

William Henry Cheverton

Isle of Wight County Press – 5 July 1941

NEWPORT.

Harness-maker to Queen Victoria. – The death occurred at the residence of his son, Poleclose Farm, Carisbrooke, on Sunday, after only a week's serious illness, of Mr. William Henry Cheverton, proprietor of the harness-making business in Lugley-street, who had the distinction of having made harness for Queen Victoria. Mr. Cheverton, who was in his 67th year, was the second son of the late Ald. R. B. Cheverton, J.P., who built many carriages for the Royal Family at Osborne, and the business which he conducted for many years was at that time part of the carriage-building establishment. Mr. Cheverton was very proud of the fact that he made a set of harness for the pony which used to draw the little chaise in which the Queen used to ride about the grounds of Osborne. It was a very handsome set, made of red and blue Morocco leather stitched with yellow silk and with gold mountings. It is now in the South Kensington Museum with several of the carriages his father built for the Queen. In his early days Mr. Cheverton established a reputation as a skilful marksman while serving with the I.W. Yeomanry. He several times competed with success at Bisley and continued his interest in shooting as a founder-member of the Carisbrooke Miniature Rifle Club and as a keen shot with a sporting gun. He was also a great lover of gardening and beekeeping, and often judged honey at Island shows. He was actively associated with the harness-making business in Lugley-street for some half a century and retired about four years ago. Almost throughout that long period, for 47 years to be exact, he had as his assistant Mr. G. H. Morgan, who is still carrying on the work. His wife, formerly Miss Julia Rice, of Poleclose, died 14 years ago. The funeral was at Carisbrooke Cemetery on Wednesday, the Rev. J. W. F. Wayet officiating. The mourners were Mr. and Mrs. A. Cheverton (son and daughter-in-law), Miss Cheverton and Mrs. Willmott (sisters), Messrs. R. B., F. A., and A. J. B. Cheverton (brothers), Mrs. A. F. Rice (sister-in-law), Mr. E. G. Heal, C.C. (brother-in-law), Mesdames L. and B. Draper and R. Gully, and Messrs. R. B. Cheverton, junior, and M. A. and G. Rice (nieces and nephews), Mr. J. Rice (great-nephews), Mesdames M. A. and G. Rice, and Messrs. S. and L. Draper and R. Gully. Mr. J. Knott (nephew) was prevented from attending by military service. Others present were Mr. G. H. Morgan, Messrs. O. E. White, S. A. Barlow, A. T. Gunning, J. Thompson, and A. Fry (representing the staff of Frank Cheverton, Ltd.), Mr. G. Harbour (representing the staff at Poleclose), and Messrs. H. Shepard, P. F. and W. Wadham, S. Brown, H. Heal (representing S. Guy, Ltd.), and H. Biles.

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