

ISLE OF WIGHT OBSERVER Saturday 13th September, 1873

Death Notice :

NEGUS – On the 9th inst., at Swanmore, **Frances Maria NEGUS**. R.I. P.

ISLE OF WIGHT OBSERVER Saturday 20th September, 1873

FUNERAL AT THE CEMETERY

At noon, on Saturday last, the mortal remains of **Frances Maria NEGUS**, who died at Swanmore, on the 9th inst., were solemnly consigned to their last resting place, in the Ryde Cemetery, according to the rites of the Anglican church. A procession of surpliced choristers was formed at Swanmore Church, headed by a crossbearer and acolytes, after which came the pastor, the coffin borne on a bier, and a number of mourners, the majority of whom were ladies, several carrying crosses and wreaths of flowers. The coffin was covered with a violet pall, richly embroidered and bordered with a text, the corners of which were held by ladies. On the top of the coffin were placed some beautiful flowers, floral offerings from the friends of deceased. As the mournful procession slowly wended its way from the church to “God’s acre” hymns were sung, and on arriving at the grave a portion of the English burial service was impressively intoned by the clergyman, the responses being sung by the choir, who, after the lowering the corpse into the grave, harmoniously sang the beautiful hymn “The gates, the gates are open.” The service being concluded, the procession re-formed and returned to Swanmore chanting an appropriate psalm. During the performance of the service, a large number of spectators were present, all of whom we are glad to say behaved in a religious and decorous manner. Such a beautiful and interesting funeral service as that of the Anglican Church is indeed a relief and an improvement to that usually held over the dead in this country, and we could not help being struck with the impressiveness of Saturday’s burial rites.

Researched & typed by
Ann Barrett
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