ISLE OF WIGHT OBSERVER Saturday 30th April 1887

DEATH OF MR. J.G. JONES. - We regret to record the death of Mr. J.G. JONES, of 61, Union-street, which occurred on Wednesday morning, after a short illness. Mr. JONES had been a sufferer for a good many years from a chest complaint, and it seems he caught a cold at the late fancy dress ball, which culminated in attack of congestion of the lungs, which, with other complications, was more than his enfeebled constitution could stand. Mr. JONES' musical talent had won for him a county reputation, and it seems to have been developed a very early period, for when only 19 years of age he was appointed bandmaster of the West Somerset Yeomanry. He left that to become bandmaster of the 43rd Light Infantry, but subsequently joined the Queen's Lancers. The latter position he was, however, compelled to relinquish through ill health, and the same cause led to his coming to Ryde, where he started in business in Union-street. His musical talents brought his services into constant request, and when the Volunteer movement commenced he exhibited such great interest in it that his services in forming a band were gratefully accepted. The Volunteer band here therefore may regard him as its founder. Mr. JONES, however, purchased a business at Winchester, and left Ryde for the good old city. He then became bandmaster of the Hampshire Yeomanry, which he held for 25 years, at the same time holding the position for many years of the private bandmaster of the depot of the Rifle Brigade and King's Royal Rifles at Winchester. About three years ago Mr. JONES' health compelled him to return to Ryde, where he found that although absent so many years the thread of old associations had not been lost. In private life he was very quiet and unassuming, but gained the respect and like of every one with whom he came in contact.

Researched & typed by Ann Barrett Margaret Truckel