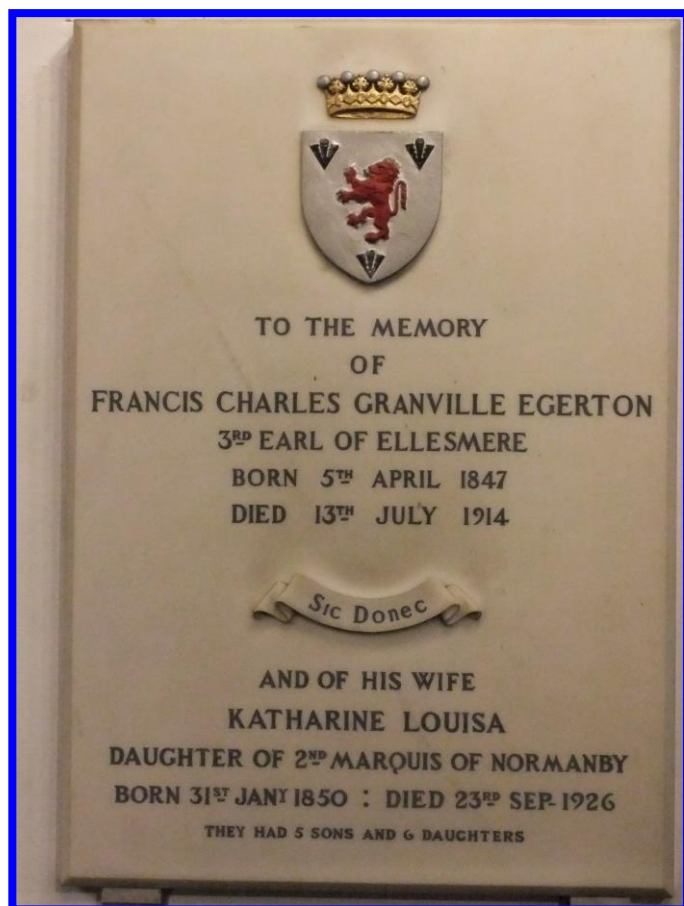


## Francis Charles Granville Egerton

5 April 1847 to 13 July 1914

3<sup>rd</sup> Earl of Ellesmere



**Francis Charles Granville Egerton**, 3rd Earl of Ellesmere, was born in London on 5 April **1847**. He was the elder son of George Granville Francis **Egerton**, 2nd Earl of Ellesmere and Lady Mary Louisa **Campbell**. Francis was first educated at Eton College as Viscount **Brackley** and in 1865 he went to Trinity College, Cambridge, where he gained his BA three years later. He gained the title of *3rd Earl of Ellesmere* (at the age of 15) on the death of his father in September 1862.

Francis Egerton entered the British Army in 1864 and was commissioned as a Cornet into the Duke of Lancaster's Own Yeomanry, where his father had previously served.—He was promoted to Captain in 1869 and was transferred as Lieutenant-Colonel to the 40th Lancashire Rifle Volunteer Corps in 1875.

After his return to the Yeomanry, he was granted an honorary majorship in July 1884 and was confirmed to the full rank in October—Two years later, Francis became an honorary Lieutenant-Colonel of the Yeomanry and in January 1891 received command of it. In March he was appointed honorary Colonel of the 4th Battalion, The Manchester Regiment.

He retired in January 1896 and became the Yeomanry's honorary colonel after two months. In November, Francis received the Volunteer Decoration. He was appointed a Knight of Grace of the Venerable Order of Saint John in 1908 and was advanced to a Knight of Justice in 1910. He was also a Justice of the Peace for the counties of Lancaster and Northampton, and represented Essex as a Deputy Lieutenant.

He married Lady Katherine Louisa **Phipps**, daughter of George Augustus Constantine **Phipps**, 2nd Marquess of Normanby and Laura **Russell**, on 9 December 1868. He died on 13 July **1914** at age 67.

Children of **Francis Charles Granville Egerton**, 3rd Earl of Ellesmere and **Lady Katherine Louisa Phipps**:

Lady Mabel Laura **Egerton** (1869- 1946)

Lady Alice Constance **Egerton** (1870-1932)

Lady Beatrice Mary **Egerton** (1871 -1966) (m. George Kemp, 1st Baron Rochdale)

John Francis Granville Scrope **Egerton**, 4th Earl of Ellesmere (1872-1944) (m. Lady Violet Lambton)

Major Hon. Francis William George **Egerton** (1874-1948) (m. Hilda Margaret Curteis)

Hon. Thomas Henry Frederick **Egerton** (1876-1953) (m. Lady Bertha Anson, daughter of 3rd Earl of Lichfield)

Lady Katherine Augusta Victoria **Egerton** (1877-1960) (m. Charles Hardy)

Hon. Wilfred Charles William **Egerton** (1879-1939) (m. Florence M C Reade)

Lady Leila Georgina **Egerton** (1881-1964 (she became a nun)

Lady Helen Constance **Egerton** (1884-1901)

Hon. Reginald Arthur **Egerton** (1886- 1904)

The 3rd Earl and his family only spent part of their time at Worsley New Hall, usually between July and September. However, the family continued to improve the Estate where possible. In 1903 electricity was used to illuminate the main carriageway and in 1908 it was installed in the house.

