

Arthur Millar

Portsmouth Evening News - 4 June 1894

A NEWPORT SENSATION.

DISTRESSING SUICIDE.

Mr. E. F. Blake, Coroner for the Island, held an inquiry at Newport on Saturday into the cause of death of Arthur Millar, aged 29 years, a young gentleman of independent means, who had been lodging at the house of Mr. S. Salter, in West-street.

It appeared from the evidence that the deceased came to Newport from London a few months since, on the advice of Dr. Dabbs who had known him previously, and took rooms adjoining the residence of Dr. Barr, under whose care he had more or less been. On Wednesday and Thursday he went to the shop of Messrs. Wood and Horspool and asked for some cartridges of a certain number, which he was unable to obtain. On Friday he again went to the shop and bought a revolver and a box of cartridges. He then proceeded to his lodgings, going into the garden at the back of the house, and an hour and a half later, on Mr. Salter going to tell him teas was ready, he found him in a small building at the bottom of the garden, lying on his back, with blood flowing from his mouth. He was dead, having discharged a bullet into his head, through the mouth, and the pistol was in his left hand. It was stated that deceased was a very reserved man, subject to occasional depression, but there was no suspicion of mental derangement. He sometimes complained of having nothing to do, and on one occasion remarked to Dr. Barr that he did not know why any of them were born. He had been in Ceylon, and after his return he was examined by Dr. Savage, a mental expert, who could not certify that he was insane.

The Jury returned a verdict to the effect that deceased took his own life, but there was not sufficient evidence to show what was his state of mind at the time.

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