# ROBERT RICHARD ROYSTON 1828 – 1909

# SIGNWRITER, HERALDIC ARTIST AND ILLUMINATOR OF TROPHY OAR BLADES

COMPILED BY DOUGLAS DASHWOOD-HOWARD

2022

ROBERT RICHARD ROYSTON

## Compiler and Publisher

Douglas Dashwood-Howard

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## **CONTENTS**

INTRODUCTION	5
• WHO WAS HE?	7
• WHAT ARE TROPHY OARS?	7
ROBERT RICHARD ROYSTON'S LIFE	7
- Date and Place of Birth	7
- Baptism	7
- Parents	7
- Siblings	8
- Marriage	8
- Children	8
- Some Details from Census Returns	8
- Advertisements for his Business	9
- Some Examples of his Work	10
- References to his Work in Newspapers	13
- Pastimes	15
- Regarding Property on Midsummer Common	15
- Some Unpleasantness	16
- Death and Burial	17
- Probate	17
• SOME NOTES ON 25 – 26 BRIDGE STREET, CAMBRIDGE	18
- An Equity Case	18
- A Reader's Letter by Robert Richard Royston	19
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND SOURCES	21

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Arthur Dashwood Howard (\*1866, †1926), my paternal grandfather, studied medicine at Trinity Hall Cambridge. In the 1887 Lent Races he participated for Trinity Hall in the College's third boat.

His original, illuminated trophy oar is today (2022) in the possession of his greatgrandson Peter Dashwood-Howard and has fortunately not been cut down, as is so often the case. The blade bears the name of the artist/signwriter who illuminated it, namely "Royston" in capital letters without any initials. Having come across a number of other illuminated blades bearing Royston's signature, I thought it would be interesting to find out more about him.

Initial enquiries to some of the Cambridge boat clubs brought very little information but subsequent research in the internet was more successful, so much so that I thought it worthwhile to compile this monograph on Robert Richard Royston and present it to a few appropriate repositories so that it will be preserved for posterity.

I have done my best to give appropriate credit to the owners of photos and other images I have extracted from the internet. This book has been produced entirely at my own expense, is in no way a commercial enterprise and will generate no profit. Should anyone nevertheless feel that I have violated copyright, I apologise most sincerely and hope they will bear with me and not object to me having used their property for this work.

Several kind people whose names are listed in the chapter "Acknowledgements and Sources" have supported me with information. They all deserve my special thanks.

The list of sources names the individual websites in which I found information for this work. If I have omitted anyone it was unintentional and, here too, I offer my apologies, should that be the case.

It is my hope that this book will, at least in a small way, be a useful addition to the Cambridge Archives and to those of the Boat Clubs. Should it motivate someone, perhaps more qualified than I, to undertake further research, it will more than have fulfilled its purpose.

Douglas Dashwood-Howard Sennfeld, Germany 2022

#### ROBERT RICHARD ROYSTON (1828 - 1909)

#### WHO WAS HE?

Robert Richard Royston was a self-employed signwriter and heraldic artist in Cambridge during the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and the early 20<sup>th</sup>. In addition to conventional signwriting, he specialised in the illumination of the blades of university trophy oars.

#### WHAT ARE TROPHY OARS?

As a rule, the blades of such oars were, and still are, illuminated by a signwriter with the university or college coat of arms or crest, the name and date of the race, the names of the boat crew and their respective positions in the boat, and, sometimes, with their weights. Trophy blades for boat crews successful in the so-called bump races are additionally illuminated with the names of the colleges to which the bumped boats belonged.

In the 19<sup>th</sup> and perhaps in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, trophy oars were usually the actual oars used in the race by the winning crew. After the blades had been illuminated, the oars were presented to the respective rower by the Boat Club.

Nowadays, with oars costing in the region of £500 or more, Boat Clubs are unable to cover the cost so the signwriter is sourced, commissioned and paid by the rower who wishes to have such a trophy.

