

Death of Colonel Thomas J. Kearns

From the Isle of Thanet Gazette 2nd July 1920
(in the Birchington news column)

The death occurred on Wednesday morning (June 30th) at 'St Alban's', Albion Road, Birchington from heart failure of **Colonel Thomas Joseph Kearns C.B.** The deceased was born at Belfast on January 6th 1861, being the only son of the late Mr Philip Kearns. He received his education at Dagmar House School, Hatfield, Herts. Enlisting in the ranks in the late 1870s, he served in the South African War of 1879; in the Zulu campaign, for which he was awarded a medal with clasp and in the Ashanti Expedition of 1895-6, for which he was awarded the star and mentioned in dispatches.

In 1896 he was commissioned Riding Master of the Army Service Corps. During the South African War he was employed on staff duties, was mentioned in dispatches three times, and was awarded the Queen's Medal with six clasps, and the King's Medal with two clasps.

In 1907 he was appointed Sergeant-at-Arms, City of London and was made a Companion of the Bath in 1913. During the European War he was again mentioned in dispatches. Among his many other decorations were the Diamond Jubilee medal, the Coronation medals of King Edward VII and King George V and Officer of the Order of Leopold II of Belgium.

The funeral will take place this (Saturday) afternoon at All Saints Churchyard at 2.30.