



CORONERS INQUESTS



Inquests on Thomas Gray & George Light

Inquests at West Knoyle, on Thomas Gray, aged 42 years, and George Light, aged 25 years.

These men, with a third man, and a boy, were sent by their master, Mr. Butt of Pertwood, to Mere, with a wagon laden with barley. After unloading, they took up cider tackle of the weight of about three tons.

From the evidence of the boy, who was the son of Gray, it appears they visited one or two public houses, but were not intoxicated, and on their return about five o'clock p.m. they were descending a hill towards Willoughby Hedgegate at a smart trot, the two deceased men and the boy riding in the wagon, and the third man running by the side holding the trace, when the latter stumbled and fell, and one or both near-wheels passing over him, fractured his thigh-bone, and otherwise injured him.

Gray, observing this man lying on the ground, attempted to get out of the wagon, but fell on his head. Light, also shortly after, in getting out, fell to the ground and both near-wheels passed over his abdomen. Both men expired in a few minutes. From the evidence of Mr. Rumsey, surgeon of Mere, it appears that the cause of death in Gray was concussion of the brain, and in Light, the rupture of some of the viscera of the abdomen.

Verdict in both cases: Accidentally Killed.

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