SYD1850

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/574, 02/01/1850
FATAL ACCIDENT. - On Friday an inquest was held before J.S. PARKER, Esq., coroner, on the body of Mr. **JAMES MAW [MAN]**, the well-known master of the *Cygnet* schooner, trading between Sydney and the Paterson River. It appeared from the evidence that Mr. Man was attending the Raymond Terrace races on Wednesday last, having ridden over from Lemon Grove, Paterson River, with Mr. **THOMAS SWAN.** Mr. Swan had a mare which he entered for the first race, and rode her himself; in the course of the race she stumbled and threw Mr. Swan over her head, and he was picked up insensible, but fortunately recovered. Towards evening Mr. Man made a match between the mare and another horse, to come off on the following morning, and although he knew she was a buck-jumper, he afterwards cantered her round the course, accompanied by Mr. **WILLIAM FEARLEY,** of Singleton. Observing that the mare looked skittish, Mr. Fearley called to Mr. Man to keep behind his horse, but the mare apparently got the better of Mr. Man, darted past Mr. Fearley's horse, and almost immediately after buck-jumped with great violence, throwing Mr. Man over her head; he fell on his head and rolled over twice, and on Mr. Fearley dismounting he found Mr. Man insensible, and bleeding from the nose and mouth. After supporting Mr. Man a short time, and finding he did not recover, Mr. Fearley rode into Raymond Terrace for assistance, when Dr. **CADELL** and others hastened to the spot, but found Mr. Man dead. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death.
ANOTHER FATAL ACCIDENT. - On Monday the 17th December, two men named **JAMES ROSIN** and **BARTLEY DORAN** were proceeding from Maitland towards Messrs. Gorrick and Fleming's establishment, at Rutherford, in charge of two loaded drays. Rosin's wife accompanied him some distance, and then left and returned into Maitland. The two days stopped some time at Chapman's and then proceeded onwards, Doran's dray being first, and Rosin, who was in liquor, being seated on the top of his own dray, which was loaded with about 25 cwts; Doran kept on his way, without looking behind him, till he found Rosin's team come up close behind him, when he looked round, but could not see Rosin; he was afraid to go far from the drays, but remained calling him for some time, when he took the drays on, supposing that Rosin had returned after his wife. Meanwhile some persons appear to have found Rosin injured, for Dr. **M'CARTNEY** was sent for, and on proceeding to the spot, found Rosin lying in Mr. Gorrick's paddock on his back, quite helpless, and complaining of great pain; he told Dr. M'Cartney that he had fallen off the dray, and felt the wheel go over him. Rosin was conveyed to the hospital, and closely examined, but no external marks of injury could be seen, although he complained of great pain on the slightest touch or movement of his body. Dr. M'Cartney treated him for concussion of the spine, but in spite of every attention Rosin gradually sunk, and died yesterday morning; Dr. M'Cartney was unable to state the cause of death without making an examination. Mrs. Rosin stated that she could find no marks of injury whatever on the body. The jury returned a verdict that Rosin was accidentally killed by falling off his dray when in a state of intoxication.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/574, 02/01/1850
DEATH FROM OLD AGE. - On Friday another inquest was held before the coroner, J.S. PARKER, Esq., at Raymond Terrace, on the body of **ROBERT PHAUP [PHAMP],** an old gentleman aged about eighty years. It appeared that for the last twelve months Mr. Phaup had lodged at Mr. **HALL'S,** the Junction Inn, Raymond

Terrace, and had been usually cheerful and hearty, although feeble, saying that he had been forty years in the colony, and was eighty years old; On Thursday evening he eat a very hearty supper, and went to bed apparently in good health, but the next morning at seven o'clock he was found lying dead in bed; no noise had been heard during the night from his room, and he was lying in a quiet position, the clothes being quite undisturbed. Dr. **CADELL**, who had been called in on the first alarm being given, having looked at the body, certified that there were no marks of violence, and that in his opinion Mr. Phaup had died from natural causes. The jury returned a verdict of died from natural causes.

FATAL ACCIDENT. - An inquest was held on Tuesday last, at the house of Mr. **HOOPER**, overseer on the Pickering Estate, near Merton, before **J.B. WEST**, Esq., coroner, touching the death of **JOSEPH HOOPER**, an intelligent little boy, about six years of age. It appeared from the evidence, that on Monday last Mr. Hooper, father of the deceased, was about to proceed to the river with a low heavy bullock cart or truck to fetch up some water, when his son who was standing by wished to have a ride, but his mother would not allow him to do so, and his father sent him back. The child commenced crying when his father drove off without him and Mr. Hooper had not proceeded above [??] hundred yards from the house when the boy, who was a very affectionate child, came running and crying after his father, unseen by his mother, and his father took him up and put him on the cart, and took him on it to the river, as he had done on several previous occasions. As they were returning home with a cask full of water that held 350 gallons, one of the wheels [surged?] from a low stump, and the child fell off the cart, and before his father could stop the bullocks, one of the wheels passed over his body; the poor child gave a slight scream and died instantaneously. The jury returned a verdict that the deceased came to his death by accidentally falling off a water cart, and the wheel of it passing over his body. 29th December, 1849.

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.

(From the People's Advocate, Dec. 29)

Thursday, December 27.

FRANCIS POYNER was indicted for the wilful murder of **DAVID FOLEY**, at Pittwater, on the 8th day of November last, by shooting him with a fowling piece, of which he instantly died. Verdict, not guilty. The trial took the whole of the day, and the evidence was entirely circumstantial. The prisoner was indicted for the crime in conjunction with one **THOMAS COLLINS.** The learned counsel for the prisoners, Messrs. **FOSTER** and **HOLROYD**, moved that the prisoners be tried separately, which was agreed to by the court. On the verdict of the jury being given, the Solicitor General informed the court that the Attorney General declined at present prosecuting Collins, and consented to his being admitted to bail on his own recognizance. The prisoner was ordered to be brought up on Friday.

WILLIAM HUDSON was indicted for the wilful murder of one **JOHN DONNELL**, at Vermont, on the 11th of November last, by striking him with a blunt instrument on both sides of his head. The jury acquitted the prisoner of the murder, and found him guilty of assault; sentenced to be imprisoned in Darlinghurst Gaol with hard labour for six months.

THOMAS COLLINS, in charge for the murder of **DAVID FOLEY**, at Pittwater, was discharged on his own recognizance of £40, to appear when called on to answer the charge. The prisoner was in custody of the Sheriff on a warrant of having absconded from his bail, on a charge of robbing the late Mr. Foley. The prisoner was therefore retained in custody to be tried for that offence at the next Quarter Sessions.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/575, 05/01/1850
CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT
Saturday
THOMAS COLLINS pleaded guilty to stealing various articles, the property of the late **DAVID FOLEY**, at Pittwater. Remanded for sentence.
NICKY NICKY, another aboriginal, was indicted for assaulting one **BULGOI**, an aboriginal, at the Coldstream River, on the 21st April, 1848, and for murdering him with a tomahawk. The evidence of a boy named **IRVING** fully established the fact that Nicky Nicky struck Bulgoi on the back of the head with a tomahawk, but left some doubt whether Bulgoi was alive when the blow was struck. Guilty; three years imprisonment.
CORONER'S INQUEST. - Yesterday an Inquest was held at the Salutation Inn, before **ROBERT WAUGH**, coroner for the district, and a respectable jury, on view of the body of **AMBROSE O'BRIEN**, who was found dead and covered in bruises on the previous evening in Mr. **STEWART'S** garden. The enquiry excited considerable sensation, it having been ascertained that certain suspicious circumstances connected with the death of the deceased had induced the Chief Constable to proceed to the residence of two men in whose company the deceased had left Goulburn, and apprehend them for wilful murder. The prisoners were escorted into town on the same evening, and were yesterday brought up in custody before the coroner and jury. The jury having been sworn, the chief constable said he had received information on the previous afternoon that the corpse of a man had been brought into town, and on proceeding to the rear of the Salutation Inn, saw the body of the deceased (touching whose death the present enquiry was being held), carried into a shed at the back of the premises; the body presented many appearances of ill usage, and on enquiry, he (the chief constable) had heard that the deceased had left town in company with two men of the name of **ERBY**; he proceeded out to their residence, at Darby Murray's Flats; and on enquiring of them when they had last seen the deceased, they said they had not seen him since he left Woodward's Hotel on the afternoon of that day; a pair of trousers, which one of the Erby's had worn , was produced to him; they were stained with blood in several places; the prisoners had made a different statement afterwards; and having ascertained that they had been seen in company with the deceased, after he left Mr. Woodward's, he considered it his duty to apprehend them and retain them in custody to await the issue of the present enquiry. After some further evidence had been taken, the jury consulted together, and returned a verdict that the deceased had died from certain injuries received, but there was no evidence to show the manner in which they had been received. The coroner, in discharging the prisoners, said that the jury wished it to be understood that they did not consider there was any evidence offered that day which could in the remotest manner fix the crime of murder on the prisoners. *Goulburn Herald, Dec. 29*.
INQUEST. - On Thursday an inquest was held before J.S. PARKER, Esq., coroner, at the Cottage of Content, East Maitland, on the body of **JOHN WARROW**. It appeared that Warrow, who was a man of colour, and called himself an American Black, got his living by selling brooms and charcoal, and had for some months lived in a Bark hut at the Four-Mile Creek; Warrow was much addicted to drink, and would spend on it nearly all his money, frequently taking home bottles of rum. He had been afflicted with a cough occasionally, and two or three weeks ago complained to two brickmakers, his nearest neighbours, that he felt great pain in his stomach; from this

time he never left his hut, and evidently got weaker, the two brickmakers kindly supplying him with food, but refusing to bring him any spirits; at different times they urged him to see Dr. **BROWN**, or go to the hospital, but Warrow refused, saying he did not like doctors of hospitals; on Tuesday evening one of the brickmakers visited his hut, and found Warrow weak, lying on the bare floor, with scarcely any clothing, and his fire out; he lit the fire, and promised to bring some broth in the morning, there being then tea and bread in the hit, but neither of which Warrow seemed to like. Next morning, however, Warrow was found to be lying dead, in the same position as when the brickmakers left him. The jury returned a verdict of died by the visitation of God, and that death was accelerated by intemperance.

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.

On the motion of Mr. **HOLROYD**, **THOMAS COLLINS**, who had pleaded guilty to an indictment for larceny, was allowed to withdraw the plea, and to plead not guilty.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/576, 09/01/1850

During the passage of the *Emma* from this to Hobart Town, one of the steerage passengers named **CHARLES BISSENT** jumped overboard in a fit of *delirium tremens*; a seaman named **THOMAS LANSDOWNE**, upon the alarm being given, immediately plunged after him, and in a praiseworthy manner, kept him afloat until assistance was rendered, which was done in a few minutes, as it was luckily a calm at that time. When taken on board, every means was taken towards resuscitation, but without effect, as he must have been dead when taken on board.

FATAL ACCIDENT. - An inquest was held at the District Hospital, Parramatta, on Thursday, the 3rd instant, on view of the body of **WILLIAM MILLER**, a married man, without family, who met his death at **HALKETT's** quarry, at the Field of Mars. **JAMES POWER** being sworn, deposed: I am a labourer, in the employ of the Surveyor of the Parramatta Roads Trust; I was engaged in excavating some road metal at the quarry, in the Field of Mars; the deceased, **WILLIAM FLINN, PHILIP M'DONALD, and ROBERT FEARNS**, were also at the same work; yesterday afternoon, between 4 and 5 o'clock, the deceased, Flinn and M'Donald, were working with pick-axes undermining the bank, when the top, which had been undermined, came suddenly down and caused the death of William Miller, who was working between Flinn and M'Donald; deceased died instantly; his head was crushed to pieces; Fearnes was on the top looking out to see if the ground was likely to give way; I was beside M'Donald and saw the earth give way; I called out to them to make their escape, which Flinn and M'Donald did, but the deceased got confused and ran the wrong way; Fearnes came down with the stuff, a fall of sixteen feet, which injured his ancle; there was thirty of forty tons of stuff; we expected it to come down, but not so soon; M'Donald received injuries in the leg and back; two other men were present and confirmed the above statements. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death. – *Herald, Jan. 5.*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/577, 12/01/1850

SINGLETON

SKELETON FOUND. - There is to be an inquest, at twelve o'clock, on some human bones, which were found the other day in the bush, at about two miles from Munimba lockup. The skeleton is, we have heard, perfect except the feet, which are supposed to have been carried away by the native dogs, with the boots on them. Although the bones are perfectly white, yet the wristbands and collar of a shirt were found

buttoned; it is consequently supposed to be the remains of some white man. January 10, 1850.

SUDDEN DEATH. - At nine o'clock on Tuesday morning, Mr. **CHARLES DICKINSON,** publican, of the South Head Road, fell down and expired suddenly as he was going up stairs. During the same evening a woman named **WILLIAMS,** residing in Globe-street, was found dead in her bed by some of her neighbours. The latter, however, had for a considerable time been in a delicate state of health, and had been heard to complain of pain and illness. - *Herald, Jan. 10.*

BODY FOUND. - About six o'clock yesterday evening two little boys playing near the bridge, Rushcutter's Bay, dug out of the sand the body of an infant having the appearance of being strangled. It seemed to be about a week old. An I nquest will be held on the body today. - *Herald, Jan. 10.*

BIRTH

At West Maitland, on the 2nd January, the lady of **R. PRINGLE,** Esq., of a daughter, still born.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/578, 16/01/1850

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT. - We are sorry to have to record the accidental drowning, yesterday afternoon, of Master **JOHN [C] WILKINSON,** the eldest son of the Rev. **S. WILKINSON**, Wesleyan Minister, of this town. The afternoon being very warm, the poor boy had gone to the river to bathe, nearly at the back of Mr. **BUSSELL's** , at a place much used by lads for bathing. Master Wilkinson it appears could not swim, and one or two of his companions observing that he was venturing out too far, called to him to come back, but he went on, saying that he could go farther out; in another moment he stepped on to the edge of a bank which exists at that point under water, and instantly slipped down out of sight. The other lads screamed out, and a little girl who saw the accident ran towards the street, and meeting with **CHARLES SMITH**, she called out to him that a little boy was drowned; young Smith instantly ran down, and the fatal spot being pointed out to him, he made for it, and dived two or three times, and finally found the unfortunate boy standing against the bank, as if he had been trying to make his way up it, the water being then about three feet over his head. The body was immediately brought to the surface and on shore by young Smith, and was carried to Mr. Wilkinson's house. Three medical men were quickly in attendance, and tried every means to restore the poor lad, but without avail, life being gone. The poor boy was well known, and much liked for his winning intelligent manner. He was, we believe, about ten or eleven years old.

SUPPOSED INFANTICIDE. - In our yesterday's issue we mentioned that the body of a male infant had been found alongside the South Head Road, in the vicinity of the toll-bar, by two boys who happened to be playing there. In the afternoon an inquest was held upon the body at White Conduit House, Rushcutter's Bay, at which Dr. **TIERNEY**, who had in the meantime made a *post mortem* examination, expressed his opinion that death had been occasioned by hemorrhage, in consequence of the umbilical cord not having been secured in the ordinary manner. The child, he stated, was strong and healthy, and had evidently been born alive. Upon the scalp there was a slight cut, but the brain beneath it showed no such appearance of compression as to lead to the supposition that this wound would have been fatal. There was likewise an injury to one of the eyes, but this the doctor was of opinion might have occurred after death. The body was wrapped in a piece of canvas, apparently the upper part of a bag, which had been cut or torn in a zig zag direction. The whole was tied tightly with a piece of twine, and compressed into the smallest possible spacer for the purpose of

concealment, and had in fact been apparently lying there undiscovered for a couple of days, as it was partially decomposed. The jury, under these circumstances, returned a verdict of wilful murder against some person or persons unknown. - *Herald, Jan. 11.*
BIRTHS
At Newcastle-street, East Maitland, on the 8th Jan., Mrs. **J. BURFIELD**, of twin sons, one still born.
BUSH FIRES.
… Two persons are missing, and it is greatly feared that they have perished amidst the burning scrub. These are an aged man named **JOSEPH CURRAN**, and a person known by the name of **"JOHN THE FRENCHMAN."** The latter had also a horse with him. … In addition to the disasters we noted yesterday, a man named **KELLY** had some horses burned, and we heard two of his children also.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/579, 19/01/1850
INQUEST. - On Tuesday evening an inquest was held before Mr. **PARKER** on the body of **JOHN WILKINSON**, the poor boy whose death we reported in the *Mercury* OF Wednesday. The evidence given was nearly to the same effect as we published. A verdict of accidentally drowned was returned.
SUDDEN DEATH. - On Wednesday morning a man named **JOSEPH ECCLES** dropped down in High-street, and almost instantly expired. Eccles had been for some months in the employ of Mr. **WAKELY**, and had that morning left him to go up country with the team of Mr. **DUNSMORE.** Dunsmore called in at the shop of Mr. **GRAHAM**, saddler, to purchase some harness, leaving Eccles standing by the lead horse of the team; he had scarcely got into the shop, however, when Eccles, who appeared quite well up to that moment, was seen to fall forward on his face, and remain quite still; the bystanders hurried up, and lifted him, and observed a little blood issuing from his mouth; a medical man passing at the time went to the spot, and perceiving that Eccles was seized with apoplexy he bled him, but in a few moments he expired. He was not an intemperate man, and had never been observed to be an ailing man. An inquest was held on the body the same day before **J.S. PARKER**, Esq., and a verdict was returned of died by the visitation of God.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/580, 23/01/1850
INQUEST. - Yesterday an in quest was held at the Rose Inn, West Maitland, before the coroner, Mr. **PARKER**, on the body of **MARGERITA GARDOLL,** a native of Germany. It appeared that Mrs. Gardoll and her husband had formerly been in the service of Mr. **A. WINDEYER,** of Kinross, and had latterly resided at Maitland, where they appeared very poor. On Saturday morning last Gardoll went to Morpeth, and his wife accompanied him as far as East Maitland, carrying with her a basket or box of cakes for sale; Gardoll left his wife in East Maitland, but when he subsequently returned to West Maitland he found she was not returned, nor could he hear of her, although he went to East Maitland and elsewhere to look for her; at six in the evening Gardoll again went to East Maitland, and then met his wife, who told him that she had fallen from the heat, and had been picked up by a carter, who afterwards told her that she had not been on the ground a minute when he picked her up; that she was afterwards some time in a house in East Maitland, where the people gave her a good deal of milk to drink, until she had somewhat recovered. All that night Mrs. Gardoll appeared very poorly, complaining of pains in her stomach, but she refused to allow her husband to call in a doctor; during Sunday night she became worse, and finally became speechless. Gardoll then called in Dr. **M'CARTNEY**, and subsequently two

other medical men saw her; they treated her for congestion of the brain, but she got worse, and died about eleven o'clock on Monday night. Gardoll said his wife would have been confined in about two months, but that she was healthy and well when she left on Saturday morning. Another witness, Mrs. **DUNN**, said that Mrs. Gardoll complained on Thursday of being very sore from carrying about the basket, and complained on Friday evening of great pain in her head. Dr. M'Cartney considered the cause of death to be congestion of the brain, but could not say how it arose. A verdict was returned of died by the visitation of God.

MELANCHOLY DEATH OF A LUNATIC FROM EXPOSURE. - On Tuesday last an inquest was held at Mr. Tapp's Union Inn, Church-street, Parramatta, on view of the body of **MARGARET SHEDBOLT**, late of Canterbury, near Ashfield. The coroner read a letter from Mr. **WHITING**, innkeeper, of Ashfield, stating that the deceased had left her house on the 6th instant, and had not been heard of since, until the present time. **GEORGE SHEDBOLT** being sworn, deposed, I am the husband of the deceased; I am a cow-keeper residing at Canterbury; I have been to the Hospital, and seen the deceased; she was my wife; the last time I saw her, was on Monday the 6th instant; she left her house and took with her a leg or pork, to carry to Mr. **MURRAY**, a neighbour of mine; on her return she went to Mr. Whiting's, the publican; at nine o'clock that day Mr. Whiting told me that she was gone to Sydney, as he had given her an order to go to the Infirmary, she having cut her hand very badly, and required dressing – it was much swollen; she took with her a joint of pork; she was bad in her mind for the last three months; she was not addicted to drinking; I never heard of her since until yesterday, when constable **CAUFIELD** brought me a letter from the hospital here; the letter reached me last night. **JAMES VENN**, in the service of Mr. **BLACKETT**, deposed, on Sunday last, about five o'clock, I was looking for my cattle in the bush, and heard a moan; I stopped to listen, and it was repeated; I proceeded to the spot and saw a female in a sitting posture against a log beside a creek; she said she was weak and not able to follow me, and as night was coming on she would lie down; she first said she had been three weeks from home; I procured assistance to take her to the hospital; her little finger was quite black, and the ring finger much swollen; she had a wound on the bosom and blood on the mouth; she was covered with large black ants; I think she was insane; she had but part of an old gown on. Mr. **WILLIAMS**, overseer to the Parramatta District Hospital, deposed, the deceased said she was three days and three nights in the bush, and kept the native dogs, who were howling round her all night, at a distance with a bough; she said the hawks hovered about her, and picked her; she wandered in her mind, and lived but thirty-six hours after being received into the hospital. Dr. **ROBERTSON** deposed: I saw the deceased on her coming to the hospital; she was in a state of great exhaustion, quite delirious, and no pulse; I said she would die next morning; she had ulcers in different parts of her body, which might have been produced by ants, hawks, or native dogs; they were not like wounds from a human agency; she had a wound on her elbow very deep, the little finger was in a state of sloughing, and the other finger was so bad I had the ring filed off; she died from exposure, exhaustion and starvation. The deceased was about 50 years of age, and quite insane. The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the evidence. - *Herald, Jan. 18.*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/581, 26/01/1850

ACCIDENTAL DEATH. - An inquest was held by **J.B. WEST**, Esq., coroner, at his residence, Muswell Brook, on the body of **JAMES WILLIAM NOBLE**, a servant in the employ of Mr. **TATE**, of the Bull's Head, St. Heliers, near Muswell Brook. It

appeared the man had been to the river with a horse and cart, and was returning home with two casks of water; he was sitting in the front of the cart, holding the reins, and was driving the horse rather fast, when by some means or other he fell off the front of the cart, the wheel of which went over his body. He was immediately removed to the hospital, and two surgeons were soon in attendance, but the man died during the night. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death. January 22, 1850.

DETERMINED SUICIDE. - The magisterial inquiry alluded to in my last, was held on the body of **GEORGE PLATT**, when it appeared that Mrs. **BURNS**, in whose public-house he had stopped the previous night, observing him "looking rather wild," directed the servant to watch him. While, however, the man's back was turned for an instant, Platt snatched a knife off the table, and cut his throat; the servant then grappled with him, but the deceased being by far the more powerful of the two, threw the cook nearly into the fire, and gave himself a second gash, when he immediately fell. Dr. **DORSEY**, on being called upon, tried to stop the hemorrhage and sew up the two separate wounds; but all the arteries being severely lacerated, death ensued while the operation was being performed. The deceased had been drinking in the township for some days, and at the time he committed the act which sent him so prematurely before his Maker, he was suffering from *delirium tremens.* While suffering under the fits, he imagined everyone to be accusing him of the Kangaroo Point murder, for which **FIFE** suffered. It will, perhaps, be remembered that this was one of the men who were suspected of having been in some indirect way connected with that unfortunate tragedy. - *Ipswich Correspondent of the Moreton Bay Courier.*

HORSE RACE. – SERIOUS ACCIDENT. - Yesterday afternoon, about four o'clock, a horse race for a new saddle took place in North Brisbane. Four horses started. One of the riders, named [**PATRICK] CONDON**, upon starting, lost one of his stirrups, when his horse bolted, and brought him in violent contact with Mr. **HAYES'S** house (sic), where he was thrown to the ground, and received a severe wound in the scalp on the back of the head – the skull is supposed to be fractured – and he was much bruised on the side, back, and left arm; he bled profusely from the left ear. He was immediately conveyed to the hospital, and attended by Dr. **BALLOW**, who reported him, last night, to be in a very dangerous state. Six men were required to hold him, and it was found necessary to secure him with a straight waistcoat. We hear, likewise, that a black fellow received a kick in the face from one of the horses engaged iun the race. - *Moreton Bay Courier, January 12.*

SUDDEN DEATH. - Mr. **FREDERICK WILLIAM HORNCASTLE**, whose interesting lectures upon music must be remembered by many of our readers, was on Monday found dead on the floor of his bedroom at the Sir Joseph Banks Hotel, Botany, where he was at the time residing. An inquest was held upon the body yesterday, and an opinion having been expressed by Dr. **TIERNEY** that death had been occasioned by the rupture of a blood vessel, a verdict of death from natural causes was returned. - *Herald, 23rd January.*

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT. - A Mr. **O'CONNOR,** Storekeeper, of Ipswich, and who has only been a short time resident in this district, met with an un timely death on Sunday, the 6th instant, whilst bathing in the River Bremer. The unfortunate gentleman, it appears, whilst walking on the river's bank, in company with his sister and the Rev. Mr. **DICKEY**, expressed an inclination to take a bathe, andf at once jumped into the river, with his trousers and shirt on. Being an excellent swimmer, he easily made a safe passage across, but unfortunately on his return, his clothes must have in some way impeded his progress, for he was seen to endeavour to get his shirt off, and shortly afterwards to go down, melancholy to state, to come up no more alive.

His body was recovered during the evening, and on the following day interred in the Ipswich burial ground, his remains being attended to their final resting place by nearly three hundred persons. The feelings of his sister may be more easily felt than described. - *Herald Correspondent.*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/582, 31/01/1850

DEATH FROM FIRE. – A coroner's enquiry was held on Thursday last, at Colleydar, Lake George, before **ROBERT WAUGH**, Esq., on view of the body of a young child, aged three years and a half, the son of Mr. **TUMBER**, a small farmer. It appeared from the evidence adduced, that Mrs. Tumber had occasion to visit a neighbour, and as a matter of precaution put her children, four in number, outside the hut. During her absence, deceased, and another of the children managed to get in again, and amused themselves by lighting sticks at the fire. The clothes of the deceased accidentally ignited, and on his running out of the hut, they blazed up. The father of deceased was reaping in a field close by, at the time of the accident, and observing by chance the blaze near the hut, ran up to it, when to his horror he found his child lying on the ground, with its clothes burning furiously. He quickly tore off the garments, but on raising the body found that life was extinct. - Dr. **GERARD** examined the deceased, and found several severe burns about the abdomen and thorax, quite sufficient to destroy life. A verdict according to the evidence was returned. - *Goulburn Herald, Jan. 26.*

MELANCHOLY CIRCUMSTANCE. - on Tuesday last the widow of Mr. Field, bootmaker, who met his death whilst bathing in the Wollondilly river, expired shortly after giving birth to a male infant. The poor woman has never held up her head since the melancholy fate of her husband, and her delicate condition appeared to hurry on her dissolution. - *Goulburn Herald.*

INQUEST. - An inquest was held yesterday afternoon at Mr. Oatley's, Sportsman's Inn, on the body of a man named **SYDNEY BINKS [BRINKS],** who expired yesterday morning. It appeared, that about a fortnight ago the deceased went to fetch his wife home, who had been drinking, and in doing so he dragged and ill-used her, when a crowd collected, and some persons assaulted him. In consequence of the injuries e received erisypelas in the head ensued, and caused the death of the deceased. From a deposition taken by Mr. **DAY,** Superintendent of Police, two persons, named **JONATHAN WHITING** and **SUSAN BROWN**, were apprehended. Two witnesses, whose evidence was very contradictory, were examined, and the jury adjourned till Wednesday next. - *Herald, Jan.26.*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/583, 06/02/1850

INQUEST. - On Sunday an inquest was commenced before **J.S. PARKER**, Esq., coroner, at the Northumberland Hotel, on the body of a baby, the child of **ANDREW NEWELL**. It appeared from the evidence adduced on that day and yesterday, that Newell had been ill for some time, and had been under the care of Dr. **BOWKER**, at Newcastle; Newell returned on Thursday last, still ill, and bringing with him some medicine similar to that he had been taking at Newcastle. On the same night his wife was confined. Mrs. **JANE KELLY**, who attended on Mrs. Newell, found on the evening of Friday that the child appeared poorly and troubled with the wind, and she gave it some caster oil, and caraway water; the baby got worse, and the parents, who were both ill in bed, desired Mrs. Kelly to give the baby half a teaspoonful of the sleeping draught Newell was taking, Newell observing that it made him sleep, and would therefore make the baby sleep also. Mrs. Kelly had seen Newell take one or

two tablespoonfuls of the mixture during the day, and she did not think of the possibility on injuring the child, and she gave it half a teaspoonful. The bottle contained a solution of morphine. The baby went to sleep soon after taking it, but soon after awoke slightly convulsed, and from that time till morning lay in a state of half stupor. Mrs. Kelly then took it to Dr. **LIDDELL**, but it was too late; she followed carefully the directions Dr. Liddell gave her, but the child died in the course of the morning. A *post mortem* examination by Dr. Liddell showed that the child died asphyxiated, no doubt caused by the narcotic it had taken. The inquest was adjourned till yesterday for Dr. Bowker's evidence. Dr. Bowker certified that half a teaspoonful of the mixture was sufficient to cause the death of the infant, and that from the knowledge he had acquired of Newell's character during his attendance on him he felt satisfied Newell was entirely innocent of any criminal intention in recommending Mrs. Kelly to give the baby some of the mixture. The jury returned a verdict that the deceased babe came by its death from an overdose of morphine, which was administered in ignorance of its effects to the deceased babe by its parents.

SUDDEN DEATH. - A man named **JAMES WILLS**, residing in Market-Street, dropped dead on Saturday night, in a public-house in George-Street South. A few minutes previous to his death he appeared in perfect health. Apoplexy has been stated by a medical man to be the cause of death. Mrs. **[JEMIMA] CLARKSON**, wife of a licensed victualler at the corner of Park and Elizabeth-streets, laid down on a sofa on Sunday evening and instantly expired.

DREADFUL DEATH. - A few days since the body of a man named **THOMAS FARRELL**, a sawyer, was found in Molong Creek in a very mutilated state: the intestines torn from the body and devoured, as there was no vestige of them on the spot. He was much addicted to habits of intemperance, and would work hard for three or four weeks, then report to a public-house and spend his hard earnings. For several days previous to his body being found he had indulged freely in strong potations, and one evening he had rushed out of the house he was in and taken to the bush, in an apparent state of madness; the inmates had often seen him do so before, when, after a few hours' absence, he would return; they therefore did not feel surprised at first, but after a much longer absence than usual they became alarmed, and feared that something serious had happened to him. It is supposed that he had fallen down in a senseless state, and had been attacked by native dogs. *Bathurst Correspondent of Herald.*

FEARFUL DEATH. - About ten days ago, a young man named **ROBINSON** came to an untimely end in the following awful way. He had been drinking in company with four other men (sawyers), at Hyam's public-house, till a late hour. At about ten o'clock the landlord made them leave, which they did, all more or less intoxicated, taking a quantity of drink with them, and returned to a spot in the bush – to finish their night's carouse. They kindled a fire at the foot of a dry oak tree, the butt of which measured about ten inches in diameter. Having drank the liquor, they all fell asleep near the fire, except one man, who then left the party and went home. In the course of the night, the root of the tree burnt away, and the tree fell across Robinson, who, at daylight in the morning, was found dead under it, the butt lying over his breast, his clothes all burnt off, and his body exhibiting a shocking appearance from the effects of the fire. His companions, it would seem, were in so stupid and beastly a state as not to hear the crash of the falling tree, although they were all lying pell-mell, within a foot or two of one another, Robinson's head actually resting on the body of one of the men. *Shoalhaven Correspondent of Herald.*

SUICIDE. - Yesterday afternoon, the body of a man was seen by some boys fishing from the Circular Quay, floating in the water with his head upward. On being brought ashore it was found to be the body of a man who went by the name of **DARBY BYRNES**, living in Phillip-street, and who obtained his livelihood by carrying water to the neighbours round about. It appeared that the unfortunate man had a quarrel with his wife on Tuesday last, he having been drinking, and on his leaving her, he told her that she would see him no more. He was not seen again till taken out of the water, when it appeared that he had buckled a strap round his neck, to which a flatiron was attached; and had also filled his pockets with stones, to facilitate his sinking. The body was removed to the dead-house, and an inquest will be held on it this day. *Herald, Feb. 1.*

INQUEST. - An inquest was held yesterday, at the Lemon Tree, public-house, Phillip-street, on the body of **JEREMIAH BYRNES**, whose death by drowning, was mentioned in the herald of yesterday. **MARY BYRNES**, the wife of the deceased, stated that for some time past he had been in a very depressed state of mind from not being able to earn enough to keep his family; he used to carry water and cut wood, and latterly he had had very little to do, and with their three children they had not sufficient to live on; he was a very sober man, and always anxious to work, but had of late often said he would drown himself if he could not get a better living. On Tuesday last, he was very much depressed and strange in his manner, and would not try to work, which was very unusual with him; she had no quarrel with him that day, and in the evening g she went out of the house a few moments, leaving him with the children, and on her return he was gone. The flat iron, fastened round his neck, was taken from the house. Dr. **TIERNEY** having certified that there were no external marks of violence on the body, the jury returned a verdict of "found drowned;" but under what circumstances he was suffocated by drowning was unknown. *Herald, Feb. 2.*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/585, 09/02/1850

SUDDEN DEATH. - On Wednesday an inquest was held before **J.S. PARKER**, Esq., coroner, at the Angel Inn, West Maitland, on the body of **MICHAEL JENNINGS**, an old man of about 78 years of age. It appeared that Jennings, who was an ailing man, was trying to get employment, and meanwhile was stopping with Mr. **BALSER**, tinman. On Monday Jennings went into the cellar to get some grass to feed a horse, and did not returned, and Mr. Balser, hearing a groan, went down, and found that the old man had fallen down, and could neither speak nor stand. He got the old man up, and sent for Dr. **LIDDELL**, who attended, but found the old man was partially paralysed, and evidently dying; and about ten o'clock that evening Jennings expired. The jury returned a verdict of died from natural causes.

SUDDEN DEATH. - On Sunday morning last, Mr. **JAMES DARGIN**, who resided near Windsor, ate a comfortable breakfast, and having gone down the yard, as he was returning was suddenly seized with illness. He stopped short and called to his son to come to his assistance. His son and wife quickly came, into whose arms he fell, saying he was dying. He bade farewell to his wife, and soon became insensible. In the mean time, Mr. Surgeon **WHITE** had been sent for, as also Dr. **DOWE**. The former cut the temporal artery, which enabled the deceased to rally for a few minutes only, when he expired. Mr. Surgeon White had been in attendance on him during the last two months, and expected that his death would be sudden, and the deceased was perfectly aware of it himself. It appeared that a suffusion of blood on the brain had

caused apoplexy. Mr. Dargin was much respected and deeply regretted by all who knew him. *Windsor Correspondent of Herald*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/586, 13/02/1850
LETTER, from Aborigine **JACKEY JACKEY,** saying he is not dead and was not killed at Singleton.
FATAL ACCIDENTS. - On Sunday afternoon a man named **JOSEPH MAHER**, a servant of Mr. **HRAGREAVES**, of New England, and who had come down the country with a load of wood, had married to a young woman [**ALCE KENNEDY]** in Maitland. On the following day he accompanied the team to Morpeth, and he and **WILLIAM COCKING**, the driver, loaded the dray with return goods; Maher principally seeing to the loading; Cocking observed to him that the goods did not look secure, as they were short of cord to fasten them properly, but Maher said they would do till they reached Maitland, where he would pack the dray afresh. About three o'clock the dray left the steamer wharf on its journey, Maher sitting on a chest of tea in front of the load the help keep the dray balanced, and Cocking walking by his leading bullock to keep them on the crown of the road; as the dray passed through the gateway a bystander saw the wheels catch the sill, which gave the load a shake, and brought down one or two loose cases from the load; these struck the pole bullocks and hastened their pace, and in another moment the dray got a little off the crown of the road, and the tilt sent off several cases, including the chest of tea poor Maher was sitting on, and he fell himself with it; as he fell he struck the shaft of the dray, and falling just bin front of the wheel, in another instant it went over his head, crushing it so dreadfully that it exposed the brain; he never spoke more, and expired in a very short time. Cocking saw nothing of the accident, the whole taking up a brief space of time, and when he stopped the team on hearing the cries, he found his mate lying apparently dead. An inquest was held on the body the same evening, before Mr. **PARKER**, the jury exonerating the driver from all blame.

Yesterday, about midday, we are informed that an industrious small settler, named **GEORGE [JOHN] FIELD**, residing on the Hillborough estate, was engaged yoking up his bullocks, one of them being very restive, when a bullock unhappily jerked his head up quite suddenly as Field was reached over across him; the yoke-iron struck poor Field on the temple, and he fell senseless, and expired in a few minutes. Field leaves a widow and small family to mourn their sudden loss.
FATAL ACCIDENT. - A youth, about 15 years of age, named **KELLY**, was accidentally killed last Saturday, on the Yass road, between the Red House and Gunning. It appears that he was accompanying a man and another boy in a cart in which there were two horses belonging to Mr. **LANGHORNE.** In mounting the shaft for the purpose of getting into the cart, the lad incautiously placed his hand on the horse's rump; the animal sprang forward, throwing the boy under the wheel, which passed over his body and killed him dead on the spot. The deceased was conveyed to Gunning the next morning, and the following day an inquest was held by **MAURICE ISIDORE BLAKE,** Esq., coroner for the district, when the jury returned a verdict of accidentally killed. - *Goulburn Herald, Feb. 9.*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/587, 16/02/1850
SUDDEN DEATH. - In our last we mentioned that a report had reached us that **JOHN FIELD**, an industrious settler at Hillsborough, had been killed on Tuesday by a working bullock jerking his head up, and striking Field on the temple with a yoke-iron. An inquest was held on the body on Wednesday, before **J.S. PARKER**, Esq.,

coroner, when it appeared from the evidence of **MICHAEL WOODS** that Field's little boy ran to his place on Tuesday morning and told him his mother begged he would come over directly as his father had been knocked down by the working bullocks; Woods went over immediately, and found Field lying on the ground in the stock yard, his head supported by the woman who lived with him; Field was quite speechless, and Woods lifted him, and carried him into the house and placed him on a bed, and then went to a neighbour for assistance; the woman asked Woods to get Field to speak to her, but he remarked that Field was beyond speaking. A boy named **LONG** deposed that about an hour previous he heard one say "you're a liar." The inquiry was adjourned to allow the body to be examined by a medical man. On the following day Dr. **SLOAN** performed a post mortem examination, and found a slight abrasion of skin under the left ear, but neither there nor on the temple was there any fracture of the skull; he certified that death arose from sanguinous apoplexy; he did not consider the marks on the head indicated violence from any person or persons. The jury returned a verdict of died from natural causes.

SHOCKING DEATH. - On Wednesday afternoon a woman of loose character, named **CHARLOTTE JORDAN**, met with a fearful accident. She was riding in a covered dray from Morpeth, being helplessly drunk at the time, and when nearly opposite Mr. **HOWE's** her leg got entangled in the spokes of the wheel, and was immediately broken as the dray moved on, the part above the knee being fearfully crushed. She was taken on to the Maitland Hospital, and lay there till yesterday, receiving every attention from the medical men, but never recovering from the shock sufficiently to allow her leg to be amputated. Yesterday about one o'clock she expired. During her lucid moments she informed the authorities that she was in a state of pregnancy, and that she was a married woman, but had been living apart from her husband for a long time. A man named **GEORGE REYNOLDS** was in the dray with her at the time of the accident, and he was immediately apprehended. Evidence was taken before the bench in the case on Thursday, and yesterday, which we forbear publishing till the inquest has been held.

CORONER'S INQUEST. - On Monday, an inquest was held at Bluck's, the Family Hotel, Surry Hills, on view of the body of **THOMAS HEARD**. Deceased was seen near 9 o'clock on Saturday night, in a state of intoxication, on the rise of the hill near the Sheriff's Gardens, and inquiring the way to Baptist's Gardens. About 11 o'clock that night, a brick maker residing on the Riley Estate, heard a noise as of some one leaping from an elevation, and next morning saw deceased in Queen-street, lying dead within a yard of an embankment of some eighteen or nineteen feet above the road, from which several persons have fallen and injured themselves more or less severely; the road ends abruptly with the embankment. Dr. **TIERNEY** examined the body on Sunday, found some blood on the clothes, a large wound on the scalp, from which blood was oozing, and a deep wound of about an inch and a half in length under the chin; a fall from such a height as that described by the witnesses would produce concussion of the brain, and these wounds, with exposure to cold, were sufficient to account for death. The jury found a verdict of died from injuries accidentally received while in a state of intoxication. - *Herald, Feb. 14.*

FATAL ACCIDENT. - An inquest was held on Monday last, at the residence of Mr. **HOWARD**, Brucedale, on the body of **JAMES MOLYNEAUX [is this MULLINCAMP?]**, a resident upon the Beverley Park estate, before the district coroner. Deceased and wife, on Friday last, had attended the funeral of a neighbour's child to Bathurst, and it was upon their return home, in company with several others, that the accident occurred which caused his death. Molyneaux and his wife were

travelling in a cart, and upon passing through a slip-pannel behind Mr. **READ's** house, on account of the proximity of the track, it is supposed that the wheel of the cart came in contact with one of the posts, thereby starting the mare and causing her to rush forward upon the side of the ridge, which is here very steep and stony, and in this manner upset the cart. Upon hearing the noise made by the fall of the cart, Mr. **HOWARD** and others, who were at a distance in advance, immediately returned and rendered prompt assistance. Mrs. Molyneaux was found to be uninjured, not having been struck by the cart in the fall, but to their amazement and horror Molyneaux was quite dead. He had bled profusely at the mouth. The Coroner was unaccompanied by a medical man. The jury inspected the body, and found that the neck was dislocated, the arm injured, and a considerable portion of one of the thighs slightly bruised, as also several bones broken. Verdict, accidental death. - *Bathurst Free Press, Feb. 9.*

FATAL ACCIDENT AT CARCOAR. - **PATRICK BURNS [BYRNE],** a small settler upon Brown's Creek, near Carcoar, met with his death under the following circumstances:- On Sunday last, he had, in company with others, been to Carcoar, and partaken rather freely of liquor. He left for home between four and five o'clock in the afternoon. When about half a mile from the township, on the road rising the hill, he was cantering at a smart pace, and came in contact with a tree. The force of the concussion threw him from his horse, when he must have fallen perpendicularly against a stone, as the skull was fractured in the centre of the crown. An inquest was held over his remains, at Mr. Simpson's, Shearer's Arms, before **SAMUEL NORTH**, Esq., P.M., and a verdict of accidental death returned. - *Bathurst Free Press, Feb. 9.*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/588, 20/02/1850

MAITLAND CIRCUIT COURT

MANSLAUGHTER. - In the *Mercury* of Saturday last we mentioned the shocking accident that had occurred to a woman named **CHARLOTTE JORDAN**, and her subsequent death in the Maitland Hospital. An inquest was held on the body on Saturday, at the hospital, before **J.S. PARKER**, Esq., coroner, at the close of which the jury returned a verdict of manslaughter against **GEORGE REYNOLDS,** the man who was in the dray with the unfortunate woman, and Reynolds was thereupon committed by the coroner for trial at the ensuing Circuit Court. As the Circuit Court sits so soon we do not publish more than an outline of the case. It appeared from the evidence that Reynolds was in the employ of Mr. **HAMILTON**, and was with another man in charge of a dray and a team of bullocks; Reynolds had met Charlotte Jordan about Maitland, and she urged him to take her up country with her (sic). On Wednesday last Reynolds and his dray-mate, Charlotte Jordan, a man named **JOHN WILLIAMSON**, and a woman named **CATHERINE SANFORD**, went to Morpeth with the dray, which was covered with canvas; at Morpeth they had dinner and some drink, Reynolds and Jordan getting very tipsy, Jordan so much so that on their return she had to be lifted into the dray by Reynolds and Williamson. They all left Morpeth about three o'clock, Jordan riding inside the dray, Reynold's mate (a very deaf man) driving, and the other three walking; after some time Williamson and Mrs. Sanford got inside the dray. From this point the evidence of Mrs. Sanford and Williamson, as given before the coroner, varied from what they deposed before the bench, so that we do not now give either of their versions. The dray had got about two miles on the road from Morpeth when Mrs. **ROWE**, a married woman residing by the roadside, observed that it made a momentary stop as it came near her house, and then went on a yard or two; she had been alarmed by a woman's loud cry as the stoppage occurred, and as soon as the dray moved she heard such a cry that she ran round behind the dray

to look in to see what the matter was; she was then horrified to see Reynolds and Charlotte Jordan lying across the dray in an indecent condition, and Charlotte Jordan's left leg bleeding much from having got out between the wheel and the guard-iron. Mrs. Rowe called out to stop the dray, and Williamson jumping down stopped the team, and Mrs. Rowe and he got the poor woman's leg out of its dangerous position, and into the dray again. Even after this, however, a horseman riding up, and being told by Mrs. Rowe of what had occurred, looked into the dray, and saw most indecent conduct on Reynold's part. The poor woman was taken to the hospital, and her leg found to be fearfully crushed and broken above the knee, and she never recovered sufficiently to allow her leg to be amputated, but died about one o'clock on Friday.

ACCIDENTAL DEATH. - Yesterday an inquest was held at Rosebrook before **J.S. PARKER**, Esq., coroner, on the body of **BOURN RUSSELL**, a boy of seven years old. It appeared from the evidence that he was stopping with his uncle, Mr. **CAMPBELL**, and that on Monday morning young \Russell and a son of Mr. Campbell, named **ALEXANDER [Campbell],** rode together on ponies in a paddock for some time, young Russell being learning to ride; at length something startled the pony young Russell was riding, and he started off at full gallop, the other pony following him; Mrs. Campbell was alarmed at this, and sent another of her sons to endeavour to stop young Russell's pony, but young Russell was thrown off, and his foot catching in the stirrup, he was dragged for 300 yards before his boot came off and released him. When picked up he was quite insensible. Dr. **M'CARTNEY** was sent for, but on his arrival he found that the poor boy was dead, and had been so dreadfully injured about the head that he could not have lived above a minute or two after receiving the injuries. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

SYDNEY NEWS.

I am told that several accidents have occurred. A boat was capsized near Bradley's Head and sunk; there were six persons on board, five of whom were saved; the other, a person named **COOLEY**, was drowned. I am informed that a man named **MARTIN** and his wife, residing at Chippendale, were struck by the lightning while sitting at tea; the man was killed on the spot, and the woman so much injured that he recovery is very doubtful. It is also stated that a child was killed in the same house, ...

Three men were fishing between five and six o'clock in a boat off the Market Wharf; the boat capsized during the squall, and one of the men, named **JOSEPH HARPUR**, was drowned; the body is not yet found.

CORONER'S INQUEST. - On Saturday, an inquest was held at Driver's, the Three Tuns, King-street, on view of the body of **JAMES KINSLOWE**, then lying dead in the Infirmary. Deceased was received into the infirmary on the 31st December last, suffering from a compound fracture of the arm, received, according to his own account, while hooking bags to a chain at Barker's Mills; he said the bag slipped, and he was twice caught up and raised to the hoisting place; he lingered until Saturday, the 16th instant, when he expired. **DONALD M'EWEN, M.D.,** deposed that within a week after the admission of the deceased into the infirmary, he was attacked with phlegmenous erysipelas of the fractured arm; when this was subdued, it was considered necessary to remove the arm, which was done, and the case proceeded favourably until Thursday, when diarrhoea supervened, under which and extreme debility he sunk. Verdict, died from the effects of injuries accidentally received. *Herald, Feb. 18.*

FATAL ACCIDENTS. - On Wednesday an inquest was held at Clarke's, the Circular Quay Hotel, on view of the body of **HENRY THOMAS**, THEN THERE LYING DEAD. **THOMAS MITCHELL**, watchman at Mr. **CAMPBELL'S** store,

deposed that about 2 o'clock on Wednesday morning, he was proceeding to the far end of the Quay, where Mr. Campbell has some oil, when a man, either as soldier or a marine, called out that his mate had fallen down the precipice; witness and another watchman got a light, and on searching, found the deceased lying at the foot of the precipice, but quite dead; the marine or soldier had then gone; the body was then removed to Clarke's public-house, and a doctor sent for, who saw the body in about an hour after its having been found. The jury went to view the precipice alluded to, which is at a very dangerous place, sixteen to eighteen feet high, on the edge of which the footpath runs. The whole of the way, indeed, from the Quay to the Fort, is very dangerous, and has no fencing or other protection to parties passing that way at night. The master-at-arms of H.M.S. *Meander*, deposed, that deceased was a seaman on board that vessel. Dr. **ALLEYNE** deposed that falling from the height described would produce the marks found on the body, and concussion of the brain, which in this case was in all probability the cause of death. Verdict – Died from injuries accidentally received. *Herald, Feb. 15*.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/589, 23/02/1850
IMMIGRANTS. - Yesterday a lad of about thirteen years old, named **EWEN CAMERON,** an immigrant per *Blonde*, died in the depot, from consumption. He had been ailing since the time of his arrival in the colony, and some little while back went to reside with some friends, hoping change of air would benefit him, but finding that he continued sickly, he returned to the depot, to be under regular medical treatment; he still continued to get worse, and died yesterday.
DEATH FROM LIGHTNING. - On Monday morning an inquest was held at Longford's, the Australian Inn, Parramatta-street, on view of the body of **FRANCIS MARTIN**. **WILLIAM ASKEW**, residing at Cooper's-row, Chippendale, deposed that about half-past five o'clock on Sunday afternoon, during the thunderstorm, he heard a crash, and ran out of his house; heard a little girl in Martin's house scream, "My father! My father!" and seeing the door open, witness went in and saw deceased and his wife lying on the floor; raised deceased and got some water, but he was quite dead; a Mrs. **GODDARD** picked up Mrs. Martin, and she is recovering; there was a strong sulphuric smell in the house; witness had no doubt that the lightning had struck the deceased; some of the bricks had gone from the top of the chimney, and the house next door is much shattered – the end is knocked out of it. Dr. **CUTHILL**, surgeon, deposed that from the appearance of the body he had no doubt that death was caused by lightning. Died by having been struck by lightning. *Herald, Feb. 20.*
ACCIDENTS, &c. - During the thunderstorm with which the city was visited on Sunday afternoon, a man named **MARTIN**, and his wife, residing at Chippendale, were struck by the lightning, killing the man and severely injuring the woman. … About the same time, three men were in a boat fishing off the Market Wharf, a sudden gust of wind capsized the little boat, and one of the men, named **HARPUR**, was drowned. On Sunday morning, the body of a woman named **ROSANNA BRENNAN** [might be **Rose Moreton?],** was found drowned near the Flour Company's Wharf. *Herald, Feb. 19.*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/590, 27/02/1850
On the 4th September last, and in lat. 0 [degrees] 35' N, long. 166 [degrees] 14' E., the barque *Millwood,* Captain **DEANE**, picked up a boat belonging to the *George Champlin*, Captain **SWAIN**, of Newport, with Mr. **FRANCIS**, the fourth officer of that vessel, and the boat's crew. They had been several days adrift without food or

water, and a youth of sixteen, named **PATRICK IRVIN**, said to be a native of Sydney, died in twenty-four hours after being taken on board the *Millwood.*

SUDDEN DEATH. - Mrs. **BEADMAN**, who formerly kept an inn near Berrima, dropped down dead one day last week. Her death was produced by natural causes. *Goulburn Herald, Feb.23.*

CORONER'S INQUEST. - An inquest was held on board the ship *Anglia*, on Monday last, on view of the body of **JOHN W. COLLIER**, between fourteen and fifteen years of age, and an immigrant by that vessel to Sydney. **FREDERICK SAUNDERS**, Steward of the *Anglia*, deposed, that on Saturday morning he sent to the deceased about a gill of spirits, for which he had on several occasions during the voyage importuned him, without success. **OCTAVIUS ALFRED BABBAGE**, cabin boy, deposed that he was the messenger by whom the Steward sent the spirits to the deceased, who was cleaning knives for the cuddy at the time; did not see the deceased drink the spirits; about an hour after he was walking the deck without any appearance of intoxication. **CHARLES THOMS**, cook, deposed, that about half-past nine o'clock on Saturday morning, deceased fell, and appeared as if intoxicated, and threw liquor off his stomach. **WILLIAM COLLIER,** father of the deceased, deposed, that on Saturday morning, Thoms, the last witness, told him that his son was ill, on which witness went, took him off the deck, and laid him on a chest; in a quarter of an hour afterwards witness saw him again – he was asleep; deceased did not speak; witness did not think he was tipsy, nor was he aware of his having had anything to drink; after dinner, hearing that deceased was very ill, witness again went to him, and found him apparently in a fit, when he (witness) sent for a doctor; he died on Saturday evening. **SAMUEL KENNEDY**, M.D., and Surgeon Superintendent of the ship, deposed that about twenty minutes past five on Saturday afternoon, he was called to see the deceased; from the appearance he thought deceased was labouring under epilepsy, and treated him accordingly; but upon afterwards being informed that deceased had taken a quantity of spirits, he (Dr. Kennedy) was of opinion that that had brought on a fit of apoplexy, of which he had died. Verdict, died from the effects of having taken a quantity of spirits. *Herald, Feb. 27.*

BATHURST. – FATAL ACCIDENT. - A coroner's inquest was held on Wednesday 20th, at Mr. R. Gray's inn, Kelso, on the body of **PATRICK MURPHY**, who had died the previous night; the deceased had been in the employ of Mr. **WILLIAM CUMMINGS**, at Winburndale; on the morning of that day he had left Kelso, mounted on a young spirited horse, and leading another; when within a short distance of the residence of Mr. **FORD**, at Kelso, the horse deceased was riding reared and threw the man, who falling on his head, his skull was fractured; when down, the horse kicked him in the chest. Doctors **O'CONNELL** and **MACHATTIE** attended him, but could render no effectual aid. He lingered for several hours, and then died. *Herald Correspondent.*

CORONER'S INQUEST. - On Saturday, an inquest was held at Mrs. **SIMES**', the Pilot Inn, Parramatta-street, on view of the body of **JOHN WILLIS REID**, a man of about 70 years of age, who met with his death in the following circumstances;- **THOMAS STANLEY** deposed, that on Friday he and deceased went with a cart to Cook's River for a load of wood; on their way home the mare made a rush, and when deceased went forward to stop the animal, she trampled on his foot, knocked him down, and the wheel of the cart went over his body; deceased was immediately removed to Trimley's public house, where, in about ten minutes from the time of the accident, he expired. Verdict, died from injuries accidentally received. *Herald, Feb. 25.*

SERIOUS ACCIDENT. - On the afternoon of Thursday a carrier named **EDWARDS** was proceeding along the Singleton road with his dray and team, and stopped behind for a time at the foot of Harper's Hill, allowing his son, a boy of twelve years old, to drive on the dray; when he overtook them again, however, he was shocked to find his son lying on the road, almost insensible. The poor lad stated that as they were proceeding up the hill one of the wheels got suddenly into a rut, and the jerk threw him off, when one of the wheels passed over his body. Medical assistance was sent for, and Dr. **M'CARTNEY** went out, and found the poor boy's extremities quite paralysed, and marks of injury on the face, head, and side of the chest, as if the wheel had come heavily against and grazed him, rather than gone over him. Dr. M'Cartney remained with him till the evening, and then returned to a patient at Lochinvar. Yesterday morning he again went to see young Edwards, and found him so seriously ill as to require constant attention, and he therefore directed the father to have him brought in to the hospital.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/591, 02/03/1850
MAITLAND CIRCUIT COURT.
Five cases have been added to the Circuit Court calendar since our publication of Wednesday week, as follows:- **GEORGE REYNOLDS,** manslaughter, committed by the coroner; …
CORONER'S INQUEST. - Yesterday (Wednesday) an inquest was held at Mr. Neal's, the Cross Keys Inn, before **HENRY GLENNIE**, Esq., and a jury of twelve, touching the death of **CATHERINE GOULDING**, an old inhabitant of this district, and generally known by the name of Mrs. **HUNT**. The jury having viewed the body, proceeded to examine the witnesses; **ANNE HUNT**, the daughter of the deceased, **MARY JONES**, a next door neighbour, and Dr. **STOLWORTHY**, when the following evidence was adduced. On the evening of Tuesday, at about four o'clock, deceased's daughter had left he at home, washing, but on her return found that she had gone into Mrs. Jones's, next door, the worse for liquor. Upon going in after her she found deceased lying on the bed, with her face downwards, and breathing heavily. Witness turned deceased over on her side, when shortly after deceased drew one very long breath and expired. Mary Jones deposed that on the evening mentioned deceased came into her house intoxicated, when she persuaded her to return home, which deceased would not do, but sat down upon a chair, from which she shortly afterwards fell off on to the floor. Witness obtained the assistance of two young girls, and had put her on to the bed. Deceased's daughter afterwards came in, and presently discovered she was dead. Dr. Stolworthy's evidence went to show that on the evening of the 27th deceased's daughter came for him, requesting him to come and see her mother, who she said was either dead or dying. Upon his arrival there he found her mother quite dead, and the mouth covered with froth. It was his opinion that deceased died from suffocation. The jury retired for about five minutes, and returned with a verdict of died from suffocation while in a state of intoxication.
CORONER'S INQUEST. - An inquest was on Tuesday held at Mr. Driver's, Three Tuns Tavern, King-street, on view of the body of **WILLIAM SMITH**, then lying dead in the Sydney Infirmary. On Sunday evening deceased was found by constable **KENNY**, lying in a gateway at the lower end of Market-street, quite insensible, and smelling strongly of liquor; he put deceased in a cab and drove to the Infirmary, where he was seen and attended to by Messrs. **NATHAN** and **HOUSTON**, but without avail, as he died early on Monday morning. Mr. Nathan, surgeon, deposed that in his opinion the death of the deceased was the result of congenital apoplexy,

produced in all probability by intoxication – in accordance with which evidence the jury found their verdict. *Herald, Feb.28.*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/592, 06/03/1850
INHUMANITY. - An inquest was held yesterday at the gaol, Darlinghurst, before **JOHN RYAN BRENAN**, Esq., on the body of **ANN TELL**, then and there lying dead. From the evidence of **SUSAN MACNAMARA**, residing in York-street, aunt of the deceased, it appeared that deceased was the wife of Mr. **JOHN TELL**, who formerly kept a public-house at the corner of Pitt and Market-streets, but who a short time since went to California. The deceased had had six children, only one of which was now living; she was about four months gone with child. Her husband left her without any means of support; she employed herself in doing needlework, but her health failed her from fretting at her husband's absence, and the want of proper nourishment; she was turned out of her lodgings on Wednesday, not having the means to pay for them. On Tuesday witness went to the Asylum with deceased; she said she was sure if Mr. **STACK** would take her in she would recover, as it was only weakness she was suffering under; he refused to admit her, and told her to take her to the hospital; he gave witness an order to the infirmary, from whence she was sent to the Colonial Secretary's office, where witness got a signed paper; they refused to take her into the Infirmary, and they kept deceased and witness waiting there from twelve until four o'clock; it was Mr. **HOUSTON** who refused to receive deceased; he said she was deranged, witness told him it was weakness; the deceased fainted in the street; that night she slept in her lodgings; on Wednesday witness went with deceased again to the Infirmary; Dr. **TIERNEY** was there, who wished her to be taken in, but Dr. Houston refused; Dr. Tierney directed deceased to be taken to the Police-office for protection. On Thursday she was brought before the Mayor, who sent a constable with her, stating that he (the Mayor) would pay all the expenses. Dr. Houston still refused to take her in, and she was returned to the police office, when the Mayor again sent her to the Asylum, with an order for admission there; but a stout man (she believes Dr. **RUSSELL**) said, "Go away, go away, you won't be taken in here." Witness went to both places with the deceased, whom the Mayor afterwards sent to the gaol for protection. She subsequently died there. The coroner stated, that on account of the information in the case, it was necessary to sift it to the bottom, he was therefore compelled to adjourn it till two o'clock on the following day, Saturday. *Herald, March 2.*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/592, 06/03/1850
THE DEATH OF MRS. FELL. - On Saturday the inquest on the body of this unfortunate woman (the report of the first day's proceedings will be found on our fourth page) was resumed. It appeared from the evidence of Mr. **E.M. STACK**, master of the Benevolent Asylum, Dr. **J.C. RUSSELL**, resident surgeon of the Benevolent Asylum, Dr. **H. HOUSTON**, house-surgeon of the Sydney Infirmary, Dr. **TIERNEY,** Dr. **RUTTER**, Dr. **O'BRIEN**, and **EDWARD HONNER**, dispenser at the gaol, that on Tuesday last Fell was taken to the Benevolent Asylum by her aunt, but Dr. Russell considering that she was labouring under an aberration of intellect, she was refused, as not being eligible by the rules of that institution; Mr. Stack gave her a subscriber's order for her admission to the Infirmary; there one of the district surgeons saw her, and pronounced her not a fit inmate for that institution; an order for her admission from the Colonial Secretary was procured, conditional on her being a fit subject for treatment, and with this order the unfortunate woman was again taken to

the Infirmary on Wednesday, but Dr. **M'FARLANE** pronounced her not a fit subject for admission, and Dr. Houston gave her a note recommending her admission into the Benevolent Asylum; this note was counter-signed by Mr. **ALLEN**, but the poor woman was refused admission by Dr. Russell, who scored on the note "case of mental aberration;" the Mayor now again appealed to, and he humanely gave her a note requesting her admission in to the Infirmary, and promising to pay every expense himself; Dr. Macfarlane, however, was not there at the time, and Dr. Houston refused to take her in on his own responsibility; Dr. Tierney, who had also tried in vain to aid the poor woman's admission into one or other of the institutions, saw her friends with her in the street on Thursday; after this last appeal, in a state of despair, and on his re commendation she was at last taken to the police office for protection, and was placed in the watch-house; Dr. Rutter saw her lying here in a state of complete prostration and insensibility, and he immediately saw the Superintendent of Police, and suggested that, as neither of the public institutions would receive her, she should be committed as a vagrant, in order to her (sic) admission into the gaol hospital, which was done; Dr. O'Brien, hearing of this, gave instant instructions that on her arriving at the gaol she should be placed in the hospital, and nourishment be given her, as he would be away himself on duty all night; Honner, the dispenser, complied with Dr. O'Brien's instructions, but the poor woman was past all human help, and could not take any nourishment, and when Dr. O'Brien saw her early next morning (Friday), he found her in a dying state, and in a few hours afterwards she expired. Dr. Tierney and Dr. O'Brien performed a *post mortem* examination, the result of which was the conviction that the poor woman died rather of exhaustion than of any particular disease. The jury found that Ann Fell died of exhaustion, arising from want of proper nourishment and timely necessary medical attention, accompanying their verdict with the following rider: - "The jury wish to express their sense of the impropriety both of Dr. Houston and Dr. Russell's continued refusal to admit deceased into either the Infirmary or the Asylum, on the orders of the Mayor and the Colonial Secretary." *Abridged from the Herald, March 4.*

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.

THURSDAY, February 28.

