

41 June (2/2) 1858

Engwell Hall
Ch-Bosca on the
body of John a
Binneman

Death from
Death of the
natural cause

J. E. Barber
Barber

CORONER'S INQUEST.

DEPOSITION OF WITNESS.

†
Victoria

To Wit.

THE Examination of* *Francis Christian Oswald -*

* All Names of Witnesses.

*Richard Close - and Robert Brunns
Patterson*of *Awoon*taken on oath this *fourth*day of *June*A.D. 1855, at *Awoon*City, Town, District, or County,
as the case may be.before the undersigned, a Coroner in the said† *Colony*

This Deponent

Francis Christian Oswald

on his oath saith as follows:—

*I am an accountant in the Bank
of Victoria living at the Branch Bank at Awoon
I knew the deceased John a Chinaman who
has been in my service about three weeks. Last
night about ten o'clock I called for him to make
our beds. He made a noise in the tent which he
occupied close alongside the office but did not come.
I went and found him lying on the bed he complained
of having a bowel complaint or gripes and had been
vomiting by the side of the bed. I told him to go
to bed. I immediately went to bed and got up this
morning between two and three o'clock when he
was making a great noise and went in and saw
him. Mr. Patterson Acting Manager of the
Bank was with ^{me} ~~you~~ and gave deceased a glass
of gin which he threw up again and he got
another one with a little water which he kept
down. He still complained very much but we
could*

could not make out what was the matter
with him, we then sent for Dr. Close who
came. He decried said he had a difficulty
in passing water. Dr. Close performed an
operation. we punctured his bowels with a needle
prescribed by Dr. Close and also gave him some
medicines. After this he was easier and only
remained a little. We left him and went to
bed thinking he was better as he said he was.
About half past eight this morning Mr. Patten
went into the tent and found him dead. The
deceased Chinaman could speak English pretty
well. He never drank anything in the shape of
spirits. He was in the habit of using a large
quantity of Opium. Which he smoked. He was
boiling a lot of Opium yesterday in a pot, which
seemed to make him particularly dull and
heavy - not intoxicated but stupid. There
was only one Chinaman who came to see the
deceased yesterday but they did not know each
other. he remained there only a few minutes.
When I saw deceased this morning his feet were
on the ~~side~~ ground and he was lying on the
bed as though he had been getting out of bed
and had fallen back dead. I never saw him
boiling any Opium before. I do not know
how much Opium he was in the habit of smoking
he always concealed or tried to conceal it.

W. B. Swallow

Taken and sworn before me
this fourth day of June 1833
at Aomori
H. A. Swallow
Governor

and this Deponent Richard Cross
on his oath saith as follows

I am a Surgeon practicing at
Acorn. I was called this morning between
3 and 4 o'clock to see the deceased John a
Chinnam in the employment of the last
witness. he was then suffering exceedingly
pain over the region of the stomach and bowels -
he also complained very much of not being
able to keep his water. I used the catheter and
relieved his bladder of about a pint of urine.
I ordered Poppy fomentations to be applied -
and gave him three grains of Calomel and
two of Ipecacuanha every three hours. I gave
him one dose before I left. He seemed much
better not suffering pain on inspection -
He must have eaten a large quantity of food
yesterday from the matter written - meat and
potatoes. I heard he had been making soups
and broths that day. I heard the Evidence
of the last witness and am of opinion that the
deceased ^{was} not under the influence of opium when
I saw him - he was not narcotised. I am
of opinion that deceased's death was caused
by an acute attack of Colic produced by
eating an over quantity of food and by the
Smoking of Opium. There are no marks of
External violence on his person. He did not
complain of any blow or injury. Persons
do not often die suddenly from acute
Colic except when the inflammation runs
very high and very rapidly when collapse
is

is produced. I have known a person die
of Cholera in six hours. Deceased has packed
his stools in his bed before I went.

Richard Close

Taken and Sworn before me
this 4th day of June 1835
at Acaha

Magister
Coroner

And this Depoent Robert Brand Patterson
on his oath saith as follows

I am Acting Manager of the Bank
of Victoria at Acaha. I knew the deceased
John a Chinaman. he was in my employments
and had been for three weeks and a half.
About a quarter past twelve last night I came
home and found deceased ill. he complained
of his bowels and was unable to keep his
water. I gave him a flap of gin which he
threw up. about five or ten minutes after
I gave him another which remained in
his stomach. I went for Dr. Close myself
who came at once and prescribed for him
at the same time he inserted a catheter to
relieve his bladder which. The doctor left
some

some medicine to be taken every three
hours. The deceased seemed considerably
better before the Doctor left. We went to bed
about three o'clock and told deceased to take
his medicine at five o'clock and if not able to do so
to knock for us. About a quarter past eight
this morning I went into his tent and found him
lying on his bed quite dead. He was seemingly
in the act of rising from his bed. I was absent
all day yesterday from the Bank. I knew
that the deceased was in the habit of smoking
pipes and that he had got a quantity on Friday
or Saturday last. I never saw him the worse
of it. Before I gave deceased the pipe he had
been vomiting - and after ^{that} he vomited some
potatoes and meat. I do not know whether
he smoked any opium after we left him -
his opium pipe was lying by the side of his
vomit. I never knew him chew opium.

A. B. Patterson

Taken and sworn before me
this fourth day of June 1835
at Arica

Candler
Coroner

PROCEEDINGS BEFORE CORONERS.

INQUISITION.

Victoria }
TO WIT.

AN Inquisition for our Sovereign Lady Queen Victoria, taken at *Avoca* in the *Colony* of *Victoria* aforesaid, the *fourth* day of *June* A.D. 185*6*, in the *eighteenth* year of the Reign of our said Lady the Queen before me *Samuel Curtis* *Clerk*, Gentleman, a Coroner of our Lady the Queen for the* *District* of *Avoca* in the *Colony* of *Victoria* aforesaid, upon the view of the body of *John A Chinaman* then

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

† Jurors' Christian and Surnames in full.

and there lying dead, upon the oaths of †

- John Meade*
- Henry Adams*
- Meador Mantel*
- John Weeks*
- John Brown*
- Miriam Waintraub*
- William Lyman*
- John Nichols*
- James Carter*
- Joseph Waterhouse*
- John Sutton*
- Henry Trevisick*

good and lawful men of *Avoca* in the said *Colony* of *Victoria* who being duly sworn and charged to enquire, upon the part of our Lady the Queen, when, where, how, and by what means the said *John A Chinaman* came by † death, do say upon their oath that § *He died on the fourth*

‡ 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.
It is desirable that the Jury should find expressly whether there are or are not marks of external violence on the body of deceased.

day of June A D 1855 at Avoca he died by the visitation of God.

The Jury would wish to add that the deceased appears to have had some

attention that could be paid to him
by the managers of the Bank of Victoria
his Employer.

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.

Clauder


Coroner.

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

John Brown
James Carter
Joseph Whitehouse
William Mainwaring
Henry Greenhill
John Watson
John Meaden
George Mackel
John Sutton
John Wilkes
Henry Adams
William Bynum his mark

Witness

X