

Selah Callaway

1911 census - Highwood Cottage, Staplers Nr Newport

<i>Selah Callaway</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>70</i>	<i>Widowed</i>	<i>Dairy Woman</i>	<i>Whitwell, Isle of Wight</i>
John Beavis	Brother	75	Widower	Farm Labourer	Whitwell, Isle of Wight

Isle of Wight County Press – 28 February 1914

NEWPORT WIDOW'S DEATH AT MAYORAL FEAST.

Yesterday (Friday) afternoon the Deputy Coroner (F. A. Joyce, Esq.) held an inquest at 12 Hillside-terrace, Newport, on the body of Selah Callaway, 73, a widow, who had been living at that address for some time with her brother, and who experienced a fatal seizure just as she had arrived at the Princess Beatrice's Drill-hall on the previous evening to participate in the meat tea given by the Mayor (Mr. A. E. Harvey). She was sitting near the main entrance before the tea commenced, when she suddenly fell back from her seat and was picked up by Mr. Councillor S. J. Knott and Adjutant Kent, of the Salvation Army, and removed to an adjoining room. Nurse Cheverton was quickly in attendance, and Dr. McKay was summoned, but deceased had gone beyond human aid, and the body was later removed home, and deceased's brother, who was attending the tea, was subsequently apprised of the sad occurrence.--Mrs. W. A. Stagg, of 13 Upper Field-place, Newport, daughter of the deceased, said she had seen her mother every day lately. She had been in good health, except that she had complained of her chest when out of doors in cold weather. She left the house for the Mayor's tea at about 5.30, then seeming quite well. She had not been medically attended since she was a girl.--By Dr. McKay: Her mother had years ago suffered from palpitation of the heart, and had had shortness of breath, but not of a serious nature.--Mr. Sidney James Knott, T.C., of 1 Castle-street, Carisbrooke, said deceased was sitting at the table at the Drill-hall on a form at about 10 minutes to 6, before the tea was served, when she fell backwards. He was standing within three yards, and the captain of the Salvation Army and witness carried her out. She was unconscious and there was no sign of returning life. She fell heavily and struck her head on the floor. He was of opinion that she died at once.--Dr. McKay said he saw the deceased at about 6.15. She had evidently died within half an hour. He was of opinion that death was due to syncope, following senile decay of the heart.--By a juror (Mr. J. T. Locke): Any exertion or excitement might have caused death at any time if the heart was degenerate.--The jury returned a verdict of death from heart failure.

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