

John Fraser

Isle of Wight County Press 6 July 1918

NEWPORT

DEATH OF CAPT. J. FRASER, T.C.----We record with great regret the death on Tuesday, at Southsea, of Capt. John Fraser, T.C., aged 69, news of which came as an unexpected shock to many of his Island friends. Deceased who was a Scotsman, entered the Mercantile Marine at an early age, and sailed for many years in the service of the Harrison Line. He subsequently received a shore appointment at Liverpool, where he will long be remembered for his devoted work in connection with the Richmond Row free breakfasts and the Soho-street Boys` Home; in this and other work it may be truly said of him that he "did good by stealth and blushed to find it fame." His great friend, Mr. Joe Shuttleworth, who resided for some time at Clatterford Farm House, was associated with him in this philanthropic work. Some years ago he came to live at Fern Bank, Cedar-hill, Newport, and soon actively engaged in public and philanthropic work, becoming a member of the Town Council, the Joint Burial Committee for Carisbrooke, of which he was chairman for a time, and the Joint Isolation Hospital Board. He was also a valued member of the Carisbrooke Parish-church. After the outbreak of war he was prominent, with Mrs. Fraser, in helping war charities and the Soldiers` Club at Newport, and he threw his garden open for wounded soldiers. Keenly patriotic and imbued with a high sense of public duty and citizenship, he went to Portsmouth two years ago and qualified and was actually employed, as a craftsman at munition work in Portsmouth Dockyard, almost a unique accomplishment for one bordering on three score and ten years. It was partly with a view to resuming this work that he recently gave up his residence at Fernbank and went to Southsea, with the hope of returning here to enjoy his declining years after the war. Capt. Fraser had for years been warned by his medical adviser that he should take things quietly, but notwithstanding his strong sense of citizenship would not allow him to rest. Mrs. Fraser had been anxious about him for some days, and the end came suddenly. He leaves a son, who was one of the managers of the *Liverpool Echo* before he went on military service. Much sympathy is felt for Mrs. Fraser and the family in their sorrow. The funeral took place yesterday (Friday) at Carisbrooke Cemetery in the presence of the Mayor and representatives of the various public bodies with which deceased was associated here. In addition to the widow, Capt. J. Fraser, Loyal North Lancashire Regiment (son), and Mrs. Bowles (stepdaughter), those present included the Mayor and Mayoress (Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Whitcher), Mr. J. C. Millgate, J.P. (Deputy Mayor), the Vicar (the Rev. C. H. Thompson), Aldermen R. Bird Cheverton, J.P., W. J. Whittington, J.P., and C. Webb, Councillors A. E. Harvey, Major Hills, C. Steel, and J. H. Deacon, with Mr. T. Ross Pratt (Town Clerk), Messrs. George H. and J. M. Shuttleworth, Mr. G. D. Rich J.P., and Mrs. Rich, Mrs. Russell Willmott, Ald. J. Thomas, J.P., Mr. Leonard C. Attrill, Mr. J. W. Watts, Mr. W. H. Wadham, Mr. P. Wigmore, Dr. McKay, Mr. and Mrs. J. Embling Dart, Mrs. Walton Morris, Mr. J. W. Marshall. The officiating clergy were the Vicar

of Carisbrooke (the Rev. T. Story Busber) and the Rev. Jason Thomas. There were no flowers by request. The Union Jack was flying at half-mast at the Guildhall, and there were many signs of mourning in the town. The funeral arrangements were carried out by Mr. G. F. Quinton. Ald. F. Templeman Mew , J.P., Mr. G. A. Brannon, and Mr. W. H. Dann were unavoidably prevented from attending the funeral.

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