James Arthur Mansell

Isle of Wight County Press - 11 May 1929

NEWPORT

A MILITARY FUNERAL.- Military honours were accorded at the funeral on Thursday of Mr. James Arthur Mansell, who died at the Havenstreet Sanatorium, after an illness which probably originated during service in the war. The deceased, who was aged 39, was the son of Mr. Mansell, of Dover, and the son-in-law of Mr. R. Briscoe (formerly sergeant-major in the Royal Engineers and now landlord of the Trooper Inn). The deceased, who enlisted as a boy in the Royal Engineers, served throughout the Great War and was wounded once and gassed three times. After the war he filled the post of confidential clerk to Gen. Schreiber at Camberley, and was also engaged at the Staff College. He returned to the British Army of Occupation in the Rhine after seven years at Camberley. He remained in Germany about 14 months and then took his discharge and pension on retirement as acting sergeant-major. He had resided with his wife's parents, where he was taken ill last December, and was medically attended prior to removal to the sanatorium about eight weeks ago. He leaves a widow and one son aged 12. The funeral service was held at the Parish Church, the Vicar (Canon C. H. Thompson) officiating, and the interment following at Newport Cemetery. The mourners were the widow, Mrs. Jones (sister of the deceased), Miss Mansell (sister), Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Briscoe, Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong, , Mr. and Mrs Knott, Mr. and Mrs. Briscoe (junior), Mr. and Mrs. Hathaway, and Mrs. Cottingham. The gun carriage was provided by the 219th Howitzer Battery of the R.F.A. (T.A.), and a bearer party and buglers from the 43rd Light Infantry (Oxon. and Bucks). The Last Post was sounded by the buglers. Among the beautiful wreaths was one from the honorary members of the sergeants' mess, Royal Military College, Camberley, which was composed of red tulips and white narcissi (the college colours), and another bearing the regimental colours and inscribed with deep sympathy from comrades of R.E.s, Island branch.

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