

JOHN DEMPSEY

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NEWPORT

DEATH OF MR. JOHN DEMPSEY

People in all parts of the Island who knew him as a Vectis Bus driver and admired his sterling character will hear with regret of the death, which took place yesterday (Friday) morning at 57 Victoria-road, at the early age of 44, of Mr. John Dempsey, and they will sincerely sympathise with his widow and three children. Mr. Dempsey was a native of Sheffield and a typical Yorkshireman in his kindliness of heart and steadfastness to his principles. He joined the Yorks and Lancs Regiment at the outbreak of the Great War and was severely wounded in France in 1915 while acting as a messenger between the front and reserve lines. For his gallantry in this hazardous task he was awarded the Military Medal. Incapacitated from further front-line service by his wounds, he was transferred to the Royal Army Service Corps as a driver, and on being demobilised at Parkhurst he made his home here, and married Miss Dorothy Cooper, daughter of the late Mr. T. Cooper and Mrs. Cooper, of 13 Crocker-street.

For a time he drove a Royal Blue motor-coach and then joined the staff of the Southern Vectis Bus Co. He served the company as a driver and in other capacities until about a year ago, and then worked at the Folly factory of the Saro Laminated Wood Products Co. until the illness which ended fatally started about six months ago. He bore his illness with the unfailing cheerfulness which characterised his life and made him so popular with his friends. Although Mr. Dempsey received the Military Medal he never received his other war medals and had not troubled about this omission until the fact recently became known to the officials of the British Legion, who were endeavouring to get them for him. Mr. Dempsey was a brother-in-law of Police Inspector G. Dobson, of Cowes. The funeral will take place on Monday.

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