

SHRIVENHAM.

DEATH OF VISCOUNT BARRINGTON.

We regret to announce the death of Viscount Barrington, which occurred on Saturday night, after a few hours' illness, from internal hemorrhage, from which he had suffered on two previous occasions. His Lordship had joined Lord Aveland's shooting party at Grimsthorpe, Lady Willoughby de Eresby's place in Lincolnshire, and was suddenly taken ill on Saturday. Lady Barrington was immediately sent for, and arrived only a short time before Lord Barrington breathed his last. His unexpected death will leave marks of mourning far beyond those directly connected with the houses of Ravensworth and others. He was one of those men who by their untiring work helped forward the great constitutional machine. During Lord Beaconsfield's tenure of office he held the post of Reporter of the Debates in Parliament to her Majesty the Queen, and often during his lifetime he earned the approbation of his Sovereign. His popularity in the London world and his mastery of all social matters insured him a position such as few could pretend to rival. His sound judgment and accurate determination of all matters submitted to his arbitration made him one of the few men of the world whose word was a *fact*. The deceased peer, George William Barrington, Viscount Barrington, of Ardglass, county Down, and Baron Barrington, of Newcastle, county Dublin, in the Peerage of Ireland, and Baron Shute, of Beckett, Berks, in that of the United Kingdom, was the eldest of the four sons of William Keppel, sixth Viscount, by his wife, Jane Elizabeth, fourth daughter of Thomas Henry, first Lord Ravensworth, and was born 14th February, 1824. He was educated at Eton and Christ Church, Oxford. He was for some time private secretary to the late Earl of Derby. He was an unsuccessful candidate in the Conservative interest for Buckingham in May, 1852, but obtained a seat in the House of Commons for Eye in July, 1866, and represented that borough till his elevation to the House of Lords in April, 1880. On the death of his father in February, 1867, he succeeded to the Irish honours, and was created a Baron of the United Kingdom in the Spring of 1880 (with remainder to his brother) by the style and title of Baron Shute, by which title he held his seat in the House of Lords. On the formation of Mr Disraeli's Administration in 1874 he was appointed

title of Baron Shute, by which title he held his seat in the House of Lords. On the formation of Mr Disraeli's Administration in 1874 he was appointed Vice Chamberlain of her Majesty's Household (when he was made a Privy Councillor), which Court appointment he filled till May, 1880. In June, 1885, he was appointed Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard, but afterwards exchanged that office for that of Captain of the Hon. Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms, which becomes vacant by his death. He was appointed Deputy Lieutenant for Berks in 1852 and had been a Lieutenant in the Royal Wilts Yeomanry Cavalry. He was for many years President of the Old Berks Hunt. As a magistrate, he frequently attended the Quarter Sessions at Reading, and was chairman of the Benyon Testimonial Fund. He possessed, when on the bench, a clear and judicial mind, unbiassed by any preconceived views on subjects submitted to his judgment, which made his decisions eminently satisfactory. The late Lord married 19th February, 1846, Isabel Elizabeth, only child of the late Mr John Morrill, of Rokeby Hall, York, and by her, who survives his Lordship, he leaves issue, three daughters—namely, the Hon. Constance Mary, married to Lord Haldon; the Hon. Evelyn Laura, Countess of Craven; and the Hon. Florence, unmarried. He is succeeded in the Irish and English honours by his eldest brother, the Hon. Percy Barrington, born 22nd April, 1825, and married 3rd July, 1845, to Louisa, only daughter and heir of Mr Tully Higgins; she died in 1884. He was formerly in the Scots Fusilier Guards, but retired from the Army in 1844. He is a Deputy Lieutenant for Oxfordshire, has been for some time Captain of the Oxfordshire Militia, and a Lieutenant in the 3rd Bucks Rifle Volunteers, and served as High Sheriff of Bucks in 1864. His younger brothers, the Hon. William and Hon. Eric Barrington are in her Majesty's Diplomatic service.

The office of Reporter of the Debates in Parliament to the Sovereign which Lord Barrington discharged in the House of Commons during Lord Beaconsfield's two Administrations with admirable tact, efficiency, and industry—and in which, it must be added, he took the greatest delight—were invented or created by Mr Pitt in the winter of 1783-84.

