

Clement Mumford

Waranga Chronicle

16 November, 1882

THE LATE MR. C. MUMFORD.

The news that Mr Clement Mumford had expired at his residence, High Street, Rushworth was received by the townspeople with astonishment and unfeigned sorrow.

The deceased gentleman had been confined to the house for seven weeks previously, suffering from the effects of a broken leg; but far from anything of a serious nature being apprehended, the contrary was the case. Not later than the 2nd instant he felt sufficiently hearty to chat with a few friends at a private party. Next day, however, unusual symptoms were apparent, but it not till the 9th instant, the day of his death, that his medical attendant, Dr. Heily, entertained grave fears for his recovery.

Dr McMillan, of Murchison, was immediately telegraphed for, but arrived in time only to witness the death of his patient, which took place at 5' o'clock in the afternoon.

On the Saturday following, the body of the deceased was interred in the local cemetery, whither it was attended the brethren, of St. John's Masonic Lodge in regalia, and a numerous cortege of mourners.

Deceased was born at Harlow, in Essex, England, in 1842, and at the age of six years arrived in Melbourne with his father, a land surveyor. In 1854, he entered into the service of Mr Adam Stackpool at Heathcote, in which he remained about two years. Quitting Heathcote he proceeded to Inglewood, but he speedily returned to the former township, where he performed engagements with Mr J. I. Carter and Messrs Routledge Bros. respectively.

In about 1866 Mr Mumford accepted employment in Rushworth with the late Mr Stewart, who soon becoming invalided he was entrusted with the management of the business.

About 1873, in conjunction with Mr Benjamin Goddard, deceased purchased Mr J. Stewart's business. A partnership was then entered into between him and Mr Goddard, and the Rushworth store was conducted in connection with one at Murchison.

The late Mr Angus Ross having joined the firm, a branch of the business was opened at Tatura, and carried on in a building which was erected by them, and the first in that place. The rest of Mr Mumford's career is well known.

He was essentially a business man in working hours, but a genial companion when "toil remitting lent its turn to play." Unobtrusive in manner, and straightforward in all his dealings, he was universally respected.

His helping hand and enterprising disposition will not be easily replaced, and the town

may reckon that it has lost one of its staunchest and best friends. His widow and four young children we are happy to add will be comfortably circumstanced.

IN MEMORIAM. CLEMENT MUMFORD.

Born, 1842. Died, 1882.

Swells the eternal song from this world's choir,
Nor break of harmony, nor flaw in strain;
No tears are trickling o'er the jewelled lyre,
All seems the same about the same refrain.

Yet, we who with *him* scanned our music's page,
Feel a sad lack of richness in the swell;
Miss the full tone which lives as Mem'ry's gage,
And pan—we can but murmur "it is well."

Well spent his life, a friend, but ne'er a foe—
Upright, genial, kind, and true, and just;
We surely can have little thought of woe,
When clasping hands o'er Clement Mumford's dust.