James Luxton Manning

1891 census, Alvington Manor, Carisbrooke

James L Manning	Head	<i>60</i>	Farmer	Topsham, Devon
Caroline Manning	Wife	59		Whitwell, Isle of Wight, Hampshire
Robert B Wilkins	Son-in-law	39	Surgeon	Newport, Isle of Wight, Hampshire
Mary Ann Pearce	Visitor	40		Newport, Isle of Wight, Hampshire
Mary Lindsey		22	Servant, Domestic	Northwood, Isle of Wight, Hampshire

Isle of Wight County Press - Saturday 18 February 1905

SUDDEN DEATH OF MR. J. L. MANNING.

We record with regret the sudden death of Mr. James Luxton Manning, who passed away during his sleep on Wednesday night at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. Wilkins, of Alexandra-terrace, Newport, at the age of 75. For very many years the deceased gentleman had held a prominent position in connection with the various public bodies of the Island. He was a member of the old Highway Commissioners, and he was Chairman up to the time of his death of the Highways Committee of the Rural District Council, for which his thorough knowledge of road matters in all parts of the Island eminently fitted him. His thorough grasp of important public business was specially shown in the leading part he took in the effort which has been in progress for some years to arrive at a more satisfactory arrangement with the County Council with regard to highway maintenance. Mr. Manning was also one of the oldest members of the Island Board of Guardians, and he proved an ideal guardian of the poor and a most valued colleague in the general work of that Board, particularly as a member of the Works Committee. In the parish of Carisbrooke, with which he was so long and closely associated as the owner of Alvington Manor, he devoted himself unsparingly to the discharge of work in connection with the Parish Council and parochial committee. "Economy with efficiency" was not a mere electioneering cry with him, as his warnings in regard to public expenditure frequently testified, and occasionally he made a courageous stand for economy, notably in his successful advocacy of an alternative scheme for the sewerage of Carisbrooke. A man of marked independence of character and conspicuous outspokenness, there were very few upon public bodies with which he was associated who could surpass him in readiness of speech and in effectiveness and incisiveness of retort. Upon general subjects he was remarkably well read, and in speaking or conversing upon them he gave evidence of deep insight and earnest thought. He was ever ready to give his valued assistance in religious work. During the greater part of his connection with the Island he rendered most able and acceptable service as a local preacher, chiefly for the Bible Christian denomination, and the P.S.A. movement has found in him a most earnest supporter and very popular platform helper. Whilst a stanch Nonconformist, he held his views with courteous consideration for those of others who differed from him, and he readily conceded to them the liberty of thought which he claimed for himself. The death of one who had been so usefully and strenuously employed in public work is a loss which the Island can ill afford. The sincerest sympathy of the many who knew Mr. Manning will be with his relatives in their sorrow.

(Public tributes by the I.W. Board of Guardians and the I.W. Rural District Council not transcribed)

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THE INQUEST.

Last (Friday) evening the Deputy Coroner for the Island (Francis A. Joyce. Esq.) held an inquest at the residence of the deceased's daughter, Mrs. Wilkins, 88, Alexandra-terrace, with whom the deceased lived. At the outset the Deputy Coroner said the inquest concerned the death of a gentleman who had rendered very efficient public service for the Isle of Wight and the facts were so simple that it was very formal matter. Mr. W. K. Ediss was chosen foreman of the jury. Evidence was given by Mrs. Rosalie Sophia Wilkins (deceased's daughter), Miss Edith Wilkins (granddaughter), and Dr. M. L. B. Coombs. Mrs. Wilkins said on Wednesday night her father said he would have a little brandy and water, as it seemed to have done him good when he had some the night before. He was not in the habit of taking any stimulant. He seemed to be all right when she bade him "good-night" in his bedroom, but the next morning, about 9 o'clock, when she went there, she found him dead. There were evidences that he had not taken the brandy and water. Dr. Coombs, who saw the body about 9.30 on Thursday morning, said death had occurred some hours previously, as rigor mortis had set in. Being unable to certify the cause of death, he made a post mortem examination, the results of which he gave, the effect being that death was due to a rupture of the pulmonary artery. The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence and passed a vote of deep sympathy with Mrs. Wilkins and her family in their bereavement.

The funeral takes place at Newport Cemetery on Monday afternoon, leaving the house at 2.30.

Isle of Wight County Press - 25 February 1905

FUNERAL OF LATE MR. J. L. MANNING.

The funeral of the late Mr. James Luxton Manning, whose sudden death at Newport last week, at the age of 75, was recorded in our last issue, took place on Monday afternoon in the presence of a large assemblage, including most of the members of the public authorities with which the deceased gentleman had been so long, so usefully, and so prominently identified. The interment took place at the family burial place at Newport Cemetery, side by side with the remains of the late Mr. Manning's wife. On the coffin of polished elm, which was borne in a hearse from the residence at Alexandraterrace, Newport, direct to the Cemetery, were lovely floral tributes, one being from "His sorrowing daughter and grand-children," and another was inscribed "With deepest sympathy from the Chairman and members of the Isle of Wight Rural District Council." The family mourners were Mrs. Wilkins (daughter), Mr. Robert Bird Manning Wilkins, Misses Rosalie M. Sancroft and Edith Caroline Wilkins, and Master Ernest Cuthbert Wilkins (grandchildren), and Mr. F. A, Joyce. Then followed Mr. G. Fellows, C.A. (chairman of the Guardians), and Mr. Charles Dabell, C.C. (chairman of the I.W. Rural District Council), of both of which bodies the deceased was a member, being chairman of the Highways Committee of the latter authority; and the members and officers of those authorities(the full, long list of others attending and tributes by the Newport P.S.A. Society and Carisbrooke Parish Council not transcribed)

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