

CORONERS INQUESTS



Inquest Report on Thomas Alford

An inquest was held by George Sylvester, esq., at Mere on Thomas Alford, aged 37 years. The deceased was employed by Mr. Mitchell, on the Manor Farm, in a chalk quarry. He was missed from 10 o'clock until 4pm, when it was found that about 20 tons of chalk had fallen down, on removing a part of which, the deceased was found. He had suffered no mutilation sufficient to account for death, which was produced by suffocation. As there was no undermining, it is supposed that the frosty state of the weather caused the chalk to give way. The deceased has left a wife and five children to lament his loss.

Verdict: "Accidentally Killed."

Wiltshire Independent, 17 January 1850