

Death of Lewis Bradford Lieutenant, 3rd Battalion, 60th King's Royal Rifles

The climate of India has claimed another victim, and offers further proof of the terrible price we pay for the possession of that splendid jewel in the Imperial Crown. Lieutenant Bradford, after 5 years service in India, died on the 27th instant at Chippenham, at the early age of 25. The son of Captain Bradford, the respected Adjutant of the 2nd Battalion of Wilts Rifle Volunteers, he naturally chose the profession of arms, and after passing a highly successful examination at the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, he received a commission in the above regiment, one of the finest of our army. Desirous of active service, he exchanged into the battalion then in India, where his knowledge of regimental duties soon led to his appointment as musketry instructor, and subsequently to the important duty of acting adjutant.

The climate however, after 3 years service, affected his health, and he was invalided home: but after a few months stay in this country he returned to India where another 2 years service in Madras and Burma completely ruined his constitution. He again came home in the spring of last year, but the best medical advice was unavailing. Still hope of life and of rejoining the army remained strong in him till a week before his death, when hemorrhage of the lungs set in.

He bore the news of his approaching end with the calmness and fortitude of a true soldier, availed himself gratefully of the ministrations of the worthy vicar, and passed away on Sunday last with the serenity of one falling asleep. The funeral takes place this day at the new cemetery, Chippenham, and we understand that the officers and men of the rifle volunteers have arranged that it shall be accompanied with military honour.

Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette, Thursday, 31 March 1870

Death - On the 27th inst., at Cambridge House, Chippenham, in his 26th year, Lewis Bradford, Lieut. 3rd Battalion 60th King's Royal Rifles, eldest son of Captain Bradford, R.E., Adjutant Wilts Rifle Volunteers.

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