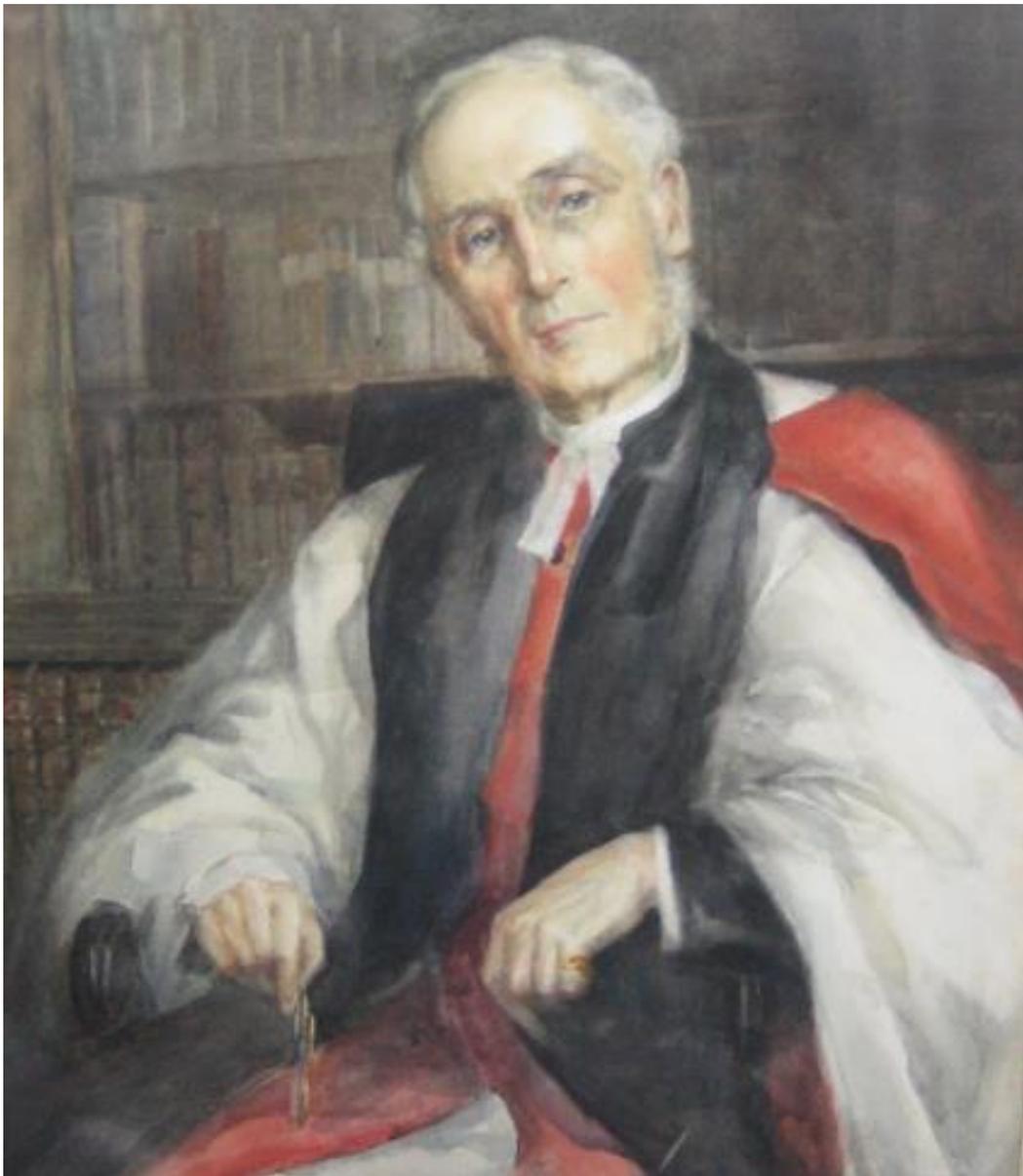


Kings Bromley

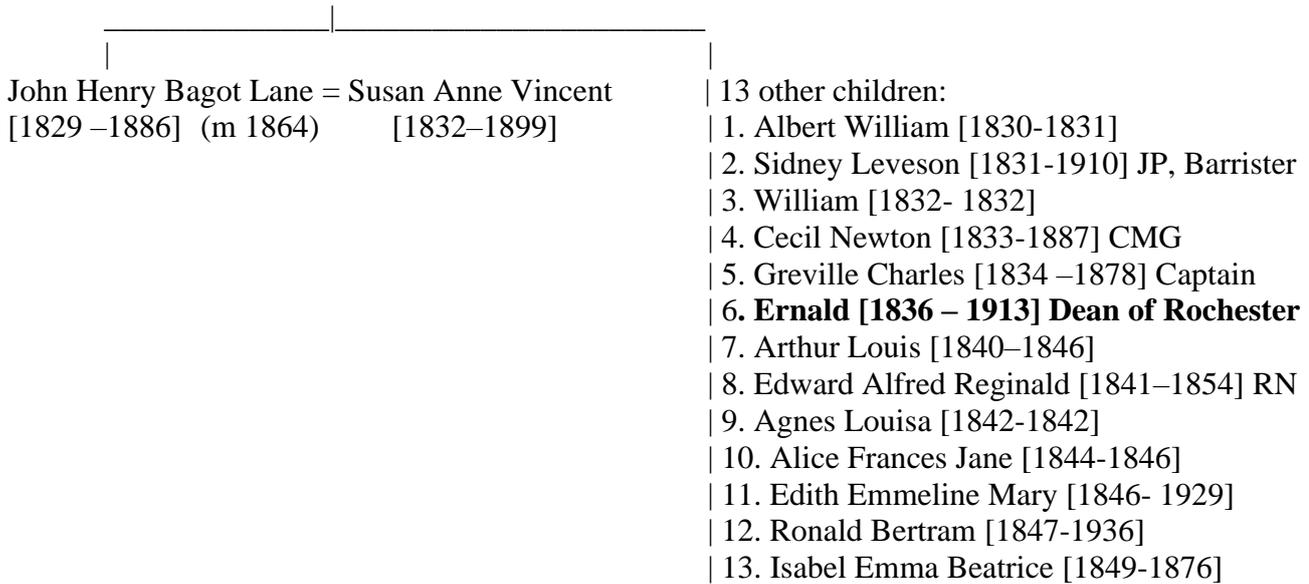
Historians 2020

A Tribute to Dean Ernald Lane



Ernald Lane was born in Kings Bromley on the third of March 1836. He was the fifth surviving child of John Newton Lane and his wife, Agnes (née Bagot) who had fourteen children of whom 8 survived to adulthood.

