

A LAMENTABLE CASE OF SUICIDE AT HAYLANDS

An inquest was held on Monday last, at the Eclipse Inn, Haylands, before E.F. BLAKE, esq., deputy coroner, on the body of a married woman named **Mary Anne HAZELL**, aged 51 years, who shot herself on the previous day. The body presented a shocking appearance . the following evidence was taken :

Thomas MORGAN said he lived at Haylands , and was a mason. He had known the deceased 13 weeks. She lodged with him during that time. Yesterday, between 12 and 1 o'clock, deceased gave me a paper to read, she had been talking to him and his wife, and said she had the face ache all night. She also complained of her son's ill-usage. She did this also on Saturday night. Deceased's husband is a servant in Italy. She said she thought her son wanted to kill her. About 20 minutes to 5 yesterday afternoon he was feeding his rabbits at the back of his house, when he heard the report of a pistol, which he thought proceeded from his house. He ran to his wife and children, and found them sitting by the fire in their own room. He then ran to the deceased's door, and called her, but received no answer. He then opened the door, and saw the deceased lying on the floor on her back, and a pistol lying by her right side. He shut the door and ran for a neighbor. They came back directly and found the deceased quite dead. He went directly for the police and a doctor. He believed the deceased was perfectly sane. She was not addicted to drink. She went into Ryde on Saturday evening. He saw her when she came back, and she then was in low spirits. He was quite certain that no person could have shot the deceased and got out of the room before he got there.

Nancy MORGAN 9 years of age, daughter of the first witness knew the deceased and saw her yesterday about half past 4, in her room. She was lying on her bed, and her eyes were open, but she did not speak. She often laid down in the day, and did not sleep well at night.

Daniel BEATON said that he was a surgeon, and was sent for yesterday to see the deceased. He arrived at her house between 5 and 6 o'clock and found her lying on the floor on her back, with her head towards the door. There was a quantity of blood on the floor. He found an extensive wound on the right side of the head, and her ear was blown off. She had two extensive lacerations on the cheek. They were such wounds as would have been caused by the shot now produced. He found on probing that the bone of the head was broken into fragments. They were such wounds as would have caused instant death . the right hand finger of the deceased was blackened with powder. The wound was in such a position that she would have been able to have inflicted it herself.

John HAZELL said he had lived at Haylands and was a painter. The deceased was his mother, she had lived in the Island four months. She came from London, and first came to live with him. She lived with him about four weeks, and left on account of his wife and her not agreeing. She was addicted to drink. Her husband's name is William HAZELL who is living as a servant in Italy. He had left her above six months on account of her violent temper and drinking. He used to pay her, for her father 10s. a week every Monday evening. He paid her 10s. last evening. She often asked him his father's address, which he refused to give her and his father wished him not to let her know where he was. This day week was the last time he saw her alive, and she then seemed very excitable. Eleven days ago she came to his house, apparently the worse for drink, and because he would not give her his father's address she took up a hatchet and said it should be life or death with us. He was obliged to take her away from his house.

The jury, after a short consultation returned a verdict of *Felo-de-se*.
