

Hannah Giles

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NEWPORT

ALMOST A NONAGENARIAN

A lady who in her earlier years was a prominent and much esteemed figure in the business life of the town passed away at St. Mary's Hospital on Sunday in her 90th year. Mrs. Hannah Giles, who formerly resided at the Crocker-street Almshouses, and then with her daughter, Mrs. C. Cant, of 54 New-street, before her infirmity necessitated her removal to the hospital. Mrs. Giles will be better known by the older residents of the borough by her first married name, Mrs. Allen. Her first husband, Mr. John Allen, lost his life in a trap accident on the Cowes road 52 years ago, and for some years afterwards his widow carried on his butcher's business very capably, in spite of the fact that she was left with seven children. At that time the generosity which was the outstanding trait in her life was marked by her provision of a soup kitchen for the benefit of the poor of the town, at which she not only supplied soup free of charge, but bread as well. Since then she had been twice married, first to the late Mr. Robert Wiseman, and secondly to Mr. Thomas Giles, who died 12 years ago. Of her family of nine children, three daughters are in Canada. While her health permitted Mrs. Giles was a worshipper at St. John's Church, and the funeral took place there on Thursday, the interment being in her first husband's grave in the churchyard.

The Vicar (the Rev. W.H. MacKinnon) officiated, the hymn "Abide with me" was sung, and Miss D. Welby-Pryer, L.R.A.M., at the deceased's request played the tune of her favourite hymn "Scatter seeds of kindness" at the close. The chief mourners were Mr. and Mrs. C. Cant (son-in-law and daughter), Mesdames Shepard, Beatty, Squibb, Gaff, Dyer, and Cooke, and Messrs. J.C. and D. Cant (grandchildren), and Mesdames Freeman, Ash, and J. Kirby. Others attending included Mesdames L. Dore, Kinchington, Simmonds, Searle, Linington, and J. Cant and the Misses D. Dore and Wolfe.

The family thank the staff at St. Mary's Hospital for their kindness, and those sending letters and floral tributes, and would be grateful if they will accept this acknowledgment.

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