#### **ROBERT RICHARD ROYSTON'S LIFE**

#### Date and Place of Birth:

11 November 1828 in Magdalene Street, Cambridge

#### **Baptism:**

26 April 1829 at the Church of St. Peter, Cambridge.

#### Parents:

Robert Royston (\*1796 in Cambridge, †19 December 1856 in Cambridge) and his wife Emma (\*c.1801 in Littleton, Wiltshire, †1874 in Cambridge).

Records show various occupations for the father, Robert Royston:

1824-1832 shoemaker.

1837 shopkeeper.

1841 milkman.

1849 farmer.

1851 pork butcher, milkman and victualler.

1853 pork butcher and beer retailer.

At the time of the censuses in 1841 and 1851 the family was living at 25 and 26 Bridge Street, Cambridge. In 1851 a female house servant and two lodgers were recorded as additional members of the household. See also "Some notes on 25 – 26 Bridge Street".

#### Siblings:

Robert Richard Royston was the second of a total of six children, being preceded by his sister Martha Rebecca. They were followed by four younger brothers, John Thomas, Edward Alfred, Frederick George and Joseph.

#### Marriage:

On 2 July 1849 Robert Richard Royston married Sarah Gray, daughter of Matthew Gray, Tailor, at St. Pancras Church, St. Pancras, Middlesex. Witnesses were Matthew Gray, the bride's father, and Martha Rebecca Royston, the bridegroom's sister.

Page 170. 849. Marriage so mnized at to Cancras Church in the Carish of At Cancras in the County .... 1.10 Thinste lega. With 2 ft Trilar Robert Richard Royston Aho

Image: www.familysearch.co.uk

Robert Richard is recorded in the marriage register as "grainer", a grainer being a painter/artist who applies a grain to imitate another kind of wood. He also decorates tin boxes and trunks to resemble wood.

The elegant manner in which he signed his name in the Register is noteworthy,

#### Children:

Robert and Sarah had one son and three daughters: Their first child was Flora Sophia (\*1851 †1927), followed by Robert Richard (\*1854 †1864), Alice Maud Mary (\*1856 †1933) and Arabella Louisa (\*1857 †1934).

Robert Richard, their only son, died on 25 July 1864 aged only 11 years. No details so far traced,

The three daughters all died unmarried. It is possible that they assisted their father in the latter years of his business. In the 1901 census Flora is described as a "Herald Painter". In 1911 all three daughters are recorded as "Painter (Artist)". In 1921 Flora is an "Artist (Herald Painter and Illuminator)", Alice an "Artist (Painter & Embroiderer)" and Arabella an "Artist (Painter, Embroiderer & Designer)". In Kelly's Directory of Cambridgeshire for 1916 "Misses Royston" are still living at Midsummer House, the home of their meanwhile deceased father.

#### Some Details from Census Returns:

As members of Robert's household have already been described above, these details only refer to his occupation and address at the time of the census. The descriptions of his occupation are sometimes rather quaint and one wonders whether Robert himself dictated them or if the recorder followed his own interpretation of Robert's statements. For example, a "writer" is a signwriter, "painter" is ambiguous as it could be interpreted as "painter and decorator", which he was not.

- 1841 Living with his parents Bridge Street, Cambridge
- 1851 Painter, writer and grainer7 Pembroke Street, Cambridge
- 1861 Writer and grainer. Gilder on glass and illuminator of [illegible]. Painter27 Jesus Lane, Cambridge
- 1871 Decorative artist and herald[ic] painter 27 Jesus Lane, Cambridge
- 1881 Artistical painter (artist) 10 King Street, Cambridge
- 1891 Artist and painter Midsummer Common, Cambridge
- 1901 Herald[ic] painter By the River, Midsummer Common, Cambridge

#### Advertisements for his Business:

The first advertisement so far traced for Robert's business appeared in the *Cambridge Independent Press* Newspaper on Saturday 15 October 1853



Image: British Newspaper Archive

It would seem that his business was successful as he was looking for an apprentice. The second address, 42 Wilste[a]d Street, is interesting as it was the street in which Sarah was living when she married Robert in 1849. Whether the latter actually worked from this address has yet to be determined.

