



Coroners Bills 1752-1796

Chitterne

County coroners were introduced in England in around 1194 once established other boroughs and liberties sought the right to have their own coroner. Often in Medieval times the coroner also assumed the role of the sheriff and his duties weren't limited to holding inquests on dead bodies although almost a full time post they were unpaid for the duties apart from those that were deemed murder of manslaughter when they would receive 13s. 4d. From the 24th June 1752 a law was passed allowing the coroner to claim £1 for every inquest they attended not held in a gaol and also to claim 9d per mile travel allowance from the place of residence. Inquests held in any gaol were performed at a rate totalling no more than £1. These costs were to be paid from the county rates. In cases of homicide the coroner also received the former fee of 13s. 4d. The coroners submitted their bills at the quarter session sittings for approval.

Year	Date	Surname	Given Names	Coroner		Details of Inquest	Place of Inquest	No. of Miles Travelled	Coroners Bill			Notes
				Surname	Given Names				£	s	d	
1770	07-May	Curtis	Joyce	Clare	John	Died on 4th May; Hanged herself; Lunacy	Chitterne All Saints	12	1	9	0	
1768	30-Jan	Matthews	Jacob	Clare	John	Killed by a ploughshare running into him	Chitterne, St. Mary	12	1	9	0	
1768	25-Jul	Oram	James	Clare	John	Hanged himself; Felo de se	Chitterne, All Saints	12	1	9	0	

1771	28-Sep	Gamblin	John	Clare	William	On 27th September killed by a fall from a tree whilst cutting shrouds from it	Chitterne, All Saints	12	1	9	0	
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