

Percy Reginald Read

Parents:

James George Read married Sarah Jane Medway at All Saints Church, Freshwater, 30 January 1887

Isle of Wight Observer - 28 July 1900

Ryde, Saturday - July 28th, 1900.

FATAL CASE OF BURNING. - The Deputy Coroner of the Island (Mr H. R. Hooper) held an inquest at the Royal I.W. Infirmary and County Hospital on Saturday, respecting the death of Percy Reginald Read, aged 2 years and 11 months, who died from injuries received by burning. - Mr W. Andrews was chosen foreman of the jury. - Sarah Jane Read, mother of the deceased, living at Hunnyhill, Newport, deposed that on Friday morning her eldest boy, aged 11, got up between 6 and 7 o'clock, and lighted the wash-house fire, placing the matches on the kitchen fireplace. A pinafore and handkerchief were hanging on the back of the chair. The deceased came down and apparently got on to the chair and reached the matches, with which he set fire to the articles on the chair. Witness heard screams, and on going downstairs found him at the bottom with his nightdress all alight. She took up two mats at the foot of the stairs, and wrapped them round him. She also put some flour on the burns, and some men who were working near went for a doctor. Dr. Thompson ordered his removal to the Infirmary. Her hands were burnt in trying to put out the fire. She accompanied him in the ambulance car to the Infirmary. Deceased was in a dying condition, if not dead, when they got there. - By a juror (Mr Newman). - After lighting the fire, her eldest son left to do some work. She was not aware that deceased had gone downstairs, as he slept in another room. - Georgina Sked, matron of the Infirmary, said that deceased was admitted between 3 and 4 o'clock. She believed he was dead at the time. He was burnt from head to feet. - The jury returned a verdict of "accidental death".

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