A year later Robert placed this advertisement in the *Cambridge Independent Press* Newspaper of 23 December 1854.

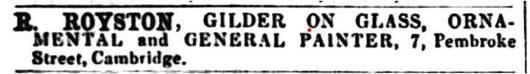


Image: British Newspaper Archive

This advertisement appeared several times, finally, as far as could be determined, on 3 February 1855

On 3 April 1858 in the *Cambridge Independent Press* Newspaper he announced that he had moved his premises to 24, Jesus Lane:



The preceding advertisement also appeared in subsequent issues of the *Cambridge Independent Press* Newspaper, the last time probably being 19 June 1858.

No further advertisements could be found until 1 December 1866:

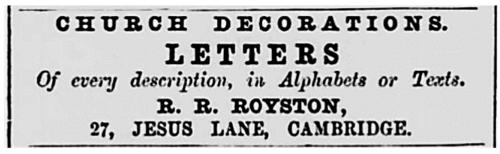


Image: British Newspaper Archive

This ad appeared in the *Cambridge Independent Press* Newspaper of 1 December 1866 and was repeated only twice, the last time being on 22 December 1866. It is probably the last newspaper advertisement which Robert placed for his business. Note that the address has changed from 24 to 27 Jesus Lane.

#### Some Examples of his Work:

The oar with this Trinity Hall III blade for the 1887 Lent Races belonged to Arthur Dashwood Howard whose name is to be seen as "A. D. Howard" on the right. The still complete oar is now (2022) in the possession of Peter Dashwood-Howard, Arthur's great grandson.



The two detail photos show Royston's signature to the lower left of the crescent between 7 and 8 o'clock.



Images: Douglas Dashwood-Howard

A pair of Emmanuel College blades dated 1897.





Both blades are signed by Royston and were presumably owned by A. J. Clarke as his name is the only one appearing on both blades.

Royston's signature is to the left of the crest between 7 and 8 o'clock.

Images: <u>https://www.sellingantiques.co.uk</u> the UK's largest antiques website.

A pair of Trinity blades dated 1899 and 1900, both presumably owned by P. C. Turnbull, his name being the only one which appears on both blades.

Only the lower of the two blades is signed. See detail image on following page.





Royston's signature is under the lion's right-hand front leg.

This and the previous two images: <u>www.henrygregoryantiques.com</u>

A further Trinity blade dated 1894.





The illumination of this blade is of particularly high quality.

Images: Manfred Schotten Antiques, Burford, UK

Below, a rather rare Lowe Double Sculls blade dated 1900 with Royston's signature at 7 o'clock below the central coat of arms.

The original oar is in the Museum of Cambridge in Castle Street.



Image: https://flipflopsincluded.com/museums-in-cambridge-5-of-the-best/

Finally, an unusual Lady Margaret blade for the 1st boat in the Lent Races of 1902, unusual in that it has a red rather than the much more common black background.





Royston's signature is at 8 o'clock below the coat-of-arms.

Original oar: Michael Collinwood Collection Images: Michael Collinwood

#### **References to his Work in Newspapers:**

On 4 February 1860 the *Cambridge Independent Press* Newspaper published an article on the "Admission of Newspapers into the Free Library". A petition to this effect had been started in 1859. In the meantime it had been signed by 903 inhabitants of the borough, several of whom were the largest ratepayers in the town. With the signatures, the petition itself was twenty feet long with the name of each petitioner having been "beautifully illuminated by Mr. R. R. Royston".

After much discussion, the petition was accepted.

For the forthcoming marriage of the Prince of Wales, a Celebration Committee had been appointed by the Council.

The *Cambridge Independent Press* Newspaper of 7 March 1863 reported that the Committee "had given directions for the illumination of the Guildhall, and that Mr. R. R. Royston had been instructed to prepare seven transparencies, representing the arms of England, Denmark, the Prince of Wales, the Town, the University etc. An additional transparency had been ordered for the Wheeler Street entrance".

On 21 March 1863 the *Cambridge Independent Press* Newspaper published a Reader's Letter by Robert Richard Royston commenting on "The Late Illuminations".

