

PORTSMOUTH EVENING NEWS 22nd July 1914

**CHILD'S FATAL SWING
INQUEST AT RYDE**

On Tuesday afternoon Mr. H. P. WILTON one of the Deputy Coroners for the Island held an inquest at the Congregational Chapel, Weeks, touching the death of **Muriel Evelyn BARTLETT**, aged 4 years and 7 months.

It appeared from the evidence that deceased's father, William J. BARTLETT, mariner, living at 25, Alfred-street, put up a swing on a tree in Rosey-lane. On Saturday evening the deceased was on the swing and was being pushed by her 11-year-old sister, who is practically blind.

Alfred Frank COOK, greengrocer, Arthur-street who has a garden down the lane, took some wash for the pigs in his horse and cart. He passed the children all right, and on returning called out to them to stop swinging, but the deceased's sister did not hear him, and the swing caught one of the shafts of the cart. The child fell from the swing under the horse's feet, and was trampled upon.

Dr. MACKENZIE, who was called found the child's chest crushed and two ribs fractured. Death took place on Sunday afternoon.

The jury returned a verdict of " Accidental death," adding that there was no blame attached to the driver of the cart.

Contributed by Anthony Bevis (Isle of Wight Family History Society)