The *Daily Telegraph* says: There could not have

invented or created by Mr Pitt in the winter of 1783-84.

The *Daily Telegraph* says: There could not have been found a substitute better adapted for the efficient and responsible discharge of this onerous office. Lord Barrington had been trained in those two great nurseries of British statesmen, Eton and Christchurch, Oxford; had mingled freely in the best society of London and Paris as a young man; and was endowed by nature with those popular and engaging manners, which he derived mainly from the Liddell blood flowing in the veins of his mother. As a man of the world, a polished and universally popular member of the West-end clubs, a lover of field sports, an habitué of theatres, and not without a considerable taste for Bohemianism, he might have pleaded among his qualifications for the post of a confidential private secretary that there was nothing in which men and women take pleasure for which he had not a liking. In addition, he was a natural politician, in whom no element of asperity towards his opponents resided. He had suffered much from illness while still a young man, and had found that the fatigues and exposure of the hunting field were more than he could bear as years rolled on. He took to the House of Commons with an eager avidity rarely found in men who had no pretension to aspire to high office. As private secretary to the late Lord Derby he was admitted to a thorough knowledge of the hidden machinery of Government, and such was his discretion that no inconvenient secrets ever escaped from his lips. When the present Lord Wolverton was a young man he hunted frequently with the Berkshire hounds in the midst of a country where Beckett, the home of the Barringtons, is situated. Many years have elapsed since Lord Wolverton, then, as Mr George Glyn, a very youthful Member of the House of Commons, spoke to a friend of Lord Barrington—the father of the late and of the present Lord—as a man who derives all his notions of politics from a weekly study of *John Bull*. It may be inferred, therefore, that the Lord Barrington who has just passed away was, in Dandie Dinmont's expressive phrase, "weel entered" for the office which he discharged so efficiently under Mr Disraeli's Administration in the House of Commons. Lord Barrington was appointed Vice-Chamberlain of the Queen's Household when the Conservative Government, with Mr Disraeli at its head, succeeded to office twelve years since. It was

Commons. Lord Barrington was appointed Vice-Chamberlain of the Queen's Household when the Conservative Government, with Mr Disraeli at its head, succeeded to office twelve years since. It was his duty to take notes of the debates as they occurred night after night, and to communicate them by telegraph to her Majesty before he went home to bed. For this purpose he might have been observed seated by Mr Disraeli's side upon the Treasury bench, and jotting down the hints and observations communicated to him by his mysterious and oracular chief. The day may perhaps come when the summaries of the debates imparted at first or second hand by the Prime Minister of the time being to his Sovereign will form the basis of a more authentic or, at any rate, more interesting political history than could possibly be derived from any other source. In the meanwhile it will be universally recognised that in the late Lord Barrington a man of no ordinary usefulness, discretion, charm, and efficiency has passed away.

The body of the late Lord was conveyed from Lady Willoughby de Eresby's mansion on Monday afternoon, and taken by rail through London to Shrivenham Station, which was reached at 1.42 on Tuesday, thence it was conveyed to Beckett, where it remained until Thursday.

THE FUNERAL.

The funeral took place on Thursday. In the morning the remains of the deceased Peer were conveyed to the Church, followed by the Hon. Percy Barrington, the Hon. William Barrington, the Hon. Eric Barrington, Colonel Mildmay, Mr. W. Warren (the Steward), and Mr T. H. Cooper (the Butler), both of whom have been in the service of the late Viscount for many years. At the Church gates the cortege was met by the Rev. G. W. Murray and the Rev. G. C. Wheeler, who preceded the corpse to the Church, reading the opening sentences of the Burial Service. The body was left at the east end of the Church, the coffin being covered with a very handsome purple pall, on which was a large crimson cross, richly embroidered. The service was fixed for half-past two o'clock, when, notwithstanding the heavy downpour of rain, which began in the morning and continued throughout the day, a very large gathering of all classes assembled to pay the last

tribute of respect to the departed. A large number of noblemen and gentlemen came by the 12 o'clock train from Paddington, which slipped two coaches at Shrivensham Station. Most of the neighbouring gentry were present, very many of the inhabitants of the village and several from Faringdon and other places.

