## HAMPSHIRE TELEGRAPH Saturday 1st April 1871

**SUDDEN DEATH.-** Yesterday (Friday) morning, Mr. BLAKE, coroner for the Isle of Wight, held an inquest at Weeks' Hotel, on the body of **Charles WEARN**, living at Weeks's, aged about twenty-six years.

Elizabeth WEARN, the mother of the deceased, said that he had at times complained of his heart he suffered from palpitation when he had been upset about anything. On Wednesday morning, about nine o'clock, witness asked him to fetch some coals for Mr. BARNES. He left the house, and she saw him go to the stable, as she thought, to feed the pony. He did not come back again, and about half-past seven o'clock she saw the stable door was open. She went to shut it. On going into the stable, she saw the deceased lying on the floor on his back; the pony was lying near him. She took deceased by the hand, and found that he was dead, and getting cold. He appeared in very good health and spirits that morning, but he had been upset the night before by his father coming home in liquor. So far as she knew, he had taken nothing but his breakfast, which consisted of bread and butter and tea. He had never been laid up with illness, and was not subject to fit.

Henry LANGDEN, a carpenter, said he heard the cry of the previous witness when she discovered the dead body of her son. he made inquiries, and found that a man names DENHAM had gone for the police and Mr. A. WOODWARD, the surgeon.

John DENHAM, keeper of the Week's Hotel, said that he gave information at the police station of what had occurred. Sergeant BREARY returned with him; on the road they met Mr. WOODWARD and told him what had occurred, and he went to the stable with them.

Mr. WOODWARD said he found the head of the deceased on a very prominent pitching stone; there was no external mark on the head. Deceased was removed into the house, and witness examined him carefully. He could discover no marks of violence externally. The features were quite natural, and it was quite impossible to form an opinion as to the cause of death. he found in the room where he examined the body a small packet, marked "Salts of Lemon; poison." It had been opened. He gave it to the sergeant. It is used for taking iron moulds and ink spots from linen.

Mrs. WEARN said she was in the habit of using salts of lemon, and always kept it; she opened this packet on Saturday evening, to take an iron mould from a waistcoat.

A verdict of death from natural causes was returned.

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Researched & typed by Ann Barrett Kate MacDonell