

DEATH OF SIR CHARLES DRURY.

TENTERDEN'S CHIEF MAGISTRATE

"Admiral Sir Charles Drury passed to his rest a little before nine this morning."

This announcement by the bereaved widow (Lady Drury) to the burgesses of Tenterden, which was posted on the Town Hall soon after ten o'clock yesterday morning, confirmed the sad news which had quickly spread throughout the Borough that their beloved Mayor had passed away. The Admiral's flag was also seen flying half-mast high over his late home, and the Corporation's flag over the Town Hall. Yesterday was indeed a day of gloom in Tenterden, for his Worship had



greatly endeared himself to the whole of the inhabitants of Tenterden.

Suddenly stricken last Friday week, Sir Charles' illness was of but ten days' duration. From the first it was generally known that his illness was of a most serious description, it being an apoplectic seizure, complicated by acute gastritis, but in the middle of last week the daily bulletins were of a more re-assuring nature. On Saturday morning, however, the bulletin was of a very grave character:—"The Mayor is not so well this morning, his condition is very critical." Sunday's bulletin was as follows:—"The Mayor passed a quiet night and has certainly improved since yesterday, though the conditions are still very anxious."

During his illness many indeed have been the kind messages of enquiry and sympathy received, including those from H.M. the King, H.M. Queen Alexandra, Prince and Princess Louis of Battenberg, the Archbishop of Canterbury and Mrs. Davidson and many others.

The body will be cremated on Wednesday and the funeral will take place, according to present arrangements, on Friday afternoon at the Tenterden cemetery.

Admiral Sir Charles Carter Drury was born at Rothesay, New Brunswick, Canada, on August 27th, 1846. He was the second son of Le Baron Drury and Eliza, daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel James Poyntz, late commanding the 30th Regiment. He was educated at the Collegiate School, Fredericton, N.B., and entered the Royal Navy in 1859, in which service he has had a brilliant career, retiring in 1911. He was made sub-lieutenant in 1865 and lieutenant in 1868, and promoted commander in 1878, captain in 1885, rear-admiral 1899

He was A.D.C. to the late Queen Victoria in 1897-1899; naval advisor to the Inspector-General of Fortifications, 1885 to 1888; Flag Captain North American and West Indies, H.M.S. Bellerophon, 1889-1892; member of Ordnance Committee, 1893-94; Flag-Captain H.M.S. Royal Sovereign, 1894-95 (Channel Squadron); H.M.S. Hood, Mediterranean, 1895-1899; Senior Officer Gibraltar, 1898-99; Commander-in-Chief East Indies, 1902-03; Second Sea Lord of the Admiralty, 1903-07; Mediterranean, 1907-8; Vice-President of the Ordnance Committee, 1900; and Commander-in-Chief at the Nore from 1908 to 1911. He received the thanks of the Foreign Office for services in Crete in 1896.

The deceased's foreign decorations comprise:—Grand Officer Legion d'Honneur; Grand Cross of the Order of Merit (Naval), Spain; Grand Cross of the Royal Regiment of the Redeemer of Greece; Grand Cross of the Osmanieh (in brilliants), Turkey; Grand Cross of the Austrian Imperial Leopold Order; Grand Cross of the Red Eagle of Prussia.

Sir Charles was an honorary member of the Royal Yacht Squadron, Cowes. He was a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society and his other decorations included the K.C.S.I. (1903), K.C.B. (1905) and G.C.V.O. (1907), G.C.B. (1911).

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DEATH OF TWO ADMIRALS

SIR CHARLES DRURY AND REAR-ADMIRAL WISHART.

We regret to announce the death of Admiral Sir Charles C. Drury, a former Second Sea Lord of the Admiralty and Commander-in-Chief in three flag commands of the Navy, which occurred yesterday at his residence at Tenterden, Kent, in his 68th year. Engineer Rear-Admiral W. L. Wishart also died yesterday, at Southsea.

Sir Charles Drury was one of the few Canadians who have attained high rank in the Navy. The second son of Le Baron Drury and Eliza, daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel James Poyntz, he was born at Rothesay, New Brunswick, and received his early education at the Collegiate School, Fredericton. Entering the Navy at the age of 13, he became a lieutenant in August, 1868, and specialized in the gunnery branch. He received his promotion to commander in May, 1878, when first lieutenant of the Cambridge, the gunnery school ship at Devonport, and from 1882 to 1885 he was commander of the Excellent, gunnery school ship at Portsmouth, from which post he was promoted to captain on June 30, 1885. In this rank he was for three years Naval Adviser to the Inspector-General of Fortifications and for two years a member of the Ordnance Committee, while as captain of the Hood in the Mediterranean he received the thanks of the Foreign Office for his services in Crete in 1896. He was promoted to rear-admiral on July 13, 1899, while serving as senior officer at Gibraltar. In the following year he was appointed Vice-President of the Ordnance Committee, and in 1902 hoisted his flag as Commander-in-Chief in the East Indies, returning home in the following year to become Second Sea Lord. This post he held for three and a half years, of which all but one year was during the administration of Lord Fisher.

