

FUNERAL EXPENSES

for Edward Henry Rich (1697–1721), **Earl of Warwick** and Earl of Holland

Edward Henry Rich, Gentleman of the Bedchamber to George I, held both the Earldom of Warwick and the Earldom of Holland. As a very influential aristocrat, his death called for an elaborate funeral. This funeral took place at Saint Mary Abbots Church in Kensington (London), and the cream of English society attended.

	30 August 1721		
A fine Holland ¹ sheet, a sarsenet ² pillow, and a pair of white kid gloves.....	£3	3 s	– d
A large double Elm coffin, lined with a new sarsenet quilt and ruffle.....	6	–	–
A large outside leaden coffin, and lead inscription chased.....			
A very large outside Elm case covered with fine velvet, handsomely–finished with silver nails driven close; four pairs best handles, nine coronets, ³ a coat of arms, and flower, all silver.....	16	–	
A depositum of his lordship’s titles of honor engraved on a brass plate, silvered.....	2	10	–
Lining the inside of the coffin with green insear and putting the body up in sweet powders.....	2	2	–
...			
A room for the body hung deep in mourning with velvet and the floor covered.....	8	–	–
The next room hung deep with cloth, and the seats covered.....	8	–	–
The passage and part of the staircase hung deep in mourning.....	1	–	–
A large velvet pall the whole time.....	1	10	–
...			
A crimson velvet cap-a-gill coronet on a velvet cushion; carried before the body.....	1	–	–
Fifteen silk escutcheons for the pall and cushion.....	4	10	–
Eight large plate candlesticks on the body.....	1	–	–
Thirty-nine large plate sconces for the rooms.....	1	19	–
Twenty-one black sconces for the staircase and passage.....	–	5	3
Eighty-seven large wax tapers and small candles used when the body lay private and the nights of public state.....	11	12	–
A velvet canopy over the body and white plumes of feathers thereon.....	2	–	–
A rail round the body covered with velvet and white plumes feathers thereon.....	1	10	–
Twenty-seven silk escutcheons ⁴ with coronets for the rail and canopy.....	8	2	–
...			
Six men in mourning to attend by the body two nights.....	2	8	–
Six hatbands, six cloaks, and 6 pair topped gloves for the same.....	1	10	–
...			
A standard of Great Britain; a great banner; a guidon; ⁵ 8 bannerols; ⁶ a surcoat of arms, helmet, crest, mantle and sword, shield, gauntlets, and spurs all carried before the body and afterwards put up in the church.....	45	–	–
...			
8 white silks scarves covered with frizaneer for lords supporters of the pall.....	12	–	–
8 white favours and 8 pair white kid gloves for ditto.....	1	16	–

¹ **Holland cloth** — a fine linen, nearly opaque

² **sarsenet** — a very fine and silk ribbon with an exceptionally high thread count

³ **coronet** — a type of crown worn by noble. Each noble rank (Duke, Marques, Earl, Viscount, and Baron) has a distinctive coronet

