1891 CENSUS: RG12/889. folio 18. page 13. Address: New-road, Wootton Bridge, Arreton, IW.

Alfred DAMP. Head. M. 43. Wheel Wright. Haven Street, Hants.
Elizabeth DAMP. Wife. M. 40. Arley, Warwickshire.
Alice DAMP. Dau. 12. Scholar.
Emily DAMP. Dau. 11. Scholar.
Elizabeth DAMP. Dau. 8. Scholar.
Charlotte DAMP. Dau. 7. Scholar.
Gertrude DAMP. Dau. 4.
Lucy DAMP. Dau. 1.

ISLE OF WIGHT OBSERVER Saturday 19th August 1893

SHOCKING DEATH OF A YOUNG SERVANT

Inquest To-day, (Friday).

On Thursday morning, a painful sensation was created in the town by the news that a young girl named **Alice DAMP**, a nurse at Thornborough, the residence of Col. and Mrs. Archibald CLARKE, had fallen out of a window and sustained such injuries that she died shortly afterwards. It appears that the girl (who was about 15 years of age) had dropped a brush out of the window. It is supposed she must have been leaning out of the window in an attempt to recover it, when she fell out and through the skylight of the porch below.

An inquest was held by the Coroner, Mr. E.F. BLAKE, this (Friday) morning, at the Gem Inn, Hill-Street. The jury of whom Mr. HOLMES was foreman, having viewed the body, the following evidence was taken;

Ellen HALL deposed that she was a nurse at Col. CLARKE's house. Alice DAMP was also employed there. Deceased had been there more than a year. She was only 15 years of age. Yesterday she was getting the nursery ready at about quarter to 7. She had told witness she had dropped a small hairbrush out of the window. Witness told her not to mind, she then said she would go for Miss CLARKE's breakfast. About five minutes afterwards witness, hearing a crash of glass, went to the window, and saw deceased lying flat on the porch. She had fallen through the skylight. Ran downstairs and called the other servants and then went to deceased who was not dead. They sent for a doctor and removed her to her room. The window was an ordinary one. Deceased must have overbalanced herself and fallen out.

Dr. Ingleby MACKENZIE deposed that on the preceding morning, about 10 to 7, he was sent for to Thornborough, and saw the deceased lying in the porch, she was dying. Made an external examination, and tried to restore her, but she expired in about six minutes. There was a severe wound over the left forehead and likewise fracture of the skull. There were also cuts about her body caused by falling through the glass.

The Coroner, in summing up, said there was hardly any doubt as to how the deceased met her death. She has evidently tried to reach the brush and probably put her foot on the glass porch, and fell through.

The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental Death."

NB: Alice DAMP was buried at Havenstreet.

Researched & typed by Ann Barrett Marilyn Newsham