

40 - 7 - 1890

760

PROCEEDINGS of INQUEST

held upon the body of

*Henrietta Oliver*

at

*Barnwell near Beola*

Received at the Crown Law Offices,

8 - 7 - 1890

*Geo Murphy* Coroner.





CORONER'S INQUEST.

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

\* Christian and Surname in full.

This Deponent\*

Joseph Patrick Kays

on his oath saith, I am a

Constable

residing at

Nathalia

About 11.50 pm yesterday. In consequence of a report from Mr Crawford & Mr Pierce I rode out to Oliver's house where I arrived about 2.25 am this morning. I was directed to the kitchen where I saw the deceased Mrs Oliver. She was in a sitting position on the chair. I examined the body & found a full charge of shot had gone in at the back of the neck & came out on the right cheek bone. The hair was scorched round where the charge had entered. The body was sitting with the feet crossed, the ~~right~~ <sup>left</sup> hand had fallen down & ~~was~~ <sup>was</sup> between the fingers was a paper which was resting on the floor. The paper was covered with blood. I noticed the left eye was black. A double barrel breach loading gun was leaning against the perpendicular behind the woman & on the right side. A discharged cartridge was in the right barrel, the left was empty. On the mantelpiece there were also spots of blood. I found a box with some cartridge on the mantelpiece. The right hand was partly resting on her thigh.

Taken and Sworn before me the 4<sup>th</sup> day

of July 1907

at Barnack

Read Murphy

Coroner.

Joseph P. Kays  
 Const. 4898

## CORONER'S INQUEST.

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

This Deponent\*

*James Wright*on his oath saith, I am a *farmer*residing at *about 1/2 a mile from Olvera*

\* Christian and Surname in full.

I have seen the dead woman she is my daughter she is about 27 years of age. She was married to Olvera last year. They were living quite happily together. Yesterday I was told my daughter had shot herself. I & my son Bill & Tony Beat went to the Olvera's house with a lantern & we found the deceased dead in the chair. The gun was leaning against the perambulator. It was all in darkness. I lit the lamp. I lit the lamp. The lamp chimney was just warm. The baby was in the perambulator crying very loudly. I gave the baby to Miss Beat. I then examined my daughter. She had been shot through the back <sup>of the back</sup> & out through under the right eye. We then shut up the room till the police came. The gun was at the back of the chair & leaning against the perambulator as it is now.

*James Wright*

Taken and Sworn before me the *fourth* day  
of *July* 1907 at *Barna*  
*Red Murphy*  
Coroner.

### CORONER'S INQUEST.

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

This Deponent\* William Wright

on his oath saith, I am a farmer

residing at with my father Mr Oivers

\* Christian and Surname in full.

Yesterday a little after 8 pm I was told my sister was shot. I went with father & Mrs Scott to Oivers house. I think it was in darkness. I found my sister sitting dead shot through the back of the head. I never knew Oiver & his wife have any quarrel or even a bad word between them. He brought a lantern with us

William Wright

Taken and Sworn before me the fourth day  
of July 1907 at Barma  
Richard Murphy  
Coroner.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

\* Christian and Surname in full.

This Deponent\*

*Joy Beard Barb*

on her oath saith, I am a

*lady help*

residing at

*Olevis farm.*

*I have been with*

*with the Olevis since the 1<sup>st</sup> of last June 1907. I used to help in everything & with the housework & milking. Last night about 8 pm I went to Mrs Wright to get the mail. I had a pile I was taking down to Wright. I went with Mr Wright & Will brought back to Olevis about 1/2 an hour after I left them. Coming back we had a lantern. Going to Wright I was all alone & had no light. The house was in darkness & we found Mrs Olevis dead but I didn't go near her. Mr Wright gave me the baby. I never heard any quarrelling between the Olevis.*

*Joy Beard*

Taken and Sworn before me the *fourth* day  
of *July* 1907 at *Borne*  
*Red Murphy*  
Coroner.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

This Deponent\*

Edward Oliver (Jr)

on his oath saith, I am a farmer

residing at Barnah on my wife's farm

\* Christian and Surname in full.

