



CORONERS INQUEST REPORTS



Inquest on William Godwin

On Friday morning last, about six o'clock, a man of the name of William Godwin, a native of Bremhill, was found dead in Bowood Park near Calne.

It appeared that the deceased had to take a side of bacon from Bremhill to Bowood House on the previous night, but being tipsy, he called on his brother-in-law, Joseph Chivers, of Ratford's Bridge to carry it for him. They accordingly went to Bowood House and left the side of bacon, and on their return, and at a short distance from the house, the deceased laid down.

Chivers with the help of George Long, a labourer at Bowood, carried him about a quarter of a mile across the park, laid him down, and left him.

Long, on the following morning as he was going to his work, found the deceased in the same situation quite dead.

An inquest was held on the body on Saturday, when a verdict was returned that the deceased died from exposure to the inclemency of the weather. The jury severely censured the conduct of Chivers and Long for leaving the deceased in such a helpless state and so exposed.

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