

COWBRIDGE, GLAMORGAN,

6th JULY, 1909.

DEAR SIR,

Proposed Testimonial to Alderman Edward John, of Cowbridge.

A representative and influential Meeting convened by circular was held at Cowbridge on this date, at which J. Blandy Jenkins, Esq., J.P., Chairman of the Glamorgan County Council, was voted to the Chair, and after an Address by the Chairman explaining the object of the Meeting, it was unanimously resolved that a Testimonial Fund be promoted, and that County Councillor T. W. David, be appointed Treasurer, and E. W. Miles, Solicitor, Cowbridge, Secretary. It was also resolved that the following Gentlemen be elected to form the General Committee, with power to add to their number:—

J. Blandy Jenkins, Esq., J.P., Llanharan House
R. E. Watkins, Esq., J.P., Mayor of Cowbridge
Arthur J. Williams, Esq., J.P., Coedymwstwr
T. W. David, Esq., J.P., Pendoylan House
District Councillor David Spencer, Picketstone.
„ J. C. Thomas, J.P., Boverton Court
„ Illtyd Williams, Castleton
Borough Councillor T. J. Yorwerth, Cowbridge
Thomas Bevan, Esq., Newton House
Thomas Morgan, Esq., Pontyclun

David Jenkins, Esq., Flemingstone Court
J. W. Hall, Esq., Cowbridge
John David, Esq., Cowbridge
Daniel Jenkins, Esq., Ruthin
W. T. Gwyn, Esq., Cowbridge
Thomas Thomas, Esq., Tyhên, Cowbridge
John Morgan, Esq., St. Mary Church
E. T. Lloyd, Esq., Llantwit Major
Thomas Jones, Esq., Newton

It was felt that a public servant should be honoured during life, and it is well known, that Alderman John has rendered long gratuitous services, in various departments of public and social life, in the District and County.

You are doubtless aware he has passed through a very severe and trying illness, which must, to a great extent, interfere with his usual close attention to business in the future, and we appeal to all his personal, social, and business friends, to show their appreciation of a useful citizen by contributing to a presentation fund, to cheer our old friend during his latter days. We hope to have a generous response.

Collecting Books will be placed in the hands of friends, and the local Bank Managers will be pleased to receive Contributions or they may be sent to any Member of the Committee, or to either of the undersigned.

It is desired to close the list by 1st September next.

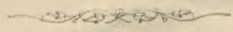
We annex a list of subscriptions promised to date.

Your obedient Servants,

E. W. MILES, *Secretary.*

T. W. DAVID, *Treasurer.*

Proposed Testimonial to Alderman Edward John.



SUBSCRIPTIONS ALREADY PROMISED.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
J. Blandy Jenkins, Esq. ...	21	0	0	J. W. Hall, Esq. ...	5	0	0
T. W. David, Esq. ...	21	0	0	Thomas Bevan, Esq. ...	5	0	0
Arthur J. Williams, Esq. ...	21	0	0	E. T. Lloyd, Esq. ...	5	0	0
Thomas Morgan, Esq. ...	10	10	0	D. T. Alexander, Esq. ...	3	3	0
J. C. Thomas, Esq. ...	10	0	0	David Jenkins, Esq. ...	2	2	0
E. W. Miles, Esq. ...	10	0	0	John Morgan, Esq. ...	2	2	0
David Spencer, Esq. ...	5	0	0	Daniel Jenkins, Esq. ...	2	2	0
				Howell Williams, Esq. ...	1	1	0

ALDERMAN JOHN'S TESTIMONIAL.

I enclose promise £ : : towards this Fund.

Yours &c.

