

James Frederick Guy

Isle of Wight Observer – 7 January 1911

SUICIDE AFTER SEPARATION ORDER.

The Deputy Coroner (Mr. F. A. Joyce) held an inquest at the Soldiers' Home, Newport, on Wednesday, on the body of Frederick James Guy, 32, of The Trooper Inn, Newport, who committed suicide by cutting his throat on the previous Monday.

Deceased's wife said they had been married ten years, and had lived unhappily for the past two years, with the result that she left him a week ago, and took out a summons for a judicial separation, which was granted to her on Monday morning last, a few hours before the discovery of her husband's suicide was made. The wife was the licensee of "The Trooper," and her daughter went to the house during the day, but left at night. Deceased locked himself in on Saturday night. On Sunday and Monday morning he refused to open the door in answer to knocking by the family, the police, and others. On Sunday night he raised the blind, and said with an oath that the doors would remain locked until the separation "job" was over.

P.C. Edwards said that about three o'clock on Monday he and P.C. Woodford went with the deceased's wife to "The Trooper," and finding it still locked they broke the back window and entered the house. On going upstairs they found deceased lying on his left side, face downwards on the floor, dead and cold, with his throat very extensively cut. There was a bloodstained razor on the dressing table, and deceased had apparently stood in front of the glass and cut his throat, and then had fallen.

Dr. Coombs said that the wound extended right across the front of the throat and severed the windpipe, gullet and right carotid. Judging by the appearance of the body deceased had been dead for about eight hours. He probably committed the deed not later than 8 a.m.

The Coroner said having regard to the fact that the Justices had granted a separation order it was not necessary to comment on the relations between man and wife.

The Jury returned a verdict of "Suicide whilst of unsound mind."

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