

Albion Spanner

Isle of Wight County Press
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NEWPORT

Death of Mr. Albion Spanner.—The borough lost one of its oldest and most respected business men by the death on Sunday of Mr. Albion Spanner, who for 55 years had successfully carried on the well known drapery establishment bearing his name at 114 High-street, opposite the Medina Cinema. Mr. Spanner, who was a native of the town, received early training in his trade at Taunton and Haverhill, Suffolk. At the latter place he married and soon after, in 1878, returned to his native town and opened the business he so ably conducted until about 18 months ago, when failing health led him to hand over the control to his only son (Mr. A. A. Spanner).

He whole-heartedly shared his family's devotion to the Wesleyan Church, and had served it as a society steward. He was a keen friendly society supporter, being one of the oldest members of the local Court of Foresters, and he was for over 26 years district treasurer of the Island Foresters, and for over 50 years the secretary of the Newport Sanctuary of the Ancient Order of Shepherds. He later relinquished the latter office in March last owing to ill-health. He had been lying rather seriously ill for several weeks. Sincere sympathy is felt with his widow, son, and two daughters in their bereavement.

The funeral took place on Thursday, the service being held at the Victoria Methodist Church. The Rev. J. Matthewman officiated. Mr. E. J. H. Quarrier, at the organ, played Mendelssohn's Funeral March and "O rest in the Lord" (Mendelssohn), and accompanied the singing of the hymns "Give me the wings of faith to rise" and "Rejoice for a brother departed".

The mourners were Mr. A. A. Spanner (son), the Misses M. and K. Spanner (daughters), Mr. Hugh Spanner (grandson), Mr. F. Spanner (brother), Mr. W. M. Spanner (nephew) and Mrs. Spanner, Mr. R. Goddard (nephew), Mrs. E. Calloway and Mr. E. Coombes (cousin). Those present included Mr. and Mrs. Gentle, Mr. and Mrs. C. Elderfield, and Mr. and Mrs. H. Blow, Mesdames Daish, Hurrell, Harvey, and Barber, and Miss A. Osborne, Messrs. F. Midlane (district secretary), A. W. Keeping (district treasurer), G. H. King, B. J. Newnham, and J. C. Williams (district trustees), representing the I.W. District Foresters, C. Eldridge (representing the Sanctuary), L. Orchard (representing Mr. H. Orchard, Arreton), W. Knapp, W. Cooper, F. Burton, G. Wallbridge, H. Shepard, J.P., C.C., J. H. Black, E. J. Gentle, G. Matthews, and C. Burton.

The interment followed at Newport Cemetery. Among those unavoidably prevented from attending were the Mayor of Newport, (Mr. J. L. Mitchell, C.C.) and Alderman J. H. Deacon.

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