

1881 CENSUS: RG11/1180. folio 57. page 3.  
Address: Swanmore-road, Ryde, IW.

**Thomas A. BUTLER. Head. Mar. 57. Retired Schoolmaster. Newport, IW.**  
Mary S. BUTLER. Wife. Mar. 55. Ryde, IW.  
James E. BRADFIELD. Boarder. Unm. 21. Watchmaker. Sheffield.

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1891 CENSUS: RG12/892. folio 19. page 31.  
Address: Parnham Cottage, Swanmore-road, Haylands, Ryde, IW.

**Thomas A. BUTLER. Head. 67. Retired Schoolmaster. Newport, IW.**  
Emily COATES. Niece. M. 54. Newport, IW.  
Frederick W. COATES. Nephew. M. Naval Pensioner. East Stoke, Dorsetshire.

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ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY PRESS, Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September 1901, front page

Death Notice:-

**BUTLER**:- Sept. 12, at 65, West-street, Ryde, **Thomas Alban BUTLER**, aged 77.

(Also in the IW Times, Thurs 19<sup>th</sup> September 1901, front page, no further information)

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ISLE OF WIGHT TIMES, Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September 1901

#### **DEATH AND FUNERAL OF AN OLD ODDFELLOW.**

We regret to announce the death of a well-known Oddfellow, Mr **Thos. Alban BUTLER**, who passed away on Thursday evening last, after a prolonged illness. Who had been a great sufferer for many months and the release may be considered a happy one. Mr BUTLER had been specially identified with Oddfellowship in Ryde for many years and was known all over the county and as secretary was a most zealous officer. Through failing health he was obliged to resign his office about three years since. He commenced Oddfellowship in Ryde in 1850, when he joined the Loyal East Medina Lodge. He was purchased a life governorship in the I.W. Infirmary many years since by the Lodge, and in 1874, as a further mark of esteem was presented with a gold watch and chain, &c., valued at over 30 guineas, Mr Thos. DASHWOOD, J. P., making the presentation. It was owing to Mr BUTLER'S energy that the A. M. C., came to Ryde in 1876, and was a big success.

He was a native of the Island, being born at Newport on 8<sup>th</sup> April, 1823, and his father Mr James BUTLER was a native of St. John's, Newfoundland. Mr BUTLER was in early youth educated at the Catholic School, Newport, and afterwards became master of St. Joseph's Catholic School. Southampton, where he remained five years. Being desirous of devoting himself entirely to a religious life he was admitted as a choir brother of the Abbey of Mount St. Bernard, Leicestershire, but his health failing, he returned to the Isle of Wight, and was appointed in 1847, master of the School of St. Marie, Ryde, which position he held for many years.

In 1855 he married Mary Sophia, youngest daughter of the late Mr. William SWEETMAN, pilot of Ryde, and had two children, a son and daughter who both died at the age of 11 and 16 respectively. Mrs BUTLER has been dead many years. The splendid Hall which the Oddfellows possess was built principally owing to his energy, and he did much to make local Oddfellowship a success.

The funeral took place at the Ryde Cemetery on Monday. The ceremony was performed by the Rev Father COTTER. The mourners were Mrs COLLINS (sister-in-law) and Mr COLLINS, Mrs SANDERSON (niece), Mr R. SANDERSON (grand-nephew), Mrs STAINER (niece), Mr DALE, Mr James DALE and Mr BEAZLEY (cousins). Among those present were Mr W. H. RIDDETT, J. P., Ald James JAMES, J. P., Messrs W. LOCKE, J. G. DUFFETT, J. G. DUFFETT jun., H. Morris, B. JOLLIFFE, W. WHITTLE, J. O. BROOK, J. HOWELL, G. DAISH, R. COLENUIT, jun., J. N. BRODERICK, W. H. LONG, J. H. DAISH, DARK, O. FEBEN, A. H. RUSSELL, FIFORD, BILLINGS, W. H. THIRKELL, A. WOODS, M. GROOVES, J. B. ALDERSLADE, W. J. KNIGHT, J. ELLERY, J. J. SEYMOAR, A. TATTE, STEWARD, ATTRILL and many others. The coffin was of polished elm, with brass furniture, and bore the inscription, "Thomas Alban BUTLER, died Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>, 1901, aged 78 years, R. I. P."

There were many beautiful wreaths, including those from the brother officers of the I. W. District I. O. O. F. M. U. F. S., Mr W. WHITTLE, Mr and Mrs J. G. DUFFETT and family, Mr and Mrs TULL, and Mr and Mrs BEAZLEY, Mr J. VARDY and family, Mr and Mrs ANTRAM, "Edward and Maria and family," "William, Emily and Anne," "Charlotte," and a beautiful cross, "A tribute of fraternal affection from the officers and brothers of the Loyal East Medina Lodge of Oddfellows."

Mr G. FAIRALL was the undertaker.

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ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY PRESS, Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September 1901, page 8

#### DEATH OF A VETERAN ODDFELLOW

We regret to record the death of Mr. **Thos. Alban BUTLER**, in his day one of the best-known Oddfellows in the South of England. The deceased came to Ryde as a Roman Catholic schoolmaster and joined the Loyal East Medina Lodge of Oddfellows some 40 years ago. For 25 years he was the secretary of the lodge, which attained great prosperity under his management. In consequence of illness he resigned some three years ago. Since then he has been a great sufferer and he passed away on Thursday at his residence, 65, West-street, aged 77. He was a P. P. G. M. of I. W. district and senior district trustee. He frequently represented the district at the A. M. C. and has served on the estimates committee of that body and had had the honour of seeing his portrait appear in the magazine. The funeral takes place at 3 o'clock on Monday and the district officers and a large number of brethren will attend.

