

Arthur Frederick EGERTON, Lt. Col.



Born: 6 February 1829

Died: 25 February 1866

*LIEUTENANT-COLONEL
GRENADIER GUARDS
5th SON OF FRANCIS EGERTON, 1ST EARL*



Paul R. Speakman 2021

Arthur Frederick EGERTON Lt. Col.



In memory of Arthur Frederick
Lieut. Col. Gren. Gds. 5th Son
of Francis Earl of Ellesmere
Died Feb^r. 25th 1866, aged 37

Hon. Arthur Frederick Egerton (6 February 1829 – 25 February 1866), became Lieutenant-Colonel, and married in **1858** Helen Smith, daughter of Martin Tucker Smith M.P. and his wife, Louisa Ridley. Little is known of his early life, though much of his short life was spent in the army.

Hart's Annual Army List for **1846** shows that on 31 December **1845**:

Arthur Frederick Egerton, Gent., to be Ens. and Lt. by pur. vice Bruce.

Essentially, he became an *Ensign*, then the lowest rank of commissioned officer in infantry regiments of the British Army. It was the duty of officers of this rank to carry the colours of the regiment. Today, the lowest rank is second lieutenant. '*By pur.*' refers to the purchase of officer commissions in the British Army, which was the practice of paying money to the Army to be made an officer of a cavalry or infantry regiment of the English and later British Army. By making such a payment, a commission as an officer could be secured, thereby avoiding the need to wait to be promoted for merit or seniority. This practice was the usual way to obtain a commission in the Army from the 17th to the late 19th century. In 1837, a commission as an Ensign in the Foot Guards cost £1,200 (or approx. £110k today). The term '*vice*' was mainly used in the military, meaning *in the place of* or *instead of*.

The Morning Post for 1 January **1847** reported:

The Earl of Elgin has appointed the Earl of Ellesmere's son, the Hon. **Arthur Frederick Egerton**, of the Grenadier Guards, to be his Aide-de-Camp.

On 17 January **1851**, *The London Gazette* promulgated:

1st Grenadier reg. of Foot Guards

*Ensign the Honourable **Arthur Frederick Egerton** to be Lieutenant and Captain, by purchase, vice Brown, who retires. Dated 17th January 1851.*

The Sun (London) for Monday 27 June **1853** reported the arrival the previous day in New York of the British frigate *Leander* which had taken the Earl of Ellesmere, family and suite, to the city to open the Crystal Palace in New York. In a very detailed account of their arrival, it was said:

*The following is a complete list of the passengers on board : - The Right Hon. Francis Earl of Ellesmere, the Hon. Harriet Catherine Countess of Ellesmere ; his Lordship's children - Lady Alice Harriet Frederica Egerton, Lady Blanche Egerton, the Hon. Algernon Egerton, Captain Coldstream Guards ; the Hon. **Arthur Frederick Egerton**, Grenadier Guards. Sir John Acton is also a passenger.*

The Belfast Newsletter, on Monday 7 June **1858**, announced his marriage:

*June 2, at St. Peter's Church, Pimlico, by the Rev. A. Corbett, Lieut. Colonel the Hon. **Arthur F. Egerton**, Grenadier Guards, to Helen, youngest daughter of Martin Tucker Smith, Esq., M.P.*

1858. Marriage solemnized at <i>St. Peter's Church</i> in the Parish of <i>St. Peter Pimlico</i> in the County of <i>Middlesex</i>								
No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
487	<i>June 2</i>	<i>Arthur Frederick Egerton</i> <i>Helen Smith</i>	<i>full</i> <i>full</i>	<i>Bachelor</i> <i>Spinster</i>	<i>Honourable</i> <i>—</i>	<i>Saint James Westminster</i> <i>Belgrave Street</i>	<i>Francis Egerton</i> <i>Martin Tucker Smith Esquire M.P.</i>	<i>Earl of Ellesmere</i> <i>—</i>
Married in the <i>Parish Church</i> according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by <i>Licence</i> or <i>after</i> by me,								
This Marriage was solemnized between us,		<i>Arthur Frederick Egerton</i> <i>Helen Smith</i>		in the Presence of us,		<i>M. T. Smith S. Smith</i> <i>Frederick C. W. Collins</i> <i>W. Woodcock</i> <i>W. Egerton</i> <i>W. Smith</i>		

Arthur and **Helen Egerton** had 5 children:

- Granville George (1859-1951; bp. 6 June 1859 at St. George, Hanover Square)
- Cecil Martin (1860-1931 : bp. 17 February 1861 at St. Andrew, Cobham)
- Louisa Blanche (1862-1937; bp. 13 May 1862 at St. George , Hanover Square)
- Claude Francis Arthur (1864-1957; bp. 22 March 1864 at St. George, Hanover Square)
- Arthur Frederick (1866-1942; bp. 4 March 1866 at St. Mary, Long Ditton, Surrey)

The Edinburgh Gazette on 9 August **1859** announced:

*Grenadier Guards - Lieutenant and Captain Frederick Charles Keppel to be Captain and Lieutenant-Colonel, by purchase, vice the Honourable **Arthur Frederick Egerton**, who retires.*

Dated 5th August 1859.

