



Obituaries

Hankerton

A Venerable Couple

We today record the death of Mr and Mrs H B Matthews, of Cloatley Farm, Hankerton, whose united ages amount to 180 years.

Mr Matthews, born in 1807, lived under five monarchs, and took delight in relating incidents which happened when he was a boy. He was born in Crudwell, but took to his residence at Minety in 1833, where he lived for nearly 60 years, carrying on an extensive wood and haulier's business in addition to farming, gaining the respect of a large circle of friends by his consistent character and straightforward business principles.

He always evinced a warm interest in church matters, being a most regular attendant, and for a long number of years he rang the tenor bell with such punctuality at 8 o'clock that it became called the "8 o'clock bell" in the village. At the age of 80 he successfully underwent an operation for cancer, having his left hand amputated. Reading was his favourite pastime, and his sight was excellent to the end.

Mr and Mrs Matthews only kept their bed for a few days, the husband for but three days.

Cheltenham Chronicle Saturday 20 April 1901