

SOME ACCOUNT OF GEORGE STEINMAN STEINMAN

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ABSTRACT

George Steinman Steinman is referred to as the first writer about Lundy. Little is known about him; certainly Martin Coles Harman was sufficiently impressed by '*Some account of the Island of Lundy*' to commission a reprint in 1947, which is still referred to as 'Steinman'. Steinman's research was original and well-founded and it remains the bedrock for later research. Genealogical techniques, common and scarce internet resources have been used to give a pen picture of this scholar whose work has provided a basis from which later historians have proceeded (Ternstrom, 1999).

Keywords: *Lundy, Steinman, research, genealogy*

'SOME ACCOUNT OF THE ISLAND OF LUNDY' (Steinman 1837)

In 1837, George Steinman Steinman, a recent subscriber to the quarterly *Collectanea, Topographica et Genealogica*, had published in that journal, his seminal paper of the history and current state of Lundy. At a time when factual articles were the exception, and embroidery, fallacy, legend and romance by continual repetition, were asserted as truth, this publication and this paper in particular were models of verifiable facts in the new Victorian Age. Steinman's statements were researched and confirmed by facts described and referenced in footnotes to set the standard now demanded from such papers. As an antiquary, scholar and researcher, he made use of every available resource when such sources were held in obscure repositories available only to the dedicated and respected. Such discoveries that he made about the history of the Island are still quoted and have rarely been bettered.

Commencing in 1199, the ownership and transfer of title is meticulously traced with each fact and change meticulously documented in the ubiquitous footnotes. His sources are impeccable ranging from Early Charters through Chancery Fine Rolls and *Inquisitiones Post Mortem* to Exchequer documents. He is not afraid to admit his ignorance, referring to the descent of the Island from 'Thomas Earle of Ormond leaving issue Anne and Margaret his heirs ...' he states, 'To which of these ladies the island was apportioned I am unable to tell.' This gives reassurance to the depth and veracity of the statements that, based on his researches, he does make.

He was particularly discursive on William de Marisco and Thomas Benson for both of whom, sources although sparse, are more plentiful than for others. He concludes his historical tour de force at the, then, present day when he states 'Lundy has recently been purchased by William Heaven Esq. of Bristol.' Heaven purchased the Island from

Matravers & Stiffe in 1834. There follows a limited contemporary description of the Island's physical, flora and fauna, political and economic state together with references to the most recent publications on the Island, the newly produced Ordnance Survey Sheet xxviii and Grosse's Antiquities. It remains a decisive and original work often quoted and on which most Lundy books are based.

METHODS AND MATERIALS

I was inspired to research Steinman the man when Myrtle Ternstrom gave me access to some original notes which appeared to be in his hand. These had been sent to her by Roger Cichorz, from America, who had discovered them in his original copy of Steinman. They comprise four slips with single research items on them and two larger pieces with narrative and original references. Accompanying them were two photocopies of more notes and a stamped addressed envelope to 'G.S. Steinman Esq F.S.A. Sandridge Sevenoaks' bearing a penny red stamp and postmarked 'London Ap[ril] 15 [18]76' carrying further notes (Cichorz, 2009).

Comparison with these notes and the original text in Harman's edition of Steinman does not give any match between text and notes. Interestingly all these notes, with one exception, bear the pencilled annotation 'f10' above the text, the exception bears 'f9'. Perhaps these notes were intended for a further publication on Lundy especially since one of the notes is dated 21 June 1852 almost 20 years after the original publication.

With the depth of records now available on the internet, I have been able to research much about Steinman using various established web sites, purchasing original copies only where necessary. I have used online accesses to Access to Archives, The Times Index, The London Gazette and various genealogical databases available through FreeBMD, FreeCEN, Ancestry, GENUKI.

George Steinman Steinman (GSS) was a prolific writer and contributor to the various journals of the societies of which he was a member. He was a gentleman, an antiquarian and could be seen as minor gentry. It was these qualities that were key to my ability to make the fullest use of the on-line records in Google Books, the Times, the London Gazette (LG) and Gentleman's Magazine (GM).

GEORGE STEINMAN STEINMAN: HIS GENEALOGY

He was born George Steinman Smith, son of Robert Bennet Smith and Susannah Betty Steinman and second of their three children. His mother was the daughter of George Leonhard Steinman and Susannah Tideman, who was reputed to have emigrated from St Gall in Switzerland with his great-grandfather.

