

= John Crichton @-@ Stuart , 2nd Marquess of Bute =

John Crichton @-@ Stuart , 2nd Marquess of Bute , KT , FRS (10 August 1793 ? 18 March 1848) , styled Lord Mount Stuart between 1794 and 1814 , was a wealthy aristocrat and industrialist in Georgian and early Victorian Britain . He developed the coal and iron industries across South Wales and built the Cardiff Docks .

Bute 's father , John , Lord Mount Stuart , died a few months after he was born and as a young child he was brought up first by his mother , the former Lady Elizabeth McDougall @-@ Crichton , and later by his paternal grandfather , John Stuart , 1st Marquess of Bute . He travelled widely across Europe before attending Cambridge University . He contracted an eye condition and remained partially sighted for the rest of his life . Having inherited large estates across Britain , he married his first wife , Lady Maria North , in 1818 , and together they lived a relatively secluded life in Mount Stuart House in Scotland , one of Bute 's four seats . Bute was dour but industrious , with a flair for land management . He focused his daily routine around extensive correspondence with his estate managers , making biennial tours of his lands around the country . The couple did not conceive any children , and Maria died in 1841 . Bute remarried four years later , to Lady Sophia Rawdon @-@ Hastings , and she gave birth to Bute 's only child , John , in 1847 .

Bute was a member of the House of Lords and controlled the votes of several members of the House of Commons . He was a political and religious conservative , a follower of the Duke of Wellington , but rarely took part in national debates unless his own commercial interests were involved . Early on , Bute realised the vast wealth that lay in the South Wales coalfields and set about commercially exploiting them through local ironmasters and colliers . He constructed the Cardiff Docks , a major project which , despite running heavily over budget , enabled further exports of iron and coal and magnified the value of his lands in Glamorganshire . When violence broke out in the Merthyr Rising of 1831 , Bute led the government response from Cardiff Castle , despatching military forces , deploying spies and keeping Whitehall informed throughout . The contemporary press praised the marquess as " the creator of modern Cardiff " , and on his death he left vast wealth to his son .

= = Background and personal life = =

Bute was the son of John , Lord Mount Stuart , and the former Lady Elizabeth McDougall @-@ Crichton . His parents were both from wealthy , aristocratic backgrounds ; his father was due to become the Marquess of Bute , with extensive landholdings in Scotland and in South Wales , and his mother was the sole heir to the Crichton estates , with over 63 @, @ 980 acres (25 @, @ 890 ha) of land in Scotland . Bute 's father died in a riding accident in February 1794 , leaving Elizabeth to give birth to Bute 's younger brother , Patrick Stuart , later that year .

Initially Bute was brought up at Dumfries House by his mother and grandmother , but following their deaths he passed into the care of his grandfather , the 1st Marquess of Bute , and travelled with him across England and Europe . His family considered him to be clever and he went to study at Christ 's College in Cambridge in 1809 . Over the next few years he visited the Mediterranean , Scandinavia and Russia , taking a keen interest in land economics . He developed an eye condition during this period and became partially blind , leaving him unable to travel without assistance or to tolerate bright lights , and finding it difficult to read or write .

His maternal grandfather , Lord Dumfries , died in 1803 , followed by his paternal grandfather in 1814 , with Bute inheriting both sets of estates and adding Crichton to his surname after Lord Dumfries . As a consequence he held many hereditary titles and posts : in addition to being the Marquess of Bute , he was also the Earl of Windsor , Viscount Mountjoy , Baron Mount Stuart , Baron Cardiff , the Earl of Dumfries and Bute , the Viscount of Ayr and Kingarth , Baron Crichton , Lord Crichton of Sanquhar and Cumnock , and Lord Mount Stuart Cumra and Inchmarnock , and a Baronet of Nova Scotia . He was the Keeper of Rothsay Castle , the Lord Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum of Glamorgan , the Lord Lieutenant , the hereditary Sheriff and Coroner of Buteshire , and the High Steward of Banbury .

Bute had four major seats , Mount Stuart House on the Isle of Bute , Dumfries House in Ayrshire , Luton Hoo in Bedfordshire , and Cardiff Castle in South Wales , with his London town house on Campden Hill in Kensington . Bute preferred to live in Mount Stuart House ; he disliked London and only spent a few weeks in Cardiff Castle each year . Twice each year he would travel from Mount Stuart House through Ayrshire to Edinburgh , down through northern England to London , and on to Cardiff and his South Wales estates . In November 1843 , a fire swept through Luton Hoo House , destroying the interior ; the house 's historic library survived , however , and most of its famous collection of paintings were rescued from the blaze ; it was subsequently sold off by Bute .