⁴ **escutcheon** — a shield bearing a coat of arms

⁵ **guidon** — a narrow flag that narrows to a point

⁶ **bannerol** — a narrow flag with forked ends

A long train cloak for Lord Warwick ¹ as chief mourner	–	10	–
3 fine cloaks for the rest of the gentlemen	–	7	6
3 pair best topped chamois gloves.....	–	15	–
12 pair other chamois.....	2	2	–
15 best hatbands for gentlemen and ministers.....	2	12	6
...			
3 long black silk scarves for clergymen at Kensington	3	3	–
...			
A hearse (drawn by His Excellency Baron Sparr; ² grey horses) bringing in and carrying back.....	–	15	–
A set of mourning harness for the grey horses	2	–	–
12 mourning coaches and 6 horses; each to Kensington	18	–	–
23 plumes, best white feathers for the hearse and horses	3	–	–
Coverings for the hearse and housing for the horses of velvet	2	–	–
24 Buckram ³ escutcheons with coronets, 12 shields, 6 shaffersons, ⁴ 12 long pencils, and 36 small ditto for the hearse and horses	9	–	–
6 large Buckram banners with coronets for the hearse	3	–	–
...			
12 men in mourning with velvet caps and truncheons to attend the hearse and carry the body	2	8	–
4 conductors in mourning to attend 2 nights at the door and walk before the hearse to Kensington...	3	–	–
41 horsemen in mourning to ride before the hearse in coaches and carry the trophies.....	£15	7	6
69 hat-bands for 41 horsemen, 12 coachmen, 12 postillions, and 4 conductors	6	18	–
45 white favors for horsemen and 4 conductors	2	5	–
41 pairs white-topped gloves for horsemen	3	1	6
28 pairs white sheep gloves for coachmen, postillions, and 4 conductors.....	1	8	–
32 cloaks for coachmen and horsemen.....	1	12	–
12 white favors and 12 pairs white sheep gloves for footmen that attend the hearse	1	4	–
28 pages in mourning to attend the mourning coaches to Kensington	5	4	–
2 grooms in mourning to lead the horses that carry the crown and cushion.....	–	6	–
28 hatbands for the pages that attended the mourning coaches	2	16	–
28 pairs of gloves for the same	1	8	–
10 dozen Buckram escutcheons verged with silver and coronets for the 2 rooms, staircase, and passage	18	–	–
230 branch lights, white wax, to light in the hearse, coaches, and horsemen	57	10	–
...			
230 men in mourning to carry the branches to Kensington	35	10	–
230 white favours and 230 pairs white sheep gloves for ditto	23	–	–
10 yards fine cloth for the pulpit and desk at Kensington.....	6	–	–
72 yards pressed bays for the church.....	5	8	–
12 silk escutcheons for the pulpit	3	12	–
6 dozen Buckram for the church	10	16	–
...			
6 pair women's best wide loop chamois, sent in the country.....	1	16	–
5 pair womens ordinary chamois.....	–	17	6
16 second-best hatbands.....	2	8	–
12 pair dyed, drawn, double-sewed topped gloves.....	1	4	–

¹ Edward Rich (1695–1759), Earl of Warwick and Holland, nephew of the deceased

² Baron Sparr, Swedish Ambassador to England

³ **Buckram** — a heavy cotton cloth

⁴ **shafferon** — a small heraldic shield placed on a horse's forehead

16 pair womens dyed kid gloves for servants.....	1	12	–
. . .			
An achievement ¹ for the house and the square, crowned and supporters.....	6	–	–
18 white silk scarves for persons that carry the trophies and crown and cushion.....	13	10	–
4 managers on horseback to Kensington to perform the funeral and place the coaches, etc.	2	2	–
4 white silk scarves for the same	3	–	–
. . .			
A large majesty escutcheon painted on silk, the arms, supporters, and coronet put at the head of the corpse	3	–	–
4 dozen crests on pasteboard for the room where the body lay.....	6	–	–
2 dozen long silk pennons for the rail and canopy	6	–	–
. . .			
40 pair white-topped gloves for gentlemen servants.....	3	–	–
36 white taffity favours for ditto.....	2	14	–
A messenger that went to Kensington by Mr. Deserrett's order.....	–	2	6
4 white taffity favours and 4 kid gloves for managers.....	–	16	–
. . .			
2 Earl's coronets painted and gilded for the 2 first coaches.....	–	10	–
4 large shields painted on pasteboard and 4 white truncheons for the 4 first horsemen next the conductors	1	–	–
. . .			
A coronet gilded and painted, put up in the church.....	1	–	–
2 stewards' staves.....	–	2	6
A hat-band and a pair dyed, drawn gloves for the man	–	5	6
24 white-figured favours for coachmen and postillions	1	4	–
2 pair gloves and 2 favours for the 2 grooms to the led horse.....	–	4	–
 Total	 £449	 16 s	 3 d

¹ **achievement** — a full coat of arms, including the shield, helm, coronet, supporters, and motto