

For Mr Thompson 682, for Sir Andrew Leith Hay 478.

Mr Thompson is a son of the late Andrew Thompson, of the E.I.C.S., by his wife Anne, a daughter of G. Stephens. He was Dean of Guild in 1840-1, and Lord Provost from 1847-50. During his term of office he presented an address from the Corporation and the keys of the city to the Queen and Prince Consort when they landed at Aberdeen on the 9th September, 1848. He also admitted to the Freedom of the City Prince Albert and Sir Robert Peel. As senior partner in the firm of George Thompson, Jun., & Co., he was the founder of the now celebrated clipper line of vessels trading between this country and Australia, known as the White Star Line. In 1857 Mr Thompson acquired Pitmedden, and Rainnieshill, Newmachar, in 1864. He married in 1830 Christian Little, a daughter of the Rev. Dr Kidd, and has issue, one of his daughters being the wife of Lord Provost Henderson. His portrait, painted by George Reid, R.S.A., was placed in the Town Hall in 1880.

1857. April 30th—23rd April, 1859. Colonel William Henry Sykes.

Mr Thompson having retired at the general election, two candidates were nominated in the Liberal interest, and at the election on April 1st 1857, the poll stood as follows—Colonel Sykes 1035, John Farley Leith 849. The successful candidate had patiently waited for such an opportunity as was now afforded since his defeat in 1847 by Captain Dingwall Fordyce. Colonel Sykes was the third son of Samuel Sykes, Friezing Hall, of the Dryglington branch of the ancient Yorkshire family of this name. Born in Yorkshire in 1790, he entered the army in 1804, commanded a regiment in 1817-8, during the Pindaree war, being present at the battles of Kirknee and Poona, and retired with the rank of colonel in 1838. He was a member of several learned societies, and occupied the president's chair