

George Stephens Harris

**Isle of Wight County Press
8 May 1937**

The Late Mr. G. Harris OF NEWPORT

The funeral of George Harris, of Carisbrooke Cottage, Carisbrooke, who died on Wednesday week, took place on Monday amid many signs of respect and esteem. There was a large congregation at the Newport Congregational Church for the first part of the service, which was conducted by the Rev. D. Hendy Davies, B.A. The lesson from the Burial Office in the Prayer-book was read by the Rev. H. Ewbank (Vicar of Carisbrooke). The hymns were "Now the day of toil is done" and "O God our Help", Mr. A. Mearman, at the organ, played suitable selections, including Chopin's "Marche Funebre". In a feeling tribute the Rev. D. Hendy Davies said that the deceased was received into that church 35 years ago and for 14 years he had occupied the offices of deacon and financial secretary. His unanimous triennial re-election was proof positive of the confidence of the church in his integrity. He was also a trustee and property steward and his marvellous technical knowledge and wide experience stood the church in good stead, and was of great value to his colleagues.

He was a familiar figure in business life and here also his actions were marked by a conscientiousness and Christian integrity which won him the respect and esteem of all with whom he was brought into contact. Two years ago it was a great disappointment to him, when, owing to his health, he had suddenly to bring his career to an end, and pass from intense activity to complete passivity. Throughout his long illness he never complained, he was quick to show gratitude for any little service, and although physically weak his faith never faltered. His end came very peacefully, it was as though, in the immortal words of Tennyson "God's finger touched him and he slept".

The mourners were Mrs. Harris (widow), Mr. G. J. Gray, of Woking, Mr. J. F. Gray, of Plymouth, and Mr. A. E. Gray, of Basingstoke (brothers-in-law), Miss Cheverton and Miss Gooderich (aunts), Mr. and Mrs. Isaacs, of Southend, and the Misses A. and D. Shepard (cousins), Mr. and Mrs. Harold and Mr. and Mrs. Horace Gray (brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law), Mr. B. Sanders, C.A., and Mrs. Sanders (uncle and aunt), Miss M. and Mr. and Mrs. R. Sanders, Miss Trueman, on Ventnor, and Mr. G. A. Wheeler, of Chelmsford. Mr. B. Sanders is a deacon of the church. The following deacons were also present: Messrs. F. E. Whitcher, J.P., J. Dufton, W. Webster, J. W. Head, A. G. Harrison (also church secretary), and W. Upward.

The following members of the Albany Lodge of Freemasons attended wearing sprigs of acacia: Mr. W. Barton (Worshipful Master), Mr. T. A. Cowley, the Rev. W. H. Mackinnon (chaplain), and Messrs. H. W. Horan, C. M. Dabell, G. A. Brannon, W. C. Black, H. Whitehead, and E. A. Kime (all Past Masters), T. Ross Pratt, A. J. Hitching (secretary), and W. F. Negus (assistant secretary). Mr. H. G. Jolliffe, Past Master of East Medina Lodge also attended.

Other present included Mr. G. Long, Mr. J. A. Hayles, Mrs. J. Dufton, the Rev. R. Sirhowy Jones (a former minister), Mrs. Whitcher, Mr. P. Long, Mrs. Head, Mr. E. W. Tyler, Mr. Rex Tyler, Mr. J. H. Deacon, Ald. A. E. Harvey, J.P., Mr. E. R. Dore, Mr. R. Stevens, Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Porter, Mr. C. Martin, F.R.H.S., Mrs. Hendy Davies, Mr. P. G. Jenkins, Mr. A. H. Hughes, Mr. and Mrs. Hillyer (Coves), Miss Alderslade, Mr. H. J. Heal, Mr. F. Scovell and Mr. F. Launder (representing the children's Sunday evening service), Mr. F. R. Guy, Miss Upton, Mr. J. W. Gibbs (Sunday-school secretary and a trustee), Capt. J. S. Brown, Mr. E. Taylor, Mr. L. Ward, Miss Buckett (Alverstone), Mrs. Wheeler,

Mr. W. H. Morris, Mr. and Mrs. H. Jennings, Mrs. C. Grant, Mrs. W. Webber, Miss Smith, Mrs. Webster, Mrs. Coleman, Mr. F. Coleman, Mrs. Mearman, Mrs. A. Morgan, Mrs. Blow, Mrs. Flux, Mrs. A. W. Spanner, Miss N. Spanner, Mrs. P. W. Boxall, Mrs. Beaven, Mrs. Fraser, and Mr. Triggs and Miss Webster (members of the staff of Messrs. E. W. Tyler and Son).

The interment was at the Carisbrooke Cemetery, where the Masonic funeral oration was read by the Rev. W. H. Mackinnon. The large number of floral tributes included wreaths from the minister and deacons and the Woman's Guild of the Congregational Church, the Albany Lodge of Freemasons, and the staff of Messrs. E. W. Tyler and Son. The arrangements were made by Messrs. H. and F. Damp.

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