

## Charles John Peck

### 1901 census, Castle Hotel, High Street, Carisbrooke

<i>Charles John Peck</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>47</i>	<i>Licensed Victualler</i>	<i>Calbourne, Isle of Wight</i>
Ann Peck	Wife	47		Shrewton, Wiltshire
Wm Arthur Peck	Son	11		Carisbrooke, Isle of Wight
Kate Hayles	Servant	21	Waitress	Newport, Isle of Wight
Amy Francis Reynolds	Servant	15	Waitress	Shanklin, Isle of Wight

### Isle of Wight Observer – 9 April 1904

#### FATAL ASSAULT OF A CARISBROOKE PUBLICAN.

A very painful occurrence took place at Carisbrooke on Easter Monday. It appears that a disturbance took place in the Castle Hotel Bar, and that Mr. Charles John Peck, the landlord, endeavoured to eject a man named Frederick George Leppard thereupon, it is alleged, struck the landlord a violent blow in the mouth, which knocked him down, and it is further reported that he hit him in the hand, and then kicked him violently in the stomach. Mr. Peck was quite disabled, and Dr. Castle, who attended him, recommended his removal to the Royal Isle of Wight County Hospital, which was effected on the following day. There poor Peck lingered till Thursday morning, when he died. We understand that the body has been removed to Newport, where the inquest will be held.

### Portsmouth Evening News - 9 April 1904

#### CARISBROOKE SENSATION.

#### THE INQUEST OPENED.

On Friday evening the Deputy Coroner (Mr. F. A. Joyce) opened, at the "Castle" Hotel, the inquest concerning the death of Charles John Peck, 49, landlord of the hotel, who died at the County Hospital from internal injuries alleged to have been inflicted by a labourer named Frederick George Leppard, when deceased was trying to quell a disturbance at his house on Easter Monday last. - Mr. A. T. Ivens represented the accused man Leppard, who was present in custody, and Mr. Atkins represented deceased's family and the owner of the hotel (Mr. C. J. Dashwood).

The evidence was to the effect that Leppard had a dispute with another man in the bar, and deceased, who told him to leave. When deceased went to put him out, Leppard struck out and there was a struggle. Dr. Hulton Castle and Dr. Banks said was due to peritonitis.

Deceased's depositions were read, in which he stated that Leppard kicked him and hurt him dreadfully.

Leppard gave evidence on oath, denying that he kicked deceased.

The inquest was adjourned till Thursday next.

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**Portsmouth Evening News - 13 April 1904**

**CARISBROOKE TRAGEDY.**

**VERDICT OF MANSLAUGHTER.**

On Tuesday afternoon, the Deputy Coroner for the Isle of Wight (Mr. F. A. Joyce) resumed the inquest at the Carisbrooke School into the circumstances of the death of Charles John Peck, 49, landlord of the "Castle Hotel," Carisbrooke, who died on the previous Thursday from injuries alleged to have resulted from a kick in the stomach whilst he was quelling a disturbance in the Hotel bar on Easter Monday. Mr. A. T. Ivens again represented the Gunville labourer, Frederick George Leppard, who is in custody on a charge of causing the injuries, and Leppard himself was present.

Frederick R. Smith, butcher, of Carisbrooke, said he heard the deceased order Leppard to leave the bar, and then he heard a scuffle, and about ten minutes later deceased came out of the bar crying, and witness caught him in his arms.

Martin Ash, labourer, of Gunville, who was in the bar, said he was present during the row and deceased took Leppard by the throat and got him in the corner, and as Leppard appeared to be gasping witness pulled the deceased off, and a general fight all round ensued. Witness did not see the deceased struck or kicked.

Thomas Coster, labourer, of Lake, said he saw the deceased and prisoner roll over and over on the bar floor, but did not see the deceased hit or kicked.

Charles Ash, butcher, of Newport, said that during the struggle deceased fell forward, with the prisoner on the top of him, and the former's stomach struck the edge of the table.

After other evidence had been given, the Coroner summed up, commenting on the extraordinary conflicting nature of the evidence, which he attributed to the fact that most of the witnesses were more or less under the influence of drink.

The Jury found "That the deceased met his death in struggling with Frederick George Leppard whilst lawfully attempting to eject the said Frederick George Leppard from off his licensed premises after the latter had been requested to leave by the deceased."

The Coroner: I must accept that as a verdict of manslaughter against the prisoner. - To prisoner: You will now be committed to take your trial for manslaughter.

**FUNERAL OF MR. CHAS. PECK OF CARISBROOKE.**

**GREAT PUBLIC SYMPATHY.**

The funeral of Mr Chas. Peck, of the Castle Hotel, Carisbrooke, (who died as the result of internal injuries, which a man named Frederick Geo. Leppard is in custody on a charge of inflicting) took place at the Cemetery, Carisbrooke, on Sunday last. The sympathy of the public was very great, over a thousand people attending the obsequies. The Rev. W. J. Stobart, Vicar of Carisbrooke, officiated, and among those who attended to pay the last tribute of respect to the deceased were Mr Charles Dashwood, the owner of the Castle Hotel, the members of the Carisbrooke Bible Class, headed by Capt. Wallbutton, C.A., the deceased's comrades of the Carisbrooke Bowling Club, and a large

contingent of the local Lodge of the R.A.O.B., with which deceased was connected. There was a considerable gathering of the deceased's relatives. The Vicar said a few words to the mourners and friends on the solemn event which had called them together. How true it was that in the midst of life they were in death. It was a lesson to all "to take heed unto their ways." Deceased was 49 years of age and was a strong healthy man.

#### **Isle of Wight Observer – 9 July 1904**

Frederick George Leppard, who was charged with injuring Chas. J. Peck, the landlord of the Castle Hotel, Carisbrooke, so seriously that he died, was sentenced at the Winchester Assizes to six month's imprisonment, the Judge remarking that he did not think Leppard intended to cause Peck's death, but only to resist ejection from the deceased's premises.

*Transcriptions and research by Tony Barton for the Friends of Newport & Carisbrooke Cemeteries © 2020*  
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