

*Died 27 Sept, buried 1 Oct 1908 Central Somerset Gazette*

### **DEATH AND FUNERAL OF MRS. F. G. NEVILLE.**

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The funeral of Mrs. Fanny Grace Neville, relict of a former vicar of Butleigh, took place in Butleigh churchyard last Thursday afternoon at three o'clock. The lady, who was 89 years of age, died at her residence, Orchard Neville, Baltonsborough, on Sunday, the 27th September. On Wednesday evening the remains were taken into Baltonsborough church, where they remained till the removal to Butleigh on Thursday. The officiating clergy at the burial service were the Rev. G. W. Berkeley, the Rev. Prebendary Gresley, and the Rev. G. Mallett. Several other clergy were present, including the Rev. H. Dawes and the Rev. F. Veysey. The members of Butleigh Church Choir, together with those of Baltonsborough Church Choir, gave the musical portion of the service under the direction of the organist of Butleigh Church (Mr. J. J. Bradden). Hymn 221 was sung before the lesson, and hymn 429 after. Psalm xl was chanted to Felton in C minor. As the cortege left the church the organist played Mendelssohn's "Blest are the departed." Hymn 26 sung at the grave after the service was most impressive. A muffled peal was rung. The flower tokens of respect were numerous and beautiful.

Previous to the body being taken from Baltonsborough Church to Butleigh, a memorial service was held at the former place on Wednesday evening. The officiating clergy were the Rev. H. Dawes (Vicar of Baltonsborough) and the Rev Father Veysey (chaplain at the Baltonsborough Convent). The relatives present included the Rev. William Neville (Vicar of St. Mary's, Reading and a son of the deceased), Sir Arthur and Lady Bigge (son-in-law and daughter), and the Rev. Archdeacon and Mrs. Brymer (son-in-law and daughter). As the body was taken into the church "O rest in the Lord" was played on the organ by Mr. Harold Waterman, and during the service the hymns "There is a blessed home" and "Holy Father, cheer our way" were sung. As the funeral party left the church "O rest in the Lord" was played by the organist. The relatives present at this service also attended the funeral service, which took place at Butleigh the following day.

The deceased lady came of a distinguished family, she being the daughter of Lady Blackwood. Her husband, the Rev. Preb. William Frederick Neville, was formerly Vicar of Butleigh, and was an uncle of Mr. R. Neville Grenville, the present owner of Butleigh Court. Their family consisted of three daughters and a son. One daughter, Constance Neville, is married, to Sir Arthur John Bigge, K.C.B., C.M.G. a distinguished officer, who became private secretary and equerry to her late Majesty Queen Victoria, and retained the same post under H.M. King Edward. Another daughter married the Rev. Archdeacon Brymer, of Charlton Mackerell, while the other, Miss Grace Neville, remained unmarried until her death which took place some nine months ago, and was a most sad bereavement to her mother. The son entered the church, where he has made a name as a preacher of exceptional ability. At the death of his father the Rev. William Neville took his position, and was rector of Baltonsborough-cum-Butleigh for a short period, during which time he resided at Baltonsborough. The ecclesiastical parish of Baltonsborough-cum-Butleigh, it will be remembered, was subsequently made into two. At the present time the Rev. William Neville is vicar of: St. Mary's Church, Reading.

The late Mrs. Neville had a house in town - 22, Welton-place, London, S.W. - as well as her country residence at Orchard Neville Baltonsborough, and was in the habit of spending her time alternately at the two places, living some seven months of the year at London and the remaining five in the country. She had a large circle of friends, and entertained considerably both in the town and country. Her death is much regretted at Baltonsborough and Butleigh, as she was of a benevolent disposition, and, though unassuming, her charities were large. She

was always ready to aid a deserving object, and besides assisting largely in all parochial events where help, financial and otherwise, was required, her purse was always open to aid a case of distress. She was much beloved by the servants at Orchard Neville, who were treated with kindness and consideration and were happy in remaining in her service. As an instance of this attachment there can be cited the case of Mr. John Windsor, gardener at Orchard Neville, who has been in the service of the family for forty years. Ten of these were spent under the late Mrs. Neville, and thirty in the service of Lady Charlotte Neville and her two daughters.

The deceased lady, who was close upon 90 years of age, died practically of old age, although until quite recently she had been able to keep about and enjoy drives through Glastonbury and the surrounding neighbourhood. Some ten weeks ago she was taken ill when attending church, her illness taking the form of an attack of heart failure, and subsequently she was obliged to keep to her bed. She, however, suffered little pain, and passed peacefully away on Sunday, Sept. 27, exactly ten weeks from the date when she was taken with her last illness.