

Samuel Starks

The Hampshire Telegraph - 9 November 1881

NEWPORT

DEATH FROM EXPOSURE. - On Thursday the Coroner for the Isle of Wight held an inquest at Chillerton Farm, parish of Gatcombe, on the body of Samuel Starks, labourer, aged 62 years. - P.C. Whitlock said he was stationed at Carisbrooke, and knew the deceased, who had no fixed abode. He was in the habit of moving from place to place, and sleeping in sheds, stables, or any other place he could get into. He did not believe he was able to do any hard work. On searching him, he found no money upon him. - William Williams deposed to having seen the deceased in the village of Chillerton on Tuesday evening last. - Charles Coombes, labourer, deposed to finding the body of the deceased in the yard of Lisle Farm. It was lying on the ground quite dead. On examining him he found no marks of violence, nor did there appear to have been any struggle. He passed through the same yard at six o'clock on the morning of the same day, and the body of the deceased was not then in the yard. - Dr. Bird Wilkins, who examined the body, said it was very much emaciated, the lungs congested, and the stomach and the intestines empty. All the organs, except the lungs, were healthy, and he believed that the immediate cause of death was congestion of the lungs, accelerated by the want of food and exposure to the cold. He did not think that the deceased had partaken of a full meal for three days. - The Jury returned a verdict to the effect that the "Deceased died from congestion of the lungs, accelerated by the want of food and exposure to the cold."

Transcription by Tony Barton for the Friends of Newport & Carisbrooke Cemeteries © 2019

<https://www.foncc.org.uk>