Who was Alice Campbell?

An analysis of available research, compiled by Marcus Bicknell for Valerie Lester, Clarence Bicknell's biographer, in November 2017.

1) FACT

a) Several photographs of Clarence Bicknell feature a well-dressed lady accompanying him. These photos are in the mountains, probably in the Val Fontanalba before 1907¹.







The Museo Bicknell print of the photo of them sitting on a rock (above right) is marked in black ink "Clarence Bicknell, Mahdi, and Mme Alice".

The book² released by Livio Mano says the lady standing in the photo with CB outside the Museo Bicknell (right), and in the top right photo on the Chiappes (above), is Miss Alice Campbell.



Il Museo Bicknell di Bordighera a fine Ottocento. Nella fotografia C. Bicknell (seduto) con due amiche (in piedi Miss Alice Campbell).
(g.c. Arch. foto [st. Int. Studi Liguri).

¹ Mahdi, Clarence's dog, in the photos, died in 1907.

² Livio Mano, ed. "Bicknell e il suo museo." Comune di Cuneo, Novel Temp: quaderno di cultura e studi occitani alpini. N. 37. Edizione Soulestrelh, November 1990, p. 25

- b) No such lady is the object of a contemporary written record.
- c) No such lady is recorded in Bordighera's newspapers, concert cast lists or other records
- d) No such lady signed the visitors' book of the Casa Fontanalba Visitors' Book or the Berrys' Villa Monte Verde visitors' book.
- d) We are aware of no letters from or to Bicknell which refer to this lady, despite numerous notebooks, sketchbooks and 1,385 of Bicknell's letters being available to us for research.

2) PRIMARY SOURCES

- a) **Offical records at Tende.** We find no evidence or reliable contemporary record for these stories. The archivist of the Mairie de Tende, Nadine Valentini³ confirmed in September 2017 that there is no record of Bicknell dying of mushroom poisoning or of Alice Campbell being buried at Tende. She had spent considerable time on this issue, researching the archives, two years previously in the physical company of Françoise Riniéri-Villain, author of author of "C'est Un Grand Mystère" who also confirmed to me⁴ the tales of Bicknell's end which she established as fiction (death by mushroom and burial next to Alice). Note also that Françoise points out Clarence's total discretion (« ... il était discret. »)
- b) **Encounter in Finalmarina in the winter of 1883.** Clarence wrote⁵ in 1897 to Prof Arturo Issel (University of Genoa, Archaeology) about lunch back in the winter of 1883 with "a lady" in Finalmarina, a coastal town about 90 kilometres northeast of Bordighera. The complete text of this letter is in ANNEX 10. The lady could have been Lady Angela Mary Alice Campbell (née Ryder)(see ANNEX) when she was 20 years old (see 3) Lady Angela Mary Alice Campbell (née Ryder).

The fly in the ointment here is... "I invited a lady to lunch, a friend of many years who with her mother, now dead." Susan Dent, the mother of Lady Angela Mary Alice Campbell, died, according to a web source (The Peerage) in 1913. Clarence's memory of the identity of Alice's companion, or the death date could be false.

A further letter from Bicknell to Issel, of 20 November 1898, confirms "I remember perfectly the walk I took in 1883 with that Scottish Lady I mentioned in my letter". This is, to my knowledge, the only primary source mention of the lady being Scottish.

c) **Encounter in Finalmarina in 1897**. The same letter which refers to 1883 confirms that Clarence met the same lady in December 1897 in Finalmarina.

It should be noted that the FinalMarina meetings are linked in writing neither to "Alice Campbell" nor, as she was then "Alice Ryder" or "Angela Ryder".

³ Nadine Valentini <u>nadine.valentini@orange.fr</u> and <u>maire.tende@fr.oleane.com</u> or by phone 06 8479 4676

⁴ See her email in ANNEX 8 hereto

⁵ CB to Arturo Issel, 1897-12-27. In Clarence Bicknell: La Vita..., p. 77.

3) SECONDARY SOURCES

- a) **Nino Lamboglia** (1912-1977), an archaeologist who in 1937 became director (Commissario straordinario) of the Museo Bicknell a Bordighera, and later founded the Istituto Internazionale di Studi Liguri, wrote in his 1965 article⁶ 'volle il destino che [Bicknell] morisse d'improvviso, per una banale indigestione di funghi velenosi, al ritorno da una giornata fra i suoi monti, e che fosse seppellito a Tenda, come aveva desiderato, vicino alla sua fedele compagna Miss Alice Campbell'. Bicknell... suddenly died, from a banal ingestion of poisonous mushrooms, returning from a day in his mountains, and buried in Tenda, as he had desired, near his faithful companion Miss Alice Campbell.
- b) **Enzo Bernardini** wrote for a conference in April 1971 (*Clarence Bicknell, Margaret e Edward Berry, IISL 1972*) ...

"Il 17 luglio 1918, si trovava nella sua casa di Casterino, essendo stato colto fin da tre giorni prima da improvviso malore, desiderò ricrearsi con la vista delle dilette montagne, e si fece trasportare sulla veranda ove spirò serenamente, nella contemplazione delle Alpi a lui tanto care. Clarence Bicknell fu sepolto con estrema semplicità nel cimitero di Tenda, non essendo possibile rispettare le sue volontà che esprimevano il desiderio de riposare per sempre a Casterino, per essere piu vicino ai monti tante volte percorsi e accanto all fedele compagna miss Alice Campbell."

"On July 17, 1918, in his house of Casterino, having caught three days before a sudden fever, he wished to relax with the sight of the delightful mountains, so he asked to be carried to the veranda where he quietly drifted off into contemplation of the Alps which were so dear to him. Clarence Bicknell was buried with simplicity in the Cemetery of Tende, it not being possible to respect his wish to stay forever at Casterino, to be closer to the mountains where he spent so much time and beside his loyal companion miss Alice Campbell"

Bernardini has been asked several times including by phone and email by his friend living in Bordighera Ing. Giuseppe E. Bessone in March 2017 to inform us of his sources, but Bernardini's papers had been lost in a flood and he could not remember the source. The email exchange is in Annex 1.

The similarity between Lamboglia and Bernardini's accounts in overall meaning and phrase (e.g. vicino ... alla sua fedele compagna") that we can assume that Bernardini was quoting from Lamboglia's paper from 6 years earlier. If fiction there is, Lamboglia was the first to disseminate it.

Note a significant <u>discrepancy</u> in Bernardini's sentence, "... it not being possible" could be taken to negate the rest of the entire sentence, i.e. it was neither possible to stay forever at Casterino nor to be beside Alice Campbell. With this in mind I am inclined to think that Bernardini already had doubts about Lamboglia's version.

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⁶ See references in Graham Avery's note in Annex 1 hereto

c) **Livio Mano** edited a booklet "Bicknell e il suo museo" for the Comune di Cuneo. Novel Temp: quaderno di cultura e studi occitani alpini. N. 37. Edizione Soulestrelh, November 1990, p. 25. This is the source of the two printed photos which identify Miss Alice Campbell in print (p.1 and Annex 11 of this paper). In the absence of any primary source cited we must assume that this is drawn from Lamboglia and/or Bernardini, i.e. repetition of the apparently-unsubstantiated fable.

