

William Edward Wyatt

Hampshire Advertiser – 5 June 1889

NEWPORT.

SAD BURNING FATALITY. – Yesterday (Tuesday) morning the Coroner (Mr. F. Blake) held an inquest at the Castle Inn, High-street, on the body of William Edward Wyatt aged 3½ years, son of Charles and Fanny Wyatt, living in Crocker-street. – The mother deposed that on Saturday last she was upstairs making a bed, and just as she had finished her little girl, aged 8 years, called her down. She went at once, and saw the deceased in flames in the back room. A man named Brown, who was passing the house, came in and extinguished the flame. Dr. Barr attended the deceased, who lived till 10 o'clock on Sunday morning. Witness had purchased a quart of paraffin oil on Saturday morning, and put the can containing it under a stand in the room. When she came down the can was thrown on the floor, and there was about a pint of oil in it. Deceased was fond of playing with the fire and she had checked him about it. – Henry Brown, hawker, living in Paradise-row, stated that he, with great promptitude, put out the flame by throwing a woollen shawl over the child. The oil was running out the can on to the matting. – Dr. Barr stated that he was passing Wyatt's house about mid-day, when he was called in to see the child, whose burns were covered with flour, but he had been severely burnt about the face and shoulders. Death resulted from collapse consequent on the burns. – The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental death by burning." – The jury commended Brown for the promptitude with which he acted, and considered that he well deserved pecuniary reward. – The Coroner : The only reward a man gets is that of his own conscience. I have no means at my disposal to make a reward.

Transcription and research by Tony Barton for the Friends of Newport & Carisbrooke Cemeteries © 2023
<https://www.foncc.org.uk>