



# CORONERS INQUESTS



## John Trubridge

### Suicide in Salisbury

On Thursday last, Mr. Wilson, the borough coroner, held an inquest on view of the body of John Trubridge, a man of 49 years of age, who had suicide by hanging on the previous day. The deceased, it appeared had for the last six months been a groom in the service of Mr. Attwater, brewer, of this city, who resides at the top of Castle Street. He had formerly been in the employ of the late Mr. John Trubridge, of Wishford. Upon the death of that gentleman, he entered the service of Mr. Attwater, Mrs. Attwater being a daughter of the late Mr. Trubridge. For some reason or other he does not appear to have been happy in his new situation, and was much depressed in consequence of having left Wishford where he seems to have had a very easy, comfortable situation, and where his former master had so much respect for him as to leave him the sum of £100. On Wednesday, he went home about noon, and asked his wife for a sheet of writing paper, which she refused to give him unless he first told her to whom he was going to write. He did not tell her, and he left the house without receiving the paper. Between two and three o'clock, she went to look for him, and found him hanging by the neck in the greenhouse in Mr. Attwater's garden. She was unable to release him herself, so she called Mr. John Trubridge, who cut him down, but life was quite extinct. The widow of the deceased stated, in reply to the coroner, that she had never heard the deceased threaten to destroy himself; he complained very much of leaving Wishford, which he said broke his mind up altogether. He was not an intemperate man; he took a glass of ale sometimes, but she had never seen him the worse for liquor.

Jane Bryan, wife of John Bryan, labourer, Wishford, deposed that she was a sister of the deceased. The latter appeared to grieve very much at having left Wishford. He had four children, and lived happily with his wife and family.

Dr. Astley Cooper, of Wilton, said he had attended the deceased about six weeks ago, when he was suffering from a severe attack of indigestion. He appeared very much depressed in spirits, because he thought he could not properly attend to his duties. On that, as well as on a former occasion, witness had reason to believe that the mind of the deceased was temporarily enfeebled.

Mr. Attwater, the employer of the deceased, was next called, and he deposed that since the deceased had been in his service he had noticed him at times remarkably stupid, and had complained both to him and to his wife about it. He sometimes thought the stupidity partly arose from drink.

The Coroner summed up the evidence, and the jury returned a verdict of "Insanity."

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