MOSES JONES was indicted for the murder of **MARY ANNE PANTONY**, otherwise **MARY ANNE JONES**, at George's River, on the 29th November. The following evidence was given:- **JAMES SHEPHERD**, constable in the Liverpool police, deposed that he knew the prisoner and Mary Anne Pantony; they lived together in a house at George's River; on the 11th December he went with the chief constable of Liverpool to prisoner's house; the prisoner was not at home, but his son was, and he took them about four miles into the bush, to a place called the Chain of Ponds; there they found a dress, and the skull bones and other partial remains of a human body; the dress was like the one in which the late Mary Anne Pantony used to dress; the flesh had been gnawed off the bones by dogs. There were no marks on the skull; there was a quantity of long hair mixed with grey on the ground; the deceased had similar coloured hair; the body was found on a by-road, about half-way between Brydall's inn and the river; the clothes produced were the same as those witness found by the body; there were five or six teeth in the skull; knew the deceased wanted teeth in the front of her mouth; from information received, he went immediately to a person named **WALLACE**, at Bankstown, where he found the prisoner, and took him in charge, and when the chief constable came up, took him to Liverpool; on the road he said they were treating him very bad, and that they would have to prove it against him yet, as they did not see him do it. The chief constable corroborated this evidence.

JOHN JONES, son of the prisoner, was called, but appeared to be of such imperfect intellect that the Judge declined to take his evidence, though expressing a doubt whether the boy was not shamming. The prisoner was acquitted and discharged.
MANSLAUGHTER. – A female named **MARGARET LYNAM** was on Wednesday committed for trial, by a coroner's jury, for having caused the death of an infant of about three weeks, named **GORMAN.** The evidence disclosed about as great a scene of depravity as can be imagined. It appeared that late on Monday afternoon the prisoner, being seen with the infant in a half naked state near the residence of its parents in John-street, and at which time she was greatly intoxicated, she was prevailed on by a neighbour to go into Gorman's house, and some hour or two afterwards was observed to be lying asleep on a sofa. In the course of the subsequent hour an elder brother of the deceased's, on returning home, found the infant dead, having been suffocated by the prisoner's over-laying it. The father, on being examined, admitted that both he and his wife had been throughout the day in a helpless state of intoxication, and that they had to be awoke from a drunken sleep to be told of the death of the infant. *Bell's Life, 2nd March*.
FATAL ACCIDENT. - An inquest was held on Tuesday, and by adjournment on Wednesday, at Mr. Driver's, the Three Tuns Tavern, King-street, on view of the body of a man named **RICHARD MATTHEWS**, then lying dead at the Infirmary. He was taken to the Infirmary on Saturday evening, in a state of insensibility, having a cut on the left arm and another on the head; he was attended by Dr. **NATHAN** until Monday evening, when he expired. From the evidence of **OWEN MALEY** it appeared that on Saturday the deceased was at work on a building near the gaol, which was undergoing some repairs; he had been drinking all day; and in the afternoon, on descending a ladder with a hod on his shoulder, he missed his step (about the sixth from the bottom), and fell against the door-post, inflicting the wounds on his head and arm. Verdict, died from injury accidentally received while in a state of intoxication. *Herald, March 1*.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/593, 09/03/1850
FATAL ACCIDENT. - **PATRICK MURPHY**, late overseer to Mr. **CUMMINS**, of Clear Creek, met his death under the following circumstances:- Shortly after noon he was discovered lying on the ground near Mr. **FORD**'s garden, at Kelso, in a state of insensibility. Several of the neighbours quickly arrived at the spot, and lifting him from the ground, were carrying him home, when after proceeding a short distance, he wished to walk. After proceeding a few yards, he was unable to do so, and was conveyed by the men to the house of Mr. **RILEY**, of Kelso. Upon entering the house, he exclaimed that he was a dying man, and so it unfortunately proved, for he breathed his last the same evening (Tuesday). The exact manner in which the accident occurred is not known, but the horse he was riding was found a short distance from where he lay with the bridle bit broken. Drs. **MACHATTIE** and **CONNELL** were quickly in attendance, and upon examining him, found the imprint of a horse's hoof upon his breast, which shows that in addition to being thrown, he must have been either kicked or trampled upon by the horse. A severe concussion of the brain had also occurred. His sufferings were very severe up to the time of his death, and he was unable to utter a word after entering the house. An inquest was held over his remains before the district coroner on the following day, and a verdict of accidental death recorded. *Bathurst Free Press, March 2*.
MAITLAND CIRCUIT COURT.
Friday, March 8, 1850

(Before his Honor Mr. Justice Therry)
GEORGE REYNOLDS, committed on the coroner's warrant on a charge of manslaughter, was discharged by proclamation, on the motion of Mr. **PUREFOY.**
SUDDEN DEATH. - On Thursday an inquest was held before **J.S. PARKER,** Esq., coroner, at the Cottage of Content, East Maitland, on the body of **RICHARD ARRISS.** It appeared that deceased, who was between 34 and 35 years old, had long been labouring under a disease of the heart, which caused him on the slightest exertion to become quite exhausted, so that he had to rest for some time to recover himself; he often complained also of palpitation of the heart. Arriss was not however under medical treatment, but resided at the butcher's shop of Mr. **CLIFT**, East Maitland, where he was employed as a cook, more to provide him with a home than for the amount of work he was able to do. On Wednesday evening Arriss appeared cheerful and easier that usual, but on Thursday morning, before breakfast, he appeared to be suffering much pain about the heart; he recovered again, and cooked thr breakfast, of which he partook heartily. During the morning he appeared much as usual, and at one o'clock served up the dinner; he then went back to the kitchen. **RICHARD STAMMERS**, employed at the shop as butcher, at this time left the premises to carry a newspaper to a person, and was away about ten minutes; when he returned he went to the kitchen and was surprised to see Arriss lying on the floor, his had lying towards the fireplace, and a stool just behind him, as if he had been sitting on it, and had fallen forwards. Stammers lifted him, and found that he could not speak, and indeed appeared quite dead; Stammers ran for Mr. **JOSEPH CLIFT**, who was in the shop, and who came instantly, and had Arriss placed on his bed, but he was quite dead; from his position on the floor the witnesses thought he must have died as soon as he had fallen, without a struggle. The sum of £2 was found in his pockets. The jury returned a verdict of death from natural causes.
FATAL ACCIDENT. - On Thursday, early in the afternoon, two men, named **PATRICK SHEA** and **ROBERT PATSFIELD [PATEFIELD],** bullock-drivers in charge of drays belonging to Mr. **W. DANGAR**, stopped with their teams at the Red Lion public-house, Lochinvar; the men were accompanied by a female, a blind man, and a black boy, and all of them except the boy went into the public-house and drank rum until they were intoxicated, Patsfield becoming very drunk; when they left the inn they took a bottle of rum with them to drink on encamping. Patsfield's team was first off, and he had gone but a short distance on the road when a person named **ALEXANDER BOURKE** met the dray; Bourke saw that the black boy was driving the team, that the blind man was sitting on the top of the dray, intoxicated, and that Patsfield was sitting on the pole, so intoxicated that he was swaying about from side to side, in such a dangerous manner that Bourke called to the black boy to put Patsfield on the top of the dray for protection; the black boy, however, did not appear to observe the cry, and the dray passed on. Constable **JAMES DWYER** had seen the drunken bullock-drivers at the in n, and he and the innkeeper had in vain tried to persuade Patsfield to stop for the night, as he was so drunk; Dwyer had gone home, leaving the party at the inn, and returning was alarmed to find that Patsfield was off with his dray, for he was certain the man was not in a fit state to take care of himself, much less of a dray; he therefore hurried after the dray, and met Bourke, who told him what he had seen, and that he thought the man not in a fit state to travel; Dwyer hastened on, but only got sight of the dray at the moment that he heard a cry from the black boy; on getting to the spot Dwyer was shocked to see Patsfield lying in the road, his head literally crushed in, and his brains scattered; the unfortunate man was of course quite dead, and the black boy said he was riding on the pole before he fell; on

Dwyer's rising from examining the body he was surprised to see that the black boy had bolted, no doubt through fright, nor had anything been seen of him up to last evening. The blind man was so drunk that he could give no account, and Shea and his dray were so far behind that he saw nothing of the fatal occurrence. An inquest was jeld on the body yesterday before Mr. **PARKER**, and Dr. **M'CARTNEY** certified that the fracture of the head must have caused instant death, and was such a fracture as would be caused by the wheel of a dray passing over the head. A verdict was returned that deceased came by his death by falling off his dray when in a state of intoxication.
MISSING CHILD, aged 3, Matthews, 23rd February at Barraba.
INSOLVENCY PROCEEDINGS. - The insolvent, **JOHN FELL**, not appearing, his application for a certificate was struck out.
SYDNEY INFIRMARY AND DISPENSARY.
At the monthly meeting of the directors of this institution, held yesterday (Tuesday), the Honourable **E. THOMSON**, President, in the chair, the case of the unfortunate Mrs. **ANN FELL** was brought under notice of the meeting, when, upon the motion of Mr. **SAMUEL LYONS**, seconded by the Reverend **A.A. ATTWOOD**, it was "Resolved that the case of the late Mrs. Fell be referred to the weekly committee to make all due enquiry respecting it, and the alleged conduct of the house surgeon, and report the result to the next monthly meeting." We are glad to find that the committee are acting in this matter, for the public feeling is too strong to allow it to be slurred over. Herald, March 2.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/594, 13/03/1850
ATTEMPT AT MURDER, AND SUICIDE. - Intelligence has been received in town of a frightful catastrophe at Drayton, and which, it appears, was the result of drunkenness. A man named **JEREMIAH MALONEY [MAHONEY]** had been drinking to excess, and on Sunday evening last, during a fit of *delirium tremens*, applied to Mr. **MEHAN**, of the Downs Inn, for liquor, which Mr. Mehan refused to supply; whereupon Maloney went out to the verandah, and took from a bundle which he had placed there a loaded pistol, and levelling it at Mr. Mehan, fired. The ball passed through Mr. Mehan's leg, at the back of the knee. The wretched man then took a second pistol from the same place, and shot himself in the head. We are informed that he lived for nine hours afterwards, under the treatment of a medical gentleman at Drayton; at the end of that time he expired. Our informant states that the wound in Mr. Mehan's leg is not dangerous, being above the knee joint. *Moreton Bay Courier, March 2.*
INQUEST. - An inquest was held on Monday, before **J.S. PARKER**, Esq., coroner, on the body of **JANE VAUGHAN**, a girl aged six years and a half, daughter of **MATTHEW VAUGHAN.** It appeared from the evidence that Vaughan had been seen burying the body on his own ground, and by himself, about Tuesday, the 5th March, and the circumstance was mentioned among the neighbours, and it was also reported that the little girl had been seen well, and playing about, twenty-four hors, and that Vaughan had called in no medical man when she was taken ill. These reports reached the coroner's ears at the close of the week, and he immediately had the body exhumed, that an inquest might be held. It appeared, however, that Vaughan did, about Monday, the 4th, apply to Mr. **NAINBY**, druggist, for advice, telling Mr. Nainby that she had been unwell for some time, and that, hoping to benefit her, he (Vaughan) had given her a dose of rum, or rum and water, and that ever since she had been insensible, or else in a fit. Mr. Nainby gave Vaughan some medicine, telling him that the quantity of rum he mentioned was not enough to injure the child but that

he did not approve of giving children rum. No positive evidence as to when the child died or was buried was adduced. Dr. **WILTON** performed a *post mortem* examination, and found the lungs, stomach, and bowels very much diseased, but no so much but what medical skill could have effected a cure; he found no trace of any spirituous or noxious article, and although great neglect must have been exhibited by the parents, he felt no doubt that death was the result of natural causes. The jury returned a verdict of death from natural causes, and attached a rider strongly blaming the father for not having called in medical assistance when the poor girl was taken dangerously ill.

CORONER'S INQUESTS. - An inquest was on Saturday held at Mr. Frawley's The Harp of Erin, York-street, on view of the body of **JOHN MURRAY**, then lying dead in the receiving warehouse. Deceased was found between one and two o'clock in the morning, by Sergeant **HIATT**, of the Sydney police, on a heap of stones in Goulburn-street, in a state of insensible and helpless intoxication. A barrow was procured, and deceased conveyed to the watch-house. He was placed in a cell, and at about six o'clock Sergeant **CUNNINGHAM**, the watch-house keeper, went in to ascertain his name, but finding him still speechless, had him removed to the guard bed; as deceased was then getting worse, he was taken into the hall, and Mr. **RUTTER** was sent for, who was immediately in attendance; deceased lingered until about half-past three P.M., when he expired. Mr. Rutter, medical practitioner, deposed, that from the history of the case, and the appearance, in his opinion the deceased was labouring from an attack of apoplexy, which caused his death. Deceased was about fifty years of age, and had but recently arrived in Sydney in charge of a team belonging to Mr. **BLACKMAN**, of Mudgee. The jury found a verdict of died from apoplexy while in a state of intoxication. - *Herald, March 11.*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/595, 16/03/1850

A CASE FOR POLICE INTERFERENCE. - We are sorry to learn that the waterhole at the corner of Elgin and West-streets (Early's Terrace), West Maitland, is again in a state dangerous to human life. It will be recollected that on the evening of the 15th of August, 1848, [inquest 16/08/1848] the dead body of a little boy, named **JAMES M'CARTEN [M'CARTER],** was taken out of this hole. Some time before this fatal occurrence **JOHN TURNER,** the well-known omnibus driver, had purchased the allotment of ground at the corner of Elgin and West-streets, and found that his allotment extended into about the middle of what was then an exposed and open waterhole, of considerable depth in the middle, (having years since been dug by brick-makers), and the bottom so retentive that during the seven years we have been in Maitland the water hole has never been dry. Turner was naturally desirous of making the whole of his ground available, particularly as the corner included in the waterhole was a good building situation; he therefore endeavoured to fill up the hole, and unfortunately took advantage of a large heap of stable manure lying at the back of the Albion Inn, and threw in load after load of this manure. A consequence followed which he had never anticipated; after he had persevered for a few weeks the hole, to all appearance, looked as if rapidly filling up, and in a short time the surface presented the appearance of an extensive surface of stable manure, no water being visible except at a small spot in the middle. In the *Mercury* of 16th August, 1848, we recorded that no less than seven accidents had happened that week, by persons, deceived by appearances, inadvertently walking or riding on to this surface, and finding on a sudden that they were sinking in a body of water beneath, and were so entangled and embarrassed by the mixture of manure, straw, and water that they could scarcely make

any effort to save themselves. Fortunately in each case help was at hand and they were assisted out; in one case a young woman walked on and suddenly sunk up to her neck, and had not her cry been heard, and great promptitude been displayed by the persons who ran to her assistance, she must have been quickly smothered. The poor boy, James M'Carten, On Tuesday, the 8th of August, left his home to go to the Maitland races, and was last seen in Elgin-street, sunning along in boyish glee; from that moment he was never seen alive, but some days afterwards it was reported that a cap had been seen in the waterhole, and on the evening of the 15th August the hole was searched, and his dead body found nearly in the middle, where the water was many feet deep under the straw. In all human probability the poor boy had run on to the mass of manure, and had suddenly sunk underneath, where no human aid could reach him. After this fatal occurrence Turner and two other persons fenced in the hole, and in consequence of the request of the coroner's jury, Mr. **DAY**, our then police magistrate, represented the matter to the government; and with their sanction he closely paled round the waterhole, if such it could be called. Since that time Turner resold his ground, and two dwellings have been put up on it in West-street. Recently, some one has removed the portion of the paling fence which stood on private ground, and although as paling fence has been run to the hole even with the lines of Elgin-street and West-street, yet an opening has been left at which any person can enter, and even if this were closed, the children of the families inhabiting the two dwellings have free access to the banks of the hole, which still presents the appearance of mixed dung and water. On Friday evening, the 8th, we hear that a little boy, whose parents live in one of these dwellings, got too far on the hole, and he was saved with difficulty. And we feel persuaded that other accidents will be caused by the deceptive appearance of the hole unless it is again fenced closely in. As that locality, in consequence of the Bourke-land sale, has increased in value as a building site, we suggest to the present proprietor whether it would not pay him to fill the hole up, and make it firm ground, not using manure for the purpose, of course, but broken bricks, coal cinders, or any firm rubbish.

DEATH BY DROWNING. - Last evening, about six o'clock, an elderly man, named **JOHN O'KEEFE**, who had been for the last fortnight hanging about a house in Port Maitland, West Maitland, in a state of drunkenness, and had latterly exhibited a singular manner in roaming about, was seen to walk quietly into the river, opposite Mr. **M'DOUGALL**'s, and to feel his way with a stick, till he suddenly disappeared on reaching the deepest part of the river. A woman, who from a distance had noticed with surprise the singular action of the old man, instantly gave the alarm, and the neighbours hurried to the spot, but from the swift current just below the falls they could not for some time succeed in finding the body. At length with a long pole Mr. **WILLIAM LLOYD** felt the body in about ten or twelve feet of water, and it was immediately raised, having been under water about half an hour; the old man was quite dead. The deceased was recently a shepherd in the employment of Mr. **T. CRAWFORD**, of the Wollombi, and had left about three weeks since, and come down to Maitland. He was an old inhabitant of the colony, having been here since early manhood, and has, we believe, left no relatives in the colony. An inquest will probably be held on the body today.

REPORTED DISCOVERY OF A MURDER ON THE WILLIAM RIVER. - About May, 1844, the wife of a blacksmith named ---------- **MULDOON**, who resided at Penshurst, Upper Paterson, left home to visit her father, ---------- **CAMPBELL**, who resided near Seaham, on the Lower William River. The rivers rose, and she was away some little time, and her husband became enraged, and uttered threats of beating her

on her return for being so long. At length Muldoon also left home, apparently to go for his wife, who was about the same time on her return home, accompanied by her brother, and a man named **RAFFERTY**, who had lived at Penshurst in great intimacy with her. Muldoon called at a friend's house on his way, early in the morning, and conversed for a few minutes, and then proceeded on, but was never seen again. Suspicions were excited against his wife and Rafferty, increased by Mrs. Muldoon's being possessed of a watch believed to have belonged to her husband, but nothing could be found of Muldoon or his remains, nor was anything brought home to the suspected parties. Quite recently, in a singular manner, Mrs. Muldoon, who has since her husband's disappearance lived with Rafferty, has been led or frightened into making a statement which has caused the apprehension of Rafferty and her brother, the first on suspicion of being concerned in the murder of Muldoon, and the second of being present. Subsequently young Campbell has taken the chief constable to a spor about two miles beyond Oakendale, where some bones were found, and on the bones an inquest was commenced before **J.S. PARKER,** Esq., coroner, on Thursday, and a warrant issued for Mrs. Muldoon's apprehension. The inquest was then, we believe, adjourned for a week.

DEATH OF CAPTAIN STANLEY, R.N. - We have the painful duty of announcing the death of Captain **OWEN STANLEY**, of H.M.S. *Rattlesnake*, which took place yesterday morning. Captain Stanley's health had been gradually giving way under the fatigue and anxieties attendant upon the arduous duty of surveying in a tropical climate; on his passage from the Louisiade Islands to Sydney he was very ill; at Cape York he first heard of the death of his brother, Captain **C.E. STANLEY,** R.E., and on his arrival in Sydney he was informed of the death of his father, the late Bishop of Norwich. These bereavements preyed on his mind, and acting upon a system already much debilitated, ended fatally, the gallant officer having been seized with an epileptic fit yesterday morning, and died about eight o'clock. Captain Stanley was well known and much respected in Sydney, where he had a large circle of friends. *Herald, March 14*.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/596, 20/03/1850

SUICIDE. - On Saturday an inquest was held before **J.S. PARKER**, Esq., coroner, on the body of **JOHN O'KEEFE**, the old man whose death by drowning on Friday evening we recorded in Saturday's *Mercury*. The facts are nearly as we gave them. It appeared from the evidence that O'Keefe had, since he left Mr. **CRAWFORD's,** been living in Maitland, keeping about the houses of two women, Mrs. **LUG [LUGG]** and Mrs. **PERCOX,** residing at Port Maitland, getting drunk in their houses, and subsequently being seen lying out on the grass in the sun and dew; this occurred several times, and at length O'Keefe wandered in his conversation, and did not appear to know what he was doing; Mr. Crawford had paid his wages into the hands of Mr. **C. FLOOD**, residing at Port Maitland, and O'Keefe had drawn sums from time to time, and one day last week, in the presence of witnesses, he drew the last sum; O'Keefe was after this seen drunk for the last time in company with these women, although he had been warned to keep away from them; on Friday morning Mr. Flood saw the poor old man lying on the grass as usual, and on speaking to him, found he had had nothing to eat, and at Mr. Flood's invitation the old man accompanied him home, and got breakfast; Mr. Flood advised him to go back to Mr. Crawford's employ, but the old man appeared to have lost all recollection of who Mr. Crawford was. During that day he wandered about, and in the evening about six was seen by two witnesses to kneel down at the river side as if to drink, and, on rising, to walk

quietly into the water, feeling his way with his stick, till he suddenly disappeared; an alarm was given, but it was nearly an hour before the body was recovered, by Mr. **LLOYD,** quite dead. No money was then found in the old man's pockets. The jury returned the following verdict – "We find that the deceased, John O'Keefe, destroyed himself by drowning, while labouring under *delirium tremens,* and we beg to bring the conduct of the females, Mrs. **LUG** and Mrs. **PERCOX**, under the notice of the coroner, to be reprimanded or dealt with as he thinks proper." We believe the coroner intends bringing the conduct of these woman before the bench.

CHARGE AGAINST AN INNKEEPER. - Yesterday **SEPNCER BUTLER**, licensed publican, appeared before the bench, charged with a breach of the Licensing Act, by supplying a glass of rum to **ROBERT PATSFIELD**, Patsfield being drunk at the time. This charge was brought against Mr. Butler, of Lochinvar, in consequence of the circumstances that appeared on the inquest on the body of the unfortunate man, Patsfield, who it will be remembered was killed just beyond Lochinvar by the wheel of his own dray passing over his head, he having apparently fallen off the pole while drunk. The only witness called was constable **JAMES DWYER**, who however had not seen any liquor served to Patsfield or his companions at Mr. Butler's, so that he could not state whether Patsfield left more drunk than he entered it. The bench dismissed the case, the police magistrate telling Mr. Butler that he had thought it his duty to being it forward, and that whenever similar cases were made public in any way he should deem it his duty to cause the publican to be prosecuted.

FUNERAL OF CAPTAIN STANLEY, R.N.

[This officer's death set off a wonderful scramble, and squabble, over 'seniority' in command, with officers and orders, counter-orders, and even ships flying about in all directions!]

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/597, 23/02/1850

DISTURBANCE IN A CHURCH AND ATTEMPTED SUICIDE DURING THE SERVICE. - On last Sunday afternoon, shortly after the commencement of the service, a person named **JOHN M'GRATH**, or **THOMPSON**, entered the temporary Presbyterian Church, corner of Pitt and Bathurst streets, and advanced nearly up to the pulpit, when he threw himself down, exclaiming, that he was a lost sinner, &c., and appeared to be in a state of mental derangement; he was requested to sit down and be quiet, or that he would be turned out. He took a seat and remained quiet in a low melancholy mood, and constantly putting his hands in his pockets. Fortunately, Mr. **GRANT**, who sat in the seat behind him and was watching his movements, saw the end of a razor sticking out of one of his pockets, which he had the presence of mind instantly to abstract, fearing that the owner might make some dangerous use of it either upon himself or some of the congregation; the man kept quiet for some minutes longer, but was continually feeling in his pockets as if for something he might have. In a minute ot two after this, he took out a knife and made several attempts to stab himself before any one could reach him, but he was at length secured, and handed over to Inspector **PEARCE** and some constables who were promptly on the spot, who with difficulty conveyed him to the watch-house; fortunately the knife was very blunt, so that he did not do himself much damage – had the razor not been secured, he would in all probability have destroyed himself. The scene in the church baffles description – the service was obliged to be immediately abandoned. The unfortunate man was yesterday brought before the Mayor and Mr. **GILCHRIST**, and ordered to find sureties for his good behaviour for six months. He stated to the bench that he left his

house yesterday with the intention of going into the bush to put an end to his life, and that it was by mere accident he entered the church. *Herald, 19th March.*

CORONER'S INQUEST. - On Saturday afternoon an inquest was held at Mr. Driver's, the Three Tuns Tavern, King-street, on view of the body of **THOMAS YARD**, about thirty years of age, then lying dead in the Sydney Infirmary, where he was received on the 12th instant, and died on Friday evening. From the evidence it appeared that deceased was cook on board the *Penyard Park.* On Friday week he had occasion to go to the coal hole, and in a few minutes came up on deck limping, and said that he had fallen down with the basket underneath him; on Sunday, he complained of severe pain across his loins, and was unable to perform his work; he lay in his berth, very ill, until his removal to the Infirmary; deceased was quite sober at the time of the accident. Dr. **MACEWEN** deposed that deceased came to his death by rupture of the urethra, and the consequent extravasation of the urine; a fall such as had been described would produce those injuries. Verdict, died from injuries accidentally received. *Herald, March 18.*

OBITUARY

DEATH OF **JANE EVERETT**, 57 years in the Colony, later midwife and nurse.

THE LATE MRS. MOUNTFORD CLARKSON. - It will be recollected by the readers of the *Herald* THAT ABOUT SIX WEEKS SINCE Mrs. **MOUNTFORD CLARKSON** died very suddenly, which at the inquest was attributed to her having eaten heartily of a dish to which she was partial, and which in her weakly state would be likely to cause death. Yesterday, in consequence of reports reaching the coroner attributing her death to another cause, Mr. **BRENAN** issued his warrant for the exhumation of the body with a view to analysation of the contents of the stomach. *Herald, March 19.* [Marriage 36B/1850: Mountford Clarkson to Mary Smith.]

THE MURDER OF THOMAS MULDOON.

Inquest by **J.S. PARKER,** Esq., coroner; 3 columns.

INQUEST. - In the *Mercury* of the 2nd instant we reported that a poor boy named **MATTHEW EDWARDS** had been received into the Maitland Hospital, having been seriously injured by, as he stated, his falling off his father's dray, and the wheel going over his chest, as the dray was going up Harper's Hill; his father was at the moment engaged in bringing up a stray bullock, and did not observe the accident, nor hear of it till he found his son lying on the road. In the hospital no external marks of injury could be observed on young Edwards, except a very slight mark on the chest, and a bruised line on the neck, which the poor lad said was where the wheel went over; one leg was, however, paralysed from the hip downwards. The boy lingered on until he expired on Tuesday morning last. An inquest was held on the body on Wednesday morning, before **J.S. PARKER**, Esq., coroner, when the above facts were stated; Dr. **M'CARTNEY**, who was first called in to see the patient, and subsequently attended him in the hospital, said that the marks of injury were not such as would enable him to state the cause of death. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death, from injuries received from a dray wheel passing over deceased's chest.

THE LATE ATTEMPT AT MURDER, AND DETERMINED SUICIDE, AT DRAYTON. - We have received from our correspondent the following particulars of the above awful event, which was briefly reported in our last. It will be seen that our first information was correct in the material points, but that there was a mistake in the man's name:- On Sunday, 24th February, this place was the scene of a most fearful tragedy, which threw the whole of the inhabitants into a state of the greatest consternation. A man named **JEREMIAH MAHONEY**, who had been drinking about here for some days previously, was in Mr. **MEHAN**'s taproom on the day

alluded to, and made several applications for grog, which were invariably refused. Being highly incensed at this, he became very disorderly, and was turned outside the taproom. After leaving the tap, he remained some time on the verandah, and spoke very violently against the landlord for refusing to supply him. After talking for some time, he went to the paddock, caught his horse, and brought him in front of the tap door, and saddled him. It was remarked by parties about the place that he had a brace of pistols, but as it is not unusual for bushmen to be armed, and as the man appeared to be quite sober, no evil consequences could be anticipated by his possessing them. On the eve of his departure (as it was thought) he took a bag out of this bundle, containing about three pounds of sugar, and threw it at the tap door. This passing unnoticed, he threw stones at the tap, on which Mr. Mehan came out, and seating himself by the door, told Mahoney that if he did not desist and leave the premises, he would send for the constables and put him in the lock-up. This, instead of acting as a sedative, inflamed him the more; and at last Mr. Mehan despatched a messenger for the constables. Scarcely had the man started on his errand, when Mahoney took up one of the pistols, which were lying on the verandah at the time, and, at a distance of about seven feet, fired at Mr. Mehan; the ball took effect about an inch above the inside of the left knee, and then, horrible to relate, with the greatest coolness, and before any of the paralysed spectators could interpose, he snatched up the other pistol, stepped back about two paces, and placing it with his left hand to his forehead, pulled the trigger; the ball entered about half an inch above the left eyebrow, but must have taken an upward tendency, as he survived nearly sixteen hours after he shot himself. In a few seconds after the shots were fired, Dr. **HOPKINS** was on the ground and took the necessary steps for stopping the haemorrhage of Mr. Mehan's wound. On examination, it appeared that the ball had entered in a slanting direction, and, passing under the bone, had come out three inches higher up on the other side, fortunately without materially injuring the bone or any of the larger blood vessels. Considering the close proximity of the parties, Mr. Mehan's escape was very narrow, and was probably owing to the fact of the pistol being wretchedly out of repair. The lock and trigger were very dirty and rusty, and the effort made in discharging the weapon must have distracted the line of aim, and have considerably depressed the muzzle, otherwise I cannot account for the ball having missed Mr. Mehan's body. Under the care of Dr. Hopkins I am glad to inform you that Mr. Mehan is rapidly recovering. Mahoney being removed on a stretcher to an out house, shortly after he recovered his consciousness, and being asked by the chief constable if he knew what he had been doing, replied "Yes," and added, he was sorry to hear he had not shot the b----- b------. He spoke very coherently on every subject that was mentioned, and gave the chief constable an accurate account of the different items of property in his bundle, which, on subsequent examination, was in the minutest particulars found to be correct. On being asked whether he would not allow the prayers of his church (being a Roman Catholic) to be read him, he refused, stating that he considered it all gibberish, and that, at all events, it could be of no use to him. He told the chief constable where he had loaded his pistols; in fact, gave a history of his life, and if his tale can be credited, from his early youth he must have been an abandoned and dissipated character. He shot himself at about five o'clock p.m., at about six he recovered his consciousness, and from that time until twelve o'clock he was perfectly sensible; the most sceptical, hearing him talk, could not doubt it. About the last mentioned hour he was asked again why he fired at Mr. Mehan, and if he felt any contrition for his acts. He replied that he shot Mr. Mehan because he refused to give him a glass of rum on trust, and that, far from being sorry for having shot him, he was only sorry that he did not make

a complete job of it, and also kill the constable who was coming to take him to the lockup. He recognised the chief constable by his voice (I think after he received the ball he lost his sight), and told him that he had been talking with him at the butcher's some days before, which was correct; and it was the more remarkable as it was the only time they had ever met. Shortly after, about one o'clock on Monday morning, he fell into convulsions, which did not cease until nine o'clock, and then he died, suddenly in great pain. The above particulars were elicited in the course of an inquiry which was held before **CHARLES MALLARD**, Esq., J.P. The man was from thirty-six to forty years of age; had a very determined stern expression of countenance; and, by his own account, had been nineteen years in the colony. *Moreton Bay Courier, March 9.*

THE LATE MRS. CLARKSON. - In our yesterday's issue we mentioned that the body of the late Mrs. **MOUNTFORD CLARKSON** had been exhumed, by the order of the coroner, in order that further enquiries might be made relative to the cause of her death. Yesterday a Jury was impannelled at Mr. Nixson's, Museum Hotel, for the purpose of the inquiry. After the Court had been opened in due form, the coroner stated that he had directed the body of the late Mrs. **JEMIMA CLARKSON** to be exhumed, in consequence of circumstances which had transpired since the first enquiry of a peculiar nature. It would not, at that stage of the investigation, be expedient to state what those circumstances were; but they would be fully explained to the jury at their next sitting, after the contents of the stomach should have been properly analysed. For this purpose an adjournment of a week would be necessary, and he did not purpose, therefore, to do more than initiate the enquiry on the present occasion. The Coroner having concluded, the jury retired to view the body. On their return to the jury-room the body was identified as that of the mate Mrs. Clarkson, by **WILLIAM JARDINE**, who had placed her in her coffin at the time she was interred, six weeks ago. The coroner then directed the body to be re-interred, and adjourned the inquest until Tuesday, second of April, to afford time for analysing the contents of the stomach. The jury were bound over to attend in the usual manner; and before discharging them for the day, the coroner cautioned them most impressively not to pay the slightest of attention to any reports which might reach them in the interim with reference to the matter. *Herald, March 20.*

ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE

To the Editor of the Maitland Mercury.

SIR – My attention having been called to a report of an inquest which appeared in your paper of the 15th instangt, held on the body of my daughter, **JANE VAUGHAN**, before **J.S. PARKER**, Esq., wherein it is stated "that I had been seen privately burying the body on my own ground about Tuesday, the 5th March;" may I beg the favour, in justification of my character, and as a means of alleviating me feelings and those of my affected wife, that you will give insertion to the following facts.

My child died on the night of Tuesday, the 5tgh of March, at twelve o'clock. The next morning, at six o'clock, I went to Mr. **HOUSHOLD,** an undertaker residing at Hinton, and who has charge of the burial ground. I informed him of her death, and agreed with him for making her coffin and opening the ground. The funeral took place on Wednesday evening, at five o'clock, in the presence of Mr. Houshold and several other persons.

Your report also stated "that there was no positive evidence as to when the child died or was buried."

Now I positively assert that the coroner asked me those questions before the jury, and that I answered them correctly; and that if he had any doubt of the truth of my statement he could have examined Mr. Houshold, who was in attendance, and to whom he gave directions to have the body exhumed, but that he did not do so.

As to the rider placed to the finding of the jury, in which they are made to attach blame to me for not having called in medical assistance, &c., I beg to state that the child was ailing since the month of August last, and that she had been seen several times by a medical man; and on the night of her decease, having been informed that Dr. **BROWN** was at Hinton, I went in search of him to several places (accompanied by my brother), but did not succeed in finding him, otherwise I would have solicited his assistance. On returning to my house the child died in my arms, after having been taken out of a hot bath.

I beg to refer you to the attached certificate of Mr. Houshold's, in proof of the correctness of my statements –

I have the honor to be, Sir, your obedient servant,

His
Matthew + Vaughan
Mark

Hinton, March 19, 1850

I hereby certify that the above named Matthew Vaughan called on me at 6 a.m. on the 6th of March, informing he of the death of his daughter, Jane Vaughan, and requesting of me to make her a decent coffin, and about 4 p.m. the same day it was conveyed to his house in a cart; I followed, and saw the child put into her coffin, decently dressed; there were several persons present; it was then put into a cart, followed by myself and four other persons to the burying ground at Hinton; was there decently interred, in the presence of myself and several other persons.

R. HOUSHOLD,
Undertaker.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/598, 27/03/1850

CHARGE OF BEING COMMON SCOLDS. - Yesterday **MARY LUGG** and **LOUISA PERCOX** appeared before the bench, charged with being common scolds. These were the two women whose names were mentioned in the report of the inquest on the body of **JOHN O'KEEFE**, published in last Wednesday's *Mercury*, and they were now brought before the bench by the Coroner, in consequence of the rider the jury appended to their verdict. Mr. **PARKER** deposed to the nature of the evidence then given before him, and he called two witnesses, who, however, could not state anything positively of the two women of their own knowledge, further than that they were often heard quarrelling and using indecent language, and that the unfortunate man O'Keefe was frequently seen drunk about their houses. The bench dismissed the case for want of sufficient evidence, cautioning the women with regard to their future conduct.

HUNTER RIVER DISTRICT NEWS

[From Our Correspondents]

WOLLOMBI

CORONER'S INQUEST. - On Friday last an inquest was held by the coroner, Major **SULLIVAN**, J.P., and a jury of twelve, to inquire into all particulars touching the death of **JOHANNA BOCOCK**, a girl of about ten years of age, then lying dead in a house in the township. The father, mother, and a sister of the deceased, with Dr.

DUMOULIN, were examined, from the evidence of whom it appeared that on Patrick's Day last the girl was seated with her sister on her father's dray, returning to Watagan Creek from Maitland, her father driving the team, and her mother walking a little way behind; that when within two miles of the township the girl, unknown to her father, jumped off the dray, and, unfortunately, in so doing, fell behind one of the pole bullocks, from which she received a kick in the head, which fractured her skull. Dr. Dumoulin was quickly in attendance, who, on examining the wound, pronounced her case as hopeless. She was then conveyed to the township, where she lingered until the morning of the inquest, when she expired. No blame could be attributable to the parents in this melancholy affair. The poor mother appeared in a state bordering on distraction. Verdict, accidental death. March 26, 1850.

DEATH BY DROWNING. - On Wednesday last, Mrs. **PHILLIPS**, a resident at Balmain, near the waterside, went to visit a sick neighbour, leaving the house and three young children I n charge of her eldest daughter. About noon, the girl had to fetch some water, and on returning missed her brother, **GEORGE**, two years of age, and sent one of the others to look after him, the messenger returned with the intelligence that he was in the water. The poor girl made an alarm, when **THOMAS LANGFORD**, who was at work near the spot, rushed into the water and secured the body, but life was extinct. An inquest was yesterday held at Marshall's, the Balmain Hotel, when a verdict of accidental drowning was returned.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/599, 30/03/1850

THE BLACKS ON THE CLARENCE. - The sheep station of Mr. **THOMAS SMALL**, sen., of the Clarence River, was attacked in February by the blacks, and the hutkeeper, **JOHN GREY**, an exile, killed, the station plundered, and a number of sheep killed; and also a number of cattle killed at the head station. The station of Mr. **AITKEN** was also attacked, and a woman so severely beaten that fears are entertained for her recovery. *Sydney Morning Herald.*

DEATH OF AN AGED BLACK WOMAN. - On Wednesday morning an aged black gin, named **MAMMY**, was observed lying dead under a tree on the bank of the river, at the back of Mr. **LAWLESS'S** premises, West Maitland. In the course of the day an inquest was held on the body before the coroner, **J.S. PARKER,** Esq., when it appeared from Dr. **EDYE**'s evidence that her neck was dislocated, which had caused death; the old woman was perfectly blind, and it was supposed must have fallen down the bank, but no person appeared to have known of the accident till the body was seen lying there in the morning. The jury returned a verdict of death from dislocation of the neck, but how that occurred there was no evidence to show.

FATAL ACCIDENT. - On Thursday evening, about eight o'clock, **JOHN TINLING**, a pensioner, residing at Hinton, took his horse to water, and afterwards gave him some hay near his own door; at this time three boys were playing near, one of whom was **STEPHEN TINLING**, nearly eight years old; Mrs. Tinling called to her son for some reason, and he ran towards the door, passing close behind the horse, who kicked out, and struck the lad above the left ear; Mrs. Tinling ran out on hearing a cry from her son, and picked him up, and took him in-doors; he was then quite able to walk, and Tinling having examined the wound made by the kick, thought it did not appear serious, and the boy not complaining much, Tinling gave him a little spirits and water and put him to bed. At about half-past ten o'clock, Tinling went to bed himself and took his son in his arms; he fell asleep, but was awakened between twelve and one o'clock by the movements of his son, whom he found dying, and who expired in a few minutes afterwards. An inquest was held on the body yesterday, before Mr.

PARKER, when evidence to the above effect was given, and a verdict returned of accidental death by a kick from a horse.

MRS. A HUGHES HALLETT. - This lady left the colony for California in the *William and Mary*. The sureties, it is said, have paid the amount of their respective bonds. The result proves that the case was one in which bail ought not to have been granted. *Herald, 25th March.*

FATAL ACCIDENT. - We regret to state that a youth, aged 17, named **FRANCIS GRANT**, was thrown from his horse on Collector race course, on Tuesday last, and killed on the spot. It appeared from the evidence adduced at the inquest held on the body, that deceased, in company with a stockman named **WILLIAM JONES**, were riding round the course after the races were over, when suddenly turning inside the circle, the horses sunk in the loose black earth, and falling, pitched their riders. Grant was thrown on his head, and his horse fell on top of him; he was instantly killed. Jones was much injured by the fall, but we believe not seriously. *Goulburn Herald, March 23.*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/600, 03/04/1850

MRS. ANGELINA HUGHES HALLETT. - "This lady left the colony for California in the "William and Mary." - *Sydney Morning Herald, March 25th*. Did she, indeed? Oh! Mr. *Herald* – Mr. *Herald, Oh!* – you must or ought to know better. At any rate *we* do, and we repeat that Mrs. Hallett is at the present moment residing *within rifle shot of the George-street police-office!* We distinctly impeach our contemporary's veracity in such statement. The second asseveration of our elder brother, that "the sureties of the lady have paid the amount of their respective bonds," is equally true – i.e., altogether false. One of them we know to be *non est.* - *Bell's Life, March 30.*

CORONER'S INQUEST. - An inquiry was yesterday held by the Coroner, Mr. **J.R. BRENAN**, on board H.M.S. *Rattlesnake*, on view of the body of **JOHN WILLIAM ROWE**, about 40 years of age, then lying dead on board that vessel. Lieutenant **H.G. SIMPSON** deposed that the body, the subject of the inquiry, was that of **J.W. ROWE**, who was cook on board the *Rattlesnake*; about ten o'clock this (Tuesday) morning he was informed that one of their men was drowned off the jetty at Macquarie Fort, when he had a boat manned and proceeded thither; found there the body of the deceased lying at the bottom of the water, with the clothes on, and quite dead. **EDWARD JACKSON,** a seaman on board the *Rattlesnake,* deposed that about a quarter before ten on Monday night he saw deceased at the Circular Quay Hotel, not quite sober; on parting, deceased went towards the vessel and witness proceeded up the town. **JOHN MATTHEWS**, a seaman on board the *Rattlesnake,* found the deceased's cap on the jetty about a quarter past eleven, about a dozen yards from the spot where next morning the body of the deceased was found. Assistant Surgeon **SLOSS**, of H.M.S. *Rattlesnake,* was of opinion from the evidence and the appearances of the body that death was the result of suffocation from drowning. Verdict, found drowned, but how or by what means there is no evidence. *Herald, March 27.*

CORONER'S INQUEST. - On Thursday last, an inquest was held at Hancock's, Parramatta-street, on view of the body of **THOMAS OLIVER**, then lying dead at the Benevolent Asylum; **JOHN BELL** being in custody. It will be recollected that Bell was apprehended by Inspector **M'COOK** on the 18th instant for a violent assault on Oliver, a man of from 60 to 70 years of age, when Bell stated that he and Oliver had had some words the previous evening about money matters, when he was collared by the old man, and in self-defence gave him a push which caused him to fall against a

window sill, immediately after which, he (Oliver) rolled up his bed and clothes and walked away. Oliver was found in an empty house at Cook's River, in a state of insensibility, the next morning, whence Mr. M'Cook had him removed to the Benevolent Asylum, where he lingered until last Wednesday, when he expired. From the evidence adduced it seems highly probable that the old man was beat by someone subsequently to his leaving Bell's house, for it would be next to an impossibility that he should have carried away anything from the house had he there received such a beating as would produce all the external marks of violence which were spoken of by Mr. Surgeon **RUSSELL**, who "never saw a body exhibiting more marks of violence than did that of Oliver." There was, however, no evidence of him having been in any company after leaving Bell's house. The jury found a verdict of manslaughter against John Bell, who was thereupon committed by the coroner to take his trial on that charge. *Herald, March 30*.

SYDNEY NEWS.

The town is in a great state of excitement from the circumstance of Mr. and Mrs. **CLARKSON** being in custody on the coroner's warrant, in consequence of poison (sulphate of zinc, I am told) having been found in the stomach of the late Mrs. Clarkson, whose body was exhumed about a fortnight since. Evidence will be taken relative to this matter at an adjourned inquest to be holden to-morrow at the Museum Hotel, Woolloomooloo road. Two other persons have since been apprehended.

It is reported that on Wednesday night last a seaman belonging to H.M.S. *Rattlesnake*, as he was going towards Fort Macquarie, in order to get on board his vessel, saw two men closely pursuing another, whom they overtook, and having stabbed him threw the body into the water. The sailor ran after the two men, who outstripped him and escaped. Diligent search has been made for the body, which has not yet been found. [see later, Maitland Mercury 8/602, 10/04/1850]

SUDDEN DEATH. - A man named **SPENCER**, residing in Cumberland-street, but who had been employed on board the *Ajax*, lying in Neutral Bay, on board which vessel he had been accustomed to sleep during the period of his employment, was between eight and nine o'clock on Thursday evening discovered, as he lay in his bed, to be in a fit, and to have lost the use of one side. He was brought on shore as quickly as possible, and put into a cab for conveyance to his own house, before reaching which, however, he expired. An inquest was held on the body, and a verdict returned of died by the visitation of God. *Herald, April 1*.

THE LATE MRS. CLARKSON. - The gentleman to whom is committed the task of analysing the stomach, &c., of the late Mrs. **JEMIMA CLARKSON**, having made affidavit that she came to her death from the effects of poison which had been administered to her, the coroner on Saturday issued his warrant for the apprehension of **MOUNTFORD CLARKSON** and **MARY ANN CLARKSON**, late **WILSON**, on suspicion of having caused the death of the unfortunate woman. *Herald, 1st April.*

FATAL ACCIDENT. - A man named **[JOHN] DEVINE**, residing in Ipswich, met his death on Monday last in a most distressing manner. He was carting water, and the horse he was driving, being what is commonly called a "jib," refused at first to start with the load, but at length, making a rush, jammed the poor man between a post and the point of one of the shafts, which struck him in the breast, and inflicted an injury of which he died soon afterwards. The unfortunate deceased has left a large family. *Moreton Bay Courier, March 23.*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/601, 06/04/1850

CORONER'S INQUEST. - On Tuesday an inquest was held at Oatley's, the Sportsman's Arms, Pitt-street, on view of the body of **THOMAS SMITH FITCH**. Between 7 and 8 o'clock on the preceding evening deceased was passing along Pitt-street, when he fell down in a fit; he was removed into Oatley's public-house, and Mr. Surgeon **NELSON** being sent for, he was in immediate attendance. Mr. Nelson deposed that he found the deceased labouring under severe pain over the region of the heart, and in violent cold perspiration; the countenance perfectly blanched, and no pulse at the wrist; he sent for Dr. **FULLERTON**, with whom he consulted, and such remedies were adopted as it was thought requisite. About three o'clock he died, the result of natural causes. A verdict was found in accordance with Mr. Nelson's evidence. *Herald, April 4.*

SYDNEY NEWS

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.

MARGARET LYNAM was indicted for causing the death of a male-infant, by overlaying it while she was in a state of intoxication, at Sydney, on the 25th February. This case was fully reported at the time. **SAMUEL** and **MARGARET GORMAN** were left laying intoxicated in their house, when the prisoner, who was also intoxicated, was seen carrying about the child, and afterwards sitting in Gorman's house with the child on her knee; subsequently, a lad, a son of Gorman's, entered the house, and saw prisoner get up from the bed and run out, and the lad, on looking at the bed, found the baby lying there, dead; the prisoner came in again immediately after crying, and saying she had laid on the child and killed it, and must suffer for it. Guilty; twelve months imprisonment. *Abridged from the S.M. Herald.*

THE LATE MRS. CLARKSON. - The adjourned inquest upon the disinterred remains of the late Mrs. **CLARKSON** was held yesterday, but was further adjourned until Friday next, without any evidence being taken beyond so much as was necessary to bring the husband of deceased and his present wife legally before the court. The whole of the jurors attended punctually at the Museum Hotel, and the Coroner proceeded at once to re-open the investigation, by stating his intention to confine the evidence on that day to such testimony as was necessary to bring into formal custody the persons whom he had caused to be apprehended on suspicion of having been accessory to Mrs. Clarkson's death. He then called constable **SINGLETON**, the police officer attached to his department, who deposed to the arrest of Mountford Clarkson, and Mary Ann, his wife, on Saturday last. Witness was in company with Inspector **PEARCE** and one or two other constables when he apprehended them, and at the time of so doing, he read the warrant wherein the accusation which led to their apprehension was set forth. Clarkson, who was in bed when they went there, declared his innocence. Mrs. Clarkson also, who seemed much agitated, denied knowing anything about the matter. Witness had known Mountford Clarkson for many years, and believed him to have been the husband of deceased. Believed the prisoner Mary Ann Clarkson to be the present wife of Mountford Clarkson. She said she would go anywhere with him, to an iron-gang if necessary. Before the examination of this witness, Mr. and Mrs. Clarkson arrived from the gaol in a cab, and were placed before the court. They declined, however, to put any questions to the witness, reserving their right of cross-examination until the adjourned sitting, when the case would be more fully gone into, and the prisoners would be defended by counsel. It was intimated that Mr. **NICHOLS** had been retained to defend them, and that Mr. **HOLROYD** would watch the proceedings at the inquest on their behalf. The Coroner informed them that they were both charged with the wilful murder of Jemima Clarkson, but that from the nature of the information then before him it was necessary that they should be further

remanded to gaol until Friday next, to afford time for still further enquiry. He did not intend, he said, to proceed to the examination of witnesses on that day, inasmuch as there were one or two who could not on that occasion be brought before the court; but when the case was gone into in detail, the witnesses might all be cross-examined by the prisoners or their counsel; and that if the case seemed to require it, he should have no objection to hear witnesses for the defence. Although he properly abstained from going into detail on that oc casino, he felt bound, he said, to state that he had sufficient evidence before him to warrant him in pursuing his present course. He had thought it prudent to abstain from taking any portion of the evidence that day for two reasons – first, because these partial enquiries had a tendency to defeat the ends of justice; and, secondly, because it was unjust to the prisoners to make public evidence as to facts which might tend to inculpate them, without at the same time going into other evidence which might have a reverse effect. He believed that on Friday, the day to which the inquest would be adjourned, the whole of the evidence might be gone through, and the case terminated one way or another. With reference to Mrs. **PICKERING,** who was now present and in custody, the coroner stated that he did not mean at present to bring her formally before the court. She had been arrested in consequence of some fugitive words which had escaped her, tending to afford grounds for belief that she had a personal knowledge with reference to the hidden circumstances of this melancholy affair. Perhaps at the next sitting of the court he might put her in the witness box, or it might be that he might deem it necessary to place her at the bar, if upon enquiry among other witnesses it should appear that the suspicion against her assumed a more grave aspect than at present. The inquest was then adjourned until one o'clock on Friday next, when it will be held at the police office, George-street, and the prisoners were remanded to gaol. Their demeanour throughout was tolerably collected, and both repeatedly protested their innocence. The case caused much excitement. The room in which the court sat was crowded to excess, and great numbers assembled in the street. By the latter the prisoners were saluted with yells as they entered the carriage for the purpose of returning to gaol. In dismissing the jury, the coroner again cautioned them most strongly against allowing their minds to be prejudiced by any of the current reports having reference to this case. *Herald, April 3*.

THE CASE OF THE LATE MRS. FELL. - The board of directors of the Sydney Infirmary, at a full meeting held yesterday, adopted unanimously a report of the weekly committee respecting the case of the late Mrs. **FELL**, which had been referred to the committee. The report stated that the committee had received the written statements of Doctors **MACFARLANE** and **TIERNEY**, and of Dr. **HOUSTON**, the House Surgeon, and they were of opinion that Dr. Houston was justified in his first refusal to admit Mrs. Fell, because the case neither required medical nor surgical aid; that the statements of Mrs. Fell's aunt on the following day, to the physician of the week, that her case was one of pure destitution and not of disease, justified the physician in deciding that the case was not one for admission into the Infirmary; that after that decision Dr. Houston was bound by the rules not to admit Mrs. Fell withour further direction from the physician of the week; but the committee, nevertheless, in a case that became so pressing, and where the patient had been repeatedly refused by the Asylum, and had been also recommended by different parties for admission into the Infirmary, regretted that the House Surgeon should not have ventured to disregard the strict letter of his orders, and admit Mrs. Fell, in the confidence that the step would be approved by the committee. Finally, the report recommended that in future power should be given to meet such extreme cases, and the following resolution was adopted

by the meeting, nearly in the words of the concluding paragraph of the report:- "In consequence of the painful occurrence connected with the case of the late Mrs. Fell, and in accordance with the recommendation of the weekly committee, the board of directors give full power to the Secretary, or chairman of the weekly committee, to order for admission into the Infirmary any doubtful or urgent cases such as Mrs. Fell's, until proper provision can be made for them, either under the advice of the medical officers, or by correspondence with the Benevolent Asylum; all such cases to be reported to the weekly committee for their approval." *Abridged from the Herald, April 3.*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/602, 10/04/1850
SYDNEY NEWS.

The particulars of the inquest as to the death of the late Mrs. **CLARKSON** you will find fully reported in this day's *Herald*. Clarkson and his wife were both in custody; the former was discharged and the latter committed to take her trial for murder. Any comment upon this matter would, in the present state of affairs, be improper.

THE INQUEST ON MRS. CLARKSON

(Abridged from the S.M. Herald, April 8.)

The adjourned inquest on the body of the late Mrs. **CLARKSON** was resumed on Friday, in the police-office, and concluded on Saturday evening. On Friday the Coroner commenced the proceedings by detailing the circumstances of the case. Jemima Clarkson, wife of Mountford Clarkson, died suddenly on the 3rd February, and an inquest was held on her remains the following day, and a verdict of death from natural causes was returned, no suspicion appearing, nor a *post mortem* thought necessary. Near Mr. Clarkson's house resided a person named **HENRY CANNY**, with whom had lived for many years a woman known as Mrs. Canny, and who had had children by Mr. Canny. Mrs. Clarkson and Mrs. Canny, it appeared in evidence, had been on such friendly terms that they frequently exchanged or sent each other presents of delicacies such as tarts, &c. Within a very short time after the death of his wife Jemima, Mr. Clarkson married Mrs. Canny. Rumours were circulated that the first Mrs. Clarkson had been poisoned, and these rumours gathered such strength that Mr. **BRENAN**, the Coroner, had her body exhumed, and an inquest was commenced on it (on the 18th March), after which the body was opened, the stomach and other necessary parts removed, and handed to Mr. **NORRIE**, the analytical chemist, to be analysed. The body was then re-buried. The result of Mr. Norrie's analysis having been made known to the Coroner, Mountford Clarkson and Mary Ann Clarkson, his wife, were apprehended on the charge of poisoning Mrs. Jemima Clarkson. Subsequently, a Mrs. **CATHERINE PICKERING** was apprehended in consequence of some words she dropped, but on the resumed inquest she was examined as a witness. Mr. **HOLROYD** attended to watch the proceedings for the prisoners; Attorney, Mfr. **G.R. NICHOLS.** The evidence taken was very lengthy, and the following is only an abstract of it.

Mr. **JAMES S. NORRIE**, analytical chemist, deposed that he was present on the 18th March at the opening of the body by Dr. **TIERNEY**, assisted by Mr. **BENNETT**, surgeon, and received from them the entire stomach of the deceased, and some portions of the muscular parts of the chest, and on the following day he received from them also the liver; of these witness commenced an analysis on the 21st, and continued it for ten days, conducting it throughout himself; Dr. Tierney and Mr. Bennett were present at the commencement of the analysis, and an assistant of witness's, and a youth in his employ, were also present occasionally. Mr. Norrie described at great

length and very minutely the methods of analysis he pursued. The result Mr. Norrie stated to be that he found traces of zinc in the undigested contents of the stomach, and also in the cellular tissues of the stomach, and in his opinion there was probably more than five grains altogether in the substance he analysed, but he could not positively swear that there was half a grain, although he believed he might safely do so; the quantity thus found was an indication that a much larger quantity had been taken, but how much it was impossible for him to say, sulphate of zinc being a very soluble salt; he had not the slightest doubt as to the presence of zinc in the stomach; the taste of the poison was astringent, austere, and metallic, and very perceptible when taken pure, but he could not say whether the flavour could be detected in a quantity of sweetened apple. This witness underwent a lengthy cross-examination into his education as a chemist, the received doctrines as to poisons, &c.

Mr. **DANIEL JOSEPH TIERNEY** described the post mortem examination, and the handing of the stomach, &c., to Mr. Norrie. A quantity of white particles were observed lining the coats of the stomach, but no other appearance of diease, except some patches of inflammation. This witness was examined and cross-examined at great length respecting the quantities and effects of sulphate of zinc. It was frequently administered as a means of expelling other poisons from the stomach, being a quick and violent emetic; never knew a case of death produced by it, but there were two French cases, meagrely reported, wherein it was stated that death was caused by taking sulphate of zinc; the larger the dose the more immediate and great would be the vomiting; witness had himself given half a drachm to a man who had swallowed arsenic, and it produced violent vomiting, and in three days the man was able to go about his business; had known several cases where it had been taken by mistake for salts, but never knew death to follow from it. The late Mrs. Clarkson was a woman of plethoric habit, and violent vomiting in such a person might produce apoplexy.

Mr. **GEORGE BENNETT**, surgeon, gave evidence as to the post mortem examination. Witness had been the medical attendant on the Clarkson family for some years, and was called to attend Mrs. Clarkson on the evening of the 3rd February, but she was dead when he arrived; Clarkson said his wife had eaten very heartily of roast pig for dinner, and was taken very ill with vomiting, and witness knowing that she was a gross feeder was then of opinion that she died from apoplexy; witness still thought that her death was caused by apoplexy, and from the minute quantity of zinc found should say it had no effect in causing death; if deceased expired in the act of vomiting it is very possible her death resulted from the emetic taken; the finding a small quantity of zinc in the stomach might result from it having been taken accidentally. Sulphate of zinc had so strong a taste that even a small quantity must be detected in food. Witness thought it would have been much better to have had more than one practical chemist in a case of this kind. Cases were reported wherein large quantities of sulphate of zinc had been given, without injurious effect. Witness had often administered it in small doses as a tonic. Mr. Clarkson and his wife always appeared to live together comfortably and happily.

From the evidence of **JOHN CORCORAN** and **HENRY LODER**, it appeared that Mrs. Clarkson was perfectly well up to twelve o'clock on the 3rd February, but complained of sickness in the afternoon. In the evening Loder went to the house about eight o'clock, and Mrs. Clarkson requested Loder to stop in the bar a few minutes, as she felt unwell, and had been very bad all the afternoon, which she thought was through eating some roasting pig; she left the bar, and Loder in a few minutes heard a slight noise in the adjoining room, and going there he saw Mrs. Clarkson lying on the sofa, with her head hanging over the edge; Loder raised her

head and placed it on the sofa, and she expired in about half a minute. A doctor had been sent for immediately. She had not left the bar three minutes before she died. Corcoran had also heard from Mr. Clarkson that afternoon that he was very unwell as well as his wife.

Another column.

The Coroner expressed his opinion that there was no case against Clarkson, and directed the jury to acquit him.

A verdict of not guilty was then given and recorded in favour of Clarkson, who was discharged.

…In a few minutes afterwards the prisoner was supported into the Court in a very exhausted state, and the foreman of the jury announced the verdict of the latter, that the female prisoner was guilty of the wilful murder of the late Mrs. Clarkson.

She was then committed to gaol under the Coroner's warrant to await her trial upon the charge.

CARCOAR.

DREADFUL OCCURRENCE. - On Thursday, the 28th March, a tragic occurrence took place at the shop, of forge, of a blacksmith named **GORRINGE**, in this township, which has caused a melancholy gloom, the recollection of which will not be easily effaced from memory. It happened that on the day in question, the servant man of a Mr. **LODGE** brought a horse to the forge, apparently suffering from the gripes, or some internal ailment; and as Gorringe did not like to trust to his own skill in the matter, he went to Mr. Neville's inn, for the purpose of getting the assistance of some man there, who has the repute of being skilful in horse and cattle diseases. During the time Gorringe was away, Lodge's man was alone in the smithy with a young man named **REUBEN HOADLEY**, an apprentice to Gorringe, and seeing a gun in the forge, took it up, and presenting it at the poor boy, shot him dead on the spot. The man immediately came down to the Court-house, where Mr. **NORTH**, the police magistrate, and Mr. **ROTHERY**, were sitting in Court of Requests, and gave himself up, stating that he had "shot Hoadley's son." Dr. **BELL**, who happened to be down in the township at the time, and seeing a number of persons mustering at the spot, was immediately in attendance, but only to pronounce the accident fatal, for the appearance of the wound was sufficient to indicate its nature; the whole forehead was blackened, and an opening of an inch or more in circumference on the left side, immediately above the eye, into which the doctor passed one of his fingers as far as he could reach. An inquest was held at the Australian Arms Inn, Mr. Neville's, the same evening, at eight o'clock, when, after the evidence of several persons was taken, and a certificate from Dr. Bell received, the jury, after a short deliberation, found a verdict of involuntary manslaughter, and the prisoner was committed to take his trial at the next sittings of the Circuit Court, at Bathurst, which takes place on the 19th August, and at which several witnesses were bound over to appear. *Herald Correspondent*.

BATHURST. - MANSLAUGHTER. - An inquest was held on Saturday, the 30th March, at Mount Pleasant, the estate of Major-General **STEWART**, on the body of a man named **CORNELIUS HAGGARTY [HEGARTY]**, killed the previous evening. From what we could make out of the evidence, it appeared that the deceased, a man named **JOHN M'PHERSON**, and some others, had been regaling themselves in a stable with some of Heathorn's XX. Deceased and M'Pherson, about 7 p.m., rushed from where they had been indulging, and went to the kitchen, when the deceased said to M'Pherson, "Jack, you are the first man on the farm that I will fight with," and made a show of doing so; a scuffle followed, and many blows were exchanged; eventually M'Pherson hit the deceased a blow which knocked him down, and he fell

on his head on a chopping block, and soon after he expired. The evidence of the several witnesses examined was so contradictory, and at variance, that the jury felt puzzled to come to a fair conclusion of the affair. Several of them expressed in strong terms their opinion that some of the witnesses had perjured themselves with a view to screen the man charged with the manslaughter, and others of the jury were for acquitting M'Pherson from the charge; they ultimately, however, agreed in their verdict. The first witness called was the cook, who was in the kitchen during the whole fray, who stated that after some wrangling between the parties, deceased said, " ------- Jack, you are the first man on the farm I will fight on the farm," and placed himself in a fighting position; the prisoner struck the deceased a violent blow, which knocked him down, and in falling his head came in contact with a chopping-block; he arose and staggered a few paces, and then again fell; witness went to raise him, when he found he was dead. In answer to a question from one of the jury, the witness said it was possible that the deceased might have tripped against the leg of a table, but if he did so he did not see it. Other evidence was also taken. The body was dreadfully bruised and mangled; on the crown of the head was a severe contusion; on the right side of the neck another, and on the left a blood vessel had been ruptured, and the face dreadfully disfigured and discoloured from bruises. Dr. **BUSBY** attended the inquest, and certified that the contusion on the top of the head or the rupture of the blood vessel might either have caused death. The jury, after a long consultation, returned a verdict of manslaughter, and the prisoner was committed for trial. *Herald Correspondent.*

MURDER AT WIDE BAY (QLD): **JAMES MARSDEN.**

REPORTED MURDER, affidavit by the seaman of HMS *Rattlesnake.* **WILLIAM HOWARD** WITNESS. [See 8/600, 03/04/1850]

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.

Thursday, 4th April.