'STEINMAN. This family existed at St. Gall, in Switzerland, more than four centuries ago as 'Steinman of Bingasser'. The first settler in England was the great-grandfather of Mr. G.S. Steinman (a name well recognized in our antiquarian literature), who with his son came to England in 1771' (Lower, 1860).

That the family was wealthy and well to do is not in question. In his will, George Steinman left to his 'dear wife Susannah all the Foreign and English Coins, plate, linen, China, Glass, Wine, Jewels, Watches and household furniture ... the full sum of £3,000 ... my leasehold messuages, tenements, and premises situate in Woburn Place Russell Square Middlesex and on Wandsworth Common ... and the interests and dividends and

annual profits of the sum of £6.000 value in sterling' (ROB 11/1769 - 2 March 1830. £3,000 in 1830 was equivalent to £200,000 in 2009 using the RPI)

After his wife's death, the estate was to be divided into three parts; one third was to go to his daughter Susannah Betty Smith, GSS's mother; one third was to go as a marriage settlement to Sarah the wife of Francis Holderness; and the final third was to his daughter Hannah Steinman, in trust, 'she being subject to occasional attacks of insanity' (PROB 11/1769).

GSS's mother Susannah Betty married Robert Bennet Smith in 1807 but was widowed in 1814, when she was left with three young children to bring up - Rosa born about 1810, George Steinman born 1811 and Hannah Maria born 1814; all in Kingston Surrey.

Hannah Maria married Charles James Wood in 1839 but was widowed in 1850. They produced no children and both daughters lived with their mother until her death in 1853. George Steinman Smith probably never remembered his father Robert who died when he was only 3 years of age. The family continued to live in Surrey and would have had a great deal of support from their maternal grandparents living in Croydon. Although not directly named in his grandfather George Leonard Steinman's will, George was eventually to benefit from it when his mother died. There is no indication that he was to take his mother's maiden name to benefit from the inheritance when the will was read in 1828, but on attaining his majority in 1832, George became George Steinman Steinman. This was officially recorded in the London Gazette (LG) and reported in the Gentleman's Magazine (GM 1832 p471):

'Whitehall, October 25, 1832

'The King has been pleased to grant unto George Steinman Smith, of Camberwell, in the county of Surrey, Gent. His royal licence and authority, that he may henceforth take and use the surname of Steinman only, in compliance with the desire of his maternal grandmother, Susanna, widow and relict of George Steinman, formerly of Woburn-place, Russel-square, in the county of Middlesex, and late of North End, Croydon, in the aforesaid county of Surrey, Gent, deceased, and from grateful regard to the memory of his aforesaid late maternal grandfather:

'And also to command, that the said royal concession and declaration be registered in His Majesty's College, of Arms, otherwise to be void and of none effect' (LG 26 Oct 1832).

We have some insights into both the mind of GSS and of the circumstances that led to the publication of his account of Lundy.

Like most writers, he wrote about what he knew, what interested him and what he came into contact with. His history of Croydon (Steinman 1833) demonstrated his antiquarian proclivities as well as his affection for and knowledge of the place with which he was most familiar. This is where he grew up, where his family lived and was his tribute to the place.

On 7 February 1836 at the age of 25, he married his fiancée, Emma Catherine Collier Christy, and they settled at Priory Lodge, Peckham, where the first of his three children, Ellen Gertrude De Horne Christy, was born on 30 August. His second child, and only son, was baptised on 13 April 1839 - Matravers Harcourt Collier Bernhard. His final child, Emma Isabella De Horne Christy, was christened on 29 September 1840.

In 1853, George's mother Betty Susannah died and he becomes the main beneficiary of her will (PROB 11/2171). In 1857, his maiden aunt Rosa Steinman Smith died when,

according to her father George Leonard Steinman's will, her share of the inheritance devolved to GSS (PROB 11/1769).

Probably as a result of this, in the 1850s, the family moved away from Peckham and settled at Knockholt House in Kent where they lived into the 1860s before moving to Judge's Cottage at Sundridge near Sevenoaks where George and Emma lived until his death in his 80th year in 1893.

In 1862 their elder daughter Ellen married into the long established Irish family of Kemmis of Ballinacore. Her husband William, later Major Royal Artillery, was a gunnery instructor and author of the *Text Book of the Manufactures of the Royal Carriage Department* and various Gunnery Tables and Pedigrees of Kemmis and Camoys families. They had six sons. In 1867 George and Emma's only son, Matravers, married Jane Harriet Puckle and they had one son, Bernard Puckle in 1874. Their third child, Emma, did not marry.

