

# Obituary



## *Compton Chamberlayne*

### **MR CHARLES PENRUDDOCKE**

Mr Charles Penruddocke, who died at Compton Chamberlayne, Wiltshire, on Wednesday, at the age of 71, belonged to an ancient family. It came to Wiltshire from the village of Penruddocke, in Cumberland, and has been the seat at Compton since the days of Queen Elizabeth. An ancestor, Colonel Penruddocke, took part in the Rising in the West, and was executed by Cromwell's orders at Exeter; his headless remains lie in Compton Church, and the cap he wore when beheaded is among a number of other relics kept at Compton House.

Mr Penruddocke was born on September 26, 1858, being the son of Charles Penruddocke; his mother was before her marriage Flora Henrietta Long, daughter of Mr Walter Long, of Rood Ashton, so that the late Lord Long of Wraxall was Mr Penruddocke's first cousin. He was educated at Clifton College and Pembroke College, Cambridge. He lived the life of a country gentleman, having beside his Wiltshire estate one in Somerset, at Bratton St Maur, near Wincanton, where he built a house and lived for many years during his father's lifetime. He was a Justice of the Peace for Wilts and Somerset, and was High Sheriff of Wilts (as were his forebears) in 1913. He formerly hunted with the Wilton pack, particularly at the time when Colonel Cartwright was Master. He was a member of the Wilton Board of Guardians and Rural District Council, and of the Salisbury Diocesan Conference. He was interested in archaeology, being a vice-president of the Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society. He was a life member of the Wiltshire Agricultural Association. Mr Penruddocke married, in 1890, Anne Elizabeth, daughter of the Rev William Speke, of Cheldon Court, Devon, who was first cousin to John Hanning Speke, the African explorer. Of three sons, two were killed in the War – Charles, the eldest, in France only a month before the Armistice; Thomas, the youngest, in the battle of Lake Doiran, Greece, in 1917. The surviving son is the second, Mr George William Penruddocke. There are two daughters.

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