



Victoria Cross Recipient Clement Walker Heneage

Clement Walker Heneage was born in Compton Bassett, Wiltshire on 6th March 1831.

On 7th December 1865 he married Henrietta Letitia Vivian and they had one daughter and four sons, one of whom – Algernon, became Admiral Walker-Henage-Vivian in 1927.

Clement served in the Eighth King's Royal Irish Hussars in the Crimea War, including being in the Charge of the Light Brigade in 1854. As that war ended, the 8th Hussars found themselves in India taking part in the suppression of the Indian Mutiny. It was at Gwalior, India where he earned the Victoria Cross on 17th June 1858.

His citation reads;

War-Office, 26th January, 1859.

THE Queen has been graciously pleased to confirm the grant of the Decoration of the Victoria Cross to the undermentioned Officer, Non-Commissioned Officer, Farrier, and Private of Her Majesty's 8th Hussars, which decoration has been provisionally conferred upon them by Major-General Sir Hugh Henry Rose, G.C.B., Commanding the Central India Field Force, in accordance with the rules laid down in Her Majesty's Warrant instituting the same, on account of an Act of Bravery performed by them in India, as recorded against their several names, viz.:

Act of Bravery for which conferred.

8th Hussars... Captain (now Brevet-Major)

Clement Walker Heneage

Date of Act of Bravery, 17th June, 1858.

Selected for the Victoria Cross by their companions in the gallant charge made by a squadron of the Regiment at Gwalior, on the 17th of June, 1858, when, supported by a division of the Bombay Horse Artillery, and Her Majesty's 95th Regiment, they routed the enemy, who were advancing against Brigadier Smith's position, charged through the rebel camp into two batteries, capturing and bringing into their camp two of the enemy's guns, under a heavy and converging fire from the Fort and Town.

*(Field Force Orders by Major-General Sir Hugh Henry Rose, G.C.B., Commanding General India Field Force
Dated Camp, Gwalior, 28th June, 1858.)*

Heneage was promoted to Major 20th July 1858 and in 1887 he was appointed as High Sheriff of Wiltshire.

He died on the 9th December 1901 in Compton Bassett and is buried in a vault beneath the aisle of St Swithun's Church, though there is no mention of his Victoria Cross on the memorial.

