

ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY PRESS
SATURDAY AUGUST 30TH 1913

DEATH OF MR. MICHAEL MAYBRICK, J.P.

THE GREAT VOCALIST AND COMPOSER DIES IN HIS SLEEP.

RYDE AND THE ISLAND'S LOSS

We have this week, with the profoundest regret to record the death of Mr. Michael Maybrick, J.P., of Lynthorpe, Ryde. The sad event took place at Buxton, whither the deceased gentleman went to recruit his health about three weeks ago. He had shown signs of failing health lately, but no one anticipated so sudden a termination to his useful and valued life. He retired to rest on Monday night after having been chatting and joking with friends, apparently in his usual health, but at 10 o'clock on Tuesday morning he was found dead in bed, death having taken place in his sleep. Mrs. Maybrick, who was in Ryde, left by the 2 o'clock boat, and the body was brought to Ryde at 11 p.m. on Wednesday by special boat for internment this (Saturday) afternoon. The first part of the Burial Service will be at All Saints' Church, at 3 p.m. The Vicar (the Rev. Hugh Le Fleming) will officiate. The Mayor and Corporation, the Freemasons, and other public bodies will attend. Mr Douglas B. Hall, M.P., has wired that absence on a lengthy yachting cruise will prevent his being present. The funeral arrangements are in charge of Mr C. Langdon.

When the news flashed along the wires that Michael Maybrick, or "Stephen Adams" as he was better known to many, was no more, a painful sense of personal loss was created such as the death of few men could arouse. Who in the British Isles has not heard with irresistible appeal the attractive music of his many songs, all pure and enabling, some grand and devotionally inspiring in the sublimity of their religious feeling. This sense of loss was felt even by those who had never come within the sphere of his magnetic and charming personality. How much more poignant must be the grief of we in the Wight, who have been privileged for the last two decades to know and regard with unstinted admiration his kind, chivalrous, and noble self, as one writer truthfully hits off his magnificent characteristics in telling and happy phrase. To the people of Ryde the loss will be irreparable, and to very many of them life cannot be exactly the same again since so true a friend, so strikingly endowed and so unique a man has gone where beyond these voices there is peace.

Mr. Maybrick's appointment to the Mayoralty of Ryde in 1900 came as a great surprise upon the majority of people in the borough, but it was a brilliant success from every point of view, and that success was rounded off and made in every way complete by the womanly tact, winning grace and charm of Mrs. Maybrick's ever watchful and clever help. The lustre of this brilliancy was never dimmed, but rather increased. Few who were present will ever forget the then Mayor of Ryde's reading of the proclamation of King Edward VII., his addresses to the school children, or his kindly interest in the poor of the town. Mr Maybrick had the distinction of being Mayor of Ryde in the Coronation years of Edward VII, and of George V., and he represented the town in Westminster Abbey at those Coronations. Ryde's musical renown in these later years owes much to its five times Mayor for his promotion and

support, most ably and enthusiastically assisted by his friend Mr. John I. Barton, of the winter and summer concerts given by the R.M.A. Band.

Mr. Maybrick was a patriot to the fingertips. As President of the I.W. Conservative Association he worked most strenuously and never spared himself, and it is no exaggeration to say that the splendid victory of Mr. Douglas B. Hall, M.P., as Member for the Isle of Wight, was in no small degree due to his exertions. He was a most effective speaker. His fine presence, resonant and musical voice used with consummate skill, and his winning smile were great helps, but his strength as an orator was as the strength of ten because it was that of a man sincere to the core. He was no frothy emotionalist, no opportunist at the head of a party machine; he was out to advocate principles, which he believed vital, and which were ingrained in his very nature. His excellence as a speaker was made all the greater by his possession of the saving grace of humour. Few could make a more acceptable after-dinner speech than he. All the sunshine of his nature, all his evident joy of life, all the affectionate interest in his fellows which characterised Michael Maybrick were poured forth in rich abundance, and he played on his audiences as he played the piano or organ, with the hand of a master. Mr. Michael Maybrick achieved remarkable success in many and diverse ways, but he was never spoiled thereby. To the very last he was a perfect example of one of nature's gentlemen, a true friend, wise, generous, and helpful to rich and poor alike, without distinction of rank, creed or politics. He imparted some of the brightness of his own sunny nature to every one with whom he had to do or into whose society he was introduced.

