



**Sir Stuart Knill**

In March 1893, Alderman Stuart Knill Master of the Plumbers' Company who was also The Right Honourable The Lord Mayor of the City of London attended The United National Conference of Master and Workmen in the Decorative Painting Trade at Painter Stainers' Hall, as recorded in *The Journal of Decorative Art* for that month. Alderman Knill was born in Camberwell in 1824 and was educated at Blackheath and Bonn. In 1850 he returned to England joining his father and brother-in-law in business as Wharfingers and warehouse keepers at London Bridge. He had previously joined by Patrimony the Goldsmiths' Company, and subsequently succeeded his father as "Porter" of that Company. It was not until 1885 that he was elected as Alderman of the Ward of Bridge and Sheriff for 1889-90. He became Lord Mayor in 1892 becoming only the second Roman Catholic Lord Mayor to be elected since the Reformation. He was a member of the Company of Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers and a Governor of St Bartholomew's and St Thomas's Hospital. He was also a Governor of several prisons administered by the City. He was given the honour of a baronetcy in 1893 to celebrate the marriage of the Duke and Duchess of York.

He died in 1898. Alderman Sir Stuart Knill, Bt, was also Master of the Plumbers' Company for 1886-7, 1893-4 and 1894-5.

His son, Alderman Sir John Knill was Master in 1902-3, 1903-4 and 1909-10. He was also Lord Mayor of the City in 1909-10.