardley went to Theological College, we have seen an example of their relationships where Edward Balston and Edward John Gore Dupuis were living next door to each other in Eton during the 1871 census. Edward Balston was great uncle to Julia Harrietta, who was to become wife of **H.J.C.** It is very possible that Edward Balston invited Henry Eardley down to Eton or Maidstone whilst he was at Theological College in Islington, or after he had left the college; match making for one of his many nieces! This of course would have been from 1879(?), or when Henry Eardley started Theological college to before Henry Eardley married in 1885.

I do not know what connection, if any, Henry Eardley kept with Islington after Theological College. However, I know that David, the brother of **H.J.C.** and his mother and father resided there from 1891. David was studying medicine in Glasgow in 1881, he was then seventeen. By 1884 he should have been at London University or St. Bartholomew's. David married in Islington in 1888.

So we have another possible link but this time it would have been from David Cannan, his mother or father or even **H.J.C.** himself meeting Henry Eardley through some social event in the Islington area. We do not know when and where **H.J.C.** and Julia Dupuis met. It may have been through a theological meeting, one, even organized by Henry Eardley when he was visiting London or making a return visit to his old college.

Over these years from 1884 to 1887 Henry Eardley was a private chaplain. Chaplain for whom I have yet to discover. Was it to educate the middle daughters of George Richard Dupuis, Annetta and Laura aged 15 and 10 respectively, up at Sessay in 1884? Then in 1887 he gets the job with C.M.S in York. That would be just too much of a coincidence!

A third possible connection was through the West Country.

Robert Duncan Travers was rector of Swanage, Dorset from 1853 to 1886. In 1861 George John Dupuis, his wife and son Edward John Gore were visiting St. Decuman, on the North Somerset coast. If they had met the Travers of Gorleston in East Anglia when they were in Creting they may well have travelled down to visit the Travers in Swanage.

In 1872 Edward John Gore Dupuis married Sophia Heathcote in Williton, Somerset. This is also near the North coast.

If the brothers had met the Travers family through Creting or Gorleston as previously suggested and had kept in touch the Rev. George Richard Dupuis most probably visited the Travers with his family including his daughter Julia who would have been between ten and twelve years old when he was in Sturminster Marshall. Remember George Richard was Rector of Sturminster Marshall from 1875 to 1877. Sturminster Marshall is only 16 miles north of Wareham, just up the coast from Swanage.

Edward John Gore became rector of Alphington. He was there from 1879 and I presume until his death in 1920.

Alphington is just south west of Exeter both only some 60 to 80 miles away from Wareham by rail.

On the other hand let's accept though that Edward John Gore had not met the Travers family during his Creting days. However he may well have met or heard about Henry Eardley from Edward Balston whilst they were together staying in Eton or even possibly in Maidstone. So when the Reverend Henry Edwin Eardley married Julia Mina Travers in Swanage in 1885, Edward John George was invited to the wedding. He had kept in touch with Rev. Henry Eardley as he moved from parish to parish throughout his career. Firstly having met him through Edward Balston and then when Henry came to Swanage in 1881, moving to York from 1886-91. Remember that George Richard Dupuis and family were near by in Sessay. Edward John Gore most likely would have put Henry Eardley in touch with his brother George Richard.

Then he moved to Kent until 1908. Do not forget the Dupuis/Bolston connection with Kent. He then returned to Swanage for eight years and finally St. Tudy from 1916-26. Both of the last two parishes within striking distance from Alphington.

Through her uncle, Edward John Gore Dupuis, Julia Harrietta Dupuis and maybe her husband, *H.J.C.*, when visiting her uncle in Alphington, may have met the Eardleys whilst they were still at Swanage.

Henry Eardley moved to St. Tudy in 1916. Did Julia Cannan meet them there, perhaps when she was in mourning, visiting her uncle Edward John Gore in Alphington after *H.J.C.* had died?

I mentioned earlier, Isabella, the daughter of Admiral Sir Eaton Travers. She obviously had Suffolk connections and connections with Cambridge. After her husband died, she moved to Swanage. This was for the health of her children and to be near her brother the Reverend Robert Duncan Travers. Reverend Robert Duncan Travers was an energetic man. He had St. Mary's church in Swanage demolished, except for the tower. He rebuilt it on a more spacious scale. There is a brass plaque under the window inscribed "This window is dedicated by their children to the memory of Rear Admiral Sir Eaton S. Travers K.H. who died on the 14th March, 1858, aged 80 and of Anne Palmer his wife who died on the 8th August, 1864, aged 72" <sup>(30biv)</sup>. Quite possibly the churches in the county and neighbouring counties would have contributed towards the costs of re-building the church. Members of the Dupuis family most probably were contacted by the Rev. Robert or his sister Isabella and being interested in the Church, they could have visited St. Mary's from St. Decuman, Sturminster Marshal or Alphington and through this, yet another possible connection, got to know the Travers.

Finally there is Kent. The Balston family had moved to Maidstone by this time. Although Edward Balston was dead by 1901, his and his brothers' and sisters' children, would, I presume have still lived in the area. In 1901 census, Henry Edwin Eardley was residing in St. John's Vicarage, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. We know that he was vicar of St. John's Church from 1891 to 1908. We also know that Rev. Eardley was very active in the area. Tunbridge Wells is only some 15 to 20 miles from Maidstone and both are on the railway. Again, in all probability the families must have socialised through church functions. Maybe, the Reverend Eardley even got the Parish through the Balston or Dupuis family, if they had met him earlier, as I have proposed.

What interesting, intertwining lives of vines they had. They must have met!