The late Mr. Maybrick was for many years a member of the directorate of the County Press, took a lively interest in its welfare, and brought to bear on the promotion of that welfare the great business aptitude with which he was endowed. This journal and its staff have thus lost three invaluable directors and friends in the short space of nine months.

The profound and respectful sympathy of the whole community is with Mrs. Maybrick today. They try, though they must fail, to measure her loss by theirs; they try because they sincerely wish to sympathise with her to a degree proportionate to the loss which they themselves feel, and to the debt of gratitude they owe to her for all she has done for him and them.

VOCALIST AND SONG-COMPOSER

The world has lost one of its most popular song composers by the death of "Stephen Adams." The deceased gentleman was born at Liverpool in 1844. In his early childhood he developed a passion for music. He could play the piano with brilliance and accuracy when he was 8 years old. At 14 he was appointed organist at St. Peter's, Liverpool, and when he was only 15 he distinguished himself as a composer of anthems. At 22 he went abroad to study harmony and composition at Leipzig, under Moscheles, Plaidy, and Richter, and he did so with so much success as to receive an excellent testimonial from Plaidy. In Leipzig, however, it was discovered that he possessed a voice of superior quality, and as a consequence he sacrificed his contrapuntal studies in order to devote himself to vocal cultivation. For some time he studied at Milan under Nava, and in 1870 he appeared at the new philharmonic concert with such decided success that he joined the late Mme. Sainton-Dolby in her

farewell tour. His rendering of the part of Telramund in Wagner's "Lohengrin," won for him a leading place in English opera. In 1871 he joined Mr. Sims Reeves in an operatic tour, and his popularity grew so rapidly that he soon found it profitable to exchange the operatic stage for the concert room. He appeared in public with some of our best vocalists, having become a most popular baritone singer. "Stephen Adams" was still more successful as a composer of songs. Thirty years ago he was probably the most popular composer of the day. His first song was "A Warrior Bold," which remains one of the most popular of its class. He wrote it while lying ill in bed, and accepted 5s for it plus a royalty. This royalty amounted to well over a thousand pounds within a few years. "A Warrior Bold," however, was not an instant success. Mr Maybrick leaped into prominence in 1878 when he sang "Nancy Lee," and within 18 months 70,000 copies of it had been sold. He offered "Nancy Lee" to Mr. Arthur Boosey for 20 guineas, but this was refused. After hearing him sing it at the St. James's Hall, however, Mr Boosey offered 100 guineas for the song. This time Mr Maybrick refused, and the song that Messrs. Boosey might have obtained for £21 ultimately cost them several thousands in royalties. His next success was "the Midshipmite," which he sang at the St. James's Hall concerts. The words of this and many other favourites were by Mr. Frederick E. Weatherly. Other songs which rapidly caught the popular fancy were "The Tar's Farewell," "The Little Hero," "The Valley by the Sea," "Children of the City," "They All Love Jack," "The Blue Alsatian Mountains," "Nirvana," "Your Dear Brown Eyes," "Thora," "Mona," and "The Veteran's Song." Two of his sacred songs which have become world famous are "The Star of Bethlehem" and "The Holy City." The latter had the distinction of being translated into German. In recent years Mr. Maybrick's compositions have included "Babylon," "Farewell in the Desert," and "Love Eternal." Out of the profits of his ballads Mr. Maybrick founded a Ballad Singing Prize at the Royal Academy of Music. In the songs of "Stephen Adams" there is a simplicity that one rarely finds in the modern "ballad." "The Star of Bethlehem" may be said to represent the climax of his work, simple in idea, and very direct – ingenuous, even – in utterance. This was an immensely popular song, and, indeed, is still very popular in the more outlying parts of these kingdoms. The public taste today seems to lie in the direction of something more artificial, something less sincere. But it is unlikely that the composer's name will be forgotten for many years; his sentiments were too human, his feelings too sensitive.