Whatever the source, these and other bits of folklore continue to make their presence felt, usually in less informed writing, as if there were an appeal in making up or exaggerating the legends of Clarence Bicknell, such as

- Bicknell died of mushroom poisoning
- Bicknell is buried at Casterino, next to Alice Campbell
- A coffin full of stones was dispatched to Tende for burial while his body was buried at Casterino
- d) **Scandal.** Gallino & Pallavicini's paper of 2000 referred to by Graham Avery (ANNEX 2) refers to possible "scandal, such as the presence of Miss Alice Campbell with him in the summer at Casa Fontanalba". No source is given
- d) **Father in railways.** On two occasions in 2016 (May and June?) once in my presence, Bernardini told Bessone that Alice's father was a railway magnate or railway owner. We have not found reference in Bordighera to this assertion but we carry it forward in our assessment of the likely identity of Alice (Chapter 3)

 Lady Angela Mary Alice Campbell (née Ryder).
- e) **Miss Muriel.** When Bernardini was writing about her (see Correspondence from Bernardini via Bessone 2016 ANNEX), he said he had interviewed the redoubtable "Miss Muriel," that is Muriel de Burgh Daly, who was old enough have known Alice. She replied indignantly to his questions about her: "About that woman I do not intend to speak." It sounds as though Bordighera, at least the tea-drinking gossips, did not approve of her liaison, or whatever it was, with Clarence (words of Valerie Lester)

3) Lady Angela Mary Alice Campbell (née Ryder)

Of the dozen or so Alice Campbells I have investigated, Alice Ryder is the most likely (Finalmarina, timing, resemblance to named portraits, father in railways)

Timeline

1863 Alice Ryder born to aristocratic parents 1866 Colin Frederick Campbell, 1st Baron Colgrain born Clarence Bicknell meets "a lady" in Finalmarina 1883 1890 Alice Ryder married Colin Frederick Campbell, 1st Baron Colgrain Alice Ryder's mother Susan died 1913 1939 Alice Ryder's father Henry died 1939 Alice Campbell née Ryder herself died Her husband Colgrain died 1954

Father: Henry Dudley Ryder (1863-1939), Daughter of 4th Earl of Harrowby; Her father was Henry Dudley Ryder before becoming Earl. Henry Dudley Ryder was a direct descendant of Thomas Coutts, was a director of Coutts, director of the Cardiff Railway Company, director of the Bute Docks Company. Henry Dudley Ryder purchased land of the Fairbourne Railway in Wales http://www.return2ferry.co.uk/fairbourne.html

Mother: Susan Juliana Maria Hamilton Dent. MBE d. 18 March 1913

The husband of Lady Angela Mary Alice Campbell (née Ryder) from 1890:

Colin Frederick Campbell, 1st Baron Colgrain (13 June 1866-3 November 1954), was a <u>British banker</u>. He was educated at <u>Eton College.[1]</u> He was President of the <u>British Bankers' Association</u> from 1938 to 1946 and was also a Director of the <u>National Provincial Bank</u> and of <u>London Assurance</u>. In 1946 he was raised to the peerage as Baron Colgrain, of Everlands in the County of Kent. Lord Colgrain married Lady Angela Mary Alice, daughter of Henry Ryder, 4th Earl of Harrowby, in 1890. She died in 1939. Colgrain died in November 1954, aged 88, and was succeeded in the barony by his eldest son <u>Donald</u>.

Images of Alice Campbell



Lady Angela Mary Alice Campbell (née Ryder) by Bassano Ltd whole-plate glass negative, 23 October 1933 Given by Bassano & Vandyk Studios, 1974 <u>Photographs Collection</u> NPG x150938

© National Portrait Gallery, Londo



Lady Angela Mary Alice Campbell (née Ryder) with her granddaughter Judith Averil Buxton (née Campbell) by Bassano Ltd whole-plate glass negative, 23 October 1933 Given by Bassano & Vandyk Studios, 1974 NPG x150939

© National Portrait Gallery, Londo

Alice picture source: http://www.npg.org.uk/collections/search/person/mp84600/lady-angela-mary-alice-campbell-ne-ryder

Both these images are compatible with the lady seen in the photos with Clarence.

Other references to Lady Angela Mary Alice Campbell (née Ryder)

Alice Campbell is also listed in Visitation of England and Wales https://archive.org/stream/visitationengla02crisgoog_djvu.txt search "Angela Mary Alice", and in The Peerage http://thepeerage.com/p1858.htm

London Gazette 8 Jan 1919 lists the following: "The Lady Angela Mary Alice Campbell. Commandant, St. John's Auxiliary Hospital, Sevenoaks, Kent." Sevenoaks is close to Fairseat, Ada Bicknell's home

(Check the Census in Kent as Angela lived near Ada Bicknell. Also MB check Genealogy.com and ancestry.com)

British Women Composers and Instrumental Chamber Music in the Early ...

by Laura Seddon mentions Madame Alice Campbell (possibly Lady Angela Mary Alice Campbell involved in women's rights 1917-1920)

https://books.google.co.uk/books?id=jY0GDAAAQBAJ&pg=PA176&lpg=PA176&dq=Lady+Angela+Mary+Alice+Campbell&source=bl&ots=EeoQ45fhF9&sig=7xctujGPjtw0ci4dDIHVG99rnME&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwic4O-v_MLXAhVhIcAKHTgBBqQQ6AEIYjAO#v=onepage&q=Lady%20Angela%20Mary%20Alice%20Campbell&f=false

I have tried to get in touch with the Grand-daughter of Alice Campbell: Judith Averil Campbell was born on 12 November 1927. She is the daughter of <u>Hon. Angus Dudley</u> Campbell and <u>Joan Esther Sybilla Pakenham</u>.

Children of Judith Averil Campbell and <u>Lt.-Cdr. Gerard St. John Roden Buxton</u> <u>Charlotte Anne Gerard Buxton</u> b. 25 Sep 1955

Sir Crispin Charles Gerard Buxton, 8th Bt.2 b. 29 Mar 1958

Laura Joan Gerard Buxton2 b. 31 Oct 1961

Avery 2016

05/04/2016 Clarence Bicknell and Alice Campbell

Note by Graham Avery

This note describes the sources that I have found for the story of Clarence Bicknell's companion Alice Campbell, and relates the results of my investigation into her identity.

Sources

The earliest mention that I have seen of Alice Campbell and Clarence Bicknell is in an article published in 1965, nearly 50 years after Clarence's death.

The article was by Nino Lamboglia (1912-1977), an archaeologist who in 1937 became director (Commissario straordinario) of the Museo Bicknell a Bordighera, and later founded the Istituto Internazionale di Studi liguri. In his article⁷ Lamboglia wrote 'volle il destino che [Bicknell] morisse d'improvviso, per una banale indigestione di funghi velenosi, al ritorno da una giornata fra i suoi monti, e che fosse seppellito a Tenda, come aveva desiderato, vicino alla sua fedele compagna Miss Alice Campbell'.

Bicknell... suddenly died, from a banal ingestion of poisonous mushrooms, returning from a day in his mountains, and buried in Tenda, as he had desired, near his faithful companion Miss Alice Campbell.

The article mentions no sources, and is inaccurate on at least one point: it says that Clarence came to Bordighera in 1883, but the correct date was 1878.

The next mention is in an article published in 1971 by Enzo Bernardini. Born in San Remo in 1940, he popularised local history and archaeology through articles, books, talks, and TV programmes; he was secretary of the Istituto Internazionale di Studi liguri, and later editor of the publishing firm Istituto Geografico De Agostini. His book 'Bordighera Ieri' was published in 1971, with a revised version in 1996.

In his article in 1971⁸ Bernardini wrote 'Il 17 luglio 1918 [Bicknell] si trovava nella sua casa di Casterino, essendo stato colto fin da tre giorni prima da improvviso malore, desiderò ricrearsi con la vista delle dilette montagne, e si fece trasportare sulla veranda ove spirò serenamente, nella contemplazione delle Alpi a lui tanto care. Clarence Bicknell fu sepolto con estrema semplicità nel cimitero di Tenda, non essendo possibile rispettare le sue ultime volontà che esprimevano il desiderio di

⁷ *Dal Museo Bicknell all'Istituto Internazionale di Studi Liguri*, Nino Lamboglia, 1965, downloaded from http://www.bordighera.it/cultura/articoli 1960

⁸ Clarence Bicknell, talk given by Enzo Bernardini on 18 April 1971 at the Palazzo del Parco, Bordighera, downloaded from http://www.cumpagniadiventemigliusi.it/Biografie_fondatori/Bicknell.htm

riposare per sempre a Casterino, per essere più vicino ai monti tante volte percorsi e accanto alla fedele compagna miss Alice Campbell'.

