



CORONERS INQUESTS



Inquest on Daniel Waldron

Mr. Coroner Whitmarsh held an inquest in this village on Monday last, on the body of a man named Daniel Waldron, aged 71 years, who had died on the previous Thursday without medical attendance.

A most respectable jury, of whom Mr. W. G. Knight was foreman, was sworn. It appeared from the evidence that the deceased was a widower, living alone, but that he was attended occasionally by a neighbour named Elizabeth Mace, wife of Henry Mace. On Tuesday, the 9th, deceased was taken ill towards night, and went to bed, complaining of a pain in his chest and left side. As he was no better on Wednesday Mrs. Mace asked him if she should send for the doctor, but he told her not to do so. On Thursday she could see he was getting much worse, and the parish medical man, Dr. Fernie, being expected in the village during the day she went to his surgery and left word for him to call and see deceased when he arrived. Before he came, however, deceased had expired.

The coroner expressed surprise that the witness did not send for the doctor earlier, seeing the state the old man was in. Witness answered that she would have had to send all the way to Stratton to Dr. Fernie's house, and deceased particularly wished her not to do so, saying he had had similar pains before and did not take much notice of; he was getting used to it. Several members of the jury said it would have been much better if witness had not given way to deceased. Dr. Fernie said immediately he arrived in the village and received Mrs. Mace's message he went to deceased's cottage, but found he had been dead half an hour. In his opinion, deceased suffered from syncope and heart disease and this caused his death.

The jury returned a verdict to this effect.

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