In considering the world-wide delight which "Stephen Adams" gave by his inspired music, one cannot but be struck by the absence of any recognition of his work on the part of the Government of the country, especially when one recalls the recent rather lavish distribution of honours in many cases to merely local party politicians, which are fresh in the minds of Islanders. Such recognition would have gratified the lovers of our departed friend's rousing ballad music and done honour to the land which gave him birth.

The *Daily Chronicle* says: "He himself recognised that he belonged to that section of composers who bid for popularity in their own life-time, and although his own ballads were brilliant when gauged by the standard of Tosti and Piccolomini, he was a great admirer of the newer 'Landon Ronald' style of song, which is fast usurping their place in concerts. . . . He was at one time captain in the Artists' Volunteer Corps. These activities were in keeping with his vigorous personality. For he was a tall, well-proportioned man, brisk in his movements, pleasant and sympathetic in conversation,

and always cheerful in his views. But, of course, he will be best remembered for the haunting cadences and the emotional fervour of ‘The Holy City’ and ‘The Star of Bethlehem.’”

Mr F. E. Weatherly, who composed the words of “Nancy Lee,” “The Midshipmite,” “The Star of Bethlehem,” “The Holy City,” and other songs for “Stephen Adams” to set to music was formerly a law coach at Oxford. He still writes songs and has a large practice as a barrister on the Western Circuit.

It was at a small theatre in Milan that Mr. Maybrick made his first appearance as a vocalist.

Mr. Maybrick’s excellencies as a vocalist, in addition to his magnificent voice, were his admirable enunciation and direct and incisive style.

Concerning the popularity of Mr. Maybrick’s “Nancy Lee,” a story is told of a musician who, proceeding to New York, was much annoyed by an invisible fellow passenger who whistled “Nancy Lee” incessantly. The next morning revealed the fact that the whistler was “Stephen Adams” himself. Mr. Maybrick continued to produce songs for a period of over 37 years. Latterly a change of style was to be noted, and what now proves to be his last published song, which was issued this month by Messrs. Boosey and Co., is said to be entirely unlike anything else he has written. It is entitled “The Bells of Lee,” and the words telling of parted lovers are by Mr. F. E. Weatherly.

Mr. Weatherly reckoned on making £500 a year by his art of preparing the sentimental or rollicking words for the musical framework of Stephen Adams’s and other writers’ songs. It is doubtful whether any writer of songs has ever surpassed his financial success.

STEPHEN ADAMS ON HIS SONGS

Speaking at the Mayoral banquet at Ryde in 1911, when relinquishing the duties of Mayor, Mr. Maybrick said the Mayor had referred to him as Stephen Adams, and they saw how a man could play two parts – one day he was Michael Maybrick and the next Stephen Adams. His great gratification was, and always would be, whilst he had the breath of life, that he had given pleasure to thousands of people. When he wrote his first song, “A Warrior Bold,” he was living in chambers. He had a bad cold and was unable to sing at Wolverhampton, where he had an engagement. While in bed he wrote the words and music of that song and took it to Mr. Arthur Chappell, of Chappell and Co. When the latter wanted to know what it was like he sang it to him. He said he would take five guineas for it, but Mr. Chappell said “What! For an unknown composer?” It ended in his selling his first song for 5s. But there was a royalty attached, and that had gone a long way beyond four figures. Some time after he wrote “Nancy Lee,” he thought in 1878. That was also written when he was in bed, with a bad cold. He took that to his dear old friend Mr. Arthur Boosey, who kept him on tenterhooks for about six months. He said he would take 20 guineas for the song. After a few months he got Mr. Boosey to put it down for a public concert. He sang it at St. James’s hall and it was a great success. The next morning Mr. Boosey said “I will take that song.” He said, “Of course you will.” Mr. Boosey said, “I think

the price was 20 guineas?" He said "Yes, it was 20 guineas yesterday morning." Mr Boosey offered him 100 guineas, but eventually it was published under a royalty, and what Mr. Boosey refused for 20 guineas had cost his firm several thousands since. One of the reasons why he wished not to go on as Mayor of Ryde was that he wanted to get back to his natural work – to write for his publishers, whom he had neglected too long.

