

Maria Middleton

1861 census – Cambrian Cottage, St Johns, Carisbrooke

Sarah	Middleton	Head	76	Canadian Bond Holder	East Dereham	Norfolk England
Anne	Middleton	Sister	74	Canadian Bond Holder	East Dereham	Norfolk England
Maria	Middleton	Sister	67	Canadian Bond Holder	East Dereham	Norfolk England
Sarah	Brockley	Servant	16	General Servant	Newport, Hampshire	

Isle of Wight Observer – Saturday 08 March 1862

NEWPORT

SUDDEN DEATH OF A LADY.

An inquest was held at New Village, Newport on Tuesday last, before Mr. Frederick Blake, esq., coroner, on the body of a lady named Maria Middleton, who was found dead in her bed on the previous Saturday.

Emma Woodbine, servant to the deceased and her two sisters, who all lived together at Cambrian cottage, deposed - Deceased was 71 years of age. She had usually very good health, but within the last week or two she had complained of bad digestion and pain in her right side. She had no medical advice for it, but took a pill or two, which she had by her, for it. I saw her do so last Monday week. I last heard her complain after dinner on Thursday last. On the Friday she appeared better and more cheerful. She took tea about half-past 5 o'clock. I went to bed about a quarter to 9, and left her alone in her sitting room, her sisters having previously gone to bed. I did not hear deceased go to bed, but she usually went about half an hour after me. She slept in a room by herself. The last time she went out was on Sunday fortnight. I went to her room on Saturday morning, about half-past 8, to take her some warm water. I put it on the table, and told her it was there, which I had been in the habit of doing, and she used to answer, but that morning I received no answer. I touched the bed clothes, and found she did not move. I did not hear her breathe, and went down and told her sisters, and I went upstairs with them, but we did not know she was dead. Her sister felt her feet, which she found warm. I then went for Dr. Auger. She was lying as usual. There was no sign of struggling. She looked as if asleep, and the bed clothes was not disturbed.

Dr. Auger said - I have known deceased since 1856, and in 1857 I attended her for carbuncle and rash over her head and large discharge from her ear. In 1859 she was ill again, and so weak she could not speak. It was a return of the eruption, gone inwards, and in three weeks or a month she got better, and quite so in appearance. I have not attended her since. I was sent for on Saturday morning, about a quarter-past 9, and found her dead, and supposed her to have been so for three hours by the colour of her hands and nails. I think she had been suffocated by some humour on the lungs or brain. Her face presented quite a natural appearance, and I am quite satisfied she died from natural causes.

The jury accordingly returned a verdict of "Died from natural causes."

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