

CORONERS INQUESTS



Bishopstone, near Swindon

Annie Hewlett

An Inquest was taken before Mr. Whitmarsh on Monday last, at Bishopstone, respecting the death of Annie Hewlett, seven years of age. From the father's statement, deceased became poorly the previous Wednesday evening, and was much the same the following day, but on Friday getting worse, an order was obtained from the overseer at three o'clock in the afternoon for the medical officer to attend. On the father coming home from work he went to Mr. Fernie at Stratton St. Margaret, six miles off, and reached his house a little after nine o'clock. Mr. Penruddocke (surgeon), his assistant, went immediately, and arrived at Bishopstone about eleven o'clock. He found the child dying, and administered stimulants, &c., which showed improvement for a while, but she died an hour after his departure. The cause of death was from scarlet fever. There was a feeling of dissatisfaction that the child remained so long without help, when the following verdict was returned - "That deceased died from scarlet fever; but the jury regret that the parents had neglected to call in earlier medical assistance".

Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette, 13 October 1870