ISLE OF WIGHT OBSERVER Saturday 26th August 1893

ACCIDENTALLY DROWNED

An inquest was held at the Gem Inn this (Friday) afternoon by Mr. E.F. BLAKE, the Coroner for the Island, on the body of **William Henry LININGTON**, aged 14.

It appeared from the evidence, that on Thursday morning, Ernest TRUCKELL, the gardener at Westfield, was throwing some garden sweepings over the sea wall, when he saw a body floating in the water about six feet from the wall. He ran down and pulled it out, and found it was that of a boy, quite dead. The police were communicated with, and the body was taken to the mortuary, where it was identified as the son of Mr. LININGTON, late in the employ of Mr. NORMAN. The boy was employed by Mr. HARMSWORTH, of Cross Street, who on Thursday, sent him out for orders, and the deceased called at Col HEWETT's that morning. What he did is of course only a matter of conjecture, but after leaving Col. HEWETT's he is supposed to have gone through the gates at the bottom of Pelham Fields, which were open, and to have endeavoured to reach St. Thomas's slipway by walking on the slippery ledge under the wall. He is supposed to have slipped, stunned himself, and fallen into the water, as he had a severe contusion at the side of the head. Dr. WOODWARD considered this injury was caused during life, and insufficient alone to account for death, but on examining the lungs and other internal organs, he found evidence that death was caused by drowning.

A verdict of "Accidentally drowned" was returned.

Researched & typed by Ann Barrett Val Minns