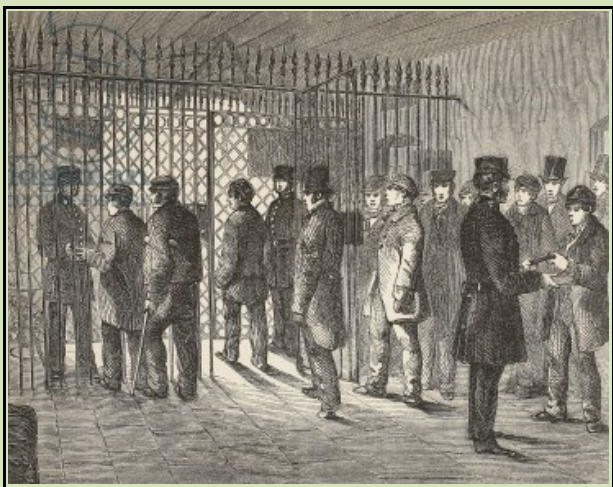


Crime and Punishment

Seend



MURDER OR SUICIDE?

Three newspapers carried the story of the same unnatural death. But there is no information to show which account is correct.

About three o'clock on Wednesday afternoon, Daniel, the son of Mr Jones, farmer of Seend, who had been on permanent duty in the Wiltshire Yeomanry Cavalry, returned home, and, after changing his clothes, took his pistol from the holster, and again proceeded towards Devizes. When about a mile on the road, he fired the contents of the pistol, just above his heart and expired in a few minutes. The wound was four inches long, and the shirt of the unfortunate man was burnt entirely off his breast by the explosion. **Berkshire Chronicle Saturday 5 October 1833**

Thursday, the passengers of the Star, Reading coach observed by the road, about 4 miles on the Bath side of Devizes, the lifeless body of a man. The coach having stopped, a dreadful sight presented itself to those who alighted. The deceased had been shot through the left side; but whether by himself or by any other person remains a mystery, as no pistol was found near the corpse, although search was made for it in all directions. The wound was four inches long, and the shirt of the unfortunate man was burnt almost entirely off his breast by the explosion. His linen had, in fact, hardly ceased smoking when the coach came to the spot, so that the dreadful deed must have been very recently committed. The deceased proved on enquiry to be a Mr Jones, farmer of Seend. **Reading Mercury Monday 7 October 1833**

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