Concerned about his growing blindness , and not enjoying the social life in London , Bute retired to his estates on the Isle of Bute for the next six years . While recovering , Bute married his first wife , Lady Maria North , in 1818 . Maria was one of the three daughters of the 3rd Earl of Guilford , and a wealthy heiress . £ 40 @, @ 000 was settled on her at the time of her marriage and she was due to inherit a third of her father 's extensive estates . Contemporaries considered Maria a kind and pleasant woman , but she was often unwell and the marriage proved childless . In 1820 his portrait was painted by Henry Raeburn , and published two years later as an engraving by William Ward . In 1827 his father @-@ in @-@ law died and Maria inherited lands worth over £ 110 @, @ 000 .

The historian John Davies describes Bute as " dour , remote and overbearing on first acquaintance " but with a " sense of responsibility , considerable imagination and an enormous capacity for hard work " . By the aristocratic standards of the day , Bute lived a reclusive lifestyle . As a result of his personality and poor eyesight , he did not enjoy hunting , shooting , or large social gatherings , nor did he like racehorses or gambling . His first wife 's illnesses added to this sense of exclusion from wider aristocratic society . Compared to other landowners of the period , Bute was relatively philanthropic , giving away around seven to eight percent of his rental income from South Wales in charitable donations , for example . He was keen to fund local schools and to construct new churches , partially because in doing so he was able to discourage any moves towards Nonconformism and the disestablishment of the official Church .

In 1841 Lady Maria died , and Bute blamed his excessive focus on the dock programme for exacerbating his wife 's illness . As a result of the original marriage agreement , Bute continued to draw the incomes from his late wife 's property for the remainder of his life , even though officially the estates would ultimately pass to Maria 's sister , Lady Susan , on his own death . He was created a Knight of the Thistle in 1843 by Queen Victoria . In 1845 Bute fell from his horse and injured his eyes further in the accident , making it still harder from him to read and write . Bute remarried the same year , this time to Lady Sophia Rawdon @-@ Hastings , the daughter of the Marquess of Hastings . Sophia was obsessive , hard to please and did not get on well with John 's family , especially his brother . She soon became pregnant , but gave birth to a stillborn child ; the couple 's second child , whom they named John , was successfully born in 1847 .

Bute 's relationship with his brother Patrick was often difficult . Their political views did not coincide , as Patrick was much more liberal than Bute and favoured political reform . Although Bute arranged for Patrick to become a Member of Parliament in 1818 , in 1831 their differing views resulted in Bute removing him from Parliament . For many years , Patrick had good reason to expect that Bute would die childless , leaving him to inherit the family estates ; after Bute 's death , he disputed the occupancy of Cardiff Castle with Lady Sophia .

= = Landowner and industrialist = =

= = = Estate management = = =

Bute was determined to develop his different estates and receive the best possible return from them . He was an active , ambitious manager , quick to generate new ideas for the properties , and spent the majority of his time managing his properties . Despite his poor eyesight , he wrote at least six letters to his managers each day . He had a detailed understanding of his various estates and businesses ; he attempted to keep up with affairs in Glamorgan , for example , by reading the local

Welsh newspapers from his house in Scotland and through exchanging letters with influential local figures . Bute recognised that his land holdings were too extended and disparate to be easily managed and attempted to rationalise them . He attempted to sell his Luton estates in the early 1820s but failed to obtain an adequate price ; he successfully sold them in the early 1840s . Luton and Luton Hoo was finally sold in 1845 , by then comprising around 3 @, @ 600 acres (1 @, @ 500 ha) .

Unusually for an aristocrat of the period , Bute owned almost all of his lands fully , as an owner in fee simple , rather than having his rights diluted through arrangements with trustees . When he married in 1818 , Bute placed his English and Wales estates into a trustee arrangement for any future children , but this agreement expired with Lady Maria 's death in 1842 ; when he remarried in 1845 a similar trustee agreement was set up , although in this version the Glamorgan estates were administered separately from his other holdings in England and Wales . Bute continued to run his network of estates and estate managers personally , helped by Onesiphorus Bruce , a barrister @-@ agent and close friend .