George was buried at Chevening where his memorial inscriptions is recorded 'Arms - George Steinman Steinman Esq. F.S.A. of Sundridge died 12 February 1893 aged 81 years' (Chevening MIs 1921). His only obituary was published in the Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries in 1893:

'Of our Fellows deceased, the first in date of election is Mr. George Steinman Steinman, who joined the Society on January 23, 1834, and was at his death 'father' of the Society. He was born June 11, 1811, and was the descendant of an ancient family of St Gall, in Switzerland. He communicated two papers connected with Brugges, one on the tomb of Louis de Bruges, Earl of Winchester, formerly in the church of Notre Dame of Bruges, and printed in *Archaeologia* (xxxii, 408); the other on memorials preserved at Bruges of King Charles II's residence there (*Archaeologia*, xxxv. 335). He also made several minor communications noticed in our Proceeding. (Proc. i. 305, ii. 61; 2nd S. ii. 27, 400).

'Mr Steinman was on the Council for two years, 1870 and 1871. He was author of several works, mostly privately printed, and of which he presented copies to our library. Among these I may mention *The History of Croydon*, 1834; *Memoir of Mrs. Myddleton*, 1864; *Althorp Memoirs*, 1869; and a *Memoir of Barbara, Duchess of Cleveland*, 1871. Mr. Steinman died February 12, 1893' (Society of Antiquaries 1893).

HIS INTERESTS AND MEMBERSHIPS

It is in no small measure that his profligacy as a correspondent has enabled comparison of the handwritten notes from Roger Cichorz to be compared with signed letters known to be from GSS. Three examples were available to me and prove conclusively that the notes were made by GSS. The first example is of two letters written by GSS to William Henry Fox Talbot. Both were written on black edged paper (mourning the death of his mother Betty Susannah) and are filed in the Fox Talbot archive. Sadly they are nothing to do with what Fox Talbot is well-known for - photography - but are to do with what GSS was fanatical about. The first dated 20 September 1853 asks Fox Talbot to inform him whether Sir Gilbert Fox Talbot, who died in 1695, is buried at Lacock Abbey, the home of the Fox Talbots; and to correct a Burke's Peerage entry concerning Sherington Talbot from reportedly dying as an infant when in fact he survived to become MP for Andover and was subsequently slain in a duel.

The second letter dated 1 October 1853 is a thank you and request for further information on the above-mentioned Sir Gilbert referring to his child and asking who its mother was (Fox Talbot 1853).

The third example is a letter written to George E. Adams Esq., 3 August 1854, when he asks for six items of genealogical information relating to GSS's publication *A Memoir of Mrs Myddleton*. He concludes his letter with 'If you can oblige me with them [confirmation of two marriages and four burials] I will at once send to press.' In the event, the Addendum was not printed until 1880 (Figure 1).

Subj: *Antiquary's collection*. No. 1436. 710 2 June 1852

Captain Thomas Cross Captain of the "Crescent" frigate
 now at the Island of Lundy for the Parliament July 16. 1844
 the tameday Richard Cooke refused to furnish the
 head copies.

Antiquary's collection. Monarchs of Prince Rupert
 and the Caribbees 1849. i. p. 450.
 mentions Richard Cooke. "Antiquary's
 Collection".

17 July (Wednesday) 1844 Lundy Island summoned by the
 Parliament and bravely defended for the King,
 Paper correspondence. Vol. vii. p. 3

5. *Annals of Collymore Head Lundy. Between 17 Jan: 1657-2
 and 18 Feb: 1658 g.*

6. *Annals of Pleasant Head Lundy. Between 18 Feb: 1657
 March: 1658-9.*

If you can oblige me with them I will at once
 send to press.

Believe me, My dear Sir,
 Yours ever most faithfully,
 G. Steinman on the island

X. By William Bardulf and Richard de Trancene
Le Antiquis legibus libris. (Camd. Soc. Publ.) p. 9

Figure 1: Examples of handwriting

Top: notes slipped into Steinman's own copy of *Lundy*, 1852

Middle: signed letter to George E. Adams, 1854

Bottom: note made in Steinman's own copy of *Lundy*

Serendipitously, the archive of this letter includes the printed addendum and also a photograph of George himself (NRO C942). He is not in the first flush of youth and the photograph could well have been taken post-1880 when he would have been at least in his 70s (Figure 2).

