

CORONER'S INQUEST

An inquest was held at the Infirmary on Monday, before E. F. BLAKE. Esq, deputy coroner, on the body of William WHITE, aged 58 years, who met with his death under the following circumstances. –

James REED stated that on the proceeding Friday, about 10.30 a.m., he was at Old-house copse, where the deceased was employed for Mr. YOUNG in carting timber. They were using a pair of shafts, with two wheels, and a plank put across. Deceased was standing on the cross-piece between the wheels. One foot was on one bar, and one on the other. His foot slipped. He had a hand-spike in his hand, and the iron bar fell on him. The weight of the timber consequently fell on him. Witness had never seen him standing in that way before. He would certainly have been safe had he remained on the ground. The iron bar struck deceased in the side. Immediately the accident happened they sent for Mr. OLLARD, and his assistant came promptly, and said his ribs were broken. They then removed him to the infirmary. Deceased had been accustomed to that kind of work, and never objected to it. He was about 58 years of age. He did not consider it dangerous work.–

Thos. Davey CARTER, in the employ of Mr. YOUNG, was driving at the time of the accident. He had three horses. His duty was to take the ketch out. The man who took out the pin usually stood on the ground. The moment the ketch was out the man fell straight toward the horses. Witness did not see how it happened, as it was so sudden. The poor fellow, after he fell, crawled away, complaining of pains in his side and chest. He did not ask how it happened, as he appeared to be in such agony, and groaning with pain. They got mattresses to put him on, and the doctor was there in less than an hour.–

Mr. JONES, resident surgeon at the Infirmary, said deceased was brought in on Friday last, about 2.30 p.m. He examined and found him in a state of collapse. Some of his ribs were broken on the left side. His kidneys were also severly injured. It was quite clear from the first that he would die. He lived till Sunday morning, and was conscious up to the time of his death. He spoke very little, but from what he did say witness gathered that something had thrown him against the shaft. He did not blame any one. He had made a *post mortem* examination, and found one of the kidneys had been torn in two by the broken ribs.-

Verdict, “Accidental death.”

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