

County Press, 9 April 1904

FUNERAL OF THE LATE MR FRANCIS NEWMAN, J.P.

As was expected, there was a very large attendance at the funeral of the late Mr. Francis NEWMAN, J.P., C. E., which took place at the Ryde Cemetery, on Saturday afternoon. The opening part of the Burial office was said at Holy Trinity Church. The body was enclosed in a polished elm coffin. It was met at the church door by the Revs. W. M. CAMERON, W. G. WHITTAM, and H. B. BREW, and by the churchwardens (Capt. GREEN, and Mr E. G. STROUD). The mourners were Mr. James NEWMAN (brother), Messrs NEWMAN (2), WATTS, G. D. SWEETMAN, WHITTAKER, S. COCKS, W. TAYLER, and J. CANTLOW. Amongst the large attendance of Freemasons present, the following brethren were noticed: A. D. C. R. LOVELAND-LOVELAND, K.C., Provincial Grand Prior; Commander H. G. GILES, R. N., P.M., P. G. D. England, Provincial Grand Secretary; G. F. LANCASTER, P. M., P. G. Pur. Eng., Provincial Assistant Grand Secretary; Edgar GOBLE, P. G. D. Eng., D. P. G. M.; John W. GIEVE, P. G. Treas.; representatives of East Medina Lodge, No. 175; W. M. F. W. SARGENT, S.W. H.J. OSBORNE, J. W. F. F. FARRAND, Chaplain Rev. W.J. Hermann NEWMAN; Secretary A. E. COOMBES; S. D. F. SHOTTER, A. D. C. J. T. HARVEY, I. G. E. R. OSBORNE, D. C. J. HANSFORD, P. M., Tyler M. WILLIS; Past Masters E. GROVES, P. P. G. Reg.; Tenison SMITH, P. P. D. G. D. C.; H. DURRANT, P. P. J. G. W.; W. H. LONG, P. P. J. D. G.; Major ELLERY, P. P. G. S. Wks.; E. G. STROUD, P. G. D. D. C.; J. I. BARTON, Gustav MULLINS, Major C. SWEETMAN, P. P. G. Std., Charles LANGDON, A. S. MARLOW; E. W. LEONARD, C. J. de LAUNAY, J. A. MOXEY; Members: C. MATHEW, A. H. JAMES, the Rev. C. L. BLAKE, A. C. NEWMAN, J. R. DIXON, H. E. FROGBROOK, A. GIBSON, J. C. HARTNALL. Albany Lodge, No. 151 (Newport): I. P. M. George Y. GROUNDSELL, S. D. J. C. MILLGATE; Past Master J. G. PINNOCK. Yarborough Lodge, No 551 (Ventnor): S. D. S. BEEDEN, Past Masters Major T. R. SAUNDERS, R. H. A. WOODMAN, P. P. J. G. D., E. G. H WETHERICK, I. P. M. Ryde Lodge No 698 W. M. H. G. NUTT, S. W. J. FARDELL, J. W. G. R. BRIGSTOCKE, Chaplain Rev. W. G. WHITTAM, P. M. P. P. Chap., S. D. W. HAMMOND RIDDETT, P. M. P. P. S. G. D., I. G. J. W. PRIDMORE, P. M. R. FOX, P. M. C. H. LLOYD, J. INNES. Sandown Lodge, No 1869: Treasurer G. W. S. WITHERS, P. M. P. P. A. G. D. C., Secretary W. J. R. GORDON, I. P. M. J. D. G. B. HARTRY, T. E. PORTER, P. M., T. JOSEY (Grantham). Chine Lodge, No 1884, Shanklin: W. M. F. C. W. TAYLOR, S. W. A. KENT, Secretary R. YOUNG, P. M., P. P. G. A. D. C., Tyler W. J. MEW, Past Masters J. BAILEY, P. P. G. A. D. C., A. GREENHAM, P. PECS J G D., L. COLENUTT, P. P. G. S. Wks., H. A. MATTHEWS, P. J. G. D.; Members: A.H. BROWN. Osborne, No 2169 East Cowes: W. M. E. MATTHEWS, W. H. BRADING, P. M., P. P. G. S. Wks., A.H. CURTIS. Other brethren present included T. BARFETT (William HICKMAN). Amongst those also present were the Mayor (Mr. A. MILLWARD), the Town Clerk (Mr. C. G. VINCENT), Aldermen E. MARVIN, J. JAMES, and A. J. COOMBES, the Rev. Canon SHEARME, the Rev. R. NUTT, Messrs W. H. THIRKELL, W. Gerard SMITH, W. T. GREENUP, H. H. POLLARD, H. SWEETMAN, F. G. FLUX, A. HOLMES, P. R. DENNY, C. H. COLLIS, G. W. COLENUTT, Oliver JAMES, J. WHITEWOOD, F. N. BRODERICK, P. G. COCKS, E. T. MINTER, W. HOPGOOD, G. HINKS, A. E. JUPE, J. E. BREBNER, DASHWOOD, J. H. BLAKE, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. JACKSON, Mrs. CAMERON, Mrs. COLLIS, Mr. G. F. INGRAM, Mr. JENKINS, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. DANN, Messrs SHEATH, A. WHEELER, J. ELDGRIDGE, and E. SOTHCOTT. The Rev. W. M. CAMERON read the office at the church, where the Rev. W. G. WHITTAM read the lesson. The latter gentleman officiated at the graveside and read a number of Masonic prayers, after the conclusion of the Prayer book service. Flowers were sent by the following: From his loving brother, wife, and family; In loving memory of a kind and valued friend, Mr. and Mrs. Oliver GABELL; Sincere sympathy and deep regrets, the Rev. J. N. PALMER; In memory of an old and esteemed friend, Mr. Mew JUDD; In loving memory of a dear friend, F. G. and L. FLUX; Mrs. and Mrs. W. H. DANN; In affectionate remembrance, Gordon and Leslie SCOTT; Mrs. MANBY and Mrs.