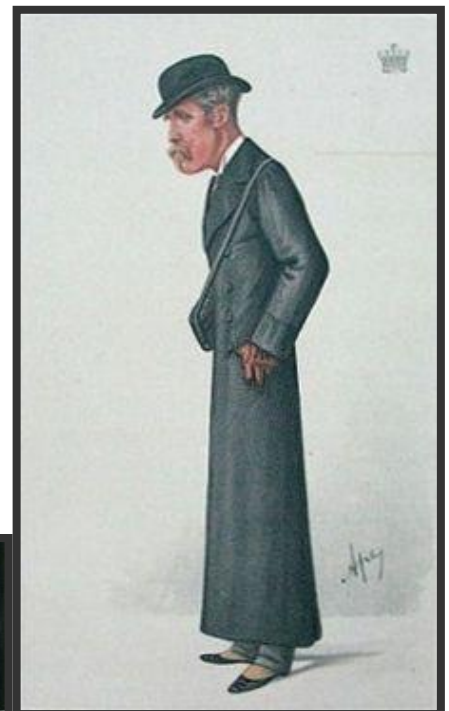
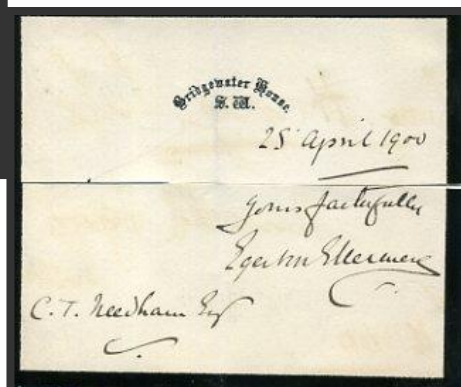
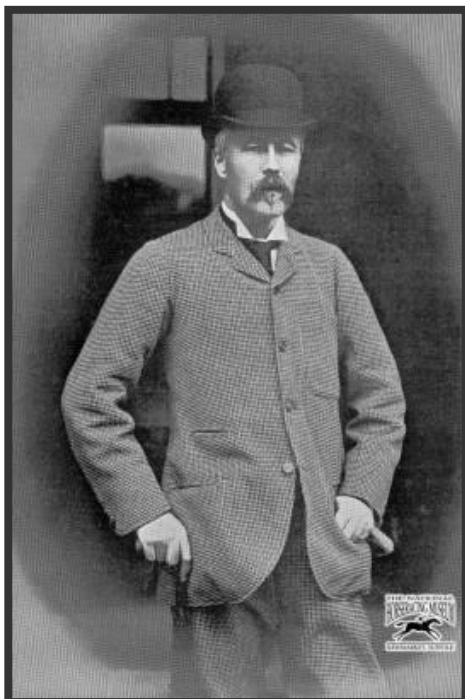
The 3rd Earl maintained the Egerton family reputation as local benefactors and gave St Mark's Church - built by his grandfather the 1st Earl - land to extend its crowded churchyard and money to improve the interior. The visits of the family were regarded as local events and photographs from Salford Local History Library show an archway erected specially for the coming of the Earl and his wife. He was also a great benefactor of the church of St. Mary Magdalene, in Winton, with work starting in 1913. He not only gave the land on which the church stands but also provided £4,000 to construct the chancel and sanctuary. The remaining £1,900 was in a large part provided by a huge pageant held in the grounds of Worsley New Hall.

Francis Egerton took a keen interest in sport. He donated the Earl of Ellesmere Cup which became one of the most competitive tournaments at Worsley Golf Club. He was reputed to have occasionally played with the village cricket team on Saturday afternoons and preside over the Worsley cricket festival. Indeed, he was President of Worsley Cricket Club 1863 to 1914 and the honours board shows that he was Captain of the 1st XI 1892 to 1894. Whilst at Worsley New Hall, he enjoyed a game of billiards.

The 3rd Earl had a special passion for horse racing. Lord Ellesmere owned estates in Manchester and Northampton and in addition to his interest in racing was a successful breeder of shire horses and sheep. He owned the good sire Hampton for the last of his racing days and for his stud career at Stetchworth Park. The horse earned so much in fees that Lord Ellesmere used the money to create the most fabulous stables in Newmarket at Egerton House and leased the yard to Richard Marsh, the royal trainer. Lord Ellesmere never owned a Classic winner, but his horses, prepared by Charles Archer and John Dawson Jnr, won good races and included King's Courier (Jockey Club Cup), Lowland Chief (Portland Handicap) and Highland Chief (runner up in the 1882 Derby). His son the 4th Earl inherited his interests.

The Earl enjoyed shooting and held an annual three day shoot at the Worsley Estate. Visitors to the pleasure grounds at Worsley were warned to stick to the paths and driveways so as not to disturb the game.

In 1903, the Trust established by the 3rd Duke of Bridgewater 100 years earlier to administer the Worsley Estate and collieries expired, and the assets reverted to the 3rd Earl as the sole owner. In order to administer his estates which included Worsley, Brackley in Northamptonshire, and Stetchworth Park, near Newmarket, the Earl created a new Trust. Henry Hart Davis, a retired army captain and family friend, was appointed Chief Agent.



(3rd Earl of Ellesmere Vanity Fair 22 January 1887)