

Thomas Crothers

Murchison Advertiser

12 February, 1909

That grim and dreaded monster death has been making an active canvass in our district during the past week and the result has, we are sorry to state, been the removal from our midst of three old and highly respected identities, who have crossed the dark valley from whose bourne no traveller returneth.

MR THOMAS CROTHERS

Than whom there was no more widely known or highly respected resident throughout the whole district, succumbed to an attack of Bright's Disease and consequent heart failure on Monday afternoon.

Mr Crothers had suffered considerably for a period extending over eighteen months, and his death was not unexpected, in fact it must have come as a happy release to those who were compelled to watch him suffer.

In his life he had encompassed the allotted three score and ten, being 71 years of age, but nevertheless a much longer lease of his life would have been accepted two years ago.

Deceased was a very old identity of the district, and many years ago acquired considerable land at Carag. He was successful as a farmer, and, with the advance of years and the growth of his family, rested somewhat on the oars, and it was then that a disposition for public life asserted itself.

For many years he held a seat on the now defunct United Echuca and Waranga Waterworks Trust as representing the Waranga ratepayers on behalf of the council, of which body he was also a member. His services were very highly prized, his integrity and uprightness earning for him a reputation such as any man might feel proud of, and this was particularly applicable to the trust.

When he later lost his seat as a member of the council it made no difference, and he continued to represent the council until the trust became effaced a short time ago owing to its territory being brought within the scope of the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission.

He associated himself largely with church matters, and up to the time of his indisposition was a diligent and active worker in the interests of the local Methodist Church.

A few years ago he took a trip to the old Country, leaving the farm to the management of his son. On his return he retired to a comfortable little home which he established in Station street, Rushworth, where he resided with Mrs Crothers to the time of his death.

That he was very widely respected was shown by the representative attendance at his burial on Wednesday afternoon, mourners being present from all parts of the district.

The funeral obsequies were performed by the Rev. F. C. Vian, while the Orange Lodge service was read by the Rev. J. R. Walker.

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Mrs Frank Enders and Mrs Julia Geisler were the other two deaths.

