

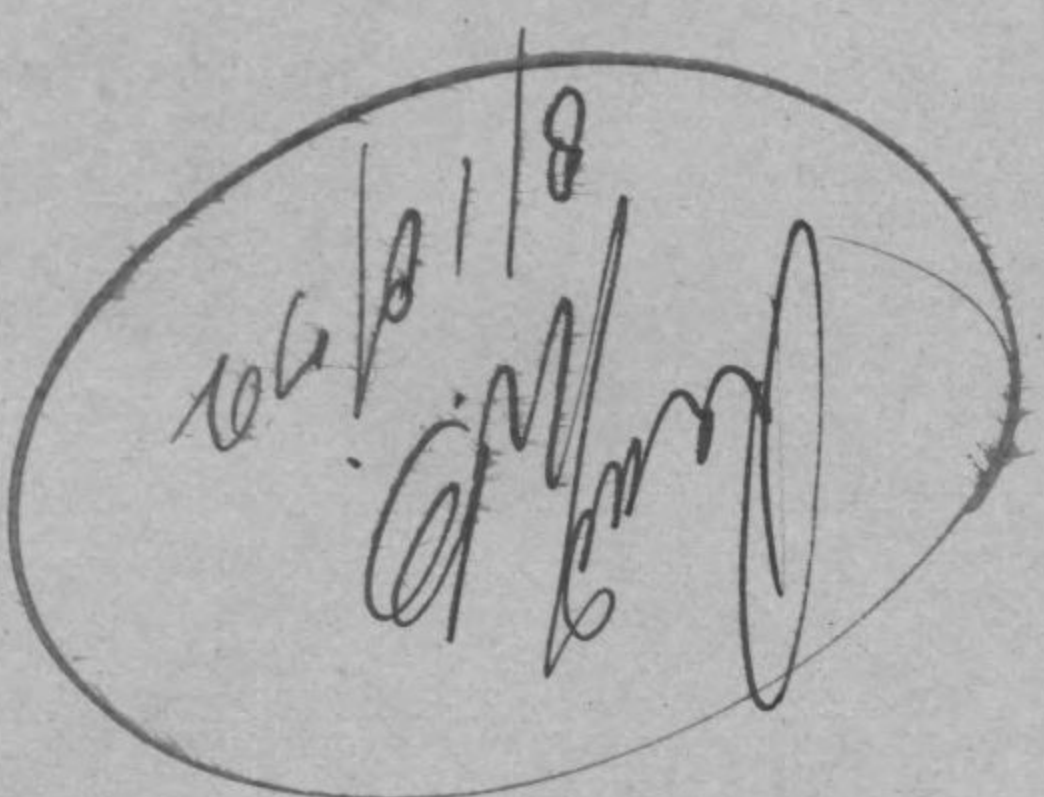
804  
5<sup>th</sup> October 1872

PROCEEDINGS of INQUEST  
held upon the body of

John De Staga

at  
Williamstown.

Received at the Crown Law Offices,  
October 8<sup>th</sup> 1872

  
8/10/72

A. P. Macdonald. Coroner.

# PROCEEDINGS BEFORE CORONERS.

No. 64.  
[Stereo.]

## INQUISITION.

*District of  
Williamstown  
Colony of Victoria*  
TO WIT.

AN Inquisition for our Sovereign Lady Queen Victoria, taken at *The Steam Packet Hotel, Cole Street Williamstown* in the *district* of *Williamstown* aforesaid, the *fifth* day of *October* A.D. 18*72* in the *thirty fifth* year of the Reign of our said Lady the Queen, before me *David Purdie Maclean*

\* City, Town, County, or District, as the case may be. Gentleman, a Coroner of our Lady the Queen for the \* *district* of *Williamstown* aforesaid, upon the view of the body of *John De Haza* then

Jurors' Christian and Surname in full.

and there lying dead, upon the oaths of †  
*John Banham Green*  
*Thomas Austin*  
*Thomas Richard Channington*  
*Henry Garrett Foreman*  
*William Perryman*  
*James Hawkins*  
*George Duncan*  
*John Crocker*  
*John Healy*  
*James Beaton*  
*Michael Crawcour*  
*George Dally*

good and lawful men of *Williamstown* in the said *district of Williamstown* 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 De Haza* came

† 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.

by † *his* death, do say upon their oath that § *he committed suicide whilst labouring under temporary insanity brought on by distress.*

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.

