

Mr. William Minns

1861 Census - Node Hill, Carisbrooke, Isle of Wight, Isle of Wight

Name		Age	Birth Year	Occupation	Birth place
<i>William Minns</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>47</i>	<i>1814</i>	<i>Dyer Master Employing 3 Men And 3 Boys</i>	<i>Southampton, Hampshire</i>
Mary Minns	Wife	43	1818	-	Hampshire, England
William Minns	Son	22	1839	Dyer	Newport, Isle of Wight
Jane Minns	Daughter	23	1838	Dyers Assistant	Newport, Isle of Wight
Fanny M Minns	Daughter	13	1848	Scholar	Newport, Isle of Wight

Note: The surname in the 1861 Census is incorrectly transcribed as 'Minna'

Mr. William Minns

Isle of Wight Observer – 22 December 1866

NEWPORT.

CORONER'S INQUEST. – An awful case of sudden death occurred on Tuesday morning, about 1 o'clock, in Bedford-place, when Mr. William Minns, of the firm of Minns and Bright, dyers, &c., who had been engaged during the evening with Mr. Robert Pinnock, in arranging, as executors, the affairs of the late Mr. William Wilkins, was taken suddenly ill soon after retiring to rest, apparently in robust health, and before medical aid could be procured he was a corpse. Deceased was a Town Councillor for the South Ward of this borough, and 53 years of age.

An inquest was held on the body on Tuesday afternoon last, at the Bedford Arms Inn, Bedford-place, before F. Blake, esq., coroner.

Mary Minns deposed that she was the wife of the deceased. His health was generally good. She had not heard him complain lately, only of the weather being heavy. About three years ago he complained of a pain about his heart, which lasted a few days, and for which she believed he had no advice, and she had not heard him complain of it since. On the previous day (Monday), she saw him at the shop in Upper St. James's-street. He had not been in the habit of coming home to tea. He told her he was going on business to Mr. Robert Pinnock's. She went to bed about 10 o'clock, and went to sleep, and after she heard him (her husband), come home, walking along the passage, and she believed heard him come up stairs. She had upon going to bed herself had drawn the blind up, that he might see from the gas light. She found upon going upstairs that he had turned the gas off, and also saw that he had wound up his watch. She went to sleep, and she believed he did. She was awoke by his heavy breathing, when she got out of bed and sponged his face with water, and then went down stairs for some brandy. At the same time her daughter went for the doctor. She put some brandy to his mouth, but did not know if he took any of it. Her daughter then went for a neighbour (Mrs. Alabone), and in a quarter of an hour he died. He laid quiet all the time.

Mr. Robert Pinnock, of High-street, draper, said that he was co-executor with Mr. William Minns, for the estate of the late Mr. William Wilkins, and that deceased was with him on the previous evening to make out a balance sheet for the end of the year. He came to his house at half-past 7, and at half-past 9 he

asked him to have something to eat, when he had some bread and cheese and a glass of ale. After about ten minutes they went to work again and continued until half-past eleven, when deceased said he must be leaving. He (witness), knowing he was in the habit of having a pipe, asked him if he would have one, and he said “no”, he would have a cigar if I had one. I ordered the servant to bring in some and some spirits, which was done. Deceased took a weak glass of whiskey and water, not more than a half tumbler full. He then left, saying he would smoke the cigar on the way home.

Dr. Wilkins stated that he had never attended deceased, but was called by Miss. Minns to see her father that morning between 1 and 2 o’clock. He went immediately, and found him in his bed quite dead. There was no pulsation whatever. He appeared to have been perfectly calm. There was no distortion of the features. He was dressed in his night shirt. He considered deceased had spasms of the heart, which suspended the functions, and in all probability caused congestion of the brain. The jury returned a verdict of “Died from natural causes.”

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