

MILITARY FUNERAL AT RYDE.

The remains of the late Major Charles Francis Mostyn WATKINS, R.E. , officer in charge of the Chatham District R.E., who died at the Davenport Nursing Home, Ryde, on Monday, were interred in Ryde Cemetery on Wednesday with full military honours. The funeral was a very impressive one, the procession including the 4th Company Royal Engineers from Gosport, numbering about 120 men, the Band of the Royal Garrison Artillery and a number of officers from Headquarters.

The remains, encased in a polished oak coffin, with brass furniture, and bearing the inscription (which was engraved and waxed in the colours of the Regiment- Red and Blue);

CHARLES FRANCIS MOSTYN WATKINS,
Born 12th April, 1867,
Died 13th July, 1913.
"Fight the good fight."

...were drawn on a gun carriage, by a team provided by the Army Service Corps from the Nursing Home, to Holy Trinity Church, where the service was conducted by the Rev. Mr NORRIS, military chaplain, from Chatham, assisted by the Rev. J. E. EDDIS. The coffin was covered with the Union Jack. His helmet and sword rested on the top of the coffin, together with a small bunch of crimson rambler roses. Eight officers, of the same rank as the deceased, acted as pallbearers. They were, Majors R. J. MAIR, DOBBS, HARVEY, SMITH, KNOX, WALKER, CARPENTER and GARWOOD.

The procession formed up outside the Church, under Major GARWOOD, commanding 4th Company R.E., Gosport, who provided the bearers and firing party. The latter headed the procession, being followed by the R.G.A. Band, in charge of Sergeant BRUNER. The gun carriage, bearing the remains came next preceding the family mourners, and various officers.- The family mourners were Sir Alexander GIBBONS (brother-in-law), Mr Edward WATKINS (brother), Major Stark CHRISTIE, R.E., (brother-in-law), and Mr Frank BERRY.

The officers following were: From headquarters, Chatham,- Colonel CAPPER, C.B., Major HARVEY, D.S.O., Major Knox, Major Smith, C.M.G., Lieut.-Colonel BIGGE, Captain FOULKES, and Captain SEWELL; Major GARWOOD (commanding the 4th Company, Gosport), Colonel GODBY (Portsmouth), Major MAIR (Officer commanding I.W. Royal Engineers), Major CARPENTER, Major DOBBS, Captain HOODERN, and Major WALKER.

More mourners followed in a carriage, preceding a company of R.E.'s from Gosport, a number of the same company carrying beautiful wreaths and floral tributes at the rear.

The procession to the strains of Beethoven's and other funeral marches, played by the band, proceeded to the Cemetery, via Trinity Street, Melville Street, Cross Street, High Street, John Street, and West Street, passing on the way between lines of spectators. The Royal Engineers encircled the grave, the firing party standing before it, with buglers DAWSON, HAYDEN, and CONWAY behind them. After the service had been pronounced at the graveside by the Rev. J. E. EDDIS, and the committal sentences read by the Rev. Mr NORRIS, three volleys were fired and "The Last Post" sounded. After the officers and mourners had taken one last look into the grave of an old comrade, the procession left the Cemetery to give place to the large number of the general public who attended. There were many beautiful floral tributes, of which the following is a list:

Mr E. H. Mostyn WATKINS.

In memory of Major WATKINS, from the Matron and nurses of Davenport Nursing Home.

Major F. M. WATKINS, Army Pay Department.

Major and Mrs STARK-CHRISTIE

Mr and Mrs WILSON

From the staff, R.E. Officers' Mess, Brompton Barracks, Chatham

Mrs WATKINS - In loving memory of my dear son

In loving memory from Nora

From his loving sister and brother-in-law, Gladys and Albert

Major and Mrs WEEKS

Mrs MILLS, Mrs & A. BRADFORD, Mr MOLE (servants)

Major and Mrs WAIT

Major and Mrs CARPENTER

The Officers, Depot, Chatham, Royal Engineers

To dear uncle Mostyn with much love, from Dorothea, Betty, Vera, and Baby

Miss COLLOINS, Oldgarth, Bembridge I.W.

Captain and Mrs H. R. L. HOLMES and Miss Doran

Mrs William Role COLLINGWOOD (Acklan Hall)

Frank and Adelaide, Mr and Mrs F. FERRY (Evelyn Gardens, South Kensington)

Major and Mrs R. J. B. MAIR (Kilmurray, Ryde)

Warrant and N.C. Officers' Mess, R.E.

Captain and Mrs SEWELL

H.M. Dockyard, Chatham, Kent. A few simple flowers in loving memory of a good and faithful
soldier to his King and Country - G.B.

Commandant and Officers, Royal Engineers, Brompton Barracks, Chatham

Colonel and Mrs CAPPER

The Officers, R.E., Portsmouth

PERDIE, Lieut. Colonel, F. C., Logan-Horse

Lieut.-Colonel BIGGE, R.E., and Officers' Training Battalion, R.E.

Dr and Mrs TAUNTON

The whole of the arrangements were efficiently carried through by Messrs PURNELL and
PURNELL, of Ryde.