JOHN BELL was indicted for the manslaughter of **THOMAS OLIVER**, by assaulting him on the 17th March, 1850, and inflicting on him divers mortal wounds and bruises, whereof he languished till the 27th March, and then died. It appeared from the evidence that Oliver was an old man, addicted to drinking, who had for nine months resided in Bell's house, cutting wood for his bread; on the evening of the 17th March Oliver, Bell, and other persons were in Bell's house, intoxicated, and Oliver being abusive. Some angry words occurred between him and Bell, and a scuffle followed between them, during which it was sworn no blows were struck, but which ended by Bell pushing the other from him, when Oliver fell on a sofa and his head came in contact with a projecting piece of wood; Bell then told Oliver that if that was all the return he made for his kindness he had better be off, Oliver gathered up his clothing and bedding, and left the house in spite of Mrs. Bell urging him to stop till the morning, and not to mind what Bell said. At this time it was late at night, and the witnesses in Bell's house, and another witness, at whose house Oliver called and left his bedding, but did not stop, all agreed in stating that although Oliver's face was bruised, he was nothing like so much bruised as he appeared to be next morning, when found lying insensible in an empty house. Bell, it was deposed, did not leave his house during the night, and there was no evidence as to who inflicted these further injuries on Oliver. Subsequently, Oliver was taken from the empty house by the police, and placed in the Benevolent Asylum, and Dr. **RUSSELL** found Oliver much bruised about the head, his mouth injured as if from a kick, and his ribs also bruised; Oliver died on the 27th April, and his death was found to be caused by an extravasation of blood on the brain, occasioned apparently by a blow on the left

temple; Dr. Russell believed that Oliver must have been severely beaten, judging from the bruises on his body; it was possible the injury on the temple might be occasioned by a fall. Oliver, it appeared, while lying ill in the Asylum, had said that Bell had not beaten him in that way, and again that if Bell had he was a wretch; and at another time Oliver had said that Bill the soldier beat him, but this was said when the wardsman thought Oliver barely conscious what he said. The jury returned a verdict of not guilty, and Bell was discharged.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/603, 13/04/1850
CASTLEREAGH RIVER.
A CHILD DEVOURED BY NATIVE DOGS. - A sad occurrence took place in this neighbourhood lately. On Sunday, 23rd March, a shepherd named **PETER STANDLEY**, in the employ of Mr. **ROUSE**, at Marian Park, proceeded from the hut for a load of wood, and was followed by his daughter, a child of about five years of age. The child missed the dray, and was lost, and although for eight days the father and a number of friends on foot and horseback searched for her she could not be found. At length on the tenth day her father and another shepherd took their flocks into the neighbourhood of the last track, and one of the sheep-dogs was observed rolling about on the ground; they went to the spot, and found there the mutilated bones of the poor child, and near the place were found her frock and bonnet. Her remains were collected and interred at the station. Coonabarabran, April 6, 1850.
FOUND AT LAST. - Mrs. **ANGELINA MARY HUGHES HALLETT,** *alias* **ELLIOTT,** *alias* **ELYARD,** whose case has excited so much interest, is, through the intelligence and activity of Mr. **BROWN**, the Sheriff's bailiff, safely lodged in Darlinghurst Gaol. Yesterday Brown received information that this woman was residing at the house of a person named **CORMACK**, near Botany. He procured a bench warrant, and taking with him constables **WALLER** and **WILSON**, they effected a quiet entry into the house, and after searching some time, Wilson found the fugitive concealed in a box only three feet six inches long, eighteen inches deep, and two feet wide; she was covered with some table linen, and could only have concealed herself as the party approached the house, for there was no means of ventilation, and when taken out of the box she was nearly fainting, and it was some time before she was sufficiently recovered to dress herself. She was brought into Sydney and conveyed before Mr. Justice **THERRY**, who sent her to Darlinghurst Gaol, to await her trial for abduction. His Honor signified that bail would be taken, herself in £600, and three sureties in £200 each. We trust the crown law officers will see that the bail this time are men of substance, not men totally without means, as was the case when she was before admitted to bail. *Herald, April 11*.
THE SURETIES FOR MRS. C.A. HUGHES HALLETT. - Previous sureties estreated.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/604, 17/04/1850.
DEATH BY DROWNING. - An inquest has been commenced at the Paterson before **J.S. PARKER**, Esq., Coroner, on the body of **JAMES TAYLOR**, and adjourned till tomorrow. It appears that Taylor was an old resident in the Paterson district, and a man of some means, having recently purchased a house at Paterson. On Saturday last he was at Paterson in company with two other persons, named **RAG [RAGG]** and **JONES**, and left the township in the evening with them on horseback, taking three bottles of rum with them, Rag being drunk, but the other two sober; at the school-house, near Clark's-crossing, they stopped for some time, and had a glass each from

the second bottle of rum, one, a ginger-bottle of rum, having been finished before reaching there. When they left the school-house Jones left in one direction, and Taylor and Rag went on together towards the regular crossing-place; Rag afterwards reached home safely, but nothing more was seen of Taylor. On the following morning a resident on the Allyn found an old horse in his corn, and sent him on to Mr. Brown's, of Coulston, where after some delay he was recognised by some person as Taylor's horse. Search was now made in the neighbourhood where the horse was found, and the tracks of a horse were seen proceeding from the crossing-place (which he had not crossed) along the river through some ground remarkable difficult from being thickly covered with old fallen wood, and terminating at the junction of the Paterson and Allyn Rivers. Just at the junction there exists in the bed of the river a singular deep hole, so deep that it is popularly believed that it is bottomless, and it is said that a kind of whirlpool motion is occasionally observed in it; this hole is only six or eight feet in diameter, the whole bed, at this dry season, being perhaps twenty feet or more broad. After considerable search the body of poor Taylor was discovered in this hole, about fourteen feet below the surface, the witnesses stated, but they were quite positive that there was no bottom a long distance below that. No scratch or wound of any description was found on Taylor's body, but there was nothing to account for his getting into this hole, which is well-known, and quite out of the regular track, while his horse is stated to have taken him safely home on more than one occasion when Taylor was not in a fit state to find his own way. Taylor's saddle was deeply scratched at one place, as if his spur had dragged across it as he came off.

A CHILD DROWNED IN A TUB OF WATER. - It is reported that last week a child was drowned in a tub of water. The parents it is stated reside on the Coulston estate, Gresford, and one day they were both away from their house for a short time, and when the mother returned she was shocked to see her child resting in the tub, head downwards. On taking it out she found it dead. We have not learnt whether any enquiry took place about the sad occurrence.

DEATH BY DROWNING. - **HENRY COOK**, an apprentice to Mr. **CLARK**, of Castlereagh-street, was bathing yesterday afternoon at Bondi with some other boys, when he got amongst the breakers, and was drowned. The body has not been found, and it can scarcely be expected to be recovered from such a situation.

SYDNEY NEWS.

JAMES GRIFFITHS, in custody for assisting **ANGELINA MARY HUGHES HALLETT** to evade the police, and **MARY ANN CORMACK**, for harbouring her, are remanded till to-morrow.

SUDDEN DEATH. - An old man, named **CHARLES BRADFORD**, who was put in the lock-up on Wednesday night for protection, was brought into the police office on Tuesday morning [??], very faint and weak, and having been removed in a chair died, when crossing the court-yard towards the watch-house. He was covered with sores, and crawling with vermin. An inquest was held on the body in the afternoon, and a verdict of "died from the visitation of God" returned. *People's Advocate, April 13.*

THE LATE MRS. FELL.

The attention of the Acting Committee of the Benevolent Society having been, by the Secretary, directed to certain statements made at the inquest held on the body of **ANN FELL**, relative to the non reception of the deceased into the Benevolent Asylum, a meeting of the General Committee was convened for the purpose of investigating the circumstances attendant thereon, when, after carefully perusing the depositions taken

at the inquest, and examining the statements made by the Master and Resident Surgeon, and also several other persons connected with the transaction, they resolved: "That it appears that whilst the general order under which Mr. **RUSSELL** acted sufficiently justifies his refusal to receive any case that he conceived labouring under insanity, they cannot help expressing their opinion that he was blameable in not minutely attending to the symptoms of Mrs. Fell's case, which in all probability would have led to a different result." And to prevent as far as possible the recurrence of such lamentable circumstances, the General Committee at a subsequent meeting further resolved: "That the Resident Surgeon shall have no power to refuse a single patient for medical treatment who is put under his care by the Master of the Institution, even although he (the Surgeon) should not consider it to be a proper case; and that where any doubt exists as to it being so or not, the decision shall rest with the gratuitous medical officers of the Institution, and, 2nd, That no case ordered by the Secretary for admission into the house under existing rules be refused as unsuitable, without previous consultation by the Master with him, or if practicable, with the Acting Committee." *Herald, 15th April.*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/605, 20/04/1850
SYDNEY NEWS
The Judges have also allowed bail to the female prisoner **CLARKSON,** committed on the Coroner's warrant for wilful murder; her husband in £200, and three sureties in £80 each, or four in £60.
INDECENT LANGUAGE. - Yesterday **LOUISA PERCOX** appeared before the bench, and was convicted of using obscene language in the street, on constables **BROMHEAD** and **POOL** interfering to prevent a fight between her and another woman; she was fined 40s. and costs, or in default two months' imprisonment.
CORONER'S INQUEST. - On Monday last, an inquest was held at Hancock's public house, Parramatta-street, on view of the body of a female, **NAME UNKNOWN**, apparently between 40 and 50 years of age, found at Rose Bay on Saturday last, apparently drowned. Mr. Surgeon **RUSSELL** deposed that from the appearance of the body, and from a *post mortem* examination which he had made, he judged that death was caused by suffocation from drowning. Verdict, found drowned, how, or by what means, no evidence appearing, the jury cannot say. *Herald, April 17.*
CONCEALING A FELON.
JAMES GRIFFITHS and **MARY ANN CORMACK** were yesterday brought before Alderman **EGAN** and Mr. **CAMPBELL**, to answer a charge of having assisted Mrs. **ANGELINA MARY HUGHES HALLETT,** otherwise **ELYARD**, otherwise **ELLIOTT**, to evade the police. Mrs. Hallett, it will be recollected, was committed for trial on the charge of stealing a girl of five years old, named **JULIA BROWN**, and was subsequently admitted to bail before one of the judges, but absconded before trial. A bench warrant was then issued for her apprehension, and after some time she was apprehended in a house at Botany, in the occupation of Mrs. Cormack; Griffiths was in the house at the time, and it was proved that Mrs. Cormack denied that Mrs. Hallett was there, and that Griffiths was seen sitting on the box, or else by the box, in the which Mrs. Hallett was at length discovered; and that Mrs. Hallett was covered over in a manner which she could not have effected by herself. It was also proved that Griffiths had been seen at Mrs. Hallett's residence before and after Julia Brown was taken there, and that the little girl had been taught by Mrs. Hallett to call Griffiths "papa." The prisoners were committed for trial, but allowed bail. *Abridged from Herald, April 17.*

AWFUL DEATH. - A man named **RICHARD JOHNSON**, (the servant of Mr. **M'DERMOTT**, an innkeeper of this town) for some time past had led a very intemperate life, but on Thursday (the 11th) the wretched man consummated his misery by getting so beastly drunk that when he was left in the kitchen to go to bed he by some means or other fell into the fire, and was so frightfully burnt all over the stomach, back, and arms, that he died in about twelve hours after the accident occurred. An inquest was held on the body on Saturday last, and from the evidence adduced it appears that the first person to hear the cries of the unfortunate man was a Mr. **GEORGE ARMFIELD**, who resides a distance of at least 200 yards from the inn; he immediately ran to the spot, and seeing the man's clothes all on fire, he threw a bucket of water over him; and having extinguished the fire, he ran for the assistance of Dr. **ALLAN**, who at once proceeded to render every necessary medical aid; but that gentleman stated in his evidence at the inquest, that the man was so terribly burnt that all earthly aid was useless. *Berrima Correspondent of Herald.*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/606, 24/04/1850
SUDDEN DEATH. - On Saturday an inquest was held at the Fitzroy Hotel, Maitland, before **J.S. PARKER**, Esq., coroner, on the body of **ALICE BOARDMAN**. It appeared from the evidence that Mrs. Boardman had been for some time under medical treatment, but got suddenly worse on Friday; Dr. **SLOAN** was sent for, but she died very shortly after; her husband, it was deposed, was frequently drunk, and was known to quarrel with her. Dr. Sloan performed a *post mortem* examination, and found not the slightest mark of violence on her body; the bowels were much inflamed, and there was extensive disease in the womb and ovaries, and in Dr. Sloan's opinion this was the cause of death. The jury returned a verdict of died by the visitation of God.

PROBLEM WITH JUROR AT INQUEST. Connects with next entry.
DEATH BY DROWNING. - In the *Mercury* of the 17th instant we published the particulars of the commencement of an inquest at Vacy, Paterson, on the body of **JAMES TAYLOR**, which had been found in a deep hole at the junction of the Paterson and Allyn Rivers. The inquest was resumed on the 18th, before Mr. **PARKER**, and from the evidence of **WILLIAM DAGG** (not **DAG)**, the man who was last in company with Taylor, it appears that Taylor and Dagg did cross the river at Clark's crossing-place, and ride together, as Dagg believed, a distance of two or three miles further; here, after taking a parting glass of rum from Taylor's bottle, they parted, Dagg being quite drunk, and Taylor tipsy, but as Dagg believed quite able to ride home and to know what he was about; and Dagg stated that Taylor must, after they had parted, have ridden back to Clark's crossing-place; Dagg, after leaving Taylor some time, fell off his horse, and slept, but was awoken by his horse's pulling at the bridle in the middle of the night, when he mounted and rode home. It appears from other evidence that Taylor must have ridden for some distance down the river from Clark's crossing-place (not his right course home), and that on the bank becoming difficult, the horse got down into the bed of the river, then running about ankle deep; that the bed there was so much encumbered by fallen timber that it was barely possible for a horse to get along, and that at one or two points marks were found as if the horse had tried to turn round and go back, but had been prevented by his rider; the track led to the deep hole (found to be fifteen feet deep), out of which was projecting the branch of a dead tree, which it is supposed caught poor Taylor's leg, and dragged him off the horse, when he fell into the hole, for the track of the

horse was found ascending the bank close by. A relation of Taylor's, who assisted at finding the body, stated that although he felt convinced from all the circumstances that poor Taylor must on this occasion have been so intoxicated that he lost all recollection of where he was, or what he was doing, yet that it was many years since Taylor had been so overcome with liquor as to be unable to know what he was about. Taylor left a wife and six children to mourn his loss. The money found in Taylor's pockets corresponded very closely with what he was known to have received in Paterson, allowing for what he spent in liquor. The jury returned a verdict that deceased came to his death by suffocation from drowning, and that it was their conviction that the deceased must have been very much intoxicated at the time, not knowing what he was about, to have ventured where his body was found.
INDECENT LANGUAGE. **MARY LUGG** and **MARY MAGUIRE** were brought before the bench, and pleaded guilty to the charge of drunkenness; Lugg was fined 5s. or 24 hours in the cells; …
MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/606, 24/04/1850
SYDNEY NEWS
BIRTH.
At Neotsfield, near Singleton, on the 20th April, the wife of **H. DANGAR**, Esq., M.C., of a son, which only survived a few hours.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/607, 27/04/1850
THE LATE MRS. CLARKSON. - The Attorney General this day moved for and obtained from their Honors the Judges an order for the re-exhumation of the remains of the late Mrs. **CLARKSON.** The motion was based on the several affidavits of the Coroner and Doctors **TIERNEY** and **a'BECKETT**, the two latter gentlemen being of opinion that the body had not yet arrived at such a state of decomposition as to prevent the possibility of detecting whether or not death was occasioned by poison. Their Honors would not express an opinion as to whether or not the Coroner had the power of ordering the re-exhumation, but they felt assured that it was within their own jurisdiction to order such a proceeding through the medium of their own officers. The Sheriff was therefore ordered to superintend the exhumation, in conjunction with the Coroner, attended by the two medical gentlemen above named, and by whom, and three practical chemists, the process of analysation was to be carried on. It was further intimated by the bench that this matter should be conducted in such a way that public decency may not in any way be offended. I understand that Messrs. **NORRIE, PORTER**, and **GRAYLING** are the chemists who will be engaged in this analysis.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/608, 30/04/1850
THE PATERSON MURDER CASE – SUPREME COURT, SATURDAY –
The Queen v Campbell
This was a rule *nisi* for a writ of *habeas corpus*, with a view of the prisoner being bailed. Mr. **PUREFOY** now moved that the rule be made absolute. The Attorney-General opposed the motion, arguing shortly on the depositions, that sufficient appeared on them to prevent the Court from interposing, and letting him out on bail. If the prisoner (charged with the murder of one Muldoon) were bailed, the public at large would be taught that, after all, murder was not such a terrible crime. His Honor the Chief Justice said it was important that the public should know that the mere concealment of a murder is in itself criminal, and subjects the party to punishment. This would appear to be a case of misprision of murder, so far as **CAMPBELL** is concerned. His Honor the Chief Justice said, in delivering judgement, it was

important to lay down the principles on which the Court would act in entertaining such motions for the future. The time of the Court had been occupied during the term by three of these novel applications. It was necessary that they should not be unduly encouraged. The principles the Court would wish to lay down were these – first, that they were not bound to grant bail except where there was no charge of felony on the depositions, and an informal one. If informal only, the Court will clearly not bail, but cure the informality; secondly, that whether bail would be granted or not would be discretionary, and when exercising that discretion they would be guided by the probability, supposing bail were granted, that the prisoner would appear and take his trial. It had already been laid down by this Court that the depositions would only be looked to, besides affidavits, and as to the state of the prisoner's health, the condition of his family, &c. In a case of murder, however, where the Attorney General has filed an information, the Court would not grant bail. His Honor then, referring to the circumstances of the case, said the result the Court had arrived at was, that the prisoner should be bailed, himself in £200, and four sureties in £60 each; one week's notice to be given to two magistrates at Maitland, one of whom was to be the police magistrate. *S.M. Herald, April 29.*

FATAL ACCIDENT. - On Monday an inquest was held before Mr. **PARKER**, coroner, in the house of **JOHN CHILLINGTON**, residing at Porphyry Point, William River, on the body of an infant named **HENRY CHILLINGTON**, about eighteen months old. It appeared from the evidence that Chillington was a labourer, residing on the estate of Mr. **CARMICHAEL**, and that on an evening about the 18th April he and his wife were in their house, and were just about going to supper; Mrs. Chillington had just taken up some boiled beef, and left the pot it had been boiled in, and which she had just taken from the fire, near the fireplace. The little boy was at this time playing about the spot with a little dog, on which he would frequently sit down; the backs of the parents were turned to them for a few moments, when they heard a scream, and looking round, were shocked to see that the little boy had fallen backwards into the pot of scalding water. His mother got him out instantly, and finding that the poor child was very much injured, the parents took him instantly to Mr. Carmichael's, when Mrs. Carmichael dressed the wounds, and gave them medicine and a lotion for the child. The little boy appeared much easier after this, and the parents hoped he was mending, until Sunday last, when Chillington was alarmed by observing that a great change had come over him; he ran out to get a neighbour's assistance, but before his return the little boy had expired. In answer to questions by the jury, Chillington said he had not gone for a doctor because Mrs. Carmichael, who supplied medicine and aid to all the poor neighbours, had, he thought, done all that could be done for the poor boy, and because he himself was poor, and could not afford to get a doctor from Maitland, the nearest place. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

ANOTHER MURDER BY THE BLACKS. - From a gentleman who arrived in town this week we have received intelligence of another murder committed by the native blacks in the Burnett district about a fortnight ago. The victim was a Coolie shepherd, in the employment of Mr. **G. SANDEMAN**, at Burrandowan. He was killed whilst out with his sheep, having been speared in the back of the neck, and afterwards tomahawked. As the body was not stripped, nor any of the sheep taken away, the murder is believed to have been caused by revenge for the deceased having ordered some of the natives from his hut on the previous day, when they had been importuning him for flour, and upon which occasion they showed much violent conduct. The murderers were tracked for some distance from where the body was

found, but up to our informant's departure none of them had been overtaken. The settlers are crying loudly for the native police, and we hope that our frequent representations on this head will have the effect of inducing Mr. **MARSHALL** to visit the district with his corps immediately. Since our last notice of the necessity for the police at Bunya, Mr. **HALY**'s station has been twice robbed of sheep by the natives, and although no murder has yet been committed there, such outrages may be daily looked for. Some of the settlers are most indignant in their complaints, and declare that they will resist payment of the money, from which the native police is maintained, if their wants are not promptly attended to. *Moreton Bay Courier, April 20.*

GUNDAROO – ATROCIOUS OUTRAGE. - On Tuesday evening last, at the house of a man named **BLOOMFIELD**, at the Black Creek, certain parties were dram drinking. Amongst them were the above named individual, a man by the name of **NUGENT**, two others, namely, **PETER KEAN**, commonly known by the cognomen of **BLACK PETER**, and **JIM BARBER.** Barber had a quarrel with the man Nugent while they were emptying the bottles, but Nugent, having some previous knowledge of Barber, moved away and left the others to contend with Barber. This fellow, not being able to ferret out Nugent, seized upon poor Black Peter, and cried out, "as I cannot find that 'scourger' I'll give you the roasting I intended to give him," and thereupon he seized the unfortunate man, layed him (face downwards) upon a blazing fire, rolled the flaming logs over him, and lest he should not be sufficiently broiled placed his foot on the sufferer's back, taking, at the same time, the fire shovel, loading it with the red embers and ashes, and throwing it over the abdomen and lower parts of his victim. These parts are all in a state of putrefaction, the eyes completely burnt out; his face roasted from the lower cartilages of the nose up to the hair; his teeth dropping out from the upper jaw from the fury of the flaming element, and altogether such a lamentable spectacle of wanton and unprovoked destruction was never looked on. The unhappy man is not likely to survive the brutal treatment he has received. We expect Barber a prisoner in Queanbeyan every day. *Queanbeyan Correspondent of the Goulburn Herald.*

THE LATE MRS. CLARKSON. - The remains of the late Mrs. **JEMIMA CLARKSON** were again exhumed on Thursday evening in performance of the order granted on that day in the Supreme Court, and such parts of the body having been recovered as are necessary for the conduct of the analysis have been provided but it is proposed to have it conducted by three practical chemists on behalf of the crown, and to afford the accused an opportunity of being represented during the conduct of the analysis by a medical man. *Herald, April 27.*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/609, 04/05/1850

SYDNEY NEWS

The analysation of the remains of the late Mrs. **CLARKSON** is progressing, but not under the superintendence of the parties first named. Mr. Surgeon **BENNETT** has taken the place of Dr. **a'BECKETT**, and Mr. **ABRAHAMS** acts with Mr. **PORTER**, in place of Messrs. **NORRIE** and **GRAYLING.** The present Mrs. Clarkson (the party accused) has not yet availed herself of the permission to appoint a medical supervisor on her behalf, to look after the proceedings in this matter.

INFANTICIDE – BATHURST. - An inquest was held at the Black Bull Inn, Bathurst, on Friday, the 26th April, on the body of a new-born infant, found in a well on the premises of Mr. **MOCKETT**, in Hewick street. From the evidence of Mr. Mockett, it appeared he discovered the water in the well had become tainted. He

caused a man named **LEVIN** to be lowered down the well, who found the body of a male infant floating on the surface of the water. It was drawn up, and found to be in a very decomposed state, and appeared to have been in the water several days. A woman named **ANN MORCOMBE**, who had been in his employ for some time past, had been discharged about as fortnight before. He observing that she appeared to be in a forward state of pregnancy, suspicion fell on her. She, and another woman named **JANE DOWNEY,** were apprehended. It appeared also from the evidence, that about eight days previous to the discovery of the body, the prisoner Morcombe had called at the residence of her late master, in company with Downey, and a man with a wheelbarrow to take her boxes away. On this occasion she was observed by Mr. Mockett to be leaning on a gate-post. He did not notice at the time of the circumstance, but on the following day his cook called the attention of Mr. Mockett to some stains on the seat and floor of a water-closet, where Morcombe had been seen to enter, and which stains were traced to the gate where the prisoner had been seen standing by Mr. Mockett. There was nothing at all to connect Jane Downey with the transaction further than she was in Morcombe's company when she went to Mr. Mockett's for her boxes. Dr. **MACHATTIE** attended, and stated that he had examined the prisoner Morcombe, upon whom there were every symptoms of a delivery within ten or twelve days. He had also examined the body of the infant, and as far as its decomposed state would enable him to judge he had no doubt it had been born alive, and that death had been caused by suffocation. **ANN MILLER** deposed, that she was present at the medical examination, and that immediately after, the prisoner told her that Mrs. Downey had no knowledge of her delivery. The coroner recapitulated the evidence at some length and perspicuity, when the jury returned a verdict of wilful murder against Ann Morcombe. Downey acquitted.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/610, 08/05/1850

MASTER AND SERVANTS ACT. - Yesterday one case under this act came before the bench: **JOHN BORTHWICK** v **JOSEPH PERCOX**. … and it appeared that Percox had been employed as the driver of the Singleton mail, … Percox said in defence that he was miserable, being left with four small children to look after, and his wife being in trouble, … they therefore sentenced him to two months' imprisonment.

SINGLETON

FATAL ACCIDENT. - An inquest was held yesterday in the bush, about a mile beyond Mr. **LETHBRIDGE's** "Mundiwa" sheep station, and eleven miles from Singleton, before **HENRY GLENNIE**, Esq., J.P., Coroner for the district of Patrick's Plains, and a jury of five, touching the death of **JOHN ROSE**, a respected inhabitant of Singleton, and well-known as an industrious, hard-working man. The jury (who were all summoned from Singleton) having been sworn, viewed the body, which did not present the appearance of much external injury, but upon pressing against the left side the ribs appeared to be all broken, crunching under the weight of the hand; the left leg was also broken above the ancle. From the evidence of **JAMES LEE**, a shepherd in Mr. Lethbridge's employment, and of **JAMES JACKSON**, a splitter, it appeared that on the day previous (Sunday) deceased and he were sawing down a large iron-bark tree, and having sawed sufficiently through, Jackson placed a wedge into the cut, when having struck it a few times with the maul the tree showed indication of falling; Lee and Jackson then retreated, cautioning poor Rose to do the same; he, however, would not stir from the butt of the tree, telling them that was the safest place. The tree fell in a contrary direction to where deceased was standing,

when, melancholy to relate, the tree in falling struck off a large limb of another tree still further from deceased (and beyond the falling tree), when the branch rebounded, and struck him to the ground. Lee and Jackson immediately ran to his assistance, and upon lifting him from underneath the prostrate branch he immediately breathed his last. The deceased was forty-three years of age, and unmarried. Verdict, accidental death by the falling of a branch of a tree.

CLARENCE TOWN

MURDER AMONG THE BLACKS. - An inquest was held here a few days ago, on the body of a black gin, named **MARIA**, who had been found lying dead in a stable. It appeared from the evidence that the woman had been murdered by her husband, whose name is **JEMMY**. For some little time before the outrage occurred a large number of blacks were observed about the township, and their proceedings seemed strange and unaccountable, exciting mirth in some minds and fear in others; and I must say at this time, and during the extraordinary behaviour of the mixed mob previous to the murder, which arose from passion, I entertained great fear of what the result would be. Jemmy is still at large. May 4, 1850.

MRS. A.M. HUGHES HALLETT.

The case of Dr. **DUIGAN,** charged with aiding and counselling a felon (Mrs. **ANGELINA MARY HUGHES HALLETT, alias ELLIOTT, alias ELYARD**) to evade the police, is postponed, at the request of the defendant, till to-morrow.

RICHMOND RIVER. - Mr. **JOHN FARRELL**, ship-carpenter, was downed at the Richmond River on the 23rd ultimo. The deceased left the settlement at night for the purpose of pulling some distance up river, and it is surmised he must have fouled some of the rafts, and in endeavouring to clear the boat have fallen overboard, as the hat he wore when last seen alive was picked up on a raft of timber. The body was found a few days afterwards with a deep cut over the right eye. *Herald, May 4*.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/611, 11/05/1850

SYDNEY NEWS

EVADING THE POLICE. - Mr. **THOMAS RUSSELL DUIGAN** yesterday appeared at the Police-office, before Alderman **FISHER**, to answer an information exhibited against him by Mr. **WEARIN**, Chief Inspector of Sydney Police, for having harboured, aided, and counselled one **ANGELINA MARY HUGHES HALLETT (alias ELLIOTT, alias ELYARD)**, she being at such time a felon, endeavouring to evade the police. Mr. **LITTLE** conducted the prosecution, and Messrs. **NICHOLS** and **ROBERTS** the defence. It will be remembered that Mrs. Hallett, having been committed for trial on a charge of child-stealing, and committed to bail, had absconded before 26th February, when she ought to have appeared to take her trial; that a bench warrant for her apprehension was issued, and that she was apprehended at Botany on the 16th April, concealed in a box in the house of a person named **CORMACK.** From the evidence now given it appeared that a carpenter named **WATSON** had been some time ago employed by the defendant, Dr. Duigan, to carry a box from Dr. Duigan's house to a house at Strawberry Hill; and that afterwards on the 14th March, Watson was summoned to Dr. Duigan's house by a message, and going there he found a person in male attire, whom Dr. Duigan requested Watson to take care of for an hour and a half; Dr. Duigan then said to Mrs. Duigan, "We had better tell Watson all about it," and he then told Watson the person referred to was Mrs. Hallett, whereon Mrs. Hallett burst into tears; Watson took Mrs. Hallett to his house; afterwards Dr. Duigan called and said he was too busy to be able to take Mrs. Hallett away then, but he would come at night with a gig and take her away; Mrs.

Hallett, however, got impatient at length, and at her request between nine and ten at night, Watson took her into Kent-street and left her there. Dr. Duigan came about half-past eleven, and appeared surprised and annoyed at Mrs. Hallett's having left, saying "She'll think I want to get rid of her." The box Watson took to Strawberry Hill was the same, he deposed, that it was stated Mrs. Hallett was found in at Botany Bay. Mrs. Watson's evidence corroborated her husband's in what she stated. Mr. Nichols contended that there was nothing to show that Dr. Duigan was aware that Mrs. Hallett was a felon endeavouring to evade the police, which was the material part of the charge; the evidence simply proving that he had harboured her for a minute or two. The bench committed the defendant for trial. *Abridged from S.M. Herald, May 8.*

CORONER'S INQUEST. - An inquest was held at Dickinson's, the Sportsman's Arms, South Head Road, on Wednesday the 24th, and Monday the 29th April, and and on yesterday the 6th May, on the body of **THOMAS OLIVER O'DONNELL**, an infant of about two months old, who died on the night of 23rd April, of convulsions. The inquest was adjourned in consequence of a suspicion that improper medicine had been administered, or that medicine had been administered in too large a dose, neither of which suspicions, we are happy to say, were borne out by the evidence. The jury found that Thomas Oliver O'Donnell "died from convulsions caused by the visitation of God." *Herald. May 7.*

FATAL ACCIDENT. - In the *Mercury* of the 17th April we mentioned that a man named **THOMAS THOMAS** had met with a very serious accident by the wheel of a dray going over his body; he having, it was stated, fallen or slipped off the dray as it was proceeding along the road between West and East Maitland. A passer-by informed Dr. **SCOTT** of the circumstances, and Dr. Scott immediately hastened to the spot, and found Thomas in such a state, the wheel having apparently gone over his loins, that he directed his immediate removal to the hospital. This was done, and Dr. Scott and Dr. **M'CARTNEY** tried every means for relieving Thomas that could be devised, although they, and the other medical men who saw him, thought his case a hopeless one. Thomas gradually sunk, and died on Tuesday last. An inquest was held on his body on Wednesday, before Mr. **PARKER**, when the above evidence was given, and Dr. Scott certified to the constant care and attention to Thomas displayed by the hospital attendant, assisted by a convalescent patient. No evidence was obtained as to the exact way the accident happened, the bullock driver and black boy who were with the dray having since returned up the country, but a witness named **CHARLES PRIEST** deposed that he saw the deceased on the dray as he rode past, and that hearing a shriek when he had got thirty yards off, he looked round, and saw a man lying in the road, but supposing it was a drunken man, took no notice, and went on. The jury returned a verdict that death was caused by a dray-wheel passing over deceased's body, but that how the accident occurred they had no evidence to show; and that they were perfectly satisfied that every attention was paid to the deceased in the hospital.

INQUEST. - On Tuesday morning an inquest was held before **J.S. PARKER**, Esq., coroner, at the Hinton Hotel, Hinton, on the body of **HECTOR LAMONT**. Lamont it appeared had died about Thursday, the 2nd instant, and was buried, but in consequence of a statement made to Mr. Parker that it was stated by parties residing at Hinton that Lamont had imputed his illness to injuries he received in a fight some two months before, Mr. Parker ordered the body to be exhumed, that an inquest might be held on it. It appeared from the evidence that on the 18th February last Lamont, who was working with **SAMUEL M'DONALD** as a fencer, had gone to Morpeth to borrow a dray for M'Donald, but had stopped at the Victoria Hotel, Hinton, on his

way back. **GEORGE DUNCAN** deposed that he was in the inn when Lamont came in, and that Lamont was then drunk; that there had been no fighting in the room previously, but that while a man named **MATTHEW VAUGHAN** was singing a song, Lamont took some offence at it, and he and Vaughan came to blows, Lamont striking the first blow; Lamont, it appears, got the worst of the fight, but Duncan deposed that he did not see Lamont knocked down, nor did he see any other person strike or kick Lamont while fighting with Vaughan; about a month afterwards Lamont asked witness if **CHARLES LAWN** struck him, witness said he did not see him do so; not had witness told any one else that he did see Lawn strike Lamont; Duncan deposed also that about a month before Lamont's death, he (Duncan) helped to put a bag of flour (containing one hundred lbs.) on Lamont's back, which Lamont walked to his own house, a quarter of a mile off. No other witness who was present at the fight was called, but it appeared that for some [ ] three weeks after the fight Lamont was unable to do any work, and complained that his ribs were broken, although Lamont himself does not appear to have attributed it solely to the fight, but partly to having got a sudden jerk by M'Donald's dray coming in contact with a stump while he was riding on it, about two days after the fight; after the first fortnight Lamont appeared to get better, and worked as usual, although still complaining of pain in his arms and shoulders.

Lamont told his wife that his ribs were broken, and she observed two swelled spots on his ribs, which he said pained him much when pressed, and which he told her were caused by the jerk when he got on the dray. Lamont told M'Donald that George Duncan told him that Lawn struck him in the fight, and Mrs. Lamont deposed that Duncan told her husband in her presence that Lawn and other persons had struck him. Mrs. Lamont stated that after her husband brought home the bag of flour on his back he did not complain of pain, nor appear the worse for it. About three weeks before his death Lamont took cold from getting wet, and his cold continued getting worse, until he had to abstain from work, and finally Mrs. Lamont begged M'Donald to go for Dr. **BROWN**, as her husband was worse. M'Donald went and obtained some medicine from Dr. Brown, and Dr. Brown visited Lamont on the Monday morning, but Lamont died on the Wednesday or Thursday following. Mrs. Lamont stated that her husband was occasionally delirious in his last ill-ness. Dr. Brown was not examined as a witness, nor was anything further adduced as to the last illness of Lamont, except that Mrs. Lamont said that her opinion was that he died from natural causes, and not from violence. Dr. **WILTON** performed a *post mortem* examination , and found that none of Lamont's ribs were or had been broken, but he found his liver very much diseased, gorged with blood, very soft, and on the left side, immediately under the upper end of the stomach, he found an immense quantity of blood, which he thought might have escaped from the blood-vessels near the part; this, and the diseased state of the liver, were in his opinion the causes of death; there was no mark of violence, but he found three or four large spots of inflammation on the lower part of the bowels; what occasioned the appearances he found in the body it was impossible to say, with certainty; a blow or kick would produce such appearances, or, in the then state of the liver, any intemperance, a hearty meal, or violent exercise, might produce them; a cold would not; any violent blow received by the deceased would probably have accelerated his death; a man might live for some time in that state, and might carry a heavy weight for a great distance. The jury returned a verdict of died from natural causes.

FATAL ACCIDENT WITH FIRE-ARMS. - On Monday an inquest was held before **J.S. PARKER**, Esq., Coroner, at the Lamb Inn, Dunmore, on the body of **JOHN**

WILLIAM FIELD, a lad of about fourteen years old, and in the employ of Mrs. **STACE.** From the evidence of Mr. **JAMES STACE** and Mr. **ROBERT MUIR** it appeared that on Sunday afternoon divine service was celebrated at Mr. Stace's house by the Rev. Mr. **PURVES**, and that while it was proceeding Mr. Stace was called out by his son **HENRY WILLIAM STACE**, to see young Field, who he said was badly hurt; Mr. Stace asked Mr. Muir to go with him, and they went to the house of James Stace, junior., about a quarter of a mile off, where they found the poor boy lying insensible, and bleeding from a perforated wound in his head, above the left ear; Mr. Muir probed the wound with his finger, and found it so deep that he was convinced that the lad could not live; Dr. **BROWN** was sent for, but the lad died almost instantly after he arrived, never having recovered his senses. To Mr. Muir's and Mr. Stace's enquiries, Henry Stace replied that Field met with the wound by falling into the fire place, when his head, Stace said, came in contact with an upright stick, which he pointed out, sticking between the bricks. Field's father, who had been sent for, did not arrive till the poor boy was dead, and the same tale was told to him by Henry Stace and by **WILLIAM GOULD**, a youth of nineteen years of age. Blood was observed in the fire-place, about this stick, which appeared to corroborate the statement. The next morning however Field observed that the inner part of his son's left hand was blackened, as if with smoke, and he immediately suspected that a gun must have been fired off to cause this, and that the wound was probably caused by a gunshot. When the inquest was held, Mr. Stace, Mr. Muir, and Mr. Field deposed as above, Mr. Muir adding that he heard no discharge of a gun during service. Two woman residing nearby were afterwards examined, and both deposed that they had heard a gun discharged during the service, they being at the time in their own houses, and one of them residing close to James Stace's jun., neither of the women had heard any quarrelling. Further enquiries were now made, and at length Gould admitted that young Field had been shot, and he deposed that he was in company with Field on Sunday, when deceased whistled for Henry Stace to help him disengage a bullock, and subsequently while in the house Field noticed a gun in the bedroom, and brought it out, and commenced sky larking with it; Henry Stace told Field to put down the gun; Field did not do so, when Henry Stace attempted to take it away from him, when the gun went off; Field instantly fell in the chimney corner, and Henry Stace picked him up, and asked him what was the matter, but Field made no answer; Gould now observed blood running from Field's head, and Henry Stace went to tell his father what had occurred. Gould said he had been afraid to say before now Field was hurt. A *post mortem* examination by Dr. **LIDDELL** showed that the perforated wound above the left ear penetrated through the skull, and that the middle lobe of the brain towards the base was destroyed, numerous specula of bone and small pellets of lead being imbedded in the brain; and other pellets of lead were found between the scalp and external surface of the skull around the injury; the left ear was blackened, especially within the ear, and the left hand was also blackened inside; from these indications Dr. Liddell had no doubt death was caused by a gunshot wound, and he was of opinion the gun must have been held by Field near the muzzle, and that the muzzle of the gun must have been very close to Field's head when the gun went off; no blow or fall on any body could have produced the injury; the wound must have caused almost instant death. The jury returned a verdict that the deceased came to his death by the accidental discharging of a gun during a scuffle with Henry William Stace, and they appended a rider that considerable blame was attachable to William Gould and Henry William Stace for their conduct in concealing the circumstances.

TAMWORTH

A CHILD BURNT TO DEATH. - Last Saturday week, a son of Mr. **HANNAFORD'S**, poundkeeper, was playing near a burning log, when his clothes caught fire, and before his parents, who ran immediately to his assistance, could extinguish it. The unfortunate child was so dreadfully burnt that he only survived a few hours.

A BOY ACCIDENTALLY SHOT. - On Saturday last, at Goonogoono, **DAVID**, a boy about nine years of age, son of Mr. **SMITH**, late a miner at Newcastle, accidentally shot himself with a carbine, which he had loaded the previous evening with about forty slugs, to shoot cockatoos. Dr. **JENKINS**, of Tamworth, having been sent for, found that the slugs had passed completely through the right lung, and most of them were to be seen in a sheet of bark covered the roof of the hut. The poor little sufferer, notwithstanding this dreadful accident, is alive, and at present doing well.

INQUEST. - O n Sunday last the postman brought information to the police that a man was found dead under a dray near Mr. Single's inn, Weril's Creek. At an inquiry held next day by Dr. Jenkins, it was proved in evidence that the deceased's name was **FRANZ GEHRIG**, a German; that he had been unwell for some months, and was now on his way down the country to a hospital, but that he died suddenly on Saturday night or Sunday morning.

SERIOUS ACCIDENT. - On Monday evening last **GEORGE BUDDLE [RUDDLE],** a carrier, was discovered by a blackfellow lying in the bush near Tamworth, having been thrown from his horse early in the morning. He was when found sensible, but unable to move hand or foot. The ants were attacking his eyes, and would probably have destroyed him alive, had not the blackfellow, who was in search of horses, passed near him. The poor man was removed ass soon as possible to Dr. Jenkins's hospital, where he is now lying in a precarious state.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/613, 18/05/1850

SYDNEY NEWS

About half-past three o'clock this morning, a young man named **SAMUEL BEAN NICHOLSON**, lodging at Mr. **GROCOTT'S**, stationer, in George-street, and who it appears had been lately imbibing rather freely, leaped from his bed and, exclaiming the house was on fire, attempted to lower himself from the attic window by a rope, which he had fastened to the bed-post; his weight broke the cord, and he fell on the pavement, dying almost instantly.

Last night, about eleven o'clock, **ROBERT COLE**, a seaman belonging to the ship *John Knox*, lying at the Circular Quay, fell off the gangway, and was drowned. His body was found about half an hour afterwards, but life was extinct.

QUEANBEYAN. - THE BURNING CASE. - On the 2nd instant **JAMES BARBER** was brought before the Queanbeyan bench, and was committed for trial. This was the man charged with the cruel roasting of the old man, **BLACK PETER**, on the 16th April. The evidence now given proved that there were several persons drinking together in a hut, Barber being one, and **PETER READING**, known as **BLACK PETER**, another. Keating got drunk and lay down outside the hut, and Barber, who had also got drunk, late in the night insisted that Keating had robbed him of ten shillings (Barber having previously given Keating 10s. for fetching rum), and not finding any money on Keating, he placed him on the fire for a brief space, dropped hot tallow from the candle on Keating's forehead or eyes, and then threw or placed hot ashes on the tallow. At first Keating was considered in danger, but it now appeared that all the injuries were surface injuries, and although danger might have arisen from the extent of the surfaces scalded or scorched, yet the medical man

attending him (Dr. **MORTON**) considered him now out of danger; the only spot on the body where, in Dr. Morton's opinion, injuries had been sustained by actual burning was a sore below the navel, about an inch in length and half an inch in breadth; the scalds on the face had produced opthalmia, but the eyelashes were not singed off or burnt. *Abridged from the Goulburn Herald, May 11*.

MELANCHOLY CIRCUMSTANCE. - On the 3rd instant, Mr. **LUMSDAINE**, of Mutt Mutt Billy, had occasion to visit an unoccupied sheep station of his some miles from the homestead; he there found a man lying in the watch-box in an almost insensible state. Mr. Lumsdaine endeavoured to enter into conversation with the man but could exact no answer from him. Believing him to be under the effects of intoxication he rode away. On the following Tuesday some of Mr. Lumsdaine's men went over to the station for the purpose of removing the hurdles and watch-box, when they discovered the man lying in the same place quite dead. Information being conveyed to Mr. L. a messenger was despatched to town for the coroner, who started off with Dr. **GERARD** to the scene of the melancholy occurrence. A post mortem examination having been made it was ascertained that the deceased died from inflammation of the bowels. No one could give any account of the deceased. A card of steel pens was found in his pocket, on which was scribbled "John Rowan." *Goulburn Herald, May 11.*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/614, 22/05/1850

MANSLAUGHTER. - A coroner's inquest was held at Hancock's public-house, Parramatta-street, on Monday, and (by adjournment) on Thursday, on view of the body of **ANN KENT**, who died in the Benevolent Asylum on last Saturday night, having been taken there on the previous day. Deceased appeared to be about thirty years of age, was of dissolute habits, and had lived for some time at a house in Clarence-street, kept by one **BUCKLEY**, where she was frequently visited by a seaman named **GLOVER**, who paid 8s. weekly for her board and lodgings. About a fortnight since, deceased, Glover, and one or two other of the inmates of the said house, drank rum till they became intoxicated; while under the influence of the drink, deceased and Glover quarrelled, when the latter violently beat and kicked the former, after which she took ill, and daily became worse, until the 10th instant, when she was removed to the Asylum, where the next day she expired. The jury found a verdict of manslaughter against Glover, and a warrant was issued for his apprehension. *Herald, 18th May.*

MELANCHOLY AND FATAL ACCIDENT. - About five o'clock p.m. yesterday, a sailor on board the ship *Marion*, lying at Miller's Point Wharf, having gone aloft to rig the fore-top-gallant-mast, the bolt in the fore-top mast drew in, heaving up the mast, and knocked the unfortunate man from off the cross-trees, and falling upon deck, he died on the spot. *Herald, May 16.*

A CHILD DROWNED IN A WELL. - On Wednesday afternoon a child of about two years of age, named **ELEANOR LEONARD**, residing at Chippendale, fell into a well and was drowned. It appears that the well had a lid, but no hinges; some person must have been drawing up water, and omitted to cover up the well until his or her return, and the infant walked unconsciously to its death. An inquest was yesterday held upon the body, and a verdict of accidental death was returned by the jury. *Herald, May 18.*

SUSPECTED MURDER. - The head of an infant, about eighteen months old, was discovered yesterday by one of the Water Police, on the North Shore. The head was in a perfect state of preservation, and appeared to have been cleanly severed from the

body. Information was immediately forwarded to the Coroner, who will hold an inquest on the remains. *Bell's Life, 18th May.*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/615, 25/05/1850
VIOLENT ASSAULT. - Incident at Morpeth on steamer – **CHARLES LAWN.**
SYDNEY NEWS.
About nine o'clock last night **WILLIAM CLEATHEROW**, aged 70 years, residing in Albion-row, Kent-street, fell down stairs and broke his neck. He was intoxicated at the time.
THE HEAD OF AN INFANT FOUND IN THE HARBOUR. - Between seven and eight o'clock on Friday morning, **JOHN MANLEY**, a waterman, found the head of an infant, apparently of two or three days old, on the strand, at Robinson's Point, which, after having in vain searched for the trunk, he conveyed to and left at the Water Police Office. On Saturday, an inquiry was held by the Coroner, Mr. **J.R. BRENAN**, Esq., at Smith's public-house, Lower George-street. Manley deposed that the head appeared to be quite fresh; it was white, one eye was open, the tongue hanging out of the mouth, and something like pale blood was oozing out of the crown; the head had been separated very close to the chin, no neck being left, and was a little jagged at one side; he had seen bodies that had been bit by sharks, but believed that no fish could have cut off a head in the way that this had been severed from the body. The inquest was then adjourned until Thursday next. *Herald, May 20*.
THE RESULT OF THE SECOND ANALYSIS OF THE REMAINS OF THE LATE MRS. CLARKSON.
Yesterday an examination was held before Mr. **E.D. DAY** of the gentlemen to whom had been entrusted (by the Attorney General) the task of analysing such portions of Mrs. Clarkson's remains as were detached from the body at the time of the second exhumation. Mr. **EDWARD PORTER**, chemist, and Mr. **ABRAHAM ABRAHAM**, chemist, made a joint report of the result of the analysis they had conducted, and which had occupied them from the 30th April to the 10th May, having been conducted in Mr. Abraham's laboratory, under the immediate supervision of Doctors **TIERNEY** and **BENNETT.** The report stated very fully the whole of the process followed in performing the analysation, and stated the results arrived at in the following words:- "Having thus concluded our examination, we will briefly review the whole process. By the first part we obtained a perfect solution of the membranes and of all metallic substances likely to be recovered. From a consideration of the second part we infer the absence of arsenic, mercury, lead, tin, antimony, bismuth, or copper. The third part, and the carbonising process, were conducted with a view to ascertain whether any portion of zinc had been absorbed by the tissues. After the most attentive and careful research we are convinced that not a trace of arsenic, zinc, lead, or any other metals excepting iron, had been in existence." Doctors Tierney and Bennett also furnished a written certificate of their having been present many hours each day during the analysation, of their sealing the door of the laboratory each evening, &c., and they state that "having witnessed the mode of investigation, and tests, they consider the opinion to which they (Messrs Porter and Abraham) have arrived to be both conclusive and satisfactory." All these gentlemen were sworn, and examined further by Mr. **O'NEIL BRENAN**, for the Crown, Mr. **NICHOLS** appearing for the defence. Mr. Porter had heard of cases of poisoning where no poison was discovered, even though there was an analysation very shortly afterwards; Mr. Porter was also further examined on the chemical results in certain specified conditions. Mr. Abraham gave similar testimony to Mr. Porter's. Mr. Bennett had

full belief in the correctness of the analysation, and although he would not say positively that zinc had not been administered, he thought it exceedingly improbable; he was still of opinion that the late Mrs. Clarkson died from apoplexy. Dr. Tierney gave similar testimony of his belief in the correctness of the analysis and its results. Both the latter gentlemen said they could not say positively that no poison had been administered, because there were cases on record wherein, although death had ensued immediately afterwards, and a *post mortem* examination had been made, still no traces had been discovered of the poison taken. This closed the evidence, which was ordered to be forwarded to the Attorney General. *Abridged from the Herald, May 21.*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/616, 29/05/1850
ADVERTISEMENT - by **JOHN OLIVER**, carrier, of Big River, thanking Doctor **JENKINS** for his successful cancer operation.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/617, 01/06/1850
DROWNED. - A seaman named **GEORGE BLACKWOOD**, belonging to the brig *Catherine*, fell out of one of the boats, while the vessel was getting under way in Hobson's Bay; before assistance could be rendered, the poor fellow sank to rise no more.
CORONER'S INQUESTS. - On Friday afternoon last, a child named **WILLIAM PILLING**, whose parents reside in a place off Bathurst-street, near Barker's Mill, was missing from home, and the neighbourhood having been searched for him in vain, the bellman was employed, but still no tidings of the lost child. On the next morning, one of the neighbours, named **BROWN**, determined upon dragging Barker's mill-dam, a sheet of water about sixty feet square, by about six deep, and the body of the child was then found. The child was last seen by his father at two o'clock shortly after dinner, on Friday afternoon, and his mother was confined to her bed by a recent accouchement. An inquest was held upon the body, when the jury returned a verdict of accidental drowning, to which they appended the following rider:- "The Jury unanimously request the coroner to immediately communicate with Mr. Barker, in order that he may either enclose the pond in question, or keep the gates shut, several accidents of a similar nature having occurred in the same pond through its dangerous and unprotected state." *Herald, May 30*
SUICIDE. - An inquest was held yesterday, before Mr. **J. RYAN BRENAN**, on the body of a young man named **ALLEN [T.G.P. ALLAN],** residing in Fort-street. From the evidence adduced it appeared that the unfortunate youth had destroyed himself by taking a dose of prussic acid whilst labouring under a fit of temporary insanity, and a verdict to that effect was found by the jury. *Herald, May 29*
KEMPSEY, MAY 8. - MURDER BY THE BLACKS.
News has just reached us of a murder recently perpetrated by the blacks of the Bellinger River, on the person of an old man who had long been a sawyer both at that place and the M'Leay. The circumstances are as follows:- On Thursday, the 25th April, five blacks named **DOEBOY, MOOGO, UGLY-BOY, MICKEY, and CHARLEY**, came to the hut of the deceased (**DANIEL PAGE**), inhabited by himself, wife, and child, and another man **JOHN HELY**, requesting, as they frequently had done before, to be put across the river; they were about to comply, and went as far as the bank, when perceiving that the blacks were fully armed, and otherwise suspicious looking, the white men thought it not prudent to leave the shelter of their hut, and after a few words consultation, determined on returning; they had no sooner come to that resolution than one of the blacks threw a spear at Hely, which he

narrowly escaped by stooping his head suddenly. They then made the best of their way to the hut, during which time both men were wounded by boomerangs. Unfortunately all the implements of defence which were in the premises were two knifes, with which they succeeded in preventing them entering the house; when unfortunately one door leading to the store was broken open, and Page, in endeavouring to drive them off, received the wound of which he has since died; he, however, succeeded in refastening the door. They then threw the blacks some provisions they had cooked, with which they retired. Immediately on their doing so, the white people set off, with the hope of gaining a vessel (*Flora*, Captain Grimwood), then lying in the Nambucora, about seventeen miles from the scene of violence; but the wounded man being unable to go further than two miles, they were obliged to leave him on the beach, wrapped up in a pair of blankets, and a bottle of water beside him. The others reached the vessel in the evening, the master of which behaved most humanely, rendering the sufferers all the assistance in his power, sending back with the woman next morning two of his sailors well armed, while Hely proceeded to the MLeay River to obtain medical aid, and to report the circumstances to Mr. Merewether, the commissioner. The woman and sailors were not able to find Page the next day, he having removed from the place in which he had been left, in the hope of following his companions to the vessel. They resumed the search on the following morning (Saturday), when, after some difficulty, they found him; he was sensible, but quite exhausted; he was removed to his hut, and died the following day, previously to which he told them that the blacks had discovered him on the beach, and robbed him of his blankets; these miserable miscreants also took out of the hut three bags of flour, sugar, tea, tobacco, pipes, cooking utensils, bedding, &c., and a small boat, which was moored at the wharf. Medical assistance, from the distance, did not arrive until two days after the burial, when he was exhumed, and upon a *post mortem* examination it was discovered that the oesophagus was completely divided, and various other severe contusions upon the abdomen and head, from blows he had received by stones. It is the opinion of the medical man that the injury in the throat was sufficient of itself to cause death. There are five policemen at present engaged in the search after these blacks, and it is to be hoped they will succeed in taking them, as two of them were more than suspected of having been perpetrators of the murder of two men, a woman, and child, some years ago upon the same river. *Herald Correspondent.*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/618, 05/06/1850

FATAL ACCIDENT. - On Monday afternoon a family named **M'DONALD**, consisting of a man, his wife, and one daughter, a fine young woman, were returning from Hexham to Maitland in a bullock dray, driven by **JAMES CAMERON**, when, as the dray reached a spot in the road where a track turned off to Scott's waterhole, the bullocks suddenly left the road, in spite of Cameron's exertions, and made for the waterhole, they having had no water since Saturday evening. Before they reached the waterhole the dray-wheel came full against a large tree, and the dray was instantly capsized, throwing out all the M'Donalds, and before Cameron could stop the bullocks they had dragged the fallen dray a hundred yards further, dragging it apparently over the body of the young woman, **BARBARA M'DONALD**. When M'Donald got up after the fall, the first thing that me his eye was the insensible form of his daughter, who lay with her head fearfully injured, and bleeding profusely, and one arm crushed near the elbow; her bonnet was full of blood by the time she had been lifted up, and she expired within a very short time. An inquest was held on the

body yesterday, before **J.S. PARKER**, Esq., Coroner, at the Rose Inn, East Maitland, and a verdict of accidental death was returned.

COACH ACCIDENT. - LOSS OF LIFE. - We regret to have to report that between five and six o'clock on Wednesday evening, a collision took place with the Rose omnibus and the Parramatta Royal Mail, at Battee Bridge, on the Parramatta-road, in consequence of which the mail was overturned, one person, named **EDWARD SINCLAIR**, killed upon the spot, and another whose name we have not learned, very much injured. The body of the unfortunate deceased was brought into Sydney and deposited at the Benevolent Asylum, and yesterday afternoon an inquest into the circumstances of the accident was held at Hancock's public-house, Parramatta-street, before the coroner and a jury. **JAMES CONST [?]** deposed as follows:- I started from Homebush for Sydney, on Wednesday afternoon, in the Rose Omnibus, driven by **WILLIAM ANDREWS**; and at about a quarter before six o'clock, at the bottom of the hill below Ireland's , we met the Parramatta mail coach; we were coming towards the bridge, and the mail was going over the bridge; I sat next the d river; our omnibus came in collision with the coach, our left wheel striking their left wheel, and the coach capsized; we were on our own side, and the coach was passing inside of us; the omnibus was not upset; the coach fell partly over the abutments, throwing off the passengers, the deceased Edward Sinclair being one; we were going at the rate of five or six miles an hour; our diver was quite sober; I think the driver of the mail had enough room to pass on his own side of the road; when deceased was taken up he groaned, but did not speak, and in about twenty minutes he died; the mail was thrown completely on its side; I cannot say whether **DUNN**, the driver of the mail, was sober or not; the mail was proceeding pretty quickly, I should say at the rate of six miles an hour; each vehicle was drawn by four horses; our leaders were on the bridge before the mail crossed us – in fact, part of the vehicle was on the bridge when the leaders of both took a turn; neither of the drivers was flogging his horses; our driver attempted as hard as he could to pull up, but could not do so in time to prevent the accident. The inquest then adjourned for further evidence until Saturday, June 1st. *Herald, May 31.*

The Inquiry before the Coroner into the circumstances attendant on the death of **EDWARD SINCLAIR**, by the collision of the Rose omnibus and the mail coach, on Wednesday last, was on Saturday resumed, the two drivers, **WILLIAM ANDREWS** and **WILLIAM DUNN**, being in charge. **DANIEL SULLIVAN**, a passenger by the omnibus, corroborated the statement of **CONST** in most particulars, adding that the deceased was sitting on the front of the coach, and when it overturned he fell on his back across the sleepers of the bridge, and from thence down the precipice; the mail shot right across the leaders of the omnibus; the driver of the mail had quite sufficient room to pass on his own side; I think he must have pulled the wrong rein by mistake; did not see any gig coming on the right side of the omnibus. **THOMAS CLUNE** deposed, that he was on the Parramatta road at the time of the accident, about a hundred yards from the two carriages, both of which appeared to him to be on their wrong side; in his opinion, neither of the drivers could have prevented the accident, as the two carriages came very suddenly upon each other; the cart he was in passed the omnibus on the right side before it moved after the collision. **ARCHIBALD ASHDOWN** deposed that he was a passenger by the mail-coach from Sydney as far as Ashfield, on Wednesday afternoon; before we came to the bridge we were going at a moderate pace; there had been some impediments immediately before reaching the bridge, in consequence of which the driver had pulled up a little; it was light enough to see everything at the time of the collision; the omnibus was coming at a rather rapid pace on the wrong side of the road – on the side that we ought to have been on; on the

omnibus approaching the bridge it was driving on the curve of the road on the right hand side; when we approached the bridge I was certain that if the mail pursued its own course a collision was unavoidable, and our driver endeavoured to take the other side of the road – his wrong side – and the omnibus driver did the same, when the two vehicles came in contact; if the omnibus had kept on its wrong side we should have passed in safety, and if the omnibus driver had been on his own side of the road no accident would have occurred. **THOMAS SIMMONS** deposed that at the time of the collision the omnibus driver was endeavouring to get across to his own side of the road, but it was too late. Dr. **TIERNEY** deposed that he had examined the body of the deceased, and he was of opinion he died from rupture of the liver and the shock sustained by the nervous system. Mr. **MOSELY M. COHEN** had frequently travelled the road with both the drivers before the court, and believed them both to be experienced, careful, and skilful drivers. The coroner summed up the whole of the evidence, and left the case in the hands of the jury, who found a verdict of died from injuries accidentally received. *Herald, June 3.*

QUEANBEYAN. - FATAL ACCIDENT. - On Thursday, the 23rd ultimo, an inquest was held at Ginninderry Creek, before Dr. **MORTON,** the coroner for the district, and a jury of twelve men, on view of the body of **JAMES MASON**, aged thirty-two, then lying dead. The coroner and jury having made a careful inspection of the deceased, and of the place where he was found dead, it appeared, from that inspection, and from the evidence adduced, that the deceased, a recently arrived immigrant (whose untimely death has left a widow and young family destitute) was in temporary charge of a flock of sheep belonging to Mr. **PALMER**, of Ginninderry, and that he had followed an opossum up a tree, a height of about thirty feet, and while endeavouring to reach the animal by means of a small stick, the branch on which he stood gave way, and he was precipitated to the ground, falling on his head. He was found next morning, under a tree, quite dead, with blood oozing from the nose and mouth. The jury returned a verdict of "died from injuries sustained by falling from a tree." No one having seen the accident, the jury came to this verdict from circumstantial evidence only, but that of the clearest nature, viz. – marks on the tree as if made by a person climbing, a recently broken branch about thirty feet from the ground on which no doubt deceased stood, about five or six feet higher very distinct finger marks on another branch, evidently made by deceased grasping when the branch slipped from under him. There were also marks of the opossum's claws on one of the small branches broken off, and a quantity of the fur of that animal close to the tree, *Goulburn Herald, June 1*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/619, 08/06/1850

FATAL ACCIDENT. - On Monday morning an inquest was held at Parramatta on the body of a man of colour, said to be the cook or steward of the *Rose* steamer, trading between Sydney and Maitland. It appeared from the evidence that the deceased was at Homebush Races on Friday last, on horseback, when an accident occurred, narrated as follows by an eye-witness:- **FRANCIS SHIELDS**, a servant to Captain **BATTY**, of the 23rd regiment, said he was at the Homebush races on Friday last, in company with the deceased, but did not know his name; that he (witness) had been drinking with him on the course, and was close to him when he was thrown from his horse; there was a gig capsized and a rush was made, at which time some person on horseback knocked against the horse on which he was sitting, the reins of his horse gave way, and he lost all management of him; the deceased fell on his head and shoulder; there were some pieces of broken glass on the spot, which just made a

small graze on the temple; did not know the name of the person on horseback who rode against him; deceased could not ride well; persons present thought he was dead, for he laid half-an-hour apparently lifeless, until his face was washed, when he revived a little; he was bled on the spot; witness believed that deceased was three parts drunk, and that no person was to blame; it was quite an accident." The deceased was taken to the Parramatta Hospital, and was attended by Dr. **HILL** and Dr. **ROBERTSON**, but died from a compression of the brain produced by the rupture of a large blood-vessel. The jury returned a verdict of natural death. *Abridged from the Herald, June 5*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/620, 12/06/1850
THE PRESENT MRS. CLARKSON. - *Bell's Life* states that the Attorney General has declined to prosecute the present Mrs. Clarkson on the charge for which she was committed.
SYDNEY NEWS
CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT
Thursday and Friday
Before Mr. Justice Dickinson: **ANGELINA MARY HUGHES HALLETT** alias **ELYARD** alias **ELLIOTT** was indicted for having, on the 29th January last, forcible taken away one **JULIA BROWN**, an infant aged five years, with intent to deprive one **MICHAEL GEORGE BROWN** of the possession of the said infant. In the same indictment also, **THOMAS RUSSELL DUIGAN, JAMES GRIFFITHS**, and **MARY ANN CORMACK**, were charged with having aided the first named prisoner to escape from justice, by harbouring, concealing, and assisting her, they at the same time being well aware that she had committed the before mentioned felony. There were three other counts in the information; in one of these Mrs. Hallett was charged with enticing the child away by fraud, in another she was detaining the child by force; and in the last she was charged with detaining her by fraud. In each of these counts the other prisoners were charged as accessories after the fact. The evidence given in the case ran to a great length, occupying two days, but it was little more than an enlarged recapitulation of what has already been published from the police-office examinations. The jury returned a verdict of guilty against Mrs. Hallett on the last two counts, for detention by force and by fraud; and of guilty of being accessories against Dr. Duigan and Griffiths; they returned a verdict of not guilty as regarded Mrs. Cormack. Mrs. Cormack was discharged. Mrs. Hallett was sentenced to two years' imprisonment, with hard labour. As regarded Dr. Duigan and Griffiths, judgement was reserved, a point being reserved for argument as to whether a conviction made under the statute of an accessory would hold good where the aiding and abetting had been subsequent to the commission of the felony, and not at the time of the commission. *Abridged from the Herald.*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/621, 15/06/1850
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL – re INQUESTS.
CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT
Wednesday, June 12
Before the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Dickinson
MARY ANN CLARKSON'S recognizances to appear to take her trial were vacated, the Attorney General stating that he had no intention to prosecute. *Abr. from Herald.*
LUNATIC ASYLUM
To the Editors of the S.M. Herald.