[The date of his resignation differs from the obituary published in the national press on his death. See below].

Having resigned his commission in the regular army at an earlier date, *The London Gazette* on 2 November **1860** announced a commission in the local yeomanry:

*Commissions signed by the Lord Lieutenant of the County Palatine of Lancaster.
Duke of Lancaster's Own Regiment of Yeomanry Cavalry.
The Honourable **Arthur Frederick Egerton** to be Lieutenant, vice Viscount Grey de
Wilton, resigned.
Dated 16th October 1860.*

On Saturday 4 October **1862** the *Northampton Mercury*, reporting on the death of the second Earl, stated:

*Funeral of the late Earl of Ellesmere.— The mortal remains of the late Right Hon. the Earl of Ellesmere were interred in the family vault adjoining St. Mark's Church at Worsley, near Manchester, on Saturday last, in the presence some thousands of spectators. The procession began form about noon, and shortly afterwards the coffin containing the body was borne out of the New Hall, followed by the chief mourners, consisting of Francis Charles Granville, Viscount Bracklev (now Earl of Ellesmere), and his brother, the Hon. Alfred John Egerton, the Hon. Captain Francis Egerton, M.P., and the **Hon. Arthur Frederick Egerton**. The pallbearers were the Earls of Grosvenor and of Cawdor, Lord Enfield, and Mr. George Loch. The Rev St. Vincent Beechey, the late earl's private chaplain, and the rector of Worsley, read the funeral service.*

And then in December **1862**, *The London Gazette* announced a promotion in the same yeomanry:

*Duke of Lancaster's Own Regiment of Yeomanry Cavalry.
Captain the Honourable Algernon Fulke Egerton, M.P., to be Lieutenant-Colonel-
Commandant, vice the Earl of Ellesmere, deceased.
Dated 15th December 1862.
Lieutenant The Honourable **Arthur Frederick Egerton** to be Captain, vice Egerton,
promoted.
Dated 15th December 1862.*

Sadly, the U.K. Lunacy Records for 1865 show that the Hon. **Arthur Egerton**, of Ticehurst, was admitted on 29 November **1865** and died on 25 February **1866**.

The journal *Home News for India, China and the Colonies* for 3 March **1866** reported:

*LIEUT.-COLONEL THE HON. A. F. EGERTON.—We have to record the death of Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. **Arthur Frederick Egerton**, which took place on Feb. 25, after a long illness. The deceased was the youngest son of Francis, first Earl of Ellesmere, K.G., by Harriet, daughter of the late Mr. Charles and Lady Charlotte Greville. He was born 6th of February, 1829, entered the army as ensign in the Grenadier Guards in December, 1815, and obtained his rank as captain in January, 1851. He served with the 3rd battalion of Grenadier Guard. in the Crimea, and was extra aide-de-camp to Lieutenant-General Lord Rokeby, when commanding the 1st division of the Eastern army. He retired from the army 11th September, 1857. The hon. colonel married, in 1858, Miss Smith, daughter of Mr. Martin Tucker Smith.*

On 28 April **1866**, the *Leeds Intelligencer* announced:

*The will of Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. **Arthur Frederick Egerton**, Grenadier Guards, was proved In the London Court, on the ult., by the executors and trustees- namely, his brother, Captain the Hon. Francis Egerton, R.N., Aide-de-Camp to the Queen, and his brother-in-law, Martin Ridley Smith, Esq. The personalty was sworn under £14,000.—
Illustrated News*

EGERTON { The Honourable
Arthur Frederick.

Effects under £14,000.

22 March.

The Will of the Honourable Arthur Frederick Egerton late of 35 Hertford-street May Fair in the County of **Middlesex** formerly a Captain and Lieutenant-Colonel in Her Majesty's Regiment of Grenadier Guards deceased who died 25 February 1866 at Ticehurst in the County of Sussex was proved at the **Principal Registry** by the oaths of the Honourable Francis Egerton of Bridgewater House Cleveland-square St. James' in the County of Middlesex aforesaid a Captain in Her Majesty's Navy the Brother and Martin Ridley Smith of 41 Onslow-square South Kensington in the County of Middlesex aforesaid Esquire the Executors.

After the death of **Arthur Frederick** in **1866**, his widow **Helen** (née Smith) married secondly on 15 July **1875** Major-General **Sir William Julius Gascoigne** KCMG (29 May 1844 – 9 September 1926). She died on 15 June **1928**.

