

BRIGHT, ALLAN HEYWOOD, of Liverpool, shipowner.
Contested Exeter 1899, 1900; Oswestry 1901; M.P. (Lib.)
Salop (Oswestry) 1904-6; contested 1906; contested
Stalybridge Jan. & Dec. 1910.

B. at Liverpool *24 May* 1862, s. of Henry Arthur
Bright (1830 - 1884) and *Mary Elizabeth eldest daughter of Samuel H Thompson D.L.J.P.*
m. (1) 1885 Edith (d. 1929) da. of Alfred Turner, J.P., of *of Thimble Hall, Lymm*
Liverpool; (2) 1929 Kelburn Milroy, da. of James Ramsay of
Auchencairn; one da. by each wife. Educ. Harrow; J.P.

"When I was at Harrow I became a strong Radical,
following Mr Gladstone in his views on the Eastern question
and intensely disliking the Imperialism of Lord Beaconsfield.
I followed Mr Gladstone when he declared for Home Rule for
Ireland. My life in Liverpool was that of a merchant and
shipowner. When the Boer War came, I strongly opposed the
policy which led to it. In the Autumn of 1899 I contested
Exeter and although the war was raging I increased the
Liberal poll. I again contested Exeter 1900. In 1901 at
the request of the late Herbert Gladstone I fought a bye-
election at Oswestry. Although I was called "pro-Boer", I
again polled the full Liberal vote. I believe I have
addressed more turbulent meetings than any man living except
Lloyd George."

"In 1904 there was again a bye-election in Oswestry
and this time I won the seat. The contest was mainly on
protection, a policy I still oppose. My political interests
and my speeches in the House of Commons were confined to two
points - personal freedom and sound finance. Altogether
I fought seven elections in little more than ten years. My
object in each case, however, was to further certain views
which I considered right. I suppose each contest cost me
about £1,000 - but I had help from friends and sometimes
from the Liberal Party. I think, however, I spent in one way

or another out of my own pocket about £10,000 in politics. The ten years I gave up to politics diminished my income as it took my attention from business. For a short time I was chairman of the Liberal Party in Liverpool.

The statesmen with whom I had most sympathy were Fox, Cobden, and John Bright, who was no relation, and in my own time, Campbell Bannerman; the best speech I ever heard was made by Gladstone in Liverpool during the Home Rule campaign; my best piece of work in Parliament was abolishing flogging in Military Prisons (see Hansard, 1905).

I am a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries and have written a book on Piers Plowman. I left Liverpool in 1920 when I came to reside at Barton Court, Colwall, Heref."