

## Christ Church Library, Carroll Collection

Digitised images notes and captions by Edward Wakeling

### Carroll-Vere Bayne-scrapbook

#### Introductory notes:

Charles L. Dodgson and Thomas Vere Bayne (1829-1908) were childhood friends. The latter's father, Thomas Bayne (1803-1848), was master of Warrington School, not far from the Dodgson family home at Daresbury, Cheshire. He would visit the Dodgsons and assist Charles Dodgson senior with services in the parish church. When he retired from Warrington School in 1842, he became incumbent at St. John's, Higher Broughton, Manchester, until his death.

Thomas Vere Bayne matriculated at Christ Church, Oxford, in June 1848, and was nominated a Student in 1849. He took his BA in 1852 and his MA in 1855. He was ordained deacon in 1855, and priest in 1856, although he never held a clerical position, remaining at Christ Church as a tutor from 1856 until 1872. He was appointed Curator of the Common Room in 1862, a position he held until 1882, when Dodgson succeeded to the position. He held other offices at Christ Church including censor 1863-77, proctor 1867, librarian 1872, and posts within the University including being a member of the Hebdomadal Council 1872-78, secretary to the Oxford University Commission 1877-81, and keeper of the archives 1885. His final position was as a commissioner at Gibraltar in 1894. He remained at Christ Church all his adult life, as did Dodgson, their lives to a certain extent running parallel, but in different subject areas, and with different personal interests. Bayne took a greater role in the administration of Christ Church, although both men were active on the Governing Body.

Bayne was a keen recorder of events, and kept scrapbooks for many years containing documentary evidence of events within Christ Church, including some of Dodgson's early literary contributions and circulars. Without Bayne, some of these rather esoteric items would have been lost due to their transient nature – papers that were relevant for a short space of time. Some of these items are included here.

#### Vere-Bayne-scrapbook\_0001\_portrait-letter

The Governing Body of Christ Church commissioned Hubert Von Herkomer (1849-1914) to paint a posthumous portrait of Charles L. Dodgson to be displayed in Hall. Herkomer, who had a studio at Bushey, Hertfordshire, was well-known in Oxford circles, and painted several key University men of the Victorian age. This sheet in Bayne's hand records the events leading up to the completion of the commission, indicating that the first attempt was deemed a poor likeness, and with further

assisted self-portraits of Dodgson supplied to the artist, a final good likeness was produced. It hangs in Hall to this day. The portrait was not included in Stuart Dodgson Collingwood's *The Lewis Carroll Picture Book*.

Vere-Bayne-scrapbook\_0002\_1\_44

While on the island of Madeira during the winter of 1856-1857, Dr. Henry Acland witnessed a blue fin tuna being caught by fishermen. He was accompanying Dean Henry Liddell acting as his personal physician. Liddell suffered respiratory problems for some years after his appointment as Dean of Christ Church, and spent the winter months either at Madeira or in the Mediterranean for the sake of his health. Acland acquired the fish and had it shipped back to Oxford as a specimen for his anatomical museum at Christ Church. The skeleton was assembled, and Acland arranged for Dodgson and Reginald Southey (the latter studying anatomy, training to be a doctor) to photograph it, together with other specimens. Three different images of the "tunny fish" (as it was called) were taken. The photograph mounted on page 45 of the album was slightly different from the other known images, and appears to be unique. Acland arranged that his anatomy museum would be transferred to the new University Museum which was being constructed in north Oxford. This specimen is still on display in the Museum, together with others that came from Christ Church.

A Latin inscription was affixed to the case bearing the skeleton of the blue fin tuna which gives its history reporting that it was nearly lost in a shipwreck off the Dorset coast before it eventually arrived in Oxford. It was assembled by Charles Robertson, demonstrator in anatomy for the University.