David Rudic Mailean

Coroner.

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

\* Henry Barnett  
Michael J. Crawford  
John Van Buren Green  
George Baker  
Geo. H. C. Huntington  
James Hawthorn  
Thomas A. Smith  
William Perrenson  
George L. L. L.  
John Crocker  
John Henry Dealy  
James P. Cotton

Williamstown

4<sup>th</sup> Oct. 1892

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Serjt. Wally 307, reports  
that at 2.01 p.m. this day  
a shot was heard in one of  
the bedrooms of the "Steam  
Packer Hotel". He proceeded  
there at once and broke in the  
room door as it was locked  
with inside. He found the  
body of John W. Haggan on  
the floor and a pistol recently  
discharged beneath the body -  
there was a strong smell of  
powder and the room was full  
of smoke. Death must  
have been instantaneous as  
the side of the skull was  
flown away —

There

if he has been or other  
salvage from the deceased.

There is no doubt but  
the deceased committed suicide.

Henry Daly  
Sept. 30, 1871.

## CORONER'S INQUEST.

## DEPOSITION OF WITNESS.

TO WIT.

\* All names of Witnesses.

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

THE Examination of \* *Thomas Samuel Blackney*  
 of *Williams town* taken on oath this *fifth*  
 day of *October* A.D. 1872, at *Williams town*  
 before the undersigned, a Coroner in the said † *district of Williams town*  
 The deponent *Thomas Samuel Blackney*  
 on his oath, saith as follows:— On *Thursday* night I  
 came down from *Kulbourn* with the  
 midnight train. The deceased and  
 Mr. Frank Dutton were in the same  
 compartment—there was no con-  
 versation whilst coming down but  
 on arriving at the station the de-  
 ceased enquired of Mr. Dutton where  
 he could get a bed. Mr. Dutton said  
 to me as you are going down the front  
 take him <sup>a hotel</sup> to ~~Williams~~ <sup>at Withers</sup>—I did so, and  
 got him a <sup>bed</sup> ~~bed~~ and I saw no more of  
 him until he was dead. He seemed  
 quite rational—he had some drink in  
 him but was not drunk. He told  
 me he had some business to do here—early  
 in the morning—and then had to go to  
*Leambridge* and *General Hill*. He had a  
 small parcel rolled up in a newspaper with  
 him—

Taken and sworn before me the *5th*  
 day of *October* A.D. 1872  
 at *Williams town*

*H. P. Mearns*

Coroner.

*Thos S Blackney*

## CORONER'S INQUEST.

## DEPOSITION OF WITNESS.

TO WIT.

\* All names of Witness.

THE Examination of\* *George Withers.*  
*continued.*

of taken on oath this  
 day of A.D. 187 , at

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

before the undersigned, a Coroner in the said †

The deponent

on his oath, saith as follows :— have been a shot so I  
 sent for the police. who came at once  
 and burst open the door—when we found  
 him in a sitting posture right-opposite  
 the door. on the floor. with his head leaning  
 against the trunk—the right-hand open  
 along side of him. a pistol along side of it.  
 a pool of blood along side—and dead. I had no  
 previous knowledge of him.

*Geo Withers*

Taken and sworn before me the *5<sup>th</sup>*  
 day of *October* A.D. 1872  
 at *Williamstown*

*D. P. McLean*

Coroner.

## CORONER'S INQUEST.

## DEPOSITION OF WITNESS.

District of  
Williamstown }

TO WIT.

\* All names of Witness.