THE LATE ILLUMINATIONS. -SIR, -One of your reporters, in describing the illumination of the Guildhall, says <sup>14</sup> These devices were painted by Mr. Royston, of Jesus-lane, and much admired 'or their beauty, and richness. Mr. Roe, of Sussex-street, mounted the designs." The part of the paragraph stating that Mr. Roe fixed or mounted the designs is not true, and I fear was imposed upon your reporter for an unworthy purpose. The designs were fixed and lighted up by the Gas Company, to the zealous co-operation of the practical managers of which I am much indebted. Mr. Roe had nothing whatever to do with them, as his Worship the Mayor, the Town Clerk, and other members of the Committee for the insertion of bis. R. R. ROYSTON. Jesus Lane, Cambridge, March 18. In spite of extensive searches, the newspaper report mentioned on the left stating that "These devices were painted by Mr. Royston, of Jesus Lane, and much admired for their beauty and richness ..." could not so far be traced.

Image: British Newspaper Archive

This notice appeared in the Cambridge Independent Press Newspaper of 1 June 1867:

The Boat Races.—Mr. Royston, heraldic artist, publishes to-day "The Chart of the Cambridge University Boat Races for 1867." The chart, which is well designed and beautifully illuminated in colours, shows at a glance the rise and fall of the boats during the racing term. We should say the publication will meet with the decided success it deserves.

Image: British Newspaper Archive

The following notice, which appeared in the *Cambridge Independent Press* Newspaper of 26 September 1868, shows that Robert Royston's copyright for his "Chart of the Cambridge University Boat Races for 1867" had been infringed by a Mr. Nichols:

THE COPYRIGHT ACT.—Mr. ELLISON appeared on behalf of Mr. Robert Royston, of Jesus-lane, to apply for a summons to be issued against Mr. Nichols, for an infringement of the Copyright Act. It appeared that Mr. Royston is the originator of the Cambridge University Boat Race Chart, which was registered on August 28, 1866, and the infringement complained of was a Chart of the Cambridge Town Club Races.—The Magistrates seemed to be of opinion that there had been no infringement of the copyright within the meaning of the Act, but Mr. Ellison would be permitted to renew the application when Mr. Eaden, the clerk, was present.

Image: British Newspaper Archive

No report of a renewal of the application could be traced in the newspapers so it is quite possible that Royston and Nichols settled the matter out of court.

Mr. R. R. Royston's skill is praised in an article dated 5 October 1867 which appeared in the *Cambridge Chronical and Journal*:

Artistic Skill. - Mr. R. R. Boyston, of Jesus Lane, has just executed by embossing on glass (for Mr. Thurlbourn, of Trinity-street) a chaste and elegant design of the Elizabethan style (the bordering containing some of the shields of the Colleges), and surrounding in centre the University arms, indicating by the lines, their petals and colours, setting forth heraldry in a good style. and being an admirable piece of workmanship.

Image: British Newspaper Archive

In the *Cambridge Independent Press* Newspaper of 9 July 1870, it is reported that Royston exhibited some of his work at the Workmen's International Exhibition held at the Agricultural Hall in Islington. His exhibits, extracted from the complete list, follow on the next page.

Workmen's International Exhibition. — The following is a complete list of the Cambridge entries for the approaching exhibition at the Agricultural Hall, Islington :—

R. R. Royston, 27, Jesus-lane-Illuminations on cardboard and volum: the arms of the colleges of Cambridge and Oxford, emblazoned in oil on mahogany; and a signboard.

Image: British Newspaper Archive

#### Pastimes

Robert was a member of the Cambridge and Ely Angling Society. According to local newspapers, he attended the Society's annual general meetings in 1887 and 1889.

In March 1862 he was appointed "overseer" for the parish of All Saints. From 1899 to 1907 (perhaps longer) he was a "sidesman" in the Church of St. Andrew's the Great, a sidesman being a person who helps the warden of a parish church.