MR. MAYBRICK AND RYDE

Ryde will be in the deepest and most sincere mourning for the loss of one of the most courtly and accomplished gentlemen who have ever honoured it by taking up his residence in its midst. It is no mere figure of speech to say that every one who knew Mr. Maybrick is well nigh heartbroken at his sudden passing from us. Mr. Maybrick had ever a kindly work for everyone and although he had strong political convictions, he was a shining example of a man of such innate winsomeness that he was liked and respected as greatly by members of the opposing camp as by those of his own way of thinking.

Mr. Maybrick was first elected Mayor of the borough in November 1900 and his splendid management of the affairs of the borough was so pronounced and so much appreciated by the Corporation and the burgesses, that he was unanimously entreated to take the position again in the following year, and readily consented to do so. Those years were memorable, both nationally and locally. The period witnessed many important improvements in the borough, notably the completion and opening of the new Western Esplanade, and Mr. Maybrick's civic reign added lustre to the municipal annals of the town. Mr. Maybrick made an ideal Mayor in a double capacity. As a vocalist of the highest rank, he was known all over the world, and as Stephen Adams he composed many of the most delightful and most popular songs that have ever been written. Ryde was never so well catered for in a musical direction as when he filled the civic chair. The deceased gentleman was a tactful, highly efficient, and most businesslike administrator of local affairs. Mr. Maybrick proved that he possessed many and varied powers, all of a very high order. He not only knew the things, which ought to be done for the town, but he had the power to introduce them and carry them through in the best possible way and at the psychological moment.

In 1908 Mr. Maybrick again consented to take up the Mayoral reins of office, and in proposing his election at the annual meeting of the Council, Ald. Groves, in a happy speech, said the inhabitants had the liveliest recollection of two years of office in which Mr. Maybrick, assisted by his estimable wife, carried out the duties so well. They were very fortunate as a Council, and the inhabitants were also fortunate, that a gentleman of the position of Mr. Maybrick, with such great ability and knowledge of public affairs, a man of charming manners, a gentleman who by his great talent and perseverance had won for himself a world-wide fame in the world of music, and one so full of public engagements, was willing to come forward and take the honourable and at the same time arduous, duties of the Mayoralty in his desire to serve the interests of Ryde. Mr. Blackall, in seconding the proposition, mentioned an incident, which came to his knowledge in 1900. His wife received a letter from her brother in Chicago, in which he said that one morning he was strolling down a leading thoroughfare when he saw a huge crowd outside a music saloon. He went to see what was engaging their attention and found to his delight that the entire window was filled

with the compositions of the of their famous composer, with the legend underneath his portrait, "Mayor of the town of Ryde, Isle of Wight, England."

In accepting the office, Mr. Maybrick made a characteristically modest speech, in which he said that he very greatly esteemed the honour that had been paid him. He considered, that no greater honour could be paid to a townsman than for him to be elected Chief Magistrate, and therefore he did appreciate the honour conferred upon him, and he hoped that they would all work in a friendly manner together and that the end of his year of office would see them all the best of friends. No words could have been more prophetic, as the end of each of Mr. Maybrick's terms of office saw him not only on as good terms with the Council and the burgesses as when he started, but with their respect and affection for him even greater than at the beginning.

In 1908 the musical correspondent of a London contemporary wrote "In the 'Good old days' of long ago singers took no interest and knew little about things beyond their art." Proceeding to remark that things had altered very much for the better, he instanced the case of Mr. Michael Maybrick. "Years ago he achieved distinction as a vocalist; as the composer of charming songs he has made Stephen Adams a name of fame wherever English ballads are sung; and he is now winning fresh honours in another sphere, having for the third time been selected as Mayor of the borough which has the good fortune to number him amongst its citizens."

