

SUDDEN DEATH FROM HEART DISEASE

On Tuesday last F. BLAKE, Esq., the coroner, held an inquest at the Fountain Inn, Player-street, upon the body of Mrs. Maria KINGSWELL, a widow, aged 56 years, living at Weeks's, who had died with the most startling suddenness on Saturday evening. It seems from the evidence then taken, that deceased went to pay a visit to Mr. SALTER, with whom she was on very friendly terms, in Player-street, on Saturday evening. The deceased sat before the fire, talking with Mary SALTER, a girl 16 years of age. About half-past 9, with the observation that the fire wanted poking, she leant forward to poke it. Almost immediately, however, she fell forward, and before Mary SALTER could save her she fell on the floor, and neither moved nor spoke again. The girl was so frightened that she could not move, and stayed there about half-an-hour, till her sister, Ellen, came in, and Mr. A. WOODWARD, M.R.C.S., was sent for and immediately attended. The poor woman, however, was then quite dead. The deceased, according to her son's account, had always enjoyed extremely good health, and had never complained of heart disease of anything of the sort. She had, however, recently won a case in the County Court at Newport (reported elsewhere), and this, it was stated, rather excited her, and she was very pleased she had won.

Mr. WOODWARD attributed death to heart disease, and said it was possible for people to have heart disease without being aware of it. The friends of deceased desired the inquest to be held; otherwise there seemed no necessity for it. – The jury returned a verdict of "Death from natural causes."

Researched & typed by
Ann Barrett
Val Minns