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Bloxham, Andrew : aka Bloxam, Andrew (1801 – 1878)

Posted on June 6, 2011 by Chris

Andrew Bloxham was the 4th son of [Richard Rouse Bloxham](#) (of the Church of St John the Baptist, Brinklow); born at Rugby. His other sons included Matthew Holbeach (Holbeche) Bloxham (antiquary and historian) and John Rouse Bloxham (one time bursar and librarian at Magdalene College, Oxford). Richard and his wife had ten children.

Andrew was a graduate of Worcester College, Oxford (matriculated 1819), and was awarded his B.A. in 1824, and an M.A in 1827. The jpg below is taken from the Literary Gazeette Vol 11 :

On Wednesday, the 6th Instant, the first day of Act Term, the following degrees were conferred:—
Doctor in Civil Law.—Hon. A. Barrington, Fellow of All Souls', Grand Comptroller.
Bachelor in Divinity.—Rev. G. Cracroft, Fellow of Lincoln College.
Masters of Arts.—Rev. C. H. Tuckfield, Fellow of All Souls' College, Grand Comptroller; Rev. J. A. Gabb, Jesus College, Grand Comptroller; Rev. T. Pitman, Wadham College, Grand Comptroller; Rev. C. P. Price, Scholar of Pembroke College; Rev. T. P. Pantin, Rev. A. Templeman, Queen's College; Rev. T. Lathbury, St. Edmund Hall; Rev. H. C. Knox, Magdalen Hall; Rev. R. Mesiter, T. Medland, Scholar, Corpus Christi College; L. Purbrick, Christ Church; Rev. W. Serghson, Brasenose College; Rev. H. Cockerell, Trinity College; Rev. A. Bloxham, Scholar of Worcester College; T. Maude, University College; J. M. Calvert, Oriel College; Rev. T. Morgan, H. Griffith, Jesus College; G. G. Keke-wich, Exeter College.

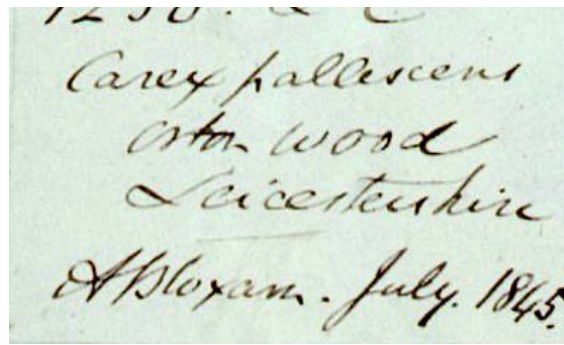
After his graduation at Oxford, he was offered the post of naturalist on HMS Blonde, commanded by George Anson (cousin of the renowned poet – Byron), who after the death of Byron assumed the title. The purpose of the voyage of HMS Blonde was to return the bodies of the King and Queen of the Sandwich Islands (the name given by Cook to the Hawaiian Islands). The King and Queen had travelled to Europe with a view to learning about European laws and customs but unfortunately contracted and died from measles. The British Government determined to return their bodies (and their retinue) to the Islands. As a result of this voyage, Bloxham's name is associated with the 'discovery' of various bird species in the Islands, and also a starling on Mauke (one of the Cook Islands) as the ship returned via Cape Horn. There is a fascinating paper by *Storrs Olson in Archives of Natural History*, 1996 Vol 23 p 1 – 42 on the voyage of *HMS blonde and Hawaiian ornithology*.

On his return to the UK, Bloxham was ordained, and became *perpetual curate* to Twycross' (1837 – 71) in Leicestershire, and later *Rector* to Harborough Magna (1871 – 78). Sometime before 1841, he married and his wife's name was Ann. They and their children (Andrew, Jane, Matthew, Lawrence ?) are recorded as living at Twycross in Census returns between 1841 and 1861. The returns also indicate that they had servants and 'private pupils'.

