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Decr 7/16 1897

PROCEEDINGS of INQUIRY

held upon the body of

Eliza Jane Kean
Martha Kean

at

Portland

Received at the Crown Law Offices,

Decr 10th 1897

James Long J.P.

Coroner.

MAGISTERIAL INQUIRY.

RECEIVED
10 DEC. 1907
C. L. O.

VICTORIA,
Western BAILIWICK,
TO WIT.

A MAGISTERIAL INQUIRY on behalf of Our Sovereign Lord the King, taken at Portland in the Western Bailiwick of Victoria, this seventh day of December in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and seven before the undersigned James Long Esquire, one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace in and for the said Bailiwick, upon view of the body of Eliza Jane ~~Long~~ Kean then and there lying dead.

Having duly inquired when, where, how, and by what means the said Eliza Jane ~~Long~~ Kean came by her death, I say that the said Eliza Jane ~~Long~~ Kean died at Portland in the said Bailiwick on the sixth day of December 190 7 from drowning but there is no evidence to shew the state of deceased's mind at the time

As witness my hand this seventh day of December 190 7

James Long J.P.

MAGISTERIAL INQUIRY.

VICTORIA,
Western BAILIWICK,
TO WIT.

A MAGISTERIAL INQUIRY on behalf of Our Sovereign Lord the King, taken at Portland in the Western Bailiwick of Victoria, this seventh day of December in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and seven before the undersigned James Long Esquire, one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace in and for the said Bailiwick, upon view of the body of Martha Kean then and there lying dead.

Having duly inquired when, where, how, and by what means the said Martha Kean came by her death, I say that the said Martha Kean died at Portland in the said Bailiwick on the sixth day of December 190 7 from drowning. And I am of opinion that the deceased was drowned in her effort to save her sisters life

As witness my hand this seventh day of December 190 7

James Long J.P.

[No, 53.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

This Deponent* Joshua Kean

on his oath saith, I am a Son Wheelwright

residing at Portland

* Christian and Surname in full.

I am a brother to deceased Martha Kean aged 60 and Eliza Jane Kean aged 47, I last saw the deceased alive about half past four yesterday afternoon, they were at Dr. Scotts home, they appeared to be in their usual health and spirits, my sister Eliza was troubled during the last three months with melancholia, I left both of my sisters at Dr. Scotts at four thirty & went home for tea, I went to the new pier about 5-45 pm to fish, my attention was drawn to two women on the beach apparently bathing, opposite the Catholic Chapel, when I first saw them they appeared to be bathing in the surf, they were both standing up, the water was about up to their knees, there was a heavy surf, from where I was fishing to where they were bathing would be about three hundred yards, for about five minutes I lost sight of them & came to the conclusion something was wrong, I became alarmed & ran down the pier and on to the beach to where I last saw them, it took me six or eight minutes to

Taken and Sworn before me the 7th day of December 1907 at Portland

James Long JP
Coroner.

Joshua Kean

[No. 53.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

This Deponent* .....

on h oath saith, I am a .....

residing at .....

* Christian and Surname *in full.*

to get round as I am lame, on arrival at the spot I found both my sisters in the sea four drowards about ten feet afoot, the bodies were lying in water about eighteen inches deep. I dragged both bodies up to dry land Mr. Mathieson came to my assistance, they showed no sign of life, my sister Martha's tongue was hanging out, I helped with Mr. Mathieson to restore animation, Dr. Levi arrived soon after, efforts to resuscitate them were kept up under Dr. Levi's direction, the bodies were in the water about fifteen minutes. I saw them both go into the water one was about four or five feet in front of the other. I never heard my sister Eliza threaten to commit suicide. When they went into the water they appeared to be running and were fully clad with exception of their hats.

Joshua Kean

Further examined. I believe I called out for help before Mr Mathieson came

Taken and Sworn before me the 7th day of December 1907 189 at Portland

James Long J.P.

Coroner.

[No. 53.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

This Deponent* John Sampson Levi

on his oath saith, I am a duly qualified medical practitioner

residing at Portland

* Christian and Surname *in full.*

I arrived at the scene of the occurrence at 6-50 p.m. and at once proceeded to restore animation on the two bodies lying on the sand by Dr. Laborstein's method; whilst so employed I gathered from people around that very nearly three quarters of an hour had elapsed before I arrived; I continued my efforts for twenty four minutes without any sign of returning life & accordingly pronounced them dead. The cause of death was drowning.

J. S. Levi. M.D.

Further examined. I believe I called out for help before Mr. Walkington came.

(No)

Taken and Sworn before me the 7th day of December 1907 189 at Portland

James Longo J.P.

Coroner.

[No. 53.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

This Deponent* Colin Dugald Matheson

on his oath saith, I am a the caretaker of the Public Baths

residing at Portland

* Christian and Surname in full.

My attention was drawn to two women walking along the beach towards the baths about 6.30 last evening, on approach to be carying a parcel, I could not recognize who they were, the bodies I have viewed are the same, after seeing them walking along the beach I went into the office & did some writing, about ten minutes after I heard someone calling for help, on looking out towards the lighthouse I recognized Mr. Joshua Kean in the water endeavouring to draw someone out, I immediately proceeded to the spot and lent assistance to bring the bodies out onto dry land, the bodies were about two hundred yards from the baths, both women appeared to me to be dead when I arrived, I at once proceeded to restore animation, first I tried to empty the lungs of water by placing a bolster under the stomach and pressed downwards, treatment was kept up altogether for about 40 or 50 minutes, I was treating the deceased for about fifteen or twenty minutes before the D. arrived when I found I could not get any water

Taken and Sworn before me the 7th day of December 1907 189 at Portland

James Lowe J.P.
Coroner.

C. D. Matheson

[No. 53.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

This Deponent* .....

on h oath saith, I am a .....

residing at .....

* Christian and Surname *in full.*

water from the lungs I turned Martha on to her back, ~~the~~ before the Drs arrival I emptied the sand from the mouths of both, I saw Const. Taylor & O Donnell present at the scene of the accident & they also assisted to restore animation.

C. D. Matheson

Taken and Sworn before me the 4th day of December 1907 189 at Pattens

James Long J.P.

Coroner.

[No. 53.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

This Deponent* Alfred Henry Taylor

on his oath saith, I am a Police Constable

residing at Portland

* Christian and Surname *in full.*

From information received I proceeded to the beach in front of the Convent about 6-40 pm ~~the~~ yesterday. I saw two bodies, who I was informed were two sisters named Kean, lying on their backs on the beach. Several men were assisting to restore breathing, under the direction of Dr. Levis, on both the deceased. I assisted to restore animation. When Dr. Levis statet that life was extinct I procured stretchers and had the bodies removed to their home in Gawler Strat. with Const O'Donnells assistance. The bodies were viewed by me as the same.

A. H. Taylor
Const 4121.

Taken and Sworn before me the 7th day of December 1907 189 at Portland

J. Ames Long
Coroner.