

George Haskell

Isle of Wight Observer - 15 March 1879

NEWPORT

A CHILD DROWNED AT WEST MILL.— Mr. F. Blake, coroner, held an inquest on view of the body of George Haskell, aged 3 years and 6 months, who was drowned in the mill pond there on Saturday afternoon. Ellen Haskell, wife of Wm. Beal Haskell, miller in the employ of Mr. James Roach, deposed that she last saw deceased alive about 2.30 on Saturday afternoon. He was then at play with an elder brother, about five years old, and two other children about seven or eight years old, in front of the house. About 20 minutes later she missed the children from the yard, and sent a girl out to look for deceased, who was very soon afterwards found dead in the millpond.— Henry Fryer Haskell, aged 16, deceased's brother, saw deceased about the mill, and when he was missed witness went to take a pail of water from the pond and saw deceased in the water, which was about three feet deep. He jumped in and got him out, but he appeared to be quite dead. There was no rail or wire along the edge of the pond to protect a child who might stray there. Children were not in the habit of playing near the edge of the pond. — Mr. W. F. Foster, surgeon, deposed that the parents were doing all they could to resuscitate the child when he was called in, and he tried in vain. The jury returned a verdict "Accidentally drowned," and asked the coroner to suggest to Mr. James Roach the desirability of having some fence for the protection of the young there.

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