The memberships I have been able to trace - not including the Linnean Society - are:

- Society of Antiquaries elected 1834
- Camden Society (from at least 1839)
- Oxford University Genealogical and Heraldic Society - elected 1835
- Council member and Fellow of the Surrey Archaeological Society - elected 1834
- Subscriber to: Gentleman's Magazine (GM); Collectanea Topographica et Genealogica (CTetG); The Topographer and Genealogist; Notes and Queries.

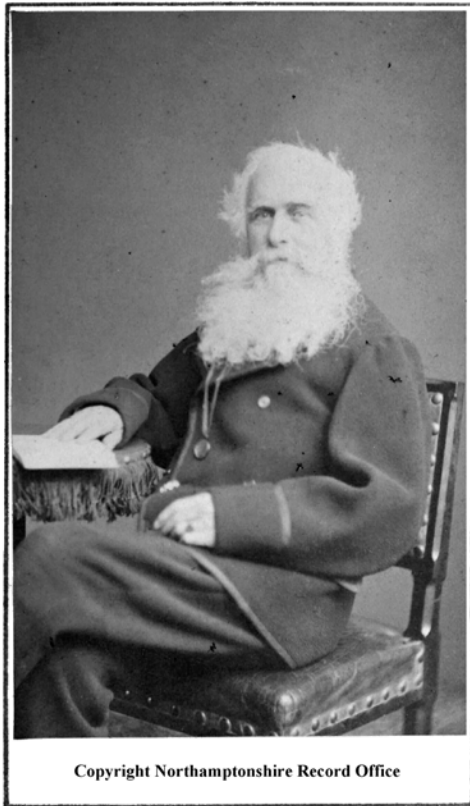


Figure 2: Photograph of George Steinman Steinman (by kind permission of Northamptonshire Record Office)

His appearances in the Gentleman's Magazine are regular; his publications are reviewed; he also comments on historical and antiquarian matters but generally signed himself 'GSS'. Similarly in CTetG, his signature may be in full or abbreviated. The full bibliography of this publication is included in this paper. He was only an occasional contributor to The Topographer and Genealogist.

In Notes and Queries from 1849, there are over 300 records for George Steinman Steinman. Many are requests and responses to one query and most of these are with reference to the seminal work *History of Croydon* or his other works. Not all are contemporaneous; he continues to be quoted long after his death. The eight references to Steinman and Lundy extend from 1862 to 1984 but are mainly duplications.

HIS LEGACY

GSS must have thought long and hard about what to do with his collection of antiquarian books and documents. His last will and testament was written in 1883 ten years before his death. The male heirs are explored below.

Matravers Harcourt Collier Bernhard Steinman

GSS had one direct male descendant, Lt. Col. Maltravers Harcourt Collier Bernhard Steinman (MHCB), his son, who in turn had a son Bernhard Puckle Steinman.

It is not too difficult to chart the career of MHCB. Born in 1839, he should have been with his parents in the 1841 census at Priory Lodge; his two sisters certainly

were, but he was not recorded there. In 1851, aged 11, he was with his family who were staying with his grandfather John Christy at his home of Aperfield Farm in Cudham, Kent. In 1857 he passed a public examination at the East India Company's Military College at Addiscombe qualifying him for the Artillery (Morning Chronicle 1857).

In 1858, aged 19, he was a member of the Royal Madras Artillery and promoted to Lieutenant (LG 29 April 1862). The London Gazette continues to inform his military progress copied in the Gentleman's Magazine. In 1867 aged 28 he married Jane Harriet Puckle in Southsea and on 2 November (BMD and Gentleman's Magazine) and in 1874 his only child, Bernard Puckle was born. He retired in 1879 on full-pay with the honorary rank of Lieutenant-Colonel (LG 23 Jan 1880, 13 Apr 1880, 8 July 1890, 9 July 1890).

In 1881, the parents are not living in the same house on census night. Jane and Bernard were staying with her mother Clementina and servants (RG11 1117 f66 p1). Jane was noted as married, aged 37 and wife of a Retired Colonel on Military Pension. Meanwhile Matravers (Bernard, as he is listed in the 1881 census) was visiting John Christy at his home Buckhurst Lodge in Cudham (RG11 0855 f58 p11). Whether the couple were estranged is uncertain. However, there is a reference in the National Archives Office (NAO C 211/51/76) that MHCB was subject to an inquisition of Lunacy in April 1886, and in the 1891 census, he can be found in the Royal India Asylum at Ealing in Brentford. He was one of a hundred inmates and recorded as: 'Steinman, Matravers HCB, a patient, married aged 52, Retired Lt Col - lunatic' (RG12 1031).

