

### A FATAL BOAT ACCIDENT

On Sunday evening the body of a man was seen floating past the yachts, and subsequently was seen under Player's Copse by Mr. DEBENHAM, junr., who gave information, but the body eventually drifted to Fishbourne, where it was covered by a coastguard.

An inquest was held at the Fleming Arms, Binstead, on Tuesday afternoon, by the coroner, Mr. E. F. BLAKE. The jury, of which Mr. Charles Edward STEPHEN was foreman, having viewed the body, the following evidence was taken:-

Henry HAWKES, coastguard stationed at Fishbourne stated that on the previous morning about six o'clock, he found the body about 20 yards from high water mark, and brought it ashore.

Henry W. PARK, a corporal in the East Surrey Regiment, identified the body as that of his brother, **William Charles PARK**. He was a storekeeper, residing at Woolston. Last saw his brother, who was 31 years of age and married, on July 17th at Southampton Dock Station.

Henry Philip STRIDE, a foreman painter at Milton, deposed that on Tuesday, the 2nd inst., he was one of a party of six who went out for a sail in a boat. The deceased was also of the party. They started from Southampton Docks at about half-past twelve, and sailed very well till they reached Calshot Castle. They had intended to go to Cowes, but it was such a boisterous day and the sea was so rough that they decided to turn back and go to Hamble instead. While the boat was turning a very heavy gust of wind caught the boat, and before the occupants could shift their seats she capsized. They were in the water for about 20 minutes before assistance came to them. Mr. OWEN's yacht *Edith* picked up three of them, the yacht *Penitent* picked up another, and a third yacht picked up another man who was drowned, and an inquest was held on him upon Friday. Did not see deceased after the accident. The boat was generally considered safe, and he had been to Cowes with as many as twelve in her.

The Coroner said that Tuesday was a very rough day.

The jury returned a verdict of accidentally drowned.

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