On July 17, 1918, he was in his house of Casterino, having been caught up to three days before by sudden plague, wished to recreate with the sight of the delightful mountains, and carried himself to the veranda where he quietly spiraled in the contemplation of the Alps to him so much care. Clarence Bicknell was buried with simplicity in Tenda Cemetery, not being able to respect his last wishes to express his desire to rest forever at Casterino, to be closer to the mountains so many times and beside the loyal companion Miss Alice Campbell

Note by Marcus Bicknell 16 November 2017. The last sentence of this quote says CB was <u>not</u> buried at Casterino and <u>not</u> next to Alice.

The last phrase ('vicino alla sua fedele compagna Miss Alice Campbell') is evidently an echo of Lamboglia. Bernardini does quote one written source – Arturo Issel – but he is inaccurate in describing visits by Clarence to Val Fontanalba in 1881 and 1885; these were visits made, as Clarence recorded in his publications, to the Vallone delle Meraviglie.

The next source that I have seen is a botanical work published in 2000⁹ which has several pages on Clarence and his life. It comments that his 'multifaceted and unconventional personality, and his friendship with the anarchist-in-exile Kropotkin, led the police of Imperia to classify him as 'friendly to subversives' and 'gave various cause for scandal to his puritanical compatriots, such as the presence of Miss Alice Campbell with him in the summer at Casa Fontanalba'¹⁰.

The book, written by two botanists, is well researched and includes a bibliography, but gives no references for the remarks quoted. However, as the bibliography includes a book by Bernardini¹¹, that may have been their source for these remarks on Clarence.

An article published in 2010 in Alpitrek¹², the magazine of an association of horseriders, goes even further: it reports that Alice was Clarence's wife. The author, a member of the Alpitrek team, after describing the rock engravings in the Valle delle Meraviglie and Val Fontanalba, with a paragraph on Clarence, concludes 'in fondo al vallone delle Meraviglie il torrente cade in cascata, lì avevano l'abitudine di sostare Clarence Bicknell e sua moglie che si chiamava Alice risalendo verso la zona delle incisioni, quel luogo si chiama ancora fontaine d'Alice'.

Who was she?

I have not yet visited the cemetery of Tende where (supposedly) Alice is buried next to Clarence. I suppose that others have done so, and found nothing.

 $^{^9}$ La Vegetazione delle Alpe Liguri e Marittime by Bruno Gallino & Giorgio Pallavicini, Blu Edizioni, 2000, pages 47-50

¹⁰ Page 49: 'e forni diversi motive di scandalo ai suoi connazionali puritani, come la compagnia estiva di miss Alice Campbell nella Casa Fontanalba'

¹¹ Le Alpi Marittime e le meraviglie del Monte Bego, Enzio Bernardini, Genova, 1979

¹² Alice nella Valle delle Meraviglie, Paola Giacomini, Alpitrek, no 2, dicembre 2010, downloaded from http://magazine.alpitrek.com/numero4/pag9.htm

But even if the link between Clarence Bicknell and Alice Campbell is fictitious – which seems probable – it is quite possible that a person named Alice Campbell was among the international visitors to the Riviera, and that her name was somehow linked to that of Clarence. So I have investigated the presence of persons named Campbell.

My first target was Lewis Campbell (1830 -1908), Professor of Greek at the University of St Andrews, who was (like me) an alumnus of Balliol College, Oxford. After ill health in 1892 Campbell retired from St Andrews, and with his wife Frances passed the winter on the Italian Rivera: after 1898 their home was at Alassio, where he built a house called Sant' Andrea; he died in Switzerland on his way back to Britain in 1908.

Campbell was described by contemporaries as 'sensitive, unassuming and possessing a mildly bohemian lifestyle' – a description that could equally be applied to Clarence. Wouldn't it be interesting if Campbell had a daughter named Alice? Alas, it appears that he had no children.

My next target was more promising: J. W. Campbell of Casa Rossa, doctor to the British community in Menton, had a daughter, Maybud Campbell, who was a keen amateur botanist, 'knew all the best places for plants in the Alpes Maritimes', collected herbarium specimens, and created a remarkable garden in Menton. Her name 'Maybud' probably came from the opera 'Ruddigore' by Gilbert and Sullivan, in which Rose Maybud (soprano) is the prettiest maiden in the village. It is said that Maybud Campbell had 'a fine mezzosoprano voice'. Wouldn't she have made an irresistible companion for Clarence?

It is not impossible that Clarence met her, but unfortunately she could hardly have been his 'companion', for she was born in 1903 and died in 1982¹³. She was indeed a distinguished botanist, becoming General Secretary of the Botanical Society of the British Isles in 1947; at her death 'British botany lost one of its most devoted and colourful figures'. Apparently she had 'a great sense of humour and of the ridiculous, and would dissolve into fits of giggles as she recounted amusing incidents on botanical outings'. There was also a difficult side to her character: she 'developed into a versatile, energetic and somewhat complex person' and was 'variously described as mercurial and imperious'. In 1966 after 'a feckless lover and mounting debts forced her out of her garden' it was bought by the French state, and is now open to the public as the *Jardin botanique exotique de Menton* 15.

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¹³ For a fascinating account of her life see 'Maybud Sherwood Campbell' in *Watsonia, Journal of the Botanical Society of the British Isles*, 1984, pages 157-160, downloaded from https://archive.org/stream/watsonia1521984bota/watsonia1521984bota djvu.txt

https://archive.org/stream/watsonia1521984bota/watsonia1521984bota djvu.txt

14 See http://www.telegraph.co.uk/travel/destinations/europe/france/riviera/721691/France-A-blooming-love-affair-with-the-Riviera.html

affair-with-the-Riviera.html

15 Official site http://www.menton.fr/Jardin-Val-Rahmeh.html see also https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jardin botanique exotique de Menton

Is it possible that after Clarence's death this botanically talented Miss Campbell (with her unfamiliar name 'Maybud' altered to the better-known 'Alice') was somehow associated with him through imagination and rumour?

Avery 2014

References to Clarence Bicknell and Alice Campbell Note of Graham Avery 18 Sept 2014

Lamboglia (1965)

Dal Museo Bicknell all'Istituto Internazionale di Studi Liguri, Nino Lamboglia, 1965

Source http://www.bordighera.it/cultura/articoli_1960

L'opera del Bicknell, nel Museo di Bordighera e nella zona delle Meraviglie, durò 30 anni, dal 1888 al 1918; e volle il destino che morisse d'improvviso, per una banale indigestione di funghi velenosi, al ritorno da una giornata fra i suoi monti, e che fosse seppellito a Tenda, come aveva desiderato, vicino alla sua fedele compagna Miss Alice Campbell.

The work of Bicknell, in the Bordighera Museum and in the Meraviglie, lasted for 30 years, from 1888 to 1918; and he suddenly died, from a banal ingestion of poisonous mushrooms, returning from a day in his mountains, and buried in Tenda, as he had desired, near his faithful companion Miss Alice Campbell.

Bernardini (1971)

Testo della conferenza tenuta da Enzo Bernardini il 18 aprile 1971 al Palazzo del Parco di Bordighera

Source http://www.cumpagniadiventemigliusi.it/Biografie_fondatori/Bicknell.htm

Il 17 luglio 1918, si trovava nella sua casa di Casterino, essendo stato colto fin da tre giorni prima da improvviso malore, desiderò ricrearsi con la vista delle dilette montagne, e si fece trasportare sulla veranda ove spirò serenamente, nella contemplazione delle Alpi a lui tanto care. Clarence Bicknell fu sepolto con estrema semplicità nel cimitero di Tenda, non essendo possibile rispettare le sue ultime volontà che esprimevano il desiderio di riposare per sempre a Casterino, per essere più vicino ai monti tante volte percorsi e accanto alla fedele compagna miss Alice Campbell

On July 17, 1918, he was in his house of Casterino, having been caught up to three days before by sudden plague, wished to recreate with the sight of the delightful mountains, and carried himself to the veranda where he quietly spiraled in the contemplation of the Alps to him so much care. Clarence Bicknell was buried with simplicity in Tenda Cemetery, not being able to respect his last wishes to express his desire to rest forever at Casterino, to be closer to the mountains so many times and beside the loyal companion Miss Alice Campbell

Note by Marcus Bicknell 16 November 2017. The last sentence of this quote says CB was not buried at Casterino and not next to Alice.