GENTLEMEN – I yesterday interred the bodies of **JAMES HUTCHINSON** and **SAMUEL TODD** (two lunatics) in the burial ground at Tarban Creek, and there are circumstances connected with their deaths which imperatively demand investigation.

The Surgery Dispenser of the Asylum stated in my presence previous to the interments that Hutchinson, who was labouring under pulmonary disease, had been found dead on Monday morning, lying on the stone flags of the crib-room, where he slept with several other patients, by one of whom he had been much annoyed and pulled about during Sunday night. The dispenser moreover stated that Todd, who was suffering from aneurism, had also been found in a similar situation, not then dead – though he died in the course of the day.

I say nothing of the cause of these poor creatures being so situated. …….

Ryde Parsonage, June 12. **GEORGE E. TURNER**

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/622, 19/06/1850

FATAL ACCIDENT. - An awful and most distressing accident occurred at Newtown on Thursday last. A man of the name of **GRAY**, shoemaker, residing near Bates' public-house, on the Newtown road, left his family early in the morning for the purpose of procuring something for breakfast at a neighbouring shop; on returning in a few minutes after to his house, the horrifying spectacle presented itself of his eldest child, a girl of about five years old, lying on the ground, in a state of insensibility, and burnt almost to death. The frantic father took the child in his arms, and ran out into the street, calling for assistance in the most heart-rending tones. Medical aid was procured but the poor child died in about two hours after the accident. The unfortunate man lost his wife about four months ago. The cause of the accident is supposed to have originated in the deceased having incautiously gone too near the fire in the room for some purpose as yet unaccounted for. *Herald, June 17.*

SUSPICION OF MURDER. - On Thursday afternoon, the body of a man named **DEVONSHIRE**, who had been missing since last Monday week, was found near the monument to the memory of La Perouse, at Botany, bearing on the head marks of violence. The circumstance was reported at the Coroner's office, and in consequence of enquiries made by Mr. **SINGLETON**, of the Coroner's department, that officer has considered it his duty to apprehend a person named **WILLIAM BRADLEY,** on suspicion of being concerned in the murder of Devonshire. The deceased and Bradley were owners of a coasting craft of which the latter was master. The body has been brought into town, and an inquest will be held thereon today. *Herald, June 15.*

DEATH BY DROWNING. - The body of a man named **DEHINEY [DERRNKEY]** was yesterday found drowned in Darling Harbour. An inquest will be holden on the body this morning. *Herald, June 15.*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/623, 22/06/1850

ACCIDENTAL DEATH. - Another of the sad dray accidents which have been so frequently lately occurred on Tuesday last, the unfortunate sufferer being in a state of drunkenness at the time. Mr. **PATRICK M'MANUS**, of Singleton, had entrusted his hired servant, **PATRICK KELLY**, with a dray-load of goods to take to Morpeth, and on Monday Mr. M'Manus passed the dray on its way, at Lochinvar, when he gave Kelly 23s. 6d. in silver, and rode on himself to Morpeth. Kelly, it appears, had got between East Maitland and Morpeth with the dray about mid-day on Tuesday, but about two o'clock in the afternoon a carrier named **ROBERT CARTER**, of page's River, who was d riving a load of two tons of tallow on his own dray, met with Kelly walking on the road, and Kelly begged him to give him a lift that he might overtake

his dray; at this time Kelly was very drunk. Carter consented, and Kelly got up, and laid down on Carter's bed, which was on the top of the load; the dray was covered over with canvas, the sides being done up with sticks, and Kelly was underneath the canvas. Carter drove on till he reached the place at Morpeth where the roads separate, when he saw a man in front of him holding up his hands, and heard him call out to stop the bullocks; Carter immediately stopped them, the man informing him he saw Kelly fall out of the dray; Carter went back a little, and found Kelly lying in the road, senseless, and from the track of the near wheel it was obvious that the wheel had gone over the middle of his body. A medical man was sent for, who advised that Kelly should be at once removed to the Maitland Hospital, which was done by the police. An inquest was held on the body on Thursday, before **J.S. PARKER**, Esq., coroner, when the above evidence was given, and Dr. **M'CARTNEY**, having examined the body, gave his opinion that death had been caused by the accident. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death, adding that the deceased was at the time of the accident in a state of drunkenness, and unable to take care of himself.

CORONER'S INQUEST. - An inquest was held on Saturday and (by adjournment) yesterday, at the house of Robert Hancock, Parramatta-street, on view of the body of **WILLIAM DEVONSHIRE**, then lying in the dead-house of the Benevolent Asylum, **WILLIAM BRADLEY** being in custody. The evidence given was corroborative of Bradley's account of the transaction; that his mate and part owner (Devonshire) had landed from the cutter at Botany to obtain an order for coals from Mrs. **CASTILLA**; had got the order, and made his way towards the point from whence he was to go off to the cutter; that it became dark, and he lost his way, and was put on it again by a woman at whose house he had called; and that Bradley landed in a dingy to meet and bring him off, he could see or hear nothing of him, expressing great surprise in his enquiries that his mate should, as was suggested, have returned overland to Sydney. The next morning Devonshire's body was found among the rocks at the foot of a little precipice. Mr. **RUSSELL**, house surgeon of the Benevolent Asylum, after having described the state of the body, the injuries it had received, deposed that death was caused by drowning combined with those injuries. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death, and Bradley was discharged from custody. *Abridged from the Herald, June 19.*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/624, 26/06/1850

MURDER BY THE BLACKS AT WARIALDA. Shepherd. See 8/625.

FATAL ACCIDENT. - On Sunday last, two children at Colo, the one aged four and the other two years, both girls, daughters of a Mr. **WILLIAM BULLOCK**, were left for a few minutes by the fire, whilst their mother went out to see if a hen had laid which she heard cackling. On her return she found both the children partly in flames. The elder had her hair much singed, but the younger was dreadfully burned. The little sufferer lingered in great agony until nine o'clock p.m., when she expired. Previous to the mother going out, she had raked some live ashes upon the hearth to bake a damper, and it appeared that the children, during her absence, had seated themselves on the other side of the hob, and thus caught fire. An inquest was held, and a verdict returned of accidental death by burning. *Herald, June 21.*

EXECUTION. - The men Wagner and Fitzgerald, convicted of murder, and sentenced to death at the late Moreton Bay Assizes, have been warned that they will be hanged on Monday, the 9th of July next, at Brisbane, Moreton Bay. The Under Sheriff will proceed thither to see the sentence carried out. *S.M. Herald.*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/625, 29/06/1850
MAITLAND QUARTER SESSIONS. - There are three cases added to the list of cases for trial, viz. **THOMAS HARRINGTON and CHARLES LAWN,** assault with intent, Maitland bench; …
CALLANDOON. - JUNE 15. - I am sorry to inform you that a man named **JAMES M'KIRK**, a shepherd in the employment of Mr. **JOHN M'MILLAN**, was killed by the blacks on the 10th ultimo. Mr. M'Millan has lately formed a new station upon the head of one of the branches of the Weer (a Macintyre water) about five miles from Callandoon, the head-quarters of the native police. The flock of sheep which the deceased had in charge, having returned to the station at the usual hour in the evening, without the shepherd, caused the overseer to go in search of him, but as it soon became dark, he was not found. In the morning the overseer with two other men continued the search, and found the body of the deceased about half a mile from the hut. The man was quite dead, and had a severe cut apparently from a tomahawk on the head, also a bad wound in the face, and his neck bore the marks of strangulation, the impression of numerous finger nails being visible. The news of the murder having reached the lieutenant of the native police on the 12th ultimo, he started the next day for Mr. M'Millan's station. This is the second murder within the last four months, committed by the same blacks.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/626, 03/07/1850
MAITLAND QUARTER SESSIONS
WOUNDING WITH INTENT. - **THOMAS HARRINGTON** and **CHARLES LAWN** were indicted for wounding **JAMES SUMMERVILLE**, on the head, face, and neck, with intent to do him some grievous bodily harm, at Morpeth, on the 1st May, 1850.

…He called Mr. **W SCOTT,** J.P., who gave Lawn a good character for twelve or fourteen years, during which he had known him well; he was an excellent tradesman, industrious, and he believed quiet in his demeanour.

… the jury retired for a quarter of an hour, and returned with a verdict of guilty against both parties, but recommending them to mercy on the ground that the prisoners were not the first to commence the assault. The prisoners were each sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment, with hard labour.
ACCIDENT. - ?? **WILLIAM NEAL,** aged 70, fell broke thigh, missed wheel??
ACCIDENTAL DEATH. - Yesterday evening an inquest was held at Mrs. Allinson's public-house, Darlinghurst, on view of the body of **DANIEL DWYER**, then lying dead at Darlinghurst. From the evidence of **ENOCH W. BOOTY** it appeared that on Tuesday last he and deceased were riding by the Cockatoo Inn, in Bourke-street, when the horse rode by the latter shied, and he (deceased) fell over his head, and was severely injured. Mr. Surgeon **PACKARD** was sent for, who attended him, and on Thursday Mr. Packard called Mr. Surgeon **CARTWRIGHT** to visit deceased; in the course of the day he expired. Both the medical gentlemen attributed the death of the unfortunate man to injury of the spine caused by the concussion of his fall from the horse. The jury found a verdict of accidental death. Deceased had some property, and was about 60 years of age. *Herald, June 29.*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/627, 06/07/1850
GOULBURN. - CASE OF MURDER. - We believe a woman has been received into our gaol, charged with shooting a man, at the utmost limits of the colony, about

six hundred miles distant. The particulars of the case have not yet reached us. *Herald Correspondent.*

DEATH BY HANGING. - An inquest was held on the 25th June, by **J.B. WEST**, Esq., Coroner of the district, at the Bush Inn, Hall Creek, on the body of **JOHN CARTER**, who it appeared from the evidence, was a hawker, travelling with a cart and two horses, having goods for sale; that he camped at Hall Creek, and when last seen alive, on the 16th June, he was at his cart, and that he left there to fetch a horse that he had lost, which was found some distance off; he took a pair of winkers and a tether rope with him; however, after seven or eight days had elapsed, some children were in the bush, about half a mile from the inn, in a very obscure place, and observed the body of a man suspended from the limb of a tree; the body was afterwards identified as that of John Carter, and to all appearances had been dead since the day he left his cart, as before stated. The deceased had, previous to getting up the tree, removed some boughs that were scattered about the tree, and piled them in a heap a little distance off, then put a limb against the tree to assist him in mounting his gallows; he then twisted the rope twenty-six times round the limb of the tree, fixed it round his neck, and threw himself off a height of about twelve feet, his legs being about eighteen inches from the ground. When found hanging dead, the deceased's cart, horses, and goods were all safe, and taken possession of by district constable **MURRAY**, stationed at Merton. It further appeared that the unfortunate man had been for some time, to all appearance, in a state of despondency, supposing to arise from some misfortune in money matters. The jury returned a verdict that the deceased hung himself during a fit of temporary insanity.

LOST AT SEA. - **CHARLES EDGAR GRIFFIN,** 2nd Officer, Duke of Roxburgh, lost overboard 2/6 while at sea.

THE CAPTAIN STANLEY SENIORITY SCRAMBLE. His successors in seniority?

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT

Tuesday, July 2

The QUEEN v DUIGAN and GRIFFITHS.

The prisoners had been convicted of aiding one **ANGELINA MARY HUGHES HALLETT** to escape from justice, but a point had been raised whether they could legally be convicted of felony under an act cited as accessories after the fact, the counsel for the defence arguing that they could only be convicted for a misdemeanour, and that therefore the present conviction must fall. While the argument was proceeding the court pointed out that in a later act the offence was made a felony, and that therefore the conviction was good. The prisoners were each sentenced to six months' imprisonment, to be computed from the day of conviction.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/628, 10/07/1850

DEATH ACCELERATED BY INTEMPERANCE. - An inquest was commenced on Monday and concluded yesterday, before **J.S. PARKER**, Esq., Coroner, at Black Creek, on the body of **DOMINIC GALUPY [SALESPY??].** It appeared that Galupy was an elderly man, and much given to intemperance. On the 1st instant his son-in-law, Mr. **BRYAN EGAN**, opened a public-house at Black Creek, and as usual a good deal of drinking had been going on, in which Galupy took part. On Thursday Galupy was seen by constable **DWYER** very much intoxicated, and looking as if he had been labouring under the effects of drink for some days; late on Friday evening Mr. Egan asked a neighbour, **JOHN REARDON**, who called in, to see Galupy, who was then in bed, and apparently in a dying state; Reardon was alarmed at his appearance, and went to fetch his wife and daughter, gelling them he thought Galupy

was dying; in about an hour afterwards Galupy expired. When the body was laid out a black mark or discolouration was observed on the inner part of the left arm and down the left side, and rumours spread that some person had pushed the deceased against a fence, or otherwise injured him; the coroner called several witnesses to trace out these rumours, but each party called had only heard reports, and in each case the violence was imputed to different persons. Yesterday a post mortem examination by Dr. **SCOTT** established that violence had not been used to deceased so as in any way to cause death, but that a disease of the lungs, of long standing, had been greatly aggravated by recent continued intemperance – death in Dr. Scott's opinion being caused by the inflammation of the left lung, excited by intemperance. The jury returned a verdict of death from inflammation of the lungs, accelerated by acts of intemperance.
FATAL ACCIDENT. - Neither is our district fertile in accidents, the most prominent being a case of a young man named **WILLIAM BOYD**, residing at Camden, who was lately thrown from his horse, which reared and fell on top of him. Concussion of the brain was produced by the fall, and the poor fellow never recovered, although all was done for him which circumstances rendered possible; he died in about forty-eight hours, having remained during the interval in a state of rigidity. *Camden Correspondent of the Herald*.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/630, 17/07/1850
BREACH OF PEACE by **HENRY GOULD** (father) v **JOHN AUBREY** son shot.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/631, 20/07/1850
Mr. **M'GUIGAN**, who for some time past was master of the *Mermaid*, employed in the Newcastle trade, was drowned in Newcastle on Saturday. It appears that the deceased was very much intoxicated when he left the town for the purpose of going on board his vessel. An inquest was held on the body, and a verdict returned of "found drowned." *July 18.*
EXECUTION of **WAGNER and FITZGERALD.**
SUDDEN DEATH. - About half-past ten o'clock yesterday morning, a man named **[GEORGE] NORTH**, residing at Burdekin's-terrace, and in the employment of Mr. **ANDREWS**, Brickfield Hill, was seen lying on the mud at or near Ryan's slaughter-house, where he had been sent by Mr. Andrews for offal, and on the people at work going up to him, found that he was dead; he left home at six o'clock in the morning in his usual health, and when transacting his business at the slaughter-house, a minute of two before his death, appeared to be quite well. Mr. **R.W. NELSON**, of Pitt-street, surgeon, was immediately sent for, but of no avail. In the afternoon an inquest was held at the Hand and Heart public house, in the vicinity of the catastrophe, and a verdict of death from natural causes returned. *Herald, July 17.*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/632, 24/07/1850
A MAN BURNT TO DEATH IN HIS HUT. - On Monday an inquest was held at the Paterson Hotel, Paterson, before **J.S. PARKER**, Esq., Coroner, on the body of **JOHN RYAN**. It appeared from the evidence of **JOHN BUCKLEY, CHARLES ROBINS, and BOYFIELD WORMERSLY**, that Ryan and Buckley lived in adjoining rooms or huts, both being shoemakers in the employ of Mr. Wormersly. On Saturday about mid-day Mr. Wormersly took Buckley some work, and afterwards Mr. Wormersly accompanied Ryan to the Paterson Hotel, where Ryan drank three glasses of rum, and then went to see the doctor; he again returned to the Hotel, and took one more glass of

rum, and then appears to have gone home again. In the course of the afternoon Buckley heard Ryan talking and "going on" in his room, and heard him call his (Buckley's) wife improper names; as this was the first time such a thing had happened, Buckley concluded that Ryan was intoxicated; Ryan, it appears, bore the reputation of being "a cranky character," and Buckley did not go to him. After dark Ryan called to Buckley to lend him a blanket or some bags, but Buckley replied that he had neither to lend; again, later, Ryan called out to ask Buckley to come in and cover him with a rug, and Buckley called out that he would if Ryan would open his door; Ryan at first said he would, but then said "I cannot get up;" Buckley told him he could not get in if he did not open the door. After this Buckley heard Ryan talking to himself for some time, but nothing more occurred to attract his attention. The next morning Buckley rose as usual, between seven and eight o'clock, and went outside to walk up and down; he was surprised to see no smoke coming from Ryan's chimney, as was usual, and having learnt from his wife that she had seen nothing of Ryan that morning, Buckley looked through a crack in the door, and saw Ryan lying still, and apparently dead and much burnt, in the fire-place; Buckley called to another neighbour to look, who said that Ryan was evidently dead, and then went for Mr. Wormersly and the chief constable; the chief constable opened the door, on his arrival, and Ryan was found dead in the fire-place. The jury returned a verdict that Ryan came to his death from injuries received from fire by falling into the fire-place in his hut some time on Saturday night; they also found that he had been drinking during the day, but that there was no evidence to show how his clothes caught fire, or that he was in an unfit state to take care of himself.

CARCOAR. - MURDER. - A man named [**OLIVER] DWYER** was found, on Sunday evening last, in the bush about two miles and a half from this township, quite dead, with several wounds in different parts of the body. There is no doubt he has been murdered, and it is supposed in consequence of having been in the habit of carrying money about with him. The inquest was held yesterday, and adjourned to eleven o'clock this morning (July 15), the particulars of which I will forward by next post. *Correspondent of the Herald.*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/633, 27/07/1850

A MAN FOUND HANGING. - On Saturday an inquest took place at the Angel Inn, Liverpool road, on the body of a man [**JOHN MORRIS,** see 8/634**]**. It appeared from the evidence that deceased was a tailor, and that on Thursday evening he went into the taproom of the Angel Inn, and sat down by the fire, saying he had come to warm himself; his manner seemed strange, and he said he had come from the Clarence, and was looking for work; he was sober, and left again without having anything to drink. On Friday morning he was found dead, hanging to one of the rafters in the stable of Mr. **FAULKNER**, timber merchant, near the Angel Inn, he was suspended by a halter, and his hands were tied together and one leg thrust through, so as to bring them under the knee. He appeared about fifty-five years old. Two persons who had conversed with deceased on Thursday night thought him insane. A verdict was returned in accordance with the evidence. *Herald's Parramatta Correspondent.*

MUDGEE. MURDER, AND MURDEROUS ASSAULT ON A SECOND PERSON. On the 30th ultimo, two men named **GLEESON** and **TRACEY**, whilst drinking at a public-house at Mudgee, quarrelled and fought, when the former obtained some advantage over his antagonist. Subsequently Tracey went to the hut where he resided. Late in the evening of the same day, Gleeson went thither also, and challenged out Tracey to fight again. The challenge, it would seem, was accepted, and Tracey came

out of the hut, when Gleeson sprang on him with an open knife, and stabbed him on the thigh. Tracey's cries for assistance brought out a hut-mate, named **BROOKES**, but before this person could render any assistance he received a stab in the groin, and now lies in a precarious state. Intelligence of the occurrence reached the police shortly afterwards, and on their proceeding to Tracey's hut he was found lying lifeless from the loss of blood, and from the state Brookes was in, had their arrival been many minutes later, he would also have been dead. Gleeson's hut, it appears, was only a short distance away, and the police proceeded thither, and he was captured; but not until he had made such resistance, being armed with an axe and a knife, as rendered their retreat for additional aid necessary. The deceased and the prisoner, it is reported, had some years previously, when working together as sawyers, quarrelled, and fought over a saw. Gleeson was formerly in the army, but transported to this colony for mutiny. *Abridged from the Bathurst Free Press.*

MURDER NEAR CARCOAR. - An inquest was held at Carcoar on Monday and Tuesday last, before Mr. **NORTH**, on the body of **JOHN DWYER.** From the evidence it appeared that Dwyer was an industrious man, who had lived in that neighbourhood for some time, working as a hut-keeper or shepherd; and that he usually carried money about his person. On Friday evening, the 12th, Dwyer went to Mallow Grove, Mr. **BLIGH'S** station, where he had been occasionally employed, and slept there that night with a man named **FLOOD**, in Mr. Bligh's employment. On the Saturday morning Dwyer left Mallow Grove, saying he was going to carcoar, and would not come back that way; at this time Flood was at work at Mallow Grove, and he remained at work there all day. Nothing more seems to have been seen of Dwyer alive. On the Sunday afternoon Mr. **N. CONOLLY**, Jun., was returning from Canowindra, and when he had got about a mile and a half from Carcoar his attention was arrested by the barking of a dog, which he recognised to be Dwyer's dog; Mr. Conolly followed the dog, and it led the way to where the body of Dwyer lay, apparently dead, and blood appearing on the mouth and nose. Mr. Conolly was driving some young horses at the time, and he did not dismount, but rode home wuickly, got a fresh horse, and rode into Carcoar to inform the police. When the chief constable came to Dwyer's body, the faithful dog was found by its side, licking the hands of its murdered master. Tracks were found as if the body had been dragged some distance, and some yards from the body a gum stick was found, with marks of blood on it. Dr. **BELL** made a post mortem examination, and found two lacerated wounds on the scalp, extending to the skull, but not fracturing it; a lacerated wound in front of the chin; a severe contusion on the back of one hand, and ten punctured wounds on the lower part of the chest and upper part of the belly; of these punctured wounds two only penetrated to the cavity of the belly, the remainder extending only to the skin and muscles; these penetrated wounds appear to have been inflicted by a sharp pointed knife, and all the other wounds apparently by a stick or bludgeon, such as the gum-stick produced. Dr. Bell considered death had been caused by the wounds on the head, coupled with the subsequent exposure in the bush; and he was also of opinion that Dwyer could not have long survived the influence of the wounds on the head. Two men were apprehended on suspicion, but nothing was elicited to bring the matter home to them, and they were discharged. The jury returned a verdict of wilful murder against some person or persons unknown. *Abridged from the Bathurst Free Press, 20th July.*

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT. - The townspeople were thrown into a state of consternation on Saturday morning last by the arrival of news that the dead body of Captain **LISTER** was lying on the Wellington road, on the falling ground towards

Evans' Plains Creek. An Inquest was subsequently held on the body, and it was proved that on Friday Captain Lister was in Bathurst, transacting business, and appears to have left town to proceed homewards about four or five o'clock in the afternoon, being then quite sober. The next morning, early, Mr. **SAMUEL PHILLIPS**, of Molong, was coming on the road into town, when he met with the dead body of Captain Lister lying near his gig, which was upset. It appeared by the marks left that the wheel had come in contact with a stump, and that the gig ran on one wheel for some yards, and then upset; Captain Lister was found with the reins twisted about his legs, and appeared to have been dragged from the spot where he had been thrown out by the stump. The post mortem examination by Dr. **MACHATTIE** showed that death resulted from concussion of the brain, aggravated by exposure to the cold frosty night, death not having been immediate. A verdict of found dead was returned. *Abridged from the Bathurst Free Press, July 20.*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/634, 31/07/1850

A MAN MISSING. - On Monday the 15th instant, a tailor named **JOHN MORRIS** [see 8/633], who with his wife had been for a short time lodging at Mr. **RANDALL'S**, hairdresser, West Maitland, left home to go to collect some money, having then only one shilling in his pocket, which he spent on the road. He went to Mr. **FERGUSON'S**, Dunmore, to ask for 18s. owing to him, and stopped there for the night; the next morning he left to come into Maitland again, Mr. Ferguson telling him he would bring in the money and pay him, and Morris telling Mr. Ferguson to pay his wife, if Mr. F. got into Maitland before he did. Mr. Ferguson the same day called on Mrs. Morris and paid the money, but nothing more has been seen of Morris, who never returned to Maitland. In last Saturday's *Mercury* was published an abridged report of an inquest being held on the body of a man, name unknown, who arrived at the Angel Inn, Liverpool Road, near Parramatta, on Thursday evening, the 18th, apparently much tired, and saying that he was a tailor, and had come from the Clarence in search of work; he warmed himself by the fire in the Angel Inn tap, left again, and the next morning was found hanging, dead, to the rafters in a stables on the premises of a timber merchant near the Angel Inn. As Morris had come from Clarence Town (Williams River) to Maitland, and had always spoken of where he came fro as "the Clarence" (a term used occasionally, it appears, in the neighbourhood), it is thought by many that Morris, whose manner was somewhat wild, had wandered down to Parramatta, and hung himself. The descriptions of the two men agree on some points, but differ in others. The full description of the man found hanging is given in the *Sydney Morning Herald* of the 24th instant, under the head "Parramatta." The following is the description of Morris and his dress, as given by Mr. Randall:- Age, about fifty; height, about 5 feet 5 inches; forefinger of right hand damaged, by a fistula having been cut out, but no other marks observed (the right forefinger of the man found hanging was stated to be off, and a woman and other marks branded on the arms); wore boots nearly new, a check tweed coat, grey tweed trousers, black waistcoat, and an old black hat battered down; had a wild look about the eyes, and hair cut close round the head, but a singular looking tuft left standing up on the crown, above the forehead.

SUDDEN DEATH. - Yesterday morning the wife of Mr. **DANIEL ROGERS**, publican of Sydney, inadvertently, and not dreaming of the consequences, removed from her leg a small cicatrix, about the size of half a pea, when the blood immediately spouted out, and flowed so abundantly that before medical assistance could be procured she had bled to death. This is much to be lamented, because a compress on

the orifice, or even pressure with the thumb, would have been sufficient till a surgeon arrived.

CORONER'S INQUEST. - On Wednesday, an inquest was held at Smith's, Observer Tavern, Lower George-street, on the body of **MICHAEL MULLINS [MULLENS]** then lying dead. **JOSEPH BRAYLEY** deposed that about half-past one o'clock, he and a man, who was with him in the boat, went on shore at Long Nose Point for some water, and while proceeding to the water-hole, a dog rushed towards them, barking and running away; they followed the dog a short distance, when they came upon the body of the deceased, which was quite dead, cold, and stiff, lying on his back. Information was given of this circumstance, and the body was removed to the Water Police Office. **MARGARET MULLINS**, residing on the Balmain Road, deposed that the body viewed by the jury was that of her husband; three years ago he had a paralytic stroke, since which time he had not been right in his mind; on Monday last, she left home to do a day's washing, and on her return in the evening found the house locked up and her husband absent, and did not see him again alive; she missed a bag out of the house, and she was of opinion that deceased had gone out with a view of gathering native currants. He was a very quiet, sober man. Dr. **TIERNEY**, having viewed the body, was of opinion that death was caused by inanition and exposure to cold, the weather having been, during the last few days, very cold and wet. *Herald, July 26.*

LONGEVITY. - A man of Gipsy race, named **HENRY BUCKLED**, expired on Thursday last at the advanced age of one hundred years and forty-four days, at a small house in Campbell's Buildings, Miller's Point. *Herald, July 27.*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/635, 03/08/1850

HARTLEY. - MELANCHOLY DEATH FROM INTOXICATION. - An inquest was held on the 18th July, at Mr. Bennings's inn, before **HEYWOOD ATKINS**, Esq., coroner for the district, touching the death of a poor woman named **BARS**, found dead in the bush. [??Mary Cooper??] It appeared from the evidence that the deceased, who lived near Cox's River, had been to Hassan's Walls on Sunday, the 14th, and was remarked in the evening of that day, on her return home, to be under the influence of liquor. Her body was found on the following Wednesday on a ridge about equidistant between the main road and her house, with some rum in a bottle lying beside it. From these causes, and from the position of her head and other appearances exhibited by the body, a verdict of "died from suffocation" was returned, which no doubt had been caused by drinking too freely of the rum. It is very probable that her death was accelerated by exposure to the night air. Deceased was about eighty years of age. The inclemency of the weather alone would be sufficient, in a person of her years, we apprehend, to cause death. *Bathurst Free Press.*

REMARKABLE DEATH. - An inquest was held at Mrs. Stone's public-house, Pitt-street, on the body of **ANNA MARIA BLENKINSOP**. On Sunday, about noon, she was washing herself, when suddenly she called out for assistance. Blood was seen to be issuing from her person, and on examination it was found to be proceeding from a vein in her leg. The limb was bandaged and Dr. **M'KELLAR** sent for, but before his arrival she was dead. Dr. M'Kellar deposed that a varicose vein in the right leg had ruptured; the slightest pressure on the vein would have saved her life, but the bandage applied above the orifice caused the blood to flow so rapidly that dissolution soon ensued. There was the appearance of a small pimple where the bleeding orifice existed. Verdict, died from the rupture of a blood vessel in the leg. *Herald, July 30.*

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE. - About three o'clock yesterday afternoon, a person named **GRAHAM**, keeping a grocer's shop in King-street, attempted to put a period to his existence by shooting. Doctors **RUTTER and HOUSTON** were immediately sent for, who found that the shot had taken effect on one ear, and entered the head just above it; but the wound is very little more than skin deep, and there is hope that the man will live to repent of his rash attempt. *Herald, July 30.*

INQUEST. - An inquest was held on Thursday, at the Rose, Shamrock, and Thistle, Morpeth, before **J.S. PARKER**, Esq., coroner, on the body of **MARIA HARDWICK.** It appeared from the evidence that Mrs. Hardwick, who had latterly been addicted to drink, had been for the last fortnight almost constantly intoxicated, and on Tuesday last, being then tipsy, complained very much of being very unwell, and was put to bed; she was worse on Wednesday morning, and a medical man as sent for, but apparently before one arrived she had expired. It was generally reported about Morpeth, and expressly to the police, that the woman's illness arose from a kicking and beating inflicted by her husband; **JOSEPH HARDWICK**, and the coroner had a number of witnesses summoned to sift this out, if it was correct. It was proved by two witnesses that on Tuesday Hardwick came home drunk, and found his wife also drunk but about her house-hold work, and that some little time afterwards they had some words in the kitchen about five shillings Hardwick accused his wife of taking; one of these witnesses deposed that while he remained within hearing he heard no blows or kicking, or similar sounds; and the other witness, **PRISCILLA KING**, deposed that during the whole of the time Hardwick then remained with his wife she was I n sight of them, and that he neither struck nor kicked his wife, but after a few minutes wrangling he went away. Another witness, **SARAH THOMPSON**, deposed that she saw Mrs. Hardwick in the afternoon of Tuesday, and found her complaining of being very bad, but that Mrs. Hardwick never said a word to her of ill-usage from her husband, or of his having kicked or struck her. On the other hand, two witnesses, **THOMAS LEONARD** and his wife, deposed positively that Thompson, on the afternoon of Tuesday, told them that Mrs. Hardwick was very bad, and had been put to bed, and that she did not think Mrs. Hardwick would ever rise again, from a beating and kicking she received from her husband. **MARY COOK**, who had washed and laid out the body after death, deposed positively that she found no scratch or mark on the body, nor any blood on the clothing. Dr. **WILTON** performed a *post mortem* examination, and saw no external marks of violence, but found that death had been caused by disease of the bowels, omentum, and neighbouring parts, which had been existing some time, and which he thought had been aggravated by intemperance. The jury returned a verdict of death from natural causes.

THE MISSING MAN FOUND. [see 8/633 and 8/634] In our last we mentioned that a person named **JOHN MORRIS** had been missing from Maitland since Tuesday, the 16th July, and that fears were entertained that he was the man found hanging, dead, in a stable on the Liverpool Road, near Parramatta, on the morning of the 19th July. We are happy to say that on Wednesday last Morris rode into town on a cart, having come from somewhere over about Dunmore, but where he had been all the while he would not say; as, however, he had evidently been imbibing deeply for some time, the mystery was easily divined. It is clear, therefore, that the unfortunate man found near Parramatta must have been "somebody else." Morris, when told that it had been reported that he had hung himself, said that he had not done so, and that it would be a long day before he should.

MELANCHOLY SUICIDE. - We regret to state that a young gentleman named **THOMSON**, residing on Mr. **CROWDER'S** station Weraga, Darling Downs,

committed suicide on the 6th inst. by poisoning himself, it is supposed with strychnine, while labouring under severe mental depression or temporary derangement. An enquiry took place before Mr. **MACKENZIE**, the nearest magistrate, touching the circumstances, but we are not able to furnish further particulars. *Moreton Bay Free Press, July 23.*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/636, 07/08/1850
ARREST. - Of **MOOJOO**, aboriginal, murder of **DANIEL PAGE**; committed.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/637, 10/08/1850
FATAL ACCIDENT. - On Thursday an inquest was held at the Hunter River Hotel, East Maitland, before **J.S. PARKER**, Esq., Coroner, on the body of **THOMAS FITZPATRICK,** a little boy of five years old, whose body had been exhumed by order of the coroner. It appeared from the evidence that on Monday, the 29th ultimo, the little boy was engaged in minding two of his father's working bullocks, which were then in yokes, his duty being simply to keep them from going on the growing crop; his father, **WILLIAM FITZPATRICK**, was engaged at this time loading a dray with wood, some ten or fifteen rods off, and suddenly heard his son cry out, as if hurt; he ran towards him, and observed that the bullocks were near him; when he reached him, and picked him up, the little boy said, "Daddy, Star has tossed me," Star being the name of one of the two bullocks. Fitzpatrick saw that the poor boy had been wounded in the lower part of the belly, so that his intestines were protruding through, and he ran off to the nearest house, that of his neighbour, **JOHN HAYDON**, and begged him to ride off for a doctor; Mr. Haydon did so, and a medical man attended, but in vain, the poor child dying six days after it had been wounded. Mt. Haydon also heard the little boy say Star had hurt him, but did not hear him say in what manner. Fitzpatrick stated that he buried his son after his death, not being aware that it was necessary to inform the authorities, as the doctor had been attending him. The circumstance was afterwards ascertained by the policeman, **CLIFTON**, stationed at Hinton, and Mr. Parker ordered the body to be exhumed. Dr. **WILTON** examined the body, and found the wound in the lower part of the bowels quite sufficient to account for death; it appeared to be caused by a blunt instrument, such as a cow's horn or a stick. It appeared that the little boy had been in the habit of minding the bullocks, which were old and quiet, for three months. The jury returned a verdict of died from injury received from a bullock.
DEATHS.
Yesterday morning, the body of a Mrs. **JEROME**, and that of her daughter, a child of about three years of age, were found in the waters of Darling Harbour. Between four and five o'clock yesterday afternoon, **OLIVER DWYER**, formerly a publican, and lately resident in Pitt-street, Redfern, was wheeling a barrow of wood, when he was observed to stop, and lean against a gate; the gate fell, Dwyer with it, and never moved more. No inquests were held yesterday in consequence of the indisposition of Mr. **BRENAN**, by which he was prevented from leaving home. *Herald, Aug.3.*
FATAL ACCIDENT. - A shepherd in the employment of Mr. **AUSTIN**, at Killonbutta, named **MICHAEL [PATRICK?] CAHILL,** was killed by the fall of a tree on Saturday last. It appears that he and another individual were employed in felling a tree with a cross-cut saw, when it happened to come down sooner than expected; the unfortunate man was struck by the butt before he could get away, and killed upon the spot. An inquest was held on his remains, and a verdict of accidental

death returned. The deceased has left a wife and four children to deplore his loss. *Bathurst Free Press, Aug. 3*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 14/08/1850
MELANCHOLY SUICDE. - On Wednesday last an inquest was held at Gray's, the Light House Hotel, Sussex-street, on view of the bodies of **JULIA JEROMES**, and **WILLIAM** her son, aged respectively thirty-seven and three years. It appeared from the evidence that Mrs. Jeromes was the wife of **WILLIAM JEROMES**, a waterman, and had on the 8th June last been confined, since which she had been ailing, but her husband was so much from home that he had not observed whether her mind was affected; on the night of Saturday last a neighbour saw her going towards the wharf, and questioned her as to where she was going, and finding that Mrs. Jeromes appeared wandering in her mind, and talked strangely, she took her home, and kept her there till Jeromes came home. On Monday night, about eleven o'clock, a little girl was in Mrs. Jeromes's house, assisting to mind the house, when Mrs. Jeromes gave her some bread and butter, and said she would go and sit a while with the girl's mother, taking her son with her. Subsequently, Jeromes came home, and found his wife still away, and not finding her at the girl's mother's house, he searched about, and at length found her dead body floating near the wharf, and on getting to it he found his son's dead body also floating by her. The jury returned a verdict that deceased put a period to her own and her son's life while in a state of temporary insanity. *Abridged from Herald, August 9.*
CORONER'S INQUEST. - An inquest was held on Saturday, and by adjournment on Thursday, on the body of **MARIA ASPINALL**, a married woman about forty years of age, who died in childbed. After hearing the evidence of six medical gentlemen, the details of which we cannot publish, the jury returned a verdict of died in labour from natural causes. *Herald, Aug. 10*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/639, 17/08/1850
SYDNEY NEWS.
ACCIDENTAL DEATH. - On Tuesday afternoon last, **JOSEPH SHAW**, boatswain of the *Santipore*, lying at Town's Wharf, fell from under the main top, and died within three hours afterwards from the injuries he received. At an inquest held on the body a verdict of accidental death was returned.
FATAL ACCIDENT ON BOARD THE STEAMER "NATIVE". - Yesterday, at twelve o'clock, when this steamer was about to start for Parramatta, a dreadful explosion took place, caused by the bursting of the flues of the boiler, by which one man was killed, and two others seriously injured. The unfortunate man were sent to the Infirmary immediately, but the engineer, **THOMAS HEFFERAN**, died soon after. The other men, whose names were **COX** and **BROWNE**, we believe belong to Parramatta, and were going home. This is the third accident of the kind that has happened on board the *Native*. The *Comet* is the boat that usually starts at twelve o'clock, but she had been hired for the day, and the *Native* had to start in her place. We understand that late in the evening Mr. **JOHN COX** died. *August*

Yesterday an inquest was commenced on the bodies of **THOMAS HEFFERAN** and Mr. **JOHN COX.** Hefferan, the engineer, was an old man, who had been nearly all his lifetime connected with steamers; he arrived in the colony twenty years since, in the *Sophia Jane,* the first steamer that ran in the colony. Mr. Cox was the son-in-law of the late Mr. **MOBBS**, to whose property he had recently succeeded. Evidence was taken of the mode in which the accident was observed by the parties immediately

near at the time, including Mrs. Cox, over whom some water was cast by the explosion, but who was not injured. Dr. **M'EWAN** certified that both the deceased had died from the fearful scalding and scorching, and that Mr. Cox lived in great agony till five o'clock in the afternoon. The inquest was then adjourned till Saturday, to allow of an examination of the steamer and machinery by competent persons, to determine whether neglect was chargeable against any persons. *Abridged from the Herald, Aug. 15*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/640, 21/08/1850

ACCIDENTAL DEATH. - On Saturday se'nnight, Mrs. **ELIZA RYAN**, residing in George-street, in descending a flight of stairs, fell over the banister rail, in depth of from fourteen to sixteen feet, and seriously injured the spinal column. On the following Tuesday she was removed to the Sydney Infirmary, where she was placed under the care of Dr. **M'EWAN**; instead of recovering, however, she lingered until last Saturday morning, when she expired. An inquest was held at Mr. Driver's, the Three Tuns Tavern, in the afternoon. Dr. M'Ewan deposed that death had resulted from injury to the spine; and that from the period of the admission of the deceased into the Infirmary, the case was considered hopeless. The jury found a verdict of died from injury accidentally received. Deceased was a married woman, about 26 years of age, and has left one child. *Herald, Aug. 19*

THE FATAL STEAM BOILER EXPLOSION. - The inquest on the bodies of Mr. **COX, HEFFERAN**, and **BROWNE**, who had died from injuries received from the explosion of the boiler of the steamboat *Native*, was resumed on Saturday, when evidence at some length was taken. The coroner had summed up, and the jury had retired when Mr. **STRUTH**, the maker of the boiler, requested that the inquest might be adjourned to allow him to call further evidence as to the usual course in manufacturing boilers. The jury also thought this desirable. The inquest was then adjourned till Friday next, at noon. *Abridged from the Herald, Aug. 19*

AWFULLY SUDDEN DEATH FROM BURNING. - Mr. **C.B. LYONS,** coroner for the district, was sent for to Kissing Point, on Thursday last, to hold an inquest on an old man who there was reason to believe had destroyed himself by fire, rather than leave his miserable abode for the infirmary. It appeared from the evidence that the deceased [**JOSEPH RILEY??]**, an old man above eighty years, had been long principally supported by Mrs. **DARVALL**, and had repeatedly declined to leave his hut, and go to the Infirmary; a ticket had been got for his admission therein, and Mrs. D. had told the old man that he must go; he was unable to walk without help, and passed most of his time lying in bed smoking; he used to sleep at nights with a lighted candle near his bed, and used to say, when told that this was dangerous, that he always kept a watch on it, not being able to sleep well. On Tuesday evening a neighbour visited him about seven o'clock, and found him as usual, but about half an hour after the neighbour was alarmed by a strange noise, and on opening his door saw that the old man's hut was on fire. He ran thither, and got the old man out, but he was so much burnt that he never spoke more, and died shortly after. A verdict was returned in accordance with the evidence. *Abridged from the Herald's Parramatta Correspondent.*

THE STEAMER ACCIDENT. - We regret to learn, that **BROWNE**, one of the sufferers by the explosion of the boiler on board the *Native*, expired yesterday morning. *Herald, Aug. 16*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/642, 28/08/1850

ALLEGED BREACH OF THE LICENSING ACT.
Inquest being held by Mr. JS Parker, on 8th July, Woolpack Inn, Black Creek, but due to noise went elsewhere. Egan warned by bench.
BATHURST CIRCUIT COURT.
This Court was opened on Monday, the 19th instant, before the Chief Justice.
JOHN M'PHERSON was indicted for the manslaughter of ------- **HAGGERTY**, on Good Friday last. M'Pherson, Haggerty, and another man, had been drinking together, when Haggerty wanted to fight M'Pherson, and notwithstanding M'Pherson's repeated refusals to fight, and his pushing Haggerty from him, Haggerty persisted until a scuffle took place, in which Haggerty was either thrown or fell, and his head came in contact with a chopping block; he arose again, but staggered and fell, and almost immediately expired. A high character was given to M'Pherson as a quiet and peaceable man. The jury found a verdict of guilty, with a recommendation to mercy; remanded for sentence.
MATTHEW KEOGH was indicted for the manslaughter of **REUBEN HOADLEY.** On the 28th March the prisoner and the boy Hoadley were left together in a blacksmith's shop in Carcoar, and shortly after the prisoner ran into a public-house, where the blacksmith was, saying he had shot the boy, but it was by accident; his account being that he had taken down a gun which was hanging up, and in doing so the gun went off, and shot the boy. There was no other witness to the transaction. Guilty, twelve months' imprisonment, with hard labour.
CORONER'S INQUEST. - On Wednesday last an inquest was held at Green's, the Wellington Inn, Parramatta-street, on view of the body of one **WILLIAM LEWIS**, lately employed by Mr. **RILEY** as a carter. Deceased had been accustomed to drink large quantities of colonial ale, and had lately been complaining of ill-health, but did not take any medicine or medical advice, probably himself, as well as those who were acquainted with him, attributing his illness to the effect of drink. On Wednesday morning he was found dead in bed. The jury returned the following verdict – "Died from pre-existing disease, accelerated by habits of intoxication, more particularly the use of colonial ale." *Herald, Aug. 23*
THE LATE STEAM EXPLOSION. - The adjourned inquest on the bodies of **HEFFERAN, COX, and BROWN**, who were killed by the explosion of the boiler of the *Native*, steamer, was resumed yesterday. Mr. **P.A. TOMPSON**, who appeared on behalf of Mr. **STRUTH**, the manufacturer, called three witnesses out of sixteen he stated he was prepared to call; these three witnesses were Mr. **TAYLOR**, Mr. **P.N. RUSSELL**, and Mr. **GEORGE FYFE**. These witnesses were closely examined as to the state in which the boiler appeared to be after the explosion, and as to the sufficiency or not of the precautions that had been taken to strengthen it against accidents. Mr. Taylor was also examined as to the past history of the *Native* and her boilers. The jury then expressed a wish to retire for a few minutes before any further evidence was called, and the coroner having summed up this new evidence and repeated his summary of the law on such matters, the jury retired for about an hour, and then returned a special verdict, that the deceased, Hefferan, Cox, and Brown, came to their deaths by the accidental explosion of the boiler of the steamer *Native*; and they were of opinion that the injury to the boiler was gradual, and that had it been properly inspected and due care used the injuries would have been discovered in time to prevent the accident. The jury also requested the coroner to express to the government their opinion that some measure for the periodical inspection and supervision of all steam vessels by a competent surveyor is absolutely necessary, and that no steam vessel should be allowed to carry passengers until duly licensed. The

coroner expressed his entire concurrence in the verdict, and would lose no time in bringing the opinion of the jury under the notice of the government. *Abridged from the Herald, 24th August.*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/643, 31/08/1850
SINGLETON
FATAL ACCIDENT. - A coroner's inquest was held on Tuesday last, the 27th instant, at the Rose Inn, before **HENRY GLENNIE**, Esq., coroner for the district of Patrick's Plains, and a jury of twelve, to enquire into the death of **JAMES NEWBERRY**, aged 28, an exile per *Adelaide*, in the employment of **HENRY DANGAR**, Esq., M.C. The jury, after being sworn, proceeded to view the body, which exhibited but very slight external marks of injury. There appeared a slight bruise on the right side of the forehead, and the right eye was rather tumefied, but no other visible injuries. From the evidence of Mr. Dangar it appeared that the deceased and another exile, named Wym, were despatched on Monday last, in charge of a horse and cart, to proceed to the Moon boy, to join the station there, near Tamworth; Wym had charge of the horse and cart; deceased was to accompany him, and to attend to Wym's orders; upon starting witness gave deceased half a crown; about three hours after they had started, witness received a note from Mr. **HORNE**, the chief constable, intimating that one of the men had fallen out of the cart, was seriously hurt, and the other man was very drunk; up to this period witness had always found the men to be remarkable sober; deceased had been about nine months in the service of the witness, and Wym upwards of a year; the horse was a young horse, but tractable and quiet, so that any sober man could have managed him. **MARY STRETCH** deposed that she lived at Darlington; she was in company with another woman from Glennie's Creek on Friday last, in the forenoon, when she saw a horse and cart come galloping past the house; there were two men in the cart, and one of them was driving; the deceased is the man that was thrown out of the cart; and witness saw him laying down in the road, insensible, and bleeding from the ears; the other man at last stopped the horse, and came back to where deceased lay; he did not appear to be sober that was driving the cart; could not distinguish as they went by whether they were sober or not. **THOMAS COOK**, of Darlington, deposed that on Friday last a person came to him, and stated that a man had fallen out of a cart on the main road; witness had previously seen a horse and cart galloping along the road across the river, but could only distinguish one man, who was driving; the horse was going very fast – one man appeared to be standing up; could not distinguish which man it was; shortly afterwards a man came and gave notice of the accident; when witness went up the man who drove the cart was with deceased, and holding the horse; he did not appear to be sober, although he pushed on the horse and rode in for a doctor. The coroner, in summing up, told the jury that he himself had attended the deceased, who was insensible from the time the accident happened up to Monday night, when he expired; his opinion was that deceased had ruptured a blood vessel in the brain, which had caused a compression – the blood-vessels being previously distended from the effects of the drink. Wym, who had charge of the cart, was very drunk when he saw him, and he considered him much to blame for getting drunk while in charge of a horse and cart. The jury retired for about five minutes, and returned with a verdict of accidental death by a fall from a cart.
DEATH
OF Sgt. **JAMES SANDY**, Mounted Police, page 3.
CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT

This Court opened on Monday, the 26th August, before Mr. Justice Therry.
JOHN GLOVER was indicted for the manslaughter of **ANN KENT**, at Sydney, on the 2nd May. Glover and the unfortunate woman had been in the habit of living together when Glover was on shore; Kent was much addicted to drink, and it was proved that she had fallen down stairs and had other severe falls, and it was also proved that Glover had brutally beaten and kicked her while drunk; but went out several times; she got worse, and was taken to the Benevolent Asylum, where it was found that she had several contused wounds on the body; she died in the asylum, and a post mortem examination showed congestion of the membranes of the brain; the opinion of Dr. **RUSSELL** was that death had been caused by the combined effects of intemperance and ill-usage; the opinion of Dr. **TIERNEY** was that death had been caused by the effects of external violence, but those effects might flow from the beatings described, or the falls described. The jury returned a verdict of guilty of common assault, and the prisoner was remanded for sentence. *Abridged from the S.M. Herald.*
BATHURST CIRCUIT COURT
Before the Chief Justice
WILLIAM GLEESON was indicted for the wilful murder of **THOMAS TRACEY,** at Mudgee, on the 30th June. Gleeson, Tracey, and a man named **BROOKES** had been drinking together, and adjourned to Brookes's hut with a bottle of rum; Gleeson became quarrelsome and wanted to fight Tracey; they went outside and fought, and Tracey retired into the hut and went to bed; Gleeson, in about ten minutes afterwards, knocked at the door, and challenged Tracey out to fight again; Tracey jumped up, went to the door, and opened it, and instantly afterwards cried out "Oh, Gleeson, you villain, you have stabbed me also;" this latter exclamation was heard by a person residing nearby, but there was no direct evidence as to who inflicted the wounds. The prisoner, who protested his innocence at first, and afterwards said that he was so much under the influence of liquor that he did not know what he did, was found guilty, and sentenced to death.
Thursday, August 22nd.
JOHN M'PHERSON, who was convicted on Monday of manslaughter, was sentenced to two years' imprisonment. [should be two months; see 8/644]
ANN MALCOLM was indicted for infanticide, and w as found guilty of concealing the birth; she was sentenced to two years' imprisonment, the first week in each of the first four months in solitary confinement.
Friday, August 23rd
EDWARD FINNERTY, previously convicted of manslaughter, was sentenced to five years on the roads. *Abridged from the S.H. Herald*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/644, 04/0/1850
CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT
Gaol Delivery
JOHN GLOVER, found guilty of assault, was sentenced to two years' hard labour in Sydney gaol.
BATHURST CIRCUIT COURT. - **ERRATUM**. - In our report, in Saturday's *Mercury*, of the proceedings in the Bathurst Circuit Court on Thursday, August 22nd, we stated that **JOHN M'PHERSON**, convicted of manslaughter, had been sentenced to "two years" imprisonment in Bathurst gaol; it should have read "two months" imprisonment.

INQUEST. - On Saturday, the 24th August, an inquest was held at Mr. John M'Quade's, Commercial Hotel, on Saturday last, before Dr. **DOWE**, Coroner, on the body of **JOHN CARRINGTON.** It appeared from the evidence given by several persons examined, that Carrington was an old and faithful servant of Mr. **PRIMROSE**, of this town; that on Friday he had taken the water cart to the river, near the Punt, for the purpose of procuring water, and it is supposed that unfortunately his foot slipped and the poor man was precipitated in the water. Mr. **PLUNKET**, who has charge of the punt, observed a hat floating on the water, by which his suspicions were aroused, and he immediately despatched a messenger for the grappling irons. The police, as well as others that were present, tried every endeavour to find the body, which was at last dragged up, after having been certainly more than an hour and a half in the water. The jury, without retiring, returned the following verdict: found drowned. *Windsor Telegraph, Aug. 31*

MELANCHOLY SUICIDE.

ELIZABETH WADE, 18, at Stradbroke Island Quarantine Station, with sister and parents, both ill. Ran into sea. *Moreton Bay Free Press, Aug. 27*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/645, 07/09/1850

SYDNEY NEWS

DEATH FROM SKINNING A BULLOCK. - An inquest was held at the Parramatta district hospital, on Saturday last, on view of the body of **WILLIAM JONES [JOHNS]**, aged fifty years. It appeared that the deceased was brought to the hospital on 29th August, by Mr. **JOHN FULLIGAR**; deceased himself stated that he had given way to habits of intemperance. On Monday last, whilst skinning a bullock which had died suddenly, he accidentally gave himself a slight cut in the thigh, four inches from the groin; the thigh and leg shortly afterwards swelled to an enormous extent. The deceased was first attended by Dr. **RUTTER**, who ordered him to poultice the wound, and also gave him some pills. Dr. **ROBERTSON** found a superficial abrasion in the situation of the cut; the thigh and leg were prodigiously swollen; tense, free from pitting and pain; deceased died at three o'clock on Friday afternoon; Dr. Robertson attributes his death to the injury received at the time of skinning the bullock, and specific poison. The jury returned a verdict that William Jones met his death accidentally, from a wound received while skinning a bullock which had died suddenly. *Parramatta Correspondent of the Herald*.

MANSLAUGHTER

THOMAS RAFFERTY, wilful murder of **THOMAS MULDOON**, at Stoney Creek, 22nd May 1845. Guilty of manslaughter; remanded.

FATAL ACCIDENT. - On Tuesday morning an inquest was held before Mr. **PARKER**, coroner, on the body of **GARRETT CONNOR.** It appeared from the evidence that on Sunday afternoon Connor, who had that morning ridden from East Maitland to Old Banks, Paterson River, was returning on horse back, accompanied by a lad named **DANIEL SHANNON**; the two lads commenced racing along the road, Connor being mounted on a spirited mare, which ran at Paterson races; Shannon got ahead, and was galloping along when he head a cry of "stop," and looking round saw that Connor's had had fallen off, and that his mare had turned off the road, and was galloping off into the bush, Connor being apparently unable to control her; Shannon immediately rode after Connor, but before he could get up with him he heard the sound as of a heavy blow and then a fall and a groan, and in a moment or two afterwards he came up to Connor lying on the ground on his back near a large crooked tree, which must have come in contact with Connor's head, and he was thrown off;

Shannon immediately dismounted, and found Connor breathing heavily, and unable to speak; Shannon tried to arouse him, but failing he galloped home for assistance, and Connor was removed to the house of Shannon's father, and Dr. **BROWN** sent for. Connor had, however, been fatally injured, and died on Tuesday morning, at an early hour. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death, absolving the lad Shannon from all blame.

MURDER OF AN INFANT BY ITS MOTHER. - Yesterday morning an inquest was held on the body of an infant [**PATRICK DOHERTY]**, aged four months, the child of a woman named **ELLEN QUIN.** It appeared from the evidence that Quin had always behaved in a very cruel and unnatural way to her infant, frequently slapping and beating him, stuffing dry bread into his mouth when he cried, and pouring ale and even rum down his throat to make him sleep; she had been repeatedly heard to say that she did not like the child; on Saturday night last the child cried, when she gave him a blow on the face with her shut hand, after which it was seldom heard to cry; on Sunday evening **CATHERINE LOVELL** pointed out to her the starving and emaciated appearance of the baby, when Quin said it would not take her breast; Mrs. Lovell then gave the infant her own breast, which he took eagerly. On Monday evening Quin was at the theatre till midnight, and on coming out she rushed into a crowed, where a soldier named **ROSS** was fighting, and she and another woman got Ross out of the crowd, and that woman left Quin and Ross together afterwards near to St. James's Church; during all this time Quin had her baby with her; at a late hour, about half-past three o'clock, Quin passed a watchman, who asked her what she had in her arms, when she said it was her baby, and exposing it, asked the watchman if it was dead, he said it was, and she went on, but he sent the police after her, and she was apprehended; she then said that when she reached Ross in the crowd, a blow that Ross meant for one of the police struck the baby. The post-mortem examination by Doctors **TIERNEY** and **CARTWRIGHT** showed that there were bruises on the face of the infant, as if occasioned by a fall, or by being thrown to the ground; that there was a bruise on the left side of the face; that the brain was congested, and the ventricles of the heart filled with black fluid blood; the body of the infant was much attenuated. The attenuation would arise from want of proper food, or use of improper diet, or of fermented liquor, and the use of rum as described would explain the black blood found in the ventricles of the heart; the cause of death the medical men believed was concussion of the brain or convulsions – a fall from the arms of his parent would be sufficient to produce the former, and the administration of indigestible nor improper food would conduce to the latter. The jury returned a verdict of wilful murder against Ellen Quin, and Ross was discharged. *Abridged from the Herald, Sept. 5*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/646, 11/09/1850

FATAL ACCIDENT. - On Thursday, an inquest was held at the Railway Inn, Chippendale, on the body of **ROSALIE MARTINCE [MARTINUS],** an infant about 15 months old, who had seized hold of a teapot in which was some boiling water, a portion of which she poured into her mouth. The child was instantly conveyed to Mr. Surgeon **CUTHILL**. Mr. Cuthill deposed that the infant was suffering from bronchitis and inflammation of the mucous membranes of the throat and mouth; he considered the case a hopeless one the moment he saw it, and the child died on Wednesday evening; the inhalation of the steam alone would have been sufficient to produce the inflammation and consequent death. Verdict, died from injuries accidentally received.

INQUESTS.

Yesterday, an inquest was held at the Neptune Inn, Prince-street, on virew of the body of **JOHN ARMSTRONG**, who on the previous afternoon was standing in and driving a horse and cart; the horse appears to have taken fright at something, and started off at a full gallop along Prince-street, where the deceased was thrown out, falling on his head with great violence to the ground; he never spoke more, and died in a few minutes. Immediately he was conveyed to Mr. Surgeon **HARPER'S**, in Cumberland-street, who on examination found that three of deceased's right ribs were broken, and an injury in the chest about the sixe of a horse's hoof, where probably he had received a kick. Verdict, died from injuries accidentally received.

An inquest was also held yesterday at the Three Tuns Tavern, King-street, on the body of **TIMOTHY HILL**, then lying dead in the Sydney Infirmary. Deceased was in the employ of Mr. **PEISLEY**, at the boiling down establishment at Camperdown. From a statement made by the deceased prior to his admission to the infirmary, it appeared that on Tuesday, after putting some fuel on the fires, he sat down near them to smoke his pipe, and shortly afterwards found his clothes to be on fire, and was severely burnt on both arms, as well as both the front and back of the body. Mr. Surgeon **NATHAN** attended him at the infirmary, and prescribed the usual remedies, but from the first considered it a hopeless case. He died on Thursday morning. Verdict, died from the effects of burns accidentally received. *Herald, Sept. 4*

MAITLAND CIRCUIT COURT

(Before his Honor the Chief Justice)

Saturday, September 7, 1850

ACCESSORY TO MANSLAUGHTER

JANE MULDOON, guilty; 2 years' imprisonment Parramatta gaol, with hard labour.

THOMAS RAFFERTY, manslaughter of **THOMAS MULDOON**, 5 years hard labour on the roads or public works.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/648, 18/09/1850

FATAL DELUSION. - On Monday an inquest was held, before **J.S. PARKER**, Esq., at the Waterloo Inn, West Maitland, on he body of **WILLIAM LAMBERT**. It appeared from the evidence of **JAMES GOULD** and **GEORGE POULTON**, that the deceased, who was a member of a sect calling themselves "Israelites," we believe, and who are commonly known as "Beardies," from the custom of the men allowing their beards to grow, had been for some weeks past labouring under a severe cold, which had settled on his lungs; Lambert's wife and mother attended on him with great care, but neither they nor Lambert himself would consent to call in medical advice, although both witnesses urged them to do so; Lambert himself said that he would not, that he would trust in Providence; and Lambert's mother said that her faith was in God, and not in doctors, and that her son would never die; at length Lambert became so very ill that Gould, on Sunday, the 8th September, after urging him for some time to call in medical advice, obtained his consent to his doing so, although his mother still urged him to trust in God; Gould immediately went for Dr. **SCOTT.** Dr. Scott deposed that he found Lambert labouring under inflammation of the air passages and of the substance of the lungs; that he considered the case one of great danger, too much time having been allowed to elapse without calling in medical aid; the result justified his opinion, Lambert growing rapidly worse; Dr. **LIDDELL** was called in by Dr. Scott's wish, and both the medical men on Saturday last told the relatives that no more could be done for Lambert, except to give him ease; on Sunday afternoon Lambert died. Dr. Scott was clearly of opinion that Lambert's death would in all

probability have yielded to medical treatment, had it been taken in time. The jury returned a verdict of died from natural causes.

DEATH AT SEA

We regret to record the death of Mr. **ROBERTSON**, master of the *Gypsy*, schooner, trading to Moreton Bay. The vessel left this on Monday week, with a strong southerly wind, and at eleven o'clock on the same night, Mr. Robertson being at the tiller, one of the ropes gave way, throwing him overboard, where he met with a watery grave.

MYSTERIOUS.

The dead body of an infant, wrapped up in a piece of cloth, and packed in a cigar box, was discovered yesterday afternoon in the Old Burial ground. Information having been given to the police, the remains were removed, and a strict investigation forthwith commenced. *Bell's Life, Sept. 14*

A MAN FOUND DROWNED. - On Thursday last an inquest was held at Mummell, before **ROBERT WAUGH**, Esq., coroner for the district, on view of the body of a male unknown, which had been found floating in the Wollondilly River. The face was much swollen and discoloured. According to the evidence of Dr. **GERARD**, there were no marks of violence about the deceased; the body presented the appearance of that of a person who had been drowned. The whole of the front teeth of the upper jaw were absent except two; the set in the lower jaw were entire. The jury returned a verdict of found drowned. There were no papers found about the person of deceased. In his pocket there was a Roman Catholic Prayer Book. He was apparently fifty years of age and dressed in a blue pilot coat and two pair of corduroy trousers. The body has been viewed by a great number of persons, but they have all failed in identifying it. It is supposed that deceased was accidentally drowned during the heavy flood in the river about six weeks since. *Goulburn Herald, Sept. 14*

FOUR WHITE MEN MURDERED BY BLACKS

BURNET RIVER & WIDE BAY

MR. BLAXLAND

SHEPHERD OF BLAXLAND

SHEPHERD OF CORFIELD

SHEPHERD OF MURRAY

To be completed

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/649, 21/09/1850

INQUEST ON A DECEASED LUNATIC. - On Saturday last an inquest was held at the Lunatic Asylum, Tarban Creek, before Mr. **C.B. LYONS,** coroner for the district, on view of the body of **PETER BERCHER**, a lunatic. From the evidence of Dr. **CAMPBELL**, surgeon superintendent of the establishment, it appeared that the deceased had been ill for the last month, that he would not take the food or nutriment suitable for a person in his circumstances; food was consequently administered by means of the stomach pump, after which he died. A *post mortem* examination was made, when it was found that one of the large blood vessels of the brain was ruptured; the liver of an immense size, and perfectly gorged with blood; the brain and intestines exhibited a dreadful state of disease. The jury returned a verdict that the deceased Peter Bercher came to his death by a rupture of one of the larger blood vessels of the brain, and the jury were of opinion that no human skill could have saved the life of the deceased. *Parramatta Correspondent of the Herald.*

MRS. BURNS.

