

572

June 22nd 1876

PROCEEDINGS of INQUEST
held upon the body of

Frank Ralph —

at the Germania Hotel in

Richard

Received at the Crown Law Offices,

June 24th 1876

1

J. J. Brown

J. J. Brown



Coroner.

City of Sandhurst
County
of
Dundigo

[No. 64.
.....

PROCEEDINGS BEFORE CORONERS.

INQUISITION.

Colony of Victoria, }
to wit. }

AN Inquisition for our Sovereign Lady Queen Victoria, taken at *Luckers*
Terminus Hotel, City of Sandhurst in
the Colony of Victoria aforesaid, the *Twenty-second* day
of *June* — A.D. 187*6* in the ~~thirty~~ *40* year of
the Reign of our said Lady the Queen, before me *James Decker*

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

Decker Gentleman, a* Coroner

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

Frank Ralph, — aged *46* years — then

† Jurors' Christian and Surnames
in full.

and there lying dead, upon the oaths of† *the following Jurors* —

Abraham Roberts — foreman —

Frederick H. Wisemeyer

James Steane

William J. Dull

Charles Carpenter

John Williams

Richard Williamson

Ezra Gower

Edwin S. Frost

Peter Ferguson

Thomas Dull

Jeremiah McCormick

good and lawful men of *the City of Sandhurst* 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

‡ His or her.

Frank Ralph — 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§ *Frank Ralph* died from *acute pneumonia*
in the Railway Van of the 4³⁰ train from Albury
to Sandhurst on the 20th instant, — June 1876 —

There were no marks of violence upon the
deceased body externally

[Handwritten flourish]

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.

James B. D. D. D.

Coroner.

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

** Abraham Robert Lorenau*
David H. L. Wiesemeyer
James Stearns
William J. Beck
Charles Carpenter
John Williams
P. Wilkerson
Ozra Jones
Edwin L. Frost
Peter Ferguson
Thomas Peel
Jeremiah M. McCormack
mark

Witness to Mark B. Braden / 1491

SANDHURST,
COUNTY OF BENDIGO,
COLONY OF VICTORIA,
TO WIT.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

THE Examination of *Oliver Peafold, Surgeon, &*
residing in Sandhurst, County of Bendigo in the Colony
Colony of Victoria, taken on oath this *twentysecond* day of *June* A.D. 1876
at *Tuckers Terminus Hotel, City of Sandhurst*
before the undersigned, a Coroner in the said Colony, at Sandhurst

The Deponent *Oliver Peafold* aforesaid
on his oath saith as follows: *I made a post-mortem examination of the*
body of the deceased man called Frank Ralph here lying
dead. It is that of a man about 50 years old, it was
well nourished. Externally there is a small bruise on
the left buttock probably caused by pressure by his lying on
something hard like corrugated iron, which was the only
mark upon the body externally. The soles of the feet were
covered with mustard, applied as a sinapism on brown
paper. The hands were soft as if not accustomed to
work. In the chest I found some old pleuritic
adhesions in front at the upper part. The lower half
of both lungs were in a state of recent inflammation,
The heart was large, fatty, and empty of blood.
The stomach was congested, and contained some greenish
grumous fluid. The liver was large and fatty and
indicating a drunkards liver. The kidneys were very
large and fatty. The rest of the abdominal organs
were healthy. The cause of death was acute
and recent inflammation of both lungs, double pneumonia

Oliver Peafold

TAKEN and sworn before me the *22nd*
day of *June* A.D. 1876
at *the Terminus Hotel, City of*
Sandhurst. A. D. Goulds Coroner.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

[No. 60.
Stereo.]

COLONY OF VICTORIA,

TO WIT.

*Christian and
Surname in
full.

