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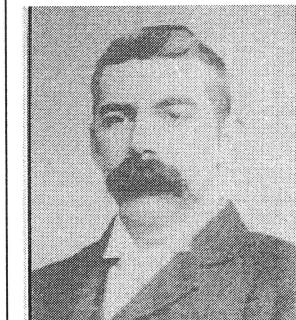
## Spickett, James

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On leaving Monkton House School in Cardiff in 1876, James Spickett returned to his hometown of Pontypridd, taking up the post of an articled clerk at the County Couthouse.

Having taken up the new sport of rugby football at school, Spickett gathered together a number of fellow workers and acquaintances to set up a local team - thus forming Pontypridd RFC.

### **Social network**



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# DEATH OF MR. E. C. SPICKETT.

Mr E. C. Spickett, Clerk to the Guardian and Registrar of the County Court, died at his residence—Bronwydd, Pontypridd—on Sunday evening last. He was 74 years of age, and up to his last illness took an active part in his many public and private duties. For a number of years he had been a sufferer from a bronchial affection, and this was the primary cause of death. For the last half a century there has been no more familiar figure in Pontypridd than that of Mr Spickett. He had a hand in establishing nearly all the boards of the town, and in the early days of Pontypridd he advocated the creation of a Board of Town Commissioners, who would have had the control of the sanitation and government of the town. Unfortunately his ideas were not carried out, but a Board of Health was formed instead. Brusque of manner, Mr Spickett was not popular among all classes; but that he had a very kind and tender heart is admitted by all who knew him intimately. The deceased was born at Llandough Cottage, Cowbridge, in the year 1825, his parents being Mr E. Powell Spickett and Mrs Elizabeth Caroline Spickett, daughter of Captain James Colnett, R.N. His father was an official in the Government Audit Office, but he had a great love of the country and retired at an early age from the Government service on a pension, and took up his residence at Llandough Cottage. It is interesting to note that Captain Colnett (Mr Spickett's grandfather) commanded H.R.H.'s ship Deccan and Argonaut. He was taken a prisoner by Spain, but was released on the English Government creating a stir. This was the same gentleman who, when lieutenant, accompanied Captain Cook on his celebrated voyages. Mr E. C. Spickett received his first educational knowledge at Cowbridge Grammar School. He was articled to Mr Lewis, solicitor, Bridgend, and when admitted as solicitor he started in practice at Pontypridd in 1848. In 1856 he was appointed Registrar of the County Court, and later on Clerk to the Guardians, and held both appointments up to the time of his death. He carried out his duties with fairness, uprightness, and without fear, and, as Judge Williams remarked on Monday, "He was a most honourable, straightforward man." In his young days he was a great sportsman, and for a long time rented 500 acres of shooting at Sully. For several years he resided at Llantrisant, and drove to Pontypridd every day, and so regular were his habits that people used to regulate their watches by his daily appearance. He afterwards bought Maesycod, and went there to reside. Mrs Spickett wished to live nearer the town, and he sold Maesycod, with the idea of moving to Bronwydd; but, unfortunately, Mrs Spickett died just about that time. He resided at Bronwydd up to the time of his death. The deceased was a member of the Congregational Church, and was a regular attendant.

## THE FUNERAL.

The funeral (which took place on Thursday) was very largely attended. A short service was held at the house, and then the coffin was conveyed to the Congregational Church, where a service was held. The bearers were the deacons of the church. The coffin was of polished oak, with solid brass fittings. It was covered with a number of very beautiful wreaths. At the chapel the Rev W. G. Jenkins, B.A., officiated. He took as the subject of his remarks the

James, James Price, Henry John, James Thomas, T. John, R. Roberts, R. Roberts, C. Dampton, W. H. Jones, G. H. Jenkins, D. J. James, Gwilym James, W. J. Hughes, Owen Thomas, and J. Stephens.

The cortege wound its way through Taff-street towards the cemetery, and among those occupying carriages immediately after the mourners were His Honour Judge Gwilym Williams, Mr Alfred Thomas, M.P., Mr L. G. Clark, J.P., D.L. (chairman of the Pontypridd Board of Guardians), Talygarn; and Mr Vivian Thomas, high bailiff; and Alderman and Mrs Walter H. Morgan. The Treasury was represented by Mr Biles, auditor.

