Elizabeth Mary Etheredge

Isle of Wight County Press – 1 November 1952

NEWPORT

The Late Mrs. E. M. Etheredge – The death occurred on Monday, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. A. A. Knight, in Chapel Street, of Mrs. Elizabeth Mary Etheredge, widow of Mr. A. Etheredge, of 2 Westminster Lane. Mrs. Etheredge, who was born at Wellow, was a gate-keeper at the Petticoat Lane level crossing for 38 years until she retired in 1941. During that time she was a servant successively of the I.W. Central Railway Co., the Freshwater, Yarmouth, and Newport Railway Co., and the Southern Railway. There was only one accident at the crossing during the time that she was gate-keeper, when a train crashed into the gates, but that was not her fault. Her husband was also employed on the railway as a platelayer for 42 years, so between them they established a notable family record of 80 years' service. When she retired all branches of the staff at Newport Station subscribed to the presentation to her of a fireside chair. The family association with the crossing did not come to an end, however, as Mrs. Etheredge's son Bernard and his wife took over the duties and when he died a few years later, his wife continued the duties and is still the gate-keeper. The funeral took place on Thursday, the service at St. John's Church being conducted by the Vicar (the Rev S. F. Cooper). The mourners were Messrs. W. G. and R. K. Etheredge (sons), Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Knight, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Cole, and Mr. S. W. Charlesworth (sons-in-laws and daughters), Mesdames B. and R. Etheredge (daughters-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. A. Knight and Mr. B. C. Cole (grandchildren). Representatives of the St. John's Mothers' Meeting, Darby and Joan Club, Wesleyan Sisterhood, The Towns-women's Guild Choir, and Drama Clubs, and the St. John's Sunday School, were among the large attendance. The interment was at Carisbrooke Cemetery. Messrs. O. C. Hamilton & Son made the arrangements.

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