As early as 1815 , Bute had his Glamorgan estates fully surveyed , which highlighted that the estates had been neglected for many years and were now in a poor condition . Edward Richards became the senior official in charge of the estates by 1824 and represented Bute on both estate and political affairs across the region . Despite this , Bute retained the final authority over even quite minor issues on the estates , including making decisions on the buttons to be used on local school uniforms or the reuse of a broken flag pole , for example , which could result in considerable delays as letters were sent between South Wales and Scotland . As the complexity of the Glamorgan estates grew , more officials were appointed to help manage the docks , farms and mineral interests , but these all reported separately to Bute , putting increasing pressure on the marquess .

On the Isle of Bute , the marquess expanded his properties , purchasing land in Ascog , Kilmahalmag and Etterick Mill .

= = = Glamorganshire = = =

Bute was closely involved in the developments across Glamorganshire during the first half of the 19th century . The region saw tremendous economic and social changes in a short period of time . The population almost trebled in the first forty years of the century and industrial outputs soared , with the output of pig iron increasing from 34 @, @ 000 to 277 @, @ 000 tons between 1796 and 1830 . Industry and mining replaced agriculture as the main sources of work . In driving forward and responding to these changes , Bute transformed his South Wales estate into a major industrial enterprise .

Bute 's land holdings in Glamorgan were spread out across the county and he took steps to consolidate them , selling around 1 @, @ 800 acres (730 ha) of some of the outlying properties in the west and investing heavily in buying 4 @, @ 600 acres (1 @, @ 900 ha) of land around Cardiff between 1814 and 1826 . The rising prices of land and the costs of the docks brought an end to this expansion . Estimating the profitability of the Glamorgan estates is challenging because of the way that the accounts were drawn up during the period , but estimates suggest that once land purchases and the dock building cost were factored in , the estates cost the marquess much more than they delivered in income . Bute borrowed heavily ; he had inherited debts of £ 62 @, @ 500 , but by the time of his death owed £ 493 @, @ 887 . Financing and supporting this debt was difficult , particularly during the early 1840s , when credit was hard to come by , and John was forced to juggle lenders and different lines of credit . He believed that ultimately his investments would provide a rich return , and in 1844 noted that he thought " well of the prospects of my income in the distance " .

The economic growth across South Wales drove up the demand for new housing for the growing work force . Bute was not prepared to sell any of his lands for housing , and did not see much profit in building and renting housing himself , but was prepared to lease land in the growing urban areas and mining communities for land development . Initially he attempted to negotiate 63 year long leases , which would have given his successors additional , early flexibility in how they managed the

land , but these proved unpopular so he reverted to offering the more typical 99 year leases . None of the contracts offered by Bute allowed the lessee to buy the freehold or automatically renew the lease at the end of this term , which ultimately resulted in substantial political difficulties for the third and fourth marquesses when there was a storm of complaints in the late 19th and early 20th century . Bute left the style of the early developments up to the lessees , but was concerned by the poor results . Bute then began to approve the designs for new buildings personally , laying out some grand streets in the centre of Cardiff and retaining open areas for eventual use as parks . Very little money was invested in the sewage and drainage systems for his new developments , however , and a damning 1850 inquiry showed that this had resulted in cholera outbreaks across the town .

At the start of the 19th century , scientific investigation began to indicate that the Glamorgan valleys were rich with coal deposits . Bute , who already owned coal mines in County Durham , commissioned further surveys in 1817 and 1823 ? 24 which showed that there were potentially huge profits to be made from the reserves , both from the coal sitting beneath Bute 's own lands , but also from the coal under common lands in the region that Bute could claim through his feudal titles . Bute set about consolidating his rights and existing investments during the late 1820s and 1830s , acquiring extensive rights to the coalfields in the process . Bute established and managed a few collieries ? such as that at Rhigos ? directly , but given the investment costs and attention they took up , generally preferred to lease out his coal fields and claim a royalty on the coal mined instead . The lessees might be iron @-@ masters , who used the coal in their own operations , or colliery owners who sold the coal on to industrial or domestic customers . The profits increased from £ 872 in the second half of 1826 , to £ 10 @,@ 756 in 1848 ? 49 .

= = = Cardiff Docks = = =

Between 1822 and 1848 Bute played a central role in the creation of the Cardiff Docks . The idea was first put forward to Bute by one of his staff in 1822 , who suggested that , with the right investment , Cardiff could be transformed into a major port for exporting coal and iron . The existing sea port , used by the Glamorganshire Canal , was small and inefficient . The new port would then deliver a direct return to Bute from shipping rates , improve the value of his lands in Cardiff itself and increase the value of the royalties he could charge on his coal fields . Initially Bute opposed plans for docks put forward by the local ironmasters , but then changed his mind and pushed forward with his own scheme shortly afterwards .