John Newton Lane = Hon. Agnes Bagot (m 1828)



Ernald was christened on 9th April 1836. His sponsors (a form of godparent) were:

- Hon. Rev. Daniel Finch, his great uncle
- Charles Earl Talbot
- The Viscountess Encombe (afterwards Countess of Eldon), his cousin
- Miss Humpage (His grandmother's, blind Sarah Lane's, "Dame de Compagnie" or helper)

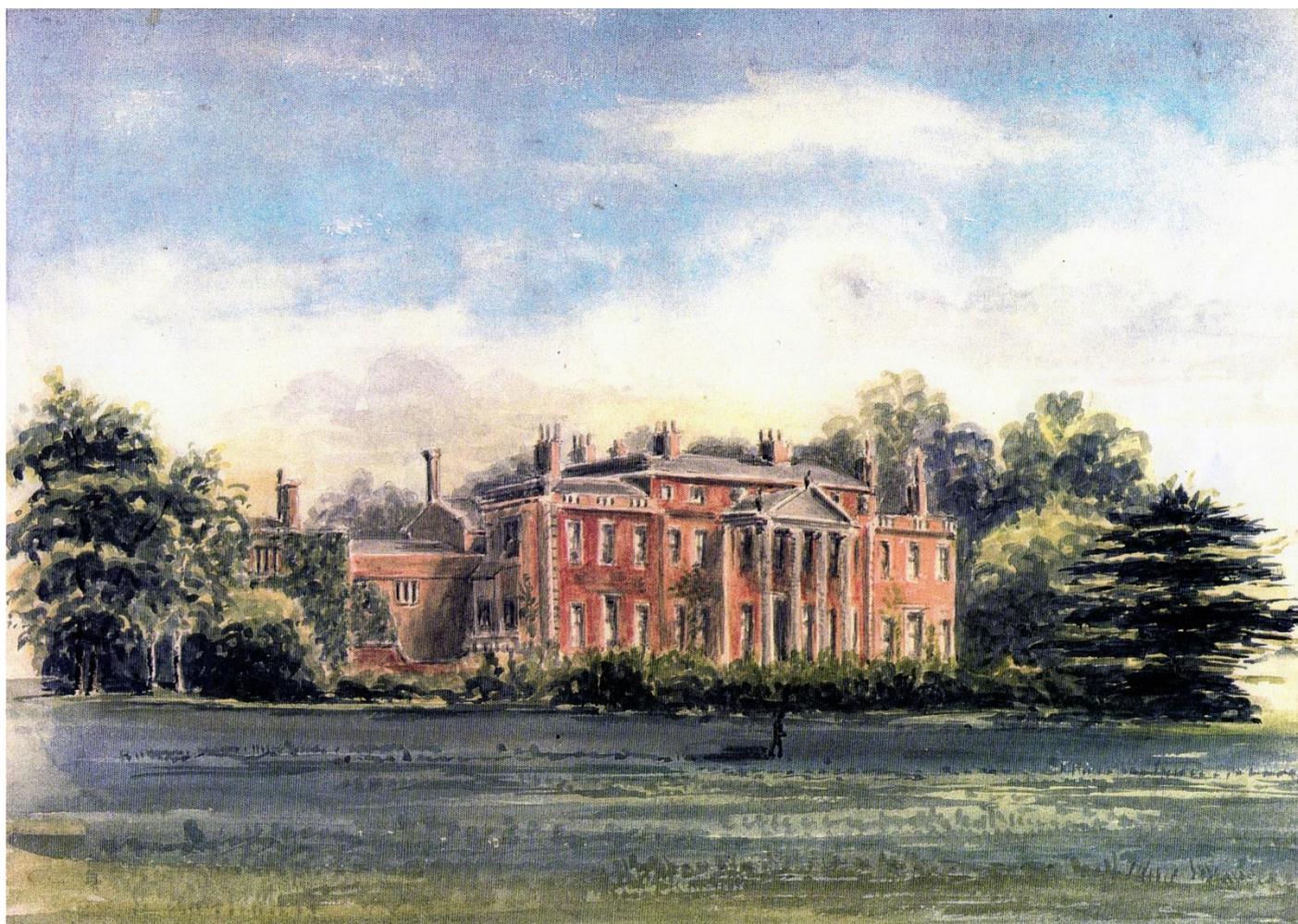
The 1851 Census, which was taken on the 3rd March when Ernald was fifteen, shows a large family and establishment at Kings Bromley Hall:

| | Status | Age | Occupation | Where born |
|-----------------------|---------------|------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Sarah Lane | head | 86 | Esquire's Widow, Blind | Shrewsbury |
| John Newton Lane | son | 50 | Magistrate & Deputy Lieutenant | Aston, Warks |
| Sidney Leveson Lane | grandson | 19 | Undergraduate at Christ Chch. Coll. | Blithfield |
| Cecil Newton Lane | grandson | 17 | Scholar at home | Kings Bromley |
| Greville Charles Lane | grandson | 16 | Scholar at home | Kings Bromley |
| Ernald Lane | grandson | 15 | Scholar at home | Kings Bromley |
| E. A. Reginald Lane | grandson | 10 | Scholar at home | Kings Bromley |
| Edith E. M. Lane | granddau | 5 | | Kings Bromley |
| Ronald B Lane | grandson | 4 | | Kings Bromley |
| Isabel E. B. Lane | granddau | 1 | | Kings Bromley |
| Hannah Humpage | visitor | 71 | Dame de Compagnie | Rugeley |
| J. Francisca m Gunkey | servant | 53 | Head nurse | Switzerland |
| Maria Middleton | servant | 35 | Housekeeper | Chorley |
| Mary Henwood | servant | 29 | Cook | ? |
| Ellen Mathiesson | servant | 36 | Upper laundry maid | Scotland |
| Hannah ? | servant | 30 | Under laundry maid | Berkshire |
| Elizabeth Jackson | servant | 34 | Upper house maid | Leicestershire |
| Mary Benley? | servant | 22 | Under house maid | Hill Ridware |
| Harriet Abberley | servant | 20 | Dairy maid | Abbots Bromley |
| Hannah Tomlinson | servant | 25 | Under nurserymaid | Kings Bromley |
| Dorothy Sanders | servant | 15 | Stillroom maid | Kings Bromley |
| Sarah Truman | servant | 15 | Kitchen maid | Piehall? |

| | | | | |
|-----------------|---------|----|----------------|---------------|
| Abraham Page | servant | 36 | Butler | Whittington |
| William Ruggins | servant | 25 | Gardener | Piford? |
| Alfred Gailer | servant | 21 | Footman | Little Eaton |
| George Shelley | servant | 20 | Second footman | Beckwith? |
| Thomas Powers | servant | 25 | Coachman | Warks, Aston |
| William Kidd | servant | 20 | Postillion | Kings Bromley |

In the census Agnes Lane, who had her last child, Isobel, in 1849, is listed as visiting Blithfield Hall with her father Lord William Bagot, two brothers, a sister and 21 servants. All of John Newton Lane's children are at home apart from the eldest John Henry Bagot Lane. He may have been away at school, but has not yet been found on any census. Ernald was privately educated before he went to Oxford.

