ISLE OF WIGHT OBSERVER Saturday 22nd July 1899

DEATH OF AN OLD PUBLIC SERVANT. - We have to record the death on Saturday last of Mr **Eli SHEPHERD**, who was, we believe, the oldest corporation servant. He had attained the ripe age of 83 years, and for not far short of half a century had been in the employ of the local authority. For many years he filled the offices of water inspector and turncock, and even till a comparatively recent date might have been seen carrying the iron instrument with which he performed his duties. The Corporation never had a more faithful servant, and the simplicity and kindliness of the old man's character made him universally popular.

The funeral took place on Tuesday last, at the Ryde Cemetery, when Mr E. SWEETMAN, jun., Councillor H. SWEETMAN, Major C. SWEETMAN, Mr W. SWEETMAN, Mr ELDRIDGE (Inspector of Nuisances) Mr SIVELL, Mr SNOW, and other Corporation officials, showed their respect for the old public servant by attending.

Researched & typed by Ann Barrett Margaret Truckel