The first phase was to build a new dock and connecting canal in Cardiff , making the Glamorganshire Canal redundant in the process , at an estimated cost of £ 66 @,@ 600 , considered to opponents to be a " wild speculation " . Parliamentary permission was acquired in 1830 , despite opposition from the local canal companies of iron masters . The project proved more complex than originally planned , driving Bute to become irritable and angry with almost all of his associates , but the dock opened successfully in 1839 . The costs of building the docks had been far more than anticipated , however . Instead of the original estimate , construction costs had soared to £ 350 @,@ 000 , reaching £ 10 @,@ 000 a month in 1837 . Bute had to mortgage his local estates to raise the sums required to finish the project . To make matters worse , when they first opened the docks did not receive the traffic he had expected , particularly from the larger ships ; Bute put this down to a coalition of ironmasters and others intent on ruining him .

Bute responded by putting commercial pressure on shipping companies to abandon the Glamorganshire Canal and using his feudal rights to force shippers to move their wharfs to his docks . His efforts paid off and although trade through the docks only came to 8 @,@ 000 tons in 1839 , they then rose quickly , reaching 827 @,@ 000 tons by 1849 . Between 1841 and 1848 the docks brought in a gross income of just under £ 68 @,@ 000 , a relatively disappointing figure compared to the size of the investment . Successive marquesses would find themselves under huge pressure to continue investing and expanding in the docks and subsequent phases of construction over the coming decades .

= = Politics = =

= = = National = = =

Bute was born into the pre 1832 Reform system of government in Britain . The British Parliament was divided into the hereditary House of Lords and the elected House of Commons , but voting systems varied widely across England and in many cases only very small numbers of local people were enfranchised to vote . Some members of the House of Lords , termed " patrons " , often controlled these " closed " or " nominated " seats in the Commons , effectively appointing their own candidates . Criticism of the system , led by the Whigs , grew during the first half of Bute 's life .

Bute was a member of the House of Lords , able to vote on national affairs , but he had a reputation for not attending unless to vote on acts relating to his estates or business interests . When he did vote , it was usually as a moderate conservative , and Bute himself described himself as a follower of the Duke of Wellington , by then a leading Tory politician . John was in favour of Catholic Emancipation , opposed to slavery , the New Poor Law and the Game Laws . Like Wellington , he was in favour of repealing the Corn Laws . He passionately opposed electoral reform , however , and any attempts to disestablish the Church of England or Scotland . Bute had strong views on the necessity of encouraging the poor to work , and was in favour of removing the Irish poor from the mainland back to Ireland . He was a notoriously poor public speaker .

In addition to his personal role in Parliament , Bute sought to control the votes of members of the House of Commons , primarily to ensure the passage of legislation affecting his business interests . Initially , the Isle of Bute had only 21 voters who were dominated by his private estate , but it only returned a Member of Parliament in alternate elections , and his estates in Luton were too limited to allow him to influence the electoral process there . The best remaining option for Bute was to control the voting in Cardiff , but even here he had to choose his candidate carefully and apply careful financial pressure through his control of leases and rents to ensure their election .

In 1832 the Reform Act was passed by Parliament , widening the electorate across the country . The Isle of Bute 's electorate rose to 300 and acquired a permanent Member of Parliament , still controlled by Bute . Cardiff saw a short 1832-1835 term drop in its electorate as a result of the act , and Bute benefited from the granting of the vote to many of his richer agricultural tenants . In the aftermath of the reforms , Bute secretly sponsored the creation of the conservative newspaper the Glamorgan Monmouth and Brecon Gazette and Merthyr Guardian , to increase support across the county , and underwrote its losses for many years .

From 1842 to 1846 he acted as Her Majesty 's High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland . He was known for his generosity as a host in this role . He was in office during the schism in the Church of Scotland known as " the Disruption " , when many many ministers of the Church broke away from the established Church to form the Free Church . Bute took a firm line on the matter : when his head gardener at Mount Stuart House joined the Free Church , he was immediately sacked , and when the minister at one of Bute 's churches in the north of the island attempted to hold a Free Church ceremony there , Bute demanded the keys to the church to be returned and had the property closed up .