Gallino & Pallavicini (2000)

The book *La Vegetazione delle Alpe Liguri e Marittime* by Bruno Gallino & Giorgio Pallavicini, Blu Edizioni, 2000, has a section on Clarence Bicknell at pages 47-50).

Page 49 says (my translation into English) that CB's 'multifaceted and unconventional personality, and his friendship with the anarchist-in-exile Kropotkin, led the police of Imperia to classify him as 'friendly to subversives' 'e forni diversi motive di scandalo ai suoi connazionali puritani, come la compagnia estiva di miss Alice Campbell nella Casa Fontanalba' (and to his puritanical compatriots gave various causes of scandal, such as the presence of Miss Alice Campbell with him in the summer at Casa Fontanalba)'.

The book's bibliography includes *Le Alpi Marittime e le meraviglie del Monte Bego* by Enzio Bernardini, Genova, 1979, which may have been the source for these remarks

Correspondence from Bernardini via Bessone 2016

Date: Wed, 8 Jun 2016 09:28:31 +0200 From: enzo.bernardini@virgilio.it To: bessbord@hotmail.com Subject: R: RE: Alice Campbell

Dear Giuseppe,

Thanks to the wonderful news about Clarence Bicknell's Centenary and the beautiful poster. About Alice Campbell, I tried to look into my (now scarce) memory, but I could only extract a few things. I no longer remember my old sources of information, but here's how much I can tell you.

- 1. Alice Campbell was the companion of Bicknell, who dedicated her "Pian d'Alice" behind the Refuge des Savants in the Valley of Wonders. I could not find out more, because the privacy of her private life was proverbial. Apparently he was the heiress of the British railway manufacturer Campbell, but this news would also be verified and confirmed.
- 2. I remember some old photos of Wonders with Bicknell accompanied by a woman, probably Alice.
- 3. If I remember well, Bicknell and Alice are buried next to the Tende Cemetery.

I can not check my writings, lost during the flood of the early 90s of the Agogna torrent in Novara, when my box ended underwater. On that occasion, I also lost photographs and books and copies of the Intemel Voice I had kept and which would now be useful: in those days I handled the sheet by the Engineer who received all the articles on Bicknell.

Keep in mind that I do not walk almost anymore (my autonomy is only 100 meters away, then I have to sit down) so it is difficult for me to move. We are currently in the Fubine country house.

Please, welcome Marcus Bicknell, and explain my situation to you. You should also correct some refusals in your text, including the name of Daniela Gandolfi. Livio Mano died of heart attack a few years ago after a tiring cave exploration.

A warm greeting

Enzo

Subject: FW: R: RE: Alice Campbell **Date**: Wed, 8 Jun 2016 08:38:00 +0100

Linked to: Giuseppe E. Bessone

From: Bessone Giuseppe bessbord@hotmail.com>

To : marcus@bicknell.com <marcus@bicknell.com>; BERNARDINI ENZO

<enzo.bernardini@virgilio.it>;

valerielester2@gmail.com <valerielester2@gmail.com>

Grazie carissimo Enzo della tua risposta che 'giro' a Marcus ed a Valerie che non conosci ma che attualmente rappresentano bene la solidità e l'impegno 'britannico' verso il nostro amato Bicknell. Ti terrò al corrente delle prossime novità e mi spiace molto della perdita del tuo materiale documentario nel box citato.

Pazienza. L'importante è che ti curi bene e mi raccomando salutami tanto Ombretta. Un abbraccio Giuseppe

Ing. Giuseppe Eugenio Bessone

Via 1° Maggio, 50 - 18012 Bordighera

Cell.: 335.80.68.862 - Fax: 0184.267.916

Date: Wed, 8 Jun 2016 09:28:31 +0200 From: enzo.bernardini@virgilio.it To: bessbord@hotmail.com Subject: R: RE: Alice Campbell

Caro Giuseppe,

grazie delle splendide notizie relative al Centenario di Clarence Bicknell e della locandina del Museo, davvero bella. Circa Alice Campbell, ho cercato di frugare nella mia (ormai scarsa) memoria, ma potuto estrarre solo poche cose. Non ricordo più le mie vecchie fonti di informazioni, ma ecco quanto posso dirti.

- 1. Alice Campbell fu la compagna di Bicknell, il quale le dedicò il "Pian d' Alice" dietro al Refuge des Savants nella Valle delle Meraviglie. Non ero riuscito a saperne di più, perchè la riservatezza della sua vita privata era proverbiale. Pare che fosse l'ereditiera del costruttore ferroviario britannico Campbell, ma anche questa notizia sarebbe da verificare e confermare.
- 2. Ricordo alcune vecchie foto alle Meraviglie con Bicknell accompagnato da una donna, probabilmente Alice.
- 3. Se ricordo bene, Bicknell e Alice sono sepolti accanto nel cimitero di Tenda.

Non posso verificare i miei scritti, andati perduti durante l'alluvione dei primi anni '90 del torrente Agogna a Novara, quando il mio box finì sott'acqua. In quell'occasione persi anche foto e libri e le copie della "Voce Intemelia" che avevo conservato e che ora sarebbero utili: in quei tempi curavo il foglio a cura dell'Istututo che accolse tutti gli articoli su Bicknell.

Tieni presente che non cammino quasi più (la mia autonomia è di centinaio di metri soltanto, poi devo sedermi), per cui mi riesce difficile muovermi. Attualmente siamo nella casa di campagna di Fubine.

Ti prego di salutami Marcus Bicknell, e di spiegargli la mia situazione. Dovresti anche corregergli alcuni refusi nel suo testo.

fra cui il nome di Daniela Gandolfi. Livio Mano è morto d'infarto qualche anno fa dopo una faticosa esplorazione in grotta.

Un caro saluto Enzo

----Messaggio originale----

Da: "Bessone Giuseppe" <bessbord@hotmail.com>

Data: 7-giu-2016 13.53

A: "Marcus Bicknell"<marcus@bicknell.com>, "BERNARDINI ENZO"<enzo.bernardini@virgilio.it>

Ogg: RE: Alice Campbell

Carissimo Enzo,

ti allego la richiesta di Marcus Bicknell che sta lavorando in modo splendido con la sua Fondazione in tutta Europa per arrivare alla celebrazione del 2018 - centenario della morte di c.b. - ad importanti momenti di studio e di ricordo del personaggio.

Mi chiede notizie in merito ad Alice Campbell che tu avevi ben ricordato nella tua biografia e che mi sembra sia sempre stata avvicinata alla figura di Clarence quale sua segretaria ed amica. Personalmente non ho mai trovato altre citazioni se non le tue.

Ti allego in merito il programma della Fondazione oltre ad una bella locandina del Museo che ti farà piacere.

Pensi di poterlo aiutare? Colgo l'occasione per inviarti i più cari saluti Giuseppe

Ing. Giuseppe Eugenio Bessone

Via 1° Maggio, 50 - 18012 Bordighera Cell.: 335.80.68.862 - Fax: 0184.267.916

Date: Tue, 7 Jun 2016 14:36:43 +0100

From: marcus@bicknell.com Subject: Alice Campbell To: bessbord@hotmail.com

Dear Ing Bessone, dear Giuseppe

Valerie Lester (who is writing the Clarence Bicknell biography) and I continue to be mystified by Alice Campbell.