He died in Norfolk in 1903 aged 64. GSS would have been aware of his son's mental decline. Given that his great aunt Hannah Steinman was referred to in her father's will as 'being subject to occasional attacks of insanity' it may not have been too much of a surprise that this recurred in his son (PROB 11/1769).

Bernard Puckle Steinman

Bernard Puckle followed in his father's military footsteps. By 1891 he was a boarder at Boyes House in College Road Cheltenham and in 1893, aged 19, he was a Second Lieutenant in the 3rd Battalion the Buffs (East Kent Regiment). In 1896, he resigned his commission. (LG 8 Jan 1896) and in 1901 he was named as co-respondent in a divorce case together with Christain P. Chesnaye in respect of Charles Edward and Katharine Blanchard Sismey (NAO J 77/719). In 1902 he married a rich American widow, Mrs Mary H Cammack, widow of Addison Cammack of Tuxedo (NY Times 1902). They suffered a major fire in 1904, losing their home and belongings, and are referred to as millionaires (NY Times 1904).

From 1904 until the First World War, Bernard and his daughter Marjorie, born in 1903, can be traced shuttling backwards and forwards between their homes in Boothby Hall, Grantham, and New York. Ships' passenger lists record his journeys on, for example *SS Campania* 1904, *Lusitania* 1908 and *Olympio* June 1914.

In 1914, on declaration of war, he rejoined his regiment and was sent to Fermoy in August. He was an accomplished linguist and acted as an interpreter and intelligence officer. On 26 April 1916 he was killed in action and is buried in St Sever Cemetery.

Marcus Steinman Kemmis

He was born on 29 May 1867, the third (but second surviving) of the six sons of William Kemmis and Ellen Gertrude de Horne Christy Steinman, GSS's first child. At age 17, in March 1885, he matriculated at Oxford and so began studying for his degree.

In the 1891 census, 5 March, aged 23, he was staying at Miss Lorina Hughes' lodging house at Old Nelson Street in Lowestoft where he was described as a Lay Reader (Preach) (RG12 1493.38). On 18 June 1891, Marcus was awarded his BA and MA and on 20 October ordained deacon by the Archbishop of York and become curate of Pitsmoor, Sheffield. On 18 December, he was made priest by the Archbishop of York at York Minster (Times 21 Dec 1892). This is where he met his wife, Eliza Jane Chorlton, daughter of the Rev Samuel Chorlton Vicar of Christchurch, Pitsmoor. Marcus and Eliza Jane were married at Pitsmoor on 22 September 1892.

By the time of his grandfather's (GSS's) death in February 1893, his selection of Marcus as his main benefactor would have been confirmed and he would have died a happy man. His successor, was educated, a clergyman, so he would have both Greek and Latin, and no doubt shared his grandfather's love of books and history; confidently justifying his choice. Marcus was following in his paternal grandfather's footsteps too, the Rev. George Kemmis BA, Vicar of Rosenallis, Queen's County, Ireland.

Early in 1945, he resigned his living - 'The Rev. M.S. Kemmis-Steinman, for 26 years rector of Morcott, near Uppingham, Rutland, is to resign' (Times 2 Apr 1945) - and by the end of the year he was dead, having died on 22 December leaving no issue and thus no Steinman descendants.

HIS WILL

GSS's will written on 29 December 1883 when Marcus was only 16, must have been in response to some family change as it contains the words 'I hereby revoke a will heretofore made by me and declare this to be my last will...' (IR 26/2249). We have seen that GSS's only son, Matravers, had retired from the Army with a decent pension. He was not with his wife on the 1881 census day - perhaps his mental illness was already beginning to reveal itself. Matravers' son, Bernard, aged nine in 1883, may have given little indication of whether he would have been a suitable beneficiary of GSS's benevolence. There may have been a family rift; we can only surmise. However, the promise of a suitable successor, 16-year old Marcus, working towards being accepted at Oxford with a vocation to become a clergyman was certainly GSS's choice. The will is quite specific; he left all his estate to his wife Emma for her life. This was then to be placed in trust for their two daughters before finally going to Marcus:

