

Harry Perkins

Isle of Wight County Press

4 November 1939

NEWPORT

Death of a Gallant I.W. Rifleman. - Members of the I.W. Rifles who served in the Great War will hear of the passing of a gallant and popular comrade, ex-Lce.-Corpl. Harry Perkins, who died at his residence, 39 Castle-road, on Sunday after a long and painful illness, which he bore with the unflinching pluck and cheerfulness which were outstanding features of his fine character. Mr. Perkins, who was 61, was a skilled forward of the Newport football team and a keen and able member of the Fire Brigade before he had the misfortune to lose a leg as a result of wounds sustained at the Suvla Bay landing in August 1915. Shrapnel shattered his thigh, and he received several bullet wounds. He was discovered after he had been lying wounded for 36 hours, and, owing to his wounds becoming septic, his life was for a time despaired of. He recovered, however, after his leg had been amputated, and returned home, where for a time he worked as a shoemaker. Unfortunately his health was so undermined that it became impossible for him to continue his work. Until his final illness commenced about five months ago, he pluckily got about and regularly made his way to the Recreation-ground during the summer to watch cricket matches. Sincere sympathy is felt with his widow, who has devotedly nursed him through many years of ill-health, and with his three daughters and son Raymond. The last-named, a leading seaman in the Royal Navy, arrived home on a few hours' leave just in time to see his father before he passed away, and then had to rejoin his ship. Members of the I.W. Rifles Comrades' Association and a representative detachment of the I.W. Heavy Brigade R.A. attended the funeral on Thursday. About a dozen old comrades walked behind the cortege from the house to the Pyle-street Methodist Church, and then to Carisbrooke Cemetery, and four (Messrs. J. Hamilton, A. Mabb, W. Newman, and R. Shilton) acted as bearers. The others attending were Messrs. W. O. Minns (chairman), A. C. Early (hon. sec.), H. Green, W. J. Early, F. H. J. Damp, A. Newnham, H. G. Peachey, S. A. Porter, A. Cooper, J. A. Nobbs, F. W. and G. Cheverton, E. Simms, and C. A. Westmore. The detachment of N.C.O.s and men of the Heavy Battery, in the charge of B.S.M. Nicholson, formed a guard of honour at the church and the cemetery, and Corpl. Shanks sounded the "Last post" and "Reveille." The Rev. H. J. Franklin officiated, and the mourners were Messrs. J. Bramble (father-in-law), E. Bramble and F. Fleming (brothers-in-law), and W. Everard (nephew). Others at the church included Messrs. T. Warne and W. Woodford. About 30 beautiful floral tributes included those from the I.W. Rifles Comrades' Association; the Clarendon Thrift Club; the staff of the Borough Restaurant; and workers at the Carisbrooke Laundry. Parnells made the arrangements.- Mrs. Perkins and family tender heart-felt thanks to all who have shown sympathy by inquiries, letters and flowers, particularly to the members of the I.W. Rifles Comrades Association for their kindness. Will all please accept this acknowledgment.

Transcription by Kate MacDonell for the Friends of Newport and Carisbrooke Cemeteries,

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