ISLE OF WIGHT TIMES Thursday 12th January 1928

DEATH OF MR. FRED REEVES

After three days' illness, **Mr. Fred Thomas REEVES**, one of the best known boatmen in Ryde, passed away at his residence, Grosvenor House, Nelson Street, on Thursday evening last, at the age of 54. He had been about as usual the week previously and his death came as a great shock to his family with whom the utmost sympathy is felt. A post mortem revealed that death was due to rupture of the intestines and no inquest was deemed necessary. Mr. Fred REEVES was generally to be seen about the shore and will be much missed by visitors and residents. He was a man of fine physique and served in the Yeomanry during the South African war. In recent years he worked for PICKFORDS bringing supplies from the tow boat and was also a member of the lifeboat crew up to the time it was disbanded. He would vividly recall the tragic rescue in Ryde Roads 21 years ago when the lifeboat capsized and two of the crew were drowned. He and his wife sustained a heavy blow three years ago in the loss of the son, Norman, in a boating disaster off Puckpool, in which a visitor from Hazelwood was also concerned. The body was not recovered until two or three days afterwards. The deceased leaves a widow, a son, and three daughters, one of the latter being a confirmed invalid at home.

The Funeral.

The funeral of the late Mr. REEVES took place on Tuesday afternoon the interment at the Cemetery being preceded by a service at St. James's Church. There was a good number of friends as well as family mourners present. The service was conducted by the incumbent (the Rev. R. S. EDDLESTON, M.A.), who selected the 39th Psalm of the Burial Service and aluded especially to the verse in which the question was asked "O Lord what is my hope?" He said as they stood at the graveside that afternoon it was a question that God would have put to each one of them. Happy were those who could answer with the psalmist. My hope is with Christ. To those mourning the loss of a loved one was a hope that nothing could change.

The mourners were Messrs. Dan REEVES (son), Albert and Dan REEVES (brothers), George REEVES, Charles and William REEVES (cousins), Alf and Hurst LININGTON (cousins), Tom BEVIS, Geo. GRIFFIN and W. PARNELL Mr. W. BROOKERS represented the life-boat crew, and there also followed Messrs. J. W. AUSTIN, S. and J. BARTON, Joseph, Percy and Thomas BIGGS, Mrs. A. REEVES and Miss REEVES, and Mrs. G. BARTLEY and family also attended. The committal at the graveside where his beloved son, Norman, is buried, was impressively carried out the Rev. R. S. EDDLESTON.

There was a number of beautiful floral tokens sent by the following : From his broken hearted wife Jessie; His children Iris, Eileen and Dan; His daughter Rita; From his dear mother and brother Dan; Brother Albert and family; Cousins Charlie and Alice; Mr. and Mrs. W. REEVES and Jack; Mr. and Mrs. G. REEVES, Cousins Alf, Truce and Trucie; Hurst and Gertie; Bert, Gertie and family; Uncle C. W. SALTER and family; Son and Min (nephew and niece); friends Mr. and Mrs. C. JAMES; Mr. and Mrs. GRIFFIN and family; G. GRIFFIN; H. AUSTIN, Mr. and Mrs. R. SCOVELL; Mr. F. STRIVENS; Mr and Mrs PARNELL (Simeon Arms); Mr. and Mrs. WRIGHT; Mr. and Mrs. H. GAGE, Mr. and Mr. W. COOPER, and Mrs. and Miss COCKS; late 2nd Coxswain Ryde Lifeboat (W. BROOKERS), Mrs GEORGE and family (London); Mr. and Mrs. PEARCE; members of Ryde Farthing Club, From Neighbours and Friends.

Mr. E. TAYLOR, St. John's road was the undertaker.

Mrs. F. T. REEVES and family of Grosvenor House, Nelson Street, wish to thank relatives, friends and neighbours for their sympathy and beautiful floral tributes in their sad bereavement.

Researched & typed by Ann Barrett Jenny Stay Margaret Truckel