

1255

20th December 1907

PROCEEDINGS of INQUEST

held upon the body of

Isabella Kelly

at Melbourne

morgue

Received at the Crown Law Offices,

23 DEC. 1907

190

G. L. O. I.

1094051
J. F. Sandhu
Coroner.

PROCEEDINGS BEFORE CORONERS.

INQUISITION.

VICTORIA, }
TO WIT. }

AN INQUISITION for our Sovereign Lord King Edward VII., taken at
the Morgue, Melbourne, in the State of Victoria, the 20th
day of December A.D. 1907 in the seventh
year of the reign of our said Lord the King, by me, Samuel Curtis Candler,
gentleman, a Coroner of our Lord the King for the said State, upon the view
of the body of Isabella Kelly
then and there lying dead.

Having inquired upon the part of our Lord the King when, where, how,
and by what means the said Isabella Kelly

(1) His or her.

came by¹ her death, I say that

on the 18th day of December 1907

(2) Here state cause
of death, if known;
if unknown, doubt-
ful, or no evidence,
state the fact ac-
cordingly.

at² South Melbourne she died from wounds
in the throat which covered all the parts
down to the spine caused by a sharp
cutting instrument - leading to profuse
hemorrhage from the blood-vessels.
I find that her husband Patrick
Kelly inflicted the wounds with the razor
afterwards found in his hand whilst dying
from a self-inflicted wound in his own throat.

In witness whereof I, the aforesaid Coroner, have to this Inquisition
put my hand, this 20th day of December

A.D. 1907

C. Cantler

Coroner.

VICTORIA POLICE.—(47).

South Melbourne

Station.

Melbourne

Police District.

December 19th 1907

No 3 Division

Report of Const J. W. McChowan 11982

relative to supposed murder & suicide of a man named Patrick Kelly & his wife Isabella Kelly at 102 Moray St South Melbourne

I have to report that about 12 o'clock midnight on the 18.12.07 a young man named Patrick Kelly reported at the South Melbourne Police Station that his father was killing his mother at 102 Moray St South Melbourne. In company with Const Miller I hurried to the place, & went in through the back gate & up to the front room. When we got there we found the place covered in blood and Mrs Kelly was lying on her back on the floor at the foot of the bed. There was a deep gash right across her throat which had severed the windpipe & extended from ear to ear. There was also a deep cut about two or three inches deep extending upwards under the right ear. There was also a cut on the right fore arm close to the wrist. The woman was quite dead & only was dressed in a chemise & one stocking. The man was lying alongside the body of his wife face downwards & was breathing very heavily. I examined him & found him to be suffering from a deep gash right across his throat

Sgt Siddell
2th Melb.

He had a razor clasped in his right hand & was lying with his head resting on his arms. I remained in the house & Const Miller rung up for the ambulance. The man turned over on to his back. I said, "Can you speak old man", He opened his eyes & looked at me but did not speak. He again turned on his face & appeared to have difficulty in breathing. The St John's ambulance arrived inside ten minutes after it was called & Const Miller took the man to the Melbourne Hospital where he was examined by Dr Giel, but life was then extinct.

This woman was Kelly's second wife, his first having died some five & half years ago. He then made the acquaintance of his present ^{wife} who was then a widow named Isabella Thompson with two children. They lived together as man & wife for two years & got married some five months ago, but do not appear to have lived very happily. He was a man addicted to drinking very heavily, & was about 40 years of age his wife being about 25.

One of the sons Patrick Kelly states he is about 18 years of age. His father & step-mother went to bed at about 8 o'clock on the night of the 18.12.07. At about a quarter to twelve he heard his mother screaming in ^{bed} a room next to where he was sleeping. I rushed in to the room with a lamp, my mother was lying on the floor at the foot of the bed & was covered with blood. My father was standing over her & was also covered in blood, & said to me, "Go back I am mad, I have killed my poor Beella, Go for the Police I am mad. I mean

VICTORIA POLICE.—(47).

Station.

Police District.

190

Report of
relative to

Straight away for the Police. He was a labourer working at Campbell's Engineering & boiler making establishment in Victoria Street Melbourne.

Another son Michael Kelly who is about 16 years of age states he was away from home on the evening of the 18.12.07 until about half past eleven. He then came home & went to bed in a room adjoining his father's & step-mother's room. Shortly after he heard his father call out, "Mike, Mike, — He lit a lamp & was going up the passage when his father called out, "Don't come in, Don't come in, I am mad. I went outside & stayed there until the Police arrived with my brother.

There are three other children, Hughie aged 12 Ruby aged 7 & Norman aged two, who are being taken care of by the neighbours for the present.

The body of the woman still lies at the house in Moray St in charge of Const Fitzgerald. The body of the man lies at the Melbourne Hospital, both awaiting further instructions

J. W. McChowan
Const 1982

Sergt Liddell
South Melbourne

19.12.07.

~~Remove both the deceased persons & the man and~~
(C.L.) I will hold the inquests tomorrow morning at 10/11 in Octak
[Over]

South Melbourne

19/12/07

Submitted for
the information of the Coroner
and waiting his instructions

The body of the woman
now lies at the City Morgue

J Liddell Sg. 7587

19/12/07

The City Coroner
Melbourne

19. 12. 07.

Remove the deceased now
at the Melbourne Hospital
to the Morgue and I will hold
the two inquests at 10 o'clock
No necessity for p.m. examⁿ of
either body

C. Candler
Coroner

Const. Watson

CORONER'S INQUEST.

