

George Dyer

1911 England, Wales & Scotland Census

Marvell Cottage, Blackwater, Newport, Isle of Wight, Hampshire, England

Name	Relationship	Status	Age	Occupation	Birthplace
<i>George Dyer</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>Married</i>	<i>57</i>	<i>Farm labourer</i>	<i>Rookley, IOW</i>
Fanny Dyer	Wife	Married	58		Berwick, Portsmouth
Charles Mew Dyer	Grandson		8	School	Blackwater, IOW
William Withers	Boarder	Single	53	Carter (timbers)	Portsmouth, Hampshire

Isle of Wight County Press

23 August 1913

**MARVEL LABOURER'S SUDDEN
DEATH.**

FATAL SEIZURE WHILST AT WORK

The death occurred with tragic suddenness on Saturday afternoon at Marvel Farm, of Mr. George Dyer, a well-known workman employed there. He was drawing straw for thatching in the rickyard at the time. The deceased, who had lived at Marvel Cottage for nearly 30 years, after having previously lived and worked at Gatcombe, was greatly respected far beyond the limits of the district in which he lived by reason of his employment in doing cartage work from different parts of the Island to the kennels of the I.W. Foxhounds at Marvel, and through being a very successful exhibitor at the Carisbrooke and other horticultural shows. He was a hard worker and a good gardener, and at the cottage garden show at Carisbrooke only last week he was a most successful exhibitor and was a close runner-up for the champion medal for most points in the cottager's section. He was of cheery, kindly, and obliging disposition, and he had made many friends. His eldest son was killed over 20 years ago in a gravel truck accident at St. George's-down. Much sympathy is felt for the widow and family in their heavy sorrow.

The Deputy Coroner (Mr. F. A. Joyce) held the inquest on Tuesday afternoon at Marvel House, the residence of the deceased's employer, Mr. Fleming. Mr. J. M. Mansbridge was foreman of the jury and Insp. Sibbick was present on behalf of the police.

WILLIAM WITHERS, labourer, living with the deceased at Marvel Cottage, and employed by Mr. J. H. King, of Blackwater, gave evidence of identification. Deceased was 59 years of age.

INSP. SIBBECK said that deceased's son gave the age as 65.

Deceased's son said he gave that age at first, but on looking up the marriage certificate they found it was only about 59.

MR. WITHERS said he had lodged with deceased about 30 years. On Saturday he heard that deceased had died and he was in the rickyard at Marvel about a quarter of an hour later. Deceased was lying down and was being attended by Mr. Appel and a lad. They told him that deceased had dropped dead whilst showing the boy named Arthur Appel how to twist a hay-bond. He had been ailing for about a year, sometimes being better and sometimes worse.—Q. Had he been to see a doctor? — No sir. That is the very thing I begged him to do scores of times and that would have stopped all this bother, but he refused to do so. He generally complained when he had to bend or stoop over his work—in the morning when he was lacing up his boots more than at any other time.

WILLIAM APPEL, 2 Royal-exchange, Newport, labourer, said that he and his son and deceased were working in the rickyard drawing straw. Just before 3 p.m. he heard deceased say to his son “Now then, you have not twisted that bond right, as I told you in the morning. Come here and I will show you how to twist one”. Then he (witness) went on tying the straw himself and soon after he heard deceased say, after he had twisted the bond, “Look! It is going round like a windmill”, referring to the bond. Then he heard his (witness’s) boy say “Dad!” and on looking round he saw that deceased had fallen upon his back. Witness went to him at once and he was just drawing his last breath.—Q. Had he complained of feeling unwell that day?—No, sir. I asked him two or three times how he was going on, as on the day before he fell down in a sort of faint in the same place, but as soon as I got to him he recovered. He complained of having wind round the heart, but he afterwards went on with his work as usual until the evening. He did not complain of being in any pain, but seemed quite all right up to the time he dropped.

DR. HUTTON CASTLE, of Newport, said he had attended deceased, but not for some time. He had made a post-mortem examination and found very severe valvular disease of the heart of long standing, the valves being quite incompetent—just such a condition as might cause sudden death to any one at any time. He had no doubt that failure of the heart’s action caused the sudden death, and he attributed death to valvular disease of the heart.

The FOREMAN: If a doctor had been called in would it have been possible to have prolonged his life?

Dr. CASTLE: Not in the least, I think. Called in when?

The FOREMAN: A week or few days ago.

Dr. CASTLE: The only wonder is that the man had not tumbled down and died before with a heart in that condition. The only thing that could have prolonged his life would have been to have led an easy-going life, doing nothing.

The CORONER said then he might have gone off suddenly when stooping down or moving about.

Dr. CASTLE said deceased had never complained to him of his heart. He had a bottle of medicine for a cold in the spring.

Mr. WITHERS said he had never heard deceased complain of pain, but he had complained of shortness of breath.

The CORONER said he was afraid it was beyond skill to restore a heart which was in the condition in which deceased’s heart was.

Dr. CASTLE agreed.

The jury returned a verdict of death from valvular disease of the heart, expressed sympathy with the widow and family, and gave their fees for the widow.

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