#### Regarding property on Midsummer Common, Cambridge

In May 1886 "Permission was given to Mr. R. R. Royston, of King Street, to have an entrance from Midsummer Common to his premises, at a rental of 1s. per year".

On 9 September 1892 the *Cambridge Independent Press* Newspaper reported on a claim by Mr. Robert R. Royston for some land on Midsummer Common:

#### A THOUSAND PER CENT.

A claim by Mr. Robert R. Royston for some land on widsummer Common was disputed by Mr. French.—Royston said this was the third year he had been objected to. He gave £100 for the property claimed for, and it would at the present moment bring in £1,000. He now produced a plan showing the extent of the property.—Mr. French said the whole of the land was open, and the piece claimant put in his claim for was a very small piece.—The Barrister allowed the vote, and claimant asked for expenses.—After a discussion, the Barrister said Mr. French would give him 2s 6d.—After receiving the money, Royston said : You can object to me as many times as you like at the same price.—Mr. French : You may think yourself lucky you have got your vote.

Image. British Newspaper Archive

#### Some Unpleasantness

On 29 August 1857, 12 July 1873 and 19 August 1892 the *Cambridge Independent Press* Newspaper reported three incidents in which Robert Richard Royston was the victim. The three reports are reproduced below in chronological order:

Thomasine Sheldrick was charged with an assault upon Robert Richard Royston, and using opprobrious language in a public thoroughfare. Mr. WAYMAN for the plaintiff stated that his object was merely to prevent a repetition of such annoyance, as he was continually subject to at the hands of the defendant and other parties, her aiders and abettors. It appeared that there was a grievance of long standing between the parties, owing to the embezzlement of some money by the prisoner's husband, the money being the property of the plaintiff. On Saturday afternoon, the defendant saw Royston in Trumpington. street. and with three or four more commenced a tirade of abuse ; the defendant "jobbed" Royston with her parasol several times, and kept up a running fire of foul language. The defendant denied all this, and asserted that Royston insulted her first ; but the case being clearly proved by independent evidence. the Bench expressed themselves satisfied that the assault was committed, and that the sister of the defendant, who gave evidence in her favour, had perjured herself .- Defendant was fined 5s. and expenses.

# THURSDAY .-- Before T. J. Ficklin, Esq.

CHESTERTON.-John Harvey, Portugal-place, Cambridge, was charged on a peace warrant with threatening the life of Robert Richard Royston, of Jesus-lane, Cambridge, on the 7th inst., at one of the boatyards on the Chesterton side of the river, and was bound over to keep the peace for six months.

#### SMASHING GLASS.

John Clements, 50, describing himself as a tailor, of Fulham, London, was charged with wilfully breaking a pane of glass, of the value of £2 10s., on the premises of Robert Richard Royston, on Midsummer Common, on the previous afternoon. He was further charged with using obscene language at the same time and place.—The prisoner pleaded guilty, and said he had just been discharged from an Asylum.—The Bench sentenced the prisoner to one month's imprisonment.

Three images: British Newspaper Archive

#### Death and Burial:

Robert died on 9 June 1909 at his home, Midsummer House, Midsummer Common, Cambridge. A death notice appeared in the *Cambridge Independent Press* newspaper of 11 June 1909:

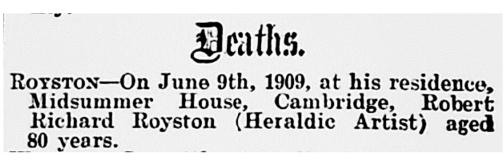


Image: British Newspaper Archive

He was buried on 12 June 1909 at All Saints Church, Cambridge.

On 18 June 1909 a Legal Notice was printed in the *Cambridge Independent Press* newspaper:

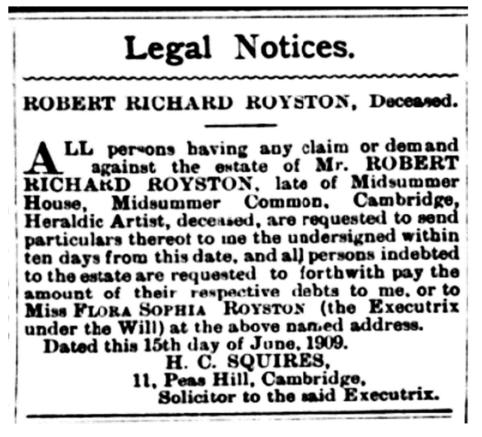


Image: British Newspaper Archive

#### Probate:

Probate was granted in London to Robert's daughter Flora Sophia Royston on 23 July 1909.