'... I give devise and bequeath to my very dear wife Emma Catherine Collier all my real and personal estate whatever nature which I now have or may be intitled to at law or equity. Of this bequest such money as is invested in land, houses, English or Foreign Government securities the last named being at this date in amount £8,500 and the bonds thereof deposited in my plate chest upon trust only for her life. On her death the same to continue in trust for her two daughters [Ellen Gertrude and Emma Isabella] for their lives. On the death of the elder of the two her portion in extent one half is to go to her

second son Marcus Steinman Kemmis conditionally that he assumes the name and arms of Steinman by Royal Licence if such favour he can obtain. On the death of the younger of the two before the elder without issue her moiety is to go to her elder sister for life remainder to her said sisters second son before mentioned. If the younger should survive her elder sister and die without issue then her moiety is to follow that of her elder sister. If the said Marcus Steinman Kemmis should die before his mother and without issue then his next heir male other than his father his eldest brother of his eldest brother's son is to take his place in the bequest under the same conditions. In making this bequest to my grandson I do so in the hope and belief that his good father will on the distribution of his property treat him as if no such bequest has been made ...' (IR 26/2249 - 11 March 1893. His will, valued at £21,795 12s in 1893 is equivalent to £1,577,365 today using the RPI).

George Steinman Steinman died on 12 February 1893 at his home in Sundridge and the will was proved on the 11 March 1893 with a gross value of £21,795 12s. GSS certainly tried his best to ensure that Marcus was the eventual sole beneficiary, but an equal aim was for him to ensure the continuity of the surname Steinman. In the same way that his grandfather's surname was perpetuated by Royal Licence, he wanted to ensure this continuity either through Marcus or one of his brothers. It seems reasonably certain that he had totally cut his only son Matravers and his son Bernard out of his will.

Emma Isabella never married and saw out her days in the company of her uncle Albert Christy (executor of GSS's will) and died in 1902 at Uckfield in Sussex, only 3 years after her mother died. The whole of the inheritance then devolved to the elder sister Ellen Gertrude, Marcus' mother. After the death of her husband William, she retired to Bristol. Marcus must have just about given up any hope of benefitting financially from his grandfather's will; his mother lived to the age of 86 when she died in Clifton, Bristol, on 21 May 1924 (Times May 23, 1924).

Shortly after this, on the 18 Nov 1924 the final part of the will was complete when the Royal Licence for change of name and to bear arms was granted:

'Whitehall,

'18th November, 1924

'The KING has been pleased to grant unto Marcus Steinman Kemmis, Clerk, Master of Arts of the University of Oxford, Rector of Morcott, in the County of Rutland, his Royal Licence and Authority that he, the said Marcus Steinman Kemmis, and his issue may take and henceforth use the surname Steinman in addition to and after that of Kemmis, and that he and they may bear the Arms of Steinman only, the said Arms being duly exemplified according to the Laws of Arms, and recorded in the College of Arms, otherwise the said Royal Licence and permission to be void and of none effect. And to command that the said Royal Concession and Declaration be recorded in His Majesty's said College of Arms' (LG 28 Nov 1924).

Although Marcus had to wait for 30 years after his grandfather's death to benefit financially, there is evidence that GSS's library was given to him soon after his death, or at least after his grandmother's death.

I have been able to trace various books that were once in the library of GSS that bear the bookplate of Marcus when they were in his library before his name change in 1924 (Figure 3):

- King, Richard. *The Franklin Expedition from first to last ...* London: John Churchill, 1855. Inscribed on title page G.S. Steinman Esq/FSA/with kind regards/of the Author/Richard King - The catalogue of Everett D. Graff Collection of Western Americana.
- In the library of the Society of Antiquaries of London: Quarto, half leather, purple (faded to brown) book plate of Marcus Steinman Kemmis - presented by A. Hawley, 13 Oct 1947.
- Letters on literary subjects addressed to G. Steinman Steinman Esq. FSA. Mainly clergymen in response to enquiries concerning parish registers; mostly 1831-49 (SAL/MS/759).
- *Island of Lundy*, G. Steinman Steinman FSA. Bound copy of extract from *Collectanea Topographica et Genealogica* with manuscript annotations and inserted loose notes (Cichorz 2009).

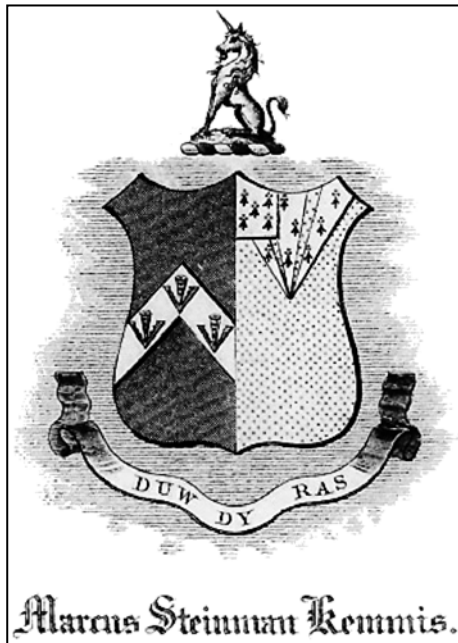


Figure 3: Marcus Steinman Kemmis's bookplate. This is pre-1924 as it shows his own and his wife's arms, dexter Kemmis and sinister Chorlton. After this he was entitled to bear the arms of Steinman - Azure an ibex rampant Argent horned Or

