



# *Coroner's Inquest Report*

## **William Stanley Hall Longstone**

An enquiry was held by Mr. G. M. Wilson in the Town Hall on Monday afternoon, relative to the death of William Stanley Hall Longstone age 12 years. He was the son of Superintendent Longstone. He met with his death from an accident which occurred on Saturday evening.

Mr. W. Andrews was chosen foreman of the jury.

Superintendent Longstone said that he sent the deceased and his brother to Burcombe on Saturday afternoon with a note to P.C Parsons. It appeared by what had been said by the brother of the deceased, on returning the deceased felt tired and seeing a traction engine with a thrashing machine and portable engine behind, went to jump upon the draw bar of the portable engine which was fastened to the thrashing machine, when by some means he fell and the wheels of the engine passed over him.

Thomas Wiltshire, engine driver, in the employ of Mr. Brewer, said he started about 4 o'clock on Saturday, accompanied by Frank Samways and Ernest Longman, to go to Mr. Shepards at Burcombe with an engine to fetch a thrashing machine and a portable engine. As he was proceeding homewards, and when about 500 yards from Burcombe School, a boy came running up to him and said the engine had gone over the deceased. He at once stopped and immediately went back 140 yards, where he found the deceased had been run over. The lad was conscious and told him his name. A conveyance was quickly on the spot and the deceased was taken home.

Mr. Stratton, medical practitioner, said that a messenger came to him about 6.30 and told him that a boy had been run over. He at once went to Superintendent Longstone's and made all preparations to receive the lad. He found that his right leg from the knee had been lacerated from the ankle and the left leg very much bruised. The pelvis was also broken.

The jury returned a verdict of accidental death, caused by the wheels passing over the deceased's body.

Much sympathy is felt for Mr. and Mrs. Longstone and family in their sad bereavement.

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