Bernardini mentions her in his 1971 paper, but he does not give any sources for the information. Do you know where he got the information about Alice from? How did he know that Clarence had a faithful companion who was with him at his death?

It is written that she is buried next to him in Tende cemetery but I have never been able to find her tomb.

Valerie and I have searched libraries, books, the internet for any mention of Alice Campbell on the Riviera or in his circle of friends, but there is noone who matches her identity. Can you point us please to any source material earlier than Bernardini's 1971?

Thanks so much

Best regards Marcus Bicknell

Homefarm Orchard, Kirby Close, Chalfont St Giles, Bucks HP8 4FF, United Kingdom phone 01494 872751 - mobile 07748 111444

From: Bessone Giuseppe < bessbord@hotmail.com>
Subject: FW: R: FW: R: RE: Alice Campbell

Pater Lynn 0, 2016 at 4:06:11 AM EDT

Date: June 9, 2016 at 4:06:11 AM EDT

To: "valerielester2@gmail.com" <valerielester2@gmail.com>, "marcus@bicknell.com" <marcus@bicknell.com>

Trasmetto l'ultima comunicazione del mio amico Enzo Bernardini.

Divertente la reazione di Miss Muriel per la relazione (affettuosa?) tra Clarence ed Alice, Cordialmente GEB

Ing. Giuseppe Eugenio Bessone

Via 1° Maggio, 50 - 18012 Bordighera Cell.: 335.80.68.862 - Fax: 0184.267.916

Date: Thu, 9 Jun 2016 08:47:56 +0200 From: enzo.bernardini@virgilio.it
To: bessbord@hotmail.com

Subject: R: FW: R: RE: Alice Campbell

Caro Giuseppe,

a furia di scavare nella poca memoria rimasta, ho recuperato il nome della vegliarda britannica che partecipo' a una cerimonia ufficiale al Museo: era la mitica miss Muriel (o Murriel)! Come ti ho già accennato, alla mia domanda su Alice Campbell rispose sdegnata pressappoco "Di quella donna non intendo parlare". Ove fosse possibile rintracciare qualche famigliare di questa signorina, forse si potrebbe avere qualche notizia.

Per la signora Valerie, segnalo la mia donazione all'Istituto, nel settembre 2003, di tutta la corrispondenza fra Bicknell e il generale Pelloux (21 pezzi originali), fra i quali c'è la lettera citata. Se mi verrà in mente qualcos'altro, te lo farò sapere.

Un caro saluto

Enzo

Dear Giuseppe,

With the fury of digging into the small memory, I recovered the name of the British attendant who attended an official ceremony at the Museum: it was the legendary Miss Muriel (or Murriel)! As I mentioned before, to my question about Alice Campbell, she answered roughly, "I do not intent to speak of that woman." If it was possible to trace some of this little lady's family, maybe there might be some news.

For Mrs Valerie, indicate my donation to the Institute in September 2003 of all correspondence between Bicknell and General Pelloux (21 original pieces), including the letter quoted. If anything else comes to mind, I'll let you know.

A warm greeting, Enzo

----Messaggio originale----

Da: "Bessone Giuseppe" < bessbord@hotmail.com >

Data: 8-giu-2016 7.38

A: "marcus@bicknell.com"<marcus@bicknell.com>, "BERNARDINI

ENZO"<enzo.bernardini@virgilio.it>, "valerielester2@gmail.com"<valerielester2@gmail.com>

Ogg: FW: R: RE: Alice Campbell

Grazie carissimo Enzo della tua risposta che 'giro' a Marcus ed a Valerie che non conosci ma che attualmente rappresentano bene la solidità e l'impegno 'britannico' verso il nostro amato Bicknell. Ti terrò al corrente delle prossime novità e mi spiace molto della perdita del tuo materiale documentario nel box citato.

Pazienza. L'importante è che ti curi bene e mi raccomando salutami tanto Ombretta.

Un abbraccio Giuseppe

Ing. Giuseppe Eugenio Bessone

Via 1° Maggio, 50 - 18012 Bordighera Cell.: 335.80.68.862 - Fax: 0184.267.916

Date: Wed, 8 Jun 2016 09:28:31 +0200 From: enzo.bernardini@virgilio.it To: bessbord@hotmail.com Subject: R: RE: Alice Campbell

Caro Giuseppe,

grazie delle splendide notizie relative al Centenario di Clarence Bicknell e della locandina del Museo, davvero bella. Circa Alice Campbell, ho cercato di frugare nella mia (ormai scarsa) memoria, ma potuto estrarre solo poche cose. Non ricordo più le mie vecchie fonti di informazioni, ma ecco quanto posso dirti.

- 1. Alice Campbell fu la compagna di Bicknell, il quale le dedicò il "Pian d' Alice" dietro al Refuge des Savants nella Valle delle Meraviglie. Non ero riuscito a saperne di più, perchè la riservatezza della sua vita privata era proverbiale. Pare che fosse l'ereditiera del costruttore ferroviario britannico Campbell, ma anche questa notizia sarebbe da verificare e confermare.
- 2. Ricordo alcune vecchie foto alle Meraviglie con Bicknell accompagnato da una donna, probabilmente Alice.
- 3. Se ricordo bene, Bicknell e Alice sono sepolti accanto nel cimitero di Tenda.

Non posso verificare i miei scritti, andati perduti durante l'alluvione dei primi anni '90 del torrente Agogna a Novara, quando il mio box finì sott'acqua. In quell'occasione persi anche foto e libri e le copie della "Voce Intemelia" che avevo conservato e che ora sarebbero utili: in quei tempi curavo il foglio a cura dell'Istututo che accolse tutti gli articoli su Bicknell.

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Ing. Giuseppe Eugenio Bessone

Via 1° Maggio, 50 - 18012 Bordighera Cell.: 335.80.68.862 - Fax: 0184.267.916

From draft of Valerie Lester's biography of Clarence Bicknell November 2017

Rather surprisingly, in light of Margaret Berry's claim that Clarence had bought the Villa Rosa in 1880, Clarence based himself for part of the winter of 1883 in Finalmarina, 16 a coastal town about 90 kilometres northeast of Bordighera. Later, Clarence wrote about an incident in Finalmarina, which may refer to the mysterious Alice Campbell. "Something strange happened to me yesterday. I invited a lady to lunch, a friend of many years who with her mother, now dead, and other friends spent the winter of 1883 with me at Finalmarina. . . At one point she said to me: 'Do you remember that long walk we took in the countryside near Finalmarina, when we found cliffs covered with mysterious carved figures?' I was struck dumb, remembering nothing, and said 'no'. Then she said. 'In the middle of a rugged desert, some polished rocks – and you said to me, how interesting they are; they must be "prehistoric" symbols.'

"And by the way, this lady demonstrated an extraordinary memory, therefore I said, that regarding these rocks she was right. But how could I remember nothing? Did she dream it? Or did she read my thoughts by telepathy or 'clairvoyance' ecc.? I don't understand, and I'm trying to find a solution. For me the only explanation would be that we saw modern incisions, and I, as a joke, did not speak seriously. But is there anything like this known near Finale?"17

19

¹⁶ CB to Arturo Issel, 1897-12-27. In Clarence Bicknell: La Vita..., p. 77.

¹⁷ CB to Arturo Issel, 27.12.1897. In *Clarence Bicknell*, p. 75.

Photos of other unidentified ladies

These photos of other unidentified ladies might turn out to have been Alice Campbell.

Two photos, apparently in a series with one known to be by Benignim early 1900s. They are taken up the Roya valley. Left hand photo: The lady on the right is Margaret Berry. The lady in the middle has the height and incline of the head seen in the three photos of the lady with Clarence and the NPG portraits of Alice Campbell. Right hand photo: the three ladies are again in the background, between the same slender trees, probably gathering their affairs at the end of their picnic or photo shoot.