DISCUSSION

GSS's first book was undoubtedly his magnum opus. Written in 1833, it was 397 pages long and at that time, and since, is referred to as *the* historical work on Croydon to which everyone turns to as a source. GSS gave great credit to earlier researchers and cited his sources as British Museum, Lambeth Palace and the College of Arms, which set the tone of all of his future researches. It is a tribute to his boyhood home of Croydon and amongst the many epitaphs he records is that to his grandfather, George Leonard Steinman, and an aunt, Louisa Bastin Bryne, both commemorated inside St Nicholas' Chantry (Steinman, 1833).

In 1834, *Collectanea Genealogica et Topographic* was a new venture which was reported in the July 1832 edition of the *Gentleman's Magazine* under Literary and Scientific Intelligence thus: 'We are happy to see the announcement of a Topographical and Genealogical work, to be intitled *Collectanea Topographica*; and to appear in Quarterly Parts. Its objects will be the publication of important inedited documents illustrative of Local History and Genealogy, and the preservation of notices or fragments of a topographical nature, too brief to appear in a separate form, but which may form the materials of future County Histories ...'.

Later in the year in the November edition was the report of GSS's change of name from Smith to Steinman - 'Geo Steinman Smith, of Camberwell, Surrey, gent. to take the surname of Steinman only.' Also in this edition was a fairly lengthy report on Lundy Island concerning the completion of a long survey of several years of the Bristol Channel by Lieutenants Denham and Robinson RN (GM 1832). I think it safe to assume that GSS was a reader of the *Gentleman's Magazine* which is substantiated by a note in his own hand in his copy of *Some Account of Lundy Island* - 'Lundy Island. Finish of Survey of (sic) by Lieuts Denham + Robinson R.N. +c Gents Mag. (1832) cii pt 2. f 640' (Cichorz 2009).

GSS began subscribing to CTetG, not for the first edition, Vol. I 1834, but certainly from Vol. II 1835 and up to its demise with Vol. VIII in 1843. During this time he submitted not less than 21 accounts to the publication. The vast majority of these were related to Parish Registers, Coats of Arms, Families or charters in his possession, almost all in or around where he lived. His world was either side of the Kent/Surrey border. He lived south of the Thames in Camberwell parish, variously Brixton or Norwood (Croydon) and later for a number of years he lived at Priory Lodge, Peckham where his three children were born.

I have already alluded to the fact that GSS wrote about what he knew or experienced. What, you may ask, is the connection with Lundy. I believe that this interest gradually developed. He probably read of the survey by Denham and Robinson in 1832 (GM 1832). He then came across another reference in CTetG in Vol III 1836, in a paper 'Documents relating to the Families of Bryan, Fitzpain, Ponynes and others, the coheirs of Sir Guy de Bryan, sen. K.G'. In this was the original Latin and translation: 'Deed of Partition of the Estates of Sir Guy de Bryan in the year 1488 from the original in the possession of John Gage esq.' The relevant passage is: 'And that the seid Erle of Ormond shall have to him and to his heires, in fee simple nowe forthwith the Ile of Lunday, and the maner and lordship of Northam with appurten^ance in the countie of Devonshire.'

The Gage connection was already made in his article previously referred to 'Some account of the manor of Haling in the parish of Croydon, Surrey with notices of the Family of Gage of that place'. I do not believe that he ever visited the Island; his writings have neither unique topographical elements nor personal anecdotes and his family have no obvious connection. The only previous publication about the Island was the obscure '*Lundy and Cave Review*' which included 'A Journal of the Time I spent on the island of Lundy in the year 1787' (NDRO 1787) and Grose. No other publications can be traced earlier than this. Indeed the Lundy historian, Myrtle Ternstrom, wrote:

‘An important account of Lundy's history from 1199 to date was published in 1836 by G. Steinman Steinman, FSA. Information is taken from the rolls and inquisitions, Matthew Paris, Bushell, Grose, other writers, and deeds from 1781. Many of the sources are quoted in full, and all are carefully cited, with a description of the island and its buildings. Steinman refers to the OS map of 1820, also to MSS belonging to the proprietor (W. H. Heaven), and his scholarly work has provided a basis from which later historians have proceeded ... Both Steinman and Chanter have remained standard works, and Chanter's was the only one available until 1925’ (Ternstrom 1999).