By the time appointed the church was crowded in every part, the congregation including the Hon. Percy Barrington, the Hon. Mrs MacLagan, the Countess of Craven and Lady Helen Craven, the Hon. Eric and Mrs Eric Barrington, the Hon. W. Barrington, the Hon. Florence Barrington, Mr Walter Barrington, the Earl of Craven, the Hon. Osbert Craven, Mr and the Hon. Mrs Alfred Sartoris, the Hon. W. Palk, Colonel Mildmay, Mr T. Price, Mr Carlisle. The Hon. H. A. Yorke, representing the Queen; Colonel Stanley Clarke, representing H.R.H. the Prince of Wales; Lieut.-Colonel H. Culme Seymour and Major Tillbrook, Clerk of the Cheque representing her Majesty's Body Guard of the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen-at-arms; the Earl of Clarendon, the Earl of Hardwicke, the Earl of Normanton, the Earl of Cork, the Earl of Ellesmere, Lord Rowton, Lord Wantage, Lord Dorchester, Viscount Somerton, Sir George Russell, Sir H. Elliott, Sir C. DuCane, Colonel the Hon. H. Campbell, the Hon. and Rev. Robert Liddell, the Hon. H. Agar, the Hon. H. Petre, Mr Philip Wroughton, Mr Wells, Mr Edgar Hanbury, Mr F. P. Goddard, Mr Robart, Mr C. Barrington, Mr V. Williamson, Mr Hussey Freke, Mr V. W. B. Van de Weyer, Mr C. P. Duffield, Mr T. L. Goodlake, Mr F. Sartoris, Mr Ivor Campbell, Mr L. Sartoris, Captain Liddell, Colonel Tomlin, Mr W. F. Baughan, Mr G. F. Crowdy, Mr A. W. Fairthorne, the Rev. F. Birch, the Rev. H. Miller, the Rev. J. C. Norman, the Rev. W. Page Roberts, the Rev. H. P. Gurney, the Rev. Bourke, the Rev. J. B. Kearney, the Rev. R. Ibbetson Porter, the Rev. Y. Barrington, Mr Elkington, Mr E. P. Nixon, Mr G. H. Maskelyne, Mr B. Hedges, Mr J. Lawrence, Mr Jefferies, Mr Day, Mr Reeves, Mr Woodbridge, Mr G. Hickman, Mr Wentworth, Mr Phipps, Mr C. Luker, Mr G. W. Habgood, Mr T. W. Anne, Mr T. Taylor, Mr J. Holifield, Mr H. Godfrey, Mr A. Ballard, Mr R. Hughes, Mr F. H. Barfield, Mr W. Dike, Mr F. Carter, Mr Fouracre, Mr W. J. Morse, Mr Meads, &c.

The Rev. G. W. Murray here stated that on account of the heavy rain, the service would be concluded in the Church, and desired the congregation to remain in their seats while the body

concluded in the Church, and desired the congregation to remain in their seats while the body was being committed to the grave.

As the congregation were assembling, Mr Hill, organist of Wantage, played "Blessed are the departed" (*Spohr*) and "Ave Maria." The service commenced with Psalm 90, sung to the second Gregorian tone, the lesson being read by the Rev. G. W. Murray, after which was sung hymn 429, Ancient and Modern, "O Heavenly Jerusalem." The Choir was augmented by members of the Ashdown Choir.

The bearers then carried the corpse through the Church to the Vault outside the West-end, preceded by the Rev. G. C. Wheeler, curate of Watchfield, and the Rev — Stavert, Chaplain to the Countess of Craven, the Rev G. W. Murray, Vicar of Shrivenham, and the Bishop of Lichfield. Mr W. Warren, and Mr T. H. Cooper carrying the late Viscount's coronet on a velvet cushion and followed by the mourners. On reaching the Vault the Bishop of Lichfield read the Psalm "Man that is born of a woman," the coffin was then quietly let down into the Vault, and the prayer committing the body to the grave having been read the Clergy and mourners returned to the Church where the remaining portion of the service was read by the Bishop. As the congregation left the Church the organist played an extemporised voluntary.