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ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY PRESS, Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September 1901

#### FUNERAL OF A NOTABLE ISLAND ODDFELLOW

The remains of the greatly respected P. P. G. M. Bro. **Thomas Alban BUTLER**, for a quarter of a century the secretary of the Loyal East Medina (Ryde) Lodge of Oddfellows, were interred at the Cemetery at Ryde on Monday afternoon amidst manifest tokens of affectionate regard. The brethren assembled at the deceased's residence, Carlton Cottage, West-street. The coffin, which was polished elm, and was brought out of the house by brethren and wheeled to the Cemetery on the bier, bore the inscription: "Thomas Alban BUTLER, died Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>, 1901, aged 78 years. R. I. P." P. P. G. M.'s G. DAISH, E. G. HOUNSELL, W. W. WHITTLE, H. MORRIS, W. FLUX, and H. ATTRILL acted as pall-bearers. The solemn burial ritual of the Roman Catholic Church was performed by the Rev. Father Cotter. The chief mourners were Mrs. COLLINS (sister-in-law) and Mr. COLLINS, Mrs. SANDERSON (niece) Mr. R. SANDERSON (grandnephew), Mrs. STAINER (niece), Mr. DALE, Mr. James DALE, and Mr. BEAZLEY (cousins). Amongst

those present were a large number of officers and members of the Order in the Island, including the following: Loyal East Medina (Ryde) Lodge- P. P. G. M.'s G. DAISH, WHITTLE (Eleo. sec.), MORRIS, and HOUNSELL, P. G. M.'s B. JOLLIFFE (secretary), LONG, A. C. PURKISS, STEWARD, GUY, C. PRUCE, LEEK, BALLARD, and D. HUGHES, Bros. A. H. RUSSELL. N. G., Edwin DAMP, R. J. RICKARD, VARDY, jun., COOK, DARK, GUY, TATTE, HARTNELL, O. J. FEBEN, J. G. DUFFETT, sen., MORRIS, jun., DRAYTON, and BRODERICK. Earl YARBOROUGH (Newport) Lodge- Bros. T. H. WALDEN, P. P. G. M. (district trustee), G. H. LOCKE, P. H. G. M., J. B. ALDERSLADE (PROV. C. S.). J. SANDERS, P. G., H. PROUTEN, P. P. G. M. W. J. RUGG, P.G., J. DAISH, jun., P. G. M., and W. MORRIS. Loyal Hambrough (Ventnor) Lodge – Bros. M. GROVES, P. P. G. M. (secretary), A. FIFORD, P. G. M., and J. BILLINGS, sen., P. P. G. M. Culver (Sandown) Lodge – Bros. H. ATURILL, P. P. G. M., and J. J. SEYMOUR, P. G. M. (secretary). Shanklin Lodge – Bro. W. FLUX, P. P. G. M. Amongst others present were Messrs. W. HAMMOND RIDDETT, J. P., Ald. James James, J. P., Ald. J. ELLERY, Ald. LOCKE, W. H. THIRKELL, T. C., J. Osmond BROOK, C. C., R. COLENUTT, A. WOODS, J. G. DUFFETT, jun, J. DALLIMORE, C. ALLEN, W. J. KNIGHT, C. W. SALTER, N. A. FALLICK, J. HOWELL, P. O. R., representing the Order of Foresters, Mr. W. J. TILL, representing the Starr-Bowkett Building Society, and J. H. DUNFORD, who had bestowed devoted voluntary attention on the deceased in his last illness. The funeral ritual of the Order was conducted by P. P. G. M. DAISH in the Lodge room prior to and after the interment. The coffin was covered with beautiful floral tributes, including a wreath “In affectionate remembrance from his brother officers of the Isle of Wight district,” and another was inscribed “A tribute of fraternal affection from the officers and members of the Loyal East Medina Lodge of Oddfellows.” Other memorial offerings were sent by Mr. and Mrs. HEYLER. W. WHITTLE and family, Edward and Maria and family, Charlie, Mr. and Mrs. DALE, Mr. and Mrs. BEAZLY, Mrs. and Miss. ANTRAM, Mr. and Mrs. DUFFETT and family, William, Emily, and Anne, J. and M. RASHLEIGH and J. G. DUFFETT, jun., Charlotte, and Bro. J. E. VARDY and family. After the body was lowered the brethren filed past the grave and each deposited upon the coffin the emblematic sprig of thyme. Mr. G. FAIRALL was the undertaker. After the ceremony the brethren returned to the Oddfellows hall, where Bro. DAISH thanked them for showing so much respect to their deceased brother. Bro. J. B. ALDERSLADE, C. S., in the absence of the P. G. M., said Bro. BUTLER was an example to them all, not only in his Christian charity but in carrying out the principles of their great Order. He considered him to have been one of the most philanthropic members they have ever seen on the Island. -Bro. G. H. LOCKE, Newport, as one of the oldest members, referred to the many anniversaries which their departed brother had attended at Newport, remarking that every step he took was done with the single object of promoting the prosperity of the district. -Bro. H. MORRIS moved and Bro. LOCKE seconded a vote of condolence with the family of the deceased, which was carried. -Letters of apology for absence were received from P. G. M. C. H. SNOOK, P. P. G. M.'s George FELLOWS (district treas.) Henry GRIFFIN (district trustee), Thomas BANBURY (Ventnor), J. G. TREACHER (Freshwater), G. E. TOOGOOD, Charles STEEL (Newport), E. J. WHEELER (treas. East Medina Lodge), Thomas MARSH (sec. East Cowes), and W. MARDEN (sec. Cowes).

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