

Mr. Syms Hill

June 22nd 1876

PROCEEDINGS of INQUEST
held upon the body of

Frank Ralph —

at the Terminus Hotel in

Sandhurst

Received at the Crown Law Offices,

1876

.....

P.W.

John D. Morris

A. J. Morris

Coroner.



City of Sandhurst
County
of
Bendigo

[No. 64.]

PROCEEDINGS BEFORE CORONERS.

INQUISITION.

Colony of Victoria, }
to wit. }

A N Inquisition for our Sovereign Lady Queen Victoria, taken at ~~Tuckers~~
~~Terminus Hotel, City of Sandhurst~~ in
the Colony of Victoria aforesaid, the ~~Twentysecond~~ <sup>1st day
of June — A.D. 1876 in the ~~thirtyninth~~ ^{forty} year of
the Reign of our said Lady the Queen, before me ~~James Baker~~</sup>

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

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

Abraham Roberts — Foreman —

Frederick H. Weisemeyer

James Steane

William J. Dull

Charles Carpenter

John Williams

Richard Williamson

Ezra Gower

Edwin S. Frost

Peter Ferguson

Thomas Eul

Jeremiah Womack

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.

\$ 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 4^{3/4} train from Lethbridge
to Sandhurst on the 20th instant, — June 1876 —

There were no marks of violence upon the
deceased body externally —

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 D. Donisthorpe

()
Coroner.

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

* Abraham Robert Lorean ()
Dwight H. L. Wiesemeyer ()
James Stearns ()
William J. Biddle ()
Charles Carpenter ()
John Williams ()
T. Williamson ()
Cyrus Gowen ()
Edwin S. Frost ()
Peter Ferguson ()
Thomas C. Peel ()
James M. McCormick ()
mark

Entered to mark B. Bradley 1/491

SANDHURST,
COUNTY OF BENDIGO,
COLONY OF VICTORIA,
To Wit.

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CORONER'S INQUEST.

THE Examination of Oliver Penfold, Surgeon, &
residing in Sandhurst, County of Bendigo in the 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 Penfold 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 gummy fluid. - The liver was large and fatty and indicating a drunkard's 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 Penfold

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

CORONER'S INQUEST.

COLONY OF VICTORIA,

TO WIT.

*Christian and
Surname in
full.This Deponent* Thomas Conway, this 22nd of June 1876{ On h^{is} 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 Fink met the deceased Frank Ralph here lying dead now - Relived by playing the Cornopean. His deceased wife had arrived from Adelaide and had a musical engagement at the All Nations hotel there and deceased played the Cornopean 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 Cornopean 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 Schuda. (his wife has been ~~over~~ 2 years dead) he played the Cornopean about the streets and drank all he earned - Left him some 3 months ago and came to Sandhurst - then he had £1/- with which he purposed buying a pair of boots for those he had were bad ones. Then he had a cost New South Wales, - Deceased Fink 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 Conway

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

CORONER'S INQUEST.

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COLONY OF VICTORIA,

TO WIT.

*Christian and
Surname in
full.

This Deponent* Henry Molyneux, this 22nd of June 1876 -
 On h^{is} oath saith, I am a Guard on the Victorian Railway -
 residing at Echuca, in the Colony of Victoria

On Tuesday the 20th instant I was guard of the 4³⁰
 Gill 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 documents
 produced, signed by Dr O'Hara, stating his opinion that the
 deceased was a fit subject for removal to the Bendigo
 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 A.D., 1876, at the Terminus Hotel
 City of Sandhurst. J. D. Gould Coroner.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

COLONY OF VICTORIA,

TO WIT.

Christian and Surname in full.This Deponent William Nedwell, this 22nd June 1876{ On h^s is oath saith, I am a Constable &residing at Echuca, in the Colony of Victoria

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 Bahia where he confessed to me that he ^{had just} had a fit or spree of drink at Denidquin, he said he had no fixed place of rest and his clothing was barely sufficient to cover his nakedness. - On Friday the 15th instant he was playing his Cornopian about the streets in Echuca.

- And on Monday evening ^{the 19th Henry Gordon Ward, Landlord of the American Hotel at Echuca, 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. Thick 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 Sgt. Flays for this Hospital and his conveyance by train 4³⁰ Sill on the 20th. 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 ^{was} coming from his mouth, he had on his body only an old shirt and a pair of trowsers not fit to remove him in, I got a pair of trowsers 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 took a tarpaulin over that to keep him warm, telegraphing to Mr. Chomley to have a constable meet deceased at the}

Taken and Sworn before me, the

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(Continued on page 6)

H. D. Coroner.

Train at Sandhurst - Mr Henry Molyneux
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.

[No. 60.]

DEPOSITION OF WITNESS.

THE Deponent William Nedwell 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 Still on Saturday, the 17th inst and stopped for sometime, and left, returning between 4 and 5 P.M., then the worse for drink & then 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 6:30 P.M. 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, until Monday morning the 19th when he informed the police, and he Mr. Ward did not know what was the matter with deceased until D. J. 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 drunks one day when at Bendigo —

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W. Nedwell
Bustable 2261

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

Sandhurst —

J. B. Gough
Coroner.

Sandhurst District
Quarry Hill Police Station
20th June 1876

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 Geelong
to Sandhurst which arrived at
7 pm. On route to the Bendigo
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



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

J.B. Pounds

Sandhurst 24 6 76

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