



CORONERS INQUESTS



Vera Shuttle

Fatal Gun Accident at Marlborough

Mr. A. L. Forrester (county coroner) held an inquest, at Savernake cottage Hospital, on Wednesday, on the body of Vera Shuttle, three years of age, who died in that institution from the effects of a gun accident. The child was staying in the village of Collingbourne Kingston, with her grandparents. An uncle, a boy of fourteen years, was carrying a gun through the house, for the purpose of going into the fields to scare birds. He was unaware that it was loaded with a blank cartridge, and as he passed through a doorway it was discharged through some cause. The wad of the cartridge was driven into the forehead of the little child with such force as to fracture the skull. An operation was performed at the hospital, and the child appeared to be going on well for some time, when meningitis intervened, with a fatal result. The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental death."

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