We regret to have to announce that the unfortunate Mrs. Burns, who was on last Friday week stabbed in the neck and breast by the ruffian **WHELAN**, expired

yesterday morning, from the effects of the injuries inflicted on her. An inquest will be held on the body today. *Herald, Sept. 18*

DEATH BY DROWNING. - The body of a man named **JAMES LYONS**, watchman on board the *Cape Horn*, was on Tuesday morning found dead in the water between that vessel, lying at the Flour Company's Wharf, and the shore. The last time he was seen alive was about three o'clock of that morning, when he was somewhat under the influence of liquor, having had leave ashore for the previous day. An inquest was held yesterday on the body, but no evidence could be produced as to the manner in which he came by his death, and the jury returned a verdict of found drowned. *Herald, Sept. 19*

THE LATE MRS. BURNS. - A coroner's inquest was yesterday held at the Blue Bell, Erskine-street, on view of the body of **CATHERINE BURNES**, whose death was notified in yesterday's *Herald*. The circumstances which led to her death were detailed by one of the witnesses as follows: **JANE BRADY**, of Maitland, deposed that on last Friday week she was stopping at deceased's house; about two o'clock in the afternoon witness was sitting in the yard near the back door, when she heard the prisoner, **JAMES WHELAN**, come in at the front door, and Mrs. Burnes tell him to go out; "She then called me in, and just as I got inside the door I saw the prisoner striking Mrs. Burnes, but thought it was with his fist; after he struck the deceased two or three times she fell, and I then saw a knife in his hand, which I took from him; the knife produced is it; when she fell I saw blood running from her head behind her ear; she did not scream; having secured the knife I ran out for assistance, and on my return he was standing by the door, the deceased holding him by the hands; he did not endeavour to get away from her; Mr. **ANDERSON** ran for a constable; the prisoner brought the knife with him; he held it with the handle towards his thumb, and struck downwards." Mrs. **HARTLEY** deposed, that hearing Mrs. Burnes had been stabbed, she went there; prisoner was there, and admitted he had done so; "I asked him what had made him stab the woman, when he replied, that he was bent on it, and having done so was satisfied; and when the constable was taking him away in custody he said he hoped she would die." The unfortunate deceased was attended first by Dr. **DUIGAN** and Mr. **RUTTER**, and subsequently by Messrs. **RUTTER, CARTWRIGHT and AARON**, until the period of her death, on Tuesday morning. Messrs. Rutter and Cartwright made a *post mortem* examination of the deceased. There were three puncture wounds, two on the neck and one on the breast; one of the wounds on the neck was that which led to the fatal result, penetrating the cavity of the skull, inducing inflammation and abscess of the brain. The jury found a verdict of wilful murder against James Whelan, who was thereon committed by the Coroner to take his trial for that offence. The deceased was fifty years of age, and her son, upwards of twenty years of age, was residing with her. Her husband is at California. *Herald, Sept. 19*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/650, 25/09/1850

SELF DESTRUCTION. - An inquest was on Saturday held at Gray's, Light house Hotel, Bathurst, on the body of a man named **AARON ZADOCK**, who had that morning put a period to his existence by suspending himself by a rope round his neck over the staircase of his own residence. From the evidence it appeared that deceased had not long returned to the colony from California, and since his arrival had abandoned himself to excessive drinking, which produced the natural result of occasional aberrations of intellect. On Saturday morning, his wife had occasion to go out, and with a view to prevent her husband from obtaining liquor in her absence,

locked him in the house. On her return, her horror may be more easily conceived than described at the shocking discovery of her husband suspended by the neck over the staircase, and quite dead. The jury found that Aaron Zadock destroyed himself by hanging, while labouring under temporary insanity. *Herald, Sept. 23*.
ACCIDENT; Constable Terence M'Guire, Singleton, last Saturday; precarious state.
BULL: Heneage Finch, Hoxton Park, Liverpool, 19/9??
The two above to be completed.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/651, 28/09/1850
FATAL ACCIDENT. - An inquest was held this day, Friday, 27th September, at the Freugh Arms, New Freugh, before **HENRY GLENNIE**, Esq., coroner, on the body of **TERENCE M'GUIRE**, a constable of the Singleton police, the accident to whom has already been reported in the *Mercury*. From the evidence it appeared that M'Guire was at the inn on the evening of the 26th instant, about an hour before sundown, and at Mr. **RAMSAY'S** request, rode after a stray horse that had passed along the road; Mr. Ramsay noticed that M'Guire's mare appeared to have bolted with him as he rose to the top of the hill, and Mr. Ramsay rode after him, and just over the top of the hill found that poor M'Guire had been thrown and was lying on the road, with one arm broken, and several ribs. M'Guire was carried to the inn, and was there attended by Dr. **GLENNIE**, who found that M'Guire must have received severe internal injuries, as well as the injuries mentioned above. Mortification of the arm set in on Tuesday, and on Thursday M'Guire died. The jury returned a verdict that the deceased was killed by a fall from his mare.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/652, 02/10/1850
MORETON BAY COURIER = SHEPHERDS AND BLACKS; NO NAMES.
CORFIELD, MURRAY, UHR, YOUNG, JEFFRIES.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/654, 09/10/1850
FATAL ACCIDENT. - On Sunday last an inquest was held at the Golden Lion, Lochinvar, before **J.S. PARKER**, Esq., Coroner, on the body of **WILLIAM BARTLEY**. It appeared from the evidence that Mr. Bartley, a publican, residing at Lochinvar, had on Sunday morning, the 22nd September, been in Maitland attended a place of worship, and called at the White Swan on his way home for a nobbler of brandy; this Mr. Early gave him, but Mr. Bartley drank only half of it, saying "I have had enough;" Mr. Early said "I think so too;" on this Mr. Bartley abused Mr. Early, and Mr. E. went in doors, thinking he would leave; almost immediately afterwards Mr. Bartley started off at full speed, being mounted on a spirited horse; Mr. Early was alarmed for his safety, Mr. B. being apparently unable to manage the horse, and he followed along the road, and on reaching the hut of a person named **LICET**, he found that Mr. Bartley had been thrown from his horse, and was lying on a sofa in Licet's house; Mr. Early now observed that Mr. Bartley was still more labouring under the effects of drink than when he had called at his house, and Mr. E. told that he would take Mr. Bartley's horse back to his stable, and when Mr. Bartley got sober he could send for the horse; in about two hours afterwards Mr. Bartley came to Mr. Early's for the horse, and had a little rum and water; he then left the house and Mr. Early heard no more of him until he heard of his having a second fall. Licet was unable to give evidence, having received some time since an injury in the head. Mrs. Bartley had become alarmed for her husband's safety, and in the evening sent a man named **BENJAMIN PEMBERTON** to look for him; Pemberton was passed by a man riding

at full speed, but did not recognise it to be Mr. Bartley, it being dark; Pemberton called at Mr. Early's , and afterwards on his way back at Licet's, and learnt what had passed, and about half a mile from Licet's, towards Lochinvar, Pemberton found Mr. Bartley lying in the road, quite insensible; having in vain endeavoured to rouse him Pemberton obtained a horse and cart and took Mr. Bartley home, meeting constable **DWYER** on the way, he having been alarmed at seeing Mr. Bartley's horse galloping homewards without a rider. Dr. **M'CARTHY** was called in, and attended on Mr. Bartley, who was labouring under the effect of concussion of the brain, and Mr. Bartley died on Saturday last from effusion of blood or serum on the brain; Dr. M'Carthy thought falls from a horse likely to cause death in this way. After Mr. Bartley had become sensible it appears that he stated he did not know he was injured. The jury returned a verdict of died from injuries received by a fall or falls from his horse.

SYDNEY NEWS

The Central Criminal Court opened this morning. The charge of murder against the aboriginal "**MAGO,**" which has been postponed for one or two sessions for want of witnesses, was not concluded when I left court.

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.

A woman named **MOWATT**, on Friday night, while under the influence of intoxicating liquor, attempted to destroy herself by leaping into the water from the Circular Quay. Fortunately for her, she was seen by a workman named **BATTERS**, who immediately proceeded to the spot, rescued the miserable woman from a watery grave, and handed her over to the care of a policeman. She was on Saturday brought before the police bench, and discharged with an admonition. *Herald, Oct. 7*

DEATH AT SEA.

A man named **NICHOLAS WILLIAMS**, a steerage passenger by the *J. Merithew*, died at sea on the 10th September, from dysentery. [From San Francisco]

DEATH FROM THE FALLING OF A TREE. - An inquest was held at Prospect, on the 1st instant, before Mr. **C.B. LYONS**, Esq., coroner for the district, on view of the body of Mr. **THOMAS DAVIS**, an old and respected resident in the district. **WILLIAM ADAMS**, having been sworn, stated: I am the pound keeper of the district; I reside a mile and a half from this farm, which I rent; Thomas Davis, who now lies dead, was in charge of it, and residing in this house; he was seventy-five years old; I came over occasionally at intervals of several days; I happened to come yesterday afternoon, about four o'clock; the deceased was galling a stringy-bark tree in a paddock close to the house, which I am clearing; I had been talking to him; I and a man named **JOSEPH PORTLEY** were taking a sheet of bark from a tree about four rods from the tree which the deceased was falling; a dead tree fell into the tree which Davis was cutting, which caused it to fall; he ran; I hallooed to him; he cleared the tree within four feet when it caught him; I saw him fall, and ran and picked him up; he was quite dead; a bough had hit him on the top of the head; the dead tree was on fire, and had burnt through. Joseph Portley corroborated this statement. A verdict was returned that the deceased, Thomas Davis, died from accidental falling of a tree. *Herald, Oct. 5*

TERRIBLE ACCIDENT. - A few days since a man named **SAMPSON**, residing at the M'Leay River, was proceeding to Camden Haven with a raft of timber, on which were his wife and two children, he unfortunately approached too near the bar, the raft upset, and his wife and children were drowned. Sampson was rescued. *Herald, Oct. 4*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/655, 12/10/1850

HUNTER RIVER DISTRICT NEWS
DUNGOG
An inquest was held at Clarence Town on Tuesday last, on the body of **JAMES COX**, an old resident of that part. It appears that on Sunday last deceased and another man went into the bush in search of some horse stock, and that on their way home Cox's horse shied, when the unfortunate man was thrown on his head, fracturing his skull, and being severely bruised on the body. This happened about one o'clock, at about eight miles on the Sawyers' Point road; the poor man lingered until seven o'clock on Sunday evening, when he died. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death, caused by injuries received from a fall from his horse. *Oct. 12, 1850*
DEATHS
At his residence, Lochinvar, on 5th October, Mr. **WILLIAM BARTLEY**, aged 52; much regretted by a large circle of friends.
MORETON BAY – QUARANTINE STATION.
Death of Dr. **BALLOW**, the volunteer surgeon to the emigrants; also an orphan boy aged 7 died roasting potatoes at a fire during the funeral.
CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT
Monday, October 7, 1850
(Before Mr. Justice Dickinson)
MURDER. - **MOGO GAR**, an aboriginal native of the Clarence River district, was indicted for the murder of **DANIEL PAGE**, at the Bellinger River, on the 25th April last, by wounding him in the neck with a boomerang.

Page was a timber dealer residing on the Bellinger, with a woman named **O'NEIL**, and at the time of the outrage a man named **HALEY** was stopping with them; on the 25th April Mogo called and offered to take some rations to some of the neighbouring sawyers, and Page went out to convey Mogo across the river for that purpose; four other blacks joined them outside, and one of them threw a spear at Haley, who ran back to the hut, and was followed by Page, but not until the blacks had beaten Page; the blacks threw boomerangs after Haley and Page, and coming up to the hut tried to force their way in; at length, Page and Haley made a rush at them with their knives, and the blacks ran away; they soon returned again, however, and tried to force their way into the store-room, which was separated from the house by a low partition; this partition Page crossed, and was heard scuffling with the blacks, and when Page returned to his companions he had received a wound in his neck, which he said he feared was mortal; subsequently, after the rations in the hut were given up to them , the blacks left. The whites now abandoned the hut, Page, who was unable to go far, being taken across the river and concealed among the mangroves, while Haley took Mrs. O'Neil and her child to a cutter lying near the mouth of the river; some of the seamen returned with Haley and tried to remove Page to the vessel, but could not do so. Page was afterwards discovered by Mogo, and Mogo took his blankets away in spite of Page's entreaties. Page was removed afterwards back to the hut, by Mrs. O'Neil's wish, and then died. Page said at the time of the wound being inflicted that a black named **UGKY** was the man who struck the blow, but Mogo took an active part in the assault and attempt at robbery. The only one of these blacks who had been apprehended was Mogo, the prisoner.

Mr. **HOLROYD**, who had defended Mogo at the request of the court, addressed the jury.

The jury returned a verdict of guilty, and the prisoner was sentenced to death.
Tuesday, October 8
(Before Mr. Justice Dickinson)

MURDER.

JAMES WHELAN was indicted for the murder of **CATHERINE BYRNES**, at Sydney, on the 6th September, by stabbing her behind the ear and the breast.

The particulars in this case have been previously reported. Mrs. **WHELAN** had left her husband, and was residing in the house of Mrs. Byrnes, in Kent-street, with whom also lived at that time a Mrs. **BRADY**; two men named **PATRICK REID** and **RICHARD BRADY** lodged in the house, their sleeping apartments being upstairs, while those of the women were below; Whelan appears to have been greatly excited by his wife's having left him, and her residing in what he believed to be an improper house, and he had once ineffectually endeavoured to induce her to leave the house; early in the afternoon of the 6th September Whelan entered Mrs. Byrnes's house, and after a brief conversation with her he stabbed her with a table knife; Mrs. Byrnes called to Mrs. Brady to come to her, and Mrs. Brady running to the spot, saw Whelan give Mrs. Byrnes three stabs, after which Mrs. Byrnes fell to the ground; Mrs. Brady then took the knife from Whelan, who mad no resistance, and she ran for assistance. Mrs. Byrnes got up again, and although she was bleeding much she held Whelan till a constable came, Whelan, however, making no resistance; Whelan told the constable he was now satisfied, and he hoped she would die. Mrs. Byrnes was attended by several medical men, but died on the 16th September, the fatal wound being one behind the ear, which had penetrated to the brain, and produced inflammation; there were altogether five wounds, three on the breast and two about the head. None of the witnesses were aware of anything improper in the conduct of the three woman, or in the general character of the house, but it appeared that Reid had on one occasion gone with a cloak and umbrella to being home Mrs. Whelan from chapel.

Mr. **DARVALL** conducted the defence, at the request of the Court. He urged that the circumstances made the case one of manslaughter.

The jury returned a verdict of guilty, and the prisoner, who begged for mercy, protesting that he had no intention to kill Mrs. Byrnes, was sentenced to death.

MANSLAUGHTER.

ELLEN QUIN was indicted for the murder of **PATRICK DOHERTY,** an infant, by neglecting to provide him with sufficient nourishment, and by giving him intoxicating drinks.

This case was fully reported in the *Mercury* at the time. The prisoner was the mother of the unfortunate infant, who was at the breast, and it was deposed that she had given him colonial ale, lumps of dry bread, and rum, to keep him quiet; that he was kept nearly destitute of clothing, and was otherwise neglected. She was apprehended late one night in the streets, having asked a night watchman whether he thought the child she was carrying was dead, as it proved to be; this was after she had left the theatre, gone into a crowd where there was a disturbance, and then walked away with a soldier. The evidence of the medical witnesses confirmed the fact that the above articles had been administered to the infant, and that he was much emaciated, although the mother had abundance of milk; the immediate cause of death was congestion of the brain, which was superinduced by the administration of improper food. In cross-examination, however, by Mr. **HOLROYD**, the medical witnesses admitted that these appearances might have been caused by convulsions arising from ordinary disease, and that it was impossible the large quantities of liquor deposed to by the previous witnesses could have been administered.

The jury acquitted the prisoner, without requiring the prisoner's counsel to enter on a defence. The prisoner was then discharged.

ACCIDENT. Seaman, named **STOUT**, fell street precipice.

FATAL ACCIDENT. - A man named **JOHN FITZSIMMONS**, an old resident of Campbell's River, met with an accident, on Saturday last, which terminated in his death on the following day. It appears he had been at Bathurst on business, and was returning homewards, in company with another person, after having partaken moderately of liquor, in town. When on the way between Gorman's Hill and the Burnt Flat, they met Mrs. **CASEY**, of the latter place, with whom they had a little conversation, after which, they were proceeding on their journey, when a puff of wind caused her gown to flap, and so scared the horse Fitzsimmons was riding, that he commenced bucking, and thus threw the unfortunate man on the ground with great violence. He was immediately removed to Mr. **NEAL'S** farm, and attended by Dr. **MACHATTIE**, who discovered that the skull was fractured. From the time of the accident to his death, he was speechless. An inquest was held at Mr. Butler's, Shepherd's Rest Inn, on Monday, when the above facts were deposed to, and a verdict of accidental death returned. *Bathurst Free Press, Oct. 5*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/656, 16/10/1850
ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE
To the Editors of the Maitland Mercury
SIR - In reference to a paragraph which appeared in your publication of the 18th ultimo, accusing the people called "Israelites" or "Beardies" of "fatal delusion," I beg to say that the society will not admit of such an accusation, as their doctrine (if known) teaches different to that of withholding or debarring medical aid or assistance, if required. Consequently I beg to know the reason why an inquest was held on the deceased, as having medical aid and assistance, as alluded to in the aforesaid paragraph; and why should the society be accused of that which is false, and contrary to that which their doctrine allows?

A MEMBER

Oct. 15, 1850. - PS. No delusion!
[We willingly afford "A Member" an opportunity of stating that the doctrine of the "Israelites," in reference to calling in medical aid, is more consistent with common se nse than at the inquest it was reported to be. The circumstances disclosed by the evidence in the particular case needed to be justified, we think, by the holding of an inquest. - ED - M.M.]
FATAL ACCIDENT. - One day last week an accident happened near Queanbeyan which, we regret to state, proved fatal. It appears from what we have heard that two men in the employ of Mr. **R. GUISE**, of Gundaroo, had been drinking in the township, and when on their way home on a dray, of which they had the charge, the horse bolted, and the vehicle coming in contact with a tree, turned over, and fell on the poor fellows, who were killed on the spot. *Goulburn Herald, Oct. 12*
GUNNING. Accident to Mr. **H. GROSVENOR,** accident to a **BRADY**, thigh smashed, already amp.
ALBURY. - MURDER. - A most cold and deliberate murder was committed on Thursday, at the station of Mr. **WITHERS**, near the Black Dog Creek. It appears from the evidence taken before Captain **BAKER**, J.P., that the parties had been drinking together, though not to excess, on the previous evening, and that some words of an angry nature passed between them, respecting the words of a song. On the following morning the murderer, whose name is **MADDEN**, had a fight with sticks with his victim, in which the latter had the advantage. It would seem probable that the prisoner brooded over his defeat, and after an interval of two hours he went into the hut, and found a pair of shears, which he broke; he then chased the deceased, whose

name was **JOHN MORRISON**, for about three quarters of an hour, the latter endeavouring to save himself by flight; on coming up to him Madden stabbed him in the side, and then returning to the hut, exulted in what he had done. Intelligence was immediately despatched to Mr. Withers, who lost no time in going to the spot, where he found Morrison lying on the ground with his bowels protruding. The constables arrived soon after and arrested the prisoner, who was safely lodged in the Albury lockup, after having been fully committed to take his trial for wilful murder at the next Melbourne Assizes. The most revolting feature of the case is, that the prisoner had to be actually prevented by Mr. Withers and his brother-in-law from again stabbing his victim while he was writhing in agony, and this too after five hours had elapsed since he first stabbed him. After perpetrating the crime, the prisoner went to bed, and slept soundly in the same hut with the dying man. *Herald Correspondent.*

CORONER'S INQUEST. - On Thursday last an inquest was held at the house of Mr. Ryan, at Chippendale, on the body of **ELIZA THOMPSON**. The deceased, who was a widow considerably advanced in years, and lived in a house by herself, was missed from her residence by a neighbour, between nine and ten o'clock on Tuesday morning, and as after some time she did not return, and the back door having been left open, several persons residing in the vicinity instituted a search, and after some time found her in a place from which she was in the habit of fetching water; she was quite dead. Verdict, accidental drowning. *Herald, Oct. 11*

SUICIDE. - The *Windsor Telegraph* reports the proceedings on an inquest held in Windsor on Monday, the 7th instant, on the body of **JAMES SMITH HALL**. It appears that Mr. Hall was a young man, residing at Portland Head, and that his mind had become so excited on religious matters as to produce partial insanity. The Rev. Mr. **ADAMS** was visited by him on Wednesday, the 3rd instant, when Mr. Hall appeared very desponding in regard to his religious state; Mr. Adams proceeded to relate the occurrences of the next few days, during which Mr. Hall went to Parramatta to consult a medical man, but returned to Mr. Adams's house about ten o'clock that evening, and conversed in a collected and cheerful manner for about two hours, when he retired to bed. The next morning (Sunday) at half-past seven Mr. Adams entered Mr. Hall's bed-room to awaken him, and to his horror found him hanging from the bed-post by a silk handkerchief. He was instantly cut down, and a medical man sent for, but life was extinct. The jury returned a verdict that deceased destroyed himself, not being of sound mind.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/657, 19/10/1850

ACCIDENTAL DEATHS. - A coroner's inquest was held on Monday, at the wool-washing establishment of Mr. **ARMITAGE**, Bridge-street, on view of the body of **JAMES HAIGH,** aged 21 years, late the superintendent of that establishment, then and there lying dead. **THOMAS M'LENNON** deposed that he resided with Mr. **DODERY**, at Coogee Bay; on Saturday afternoon he saw deceased gallop by in a homeward direction from Big Coogee, and, in about two minutes after, hearing some one shout out, as if for assistance, witness proceeded along the road in the direction of the noise, and found Mr. Haigh and his horse on the road, the body of the animal being on the rider's legs, which rendered him unable to extricate himself; witness assisted him up, when he complained of having been hurt in the chest, and lay down for about a quarter of an hour; he asked for a drink of water, which was procured, Mr. Dodery adding thereto a small quantity of rum; after partaking of which deceased said he was better, re-mounted his horse, and rode homeward. **GEORGE GIBSON** deposed that Mr. Haigh did not complain of having received any injury until an hour

after his return home, on Saturday evening; he continued ill between seven and eight o'clock on Sunday morning, when he expired. Dr. **FULLERTON** deposed that he made a *post mortem* examination of deceased. Verdict, died from injuries accidentally received.

On the same day an inquest was held at Mr. Coleson's, the Whitehaven Inn, Sussex-street, on view of the body of **JOB MAKIN**, then lying dead in the vicinity. **JAMES KIRKMAN** deposed that on Saturday afternoon he saw deceased on horse back galloping along Cumberland-street, and when opposite Mr. Macdonald's public-house, he fell on his head with great violence to the ground; the horse was going at full speed, but stopped the instant his rider fell; deceased was picked up quite insensible, and conveyed to Mr. Short's in Goulburn-street, where it was known he had been residing. Mr. Surgeon **CUTHILL** was then sent for. Makin was still in a state of insensibility, from which he never recovered, and about six o'clock on Sunday morning he expired. Mr. Cuthill gave his testimony that death was caused by compression of the brain. - Verdict - died from injuries accidentally received. The deceased had not long since returned from California, whence he brought gold which realised to him a sum exceeding £250; a few days before his arrival here, his wife had left the colony to proceed in search of him. The horse on which he was riding he had purchased at Stewart's sale a few hours before. He did not appear to be intoxicated, but the smell of liquor was on him when he was picked up. *Herald, Oct. 16*

REPRIEVE OF GLEESON.

An official letter arrived in town on Thursday last containing the announcement that his Excellency had been pleased to exercise his prerogative of mercy in favour of **WILLIAM GLEESON**, who was found guilty of murdering **THOMAS TRACEY**, at Mudgee, and condemned to death; the sentence being commuted to transportation for fifteen years, the first three to be served in irons. *Bathurst Free Press, Oct. 11*

GAYNDAH, September 26.

There are two Chinamen here in custody. One in the employ of Mr. **REID**, for the wilful murder of another Chinaman; the other for shooting a man at Mr. **GOOD's** , at Mondue. *Hunter River District News.*

SINGLETON.

FRIGHTFUL ACCIDENT, AND LOSS OF LIFE. - A coroner's inquest was held on Tuesday last, the 15th instant, at the Fitz Roy Hotel, at 7 a.m., before **HENRY GLENNIE**, Esq., Coroner, and a jury of twelve, touching the death of **PETER KILDUFF**, a carrier, in the employ of **HENRY DANGAR**, Esq. The deceased was brought to the inn in a cart on the previous evening, from about a mile and a half beyond Rix's Creek, where the fatal accident occurred. The jury having been sworn, proceeded to view the body, which presented a most frightful and appalling spectacle, the skull having been severed in two and smashed in by the dray wheel, and the brains wanting. It appeared by the evidence of **THOMAS M'MAHON** and **JOHN SMITH** that they had all three (including the deceased) started from Singleton on Monday morning with loads to Mr. Dangar's station called "Yellow Roy;" the witness M'Mahon went with the teams about three miles on the road, and then left them, a man in his employ having charge of his team; he left the team behind, and went on to the pound at Falbrook, expecting that the three teams would soon pull him up, but after witness (M'Mahon) waiting a considerable time he became uneasy, and returned to look after the teams; M'Mahon met them about three miles from where he left them, when he perceived that his own bullock-driver was intoxicated and sitting on his (which was the leading) dray; M'Mahon got him off, and drove the team himself; the second dray was about 140 yards in the rear of his dray, and deceased's

(Kilduff's) the last; all of a sudden witness heard Smith cry out to him that Kilduff's brains were smashed out. M'Mahon went up to Kilduff's dray, and found deceased lying on the road, his head in the track of the off wheel, and smashed to pieces, his brains scattered along the road; there was about two tons five hundredweight on the dray. Smith, who was driving the middle dray, on looking back, noticed that Kilduff's bullocks had stopped, and went to his dray, and at about two rods behind he found deceased lying on the road, as discovered by the former witness; witness called to M'Mahon, who came back immediately; the track of the off wheel was quite plain over deceased's head; witness saw the deceased about two minutes previous to the fatal occurrence, when he was walking steadily on the near side of his team. On account of the witness Smith not attending in the morning, the inquest was adjourned till 2 p.m. on the same day, when it was resumed. After hearing Smith's evidence, which corroborated M'Mahon's in respect to the accident, the jury returned a verdict of accidental death, caused by the wheel of a dray passing over his head.

THE LATE THUNDER STORM. - … One unfortunate woman of the name of **HEAD**, a widow, living in Surry-street, at the back of Darlinghurst Gaol, was struck by the electric fluid, which entered her house, On Tuesday afternoon, and was instantaneously killed.. She leaves two children behind her.

DEATH BY LIGHTNING. - We regret to have to report the death by lightning of Mrs. **MARY HEAD**, a respectable woman, who resided at Surry-street, Darlinghurst. From the evidence of Mr. **PATRICK DEERY**, at an inquest held yesterday on the body, we learn the following particulars:- Between two and three o'clock on Tuesday afternoon he was informed that Mary Head, the subject of the inquest, was dead; he, with his wife, and two other parties, ran to the house, and found both the front and back door fastened; they then looked in at the front window and saw the unfortunate deceased lying on the floor; they then broke open the door and entered the house; deceased was not then dead, but died almost immediately; she did not speak when they went in;on examination they found that the skin of her chest was peeled off in several places; the lining of a bonnet was lying beside the body, and which she was in the habit of wearing in wet weather, was burnt completely out. The husband of the deceased died about twenty months ago, leaving her with two children, the elder of whom is about six years of age; the house she lived in was her own, and she earned her living by washing; she was a hard working and sober woman. There is a hole in the wall above the chimney place, where the electric fluid is supposed to have entered the room and to have struck the deceased, passing then into the next room, striking the wall about eighteen inches above the floor, travelling up the clock weight lines, smashing the clock, and, passing through the ceiling, forced off the shingles from the eaves upwards. The jury found that deceased met with her death by being struck by lightning. *Herald, Oct. 17*

HUNTER RIVER DISTRICT NEWS

SINGLETON PP BENEVOLENT SOCIETY

IN-DOOR PATIENTS [ANNUAL REPORT]

ISHMAEL JONES – 15 days – disease of liver – died.

OUTDOOR PATIENTS

GEORGE HARMAN, wife and child – 70 days – husband disease of the lungs, died; child dysentery, died – medical attendance and rations.

GRIFFIN, wife, and 5 children – dropsy (husband) died – medical attendance, and rations to family.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/658, 23/10/1850

A CHILD DROWNED IN A WELL. - On Thursday last an inquest was held at Clarke's, the White Conduit House, Rushcutter's Bay, on view of the body of **FRANCIS RYAN**, between two and three years old. **CATHERINE RYAN**, residing at Darling Point, deposed that she was mother of the deceased; on Wednesday afternoon she was sitting at needle work, and having missed deceased for a few minutes, she went out to look for him; on going out she saw his cap, and on proceeding a few yards further she saw his body in the well; on taking him out he was put into a warm bath, and every means were used to restore animation, but to no avail: it is an open well. Verdict – accidentally drowned. *Herald, Oct.19*

MYSTERIOUS REMAINS, MISSING MEN

Brudenagh, Lachlan, but no names.

TRAFFIC ACCIDENT. - Pitt-street, **SUSAN JONES**, aged 6; driver **SMITH** in custody.

DEATH FROM THE FALL OF A TREE. - An inquest was held at the residence of Mr. **ROBERT GREEN**, on the Kissing Point Road, on Thursday last, before Mr. **C.B. LYONS**, coroner for the district, on view of the body of **WILLIAM TARLINGTON,** an old servant in the employ of Mr. **ANDREW NASH**, of the Woolpack Inn. **PATRICK WALKER**, a fellow-servant of the deceased, deposed that himself and William left home at about half-past nine o'clock in the morning, with the horse and dray, for the purpose of getting a load of firewood from Mr. **BETTINGTON's** bush; about half an hour after we had been there, I went to a dead tree, and gave it a cut or two, but not liking the wood, said I would not have it; deceased thought it was good, and continued to cut it down; I went about forty perches off, to look for smaller wood, and on coming back for the horse and dray, heard deceased cry out; I ran, and found him stretched dead beside the tree, so close that he could not be closer unless he was under it; I tried to lift him up but could not; deceased was an old man, too old for work; I saw a wound on the top of his head; his left arm was broken, and also his right arm; I immediately returned to tell my master. The jury returned a verdict that William Tarlington came to his death from the falling of a tree. *Parramatta Correspondent of the Herald.*

BIRTHS

At Vaucluse, on the 14th October, Mrs. **WENTWORTH**, of a still born daughter.

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT

Friday, 18th October

On the same day the reserved points on the case of The Queen v **MOGO GAR**, came on for hearing. Mogo, an aboriginal, was convicted of murder at the late Central Criminal Court; objections were taken, and reserved, that certain statements of the dying man were improperly received in evidence, and that the jury were misdirected as to the grounds on which they should return a verdict of murder or manslaughter. Mr. **HOLROYD** kindly argued the points for the prisoner. The Solicitor General contended that the conviction was good. The court over ruled the objections, confirming the conviction. *Abridged from the Sydney papers.*

FATAL ACCIDENT NEAR BATHURST. - A coroner's inquest was held on Monday, the 14th instant, at Macquarie Plains, the estate of Mr. **WILLIAM LAWSON**, on the body of a man named **FRANCIS DRAPER**. The deceased and two others were employed to endeavour to get a young colt into the stable; they got him as far as the door; the horse, however, felt no inclination to enter; force was attempted, but with no avail; the two men used their best endeavours to accelerate his movements by occasionally lashing the obstinate animal with a whip. The horse became furious, threw up his hind legs, and kicked the deceased on the rim of the

belly; he fell senseless, and was conveyed to his hut. The occurrence took place about 5 p.m. on Saturday, and early on the following morning Draper expired, having in the interim laboured under the most excruciating agony. The jury returned a verdict death from the effects of a kick from a horse. *Herald Correspondent.*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/659, 26/10/1850
ACCIDENTAL DEATH. - An inquest was held on Saturday, at Olliffe's, the Cockatoo Inn, Surry Hills, on view of the body of **JOHN QUIN**, aged about three years six months. From the evidence of the father of the child, who is a water carrier, it appeared that on Friday afternoon, he put his horse in his cart, and left it for about a minute; on his return, he took the horse by the head to lead him on; just as the horse was starting, he saw the wheel passing over the deceased, which was the first he saw of him; deceased must have been under the axle-tree when he (witness) moved the horse on, as he fell outwards. The little fellow was instantly taken into the house, and the distracted parent ran for Mr. **HONNER**, the nearest medical practitioner, but before his return the child was dead. Mr. Honner gave evidence as to the character and extent of the injuries – "a large wound extending to the full extent of the right parietal bone, but no appearance of hemorrhage from the wound, the bleeding having ceased; the injuries were sufficient to account for death." Verdict, died from injuries accidentally received. *Herald, Oct. 21*
SYDNEY NEWS
The convicts **MOGO** and **JAMES WHELAN** are ordered to execution on Tuesday, the 5th November next, at Darlinghurst Gaol.
CORONER'S INQUEST. - An inquest was held yesterday at Parkinson's, the Wellington Inn, Parramatta-street, on view of the body of **JOHN PECK**, aged 24, then lying dead at the Benevolent Asylum. **GEORGE CRESSWELL** deposed, that he resides as Armitage's Fellmongering establishment, Bridge-end; about ten o'clock on Thursday morning he saw the deceased passing the establishment, towards Sydney, on horse back, and going down towards the crossing place he went out of sight; a few minutes afterwards he saw the horse half in and half out of the creek; seeing no rider, he (witness) went with the men at work on the premises to look after him, but after searching for some time in vain, he came to Sydney to report the circumstance to the police, and afterwards sent a man with the horse to Mr. **POTTER**, at Botany, in whose employ the deceased was; the crossing place was covered with water to the depth of about two feet, and a part of the dray road is washed away; from the appearance of the spot he (witness) was of opinion that deceased had gone too near the brink, which had given way, being sand, and precipitated him into the water. Mr. Potter deposed that some days ago deceased had his arm bitten by a horse, and was on his way to Sydney for medical advice when this melancholy occurrence took place; on receiving the intelligence forwarded by the last witness he proceeded to the spot, and was with several others dragging the water hole until about four 0'clock in the afternoon before they found the body; it was then quite dead; the place is about twenty yards in width, and the water about ten feet deep; the body was found about four feet from the brink, and from its position he thought that deceased had scarcely even struggled. Verdict, accidentally drowned. *Herald, Oct. 24*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/660, 30/10/1850
HOMICIDE AT DARLING DOWNS. - Last Saturday a Chinaman, in the employ of Mr. **WHITTING**, D.D., was killed with a blow of a wool spade, by a white man, with whom he was working in the wool shed. Such is the account which has reached us,

and it adds that the white man had not then (last Sunday) been taken into custody, as there was no witness of the blow, but that Dr. **MILES**, of Drayton, had gone over to make a *post mortem* examination. *Moreton Bay Courier, Oct. 19*

MURDER.

The *Windsor Telegraph* reports the evidence given on an inquest held at Colo, on the 21st instant, on the body of **ANN BECKHAM**, aged eleven years. The deceased girl, Ann Beckham, was in the service of Mr. **WILLIAM BURGESS**, a settler residing at Colo. Early in August, Mr. Burgess hired, through an agent in Sydney, a man named **FREDERICK HERMENDING**; this man worked well for some weeks but then he became obstinate and troublesome, setting Mr. Burgess at defiance; by mutual consent the agreement was cancelled, on the 30th September; prisoner went away for one day, Sunday, and then returned and again entered into Mr. Burgess's service again, without any written agreement. After this he became melancholy and reserved in his manner, not answering when spoken to, and late on Monday evening, the 14th instant, he went into the house (having usually slept in a hut) and got Mr. Burgess to read religious books to him; and subsequently Mr. Burgess consented to his sleeping in the house that night. For some days he continued in this frame of mind, Mr. Burgess reading religious books to him at his request, but apparently not suspecting that Hermending was at all deranged. On Friday night, the 18th, Hermending brought his bed and box into the house to sleep, and talked rationally with Mr. Burgess about religion, and about the farm work for the next day; Mr. Burgess went to bed, but was awakened by hearing Hermending walking about, lighting the fire, and talking to himself in a strange way; Hermending shortly afterwards called to Mr. Burgess to read the history of Job to him; Mr. Burgess did so, but was stopped by Hermending after reading a few verses, Hermending saying he wanted no more of that, and looking fiercely at Mr. Burgess, wielding the broken handle of as frying-pan, and muttering that he had work to do, but the time was not yet come; Hermending refused to let Mr. Burgess go out of the house, or to go to bed again, and would not retire to bed himself. Mr. Burgess went to bed after some time, and was again called by Hermending, but refused to get up, and on Hermending trying to get into his room Mr. Burgess locked the door. In the morning early Hermending again called to Mr. Burgess, saying that work must be done, that he must complete it, and that in a satisfactory manner; Mr. Burgess got up, and partly opening the door saw Hermending sitting in the adjoining room with an iron wrench in one hand and the frying-pan handle in the other; he refused to lay down these weapons, and Mr. Burgess refused to leave the room unless he did so; the little girl now came into the room to take the fire, and Hermending said he had a great mind to kill her then, but would do so at another time, and banish them all to the Red Sea; after some persuasion he let the girl make the fire. Mrs. Burgess now called the girl into her bed-room; Hermending called out, "Come out, no treachery;" Mrs. Burgess left the girl out by a back way, and sent her to arouse the neighbours; Hermending called her back, but she did not return, and Hermending, who had opened the front door, rushed back to the bed-room door, and struck at Mr. Burgess with the frying-pan handle; Mr. Burgess defended himself with a chair, but received a slight blow, and Hermending seizing the chair they both fell in the struggle; Mr. Burgess now got away into the bed-room, the door of which he and his wife locked, and piled up boxes against it. Presently two neighbours, who had been alarmed by the girl, came to the house, and Hermending made a blow with the handle at the first of them, **JOHN EDMONDSON**, which was warded off by an umbrella; Hermending then ran past the second neighbour, and ran at the poor girl, who was following them towards the house; she ran away, but Hermending overtook her, and struck her a blow on the

head with the iron wrench, and she fell; he then appears to have left her for a moment, but returned to her and beat her about the head with the iron handle till Mr. Burgess and the neighbours ran up; Hermending then threw the iron handle at Edmondson, and was himself struck by Mr. Burgess with a pitchfork; Hermending said he would kill them all in the same way, and then ran away, and left the place. The poor girl was quite dead, the skull having been battered in. Hermending was taken prisoner by four men, after a desperate resistance. It appears that Hermending had told a person that Mr. Burgess had discharged him, and swore that he would not leave Colo till he had revenge on Mr. Burgess. The jury returned a verdict of wilful murder against Hermending.

A MOTHER COMMITTED TO TAKE HER TRIAL FOR THE WILFUL MURDER OF HER INFANT.

An inquest was held on the 22nd and (by adjournment) on 25th instant, on view of the body of **MARY SWEENEY**, ----- months old, **CATHERINE SWEENEY**, her mother, being in custody. The husband of the prisoner, it appeared, left the Colony for California in the month of \October last year; since which time she gave birth to the child, the subject of this inquiry; the house she lived in was her own, part fo which she let for four or five shillings a week, and when she was disposed, was able to earn from 10s. to 12s. a week at trouser making; she had, however, as it appeared by the evidence of several witnesses, given herself up to habitual intoxication, to purchase the means for which debasing and destructive indulgence, she not only devoted the proceeds of the rental income and her earnings, but some £10 or £12 sent up by her husband, and all the furniture of the house. It would be both disgusting and tedious to give the evidence of several witnesses, who spoke of the habitual neglect of deceased by the prisoner; it did not appear that deceased had been washed for months, except on one or two occasions, when some charitable female would take it from the equally miserable, dirty, and hungry child, the eldest sister, about seven years of age, who was constantly perambulating the streets with the infant in her arms; the infant generally wore a flannel shirt (which one of the witnesses said could not have been washed for weeks) – no napkins, nor any linen whatever next its skin. The infant died on Tuesday last, when, in consequence of the representations of the neighbours as to the treatment she received from her mother, the coroner thought it necessary to hold an inquest on the body. Dr. **TIERNEY** made a *post mortem* examination of the body. From all the symptoms he could discover, Dr. T. was of opinion that deceased died from want of proper and sufficient sustenance; there was no organic disease; the emaciation must have been going on for some time. Dr. Tierney saw the room in which the children slept; they were lying on a few shreds of cloth, without any covering, and were half naked, and disgustingly dirty. The jury under the circumstances found a verdict of wilful murder against Catherine Sweeney, who was thereupon committed by the coroner to take her trial. *Herald, Oct. 28*

MELANCHOLY OCCURRENCE. - Some time on Thursday night last, a man named **WILLIAM WEBB**, residing with Mr. **PLUM** of Brisbane Meadow, Bungonia, destroyed himself by blowing the roof of his skull off with a fowling piece. The tragic act was first discovered by Mrs. Plum, on going into the kitchen yesterday morning, where she found Webb lying dead with his brains scattered over the floor. An inquest will be held this day. *Goulburn Herald, Oct. 20*

SUPREME COURT, Friday, October 25.

(from the S.H. Herald)

(Before their Honors the three Judges)

CROWN CASES RESERVED. - The Queen v **MULDOON.**

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/661, 02/11/1850
WIDE BAY. - MURDER BY THE BLACKS, AND REPRISALS BY THE INHABITANTS. – OCTOBER 15.
The township of Maryborough was thrown into a state of alarm a few days since, by a report, which was unfortunately too true, that a bullock-driver, named **ROBERTS**, had been killed by the blacks. One of the murderers was supposed to have been a man who a short time since was in custody on a charge of rape. The body of the unfortunate Roberts was found within a quarter of a mile of the town. On the following morning some of the inhabitants, accompanied by a few sailors belonging to vessels lying in the river, proceeded to the camps of the blacks, and shot several – we have heard as many as six of them perished. *Herald Correspondent.*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/662, 06/11/1850
MURDER.
Yesterday an inquest was held by **J.S. PARKER**, Esq., at Mr. Risby's inn, Falls, West Maitland, on the body of **ABRAHAM DAWES**. The inquest was concluded at so late an hour that we have not time for a full report in this publication. Dawes and two other men were, it appears, coming down the country with teams, and one of the men, named **TOM MATTHEWS**, quarrelled with Dawes near Murrurundi, and is sworn to have brutally ill-used him. Dawes from this time complained of pain and illness, but travelled to Maitland, and on Saturday last was attended at Mr. Risby's by a medical man, but died yesterday morning. The jury returned a verdict of wilful murder against Matthews. Matthews is not nin custody yet, having been discharged by his employer, Mr. **SUMNER** at Black Creek, in consequence of the fight, Mr. Sumner not suspecting the extent of the injuries inflicted on Dawes.
A MAN DROWNED. - On Friday morning as Mr. **WILLIAM TUNKS** and his sons were bathing at the Figtree, they observed something in the water which resembled a dog. One of them swam out close to it, and returning said that it was an animal of that kind, but Mr. Tunks himself, thinking he saw something like hands underneath the water, got a boat and pushed out towards it, when he discovered that it was a human body. A card case containing cards with the name of "**MORTIMER**" and 4s. 3d. in cash, some tobacco, and a knife were found upon his person. An inquest will be held this day. *People's Advocate, Nov. 2*
CORONER'S INQUEST. - An inquest was on Saturday held at Murphy's, the Traveller's Rest, Market-street, on view of the body of **WILLIAM MORTIMER**. This was the body found floating near the Fig-tree by the Messrs. **TUNKS.** From the evidence of Mrs. Mortimer, residing in Castlereagh-street, it appears that Mortimer was given to drink, and had been labouring under *delirium tremens*; some short time since, while suffering in that way, he left home with an expressed intention to destroy himself, but was brought back by a man who went after him; on the present occasion he went out on Tuesday morning several times, apparently getting drink, and finally went out, and did not return. The jury returned a verdict that deceased put an end to his existence by drowning, while labouring under the effects of intemperance. *Abridged from the Herald, Nov. 4*
CHILD LOST.
A few days since a little boy about eighteen months old, son of Mrs. **HAND**, of Wheeo, strayed from his home. An active search was instituted by the distracted mother and the neighbours, when after two days search the poor creature was found dead, death having, no doubt, been produced by starvation. *Goulburn Herald, Nov. 2*

DEATHS.
At Juanda, Dawson River, on 28th September last, **THOMAS MARK**, eldest son of **A. WINDEYER**, Esq., Kinross, Raymond Terrace, by an accidental pistol-shot wound on the 6th August 1849.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/663, 09/11/1850
MURDER OF ABRAHAM DAWES

EXECUTION. - The final sentence of the law was yesterday morning carried into effect on the two unfortunate men who were convicted at the last Criminal Sessions for wilful murder – **WHELAN**, and **MOGO**, an aboriginal native. The former at the trial confessed the crime, but urged the influence of drink and jealousy as the exciting cause. Since his conviction he has devoted himself entirely to spiritual exercise, and the Rev. Dean **M'ENROE**, who attended him on the scaffold, in a few words stated to the crowd that the unhappy convict confessed his guilt, and admitted the justice of his punishment, but earnestly implored that his example might deter others from the fatal vice of intoxication. **MOGO** also was resigned and penitent. He admitted to having committed various deeds of violence, for which he was aware he was amenable to the English law, but he declared that he tried to prevent the blacks from committing the outrage which led to his death. He appears to have been a man of considerable intellect, partially cultivated by his intercourse with Europeans. On the night preceding his execution he was visited by the Bishop of New Zealand, and there was every reason to believe, from the tenor of his conversation, that he died a penitent Christian. The Rev. Messrs. **BODENHAM and T. WILKINSON** attended him to the scaffold. Both men were composed, but when the drop fell, Whelan struggled violently for upwards of five minutes, but Mogo died apparently in an instant. *Herald, Nov. 6*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/664, 13/11/1850
FATAL ACCIDENT. - On Wednesday afternoon a man named **JONES**, a resident of the Glebe, went out in company with three others to fish. They rowed outside the reef, where there was a cross sea, and Jones was standing leaning over the bow, when the boat lurched, and he was thrown into the water. No efforts which his companions could have made would have saved him, for he never rose again. *People's Advocate, Nov. 9*
ABERGLASLYN = **SUSAN COX** bitten by snake.
SYDNEY NEWS.
An inquest was held to-day to inquire in the cause of death of **FRANCIS WHITWORTH**, oil and colour-man, of George-street. The deceased left home on Friday night, about a quarter before eight o'clock, for the purpose of attending a meeting of Odd Fellows, to which order he belonged; he did not, however, go there, and was found in George-street, about three o'clock in the morning, opposite the Royal Hotel, apparently in a fit, and was conveyed to the Watch-house, where he was visited by Dr. **RUTTER**, who, after adopting certain remedies, had him removed to his own residence, where he remained insensible up to the time of his death, about two o'clock in the afternoon. Verdict, death by the visitation of God.

An inquest was also initiated on Saturday afternoon, touching the death of a publican named **ABERDEEN**, at the corner of Phillip and Hunter streets. Owing to some circumstances of a domestic nature having transpired, the inquest was adjourned till Wednesday, at the Town Hall.

FATAL ACCIDENT. - We have to record a most distressing accident that occurred at North Brisbane on Saturday afternoon. A fine intelligent boy [**EDWARD ALFRED WRIGHT]** five years of age, the child of a respectable man named WRIGHT, a constable in the Brisbane Police, was playing with some other children at the back of the Commissariat store, when, in turning round on the parapet surmounting the wall of the deep area that surrounds the building, he lost his balance, and fell to the bottom, a distance of some eighteen or twenty feet. The accident was observed by a servant woman of the chief constable, who screamed for assistance, and Mr. **BYRNES**, the lessee of the ferry, picked up the child, and carried him into Mr. **SNEYD'S** house, where Dr. **HOBBS** and Dr. **CANNAN** soon afterwards attended; but medical skill was useless, and the child died the same evening, without having exhibited consciousness from the moment of his fall. No doubt the poor little fellow fell upon his head and fractured his skull. *Moreton Bay Courier, Nov. 4*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/665, 16/11/1850
ACCIDENTAL DEATH. - On Tuesday an inquest was held below Hinton, before **J.S. PARKER**, Esq., Coroner, on the body of **PATRICK CONNOR**. It appeared that on Saturday last, early in the afternoon, three men in Mr. **EALES's** employment, named **PATRICK CONNOR, EDWARD WHYLIE, and JOSIAH SQUIRES**, went to bathe in the river, near Mr. E.'s dock. Whylie was the only one of the party who could swim, and he and Squires were in the water, he being teaching Squires to swim, when Connor called out from the bank "Ned, I'm going to jump in, look out for me," and immediately jumped out into the river about fifteen feet, into a spot where there was deep water and a soft muddy bottom. Whylie pushed Squires into shallow water, and looked out for Connor, but he did not rise for some time, and then only just got his head above water, made a splash with his hands, and sunk again before Whylie, who was much confused, could reach him. Whylie now swam to shore and got a piece of wood, in case Squires (sic) rose again, but no more was seen of him. A settler living on the opposite bank called to Whylie to get the boat, which he did, and they searched for some time, trying to find Connor with the oars, but unsuccessfully. Drags were procured, but the body could not be found, the tide being ebbing strongly at the time. On Monday evening a little girl observed the body floating about half a mile below, and giving the alarm, it was taken on shore; I was much covered with mud and weeds. The jury returned a verdict of accidentally drowned.
CORONER'S INQUEST. - An inquest was held on Saturday afternoon, on the body of a man named **ABERDEEN**, a publican, residing in Hunter-street, who died very suddenly at about five o'clock in the morning. Owing to some rumours that prevailed, a *post mortem* examination was ordered, and a jury having been sworn and the body identified, the enquiry was adjourned till one o'clock on Wednesday, at the police office. It was then resumed, and further adjourned till Friday. *Herald, Nov.14*
SUICIDE. - An inquest was yesterday held at Bluck's, the Family Hotel, Surry Hills, on view of the body of **MARGARET FLYNN**. **JAMES HARRIS**, residing in Riley-street, Surry Hills, deposed that on Sunday morning about five o'clock he went to the house of the deceased, and on his way he met her going to his house; she appeared to be quite sober; on returning home with his wife he found the gate unbolted; on entering he saw a bonnet, and presently his wife observing that the cover of the well was up, shouted out that she was sure Margaret Flynn was in the well; the fact of finding the bonnet without the woman led him to the same conclusion, and forthwith he procured a grappling iron and set to work; in a few minutes he succeeded in bringing up a body – that viewed by the jury – the body of Margaret Flynn,

apparently quite dead. Dr. **TIERNEY** was sent for and shortly arrived. He found that the woman was dead beyond all hope of resuscitation. **WILLIAM LENNOX** deposed that deceased had been drinking very hard for the last two or three weeks; on Sunday morning, about half-past four o'clock, she left home quite sober, and he did not see her again alive; she had often said she would make away with herself, but as it was always after a drinking bout he took no notice of it. She was about thirty-six years of age, and has left one child. The jury returned a verdict of felo de se. *Herald, Nov. 12*

SHOCKING ACCIDENT. - Some short time ago, a man [**BEAMAN]** in the employ of Mr. **WOOLLEY**, of George-street, iron monger, was sent with a quantity of damaged gun powder, which he was ordered to throw into the harbour. Instead of doing as he was ordered, it appears that he threw it with some other rubbish on a piece of waste land near the Museum. The deposit was soon discovered by some boys, who were in the habit of playing in the vicinity, one or two of whom, it is said, carried away small portions of the dangerous material. On Monday forenoon, however, a boy named **LINE [LANE]**, about ten years of age, thought to have a rare spree with the powder, and after leading a train a short distance from the great mass, applied a match, and of course the whole exploded. The boy was so near that he was very much injured and burnt; but although placed immediately under the care of Mr. **BENNETT**, the result was, that after lingering in great agony until about two o'clock yesterday afternoon, he expired. An inquest will be held upon the body today. *Herald, Nov. 13*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/666, 26/11/1850

ARMIDALE

MELANCHOLY DEATH BY DROWNING.

Accounts reached Armidale last week of the death by d rowning of Mr. **WILLIAM FARQUHARSON**, formerly superintendent of the St. Leonard's station in this district, late belonging to the Bank of Australasia. It appears that deceased was on his way to the M'Leay for the purpose of procuring a farm; on arriving at Mr. **WARNE'S** station, "Towal Creek," he was urgently advised not to attempt the usual crossing-place of the M'Leay River, as, in consequence of the recent floor, the footing had been made extremely dangerous. Mr. Farquharson's business being urgent, and having frequently incurred dangers before, he proceeded. On the following day Mr. **P. RIGNEY**, on his way to Port Macquarie, found the unfortunate gentleman's horse grazing on the river bank, and immediately gave information to the nearest station. Every exertion was used for the recovery of the body, Mr. **MEREWETHER**, Chief Commissioner Lands for the M'Leay district, giving every assistance in his power, and it was ultimately found about four miles below. From the appearance of the body, it is supposed that Mr. Farquharson had tried to force the horse into the water, and in the endeavour to do so had been thrown, as there was an extensive cut and bruise on the left side of the head, apparently made by the horse's shoe. He was much and deservedly respected, and has left a widow and four children to lament his premature death.

ACCIDENT. - A man named **WALKER**, residing in Elizabeth-street, took home a lump of gunpowder which was thrown near the Museum, and thinking it was coal, he put it on the fire when he got home. As might be expected, it exploded, and he was severely burned about the face and head. *People's Advocate, Nov. 16*

THE INQUEST ON MR. ABERDEEN. - The adjourned inquest on the body of Mr. **ABERDEEN** was resumed yesterday. The evidence of the medical witnesses was that death was caused by an effusion of serum on the brain (serous apoplexy), and

that whatever was the cause of certain inflammatory spots visible near the entrance of the stomach, that inflammation could have had no influence on the death of the deceased. The coroner left it to the jury to say whether they thought it necessary to have the stomach and its contents analysed, together with some fluid thrown off by deceased from his stomach shortly before his death. The jury considered this desirable, after some deliberation, and the inquest was adjourned for a fortnight for the purpose of having an analysis made. *Abridged from the Herald, Nov. 16*

THE GUNPOWDER FATAL ACCIDENT. - The inquest of the body of **MATTHEW LANE** was resumed yesterday. The particulars of this case have already been given, Lane having been so severely scorched by an explosion of gunpowder that he died. The powder (damaged) had been thrown on a vacant piece of land near the Museum by a carter named **BEAMAN**, in the employ of Mr. **T. WOOLLEY.** Directions had been given that the powder should be thrown into the harbour, but it was not clearly proved whether these directions were given to Beaman. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death, and gave it as their opinion that due caution was not used. Beaman, who had been apprehended, was then discharged from custody. *Abridged from Herald, Nov. 16*

MOGO. - Feature story re Mogo's origins and childhood.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/667, 23/11/1850

SERIOUS ACCIDENT. - Early on Saturday morning, Mr. **GEORGE OAKES**, M.C., left town for Penrith, in a gig, accompanied by his brother Mr. **F. OAKES**; they drove at a moderate pace along the Western Road, until near the bridge over the Eastern Creek, near Mr. Dean's licensed tavern. There happened to be a cart with stone a-head, and some men working under the bridge; at one or the other of these the horse started and took fright, turning suddenly, made a spring to the side of the bridge, and in doing so carried away the top rail, and with the sudden jerk broke out of the harness; … *Parramatta Correspondent of the Herald.*

MISSING PERSON. **BENJAMIN COTT** still missing; see previous issue.

DEATH.

Killed, instantaneously, from the kick of a horse, at Peel's River, on the 9th November, **WILLIAM COLLINSON**, fourth son of the Rev. Thomas Maxwell Hunt, of Ashby-de-la-Zouch; aged 26 years.

MURDER.

ANG, a Chinaman, was indicted for the wilful murder of a fellow countryman, at Mr. **REID'S** station, in the Burnett district.

Mr. **PEARSON THOMPSON** undertook the defence, at the request of the Court.

From the evidence of **ANG KEE ING**, another Chinaman, and of a person named **HALBERT**, overseer for Mr. Reid, and also the testimony of Dr. **F. O'NEILL**, the following facts were adduced. Deceased, prisoner, and the witness Ang Kee Ing, were all in the employ of Mr. Reid, and on the day of the alleged murder a quarrel had occurred between the prisoner and deceased, in the hut, when the prisoner had fired a gun at deceased just at the time when the latter was supposed to be throwing a pannikin at the prisoner, as the witness Ang Kee Ing stated he did. This supposition was grounded on the fact of the ball from the gun having glanced on the arm in such a manner as to show that the limb must have been extended at the time. The ball, according to the evidence of the surgeon, had afterwards entered the body and inflicted several wounds, which were sufficient to cause death. The wounded man died on the same day, and subsequently Dr. **O'NEILL**, by desire of the Commissioner of Crown Lands, had the body disinterred, and made a *post mortem*

examination. As the evidence of the Chinaman did not quite agree with his former statements, and there seemed reason to believe that the deceased and prisoner had been struggling together, and that the gun was fired on the impulse of the moment, the Judge charged the jury accordingly, and a verdict of guilty of manslaughter was returned. The prisoner was sentenced to three years on the roads.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/669, 30/11/1850

CORONER'S INQUEST. - An inquest was yesterday held by Mr. **BRENAN**, coroner for the city and district of Sydney, at Stewart's, the Woolpack Inn, Campbell-street, on view of the body of **JOHN A. BIRD**, aged twenty-six. About a fortnight since deceased cut his thumb while assisting to skin a bullock that had died of what is called the "black leg;" the cut was very slight, in fact, scarcely discernable. Three or four days since he complained of pain under the arm – which he carried in a sling – so severe, he said, that he could not let his arm out of the sling; on Friday he asked to see a medical man, when Dr. **M'VITIE** was called in. On Sunday he died. Mr. **H.W. M'VITIE**, surgeon and doctor of medicine, residing in Pitt-street, deposed that when he saw deceased on Friday he found him labouring under great pain, extending from under the left arm over the left side of the chest; there was a great swelling or puffing over the chest; deceased fainted twice whilst witness was examining him; witness asked if he had any cuts about the fingers, when he replied that he had not; I looked at his left hand, and found a small mark upon the first joint of the thumb, which he said he had received while getting oysters, about a fortnight before, and that a piece of shell was in it; treated him according to the symptoms, and next morning he complained less of pain, but had a great inclination to vomit; the swelling in the chest had almost disappeared, and the thumb appeared to be free of inflammation; when about to leave witness was informed that he had cut his thumb while skinning a diseased bullock some days back, but had not complained until Thursday; a wound received under such circumstances would he thought impart a *virus* to the system, and cause the swelling and symptoms he perceived; on receiving this information he laid open the thumb, and deceased seemed to be insensible to pain in that part; no doubt there was some *virus* present, which caused prostration of the whole nervous system, and that prostration was the cause of death – it would not yield to the stimulants prescribed. Verdict, died from the effects of a *virus* imparted to the system while in the act of skinning a bullock which had died of disease. *Herald, Nov. 26*

SUICIDE. - A woman named **GUARD**, between nine and ten o'clock on Friday morning, threw herself into the water from the wharf at Mrs. Bigge's bathing place, and but for the prompt assistance of a person named **CHARLESWORTH**, who had heard of the circumstance while at work in the vicinity, she would inevitably have drowned. He put off in a boat and rescued her; shortly after which, constable **LUCAS** arrived, who took means for her removal to the lock-up. She was there attended by Dr. **RUTTER**, and, on Saturday morning, she stood before their worships perfectly recovered. She said she was tired of her life from ill-treatment – from whom she did not state. The bench ordered her to enter into sureties for good behaviour, in default of which she was committed to gaol for a month. *Herald, Nov. 25*

FATAL ACCIDENT. - On Sunday, during the heavy squall, Mr. **ABERCROMBIE's** boat, while returning to Five Dock with his family from Balmain Church, was driven ashore and bilged on Spectacle Island, from whence the family were taken by a fisherman's boat, with the exception of the servant man, named **TERENCE CREDEN**, who, instead of attending divine service, had got drunk at a public-house, and it appears had fallen asleep on the island. Another boat was despatched for him,

when he was seen to take off his jacket and go into the water and swim for a few moments, when he sank to rise no more. An unavailing search was made for the body for hours afterwards, and again the following morning at low water, but without success. He was only discharged from the 11th regiment on the 1st of October last. *Herald, Nov. 26*

On Tuesday the 12th instant, a man named **WILLIAM WOODS** died very suddenly at the Gungemye station (M'Killop's). He was a stockman, and was just going to mount his horse, having a whip in one hand, and the bridle reins in the other, when he dropped down, and instantly expired. *Herald Correspondent.*

DEATH BY DROWNING. - Between ten and eleven o'clock on Sunday forenoon, one **THOMAS BENSON** was drowned while bathing off the Market Wharf. A waterman named **PEGG** saw the man sinking, and instantly went to the rescue. Sergeant **ADAMS**, of the police, took measures for his immediate removal to the Infirmary, where all was done for him that skill could devise, but without avail – he died soon after his arrival here. An inquest will be held on the body today. *Herald, Nov. 26.*

BOAT ACCIDENT AND ONE MAN DROWNED. - Yesterday, about two p.m., while the cutter belonging to the Hamburg ship *San Francisco*, was cruising off Bradley's Head, she was struck with a heavy squall from the southward and capsized; a sailor belonging to the ship named **FRANZ ALBRECHET**, of Hamburg, was drowned. The boat was in charge of the mate and three sailors at the time of the accident, and they were saved by clinging to the boat's keel, on which they remained for upwards of an hour. Mr. **JONES**, of the Flagstaff, was the first to discover the boat upside down, and he immediately despatched his messenger to the Waterman's Wharf, when seven boats put off to render assistance. The body of the man had not been recovered last night. *Herald, Nov. 28*

HUNTER RIVER DISTRICT NEWS

SINGLETON

CORONER'S INQUESTS. - An inquest was held on Wednesday last, the 26th instant, at the Rose Inn, Singleton, before **HENRY GLENNIE**., Esq., coroner, and a jury of twelve, touching the death of **GEORGE TICKLE**, a young man about q19 years of age, in the employment of **CHARLES SIMPSON**, J.P., of Brickburne, near Black Creek. The body lay at the lock-up, near the Rose Inn, and upon the jury proceeding to view it, great difficulty was experienced in even recognising the features, the body being in such a high state of decomposition. From the evidence of Charles Simpson, Esq., **JAMES TENNANT**, and **JAMES SMITH**, it appeared that the deceased was on Sunday last despatched by his master to Black Creek to the post office there for letters; on leaving Black Creek he was accompanied on his way home by Tennant and Smith, all three being on horse back. On nearing the river near his master's place, his horse suddenly shied, and ran him against a tree, when he fell off and lay upon the ground, for some time insensible; he was then carried into a neighbour's hut, when his master was sent for, who had him conveyed home. Upon examination no marks of external injury were visible on his body, and his master did not send for medical assistance, as he was told that the lad had been drinking, and had merely fallen from his horse. On the following morning he appeared much better, walking about. Suddenly a change came over him, which alarmed his master, who immediately went into the paddock for a horse to ride into town for a doctor, but upon his return from the paddock deceased was dead. Deceased bore an excellent character. Neither Smith nor Tennant acquainted Mr. Simpson that the lad had been thrown; and, from his occasional vomiting, his master was strongly impressed with

the idea that it was merely the effects of the drink that the lad was labouring under, instead of concussion of the brain. The Jury returned a verdict that the deceased died from injuries received by a fall from a horse.