The procession was headed by the following ministers:—Rev. W. L. Morris, W. A. Jenkins, J. R. Jones, T. Jones, D. G. Evans (Rhydfelen), Williams (Cillynydd), Jenkins (Merthyr), F. E. Probert, Joshua Thomas, J. P. Griffiths, M.A. (vicar), W. Parry, E. Gronow, W. Lewis, E. Dunmore Edwards, M.A., E. Rowlands (deaf and dumb missioner), and E. Lewis (Treforest).

The funeral arrangements were entrusted to Mr F. Judd, Treforest, and the coaches were supplied by Mrs Walter Powis.

## REFERENCE BY JUDGE WILLIAMS.

Before proceeding with the work of the County Court at Pontypridd on Monday, Judge Gwilym Williams paid an eloquent tribute to the memory and character of the late Mr E. C. Spickett, who had occupied the responsible position of registrar of the court for 43 years. His Honour, who was deeply moved, said, "I cannot take my seat here to-day without expressing the grief which I feel over the event which is known to all of us. The death of Mr Spickett is an event which cannot fail to be felt not only by those who have been connected with him professionally, or closely allied, as I and others have been in the administration of matters in this court, but also by a very large number of the very dense population of this district, and I would say also I think more especially so by the professional men with whom he has been so long and so honourably associated. Words fail me at the present moment to convey a due appreciation of my personal opinion of the character of Mr Spickett. I would say this, that I think his life is summed up in a very few words—as a most honourable, straightforward man, a man who, like all of us, had his faults. Brusqueness of manner was one of the distinguished characteristics of his terse speaking, and I attribute that brusqueness of manner in very many instances to his thorough straightforwardness and his impatience with anyone that appeared to him to lack that quality of straightforwardness. I think that the long connection I have had with him—which commenced long before I was connected with the County Court in any way, as an ex-officio guardian of this district, where he commenced, so to speak, his public career as clerk to the guardians of this Union, and his connection with me since as registrar of the courts where I have been judging—has afforded me an opportunity of judging the man's character perhaps more fully than it is possible for any other person in this room to have had. I sum up his character as a pure-minded, straightforward gentleman. But there are others who will feel the loss in a thousand times more accentuated form. To them I would wish to extend my respectful and deep sympathy, and I am certain I may add your sympathy to mine. "I take it," concluded his Honour, "I may add your expression of sympathy to my own towards the sorrowing family, and especially to Miss Spickett."

Mr Parsons, Cardiff, on behalf of the bar, endorsed all that had been said by the judge.

Mr W. R. Davies said he would like to add one word as representing the solicitors practising in that court. He would not touch upon his personal relations with him, but would speak of him as registrar, which much more touched them who practised there. He would like to thank His Honour for the mood of praise he had given Mr Spickett on the way he had carried out his duties as registrar. He would like to use His Honour's word "straightforward." That was a word that characterised the registrar in his official capacity nearer than any other word, he could think of. His brother practitioners would bear him out that in every relation the late registrar was straightforward and most thorough in all matters that came before him. No matter was too small to demand from him the fullest concentration and thought, and he gave every little case the deepest attention possible. He saw by that book written in Mr Spickett's own writing "E. C. Spickett, appointed 1856"; so that for 43 years he had acted in that capacity, and during that time no one could suggest that the registrar was otherwise than straightforward. Might he be permitted to add that his brother practitioners had no doubt that Mr James Spickett had

## VOTE OF CONDOLENCE BY THE NATIONAL FEDERATION (HEARTS OF OAK).

At the annual dinner of the Federation held on Thursday at the Greyhound Hotel, Mr Samuel Evans, J.P., who presided proposed a vote of condolence with the family of the late Mr E. C. Spickett. They had buried that day a man who had been among them for many years. He (Mr. Evans) sat on the Guardians for seven years, and although he did not always agree with Mr. Spickett, he believed he was a man who was always honest in everything he said. During the years he had known Mr. Spickett he had always found him a most able man.

Mr Edward Williams seconded, Mr Matthews supported, and it was carried.

## CROWDED OUT.

List of those present at Mr. E. C. Spickett's funeral, concert at Graig Schools, claim against the District Council, Chamber of Trade, etc., etc.

## DEATH OF MR. G. ROBERTSON

We regret to announce the death of Mr George Robertson, Church-street, which took on Thursday evening. The cause of death was consumption.

