



CORONERS INQUESTS



Inquest on Anna Butcher

At Longbridge Deverill, on Anna Butcher, aged 52 years. Appeared evidence the deceased had been separated from her husband for some time, and visited at Hindon, from which place she was supposed proceeding to Heytesbury. Richard Obourn, postboy of Shaftsbury, was driving a gentleman from that place to Warminster. On approaching Longbridge Deverill, at Lordshill, at six o'clock in the evening, he discovered the deceased lying the middle of the road; she requested him not to drive over her. On his return four hours afterwards, he searched for her, with the intention of taking her up, but could not find her; but picked up a cloth boot, and a stick, which he produced at the inquest, and were identified as belonging to the deceased. On the following morning she was discovered 200 yards from the road by George Hayter, Mr Stride's shepherd, lying on her back quite dead, with her gown at two yards distance, and her clothes saturated with rain. Mr Stride sent a horse and cart, and conveyed the body to the George Inn; it had not suffered any external injury. Verdict: Found dead; and the jurors are of opinion that death was accelerated by exposure to the inclemency of the weather on the night of the 21st of December inst.

Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette 31 December 1846