Coroner's Inquest Report

Died on Christmas Day

Crockerton.   Choked on Christmas Day. As John Payne, of Crockerton, aged 77 years, was having his dinner on Christmas Day, he suddenly fell from his chair, and in a few minutes expired. Mr Willcox, on arriving from Warminster, found that he had been choked by attempting to swallow a large piece of unmasticated beef, which he extracted from his throat. Had those present known what was the matter with the unfortunate man when he fell from the chair, there would have been little difficulty in getting the meat from his throat and saving his life.

Western Gazette 2 January 1874