

Walter Weeks

1881 Census, 21 Hearn Street, Newport, Carisbrooke

Walter	Weeks	Head	Married	39	Brewers Clerk	Newport, Hampshire
Frances E.	Weeks	Wife	Married	38		Newport, Hampshire
Albert W.	Weeks	Son		13	Scholar	Newport, Hampshire
George E.	Weeks	Son		11	Scholar	Newport, Hampshire
Emily G.	Weeks	Daughter		10	Scholar	Newport, Hampshire
Arthur W.	Weeks	Son		9	Scholar	Newport, Hampshire
Beatrice M.	Weeks	Daughter		8	Scholar	Newport, Hampshire
Frances N.	Weeks	Daughter		6	Scholar	Newport, Hampshire
Nellie F.	Weeks	Daughter		2		Newport, Hampshire
Esther B	Weeks	Servant		17	Domestic Servant	Whippingham, Hampshire

Isle of Wight Observer - 20 May 1882

NEWPORT

SHOCKING CASE OF SUICIDE. – About 10 o'clock on Thursday morning the dead body of Mr Walter Weeks, the highly-respected genial chief clerk at the Royal Brewery (Messrs W.B. Mew, Langton, and Co.'s) was found hanging by the neck in a stable at his residence in Hearn-street. His wife died some months since, leaving him with seven children, and this and other troubles preyed upon his mind.

Isle of Wight Observer - 20 May 1882

NEWPORT. - THE CORONER'S INQUEST TOUCHING THE SUICIDE. – This morning (Friday) Mr F. Blake, coroner, held an inquest at the Lamb Tavern, High-street, on view of the body of Walter Weeks, which was found hanging by the neck on Thursday morning. Mr. H.R. Hooper appeared on behalf of the friends and relatives of the deceased to watch the case. Mr Frank Weeks, of High-street, jeweller, deceased's brother, last saw deceased alive on Wednesday night, and conversed with him on some private business, and found him depressed and restless as usual of late. - Hester Barnes, housekeeper to deceased since his wife's death in October last, said he came down about 6 o'clock on Thursday morning, earlier than usual, and had a cup of tea, and before and after breakfast he took some beer, which he himself drew from the cask, and he was in and out about the house and garden, and at last he appeared the worse for drinking. He talked to the workmen, and he expressed to her some trouble about some business affairs at the Brewery, and his fear of discharge. On the previous morning, Wednesday, about 10.30, he came home in a cab and went to bed; and that night he took some brandy and a composing draught, and he was very restless. He spoke of his not being himself since the death of his wife, and that he wished he was with her in heaven. About 9.30 on Thursday morning, as he was about to go upstairs, he said he would walk in the garden and then go up and lie down. Witness soon after came downstairs and two of his children said he had been in the loft over the stable, and had some white on his coat. She went into the stable and saw him hanging by the neck by a rope fastened to a board placed across the entrance to the loft, and she fetched a knife and cut him down, and found he was dead, though she did not think so at first. It was a rope which had been lying about, and the children had played with it. It was about half an hour after she had gone up stairs. - Dr Castle jun., gave evidence as to the appearance of the body when he was called in. – Mr Edward F. King, clerk at the Royal Brewery during the last eight years, gave evidence to the effect that on Wednesday morning about 10.15, seeing the deceased was restless, and excited, and not up to his

work, persuaded him to go home, and promised to do his work. Deceased complained of a bilious attack, and left his keys with witness. Deceased at times had talked to witness of his troubles, and appeared altered for the worse since the death of his wife; he grew more and more irritable. – Mr Walter Langton, a principal of the Royal Brewery firm, said deceased was cashier. Witness saw him daily, and there was a marked difference in him since his wife's death in October last. Did not see deceased on Wednesday. Saw him on Tuesday about some discrepancies in some entries in the books, which had been pointed out by Mr Joseph P. Mew. Deceased with some memoranda went into the matter with witness and showed that there was £10 in favour of the firm. Witness said it was very irregular bookkeeping and deceased admitted that it was, and said he would set the books right. He had heard since that deceased's showing by memoranda was found to be correct. Deceased was under no threat of discharge. – The jury returned a verdict to the effect that deceased was of unsound mind when he committed suicide. .

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