Dante Gabriel Rossetti's Funeral

An account of the <u>funeral</u> of Dante Gabriel Rossetti, which appeared in Keble's Gazette - now the Isle of Thanet Gazette - on 22nd April 1882:

The remains of Mr Dante Gabriel Rossetti, poet and painter, were on Friday afternoon, quietly and without ceremony, interred in the Churchyard here. At half past three, the cortege, consisting of the hearse and five ordinary mourning coaches, left the seaside cottage where Mr Rossetti had been staying during the past six weeks, in the company of his friend Mr Hall Caine. The deceased was followed to his grave by his mother, his sister, Miss Christina Rossetti, his brother, Mr William Rossetti, Mrs W. Rossetti, Mr Theodore Watts, Mr Hall Caine and others. It had at first been intended to have a public funeral at Highgate, where his wife and father are interred, but for family reasons the idea was abandoned. At the Churchyard wicket, the procession was met by the vicar, the Revd. J. Alcock, and the coffin, which was covered in flowers, was carried along the pathway to the Church. It was of polished oak with brass fittings and bore the inscription, "Dante Gabriel Rossetti, born at London, May 12: 1828, died at Birchington-on-Sea, April 9: 1882." The Burial Service was read by the Vicar, after which the coffin, covered with flowers, was lowered into the grave. At the time of his death, Mr Rossetti was engaged on a study of "Joan of Arc".

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