

William Henry Nutter
Isle of Wight County Press - 25th December, 1909.

DEATH OF THE REV. W. H. NUTTER.

We deeply regret to record the death, on Thursday evening, of the Rev., W. H. Nutter, M.A., Vicar of St. Paul's, Barton. The brave gentleman, who was a graduate of Cambridge University, became curate of Newport during the vicariate of Dean Connor from 1867-71, and it was largely due to his exertions that the fine organ was acquired for St Thomas's Church. His great musical and magnificent vocal ability secured for him the post of minor Canon of Rochester Cathedral, which he held from 1871 to 1884. For 10 years he was sacrist of the cathedral and precentor for three years. He held two vicariates, that of St Margaret's, Rochester, from 1884 to 1890, and since then that of St Paul's, Barton. The rev. gentleman took the greatest interest in musical and philanthropic matters. He was a skilled and cultured organist and played a large part of the music for the services at his church on the fine instrument he had been the means of securing for it. He was likewise a master of the concertina and had often delighted Island audiences by his playing on that instrument. His was a genial and kindly urbane and popular personality, and his place in our midst will be most difficult to fill. His friends had sorrowfully noticed lately signs of age creeping upon him. About a fortnight since he caught a chill, the effects of which have resulted in his removal from amongst us. The sincerest sympathy will be felt for Mrs. Nutter and the family in their irreparable loss.

Isle of Wight County Press - 6th January 1910

THE LATE REV. W. H. NUTTER.

IMPRESSIVE FUNERAL AT ST PAUL'S BARTON.

The parish of St Paul's, Barton, was plunged into gloom during the Christmas season by the lamented death, which we recorded in our last issue, of its veteran and universally esteemed Vicar, the Rev. William Henry Nutter, MA, after a brief illness, in his 73rd year. The extent of the loss which his parish has thus suffered can only be fully realised by those who are acquainted with the marked success he achieved during his 19 years' ministry at St Paul's in setting up and maintaining with increasing efficiency the various parochial agencies necessary for successful Church work. Eloquent testimony to the value of his services in this direction is afforded by the large and flourishing Sunday-school, Band of Hope, Temperance Society, and other parochial organisations which he established at St Paul's, to say nothing of the erection of the new parish-room, the thorough renovation and beautifying of his much beloved Parish-church, the installation of the splendid new organ there, and valued support in the founding of the St Paul's and Newport Reed and Brass Band, of which he was the president. In this work he was splendidly assisted by the devoted labours of his wife and daughter, by Major Henry J. Way, who has been his right-hand supporter as vicar's warden continuously during nearly the whole of his vicariate, and by other church officers. We referred last week to his distinguished musical abilities, which, with his many estimable personal qualities, enhanced his popularity among Islanders generally and endeared him to all with whom he came into contact. Ever kindly and amiable in disposition, the soul of courtesy, manifesting a true Christian sympathy and generous in all his dealings, the harmony of his musical nature spread its sweetness over all his varied activities and ensured the smooth and pleasant working of the parochial machinery and the formation of many cherished friendships. The late Mr. Nutter was a member of a very old and esteemed North of England family.

The service at St Paul's on Christmas-day was conducted by the Rev. C. C. Sharpe, curate of Newport, who voiced the sincere sympathy of the clergy and parishioners of St Thomas's, Newport, of which the late Mr. Nutter was formerly one of the clergy, with the people of St Paul's in the great loss they had suffered by the death of a Vicar so faithful and so beloved. In the sad circumstances the special music which had been arranged for the Christmas Festival by the late Vicar was naturally dispensed with and only the ordinary service was used. On Sunday morning the Vicar of Newport (Rev. H. Edmund Sharpe) officiated, and in concluding his sermon he said their Christmas joys in that parish were tinged with the deep sorrow of bereavement which had come to them rather unexpectedly in the loss of the esteemed Vicar of that parish,

one who had been a faithful minister of the Church and a good friend to all in that place and one who won the warm esteem and affection of his parishioners and all with whom he was brought into contact. It was the wish of those nearest and dearest to their late Vicar that on that occasion they should dwell not so much on the sorrow of the occasion as on the triumph and joy of that glad festival; an opportunity would be afforded on the following Sunday for a suitable reference to their late Vicar's life and his work and worth. But before concluding he should like to give them a message which their Vicar gave him. As he was leaving his sick-room on the previous Wednesday the late Vicar called him back and said, "Thank all my friends for the kind messages they have sent me." In their sorrow let them try to look up words in thankfulness to God for giving them the faithful witness and beautiful life of their late Vicar. The closing hymn was "The saints of God, their conflict past." In the evening the Rev. E. Bennett (St Thomas's, Newport) was the preacher, and he also made a touching allusion to the death of the Vicar. He said the beautiful face of their late Vicar was an index to his kindness of heart, and on all sides they heard of his kindly and sympathetic nature and his nobility of character. A faithful and lovable minister, he was also a musical genius, and as they thought of their late Vicar sitting at the organ there and bringing out the grand qualities of that noble instrument in the beautiful harmonies for which his playing was renowned they would gratefully recall how he dedicated his great musical talents to the service of his Divine Master in his consecrated ministry of music, which seemed Divinely inspired.

