

Isaac Gale

1891 census, Gunville Road, Carisbrooke

<i>Isaac Gale</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>Market Gardener</i>	<i>Carisbrooke, I.W., Hampshire</i>
Eliza Gale	Wife	61		Shalfleet, I.W., Hampshire
James Gale	Son	36	Gardener	Carisbrooke, I.W., Hampshire
Arthur Gale	Son	20	Bricklayer	Carisbrooke, I.W., Hampshire
Mabel Jacobs	Granddaughter	5		Carisbrooke, I.W., Hampshire

Isle of Wight Country Press – 8 September 1900

DEATH OF MR. ISAAC GALE.

Widespread regret has been occasioned by the removal from our midst of a notable Islander by the death during Tuesday night of Mr. Isaac Gale, of Gunville. News of the sad event came as a painful surprise to most people, as though the late Mr. Gale had for some time past shown signs of failing health consequent on a heavy attack of influenza, there had been no apparent reason for serious apprehension till a short time before his death. When returning home from a public engagement a few weeks ago the deceased gentleman was caught in a heavy thunder-storm, and taking a chill from getting wet through, inflammatory rheumatism set in, and suffering acutely he gradually sank and died, as stated, during Tuesday night last. Prominently identified in various ways with the public life of the Island during the last half-century, the late Mr. Gale was one of the most familiar figures in our midst, and his personality was remarkable in many respects. A very conspicuous characteristic of his long and honourable career was his exemplary self-sacrificing devotion in the discharge of public duty connected with both county and parochial authorities and in his advocacy of causes, both secular and religious, which were so dear to his heart. At the time of his death, which came just as he had completed the allotted span of “threescore years and ten,” the late Mr. Gale was chairman of the Carisbrooke School Board and Parish Council, a member of the Joint Burial Committee, and one of the representatives of his parish on the I.W. Guardians and Rural District Council, and in all of these offices he had for some years done much useful work. Though not an actual agricultural labourer, he had been called the Joseph Arch of the Isle of Wight. In politics he was a Radical of the old school, and had done good service for his party among the class whom the legislation of later years had admitted to the franchise. He was gifted with great natural fluency of speech, which enabled him to exert considerable platform influence, and his speeches were lightened by frequent flashes of humour, which made his appearance always popular among the party whose cause he so ably and consistently advocated. By his death religious work in villages of the Island has lost an earnest and prominent supporter of the Bible Christian denomination of the Newport and Ryde circuits one of its ablest and oldest local preachers. During the greater part of the last half-century Mr. Gale had on most Sundays travelled to various villages in the circuit, where he was always a most popular and acceptable occupant of the pulpit as well as a welcome visitor and helper at local anniversary celebrations. In his history of the Bible Christians of the Island the Rev. Dr. Woolcock makes reference to this self-denying service of Mr. Gale and says that there not many men in connection with the Society at Gunville who know more of its history than Mr. Isaac Gale, “and I expect no man in the Island has walked more miles to preach the Gospel than he has.” During brief intervals of rest from local preaching Mr. Gale, ever solicitous for the welfare of the young, among whom he was a great favourite, devoted himself to the work of the Bible Christian Sunday-school at Gunville, which enjoys the distinction of being the first Sunday-school of the denomination formed in the Island, and up till his death he was its superintendent. Specially heavy is the loss to the Bible Christians of his native village, where he was a valued supporter of the Gunville Chapel, to the replacing of which by a larger building he was looking forward with much interest and pleasure. A familiar figure on platforms of temperance meetings, he was an ardent advocate of total abstinence, and with his advocacy in this connection he generally coupled a good-humoured objection to smoking, which he particularly deprecated among the rising generation. In private life the late Mr. Gale, by his cheery and kindly disposition and his frank, conscientious, and honourable dealings with all with whom he came in contact, won a wide circle of friends, by whom his death is deplored, and the greatest sympathy is with the widow and family in their affliction. The funeral will take place this (Saturday) afternoon at Carisbrooke Cemetery, the cortege leaving Gunville about 2.15.

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