

Thomas Hardishy

Aberdeen Press and Journal – 23 February 1884

MURDER ON BOARD SHIP..

At Hull Police Court yesterday afternoon, Joseph Nicholine, skipper, and Thomas Hardishy, third hand of the smack Sterling, were charged with the wilful murder of Joseph Rowbottom, cook, on board the same vessel, on the 18th inst. The statement of one of the witnesses, named Charles William Jones, showed that deceased, who was a lad of 16, had been subject to ill-usage almost equalling that inflicted on a boy by Captain Brand, who was hanged two years ago.

York Herald – 15 March 1884

HULL.

At Hull on Saturday afternoon, Joseph Nicholine and Thomas Hardishy, skipper and third hand respectively, of the smack Sterling, were committed for trial on a charge of murdering Joseph Rowbottom, cook, on board the vessel, through systematic barbarous treatment.

Thanet Advertiser – 17 May 1884

ALLEGED MURDER OF A FISHER BOY. – At the Leeds Assizes on Tuesday, Joseph Nicholine and Thomas Hardisty, the skipper and third hand respectively, of the fishing smack Sterling, were tried for wilful murder on the high seas, on February 18, of Joseph Rowbottom, a boy engaged as cook on board the vessel. The evidence went to show that the most revolting cruelties had been systematically practised upon the deceased. The lad died from exhaustion, produced by the injuries, which must have extended over a considerable period of time. After an absence of three and a half hours the jury found the prisoners guilty of manslaughter, and they were sentenced to penal servitude for life.

Isle of Wight County Press - 19 August 1893

PARKHURST

A CONVICT'S SUDDEN DEATH. - On Saturday afternoon Edward F. Blake, Esq, held an inquest at H.M. Convict Prison on the body of Thomas Hardesty [sic], aged 32, who was undergoing a life sentence, having been received there from Pentonville in 1885. According to the evidence deceased had been employed at whitewashing on the previous day, and on that morning at 4.25 he was found dead in his cell. About an hour and a half before, the deceased was visited and appeared all right. The acting surgeon (Mr. John Benson Cooke) deposed to finding deceased in his cell at 5.50 quite dead. There was a considerable quantity of blood flowing from his mouth. Having regard to this he thought it extremely likely that he died from failure of the heart's action. The jury returned a verdict accordingly.

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