

EPILOGUE

Let us imagine that in 1883 Henry Edwin Eardley, who by then had been ordained and was a priest in Swanage working with his future father in law. He had kept in touch with his previous Archdeacon, Edward Balston. Henry Eardley had been invited to the Spring Ball at Eton College by Edward Bolston. Henry Eardley was being put up for the weekend with Reverend George John Dupuis, whom he had met previously whilst visiting Edward Balston at Eton from Theological College in 1879. He was staying in The Cloisters with the other house guests. These guests included George John's son, Reverend George Richard and his wife, Annette, including his daughter Julia Henrietta, who was seventeen at the time. The family were all down from Sessay for the month.

In fact, in his fading year George John had pushed the boat out and had invited his other son, Reverend Edward John Gore Dupuis up from Alphington. His middle son Arthur E. was away at sea, at the time.

Of course, as a previous Head Master of Eton from 1862 to 1868 Edward Balston had many connections with Eton as indeed did the Dupuis family.

It must have been similar to the gathering of the clans when during the 1871 census they all seemed to be visiting "Spring Field House" in Maidstone.

At the same time, up from his parish in Roath, Cardiff, Reverend Charles Alan Smythies was visiting London, 'seeking prayers and council of his friends' and advice from other clergy about the bishopric in Central Africa. He may well have travelled up with the party from Swanage to chaperone his cousin Julia Mina Travers, who was to attend the ball with the Reverend Henry Eardley, her husband to be. What a chance for Charles Alan to meet his "childhood friend" from the Creeping days, Edward John Gore Dupuis. Their friendship having been renewed in 1870/1 when Charles Alan was priest at Great Marlow, just up the river from Eton.

The ball was a success.

Two years later, in 1885, Julia Mina married Reverend Henry Edwin Eardley in Wareham.

Julia Henrietta formed a respectful admiration of Julia Mina Travers that was to develop into a lifetime friendship.

In the meantime Julia Henrietta Dupuis, who was surrounded by the clergy, expanded her theistic beliefs. She had kept in touch with the Eardleys, fostering her friendship while they were at C.M.S in York, from 1886 to 1891.

In 1908 she stayed with them in St. John's vicarage, Tunbridge Wells whilst she was visiting one of her second cousins from the Balston family in "Spring Field House", Maidstone.

In 1909 she asked the Reverend Henry Edwin Eardley to marry her to Horatius James Cannan in Marylebone, London.

Seven years later, in 1916 when her husband Captain Horatius James Cannan was killed in The Great War, she wanted:-

A "memorial so that it may speak of life after death and remind all of resurrection and Reunion and serve a reminder that we must carry on the work for which millions gave their lives:"

*So, in 1921, Julia Harrietta Cannan wrote to the Reverend Henry Edwin Eardley,
The Rectory, St. Tudy.*

THE END