A large number of most beautiful wreaths, sent from relatives and friends, were placed over the vault after the service, including those from Lord Bolinbroke, Lord Clevedon, the Countess of Cork, Lady Dorchester, Lord Iddesleigh, Lady Esher, Lady Willoughby de Eresby, Lady Cooper, His Honor Judge Bacon, Mrs Bennett, the Duke of Westminster, Mrs Bishopshine, Mrs H. Campbell, Mrs G. Campbell, Colonel and Mrs Mildmay, the Hon. Percy Barrington, Mr Walter Barrington, Dr. and Mrs Scott, Mrs Napier Sturt, Mr J. Crowder, Mrs Beaumont, Mrs Webb, and Mrs. Liddell.

The coffin was of solid oak with massive brass furniture and coronet, with plate bearing the following inscription ;—

GEORGE WILLIAM,
7TH VISCOUNT BARRINGTON,
Born 14th February, 1824,
Died 6th November, 1886.

The funeral arrangements were admirably carried out by Messrs. Oates and Musson, of Stamford.

THE LATE LORD BARRINGTON.

After the business of the Court had been transacted, the death of Lord Barrington (for many years Chairman of the Court), was alluded to in feeling terms, the Bench expressing their sense of the great loss the Court had sustained.

Mr. Bennett said: You are all aware of the loss that the Bench has sustained in the death of Lord Barrington, which happened so suddenly on Saturday. I think the least we can do is to put some record on paper of the appreciation in which we held him, and how deeply we, in common with every one else, regret his death. Whenever he had the opportunity of coming here—and it was generally at a great deal of inconvenience to himself—he made a point of attending. You will all bear witness that his decision and action generally, as Chairman of this Bench, have been such as we shall always recollect. There is not the slightest need for one to expatiate on his good qualities, because there is not a man present who does not know how thoroughly respected he was, and what a loss his death will be to us.

Mr. Goodlake said: Mr. Bennett has asked me to make a few observations. It is difficult, of course, to make observations under such circumstances, on the loss that has occurred to us. I cordially re-echo what Mr. Bennett has very properly said with reference to the constant attendance at this Court when his other duties permitted. His memory must be cherished by us all. He was always a double-sided man in the best sense of the term. Never judging conclusions, ever ready to hear, ever ready to weigh, ever glad to give decisions in favour of those who were accused. His great loss to us is irreparable, his greater loss to a wide circle—particularly the poor, is still more irreparable. I should like to say more, but being sincerely and affectionately attached to him for so many years, I feel I have said quite enough. What one feels on these occasions is not what one says. I cordially agree with Mr. Bennett in what he has said. Mr. Bennett is now the senior magistrate on the Bench, and I take the opportunity of adding that I trust he will be long preserved to sit where he has sat so long. The Chairmanship has always gone by seniority, and I hope that practice will long be continued, and that Mr. Bennett will long live to preside over our meetings and have health and strength to do so.

Mr. G. L. Heiner said: As senior of the solicitors

meetings and have health and strength to do so.

Mr. G. J. Haines said: As senior of the solicitors usually practising before the Bench, I am sure the Bench will allow me to add our testimony to the words which have been spoken, and which we most cordially endorse. Few persons in this neighbourhood have had so many opportunities as I have had of seeing Lord Barrington exercise the duties of a magistrate and of a Poor Law Guardian. As a magistrate we admired his earnest searching after truth, his demeanour to the witnesses, and his constant desire to temper justice with mercy. With regard to the profession itself he was ever courteous, and appeared to know by intuition the difficulties in which they were placed, and on those occasions, which would occasionally arise, when the advocate appeared for a certain period to be in antagonism with the Bench, he always exhibited towards them a full conviction that they were simply acting in the discharge of what they believed to be their duty to their clients. It will be long before we shall meet with his like again, and in our long experience of him we may pronounce him a model Magistrate, a model Poor Law Guardian, a model Peer, and the highest of all characters, irrespective of rank, a model English gentleman.

Mr. Bennett: Mr. Goodlake has alluded to my filling the post which Lord Barrington has filled. As long as I am supported by gentlemen who so thoroughly support the chair on all occasions, as long as that good sense prevails which there is now, and as long as we have our wise legal advisers to whom we can apply in many cases of difficulty, so long the business will be conducted in the way it ought to be done, and we, as unpaid magistrates, shall be able to set an example to our neighbours. I hope and trust I may be able to do my duty in the responsible position of Chairman of the Court.