Photo in front of the Museo Bicknell with Clarence sitting reversed on a chair and engaging the sitting lady in conversation. The taller lady is identified in a Museo Bicknell repro as Alice (check exact form ***). Date: turn of the century (the Museo is quite new but the Virginia Creeper has had a few years growth.



Other Alice Campbell candidates discarded

https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Campbell, William Howard (DNB12) b 1859

Died in Bordighera in 1910, lived in Madras but had 4 sons, wife Elizabeth, son David and 3 others.

http://www.mairi-campbell.com/blog-thoughts/category/stories/3

Talks about a Davie Campbell whose father died in Bordighera in 1910 Also says 1901 dying of "Sprue"? Contact with mairi@mairi-campbell.com From Mairi's blog:

The children (ie David etc) were left in the care of their parental grandmother at Ballynagard House in Londonderry on the River Foyle. A big house, with a large garden and orchard made it possible for the children to enjoy a healthy, busy, outdoor life.

Agnes Callender Campbell of Leith (born 1834) was a truly remarkable, highly gifted woman. She had eleven children of her own and was prepared to take on the care of her grandchildren......

From his grandfather, Thomas Callender Campbell, David learned to play Whist. During the long winter evenings little Davie played with his grannie, grandfather, and Aunt Alice; and so laid an early foundation for his later considerable skill as a Bridge player. He got his looks from his great-grandfather William Campbell of Ballynagard who was nicknamed "Beau Campbell".

Graham Avery's first target was **Lewis Campbell (1830 -1908)**, Professor of Greek at the University of St Andrews, who was (like me) an alumnus of Balliol College, Oxford. After ill health in 1892 Campbell retired from St Andrews, and with his wife Frances passed the winter on the Italian Rivera: after 1898 their home was at Alassio, where he built a house called Sant' Andrea; he died in Switzerland on his way back to Britain in 1908.

Graham Avery's next target was: J. W. Campbell of Casa Rossa, doctor to the British community in Menton, had a daughter, Maybud Campbell, who was a keen amateur botanist,

La Pierre et la pensée: la Vallée des Merveilles, les ... - Page 21

https://books.google.co.uk/books?id... - <u>Translate this page</u>
<u>Robert Hirigoyen</u>, Berthe Lang-Porchet, André Blain - 1978 - Snippet view
Un neveu de Bicknell, Edmond Berry, participe parfois aux excursions, ainsi qu'Alice... Alice
Campbell était une compatriote dont les romantiques liguriens des Alpes-Maritimes ont fait l'égérie de l'ancien pasteur. Bicknell lui fit d'ailleurs ...

Marcus 17 Jul 2016: Many sources like this confuse Margaret Berry, Clarence Bicknell niece, wife of Edward Berry, with Alice Campbell. It is well documented that Margaret Berry spent time with Bicknell in Bordighera and in Casterino. Her signature and visit dates appear every year in the Casa Fontanalba (Casterino) visitors book. She bought a vellum album for Bicknell every year which he returned later full of flower water-colours. The fact that this author and or the review mention Edward Berry then Alice Campbell but not Margaret Berry smacks of unprofessional writing or poor sources. Le mont Bego, vallées des Merveilles et de Fontanalba - Page 29

https://books.google.co.uk/books?isbn... - <u>Translate this page</u> <u>Henry de Lumley</u> - 2003 - Snippet view - <u>More editions</u>

Depuis lors, Clarence Bicknell passa chaque été dans son chalet et, au cours de nombreuses excursions en montagne, accompagné d'un neveu, Edmond Berry, et de sa fidèle compagne Alice Campbell, il découvrit de très nombreuses ...

Marcus 17 Jul 2016:Even an authoritative archaeologist perpetuates this myth.

La Vallée des merveilles - Page 25

https://books.google.co.uk/books?id... - <u>Translate this page</u>

Jean-Pierre Spilmont, Bernard Décaudin - 1978 - Snippet view - More editions

Bicknell parcourt inlassablement les vallées à la recherche des gravures; presque toujours, il est escorté d'Alice Campbell, compagne non seulement des longues courses à travers la montagne, mais de sa vie. A l'entrée du vallon des ..

Marcus 17 Jul 2016: There is no primary source evidence that Alice Campbell went on long treks across the mountains. But there are photos of her with him in the Val Fontanalba which Bicknell visited for rubbing rock engravings, but on a day-trip basis. That Alice was a "compagnon for life" is blatant fiction. Bicknell lived in Bordighera for 8 months a year; the local paper which lists every foreigner in the town every month never mentions Alice. An explanation could be that Alice Campbell, if otherwise married or unwilling to divulge her identity publicly, only visited Bicknell in the mountain house, the Casa Fontanalba. Luigi and Mercede Pollini, who ran the house, would have known, as would Margaret Berry. But they never wrote about her, so maybe they understood, if they knew, that Alice Campbell was not to be mentioned.

Studi genuensi - Volumes 1-3 - Page 22

https://books.google.co.uk/books?id... - <u>Translate this page</u>
<u>Istituto internazionale di studi liguri. Sezione di Genova</u> - 1982 - Snippet view - <u>More editions</u>
Esaminando in particolare il diario si possono rilevare alcuni dati riassuntivi che d'altronde Bicknell stesso di solito riportava al fine anno, indicando anche il ... Aveva 76 anni e venne sepolto a Tenda, vicino alla sua compagna Alice Campbell.

There are some academic search engines listed on the Bodleian web site, for example at http://solo.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/primo_library/libweb/action/dlSearch.do?vid=OXVU1&search_scope=LS-COP_OX&onCampus=true&institution=OX&query=any,contains,clarence%20bicknell at the bottom right:

- Search for 'alice campbell in Google Scholar or Google Books
- Search for 'alice campbell in **COPAC**
- Search for 'alice campbell in WorldCat
- Search for 'alice campbell in <u>The European Library</u>
- Search for 'alice campbell in BASE (Bielefeld Academic Search Engine)

https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Campbell, William Howard (DNB12) b 1859

Died in Bordighera in 1910, lived in Madras but had 4 sons, wife Elizabeth, son David and 3 others.

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Robert Tertius Campbell returned from Australia in 1859 where he had made a fortune in the goldfields. He bought land round Buscot lock, between Lechlade and Faringdon, SW of Oxford. (Thames pathway, Keith Pauling, source below). He built a 6-mile narrow gauge railway with engines named after his daughters Edith, Emily and Alice. The entire enterprise was sold off in 1879 because of his financial difficulties.

 $\frac{\text{https://books.google.co.uk/books?id=RncEAwAAQBAJ&pg=PA37\&lpg=PA37\&dq=\%22alice+campbell\%22+railway&source=bl&ots=3ANifCC6\&sig=cVV2h-RqUei7w5aXB-SZCEAv0I&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwi478fM6prNAhXDB8AKHWVHCKkQ6AEIQTAH#v=onepage&q=\%22alice\%20campbell\%22\%20railway&f=false}$

William Campbell seems to have been a missionary in India until 1908, so his children were looked after for much of the time by their grandparents in Londonderry. An aunt Alice is mentioned who could have been in same age range as CB: maybe she came to visit William in Bordighera? One of the 4 sons, David, became:

http://www.cookehouse.com/getperson.php?personID=I2860&tree=CFH

Name	William Howard Campbell, Rev.		
Suffix	Rev.		
Born	20 Sep 1859	Derry, Ireland	
Gender	Male		
Died	18 Feb 1910	Bourdighera, Italy	
Person ID	I2860	Cooke Family History	
Last Modified	7 Jan 2016		

Family	Elizabeth Nevin Boyd b. 1858, Ballymoney, Co. Antrim, Ireland d. 08 Jul 1941, Belfast, Antrim, Down, Ireland (Age 83 years)
Children	 Willie Campbell 1901 John Stewart Campbell, M.D. 1899 Samuel Burnside Boyd Campbell, MCMBBCFRCP 29 Jun 1889, India 28 Feb 1971, Ballycastle, Antrim, Northern Ireland (Age 81 years) Jane Campbell Agnes Campbell Mary Campbell Thomas Callendar Campbell 1887, Ballymoney, Ireland 08 Oct 1915, Gallipoli, Canakkale, Turkey (Age 28 years) David Campbell 1891

Last Modified	7 Jan 2016	
Family ID	F748	Group Sheet

Died - 18 Feb 1910 - Bourdighera, Italy

= Link to Google
Maps
= Link to Google
Earth

Photos <u>William Howard Campbell</u>

Books which do <u>not</u> mention Alice Campbell

A book in the Bodleian which belonged to Clarence:

Title: The forest trees of Britain / by the Rev. C.A. Johns...Pub. under the direction of the Committee of general literature and education appointed by the society for promoting Christian knowledge...