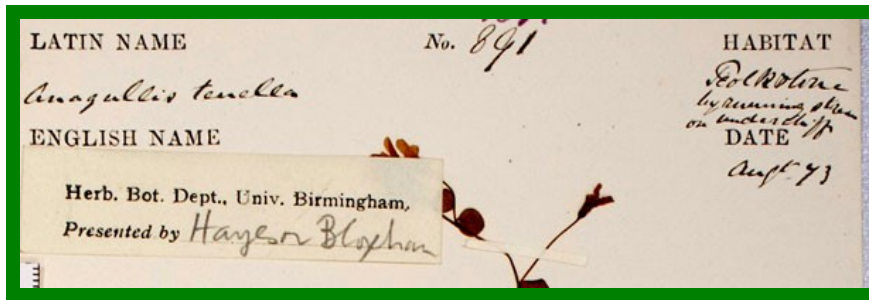
In 1871, it would seem that they had moved to his brother's house (Matthew, recorded as a solicitor) in St Matthew's Street, Rugby. By this time, Andrew was Rector at Harborough Magna.

A number of the sheets at H@H are those of Andrew [Bloxham / Bloxam](#) and their focus is the middle of the country.

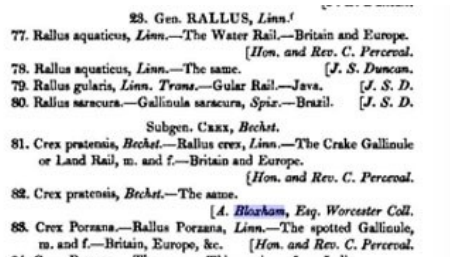




But even more sheets are attributed to **Hayes / Bloxham** but their provenance is a bit more difficult – **who was Hayes** ? See also <http://www.meiosis.org.uk/botanists/hayes-who-was-he-or-she/> If you can help identify Hayes, please use the comment form below.



Andrew Bloxham ‘appears’ in a number of places / journals of that period. He is listed as a contributor of specimens / artefacts to the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford – see jpg below.



His name is referenced several times in “[A manual of the British Discomycetes, with descriptions of all the species of fungi hitherto found in Britain, included in the family and illustrations of the genera \(1893\)](#)” and also in the Transactions of the Burton on Trent Natural History and Archaeology Society (see archive.org)– which suggest that he may have undertaken the occasional foray with Purchas.

Further details of Andrew Bloxham (Bloxam) may be found on [Wikipedia](#), together with a drawing of two of the brothers.

nb. Spelling could be a trifle variable in Victorian times, though both Oxford and Census returns indicate the spelling Bloxham.

nb. As ever archive.org and google book search provide a great deal of further information for those interested. If you do know anything about the Hayes’ sheets associated with the Birmingham Herbarium – do please get in touch.

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4 Responses to *Bloxham, Andrew : aka Bloxam, Andrew (1801 – 1878)*

David Price says:

July 23, 2011 at 10:29 am

He (see MS label, above, which appears to be in his own handwriting) and his contemporaries (e.g. J E Bagnall in 'Flora of Warwickshire') seem to have favoured the spelling "Bloxam".

The collector concealed by the designation 'Hayes or Bloxham' is now known to be Dr R L Baker (see <http://www.meiosis.org.uk/botanists/baker-dr-robert-large-1824-1885/>).

Chris says:

June 10, 2011 at 8:45 am

Just found a reference to Sutton Hayes – he was a *US army surgeon*

" It must be borne in mind that the Canal Zone was instituted in the 20th century and that the 19th century collectors like Sutton Hayes botanized extensively in the future Canal Zone area.

Chris says:

June 9, 2011 at 9:51 pm

Various institutions in the UK and the States have specimens from Sutton Hayes – eg Botanic Gardens New York, Kew etc
The association between Hayes and the Sloane was my mistake (from reading old documents too quickly) – not Alex's.
Chris

Roy Vickery (SLBI) says:

June 9, 2011 at 8:08 pm

There's obviously something wrong in the Co-ordinators' Blog bit about Hayes.

Sutton Hayes died in 1863; Sloane died in 1753, so unless Hayes was exceptionally long-lived he could not have contributed any sheets to Sloane's herbarium.

The Natural History Museum has some plants collected by Sutton Hayes in Panama in its herbarium.

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