ANOTHER FATAL ACCIDENT. - Another inquest was held yesterday before the same coroner, at the house of Patrick M'Manus, the Donnybrook Fair, upon the body of **EDWARD M'MANUS**, there lying dead. It appeared from the evidence of **CHARLES SMITH**, and of **DENNIS M'MANUS**, the deceased's son, that on Wednesday at about eleven o'clock, the two teams of Smith and M'Manus started together from Ramsay's on the road for Patrick's Plains, Smith having a load for his master, Mr. **MARSH**, of New England, and M'Manus having about two tons and a half for a store-keeper at Singleton; Smith's team being the leading team, M'Manus was behind, and had borrowed three of Smith's bullocks, having lost some of his own; Smith went on in advance, and soon lost sight of M'Manus (the dust being very much), and got as far as Miller's, when, after being there some time, he was informed that M'Manus lay dead on the road; he went back, and found it to be true; Dennis M'Manus had left his father at Ramsay's, yoking up his bullocks, and had gone into the bush to look for some bullocks that were missing, and upon returning with them to Ramsay's, found that his father had gone on with the team; he then followed after him, and at the distance of about a mile found his father lying dead upon the road. There was a track where the near wheels had passed across his left arm, and then ober his chest; deceased was perfectly sober at the time of the accident; he was in the habit of riding on the pole, and one of the strange bullocks was in the pole. "Verdict – that the deceased came by his death by the wheel of his dray passing over his body." The deceased was very much respected in Singleton, being a steady and industrious man. He leaves a widow and nine children to deplore his untimely end. *November 29.*

A MAN FOUND DROWNED. - We are informed that on Saturday last the body of **SAMUEL KEYS** was found in one of the saltwater creeks of the William River, and that an inquest was to be held on the body early this week. Keys resided on Mr. **R. LANG'S** estate, William River, and owned a threshing machine; he has left a wife and one child to mourn their loss.

STABBING = of **WILLIAM FLETCHER** by **WILLIAM MILLER.**

FATAL ACCIDENT. - The district of Hartley has for some time past been rife with the reports of melancholy accidents and sudden deaths. Another distressing casualty occurred on Tuesday, the 12th inst. A young man, in the employ of Mr. **J. FINN**, was killed instantaneously, by the overturning of a cart. He was driving in quest of a load of sand, when the horse bolted, ran foul of a stump, and the upset vehicle came in contact with the young man's head and crushed it to pieces. His remains were found by one of the aborigines a short time after the catastrophe. It is worthy of remark that this is the second man killed by the same cart. *Bathurst Free Press.*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/670, 04/12/1850

ACCIDENTS. = **WILLIAM BEARD,** East Maitland
WILLIAM ??, Morpeth

THE INQUEST ON MR. ABERDEEN. - The adjourned inquest, touching the death of **JOHN ABERDEEN**, took place yesterday. The purport of the evidence previously taken has already appeared in the *Herald*, and it will be recollected that the last adjournment took place in consequence of the desire of some of the jurymen that the contents of the stomach should be subjected to a chemical analysation. The analysis was entrusted to Dr. **a'BECKETT** and Mr. **PORTER.** Mr. Porter deposed that he found indications of opium, but not sufficient to determine the quantity; he had

analysed the stomach itself to a certain extent, and in the process discovered indications similar to those produced by metallic arsenic; the indications might not have exceeded the 2-100th of a grain; but the corroborative tests did not confirm these appearances; he analysed the contents of the stomach, but found no arsenic. Dr. a'Beckett deposed that he attended with Mr. Porter in the operation. In one experiment they fancied that there were indications of arsenic, but by subsequent tests they were not corroborated; in several other experiments there was no indication whatever; he was inclined to the opinion that no arsenic existed. The jury retired for a short time to consider their verdict, and on their return found a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence – that death was the result of serous apoplexy. *Herald, Nov. 30*

CORONER'S INQUEST. - An inquest was held on Thursday, at the Benevolent Asylum, on the body of a man, name unknown, which was the previous day found in the water at Shark Bay, by a working man named **BANBURY.** Information having been received by Mr. **SINGLETON**, of the coroner's department, he at once proceeded to Shark Bay and brought up the body, or rather the remains of the body, for the trunk and arms only were left, the other portions having been eaten by fish. His apparel consisted of Cossack boots, a blue Guernsey frock, a striped shirt, and moleskin trousers. Inquiry was made on board the ship *San Francisco*, one of whose men was drowned a few days ago, and of the friends of one or two other men who have been drowned and their bodies not found, but the dress did not correspond with that worn by either at the period of their death. The jury found a verdict of found drowned, but how or when there was no evidence. *Herald, Nov. 30*

SHOCKING ACCIDENT. - A fine boy about ten years of age, named **BYRNE**, residing with his mother at Pyrmont (his father being in California), was yesterday out gathering brushwood for the fire, when he fell over a precipice of some sixteen or eighteen feets, and died on the spot. We understand his skull was fractured, and his neck dislocated by the violence of the fall. *Herald, Nov. 30*

A MAN D ROWNED. - Between ten and eleven o'clock on Thursday night a person, name unknown, went on board the brig *Louisa*, lying off the Queen's Wharf, for the purpose, it is supposed, of robbing the cabin. There was a ferocious dog on the deck, which ran at the man, who either jumped or fell over the stern to avoid him. He was seen to fall by a sentry on the Commissariat Wharf, who gave an alarm; but although several boats were in the vicinity, and immediately rowed to the spot, they could not find the body. Search was also made yesterday, but without avail. *Herald, Nov. 30*

ACCIDENTS = **G. OAKES, better? G. LOCK**, Windsor, snake bite?

BATHURST. - FATAL ACCIDENT. - On Sunday last a distressing accident, which unfortunately terminated fatally, happened to a boy named **JOHN GRIFFIN**, residing at **CHARLES PARKER'S** , on Campbell's River, about fifteen miles from Bathurst. It appears that on Sunday Parker left home for Bathurst, and shortly after his departure the deceased and **MATTHEW RYAN**, the son of a neighbour, a lad of about the same age as Griffin, were playing together, Ryan having in his hands a fowling piece, which it seems was at the time loaded. The muzzle of the gun must have been pointed towards Griffin, when it accidentally exploded, lodging in the front part of the unfortunate boy's body, on the lower right side, breaking in its course one of the ribs, and penetrating the liver. Information was speedily conveyed to Bathurst, when Dr. **MACHATTIE** promptly attended, and the sufferer was brought into town the same evening. The accident was of too serious a nature to allow of any hopes being entertained of his recovery, and on Wednesday morning he expired, having

previous to his decease made a dying declaration before **G. BUSBY**, Esq., J.P., in which he entirely exonerated the lad Ryan. An inquest was held on his remains by Mr. **JOHN SUTHERLAND**, coroner, on the afternoon of the day on which he expired, and the verdict recorded was – Accidentally killed by a shot from a gun. *Herald Correspondent.*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/672, 11/12/1850
BATHURST STORM = 3/12= Dr. **MACHATTIE** in action.
FATAL ACCIDENT, MORETON BAY, ?? **STEVENS**, fell o/board.
SYDNEY NEWS
CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT
(Abridged from the S.M. Herald)
Friday, December 6.#
(Before Mr. Justice Dickinson)
MANSLAUGHTER. - **CATHERINE SWEENY** was indicted for the manslaughter of her infant child, **MARY SWEENY**, by neglecting to administer proper food and nourishment to it.

The prisoner and her husband resided together in Sydney till some time since, when he went to California; they had then four children; he left his wife in Sydney, having a house of her own to reside in, and the rent of another house (4s. 6d. per week) coming in; she was a trouser maker, and could earn 8s. or 10s. a week, and on one occasion her husband sent her £9 from California; the prisoner had occasionally taken liquor before her husband left; she afterwards gave way to drinking, and latterly became a confirmed drunkard; in March last, after her husband left, prisoner had another child, a boy; he was healthy and strong for four months, and then fell away, and continued to look poorly until his death, in October; during the last few months the prisoner entirely neglected him, leaving him in charge of a little girl; the poor baby was not half clothed, was kept in a very filthy and neglected state, and appeared half starved, taking ravenously any food offered it by kind neighbours; several of the neighbours deposed to their pointing out these things to the prisoner, and remonstrating with her on her treatment of the child. A post mortem examination was made by Dr. **TIERNEY**, who believed the child died from want of nutriment and proper care. Guilty. Three years' imprisonment, with hard labour.
MURDER.
FREDERICK HERMINGDEN was indicted for having, at Colo, on the 19th of October last, murdered one **ANN BECKHAM**, by striking her on the head with a bar of iron.

The prisoner, whose aspect was very wild, did not plead when called upon, and a jury was accordingly empanelled to enquire whether he was of sufficiently sane mind to be placed on trial.

Upon this point, Dr. **O'BRIEN**, the medical officer of Darlinghurst Gaol, and Dr. **DAY**, of Windsor, were examined; both of these gentlemen had, from their observation of the prisoner, arrived at the conclusion that he was insane. Dr. O'Brien, in particular, had taken great pains to arrive at an accurate conclusion upon this point, and had caused the prisoner to be carefully watched at a time when he had no opportunity of knowing that any eye was upon him.

The jury being convinced by this evidence that the prisoner was of unsound mind, gave a verdict to that effect. He was then removed, and will be forwarded to a lunatic asylum.

DEATH FROM THE BITE OF A POISONOUS REPTILE. - On Tuesday last an inquest was held at Gittens's public-house, O'Connell Town, on view of the body of **ELIZABETH RAPLEY**. The husband of the deceased deposed that on Friday last his wife went to gather some wood at Wardell's Bush; the next morning she complained of a sore on the back of her hand, near the wrist, and of a pain thence to her shoulder; the part shortly began to swell. On Sunday it was bathed with marsh-mallows, when the swelling fell down towards the side and hip; on Monday Dr. **KIRKPATRICK** was called in. When the puncture mark was seen on the wrist on Saturday, she said she thought something must have stung her while gathering wood on the previous day. Mr. **JOSEPH A. KIRKPATRICK**, surgeon, deposed that he was called to see deceased about 8 o'clock on Monday morning; but it was too late to afford any assistance; she was evidently sinking; he could not feel her pulse nor temporal artery, and could barely feel the pulsation of the heart; he was of opinion that death was the result of a bite from some poisonous reptile. Verdict, died from the bite of some venomous reptile. *Herald, Dec. 7*

DEATH FROM INTEMPERANCE. - On Thursday an inquest was held at Mrs. Baker's, the Museum Hotel, William-street, on view of the body of **THOMAS M'DONALD**, aged 30, who had been much addicted to intemperance, and w as described by one of the witnesses to have been labouring under "the horrors;" on Sunday he saw deceased at his residence at Five Dock; he was not then right, but did not appear to be so much affected as he had been a few days previously. On Monday morning he became very violent in his delirium, and while the person with whom he lived was absent in search of assistance, he made his escape from the house. Search was made for him in vain, until Wednesday, when his body was found in the bush at Five Dock, within 150 yards of the water's edge, far advanced in decomposition. The person who found the body had it removed to the place where the jury viewed it. The evidence of Dr. **TIERNEY** having been taken, the jury returned as their verdict – died from the effects of intemperance, accelerated by exposure to cold. *Herald, Dec. 7*

ANOTHER SNAKE BITE. - Delaney, +9 Cook, Windsor Crk.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/673, 14/12/1850

BATHURST FREE PRESS = Mystery disappearance of f 18 step dau William Birch?

HUNTER RIVER DISTRICT NEWS

SINGLETON.

CORONER'S INQUEST. - An inquest was held on Saturday last, at the Rose Inn, upon the body of **JOSEPH ENABLES**, whose corpse lay in the bush. From the evidence of Mr. **EDWARD ALCORN**, and **JOHN BROWN**, it appeared that deceased was in the employ of Mr. Alcorn, at *Maison Dieu*, as a shepherd; that on Tuesday, the 3rd inst., the deceased lost his flock of sheep, and remained out all night in search of them. On the following morning his master met him, having been in search of him, when he complained of cramps in his legs and thighs, he having laid out in the bush all night. His master gave him a glass of hot grog to stimulate him, but the deceased got so bad with the cramps in his stomach as to request his master to send him to the hospital. He was accordingly forwarded down on Friday evening, in a cart, which was driven by the witness Brown; and on his way thither, within one hundred yards of the hospital, he spoke to Brown, requesting him to make haste as he thought he was dying. Upon the arrival of the cart at the hospital he was discovered by the matron to be dead. Verdict, died from natural causes.

BENJAMIN COTT. - Long account of his murder.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/674, 18/12/1850

THE INQUEST ON THE BODY OF BENJAMIN COTT. - The inquest on the body of this unfortunate man was resumed on Monday, and continued yesterday, Mr. **TURNER** appearing for the defence. Several additional witnesses have been examined, but we of course refrain from publishing any particulars till the inquest has been concluded. Last evening, at seven o'clock, the inquest was adjourned till between nine and ten o'clock this morning.

HUNTER RIVER DISTRICT NEWS

ARMIDALE

MAN MISSING, AND SUSPECTED MURDER. - About a week ago an overseer of **MATTHEW MARSH**, Esq., Salisbury, discovered a flock of sheep astray at one of the out-stations, which were in charge of an infirm old man, commonly known by the name of **PADDY LYNCH**. On proceeding to the hut he enquired of the hut-keeper, named **FREW**, about Lynch's absence. Frew stated that Lynch left the place a few days before, and he knew nothing more about him; he also said that Lynch took his dog with him. This account, and something strange in Frew's manner, excited Mr. Marsh's suspicions, and a rigid search was commenced, when, chiefly through the instrumentality of one of the native police accompanying Mr. **MEREWETHER**, Commissioner Crown Lands, who happened to be upon the station at the time, was discovered a heap of bones in the fire place of the hut, which had been so calcined and broken up as to render it almost impossible to determine whether they were those of a human being or not. In several places traces of recent blood were found on the slabs, near to the poor fellow's bed; and on further searching about the ground, the policeman, upon cautiously examining the banks of a water hole a little distance from the hut, discovered a hollow sound in treading upon a particular spot, when, upon turning up the earth, about four feet from the surface was found the body of the dog, which had evidently been killed by the blow of some heavy instrument on the head, the skull being completely smashed in. These circumstances decided Mr. Marsh on immediately securing Frew. On Monday, the 8th, Mr. Commissioner **MASSIE**, accompanied by Dr. **MARKHAM**, proceeded to the spot, for the purpose of further investigation, but we are sorry to say that nothing more has yet been discovered. Frew is detained in custody. He is stated to be a man of very violent temper, and as having had frequent quarrels with the missing man; he is approaching sixty years of age, but is a powerfully built and muscular man. Evident attempts had been made to remove the stains from the slabs, and the handle of the axe found in the hut had been newly scraped. Frew firmly maintains his first statement, but upon each new discovery a nervousness of manner and evident uneasiness were very perceptible. Dr. Markham declines to assert positively that the remains were those of a human subject, in consequence of the smallness of the pieces of bones found (the longest being only about the size of a walnut); but in answer to a question of Frew's, he said he would positively swear that they were *not* the bones of either a bullock or a sheep. It is to be hoped that the mystery will ere long be cleaned up, and that if a foul deed has been perpetrated, the guilty parties may be speedily brought to justice.

ACCIDENTAL DEATH BY DROWNING. - On Friday, the 6th instant, Mr. **RICHARD CLARK**, of Jackwa, was accidentally drowned in a deep water hole in the Yanalan Creek. He had been superintending the sheep washing operations in the water hole during the day, and bathed in the evening, after complaining of having a headache; he invited a son of Dr. **STRANGE** to come into deep water, promising to teach him to learn to swim; the lad did so, but was surprised after a short time to feel

himself let go by Mr. Clark, who sank quickly and without a word or expression of pain; the lad was sinking also, but his cries brought a man to his assistance, and he was saved; Mr. Clark, however, never rose to the surface again, and it was some hours before his body could be recovered. *Abridged from the Herald's Goulburn Correspondent.*

TOOMOUL, BURNETT. SHEPHERD, DIXON, K BY BLACKS?

CONCORD, CATTLE BLACK LEG, FISHWAY AND DICKENS - ??

INQUEST. - An inquest was held on Tuesday last, at the residence of Mr. **M'CUE**, Seven Hills, on the body of **HUGH M'CUE**, a boy of five years old. On Sunday night last the little boy was in his usual health, but early the next morning his mother noticed him to come into the house, get a drink of water, and lie down on the sofa; he told her he was sick; she went out and milked the cows, and on her return found her son faint, and in a great perspiration; he was speechless, nor could she get him to take anything. Mr. M'Cue started off for medical assistance, and obtained an emetic from Dr. **RUTTER**, who attended the boy himself as soon as he was released from another engagement; Dr. Rutter could not succeed in bleeding him; the emetic had been administered, and some black fluid thrown off the stomach. The poor lad died shortly after Dr. Rutter arrived; and Dr. Rutter believed he must have eaten something which disagreed with him, and caused irritation of the bowels, giving rise to convulsions. The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the evidence. *Abridged from the Herald's Parramatta Correspondent.*

INQUEST. - An inquest was held at Pitt Town, before Dr. **DOWE**, Coroner, on the body of a man named [**THOMAS] AIRRES**, who had committed suicide on Monday last by cutting his throat with a razor. The act was not so perfect as it had evidently been intended, as only a portion of the carotid artery was severed. Dr. Dowe was sent for, but on arrival he found the man dead. The last expression the unfortunate deceased made of, between the time of committing the act and his death was, "May God forgive me for the commission of this rash act." It was clearly proved to the jury that the man had been for some time insane, and they gave a verdict of insanity accordingly. *Herald's Windsor Correspondent.*

DEATH BY LIGHTNING. - On the afternoon of Sunday the 8th instant, a most terrific storm of thunder, lightning, rain, and hail, passed over Goulburn and Bungonia, which made the stoutest heart to quail. Great fears were entertained that some danger would be done by the lightning. Early next morning intelligence was received that a grown up lad of 17 years of age was struck dead. The accident took place at Mary Ann Vale, the property of Mr. **PETERS**, Marulan. It appears that the electric fluid struck and descended the chimney; deceased was standing before the mantle-piece; five brothers and sisters were in the room at the same time, and an old man; they were all rendered speechless for a time, but the old man worst; the house had the appearance of being on fire; the mantle-piece was shivered to pieces. The name of the family is **JEFFREY**, who had just entered on the farm – he is well known in this district as a sawyer.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/675, 21/12/1850

THE MURDER OF BENJAMIN COTT. Wilful Murder against **WILLIAM HAYES;** ALSO

LETTER about procedure at above proceedings and exclusion of Hayes and Stanton.

Page 14, 3 and a half columns on COTT.

ANOTHER MAN REPORTED TO BE MISSING.

Shawn, Black Creek, last seen in August at Races?

FATAL ACCIDENT. - A little girl about five years of age, daughter of a tenant of Mr. **SMITH**, residing near the White Rock, was drowned yesterday by falling into the river. An elder sister was sent by her mother to the bank of the river to cut reeds, and was accompanied by the deceased. Shortly afterwards the former returned home and told her mother that whilst her sister stood on the bank with her back towards the river, a snake made its appearance, and was proceeding towards her, when stepping backwards to avoid the reptile she fell into the water. The mother immediately ran down to the place, but could see no sign of her child. Alarm being given, a number of men assembled to give assistance, and it was not until after a protracted search that the body was found between two rocks where the water was nine or ten feet deep. An inquest was held over the remains by Captain **SUTHERLAND** on Saturday last, when a verdict in accordance with the above particulars was given. *Bathurst Free Press, Dec. 14*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/676, 25/12/1850

SUDDEN DEATH. - On Saturday afternoon last, a man named **RICHARD BERRYMAN** was employed burning off wheat stubble, on a farm on the Windemere Estate, where he was employed, when the wind freshened, and the fire rolling rapidly along, threatened the wheat stacks and hut of another settler; Berryman, who was lame, exerted himself greatly to stop the fire, and called several times for help; a settler named **THOMAS LONG**, residing on the same estate, heard him, and ran to assist him, and in a few minutes their united exertions beat out the flames near the endangered premises. Berryman almost immediately afterwards laid down on the ground, without saying anything, and on Long's going to him and speaking, Berryman made no reply; Long turned him over, and to his surprise found Berryman was dead, having apparently died without a struggle or a word. An inquest was held on the body on Sunday before Mr. **PARKER**, when a post mortem examination was made by Dr. **M'CARTNEY** and death was found to have been caused by the bursting of a blood vessel within the cavity of the pericardium; alarm or excitement, particularly if accompanied by great muscular exertion, would be likely to cause death in this way, Dr. M'Cartney said. Berryman was a ticket-of-leave holder, about fifty years of age, and of full and plethoric habit. The jury returned a verdict of died by the visitation of God.

SYDNEY

THE WEATHER. - … On Saturday, from twelve to two o'clock, there was a severe storm; he lightning was most vivid – the thunder terrifically loud – and the rain came down in torrents. One poor man was killed by lightning.

DEATH BY LIGHTNING. - During the violent thunderstorm with which the city was visited on Saturday afternoon the electric fluid struck a house in Barker's-lane, Bathurst-street, tenanted by **WILLIAM WRIGHT**, a painter and glazier by trade. The lightning appears to have descended the chimney, and to have been attracted from the direct line by a toasting fork which was hanging over Wright's head, passing thence to Wright, striking him on the right side of the neck. He was instantly struck down, and, we regret to add, almost immediately expired. Mr. Surgeon **RUTTER** was sent for, and was promptly in attendance, but the case was one entirely beyond the range of human skill. An inquest, we presume, will be held on the body this morning. *Herald, Dec. 23*

DEATH.

Accidentally drowned, whilst bathing in the Booramba Creek, M'Intyre River, on the 29th ultimo, aged 21 years, **NEVILLE BLAND**, fifth son of the late **JOHN**

EASTON, Esq., M.D., of Regent Terrace, Edinburgh, and Courance Hill, Dumfries-shire, Scotland.
TWO YOUNG WOMEN DROWNED. - We are just informed of a distressing and fatal accident, which occurred about ten days since at Sutton Forest, near Berrima; and not having seen any report previously in the *Herald*, we give the particulars as they have been communicated to us. It appears that two young girls [**ELIZABETH WOODS, CATHERINE WALFORD**], one a fine intelligent girl, a native of the colony, and the other a hapless Irish orphan, who were in the service of Mr. **WALKER**, innkeeper and miller, of Sutton Forest, went out to bathe, accompanied by two of Mr. Walker's daughters, in a large and deep water-hole, within a short distance of the inn. One of these poor servant girls (we could not ascertain which) getting beyond her depth, called out to the other for assistance, who immediately went to the relief of her companion; they struggled in the water for some time, when one of them implored Miss Walker to get them immediate help as they were drowning. Little Miss Walker supposed at first they were only playing, but at length getting alarmed at the girls' repeated cries for assistance, and seeing them go down under the water and rise again, she ran home and called **ORAM**, a man in the service of her father, who happened to be at home at the time, when Oram immediately proceeded to the water-hole, but could not, as we are informed, succeed in rescuing these innocent and hapless girls from their impending fate; they finally sank, and it was not until some time afterwards that their dead bodies were recovered. *Wollongong Correspondent of the Herald*.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 8/677, 28/12/1850
DISAPPEARANCE OF **REBECCA COX,** Melville, Maitland.
SYDNEY NEWS.
Mrs. **ANGELINA HIGHES HALLETT**, who was sentenced to 2 years imprisonment about six months ago, …, liberated under the command of his Excellency.
MELANCHOLY BOAT ACCIDENT. - FIVE LIVES LOST. - On Sunday afternoon, two sons of Captain **PLUNKETT** (one of them clerk to the crown solicitor), two young men named **PALMER** (one of them a clerk in the treasury), and a person named **MACPHERSON**, a pilot at Wollongong, went out in a sailing boat called the *Madge Wildfire*. They were seen just before dark near Watson's Bay, standing towards the Heads. Nothing was heard of them until Tuesday morning, when the boat was picked up near the North Head by a fisherman. Search was made on the North Shore for any of the unfortunate parties, but we regret to say without avail. It was reported in town on Tuesday evening that they swam ashore in North Harbour, and had been detained for want of a boat, but unfortunately it turned out to be a mistake. Up to a late hour last night no tidings had been received, and there is no reason to doubt that they all met a watery grave by the upsetting of the boat in the squall on Sunday evening. *Herald, Dec. 25*
ACCIDENT AT SHOALHAVEN. - A melancholy accident occurred here on the 8th inst., when a man named **RICHARD HAWLEY**, in the employment of Mr. **BERRY,** was drowned by slipping from a raft, whilst crossing a small creek opposite the house of a man named **JAMES M'GUIRE.** The deceased man, Hawley, arrived by the ship *Havering*, an exile, and has been for the last twelve months in the service of Mr. Berry, of Shoalhaven. *Freeman's Journal, Dec. 26*
BREADALBANE PLAINS. **THOMAS TIDYMAN**, acc death at Goulburn, tbc

SYD1851

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/678, 01/01/1851
ACCIDENT AT WINDSOR. - A young lad, who is the son of a party known as **"James the plasterer,"** went to bathe in the Hawkesbury one day last week, and having got out of his depth, he sank. A son of **GEORGE FREEMAN**, of the Cricketer's Arms Hotel, with a praiseworthy courage endeavoured to rescue him, but he was unsuccessful. An inquest was held, and a verdict returned of accidentally drowned. *Herald Correspondent*.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/679, 04/01/1851
ACCIDENTS. - Yesterday afternoon two serious accidents occurred. In one a man, named **JONES**, who was driving an empty dray, was by some means thrown out, and the wheel passed over his shoulder, fracturing his collar bone. In the other a party of ladies, visitors at Aberglaslyn, received serious injuries by the horse in their carriage running away; but we have not ascertained the exact particulars.
CORONER'S INQUEST. - On Tuesday an inquest was held at Gilchrist's public house, Bathurst-street, on view of the body of **JOHN JONES**, aged forty-five, whose body was found in the water at some short distance from the wharf, at the bottom of Bathurst-street, early on Tuesday morning. Deceased arrived in the colony by the *Royal Saxon*, a few weeks ago, from Madras, and had obtained employment in the service of Mr. **HENRY FERRIS**, of Pitt-street. He was last seen alive on Monday night, standing near Mr. Ferris's gate. The jury returned a verdict of found drowned; adding the following rider – "The jury unanimously request that the coroner will communicate with the corporation, in order that a chain may be run across the wharf, at the foot of Bathurst-street West, to prevent the possibility of parties accidentally walking into the water while in a state of intoxication; several cases of this nature having occurred at this particular locality." *Herald, Jan. 2*
CORONER'S INQUEST. - On Friday evening last a woman named **AMELIA STUBBS** was taken into custody by Inspector **CONNOR**, on suspicion of having caused the death of her infant, **MARY ANN AMELIA STUBBS,** of about five months old. On Saturday and (by adjournment) yesterday an inquest was held on the body, at Benjamin's public-house, Kent-street. From the evidence it appeared that the mother was intoxicated on the afternoon of Friday, and about three o'clock in gthe afternoon lay down on the bed with her baby, giving it the breast; before five o'clock a neighbour entered the room again, and observed the child lying by its mother's side, dead, without any bed-clothes over it; the prisoner, who had always appeared a kind mother, seemed to become partially insane on awakening, and being told of her child's death. A post mortem examination showed a fracture of the skull, causing effusion on the brain, and that death had occurred from this injury and from suffocation. No evidence was adduced as to how the injuries to the head occurred, nor could the mother, in her intoxicated state, give any account of the mode or cause of her child's death. The jury returned a verdict of accidental suffocation. *Abridged from the Herald, Dec. 31*
DEATH BY DROWNING. - An inquest was held at the Benevolent Asylum, on the body of **JOHN WRAGG**, aged twenty-four, who was accidentally drowned, between ten and eleven o'clock on Saturday night, while attempting to cross Lord's Dam in a couple of glue coolers, which at about 150 yards from the starting place capsized; a man named **BALL** clung to the vessels, which floated across with him; the deceased swam away, and lost his life. Verdict, accidentally drowned. *Herald, Dec. 31*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/680, 08/01/1851
MAITLAND QUARTER SESSIONS.
WOUNDING WITH INTENT. - **THOMAS LAMB** was indicted for wounding **FRANCES JOHNSON** on the fore part of the throat, at Maitland, on the 8th December, 1850, with intent to do her bodily harm.

The witnesses called were **JAMES COLLINS, BENJAMIN THOMAS, FRANCES JOHNSON, and ALFRED MUNDEN.**

Lamb and Mrs. Johnson were engaged to be married, and on Sunday, the 8th December, they went together to the house of Collins, in East Maitland; some liquor was sent for, and after some time Mrs. Johnson went into the bedroom, and laid down on the bed, being quite overcome; **SARAH WHITTY**, Collins's housekeeper, was also laying on the bed; Mrs. Johnson then called Lamb to come and take her gown off, and Lamb did so, with Collins's consent; Lamb afterwards asked him to let him go in and rouse up Mrs. Johnson to take her home; he went in, and Collins heard him saying "Fanny, get up and go home," after his saying this several times there was silence, and Collins then heard Mrs. Johnson saying "no, no"; Collins rose and pushed open the door and saw Lamb coming out, and noticed blood on his hands, he having a knife in his hand, cutting tobacco; on looking towards the bed Collins saw that Mrs. Johnson was bleeding from a wound under her chin, and he immediately seized Lamb, who had left the room, and accused him of cutting Mrs. Johnson's throat; Lamb said he knew nothing of it; Collins gave Lamb in charge to Thomas, who had been sitting with them, but Lamb afterwards bolted from him, knocking him down; Collins went for a doctor, and brought in Mr. Munden, an apothecary, who found it very difficult to stop the bleeding; Collins then went for Dr. **BROWN,** who sewed up the wound. The next morning Lamb came to the house, and had some conversation from the outside with Mrs. Johnson, who told Lamb he had cut her throat; Lamb expressed his sorrow at what he had done, or at seeing her lying in that way, Collins was not certain which. Thomas gave a somewhat similar account to Collins's of what he saw, except that he said he could see Lamb and Mrs. Johnson from where he sat; he saw Lamb had a little knife in his hand, but did not see him do anything with it. Mfrs. Johnson could just remember Lamb coming to tell her it was time to go home, and her refusing; Lamb was cutting up tobacco at the moment; she remembered nothing further till she found herself all bloody; she knew nothing of the doctor's having been there; when Lamb came on the following day she did not say a word to him about her throat, nor he to her; her chin was all well the following day; she still intended to keep her promise of marriage to Lamb. Mr. Munden, when he saw Mrs. Johnson, found her bleeding profusely from a wound under her chin, inflicted by some sharp instrument, the wound being about an inch in length, and a quarter of an inch in depth; it had cut a blood vessel, and it proved very difficult to stop the bleeding; she must have bled to death had not the bleeding been stopped.

In defence, Lamb said he was not guilty, that he knew nothing of how the wound was caused.

The jury recalled Mr. Munden, who said the wound might have been caused by a fall against or on some sharp edge, but his opinion was that it was not done by a fall, but by a sharp instrument.

The jury, after some consideration, returned a verdict of guilty of assault. The prisoner was sentenced to six months' imprisonment, with hard labour.

INQUEST. - On Saturday an inquest was held at the White Swan, Maitland, before **J.S. PARKER**, Esq., Coroner, on the body of **HENRY HOPKINS.** It appeared from

the evidence that Mr. Hopkins, who had for several years been in business in West Maitland, as a watchmaker, had latterly given way to drink, and had for some time before the end of December kept his bed through the effects of drink; while they were under the influence of drink his wife and he would quarrel frequently, and they had done so some time in December, but no blows are known to have been exchanged; on the 30th December Mr. Hopkins, then labouring under the effects of continued drinking, went up voluntarily to Maitland Hospital, and on one of ther medical attendants seeing him, and expressing surprise at a person in his situation in life coming there, Mr. Hopkins replied that he threw himself on his protection, that he could have no peace at home, and that his wife beat him with a poker or broom or anything she could lay hands on; Mr. Hopkins was allowed to remain in the Hospital, and was attended by Drs. **SLOAN** and **SCOTT** until his death, on Friday evening, the 2nd January; his wife had gone to see him in the interval, and subsequently sent a cab to have him removed home, but he was then so ill that the cab-driver declined the responsibility of removing him. A post mortem examination was performed by Drs. Sloan and Scott, and death found to have been caused by inflammation of the brain, arising from the immoderate use of ardent spirits; a few slight external marks of violence were found on the body, and there was a slight bruise on the temple, but these could have no influence whatever on his death. The jury returned a verdict of death from inflammation of the brain, arising from intemperance.

HUNTER RIVER DISTRICT NEWS

DUNGOG. - On the evening of the 2nd inst. a man named **THOMAS SULLIVAN**, while returning home with his master's dray, was killed near Myall Creek, about four miles from Dungog. An inquest was held on his remains next day before **THOS. COOK**, Esq., Coroner, and a jury of twelve, when it appeared from the evidence that while the deceased was setting on the pole of the dray the bullocks rushed down a sharp descent into a gully, when Sullivan was unluckily thrown, the wheel passing along his back and over his head, causing instant death. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death, from the wheel of a dray passing over deceased's body.

- On the evening of Friday, the 3rd instant, a fine little boy, three years old, son to Mr. **JAMES CARLISLE**, of this township, died after only two hours illness, brought on by a sunstroke. An inquest was held on his remains on Saturday, before the Coroner and a jury of twelve, when a verdict was found to that effect.

MELANCHOLY CIRCUMSTANCE.

On Sunday, the 29th December, as a gentleman named **FORAM** was proceeding on horseback from the Moulamein, to reach the station of Mr. **T. DARCHY**, on the Murrumbidgee, he discovered, at a considerable distance, something lying on the road, which upon reaching he found to be a man prostrated, his face covered with a handkerchief, without coat, and his dress (a black vest and trousers very much disordered. Mr. Foram's first impression was, that he was exhausted by the excessive heat of the day, which was almost intolerable; he spoke to him several times, without eliciting any reply, and upon alighting and trying his pulse, found life quite extinct, and upon further examination, saw that decomposition had commenced. This road runs across most extensive plains for about fifty miles, and is very badly watered, there being only one chance of obtaining any, and that at a well about mid-way, but being a little off the road, a stranger might easily escape seeing it. The unfortunate man was found near the station. On Monday Mr. Darchy, on receiving information of this circumstance, started off with a horse dray, accompanied by Mr. F. and a couple of blackfellows, to the spot, when they found that it was impossible to move the body any distance; there was no alternative left but to perform the last melancholy duty for

the unfortunate and friendless; it was dark ere they had completed the interment, which was rendered as decent as circumstances would admit. The raised mound in this bare wilderness will for a long time be a fearful memento to the passing traveller, who may be suffering from the excruciating pangs of thirst, as it is pretty evident that the want of water occasioned this calamity, there being no external marks of violence apparent upon closely examining the body. The mark upon his shirt is "**J.C. KIRBY."** It is surmised that the deceased is one of a party who robbed Mr. Reeves's store at Nap Nap, a few days ago, taking some clothing belonging to a Mr. Kirby. *People's Advocate, Jan. 4*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/681, 11/01/1851

MELANCHOLY BOAT ACCIDENT. - In the *Herald* if yesterday appeared a paragraph, stating that a boat accident had occurred in the harbour on Monday evening, attended with loss of life, but withholdings particulars in consequence of the absence of authentic information. Unfortunately the intelligence that reached us was too true, and we are compelled to record another distressing event, in addition to those which have cast a gloom over our community. About seven o'clock on Monday evening, a part of nine persons, all in the employment of **R.J. WANT**, Esq., of Double Bay, left that place in a small boat – a dingy belonging to the yacht *Pearl* – intending to come to Sydney and go to the theatre. Five of them were men, and four females, and while passing between Clarke's Island and Garden Island, the boat got into a trough of the sea, and filled and went down stern foremost, leaving the whole of the unfortunate passengers struggling in the waves. Mr. **COPELAND**, of the Customs department, was going home in his boat at the time, and seeing two persons swimming in the water, with praiseworthy energy rescued them from a watery grave, in a state of extreme exhaustion. As soon as they were enabled to state to him the circumstances, Mr. Copeland commenced a vigorous search; and hearing a "cooey" from Clarke's Island, went there and picked up another man, who had swam there. It then fell dark, and he could only take them back to Mr. Want's; and it is painful to say that no hope can be entertained of the preservation of the other six parties. The passengers in the boat consisted of **BRIDGET DAWSON, CATHERINE HALL, MARK MAGRATH, FREDERICK NEWMAN,** and a man and a woman, names unknown, drowned; **DOROTHY MACINTYRE, EDWARD PECKHAM,** and a man, name unknown, saved. The bodies were not found up to yesterday evening.

HUNTER RIVER DISTRICT NEWS

DUNGOG. - FATAL ACCIDENT. - A fatal accident took place in this neighbourhood on Tuesday last. A settler named **ALEXANDER MATHEWSON**, while returning home from this township on horse-back, got thrown, and was severely cut and otherwise bruised on the left side of the face. Dr. **STREET** promptly attended the unfortunate man, but I regret to say could render no relief, for about twelve o'clock next day death put an end to his sufferings. An inquest was held the same evening, before **T.COOK**, Esq., coroner, and a jury of twelve, when it came out in evidence that deceased was riding on a mare that had left her foal at home, and was about to put another beast into a neighbour's stockyard, in order to secure it. The mare he was riding went freely so long as she was going in the direction of her home, where her foal was, but on being turned in another direction, she stopped short, and thereby threw her rider. The jury's finding was accidental death, caused by a fall from his horse. Mr. Mathewson's remains were yesterday conveyed to their last resting place, followed by the largest concourse of people that I have ever seen together in this neighbourhood on such occasions. The deceased leaves a wife and

eight children to deplore his loss. This is the third inquest in this neighbourhood within five days. January 9th, 1851.

THE NATIVE POLICE.

[Wide Bay] … We are informed that Mr. **WALKER**, with his party of police, has been engaged in endeavouring to apprehend the aborigines who stand charged with the recent murder of Mr. Balfour's man. *Moreton Bay Courier*

CAUTION TO PARENTS. - A melancholy instance occurred on Tuesday of the danger incurred by parents who allow their children to run about the streets of the city without adequate protection. About six o'clock in the afternoon, a man named **M'GRATH**, driving a dray along Kent-street North, and walking at his horse's head, was alarmed by the shouting of people behind him, when he pulled up. He then found that a child named **STEWART**, of nearly three years of age, had been run over by the wheel of the dray. He instantly took up and conveyed the little unfortunate to his parents, ran home for his wife to render her assistance, and then proceeded to Dr. **M'KELLAR**, whom he took to visit the sufferer. Dr. M'Kellar found a mark on the shoulder, neck, and head of the child, as though something very heavy had passed over; blood was issuing from the nose and both ears; the child vomited also about a half-pint of coagulated blood; the shoulder bone was broken, and the base of the skull severely injured; Dr. M'Kellar prescribed what he deemed the most appropriate treatment, notwithstanding that from appearances almost immediate death would ensue. The circumstances having been reported to Sergeant **BRIGDEN**, of the police, he thought it his duty to confine M'Grath, who was yesterday morning in due course brought before the bench. The above circumstances having been given in evidence, the prisoner was remanded on his own recognizances for one week. *Herald, Jan. 9*

WELLINGTON. - CHILD LOST IN THE BUSH. - A most painful and melancholy circumstance occurred on the 17th ult., at Boldirigiry. An intelligent child about two years of age left the hut of a sheep station about sundown, to meet its father returning home with his sheep, and notwithstanding a most diligent search of five days' duration, not the slightest traces of it have been discovered. The heart rending conclusion is that the infant has been devoured by native dogs. As may be easily imagined, the sorrow-stricken parents are inconsolable. As several instances of this description have lately appeared in the papers, parents at sheep-stations ought to take warning, and construct some kind of fence round their dwellings, to keep their young children from straying away whilst the mother is occupied with her duties. *Bathurst Free Press, Jan. 4*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/682, 15/01/1851

A CHILD DROWNED IN A BUCKET. - On Sunday, and by adjournment on Monday, an inquest was held before **J.S. PARKER**, Esq., Coroner, at the Angel Inn, West Maitland, on the body of an infant four or five months old. It appeared that the parents of the child, whose names are **WHALAN**, reside in Early's Terrace, West Maitland; Mrs. Whalan, since the Christmas festivities, has unfortunately been addicted to drinking, and on Saturday last appears to have drank some ale brought by her husband, and late in the evening some rum which she sent for unknown to him; Whalan, who was unwell, and taking medicine, lay down to sleep on the sofa in the front room, his wife being in the back room or kitchen, with her baby in her arms; about midnight, at his wife's request, Whalan brought in a bucket of water ready for the morning, and put it down in the kitchen, after which he laid down on the sofa again; about 2 or 3 o'clock in the morning Whalan rose, and went to the bucket to get a drink of water, when he was horrified to find the unfortunate baby in the bucket,

head downwards, its legs sticking up; it was quite dead, and appeared to have slipped off the mother's lap, she being then sitting asleep on a chair closed to the bucket, her head lying on the table; on being roused she appeared quite stupid, and could give no account of the lamentable occurrence further than that she fell asleep, with the baby bon her lap. Whalan immediately roused the wife of a neighbour, who came in, but found the poor child quite dead. About 5 o'clock Dr. **BEARDMORE** chanced to pass the house, and was called in by Whalan, but the baby was of course beyond relief; Dr. Beardmore examined the body, and found no marks of violence of any kind; in his opinion the child died by suffocation from drowning. The jury returned a verdict that the child was drowned in a bucket of water through the carelessness of its mother, who was at the time in a state of intoxication, and not capable of taking care of herself or the child, and they requested the Coroner to severely reprimand her.

DREADFUL ACCIDENT.

A most painful and melancholy accident occurred on Saturday last under a very singular circumstance. As Mr. **THOMAS ROUSE**, the tallow chandler, who is also a butcher, was hanging up a side of beef to hang on a beam above, by some means he slipped, when, melancholy to relate, the hook caught him just above the eye, or, as it is termed, the roof of the orbit, the hook passing upwards. Dr. **GLENNIE** was sent for, and has been attending the unfortunate man ever since. From the symptoms which have appeared, it is feared that the hook has penetrated the skull. - Poor Rouse lingered until yesterday evening (six p.m.), when death put an end to his sufferings. He leaves a young wife with an infant to lament their untimely loss. The deceased was a steady industrious man, and much respected.

FATAL ACCIDENT. - An inquest was held on Monday last, at Liberty Plains, on the body of **THOMAS O'DONNELL**. Deceased had been that morning early to the house of Mr. Smith, innkeeper, and left again, quite sober, having a cart and two horses with him; shortly after Mr. Smith noticed the cart standing still not far from his house, and on going to the spot he found that O'Donnell was jammed up between the wheel and a post, and that his face was quite black; Mr. Smith got assistance instantly, and moved the cart, when O'Donnell, who had been standing, fell to the ground, with a heavy sigh; he died immediately, not having spoken from the time he was first discovered. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death. *Abridged from herald's Parramatta Correspondent.*

CORONER'S INQUEST. - An inquest was held at Smith's, the Observer Tavern, Lower George-street, on the bodies of **MARK M'GRATH** and **SARAH CUMMINS**, then lying at the Water Police Office. The deceased were two of the nine persons who left Mr. Want's residence, at Point Piper, in a small dingy, on Monday evening, the calamitous result of which has already been detailed in these columns. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death by drowning. *Herald, Jan. 4*

DISTRESSING ACCIDENT. - When the *Ann Mary*, from Moreton Bay, was off Point Danger, on Monday morning, about half-past two o'clock, a passenger on board, named **RICHARD LOWATER**, walked overboard and was drowned. At the time of the accident the vessel was close hauled, with a fresh breeze from the S.E.; the first mate was on deck, and seeing the man go overboard, hove round the schooner immediately in stays, and every exertion was made to pick him up, but without success, he not having been seen again. It appears the deceased went to Moreton Bay in the *Lavinia*, about three weeks ago, and up to the time of embarking on board the *Ann Mary* had been drinking hard. He leaves a wife and small family to deplore their loss. *Herald, Jan. 11*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/683, 18/01/1851

SUDDEN DEATH. - An inquest was yesterday held at Toogood's, the Golden Fleece, George-street, on the body of **PATRICK M'CORMACK**, lately carrying on business as bookseller, in King-street. Deceased had been for some time ailing, and had place himself under the care of Dr. **BENNETT.** Yesterday morning he was found dead in his bed. The medical evidence was that death was the result of natural causes, and the jury found a verdict to that effect. *Herald, Jan. 14*

DEATH FROM LOCKJAW. - An inquest was yesterday held at Driver's Three Tuns Tavern, King-street, on the body of **ANDREW MOORE. JOHN GILL**, chief officer of the ship *Blackwall*, deposed that on last Saturday week deceased was employed in landing a heavy piece of machinery from the vessel; after hooking on the tackle block to the chain strop that was round the iron, he was on the point of returning on the stage, when the stage gave way; to save himself, as he thought, he laid hold of the tackle fall, and the fall being slack, the weight in the tackle drew his fingers between the fall and the block, severely injuring the fingers and hand. He was placed under treatment by the ship's surgeon, and appeared to be doing well until Saturday last, when symptoms of lockjaw manifested themselves, and deceased was forwarded to the Infirmary; witness attributed the accident to the insufficiency of the stage, which was supplied for the ship's use; the wharfinger's foreman said, that the stage was equal to the weight of five tons – the weight which was on the stage at the time of the accident did not exceed two tons. Dr. **M'EWAN** deposed, that deceased was received into the Infirmary labouring under tetanus; the injury was on the right hand, the bones of the four fingers were broken; it frequently happened that injuries of that nature are followed by tetanus; he (Dr. M'Ewan) removed the arm, considering that that procedure would afford the best, if not the only chance, of recovery, but it was of no avail; he expired on Monday evening. Verdict, died from lockjaw, caused by injuries accidentally received. *Herald, Jan. 15*

BATHURST. - MURDEROUS ASSAULT. - On Thursday last, about eight o'clock in the evening, a most ruffianly assault was committed on the person of his wife by **THOMAS RILEY**, a licensed victualler, residing at the Cottage of Content, Kelso. It appears that Riley had been at Bathurst a great part of the day, and he had not reached home many minutes when, in consequence of a remark made by his wife, he knocked her down; he then proceeded further to ill use her, and she ran out of the house into the street, where he followed her, and severely kicked and otherwise ill-treated her, until they were separated by some parties residing close at hand. Dr. **MACHATTIE** and Dr. **BUSBY** were called in, who considered her life in the most imminent danger, having every reason to believe that the bladder was ruptured. On Friday, it was thought necessary that her deposition should be taken, in consequence of which the police magistrate and the clerk of petty sessions attended for that purpose. During Friday a favourable change took place, and until half past five o'clock p.m. on Sunday, since which time we have no information respecting her. Her recovery is still considered to be very doubtful, and should mortification n ensue, it is stated that the result must be fatal. Mrs. Riley has a family of four young children, the oldest of whom is only about seven years of age. Her husband has been in the habit of ill using her before. *Herald Correspondent.*

SYDNEY NEWS.

… The storm which broke over the city yesterday afternoon, about 5 o'clock, was very appalling, accompanied with heavy showers. A female was killed by lightning in Phillip-street.

DEATH FROM LIGHTNING. - There was a very heavy thunderstorm in Sydney yesterday afternoon; about five o'clock it appeared to be exactly over the town, the lightning being followed by the thunder almost instantaneously. We are sorry to have to report one fatal accident. The wife of a boatman named **SUTTON**, residing in Phillip-street North, was struck by the electric fluid, and killed as she was sitting at a table. There was no one else in the house at the time, and when the unfortunate woman's husband returned home, about two hours afterwards, he found his wife sitting with her head on the table quite dead. *Herald, Jan. 16*

VIOLENT ASSAULT. - The man **M'GRATH**, who was on last Tuesday week confined on a charge of violent assault – the "assault" being, that his dray passed over a child named **STEWART**, who was running about the street – and who was remanded on his own recognizance to appear before the bench in a week, yesterday presented himself before Mr. Dowling, in pursuance of the remand. The father of the boy said he was progressing favourably towards recovery from the injuries received. M'Grath was accordingly discharged. *Herald, Jan. 16*

DEATHS.

At Killarney Plain, Namoi River, on the 29th December, from injuries received by his horse falling with him three days previously, **WILLIAM B. FORBES**, aged 24 years, eldest son of John Forbes, Esq., of Wobourn Abbey, Bedfordshire, deeply regretted by a large circle of relatives and friends.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/684, 22/01/1851

A BOY DROWNED WHILE BATHING. - A melancholy accident occurred yesterday afternoon. A fine boy, named **HEWITT BANFIELD**, son of Mr. Banfield, cooper, went with some companions to bathe in the river near the Falls. He appears to have remained bathing some time, but at length it was noticed that he did not come ashore, and on search being made, could not be seen anywhere; it was immediately concluded he was drowned, and search was made for the body, but for some time without success, till at length a black boy, by diving, found and brought up the body of the poor boy. Two medical men were in attendance, but from the length of time the body had been in the water all hope of resuscitating life was gone. An inquest will probably be held to-day, when more accurate particulars will be ascertained.

SHIPPING. - ACCIDENT ON BOARD THE "ALFRED." - On the 15th November last, a boat-steerer, named **PRICE**, (brother-in-law to Captain Wiseman, lately of Balmain,) fell from the main top-mast head on the top of a seaman standing on deck, and who was severely injured, but is likely to recover. Price had both his thighs broken; also the right leg between the knee and the ancle, and was quite delirious when visited by Captain Truscott. There were no hopes of his recovery.

DEATH BY DROWNING. - On Thursday last an inquest was held at Pitt Town on the body of a young lad named **TOWNSEND (**not **TOWN**, as we stated in our last); he was the son of respectable parents, and between eight and nine years of age. From the evidence it appeared that the deceased and his brother went to bathe in a blind creek branching off South Creek. The blind creek where they were bathing has a great many very deep holes, of which the boys were ignorant, and which were perfectly invisible. After they had been bathing a short time, and the deceased had waded across the creek, on his return he unfortunately stepped into one of these holes, and instantly disappeared. The brother immediately ran home (which is only a short distance) and acquainted his parents with the circumstance, both of whom ran to the creek with the utmost haste, and began to drag with a rake for the body; the mother went into the water to search, and instantly disappeared into one of the holes. It was

fortunate that her husband had taken the rake with him, as he caught hold of her just in time to raise her to the surface, and save her from a watery grave. In about a quarter of an hour's time the body of the deceased was recovered, when every endeavour was made to restore animation, but life was extinct. The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the evidence. *Herald's Windsor Correspondent.*

CORONER'S INQUEST. - An inquest was on Saturday held in the bush near the south-west corner of the Burial Ground, Surry Hills, on the body of a young woman, name unknown, which was seen on Saturday morning lying in the water of the swamp, and was taken out by a man named **STEPHENS**, assisted by two others. Toed to a bush close by was a bonnet, and at a short distance therefrom was a shawl. Stephens searched about, but could no trace of any footsteps which could have been made in the sand since the rain of Wednesday. Dr. **TIERNEY** examined the body, but found no marks of violence; having made a *post mortem* examination he was of opinion that death was caused by suffocation in drowning; decomposition had set in, and the woman must have been dead two or three days. The jury returned a verdict of found drowned. A letter was found among her clothes, which is now in possession of ther Coroner, which may probably lead to the discovery of her name [**ANN HAGAN**] and friends. *Herald, Jan. 20*

BIRTHS.

At Dundee, New England, on the 4th January, the wife of **FREDERICK Wm, FOX** of a son, which survived only seven hours.

ESCAPE FROM COCKATOO. - On Wednesday night, it was reported to the police that three men had effected their escape from Cockatoo Island during the thunder-storm in the afternoon. Their clothes were found on the beach opposite the nearest point of Balmain, and it is conjectured that they attempted to swim that distance. Their names are as follow: **JOHN POMWELL**, about 20 years of age, a native of the colony, convicted at the last Maitland Assizes, and under a sentence of five years; **JOHN ANDERSON**, aged about 30, tried at the Central Criminal Court in December last, and under a sentence of four years; and **FREDERICK SUMMERFIELD**, alias **JOHN TEMPLETON**, aged about 27 years, tried at the last sittings of the Central Criminal Court, and under a sentence of seven years. Mr. M'Lerie and a party of the police turned out immediately on receiving the information, and were on the lookout in every direction until one o'clock in the morning, but without success. If the fugitives intended to swim across in such weather, the probability is that they perished in the attempt. *Herald, Jan. 17*

ACCIDENT. - Yesterday afternoon as the Rev. R. WALSH had got inside of the fence round Mr. M. Ryan's residence near this town, part of the leather holding on the winkers gave way, when the horse reared and plunged at a most fearful rate. … At the time the accident occurred he was on his way to one **MICHAEL BRENAN**, near Bangalore, who it was stated was dying. A report is in circulation that this man had contracted disease from skinning a bullock, and that he died from black-leg. The man died yesterday morning, but we have heard of nothing to show that the above report was correct. *Herald Goulburn Correspondent.*

MURDER. - On Saturday last a man named **THOMAS YOUNG,** a cooper, at Ipswich, was stabbed with a knife by a man named **DAVID SEMPLE**, and died almost immediately. It appears that Semple was labouring under some jealous feelings regarding the conduct of his wife and the deceased, and the latter coming to Semple's house, and challenging him out to fight, Semple rushed out and stabbed him. An investigation has been held, and David Semple committed to take his trial for wilful murder. *Moreton Bay Courier, Jan. 13*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/685, 25/01/1851

A BOY DROWNED WHILE BATHING. - On Wednesday an inquest was held before **J.S. PARKER**, Esq., at the Fitzroy Hotel, on the body of **HEWITT BANFIELD**, whose melancholy death we recorded in our last. It appeared from the evidence of **GEORGE BANFIELD** and **JOSEPH RISBY**, and the statement of **PATRICK HENRY**, a lad of fourteen years old, that on Tuesday last, about mid-day, Mr. Banfield had occasion to make some enquiry about the conduct of his son Hewitt, who was between eight and nine years old, and told him he should chastise him for having told a falsehood, and ordered him to go to school again, for the afternoon. The boy went home, and appears to have got some bread, and then, instead of going to school, to have gone to the Falls to bathe. He was subsequently seen, it is stated, in the river bathing near where the water-carts get water, by a man, but did not appear to have had any companions at the time; he could not swim, his father states. Between three and four o'clock that afternoon Mr. Risby, whose house is just opposite the Falls, heard some one calling from the river, and going to the bank saw a cart crossing, with two persons named **KELLY** in it, who were alarmed at the unusual height of water at the crossing-place, the tide being at full height; Mr. Risby thought there were four and a half feet of water at the crossing-place; the cart got safely over, but Mr. Risby's attention was attracted to the clothes left on the bank by little Banfield, and he looked about for the owner, but could see nothing of any one bathing; search was immediately made in the river by as number of persons, and some boys coming from school recognised the cap with the clothes as Banfield's; at length, three quarters of an hour after the cart had crossed, young Henry succeeded in touching the body of the poor boy with his feet, near where the man had last seen him, and Mr. **HONEYSETT's** sons dived and got the body up, some twenty yards from the track of the cart. A verdict was returned of accidentally drowned while bathing.

SERIOUS ACCIDENT. - On Tuesday a very serious accident happened at the Long Bridge, in consequence of the side-railing being quite gone. A small settler, named **BRYAN**, residing at Hillsborough, was driving into town with his wife in a cart, and had occasion to stop at Mr. Hawkins's inn, beyond the bridge; Mrs. Bryan, who was sitting in the cart, drove on, thinking her husband would follow, and had got as good distance on the bridge when, finding her husband was not following, but was engaged in a dispute with another person, she endeavoured to turn the cart to go back for him; the mare unfortunately got restive, and instead of turning fairly round, backed till the cart and all went over the bridge; at that spot the height from the ground below is somewhat over ten feet, but the fall was broken by one wheel catching in a projecting piece of timber; the cart turned completely over, and the back part came to the ground on Mrs. Bryan's head, resting on her left ear. The accident was seen, and a number of persons instantly ran to Mrs. Bryan's help, and quickly removed the cart from her; she was insensible for a short time, and then rose and walked, with the assistance of two persons, to the house of Mr. **CUNNINGHAM**, cooper, on this side the bridge. Dr. **M'CARTNEY** was called in, and found Mrs. Bryan's face much bruised, and the bone behind the ear somewhat injured, while the ear was bleeding freely; every attention was paid to Mrs, Bryan, and at three o'clock on Wednesday morning she was prematurely confined of her **first child, still-born;** at first little hope was entertained of Mrs. Bryan's recovery, but on Wednesday evening a favourable change took place, and she promises to recover fast. The cart was little injured, and the mare, although shaken by the fall, was able to draw the cart home again.

A CHILD DROWNED IN A WATERHOLE. - Yesterday an inquest was held at Windemere, before **J.S. PARKER**, Esq., coroner, on the body of a little girl named **ELIZABETH CARTER**, about four years old. It appeared that on Thursday, about mid-day, Mrs. Carter, who resides on the Windemere estate, was sitting in-doors at work with a young girl named **FRANCES YULE**, while Mrs. Carter's two children, Elizabeth and a younger one, were playing about the place; the two children had got out of sight for a few minutes, when Mrs. Carter heard the youngest one coming up a path crying, the path leading from the house to a waterhole used for drawing water from, about 100 yards from the house; Mrs. Carter immediately asked Frances Yule to go and see where Elizabeth was, and the youngest, who cannot talk yet, when asked could only point to the waterhole, and cry "See, see;" Frances Yule reached the waterhole first, and saw the poor little girl floating in it, and being afraid, from its depth and dangerously steep banks, to try to get her out, she called hastily to Mrs. Carter, who came and got down to the water with difficulty, and found her daughter jammed underneath some slabs placed to enable persons to get at the water; after making several ineffectual attempts Mrs. Carter got out the body, which was then warm; she tried every means to restore animation, but could not succeed; the little girl had the mark of a bruise on her ankle, but how it came there, or whether she fell down the bank or slipped off the slabs, was not known. Dr. **M'CARTNEY** having examined the body externally, considered death was caused by suffocation by drowning. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death, and requested the Coroner to communicate with Mr. **NOTT** respecting the danger of leaving the waterhole unfenced.

THE UNKNOWN BODY. - It has been ascertained that the woman on whose body an inquest was on Saturday held, in the bush, near the new burial ground, has not been above six months in the colony – that her name was **ANN HAGAN**; that she had a brother and sister in the colony; the latter residing in Sydney, and the former in the Paterson River district; and that the unfortunate deceased herself was in the service of a family residing at Surry Hills. *Herald, Jan. 21*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/686, 29/01/1851

INQUESTS. - On Saturday an inquest was held before **J.S. PARKER**, Esq., Coroner, at Four Mile Creek, on the body of **MARY HOGAN**. It appeared that Mary Hogan and **MARY FOLEY**, two elderly woman, lived in a hut on the Newcastle road, and were both addicted to drunkenness and prostitution; on Monday, the 20th, Foley passed the hut of **WILLIAM HORAM**, a neighbour, on her way to Newcastle, and told him that she left Mary Hogan unwell, but that Hogan had turned her out and cursed her. On Friday afternoon, **JAMES KERRIGAN** called at Mary Hogan's hut to light his pipe, and observed her lying on her bed, dressed, and quite still; he spoke to her two or three times, but receiving no answer, went to her, and found her quite dead and cold; her legs appeared drawn up, but her dress was not disordered, nor was there any mark of disturbance about the place; her fire was still burning. Dr. **WILTON** examined the body externally, and found no mark of violence; in his opinion death resulted from natural causes, accelerated by drunkenness and prostitution. The jury returned a verdict in accordance with this opinion.

On Monday an inquest was held before Mr. **PARKER,** near Hexham, on the body of **JAMES MORRIS MOORHOUSE.** It appeared that Mr. Moorhouse, an elderly man, possessed of considerable property, resided at Gorah, near Hexham, with his nephew, **JAMES DAVIES**; Mr. Moorhouse had been under Dr. **BOWKER'S** care for aneurism of the heart, and had been told that the disease was incurable, and that he

must keep quiet; lately a cough with which he was afflicted had become more troublesome, and on Saturday evening last, while conversing about his health with a neighbour, **WILLIAM WEBSTER,** and his nephew, he was suddenly seized with a violent fir of coughing, fell into Mr. Webster's arms, and expired. Dr. **WILTON**, having heard the evidence, and examined the body externally, was of opinion that death had resulted from the bursting of a blood-vessel near the heart. The jury returned a verdict of died from natural causes.

HUNTER RIVER DISTRICT NEWS.

DUNGOG. - DEATH FROM DRUNKENNESS. - On Saturday last an inquest was held at Thalaba, before **T. COOK**, Esq., coroner, on the body of **MARGARET PACY.** A report of some mixture having been administered by a neighbour had been made by the husband, but it appeared by the evidence that Dr. **STREET** had been attending the woman since Christmas, at which time herself and her husband drank freely of rum; on Friday evening the Doctor again visited her, but she died while he was there. A post mortem examination was made, and other evidence taken, when the jury returned a verdict of died from natural causes, accelerated by drunkenness, and not otherwise.

DEATHS.

At Gorah, on the 25th of January, after a long and painful illness, Mr. **JAMES MOORHOUSE**, aged 52 years.

