

THE FUNERAL OF SERGEANT-INSTRUCTOR YEATES.

This event occurred of Friday afternoon last, just too late for us to publish an account in the last issue of our paper. The novelty of a full military funeral in our town, as well as the regard and respect in which Sergeant-Instructor **YEATES** was held, no doubt had something to do with the interest which was manifested in the affair, for, long before the time the sad procession was to start from the house of the deceased, West Street was lined with a large assemblage of people of all ranks and conditions. At 3 o'clock the Volunteers assembled at the Market, and marched thence to the residence of the deceased, in Arthur Street, in the following order: first a firing party of 20 men, under the command of Sergeant **DASHWOOD**; next the full band of the Ryde Corps, with their drums muffled; next the sergeants of the several corps forming the Isle of Wight battalion; then some 120 members of the Ryde and other Corps, under the command of Captain-Commandant Francis **NEWMAN**, the other officers present being Captain **DASHWOOD**, Captain **MCGROTTY** (adjutant), Surgeon **WILKES**, and Quartermaster **GARNETT**. Arrived at the residence of the deceased, the coffin was brought from the house by the fatigue party, by whom it was carried, three sergeant-instructors of the battalion and three colour-sergeants being pall-bearers. On the pall was placed the cap of the deceased, around which was a handsome wreath of flowers, and on the coffin were placed his sword and accoutrements, as well as several other floral wreaths. The members of the corps then stood back in file, and the coffin was conveyed, through the centre of the men, next to the band, and the party returned to the Parish Church in the following order: First the firing party, with arms reversed and marching very slowly; next the band, which played the German "Dead March"; then the coffin, followed by the two sons of the deceased as chief mourners, by his brothers-in-law, and other relatives; then by the members of the corps and representatives of other corps; and lastly by the officers before mentioned. Arrived at the parish Church, the coffin was received at the western door by the Rev Alexander **POOLE**, the vicar, who reading the solemn sentences at the opening of the burial service, preceded into the chancel, where the service was read. The church was filled. After the reading of the service, the coffin was conveyed from the church, and the procession was re-formed in the order already given, but with the addition of the vicar and his verger, and the mayor (**B. BARROW**, esq.), who testified his respect for the deceased by accompanying the procession to the Cemetery. The band now played the "Dead March in Saul", and we are sure no one amongst the hundreds of spectators could help being impressed by the solemn music (to which the Volunteers kept slowly pacing), the reversed arms, and the grave countenances of those thus testifying their respect for a man who had done his duty well to his country, the corps, and in his private life. In fact, we never remember having seen in Ryde a funeral at which so many assembled, or at which there were so many unequivocal expressions of regret and respect. there must have been between 2,000 and 3,000 people in the Cemetery on the occasion. The remainder of the beautiful service was read at the grave by the Vicar, and as the last mournful but solemn and hopeful words died away, the firing party, in obedience to the soldierly word of command from the officer, fired three volleys into the air, and after taking a last glance at the coffin, so soon to be hid from their sight, which held all that was mortal of their lamented comrade, the volunteers returned in silence to the Town Hall, where they were dismissed. Altogether it was a ceremony which those who witnessed it will not rapidly forget. It will be seen, on reference to this week's regimental orders, that Captain **NEWMAN** especially remarks on the loss sustained by the corps, and to the manner in which the late Sergeant performed his duties.