

1861 CENSUS: RG9/657. folio 113. page 47.
Address: Prince-street, Ryde, IW.

John DASHWOOD. Head. Mar. 29. Fisherman. Ryde, Hants.
Ann DASHWOOD. Wife. Mar. 28. Ryde, Hants.
William DASHWOOD. Son. 3. Ryde, Hants.
Elizabeth DASHWOOD. Dau. 6months. Ryde.

1871 CENSUS: RG10/1165. folio 122. page 30.
Address: 36 Prince-street, Ryde, IW.

John DASHWOOD. Head. Mar. 38. Fishmonger. Ryde, IW.
Anne DASHWOOD. Wife. Mar. 38. Shop Keeper. Ryde, IW.
Ann DASHWOOD. Dau. 14. Ryde, IW.
William DASHWOOD. Son. 12. Ryde, IW.
Florence DASHWOOD. Dau. 8. Ryde, IW.
Ernest DASHWOOD. Son. 3. Ryde, IW.
Lily DASHWOOD. Dau. 1. Ryde, IW.

1881 CENSUS: RG11/1178. folio 113. page 21.
Address: 36 Prince-street, Ryde, IW.

John DASHWOOD. Head. Mar. 48. Fishmonger. Ryde, IW.
Ann DASHWOOD. Wife. Mar. 48. Ryde, IW.
William DASHWOOD. Son. Unm. 23. Cab Driver. Ryde, IW.
Flora DASHWOOD. Dau. Unm. 18. Ryde, IW.
Ernest DASHWOOD. Son. 13. Ryde, IW.
Ella DASHWOOD. Dau. 11. Ryde, IW.

1891 CENSUS: RG12/890. folio 93. page 24.
Address: 47 Prince-street, Ryde, IW.

John DASHWOOD. Head. M. 58. Beerhouse Keeper & Fisherman. Ryde, IW.
Ann DASHWOOD. Wife. M. 58. Ryde, IW.
William DASHWOOD. Son. S. 33. Cab Driver. Ryde, IW.
Ernest DASHWOOD. Son. S. 23. Dairyman. Ryde, IW.
Lily DASHWOOD. Dau. S. 21. Laundress. Ryde, IW.
William MUIR. Grandson. 8. Scholar. Ryde, IW.

ISLE OF WIGHT TIMES Thursday 28th Feb 1895, page 4

GOSSIP AND RANDOM SHOTS

Ryde was shocked at the suicide of a Ryde man on Saturday last---**William DASHWOOD**. It is satisfactory to know that he was not robbed to the extent stated in the first place, for £68 out of the £90 was found on his person, and the police recovered over £7, and the remaining balance may be easily accounted for in being spent on a "spree." The deceased had been in a nervous state for a long time, and having to appear at Court in a doubtful case, evidently overbalanced his mind.

EXTRAORDINARY AND DETERMINED SUICIDE AT RYDE

On Monday afternoon, an inquest was held at the Bedford Hotel, by the Deputy Coroner (Mr E F BLAKE), on the body of **William DASHWOOD**, aged 37, as fish salesman, who committed suicide on the previous Saturday under the extraordinary circumstances detailed in the following evidence. The jury, of which Mr GRIMSDICK was foreman, having viewed the body, the following evidence was taken:

Louisa COOPER (who appeared with her hand bound up) deposed that she lived at 13, Prince Street. She had known the deceased for many years. He was a cab driver when she first knew him, but he had not followed that occupation for the last few years. On Saturday morning last, about 11.30, she was going up Prince Street, when Mrs MILFORD ran out and said, "Oh, Mrs COOPER, come in. Bill DASHWOOD has cut his throat!" Deceased lived with his mother. Witness went in directly, and said, "Send for a doctor and a policeman." She then asked where deceased was, and was told upstairs. She went upstairs. No one told her to go. She went into the front room and saw DASHWOOD lying on the floor with his throat cut, and a razor in his hand. He was in the act of cutting his throat when she saw him. She caught hold of his wrists and said, "Oh, Bill, what have you done?" He was sensible, but could not speak. She held his hands, and with assistance got the razor away from him. In doing so she cut her own fingers. The policeman came shortly afterwards. Witness was there when the doctor came. He came almost directly, but at that time deceased was dead. After she got the razor away from the deceased, he wrenched at his throat with his hand and made it bleed more. She last saw deceased alive on Thursday. He then seemed strange in his manner. She had noticed that he was strange in his manner for the past few years. She often visited the family, and had attended deceased's father in his sickness. Deceased seemed often very much depressed. He was low and nervous. He seemed very low in spirits when she saw him on Thursday, but he did not appear to have had anything to drink. He did not complain of his health, but complained about his money affair.

