

3<sup>rd</sup> June 1869

PROCEEDINGS of INQUEST

held upon the body of

John Beards

at *Walsingham*  
*Cambridge's Court*

Received at the Crown Law Offices,

3<sup>rd</sup> June 1869

*R. J. 11/69*  
*917*

✓

*D. Mackay*  
Coroner.

PROCEEDINGS BEFORE CORONERS.

No. 64.  
[Stereo.]

INQUISITION.

*Castlemaine  
Victoria*

TO WIT.

AN Inquisition for our Sovereign Lady Queen Victoria, taken at *Italian Gully*  
*Campbells Creek* in  
the *District* of *Castlemaine* aforesaid,  
the *third* day of *June* A.D. 186*9*, in  
the *thirtythird* year of the Reign of our said Lady the Queen,  
before me *David Mackay*

\* City, Town, County, or District,  
as the case may be.

Gentleman, a Coroner of our Lady the Queen for the \* *District* of  
*Castlemaine* aforesaid, upon the  
view of the body of *John Boots* then

Jurors' Christian and Surname  
in full.

and there lying dead, upon the oaths of †

*John Butler*

*Frederick James*

*Joseph Kelly*

*Joseph Adams*

*John Marley*

*John Clumple*

*Robert Lovelace*

*Wm Morris*

*James Mason*

*John Broad*

*Edmond Mudge*

*William Boots*

good and lawful men of *Campbells Creek* in the  
said *District* who being duly sworn and charged to

inquire, upon the part of our Lady the Queen, when, where, how, and by what means the  
said *John Boots* came


by † *his* death, do say upon their oath that §

‡ His or her.  
§ Here state cause of death, if  
known; if unknown, doubtful,  
or no evidence, state the fact  
accordingly, using the words of  
the Verdict of the Jury.  
It is desirable that the Jury should  
find expressly, whether there are  
or are not marks of external  
violence on the body of deceased.

We find that John Boots  
aged 16 months was found in a water  
hole in Italian gully on the 2<sup>nd</sup> June  
1869, and that he fell accidentally into  
the hole and was drowned there —

In witness whereof as well the aforesaid Coroner as the Jurors aforesaid, have to  
this Inquisition put their hands and seals, on the day and year, and at the place above  
mentioned.

*W. M. King*

 (L.S.)  
Coroner.

\* Here let each Juror sign his  
own name, or make his own  
mark, and affix or acknowledge  
his seal.

*John Butler* (L.S.)  
*Frederick L. L. L. L.* (L.S.)  
*Joseph Kelly* (L.S.)  
*Joseph Adams* (L.S.)  
*John Marby* (L.S.)  
*John Campbell* (L.S.)  
*Robert Lovell* (L.S.)  
*William Morris* (L.S.)  
*John Brown* (L.S.)  
*James A. Mason* (L.S.)  
*Edward Midge* (L.S.)  
*William Boots* (L.S.)

## CORONER'S INQUEST.

## DEPOSITION OF WITNESS.

Castlemaine  
Victoria }  
To wit.

THE Deponent Charles Beatts

on his oath, saith as follows:—

I am a Miner and  
reside in Italian gully

The deceased child John  
Chen was my son, he was 16 months  
old and a fine healthy child. About  
half past one o'clock PM yesterday  
while we were all in the House, the  
child slipped out unknown to us. He  
was not many minutes absent till  
we went in search of him, and within  
a space of fifteen minutes from  
that time we last observed him in the  
house, while we were all searching  
for him, his sister found him  
lying on his face in a water hole  
containing water to the depth of a  
foot, I saw the body after, it was

Taken and sworn before me at  
day of  
at

A.D., 186 }

Coroner.

removed out of the water hole  
I got in Currier house. applied  
heat, friction, &c but to no  
avail, no symptoms of life  
returned. He sunk for or how  
but he was from home. I  
thought it could be of no use  
to send to the distance for  
any other medical man.  
The water hole was about  
the distance of 60 yards  
from the house we live in.  
There are no marks of a wound  
seen on the body.

Charles Booth

Taken and sworn  
before me the <sup>3rd</sup>  
day of June A.D. 1869,  
at Campbell Creek

Amesbury

Coroner

## CORONER'S INQUEST.

## DEPOSITION OF WITNESS.

Castlemaine  
Victoria }  
To wit.

THE Deponent

Elihuett Park

on his oath, saith as follows:—

I am the daughter of Charles Russ and living in Galien Gully. The deceased child named John Russ was my brother, he was 16 months old and able to run about. He was in the habit of playing about the house door. About 1/2 past 1 P.M. yesterday while sitting with my father and mother in the house, we missed the deceased who was in, with us a few minutes before then, I went out after him, I could not see him at first, but after searching a few minutes I discovered him in a water hole in the gully about 60 yards from our house. He was lying on his face, and his head downwards in the bottom of the hole his heels were visible.

Taken and sworn before me at

day of

A.D., 186

at

Coroner.

Above the water, and some of  
his clothing. The hole was  
after the depth of two feet, one  
of which was filled with water.  
I have no idea what brought  
him to the hole, or how he fell  
in. - When I took him out of  
the water he was apparently  
dead. He was carried home &  
every thing we could think of  
was done to restore life,  
but without any effect -

From the time we saw him cast  
in the house & the time we  
discovered him in the meterhole  
did not exceed 15 minutes

Elizabeth Boots

Taken and viewed  
before me the  $3^{\text{rd}}$   
day of June A.D. 1869.  
at Campbell's Creek

Wm. K. M.

Coroner