

**FATAL ACCIDENT ON THE I.W. RAILWAY  
AT BRADING**

On Sunday evening a young fellow named **William HOWE**, the son of the housekeeper at Lady SUTTON's, St. John's Park, Ryde, had been to Bembridge where he had had an interview with Capt. du BOULAY with reference to obtaining a situation. He returned to Brading by the last train, intending to go onto Ryde. Unfortunately he got into the Ventnor train, and discovering his mistake after it had started, quitted it, with the result that he fell and sustained serious injuries. He was sent into Ryde by the up train and taken on the ambulance from St. John's-road Station to the Infirmary, where he died at five minutes to 11. His mother, accompanied by Mr. SUTTON arrived about five minutes after his death.

The Coroner (E.F. BLAKE, Esq.) held the inquest at the Infirmary on Tuesday morning.

Mr. H. K. DAY, manager of the I.W. Railway Company was present.

Mr. C. J. de LAUNAY was foreman of the jury.

Joseph HOWARD, of Benham Park, Newbury, identified the body as that of his nephew, William HOWE, who had been living with him for the last eight years. He had been apprenticed to the engineering. He came to the Island on Thursday. He was 19 years of age. He had never had any fits.

James NASH, Station-road, Shanklin, mason, deposed that he was travelling on Sunday night on the I.W. Railway by the 8.45 p.m. train from Ryde. There were seven others in the carriage. Deceased and another young man named BURTON got in at Brading. As soon as the train was in motion deceased put his hand on witness's shoulder and said "Is this the Ventnor train?" Witness said "Yes" Deceased got up, opened the door, and stepped out. The train was then in motion having just started. He held on with his left hand to the side of the door and fell on his back. His hand slid down the door, then rested on the bottom. The train did not stop, and witness saw no more of him.

By the foreman: Deceased fell on the platform, Witness thought he had smashed his head as he fell.

Francis JOLLIFFE, Brading, porter in the employ of the I.W. Railway Company, said that on Sunday evening at the station at about 8.55 p.m. He saw the train come in from Ryde. After the train had been gone about a minute a young man came running to him and told him something. He went to the crossing and found deceased lying on the left-hand side of the down road. He saw a bruise on his forehead. He did not think deceased was conscious. Witness ran at once for the station-master, who had him conveyed to the waiting-room, witness going with him. All the words he spoke were "God help me." A doctor was sent for, but had not arrived when the train from Ventnor for Ryde came in. Deceased was placed in the guard's van. A man named FLEMING went with the deceased. Could see no injury other than that on the forehead. That was not of a severe character to look upon. From the time he was taken into the station till removed was about 12 minutes. Nothing was given to him during that time or attempted to be given.

By the Foreman: Several people were left with deceased on the crossing, while witness went for the station-master.

Thomas FLEMING, West-street, Brading, general dealer, deposed that on Sunday evening he was at Brading Station at about 10 minutes to 9. When he heard there was an accident he ran round the platform and found deceased at the Sandown end of the platform, but not on the platform. He assisted to take him to the waiting-room. He could see a few marks on deceased's face and he pressed his hand to his side. He said several words, but did not explain how it happened. Witness afterwards took charge of deceased, brought him to Ryde, and went to the Infirmary with him. They got there about 10. Deceased was groaning. Believed he said "Christ have mercy on me," but whether he was sensible or not he did not know. Witness saw deceased in bed.

William WHEWAY, inspector on the I.W. Railway, deposed that on Monday morning he went to Brading, and from information he received he looked about the platform. About 40ft. from the place where it had been pointed out to him that the young man was picked up, on the Sandown side at the end of the platform, he could see where something had been rubbed along the side of the platform. You could see where the dirt had been rubbed off the wall. Thought he was hung up between the steps and the platform. He found part of a sleeve-link on the platform corresponding with one he had on when brought to the Infirmary. Afterwards found a button on the line at the bottom of the platform, corresponding with the buttons on his coat of which there was one missing. He likewise found two pieces of brick rubbed off the platform as though deceased's heels had caught it.

Mr. Frank Henry BLATCHFORD, house surgeon at the Infirmary, stated that on Sunday evening deceased was brought there about 9.40 p.m.. Witness saw him and found externally a large bruise over the right hip, a cut at the back of the head, and several small bruises on the front of both legs. He was in a semi-conscious state. He held no conversation to be understood. Witness tried to get out of him how it happened, but could not. He was placed in bed and took just a little nourishment. He was in a very collapsed condition and died at 10.55 p.m. the same evening. The medical officer of the week (Dr. DAVEY) also saw him.

Q. What injury do you think which caused his death? --A. Speaking from external examination only, he apparently died from a fractured pelvis with internal hemorrhage.

The Coroner said it was immaterial how the accident happened so long as the jury were satisfied that the deceased died from injuries received in attempting to get out of the train in motion. The question of negligence or anything of that character was entirely absent in this case, because there was no doubt whatever that death arose through the mistake the unfortunate man made by getting into the wrong train. Every assistance seemed to have been given to him when the accident was known, and he was brought to the Infirmary, which was the proper place to bring him to. It appeared to him that there was only one possible verdict that they could return, which was that deceased, in attempting to get out of the train, lost his balance and fell, causing injuries which resulted in his death. There could be no blame attached to anyone in the matter.

The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the Coroner's suggestion.

## FUNERAL

Deceased was interred at the Ryde Cemetery. There were a large number of lovely floral tributes, including one from Lady SUTTON inscribed "In loving remembrance of her dear godson, William HOWE, from Lady SUTTON." Others came from Mr. and Mrs. OAKLEY, Col. and Mrs. MORETON, Miss SUTTON and Miss Zoe SUTTON, Capt. and Mrs. du BOULAY, and from the deceased's fellow apprentices at the Eagle Ironworks, Newbury.

---