

BODY FOUND

This (Wednesday) morning the dead body of a middle-aged woman was found on the shore near Puckpool Fort. Being unknown, the body lies for identification.

SUICIDE BY DROWNING

We briefly stated in our last that the body of a woman had been found on the shore near Puckpool battery. It is said that the unfortunate woman is a distant relative of Mr. BIGGS, of this town, and that she was familiarly called "Aunt Jane," but her real name was **Fanny FABORY**, and she lived in Beach-street, Gosport. Being a widow, her four sons contributed towards her maintenance. Whether she jumped into the water at Gosport, or came to Ryde by the boat is not known, but as she had frequently visited this town, there is some probability that she might have committed the rash act on this side of the water. An inquest was held at the Battery Hotel, Spring Vale, on Friday afternoon, before E. F. BLAKE, Esq., Deputy Coroner, when the following evidence was adduced. William FABORY, son of deceased, said she was 56 years of age, and was frequently low spirited, and some time ago she said she could not rest but must do something with herself. She had means to obtain food and other necessaries. Did not know what need she had for the rope found in her pocket. Witness's brother was married on Sunday, but deceased was so unwell she could not attend the wedding. She went to Dr. HUNTER's in the evening, and he gave her a draught.—Ellen KENDALL said she lived next door to deceased; had known her ten years. Last saw her alive on Monday evening lying on the couch; she appeared to be very ill and low spirited, and asked for some ?????? with an egg beaten up in it. Staid an hour with her and left last witness with her. Deceased had been very strange, and could not sleep nor rest, and complained of seeing things—a man coming to her bed. Her sons supported her; she had no objection to her son getting married but told him to do so. She wandered very much in her conversation for some time past. She lived within 100 yards of the beach.—William RYAN, coastguardsman, said he found the body of deceased on Wednesday morning, about sixty yards on the other side of St. Clare's Lodge, close to the wall, the tide having gone out. Saw no marks of violence on her. Gave information to the chief officer, who sent information to Sergt. DANIELS.—Mrs. KENDALL, re-called, said deceased was a woman of abstemious habits. The doctor gave her a draught on Sunday night, and said she was very low spirited, and witness stayed up with her until half-past twelve.—Mr. Alfred WOODWARD, M.R.C.S., of Ryde, said he was called to examine the body of deceased on Wednesday, and found a particular condition of the skin—corrugated or puckered up; such as he should expect to find in a person who had died from drowning. There were no marks of violence. There was nothing to indicate deceased died from any other cause than drowning. The usual sign of drowning—mucous froth from the mouth—was entirely absent, but it might have been washed away by the water. From the appearance of the body witness did not think deceased had been in the water long.—The jury returned a verdict that deceased drowned herself whilst in an unsound state of mind.