Author Johns, Charles Alexander (1811-1874)

London: The Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge 1847-1849

Physical description 2 v. (lxxvi, 373 p.;): ill.; 17 cm.

A book in the Bodleian which I did not know of:

Labour of twelve summers : Clarence Bicknell and the Mount Bego engravings / by Desmond Hawkins.

Author Hawkins, Desmond.

Published [London: IPC] 1983

Books about Clarence in OCLC World Cat., some new to me

http://www.worldcat.org/search?q=%22clarence+bicknell%22&fq=&dblist=638&qt=first_page

L'opera scientifica e filantropica di Clarence Bicknell

by Augusto Béguinot; Clarence Bicknell

L' archivio fotografico di Clarence Bicknell.

by Bruna De Paoli

Clarence Bicknell e padre Giacomo Viale : la "questione sociale" a Bordighera.

by Mario Marcenaro

<u>Il carteggio di Clarence Bicknell con Alberto Pelloux : lettere scelte dal 1902 al 1917 ; (seconda parte).</u>

by Enzo Bernardini

Clarence Bicknell e la sua attività pastorale in Inghilterra (1866 - 1876).

by Susan Maitland

In margine a due libri su Clarence Bicknell.

by Domenico Astengo

Un nuovo carteggio inedito tra Clarence Bicknell e Arturo Issel.

by Paolo Scati

Bibliografia e notizie su Clarence Bicknell e il suo museo.

by Elena Riscosso

Clarence Bicknell

by Piero Baroncelli

<u>Labour of twelve summers : Clarence Bicknell and the Mount Bego engravings</u>

by Desmond Hawkins

ARCHAEOLOGIST'S DIGS - Botanist and archaeologist Clarence Bicknell loved the Vallee des Merveilles so much, he made it his home. Marie-France Boyer digs the scene. First published: June 1990

by Marie-France Boyer (World of Interiors)

<u>Clarence Bicknell, Émile Cartailhac et les autres ... au pays des Merveilles : petite histoire d'une collection inédite de relevés de gravures rupestres de la région du Mont Bego (Tende, Alpes-Maritimes).</u>

by Pierre Machu

Clarence Bicknell, inglese, amante della riviera, botanico di valle pesio

by Bruno Gallino

La raccolta ornitologica di Clarence Bicknell /

by Lorenzo Ansaldo

La Biblioteca naturalistica di Clarence Bicknell.

<u>Archivio fotografico : Clarence Bicknell e l'immagine di documentazione scientifica in Liguria /</u> by Liliana Ughetto

I botanici inglesi in Riviera /

by Luigi Viacava

http://www.worldcat.org/search?q=%22clarence+bicknell%22&fq=&dblist=638&qt=first_page

Françoise Riniéri-Villain

Response to Marcus from Françoise Villain, author of "C'est Un Grand Mystère".

Subject: Alice Campbell et les champignons **Date**: Fri, 19 Sep 2014 14:32:00 +0000

Linked to: Françoise Villain

From: soise.villain@laposte.net

To : Marcus Bicknell <marcus@bicknell.com>

Cher Monsieur Bicknell

Sylvia et Charles me demandent de répondre à votre récent courrier. Je me suis posé beaucoup de questions à propos d'Alice Campbell et de la mort de Bicknell.

Clarence Bicknell n'a jamais évoqué l'existence d'une Alice Campbell et elle n'apparaît pas dans le livre des visiteurs. Mais il était discret.

J'ai essayé de découvrir qui aurait pu être cette fameuse compagne dont de rares auteurs parlent. Il fallait qu'elle soit anglaise, de bonne famille, bien éduquée et instruite, un peu plus jeune que lui mais pas trop. J'ai cherché dans le milieu britannique de Bordighera et je n'ai trouvé personne de ce nom. Je me suis renseignée à la mairie sur les inhumations au cimetiére de Tende de 1898 à 1906 et il n'y a rien à ce nom. Des personnes m'ont dit avoir vu la tombe d'Alice Campbell à côté de celle de Bicknell mais ces personnes étaient beaucoup trop jeunes pour l'avoir vue. Par contre une personne est venue me voir pour me dire que son arrière grand-père avait été enterré à côté de Bicknell, que d'autres membres de sa famille avait été ensevelis dans le même caveau et que personne de sa famille n'avait vu la tombe d'une Alice Campbell.

A mon avis c'est un fantasme d'archéologue s'intéressant à Bicknell. A la base le prénom Alice est celui de la femme de Carlo Conti qui a fait des recherches aux Merveilles de 1927 à 1943. Conti et sa famme Alice passaient l'été dans le refuge qui existe toujours aux Merveilles et on attribue le noms conque d'Alice à un petit bassin dans le torrent probablement en souvenir d'elle

Il s'agit de la femme de Conti que Bicknell n'a jamais rencontré. Il n'a d'ailleurs jamais résidé longtemps aux Merveilles.

Campbell est un nom écossais et une marque de whisky. Alice Campbell serait un délire alcoolique ???

J'ai entendu dire que Bicknell serait mort en mangeant des champignons. C'est une méchante plaisanterie : un botaniste empoisonné par des champignons !!!

A moins que Bicknell ait mangé des champignons en même temps qu'il les cueillait, Pollini et la cuisinière devaient vérifier les récoltes avant cuisson.

Bicknell était agé de 78 ans, il souffrait d'asthme, se nourrissait sans doute peu et il était très pessimiste au bout de 4 années de guerre. Il avait probablement le coeur affaibli et la randonnée de 6 heures qu'il avait effectuée quelques jours auparavent l'avait sans doute beaucoup fatigué. Celà peut expliquer une faiblesse cardiaque sans y ajouter des champignons.

J'ai bien reçu aussi votre dernier mail et j'y réfléchis.

Sincerely yours F. Villain

Father of Alice Ryder

Excerpt from Banquiers de la City À L'époque Édouardienne by Youssef Cassis at https://books.google.co.uk/books?id=d_71mhP5P4EC&pg=PA167&lpg=PA167&dq=Henry+Dudley+Ryder+railway&source=bl &ots=PyzK5mwq7Z&sig=gQTtb5514obgl-

 $4M8AaGJAUnsVk\&hl=en\&sa=X\&ved=0\\ahUKEwigkMKphMPXAhWJCsAKHS3nDsIQ6AEILzAB#v=onepage\&q=Henry\%20Dudley\%20Ryder\%20railway\&f=false$

Outside the financial sector, bankers' other interest were more fragmented. A banking house could no doubt direct its activities mainly towards a non-banking business or, more often than not, towards the financing of such a business, for example the oil industry or the diamond mines of South Africa. However, the banking com-munity as a whole was not involved, at least at the level of board membership, with the possible exception of the railways; 24% of bankers were directors of at least one railway company, a higher percentage than for the colonial banks — 19% — and far higher than any other area of Interest. The innumerable South American railway com-panies immediately spring to mind. It is perhaps surprising to discover that the majority of bankers had seats on the boards of railway companies operating in the United Kingdom. The big English railway companies developed early and reached far larger proportions than large industrial concerns.' On the whole, however, there was very little concentration of the network until after the First World War, with the number of companies falling from 130 in 1914 to 4 after 1921." Bankers were therefore relatively isolated within the boards on which they sat and their membership of these boards was mainly linked to local interests. This was especially true of the small local lines. William de Winton, a director of Lloyds Bank and a former partner of the private bank Wilkins & Co., of Brecon, was a director of the Brecon and Merthyr Tydfil Junction Railway Company. Henry Dudley Ryder, later 4th Earl of Harrowby, a partner of Coutt's, was a director of the Cardiff Railway Company in South Wales, where the family of the Marquess of Bute, who was connected to the Harrowbys, had mining interests. Moreover, Henry Dudley Ryder was also a director of the Bute Docks Company." Hussey Packe (1846-1908), a director of Parr's Bank, and formerly of Pare's Leicestershire Banking Company, was a director of the East Lincolnshire Railway Company, a small company with a capital of £600,000.