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

This Deponent*

Patrick Kelly

on his oath saith, I am a

Labourer

residing at

102 Murray Street Melbourne

* Christian and Surname in full.

I remember the 15th night I left home at 7.20 pm. I remember the night of the 15th night I went to bed about 11.30 pm. I did not see my father or mother they were in bed. It started at about 11.45 - I heard screams. I ran to the front room with a lamp in my hand. I saw my father standing hanging on to the bed. He said "Go back but come near me. I am mad". I did not see a razor in his hands. He said "Go and fetch the Police". He did not threaten me. I went out to call for the Police. I saw the wound in my step-mother's throat. I returned with the doctor. I did not go into the room with him. I did not see my father when I returned. - I do not know whether he was alive or not.

I left home about 7.15 am that day. My father had been drinking since his that morning. I do not know whether he was under the influence of drink then. He had been drinking

Taken and Sworn before me the.....day

of.....190

at.....

Coroner.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

This Deponent* Patrick Kelly

on h oath saith, I am a (continuing)

residing at.....

* Christian and Surname in full.

Drinking about a month.
 my father and ~~step~~ mother lived happily together. My mother has been dead about 3¹/₂ years.
 My step mother had two children before she was married to my father. They slept in one room. My father and step-mother slept in the same room. The children were ^{aged} 3 years and 2 years. I have brothers.
 My father married my step mother about 6 months ago. They were in good terms when I went away, and had no quarreling except last Saturday night. My step mother set out drink to my knowledge. Last Saturday my step mother said to my father. "I suppose you will be cutting up the rest of these days and then cutting your own the next day. Last Saturday night. I left my father at home last Wednesday morning. I was speaking to him. I was away all day. I came home at tea time. I saw my father at 7 he was having tea with me. There was no one there."

Taken and Sworn before me the.....day
 of.....190 at.....

 Coroner.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

This Deponent* Patrick Kelly

on h oath saith, I am a (containing)

residing at.....

* Christian and Surname in full.

I left home at 7 pm.
my father was out under the
influence of drink then - my step-
mother was out under the influence
of drink with. I did not hear
any grumbling when I went to
bed. My mother ^{Michael} was with me
at this time. also my brother
Hugh

Patrick Kelly

Taken and Sworn before me the 20th day
of December 1907 at Melbourne
C. Cantley
Coroner.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

• Christian and Surname in full.

This Deponent* Michael Kelly
on his oath saith, I am a Servant
residing at 102 Murray St South Melbourne

I am 16 years of age.
I live with my father and
step-mother. I have heard
the evidence of my mother and I was
with her all the time except
when he went for the Police.
The wedding as correct. I went
out at 7.30 with my brother.
My father and step-mother
were all with them - and there
was no quarrelling. I took my
little brother out with me
of my own when my mother went for
the Police
Michael Kelly

Taken and Sworn before me the 20th day
of December 1907 at Melbourne
L. Cantler
Coroner.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

* Christian and Surname in full.

This Deponent* John William Malbran on his oath saith, I am a constable of Police residing at Stationed at South Melbourne

In consequence of what the first witness told me I hurried to 102 corner the South Melbourne at about 12 o'clock on the 15th inst. I went to the first room I then saw the body of the deceased. "Gabella Kelly" she was lying on the floor at the foot of the bed. She had a deep gash right across her throat and another extending upwards under the right ear she was then quite dead. She was dressed only in a chemise and one stocking. The room was covered in blood. There was also a patch of blood on the bed on the sheet. I saw the man Patrick Kelly. I also saw a wound across the right fore arm and one on the side of the hand. The blankets were on the floor as if they had been pulled off. She was lying on her back with her right hand on her chest and her head turned to the left. The razor (produced) was

Taken and Sworn before me the... day of... 190 at... Coroner.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

This Deponent* John William McGowan

on h oath saith, I am a (containing)

residing at.....

* Christian and Surname in full.

was on the right hand of
of which Kelly (now deceased)
she was lying alongside the
body of deceased. There only
signs of a struggle were that
the blankets were off the bed.
The wound in the throat was
a very deep and had been
opened to the spine. All the
arteries and veins were severed.

What time taken: In my opinion the deceased
was attacked in bed while she
was asleep, and after the
first attack she had got up
and went toward the door.
In my opinion the husband killed
his wife with the razor (produced).
I found the razor in her right
hand. I examined the
deceased to look for signs of life
but she was quite dead.
There were large quantities of
blood on the floor.

At the coroner: there were two deep cuts in
deceased's throat.

J. W. McGowan Const-1982
Michael Kelly

Taken and Sworn before me the 20th day
of December 1907 at Melbourne
C. Cantler
Coroner.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

This Deponent* Mary Kelly

on her oath saith, I am a married woman

residing at 145 Fish St South Melbourne

* Christian and Surname in full.

My husband's name is John Kelly - The deceased. "Estella Kelly" was married to my brother-in-law. I have seen her. I last saw her about a couple of months ago. She seemed to be living on all night terms with her husband; they were not married then. I went once to see her about 4 months ago. I saw the husband last Saturday night, at the coroner's. He had drunk in her. The deceased was out with him. I do not think he would take her life. I never heard he threatened to take her life. I have seen him in drink. I never saw him lose his head when drunk. He was quarrelsome when in liquor.

Mary Kelly

Taken and Sworn before me the 20th day
of December 1907 at Melbourne
C. Cantor
Coroner.