Kings Bromley Hall stood in a park with three lodges, a gamekeeper lived in the West Lodge with his family, a gardener lived in the East lodge with his family and a garden labourer lived in the South Lodge with his family. This painting, made some twenty years later, shows the manor as it was during Ernald's childhood.



Ernald's mother, Agnes, ensured that her children took up good professions, if male, and married well if male or female. The oldest son and heir, John Henry Bagot Lane, went into the army and married an heiress. The second surviving son, Sidney, trained as a lawyer and also married an heiress. The third surviving son, Cecil, had a career in what would now be called the Foreign Office and married well. The fourth surviving son, Greville, had an army career before being invalided out. Ernald, the fifth surviving son, went into the church.

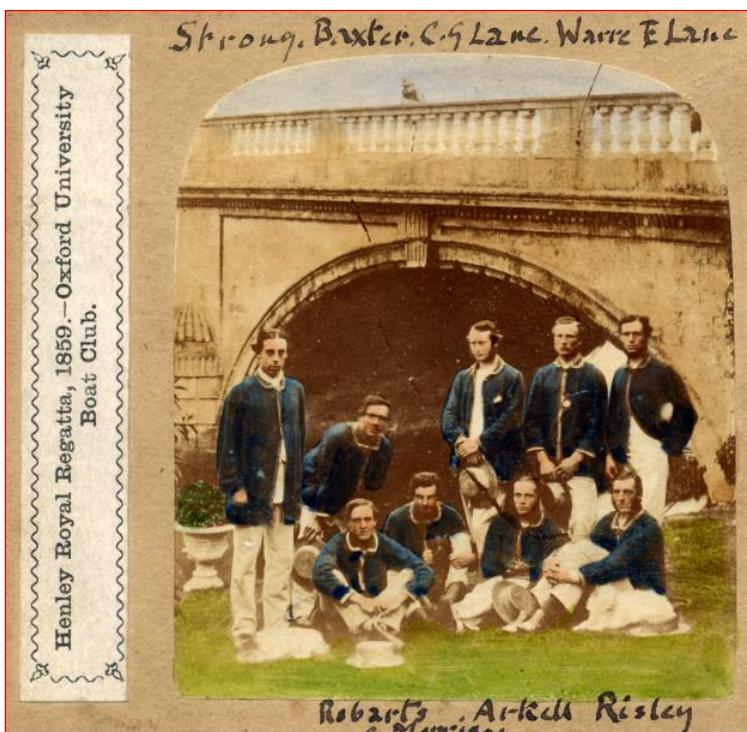
It is clear from the letters of Sidney that Ernald's choice of career was a calling rather than a convenience. On Dec 12th 1858, Sidney, who was back from the Ionian Islands and living at Kings Bromley, wrote the following in a letter to his friend Ralph Sneyd:

"I have been living here a great deal which has been very pleasant as either Henry or Ernald and very often both have been here also. You know what Henry and I have always felt for each other but I did not know before what a wonderfully agreeable companion Ernald has become and our evening chats? have been most pleasant. (I am afraid however that he has made up his mind to go into the Church and he is so thoughtful and cool headed that he is hard to move)."

Sidney himself appears from his letters to have had no particular attachment to religion, and the rest of the family were Anglicans who probably considered religion as something that one practised on a Sunday. Ernald, though, was quite different, and was a committed Christian, of the type that would later be called 'Muscular Christianity'. He was a member of the "Brotherhood" (as Sidney referred to Henry, Ernald, Cecil, Sidney, Greville and later Ronald) who pursued country sports. From August 25th 1859, Henry started a game book which he kept up for the next fifteen years. This book lists what he shot, where he shot and with whom. Ernald first appears shooting at Kings Bromley in 1859 and last appears in 1871.

At the time of Sidney's letter Ernald, now 22, had been at Balliol College, Oxford and studying for a BA in Law and History for three years. He completed it in 1860. Five years to get a first degree seems quite leisurely. His grand-daughter, Rosemary Lane, in her usual forthright manner, recalled that her grandfather was 'not at all academic' and struggled later to get the Doctor of Divinity that he needed to progress in his career.

Ernald was more interested in sport than law or history. He is shown below as an undergraduate and representing both his college and university at the 1859 Henley Royal Regatta.



Getting his MA in 1862 from an Oxford college, required then, as now, a financial contribution rather than a scholarly dissertation.

Ernald was ordained in 1862 and then spent a year as Chaplain at All Soul's College, Oxford. In 1863 he became Curate in the Parish of Baldersby in Yorkshire where he resided for five years. His older brother Sidney had married Lady Downe of Baldersby in 1863, and presumably the curacy was in her gift. He was then from 1868 to 1870 Rector of Albury in Surrey. This was followed by a year as Vicar of St Michaels in Handsworth in Birmingham.

On Tuesday 25th August 1868 Ernald's sister Edith married Walter James the only son of Sir Walter James, the ceremony taking place at All Saints Church, Kings Bromley. Ernald performed the ceremony, assisted by the Rev. Leveson Lane and the Hon. and Rev. Hervey Bagot, uncles of the bride, and the Rev. Thomas Dainty, Vicar of the Parish of Kings Bromley. In 1893, on the death of his father, Walter James became 2nd Baron Northbourne of Betteshanger Park in Kent. Ernald always remained on very good terms with Walter and Edith.

In 1869 Ernald's father John Newton Lane died, leaving each of his children £2000. (Ernald's grandfather, John Lane, had inherited Kings Bromley Manor and Seawells sugar plantation in Barbados from the Newton family in 1794. The family's wealth and position were based on sugar plantation slavery. We have no record of Ernald's opinion on this.) Ernald's brother, John Henry Bagot Lane, known to the family as Harry, became Lord of the Manor of Kings Bromley. Harry had married Susan Anne Vincent on Jan 28th, 1864. She was the daughter and heiress of the late Henry William Vincent, Esq. J.P. for Berkshire and Queen's Remembrancer from 1823 to 1858. Just before his death her father had inherited a large fortune from a Vincent relative. On his marriage, Harry decided to live at the Vincent residence of Lily Hill, Berkshire and on inheriting Kings Bromley decided that he would live mainly at Lily Hill. His mother, Agnes, continued to live at Kings Bromley, with a much reduced staff.

In 1871, at the age of 35, Ernald was appointed as Rector of Leigh in Staffordshire, a post which he held until 1904, a period of 33 years. This was in the gift of his mother's family, the Bagots of Abbots Bromley; indeed, the three previous incumbents, stretching back to 1751, had been Lewis Francis Bagot, Richard Bagot and Walter Bagot. Leigh is the largest parish in Staffordshire with, presumably, at that time, a tithe income to match. The living came with the rectory, which stands adjacent to the church on a moated site, with extensive gardens. Leigh church is unusually large for a parish church, built more like a cathedral - with a transept. There was a Saxon church on the site, and some of the masonry of the crossing tower is late Norman. However, it was rebuilt in around 1842 in the gothic revival style, the work being paid for by Richard Bagot of Blithfield who went on to become the Bishop of Bath.



