

ARTHUR DASHWOOD HOWARD

Only child of Joseph Jackson Howard, LL.D., F.S.A., Maltravers Herald Extraordinary, by his wife Ellen Clara née West.

Formerly of "Park Lodge", Park Road, Hampton Hill, Middlesex (c.1896 - 1899), afterwards of "Fairlight", Uxbridge Road, Hampton Hill (c.1899 - 1913), and latterly of "The Corner", Park Road, Hampton Hill (c.1913 - 1925) and "The Mowle", Ludham, Norfolk (c.1919 - 1926). "The Corner" was previously called "Park Villa" and had been the home of his mother-in-law, Margaret Betts.

BORN 31 May 1866 at 3 Dartmouth Row, Blackheath, Kent, the home of his parents.

BAPTISED 29 July 1866 at St. Mary's Church, Lewisham, Kent.
He was named Dashwood after the Rev. George Henry Dashwood, who was possibly his godfather but was certainly a very close friend of his father. See the chapter titled *Origin of the Name Dashwood-Howard*.

MARRIED 6 September 1899 at St. James's Church, Hampton Hill, Middlesex, Melita Margaret, only daughter of Walter Betts, farmer, of Gateley Hall, Gateley, Norfolk, by Margaret née Paterson, his wife.

DIED 19 May 1926 at his home, "The Mowle", Ludham, Norfolk.
Ashes placed in St. Catherine's Churchyard, Ludham, Norfolk, on 25 May after cremation at Golder's Green Crematorium, London. Memorial placed by his wife in St. Catherine's Churchyard.

1875 Entered Branksome Preparatory School, Godalming, Surrey. It is probable that the school was recommended to his father by Frederick Arthur Crisp, a close friend, who lived at Godalming.
In his notes on *Bygone Schools of Godalming, No. 2*, Peter Stock describes it as "a rare example amongst local private schools".
In August, Arthur Dashwood Howard was awarded a "School Prize 4th Class" in the form of a book, *The Boy Hunters*, by Captain Mayne Reid, which is now (2019) in the author's library.

1878 Left Branksome School, at which time the Headmaster was the Reverend Robert Sainsbury, M.A.



The 1881 census shows that in that year the Rev. Robert Sainsbury was assisted by two further teachers, a lady Housekeeper, a professional Nurse, and five Domestic Servants. The school was attended by approximately 30 boys, all of whom were boarders.

1878 - 1884 Attended Warenford School, Northumberland, under the Reverend W. Addison (probable dates).

1884 Admitted at Caius College, Cambridge University, on 1 October. Resided five terms.

1886 Admitted at Trinity Hall, Cambridge University.

1887 Commenced medical studies on 18 January.
Registered as a Medical Student by the Medical Council on 24 January.
Trinity Hall III rowing eight in the Lent Races.

1887 Mason Science College, Birmingham, one of the forerunners of the University of Birmingham, published an Annual Callendar which, among other information, listed the previous year's students. Arthur Dashwood Howard is listed as having been a student in 1887 -- 88 living in digs in Cradley Heath. Just as when he moved on to study at the Medical School, University College London, he was also still registered at his father's old college, Trinity Hall, Cambridge. Among the courses Mason Science College offered was instruction in the basic Biology, Chemistry & Physics needed by would-be Medics whose school science may have been lacking. They were increasingly involved with Queen's Medical School and in 1894 merged the science side of the Medical School into Mason College

rather than duplicating the course. They fully merged in 1900 when the University was founded.

1888 Entered the London Hospital Medical College on 26 September and attended intermittently until 1893 whilst continuing studies at Cambridge.

1891 Elected Fellow of the Royal Microscopical Society in January, having been proposed by James Glaisher, F.R.S., a celebrated aeronautist who held the record for altitude in a balloon and was a great friend of his father. Awarded 3rd Dissection Prize, value £3, at the London Hospital Medical College.

1893 Qualified M.R.C.S. (England) and L.R.C.P. (London) in January. Registered as a Medical Practitioner by the Medical Council on 10 February.

Graduated B.A., Trinity Hall, Cambridge. Senior Dresser to Out-Patients at the London Hospital from 1 September until 6 November when "he resigned without giving proper notice - otherwise good".

Joined the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company as a ship's surgeon on 14 November with a monthly wage of £10.

Assigned to the *Formosa* but subsequently transferred to the *Canton*, which he joined on 22 November, probably at Antwerp, for a voyage to Shanghai via Bombay and Hong Kong.

1894 Returned to London and discharged there on 31 March.

On 3 April the Marine Superintendent at London added the following text to the Agreement and Account of Crew document for the *Canton*:

"From enquiries I have made it appears that the three Chinese passengers who have died during the voyage were all attended by the Surgeon of the vessel and received every care and attention during their illness, and I am satisfied that no further investigation is necessary".

The death of the three Chinese passengers must have been a great worry to the young and inexperienced ship's surgeon on his first voyage. One can well imagine his relief after being "cleared" by the Marine Superintendent!

Rejoined the *Canton* the following day and departed for a second voyage to Shanghai on 14 April.

On 31 May he was requested by the Master of the *Canton* to give him medical treatment because of severe pain above the left eyebrow.