JOLLEF; Mrs. SCALES and Miss CUTLER; the W. M., officers, and brethren of Yarborough Lodge 551; a tribute of fraternal regard and affectionate remembrance from the W. M., officers, and brethren of the Albany Lodge of Freemasons. Apologies for absence were received from Bros. the Rev. J. PARMITER, W. M. (1869), W. H. LITTLEFIELD, W. M., (55), Edgar R. RATCLIFFE, P. S. G. D., Capt. MEARES, and R. E. B. RAYNES. Mr. Thomas DASHWOOD, J.P., a very old friend of the deceased, and Ald. S. FOWLER, J.P., who was away from the town, greatly regretted that they were unable to attend the funeral. The funeral arrangements were efficiently carried out by Mr. C. LANGDON.

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THE LATE MR. FRANCIS NEWMAN, J.P.

At the Ryde Police-Court, on Monday, the Mayor made touching reference to the death of their esteemed colleague, Mr. Francis NEWMAN, and stated that the Bench had met that morning and formally carried the following resolution: "That we, the Justices of the Peace for the borough of Ryde, desire to express our deep sense of the great loss which the Bench and the borough have sustained by reason of the death of our esteemed colleague, Mr. Francis NEWMAN, and that the Clerk do write to Mrs. NEWMAN, conveying our sincere sympathy with her in her sorrow".

At the meeting of the Ryde Town Council, on Tuesday, the Mayor spoke of the great loss the town had sustained by the death of Mr. Francis NEWMAN, J.P. His abilities were exceedingly great, and during his 40 years' official connection with Ryde it might be said that the town grew under him. As a man, they respected him and they might say that he wore "the white flower of a blameless life". He proposed "That a letter be written to Mrs. NEWMAN conveying the sincere and heartfelt sympathy of the Ryde Town Council at the irreparable loss sustained by her and the town generally, in consequence of the death of Mr. Francis NEWMAN, who laboured so many years for the welfare of the town and who, for 40 years, filled the office of surveyor with such marked ability and success"- Ald. GROVES seconded, saying the Mayor's words would be endorsed by them all. As one who had the pleasure and privilege of working for a number of years with Mr. NEWMAN, in various matters he should like to pay his tribute of respect to the high integrity and thoroughness that he applied to all the labours with which he was connected. For 40 years, he watched the interests of that town as if it were his own property winning the highest respect of those who laboured with him, and those who carried out his orders. It was gratifying to think that many young men who had been trained by him in his profession were now occupying high positions of trust, both in this country and in the colonies. He was sure they all wished to express their deepest sympathy with Mrs. NEWMAN, and the rest of the family in the great loss they had sustained. Ald. FOWLER wished to associate himself with that vote of condolence. He was brought into contact with their late lamented friend perhaps more than many of the present council, and he could testify to the scrupulous conscientiousness and thoroughness with which he discharged every duty that he had to fulfil. His professional ability was recognised not only in the small circle of the Isle of Wight, but in a far wider circle. The town had the advantage of his abilities for many years and his long connection with the School of Art, his interest in the Oxford Extension movement, and his connection with the Education Committee showed how deep his interest was in everything that concerned the best interests of Ryde. In private life, he always found him most courteous and kind, and his place will indeed be hard to fill. - The resolution was carried by the Council rising.