There were also bankers in the larger companies: Francis Richard Pease (1850-1913) and Lord Wenlock (1849-1912), both directors of Barclays and both former directors of the York Union Bank, which was taken over by Barclays in 1905, were on the board of the North Eastern 73 Sec T.R. Gourvish. Railways and the British Economy, 1830-1914, London, 1980. p. 10. Hobsbawm, Industry and Empire. p. 215.

"Henry Dudley Ryder (1836-1900), second son of the 2nd Earl Harrowby, became a partner of Coutts & Co. in 1865 after attending Harrow and Christ Church, Oxford. He was a direct descendant of Thomas Coutts. His grandmother, Frances. one of Thomas Coutts's three daughters, had married the 1st Marquess of Bute in 1800. In

1900, a few months before his death, he succeeded his elder brother to the title Earl Harrowby.

https://books.google.co.uk/books?id=d_71mhP5P4EC&pg=PA167&lpg=PA167&dq=ryder+railway+manufacturer&source=bl&ots=PxEP1pBxaX&sig=6Ip-KD_wO0ZNqVlG-Mxn-WzsDFg&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjiib-e4ZrNAhVKLcAKHYhKCM8Q6AEINTAE#v=onepage&q=ryder%20railway%20m anufacturer&f=false

Letters to Issel

Transcribed by Marcus Bicknell from "la Vita e le Opera" 18 November 2017-11-18

Da Clarence Bicknell a Arturo Issel Bordighera, 27 Dic. 1897

Mille grazie, Caro Professore, per il suo valido aiuto: per le correzioni di stampa, e per I cambiamenti di forma, tutti de me <u>approvatissimi!</u>

Ho rsiscritto la Bibliografia, e aggiunto una o due frasi, e oggi ho manadto le bozze al Prof. Cattaneo. Gradisca i miei piu sinceri auguri, mandatomi de mio nipote, quello che passo un mese con me in Val Casterino – un'incisione abbastanza divertevole di uomini preistorici e di bestie cornute! (questo non da restituirmi). Su affett. Amico, Clarence Bicknell

Thank you very much, dear Professor, for his helpful help: for corrections of the press, and for the changes of form, all de me approvatissimi!

I have written the Bibliography, and added one or two sentences, and today I have sent the drafts to Professor Cattaneo.

With my most sincere wishes, send me my nephew, what I spend a month with me in Val Casterino - a fun enough engraving of prehistoric men and horned beasts! (this is not to be restored).

p.s.

Ieri mi è capitata una cosa strana. Invitai a pranzo une signora, un'amica da tanti anni e chi insieme a sua madre, ora morta, ed alrti amici passo meco l'inverno di 83 a Finalmarina. Essa non aveva sentito bulla del mio soggiorno nei monti quest'estate. Ad un tratto essa me dice "Ricorda Lei quella lunga passeggiata in campagna presso Finalmarina. Quando abbiamo trovata le rupi coperte di figure misteriose incise?". Ed io rimasi de sasso, non ricordandone nulla, e le dissi "no". Poi essa, "In mezzo di un deserto roccioso, alcuni sassi levigati – e Lei me disse, come sono interessanti; debbono essere segni "preistorici".

Per tante altre cose. Questa signora dimostro una memoria straordinaria, quindi io dissi, che riguardo queste rocce, essa avrà ragione. Me come che io non ne ricordo nulla? L'ha sognato essa? L'ho dimenticato perfettamente io? O ha potuto leggere, per telepathia o clairvoyance i miei pensieri ecc? Non ne capisco niente, e ne cerco la soluzione. Per me l'unica spiegazione sarebbe che abbiamo ceduto delle incisioni evidentement moderne, ed io, per ischerzo, ne abbia parlato seriamente. Ma c'è qualche cosa conosciutio presso Finale?

Yesterday I had a strange thing happened to me. I invited a lady friend of many years to lunch, and who, together with her mother, now dead, and my friends joined me in the winter of 83 at Finalmarina. She had not heard anything about my stay in the mountains this summer. Suddenly she says to me, "Remember that long walk in the countryside at Finalmarina. When we found the cliffs covered with mysterious engraved figures?" And I was struck dumb, remembering nothing, and I told her "no." Then, "In the middle of a rocky desert, some polished stones - and you told me how interesting they are; must be "prehistoric" signs."

And many other things. This lady demonstrates an extraordinary memory, so I said, regarding these rocks, she must be right. How do I remember anything? Did I dream it? Did I totally forget about it? Or were my thoughts read by telepathy or clairvoyance? I do not understand anything, and I'm looking for the solution. For me, the only explanation would be that we have given up modern records of engravings, and I, by trial, I was not being serious. But do you remember anything about Finale?

Da Clarence Bicknell a Arturo Issel Bordighera, mercoledi sera 20.xi.1898

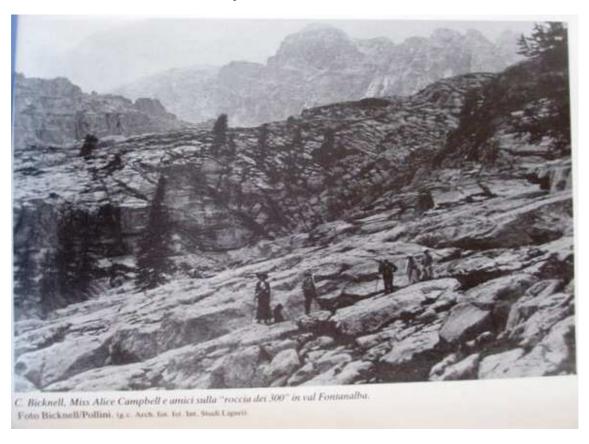
Egregio e Caro amico,

Ieri trovandomi a Finalmarino, ho potuto visitare le incisioni presso Orco Feglino. Andai prima al Collegio Ehulene e appena Dom Ammirani (?) comincio a darmi indicazioni sulla strada da prendere, ricordai perfettamente la passiegata fatta in 1883 con quella Signora Scozzese di cui parlai nella mia lettera. Ella farà bene di andarvi: potrà far un giudizio sopra queste incisione molto meglio dei me; e colle mie brevi spiegazioni non potrà mancare di trovarle.

Respected and dear Friend,

Yesterday I was in Finalmarina, and visited the engravings at Orco Feglino. I went first to the Ehulene College and just as Dom Ammirani began to give me directions on the road to take, I remember perfectly the walk I took in 1883 with that Scottish Lady I mentioned in my letter. You would do well to go yourself: you can make a judgment on this engraving much better than me; and with my short explanations you would not be able to find them

Photo of Clarence Bicknell and party which identifies the lady on the left as Miss Alice Campbell. From Livio Mano, ed. "Bicknell e il suo museo." Comune di Cuneo, Novel Temp: quaderno di cultura e studi occitani alpini. N. 37. Edizione Soulestrelh, November 1990, p. 25



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