



# CORONERS INQUESTS



## Young Boy Sims

### Shocking Machinery Accident

A frightful machinery accident occurred at Longbridge Deverell, near Warminster, on Tuesday. A steam threshing machine was at work on Mr. Parham's farm, and two labourers, with a little boy named Sims, between 11 and 12 years old, were engaged in working it. When the work was nearly completed the steam was partially shut off, the boy then being on the top of the machine, where he had been engaged in tying up the sheaves. The men, while employed in clearing up the work, became aware of something very wrong, and the horror they found the boy in the drum of the machine. What they recovered were only mangled remains, life having apparently instantly been destroyed. Some of the limbs were absolutely reduced to pulp, and the whole body was most frightfully mangled.

An inquest was held before Mr. Coroner Sylvester, who very properly commented on the danger of allowing boys of such tender years to attend machinery, especially in positions of such extreme peril; and he expressed a hope that the time would soon come when the Factory Act, as relating to the employment of children, would be extended to the agricultural classes.

A verdict of "Accidental death" was returned.

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