A special meeting of the Ryde Science and Art Council was held at the School of Art on Tuesday evening. Mr H. H. POLLARD, J.P. (Vice Chairman), presided, and there were also present the Mayor (Mr. A. MILLWARD), Ald. E. GROVES, Ald. S. FOWLER, and Messrs G. W. COLENTT, W. WATERFORD, J. E. BREBNER, A. E. JUPE, W. H. THIRKELL, F. W. RANDALL, and A. TEAGUE. Mr. POLLARD said the occasion of the meeting was a

sufficient reason for having called them together. It seemed to him that an apology was almost needed for saying anything, because when a body of men entertained the same sentiment, and felt the same emotion, they were conscious that every spoken word rather tended to break the spell of their silent sorrow. No words could adequately express one man's thought on an occasion like that, much less could they express the feeling of a whole meeting. It was Claudio, he thought, who said "I were but little happy if I could say how much", and there would be but little sadness in the sorrow that lay close to the door of utterance. Of course, they all knew that nothing very extraordinary had happened. Death was as natural a thing as life. But they had lost their head, and they felt that loss very acutely and should feel it more and more as time went on – at least, so long as they had the management of that school. Mr NEWMAN was one of the founders, one of those who planted the tree, and, year by year, saw the garnered fruit. He embodied the knowledge and the experience of the Council. He was always ready and always able to advise them. They might vote a successor to sit in his chair; they would not fill his place. Mr. NEWMAN had peculiar characteristics, the reserve of a man of power. They smaller men "glance and nod and bustle by and never once possess our souls before we die", but Mr. NEWMAN had that quality of reserve in which there was no ostentation and no weakness. Day by day they would miss him. Their sorrow for his death was profound, but he believed that beneath the deepest sorrow they felt there was the yet deeper feeling of gratitude that Mr. NEWMAN lived for three-and-seventy years and gave them the benefit of his services during that time. Those services were the outcome of character. "His life was gentle and the elements so mixed in him that nature might stand up and say to all the world 'This was a man'". He hoped he did not overstep the limits of propriety on an occasion like that if he said further that he was a good man, and in him, the prayer of the Psalmist was answered, "Let integrity and uprightness preserve me". He moved "That this Council deeply laments the death of Mr. Francis NEWMAN, J.P., C.E. one of the founders of the School, and, since its reorganisation in 1894, Chairman of the Council, which deplores its irreparable loss, and records its high appreciation of the manifold and inestimable services, assiduously rendered by Mr. NEWMAN, in every department of its work, upon which the success of the School has largely depended." He suggested that a copy of it should be forwarded to Mrs. NEWMAN with an assurance of their heartfelt sympathy and deep condolence with her in her sorrow. -Ald. FOWLER seconded and paid a tribute both to the value of Mr. NEWMAN'S services and the appropriateness of the Vice-Chairman's reference to them. - The vote was carried unanimously. – It was decided not to fill up the vacancy in the chairmanship for the present.

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Notice in Ryde Column, County Press, 9 April 1904

Mrs. Francis NEWMAN wishes to thank the many friends for their kind help and sympathy during her great time of bereavement, and trusts they will accept this intimation, owing to the difficulty of personal acknowledgement.