

ISLE OF WIGHT OBSERVER Saturday 10th August 1901

DEATH OF RYDE'S OLDEST TRADESMAN. - We have to record the death, on the 31st inst., at 65, High Street, of Mr **Robert WHITTINGTON** (eldest brother of Mr B. WHITTINGTON, J.P), who is believed to be the oldest Ryde tradesman. He came to Ryde 64 years ago, and was apprenticed to the late Mr WICKER, who then carried on business at the top of Union Street, in the shop now occupied by Mr GUY. Mr WHITTINGTON commenced business as a plumber and painter in the High Street, over 40 years ago, and he has been in business ever since. He was the senior deacon of the Baptist Church, and had filled that office for 45 years. He was also one of the oldest members of Ryde Young Men's Christian Association, and had been a member of the committee of that institute over 40 years. In politics deceased was a Liberal of the old-fashioned type, and Sir John SIMEON and the Hon. Evelyn ASHLEY had no more staunch supporter. Of late years advancing age had compelled him to live more retired, but he preserved his interest in the church to the last.

The funeral of the deceased took place on Saturday, when a number of the members of the Baptist Church, the Y.M.C.A., and the Temperance Societies showed their respect for one who had so long been associated with them by attending. The funeral service was conducted by the Rev. Bruce PEARSON.

Researched & typed by
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