THE ABSENTEES FROM COCKATOO ISLAND. - One of the three bolters from Cockatoo, namely, **FREDERICK SUMMERFIELD, alias GEORGE TEMPLETON CAMPBELL** (but more known among his "pals," we hear, as "**Gentleman Jack**,") was apprehended in George-street, near the water police office, on Monday evening last; and on Wednesday another, **JAMES POMWELL**, was apprehended at Parramatta. The third, **JOHN ANDERSON**, there is reason to believe, was drowned in the attempt to escape. According to the statement of Summerfield, nine men took advantage of the opportunity afforded by the storm on the afternoon of the 15th instant, to make an attempt at escape, and committed themselves to the water, but after swimming nearly half the distance from shore to shore, abandoned gthe idea and returned to the island. Summerfield reported on his apprehension that "**The Native"** (Pomwell) was drowned, but the fact appears to be that but for the assistance of Pomwell, who put back to his assistance, Summerfield would have been drowned, so that this report would appear to have been given by Summerfield with the view of diverting the police from further searching for Pomwell, as a reward for Pomwell's benevolence towards himself. Of the other man (Anderson) no information has been received, and it is by no means improbable that he found a watery grave. *Herald, Jan. 24*

THE BLACK-LEG. - A sawyer named **M'GILLIGAN**, resident at the Punchbowl, we regret to learn met with his death within the last few days, under circumstances similar to those which caused the death of Mr. **BIRCH**; and his daughter, who held a limb of the beast while he was skinning it, very narrowly shared the same melancholy fate – her head, which she scratched shortly after leaving the carcase, having been for several days swollen to an enormous size. … *Herald, 25th January*

INQUEST. - On Monday last, in consequence of communications having been sent to him with regard to the suspicious manner of the death, at Colo, of a woman named **CATHERINE JENKINS**, on the previous Wednesday, the Coroner proceeded to Colo to hold an inquest. He had received three or four communications from different people, betwixt Saturday and Monday morning; he accordingly instructed constable **GALLAGHER** to precede him, and make preparations for holding the inquest. It

appears that the deceased had been residing for some time back with a man named **JOHN EDMINSTON**; that on Wednesday morning the deceased had got up in her usual health, sifted some wheat, and baked a cake; an hour and a half after which she was dead. The evidence of Gallagher, and of a man named **ADAMSON**, threw such decided suspicion on Edmonston, that he was afterwards apprehended upon a coroner's warrant. The deceased had been buried on Friday, and the body was consequently exhumed by order of the Coroner. Mr. Surgeon **DAY** attended,. And made a post mortem examination, and took away part of the stomach, which he said exhibited an appearance of the remains of either arsenic, oxalic acid, or corrosive sublimate. The inquest was therefore adjourned for a fortnight, in order that Mr. Day might take the stomach to Sydney, for the purpose of having it analyzed. *Windsor Correspondent of the Herald*.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/687, 01/02/1851
DEATH FROM DROWNING. - About 12 o'clock on Tuesday morning, the body of a woman named **MARY ANN HANDFORD**, was found in the water opposite Barker's Wharf, Bathurst-street, by a man named **LEE**, a labourer, residing in Clarence-street. The body had evidently been in the water a considerable time. *Herald, Jan. 30.*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/688, 05/02/1851
ACCIDENT. - On Monday a serious accident happened to a boy at Morpeth, by his being thrown off, or falling off, a dray, the wheels of which we are informed went over his legs, inflicting very serious injuries; but we have not ascertained the particulars.
DEATH FROM POISONOUS VIRUS RECEIVED WHILE SKINNING A SHEEP.
The Parramatta Correspondent of the *Herald* of 1st February reports at length a case wherein, according to the medical testimony, a shepherd died from having scratched a small pimple on his arm after he had skinned a sheep, which had recently died from disease. The shepherd, **PATRICK MURPHY**, was in the employ of Mr. Oakes, and had brought a flock of sheep to Parramatta, three or four of which died on the road; after the flock reached Parramatta three mire died, and Murphy skinned them, skinning the last on Tuesday, the 21st; on the 22nd he went out shepherding as usual, but complained of being ill and sick at the stomach when he returned in the evening; he continued ill, getting worse, till the following Sunday, when he was taken to the hospital, where he died on Monday, the 27th. Dr. **ROBERTSON**, who attended him in the hospital, and thought death had occurred in precisely the same way as in previous cases where men had been fatally poisoned while skinning bullocks which had died from the prevailing disease, made a minute post mortem examination for his own satisfaction, and in his opinion the death of Murphy had been caused by a most virulent morbid poison received through his scratching (as Murphy had stated) and small pimple on his arm after skinning the sheep. Dr. Robertson described minutely the appearances he found in the post mortem examination, and says that the spleen, in particular, was gangrenous, and fell to pieces on the slightest touch, and that he had previously observed that this organ was particularly affected, both in man and beast, in cases of death from the prevailing disease in cattle, and from poisonous virus communicated from their dead bodies. Dr. Robertson is of opinion the disease is new, and that it is clearly not black-leg, but one requiring close investigation. The verdict of the jury on the inquest was died from natural causes.

DEATH FROM CHOLERA. An inquest has been held at Windsor, as reported in the *S.M. Herald* of 1st February, on the body of a married woman named **SARAH WHITE.** It appeared that her husband, who keeps a small fruit shop, and resides in a damp situation, was ay on Saturday, the 25th, and Sunday morning; rain fell on Saturday evening, and some of the fruit appears to have got rotten; whether Mrs. White eat any of it is not stated, but on Sunday morning, about eleven o'clock, her little boy went for Dr. **DAY**, who found Mrs. White lying on the floor, in a state of violent collapse, and that she had been purging and vomiting violently; Dr. Day called in Dr. **DOWE**, and every remedy was tried, but the poor woman died about one o'clock, not living two hours after the first medical man arrived. The opinion of the medical men was that the case was decidedly one of cholera, induced by living in a low damp situation, and surrounded by fruit in a state of decomposition. The jury returned a verdict in accordance with this opinion.

SUDDEN DEATH. - An inquest was yesterday held at Brennan's public house, the Coopers' Arms, Pyrmont, on the body of **SAMUEL BLAKE**, aged about sixty years, who was found dead in his bed at an early hour in the morning, and having the appearance of having been dead for some time. Dr. **TIERNEY** deposed that he had viewed the body, upon which no marks of violence were visible; he had also made a post mortem examination, and found the lungs diseased, the heart small and flabby, and the pericardium full of serum; the liver was diseased, and the stomach inflamed and full of fluid; the bowels had the appearance of being mortified, which he thought was likely to be the immediate cause of death; he could detect no trace of poison in the stomach. Verdict, died by the visitation of God. *Herald, Feb. 1*

A BOY DROWNED AT SOUTH CREEK. - An inquest was held at M'Grath's Hill, by Dr. **DOWE**, the Coroner, on the body of one **CHARLES MANNER**, commonly known as **CHARLES ENGLAND**, a fine lad of fifteen years, of age, residing at John Caneen's, South Creek, whither he had come from Sydney for the benefit of his health. It appeared from the evidence that the deceased had gone to bathe in company with **REUBEN GREENTREE**, a little boy nine years old. Greentree remained in the water bathing for a quarter of an hour, when afraid that his father would scold him, he came out, dressed, and ran home; her left deceased on the bank of the creek with his boots on. The deceased did not return that night, which circumstance occasioned no uneasiness, as he was in the habit of visiting as relation of Caneen's, a Mr. **PENDER**, who resided not far off. Next day, Greentree's brother, on going to water the horses, found the clothes of the deceased on the bank of the Creek, he immediately returned and informed his father, who told Caneen of the circumstance. They proceeded to make a search, and the body was eventually found by one **STEPHEN GOW.** The jury returned a verdict of found drowned. *Herald's Windsor Correspondent*

A WOMAN FIOUND DROWNED. - On Wednesday last an inquest was held at Mrs. Wallis's public-house, the Hand and Heart, Liverpool-street West, on the body of **MARY HANDFORD**, aged about forty years. Deceased had been addicted to intemperate drinking, and some two months since attempted, during one of her bouts, to put a period to her existence by cutting her throat, in the execution of which, however, she was intercepted and secured. The last time she was seen alive by her husband was about noon on Monday, when she had been drinking for nearly a week. On Tuesday afternoon her body was found off a wharf in Darling Harbour, near Murphy's, and quite dead. The jury returned a verdict of found drowned. *Herald, Jan. 31*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/689, 08/02/1851

COUP DE SOLEIL. - On Monday last an elderly man named **JOHN RUSSELL** was for some time in Mr. Walker's inn, East Maitland, and had some drink; he complained that he had been done out of his place (as a coalminer), and had no means, and did not know what he was to do; as he was drunk in the evening Mr. Walker would not let him leave, but gave him a bed for nothing; the next morning Russell left the inn, with 2s. 10½d. in his possession. On Wednesday afternoon, between four and five o'clock, Constable Smith's attention was called by a resident to that fact that an old man (Russell) was lying in a paddock near, very ill; Smith went to the spot, and found Russell apparently lying drunk, and suffering from the heat of the sun, to which he was exposed, and which was very intense that day. Smith put Russell under cover, and went for Dr. **WILTON**, who found that Russell was suffering from a coup de soleil, or [????????] received in his lying exposed as he had done; Russell was removed to the lockup for protection by Dr. Wilton's directions, and was there attended by Dr. W., who saw that his case was hopeless; Russell died in the lockup about twelve o'clock that night. An inquest was held on the body on Thursday, before **J.S. PARKER**, Esq., coroner, when the above evidence was given, and a verdict returned of death from coup de soleil, from exposure to the sun, occasioned by drunkenness.

SUDDEN DEATH. - On Wednesday evening, about seven o'clock, an elderly man named **THOMAS MEEHAN** was received into the Maitland Hospital, on the recommendation of Mr. **WILLIAM ECKFORD**. Mr. **MULLINS**, the resident apothecary, observed that Meehan had a large blister on his chest; he had Meehan attended to, and placed in a ward, as usual, and at about half-past seven he visited Meehan in his rounds, and found him eating his food; Meehan sais he was quite comfortable, and that he had been ailing some time; Mr. Mullins told him he thought he ought to go to the Benevolent Asylum, but Meehan said a short time ago he was quite well, and would be again in a short time. Mr. Mullins saw Meehan again about a quarter of an hour after, when Meehan said he was all right; about ten o'clock Mr. Mullins again went round the wards, and when he came to Meehan he found him dead. An inquest was held on the body on Thursday, before Mr. **PARKER**, when Dr. **SLOAN**, after making an external examination, said he could not state the cause of death. At the request of the jury, a post mortem examination was then made, when Dr. Sloan found that death had been caused by suffocation, arising from the bursting of an abscess into the chest, Meehan having been suffering from extensive disease of the lungs, and a large cavity being left in the left lung by the bursting of the abscess. The jury returned a verdict of death from natural causes.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/690, 12/02/1851

MELANCHOLY SUICIDE. - On Saturday morning last, a very great sensation was produced in Maitland by the intelligence that Mr. **FREDERICK WILLIAM DAVIES**, a solicitor, residing in West Maitland, and enjoying an extensive and growing practice, had committed suicide, and had been found dead on his bed, having shot himself through the head. An inquest was held on the body the same afternoon, before **J.S. PARKER**, Esq., Coroner. The witnesses examined were **THOMAS WATKINS, GEORGE POULTON, ALFRED OKE EDYE, JOSEPH CHAMBERS, JOHN SCOTT, and ELIZABETH BECK.** From their evidence it appeared that the deceased, who was a single man, had latterly been observed by his friends to be getting low-spirited; to Dr. Edye he had complained of suffering under disease of the heart, from which he anticipated an early death; and to Mr. Chambers he had complained recently of business annoyances and troubles, attaching much

more weight to them than Mr. C. thought they deserved; still no one formed any opinion that these things weighed heavily on his mind, although some weeks since he, half in joke, asked Dr. Edye which was the easiest way for a man to shoot himself. The deceased was at the house of Mrs. Beck on the evening of Friday last, having transacted business as usual that day, and taken his meals, although sparingly; he remained at Mrs. Beck's house some two hours, sleeping about an hour of the time, and at his own request she woke him up about eleven o'clock, that he might return home; she states that he appeared very low-spirited, and complained greatly of a pain in his chest, saying he would rather die than suffer it. Mr. Poulton resides close to Mr. Davies's house, and between eleven and twelve o'clock Mr. Davies passed Mr. Poulton, who was sitting on his door-step, and went into his own house. When Mr. Davies left his house that evening, he had told his servant, Thomas Watkins, that he should return home again, and Watkins sat up for him till twenty minutes to eleven, when he went to bed up-stairs, and neither heard his master come home, nor heard any noise during the night. On Saturday morning Watkins rose about six o'clock as usual, and went about his domestic avocations; he noticed that the front door, opening into Mr. Davies's room, was half open, and that there was some window-glass on the floor inside, one of the panes being broken, but he says he took no particular notice of this, having seen that door left open before of a night; towards eight o'clock Watkins laid breakfast in the parlour, and while dusting the things he saw through the partially open door of the bed-room, which opened from the parlour, Mr. Davies's feet hanging over the side of the bed. About eight o'clock a man came to inquire if Mr. Davies was in, as he wanted to see him about some deeds; Watkins went to the bed-room door and knocked, and called Mr. Davies, but hearing no reply he put the door open and looked in, and was horrified to see his master lying extended across the bed, undressed, and a quantity of blood about and below his head. Watkins immediately ran out and called Mr. Poulton, who was at his door, and Drs. Edye and Scott were sent for by Mr. Poulton as soon as he had looked into the bedroom. Drs. Edye and Scott found Mr. Davies quite dead, lying across the bed, his feet hanging over one side, and his head over the other; there was a gun-shot, or pistol-shot, wound through the head, the ball having apparently entered over the right ear, and passed out at the back of the head, which must have caused instant death; the head appeared to have been moved but slightly from the moment the fatal shot was fired; the arms lay at length on each side of his body, and close to the right hand Dr. Scott states (in it, Dr. Edye says) was a pistol, discharged. There were no marks of struggling or violence of any kind about the bed, room, or body, and the watch and clothes of the deceased lay on the drawers and table just as he had apparently placed them there. It was Dr. Scott's full impression that the deceased inflicted the wound with his own hand. The jury returned a verdict that the deceased shot himself with a pistol, being at the time in a state of temporary insanity.

LEG FOUND. - We have received a communication from a gentleman residing in Five Dock, stating that a man's leg had been found in the river in that neighbourhood. It appears to be the limb of a rather small-sized man; on the foot was a nearly new Cossack booty, of superior make, and fastened with a silk lace. It has the appearance of having been in the water about three weeks. *Herald, Feb. 10*

GOULBURN CIRCUIT COURT.

WILLIAM COOPER, alias JAMES JOHNSON, for murder, was discharged from custody, the Attorney General declining to prosecute.

DEATH FROM COUP DE SOLEIL. - An inquest was yesterday held at Weedon's, Cherry Tree Gardens, Parramatta Road, on view of the body of **LAWRENCE**

MARTIN, aged about 55 years, who died on the previous evening, under the circumstances following, as stated by the witnesses:- **JOHN WILLIAMS** deposed, that deceased had been complaining of a pain in his head for some four or five days, which he attributed to having slept in the sun without his hat at Canterbury bush, where he had been at work, and thought that the sun had struck him; on Thursday afternoon witness was speaking to deceased, and on returning in a quarter of an hour or less he was dying ; deceased was a very sober man. **JOHN BURNS** deposed, that on Thursday afternoon he assisted deceased to put up a bedstead; he complained of being swollen, and said that he had been to a Dr. **M'LAUGHLIN**, at Sydney, and had taken an emetic, but appeared quite cheerful; in about a quarter of an hour after the bedstead was up, deceased's wife called witness, who on going in, to his great horror and surprise, found the unfortunate man quite dead. Dr. **TIERNEY** deposed that he had viewed the body; the upper part of the body and head is very much decomposed, and blood is oozing from the nose; in the absence of a *post mortem* examination he could not positively state the cause of death, but had no reason to believe that it was other than a natural cause; his having lain bare-headed in the sun was very likely to produce *coup de soleil*, or sun stroke, the more especially as the last few days have been very hot; had timely and medical aid been procured there would have been a possibility of saving his life; he (Dr. Tierney) would not, from the history he had heard of the case, have thought the administration of an emetic proper treatment. The jury founds a verdict of died from the effects of as sun stroke. *Herald, Feb. 1*

UNOFRTUNATE EVENT. - A boy about fourteen years old, named **MICHAEL WRIGHT**, was apprehended on Thursday night for having discharged a pistol, loaded with buck shot, at his sister, and thereby seriously injured her. The case was partially heard at the police-office yesterday, when the evidence of the boy's employer, Mr. **NICODEMUS DUNN**, was taken and this went to show that Wright was not aware of the pistol being loaded. Mr. **PACKARD** and Mr. **JESTON**, surgeons, of Parramatta-street and the Glebe, attended the girl, and extracted a shot which had lodged under the ribs. Mr. Packard stated that the patient was doing well, but he was unable to declare her out of danger. The case was remanded for further hearing till this morning. *Bell's Life, Feb. 8*

DEATH OF A CHILD FROM NEGLECT. - An inquest was held at Parramatta, on Saturday last, on the body of an infant, the child of a woman named **MARY HOGAN.** Mrs. Hogan's husband had been for some months in prison, and she has been supporting herself, it was stated, by prostitution, and was besides greatly addicted to drink; on Friday, the 31st ult., she spent the greater part of the day in a public-house, in a state of drunkenness; two neighbours chanced to notice in her house the infant, apparently lying in a dying state, and they went to the public-house several times to get the mother home, but she took no notice; at four o'clock in the afternoon she returned homer so drunk that she fell on the child in trying to kiss it; she was lifted off by a neighbour; the child was then still alive, but died in less than an hour afterwards. The jury returned a verdict that **MICHAEL HOGAN** came to his death by extreme emaciation, which was caused by the neglect and drunkenness of the mother. *Abridged from the Herald.*

FATAL ACCIDENT TO A CHILD IN DARLINGHURST GAOL. - An inquest was held yesterday afternoon at Mrs. Allison's Hotel, near the Court-house at Darlinghurst, on the body of a male child named **SAMUEL MURPHY**, then lying dead in the adjoining gaol. The mother of the child is at present confined in the prison, and the infant was with others playing in one of the long galleries of the establishment, when it is supposed he received an accident, at first from one of his

playmates, which forced him through the grating. He fell upon the stony flooring, and after lingering in convulsive agony from the period of the accident till eight o'clock on the 4th it expired. Dr. **O'BRIEN** and his assistant Mr. **HONNOR** were unremitting in their exertions, but without avail. A verdict of accidental death from injury was returned, accompanied by a rider, complaining of the dangerous state of the iron-work surrounding the gallery. *Empire, Feb. 6*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/691, 15/02/1851
MAITLAND CIRCUIT COURT. - The following is a list of the prisoners at present warned for trial at the ensuing Circuit Court, which will commence on Monday, the 3rd March. …
JOHN MATHEW, murder; Maitland Coroner.
MARGARET HOLMES, feloniously stabbing; Murrurundi bench.
WILLIAM HAYES, wilful murder; Maitland Coroner.
JAMES FREW, murder; Armidale bench.
ROBERT BYFIELD, manslaughter; Cassilis Corner.
CORONER'S INQUEST. - An inquest was yesterday held at Tuohy's, the Lemon Tree public-house, Phillip-street, on view of the body of **SARAH JANE JONES,** aged three years. Mrs. Jones deposed that about half-past nine o'clock she sent deceased (her daughter) up the yard to her father with a couple of nose-bags; about a quarter of an hour after she missed the child, and after looking about for her in every direction in vain, one of the neighbours suggested looking into the well; on doing so, she there saw the body of her child, when she made an alarm; her husband and another man came and took her up; she was quite dead; her husband had been drawing water, and had omitted to put down the cover, and as the bags were in the well with the child, she was of opinion that deceased had carried the bags before her face, and, not seeing the well, walked directly into it. The jury returned a verdict of accidental drowning. *Herald, Feb. 15*
IDENTIFICATION. - The boot, containing a skeleton of a human foot and leg, which was found at Five Dock, and was forwarded to Sydney, was yesterday identified by Captain **DUNNING**, of the schooner *Terror*, and by a Mrs. **MARLOW**, residing in Cumberland-street, as belonging to a seaman named **THOMAS**, lately of the *Terror*, who, on the night of the 26th ultimo, while under the influence of liquor, left Moore's Wharf to join the vessel, and had not since been seen. The boat was picked up on the opposite beach. The occurrence was reported in the *Herald* soon after it took place. *Herald, Feb. 13*
DEATH.
At his residence, West Maitland, on the 8th February, **F.W. DAVIES**, Esq., solicitor, aged 34 years.
SUDDEN DEATH. - An inquest was yesterday held at the Benevolent Asylum, on view of the body of **RICHARD HARRIS**, aged about 65, then there lying dead. About eight o'clock on Friday evening, **DAVID FERNANDEZ**, of the Green Dragon, public-house, Erskine-street, hearing that an old man had fallen off a side wall alongside the pathway, went to see him; he was insensible, and on his face was some blood, with a scar on the side of his temple and cheek; he washed his face, and placed him in a sitting posture against the wall, and left him to attend some customers; he forgot all about the man until about 11 o'clock, having occasion to go outside, he saw deceased in the same position in which he had placed him; he then went for a couple of constables, who took him away in a cab to the watchhouse for protection, and thence was forwarded to the Benevolent Asylum, where he arrived about two

o'clock on Saturday morning. Later in the morning apoplexy set in, and at about ten o'clock he expired. Mr. **RUSSELL** having deposed that in his opinion death was the result of apoplexy brought on by intemperance, the jury returned a verdict in accordance with that opinion. *Herald, Feb. 11*

SHOOTING. - The boy **WHITE [WRIGHT]**, in custody for wounding his sister by discharging at her the contents of a pistol, was yesterday discharged, with an admonition as to handling fire-arms in future. *Herald, Feb. 11*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/692, 19/02/1851

DEATH BY DROWNING. - On Sunday morning last, about eleven o'clock, a man named **JOHN HYDE**, who was employed working at a thrashing machine, then on the farm of **PATRICK NEWMAN**, Wallis's Creek, was returning from Maitland, when he called at the house of Mr. **JOSEPH HAYWARD**, Lochend, and lit his pipe; Hyde was then very dirty, and appeared to be just recovering from the effects of drink, but knew what he was about; he had a new hat and shirt with him, and told Mr. Hayward that he would go down to the creek and have a wash, as he was very dirty, and would put on his new shirt, and return again to Maitland; he then left the house. Mrs. Newman, whose house is 200 or 300 yards from the creek, but within sight of the creek bank, saw Hyde undress himself on the bank, and go down the bank out of her sight as if to bathe. A very short time after this **JOHN M'CROHON**, who had charge of the machine, went to the same spot, being the usual watering place, to water his horses; to his surprise he saw Hyde's clothes on the bank, with the new hat and shirt, but could see nothing of Hyde himself, although he noticed that the weeds in the bed of the creek looked very much disturbed. M'Crohon, when he returned to Newman's house, told Mrs. Newman what he had observed, and that he feared Hyde had been in bathing and got drowned; Mrs. Newman then told him what she had seen but a few minutes before. About this time Newman returned home from Maitland, and he and M'Crohon got a boat and searched for the body, but could not find it; the water there was nine feet deep, but full of long growing weeds and grass; the next morning the search was repeated, and the body discovered rising underneath the weeds, at the very spot where M'Crohon had observed the weeds look disturbed. An inquest was held on the body on Monday, before **J.S. PARKER**, Esq., coroner, when the above evidence was given, and in addition it was deposed that Hyde was very drunk on Saturday evening, and used to spend all he earned in drink. The jury returned a verdict of found drowned, by whether by accident or otherwise there was no evidence to show.

GOULBURN. - INQUEST. - On Tuesday last an inquest was held before **R. WAUGH**, Esq., on the body of a man, name unknown, which was found on the previous day in a waterhole on the Tarrago estate. Deceased had evidently been some weeks dead, as decomposition set in as soon as the body was removed from the water. It had on a fustian jacket and trousers, and a straw hat; there was a boot and spur on one foot, the other was bare. It is surmised that deceased had been thrown from his horse, and that one of his feet having caught in the stirrup caused the boot to be disengaged; and on regaining his legs he had in a half-stupified state walked into the waterhole. The verdict of the jury was "found drowned." *Goulburn Herald, Feb. 15*

MANSLAUGHTER. - In the *Herald* of Monday is a report of the adjourned inquest on **CATHERINE JENKINS**, an old woman, a man named **JOHN EDMONSON**, with whom the deceased had lived, being in custody. The stomach of deceased had been sent to Sydney for analysation, but no trace of poison of any kind was found in it; the prisoner however has admitted that shortly before the death of deceased he had,

at her own request, given her a dose of pepper to relieve a sudden feeling of illness, that being her habitual medicine for slight attacks; the surgeon, Mr. **DAY**, who was present at the analysation of the stomach, and had heard the evidence, was of opinion that the deceased died from an over-dose of pepper. It was shown in evidence that the deceased had always expressed a grateful feeling to Edmonson for his habitual kindness to her, and that the deceased for years had been in the habit of taking small doses of pepper when ailing. The coroner, in summing up, said that if the jury believed that the deceased died from the pepper administered by Edmonson, and that he gave it with a felonious intention, it was murder; but if he gave it simply as medicine, and it caused death, it was manslaughter, he being a person unqualified to administer medicine. The jury returned a verdict of manslaughter against Edmonson.
FATAL ACCIDENT. - An inquest was held at the Benevolent Asylum, touching the death of **WILLIAM REGAN**, an aged pauper, who left the institution last week for the purpose of proceeding to the interior. Getting drunk prior to leaving town, he fell off his conveyance in Parramatta-street, and the wheel of the dray passing over his body and thigh, it was found necessary to re-convey him to his old quarters, where, under the care of the resident surgeon, he lingered till yesterday morning, when he ceased to be. A verdict of died from injuries accidentally received, was returned. *Empire, Feb. 14*
CHOLERA. - About one o'clock on Thursday afternoon, a butcher, named **WILLIAM REARDON**, residing in Essex-street, was taken unwell, and the illness increasing, at eleven o'clock at night Mr. Surgeon **NELSON** was called in, who found him in a state of collapse suffering from marked symptoms of cholera. About twelve o'clock Dr. **MACKELLAR** was also called in, and a few minutes after Reardon expired. Both professional gentlemen concurred in the opinion that the deceased died from cholera. A *post mortem* examination confirmed this opinion – the medical men stating that they believed the disease to have been brought on by local causes. There was a large open drain full of putrid filth in the front of the house of the deceased, and a quantity of meat in an unwholesome state was on the premises. Dr. Mackellar and Mr. Nelson, with praiseworthy promptitude, immediately communicated the facts to Mr. **M'LERIE**, Inspector of police, who caused the meat to be seized and destroyed, and the premises cleansed with chloride of lime. The coroner made an enquiry into the circumstances of the case, but did not think an inquest was necessary. *Herald, 15th February*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/693, 22/02/1851
MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/694, 26/02/1851
SUDDEN DEATH. - On Monday night, or early yesterday morning, a man named ---- **ELLIOTT**, residing at the Duckholes, Raymond Terrace Road, died very suddenly. An inquest was to be held on the body yesterday afternoon.
FATAL ACCIDENT. - On Saturday last a thrashing machine belonging to --- **ROBINSON** was at work at Black Creek thrashing for a small settler; about three o'clock in the afternoon a man named **RICHARD TRAYNOR** was driving the machine, and **JOHN ROBINSON**, son of the owner, was feeding it, when Traynor asked young Robinson to give him a spell; Robinson went to relieve him, the bullocks still working on; Traynor stepped down from the crown on which he was standing, when his foot slipped, and one of the bars catching him he was sent with some violence against the machinery, where his trousers were caught and his leg drawn in between the cog-wheels, getting crushed and mangled from the ankle to the thigh in a dreadful manner. Robinson and the men topped the bullocks as soon as possible, and

extricated Traynor, when they found his leg hanging by the muscles. A medical man was instantly sent for, and Dr. **BEARDMORE** attended. Previous to leaving Maitland Dr. Beardmore, on learning the nature of the injury to Traynor, had tried, but in vain, to find some other medical man to accompany him to the spot, and he now advised Traynor to come to the Maitland Hospital, where he could be properly attended to, as it was not usual for one medical man to perform amputation in such serious cases. Traynor said he should not live to go to Maitland, and he begged Dr. Beardmore to take off his leg at once; Dr. Beardmore said it was no doubt his only chance of recovery, and about nine o'clock he accordingly amputated the leg at the thigh. Very little blood had been lost by Traynor at the time of the accident, and very little was lost now, owing to a provision of nature, by which one of the coats of the arteries closes over the opening or torn part; Traynor, however, was of course in a state of prostration from the shock to his system, and although he rallied slightly once or twice through the night, he died about six o'clock the next morning, Dr. Beardmore having remained with him all night. An inquest was held on the body, before **J.S. PARKER**, Esq., coroner, on Monday, when Dr. **M'CARTNEY** examined the body and amputated limb, and deposed that the amputation was skilfully and carefully performed, that the leg could not have been saved, and amputation was absolutely necessary, and that in his opinion death resulted from the shock to the constitution which such a frightful accident must have caused. The jury returned a verdict that death was caused by the accident, and that the injury was of a nature which called for immediate amputation of the leg, which was done by Dr. Beardmore I n a careful and skilful manner.

SUDDEN DEATH. - A poor woman named **M'CARTHY**, on Saturday night went to the shop of a druggist named **KIRBY**, and said she was very ill, but before she could tell her tale fell on the shop floor, and almost immediately expired. She has left a husband and nine children. An inquest will be held this afternoon on the body.

SUICIDE. - On Saturday last a man named **GILLIGAN**, for some years past connected with the establishment of Messrs. Wilshire, committed suicide by taking a large quantity of poison, which he procured from a chemist on Brickfield Hill. Medical aid was called in, and the stomach pump applied, but without effect. The unfortunate man had been for some time a teetotaller, but during the last week had been drinking hard. *Herald, Feb. 24*

FATAL ACCIDENT. - An accident of a most distressing nature occurred at Ipswich last week. It appears that a man went at night to Mr. O'Connor's inn, and asked for a glass of rum, which was given to him by a girl about twelve years old, a servant of Mr. O'Connor. The girl having occasion to leave the bar to attend to a child, it is supposed that the man must have gone to the brandy cask to help himself, and that he accidentally set fire to the spirit, for immediately afterwards the cask burst with a loud explosion, and the girl returning at that moment her clothes caught fire, and burned her so severely that she shortly afterwards expired. The man who appears to have been the cause of the melancholy catastrophe escaped in the confusion hat ensued. A magisterial investigation was held by Dr. **DORSEY.** *Moreton Bay Courier, Feb. 10*

ANOTHER CASE OF STABBING AT IPSWICH. - We are indebted to the Ipswich correspondent of our Brisbane contemporary for the information that on Tuesday last a man named **JOHN BENTLEY** stabbed one **PATRICK RAFFERTY** in the breast with a knife, on the road to Little Ipswich. Bentley had been in the bush, and his wife had been living with Rafferty in the meantime. The two men and the woman were standing together when the outrage was committed and Rafferty subsequently identified Bentley as the person who had wounded him. The offender was under

examination, awaiting the fate of the wounded man, who was said to be in a very precarious state. *Moreton Bay Courier,Feb. 19*

DEATH.

At the residence of his father, on the 22nd February, after twenty-five days' severe suffering, caused by fire, **PETER**, the eldest son of Mr. **PETER GREEN**, Campbell's Hill, West Maitland.

FATAL ACCIDENT. - An inquest was held yesterday, at Mr. Driver's, the Three Tuns tavern, King-street, on view of the body of **JOHN BRENAN**, aged about fifty years, the unfortunate man who fell from the first story of Mr. Campbell's store, at the Circular Quay, on Wednesday afternoon. **BARTHOLOMEW M'MAHON** deposed that he and deceased were on Wednesday afternoon employed at the store I n question, rolling in some bressimers (large beams running across the floor, on which the joists are laid); the chain had been hooked to a bressimer, when, being overbalanced, it gave a sudden jerk, striking the deceased, throwing him up a height of four or five feet, when he fell some thirteen or fourteen feet, head foremost on a rock, and never spoke a word afterwards. A medical examination showed that the skull was extensively fractured, and both arms broken. Verdict – died from injuries accidentally received. *Herald, Feb. 21*

SUICIDE. - On Wednesday an inquest was held at Mr. Wall's, corner of Kent and Argylke-streets, on view of the body of a man named **JOHN FREDERICK KEISSER**, aged about 40. A Mrs. **MURPHY** deposed that deceased lodged with her; he was a very steady and quiet man, but for the last few weeks had seemed melancholy. On Tuesday he retired to his room a little after noon, and on the following morning his breakfast was placed as usual in the passage. After knocking at the door for some time, and receiving no answer, witness sent for Mr. Connor, the Inspector of police. Mr. **CONNOR** gave evidence to the effect that after knocking at the door of the apartment of the deceased, and getting no reply, he broke it open; he found deceased lying on his back on the bed, his throat cut, and he quite dead; a quantity of blood was lying on the bed and floor, and a bloody razor lying near the bed. Dr. **TIERNEY** was sent for, and he deposed that the muscles and blood-vessel of the left side of the neck were cut, also, that there was more than one cut; both hands were bloody, and he saw no reason to suppose that the wounds were inflicted by any other hands than those of the deceased himself. The jury found a verdict that the deceased had destroyed himself while labouring under temporary insanity. *People's Advocate, Feb. 22*

MELANCHOLY SUICIDE. - It is our painful task to record the suicide of Mr. **GEORGE LAVENDER**, of Blue's point, North Shore, which occurred at his residence about half-past six o'clock last evening. The particulars of this tragic event, as they have come to our knowledge, are as follows:- Our informant was at Mr. Lavender's house at three o'clock yesterday afternoon, when the deceased was getting his dinner in his usual health and spirits. Her talked freely, and eat a hearty meal. During the remainder of the day he engaged in his regular business about the house, without his conduct in any respect attracting particular notice in his family. About half-past six in the evening Mrs. Lavender was alarmed by the report of a gun at the rear of the house, and on running out she discovered the body of her unfortunate husband, with his fore-head literally blown in, lying on his back in an out-house, and struggling in the agonies of death. The shrieks of Mrs. Lavender brought a plasterer, who was at work in an upper room of the house, immediately to her assistance, but only in time to witness the breath of life pass away from the mangled form of her husband. The deceased appears to have taken the gun from the house unobserved;

and no reason can be assigned for the perpetration of the dreadful act. He was an old colonist, possessing considerable property, and enjoying a large share of respect. His widow is left, we believe, with one child. *Empire, Feb. 21*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/695, 01/03/1851

FATAL ACCIDENT. - On Sunday afternoon last **WILLIAM MAYO**, an old resident of Morpeth, was thrown from his horse in the street at Morpeth, and alighted on the crown of his head;' he was immediately picked up by the bystanders, and although insensible for a moment he recovered so far as to be led home. Mr. **NAINBY**, apothecary, was called in, and found Mayo's head and face covered with blood, his head being cut, and that blood had also proceeded from the ear; he washed the head and face, and remained some time, and then left, and before he returned again Dr. **BROWN** had been sent for. Mayo remained lingering, but sensible, until Thursday, when acute inflammation or pain set in, and he became partially unconscious, and very violent; he died the same evening, about six o'clock. An inquest was held before Mr. **PARKER**, when the above evidence was given, and Dr. **SCOTT**, having externally examined the body, gave his opinion that mayo had died from the effects of the fall, and that acute inflammation of the brain existed in the last few hours of his life. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

DEATHS FROM INTEMPERANCE. - On Tuesday an inquest was held at the Duckholes, before Mr. **PARKER**, on the body of **WILLIAM ELLIOTT**. It appeared from the evidence that Elliott was a strong and hearty man, but a very intemperate one, and habitually a hard drinker; On Monday evening he appeared in his usual health, spending the evening cheerfully with his wife and neighbours, and eating a hearty supper, but drinking nothing stronger than tea. About midnight his wife awoke a lodger in great alarm, saying that her husband was taken suddenly very ill; the lodger, **GEORGE BROWN**, instantly got up and went in with a light, and to his horror found Elliott in the agonies of death; Brown ran for a neighbour, but before they returned to the house Elliott was dead. Dr. **WILTON** externally examined the body, but being unable to state the cause of death, the jury requested that a post mortem examination should be made, which showed that death was caused by extensive disease of the heart and blood-vessels, arising from intemperance. The jury returned a verdict that deceased died from natural causes, accelerated by intemperance.

Another inquest was held before Mr. **PARKER**, on Thursday, at Mr. Walker's, the Red Lion, East Maitland, on the body of **JOSEPH HUMBLER.** Humbler, an elderly man, was a great drunkard, and would continually drink whilst he had the means by him; for the last fortnight he had been drinking hard, at the Red Lion and elsewhere. On Wednesday he procured a pint of rum from Mrs. Walker, in a bottle, saying he would go home (to the Sugarloaf); he wrapped the bottle up in his bundle of clothes, and went away, but returned, and after loitering about during the day, went and laid down in the room he had used; about half-past seven in the evening Mr. Walker, finding Humbler had not gone to tea, went to look for him, and found him lying in a heavy sleep on the bed, in a state of profuse perspiration, and having evidently vomited freely; on the floor was the bottle which had contained the rum, empty, and a quart pot in the room showed that rum had been put in it; thinking the vomiting and sleep would relieve Humbler, who could not be awaked, Mr. Walker left him, after taking off his neckerchief, and on visiting him at ten o'clock saw nothing to cause alarm; at one o'clock in the morning he again visited the room, and found Humbler dead; he then called in Dr. **WILTON**, but of course to no purpose. In Humbler's

pocket was subsequently found by the police 11s. 4d. only; Mrs. Walker said she had given him back that day £1 5s. of his money; and Mr. Whittaker said he saw Humbler that same day pull from his pocket several notes, besides one that he changed with Mr. Whittaker. Dr. Scott externally examined the body, and was of opinion that death was caused by excessive and prolonged intemperance. The jury returned a verdict that deceased died from excessive acts of intemperance, and they attached a rider that some money was lost which could not be accounted for, and that Mr. Walker's conduct was reprehensible in concealing his knowledge as to the amount of liquor drank by deceased.

HUNTER RIVER DISTRICT NEWS. - SINGLETON.

TWO CHILDREN LOST IN THE BUSH. - Information has just reached us that two children, whose parents reside at the "Bulga," strayed from their home on Thursday last into the bush, and although about sixteen horsemen were out in search of them they were not recovered until Saturday afternoon. As we have been promised an interesting narrative of their "stroll" by a person who had it from the mouth of the eldest child, a little fellow of six years old, we may be able to furnish some particulars for your next.

MARANOA. - Long article re inertia of native police: letters by "A.M." in the Sydney Morning Herald; … The bones of nine men have now been bleaching for two years on the plains of the Cogoon River, their murderers remain unpunished, our cattle and sheep have been destroyed, and dispersed to the amount of many thousands, but no attempt has been made to arrest the aggressors, or to put a stop to their depredations. Another "Correspondent" might have furnished you with the particulars of the recent murder of a man named **THOMAS COX**, at Mr. Eckford's station, Moonie Creek, but if we pass lightly over such an occurrence we must be excused, the mere murder of a single man by the natives nor being now an event of sufficient importance to create any sensation.

FATAL ACCIDENT. - On Saturday last Mr. **J.T. LANE** was riding into Bathurst with a small settler named **WILLIAM HOOLOHAN** residing near Summer Hill; Mr. Lane rode on in advance of Hoolohan at a brisk pace, and did not see him for a considerable space; Mr. Lane's attention was at length attracted by the sound as if of two bodies coming in contact a shirt distance behind him, and a second or two afterwards Hoolohan's horse galloped past without a rider. Looking back he saw the poor man lying at the foot of a tree, and upon nearer approach found him bleeding at the nose and mouth, his face severely scratched, and blood oozing through the thighs of his trousers. Mr. Lane lifted him up and spoke to him, but he was in a state of complete insensibility. A horse and cart being procured he was removed to Mr. Ingram's public-house, Mr. Lane in the meantime riding on to Bathurst to procure surgical assistance. Dr. **BUSBY** was quickly in attendance, and discovered that both thighs and one of his arms were broken, and that a concussion of the brain had also taken place. Hoolohan was removed to the Bathurst hospital, where he lingered until the following day, when he expired. An inquest was held on the body, and a verdict of accidental death returned. *Abridged from the Bathurst Free Press, 22nd February*

TAKING POISON BY MISTAKE. - Yesterday an inquest was held on the body of **JOHN GILLIGAN**, who was reported to have poisoned himself. From the evidence it appeared that Gilligan had been drinking latterly, but having ceased he had expressed to his wife great sorrow for having been drinking; Gilligan had gone to Mr. **KIRBY**, chemist, on Saturday, and procured a bottle containing two ounces corrosive sublimate, two ounces spirits of nitre, and one ounce spirits of salt, prepared by his own direction, saying he wanted it for a horse, and Mr. Kirby, who had frequently

supplied him with mixtures of corrosive sublimate and arsenic, gave it to him without hesitation; Gilligan appeared to his wife low-spirited from the effects of drink, and about eight o'clock on Saturday evening he brought home the bottle of stuff from Mr. Kirby's, labelled "poison," and said it was medicine he had got from Mr. Kirby for a pain in his back, of which he had been complaining for three or four days; he then poured a portion of the mixture into a cup and drank it off, saying he had taken similar medicine before, and it had always done him good; the instant, however, that he had swallowed the mixture he threw himself on the sofa and endeavoured to retch, and called out to his wife to send directly for Dr. **CUTHILL** or Dr. **FULLERTON**. His wife ran to Mr. Kirby's, who told her if Gilligan had taken the mixture it would kill him; she ran for the doctors named by her husband, but all their efforts failed, and Gilligan died a little after eleven o'clock. The jury returned a verdict that death had been caused by poison taken in mistake. *Abridged from the Herald, Feb. 25*

SUDDEN DEATH. - Yesterday an inquest was held on the body of **CATHERINE M'CARTHY,** who dropped down dead in Mr. Kirby's shop on Saturday evening. A post mortem examination showed that death was caused by dropsy of the pericardium. A verdict was returned of died from natural causes. *Abridged from the Herald, Feb. 25*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/696, 05/03/1851

MURDER OF A WIFE BY HER HUSBAND. - On Monday an inquest was held before Mr. **PARKER**, at Aberglaslyn, about four miles from West Maitland, on the body of **ROSE M'NAMARA.** Mrs. M'Namara had been killed by repeated wounds and stabs with some sharp instrument, one wound cutting her throat to such an extent that death must have ensued almost immediately, while others cut and wounded her neck, head, and face more or less deeply, and others again were on her arms and hands, as if she had struggled and resisted. The jury returned a verdict of wilful murder against her husband, **PATRICK M'NAMARA.** The police had been searching for M'Namara from the time of the first notice of the dreadful occurrence, about noon on Sunday last, but could not find him till Monday evening, without resistance, on a farm occupied by --- **KILFOIL**, Stony Creek. As M'Namara has been given warning of trial at the present Maitland Circuit Court , we do not go into the particulars of the evidence. The following is an outline of the facts. M'Namara, a young man of powerful build, is a labourer, who has been working at various trades about Maitland for some years; some time since he married his late wife, a young woman of excellent character, and they lived together for some time, and had one child, a girl now about two years old; latterly, M'Namara, who is violent [at times?], had it appears quarrelled with his wife; and having beat her she took refuge first with her father, and then with her married sister, Mrs. **M'FARLAND.** Mr. and Mrs. M'Farland went to chapel on Sunday morning last, leaving at home two of their children (the eldest a gril of five years old,) and Mrs. M'Namara and her child. Before they returned from chapel Mrs. M'Namara had been murdered. The little girl (M'Farland) states that Patrick M'Namara, her uncle, came in, and on his wife's refusing to go home with him, he attacked her in a back skillion, from which she rushed out, streaming with blood, and fell dead in the front room, where the little girl was; Mrs. M'Namara's child, which was in her arms at the time, being also covered with blood, and falling from her arms as she fell to the floor; and that M'Namara then left the house. A neighbour, Mrs. **HINTON**, saw a man answering to M'Namara's description loitering about the neighbourhood for an hour before Mf. And Mrs. M'Farland went to chapel, and after they had gone saw him go to the house. A

shepherd boy herding sheep at Aberglaslyn, was addressed by a man answering to M'Namara's description, and pointed out to him the hut occupied by M'Farland, after which the man left the boy and went towards the hut. Within a very few minutes of the time when the boy last saw the man he met Mrs. M'Farland's little girl coming away from the house, with Mrs. M'Namara's little child walking after her, crying bitterly, covered with blood, and seeming much frightened; at the request of little M'Farland, the boy went back to the hut with her, but being afraid to go in, he went towards Hinton's, and met Mrs. Hinton, who was also t oo much frightened to go, and called her husband; from the time Mrs. Hinton saw the man go to the hut till the time she met the children, with Mrs. M'Namara's child all bloody, appears to have been about ten minutes. Hinton and other neighbours went to M'Farland's hut, and found Mrs. M'Namara lying on the floor of the front room, dead, and her body and the floor covered with blood.

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT. - Friday, Feb. 28

JOHN EDMONSON was indicted for having murdered **CATHERINE JENKINS**, at Colo, on the 15th January, by administering to her an ounce of pepper. The particulars of the case were given recently, in reporting the inquest. Mrs. Jenkins had been in the habit of taking doses of pepper when ailing, and on the day of her death she complained of illness, and Edmonson, who lived with her, admitted that, at her request, he gave her a strong dose of pepper. Not guilty; discharged.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/697, 08/03/1851

DEATH FROM THE KICK OF A HORSE. - About five weeks since, a man named **THOMAS TOWNSEND** went to the shop of Mr. Wicks, in Erskine-street, to purchase some goods, and having for some purpose gone to the back premises, he incautiously went too near one of the horses in the stable, who kicked out and severely injured him. He was under the care of Drs. **DUIGAN** and **CARTWRIGHT** until Monday, when he sank under the injuries and expired. An inquest was yesterday held on the body at Henderson's public-house, Erskine-street, when the jury returned a verdict of died from the effects of the injuries accidentally received. The deceased was 52 years of age, and we regret to add has left a widow and five children to mourn their loss. *Herald, March 5*

PARRAMATTA. - FATAL ACCIDENT. - An inquest was held on Saturday last at Mr. Launders', Bush tavern, Longbottom, before Mr. **C.B. LYONS**, coroner for ther district, on view of the body of **THOMAS DOCKER, alias THOMAS NICHOLS**. It appears from the evidence that deceased left Sydney on Friday evening about six o'clock, in charge of three teams, the property of his master, Mr. **JOHN SARES** of Windsor. When deceased came to the temporary bridge over Iron Cove it was about eight or nine o'clock, and by some mistake or other the horses got too far to the left, and both the first and second drays capsized. A man with a team was a short distance behind and heard a crash, when he immediately ran to the spot and perceived that deceased was under the load of the first dray, with his face down, and completely buried in mud; assistance was procured from a hut near, and the body raised, but life was extinct. Mr. Sares stated that, without doubt, the deceased had had a glass before leaving Sydney, but was not intoxicated. The jury returned a verdict of accidentally killed.

MAITLAND CIRCUIT COURT.

FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 1851

(Before his Honor Mr. Justice Dickinson)

MURDER.

WILLIAM HAYES was indicted for the wilful murder of **BENJAMIN COTT**, at Dagworth, on the 18th November, 1850, by striking, beating, and wounding him with a certain blunt instrument unknown on the left side, the right side, the back, and the front, of his head, thereby inflicting divers mortal wounds, bruises and contusions, whereof the said Benjamin Cott instantly died.

Mr. Purefoy and Mr. Holroyd appeared for the defence; attorney, Mr. Turner.

The Attorney General stated the case to the jury, and called

JOHN STAUNTON, who deposed that he lived with prisoner (Hayes) in November last, witness and his family having entered Hayes's service in November, witness's father and mother, two sisters, witness himself, and a brother; had no previous knowledge of Hayes; witness came from the county Limerick, Ireland; Hayes told witness that he came from the county Limerick; remembered Benjamin Cott, who lived near Hayes; the last time he was there was on the evening of Wednesday, 13th November; Hayes and his family and whole household were about to take supper; Hayes asked Cott to take some tea; Cott said he had tea before; witness and his family were taking supper with the others; Cott sat on a sofa; Cott said he came for a dray and bullocks to fetch some flour from Maitland; Hayes said he could not have them because he had lent them to another man, but that Cott could have the mare and cart; Cott said the mare was rather too wild for him, and declined to take her; the supper things were removed; Cott remained; conversation ensued about planting tobacco and other things; after supper Hayes brought some rum out in a bottle, and they all took a glass each, Cott, Hayes, witness, and witness's father; they each took another glass; witness and his father then went to bed, in another hut, close adjoining Hayes's, Hayes sleeping in his own hut, but not in the same room as the kitchen in which they took supper and the rum; Hayes and his wife and three children occupied the bedroom; witness believed that Mrs. Hayes went to bed; witness told his father it was time to go to bed, as they would have to get up early in the morning; after they went into their hut Cott came to the door of it, which was only two or three yards from Hayes's hut; this was only five or six minutes after they had left the kitchen; did not hear Hayes and Cott speaking after witness left the kitchen; Cott spoke to witness when he was at the door, and then went back to Hayes's hut; that was the last timer witness saw Cott alive; it might be then about nine or ten o'clock; did not hear Cott's voice afterwards, and did not know when Cott left. Next morning witness was up before sunrise, his sisters being up before him, to go and milk the cows, after lighting the fire; Hayes was also up before witness, went out of the kitchen, and went covering the tobacco plants; to tobacco ground was perhaps about a hundred yards from the kitchen; many weeds were growing on some land between; the tobacco plants were raised near the weeds, and planted out in the ground beyond; potatoes had been planted, but failed, where the weeds were growing; witness recollected a drain, which was down near the bridge; some of the tobacco plants were at the end of the drain which was closed in; about twenty yards of the drain had been closed in; it was open when witness went there in September, and Hayes said it was to drain off water from the lagoon behind, in the paddock; there was no water there when witness saw it; some parts of the drain were six or seven feet deep, and five or six feet broad at the top in some parts, where the bank had broken; the end near the bridge was most broken, and it was broader there, six or seven feet perhaps; it was five or six feet deep at that part, and a little deeper higher up; high thistles and weeds and couch-grass taken from the tobacco ground before planting were heaped up against the fence by the road-side, but they were not put into the drain; Hayes directed where they should be put; that was in October, witness thought; they still remained

there when the drain was filled up, and were still there; the drain was filled up in November; witness could not exactly say whether it was before or after Cott was at Hayes; it was about the same time; witness helped to fill the drain in; the distance of a panel, at the end farthest from the bridge; witness filled between two and three yards; Hayes was filling the drain when witness arrived, on Saturday, the Saturday after he last saw Cott; witness did not know how long Hayes was employed at it; witness was scarcely more than a quarter of an hour working at it, as Hayes was filling in at the time; witness saw no other person filling it in; witness found the drain nearly closed that day, and had not observed it before; at that time witness was employed in taking milk into Maitland morning and evening, and working on the farm; witness went to Maitland with milk that morning after he saw Cott, but did not pass the drain on his way, as it did not lay in that direction; did not pass near the drain on his return; could not say whether any part of the drain was filled in the day after Cott was there, nor what Hayes was employed about that day when witness returned from Maitland; witness went hilling corn with his sisters and brother; knew nothing of the drain being filled in until he found Hayes at work there on the Saturday; witness asked no questions [part line missing, paper creased] witness afterwards saw peas growing there; the peas were put in about the time Cott was lost, witness believed, but he could no recollect exactly; pea-ground was chipped on the ground adjacent to the drain, and peas might this have been scattered over the filled-in drain; the plants were then there, but appeared as if planted at the same time as the others; witness had not much occasion to go to that part of the farm, unless he went to work there; he was then mostly employed on another part. Remembered Cott's dress, the last time he saw him, a cabbage-tree hat, fustian jacket he thought, a kind of striped or plaid waistcoat; barragon or fustian trousers like the jacket. Witness was at Hayes's the night chief constable **WOOD** and the constables were there; witness saw the light at the drain, but did not go down to the spot where they were; not being much acquainted with the country, he did not wish to interfere; Hayes was at home; witness had no conversation with him that he recollected; the constables were all night digging, witness believed; witness went to bed; witness saw the head on the following morning, lying in the drain, and the hat; the hat was like the hat Cott had worn; witness afterwards saw the clothes, and the waistcoat was very like that Cott had worn; the jacket and trousers were also like Cott's. Hayes had two axes, which were kept about the yard or house. After the body had been removed witness saw sticks lying up on the bank of the drain, one a round limb of a tree, and others smaller.

By Mr. Purefoy: There was no angry expression at the supper table or afterwards; Hayes had on his usual working dress the next morning, the same as he had on the night before; Hayes usually got up early, to cover the tobacco plants from the sun; the place where the constables found the body could be seen from witness's bed-room window, witness thought; on the evening the constables were digging at the drain witness returned from Maitland at dusk, too dark to distinguish the men; witness asked what the light down there meant, and was told; witness suggested to O'Neil that they should go down there and help the constables; O'Neil was reaping on the farm; when witness first went to Hayes's the drain was closed, except the part afterwards filled about the time Cott was missed; when witness and his father went to bed the night Cott was at Hayes's witness's mother had gone to bed, but he could not say where his sisters were; when witness found Hayes filling in the drain it was about one o'clock in the day. The witness was examined at some length as to what passed between Cott and himself on the evening of the 9th November, as he was returning home from Maitland, met with Cott at Hartigan's, the shoe-maker, had some rum with

him, and accompanied Cott homewards as far as Hayes's , Cott then going on to his own house, and witness going to Hayes's; Cott and witness had no angry words then, or on the evening of the 13th, when Cott was at Hayes's; Cott did not say witness was not fit company for him.

By the jury: Witness had no conversation with Hayes about filling up the drain before Cott's disappearance; never heard him speak of it before; the peas near the drain were planted before witness came to the farm; the spot where the body was found was sixteen or seventeen yards from the part where witness first saw Hayes filling in; never saw H\ayes at work filling up the drain till after Cott was missed; witness heard no noise or disturbance that night; witness would no sleep sounder for taking two glasses of rum; they were wine glasses; the part of the drain formerly filled up was the part nearest the lagoon; the axe would usually be used by the first who was up lighting the fire; the two axes were in common use by all.

RICHARD WRIGHT GOODALL deposed that he was a surveyor, and made the sketches produced of the localities, after going over the ground; one was a finished copy of the other; he could vouch for the measurements; it was 218 ½ yards from Hayes's house to the red mark on the sketch; he examined the ground the day after the body was found; he observed a footpath, then partly obliterated by being under cultivation, leading from Hayes's house towards the sapling rails in the fence by the bridge; the peas near the drain had been evidently sown broadcast; the length of the drain recently filled in was 72 feet 6 inches; the upper portion of the drain appeared as if it had been a surface drain merely, and had filled in gradually by deposits; witness went to the spot where the body was found with constable Kedwell; witness and Kedwell, on using a spade lying there, found a pair of boots in the drain, with remains of feet in them; Kedwell took charge of them; a rod and a half of ground was made available by filling in the drain; the part coloured green on the plan contained three rods or perches, and was left waste, and the parts covered by weeds. Etc., along the fence contained one and a-half rods; it would have been less trouble to have removed the rubbish than to fill the drain; the drain being filled in would prevent the escape of water from the low ground behind after heavy rain; from where the body was found, marked red, to Cott's house, was 467 ½ yards in a direct line; from Hayes's house to Cott's in a direct line was 638 yards; not far from the drain was a corner occupied by three dead trees or stumps, and one recently fallen gum-tree, the top of which had been removed; the largest log in the drain corresponded with the wood of that gum-tree, a half-post also lay by the drain, and other half-posts were observed some distance from the drain, by the pathway spoken of; some narrow pieces of bark were lying by the drain, and near the same spot by the pathway were some similar pieces of bark.

By Mr. Holroyd; In Staunton's hut, under the window, was a bed; the window contained about six panes of glass; from that window the fence in the direction of the drain was visible; the window is in full view from the spot where the body was found; there was also a window in the women's room, in the same hut, but not glazed, battens being nailed across; did not observe that window from the drain; any person sitting up in the bed under the window in the first room could see the drain where the body was found; Hayes's land was very well cultivated; it might have been farmer like to throw into the drain the loose soil around the drain rather than go for the couch and rubbish, but he should think it better to throw the rubbish in at the bottom.

JACOB JOHNSON deposed that he was in the service of Benjamin Cott not quite three months before he was missed; last saw him alive 13th November, on a Wednesday, about sundown; Cott left his own house, and went towards Hayes's; one

house can be seen from the other; witness waited for him later than he usually sat up, and then went to bed; a boy named **SANDY MURPHY**, whom Cott had kept from a child, was then sitting up in Cott's hut; witness never went himself to Hayes's to make enquiry, the boy going; on the Saturday following witness saw Hayes filling in a drain; it had been a wide, deep drain, with a pathway near it; witness knew the bridge on the road underneath which the drain passed into Wallis's Creek; a pathway from Cott's house to Hayes's went near the end of the drain; witness saw Hayes, and asked him if her had heard anything of his (witness's) master; Hayes said no, and said it appeared very strange where could he be; some further conversation passed, and witness said "Then you are filling the hole in;" Hayes said yes, he was, that he thought he might as well have a crop of peas off it, as let the ground be lying waste; the drain was then nearly all filled in; no person was assisting Hayes, Cott had two dogs; the dogs were about the house after Cott was missed, and were still there three weeks since; one of the dogs was missing for some time, after Cutt's body was found; at that time the boy was at Hayes's house; witness could not say whether that dog followed Cott the evening he went towards Hayes's; when he left Cott had on an old cabbage-tree hat, a plaid waistcoat, and a green waistcoat over with sleeves on it, and fustian trousers; Cott said he was seventy-four years old, and looked an old man; his hair was dark and grey, and not very long; Cott wore a check shirt, and Blucher boots; witness was helping the constables to dig the drain a little before sundown, commencing at the end furthest from the bridge, and dug right through till they found the body; they perceived a bad smell half-way down the drain where the body was found, when they came to the wood and bark over the body, limbs of trees, and long narrow pieces of bark, like stringy bark; could not say how many pieces there were at the top of the body; no other wood or bark was found in the drain except a little when they first began to dig; they were placed or thrown directly over the body; had to raise most of them before the body could be come at; some few peas were growing in the earth in the drain; the clothes found with the body were Cott's clothes; in the pocket was found the key of Cott's chest, which the police tried, and it opened the chest; the hair that dropped off the skull was the same color as Cott's, except that the dirt had made it darker than when he was alive.

By Mr. Holroyd: The Dagworth road ran between Hayes' fence and the creek; there was a good deal of traffic on it; any person passing along that road might have ssen Hayes at work filling in the drain.

ANN STAUNTON, sister of John Staunton, deposed to what passed at the supper table at Hayes's, corroborating her brother's evidence; witness went to bed before her brother and father; witness was up first next morning; Hayes was the next up; it was daylight, but before sunrise; Hayes was getting on his clothes as witness went into the house; witness went about her work, lighting the fire, and then going to turn the cows in and milking them; the cows were in the paddock next the house; could not recollect whether Hayes left the house before she lit the fire; it took two hours to milk the cows. Her sister helping her; when she returned to the house Hayes was not there; he was covering the tobacco plants; never saw Hayes at the drain; the drain was, so far as she could remember, filled in the week after Cott was at the house; saw no person filling it; she saw William Hayes filling it in; that was during the week after, so far as she could recollect; she would swear it was; she saw Hayes from a distance filling it in; at the end furthest from the bridge; she recollected a cow being killed at Hayes's; it was after Cott was there; three weeks after; another cow was killed before Cott was missed.

By Mr. Holroyd: Hayes, when she first saw him the morning after Cott was there, appeared to be putting on the same clothes he wore the previous night; they appeared in the same state; he wore usually the same clothes till the cow was killed, three weeks after; she saw the cow killed; Hayes's clothes were much stained with blood while helping to cut her up; his trousers were then washed by witness's mother; there were two rooms in their hut, the first occupied by her father, mother, and brother John, and the inner one by witness and her sister; the bars across her window had open spaces between them; it was a bright moonlight night when Cott was there; heard no noise outside that night; remained awake half an hour after she went to bed; she went to bed after they had had one glass of rum round; the drain could be seen from the window in her father's room; her brother she supposed undressed as usual when he came to bed; he was undressed when she passed through his room the next morning.

[part line missing, creased] the kitchen of Hayes's house; witness saw the axe outside that morning; saw no difference in its appearance from usual; the axe used in killing the cow was not the one generally used in chopping wood.

By the Court: Witness and her family had all left Hayes's service a week since.

MICHAEL STAUNTON, twelve years old, was called, but proved not sufficiently instructed to be sworn.

THOMAS STAUNTON deposed that his son Michael was nearly twelve years old, and had never been taught the difference between heaven and hell; witness remembered Cott's being at Hayes's house, but could not say what brought him there, nor what conversation passed; witness heard no voices after he went to bed; witness was at Hayes's when the constables were digging; did not go to assist them , or go to see what they were doing; the next morning witness went to the spot; saw the clothes lying there; they were in every respect like those Cott had worn; witness saw Hayes filling in the drain; witness was working in another paddock, and did not go to assist him; Hayes was not a day filling it in; witness had no conversation with Hayes about filling it; witness saw him filling in the lower end near the bridge; could see him when he was working in the drain; he could fill it without going down into it; witness planted some of the peas near the drain before it was filled up, and was two days at work there; was not ordered afterwards to plant more about the drain, and did not do so; those planted there grew like the others.

By Mr. Holroyd: Witness's son had recently sued Hayes for wages, and the wages had been paid; witness and his family had left Hayes's service; from the window over witness's bed the drain could be seen, and the tobacco ground.

By the jury: Could not recollect where he first saw Hayes on the morning after Cott was there; witness never heard Hayes say a word about filling up the drain before Cott was there, or after.

By the Court: Witness heard of Cott's being missed before he saw Hayes filling in the drain.

ELLEN STAUNTON, sixteen years old, was called, but proved not sufficiently instructed, and was not sworn.

ALEXANDER MURPHY, thirteen years old, deposed that he had lived with Benjamin Cott since he could recollect; the last time he saw him Cott went to Hayes's house, a little after sundown; witness waited up for him, but Cott did not come back; the next morning, after sunrise, witness went to Hayes's and found Hayes chipping tobacco plants with a hoe; witness asked where was Ben? Hayes said he went to Maitland, and asked witness whether he did not come back; witness said no; Hayes said he went from there to go to Maitland, but it was rather late to go to Maitland

when he left; witness went back to Cott's house, thinking Cott had gone for flour; witness went to Hayes's again when the milkman (John Staunton) came home, about noon; witness was not sure whether he saw Hayes that time; as Hayes was working about different parts of the ground at times; the same day or the next day after witness saw Hayes filling in the drain; witness saw him working down there the same day, in his tobacco field, Thomas Staunton and one of the girls being then chipping peas near the same place; witness did not pass near the drain that day; the next day witness was going to Maitland and saw Hayes, between nine and ten o'clock, filling in the drain; a good deal was filled in, but not half of it; some near the bridge was filled first, and then some near the other end, and all along the bottom there was some dirt thrown in; no person was assisting Hayes, but Thomas Staunton and Ann Staunton were chipping peas close by; witness said to Hayes that he was going to Maitland to look after Cott; Hayes said he knew nothing about him, only that he went away to Maitland that night, and he never saw him since; the drain as formed about two years ago, two or three men being at work there for three weeks; it was made to drain the water off the lagoon, which was full of water; the water all drained out afterwards, and the lagoon got dry; witness came on into Maitland, and returned in the evening about four o'clock; Hayes was then going backwards and forwards from his house to the drain; the day following that witness again went to Maitland, and Hayes was filling in the drain again; when witness returned that day the drain was filled, and Hayes had peas sown there; it was on Wednesday night Cott went to Hayes's, and witness did not go to Maitland the next day, but the two following days he did; Hayes said on the second day he returned that he might as well put some peas in as to leave it idle. Cott had a dog, and witness had one; Cott's dog was missed some time after Cott was, about three weeks after; he was missing till the inquest, and then he came back; about a fortnight after Cott was missed witness heard the dog howling down by the creek, and witness saw something white there; witness was going from Cott's to Hayes's; the dog was making a noise like he always did when some one he knew came up to him; the dog kept on two or three times; he was up against something white standing there; the place was about forty yards from where the body was found, and on Hayes's land; witness had just before left Hayes and his household at Hayes's house; witness was frightened; witness told Hayes next morning that he saw something white down by his fence, and heard the dog howling; Hayes said it might be a bullock; witness said it did not look like a bullock; about a week after that the dog was missed; Hayes told witness to come and live with him; there was a native bear there, belonging to O'Neil, and Hayes said he'd give witness the bear if he'd come till Saturday night; witness went, but the bear died, when Hayes offered witness 8s per week if he'd stop there for three years; witness consented, and stopped there. Witness saw the body after the constables found it, and knew it to be Cott's by the clothes; they were the same clothes Cott wore. When witness saw Hayes filling in the drain, there were sticks and small pieces of bark lying about.

