

John Henry Cory

Isle of Wight County Press

17 July 1909

DEATH OF MR. J. H. CORY, OF NEWPORT

Very regretfully we record the death of Mr. John Henry Cory, which took place on Saturday morning last at his residence, The Mall, Newport. Although he had been for some years in failing health, his condition did not become really serious until about a fortnight prior to his decease, when the combined cardiac and rheumatic trouble from which he had long suffered became alarmingly acute. All that medical skill, trained nursing, and the unceasing attention of his devoted wife could do for him was done, but life gradually ebbed away, and the end came very peacefully. The late Mr. Cory, who came of an old and influential Cornish family, was a native of Newport, and while he had a strong affection for the West Country as the home of his forefathers, he was always proud to call himself an Islander. In his younger years he excelled in all kinds of manly sport. He was a good shot, an excellent horseman, a splendid cricketer, a thorough all-round athlete. Although a townsman, a country life had always a great charm for him, and at many a hospitable farmhouse in the central part of the Island an open door was kept for him as an ever welcome guest. In conversation he loved to revert to the good old days and the good old friends "of 50 years ago." In the after years he made many new friends, but he never forgot those who were linked to him by the memories of "auld acquaintance." In the Pharmaceutical Society, he succeeded his father in the well-known and old-established pharmacy in the High Street, Newport. An exceedingly able chemist, he achieved a high local reputation, and he carried the business on very successfully until a breakdown in health necessitated his retirement. A loyal Englishman to the core, he joined the Volunteer force in Newport in the early days of the movement, and there are old citizen soldiers still living who will pleasantly remember him as illustrating all that was best in true comradeship and agreeable companionship. Although he never put himself very prominently forward in connection with public matters, he took a deep interest in the affairs of the borough, and he was for some years a very useful and valued member of the Corporation of Newport. He also served most acceptably the office of church-warden for several terms during the vicariate of the late Dean Connor, who, as the present writer knows, formed a high opinion of him as an earnest co-worker in all matters relating to the church and parish. In politics he was a staunch Conservative, and in this connection it may not be out of place to mention that in late years he found a real pleasure in affording his excellent wife all the help in his power in carrying out the work she so zealously performs as hon. secretary of the Central Habitation. In social life his gentle and genial qualities won for him the warmest regard all of whose privilege it was to be on terms of friendship with him. Enduringly they will keep him in pleasant remembrance, and their deepest sympathy, with that of the community generally, is extended to Mrs. Cory in her great sorrow. At St. Thomas's Church on Sunday morning the Rev. Miles Atkinson, in the course of his sermons, made feeling allusion to Mr. Cory's death, paying tribute to his high character, his kindness of heart, and his long connection with that church. The funeral took place on Wednesday, the body being first borne to St. Thomas's Church, where it was received by the Vicar (the Rev. H. Edmund Sharpe) and the Rev. A. H. C. Edlin. The personal friends following included Mr. Harry Hills (Rookley), Mr. T. Lee, Mr. W. W. Odell, Mr. Fraser-Tytler, Mr. John Stanley, J.P. Mr. C. Webb (Mayor of Newport), Ald. W. J. Whittington, J.P., Mr. Francis A. Joyce, and Dr. McKay. Amongst those also present were Capt. Hills, Messrs. A. Millidge, D. F. Ritchie, W. Weeks, A. Harley, and S. E. Tomkins, W. J. Whittington, R. B. Cheverton, F. King, and E. O. White, and Miss Noble. The vicar officiated at the church and the Rev. A. H. C. Eldin performed the last solemn offices at the grave. There were a number of beautiful floral tokens of regard and remembrance.

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