INFLUENZA!  
INFLUENZA!  
INFLUENZA!  
WHAT IS THE REMEDY?  
WHY,

GWILYM EVANS' QUININE BITTERS.  
GWILYM EVANS' QUININE BITTERS.  
GWILYM EVANS' QUININE BITTERS.  
THE VEGETABLE TONIC.

ASA PREVENTATIVE, we know of nothing equal to GWILYM EVANS' QUININE BITTERS. A few strong doses taken in time has often proved effectual in warding off attacks of this Malady, and always succeed in mitigating their severity when a Patient is under their influence.

## INFLUENZA!

When suffering from an attack of Influenza, GWILYM EVANS' QUININE BITTERS should be taken in double doses, and twice as often as are prescribed in ordinary cases.

## DO YOU SUFFER

From CHILLS, alternating with SUDDEN FLUSHES?  
SEVERE HEADACHE, accompanied by DIFFICULTY OF BREATHING and symptoms of CATARRH.  
Pains in the Chest, under and between the Shoulders, and Stiffness and Soreness of the Muscles?  
LOSS OF APPETITE AND NERVOUSNESS, or are you oppressed with gloomy forebodings and depressed spirits.

If you suffer from any of these symptoms, know that they are the forerunners of INFLUENZA, And it behoves you to resort at once to an effective and suitable remedy.

GWILYM EVANS' QUININE BITTERS.  
THE VEGETABLE TONIC.

Sold in Bottles, 2s. 9d. and 4s. 6d. each. Beware of Imitations. See the name, "GWILYM EVANS," on label, stamp and Bottle.

SOLE PROPRIETORS—  
QUININE BITTERS MANUFACTURING COMPANY,  
LLANELLY, SOUTH WALES.

## Miscellaneous Advertisements

MR. HARRY DAVIES has for Sale by Private Treaty, a large number of Shops, Villas and Cottages, situated in Pontypridd and District.—Offices, Market Square, Pontypridd and Caerphilly.

TWO CAPITAL VILLAS to Let, Wood-road, Pontypridd. HOUSE and SHOP to Let. Good pension.—Apply, Harry Davies, Auctioneer, Market Square, Pontypridd and Caerphilly.

LIFE ASSURANCE POLICIES purchased for Cash.—Apply, Harry Davies, Auctioneer, &c., Pontypridd.

WANTED—Respectable youth for retail trade.—Apply, A.B.C. "Observer" Office.

versed the church to look out for a  
straine the good work Mr Owen

own, who spoke with deep emo-  
tional friends for the gifts presented  
being, especially the beautiful  
he did not deserve all that was  
address. It would have a pro-  
his house. He would never for-

Pontypridd. In his ministry he  
case which he thought best, his  
the church might be abundantly  
at the great responsibility in going  
at Pembroke to succeed such men  
Powell and the learned Rev. John  
and others, and he asked the  
He could assure them he would  
for the Graig in his prayer. Again  
friends on behalf of Mrs Owen  
their great kindness.

in next called on Rev. John Pugh,  
and he had only just returned from  
previous Saturday. Mrs Pugh  
is very anxious to be there that  
Pugh thought very highly of Mr  
Pugh always asked Mrs Pugh's  
thing those who were called to the  
ment centres, as she had a better  
in himself. The three qualities re-  
in the Forward Movement were  
and gumption, and Mr Owen  
se qualities.

is a copy of the address :—  
J. H. Owen.

Graig, Pontypridd.  
bers of the church and congregation  
chapel, Pontypridd, upon your de-  
aving been our pastor since August,  
express to you our high estimation of  
our midst.

and conscientious labour in connec-  
tion with the classes, the Temperance Cause  
the Band of Hope, and the Young  
men, by which means you have been an  
consolidate the church and congrega-  
special recognition.

It incumbent to mention that you have  
been a mover in securing for us our new  
hallroom and classrooms attached.  
in exertion in helping the poor and des-  
titute, and especially during the long  
is heartily appreciated by us.

also add that you have ardently and  
supported every movement in the town  
to the advancement of the kingdom  
that the neighbourhood has been in-  
for good by your consistent Christian  
touch of your best work is to-day in-  
feel confident that it will bear good  
for future, and that "the day shall de-  
"every man's work shall be made

of Mrs Owen may enjoy every blessing  
and will make you eminently success-  
ful in your future labour in our most  
of prayer.

half of the church,  
as Jones

Henry Carter

David Foulkes Williams

John Layshon, Treasurer

John Evans, Secretary.

