

**DEATH OF MR. WM. GABELL**

We very much regret to record the death of Mr. William GABELL, a very old and respected townsman. Mr. GABELL had been suffering from a complication of painful ailments for some years. He had, however, lived beyond his span allotted by the Psalmist, and used to say relief could only come in one way. Death, therefore, appeared to be a friend and released him from suffering this (Friday) afternoon. Mr GABELL was a man of more than ordinary intelligence, and 20 or 30 years ago took considerable interest in local affairs. He did not fill many public offices, but was a man of no small weight, nevertheless. He was for many years Ryde correspondent of the *Hampshire Independent*, and his trenchant comments upon local affairs attracted considerable attention. He wrote in the sonorous artificial style which Dr. JOHNSON once made popular, and was at his best when denouncing some wrong, or pointing out the mistakes of the "powers that be."

Mr. GABELL started the printing business of which he was head some fifty years ago, but when he sought, some 15 years since, to add a newspaper thereto, he was not successful, and the paper he started, (which bore the somewhat ambitious title of *The Pilot*) had but a brief existence. In politics Mr. GABELL was a liberal of advanced views, and took an active share in the work of byegone elections, but for many years he has been obliged to abstain from meetings of all kinds. Amongst other matters, MR. GABELL took a great interest in building societies and the lead in starting the first Ryde Building Society. His interest in these societies led him to accept a share in their management till ill-health prevented him doing so longer. With Mr. GABELL passes away another of the old Ryde tradesman. There are few of his contemporaries and friends left now.

---