

RYDE
SUDDEN DEATH OF A CHILD

On Wednesday evening, the Acting Deputy Coroner for the Island (Mr. J. ELDRIDGE) held an inquest at the Primitive Methodist Chapel, on the body of **Alfred Oswald HOLSINGER**, aged five months and a week, the child of Mr. HOLSINGER of 46, Green-street, who died on Monday afternoon. The evidence showed that the child's mother placed it asleep in a clothes' basket at about 3 o'clock; it was all right at 4, but at 5.15, it was apparently dead, with its head hanging over the side of the basket. Efforts were made by the parents and Dr. TURNER, who was called in, to restore animation, but these proved useless. The medical gentleman named was of opinion that the deceased had had convulsions, and had fallen on the side of the basket which had impeded respiration.

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

ISLE OF WIGHT OBSERVER Saturday 30th September 1905

CHILD'S STRANGE DEATH

An inquest was held on Wednesday, by Mr. J. ELDRIDGE (Acting Coroner) on the body of **Alfred Oswald HOLSINGER**, aged five months and seven days, the son of an old professional of the Ryde Cricket Club, of 46 Green Street. Mr. E. T. MINTER was chosen foreman of the jury.

Mrs. E. J. HOLSINGER, mother of the child, said she put the boy to bed on Monday afternoon, at 3 o'clock, in a large clothes basket, in which were besides sheets, two pillows. He was still asleep when she went up at four o'clock. At a quarter past five o'clock, she saw the child looked very white, and had fallen over the side of the basket. She snatched him up, and summoned her husband, who took the child down stairs, and a doctor was sent for. In the meantime, she put the child in a hot bath, and tried to pour brandy down its throat, but after rubbing him before the fire, she found no sign of life. The child had been rather fidgety in the morning, but otherwise was in his usual health. She heard no noise from him.

Dr. Phillip TURNER said he was called at twenty-five minutes past five, and on arriving at the house, found the child dead on its mother's knee. There was a mark of the wicker pattern of the basket quite distinct, although he should say the child had been dead from half an hour to an hour. A post mortem examination showed him that the child was perfectly healthy, but he found the meninges of the brain in a great state of congestion. This led him to think that the child had had convulsions, and falling over the edge of the basket, the respiration was impeded to such an extent that suffocation resulted. He thought that the same thing might have resulted from leaving the child a few minutes by itself in an ordinary cradle. The convulsions might even by itself have caused death. The mother had told him that the child had not suffered from convulsions before.

The Coroner, in summing up, said that the medical evidence seemed of most important, and there was no reason to expect but that Dr. TURNER's surmise was correct.

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