1899.

Committee

## LING BEER AT TRALLWN.

typridd Police Court on Wednesday,  
3, North-road, Trallwn, was sum-  
ing intoxicating liquors without a  
licence Phillips prosecuted on behalf of  
Mr. D. Rees defended.

ary of P.C.'s Hughes and Letherson, it ap-  
peared officers searched the house from 6 to 9  
26th of November, and saw a number  
to the door and leave, apparently  
thing. About three men entered, and  
after went to the window looked in  
a bottle of beer and three glasses. One  
of "let us have another," and put his  
socket, and brought out a silver coin.  
went to the back door, outside of which  
case of bottled ale. She saw the officers

They entered, and searched the place,  
bottles were found, 12 empty, and 9  
of the men said he came there to see a  
deridith, and the others were his friends.  
and Hunt, lodgers, were called, and said  
ed to them. "They had a three dozen  
very weak, and paid 3s. 6d. each for it,  
between them." Meredith said he gave  
the three bottles.

thy Mearns, Mrs. Thomas was fined £1  
at £2-19s

moving to Bronwydd, but, unfortunately,  
Mrs Spickett died just about that time. He  
resided at Bronwydd up to the time of his  
death. The deceased was a member of the  
Congregational Church, and was a regular  
attendant.

## THE FUNERAL.

The funeral (which took place on Thurs-  
day) was very largely attended. A short  
service was held at the house, and then the  
coffin was conveyed to the Congregational  
Church, where a service was held. The  
bearers were the deacons of the church.  
The coffin was of polished oak, with solid  
brass fittings. It was covered with a num-  
ber of very beautiful wreaths. At the chapel  
the Rev. W. G. Jenkins, B.A., officiated.  
He took as the subject of his remarks the  
words, "After he had served his own gene-  
ration by the will of God, he fell on sleep."  
The speaker referred to the high sense of  
honour and uprightness of character of the  
late Mr Spickett. He had an uncompro-  
mising fidelity to the principles of right and  
an unflinching devotion to what he believed  
was his duty. The district had lost an official  
whose ideas of justice and fairness were as  
clear as crystal. He was an uncompro-  
mising Nonconformist from conviction, but  
was generous to the cause of religion in  
general. In the way of supporting such an  
institution as that of Dr Barnardo, or of  
administering charity in their own town, he  
was always to the front. He was not likely  
to forget his personal kindness. He often  
had the privilege of seeing him under his own  
hospitable roof, and one could not but be  
impressed that down in his heart was the  
most real sympathy and a readiness to help  
those whom he believed fought, however im-  
perfectly, the battle of righteousness and of  
God. He was a man of whom they could  
say, "He had served his generation, and by  
the will of God fell on sleep." Might he  
that afternoon express the fervent hope that  
the inspiration of that father might be, in  
the future as in the past, the inspiration of  
the children and the children's children.  
His loyalty to the highest honour may they  
always cherish; his loyalty to philanthropy  
may they emulate; and his loyalty to his  
religion and his God may they never forget.

At the close of the address Mr T. Jones  
played the "Dead March" on the organ.

The mourning carriages were occupied as  
follow :—

First carriage.—Mr Jas. Spickett, solicitor  
(son), Miss Spickett (deceased's daughter),  
Mrs James Spickett, and Mr Edwd. Spickett  
(son).

Second carriage.—Mr W. Spickett, solicitor  
(son), Mrs W. Spickett, and Miss Evans,  
Shire Newton.

Third carriage.—Mr J. M. Savours,  
Rhoose; Mr W. M. Savours, Miss Rosser,  
Pontypridd; and Miss Ada Jones, Maundy.

Fourth carriage.—Mr Walter Savours,  
Mr W. Jones-Powell, Pontypridd; Mr Henry  
Lewis, Cardiff; and Nurse Kirkby.

Fifth carriage.—Dr B. M. Lewis, Dr J.  
Shaw Lytle, and Mr Stephen Lewis, County  
Court.

