



SUSPECTED MURDER BY A GAMEKEEPER

On Thursday the remains of a young man, named Wakely, residing at Atworth, Wiltshire, who has been missing in a most unaccountable manner to his friends for some days, were found in a field. On examination it was discovered the poor fellow had been cruelly murdered, being shot through the heart, and having his jaw broken and one of his eyes knocked out. Wakely was a reputed poacher, and suspicion immediately fell upon the Gamekeeper, with whom he was not on good terms, and who has accordingly been apprehended.

Worcester Journal Thursday, 7 December 1850

As a mole-catcher, in the employ of Mr. Samuel Poulson, at Atworth, was engaged in his vocation, on Thursday morning last, he discovered a man lying dead in a ditch. He obtained assistance, and the body was removed to the New Inn. It appears to be the body of a young man, of the name of Wakely, who had been missing for several days previous. On examination of the body, it was found that he had been shot through the heart. Wakely was suspected to be a poacher, and a game-keeper has been apprehended under suspicion of having killed him.

Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette, Thursday, 5 December 1850

For some days past a young man, named Wakely, residing at Atworth, Wiltshire, has been missing in a most unaccountable manner to his friends, whose apprehensions of foul play were on Thursday unhappily realized. On that morning a man, in the employ of Mr. Samuel Poulson, was mole-catching in a field belonging to his master, when he discovered a cap, and on further search found in an adjoining ditch the body of a man. Assistance having been procured it was discovered to be the body of the missing Wakely, which was immediately removed to the New Inn. On examination, it was discovered that the poor fellow had been cruelly murdered, being shot through the heart, and having his jaw broken, and one of his eyes knocked out. Wakely was a reputed poacher, and suspicion immediately fell upon a gamekeeper, with whom he was not on good terms, and who has accordingly been apprehended. The greatest excitement prevails in the neighbourhood.

Huddersfield Chronicle Saturday, 7 December 1850