THE Examination of \* Henry Daly

of Williamstown  
day of Octobertaken on oath this fifth  
A.D. 1872, at Williamstown† City, Town, District, or County,  
as the case may be.

before the undersigned, a Coroner in the said † district of Williamstown

The deponent Henry Daly -

on his oath, saith as follows:—I am sergeant of Police in charge at Williamstown. From information I received yesterday about a quarter past one I proceeded to the Steam Packet Hotel. I went to one of the bedroom doors with Mr. Withers the landlady. We knocked several times but received no answer. I burst open the door and found the deceased who I believe to be John De Haza sitting on the floor opposite the door. his back against some trunks the head slightly inclined to the left and leaning against the wall the hands were down by the sides partly open. the pistol produced lying beside the right-hand it was recently discharged and partly broken as it is now. a strong smell of powder and the room full of smoke. there was a large wound on the right side of the head with a piece of the skull blown away. a large pool of blood beside him. he was quite dead. I searched the body and found this chain—a match box and three bullets in the waistcoat pockets. also found in the pool of blood another bullet which seemed to have been the one used with the pistol. close to the head there was a hole in the wall where the bullet had struck—An open letter addressed Coroner. Mr. John De Haza was placed

Taken and sworn before me the

day of

A.D. 187

at

## CORONER'S INQUEST.

## DEPOSITION OF WITNESS.

TO WIT.

\* All names of Witness.

THE Examination of \* *Henry Daly*  
*continued.*

of

taken on oath this

day of

A.D. 187 , at

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

before the undersigned, a Coroner in the said †

The deponent

on his oath, saith as follows :— *up against the looking glass on the dressing table. This morning another bullet also marked with powder and the line of the wall was found in the room. In the drawer of the dressing table was found a small flask of powder and a box of caps. and a small phial that had contained lanolinum - some of which are owned by the landlord. He had no money or other valuables on him.*

*Henry Daly*

Taken and sworn before me the *5<sup>th</sup>*  
day of *October* A.D. 1872 }  
at *Williams town* }

*D. P. Maclean*

Coroner.

## CORONER'S INQUEST.

## DEPOSITION OF WITNESS.

*District of  
Williamstown*  
TO WIT.

\* All names of Witness.

THE Examination of \* *Frederick Geplin*.

of *Nutbourne*  
day of *October*.

taken on oath this *fifth*  
A.D. 1872, at *Williamstown*

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

before the undersigned, a Coroner in the said † *district of Williamstown*.

The deponent *Frederick Geplin*.

on his oath, saith as follows:— I am a musician by pro-  
fession and proprietor of the St. James's  
music hall. I have seen the body in the  
morgue and recognise it as that of Mr.  
John de Haza. He was under engage-  
ment with me to appear for one month  
from the second of this month but  
in consequence of hoarseness was unable  
to appear. On Monday he hearsed with  
my wife and found that his voice was  
gone but he hoped to retrieve it. My  
impression is that finding his voice  
gone and having no resources he saw  
nothing but starvation staring him  
in the face and so put an end to  
himself. That poverty had driven him  
insane. I was present when the  
body took charge of his effects last  
night at the Globe Hotel. There were  
no valuables in it.

Taken and sworn before me the *5th*  
day of *October*, A.D. 1872  
at *Williamstown*

*D. P. Mauban*

*Frederick Geplin*

Coroner.

## CORONER'S INQUEST.

## DEPOSITION OF WITNESS.

*District of  
Williamstown*  
TO WIT.

\* All names of Witness.

THE Examination of \* *John Cowan*

of *Mulbourn* taken on oath this *fifth*  
day of *October* A.D. 1872, at *Williamstown*  
before the undersigned, a Coroner in the said † *District of Williamstown*

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

The deponent *John Cowan*.

on his oath, saith as follows:— I am a workman and  
knew the deceased *John de Haga*. I  
have only known him by that name but  
think that he was called *Hague* in reality.  
He was about forty five or fifty. I have  
been in the same house with him for  
some weeks at a time and I never saw  
him much the worse of drink. He was  
travelling with *Hussey*— who did not pay  
him and he came back to *Mulbourn*  
in great poverty.

*John Cowan*

Taken and sworn before me the *5<sup>th</sup>*  
day of *October* A.D. 1872 }  
at *Williamstown* }

*D.P. Maclean*

Coroner.