

## **Henry Ashley**

**Isle of Wight County Press – 5 December 1896**

### **DEATHS AND INQUEST AT THE COUNTY ASYLUM.**

#### **CORONER AND ABSENT JUROR.**

Yesterday (Friday) morning the Coroner (E. F. Blake, Esq.,) held an inquest at the County Asylum, Whitecroft, respecting the first death at that establishment - that of Henry Ashley, aged 53, who died on the previous Tuesday from natural causes after several days' illness. According to the evidence of Dr. Harold Shaw, medical superintendent, a *post mortem* revealed the fact that deceased's illness, which terminated fatally, was traceable to disease of the kidneys. Deceased was stated to have been an asylum patient for some 30 years, and Dr. Shaw said he had been in indifferent health since he first knew him, about seven years ago. Everything possible was done for him. A verdict of "Death from natural causes" was returned by the jury, of whom Mr. W. Holden (Whitcombe) was foreman. One of the persons (Mr. W. Matthews) summoned as a juror sent a message by the police that he should not attend. The Coroner: I must fine him unless he can give some good reason. I cannot allow one to stop away whilst others have to attend. Who is he? - Inspector Ayres said he was the curator at Carisbrooke Cemetery. - The Coroner: I will let you know about it. - There was a second death at the Asylum on Thursday, the deceased being a patient named Fredk. Jackson, aged 33.

*Transcriptions by Tony Barton for the Friends of Newport and Carisbrooke Cemeteries, © 2018*

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