In 1909 the burgesses were delighted to learn that Mr. Maybrick had consented to serve as Mayor for yet another year. He had filled the office with conspicuous ability and success, touching no public duty which he did not adorn, and the town was fortunate in having such a gentleman able and willing to act as its municipal and social head.

In 1910 universal satisfaction was expressed when it was known that Mr. Maybrick had yet once again consented to resume office, this making his fifth year as Mayor, and the third in succession, and, alas, his last period of office. During this year the proceedings in connection with the Coronation of King George were carried out by the Mayor with a distinction and success which were unexcelled by those in many a larger town.

In 1911 Mr. Maybrick at last found himself reluctantly compelled to lay down the burden of office. He had shown a brilliant example of the way in which the duties of Chief Magistrate should be performed, and in the whole annals of the town there had been no more popular or better-loved Mayor. In retiring into private life, Mr. Maybrick carried with him the sincere esteem, respect, and affectionate admiration of all those with whom he had been connected. To steer the municipal barque through often stormy and troubled waters for three years without an unkind word is an achievement of which any man might well be proud. During the whole of his service as mayor Mr. Maybrick received the greatest assistance from the Mayoress, whose kindness of heart, coupled with a complete charm of manner and unweariedness in well-doing endeared her to all the inhabitants of the town.

WORK FOR THE COUNTY HOSPITAL

In March 1912, Mr. Maybrick, who had been for some years the vice-chairman of the Royal I.W. County Hospital, was elected chairman, on the death of the Rev. W. H. E. Welby. Mr. Maybrick had long shown and enthusiastic interest in that institution, and rendered especially conspicuous service as chairman of the Building committee, who directed the many and great improvements which at that period had just been effected in the Institution. His business ability, intensely sympathetic nature, and excellences of mind and heart marked him out as very specially qualified for the post. Mr. Maybrick was unfortunately not destined to hold the position of chairman of the Institution very long, but his energies in furthering the splendid work done by the Hospital will long be remembered with grateful hearts by all those concerned in the amelioration of sickness and suffering in the Island.

VARIED ACTIVITIES.

Among the many prominent features connected with the Mayoralty of Mr. Maybrick, some of the most pleasing are to be found in the children's parties given by the then Mayor and Mayoress at the Town hall. On those occasions the wholehearted delight with which Mr. and Mrs. Maybrick entered into the entertainment of their young friends will ever remain a delightful memory.

Mr. Maybrick took a special interest in the doings of the Primitive Methodist Church in High Street of which he laid the foundation stone, and his services were always readily and genially given when any special function was held in connection with the church.

Mr. Maybrick showed his great interest in the musical affairs of the town by acting for some years as president of the Ryde Philharmonic Society, and it was due to his untiring interest in the Society and his munificent support that the Society has been able to give so many splendidly successful performances.

Mr. Maybrick's interest in sport was very great, and the Ryde Cricket Club have lost in him a popular president and a generous supporter. He was not only a figurehead, but often attended the matches and cheered the players on to victory. Mr. Maybrick was for several years president of the Ryde Football and Bowling Clubs, and in both of these games he took much interest. He was very much interested in lawn tennis, and was a valued supporter of the Ryde Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club.

His interest in the cause of charity was intense and when the Ryde charity dances were started Mr. Maybrick gave a handsome prize and attended personally to present it.

A correspondent recalls the delight with which he often listened to the late Mr. Maybrick and the late Mr Dudley Watkins, another most accomplished vocalist and musician, who often dined together and afterwards played and sang together from sheer love of music.

The late Mr. Maybrick was a prominent Freemason, having been Grand Organist of Grand Lodge in 1889.

Amongst the other various offices held by the deceased gentleman were those of vice president of the Trinity College, London, and vice president of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Help Society for the Isle of Wight, founded by H.R.H. Princess Christian.

