

883

31st Dec^r 1862.

PROCEEDINGS of Inquest held

upon the body of

Esther Higham

at

Stamagullen

Received at Crown Law Offices,

3 Nov^r 1862.

✓ 104

✓
H. H. Radcliffe Coroner.

PROCEEDINGS BEFORE CORONERS.

No. 64.

INQUISITION.

TO WIT. } *Newton*
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
 killed 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 J. P. (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.)
 A. B. Co. (L.S.)
 W. Turner (L.S.)
 James Robertson (L.S.)
 Thomas Higgins (L.S.)
 Moses 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.

Tarnagalla
Victoria

THE Examination of*

Henry Wilson, John Murray
and Peter Laurie: -

*All names of Witnesses.

of Tarnagalla taken on oath this thirty first
day of October A.D. 1862, at Tarnagalla
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 Tarnagalla. I have seen the
body now lying dead at the Tarnagalla
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 ^a 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

H.H. 82

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 ^{with} 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. Ruschcliffe
Clerk