

1106
December 4th. 1879

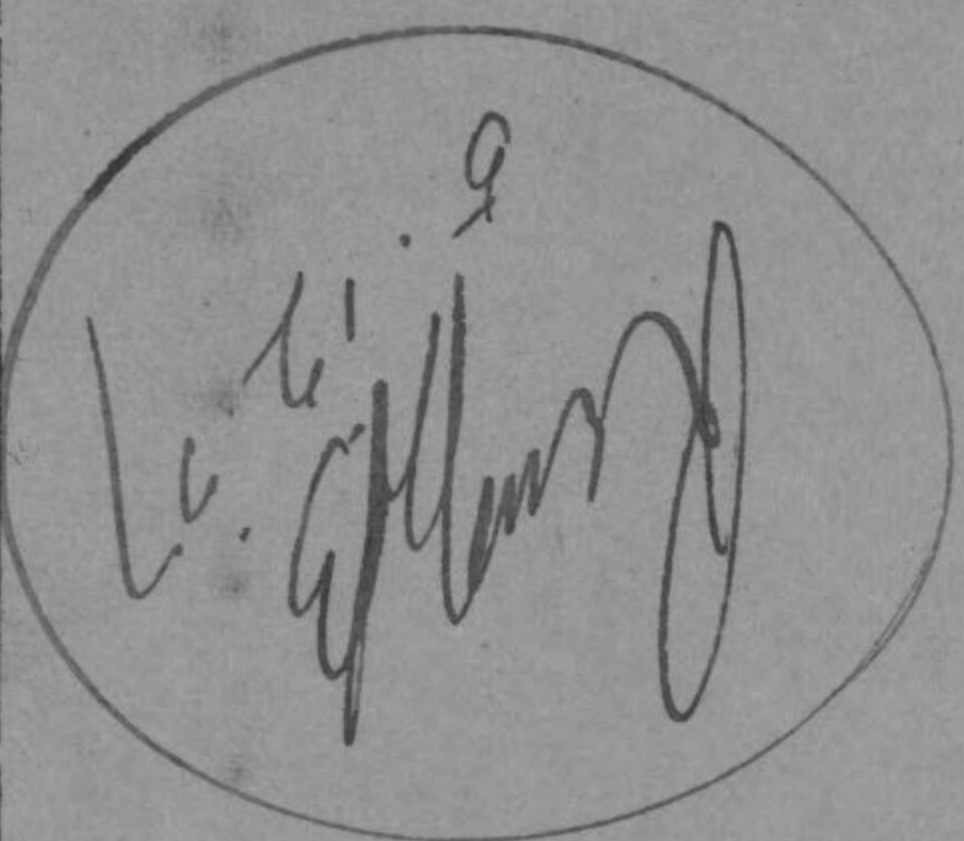
PROCEEDINGS of INQUEST
held upon the body of

Joseph Le du and
Hewitts

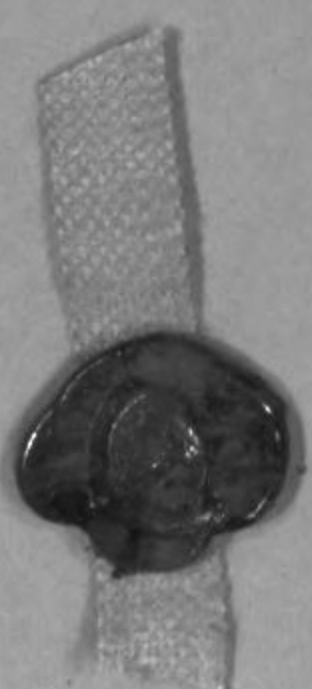
at

St Andrew

Received at the Crown Law Offices,
December 5th 1879



J. O. Candler
Coroner.



PROCEEDINGS BEFORE CORONERS.

INQUISITION.

Colony of Victoria, }
to wit. }

AN Inquisition for our Sovereign Lady Queen Victoria, taken at

Pakenham in
the Colony of Victoria aforesaid, the *fourth* day
of *December* A.D. 1877 in the *thirty fifth* year of
the Reign of our said Lady the Queen, before me *Samuel*

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

Curtis Canby Gentleman, a* Coronér

of our Lady the Queen for the said Colony, upon the view of the body of

(C.C.) *Joseph Watts* then

† Jurors' Christian and Surnames
in full.

and there lying dead, upon the oaths of†

Charles Hill
Charles Thomas Jones
Robert Green
William Murphy
John Blencome
Henry Lark
William Pyatt
Peter Rumpf
John Brown
George James Cook
Benjamin Bryan
William Rault

good and lawful men of *Pakenham* 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 *Joseph*

‡ His or her.

