

## MELANCHOLY & FATAL ACCIDENT IN MONKTON STREET

*A woman killed by falling down stairs*

An inquest at the Queen's Hotel, Star-street, on the body of **Mary PRICE**, the wife of Mr. Peter PRICE of 72 Monkton-street, who met her death in an awfully sudden and very melancholy way on Sunday night last. The inquiry was held by the Deputy Coroner, E. F. BLAKE Esq. Mr. I. HOUSE being foreman of the jury. The body having been viewed the following evidence was taken:- --Peter PRICE the husband of the deceased woman said: I live at No. 72 Monkton-street and am a rent agent; the deceased was my wife. She was 58 years of age. We lived alone together, there being no servant or anyone else in the house. I last saw my wife alive about 5 o'clock on Sunday. Just before that time I went out into my garden to feed some rabbits. I left my wife sitting in an easy chair by the fire. After being absent about a quarter of an hour, I returned to the house and found my wife lying at the bottom of the stairs. Her feet were on the stairs, and her head was on the mat. I fancied she had fallen downstairs, and moved her a little on one side. I spoke to her, but got no answer, I then made her as comfortable as I could, and ran for my neighbour, Mr. TORRIANI, who at once went for Dr. WOODWARD. Mrs. TORRIANI returned to my house with me. Dr. WOODWARD was not at home, but other doctors came. Dr. GREENING was the first to see her, and directly he saw her he pronounced her dead. My wife had been subject to giddiness, the last ten or twelve years. When I left the house the deceased did not say she was going upstairs; but it was her practice to go up into the bedroom just about that time – between the lights – and prepare the room for the night. The staircase she had to go up is steep and narrow and dark. She might easily have missed her footing at the top. Several of her family have died very suddenly. Mr. DENYER of Newport who died suddenly in April was her brother; she had a sister also who died suddenly in a fit.

Dr. GREENING deposed to seeing the body of the deceased at Mr. PRICE's house on Sunday evening about 6 o'clock. Life was quite extinct. There was a slight red line under the chin, caused by the way the body had fallen. Witness had examined the body again that day (Tuesday) and found the neck broken, a very likely result from a fall down stairs.

Mr. PRICE in reply to questions by the jurymen said he knew his wife had been upstairs after he left the room because he found the blinds drawn down and other marks of her presence.

Dr. GREENING in answer to a jurymen said the mark under the chin was always found in dead bodies which had been lying in one position for some time.

The Coroner here expressed the opinion that no further evidence was necessary. The deceased had evidently met her death by falling down stairs. The case was a very clear one, and the jury could hardly do other than find a verdict of accidental death.

A verdict to that effect was at once returned, and the inquiry terminated.

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