He was Commander-in-Chief of the Mediterranean Fleet from March, 1907, to December, 1908, when he was appointed Commander-in-Chief at the Nore, a post he held until he was placed on the retired list on reaching the age limit of 65 years in August, 1911. He was gazetted a K.C.B. in 1905, and was promoted to G.C.V.O. at the Coronation in 1911. He also received the G.C.V.O. from King Edward during his Majesty's visit to Malta in April, 1907, and four years previously he had been decorated with the K.C.S.I. for his services in the East Indies command. Sir Charles Drury was deservedly popular in the Navy. An excellent seaman and a capable officer, his charm of manner and genial personality made for him a wide circle of friends, to whom his death will be a distinct loss.

The late admiral was twice married, first in 1886 to Frances Ellen (who died in 1900), the eldest daughter of Mr. Robert Whitehead, of Beckett, Berkshire, and Fiume, Austria, and secondly, in 1907, to Amy Gertrude, the youngest daughter of Mr. John Middleton, of Porchester-gate, S.W. Since his retirement from active service he has resided at Tenterden, of which borough he was serving as Mayor at the time of his death.

THE LATE SIR C. DRURY.

IMPRESSIVE FUNERAL AT TENTERDEN.

Never was such an impressive funeral witnessed at Tenterden as that on Friday of Sir Charles Drury, the Admiral Mayor of the borough, who was accorded naval honours befitting one who had led such a stirring life under the white ensign. The High-street of the little town were thickly lined as the solemn cortege passed from the church on its way to the cemetery.

The mourners from town arrived by special train at Tenterden station shortly before 1.30 and proceeded direct to St. Mildred's church, where also had assembled the members of the Corporation, the representatives of public bodies and the principal residents of the district. Simultaneously with the arrival of the special train the cortege left "Home-wood," from the summit of which the flag floated at half-mast. In front of the solemn procession walked the Dean of Rochester, who subsequently conducted the service, assisted by the local clergy. The coffin was borne upon a gun carriage sent by the Admiralty, together with the escort as a special mark of their high appreciation of Admiral Drury's distinguished services. The coffin was draped with the Admiral's own flag and upon it were placed his cocked hat, sword and epaulets, and a magnificent floral tribute from Lady Drury in the form of an anchor of pure white lilies tied with a cable of violets. Lieutenant Gourley was in command of the gun crew of thirty-two bluejackets, while eight petty-officers acted as pallbearers and carried wreaths.

The chief mourners, who followed immediately behind the coffin, were Lady Drury, Miss Middleton and Miss Caroline Middleton, Mr. and Mrs. Victor Middleton, Mr. and Mrs. Bertram Whitehead, Mr. John Whitehead, Mrs. Arthur Curtis, Miss H. E. Drury, Mr. A. Drury Curtis, R.A., Mr. Middleton Campbell, Mr. Godfrey Macdonald, of The Isles, Mr. E. Percy Henderson and Canon Gardner. Then came the household, including Mr. Tamby Mootoo (the Admiral's devoted steward), Mrs. Reid, Mr. Bywater, and Mr. H. Gulliver, formerly for many years coachman to the Middleton family.

The main approach to the church was lined on either side by the 1st Tenterden Troop of Scouts, under the command of Scoutmaster Clifford. The coffin, on being taken from the gun carriage, was borne upon the shoulders of the petty officers, and, passing between the two files of Scouts, entered the church by the south door, the Scouts bringing up the rear. Amongst those who had assembled in the church were Rear-Admiral Hood represented the First Lord of the Admiralty, Admiral Sir Frederic Fisher, Admiral Sir Reginald Henderson, Admiral Sir N. Bowden-Smith, Admiral Sir Edmund S. Poe, Admiral Sir Frederick Inglefield, Admiral Sir Wilmot Fawkes, Admiral Nelson Ommanney, Admiral Sir Richard Poore, Admiral G. A. Giffard, Major-General Sir Charles Scott, Mr. Frank C. M. Anson (formerly of the Diplomatic Service), Marquis Camden, General Sir Stanley Edwardes and many others. The members of the Corporation attended in their robes and there were also present representatives of the Borough Bench, the Rural District Council, Tenterden Conservative and Unionist Club and other public bodies.

The officiating clergy were the Dean of Rochester, the Rev. J. A. Babington (vicar) and the Rev. J. Jervis (vicar of St. Michael's). At the conclusion of the service at the cemetery a naval bugler sounded the Last Post. Messages of sympathy were received from the King, Queen Alexandra and Prince and Princess Louis of Battenberg.

Full report of the funeral, containing lists of mourners and wreaths, will be published in Friday's "Kentish Express."