

William Crane, a Forester's Funeral

On Tuesday evening last the funeral of William Crane, a member of Court "Archer," No. 5921, Kingsdown, took place at the Upper Stratton Cemetery. Some 40 members of the Court assembled at the Court house, and slowly marched to the house of the deceased, where they were joined by a large number of the Baptist Sunday School children, who had come to pay the last mark of respect to one who had so zealously endeavoured to instruct them, and also by a goodly number of his fellow-workmen, by whom he was greatly respected, from the Swindon Works. The deceased had been a most willing worker in the school, an exemplary and steady young man who had gained the respect of many friends.

The coffin was quite hidden with beautiful wreaths and monograms enveloped in flowers, the offerings of friends and scholars. The cortege, as it wended its way to the Cemetery, bore a most solemn and mournful aspect, and one which the inhabitants of Upper Stratton will not quickly forget. At the grave was sung very impressively the hymn "Safe is the arms of Jesus," by the children, and another at the house of the deceased as the mourners entered.

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OPC note: Ancient Order of Foresters later becoming The Foresters Friendly Society

