

AN OLD COLONIST AND TOWNSMAN PASSES

Death removed from our midst on Saturday morning last one of Rushworth's oldest and well-known residents in the person of Mr. C. H. Davis, at the age of 80 years.

Mr. Davis had been in ill-health for some time past, and during the past few months became worse and he had to take to his bed. Some eight years ago he fell from the railway bridge at Murchison East. He was crossing the bridge when a train came along and Mr. Davis clung to the edge of the bridge, but lost his hold and fell to the ground. He never completely recovered from this accident, which left him a cripple.

The late Mr. Davis was born in Cambden Town, London, on September 30th, 1852. He came to Victoria, with his parents, at the age of three years, and was thus a resident of the State for 77 years.

He lived with his parents at Williamstown for a time, and was resident there when Colonel Tom Price was killed by the convicts. After living in Melbourne for a few years, he went with his parents to Stawell, and after a residence there for some years he went to St. Arnaud, and from there to Tatura. He came to Rushworth in 1886, and has been residing here for 46 years.

In his young days he was a good foot-runner and competed in the Stawell Gift. He was also a member of the Stawell Fire Brigade and also of the St. Arnaud Brigade and when he came to Rushworth joined up with the Rushworth Brigade. He was a first-class hydrant man.

He was one of the foundation members of the Jubilee (Rushworth) Masonic Lodge, which was founded in 1887, the year of the late Queen Victoria's Jubilee (from whence the Lodge derived its name). He was the first secretary of the Lodge.

The late Mr. Davis was in business as a saddler for some time in Rushworth, and was Electoral Registrar for the Rushworth Division of the State Parliament for over 30 years. He was also correspondent for some time of the Rushworth School Board of Advice (as it was then called). He was also connected with the Lisadurne Race Club, when the race meetings were held on the late Dr. Heily's Lisadurne farm.

His brother (Cr. E. W. Davis) resides at Nhill, a twin brother having predeceased him four years ago at Horsham. The late Mr. Davis was a well-known personage in Rushworth, and he will be greatly missed. He leaves a widow and three sons and a daughter --- Mr. Charles Davis (Kerang), Tom Davis (Benalla), Mr. Fred Davis (Werribee), and Lydia (Mrs. Waldon, Randwick, Sydney).

The funeral took place on Sunday last, the remains being interred in the Rushworth Cemetery. The funeral cortege was a lengthy one, the members of the local Masonic Lodge marching at the head of the cortege. The service of the Presbyterian Church was read by Mr. J. Forbes and the Masonic service was conducted by Rev. Bro. W. A. Williams (Chaplain), and Wor. Bro. J. C. Smith, W. M.

The funeral arrangements were carried out by Mr. E. F. Anderson. There were many floral tributes.