



Coroner's Inquest Report Minety

Noah Ody

An inquest was held by Mr Baker, coroner for North Wilts, at the White Hart Inn, Ashton Keynes, near Cricklade, on Wednesday evening, to enquire into the death of Noah Ody, of Ashton Keynes, who died at midnight on Monday from the effects of injuries received in a fight with his brother, John Ody, farmer, of Minety.

On Monday the two Ody's and a man named Jesse Ellison, of the Leigh, were drinking together in Ashton Keynes, and some dispute or quarrel occurred between them. Noah Ody (who resided with his mother in the village) and Jesse Ellison left to go home, and had gone some distance, when Ellison declared his intention of returning, and that either he or John Ody should receive a thrashing. A fight ensued about 10.30 pm between John Ody and Ellison, when the latter was severely handled and had to retire, thereupon Noah Ody took Ellison's place and commenced hostilities with his brother.

The fight was a severe one, Noah appearing to have rather the better of it, but John struck Noah a heavy blow under the chin, and knocked him violently to the ground on his head. At length the fight finished, and Noah Ody walked part of the way home, bleeding profusely from a wound on the back of the head. He was seen to lie down by the side of the road, but refused assistance, saying he should go on home quietly. Later on he was found lying in the same place insensible, and covered with blood from head to foot from the wound in his head. He was wheeled home in a barrow, but never regained consciousness, and died at midnight.

Early next morning John Ody, who had proceeded home, was apprehended at Minety, and is now in custody charged with having caused the death of his brother. Ellison was seriously hurt but is recovering. The deceased has recently been imprisoned for assaulting a County Council bailiff.

The jury returned a verdict of manslaughter against John Ody. The evidence showed that Ellison and deceased began the row, and that death resulted from the rupturing of an artery in the brain caused by a fall during the fight between the brothers, which was begun by the deceased.

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