His estate was valued at £200 12s. 6d.

#### SOME NOTES ON 25 – 26 BRIDGE STREET, CAMBRIDGE

Details of this listed building in which the Royston family lived for some years are to be found on the website <u>https://capturingcambridge.org/centre/bridge-street/25-26-bridge-street/</u>

Robert and Emma Royston were the parents of Robert Richard Royston.

The 1841 census records Robert Royston as a milkman living with his family at Bridge Street, possibly at 25 – 26 but this has not yet been substantiated.

In the 1851 census Robert Royston, pork butcher, milkman and victualler, is recorded as head of the household living at Barley Shop and Mow (= 25 and 26 Bridge Street) with his wife and family.

The 1853 Post Office Directory of Cambridge records "Royston Robert, pork butcher & beer retailer, 25 & 26 Bridge Street".

In 1859 the freehold tenant was Emma Royston, widow of Robert Royston †1856.

In the1861 census, Emma is shown as Head of the Household living with daughter Martha Rebecca and son Joseph. The family's house servant was Matilda Allan.

Kelly's Directory of Cambridge for 1866 records "Royston Emma (Mrs.), pork butcher, 25 & 26 Bridge Street".

In this same year there was a dispute concerning the property as the newspaper reports below and Robert Richard Royston's reader's letter well demonstrate.

The 1871 census shows Emma Royston, pork butcher, still living at the same address with her grand-daughter, Clara B. Royston, pork butcher, and one domestic servant, Ann Hodson.

Emma Royston died 27 June 1874 and the family's connection with 25 – 26 Bridge Street ended.

#### CAMBRIDGE CHRONICLE AND JOURNAL - SATURDAY 23 JUNE 1866

#### FRIDAY.

LEGGE AND WIFE V. DOO AND OTHERS .- EQUITY CASE.

Mr. NAYLOR, instructed by Mr. JARROLD, appeared for the plaintiff; and Mr. COCKERELL, instructed by Mr. WAYMAN. for the defendants. This was a suit for the administration of the estate of the late Robert Royston, of Cambridge, pork-butcher and publican, and also for a declaration that the daughter, Mrs. Legge, was entitled to a partnership with her mother Mrs. Royston; the defendants are the executors of the late Mr. Royston.—Mr. NAYLOR opened the case, and from his statement we gathered that the executors accounts were never settled, but the business was carried on by the widow and daughter, and the daughter and her husband now sought for an account of the proceeds of the business. Mrs. Royston and Mrs. Legge having jointly contributed to the capital for carrying on the business.—His HONOUR read over the will, a long and remarkable document. fettering the legatees in every way. One half of the personal property, of the usual payments, &c., he left to his wife; but in point of fact the testator died insolvent.—Some lengthy arguments of a technical character took place; and it was finally arranged that the claims to partnership should not now be considered on the ground that the plaint was multifarious; but that the plaintiff should have the ordinary administration decree; the question of costs reserved. The part of the plaint elating to the partnership will in point of fact be struck out.

This and the next two images: British Newspaper Archive

#### EQUITY CASE.

This was a suit in equity instituted by Martha Rebecca. the wife of George Legge, against Emma Royston, James Doo, grocer, and William Henry Emmerson, baker, all of Cambridge. Mr. T. H. NAYLOR, barrister, appeared for the plaintiff: and Mr. COCKEBELL, barrister, for the defendant. From the opening statement of the learned counsel, it appeared that Mrs. Lecge is the daughter of Robert Royston, who died on the 19th of December, 1856. Mr. Royston made a will appointing Messrs. Doo and Emmerson his executors, and by his will be bequeathed the half of his property to the plaintiff absolutely, and half to his widow, the female defendant, minus a legacy of nineteen guineas which was to be paid to his son. There was never any sale of the property of Mr. Royston, nor any settlement of the accounts, but instead of that, his business-that of a milkman and pork butcher-was carried on by his widow, and the co-legatee, his daughter. It was now sought by the present action to obtain an account of the partnership assets, the sale of the goodwill of the business, and to have a receiver appointed to receive the assets.