= = = South Wales = = =

= = = = Re 1832-1835 establishing authority = = = =

Bute was determined to control the local government around Cardiff , considering it part of his rights and duties as a major landowner and aristocrat . On inheriting his estates , however , he found himself facing a difficult political situation . The Butes ' grip on Glamorganshire had been weakened in the late 18th century , and the management of their political interests had been left for many years in the hands of John Wood , a local solicitor , whose family was embroiled in local politics , with their own set of interests . Glamorgan was also politically split between factions in the west and the east

of the county , with most of Bute 's estates in the eastern half . Bute 's residence in the area , Cardiff Castle , was understaffed and regarded as unsuitable as a residence ; consequently he lacked the easy local patronage that would have come with a major , properly functioning establishment .

There were tensions between Bute and the new industrialists around the region , including ironmasters such as John Guest , the master of the Dowlais Ironworks . Bute was a financial competitor or landlord with many of these men , and keen to drive as good a deal as possible in his negotiations with them . He also had political differences , seeing himself as a benevolent feudal lord in South Wales , and perceiving the local iron @-@ masters as arrogant , power @-@ hungry individuals , abusing their economic power towards communities and workers .

Nonetheless , Bute was able to personally appoint the Constable of Cardiff Castle , and the constable by law acted as the effective mayor of Cardiff , ran the town 's council and had wide powers when appointing local officials . He inherited the title of Lord @-@ Lieutenant of the county in 1815 , giving him the right to recommend the appointments of new magistrates and various other civic posts ; potential candidates for these posts were advised to vote for Bute 's representatives at elections . In 1825 he became the colonel in chief of the Royal Glamorgan Militia , and used this authority to instruct the militia to vote for his candidates . Those who publicly voted against Bute faced charitable donations and support being cut off . His later control of the Cardiff Docks also helped to provide patronage and influence voting behaviour .

In 1817 , John Wood died in the midst of a financial scandal , and Bute decided to appoint two of his rivals to the posts of Constable and Cardiff 's Town Clerk . This would have reaffirmed Bute 's power to change the appointments and broken the Wood 's family hold on local power , but it provoked a storm of local political wrangling . The Wood family turned on Bute , arguing that he should abandon his claims to control local Welsh affairs from Scotland . Bute replied by trying to crush the Wood family 's bank and stacking the town council with his appointees in early 1818 . The Woods successfully took legal action , challenging Bute 's authority to take these actions , and anti @-@ Bute violence flared that summer , resulting in arrests by Special Constables appointed by Bute . The pro @-@ Bute faction in Cardiff rallied and the Woods were defeated at the Parliamentary elections that year , the results reaffirming Bute 's authority over the town council .

= = = Merthyr Rising = = =

Bute played a role in the event of the Merthyr Rising , a large , armed industrial protest that occurred in Merthyr Tydfil in South Wales in 1831 . Political tensions amongst the working classes in Glamorgan had grown during the 1820s : although wages were impressive by contemporary standards during good years , they deteriorated quickly during depressions , plunging many into destitution ; sanitation and health standards in the fast @-@ growing industrial communities were appalling , child mortality rates were extremely high . 1831 saw a severe economic depression , with wages falling quickly and food prices rising , and complaints against the local debt courts and their bailiffs were numerous . Nationally , the electoral reform movement was making considerable protests and protests against the Corn Laws ? which kept the prices of food high ? were growing . In South Wales , several of the major ironmasters were associated with these movements , promoting reform under the Whig administration voted into power between April and June 1831 .

By late 1830 , and certainly by the spring of 1831 , trouble in South Wales looked likely and , probably in response , Bute broke from his normal annual plans and in May travelled south from Scotland to Cardiff Castle . With a reform bill looking likely , tensions grew between the different political factions in Glamorganshire and how the potential new parliamentary seats should be shared out , especially between Bute and his conservative allies , Crawshay and Guest . Radical demonstrations occurred in Methyr Tyfil , one of the largest industrial communities , in May , and the crowd set light to effigies of conservative politicians . Violence broke out and arrests were made on 10 May ; the prisoners were released by the angry crowd and the local authorities effectively lost any control of the town . A general insurrection ensued on 30 May .

