DEATH OF SIR CHARLES C. CLIFFORD BART

We have to record- and we do so with great regret- the death at Westfield, Ryde, at 1 o'clock yesterday morning, of Sir **Charles Cavendish Clifford** BART., whose name was long and honourably connected with the political history of the Island. Some weeks since the late baronet fell down the stair-case at the Royal Victoria Yacht Club-house and broke the small bone in one of his legs. The accident arose from the deceased's infirmity, caused by advancing years. Its result was to give a shock to his system from which he has not been able to recover. Sir Charles was born on January 7th, 1821, and was educated at Charterhouse and at Christ Church College Oxford, where he took his B.A. degree (4th class in classics) in 1843. He was elected a fellow of All Souls' College in 1845, and took a degree of B.C.L., in 1843, afterwards proceeding to D.C.L., In 1846 He was called to the Bar at the middle Temple. He sat as Liberal member of the Island from 1857 to 1865 and for Newport from 1870 to 1885. From 1854 to 1857 he was a private secretary to Lord PALMERSTON. His political connection with Newport continued until that borough lost its separate Parliamentary existence. Since then he has taken no active part in politics or in local public life.

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DEATH OF SIR CHARLES CLIFFORD

We regret to record the death on (Friday) at Ryde, of Sir Charles Cavendish CLIFFORD, Bart. He died at his residence, Westfield, Ryde. Sir Charles was born in 1821, and was a barristerat-law, B.C.L., a fellow of All Souls, Oxon, and M.P. for the Isle of Wight, 1857 to 1865, and for Newport, 1870 to 1885. He was private secretary to Viscount PALMERSTON, 1854 to 1857. Some few weeks since the deceased baronet broke his leg, and at his advanced age and failing health was a serious matter, and he appears to have never properly got over it. In March 1857, he contested the Isle of Wight as a Liberal, his opponent being Mr. T. W. FLEMING. Mr. CLIFFORD won by a majority of 120, the figures being--- CLIFFORD, 730; FLEMING, 610. In April 1859, he had to stand another election, his opponent this time being Colonel F. Vernon HARCOURT, of St. Clare, near Ryde, a very staunch upholder of old-fashioned Conservatism. This time the subject of our notice only won by a majority of 62, the figures being--- CLIFFORD, 756, HARCOURT, 694. Sir CLIFFORD did not seek re-election at the next election in 1865, and Sir John SIMEON was returned as the Island's representative, but he was not out of Parliament for many years, for in 1870 he was invited to become the representative of the ancient borough of Newport, I.W. for the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. C. WYKEHAM MARTYN. His opponent on that occasion was Mr. H. Martyn KENNARD, whom he beat by a majority of 86--- the figures being CLIFFORD, 437, KENNARD, 351. In the position of member for Newport, Sir CLIFFORD so won upon the affections of the constituency, that he was never afterwards ousted, and he remained member till the ancient borough was disfranchised in 1885. His last election was in 1880 when his opponent was Colonel TWYFORD. The figures then were--- CLIFFORD, 618, TWYFORD, 560.

Sir Charles is the last of the three sons of the late Sir Augustus CLIFFORD, all of whom succeeded to the title, his predecessors being Sir William and Sir Spencer, and he succeeded the latter in January 1892. Sit Charles bore at Oxford the reputation of being an accomplished scholar, and was known as the author of a translation of the "Ranoe" of Aristophanes, and of the "Promethus Vinctur," of Æschylus. He also wrote an amusing work called "The Travels of Umbra." Sir Charles as member for the Island, voted for the abolition of Church Rates, and the adoption of the ballot.

The first part of the funeral service took place on Thursday afternoon at the Paarish Church. The funeral obsequies were conducted by the Rev. J. SHEARME. The chief mourners were Miss CLIFFORD, Lord and Lady ST. LEVAN, Miss A. RIDSDALE, Major TOWNSHEND, Col. BOYLE, Mr. SHERSON, Sir Wm. ANSON (Warden of All Souls College, Oxford), Mr. Arthur ATHERLEY, J.P., Mr. BECKINSALE, Mr. W. E. RATCLIFFE, Mr. Scott GILMOUR, and the servants from Westfield, Gen Sir Redvers and Lady Audrey BULLER, Mr. WINTHROP, Mr. Evelyn RICH, and Mr. L. O. PYEMONT.

Wreaths and crosses were sent by the Misses CLIFFORD, Amy Lady COLERIDGE, Mr. and Mrs. WINTHROP (Buckland Grange), Frank, Isabel and Arthur ATHERLEY, Mrs. OTWAY CUFFE, Miss CLIFFORD, Hon Sybil LEGH and Lady NEWTON, Lady CLIFFORD of Chudleigh, Mrs. And Miss BRETT, Lady Agnes TOWNSHEND, Earl and Countess of St. Germans, Major John and Lady Edith St. AUBYN, Lord and Lady St. LEVAN, Mrs. LEGH, Gen Sir Redvers and Lady Audrey BULLER, &c. The service was fully choral, and the hymn "When our heads are bowed with woe" was impressively sung by the choir.

The coffin which was very handsome, was of polished oak, with massive brass mountings, surmounted by an imposing brass cross. The shield was engraved in illuninated characters. The inscription was as follows:---Charles Cavendish CLIFFORD, Bart., D.C.L. Senior Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford, born Jan. 1821, died Nov. 22 1895 – "Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison." The coffin was carried in an open hearse, and the funeral cortege consisted of six broughams and pairs and numerous private carriages.

The interment took place in Ryde Cemetery, and the whole of the funeral arrangements were admirably carried out by Messrs. E. MARVIN and Sons, and personally superintended by Messrs. E. and B. J. MARVIN, members of the firm.

Researched by Ann & Les Barrett