ISLE OF WIGHT OBSERVER Saturday 1st September 1888

SUDDEN DEATH OF A DOMESTIC SERVANT

An inquest was held at the Gem Inn, Hill-street, by the Deputy-Coroner, Mr. HOOPER, on the body of **Emily Florence FEBEN**, aged 17. The jury of which Mr. STAMP was foreman, having viewed the body, the following evidence was taken:

Miss BAYNE who lives at Rosehill, Wood-street, said deceased was in her employ as a domestic servant. She had engaged her a week ago. Last saw deceased alive about 9.15 on Friday evening. She seemed then in her usual health except that she seemed upset through having fallen in the dining room. She slipped when carrying a tray, but afterwards appeared to have recovered. The next morning she was called, but as she did not answer witness went to her bed room at 7.30. She was lying half in bed and half out. She was undressed and appeared to be quite dead. Dr. TURNER was at once sent for. Deceased had one or two falls the same day. Did not know she had fits; had witness known it she would not have engage her.

Frederick FEBEN, monumental mason, living at St. John's-road, said deceased was his sister. Knew that deceased suffered from fits. She had been in the Infirmary, but not altogether on account of them. Dr. TURNER deposed that on Saturday morning he was sent for to see deceased. He found her undressed in bed. She had been dead about an hour, he should imagine, as she was still warm. From her appearance he had not the slightest doubt deceased died from an epileptic fit. The face, neck and chest were highly congested; the tongue had been bitten.

The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence.

Researched & typed by Ann Barrett Val Minns