The Coroner : What did he say about it?

Witness : He said it was a bad job, as he only found a few pounds.

Did he mean that he had had money stolen from him? – He did not speak in that way, but he said he thought it would be a Winchester affair. She told him not to let that trouble him, and that it would be all right. It was only the week before that she went to Dr WOODWARD's for a bottle of medicine for deceased, as his nerves were very bad.

Did he do anything to cause his nerves to be bad?

I don't know.

What age man was he? – About 37. He complained to me that he had lost a considerable amount of money, and that only a few pounds had been found.

Had you before seen him as low as he was on Thursday? – Yes, I had seen him as low as that. I have helped sit up with him at night.

Without cause? Was it from drink? – No, from lowness.

John MUNFORD, of No 4, South Street, publican, deposed that he had known deceased from a boy. On Saturday he was with him from a quarter past 7 till 25 minutes past 11. Deceased sent for him, and he saw him in bed on Saturday morning. Knew deceased had preferred a charge against some men of stealing some money – about £90 he believed, but he afterwards found £68 of it. Deceased told him he could not go on with the prosecution.

The Coroner – Did he say what reason?

Witness : No reason at all; only his nerves. He had worked himself up into such a pitch that he could not go on. I sent for the doctor, but he did not come. I stopped with him for nearly an hour, and then sent a man named DYER to look after him. He got up afterwards, but not while I was there. About half-past 8, to my great surprise, deceased came to my house. He came straight in and never said anything. I said, "Good gracious, what in the world's the matter with you?" Deceased

made no reply, but went out and had a wash, and my wife offered him some breakfast, but he could not eat anything – only drink a cup of tea. He still seemed very nervous. There was nothing, that I could see, to be nervous about. After staying for about half-an-hour, he went home again. About half-an-hour after that I dressed myself and went down to his house. I was going to be the chief witness in the charge he had brought against these men, because I held part of the money. Deceased then seemed pretty much the same, and said he could not possibly go down to the court. I said, “Well, let’s go to the doctor, then”. Deceased then asked me if I had any money. I told him I had enough for our expenses. I wanted him to go and see a doctor, but he refused, and I then went down to Mr WOOLDRIDGE’S office with him, and deceased said he could not go to the court. He gave no reason. All he kept on saying was he couldn’t go to the court. I went with him as far as the bottom of Lind Street, and then turned into Garfield Road, and we went as far as the chapel. I then said we better get back to the court as it was 11.25. Deceased said, “It’s no use. I can’t go, John. You must go down to the court and say the best you can for me. “ He then took a bag of money from his pocket and offered it to me. I believe it was the same one that was found on him afterwards with £68 in it. I would not take the money. I said, “You keep it, Bill, you have had enough trouble over it now.” He did not say it was part of what he had lost. Deceased then shook hands with me and said I was to come and tell him after the court. The next I heard was that this had happened.

Have you ever seen him in the peculiar state he was in on Saturday? – I can’t say that I have, as bad as he was then.

Did he seem strange in his manner or only agitated? – Only agitated.

Did he threaten to do anything? – No.

Did you imagine he would do such a thing? No. I knew he had been ill and that Dr WOODWARD had attended him.

But you never thought he would be likely to do such a thing? – Never, I should never have left him if I had. I kept saying, “For goodness sake, Bill, whatever is the matter with you. They can’t prosecute or do anything to you.” I couldn’t see what his objection was.

Mr A WOODWARD, surgeon, practising at Ryde, said he had attended the deceased, who seemed to him to be always in an excitable state. He could not say for certain, but he attributed the cause to the effects of drink. He last attended him a month ago. On Saturday he was sent for at 9.30. and promised to go as soon as he could. About half-past 11 he went round, and found the deceased lying on the floor of the front room, dead. His throat was cut; all the great vessels of the neck and windpipe being divided. If he had got there directly the result would have been the same.

From the excitable condition you refer to, did you think he was a man likely to lose his mind and commit such an act as this? – No, sir.

An excessive amount of drinking in some persons will turn their brain? – Yes.

From this circumstance and from what you have heard, so you think he was insane at the time of committing the act? – Yes.

You think the state you saw him in previously was caused by an undue amount of stimulants? – I do.

Mr HOPGOOD (a juror) – You have known the family for a long time? About 38 years.

Do you know if there was any insanity in the family? – Oh, no.

The Coroner, in summing up, said the case was a sad one, but from the evidence of the witness he thought that the deceased, being of an excitable disposition, the worry occasioned by the loss of the money was sufficient to turn his head, and that he was insane at the time he took his own life.

The jury were of the same opinion, and without hesitation returned a verdict that “Deceased committed suicide whilst temporarily insane.”