During Sunday afternoon Church-workers and parishioners had an opportunity, of which many availed themselves, of looking for the last time upon the face of their beloved Vicar.

The funeral took place at St Paul's on Tuesday afternoon, when the church to which the late Vicar was so devotedly attached was filled with mourners representative of the church members and congregation and parochial agencies of St Paul's, the clergy of the West Medene, church officers and congregation of St Thomas's, Newport, and various societies in the town of which the late Vicar was a valued supporter, the St Paul's and Newport Brass and Reed Band, and others. Mr A. Wells (Shanklin), who was for so long pleasantly associated with the late Vicar as assistant organist at St Paul's, Barton, presided at the organ, which had so often majestically responded to the late Vicar's masterly touch, whilst the congregation was assembling and gave a soul-stirring interpretation of Chopin's "Marche Funebre," Mendelsohn's "O rest in the Lord," and Spohr's "Blest are the departed."

Mr. E. W. Way (assistant organist) played the organ during the service, which was deeply impressive and in perfect harmony with the all-pervading sentiment of deep sorrow and affectionate respect. The robed clergy present were the Rural Dean of West Wight, Rev. Canon Clement Smith, M.V.O (Rector of Whippingham and patron of the living of St Paul's, Barton), the Revs. H. Edmund Sharpe (Vicar of Newport), G. E. Jeans (vicar of Shorwell), W. J. Stobart (vicar of Carisbrooke), A. C. Stratton (vicar of St John's, Newport), C. W. Heald (Rector of Chale), C. C. Sharpe, E. Dennett (Newport), and I. Rees (Carisbrooke), and there were also in the church the Revs. W. H. Warrington (vicar of Arretton), and A. H. C. Edlin, (chaplain to the forces at Parkhurst). The body was met at the entrance to the churchyard by the robed clergy and Capt. Page (Church Army worker in the parish,) and these were preceded by the churchwardens of St Paul's (Major Henry J. Way and Mr. A. Orman), and the churchwardens of St Thomas's, Newport (Capt. Hills and Mr. W. C. Black), bearing their wands of office tied with crêpe.

The opening sentences of the Burial Service were recited by the Rev. G. E. Jeans as the body was borne into the church, headed by the procession of clergy and followed by the personal mourners, Mrs. W. H. Nutter (widow), Mrs. R. T. Haines (daughter), Miss Wimble, Mr. R. T. Haines, Mr. R. Salisbury, Nurse Wood, and Dr. M. L. B. Coombs, J.P. (medical attendant). The service was chorally rendered, the St Paul's choir being augmented by members of the St. Thomas's choir. The Vicar of Newport conducted the first part of the service and the Rev. Canon Clement Smith read the lesson with telling expression and completed the service in the church. The hymns sung were "The saints of God, their conflict past," "Jerusalem the golden," and "Now the labourer's task is o'er." As the body was borne from the church Mr. Wales played the "Dead March" in *Saul* with impressive effect.

[other attendees not transcribed]

The interment was in the pretty churchyard connected with St Paul's, and the service at the grave was conducted by the The Vicar of Newport and Canon Clement Smith. The wish that no flowers should be sent

was made known locally, but there were some floral tributes from friends at a distance, as well as from members of the family. The coffin was of plain oak with oxidised silver mounts, the massive silver breast plate bearing the inscription "Wm. Henry Nutter, born 11th of January, 1837, died 23rd of December, 1909." The funeral arrangements were carried out by Mr. C. Webb.

The excellent seating and other arrangements for the service at the church were made and carried out by Major Henry J. Way (vicar's warden), who was well supported by his co-churchwarden (Mr. A. Orman) and the sidesmen (Messrs. W. Bishop, W. H. Dyer, J. T. Locke, and W. W Dore). Among those who were unavoidably prevented from attending were Mrs. Henry J. Way, Mr. Robey, F. Eldridge, J.P., Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Brannon, and Mr. J. W. Stanley, J.P. Mrs. Russell Cooke and Miss B. K. Martin were away from home.

The services at St Paul's, Barton tomorrow (Sunday) will be of a memorial character. The Rev. Canon Clement Smith will be the morning preacher and the Vicar of Newport will officiate in the evening.

Mrs. Nutter and Mrs. Haines return heartfelt thanks for the great sympathy expressed for them and for the absent members of the family in their sorrow.

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