No doubt GSS was fascinated about the research possibilities which with his proven scholarship gave him good opportunity for original research.

A bound and printed copy of *Some Account of Lundy Island* in the possession of Roger Cichorz has two hand-written annotations against the text. This also contained the notes referred to above (Figure 1) and comparison of the notes, annotations and letters signed by GSS prove conclusively that the notes were written by him. I believe this book to have been GSS's personal copy bound to order from the original text as published in CTetG in 1837. Further, I believe that the annotations suggest GSS had not completed his researches about Lundy. He had not referred to the survey completed in 1832 nor had he come across the document published in *Liber antiquis legibus liber* (Camden Society 1846). These annotations together with the notes, one dated 1851, suggest that another publication could have been made.

Together, these notes form a framework of further information on Lundy that I believe GSS may have been contemplating writing, either as an addenda or together with his already published work in CTetG, a more complete and separate book. His letter to Mr. George Adams, (Northampton Record Office C942) written in 1859 requesting further information to add to that of Mrs Myddleton, ends with the sentence, ‘If you can oblige me with them [his genealogical queries] I will at once send to press.’ In the event, the ‘Addenda to A Memoir of Mrs Myddleton’ was published 21 years later in 1880. The framework in chronological order suggests that after publication of ‘*An Account of the Island of Lundy*’ in 1836, his researches continued, particularly into the Civil War period. The fact that some were not available as publications until after 1836 precluded GSS using them for reference.

- 1242: Handwritten notes in GSS's copy of *Lundy* published 1836 reference to events in 1242 William Bardulf and Richard de Warene, published in *Liber antiquis legibus liber* (by the Camden Society in 1846) f9.
- 1609: The Deposition of William Younge of Pembroke - Pirates in the Bristol Channel, published 1840.
- 1620: Stucley's betrayal of Sir Walter Rawleigh, published 1754.
- 1620: French ships at Lundy - Dairy of Walter Younge, published by Camden Society 1848.
- 1644 : Memoirs of Prince Rupert and the Cavaliers, published 1849 seen by him in 1852.
- 1647: Thomas Bushell, published 1808.
- 1832: Denham and Robinson survey, published 1832 and noted in GSS's copy of *Lundy*, published 1836.

For example, slipped in the pages of GSS's own copy of *Lundy* (Steinman 1836) is a handwritten copy taken from the Gentleman's Magazine (GM 1839). This is then paraphrased on the back of the envelope postmarked 1876 (Cichorz 2009). This shows GSS's continuing interest in the history of Lundy, further research and the progression from notes to drafting of text for publication.

CONCLUSIONS

It is easy to sympathise with GSS. When he was re-writing his will in 1883, he was aged 72 and had amassed a collection of old books and rare documents. Booklovers and collectors of all things suffer the same dilemma. Their children may have no interest in collections built up over the years and rare items sought out and lovingly stored may suffer the indignity of being dispersed or worse still, almost given away or otherwise unsympathetically disposed of.

GSS's direct male descendants (at that time his daughters would have been instantly and unthinkingly dismissed) were interested in manlier, military pursuits. The solution lay in his grandson, Marcus. He ensured continuity of his collection and of the surname that he himself adopted.

GSS's researches into Lundy, particularly during the Civil War period continued. There is evidence of continued research and preserved notes. The process of producing a narrative from copied notes is also evident. There may yet be a manuscript to be discovered.

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John Falconer of the British Library kindly supplied copies of the original letters from Steinman to Fox Talbot. Diana Keast has given free access to the Harman archives where much information on the modern reproduction was found.

I greatly appreciated the unstinting help that Roger Cichorz gave me in providing copies of his holdings and permission to reproduce them.

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- The London Gazette available at <http://www.london-gazette.co.uk/>.
- FreeBMD available at <http://www.freebmd.org.uk/>.
- FreeCEN available at <http://freecen.rootsweb.com/>.
- Ancestry available at <http://www.ancestry.co.uk/> with subscription.
- GENUKI. available at <http://www.genuki.org.uk/>.
- Latter Day Saints Family search available at <http://www.familysearch.org/eng/default.asp>.
- Commonwealth War Graves Commission available at <http://www.cwgc.org/>.