Dr. Arthur Dashwood Howard described the symptoms and the treatment in the 13 October 1894 edition of the medical journal *The Lancet*. A facsimile of his contribution is to be found in the documentation following this biography.

Returned to London and discharged there on 30 August.

Rejoined the *Canton* the following day and left for Antwerp on 16 September.

Returned to London and discharged there on 21 September. Sometime between this date and 26 September he was assigned to the *Kaiser I Hind* but only served on her for a few days, if at all, before being transferred to the *Chusan* on 27 September.

Departed for Calcutta on 12 October.

- 1895** Returned to London and discharged there on 2 January.
Rejoined the *Chusan* on 4 January and departed on a second voyage to Calcutta on 1 February.
Returned to London and discharged there on 24 April.
Resigned from the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company on 8 May.
- 1896** Qualified M.D. Brux. (Honours) after passing a series of examinations held at the University of Brussels from 11 - 15 May.
- 1897** Elected on the Council of the Surrey Archaeological Society in place of his father but apparently never attended any of its meetings.
- 1898** Commenced as General Medical Practitioner at Hampton Hill, Middlesex.
Joined the 2nd Volunteer Battalion of the Middlesex Regiment and was appointed to a Volunteer Force Commission in the rank of 2nd Lieutenant on 6 April.
Acting Captain, Hampton Hill Lads' Brigade.
On alternate Friday evenings he and a Mr. Bridger gave exhibitions of chemical experiments to the members of the Brigade in the Pantile Mission Room.
The Drills of the Lads' Brigade recommenced on 7 September, Dr. Howard having "kindly consented to take the place of Captain Isdell".

1899 Promoted to Lieutenant in the 2nd Volunteer Battalion on 11 January. Resigned his seat on the Council of the Surrey Archaeological Society but continued his membership until 1902.
 Appointed Medical Officer, Hampton Hill Parish.
 Appointed Examiner, St. John Ambulance Association.
 Appointed Medical Referee for the Prudential and Reliance Assurance Companies.
 The above three appointments are assumed to have been made in this year as they first appeared in *The Medical Directory, 1900* (issued in March).
 Participated in a Dramatic Performance held in the Victoria Hall, Hampton Hill, on Monday, 13 February, this concluding the Winter Entertainment Programme.
 The members of the Lads' Brigade assembled "in full uniform at 'Fairlight' (Dr. Howard's) at 6.30 p.m. on Monday, 10 July, to march to the Vicarage for tea and games".

1900 The drilling of the Lads' Brigade on Monday evenings to be under the direction of Dr. Dashwood Howard and his officers.

Elementary Wood Carving at the Evening Continuation School on Tuesday evenings under direction of Mr. Elsee [the local school-master], assisted by Dr. Howard and two other persons.



1903 Left the 2nd Volunteer Battalion of the

Middlesex Regiment in October (another source gives January 1904).
 Appointed Public Vaccinator for the Hampton Hill District of the Kingston Union.

1907 Assisted in the Annual Conversazione held on 19 November at the Victoria Hall, Hampton Hill, in aid of charity, the proceeds being divided between the Curate's Fund, the Nurse Fund, and the Working Men's Club.

1909 Appointed Medical Officer of the Female Orphan Home, Hanworth Road, Hampton, a contemporary picture of which is shown below.

Appointed Lecturer and Examiner to the London County Council's Evening Continuation classes.

These two appointments first appeared in *The Medical Directory, 1910*.

Elected Member of the Royal Photographic Society, remaining a Member until his death in 1926.

1910 Commenced a course in Photography at the Cripplegate Institute in preparation for the City and Guilds of London Institute Examination.

1910 (cont.) Received, together with his wife, a bronze plaque for their lantern slide, "Observation", which they had entered in the Open Lantern Slide Competition at the Worthing Camera Club Exhibition held from 7 - 10 March.

A further bronze plaque in the Annual Lantern Slide Competition of *The Amateur Photographer and Photographic News* journal was awarded to Dr. & Mrs. Dashwood-Howard.

Elected President of the Hampton Hill Horticultural Society.

1911 Took the written examination for the City and Guilds of London Institute's Ordinary Certificate in Pure Photography at the Polytechnic, Thornton Heath, on 2 May, having passed the practical examination sometime between 2 January and 4 March. He was the best of a total of 78 candidates and was awarded the Institute's bronze medal, receiving in addition a special prize of £1. 10s. from the Salter's Company of the City of London.

Member of the Executive and Entertainment Committees of the Hampton Coronation Celebrations (Coronation of King George V).

1912 Awarded a silver medal by the Cripplegate Institute for his Photographic Class Work in the Winter and Spring Sessions 1910 - 11. The medal was

presented to him on 30 January by Mrs J. Lake, wife of the then Chairman of the Institute.

Attended

Society's
with his
Holborn
London,

On 11
his wife
bronze
Prize) in



the Royal
Photographic
Annual Dinner
wife at the
Restaurant,
on 10 February.
March he and
were awarded a
medal (Extra
the Weekly

Competition of *The Amateur Photographer and Photo-graphic News* journal, receiving, in addition, a further plaque similar to the one already awarded to them in 1910 by the same journal in its Annual Lantern Slide Competition.

