

Samuel Chiverton

Isle of Wight County Press – 18 August 1917

NEWPORT.

FATAL RESULT OF AN ACCIDENT. – On Wednesday the Deputy Coroner (Francis A. Joyce, Esq.) held an inquest at the County Hospital touching the death of Samuel Chiverton, aged 58, of 2 Oyster Shell-cottages, Medina-avenue, who died at that institution as the result of an accident to one of his fingers. George Chiverton, of 3 Worsley-road, Hunnyhill, carman, employed by Messrs. Shepard Bros., identified the body as that of his brother who lived alone. After the accident deceased told him that he was at work with some timber, and when the man who had the bar under it pulled it out the timber caught his finger. He did not attach much importance to the injury, and thought it would be all right in a short time. Alfred Percy Williams, builder, of Staplers, said the deceased was in his employ as a labourer. On the 3rd August he was at work in his yard at Mill-street. A piece of timber was being skidded along. Deceased was not required to help move it, but he evidently thought he could be of some assistance, and in doing so got one of his fingers pinched. Witness temporarily dressed the finger and advised him to see a doctor. Deceased had only been in his employ a month, and was engaged as a mason's labourer. He had never had an accident of that kind before. William Henry Salter, 153 High-street, said he was assisting to move an oak plank on the 3rd August, which was being stacked with others. Deceased lent a hand, as he had done before, and as witness was shaking the plank up to get the last piece of packing away he got the forefinger of his left hand beneath it. Although jammed by the plank it did not pin the finger down, as he was able to withdraw it. Dr. Stanley Foster said the finger was badly crushed, but the deceased made no fuss about it. Witness continued to dress it daily, and when deceased came to him on Saturday the finger looked clean and healthy, and he told him he would take out the stitches on Monday. On Sunday he received a message to go and see deceased and found him in great pain and suffering all the symptoms of tetanus. He went at once to the Military Hospital, and Dr. Gibson, of Cowes, and Capt. Dendy, of Parkhurst, came to his assistance in administering anti-tetanic serum treatment, after which deceased was removed to the Hospital. In reply to the Coroner, the Doctor said deceased might have got something into the injury while at home. Dr. A. B. Wade, house surgeon at the Hospital, said the deceased was received on Sunday. He was suffering from tetanus, and was very violently convulsed. As he had been already treated there was no need for further treatment until the next day, but deceased died at about 5.30 on Monday morning. The Coroner said he did not think the jury would have any difficulty in arriving at the conclusion that deceased died from tetanus arising from injury to his finger. It was evidently set up by some foreign matter getting into the finger, but whether at the time of the accident or afterwards they did not know. He had had no communication with the Inspector of Factories, and unless the jury wished it he did not propose to adjourn the inquiry for his attendance, as there did not appear to be any machinery involved in the cause of the accident. The jury, of which Mr. W. S. Russell was foreman, returned a verdict as suggested by the Coroner.

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