Name _____

Address _____

To Mr. E. W. Miles,

Cowbridge,

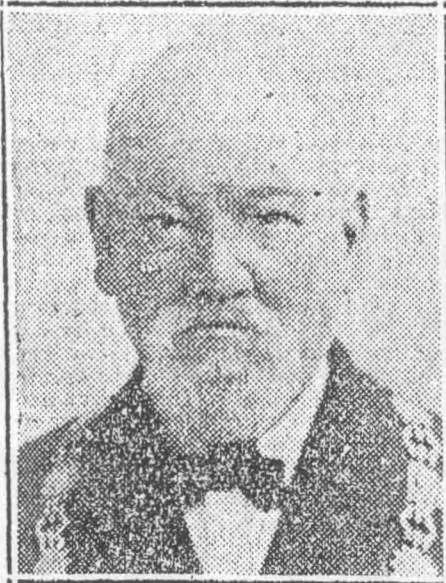
Secretary to Testimonial Committee.

OBITUARY.

THREE TIMES MAYOR.

ALDERMAN EDWARD JOHN, OF COWBRIDGE.

Alderman Edward John, three times mayor of Cowbridge, and one of the most familiar and lovable figures in the Vale of Glamorgan, passed away on Thursday in his eighty-first year. On Saturday last he attended a meeting of the Bridgend and Cowbridge Board of Guardians, and was taken ill the following day. He attained his eightieth birthday on March 20 last. He leaves one son, Mr. William Henry John, who carries on the business at Cowbridge, and one daughter, Mrs. Mary Lane. Mrs. Davies (wife of Capt. C. Davies), a grand-daughter, lived with him, and when he was mayor of Cowbridge last year carried out the duties of



ALDERMAN JOHN.

mayor. During her year of office a daughter was born, and this was made the occasion of a pleasing ceremony by the many friends of the alderman, who showed their appreciation of his public work by presenting a silver cradle to his grand-daughter and to hail him as a great-grandfather.

With his passing Cowbridge loses one of its oldest inhabitants. He had lived all his life in the Vale, and had a knowledge of the "Garden of Wales," its history and characteristics, needs and ambitions, which few men to-day could rival. His affection for the old borough, his native town, was intense, and he never tired in promoting its interests. It is to him that Cowbridge owes many of the advantages it enjoys to-day. From the time he entered public life he worked wholeheartedly for the public good, neither currying favour nor fearing enmity.

Alderman John, who started life as a jobbing gardener, and married at the comparatively early age of 22, built up a prosperous business as an agricultural implement and seed merchant. In 1887 he won his first contest for a seat on the Cowbridge Town Council, of which he remained a member to the time of his death. He became alderman, and served as mayor in 1888-9, 1890-1, and 1919-20. He was keenly interested in local charities and obtained many reforms. He gave evidence before the Charity Commissioners and played a conspicuous part in getting renewed the charter of the old borough, giving evidence for that purpose before Sir Charles Dilke's Commission on Unreformed Corporations in 1884. In 1887, the same year as the alderman entered the council-chamber as a councillor, the charter was renewed. The avenue of trees which adorns the main street of Cowbridge was a gift from the alderman many years ago.

Since 1881 Alderman John had been a member of the Bridgend and Cowbridge Board of Guardians, and was the oldest member. He was also a member of the assessment committee and of the old school board, and up to the last evinced keen interest in education. For 24 years he had been a governor of the University College, was a governor of the Cowbridge Grammar School, and of the Girls' Intermediate School, and a member of the Pontyclun Group of School Managers.

Glamorgan agriculturists will sadly miss him. He took an active part in the work of the old Glamorgan Agricultural Society, and had been one of the guiding spirits of the Vale of Glamorgan Agricultural Society, of which he was made a life vice-president at its last meeting. The Cowbridge and County Farmers' Club had no keener member than he, and he had been connected with it from its formation. He was always an exhibitor at Royal and Bath and West Shows, and had attended forty of them.

Alderman John had many stories to tell about the Cowbridge of his youth. He remembered the old stocks and some of their occupants; the old coach drivers who came to and passed through Cowbridge, and prisoners as they were brought for trial at the quarter sessions, then held at Cowbridge. These prisoners were brought by coach and were chained together. Forty-two cells in which they used to be confined still exist on the site of the present Town-hall. Deceased was an Oddfellow, and was at the time of his election as a delegate to the A.M.C. the youngest delegate in the Unity and the youngest C.S. He was proud of his Radicalism, though in many things he was strongly Conservative, and withal had Labour sympathies.