President of the Hampton Hill Habitation of the Young Helpers' League (in aid of Dr Barnado's Homes).

Assisted by Mr. Shail (father of Dorothy Ellen Shail, q.v.), he held lectures for the Ambulance Examination of Hampton Hill Lads' Brigade.

1913

On Saturday, 12 April the members of the Young Helpers' League, in connection with Dr. Barnado's Homes, met in the Church Room under the presidency of Dr. Dashwood Howard and after tea were entertained by a Conjuror, at the expense of Dr. and Mrs. Dashwood Howard.

He relinquished his medical practice at Hampton Hill some time before war broke out in 1914 but it has not so far been possible to determine the exact date of his retirement.

Much reduced facsimile of the brass plate used by Dr. Dashwood Howard at his practice in Hampton Hill. The original plate is now (2019) in the possession of his granddaughter.

1915

He and his wife "kindly consented to show some lantern slides, and to chat about them, at a gathering of the C.E.M.S. [Church of England Missionary Society] in the Church Rooms on 23 March at 8.30 p.m."

A report in the *Hampton Hill Parish Magazine* for March stated that "Dr. Dashwood-Howard gave a delightful exhibition of photos taken by himself and Mrs. Dashwood-Howard".

Joined the Royal Army Medical Corps and was appointed to a Temporary Commission in the rank of Lieutenant on 1 April. Stationed at the Royal Herbert Hospital, Woolwich, London. The picture below, reproduced from a postcard dated 1909, shows the hospital much as it would have looked while Dr. Dashwood Howard was stationed there.

1916

According to the *Army List* he was promoted to Temporary Captain



R.A.M.C. on 1 April in charge of the tuberculosis wards at the Royal Herbert Hospital.

The *Supplement to the London Gazette* of 6 September 1917 gives the date of his promotion as 1 August 1917, thus contradicting the entry in the *Army List*.

1918

Relinquished R.A.M.C. Commission on 1 August.

Although the house at Hampton Hill was retained until approximately 1925, the family appears to have resided mainly at "The Mowle", Ludham, Norfolk, from about 1918/19 onwards, this house having previously served as a holiday home.

- 1922** Honorary Secretary and Treasurer of the Potter Heigham and Ludham Regatta Committee.
President of the Ludham Branch of the British Legion.
- 1923** President of the Ludham Piscatorial Club.
Vice-President of the Ludham Lawn Tennis Club.
Captain of the Ludham Post of the Comrades of the Great War.
Instrumental in calling a meeting on 21 July to form the Ludham Football Club of which he was to become a member of the Selection Committee.
- 1924** Eleven of Dr. Dashwood-Howard's photos appeared in the *Short Guide to St. Catherine's Church, Ludham*, published in June, and are acknowledged in the brief introduction written by the Vicar.

In spite of his demanding profession he maintained an incredible number of interests and hobbies throughout his life, as witness his biography. These interests included natural history (he had a fine collection of butterflies and moths and a further collection of birds' eggs), photography, woodwork, glass blowing, drawing and painting, shooting, and boating. He was a great cat-lover and several of his drawings of cats in the style of Louis Wane, are now (2019) in the home of his great-grandson Peter Dashwood-Howard in Geldersheim, Germany. He also made a large collection of Pratt Ware pot lids, now in the possession of his granddaughter.

In Dilys Melville's *History and Growth of Hampton Hill*, which is included in the website of the Hampton Hill Association, he is described in the chapter headed *Personalities - The Leading Laity* as:

"A colourful personality ... who lived at the recently demolished Fairlight. He married a Miss Betts, of Park Villa, the house with a tower, standing at the top of Park Road [for a photo of the house see the biography of Melita Margaret Dashwood-Howard]. The year 1900 sees him giving an Exhibition of Chemical Experiments to the Church Lads' Brigade, of which he was captain - one wonders if this made him as popular with the parents as he undoubtedly was with the boys! He took part in many local entertainments, being the possessor of 'a fine baritone' voice. We read of him giving magic lantern shows and phonograph recitals as well as instruction in wood carving. It has been reported to us that he had a strong and lively

vocabulary and was 'even more expansive than Dr. Atkinson, of Welmead!'.
Jerome K. Jerome is said to have stayed at Dr. Howard's home".

Two of the eleven photos he contributed to the *Short Guide to St. Catherine's Church, Ludham* in 1924 are reproduced in the book *Ludham, A Norfolk Village, 1800 - 1900*, written by Joan Snelling and published in 1999. The photos appear on page 152 (plate 67) and page 153 (plate 68) and depict, respectively, the Scratch Dial (called The Sexton's Wheel in the Guide of 1924) and the Ancient Chest.

His younger daughter, Nona Nivea Green, wrote on 3 April 2005:

*"I do not remember much about my father. I think I was a great disappointment to him as he hoped I would be clever and pretty like my sister, I am neither.
I do remember he was sometimes cross with my darling mother for her lack of being on time, my daughter says I take after her in that way! "*

The first sentence is an absolute understatement, typical for her modesty!