## ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY PRESS Saturday 1st October, 1938

**Death of Miss Treacy**. – The death of **Miss Elizabeth Treacy** occurred at St. Cecilia's Convent on Thursday. The deceased, who was in her 83<sup>rd</sup> year, came of an old Irish family, and practically all her life had been spent in the service of religious communities. In 1900 she became associated with the Liege Congregation of Benedictines, then living at Ventnor. When they removed to St. Cecilia's in 1922 she came with them and acted as portress. She was one of the few links between the nuns and the outside world, and carried out her duties with great tact and courtesy. She was a very sweet natured old lady, deeply attached to her religion, one whose cheerful and generous spirit never failed. By her death the community loses a very loyal servant, and the sincerest sympathy is felt with her life-long companion, Miss NEWNHAM. She passed away after many months of suffering borne with great courage. On Thursday evening the nuns sang Vespers of the Dead and a Solemn Dirge.

The funeral took place yesterday (Friday), preceded by a requiem Mass. In the absence of the Abbot the Prior of Quarr (the Very Rev. Dom Rene de la MESSELIERE) was the celebrant, Dom Adelbert RUYS (deacon), the Rev. Bernard ALLSOP (sub-deacon), and Dom Cyril MILLICHAMP (master of ceremonies). Other monks from Quarr assisted, and Dom Camille GUEDON (chaplain to the convent) was present. The coffin was carried by the nuns from the chapter house during the chanting of the "De profundis" and "Subvenite," and placed in the choir behind the grill. After the Mass the ministers entered the enclosure, where the Absolution was given and the coffin blessed with incense and holy water. The procession to the cemetery in the abbey grounds was led by the crucifer and acolytes, followed the nuns, the Lady Abbess, the celebrant, and the coffin. The antiphon "In paradisum" was chanted. The burial service was very simple, consisting of a few versicles and prayers and the chanting of the Benedictus as the coffin was lowered into the grave. The "Deprofundis" was said as the ministers returned to the sacristy. The remains were enclosed in a plain coffin with the Latin inscription "Sorror Elizabeth TREACY, obiit die XXIX Sept. MCMXXXVIII. R.I.P." On it rested a wreath of chrysanthemums. Among those present in the public chapel were Miss NEWNHAM, Mr. and Mrs. Owen PARRY, Miss M. BLAKE, Miss K. SMITH, Miss M. NASH, Mrs. GRAHAM, Mrs. F. ROBERTS, Mrs. MITCHELL, Mr. F. W. CHANNING (representing the Old Priory, Ventnor), Miss JONES, the Misses DALY, Mrs. BARTLETT, Miss RYAN, and Mr. G. NASH.

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Researched & typed by Ann Barrett Margaret Truckel