

MARRIAGE: Mar ¼ 1857 (General Registrars ref: Farnham reg dist. vol 2a. page 62)
William YEATES & Mary Ann MEW.

1871 CENSUS: RG10/1165. folio 32. page 16.
Address: 89 Arthur-street, Ryde, IW.

William YEATES. Head. Mar. 40. Instructor of Volunteers. Lyndhurst, Hants.

Mary Ann YEATES. Wife. Mar. 35. Rookley, IW.

Alice YEATES. Dau. 10. Scholar. Chatham, Kent.

Mildred YEATES. Dau. 9. Scholar. Chatham, Kent.

Richard YEATES. Son. 4. Scholar. Devonport, Devon.

Harriet YEATES. Dau. 2. Aldershot, Hants.

Ada YEATES. Dau. 8 months. Ryde, IW.

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Death Notice:-

YEATES .. On the 14th inst., at Arthur-street, Ryde, after a short illness, Mr. **William YEATES**, sergeant-instructor of the 1st (Ryde) Corps, Isle of Wight Rifle Volunteers, aged 44 years.

ISLE OF WIGHT OBSERVER Saturday 20th Nov 1875

DEATH OF SERGEANT INSTRUCTOR YEATES

It is with deep regret that we record the death of Sergeant Instructor **William YEATES**, of the Isle of Wight Rifle Volunteers, which took place at his residence, in Arthur street, on Sunday evening last. He had been unwell for some time and for a week or so before he died was compelled to remain indoors. He had been suffering from some form of rheumatism, which had affected his heart, but few imagined that he was so ill as he was. He was sitting before the fire shortly before 7 o'clock, and was talking with his wife and Corporal LAMING, of the Ryde Corps, who had dropped in to ask how he was, and said he seemed much better. Suddenly, however, he stopped speaking and fell back in what at first was thought to be a fit, but from which he never recovered consciousness. Corporal LAMING at once procured the attendance of a medical man, but it was of no avail - the vital spark had fled.

A more competent instructor than Sergeant YEATES never came into the Island; and no one was ever more universally respected, and almost every squad of recruits he took in hand, presented him with some valuable testimonial. Sergeant Instructor YEATES was a thorough soldier, and though he was only 44 years of age could look back upon 26 years devoted almost entirely to the Army or the Volunteers. He was a native of Hampshire, having been born at Lyndhurst, and he enlisted in the 20th Regiment on the 14th of December 1849, when he was 18 years of age. He was promoted to the rank of corporal in 1853, to that of sergeant in 1855, and colour sergeant in 1861. He served over two years in North America; and on the 14th September 1854, proceeded to the Crimea, and served there two and a half years, so that it will be seen that he saw a good deal of the fighting there. He had not left the Crimea very long before he was despatched to India, and went all through the Mutiny. He served in India nearly three years, and there is no doubt his services in India and the Crimea, and the hardships he suffered, laid the foundation of the disease which eventually carried him off in what is usually considered the prime of life. He had the Crimean medal with four clasps; the Turkish medal; the Indian Mutiny medal with one clasp; and a good

conduct medal. Sergeant YEATES came to Ryde as the instructor of the 1st Isle of Wight Rifle Volunteers about the middle of January 1869, with a character which anyone might be proud of, and he soon gained the respect and confidence of all who came in contact with him.

He leaves, we regret to say, a widow and eight children to mourn their loss. The annual prize meeting of the corps, which was to have taken place on Tuesday, was postponed in consequence of the sad event. The funeral took place this (Friday) afternoon. The coffin was first conveyed to the Parish Church, and from thence to the Cemetery about 4 o'clock. It was a full military funeral, and the deceased was followed to the grave by nearly all his comrades of the Ryde Corps, as well as by the sergeants of the battalion, and Volunteers representing other Corps.

Researched & typed by
Ann Barrett
Samantha Morley