



SOUTH WILTSHIRE CORONER'S INQUESTS



Codford

Newspaper Reports

Infant's Death 11th December, 1799

On Wednesday a woman, wife to a Serjeant in the Army, arrived at the George Inn, Codford, on her journey from Portsea to Bristol, with an infant in her arms, which she was anxious to warm and nourish; but on her approaching the fire, it was discovered that the child was quite dead ! The woman being a stranger, the parish officers detained her till an inquest was taken on the body by Mr Whitmarsh; the woman had a certificate of her marriage, and a copy of the register of her child's birth, in her pocket; it appeared from other papers, that she had been sent home from Jersey, by her husband, to reinflate her own and child's health; and there was evidence of the care she had taken of him on the road; the verdict consequently was, that the child died *by the visitation of God*. The parish officers, with _ liberality as laudable as their former precautions, then defrayed every expence, and forwarded the unhappy mother on her journey.

(*Salisbury and Winchester Journal*, 16th December, 1799)