Walking in front of the hearse to the chapel  
were the ministers who officiated and the  
staff at the County Court and deceased's  
offices, viz.: County Court clerks—Messrs  
C. F. Johns, C. Hancock, D. J. Tomkins,  
H. A. Restoul, T. Bryant, Jr. and D. Mc-  
Gregor. Staff of the firm—Messrs George

sonal relations with him, but would speak of him  
as registrar, which much more touched them who  
practised there. He would like to thank His  
Honour for the meed of praise he had given Mr  
Spickett on the way he had carried out his duties  
as registrar. He would like to use His Honour's  
word "straightforward." That was a word that  
characterised the registrar in his official capacity  
never than any other word, he could think of.  
His brother practitioners would bear him out  
that in every relation the late registrar was  
straightforward and most thorough in all matters  
that came before him. No matter was too small  
to demand from him the fullest concentration  
and thought, and he gave every little case the  
deepest attention possible. He saw by that book  
written in Mr Spickett's own writing "E. C.  
Spickett, appointed 1856" so that for 43 years  
he had acted in that capacity, and during that  
time no one could suggest that the registrar was  
otherwise than straightforward. Might he be  
permitted to add that his brother practitioners  
united in rejoicing that Mr James Spickett had  
been appointed, by His Honour, as registrar, and  
the loyalty which had been extended by the  
members of the profession to the late Registrar  
would be unswervingly extended to him.

## VOTE OF CONDOLENCE BY THE BURIAL BOARD.

At the meeting of the Pontypridd Burial  
Board on Thursday, the chairman Mr Richard  
Rogers, referred to the death of Mr E. C.  
Spickett. He said he was sure they all felt the  
loss, and he thought they should pass a vote of  
sympathy with the relatives, and more especially  
Miss Spickett. The late Mr Spickett was the  
first promoter of that Burial Board. He was the  
first mover in the matter, and brought it about.  
He had known Mr Spickett for 46 or 47 years,  
and he could bear out the remarks made by the  
Judge on Monday. He had never known a man  
that had a tenderer heart. Very few knew of  
the amounts he gave in charity. They would be  
surprised if they knew the number of guinea  
cheques he sent out at Christmas time. Another  
idea of his, which, if carried out, would have  
meant a great saving to the rates, was the pro-  
posal that an Act of Parliament should have been  
obtained before the Old Local Board was formed.  
Had this been done a great number of improve-  
ments could have been carried out. The gas  
works could then have been purchased for almost  
an old song, and the site of the market and  
Tyfica farm could have been obtained for £80 a  
year. The waterworks was only just started,  
and that could have been obtained cheap.

Mr James Roberts, in seconding, said Mr  
Spickett had many excellent qualities. He could  
bear out what had been said about his good  
nature. He did his charity in such a way that it  
was not proclaimed from the housetops. For  
several years he received a cheque from him on  
behalf of a struggling cause. There was nothing  
he hated more than cant and hypocrisy. He had  
served his time and generation for nearly 50  
years, and had done his best for Pontypridd. It  
was he who first moved to establish the Sanitary  
Authority. The opposition was strong and they  
got into pover, and Mr Spickett was left outside  
although he was the medium of starting it.  
had been said he was the starter of the Burial  
As had been said that day, he had  
served his day and generation.

Rev. S. R. Jones said he had known Mr.  
Spickett for nearly 22 years. A more straight-  
forward man he had never known. He had left  
a legacy of a high personal and also professional  
reputation to his children.

Mr. William Jones said he endorsed the senti-  
ments of the chairman. Had Pontypridd adopted  
Mr. Spickett's scheme the town would have been  
the gainer. Had that scheme been carried out,  
Pontypridd would have been in a far better  
financial position than it was. In 1864 he pro-  
moted a most comprehensive scheme for the water  
supply of the district. It was one of the most  
comprehensive schemes that he knew of. It in-  
cluded the whole of the parishes of the Ponty-  
pridd Union, and anticipated Merthyr and Cardiff  
in their great scheme.

Mr. Edwards said, as a tradesman, he had  
opportunities of knowing of the good done by  
Mr. Spickett. He knew of families who had been  
clothed year after year by Mr. Spickett. He was  
one of those gentlemen who did good "by stealth  
and blushed to find it fame."

Messrs. P. Gowan, G. Hughes, and E. Morgan  
supported the resolution, which was carried.