

Emma Bullen

Isle of Wight County Press - 25 May 1901

Newport

Much Sympathy—is felt with Mr. Robert Bullen, J.P., our esteemed townsman, in his great sorrow, consequent in the death of his wife, which sad event took place early yesterday morning after a long and painful illness. The death of Mrs. Bullen will be specially mourned by the Bible Christians of Newport and other districts of the circuit, who have lost a true and valued friend, for whilst health permitted the deceased lady was ever active and generous in ably seconding the splendid work of her husband for the denomination named.

Isle of Wight County Press - 1 June 1901

Newport

The Late Mrs. Bullen.—The funeral of the late Mrs. Bullen, wife of Mr. Robert Bullen, J.P., of Lugley-street, whose death was recorded in our last issue, took place on Tuesday afternoon at Carisbrooke Cemetery. The first portion of the service was conducted at the Quay-street Bible Christian Church, with the work of which the deceased lady had been so prominently identified, and the representative congregation present testified to the esteem in which she was held. The pulpit was heavily draped in black, and the gas standards in the front of the gallery occupied by the choir were bound in crepe. Mr. Bullen was among the principal mourners, and others in the church included the Rev. A. E. Johns (Baptist), Dr. Grover, J.P., Messrs. C. J. Godfrey, T.C., Edward Morris, Frank Fleming, W J. Bailey, E. H. F. Payn, A. Gill-Martin, F. Midlane, J. Williams, E. C. Gilchrist (superintendent of the Sunday-school), C. H. Cave and Spencer (circuit stewards), D. Bartlett, W. Ash, H. Flux, J. Dockrill, Gray, and others, including many ladies. Mr. W. J. Bailey, jun., presided at the organ and played an appropriate piece whilst the congregation was assembling. The Rev. J. C. Sweet (circuit superintendent) officiated, assisted by Revs. J. H. Shilson, H. H. Reed, and Stevens (East Cowes), “Brief life is here our portion” having been sung, the 90th Psalm was read by the Rev. H. E. Reed. “Hark! Hark, my soul! Angelic songs are swelling” was the next hymn and the Rev. J. H. Shilson impressively read the lesson, after which “For all the saints who from their labours rest” was sung. The Rev. J. C. Sweet, in the course of a touching address, said though that was no time for any lengthened reference so the dear friend whose death they mourned, he could not close that service without just a few words by way of expressing the deep sense of loss which filled their hearts. Many of them had lost a personal friend whom they learned to appreciate and love and that church had lost one of its oldest, truest, and best members and workers. For some time the late Mrs. Bullen had been unable to take part in the active work of the church, but her heart and sympathies had nevertheless been with them. She bore her long and trying affliction with true Christian fortitude and patience, never a murmur escaping her lips in reference to her end was just what they should have wished, for Jesus touched her gently and she slept. Their sorrow was therefore mingled with joy that she was so graciously sustained. Their hearts went out in deepest sympathy for their dear brother, Mr. Bullen, in his time of grief and they prayed that he might be graciously sustained in hours of loneliness and the days of darkness which were yet before him, and might they as a church realise the duty and necessity of taking up the work which other hands had left with greater diligence and devotion. On the following Sunday evening a memorial service would be conducted in that church by the Rev. J. H. Shilson, who had known Mrs. Bullen intimately for a great many years. As the coffin was borne from the church the “Death march” in *Saul* was played by the organist. The service at the grave was completed by the Revs. J. C. Sweet and J. H. Shilson in the presence of a large and sympathetic assemblage. The

polished elm coffin bore the inscription, “Emma Bullen died May 24 1901, aged 72 years”. There were a number of beautiful floral tributes from relatives and friends. Messrs. H. and F. Damp carried out the funeral arrangements.

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