

ISLE OF WIGHT OBSERVER Saturday 9th September 1893

SUDDEN DEATH IN A GARDEN. - An inquest was held at the Gem Inn, Hill Street, on Thursday evening, by the Deputy-Coroner, Mr. H.R. HOOPER, touching the death of **Edwin PITT** an Army Reserve man aged 29.

Walter BARTON stated that he had a garden adjoining the deceased's at Bettesworth Road. On Wednesday morning, upon going there to cut some cabbages at half past 7, he saw deceased at work. When witness went again at quarter to 8 he saw deceased lying down. At first thought deceased was asleep. Witness did some garden work, and then went home and told deceased's father his son was lying on the ground. When he went to the garden again, at five minutes to 8, deceased was still in the same position. Seeing Mr TILL coming, witness called him, and they found PITT was dead.

Mr. TILL said the last witness had called him as he was going to work at five minutes to 8 on Wednesday morning. On finding deceased was dead, they sent at once for a doctor and the police.

Dr WOODWARD stated he was called to Bettesworth Road on Wednesday morning and found the deceased lying down in the garden, quite dead. Had him removed to the mortuary, and there made a post mortem examination. The result of his investigation showed that deceased had ruptured one of the arteries of his heart, and he must have died from syncope. The digging of the potatoes on a hot morning would no doubt accelerate it.

The Jury (of which Mr MEE was foreman) returned a verdict of "Death from natural causes."

*Note: We have noted that the name in the above report should have read "**Edward**" not Edwin.*

Researched & typed by
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