I have seen the body, it is that of my wife Henrietta Oliver, we were married on 29 March 1906. I bought a double barrel breech loading gun <sup>at the same time</sup> at Brown & Cork's store at Piccola for £ 3.15/- <sup>yesterday Wednesday</sup>. I bought a box of cartridges, I think 25. I brought it home yesterday about 2 pm. I had my dinner & salted a bit of pork. I then took the gun & went into the paddock, I shot at me here & it got away. I then returned & brought the cows home. My wife & my Kate milked them. I then went to the gun club. They were about 40 men out. Gary & others. I fired 2 or 3 shots at hares & returned home about 6 pm just at dark. We had tea. My wife, my & myself. I played with the baby for about 1/4 of an hour, while my & the wife worked up. Miss Kate said she wanted to go for the letters & walked away about near 8 pm. I shifted the remainder of the cartridges <sup>while my wife was in here changing my</sup>. My wife just previously asked me how the gun was loaded. She is

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

of.....190 at.....

Coroner.

adjusted to using a muzzle loading gun. I showed her how the gun worked & put it in the corner near the safe. It was then unloaded I am positive.

I went for the bull & turned him back from going through to the weight place. I heard him roaring. He was in the house

paddock. I turned the bull back to the back paddocks to where the cows were. I left the gun in the kitchen & had no gun when I went after the bull. I then was coming back home towards the house & the river.

~~At first~~ I saw a light through the window at the back when I was going with the bull. Shortly after, 10 minutes about, I returned when I heard the report of a gun

1 I come along towards the house & when I got to within about 2 chains I saw the light was out perhaps less than 2 chains. I run then to the kitchen door struck a match & found my wife sitting in the chair quite dead & very little bleeding.

The left hand was hanging down nearly touching the floor. It was holding a nearly touching a paper. I only lit two matches.

The baby was crying & I gave her the soother. I then ran to the stable & put the bridle

on the pony & galloped down  
to Mr Wright my wife's father  
who lives about 1/2 a mile from  
me. I met Will Wright and  
Miss Hart down <sup>opposite</sup> Mr Wright's  
place, opposite to Mr Wright's house.

I said Ette (meaning my wife) has  
shot herself. & Will asked me  
was she dead & I sd yes. Miss

Hart asked me where the baby  
was & I said crying in the pram.  
Will ~~asked~~ <sup>pushed the pram</sup> over for his father.

Then Mr Wright, Will & Miss  
Hart came with a caisson  
to my dead wife. I went for  
Mrs Pierce & on to Mrs Crawford's

Then Mr & Mrs Crawford & Mrs Pierce  
~~went~~ & I walked to the bridge  
& Mr Pierce <sup>and Albert Baldwin</sup> came along with

Baldwin's buggy. We all got  
up on the buggy & we all came  
back home to my wife.

When we got home we found  
Miss Hart with the baby & the  
2 Mr Wrights waiting for us.

We then went into the kitchen  
& looked at the wife. When  
I came to my wife the first time  
she was bleeding very little but  
there was a lot of blood on the  
floor. My wife told me that  
if ever she was left alone she  
would load the gun if there  
was one in the house & frighten

anyone who came about. She knew I went after the bull. She told me I had better go. She knew I wd be back in a minute or two. She was heating an iron to dry the baby's dress which was a bit damp. My wife & I were on the very best of terms & as happy as could be. We had never any serious quarrell at any time. We never had a drop of drink in the house. There was no disturbance of any sort with my & my wife

~~Witnessed by Mr. Schwartz~~

E. Oliver jr

Taken and sworn before me  
the 14<sup>th</sup> day of July 1907 at Barmah

Readmanley  
Corney