George Blake

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Death of old Cycling Champion.- The death occurred on Tuesday in St. Mary's Hospital of Mr. George Blake, at the age of 75. For a number of years Mr. Blake was associated with the butcher's business in the High-street, carried on under the style of Reynolds and Company, from which he retired some years ago, since when he has been residing with his sisters at Valmers, College-road. In his early days he was well known as a racing cyclist. A member of the I.W. Vectis and Shanklin Cycling Clubs, he was prominent in races round the Oval, at East Cowes, and the Canoe Lake, at Ryde, where he fought many battles with such celebrated cyclists as Harry Minns, the late A. M. Cheverton, and other stalwarts. He was a member of the I.W. County Coursing Club and a first rate slip. He was one of the oldest coursers in the Island, having been a devotee of the sport long before the County Club was formed. Mr. Blake was also a skilful billiards player, being for many years one of the most successful exponents of the game at the Newport Conservative Club. He was a man of fine physique in his prime and an old boy of the Portland House Academy. He leaves two sons, and a daughter in Canada. His eldest son died in Canada a few years ago. The funeral took place yesterday (Friday) afternoon.

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