Andrew Cheek

Isle of Wight County Press 9 June 1945

DEATH of Mr. ANDREW CHEEK.

DOYEN OF ISLAND FARMERS.

The death took place at Chale Abbey Farm early on Tuesday of Mr. Andrew Cheek, a noted Island agriculturalist and sheep breeder, at the age of 94. He retained his faculties to the end, reading the "County Press" and daily paper to within a few days of his death. He was the son of James Cheek, and was born at Gatcombe in November, 1850. In his early days he walked from Chillerton to Pan Farm daily to assist his father. Later the family moved to Rowborough, Carisbrooke, where he ran the farm till his father gave up, and then took it on his own, the family tenancy lasting for 48 years. Since his retirement he had lived with his sons at Chilton and Chale Abbey. He was a well known and regular attendant at Newport Market until about a year ago.

A capable farmer in all branches, he took special pride in Dorset Horn Sheep and Shire horses, and frequently exhibited his stock. He was a member of the Dorset Horn Sheep Breeders' Association for 42 years, was its president in 1925, and continued as a member to his death. During his presidency he was instrumental in getting the meetings removed from Yeovil to Dorchester for the convenience of Island members. He regularly attended the meetings at Dorchester, his last visit being when in his 90th year. He was also a member of the Shire Horse Breeders' Association. From his early days, too, he took a prominent part in the Nonconformist life of the Island. He joined the Bible Christians at the age of 28 and was an auxiliary preacher. For many years he led a Bible class at Bowcombe Chapel, which produced many well known local preachers. He was a trustee and treasurer of the new chapel at Bowcombe for many years, and was still a member at his death. He was also an ardent musician, writing his own music, and before the days of organs led the singing on either a flute or cornet at the Chillerton Chapel. In politics he was an ardent Liberal and devoted many years to public service, being a member of the Chillerton and Carisbrooke School Board for some years. He was also for many years a member of the Carisbrooke Parish Council and for 15 years a representative of Carisbrooke on the Rural District Council and Guardians, where his practical knowledge was of great assistance. His wife died about 40 years ago and he leaves a family of six sons and one daughter.

The funeral took place yesterday (Friday) afternoon, the interment being at Carisbrooke Cemetery, following a service at the Bowcombe Methodist Chapel.

Isle of Wight County Press - 16 June 1945 CHALE.

The Late Mr. Andrew Cheek.—The funeral of Mr. Andrew Cheek took place on Friday week. A service was held in the Bowcombe Methodist Church, the Revs. G. J. Chamberlain and H. M. Jackson officiating. The hymns "Give me the wings of faith" and "Nearer, my God, to Thee" were accompanied at the organ by Mr. S. Jolliffe. The family mourners were Messrs. F., C., E., M., and H. Cheek (sons), Miss E. Cheek (daughter), Mrs. W. Cheek (daughter-in-law), Mr. W. Cheek (brother), Messrs. W., H., and G. Cheek, T. Peach, and L. Kerley (nephews), Mesdames J. Peach, L. Kerley, S. and G. Cheek, and

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Miss B. Cheek (nieces), and Mrs. M. Peach and Mrs. Biles. Messrs. W. Cheek (son), H. Morris (nephew), and F. F. Hollis were unable to be present. Others present included Messrs. G. Norman, C.C., P. J. Croucher, G. Attrill, A. Draper, E. Taylor, J. H. Knighton, W. H. Wilson, W. G. Cooper (circuit steward), H. H. Morris (Idlecombe), W. H. and A. J. Russell, T. A. Cleaver (Newnham), T. H. Alexander, and R. Taylor, Mr. G. Moody, C.A., and Mrs. Moody, and Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Biles. The interment was in Carisbrooke Cemetery, where the hymn, "Rock of ages" was sung at the graveside. The arrangements were made by Mr. J. Whittington.

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