This mock University statute dated 3 November 1860 then appeared which repeated the Latin inscription followed by an anonymous satirical parody of the inscription. William Tuckwell in his *Reminiscences of Oxford* (1900) stated that the "line-upon-line travesty" was believed to have been "rough-hewn by Lewis Carroll, handed round the Common Room, retouched by Gordon, Bode, and Chaffers, who happened to be dining as Gordon's guest..." Tuckwell is very unreliable, and there is no surviving evidence to support his statement. Bayne, having acquired the printed sheet, possibly from the Common Room, pasted it into his scrapbook.

Vere-Bayne-scrapbook-1\_45

Dodgson's photograph of the "Tunny fish" [IN-0207] with Reginald Southey's assistance was taken outside the Christ Church Anatomy Museum below the Lee Building in Schools Quad. The image number is not known for certain, but the other two images are IN-0206 (almost identical) and IN-0208 (in a foreshortened view).

Vere-Bayne-scrapbook-2\_06

Dodgson's rare pamphlet (only the Christ Church and Bodleian copies are known) entitled *The Offer of the Clarendon Trustees* was printed and circulated in February

1868. There is a handwritten version in Bayne's hand also in his scrapbook dated 2 February 1868, but it is incomplete. This printed version was issued a few days later.

The Clarendon Trustees administered the Clarendon Estate, which derived from a wealthy family descended from Edward Hyde, first Earl of Clarendon (1608-1674), historian and benefactor to Oxford University. In 1867 the Vice-Chancellor of the University received an offer from the Clarendon Trustees to fund a new laboratory for the study of Physics. Robert Bellamy Clifton, Professor of Experimental Philosophy published a letter dated January 1868 on the subject of the proposed new Clarendon Laboratory. Dodgson's letter to the Senior Censor of Christ Church, Charles Waldegrave Sandford (1828-1903), was a parody of Clifton's letter, putting forward similar arguments for special accommodation to be provided for the study of Mathematics. Dodgson included some amusing mathematical analogies and displayed a clever use of puns. There is no mention of this printed paper in Dodgson's diary. The Trustee's offer was accepted, and the Clarendon Laboratory was completed in 1872, becoming one of the earliest Physics laboratories in Europe.

Dodgson published a revised version of this paper in *Notes by an Oxford Chiel* in 1874. See *The Oxford Pamphlets, Leaflets, and Circulars of Charles Lutwidge Dodgson* compiled by Edward Wakeling (University Press of Virginia, 1993) for further details.

Vere-Bayne-scrapbook-2\_07

The second page of Dodgson's paper entitled *The Offer of the Clarendon Trustees*.

Vere-Bayne-scrapbook-2\_14v

Manuscript poem in Dodgson's hand in his characteristic violet ink, pasted into Bayne's scrapbook with additional note by Bayne: "written by Chas. L. Dodgson/Christmas 1882." It was sent with a photograph of Henry Parry Liddon (1829-1890). Tommy was the Common Room cat, much pampered by Liddon.

Diu patiens Felis,  
Tuis victima telis,  
Mitto tibi, crudelis,  
Multis surdus querelis,  
Hanc picturam, sivelis

Id habere, abomi -  
- nabilissime domi -  
- ne et pessime homi -  
- num quos vidi !

(signed)  
Tommy

Translation (by Janet McMullin):

Long suffering feline, poor  
Cat, I, victim of your claw,  
Send to you, cruel, ignor-  
-ing your complaints, deaf to more,  
This photograph, if 'tis your

Wish to have it, abomi-  
-nable (most by far) domi-  
-nie, worst of all the nomi-  
-nate race I've seen.

(signed)

Tommy.

Janet adds:

This provides seven syllables per line and rhymes in both stanzas. Dominie is an old term (Scots) for a schoolteacher or pedagogue. "Nominate race" is a zoological term, denoting a race or subspecies which is given the same epithet as the species to which it belongs, e.g. Homo sapiens.

The other item on this page has no relevance to Dodgson.