

THE LATE MR WILLIAM DRYSDALE.

The funeral of the late Mr William Drysdale, whose death was briefly referred to in our last issue, took place on Thursday afternoon, the remains being interred in the local cemetery. The cortege was a very long one, and around the open grave were noticeable many of the residents of the Shire, who had come to pay their last respects to their old friend and fellow pioneer. The service at the grave was read by the Rev. William Bett. The floral tributes were numerous.

The mortuary arrangements were carried out by Mr J. Tosh

The late Mr Drysdale, whose father was a woollen mill proprietor, was born in Fifeshire, Scotland. Later he went to Glasgow. After five years residence in the Capital, he, with his parents and sisters, and brothers came to Australia where they landed in '52—just 60 years ago. They settled in Melbourne, and lived for some time where Footscray now stands. Later, the late Mr Drysdale came to Whittlesea where he engaged in pastoral pursuits. Forty three years ago with his wife and family, he came to Yea and purchased land known as Box Hill Farm. This he retained until nine years ago when he retired, and with his wife went to reside with his son, Stewart in New England, where they remained for two years, returning to Yea when their daughter (Nurse Drysdale) took possession of her newly built "Rosmoor" Private Hospital. Here the old couple passed a happy and quiet life until death parted them on the 8th inst.

The late Mr Drysdale lived a quiet life, and was not, one could call a public man, although for many years he was a member of the Board of Advice, and took a lively interest in Temperance matters. He lived for his children and to see them prosper and in this latter respect his every wish was gratified. Benevolence was one of the great characteristics of the late gentleman's life. He was always ready to assist any charitable cause, and no one ever appealed to him in vain for help.

Fifty four years ago, the gentleman married Miss Downey who survives him. The following sons and daughters are also left to mourn the loss of a loving father:—Mr Alex. Drysdale (Dairy Creek), Messrs Bob and Stewart Drysdale, Mrs

rs Bob and Stewart Drysdale, Mrs D. McLeish, Mrs Tosh, Nurse Drysdale and Mrs Piper. The descendants of the deceased also include 18 grand-children and 3 great grand-children.