Edward Watts came by† his death, do say upon their oath

§ 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.

that§ *on the 2nd of December 1877 at the*
Kardinia Creek, Benwick, he
was accidentally drowned

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.

C. Carter

(L.S.)

Coroner.

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

Charles Hill

(L.S.)

Charles Osborne Trimmer

(L.S.)

Robert G. G. G.

(L.S.)

William Murphy

(L.S.)

John Blencowe

(L.S.)

Henry J. Ward

(L.S.)

W. J. J. J.

(L.S.)

Peter P. P.

(L.S.)

John W. B.

(L.S.)

George James Cook

(L.S.)

Benjamin John Hall Bryant

(L.S.)

William Randa

(L.S.)

H.T.—No. 1.
750,000.—7/77.

POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS.

92

No. _____

This despatch has been received for delivery subject to the Regulations and Conditions under which Telegraphic Messages are authorized to be transmitted in Victoria.

No. Words 44
Check Offms
By A

NO FEES TO BE PAID UNLESS STAMPED HEREON.

Time rec^d 9.53 From Berwick Dated 3. 12. 1877

* * No pecuniary liability is incurred by the Crown by reason of any delay, default, or omission, in relation to any Telegraphic Message sent or received, or omitted to be sent or received, in Victoria.

Telegram for C. Candler Esq
Coroner. Melbourne Club.

ALL COMPLAINTS TO BE ADDRESSED IN WRITING TO THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28
29	30	31	32

Joseph Watts¹ eight years² old was³ drowned yesterday⁴
evening in⁵ Caradina Creek⁶ Berwick deceased with a⁸
younger brother and another boy was¹¹ fishing when¹²
he fell¹³ in body now lies near¹⁵ Souters Hotel¹⁶
Berwick¹⁷ Dr Butler now stopping at Souters Hotel²⁰
attended²¹ the deceased.²²

(Signature)

John Shanahan

Int^d Const

Time lodged at the Sending Station 9.40

2574

CORONER'S INQUEST.

[No. 60.
Stereo.]

COLONY OF VICTORIA,

This Deponent*

William Henry May

TO WIT.

on his oath saith, I am a labourer

residing at Benwick

*Christian and Surname in full.

On Sunday evening the 2nd instant, a little after six o'clock, I was having tea and heard a noise outside. I went out and saw Mr. Keenan standing on the bank of the Kardinia Creek. I called out to him and he asked me to go over. When I went to him he said one of Watts's boys was in the creek. I asked him where and whilst speaking I saw the boy in the water. I went in, got hold of him, lifted him out, and sent for a doctor and took the child to the father's house where he was stripped and rubbed. The deceased showed no signs of life. I saw froth coming from his nostrils before I took him out of the water. He was in about 2½ to 3 feet of water. The bank was very steep there. It was about 100 yards from my house. I had not seen the boy there. I saw a stick near the bank which had been used for fishing apparently. The little children who were with the deceased did not come to me.

William Henry May

Taken and Sworn before me, the 4th day
of December, 1897, at Pakenham
C. Cantley
Coroner.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

COLONY OF VICTORIA,

This Deponent*

TO WIT.

*Christian and
Surname in
full.

on his oath saith, I am a

residing at

*William Kerwan**labourer**Berwick*

On Sunday evening the
little boy and present came home and said his
brother was in the truck. I went down as quick
as I could but could not see nothing
of the boy in the truck. In a short time Mr. May
came and went in and saw the boy and took
him out. About half an hour before I had
seen the children in the truck. I could not
see what they were doing, but I hunted this
away that day and took a fishing rod from
them.

*William Kerwan test. Mark*Witness *John Skauahan**Mag. Court 2574*

Taken and Sworn before me, the *4th* day
of *December*, 18*99*, at *Pakenham*
C. Caudes
Coroner.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

[No. 60.
Stereo.]

COLONY OF VICTORIA,

This Deponent*

Thomas Watts

TO WIT.

on his oath saith, I am a *quarry man*

residing at *Berwick*

*Christian and
Surname in
full.

The deceased *Joseph Edward Watts*, aged *8* years and a half was my son. I was absent from home on Sunday when deceased was drowned. The boys now present are not old enough to state what occurred but from what I can gather from their accounts tumbled in whilst fishing. They did not call any person. They got frightened I believe. I am satisfied in my own mind the occurrence was accidental. I had often warned deceased about going to the creek and threatened to whip him.

Thomas Watts

Taken and Sworn before me, the *4th* day
of *December*, 18*77*, at *Pakenham*
C. Candler
Coroner.