

# Cicely de BATHE



*"Now Lord, what is my hope? Truly my hope is even in Thee"*



Born: 15 November 1861

Died: 12 May 1877

*THIRD DAUGHTER OF  
SIR HENRY PERCIVAL DE BATHE, Bt.*



Cicely de BATHE



Sacred to the Memory of  
**CICELY**  
 Third daughter of Lt. General Sir  
 Henry de Bathe, Bart.  
 Commanding Northern District  
 Who died at Hope Hall, Pendleton,  
 on 12<sup>th</sup> May 1877  
 in the 16<sup>th</sup> year of her age  
 "Now Lord, what is my hope?  
 Truly my hope is even in Thee"

Burial: 16 May 1877 St Mark, Worsley.  
 Cicely De Bathe  
 Age: 15 yrs.  
 Abode: Pendleton  
 Buried by: Mulgrave

This memorial stone stands at the east side of the church and the inscription immediately arouses curiosity. With such a surname, it may be reasonable to expect that it would be relatively easy to trace this young lady, but it was not the case!

1863 July 1 <sup>st</sup> No. 397	Olive B. 20 Nov. 1860.	Henry Percival & Charlotte	St. Clair	Thorpe Lee Cottage Egham	Gentleman	N. F. de Bathe & J. de Bathe
1863 July 1 <sup>st</sup> No. 398	Cicely B. 15 Nov. 1861.	Henry Percival & Charlotte	St. Clair	Thorpe Lee Cottage Egham	Gentleman	N. F. de Bathe & J. de Bathe
1863						

Firstly, it was difficult to track down any reference to her Baptism. And it was only when the life of her father came to light and her siblings that we could see the reason why!

**Cicely** was born on 15 November 1861 and was baptised, along with an older sister Olive, at St. Luke, Chelsea, on 1 July 1863. Her father was named as Henry Percival and her mother Charlotte, and yet the surname was given as St. Clair. His address was Thorpe Lee Cottage, Egham, and he was recorded simply as Gentleman.

Cicely had 8 siblings:

**(1) Mary Kate** born 2 Sept 1857, baptised 25 November 1857 at Holy Trinity, Chelsea. Daughter of Henry Percival and Charlotte Masters St. Clair.

**(2) Henry Percival** born 24 April 1859, baptised 16 November 1859 at St. Luke, Chelsea. Son of Henry and Charlotte St. Clair. Musician??????

Olive was their third child and Cicely their fourth, and third daughter.

**(5) Winifred** born 4/4 1863

**(6) Maximillian John Clair** born 16 June 1867, baptised 16 June 1867 at Holy Trinity, Chelsea. Son of Henry Percival and Charlotte Clair. Gentleman.

**(7) Phyllis** born 24 July 1869, baptised 13 April 1870 at Holy Trinity, Chelsea. Daughter of Henry Percival and Charlotte St. Clair.

**(8) Hugo Gerald** born 10 August 1871, baptised 22 December 1871 at Holy Trinity, Chelsea. Son of Henry Percival and Charlotte de Bathe. Major General. Baronet.

**(9) Patrick Wynn** baptised 21 June 1876 at St. James, Hope. Son of Henry Percival and Charlotte de Bathe. Hope Hall, Pendleton. Maj. gen. Baronet.

**General Sir Henry Percival de Bathe**, 4th Baronet, and Knight Commander of the Order of the Bath, was a British Army General who achieved high office in the 1870s.

De Bathe was born in Valletta, Malta, in **1823** the son of Sir William Plunkett de Bathe, the 3rd Baronet.

In **1838** he was a page at the Coronation of Queen Victoria. He was commissioned into the Scots Fusilier Guards in **1839** and served in the Crimean War being Second-in-Command of his battalion at the Siege of Sevastopol. He was also present at the Battle of Traktir Bridge as Aide-de-Camp to Lord Rokeby.

The *Eton School Lists* for **1838** record him as *Henry Percival, Colonel Scots Fusilier Guards; eldest son of Sir William*, though this description of him was added several years after school years.

He was appointed Commanding Officer of the Scots Guards in **1864**.

He inherited his baronetcy in **1870**. In **1874** he was appointed General Officer Commanding Northern District and in **1876** he was promoted to Lieutenant General.

He was promoted again to General in **1879** and retired in **1883**. In **1877** he was appointed Honorary Colonel of the King's Shropshire Light Infantry.

He was a Justice of the Peace and Deputy Lieutenant of County Meath, and a Justice of the Peace for Sussex.

De Bathe's father died in March **1870** and this removed the final objection to his marrying **Charlotte Clare**, who he had been living with for about thirteen years out of wedlock. They had seven children before the wedding and in February **1928** four of these children submitted a petition to the courts for declarations of legitimacy under the Legitimacy Act, **1926**. They were Viscountess Burnham, Lady Somerleyton, Mrs Winifred McCalmont and Maximilian John de Bathe. The 90-year-old Dowager,



Lady de Bathe, confirmed the facts in an affidavit and the petition was granted.

De Bathe lived at Wood End near Chichester, where he died on 5 January 1907 aged 83. Their eldest daughter, Mary Archdale, is buried close to them.



Unfortunately, no evidence has been found of the family's whereabouts in 1871. Curiously, the census does show Henry P. de Bathe, Bt., living at Wood End House, Funtington, Sussex, with two visitors and two servants. He was aged 47, married, Major General and Land Owner, born Malta (British Subject). However, by that year, he had married Charlotte. But what we do know for certain is that for a short period of time they were living at Hope Hall, Pendleton. Witness the baptism of Patrick Wynn on 21 June 1876 at St. James, Hope, and the death of Cicely on 12 May 1877.

Henry and Charlotte were married on 20 December 1870 at Chalfont St. Giles, Buckinghamshire. Charlotte is shown as illegitimate, but Burke's Peerage and Baronetage records her father as William Clare. She was actually the daughter of Martha Clare and William Philip Masters Croft.

Most newspapers covered his death, two reports of which appear below.

#### DEATH OF A WELL-KNOWN BARONET

*The Press Association regrets announce the death, at Wood End, near Chichester, on Saturday evening, of Sir Henry Percival De Bathe, Bart., in his eighty-fourth year. Sir Henry, who was the fourth Baronet, had a distinguished career in the army, which entered before he was sixteen years old, and went through the Crimea with the Scots Guards, being second in command his battalion at the taking Sebastopol. He was badly wounded at the battle of Traktir. Later was colonel of the Scots Guards, and was made general in '79, retiring active service four years later. He is succeeded by his son, Hugo Gerald, who married Mrs. Langtry, the well-known actress.*

#### DEATH OF SIR H. DE BATHE.

*The death took place on Saturday, at Wood End, Chichester, of Gen. Sir Henry Percival De Bathe, Bart., K.C.8., of Knightstown, county Meath, Colonel of the Shropshire Light Infantry. Sir Henry succeeded to the baronetcy in 1870. He was born in 1823, at Malta. Having been present at the Coronation of Queen Victoria as a page, he entered the Army in 1839, and served with distinction through the Crimean War with the Scots Fusilier Guards. Throughout the siege operations before Sebastopol he was second in command of his battalion. He was wounded and mentioned in dispatches, received the medal and clasp, the Turkish medal, and 1 Class Order of the Medjidieh. The new Baronet married in 1899 Emily Charlotte, formerly wife of Edward Langtry, and daughter of the Very Rev. W. C. le Breton, Dean of Jersey.*