PUBLIC TRIBUTES.

At a committee meeting of the Ryde Philharmonic Society, of which Mr. Maybrick was president, held on Wednesday evening, the Mayor proposed and Mr. C. B. Hair seconded that the Society should convey to Mrs. Maybrick their deep sympathy in the sad and sudden bereavement she has been called upon to sustain, and their great appreciation of the splendid services rendered to the Society by Mr. Maybrick during the many years he served as their president. – The wreath to be sent by the Society will take the form of a floral harp, with a broken string.

The Ryde Town Council met in committee on Wednesday evening, the proceedings being of a private nature. The members generally took part in expressing their great regret at the death of Mr. Maybrick, and their appreciation of the work he had done for the town while the head of the Corporate body. The following resolution was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Ald. E. Groves, and carried by all standing; "That this Council desires to convey to Mrs. Maybrick its sincere sympathy in the sad and sudden bereavement which she has been called upon to sustain, and to place on record its great appreciation of the very able and valuable services rendered by Mr. Maybrick not only as Mayor and chief magistrate for five years, but also as a resident who invariably took the deepest interest in promoting the welfare of the borough, and especially to give expression to the regret at the loss sustained by the inhabitants generally."

The *Pall Mall Gazette* has the following fine tribute to the dead composer: "If the happy musician is he who, with his music, makes others happy, Michael Maybrick, or "Stephen Adams," to use his more familiar *nom de plume*, was surely one of the blest. In every part of the British Empire his songs have been revelled in; and although a good many years have passed since first the world was introduced to the quite splendid swing of "Nancy Lee" and "They all love Jack," the irresistible catchiness of "The Blue Alsatian Mountains," the pathos of "The Midshipmite," and the solemn dignity of "The Star of Bethlehem" and "The Holy City," none of these admirable ballads is forgotten, or is likely to be forgotten, so long as the sentimental ballad remains a popular delight. Their composer had a genuine gift of melody; and, as he had also enjoyed a sound musical training, he was able to give his tunes a solid basis and background. Consequently, his pieces became popular all over Europe, and at one time "Nancy Lee" was almost as familiar in Germany as in England. Mr. Maybrick, in his later years, was one of the heaviest sufferers from the music "pirates," and a short, but impassioned and dignified, speech of protest which he made six years or so ago at the Queen's Hall had a direct effect on the legislation subsequently carried through Parliament for the protection of the rights of musical composers as well as of authors. Few men have wasted less time; he was one of those busy people who can always find the opportunity for fulfilling any good and useful task proposed to them. His personal character, too, stood high with all who knew him. Indeed, his songs, mainly, breezy, and tender, were very much a reflex of his own personality. There

has been a disposition here and there to represent his class of work as out of date. There could be no greater mistake. A well-written song, with a good time to it, has always been popular, and will be so to the end of time.

A NONCONFORMIST TRIBUTE
BY THE REV. H.H. TURNER, RYDE

“Stephen Adams” was something more than a provincial or cosmopolitan name. He belonged to no one nation. His far-travelled songs had made him the countryman of the world. Carlyle, it has been said, made out of an emotion, a system. It was a system of hero-worship. “Hero-worship exists, has existed, and will exist universally among mankind.” Not as some great explorer or great soldier returning from conquests has the dead composer merited his place in Carlyle’s system; not by pageantry nor spectacular effort has he won his laurels, but because like some holy contagion, his songs have stirred the emotions and reached the heart of the English speaking world. Where is there speech or language where his voice has not been heard? And who can tell of the good done to all classes by those broad sentiments that “Though the ways of men are narrow, the gates of heaven are wide?”

A singular illustration of this was witnessed in a San Francisco Police court. Thirty men, red-eyed and dishevelled, lined up before the judge. It was the regular morning for “drunks and disorderlies.” Some were old and hardened; others hung their heads in shame. Just as the momentary disorder attending the bringing in of the prisoners quieted down, a strange thing happened. A strong clear voice from below began singing:

“Last night I lay a sleeping,
There came a dream so fair.”