Two local magistrates , J. Bruce and Anthony Hill , were stranded in the Castle Inn in Methyr Tyfil . They swore in around 70 men as special constables , but they were heavily outnumbered by the

radical crowds . Bruce wrote an urgent letter to Bute in Cardiff Castle , asking for urgent advice on whether to call in the armed forces , and querying whether the Marquess had readied the Militia for action . Huge crowds marched on the local iron works , stopping production . The messages from Methyr Tyfil reached Bute that afternoon , who began to assemble the Eastern and Central Yeomanry militia units and transport ready for deployment . Bute paused until the morning , hoping to hear better news , but messengers brought more desperate news from Bruce and Hill , and the Yeomanry were dispatched . Meanwhile , an 80 @-@ man unit of the 93rd Foot had arrived in the Castle Inn from Brecon . Bute continued to keep Whitehall informed of the events by letter throughout .

On the morning of 3 May , the 93rd Foot reached the Castle Inn , where the magistrates had been joined by the established figures of the town , deputised as constables , including the High Sheriff and most of the ironmasters . Outside , the radical crowds had grown to an estimated number of between 7 @,@ 000 and 10 @,@ 000 . Tensions rose alarmingly and the Riot Act was read in English and Welsh . Violence flared , the crowds attempted to seize the soldiers ' weapons and the soldiers responded with volleys of musket fire . The town 's working classes exploded in anger and set about searching the region for weapons . A messenger escaped the inn to reach Bute in Cardiff , who set about mobilising all the remaining armed forces he had available . Bute also despatched Lieutenant @-@ Colonel Richard Morgan of the Militia into Meyrthyr to replace the commander of the 93rd Foot who had been badly injured .

The men in the Castle Inn retreated to Penydarren House , who were joined by the initial reinforcements from the Yeomanry , bringing the establishment 's numbers to around 300 , not all of them were armed and able to fight . They faced increasingly well armed insurgents and Bute became increasingly concerned about the quality of the opposition facing his men . Bute sent spies into the insurgency , and nearby Cyfarthfa Castle was pressed into service as an observation post . Bute mobilised military pensioners , and used them to start to bring Penydarren House additional weaponry from Cardiff ; he was advised to be careful , however , in case the shipments fell into the hands of the insurgency . Morgan 's forces were able to prevent the radical crowds from entering either Penydarren or Cyfarthfa , and Bute arrested potential insurgents in Cardiff .

On 16 May , Morgan was in a position to advance in force into Merthyr , pushing forward and taking advantage of the poor communications between the various elements of the insurgency . The uprising collapsed , and over the next few days the authorities regained control , making arrests and forcing the workers back to business . Government inquiries into the incident began and Bute , amongst others , provided analysis and reports to Whitehall . In the aftermath , Richard Lewis , one of the radical crowd , was hanged in Cardiff . The execution proved controversial and it is unknown whether Bute , who had by then left to attend Parliament in London , approved of the decision .

= = = Later years = = =

Concerns over possible violent outbreaks continued for many years . Chartism became prominent in the region in the late 1830s , again causing Bute considerable worries in 1839 and leading to him encouraging the mobilisation of military forces to deal with the threat . Bute began to advocate the creation of a police force to suppress the problems in the northern valleys , for once allying himself with the local ironmasters to overcome rural opposition to the scheme . In 1841 the scheme was passed by the Glamorgan magistrates , with a chief constable and headquarters established that year .

In 1835 an act of Parliament reformed the local government structure , introducing a new town corporation structure with an elected mayor for the first time . Bute had to work harder to maintain his influence over the new corporation , using the various levers of influence at his disposal . He was successful , and in practice the elected officials and councillors were controlled Bute and his interests .

= = Death = =

Bute died in Cardiff on 18 March 1848 , and was buried in Kirtling , alongside Maria , his first wife . His funeral had 31 carriages in attendance and drew large crowds , although his funeral was snubbed by the local ironmasters . The national press gave his death little coverage , but the local Daily Chronicle noted Bute 's unusual achievement in building up the industrial base of his South Wales estates , and particularly praised his role in constructing the Cardiff Docks . The Cardiff Docks , whose opening in 1837 had led the press to praise Bute as " the creator of modern Cardiff " , continued to transform the city over the rest of the century . They would also form a financial liability to Bute successors , the costs of the continual investment needed to maintain and grow the facilities partially off @-@ setting the huge profits that Bute 's son enjoyed from the South Wales coalfields .

A subscription was raised across Glamorgan to pay for a statue to be made of him , which was erected in Cardiff 's High Street in 1853 , outside the town hall . In 2000 the statue , Cardiff 's oldest , was moved to Bute Square , but the location was renamed Callaghan Square in 2002 , leading to proposals from local officials that Bute 's statue might be better relocated once again , potentially to outside Cardiff Castle .