This Deponent*

Thomas Conroy, this 22nd of June 1876
on his oath saith, I am a *musician.*

residing at *present & for the last 3 months at the City of Sandhurst*

*Sixteen years ago at Sandridge Melbourne I first met
the deceased Frank Ralph here lying dead now -
- He lived by playing the Cornopion. His deceased wife had
arrived from Adelaide and had a musical engagement at
the All Nations hotel there and deceased played the Cornopion
at it - and they were then shortly married there. Then he
was not a man of sober habits, for years I occasionally
accompanied them on the violin as she sang and he
played the Cornopion in public places, and in the streets
of towns in this Colony. - I never heard anything from them
of her antecedents, - but I believe he had been in the Army
and had wealthy relatives in Dublin. - Over 3 months
ago I met him alone at Echunga. (his wife has been
dead some 2 years) he played the Cornopion about the
streets and drank all he earned. - I left him some 3
months ago and came to Sandhurst. - then he had $\frac{1}{2}$
with which he purposed buying a pair of boots for those
he had were bad ones. - then he had a coat, vest and hat,
- Deceased first came out in the Great Britain steamer
and went home and returned here again by the lightning.
This is all I know about deceased Frank Ralph.*

Thomas Conroy

Taken and Sworn before me, the 22nd day
of June A.D., 1876, at the Terminus
Hotel Mitchell St Sandhurst
J. D. D. D. Coroner.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

COLONY OF VICTORIA,

TO WIT.

*Christian and
Surname in
full.

This Deponent*

Henry Molyneux, this 22nd of June 1876 -
on his oath saith, I am a *Guard on the Victorian Railways -*
residing at *Echuca, in the Colony of Victoria*

*On Tuesday the 20th instant I was guard of the 4³⁰
P.M. Train from Echuca to Sandhurst. And on arriving at
the Station at Echuca I found the deceased Frank
Ralph upon a stretcher in the Van, I saw Constable
Nedwell there, and I asked him if he got an order from
a doctor as I did not think deceased would live to
reach Sandhurst, Nedwell showed me the document
produced, signed by Dr. O'Hara, stating his opinion that the
deceased was a fit subject for removal to the Dundig
Hospital - I was in the Van when the train started.
- Found the shaking of the Van affected deceased, I was
unable to do anything for deceased, he was insensible,
and he expired before the train reached Rochester, -
where I showed deceased to a medical man, who said
he was dead. - As far as I saw, the Constable did
everything he could for the deceased, and it would be
useless for Constable Nedwell to accompany deceased, I
did ^{not} want him as I could attend deceased as I did many
cases which came with me in a similar way - If
Mr. Ward knew the deceased was ill apart from drink
I believe he would have had a medical man to see him*

Henry Molyneux

Taken and Sworn before me, the *22nd* day
of *June 1876*, at *the Terminus Hotel*
City of Sandhurst. *J. D. Gould* Coroner.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

[No. 60.
Stereo.]

COLONY OF VICTORIA,)

This Deponent*

William McDowell, this 22nd June 1876

TO WIT.

on his oath saith, I am a *Constable*

residing at *Chchua, in the Colony of Victoria*

*Christian and
Surname in
full.

I had known the deceased *Frank Ralph* for the past 8 years in and about Sandhurst, he lived by playing the Cornopian, and was very fond of drink. He told me he had been in the army and at the Crimea. - I have seen him at Chchua where he confessed to me that he ^{just} had a fit or spree of drink at Deniliquin, he said he had no fixed place of rest and his clothing was barely sufficient to cover his nakedness. - On Friday the 16th inst he was playing his Cornopian about the streets in Chchua. - And on Monday evening ^{the 19th} *Henry Gordon Ward*, Landlord of the American Hotel at Chchua, reported at the police Station that the deceased was sick in his place since Saturday, the police got Doctor O'Hara to see deceased and he prescribed for deceased, and ordered mustard to his feet, deceased was then insensible, the Doctor said deceased had inflammation from over drink. Which upon the brain. - On Tuesday the 20th Doctor O'Hara again saw deceased and he recommended his removal to this hospital. - Got a police requisition from *Serjt. Hay* for this hospital and his conveyance by train 4³⁰ till on the 20th. I found deceased in a room on a stretcher covered with a blanket and a feather pillow under his head, he was breathing long and heavily and froth ^{was} coming from his mouth. he had on his body only an old shirt and a pair of trousers not fit to remove him in. - Got a pair of trousers and put them on, brought him in a cab to the Railway Station, where he was placed in a stretcher in the Van covered with the blanket and put a tarpauling over that to keep him warm, telegraphing to Mr. Chomley to have a constable meet deceased at the