Last night! It had been for them all a nightmare or a drunken stupor. The song was such a contrast to the horrible fact that no one could fail to be struck at the thought the song suggested.

“I stood in old Jerusalem,
Beside the Temple there.”

The song went on. The judge had paused. He made a quiet inquiry. A former member of a famous company known all over the country was awaiting trial. It was he who was singing in his cell. Meantime the song went on, and every man in the line showed emotion. One or two dropped on their knees and every man showed a desperate effort at self-control. At length one man protested. “Judge,” said he, “have we got to submit to this? We are here to take our punishment, but this - ,” he broke off abruptly.

Yet the Judge gave no order to stop that song. It moved on to its climax :-

“Jerusalem, Jerusalem!
Sing for the night is o’er!
Hosanna in the highest!
Hosanna for evermore!”

The Just looked into the faces of the men. There was not one who had not been stirred; not one in whom some better impulse had not been created. Those men were dismissed, for that song had done more good than any punishment could accomplish. It is beyond us to estimate how many the world over have been thus influenced in various circumstances, thus placing the composer in the category –

Of those immortal dead who live again
In minds made better by their presence; live
Impulses stirred to generosity,
In deeds of daring rectitude, in scorn
Of miserable aims that end in self.

The world has lost “Stephen Adams.” The Island and Ryde in particular have lost Mr Maybrick, one of its most distinguished citizens, who has acted five times Mayor of the borough, and by his humanity on the Bench, his large-heartedness in all public affairs, and his exemplary life, making that loss real bereavement to all classes of the community, and yet bereavement is bereavement when a man is *not* missed; in this sense we are not bereaved. Some pass leaving nothing, because there is nothing to leave. It is then a desolation, a void, a blackness, night without a star, a cloud without a rift; but in our mourning we have consolation in a gracious memory, and in the fact that,

No power can die that ever wrought for truth.
Thereby a law of nature it became,
And lives unwithered in its sinewy youth,
When he who called it forth is but a name.”

He will be mourned by our Church – the exigencies of space forbid me to tell of his many kindnesses – By the G.F.M., in which he took such a keen, personal interest, and by Nonconformity in general. He will be missed by all classes. But in the joy of holy retrospect we find comfort in the fact that God’s choicest gift to the world is the gift of good men.

The flag at the Town hall has been flying at half-mast since the sad news became known; also that at the Ryde Conservative Club, of which Mr Maybrick was one of the vice presidents.

The match arranged by the Ryde Cricket club for Saturday with Portsmouth Alliance has been abandoned, owing to the death of the lamented president of the home Club.

H.R.H. Princess Henry of Battenberg (the Royal Governor of the Island) has sent the following telegram from Ballater: “Mrs. Maybrick, Lynthorpe, Ryde. Dreadfully shocked and grieved to hear of your excellent husband’s sudden death. Feel most deeply for you. – Beatrice.” Lord Tennyson (Deputy Governor of the Island) has wired that he has been asked by Her Royal Highness to represent her at the funeral.

The Royal Marine Artillery Band have volunteered their services through their excellent bandmaster (Lieut. B.S. Green, M.V.O.), and they will play Chopin’s “Marche funebre,” as at King Edward’s funeral.

Mrs. Maybrick has received hundreds of telegrams and letters of condolence and sympathy from all parts of the country and from all sorts and conditions of people. She wishes, through our columns, to return her heartfelt thanks to the senders, as it is impossible, at present, for her to acknowledge them personally, as she hopes to do later on.

The deceased gentleman was a Justice of the Peace for both the county and for the borough of Ryde.

Mr. Maybrick's death was certified as having been primarily due to heart failure and secondarily to gout.

Mourning shutters have been displayed at the Conservative and Unionist Club, Yarmouth, since the sad news of the death of Mr. Michael Maybrick was reported. The late Mr. Maybrick opened the Club some two years ago and was one of its vice presidents.