The 1871 census shows Ernald living at Leigh rectory with three servants. The rest of his family was now quite scattered. Henry was living at Lily Hill with a household of a butler, twelve servants and a coachman. Sidney was living in even greater style at Baldersby Park, Ripon, with a household of a governess and thirty servants. Cecil, who had returned from Cephalonia in 1864, ran the Kings Bromley estate for Henry - whom he was visiting at the date of the census. Agnes, 61, two years a widow, and Isabel Beatrice, 22, (who would marry, Percy Brodrick Bernard, in 1872) were visiting Sidney at Baldersby Park. Ronald was living at the Infantry Barracks, Woolwich, as a Lieutenant in the Rifle Brigade.

During 1872 and 1873 Ernald played cricket for the Gentlemen of Staffordshire in at least one match against the Gentlemen of Cheshire, one against a team from the MCC and one against the Gentlemen of Shropshire. To his list of sporting activities must be added fishing, which he certainly pursued while at Leigh. According to Rosemary, Ernald suffered in later life from diabetes which might have restricted his sporting activities.

Kings Bromley at this time was very much a second home for Henry, the Lord of the Manor. His mother, Agnes, still lived there as did Cecil and the invalid Greville, but the staff was reduced to two grooms, five servants, two gardeners and a gamekeeper. No doubt this complement of servants was increased when Henry visited either for shooting or for his summer vacation. We know that the family did visit in the summer because Henry's wife, Susan Anne, painted watercolours there during the summer months in 1876, 1877 and 1878.

One of Susan Anne Lane's watercolours dated 1878 is titled 'Cecil's Room'. This shows the 'bachelor pad' that Cecil had lived in between 1864 and 1876. The small figure dressed in black is probably Ernald's mother, Agnes Lane.



Things must have continued much like this until 1878 when the invalid Greville died. Cecil had married in 1876 and soon moved to Whiston Hall, Shropshire where he became land agent for Lord Derbyshire's residence at Patshull. However, sometime between 1878 and 1881 Agnes moved from Kings Bromley Manor to live with Ernald at Leigh. This may have coincided with Ernald's marriage in 1879.

In 1879, when he was 43, Ernald married Evelyn Adelaide, daughter of John W & Adelaide Louise Philips of Heybridge, Tean, Staffs. John Philips was High Sheriff of Staffordshire in 1861. The Philips family was in 'trade', according to Rosemary Lane "they were makers of tape, they had the contract to make red tape for the government. So, at home we didn't use string, we used second-rate red tape... and they made tape and of course every family had its own tape too. I mean there's a Lane tape" This is the Lane tape:



The tape business must have been lucrative as according to their marriage settlement, Ernald received £2000, Evelyn £10000 from her father immediately and a further £5000 on his eventual death.

The 1881 census shows Ernald and his wife living with their first child and Agnes in the Rectory at Leigh:

Ernald Lane, Head, age 46, born Kings Bromley, Rector of Leigh
Evelyn A Lane, wife, age 24, born Checkley
Beatrice M A Lane, daughter, age 1, Leigh
Agnes N Lane, mother, age 71, born Blythefield, Honourable
John G Lourdale, visitor, age 63, born Westminster, Canon Residentiary of Lichfield

There were also eight servants including a Housekeeper, a Nurse, a Lady's Maid, a Footman and a Groom. Possibly the Nurse and the Lady's Maid were in the service of Ernald's mother Agnes.

Ernald's first daughter Beatrice had been born on 16 May 1880. Ernald and Evelyn went on to have two more children - Geoffrey was born on 23 July 1882 and Marjorie on 25 January 1887.

Agnes died in November 1885 and was buried at Kings Bromley. This photograph shows her and her grandson Geoffrey at Leigh Rectory earlier in that year:



John Henry Bagot died early only a year after his mother Agnes in 1886, and so ownership of Kings Bromley parish and Lily Hill passed to the nineteen-year-old JHHV (Harry) Lane. It is clear that both Lily Hill and Kings Bromley continued to be family homes. As can be seen from this photograph, JHHV's coming of age celebration, held at Kings Bromley, was a large family affair. From the left, standing: Ernald (51), Arthur(16), George(12) Sidney(56), Florence(22), Constance(18), Ronald (41); sitting : Susan Anne(56), Evelyn- Ernald's wife(30), JHHV (21), Adela - Cecil's wife(42), Lilian (10).



Arthur, George, Florence, Constance and Lilian were JHHV's siblings

While at Leigh, bringing up his family, Ernald's responsibilities increased. He was a Proctor of the Diocese of Lichfield (1884-1888) and in 1888 became a Prebendary Canon of Lichfield and the Archdeacon of Stoke on Trent. He signed the Leigh Parish Registers as Rector until the end of March 1888 and then as Archdeacon from the beginning of April 1888 to the end of December 1904.

The following photograph showing Geoffrey and Marjorie playing in the garden of Leigh rectory, with Evelyn and Ernald sitting in the background, must have been taken in about 1894.

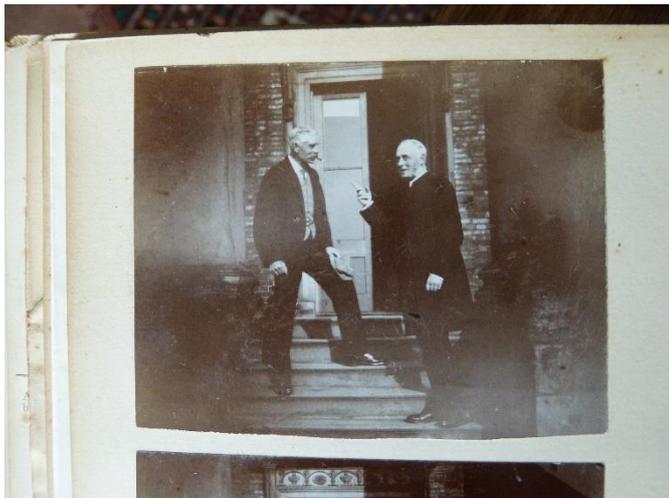


Susan Anne Lane died in 1899. Her funeral, held at All Saints Kings Bromley, was another large family occasion. It was conducted by the Vicar (Rev. T.P. Forth), Archdeacon Lane (Ernald) and the Rev. E. Samson (Vicar of Pipe Ridware). Only after this did J.H.H.V marry, and he sold Lily Hill - making Kings Bromley Hall his sole home. He refurbished the hall, which had fallen into some disrepair, and went on to bring up six children there.