HIS HONOUR said he thought the proper course would have been not to have filed a partnership bill for the present. The best plan would have been to have filed a bill for administration. He was clearly of opinion that the bill was multifarious, and that there must be a demurrer to the multifariousness

Mr. COCKERELL; We say there was absolutely a deficiency instead of being anything to divide. The testator died very much in debt, and there is absolutely nothing left.

The REGISTRAR: That must cause an enquiry as to whether the estate has not since been increased.

After some discussion, Hts HONOUR said that if the parties liked to make this an administration suit, and trike out that part of it which related to the partnership. he would refer it to the Registrar to see if there were any special circumstances connected with it. This was agreed to, and the usual administration decree was made.

#### CAMBRIDGE CHRONICLE AND JOURNAL - SATURDAY 13 APRIL 1867

#### LEGGE VERSUS DOO.

SIR,-Will you allow me space enough in your journal to correct an error in your report of "Legge and Wife versus Doo and others" (Equity case), in the Cambridge County Court, of the 28th ult.? Your Reporter has it:-His Honour ordered the estate to be sold and divided between the parties after payment of costs; and, by consent of the plaintiffs, allowed the defendant the option of taking the stock-in-trade and effects at the amount agreed upon by their respective valuers, Mr. C. Wisbey and Mr. A. D. Claydon.

This does not convey the real effect of the decision; which was that, Mrs. Royston, who is the virtual defendant, should have the option of taking the whole of the effects, business, &c., as they stand, at the valuation already made.

This was not by the consent of the plaintiffs, but by the distinct order of the Court.

The melancholy facts of this case render this correction necessary. It is not to be allowed that the plaintiffs should have the credit of any courtesy or concession when they fought to the last to wrest from Mrs. Royston that on which she depends for her subsistence, and which is her thorough and legitimate right. A great deal more might be said on this matter, but I refrain from trespassing further on your columns. I am, Sir, yours obediently R. R. J

R. R. ROYSFON.

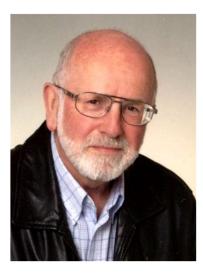
#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND SOURCES

My sincere thanks to the following people who helped me in one way or another:

- Laura, Archives Assistant, Cambridgeshire Archives
- Richard Law of Trophy Blades, Melbourn, Royston, Herts.
- Luca Smith, Captain of Boats at Emmanuel College Boat Club
- Alister Taylor, Cambridge University Boat Club
- Peter Twitchett, Boat House Manager, Emmanuel College Boat Club

The following sources provided useful information:

- www.ancestry.co.uk
- <u>www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk</u>
- <u>www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk</u>
- www.capturingcambridge.org/centre/bridgestreet/25-26-bridge-street
- <u>www.familysearch.org</u>
- <u>www.findmypast.co.uk</u>
- <u>www.henrygregoryantiques.com</u>
- www.sellingantiques.co.uk
- https://specialcollections.le.ac.uk/



#### THE COMPILER

Douglas Dashwood-Howard was born in 1939 in Ludham, Norfolk, England. He has been resident in Germany since 1968 and is now a German Citizen.

After completing his engineering apprenticeship, he worked for various companies in England, Germany and India. In 1968 he joined SKF GmbH in Schweinfurt, Germany, transferring to Central Purchasing in 1979. He retired as Senior Buyer at the end of 1997.

During his retirement he has prepared a three-volume documentation of the history of his family and has also produced several books and delivered lectures on the history of Sennfeld, the village in which he lives with his German wife.