

## OBITUARY.

### MR. J. C. MEWS.

There died on Wednesday, 11th inst., a gentleman whose passing away demands more than an ordinary notice. Mr. J. C. Mews was a very old colonist, having arrived with his parents, brothers, and sisters in the old ship Rockingham in June, 1830, bringing their own house with them (there being no houses of any kind at the time), which they erected at Rockingham, and which subsequently was removed to a position on Mount Eliza, where the family resided for some years. In his early days Mr. Mews went through great hardships and privations, working amongst sandalwood, manna gum, and wool, in which capacities he mixed amongst the aborigines and acquired a great knowledge and command of their language, being one of the very few who could converse freely in the native tongue, which power he retained till within a few months of his death. For the past 50 years Mr. Mews was resident in Perth, and until a few years ago, when he retired, and even before the advent of steamers or tugs on the Swan River, was engaged in carrying cargo to and from Fremantle in his own sailing boats. He consequently saw all the growth and advancement of the city and port, and remembered well bush fires raging over what is now the site of the city of Perth. For about two years past Mr. Mews had been in failing health, and while on a visit to his daughter, at Fremantle, passed peacefully away at the ripe old age of 83 years. He leaves a brother seven years his senior, Mr. Thos. Mews, of Fremantle. The funeral took place at Karrakatta on the 12th inst, the Rev. J. Burrige, of Wesley Church, Fremantle, conducting the service, the chief mourners being Messrs. John and Walter Mews (sons) Walter, Aubrey, Arthur, and Percy Green, S. Mews, E. Mitchell, J. Mitchell, and J. Mitchell (grandsons), J. J. Green, J. Mitchell, F. Lawrence, and E. J. F. Randell (sons-in-law), and many old friends and acquaintances. The pall-bearers were Messrs. Harry Brown (Mayor of Perth), Rewell, Mauning, Stirling, Randell, and Strickland. Numerous wreaths were sent. The funeral arrangements were conducted by Messrs. A. E. Davies and Co., Fremantle.