Taken and Sworn before me, the

of _____, 18____, at _____

(Continued on page 6)

J. D. D. Coroner.

Train at Sandhurst - *Mr Henry Molymoney* the guard - here present - was in charge in the Van with deceased so it was not necessary I should accompany deceased in the train -

Colony
of
Victoria

To Wit.

CORONER'S INQUEST.
DEPOSITION OF WITNESS.

[No. 60.]

THE Deponent William McDowell aforesaid furthermore
on his oath, saith as follows:—I enquired all about deceased, but could not
find where deceased slept on Friday night, but I do not think he
slept out, he would always get a place to sleep at public houses,
— Henry Gordon Ward is a respectable man whose statement I
believe — He informed me the deceased came into his Bar
between 11 and 12 o'clock on Saturday, the 17th inst and stopped for
some time, and left, returning between 4 and 5 o'clock, then the
deceased was treated to a drink or two of
beer, and deceased getting quarrelsome there Mr. Ward told deceased
to go into the parlor and lie down on the sofa and have a sleep,
which deceased did, and remained there from about 6 o'clock to 12
o'clock, when shutting up, Mr. Ward had deceased carried
to the room where he was placed on a stretcher as I described,
— On Sunday morning Mr. Ward went to deceased and gave him
some tea, and thinking he was ^{still} under the results of heavy
drinking, he did not know he was ill, ^{not} until Monday ^{morning}
the 19th when he informed the police, and he Mr. Ward did not
know what was the matter with deceased until Dr. Hara
saw him — From what I know of Henry Gordon Ward I do
believe that had he not thought deceased was suffering from
drink, he would have sooner reported the case to the police —
— a man told me the deceased had 60 drinks one day when
at Beneliquen —

W. McDowell
Constable 2261

Taken and sworn before me the 22nd
day of June A.D. 1876,
at the Terminus Hotel in

Sandhurst —

J. D. D. D.
Coroner.

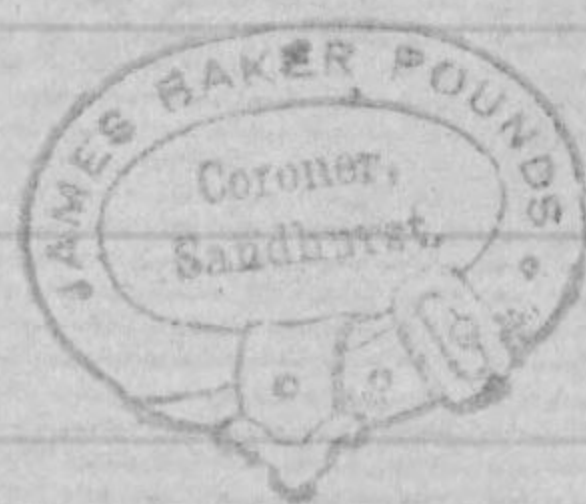
Sandhurst District
Quarry Hill Police Station
20th June 1896

Frank Ralph -

Constable Bradley reports
for the information of the
District-Coroner that the man
named in the margin died this
evening in the train from Egham
to Sandhurst which arrived at
7 pm En Route to the Basingstoke
Hospital, he was removed to
the Terminus Hotel where he
now lies awaiting an Inquest

Bernard Bradley
Const- 10491

J. B. Pounds Esq
District Coroner
Sandhurst



Memo

It was not thought necessary to bring the Hotel Keeper
Ward or D. O'Hara at so much expense to Sandhurst and
the jury agreed with that opinion

Sandhurst 24.6.96

J. B. Pounds
Coroner