

Isaac William Pitman

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DEATH OF MR. I. W. PITMAN OF NEWPORT

NEARLY 60 YEARS IN ONE OFFICE

Many friends in Newport and the tenants of the Simeon Estate, among whom he was held in the highest esteem, learned with much regret of the death of Mr. Isaac W. Pitman, agent to that estate, which took place early on Sunday at his residence, Thornbury, Avondale-road, Newport. Mr. Pitman had been in failing health for some two years, but he continued his activities until about a fortnight ago, when internal trouble became acute. He leaves a widow (formerly Miss Black, of Westminster House, Newport, daughter of the late Mr. F. W. Black, and sister of the late Sir Frederick Black and of Mr. J. H. Black, solicitor, of Newport) and three daughters and a son to mourn their loss. His second daughter, Miss Flossie Pitman, who has been a Baptist missionary in Bengal, India, for five years, arrived home on furlough on Friday just in time for her father to speak to her before he fell into a coma.

Mr. Pitman, who would have reached his 72nd birthday had he lived two days longer, was a Newportonian who had been prominent in the business and musical life of the town, and he had a remarkable record of having carried on his professional duties in one office for nearly 60 years. On leaving the National School at the age of 13 he became an office boy in the employ of the late Mr. A. Harbottle Estcourt, conveyancer, who was clerk to the I.W. Highway Commissioners. He continued to serve him and his successors Messrs. Gunner and Wilson, and then Messrs. Gunner, Wilson and Jerome, solicitors, for over 50 years, being for a long period their able managing clerk, responsible for much of the firm's work as agents to the Seely and Simeon Estates. In 1931 he retired from the service of the firm, but continued in the same offices as agent to the Simeon Estate and an accountant, thus completing the remarkable record referred to. As agent to Sir John Simeon, Bt., and after so long a connection with the administration of the estate, he was naturally well known to all the tenants, who valued his kindly consideration and sound advice.

By his death the Castlehold Baptist Church loses one who had rendered it devoted service as Choirmaster for many years, as deacon, and as secretary of the Sunday-school, and his daughters have also been prominent workers in the church, one, as stated, graduating as a missionary from the Sunday-school. An excellent bass singer, keenly interested in vocal music, Mr. Pitman was a member of the old Newport Choral Society and conductor of the Free Church Choir which once flourished in the town. He was a valued member of the branch of the Hants Friendly Society and served on the Management Committee. His other activities included his hobby as a poultry fancier. For many years he was a frequent prize-winner at local shows with modern Langshans, and for several years he ably acted as hon. secretary of the Newport Fanciers' Association, in succession to the late Mr. Frank Cooper. In short, he was an eminently useful citizen whose labours will be much missed. His son, Mr. W. Pitman, is in the service of the Westminster Bank at Portswood, Southampton.

THE FUNERAL

A service was held at the Newport Baptist Church on Wednesday, when a large number gathered to pay their last respects to an esteemed fellow citizen. The Rev. E.G. Need (minister) officiated, and Mrs. W.R. Pilcher was at the organ. The hymn "Jesu, Lover of my soul" was sung. The interment followed at Carisbrooke Cemetery. The personal mourners were the widow, Mr. and Mrs. W. I. B. Pitman (son and daughter-in-law), the Misses Norah and Flossie Pitman (daughters),

Mr. & Mrs. P.M. Lansley (son-in-law and daughter), Mr. R. O. Pitman (brother), Mr. & Mrs. O. E. Long (brother-in-law and sister), Mr. J. H. Black, Mr. & Mrs. E. W. Black and Miss F. Black (brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law), and Lady Black.

Among others present were Sir John Simeon, Bt., J.P., Mr. F. W. H. Cool representing Mr. Adrian J. S. Jerome and Messrs. Gunner, Wilson and Jerome), Mr. George Long (representing the staff of Messrs. Gunner, Wilson and Jerome), Mr. C. W. A. Hale (Messrs. Joyce and Ricketts), Mr. S. A. Watson (Messrs. H. J. Way and Son), Mr. W. Upward (Messrs. Roach Pittis and Co.), Mr. W. H. Urry (Messrs. Buckell and Drew), Mr. C. Wyatt (Newport P.S.A. Brotherhood), Mr. E. A. Huck (chairman) and Mr. E. J. Kemp (agent) representing the Newport agency of the Hants Friendly Society, Miss Lovelock, Baptist Sunday-school secretary), Mr. ? Dash (Newbridge), Mr. A. Barton, Mr. F. Fallick, Mr. B. T. Woodford, Mr. W. Morris, Mr. A. Hopkins (Shalfleet), Mr. J. H. James, Mrs. Perkins, Miss D. Osborne, Mrs. C. Hayward, Mrs. Osment, Miss C. B. Lowe, Mr. W. Morris, Mr. A. Scott, Mr. B. Kimber (Newchurch), Mr. H. B. Pursley, Miss Saunders, Mr. W. R. Pilcher, Miss D. Welby-Pryer, Miss G. Frampton, Mr. T. H. and Miss Alexander, Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Cheek, Messrs. A. and M. Cheek, Mr. A. G. Harrison, Mr. G. C. Russell, T.C., Mrs. Flux, Mr. C. Tutton (Sprites, Rookley), Mrs. G. H. Keed, Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Holmes, Mrs. Prentice, Mrs. Sawyer, Ald. J. C. Millgate, J.P., Mr. A. W. Abraham, Mrs. Hawkins, Mrs. Hailstone, Mr. D. M. Morris (Godshill), Mr. S. E. Whildey (Ventnor), Mr. W. C. Black, Mr. C. Frampton, Mr. and Mrs. L. O. Smith, Miss Abraham, Mr. F. W. Fisk, Mr. A. T. Barton, Messrs. P. Brown and R. J. Urry (Atherfield), Mr. R. H. Price, Mr. J. Lockhart, T.C., Mrs. J. Urry, Mrs. Cooper, Mr. C. Paskins (Cowes), Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Croucher, Mr. J. D. Truscott, the Rev. J. W. F. Wayet (Gatcombe), Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Butcher, Mr. R. Fifield, Mr. F. H. J. Damp, and Mr. C. H. Russell. Mr. A. E. Allee was unavoidably prevented from attending.

Messrs. H. and F. Damp made the arrangements.

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