

883

31<sup>st</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> 1862.

PROCEEDINGS of Inquest held

upon the body of

Thos. Higham

at

Stamagullen

Received at Crown Law Offices,

3 Nov<sup>r</sup> 1862.

✓ 104

✓  
H. H. Radcliffe Coroner.

PROCEEDINGS BEFORE CORONERS.

No. 64.

INQUISITION.

TO WIT. } *Victoria*  
*Tarnagalla*

AN Inquisition for our Sovereign Lady Queen Victoria, taken at

*Tarnagalla* in  
the *Colony* of *Victoria* aforesaid,  
the *thirty first* day of *October* A.D. 18*62* in  
the *twenty sixth* year of the Reign of our said Lady the Queen,  
before me *H. H. Rusk*

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

Gentleman, a Coroner of our Lady the Queen for the *District* of  
*Tarnagalla* aforesaid, upon the  
view of the body of *Frederick Higham* then

†Jurors' Christian and Surnames  
in full.

and there lying dead, upon the oaths of†

*Thomas King*  
*Robert Ross*  
*John Pepperman (Journman)*  
*Abraham Clay*  
*Marj Ashworth*  
*John Blower*  
*Walter Davis*  
*John Lane*  
*George Cheesman*  
*Thomas Wiggins*  
*George Turner*  
*James Robinson*

good and lawful men of *Tarnagalla* in the  
said *Colony* 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 *Frederick Higham* 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§ *Frederick*  
*Higham* on the *thirtieth* day  
of *October* in the year  
*aforesaid* accidentally  
casually and by misfortune  
became

became entangled with a  
belt on a pulley at Hammond's  
Machine situated at Farnagalla  
and was then and there killed  
by his head being crushed between  
the belt and the said pulley  
and so the Jurors on their oath  
aforesaid do say that the said  
Frederick Higham was accidentally  
casually and by misfortune killed  
and not otherwise.

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.

*A. H. O. Curtis* (L.S.)  
Coroner.

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

*John Papineau* (L.S.)  
*Thomas King* (L.S.)  
*Robert Ross* (L.S.)  
*Albion* (L.S.)  
*W. Turner* (L.S.)  
*James Robertson* (L.S.)  
*Thomas Higgins* (L.S.)  
*Wm. S. Smith* (L.S.)  
*John Bloom* (L.S.)  
*Walter Davies* (L.S.)  
*George Chapman* (L.S.)  
*John Lane* (L.S.)

## CORONER'S INQUEST.

[No. 66.]

## DEPOSITION OF WITNESS.

To Wit.

Tarnagulla  
Victoria

THE Examination of\*

Henry Wilson, John Murray  
and Peter Laurie: -

\*All names of Witnesses.

of Tarnagulla taken on oath this thirty first  
day of October A.D. 1862, at Tarnagulla  
District

†City, Town, District, or County, before the undersigned, a Coroner in the said †  
as the case may be.

This Deponent

Henry Wilson

on his oath saith as follows:

I am a miner residing  
at Tarnagulla. I have seen the  
body now lying dead at the Tarnagulla  
Hotel. I know the remains to be  
those of Frederick Hegans. I have  
known the deceased for upwards of  
thirty years. The deceased was a miner  
on Thursday at about a quarter past  
seven of the clock in the evening  
I was with the deceased. The deceased  
was removing a copper plate from  
the ripple table of Mr. Hammonds  
No. 2 Machine. I am <sup>a</sup> minute of the  
deceased and I and the deceased  
were having our quartz crushed at  
the above mentioned Machine. -  
The deceased in removing the plate

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The deceased foot slipped and  
the deceased fell down between the  
~~wheel which supports the pulley~~ which  
works the belt and the table the  
deceased rose and was again dashed  
down by the pulley I ran to the entrance  
the deceased and found the blood  
gushing from his mouth and ears.  
I got the deceased out but cannot  
say if he was alive or dead  
at that time. I cannot say  
in what manner the deceased  
was crushed but taking from  
the position I found the body  
that the deceased lay propped ~~up~~  
between the ground and the pulley  
the distance from the ground  
to the pulley is about seven or  
eight inches. — I and John  
Murray with the deceased were the  
only persons near the pulley. —

The deceased has no interests  
to my knowledge in any claim the  
estate may yield about the  
profits of the deceased share of  
Henry Wilson

Taken and sworn before me the  
thirty first day of October A D 1882  
at Tarrytown

H H Underhill  
Clerk

John Murray on his oath  
states as follows I am a Miner  
Residing at Ticonderoga I was  
with the deceased at about seven of  
the clock on Thursday evening  
I was with the deceased at Mrs.  
Harmon's Machine. The  
deceased assisted by the last  
witness was taking Copper Plates  
from the Raffle Board. I heard  
Harry Wilson call out and I  
saw the deceased laying flatly  
under the shaft with his legs  
and his head near the pulley.  
I caught hold of the deceased  
and drew him out. The deceased  
was dead. Blood was flowing  
from the right temple and mouth.  
I considered from the position  
in which I found the deceased  
and the marks on the ground  
under the pulley that the  
deceased was killed by  
being

being dragged by the belt  
between the pulley and the  
ground. . . I have been making  
quartz for four years the  
arrangements that exist at  
Mr. Harmons machine are  
similar to those that I have  
observed at other machines. I  
consider the mode of working  
the machine is safe and that  
the accident would not have  
occurred if the accused had  
not fell from the ripple table.  
No dispute could have occurred  
without my knowledge. -

John Murray

Taken and sworn before me the  
thirty first day of October A. D. 1862  
at Parnagulla

A. H. Underhill  
Clerk

Peter Laurie on his oath deposes  
as follows, I am an engine driver  
at Bro Hammonds' Machine I  
live at Tarnagulla. I was  
at the engine on Thursday  
morning at eleven of the clock.

The engine was going at full  
speed which is not dangerous.  
I observed that the engine was  
shaking and I ran to the  
engine house and then went  
into the shed. I saw two men  
lifting the shears from close  
to the pulley. I have examined  
the belt and the pulley also the  
ground I believe from the marks  
that the shears' head fell  
on the belt and passed between  
it and the pulley tearing up the  
ground. Formerly before the  
accident the distance between  
the pulley and the ground was  
only two and half inches. The  
distance is now six inches.

I have been working among  
machinery for twenty years -  
I consider that <sup>with</sup> ordinary care  
there is no danger from the  
arrangements at Mr. Hammond's  
machines. I have never seen  
the belt guarded in this colony.  
The two last witnesses were sober.

Peter Laurie

Taken and sworn before me the  
thirty first day of October A.D. 1862  
at Parnagulla. -

H. H. Ruschke  
Clerk