



## *Coroners Bills 1752-1796*

### *Christian Malford*

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	
1768	02-Aug	Bond	William	Clare	John	Stabbed by Jacob Trimnell with a long knife under the left breast; Murder	Christian Malford	15	1	11	3	Jacob Trimnell was sentenced to a prison term he confessed his crime minutes before dying on 8th December

												1768
1759	15-May	Greenaway	William	Clare	John	Died on the 14th May; Drowned in the Avon; accidental death	Christian Malford	15	1	11	3	
1772	03-May	Hand	Thomas	Clare	William	Fell into the Avon and was drowned	Christian Malford	16	1	12	0	
1762	07-Jul	Keen	John	Clare	John	Went into the Avon to wash and was drowned Fell into the Avon and was drowned	Christian Malford	14	1	10	6	
1755	22-Jan	Pain	William	Clare	John	Fell into the Avon and was drowned	Christian Malford	15	1	11	3	
1774	16-Jul	Unknown	Unknown	Clare	William	A new born female infant; Found in the Avon; Murder by person or persons unknown; Possibly the child of Jane Razey who was remanded to appear at Salisbury Assizes on 23rd July 1774 because Elizabeth Razey a prosecution witness was too ill to attend. Jane Whale was acquitted of murdering her female bastard child on the indictment on 18th March 1775	Christian Malford	15	1	11	3	