

## Francis Charles Robert Jourdain (1865-1940)

### *Nota biogràfica*

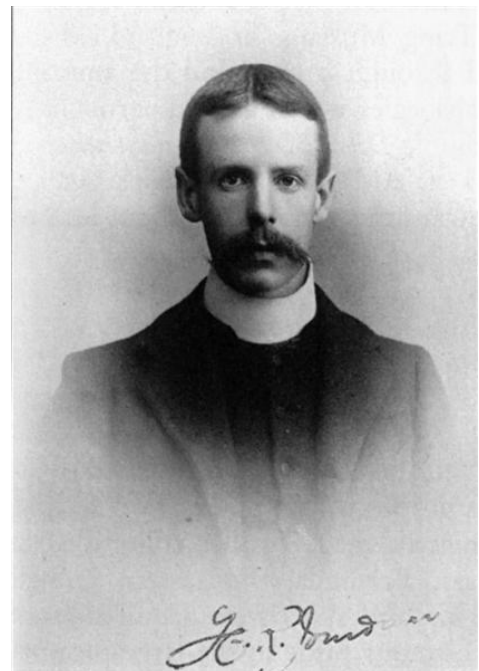
*Per Biel Perelló (Juliol 2006).*

El reverend **F.C.R. Jourdain (1865-1940)**, M.A, F.Z.S., M.B.O.U.<sup>1</sup>, naixia a Ashbourne, Derbyshire (Regne Unit) i s'educava al *Magdalane College* d'Oxford, va ésser ordenat el 1890 i va ésser rector d'Appleton al llarg de 18 anys.

Jourdain viatjà extensament per Europa, Àfrica del Nord i Àsia i va encapçalar les primeres expedicions de la Universitat d'Oxford a l'Àrtic (Spitsbergen i Bear Island). Destaquen també les seves aportacions ornitològiques després dels seus viatges a Xipre (Larnaca i Famagusta), Holanda, Còrsega i també a les Illes Balears.

S'inicià com a ornitòleg amateur, però amb el temps va ésser reconegut com a autoritat en el camp de l'ornitologia europea, se'l nomenava President de la *Oxford Ornithological Society*<sup>2</sup>, i membre honorífic o soci de les principals societats ornitològiques britàniques.

Jourdain era un autor prolífic i estava implicat en moltes obres relacionades amb les aus (la seva identificació i la dels seus ous principalment), però destacà també per ésser un afamat recol·lector i col·leccionista d'ous d'aus salvatges. Ambtot, és significativa la publicació de *British Birds* juntament amb F.B. Kirkman l'any 1930 i la seva tasca editorial als 5 volums de *The Handbook of British Birds*<sup>3</sup> (1938-1941).



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La *British Oological Association*<sup>4</sup> britànica, de la qual era membre fundador, editor del seu Butlletí i President, es rebatejava l'any 1946 com a *The Jourdain Society* en la seva memòria. Cal destacar la donació de la seva col·lecció d'ous que va fer Jourdain a aquesta societat.

Principals publicacions seves relacionades amb les Illes Balears entre el 1922 i el 1930:

- JOURDAIN, F. C. R. (1922). "*Little ringed plover in the Balearic Isles*". *Ibis*, 11, sèrie 4, pàg. 389-399.
- JOURDAIN, F. C. R. (1927). "*Die eier der vogel von Mallorca (Balearen)*". Part II. *Beitrag Fortpfl. Biol. Vogel*, núm. 3, pàg. 79-87.
- JOURDAIN, F. C. R. (1930). "*Weitere mitteilungen uber die vogel melt der Balearen*". *Sond Beitz zur Fortpflanz der Vogel*, 6, pàg. 202-204.

<sup>1</sup> M.A.: Master en Arts - F.Z.S: Membre de la *Zoological Society* - M.B.O.U.: Membre de la *British Ornithologists' Union*

<sup>2</sup> *Societat Ornitològica d'Oxford*

<sup>3</sup> *Manual de les aus Britàniques*.

<sup>4</sup> *Associació Oològica Britànica* (Oologia = estudi dels ous de les aus salvatges).

Altres publicacions on participà com a autor o coautor:

- Hartert, Ernst; Jourdain, F.C.R.; Ticehurst, N.F.; & Witherby, H.F. (1912). *A Hand-List of British Birds*. H.F. & G. Witherby Ltd: London.
- Jourdain, F.C.R. (1906-1909). *The Eggs of European Birds*.
- Kirkman, F.B.; & Jourdain, F.C.R. (1930). *British Birds*. Nelson & Jack.
- Witherby, H.F.; Jourdain, F.C.R.; Ticehurst, Norman F.; & Tucker, Bernard W. (1938-1941). *The Handbook of British Birds*. Vols.1-5. H.F. & G. Witherby Ltd: London.

