

Edmondesh family

1838 – 93 Charles G Edmondesh attended Cowbridge Grammar School, son of Canon Thomas Edmondesh of Cowbridge, became Professor of Latin at Lampeter, then Principal of Lampeter (St Davids College).

‘Archdeacon and college principal, b. 8th December 1838, eldest son of Thomas Edmondesh (1806-1892), vicar of Cowbridge; his mother (Harriet Anne) was a sister of Charles Williams (1806 – 1877) and afterwards principal of Jesus College, Oxford; his brother Frederick William Edmondesh (1841 – 1918) was archdeacon of Llandaff. From Cowbridge & Sherborne schools, Charles Edmondesh went up to Trinity College, Oxford in 1856, graduated (1861) with a ‘first’ in classical moderations, and was ‘proxime’ for the Hertford scholarship. After some years as a curate at Bridgend, he was from 1865 to 1881 professor of Latin at St David’s College, Lampeter. Then, after vicariates at Boughrood, Radnorshire, 1881, and Warren, Pembrokeshire (1882-8), he was in 1883 made archdeacon of St Davids. He resigned his office in 1888 to become principal of St David’s College, and remained there till his health broke down in 1892. He died 18th July 1893. He was for many years an assiduous member of the Cambrian Archaeological Association.’

News cutting

Harriet Anne Williams (1804 – 85), later Harriet Edmondesh

Born 24 October 1804, daughter of the Rev. William Williams, headmaster of the Grammar School. She married at Cowbridge 2 November 1829 the Rev Rees Howell, MA, Vicar of Llancafarn and Curate of Cowbridge & Llanblethian.

Their son, Robert William Howell, was born 27 July 1830. He died, unmarried, 23 August 1880; memorial inscription in Cowbridge church. He was a fellow of Jesus College, Oxford from 1854 until his death.

The Rev. Rees Howell was born in 1798 or 1799, the son of Benjamin Howell, customs officer in the port of Neath. Rees died 29 August 1830 (a month after his son was born) and was buried with his family at Neath. There is a family memorial inscription, including his name, in St Thomas’s church, Neath.

Harriet’s second marriage, to the Rev Thomas Edmondesh, Vicar of Llanblethian with Cowbridge, was on 27 February 1838. She died in 1885 and he in 1892. They have a memorial inscription in Cowbridge church.

Sources – Alumni Oxon (GFHS); ‘The History of the Vale of Neath by D Rhys Phillips (Swansea, 1925), p 780

Brian James

1840 – 1918 Rev. Frederick William Edmondesh, son of Rev Thos Edmondesh of Old Hall, educated Cowbridge Grammar School (in the VIth form in 1854), then Oxford. Grandson of Dr Williams, headmaster of the Grammar School for 60 years, and great grandson of Thomas Williams, headmaster CGS. Became Vicar of Coity 1873-1901, and Archdeacon of Llandaff.

1851 – 2 Frederic Q Edmondesh attended Cowbridge Grammar School, became Lt. Col in the Royal Engineers, retired 1890 to Baytor House, Newton Abbot, Devon.

April 1855 William Edmondesh committed suicide, following the misappropriation of £1200 belonging to the Bridgend and Cowbridge Union (he was the clerk). He shot himself in his office (an upper room) in a house in Church Street (now owned by Jesus College, Oxford).

Notes of WAH Fisher, from the recordings of David Jones of Wallington, who wrote rather unpleasantly on his views of the Edmondesh family – Cardiff library.

1862, Christmas Day – 13 to dinner

First course : Boiled leg of mutton, sausages, caper sauce, artichokes.....potatoes, bread sauce, celery, gravy soup reserved for roast turkey.

Second course : Macaroons, blancmange, mince pies, jam tart, gateau de pommes, plum pudding.

1866, July 19th – 10 to dinner ; three at home, Mr & Mrs Prichard, Mrs and 2 Misses Carne, Mrs and 2 Misses Thomas, Mr Taynton, Mr Gibbon, Fred.

Green pea soup, salmon, saddle of mutton, boiled fowl, tongue, stewed kidneys, br(?owned) sweetbreads, roast duck omelette.

Lemon pudding, French paste, syllabub, raspberry cream.

D/D Ed 527 Glam. Record office

4th March 1911

The death occurred in a London nursing home, after a long illness, of Major C G J Edmondesh. He was 41 years of age. He was the son of the late Archdeacon Charles Edmondesh of St Davids College and Mrs Edmondesh of Old Hall, Cowbridge. His widow is a sister of Mr J J D Nicholl of Merthyr Mawr.

Major Edmondesh studied engineering in the Rhondda Valley. He lived in Colwinston. In 1889 he received a commission as lieutenant in the 5th batallion Worcestershire Militia (Infantry) and joined the Glamorgan Yeomanry as a captain on September 25th 1901, becoming a major in the November. After the death of Col. Wyndham Quin, he became second in command of the regiment and retained this position till his death./ He was a keen sportsman.....etc.

The Herald