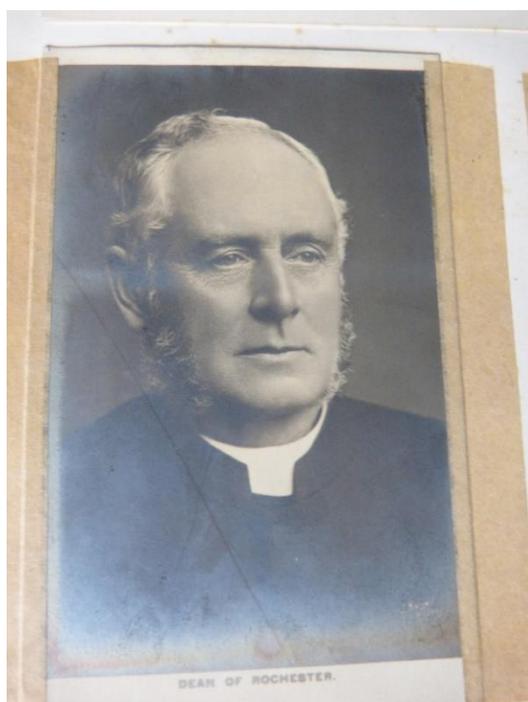
At the time of the 1901 census Ernald and family were still at Leigh Rectory. Ernald was then 65, his wife Evelyn was 44, his son Geoffrey was 18 and a 2nd Lieutenant in the Rifle Brigade and his daughter Marjorie was 14.

Ernald left Leigh to take up the position of Dean of Rochester Cathedral in February 1905. According to The Church of England Glossary: ' "Dean" tout court refers to the clergyman who is the head of a cathedral chapter and in whom the affairs of the cathedral are focussed'. It is therefore a more administrative position than that of Bishop.

The following set of photographs were found in Ronald's scrapbook. It shows Ernald when he was Dean messing around with his brother Ronald, who by this time had become Major General Sir Ronald Bertram Lane K.C.V.O. K.C.B. Ernald remained on very good terms with Ronald and the Northbournes, but lost contact to some extent with the Kings Bromley Lanes.



This last photograph of Ernald was also discovered in Ronald's scrapbook. Ernald died at Rochester Deanery on January 16th 1913 and was buried in King Bromley churchyard:



Tributes to Ernald Lane at Kings Bromley, Leigh and Rochester

Kings Bromley

The building now known as Kings Bromley Village Hall was opened in 1914 and was dedicated as the Dean Lane Memorial Institute. The site and building were paid for by public subscription, to which the Lane family contributed generously. A stone plaque bearing the Lane/Bagot Coat of Arms was incorporated into the front wall of the building, and a plate inside recorded the memorialisation.



In 2011 two paintings came up for sale from St. Matthew's Church, in Northampton . These had been in the collection of comedian Derek Nimmo and had been bought from his estate by a church member and subsequently donated to the church. Representatives of the church contacted Kings Bromley Historians who were able to confirm that the paintings were indeed of Dean Ernald Lane. It was at this stage that the Historians were contacted by Rosemary Lane, the grand-daughter of Ernald, who at this time was aged 90 and living in Aberdeen. Rosemary bought one of the paintings and donated it to Rochester Cathedral where it now hangs in the library. The other was put up for auction, and Kings Bromley Historians were fortunate enough to successfully bid for it.

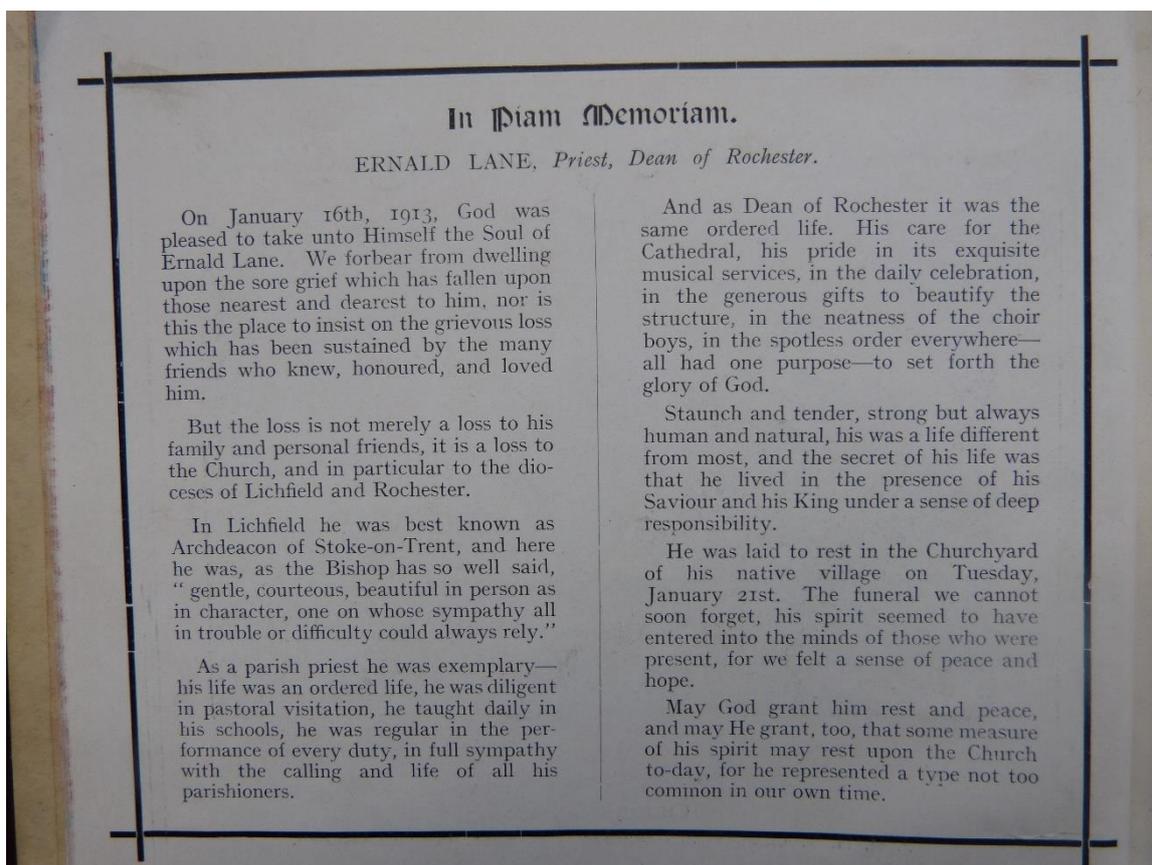


The story of the acquisition of this painting is told in Kings Bromley Historians' publication 'A Portrait of Dean Ernald Lane'. It was fortunate for the Historians that it was the start of a long dialogue with Rosemary Lane, whom Allan & Alison Howard visited in Aberdeen in September 2013. She was able to give us a number of anecdotes about her grandfather which are included in this document, also she had in her possession two scrapbooks kept by Ronald Lane which she allowed us to photograph. These scrapbooks have been an invaluable resource for research into the lives of the Lanes of Kings Bromley which has resulted in this document and publications - 'Sir Ronald Bertram Lane, Knight of Kings Bromley' and 'The Life and Times of Agnes Lane, the Little Queen of Kings Bromley'. Rosemary died on September 3rd 2015, and is greatly missed.

