

THE KING FAMILY

INNES ALBUM No 2

This was a King family album. Helen Eythan King married Alexander (3rd of Raemoir) in 1871. She was thus the Great-grandmother of Peter Innes, and therefore the Great-great-great-grandmother of Laura, Nicolas, Charlie, Thomas and Jonny.

The King family had strong Church connections. Helen Eythan's father, Samuel William King was the Rector of Saxlingham Nethergate, a Parish South of Norwich. His father was Rector of Nuneaton. A remoter ancestor was the Anglican Bishop of Dublin in the 17th century. He was imprisoned in Dublin Castle in 1689 by the Catholic James II, prior to the battle of the Boyne when the Catholics were defeated by King William of Orange.

Helen's father, the Rev Samuel William King, was a notable geologist and archaeologist. In addition to his parish work as Rector, he travelled widely all over Europe and Turkey in 1849 and 1850. Then, in 1855 he explored the Italian Alps and published a book "The Italian Valleys of the Pennine Alps". He was awarded an honorary citizenship of the City of Aosta. He was expert on the geology of the Norfolk coast and the Roman archaeology of Norfolk. He was a Member of the Geological Society, the Society of Antiquaries and the Royal Geographical Society. How he had time for parish duties is not clear! In 1864 he was suffering from overwork and was sent abroad for rest. Instead of rest he travelled through Spain, Majorca and France. In France he opened up a cave at Aurignac, discovering prehistoric bones. A web search of Aurignac still refers to his discoveries. In 1868 went on another journey, this time reaching Algiers. He died at Engadine in Switzerland on his way home in July 1868. He was only 46.

The album contains many photos taken during his journeys. With his research he was a fine artist. Two folders contain many of his beautiful drawings, including drafts of illustrations for his book and small paintings of butterflies and moths, churches and houses and other subjects. His heraldic paintings concentrate on the family name of his father-in-law, Sanders.

After his death, Samuel William King was succeeded by his younger brother, Alexander, who died during WWI. Alexander King offered to leave the entire King estates to Guy Innes, provided he changed the family name to Innes-King. He refused this offer. As the estates were heavily mortgaged they would probably just have been extra liabilities for the Innes family.