Al *Natural History Museum* de Londres s'hi troba una interessant col·lecció de dibuixos i manuscrits seus.<sup>5</sup>

S'annexa la seva necrològica (G.M. Allen, 1940).

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##### <sup>5</sup> **Manuscript and Drawing Collection of Francis Charles Robert Jourdain (1865-1940) A Collection Description**

Title: Manuscript and Drawing Collection of Francis Charles Robert Jourdain (1865-1940)

Extent: 13 manuscript notebooks, unknown number of notes, papers, letters and one watercolour drawing

Parent Collection: Tring Library

Collection Content: *The manuscript and drawing collection of Francis Charles Robert Jourdain (1865-1940) comprises two notebooks on British birds observed and their eggs (1895-1931), together with 11 notebooks and other papers and letters from several correspondents from Europe, Africa and Asia, concerning his egg collection (1881-1934). One manuscript is entitled List of birds seen in Cyprus, chiefly at Larnaca and Famagusta between March 7 and 18th 1927 by W. H. Riddell. Also included in this collection are notebooks on birds observed in Britain and Holland (1902), birds observed in Britain and Denmark (1903), eggs of African birds received between 1898-1901, eggs collected on the 1921 Oxford University expedition to Bear Island and Spitsbergen 1921-1932. There are also catalogues of the collections of Jourdain's eggs from the Western Palearctic Region, his egg collection dated June 1923, together with catalogues of the egg collections of J. de Chavigny, and the North African egg collection of Georges Cogneau with notes on birds and eggs in Mesopotamia and Persia 1918-1919 including some by Patrick Alfred Buxton (1892-1955), and a watercolour drawing of eggs by Henrik Gronvold (1858-1940) for a plate in Ibis.*

Physical Arrangement: Unknown

### OBITUARIES

REVEREND FRANCIS CHARLES ROBERT JOURDAIN, an Honorary Fellow of the A.O.U. since 1921, died at his home in Southbourne, Bournemouth, England, on February 27, 1940, a week before his seventy-fifth birthday. He was born March 4, 1865, the eldest son of Reverend F. Jourdain, vicar of Ashbourne-cum-Mapleton. After graduation from Oxford in 1887, he was ordained in 1890, and four years later was appointed vicar of Clifton-by-Ashbourne where he remained for twenty years, until in 1914 he became rector of Appleton, in Berkshire. In 1925 he retired. Ornithology was a lifelong interest and he was known the world over as a high authority on the breeding and food habits particularly of western-palaeartic birds. He twice visited Spitsbergen and at various times made ornithological journeys to Corsica, Cyprus, Spain and northern Africa. His private collection of birds' eggs, a subject in which he took particular interest, was exceedingly fine. His active and enthusiastic work in ornithology was continued till the very end of his life, observing, gathering facts, lecturing, writing. An extended notice of his career and many activities with a portrait and a selected list of important writings appears in 'British Birds' (33: 286-293, 1940), from which the above particulars are drawn.—G. M. ALLEN.

JOHANNES THIENEMANN, a Corresponding Fellow of the American Ornithologists' Union, elected in 1926, died at Rossitten, East Prussia, April 12, 1938, at the age of 74. He was born at Gangloffsommern, Thuringia, Germany, November 12, 1863, and was educated for the ministry. Later he became a teacher but found his life work in studying bird migration at the German Observation Station at Rossitten on the Kurische Nehrung.

On his first visit, July 18, 1896, he found in this region unusual opportunities for the study of migration. Four years later at the jubilee meeting of the Deutsche Ornithologische Gesellschaft in Leipzig in 1900, he presented a paper 'Zwecke und Ziele, eine ornithologischen Beobachtungsstation in Rossitten an der Kurische Nehrung.' As a result of his recommendation a station was opened here January 1, 1901, as a cooperative project of the D.O.G. and the Prussian Government. Thienemann at once took up his residence there and proceeded to develop the station into an ornithological observatory with a worldwide reputation. Here he spent the rest of his life carrying on the observations which have made the place famous.

His publications are not numerous but among the most important may be mentioned 'Zwecke und Ziele,' two annual reports of progress following the establishment of the station and his principal work, 'Rossitten,' a book of 300 pages which appeared in 1926 and in a second edition in 1928, containing a summary of his observations extending over a period of thirty years on the Kurische Nehrung. This was followed by 'Im Laude des Vogelzuges,' a popular account for young people and 'Vom Vogelzuge in Rossitten.'

Thienemann was also greatly interested in falconry and did much to revive the art locally. In recognition of his work on migration he received the Goethe Medal and was made an Honorary Member of the Deutsche Ornithologische Gesellschaft and a Corresponding Fellow of the A.O.U. A memorial giving a full account of his activities may be found in the 'Journal für Ornithologie' for July 1938, pp. 466-483.—T. S. PALMER.