The painting, by Aubrey Waterfield, was permanently loaned by the Historians to the village hall, where it was unveiled by Charles Lane at a ceremony in 2012.



The following glowing tribute to Ernard appeared in the Kings Bromley Parish Church magazine:



Leigh Church

On January 29th 1913, just two weeks after Ernald's death, a public meeting was held in Leigh parish where it was unanimously decided that there was to be a permanent memorial to Dean Lane in the Church. The subsequent petition to the diocese for a faculty stated the following:

A wish to place a Window in the Church if funds permitted was generally expressed.

At a subsequent meeting it was decided that a Window should be erected & subscription be asked for, for this purpose. This was generally known throughout the parish & it was announced in the Parish Magazine which is generally circulated.

The subscriptions (with a very few exceptions) have been restricted to Parishioners and Property-owners in the Parish.

The appended list of Subscriptions (*unfortunately not in the file, AH*) shows that almost all the parishioners, including some of the poorest, & also nonconformists contributed.

Another public meeting was held on March 3rd to report progress & was then carried unanimously by formal resolution that a window be erected and that the matter be left in the hands of the Committee to carry forward.

It is clear from this that Ernald was held in high regard by all members of the Leigh community.



This is the stained glass which was placed in the east facing window of the north transept. It represents the Transfiguration of Christ. It is by John Henry Dearle, of Morris & Co., and is a copy of an earlier window by Burne-Jones of 1875 at Lytham, Lancashire. John Henry Dearle (1860-1932) was a British textile and stained-glass designer trained by Pre-Raphaelite artist and craftsman William Morris. Dearle designed many of the later wallpapers and textiles released by Morris & Co. and contributed background and foliage patterns to tapestry designs featuring figures by Edward Burne-Jones and others. Beginning in his teens as a shop assistant and then design apprentice, Dearle rose to become Morris & Co.'s chief designer by 1890, creating designs for tapestries, embroidery, wallpapers, woven and printed textiles, stained-glass and carpets. Following Morris's death in 1896, Dearle was appointed Art Director of the firm and became its principal stained-glass designer on the death of Burne-Jones in 1898.

The inscription reads: 'To the glory of God and in affectionate remembrance of the Very Reverend Ernald Lane DD Dean of Rochester: Rector of this parish 1870 to 1905: Prebendary of Lichfield and Archdeacon of Stoke on Trent 1888-1905. At Rest Jany 16th. This window is placed here by the parishioners and landowners of Leigh A.D. 1913'



The Transfiguration of Jesus is an event reported in the New Testament in which Jesus is transfigured (or metamorphosed) and becomes radiant upon a mountain. The Synoptic Gospels (Matthew 17:1-9, Mark 9:2-8, Luke 9:28-36) describe it, and 2 Peter 1:16-18 refers to it. In these accounts Jesus and three of his apostles, Peter, James and John, go to a mountain. On the mountain, Jesus begins to shine with bright rays of light. Then the prophets Moses and Elijah appear next to him and he speaks with them. Jesus is then called "Son" by a voice in the sky, assumed to be God the Father, as in the Baptism of Jesus. The Transfiguration is one of the miracles of Jesus in the Gospels. This miracle is unique among others that appear in the Canonical gospels, in that the miracle happens to Jesus himself. Thomas Aquinas considered the Transfiguration "the greatest miracle" in that it complemented baptism and showed the perfection of life in heaven. The Transfiguration is one of the five major milestones in the gospel narrative of the life of Jesus, the others being Baptism, Crucifixion, Resurrection and Ascension. In Christian teachings, the Transfiguration is a pivotal moment, and the setting on the mountain is presented as the point where human nature meets God: the meeting place for the temporal and the eternal, with Jesus himself as the connecting point, acting as the bridge between heaven and earth.

Rochester Cathedral

There are four memorials to Dean Lane at Rochester cathedral. The first is the painting purchased by Rosemary Lane and now hanging in the library:

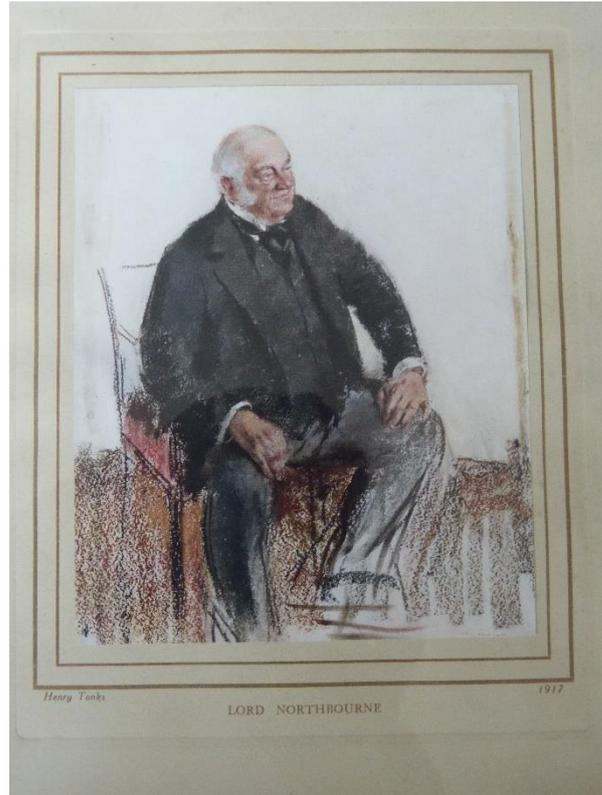


The second is one of the cathedral bells. In 1921 the old ring of 8 bells at Rochester Cathedral was recast with two new treble bells. The inscription on the 8th bell is:

Vidua et Socii me refecerunt. In memoriam Ernaldi Lane DD.
Hujusce Aedis Decani. Obit 16 Januari, 1913. Adeste Fideles.
*(His widow and friends made me. In memory of Ernald Lane, D.D.,
Dean of this Cathedral, died 16 January 1913, O come all ye faithful.)*



The third is the 'Northbourne Pall'. This is a large embroidery donated to the Cathedral by Lord Northbourne, Ernald's brother in law:

