

Eliza Isaacs

Hampshire Advertiser 19 January 1861

NEWPORT

INQUEST AT CARISBROOKE.- On Saturday at the Red Lion Inn, Mr. F. Blake, coroner, held an inquest on view of the body of a widow named Eliza Isaacs, found dead that day in the cottage where she had lived alone many years.

Charles Jones, farm labourer, said, on the previous Monday, 7th instant, at 4 p.m. he saw the deceased, who lived next door to him, entering her cottage alone, and she remarked it was cold. When at home her front door was generally open in the daytime. He saw her every day, but she sometimes left home for a few days or a week and went on a visit to her sister. She sold rock to the children. Monday was the last time he saw her.

George Dennett, senr. lived at Furlongs, near Carisbrooke, knew deceased, whom he had not seen during the past week. That day, at noon, in consequence of something said to him by Mr. Redstone, he looked into the window of deceased's cottage and saw the body lying on the floor of the room, the legs towards the window. Mr. H. Waterworth, surgeon, was passing at the time, and they called him in.

George Redstone, aged 18, knew deceased but could not recollect having seen her alive since yesterday week, and thought she had gone to her sister's at Blackdown, as she had told him she was going there. Her brother-in-law came for her that morning, and looked in at the window, but thinking she was out told witness to send her to his house on Monday. He (witness) entered the cottage when the body of deceased was found in her front room. There was a sort of jacket on the upper part of the body, a piece of flannel round the lower part and middle part of the body; the stockings were on, but no shoes; the room was in a very untidy state - the chimney ornaments turned upside down. The window curtains were a little drawn on one side. She kept a cat, which was found in the house. In the back room there was on the table a basin with some herrings in it, and some bread partly eaten by the cat. Deceased was subject to fits, and told witness she had one a month or five weeks back.

Ellen Prince, servant at Mrs. Turner's, New Village, and grand-daughter to deceased, whose age she did not know, last saw her alive on Christmas Eve. Had heard her complain of poverty; she received no assistance from the parish; her daughter, witness's mother, paid her rent and was in the habit of sending her money. Witness bought and brought her on Christmas Day a dress and a pair of boots, and her mother sent her something.

Police-serjeant Lawler deposed to finding three half pence, a pawn ticket for a shawl, about two bushels of unthreshed wheat, some potatoes, and quarter of a pound of tea, eight good dresses and eight bonnets.

Mr. H. Waterworth, surgeon, entered the cottage when it was broken open by William Forshead, of the Cutler's Arms. Thought deceased must have been dead some days. There were no marks of violence or other indication that she had died from other than natural causes. Verdict accordingly.

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