

**RECORD:** Anon. 1882. Funeral of Professor Darwin. *The Weekly Mail, Wales* (29 April), p.2.

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In the presence of a vast assemblage the remains of the late Charles Darwin were buried on Wednesday in Westminster Abbey. According to arrangements the body was removed on Tuesday evening from the residence of the deceased, Down House, Kent, to Westminster, and placed within the precincts of the Abbey, from which position it was taken on Wednesday morning to Chapter House, where a large number of noblemen and gentlemen, many of them eminent in literature and science, were invited to assemble.

Although the weather was anything rather than inviting, fully half an hour before the time stated for the opening of the Abbey doors the approaches were besieged by crowds of ladies as well as gentlemen anxious to offer a last testimony of respect to the great man who spent his life in the service of science, and who, as it were, translated the laws of Nature for the benefit of his fellow men.

Shortly after half-past eleven the Lord Mayor, accompanied by the lady Mayoress, one of the sheriffs, and the Rev. J. Billing, arrived at the Abbey, and his lordship was conducted to a seat within the altar rails, whilst the Lady Mayoress and a lady by whom she was accompanied were provided with seats close by. They were shortly followed by the Baroness Burdett-Coutts, accompanied by Mr. Burdett-Coutts. The coffin was of plain unpolished oak, having no mountings save brass handles and a breastplate bearing the inscription, "Charles Robert Darwin, born February 12th, 1809. Died April 19th, 1882," in white, the whole surrounded by fresh flowers wrought in emblematic ferns.

The pall-bearers were the Duke of Devonshire, the Duke of Argyll, Mr. J. R. Lowell, the American Minister; Mr. Spottiswoode, President of the Royal Society; Sir Joseph Hooker, K.C.S.I., Mr. A.R. Wallace, Professor Huxley, Sir John Lubbock, President of the Linnæan Society; and the Rev. Canon Farrar. Punctually at noon the coffin was brought from the chapel adjoining, and laid before the altar. Lord Salisbury, Spencer, and Sherbrooke were among the mourners. Canons Prothero and Duckworth officiated, the service being of a most impressive character.