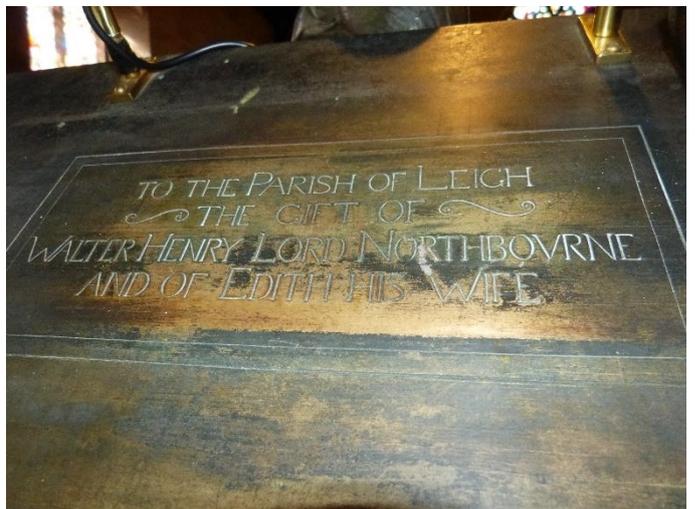


The pall is described in some length in an article produced by the Friends of Rochester Cathedral in 1991, reproduced here as an appendix. It is described there as 'an important example of early twentieth embroidery' and, while it used to be used as an altar frontal in the Jesus chapel it became worn and was restored by Mrs Marian Kite of the conservation department of the Victoria and Albert Museum. Since then it has been kept in a large wooden box. Kings Bromley historians Lynne and Dennis O'Dea visited in 2019 and were lucky enough to view the pall:





The Northbournes were also generous donators to both Kings Bromley church and Leigh church, where this lectern still stands:

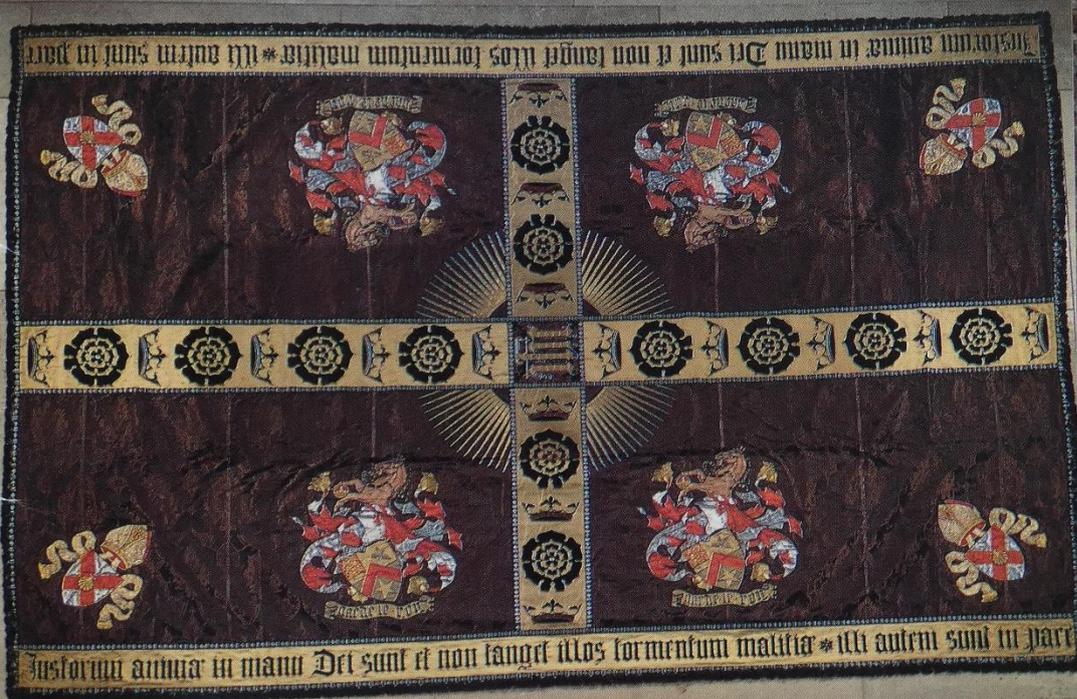


The fourth memorial to Ernald Lane at Rochester is mentioned in the 1990/91 brochure and is a bronze mural in the south east transept. Unfortunately, we do not yet have a photograph of this.

These many tributes of words, arts and crafts are an indication of the esteem in which Ernald Lane was held wherever he was known.

Allan Howard, Kings Bromley Historians, October 2020.

Friends of Rochester Cathedral



Report for 1990/91

cleaning and the consolidation of surviving Romanesque detail by conservators under the direction of Nicholas Durnan. A very favourable tender for the work has been received from Canterbury Cathedral Masons. As is now the norm at Rochester, the Cathedral Archaeologist will be recording in detail the stonework and preparing in due course an analysis of the sequence of construction.

Specifications have also been prepared for the cleaning of the Quire — Leopards, purbeck shafts and vaults — and the re-lighting of the Eastern Arms of the Cathedral based on preliminary proposals for a comprehensive re-lighting of the whole building. It is hoped that this work can be put in hand within the next two years.

In addition studies are being carried out on the cleaning, re-furnishing and lighting of St. Ithamar's Chapel, on the possibility of moving the Font to the North Transept and on the implications of the recommendations of the recent Tourism Survey recently commissioned jointly by the Dean and Chapter and Kent County Council.

I should like to record constructive discussions with the Kent Fire Brigade over compartmentation, means of escape, safety and fire detection and the receipt of a sensitive and practical series of recommendations on improvements in safety both for the building and for those who work and worship within it. Certain recommendations have already been implemented, others are being specified whilst a phased programme for the completion of the remainder is being prepared.

Two very different further developments are worth recording. A Bursary has been received from the Royal Institute of British Architects from Mrs. Diana Holbrook to prepare a list of all known works carried out in the Cathedral since the Reformation, including works of both historical and technical importance. This document will become an essential working tool for all future surveyors and archaeologists, clarifying the structural development of the building but also providing direct access to the primary sources of technical and historic knowledge. As far as I can ascertain, this is a unique development proving that a relatively small and very ancient Cathedral foundation can provide a lead in conservation. We are very grateful to the RIBA and Mrs. Holbrook.

Finally it remains to record the inauguration of a scheme to provide State Aid to Cathedrals, the sum of £11 million having been provided by Government for expenditure over the next three years. The scheme will not solve all our financial problems, for the funds will always be insufficient, subject to means test and only for urgent works. Nevertheless the knowledge that a donation in future to the Cathedral can attract a further percentage grant from Government could well provide a spur to private giving and reinforce the generosity of our visitors and the Friends.

Martin Caroe
Cathedral Surveyor

THE NORTHBOURNE PALL

Ernald Lane, Dean of Rochester 1904-13, is commemorated by a bronze mural in the south east transept of the cathedral and by a magnificent funeral pall, an important example of early twentieth century embroidery donated by Lord Northbourne and his wife who was the sister of the dean.

