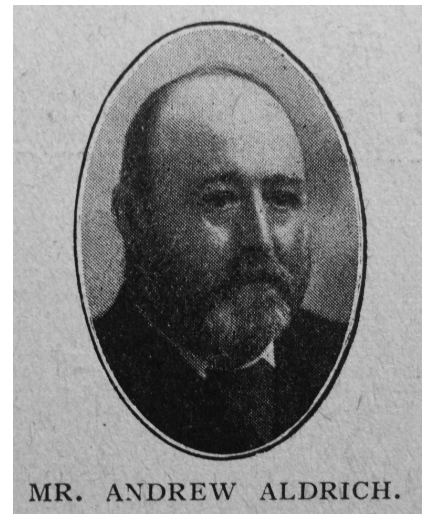


Andrew Harold Aldrich

Transcription of obituary published in the Primitive Methodist Magazine by E.S. France

The Wangford Circuit has suffered some heavy losses by death during the last few years, but none greater than that sustained in the passing of Mr. A.H. Aldrich. Our friend was built on a large and generous scale. He was a "great" man, physically, morally and spiritually. Nothing mean could live in his genial presence. His personal worth was easily recognised.

For twenty-one years he filled the office of circuit steward. Of his time, his thought and his substance he gave freely. His home was an "open house," as many can testify. The great gatherings at Darsham Hall, and more recently at Brampton, on August Bank Holidays, were proof of the general esteem in which Mr. Aldrich was held.



At the time of his death, our brother was a member of the Suffolk County Council, Blything Rural District Council and Board of Guardians, while he also served on the War Agricultural Committee and Tribunal for the same area. For some time his health had not been of the best, but he attended to his many duties right up to the last. He felt keenly the death of his wife in 1914, followed a short time after by that of his son David. Anxiety on account of another son away on active service and the burden of a great business made difficult by War conditions, seemed at times to overwhelm him. He attended the service at Westhall on Sunday afternoon, July 6th, but was not well enough to go at night. He took to his bed, and peacefully passed away on Monday, July 14th. The funeral took place the following Thursday, at Darsham, and was largely attended. The Rev. W.A. Hammond gave the address and officiated. Others taking part in the service were the Revs. J.C. Mantripp, G.W. Hancock, O.M. Collins, Dr. Tennant (Rector), and the writer. At the graveside the deceased's favourite hymn was sung: "I know that my Redeemer lives."

We left the quiet grave-yard with the words of Jesus whispering words of hope: "Because I live ye shall live also." There is no death to such as he. His life was united to Him Who is Life.

"It is, not death to die,
To leave this weary road,
And 'midst the brotherhood on high,
To be at home with God.
"Jesus, Thou Prince of Life,
Thy chosen cannot die;
Like Thee, they conquer in the strife,
To reign with Thee on high."

References

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