The arms which decorate the pall are those of the diocese of Rochester and the Lane family. John Lane, of Bentley, Staffordshire, married Margaret, daughter and heir of Thomas Partich, of King's Bromley in the same county, he died in 1578. Their son, Thomas, married Catherine, daughter of Richard Trentham of Rochester and one of their children was also Thomas, a loyal royalist. This Thomas and two of his children, John and Jane, assisted in the preservation of King Charles II after the battle of Worcester.

After the Commonwealth was established in England Charles made a desperate effort to regain the crown which culminated in his disastrous defeat at Worcester in 1651. With the help of colonel Carlos the King escaped from the city and hid in an oak tree at Boscobel before he sought refuge in the home of colonel John Lane at Bentley. From there he fled on horseback with mistress Jane disguised as her servant. They travelled to Abbot's Leigh, near Bristol, and thence to Somerset from where the King sailed to the continent and safety.

When King Charles was restored to the throne the Lanes were granted two remarkable additions to their family arms. First, the arms of England — 'three lions passant guardant, on a canton given in augmentation'. Augmentations indicate deeds which the sovereign considers worthy of being held in especial remembrance and although other families, particularly in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, have been honoured — for example with one lion passant or a royal crown — the Lanes are the only family to whom the arms of England has been given. A most curious result of this happened when the use of armorial bearings were taxed by an act of parliament, the royal arms were exempted and on account of this canton the Lane family claimed and obtained exemption from the tax. Secondly, a few years later, a crest was granted — 'a strawberry roan horse supporting between its feet the imperial crown'. It was upon a horse of this colour that the King and mistress Jane escaped.

John Newton Lane was born at King's Bromley in 1800 and married the Hon. Agnes Bagot who was descended from a family who were living in Staffordshire at the time of the Domesday survey. They had ten children of whom the seventh was Ernald, born in 1836. He was educated at Balliol College, Oxford and was a Fellow of All Souls', Oxford from 1860-79. In 1866 he became rector of Albury, Oxfordshire for two years and then vicar of St. Michael's, Handsworth, Birmingham. Lane was instituted archdeacon of Stoke-on-Trent (1888-1901), vice-provost of St. Mary and St. John Lichfield (1898-1904) and rector of Leigh, Staffordshire (1871-1904). He was married. Ernald was Dean of Rochester from 1904 until his death in 1913. He is buried at King's Bromley.

Edith Emmeline Mary Lane, sister of Ernald, married Walter Henry James, 2nd baron Northbourne, who at one time was member of Parliament for Gateshead and a justice of the peace in Kent. A dedication, written in Latin on vellum and sewn to the lining of the pall translates, '*. . . Walter, a friend from Northbourne and his wife Edith dedicate this pall . . .*'

The fervour which inspired the builders of our great gothic cathedrals influenced the embroiderers of furnishings and vestments. Fragments of needlework from St. Cuthbert's tomb at Durham, worked between 905-916, and other pieces believed to have been worn by bishop Walter de Cantelupe (1233-66) at Worcester foreshadowed the great period of Opus Anglicanum (1250-1350) when English embroidery was famed throughout Europe. During the latter part of the fourteenth century rich silk materials became more available — velvets, brocades and damasks — which required new techniques from embroidery. A method was developed in which motifs were worked on a linen ground and when complete were attached to the silk. This is known as appliqué and the various embroideries on this pall have been applied to the blue/black silk damask, using cloth of gold and cloth of silver extensively.

Many of the beautiful and elaborate City Company palls belong to the period from the mid fifteenth to mid sixteenth centuries and influenced later work, a superb example made for the worshipful Company of Saddlers may be seen at the Victoria and Albert Museum, South Kensington. All palls are of a similar size and very large, about thirteen feet in length, with much use made of the decorative values of heraldry and lettering. Heraldry has constantly been combined with decoration for the church, the arms of

donors or associated families frequently appears and are sometimes the only clue to authorship. Heraldic art has a beauty and simplicity suited to the dignity of church ceremonial but the designer has to understand this type of ornament and treat it boldly with an appropriate choice of scale, materials and colour. For these reasons the services of a suitably qualified architect were often sought.

During the early years of the nineteenth century the standard of design on church furnishings was very poor. One of the first architects to concern himself with this problem was Augustus Pugin (1812-1852), and in 1844 he published the *Glossary of Ecclesiastical Ornament* in which he set out his principles of good decoration with an appropriate meaning. Many of his designs conformed to the plan of a large cross with a suitable symbol at the interchange which has been used for the centre of this pall; the cross formed from cream silk with appliquéd black velvet crowns and roses, which symbolise sovereignty and the Virgin Mary, with IHS at the interchange.

In 1854 the Ladies' Ecclesiastical Society was founded, the first of many similar groups which undertook the training of embroideresses to produce church needlework, most of the ladies gave their time and labour gratuitously and worked under the supervision of a competent architect. Several leading architects are known to have turned their attention to such projects, and worked for firms of church furnishers including Watts and Company who may have made this pall. Among these men were George Bodley (1827-1907); W. Curtis Brangwyn; E. W. Godwin; J. D. Sedding, diocesan architect of Bath and Wells and the Reverend Selwyn Image (1849-1930), who designed for the Royal School of (Art) Needlework and must have known W. G. Paulson Townshend who was design master there and included a chapter on ecclesiastical and heraldic needlework in his book *Embroidery of the Craft of the Needle* (1907). However, it must be noted that at the time the Northbourne Pall was made, many designers would have chosen the fashionable Art Needlework and not a formal heraldic decoration.

As a means of communication embroidered lettering has been, and still is, important; whether to convey a message from the scriptures or record a date, name or place. In the latter part of the nineteenth century the style of lettering deteriorated and would not improve until the 1950s, variants of bastard Lombardic scripts were invented and such pseudo-gothic letters were used for the Latin inscription around the foot of this pall:

Justorum animae in manu Dei sunt, et non tanget illos tormentum malitiae: illi autem sunt in pace.

This is an adaptation of the first and third verses of Wisdom chapter III and translates: 'The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and there shall no torment touch them: but they are in peace'.

For some years the Northbourne Pall was used as an altar frontal in the Jesus Chapel and suffered considerable wear. Recently, it has been restored by Mrs. Marion Kite of the conservation department, Victoria and Albert Museum, who suggested that as the cloth of gold and cloth of silver were fragile the pall should be kept behind glass. However, due to the cost and the lack of a suitable site this is not possible and it is stored in its own wooden case and may only be seen by appointment.

Ernauld Lane was a person of wide sympathies, a lover of country life and an antiquary. He was a man of prayer and deeply concerned for order and decency in the cathedral. To quote once more from the dedication by Lord Northbourne and his wife:

*Ave fratre dilecte O delectissime ave
Farewell O beloved brother most beloved farewell.*

Molly G. Proctor