By Mr. Holroyd: Hayes had a crop of tobacco last year near the site of the present crop; there was small bark gunyah put up for a watchman; the bark lying about the drain appeared to be the same, the gunyah having been pulled down.

JAMES BRACKENREG deposed that he was a publican, residing in West Maitland, and last saw Ben Cott alive about the 9th November; he was always called Ben Cott; never heard him called Benjamin Cott; Hayes came to witness for money on the 9thj July last, for £9 that he stated Cott had directed he should get; Hayes said "Did Ben Cott call here?" witness said "Yes"; witness told Hayes that Cott had ordered him to give Hayes £9, and witness then told Mrs. Brackenreg to give Hayes

£9; Mrs. Brackenreg gave Hayes the money, and Hayes had acknowledged that he got it; nothing more was said; witness gave no further explanation to Hayes of what Cott had directed.

EDWARD KEDWELL, constable in the Maitland police, went past Hayes's place on Saturday the 16th November, being on police business; called at Cott's place; saw Hayes working at a drain on his land, with a spade or shovel, as if levelling it; did not then speak to him; witness was on the road, and passed three or four yards from Hayes; after witness had been at Cott's, and had not found Cott there, witness in returning asked Hayes, who was at the drain, whether he had heard anything of Ben Cott since he had been away; Hayes said no, he had not heard anything of him since he called at his place on Wednesday evening last; Ha\yes said Cott came across to his place to borrow a dray and bullocks to go to Maitland the following day to get some flour; that Cott declined to have any supper, but took two glasses of rum before he left; and that Cott had left his (Hayes) place to go to Maitland, and he (Hayes) did not observe which way Cott went, but went to bed; Ha\yes further said it was no use looking for Cott, for he was often away three or four days, and he had stopped away on purpose to starve out the family of Johnsons so that he would not have to pay them. At this time the drain appeared all levelled, but witness did not particularly notice. Witness was subsequently present when the body was found, in the same drain. On the 16th December witness went again to the place with Mr. Wood, the chief constable, and arrived there in the afternoon; Hayes was then reaping near; Hayes afterwards came down to the drain, and threw down a spade, and told Mr. Wood that if he wanted the drain opened he must open it; the drain was forthwith opened by witness and two other constables, commencing at the furthest end from the bridge of the recently filled part, about sundown; Mr. Wood and Johnson also took part in the digging, and O'Neil came and assisted for about half an hour; no other person than O'Neil came to help from Hayes's place; the drain was completely opened out by throwing the earth out till they came about midnight to the spot where the hat and skull were found; they were working by the light of two candles; the chief constable directed the search to be continued till the drain was opened out. The witness then described the sticks and bark found lying over the body, as mentioned by Johnson; they were laid straight over the body. When the skull was come to, Mr. Wood stopped the work till he went for the Coroner, witness and two constables remaining at the drain. When Mr. Wood returned, about three o'clock in the morning, witness was left on guard at the drain, and Mr. Wood and three constables went up to Hayes's house. The Coroner came, but nothing further was removed till Dr. Scott came, and Dr. Scott then uncovered and removed the remains. The clothes found with the body were seen by Johnson there, and Murphy afterwards saw them at the inquest. Witness knew Cutt well, and had seen hi m wear such clothing; witness had heard him called Benjamin Cott and Ben Cott.

By Mr. Holroyd: The upper part of the drain, nearer the lagoon, had been filled up for several months; there was only about twenty yards of the drain, near the bridge, left open.

GEORGE WOOD, chief constable of Maitland, deposed that in consequence of information he went out with constable Smith on Sunday, the 1st of December, to Cott's place, and afterwards to Hayes's ground, with Smith and Johnson; saw Hayes who came down from the house to them as they stood near the drain; Hayes remarked that his tobacco was somewhat damaged; witness asked him if he had heard anything of Cott; Hayes said no, not since he left his place; witness asked Hayes if his wife had not said that Wenban's reapers left word at her place that Cott was gone up the

country on a dray; Hayes said no, that the milkman had heard it in Maitland; witness asked Hayes if there wasn't some money transactions betwixt him and Cott; Hayes said there was, that he had lent Cott £10 last harvest: Johnson said, in a surprised manner, "You lent him £10;" yes, said Hayes, and Mr. Brackenreg can prove it, or had drawn the receipt; witness asked Hayes to show the road Cott might take to go to Maitland; Hayes took them along the Dagworth road by the creek about half a mile; they looked into the creek at several places, but Hayes said it was no use looking in the creek, that he couldn't be in the creek without their knowing it, as they swere fetching water from the creek every day; that he had got into Maitland perhaps and got into some of the bad houses, and got into the river perhaps, or some one might have pout him in; they then parted. On the 10th December witness again went to Hayes's place, arriving there in the afternoon, about four o'clock, having three constables with him; witness asked Hayes, who was reaping whether he had heard [anything of Cott; O'Neil said ……..heard][paper creased part line missing] nothing; O'Neil was then reaping with Hayes; witness asked Hayes to lend him a spade; Hayes consented, fetched the spade with a constable, and brought it down; witness asked Hayes who filled up the drain; Hayes said he filled in one part, and the milkman filled in the other part, and he pointed out the lower part near the bridge as filled by himself, and the upper part by the milkman; he did not point out the exact portions; witness asked how long it had been filled in; Hayes said some of it a long time, and some of it not so long; Hayes put the spade down, and said they might open it, or all of it, if they liked; it was then near sundown, and they commenced digging. The witness then described the digging, and the finding the skull. O'Neil and the boy Sandy Cott, or Murphy; came down from Hayes's place about nine o'clock, but no other person. On witness's return after going for the coroner witness and four constables went to Hayes's house, and knocked at the door; Hayes opened the door, having only his shirt on; witness said he had bad news to tell him, that they had found Cott murdered and buried on his farm, and that him and all the others might consider themselves in custody until the matter had been examined into; Hayes said it was a good job the poor man was found. The coroner came about sunrise, and Dr. Scott some time after, and Dr. Scott removed the remains, and placed them in a bag; the clothes were taken out, and washed; they were the same now produced; constable Kedwell took a key out of the watch pocket of the trousers. On Thursday, the 19th day of December, witness again went to Hayes's place; Hayes was then in custody and not at home; witness got the axe produced under the milk-safe in the bedroom; it had the appearance of being used, a mark being visible along it; witness observed a light coloured hair on the axe, but could not now see it; it was fine hair, but could not say it was human; another axe, a wood-axe, had been previously seen outside.

By Mr. Purefoy: Witness could not say whether or not the bark and sticks were not so laid that they would have concealed the body without any earth, they having been obliged to pull them up when they first came to the remains; the single hair was on the edge of the axe; the axe did not appear concealed.

JAMES HARTIGAN deposed that about four months before Cutt's disappearance he made a pair of boots for him; he thought the boots produced were the same; they were made as witness made boots, and were the same size as Cott's; last saw Cott on the 9th November.

Dr. **JOHN SCOTT** deposed that he removed the remains of the body from the drain, having first seen a portion of the head; the head was not attached to the body, the whole of the bones of the lower part of the neck, and the vertebrae of the neck, were broken, and the connection broken; it was difficult to say whether the head was

entirely separated from the body, till decomposition took place; there was a large fracture of the skull, and small fractures branching from it; the bones were so much fractured that it was nearly impossible to place them together as they were originally; that large fracture would cause instantaneous death; witness removed the body, excepting the feet; decomposition had go on to such an extent that the bones separated at the integuments; it was the body of a man advanced in years; witness took the clothes carefully off the body; some hair adhered to the skull, apparently of dark colour mixed with white.

By Mr. Holroyd; Witness would not undertake to swear that the large wound was inflicted during life, or any of the other injuries.

By the jury: Witness should think the injuries must have been inflicted by an instrument having a full swing, and a heavy hand; the hair witness saw on the axe was very nearly identical with, if not the same as, the hair on the skull.

By Mr. Holroyd: Witness would not undertake to swear it was a human hair.

By the jury: it was of the same color as some of that on the skull, and appeared identical in color, fineness, and general appearance.

WILLIAM SMITH, constable of the Maitland police, deposed that Hayes remained in witness's charge after he was given in custody by Mr. Wood, for two or three hours, till the coroner came; the reapers left the place and went to look at the body, and returned again; one came in to light his pipe, and said "Well, what a thing it is to serve the poor old fellow in that way, they have knocked his head all to pieces;" Hayes said "Well, well, well, what a thing it is, who could have done it, what a bad job it is;" witness said it was a good job the man was found, that we'd had a great deal of trouble after him, in getting to him in the drain, that he was so lapped up in bark and sticks that we could hardly get at him; Hayes said "Well, I put them in;" witness said ""You did?" Hayes said "Yes, I did;" witness said "Why the man's hat was found among the whole of them things;" Hayes made no answer, and the conversation dropped. The witness then described the position of the body, the hat, and the bark and sticks; the hat was found among the sticks a foot and a half above the body, as if pout in afterwards, but was three or four feet below the surface, some sticks and timber and weeds lying above it again; witness's conversation with Hayes was after the hat and skull were found, but before the body was uncovered.

Constable Kedwell recalled: Witness remained in charge at the drain after the head was found till the coroner came; no one touched the remains or head while witness was in charge; witness did not recollect that any reapers came to look at the skull, or other persons. Witness on a subsequent day took Mr. Goodall to the spot, and they found the boots on moving a little earth with the spade.

JOHN WOOD, now residing at St. Peters, West Maitland, knew the Dagworth property; had seen Hayes's ground flooded; the filling up of the drain would cause part of the ground to be inundated if heavy rains fell, and some acres of growing corn would be covered.

By Mr. Holroyd: Leaving the part of the drain near the bridge open, after the upper part of the drain was filled up, would not be of much service in keeping the lagoon ground from being inundated.

JOHN O'NEIL deposed that he was at Hayes's, and assisted the constables for a short time in digging; when witness went back to Hayes's house from the drain, Hayes asked, were they digging at the drain? Witness said yes; Hayes asked did they get anything there; witness said no; Hayes said if there was anything there, if there was any one so bad to him as to put it there, he couldn't help it. Witness worked for Hayes about three weeks, after Cott was missed; witness asked Hayes had the old man

any money; Hayes said he didn't know; witness said he had heard that some man took money on his account at Mr. Brackenreg's; did not say who it was, for he didn't know; Hayes said he might be the man, for he had lent Cott £10, and Cott left him an order to get £9 of it at Mr. Brackenreg's, and he got it there, and the other £1 Cott gave to him somewhere; this conversation took place more than a week after Cott was missed.

By the jury: After Hayes was in custody witness heard constable Smith ask Hayes did he put any sticks in the drain; Hayes said he did; witness could not recollect any other conversation.

By the Court: Witness thought he remembered some one using the expression about the head being so knocked about. The remainder of the conversation deposed to by Smith was then put seriatim, and the witness thought he heard most of it, and might have heard the rest.

Smith recalled: O'Neil was not the reaper who used the expression, nor was he present at the time.

Mr. Wood, chief constable, recalled: Reapers were in the field both before and after the coroner came; witness invited the reapers to come and see the remains, at the time Dr. Scott came; they all came.

CHARLES POOL, constable in the Maitland police, deposed that on a subsequent search in the drain he found a piece of bone, a large piece of the skull, and handed it over to Dr. Scott. On the Monday after Cott was missing witness went out to taker an inventory of Cott's goods; Hayes was then taking and levelling the top of the drain, and sowing peas; some of the peas were just budding, others half an inch and an inch high; Hayes said in conversation that Cott must have gone to his brother up the country; witness ridiculed the idea, and said he must have been made away with; Hayes then said the man's in the town, or the creek, or the river, or some person might make away with him; the man might appear bye-and-bye, and was in the habit of being absent from home for days, and we would find him at home or elsewhere.

By Mr. Purefoy: Witness was first examined on the last day of the inquest at Mr. Rosseter's; witness's evidence was only about the skull. [The witness's deposition was put in and read]. Witness was only required to give evidence as to what he had found, and answered such questions as were put to him; witness first mentioned his conversation with Hayes to the Crown Solicitor, a day or two since; witness thought it his duty as a constable to tell him all he knew in the matter; witness might have mentioned the conversation to the chief constable, but did not think he had.

By the Attorney General: Twenty witnesses had been examined by the coroner before witness, and witness's evidence was confined to the piece of skull he found, and which Dr. Scott compared with the skull in witness's presence.

By the jury: Some of the peas were growing on ground about the drain, and some on the drain; no peas were growing on the very spot under which the body was afterwards found.

Dr. Scott recalled: Produced the skull; pointed out the piece brought to him by Pool, which fitted exactly into the skull.

It being now twelve o'clock, the court was adjourned till half-past nine o'clock this morning, when the trial will be resumed.#

The jury were placed in the custody of the Sheriff, and locked up in rooms for the night.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/698, 12/03/1851
MAITLAND CIRCUIT COURT. - MONDAY, MARCH 10, 1851.

MURDER.

PATRICK M'NAMARA was indicted for the wilful murder of **ROSE M'NAMARA**, at Aberglaslyn, on the 2nd March, 1851, by striking and thrusting at her with a knife, on the left side of the neck, giving her one mortal wound, of which she instantly died.

The prisoner pleaded not guilty, and applied for a postponement of his trial till the next Circuit Court, ion the ground of the absence of a material witness, **RICHARD HORRIGAN**, who could prove that he was with him the whole of that day.

The Attorney General opposed the application, and its consideration was postponed till Tuesday morning.

TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 1851.

GAOL DELIVERY.

MURDER.

JOHN MATHEWS was indicted for the wilful murder of **ABRAHAM DAWES**, at Page's River, on the 10th October, 1850, by casting and throwing him to the ground, and then beating, kicking and striking him with hands and feet, inflicting by such casting and throwing, and by such beating, kicking, and striking, divers mortal wounds, bruises, and contusions, whereof the said Abraham Dawes languished till the 5th November following, and then died, at Maitland.

The prisoner pleaded not guilty.

On the motion of the Attorney General the trial was postponed till the next Circuit Court, in consequence of the absence of the principal witness.

MURDER.

JAMES FREW, committed on a charge of murder (from Armidale), was discharged by proclamation, the Attorney General stating that there was not at present sufficient evidence to put him on his trial.

No other cases remained on the calendar but those for trial at the Quarter Sessions, except that of **PATRICK M'NAMARA.**

MURDER.

The consideration of Patrick M'Namara's application for a postponement of his trial, for the murder of **ROSE M'NAMARA**, was resumed.

The Attorney General opposed the application, on the ground that it was made for the purpose of delay only, and he read affidavits and a considerable portion of the depositions, to prove that M'Namara could not call any witness to prove what he alleged.

His Honor decided to grant the application, on the ground that where a man stood on trial for his life he could not refuse an application on affidavit for a postponement, stating what was proposed to be proved in defence, and that the application was not made for the purpose of delay. But to lessen the period of delay, and obviate any possible inconvenience that might arise, he should order that the trial should be postponed till the Sydney criminal sittings, or the next Maitland Circuit Court.

M'Namara was then removed.

The court was then adjourned *sine die*.

DEATH OF AN INFANT FROM NEGLECT. - On Saturday an inquest was held at the Maitland Hotel, West Maitland, before Mr. **PARKER**, on the body of a female infant, about three weeks old, the child of **MARY JOHNSON**. From the evidence adduced it appears that Mary Johnson is the wife of **JONAS JOHNSON**, a very industrious sober man, and who has for some time been residing in a hut on Mr. Horton's farm, West Maitland. Latterly Mrs. Johnson has given way to drink, and her husband at length left her a few weeks [crease in paper, part missing] with her, from

her threatening language when intoxicated. About three weeks since Mrs. Johnson was apprehended by the police in a state of intoxication, and was sentenced to twenty-four hours' confinement in default of paying a fine; she was placed in the lockup, East Maitland, and the same night was delivered of a female child. Mrs. Johnson has long been known as a woman of violent temper at times, but has always appeared an affectionate mother, having three other children; it appears, however, that she has continued drinking more or less ever since the birth of this last child, and on Tuesday or Wednesday morning had some liquor at Mr. Fulford's inn, when she, in an incoherent manner, said she should be hanged, and that she had killed her child; but when asked how it was done she said some of the children had done it by pulling sa box on it. As she appeared talking at random Mr. Fulford took no heed of her words. She also told constable **M'MANUS** on Wednesday that her child was dead, clapping her hands, but on his questioning her she said it was not dead, but that the children had pulled a box on it; her strange manner again led to no further action being taken. On Friday, she was drinking several times during the day at Mr. Kerrigan's inn, and went to the lockup, intoxicated, to complain of having lost her money; M'Manus advised her to go home to her children, but she said a woman was at home minding them. At what hour the poor little infant died is not known, but it was last seen out with her on Friday. On Saturday morning, about four o'clock, she roused up Dr. **M'CARTNEY**, crying out that her child was dead, and accusing herself of having killed it; Dr. M'Cartney observed that she had an infant in her arms, and on examining it found the poor child was really dead. As she threatened to destroy herself he sent for a constable, and gave her into custody for protection. About the same hour her neighbours were alarmed by the screams of a female from her house, as if in distress (possibly on her returning home and finding the child dead), and about five o'clock some of them went to the house, and found her third child outside, lying on some rubbish, alive, but cold and helpless, as if it had lain there some time; they passed it in through the window to the two elder children. A post mortem examination was made by Dr. M'Cartney, who found all the organs healthy, but the heart bloodless, gall-bladder distended, stomach empty, without food digested or indigested, and the whole of the intestinal canal quite empty and distended with wind; the body was much emaciated, but no mars of violence was found upon it; the child died from inantion or want of food. To further questions Dr. M'Cartney replied that he thought the child must have been dead 16 or 17 hours (before the examination), and that it must have suffered from neglect for a much longer time than two days. The jury returned a verdict that Mary Johnson was guilty of manslaughter by causing the death of her child through wilful neglect. She was then committed for trial.

A MAN DROWNED. - On Monday morning an inquest was commenced at Morpeth before Mr. **PARKER** on the body of **JOHN STEWARD**, a man stated to have been in the employment of Smith, the Paterson boatman, and to have been drowned at Hinton last week. The body was found floating in the river on Monday morning, close to the Queen's Wharf, Morpeth. The inquest was adjourned till Wednesday (this day) for further evidence.

IPSWICH, FEB. 22. - FATAL ACCIDENT. - On Tuesday afternoon a fine lad named **JOHN GEORGE MYERS**, aged about twelve years, the son of a respectable resident of this town, was unfortunately drowned while bathing in the Bremer. The body was not recovered until it had been under water for the space of about ten minutes, when it was brought up by one of a party of blacks who had been called on for assistance. Every means was used to restore animation, but, alas, all was in vain,

and the afflicted parents were left to mourn over their heavy loss. *Correspondent of Moreton Bay Courier*

MAITLAND CIRCUIT COURT.

SATURDAY, MARCH 8, 1851

(Before his Honor Mr. Justice Dickinson.)

MURDER.

The trial of **WILLIAM HAYES**, indicted for the wilful murder of **BENJAMIN COTT**, at Dagworth, on the 13th November, 1850, was resumed.

[The full evidence given on Friday for the crown was full reported in the *Mercury* of Saturday.]

Dr. Scott recalled by the Court: Witness was certain deceased could not have inflicted the wounds on himself.

JOHN JAMIESON, runner and collector in the *Maitland Mercury* office, knew Hayes by sight, as a milkman; Hayes, on Saturday the 23rd November, bought a paper from witness, about seven o'clock in the morning, as witness was returning from delivering the papers; Hayes gave witness a shilling, and witness told him he would get change for it; Hayes said he was in no hurry for it; witness took him to a small shop, obtained change, and gave it to Hayes; the paper produced was a copy of the same date; Hayes never bought a paper from witness previously; in the paper of that day appeared a paragraph , which witness pointed out; it briefly mentioned that Cott was missing, and the general circumstances attending his last being seen alive; Hayes was not delivering milk at that time, but had a bindle in his hand; witness used to meet him every morning he delivered the papers, until Hayes ceased to bring milk in.

By the jury: Witness had delivered the papers for upwards of three years; Hayes had never bought a paper from witness before.

Ellen Staunton, sixteen years old, was recalled, and again examined as to her competency to be sworn, and Mr. **MOORE DILLON**, the Criminal Crown Solicitor, was examined as to a conversation n he had with her as to her competency on Friday, after she had appeared in the witness box. She was sentenced to seven days' imprisonment for contempt of court.

The Attorney General stated that he meant to institute enquiries whether an conspiracy existed among any of the witnesses called in this case, that if it proved to be the case they might be prosecuted.

Michael Staunton, twelve years old, was then re-called, and again examined as tgo his competency. He was not sworn.

This closed the case for the prosecution.

Mr. Purefoy submitted to the court that the means of death were not proved as laid in the indictment. He quoted decisions in cases that had been reserved.

His Honor was satisfied with the evidence in the case, but would reserve the point if desired.

Mr. Purefoy addressed the jury for the defence, impressing on them the serious importance, to the prisoner and the public, of the case they were trying. The life of a fellow being rested on their verdict. He would entreat of them to regards the observations he should address to them as only of weight when supported by, or being a fair deduction from, the evidence. In this case, as in most others where human life had been taken, the evidence was purely of as circumstantial nature; but circumstantial evidence was often so firmly and so irresistibly linked together in an unbroken chain, that scarcely a possible doubt remained of the real facts, and of the guilt of the prisoner under charge. But then no single circumstance would be shown that was inconsistent with the conclusion, or otherwise the certainty would be

effectually destroyed, and that one circumstance, as affecting the question of the guilty of the prisoner, became of more importance that all the rest. He quoted from works and decisions of undoubted authority to establish this position. The evidence must be so strong as to shut out every other reasonable conclusion than that the prisoner was guilty. And thus circumstantial evidence required the most careful and anxious consideration before a jury could venture to conclude that an accused person was guilty, bearing in mind that even the most apparently conclusive circumstantial evidence had been proved afterwards to be erroneous. He should now carefully endeavour to show them, from a fair examination of the evidence, that all the circumstances shown could be reconciled fairly with the prisoner's innocence, and that none were so conclusive as to his guilt that they could be relied on. He did not intend or purpose to throw suspicion on any other person, but simply would show them that it was not proved that the prisoner was guilty. In the first place, what motive could be deduced from the fats that could account for his committing such a crime on his friend and neighbour. The learned counsel then went through the evidence as to what passed in prisoner's house on the evening Cott was there. Was there anything that passed then to show that such a dreadful crime was about to be perpetrated by the prisoner. Then the evidence as to the appearance of the prisoner and the condition of the premises next morning – how could that be reconciled with the supposition of the prisoner's having murdered Cott during the night, for that was the inference that was sought to be drawn. Was there anything shown, indeed, to prove that Cott was murdered at all on that night? Was there anything so far to raise even a suspicion against the prisoner? Was it not proved by the evidence of Mr. Wood and Mr. Brackenreg that Hayes had lent Cott £10, which had been repaid? Was there one hour of unfriendly feeling between them up to the evening Cott was at Hayes's, or during that evening? It was proved that two windows in the hut of the Stauntons commanded a view of the place where the body was found, and where the murder was constructively committed, if anywhere, and was it possible that on a bright moonlight night Hayes could have left his house, and murdered Cott, and thrown him in the drain, or buried him, without some one of the five Stauntons seeing or hearing of it. If Hayes had never been seen subsequently working at that drain, would there be a shadow of suspicion against him, moiré than any other man? But his working at the drain was far stronger proof of his innocence than his guilty. It was proved that opening the drain had drained the lagoon originally, and made his land more available. But it was also proved that the original purpose of the drain had long since been answered, and that keeping it open was simply wasting ground; that the far greater portion of the drain had long since been filled up and cultivated; that the seventy-two feet left unfilled at the lower end was of no possible service after the upper part was filled; that its remaining open was an obstacle in ploughing the land properly; and that therefore to fill it up the very thing as good farmer, as prisoner wa shown to be, would do. The evidence given as to the peas growing on the spot made it quite evident that the drain was gradually filled up, and peas sown there at different times. No doubt a portion of it must have been filled before Cott's death, or how could vegetation have gone so far? And did not Hayes at once, on being asked by Mr. Wood, admit that he filled the lower end, and the milkman the upper, thus admitting that he filled the very part under which the body was found? Would any man, conscious that the dead body rested there, make such a statement to the chief constable? Would not his first endeavour have been to throw off all connection between himself and that portion of the drain at least? And all Hayes's subsequent conduct, his bringing the spade, his remarks to Mr. Wood, were they not obviously

the actions and words of a man who, until the body was actually found, knew nothing of its being in the drain? The evidence of constable Smith as to what he said to Hayes after Hayes was in custody was evidently not reliable, for such a conversation without previous inducement by Smith, was not credible; but even if the jury believed it, would any man who was conscious of his guilt admit that he put bark and sticks in the drain? It was proved by another witness that in his opinion enough bark and sticks were found over the body to effectually cover it, without any earth. And to this conclusion, indeed, all the evidence as to the condition of the body and the drain, led. Hayes's alleged conversations with other constables were so unlikely and extraordinary that her thought very little consideration would satisfy the jury that they could not rely on them, particularly the conversation related by constable Pool, with its attendant circumstances. He did not seek to impute the guilt of this crime to any man, but he contended that the evidence was no mire suspicious against Hayes than against any other man in his house; nay it was less so, for there were many circumstances throwing suspicion on John Staunton, the milkman, that did not effect Hayes. He felt that he need not caution the jury with regard to forming their opinion, and resting their verdict, solely on the evidence, and not on anything they had previously heard, or opinions they had previously formed. They could attach no weight whatever to the finding of the axe in Hayes's house, not concealed in any way, many days after he was in custody, with no constable in charge at his house. The learned counsel then recapitulated the grounds on which it appeared to him the crown relied as proving the guilt of the prisoner, and pointed out how he had sown in his opinion that none of them established his guilt, nay, that each of them went to establish his innocence.

His Honor then summed up, pointing out the exact points in the indictment necessary to be proved before the jury could come to the conclusion that the prisoner was guilty. If the jury found that Cott was killed by the prisoner in the manner laid in the indictment the law presumed malice aforethought. He pointed out the general nature of the cases in which malice would not be presumed on the killing of one man by another. It would be a question for them whether, if they found that Cott was killed by the prisoner, anything was shown by the evidence that would remove the presumption of malice, and reduce the crime from murder to manslaughter or homicide. The question they were called on to decided was not whether prisoner really was guilty, but whether he was proved to be guilty. What might have been proved, what they had heard, what opinion they had formed previously, what would be the consequence of their verdict – were not matters for their consideration, but simply what had been proved. He should presently read over the whole of the evidence to them. He would now tell them that in his opinion there was evidence – how much evidence he left them to say – that Benjamin Cott was missing, that a body was found, that the clothes were recognised as Cotts', that a key which unlocked his box was taken from these clothes, that his death had been violent, that he had been buried – they would say how far these facts proved that Benjamin Cott had been killed, and that his body had been found. The question then was, did the prisoner kill him? The evidence as to this question was circumstantial only, as it usually was in cases of violent death. In some respects the circumstantial evidence of a number of witnesses was less liable to suspicion than the direct evidence of one or two persons, but in others it was more doubtful, inasmuch as nearly all circumstances were capable of more than one explanation. They must then apply the most careful consideration to the evidence, and see whether all the circumstances led reasonably and directly to the conclusion that the prisoner was guilty; for they were not at liberty, as in civil cases,

to estimate the balance of evidence, for although the balance might be against the prisoner, yet he was entitled to their verdict if any reasonable doubt, not a forced one – remained of his guilt. He quoted to the jury the opinion on this question of Laplace, and of the learned judge Baron Alderson. The circumstances proved must not only be consistent with the conclusion of the prisoner's guilt, but must be entirely inconsistent with any other reasonable conclusion; and no other circumstances must be supposed or presumed by the jury to make out the conclusion of the prisoner's guilt. They must deal only and strictly with the circumstances proved. His Honor then read through the whole of the evidence, commenting on it, and drawing the attention of the jury to points elucidating each other, as he proceeded. He would now leave the case in their hands, the question for them being whether the prisoner killed Benjamin Cott by striking him on the head with a blunt instrument, and inflicting contusions of which he died, for if they came to that conclusion, under the circumstances show, it appeared to him that such killing was wilful murder, as charged in the indictment.

Mr. Brackenreg recalled: Hayes never on any occasion n told witness, or said in witness's presence, that he had lent Cott money, or that the £9 was in part payment of a debt.

The jury retired at ten minutes past two o'clock, and returned at three o'clock, with a verdict of guilty.

His Honor passed sentence on the prisoner, briefly but impressively addressing him. The prisoner had been indicted for the wilful murder of Benjamin Cott, and after a long and patient investigation, during which the prisoner was ably defended by two counsel, the jury had found the prisoner guilty. For himself he could only say that he fully concurred in the verdict of the jury, as he thought every reasonable man must do who had heard the evidence in the case; he felt almost as fully convinced of the guilt of the prisoner as if he had seen him perform the deed. It was impossible for the prisoner to complain that justice had overtaken him, looking at the dreadful outrage he had committed on a fellow being. One remarkable feature in the case was the absence of all apparent motive, but no doubt that would be explained if it were possible to know all that passed. It was one of the most brutal and barbarous murders he remembered. It was not necessary that he should keep the prisoner longer waiting in that box, or that he should seek to aggravate his feelings now; he recommended him, as there was not the slightest chance of mercy in this world, to turn his thoughts to the next world, and to see his clergyman that he might prepare himself to make his peace with God. His Honor then proceeded to pass sentence of death on the prisoner in the usual form.

DISCHARGE. - On the application of Mr. Purefoy, **ROBERT BYFIELD**, committed for trial for manslaughter on the verdict of a coroner's jury (Cassilis), was discharged on entering into his own recognizance of £100 to appear when called on; it appearing from the statement of the Attorney General that there was not legal evidence sufficient to put Byfield on his trial, in consequence of the dying deposition of the principal witness not having been taken.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/699, 15/03/1851

CORONER'S INQUEST. - An inquest was held at the Rose, Shamrock, and Thistle, on Monday morning, about nine o'clock, on the body of **RACHEL MARCUS**, a child aged two years. The child was burned to death in its bed; the fire having been caused by the servant girl having incautiously left the candle near the bed! Verdict of "died from injuries received by accidental burning." The coroner reprimanded the girl, at the request of the jury, for her culpable neglect. *Empire, March 12*

THE ABERGLASLYN MURDER.
[see also March 3, 1852]
In the *Mercury* of the 5th instant we briefly reported the proceedings of an inquest held on the 3rd on the body of **ROSE M'NAMARA**, when a verdict of wilful murder was pronounced against **PATRICK M'NAMARA**, her husband. As M'Namara's trial was fixed to take place during the recent Circuit Court (the just commenced) we published simply a brief outline of the facts. On Tuesday last, however (as reported in Wednesday's *Mercury*), N'Namara succeeded in obtaining a postponement of his trial, on the ground that he required a material witness (**RICHARD HORRIGAN)** who was with him the whole of the Sunday on which the murder was committed.

As M'Namara was not arrested till after the inquest was over, he had not of course had the opportunity of hearing the witnesses give their evidence, or of cross-examining them; and, in order to give him this opportunity, the Attorney General directed that the witnesses should be re-examined in his presence. This examination accordingly took place on Wednesday, in the presence of M'Namara, in the gaol, the magistrates present being Major Crummer, Mr. Doyle, and Mr. Day. We proceed to give an abstract of the facts disclosed in this evidence.

Patrick M'Namara is a young man, of tall and powerful make, and has been for some years working about Maitland as a labourer in various trades. About two or three years since he married his late wife, Rose M'Namara, whose maiden name was Rose Kelly, and who was always a young woman of excellent character. They had one child, a girl, norn about December, 1849, and lived together until January last.

In January last M'Namara and his wife were living in a cottage on the Oakhampton Road, near West Maitland, James Moy and his wife living near them. On a Sunday early in that month Mrs. Moy heard M'Namara and his wife quarrelling, and going to them found M'Namara ordering his wife to go in and get his breakfast, and Mrs. M'Namara replying to him "Leave me alone, leave me alone," which she explained to Mrs. Moy by saying she was afraid from the threats to go into the house. After some parley Mrs. M'Namara went over to Mrs. Moy's house with her, for protection, and on the way M'Namara said he would kill his wife, using a bad expression. At Moy's Mrs. M'Namara went into the bedroom, and stopped there, N'Namara remaining in the sitting-room, and still quarrelling with his wife, who used no bad language to him, butr complained of his violence, and that he had starved her; M'Namara rose and looked at her, and said "I'll hang for you as surely as ever Bill Hayes will hang." Eventually M'Namara went home again, his wife remaining at Mrs. Moy's for a time; that same day Mrs. M'Namara went to her father's house, and she never returned to live with her husband again, refusing all his offers. Whether she ever saw him again before the day she was killed has not been proved. After remaining at her father's a short time she went with her child to live at her brother-in-law's, James M'Phelemy, at Aberglaslyn, about three miles from Maitland. M'Namara told Mrs. Moy, after his wife left, that his wife might go to her friends and have her things, provided she would give him up the child.

M'Namara sold his furniture, and gave directions that his wife's clothes, &c., might be taken by her, and they were obtained by her brother. M'Namara in February lodged at a lodging-house in Maitland, kept by Edmund Doyle; here he frequently talked about his wife's persisting in keeping away from him, and spoke unfriendly of her, but kindly of his child; on one occasion, when his wife was the subject of conversation, some one said that she would not return to him, when M'Namara said it would not end well. This was about a week or more before Sunday, the 2nd March. Doyle gave M'Namara notice to leave his house, and his time expired on Saturday

evening, the 1st March. On the morning of the 2nd, about breakfast time, M'Namara, after cleaning himself, left Doyle's house, saying he would take a walk in the bush, and would come for his clothes in the afternoon, as he was going to Mrs. Robinson's. He never returned to the house, however, nor sent for his clothes until he was in custody. M'Namara used to carry a middle-sized clasp knife, but whether he had it that morning when he left Doyle did not know.

Between nine and ten o'clock on that morning, William Ward, stockkeeper for Mr. Mitchell, of Melville, was riding towards Maitland [line missing, crease in paper] mile from the first entrance gate he was hailed by M'Namara, whom he knew well by sight; M'Namara was alone, and asked the way to Mr. Hobler's farm; Ward pointed out the road to him, and rode on, M'Namara taking the road to Aberglaslyn House.

The estate of Aberglaslyn is of considerable size, and was formerly owned and occupied by Mr. G. Hobler, who built a large house on it, and formed a vineyard, orchard, and garden there. The estate and house have now for some years been leased by Mr. W. Nicholson. A portion of the cultivation land on the estate is let to small settlers, James M'Phelemy, Henry Hinton, Daniel Hartigan, and others. James M'Phelemy, with whom Rose M'Namara had take n refuge, being her brother-in-law, lives very near to the vineyard (beyond the garden); Hinton's house com mands a view of the back of M'Phelemy's house, and is some 500 or 600 yards from it. Some distance from their houses is a gate opening from a grass paddock on to a road used by many settlers in that neighbourhood in coming to Maitland. A plan, prepared by Mr. R.W. Goodall, surveyor, was produced at the examination, and the witnesses pointed out the localities as they proceeded.

About en o'clock, they thought, Henry Hinton and his wife saw a man standing at the gate spoken of; three persons passed along the road in the direction of Maitland, and afterwards James M'Phelemy and his wife passed along, on their way to Maitland to attend divine worship. Hinton and his wife observed that at the time these various persons passed the gate the man could not be seen, and that after they had passed he was at the gate again. Hinton positively identified M'Namara (whom he had seen before) as that man, but his wife could only say he was like the man in size and appearance; about ten minutes or a quarter of an hour after M'Phelemy and his wife had passed along the road, they saw M'Namara leave the gate and go along the fence, a paling fence, towards M'Phelemy's house. About the same time a shepherd boy, named Edward Glasheen, was herding sheep in the paddock; as Glasheen left the neighbourhood of M'Phelemy's house he saw M'Namara, whom he positively identified, in the paddock at some distance, going towards some gum tress; M'Namara then turned his course, and went towards the fence, which he passed through at an opening in the palings; some of the sheep passed through at another hole, and Glasheen whistled to recall them; the sound reached M'Namara and he turned, and called out to the lad, asking whether the house he was then going towards (pointing to Hinton's) was Dan Hartigan's; Glasheen said no, it was down in the hollow; M'Namara then said, "Is that James M'Phelemy's house," pointing towards it;" Glasheen said yes; M'Namara asked who was at home; Glasheen said James's sister-in-law and the children; M'Namara said "Good-bye," and immediately went towards that house, but Glasheen did not notice him far, attending to his sheep; Glasheen did not observe anything in his hand. Mr. and Mrs. Hinton observed M'Namara, as we have stated, go along the fence towards James M'Phelemy's house, and Hinton lost sight of him about three rods from it, but Mrs. Hinton saw him pass through the slip rails in the fence at the back of the house, and go round the corner of the house towards the front door, she losing sight of him at the corner. Neither

Hinton, his wife, or Glasheen, saw M'Namara any more, and it was proved that any person could leave the house and premises without being seen from Hinton's.

In the house at the time were Rose M'Namara, her child, and three of James M'Phelemy's children, the eldest being Ellen, five years old. Ellen M'Phelemy proved too young to be examined on oath, and was so unwilling or afraid to speak that no statement even was taken from her, although the magistrates tried every fair means of giving her confidence.

Mrs. Hinton was just about leaving her house to go to M'Phelemy's for milk when she lost sight of M'Namara round rthe corner of the house, and she returned inside, being unwilling to go over just then. Glasheen came to Hinton's just then, and got some peaches, and remained there a few minutes; he then returned to his sheep, and headed them towards M'Phelemy's; at that moment, about a quarter of an hour perhaps after he had last seen M'Namara going towards M'Phelemy's, Glasheen saw the children coming away from the house, and went to meet them; he found M'Phelemy's three children coming first, and saw little Annie M'Namara just coming away from the slip-rails at the back, crying, her clothes disordered, and appearing covered all over with what he first thought dirt, but which he soon saw was blood; Glasheen asked Ellen what was the matter with Annie; she said "Pat has done it;" Glasheen asked where was Rosey, and the little girl told him she'd tell him if he'd go and fetch her brother's hood;" Glasheen called out "Rosey, Rosey," and getting no answer he ran off to Hinton's, being frightened; he met Mrs. Hinton just coming across the second time for milk, but upon telling her what he had seen, and what Ellen said, Mrs. Hinton immediately concluded that it was M'Namara who had gone to the house, and fearing the worst, from having previously been told by Mrs. M'Namara that she feared for her life whenever she should meet her husband, Mrs. Hinton ran back and told Hinton Pat was killing his wife, and urged him to go over. The time when the children were thus met with was fixed by Mrs. Hinton and her husband at a quarter of an hour or twenty minutes from the time they lost sight of M'Namara at the house.

Hinton went over and brought home the poor little child, Annie, who was completely covered with blood, but unhurt. Hinton now went for Hartigan and other neighbours, being afraid to go into the house by himself. Hinton, Glasheen, and Bridget Riley, followed by Hartigan and William Price, then went to the house, and looking in through the back window, saw Mrs. M'Namara lying on the floor in the front room, apparently dead, and a great quantity of blood about her body and the floor. William M'Phelemy, a brother of James M'Phelemy, was sent for, and when he came the whole party entered the house, and found Mrs. M'Namara quite dead, lying on her side, with a large cut on her neck or throat, and apparently several other cuts and stabs; the door between the front room and the skillion was thrown off its hinges, and was lying in the skillion, and the floor and other articles in the skillion were covered or sprinkled with blood, while every appearance was seen as if a struggle had taken place there. The Coroner was then sent for, the body being left undisturbed.

Dr. M'Cartney, the surgeon who was examined at the inquest, and again now, found a very deep cut on the right side of the neck, commencing near the chin, and extending back about four inches; this wound severed the blood vessels, and both the external and internal carotid artery, and must have caused death in a few seconds. The body was otherwise frightfully injured, and there were other mortal wounds. The wounds had been inflicted with a sharp instrument, and might have been done with a

pocket-knife; several of the wounds could not have been inflicted by the deceased herself.

At present there is no evidence as to M'Namara's movements during the remainder of that day until about dusk, when he was met near Mr. Cobb's lagoon, two or three miles from Aberglaslyn, by James Cavenagh, a settler on Mr. Cobb's estate; M'Namara's trousers then looked dirty or wet. About two or three hours after dark, M'Namara called at the house of another settler on the estate, named William Ling, and obtained a drink of tea; he only went in for a moment while he drank the tea, and pulled his hat down over his eyes, but Ling knew him, and observed that the right sleeve of M'Namara's coat was bloody inside the elbow and near the wrist. When M'Namara left he inquired if that was the road, pointing to where it ran, by the fence, and on being told it was, he went along the road, as if going towards Maitland.

On the afternoon of the following day, Monday, M'Namara called at the house of John Kilfoil, on a farm between Stony Creek and the residence of the Rev. Dean Lynch. Kilfoil was not at home, and his wife, in great terror, quietly left the house, beckoning to her daughter to follow, and went apparently to Mr. Lynch's. Anne Kilfoil, her daughter sixteen years old, was in the yard when she saw her mother leaving and beckoning to her, and on looking into the house she saw M'Namara shutting the front door; she was afraid to follow her mother lest he should pursue them and kill them, and she accordingly remained, avoiding going near M'Namara as much as possible, but doing whatever he told her. M'Namara went into the kitchen, and Anne Kilfoil made him a cup of tea. Afterwards Mrs. Kilfoil returned, accompanied by Mr. Lynch and his servant; Mr. Lynch remained some time conversing with M'Namara alone, and when he left Mrs. Kilfoil again left the house, and walked about the paddocks, leaving her daughter only at the house. At M'Namara's request Anne Kilfoil afterwards took to him a blue shirt and a pair of old trousers, and she noticed soon after a smell of burning clothes in the kitchen; she afterwards went into the kitchen for a moment, and saw in the fireplace a quantity of tinder, and the remains of the waistband of a pair of trousers still burning; she never afterwards saw the trousers and shirt M'Namara had worn when he entered the house, M'Namara having put on those she brought him. She had noticed that his trousers, from the knee to the boots, were bloody. M'Namara had worn a dark waistcoat when he left Maitland, and when he was seen at Aberglaslyn by Hinton and Glasheen, but when he reached Kilfoil's he had no waistcoat on. He had apparently worn the same coat throughout.

M'Namara remained quietly at Kilfoil's till about sundown, when constables M'Manus and Raftery arrived, and apprehended him, information having been sent in. Previously Mr. Lynch's man and another man had arrived at the house, and remained there till the constables came. On his way to gaol, whither he was taken on the coroner's warrant, M'Namara asked M'Manus several questions, but made no statement, except he wanted his trial postponed that he might have time to see his brother, who is living at Moreton Bay.

Throughout the examination of the witnesses, which lasted from ten o'clock till between four and five o'clock, M'Namara put but few questions, but he stated more than once that the stains on his clothes were caused by his working in a tan-yard, particularly when Ling pointed out slight marks at the same part of the coat-sleeve where he observed the blood.

A BOATMAN DROWNED. - On Monday last, and by adjournment on Tuesday, an inquest was held at Morpeth before Mr. **PARKER**, on the body of a man named **EDWARD STEWARD.** It appeared from the evidence that Steward was in the employment of **WILLIAM SMITH**, the Paterson boatman, and that on Thursday

evening, the 6th, Steward got intoxicated; he slept on deck as usual that night, and he and Smith were conversing till a pretty late hour, Smith being in the cabin, and the boat then anchored at the mouth of the Paterson River; Smith then turned in and went to sleep, and did not wake till sunrise the next morning, when to his great surprise he could see nothing of Steward, nor could he hear of him at the public-houses in Hinton or Morpeth. The boat was decked and had no bulwarks, and it was thought probable that Steward had slipped off into the water, being drunk. On Monday morning Steward's body was found floating in the Hunter, opposite the Queen's Wharf, Morpeth. At the request of the jury a post mortem examination was made, when Dr. **M'CARTNEY** found no marks of violence on the body, which presented the usual appearances of death by drowning. A verdict was returned of death by drowning, caused by rolling or falling overboard from a decked boat into the Paterson River.

FATAL ACCIDENT. - On Tuesday last an elderly man, named **SAMUEL DAVIS**, went from East Maitland to Morpeth with a load of wheat; Davis, who was a habitual drunkard, was intoxicated on his return, and was seen by two return coal carriers to be flogging his horse into a gallop, after he had been stopping a short time; Davis was then standing up in the cart, and still continued flogging the horse, until he suddenly lost his balance, and fell backwards, and the wheel appeared to go over some portion of his body. The carters, **CLARKE** and **MURPHY**, ran up, and removed him to the side of the road, and as he appeared badly hurt, he was placed on a bed of [crease in paper] in his cart, and driven gently home, his house being in East Maitland. Dr. **BROWN** was called in, but Davies died on Wednesday afternoon. An inquest was held on the body on Thursday, before Mr. **PARKER**, when the above evidence was given, and a post-mortem examination was made by Dr. **SCOTT**, which showed that an injury on the left temple, either inflicted by the fall, or by the wheel going over the head, had caused a disturbance of the brain, and led to his death. A verdict was returned of accidental death, in accordance with the evidence.

THE CHILDREN IN THE WOOD. - Under the heading of "two children lost in the bush," we promised to give in an early number of the *Mercury* an account of their perilous stroll; we now have an opportunity of keeping our promise. On Thursday, 20th ult., Mr. **JACOB PORTER**, a carpenter and settler, residing on Cockfighter's Creek, being from home, Mrs. Porter sent her son **THOMAS**, an interesting little boy, seven years of age, to bring in the milkers, when his brother **WILLIAM**, aged five years, accompanied him, without the knowledge of his mother. They left home about 1 p.m., and not having returned when their father came home in the evening, about sundown, the father went in search of them, and brought home the cows, but could not find the children; the parents then, becoming alarmed, made a search in their own neighbourhood until daybreak the next morning, but without success. The distracted father then obtained the assistance of some of his neighbours, who scoured Blaxland's Ranges. At about ten o'clock the news reached Mr. M'Alpin's, about three miles from Mr. Porter's, where a strong force of pedestrians collected, and the tracks of the lost ones were at last discovered in the adjacent creek, and followed up to Mr. Hale's paddock – a very extensive one – at Wambo, in which they continued their search with praiseworthy perseverance, until darkness prevented their proceedings. They found by the indications of the tracks that the children had parted company. Next morning (Saturday) a large party of equestrians set off to scour a thick scrub in the same paddock, which was done very carefully over, and over again, without success, the tracks being difficult to discover, except where it was sandy, and the party had no blackfellow to assist them. The afternoon had advanced considerably when some of the party discovered a track outside the fence in the direction of Dight's Creek. At

this crisis a messenger arrived, and informed the party (as many as were present) that all was right, as the young travellers were found, alive and well; the party reached their homes by sunset, with the exception of those outside the fence, who were out till a late hour. From what can be learned from the children, and which agrees with the tracks discovered, the following particulars may be gathered. On Thursday night they slept by a fire that was burning in a creek half a mile from Mr. M'Alpin's. At daylight on the Friday they proceeded down the creek, passing many houses on either side, to Mr. Hale's paddock; and at evening the eldest boy put his little brother to bed on a broken stump, when, thinking that he was near home, he told him that he would go home, get his dinner, and bring him some. (We were told by one of the party that when the little fellow lay on the stump he was paid a nocturnal visit by a native dog, but upon the youngster singing out "hold him" as loud as he was able, the dingo sneaked away with his tail between his legs.) The eldest boy not finding home returned to find his brother, but his feelings were greatly shocked to find him gone. He therefore took a circuitous route, by the creek, over some sand hills in the bush towards Dight's Dreek, came back again to his former creek, crossed it, travelled to the foot of the mountains, came back again to the creek, and was picked up at last within a quarter of a mile of the fire in the creek by which he slept on the first night. The younger brother, William, when he awoke, made for the creek, and proceeded along it in the direction for home, stopped at Mr. Houlahan's, on the bank of the creek, and told who he was. He was there kindly treated, and after partaking some refreshment, carried home on horseback. Both brothers reached home within an hour of each other, and the great joy of their distracted mother on seeing them can be better imagined than described. The father did not come home till after the arrival of the children. They stated that all they had to subsist on during the time they were lost was two peaches that they found in the bush (supposed to be dropped by the crows, having holes in them), and a few drinks of water. They were both hospitably entertained as soon as discovered, and each carried home on horseback. The parents feel extremely grateful for the kind assistance they received. March 13, 1851.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/700, 19/03/1851

FATAL ACCIDENT. - On Saturday evening **THOMAS TONGE,** an elderly man in the employ of Mr. Graham, of the Crown and Anchor Inn, Morpeth, went to assist in bringing home a goat that was browsing on the verge of the precipice near Mr. Graham's, between the upper and lower roads, Morpeth. Tonge was seen by two persons to entice the goat with a little grass, and then to take up a rope tied to the goat; one person, standing underneath, saw him pulling at this rope, which suddenly appeared to break or slip, when Tonge fell back, and rolled over the precipice, a depth of some fourteen feet, falling on his head, which struck a large rock. The fall fractured his skull, and he never spoke or moved afterwards, dying almost immediately. Tonge was formerly lockup keeper at West Maitland, but latterly had become quite a cripple, from rheumatism and the effects of an accident. An inquest was held on the body, on Sunday, before Mr. **PARKER**, when a verdict of accidental death was returned, the jury requesting the Coroner to communicate with the owner of the land as to the necessity for putting a fence on the top of the precipice for protection.

BODY FOUND. - Early yesterday morning the dead body of a man unknown was picked up by the Cockatoo police, and was removed to the yard of the Water Police Office, where it now lies for identification. There is a severe cut on the inside of each wrist, and the body has the appearance of having bled to death. Description: about 5

feet 6 inches in height, stout made, and apparently forty years of age; shirt marked C.B. 12. *Herald, March 15*

INQUEST. - An inquest was on Saturday held at Smith's, the Observer Tavern, Lower George-street, on the body reported in Saturday's *Herald* as having been found by the Cockatoo police. A lodging-house keeper named Jones identified the body as that of a German named **POPPS**, who for some time past had appeared to be labouring under depression of spirits. Dr. **TIERNEY** examined the body, and deposed that, although the wounds on the wrist were insufficient to cause death, yet the sinews were not so severed as that deceased might not have inflicted them himself, when near the water, into which probably he fell when faint from loss of blood. Verdict – put a period to his own existence while suffering under temporary insanity. *Herald, March 17*

HORRIBLE RECITAL. - On Wednesday last an intelligent boy, about nine years old, appeared before the police magistrate to make a statement of having seen a dead body in the river. He deposed that his name was **DAVID CUMMINGS**, and that on the preceding Friday, in the afternoon, he was, with his little brother, endeavouring to launch his father's boat from the banks of the river, near Mr. Kilner's residence, at Bulimba, when he observed the dead body of a man lying with the head in the mud on the bank, and the feet in the water. A lot of sharks and porpoises were about the body. The sharks tore the clothes that were on it, and took the head off, and tore out the bowels; after which they seized the body by the legs, and dragged it into deep water; the feet then appeared above the surf ace of the water, and the boy saw that they had low boots on, without any strings. The body then disappeared. The witness stated that it was a big man, dressed in a white shirt and corduroy trousers. *Moreton Bay Courier, 8th March*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/701, 22/03/1851

SUICIDE. - An inquest was held yesterday at Smith's, the Observer Tavern, Lower George-street, on the body of **PATRICK M'CARTHY**, a stonemason, aged 30, who threw himself into the water, at the North Shore, while labouring under "the horrors," or *delirium tremens.* Deceased had been a teetotaller for some time, but had recently broken the pledge, drank to great excess, and was suffering from *delirium tremens.* Verdict, "drowned himself while in a state of temporary insanity." *Herald, 17th March*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/702, 26/03/1851

HUNTER RIVER DISTRICT NEWS.

CLARENCE RIVER

FATAL ACCIDENTS. - It is our painful duty to record three melancholy accidents which have occurred in this district within the last three months. February 6th, **THOMAS BRADY**, who arrived, in this colony, as an emigrant, about two years since, met with an untimely death by the following extraordinary accident. He was employed falling timber, for Mr. Sharp, and in falling a large tree it came in contact with another that also falling knocked a limb off a third, which fell on deceased and broke his neck. An inquest was held on the body, before **F.H.F. PHILLIPS**, Esq., J.P., where a verdict of accidental death was returned.

March 2nd, **JAMES ROCHE**, formerly a soldier in the 58th Regiment, and since discharged, with a pension, was unfortunately drowned whilst bathing at the first falls of this river. Deceased was a man of excellent character, and on his discharge was presented with a silver watch for the fidelity of his service in the regiment in which he

acted as orderly clerk. He has lately been employed as Secretary to the Commissioner of Crown Lands at the Red Rock, and was about returning to Sydney. His death was purely accidental, and as he was a good swimmer it is supposed that he must have been seized with the cramp.

March 8th, **MARTIN QUIRK,** an exile per ship *Havering*, whilst swimming a mare across the river from North to South Grafton, was suddenly jerked into the river and drowned, in spite of all the endeavours of the boatmen to save him. His body was not found until Sunday evening, when an inquest was held before **F.H.F. PHILLIPS**, Esq., J.P., and a verdict of accidental death returned. Too much praise cannot be awarded to our worthy chief constable, Mr. **S. ABBOTT,** for his unceasing exertions during the whole of Saturday and Sunday in dragging the river for the body.

THE CATTLE DISEASE. - DEATH FROM THE ABSORPTION OF ANIMAL POISON.

An inquest was held yesterday (Wednesday), by Mr. **DOWE**, the Coroner, at M'Quade's hotel, on the body of one **JOHN CLYNES**, commonly known as "**Connaught Jack**," then lying in the dead house. The evidence was as follows;- **DANIEL CANNING** deposed – that he was in the employ of Mr. **GEORGE ROUSE,** at his boiling down establishment, South Creek; that last Monday week witness and the deceased were sent to draw a lot of pigs that had died from disease, to an adjoining paddock to be burnt; witness counted sixteen of them; they took them in a cart, dragging them into the cart with long iron hooks; some they dragged under the cart by fixing the hooks into their legs and fastening them to the axle-tree; they dragged them out of the cart in the same manner, and having made a fire round and under them, returned together to the establishment. Deceased was not away from him all the time; neither of them handled the pigs, and witness did not hear or see anything of the bursting of one of the pigs. The pigs before they died were seized with a swelling in the neck, which extended over the whole body; they generally died in twenty-four hours after the symptoms of disease appeared. Deceased complained first on Friday morning last of a pain in the back. On Saturday he was laid up, and when witness saw him next on Sunday morning his head and face were swollen, which swelling extended down to his shoulders. Witness did not see him again till he saw him dead in Windsor. Witness said that more pigs were expected to die.

HENRY DAY, Esq., Surgeon, deposed that he saw the deceased on Monday, about mid-day, that he was then labouring under great difficulty of breathing and also under the effects of the poison. On the inner part of the right eye-brow there was a slight excoriation. The right side of the head, chest, and neck were much swollen. The pulse was indicative of arterial depression; quick, small, and intermitting. The deceased stated to witness that there was a slight excoriation on his brow caused by a cinder, and that it was whilst he was burning the pigs, the one of them burst, and that deceased being in a state of great perspiration, he rubbed it with his hand. Witness stated that the symptoms in this case appeared to be much the same as those which have occurred elsewhere in the county of Cumberland, but that this had been a prolonged case. The absorption of animal matter in a diseased state would produce the same effects, and that it was identical with the disease which has been prevalent for some months back; that it would cause death, and is produced by absorption of animal poison. In answer to a juror, who was very sceptical as to there being anything the matter with the pigs, witness positively swore that the death of the deceased was caused entirely by the absorption of animal poison. The jury returned a verdict, by a majority of eleven, that the aforesaid John Clyne's death was caused by the absorption of animal poison. *Windsor Correspondent of the Herald*

A MAN DROWNED. - An inquest was held on Saturday, at Mr. Cunningham's, Sackville Reach, Colo, upon the body of one **DANIEL HADYN**, one of the crew of the yacht *Pearl*. The *Pearl* had been at anchor within about two miles of Windsor, and was making her way back to Sydney. Having arrived at Sackville Reach, and come to an anchor, the deceased proceeded to bathe; not being a good swimmer he did not intend to proceed far from the vessel. Having swam more than half-way betwixt the vessel and the shore, it is supposed that finding his strength failing him, and that he could not swim back to the vessel, he attempted to reach the shore. In this attempt he got entangled among some weeds, and instantly went down; he never rose to the surface again. When the body was recovered life was quite extinct. A verdict was returned in accordance with the evidence. The deceased had not been long in the colony, and his sister had recently come out to him from England. *Herald's Windsor correspondent.*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/703, 29/03/1851
INQUEST. - An inquest was held, on Wednesday last, at Mr. Parnell's, near the Bulga, before **HENRY GLENNIE**, Esq., coroner, and a jury of five, touching the death of **FRANCIS MILLER,** there lying dead. It appeared from the evidence of **JOHN M'CRACKEN**, that he, (witness,) having a quantity of sheep to bring down the country, hired deceased at Mr. Eaton's station, called Cobbity, to assist him with the sheep, which he had brought down from the M'Intyre; deceased complained of a pain in his chest, and stated that he wished to get down to Sydney to get admission into the hospital; they started from Cobbity on the 24th February, deceased complaining of getting worse as they proceeded; on their route they were caught in a severe thunder storm; on the evening of Monday last, as they were approaching the foot of the Bulga, deceased was too ill to proceed; witness endeavoured to get him on as far as Mr. Parnell's, but could not, deceased being too ill to proceed; deceased died about 11 a.m., on Tuesday, the 25th instant; deceased had no medical aid all the way down. Verdict – "Died from natural causes."
MURDER. - On St. Patrick's Day, a man named **CUTTER** and his wife, and an acquaintance called **CARROLL**, were drinking at the Ashfield tavern, Wheeho; Carroll induced Cutter's wife to go outside with him; Cutter came upon them, and struck Carroll on the head with a slip rail. The blow rendered the man insensible, and he died in half an hour afterwards. Cutter, on coming to know who the man was, stooped down and kissed the body, exclaiming that he would not have hurt him if he had known who it was. The scene of the murder is outside of our coroner's district. We believe an inquest was held by the Coroner from Yass, but we have no heard the result. *Herald's Goulburn Correspondent*
SHOCKING ACCIDENT. - A poor fellow named **STAMMERS** met an untimely death at Drayton, on the 12th instant, whilst blasting a rock, in company with another man, at Mr. Ayerst's boiling-down establishment. It appears that the fuse he had inserted into the charge did not seem to burn; he went back to the rock, to examine it, and just as he reached the spot the powder exploded, scattering the rock in all directions, and mutilating him in a fearful manner – death was of course instantaneous. *Herald's Brisbane Correspondent*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/704, 02/04/1851
SYDNEY NEWS.
A most lamentable accident occurred yesterday afternoon: four persons, two males and two females, were fishing, I believe, in a boat between Garden Island and

Rushcutter's Bay, when the boat upset, and the two females were drowned. One of them was a Mrs. **WOOD**, who was lately married; the other Mrs. **NOBLET**, recently a widow. The two males were Mr. Wood, and a gentleman named **M'DONALD**, who were saved. One of the females was brought out of the water alive, but died shortly afterwards; the other body was subsequently found.

A female named **MARY WOODS**, who arrived about three weeks since from New Zealand, since which time she has been drinking to excess, inflicted a severe wound on her arm on Saturday last with a razor. Some of the veins were severed, but none of the arteries were touched. She is going on favourably.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/705, 05/04/1851

MANSLAUGHTER. - On Thursday evening an inquest was commenced at the White Swan, West Maitland, before Mr. **PARKER**, on the body of **THOMAS CONNOR.** Two persons, **ROBERT HAWKE and THOMAS HAWKE**, father and son, were present in custody, on the charge of having assaulted Connor, and inflicted the injuries which caused his death. The inquest was adjourned till yesterday, when it was resumed at the Northumberland Hotel, and last evening, the evidence having been closed, the jury returned a verdict of manslaughter against both the prisoners, who were thereupon committed for trial by the Coroner, and forwarded to the gaol. The evidence given was lengthy, and having been closed at a late hour, we defer full particulars till our next. Connor was on Sunday last attending a flock of sheep for Mr. Prentice on the Ravensfield estate; Robert Hawke lives in a hut on that estate, and some time since he impounded Mr. Prentice's sheep, but on the matter being brought before the bench Hawke was unable to substantiate his right to impound. Hawke now, however, met with the sheep and impounded them, and Connor following the flock, a quarrel in some way arose, and, according to Connor's subsequent statement on oath, Connor was thrown to the ground by Thomas Hawke, the eldest son, and there held by the father while the son kicked him repeatedly in the ribs, the father also striking him with his fist. Connor's injuries at first did not appear so severe as they subsequently turned out, but after being under medical advice for a short time he went into the hospital, and there died on Thursday, the 3rd instant. The post mortem examination showed that four of his ribs were broken, and the pleura and lungs greatly inflamed, the inflammation causing death; the opinion of the medical men was that no skill could have saved his life.

FATAL ACCIDENT. - On Thursday an inquest was held at Anvil Creek, before Mr. **PARKER**, on the body of **JAMES COWAN**. It appeared from the evidence that deceased was a carrier, and much addicted to drink. Cowan left Gammon Plains in company with another carrier, **THOMAS WEST**, each having their dray and team; at Captain Pike's crossing place they parted company, coming on towards Maitland by different routes. On the 24th March Cowan called at the house of **BENJAMIN GILLMAN**, residing on the Glendon estate, and Gillman and he rode to an inn in Gillman's cart, and had some liquor, Cowan getting drunk and Gillman tipsy; on their return towards Gillman's it was dark, and when they got to White's crossing place, on the river, the cart was upset, going down over the bank some distance; Gillman jumped out in time to save himself, but Cowan was thrown out and received severe bruises; after some search Gillman found Cowan, and with the help of a man who was passing placed him in the cart again; the cart was once more upset in the crossing, and Cowan thrown out. Cowan was again placed in the cart, and the man drove the cart home carefully, Cowan complaining that he was much hurt. Cowan would not allow Gillman to go for a doctor, but asked to be removed to West's house, Anvil Creek,

and on the 26th he was taken there. West, after hearing from Cowan how he got injured, called in Dr. **BLICK**, but Cowan died on the 1st April. Gillman, the day after the accident, had visited the spot again, and was convinced by the marks he saw about the ground that Cowan must have been trampled on by the horse. Dr. **M'CARTNEY** examined the body outwardly, and found many bruises, but could not state the cause of death without further examination. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death in accordance with the evidence.

WILLIAM HAYES. - The execution of this unhappy man, convicted at the late Maitland Circuit Court of the murder of **BENJAMIN COTT**, is appointed to take place on Friday, the 25th April, at Maitland.

MELANCHOLY BOAT ACCIDENT. - On Sunday last, a party consisting of Mr. **RICHARD M'DONALD,** Mr. **WILLIAM WOOD**, of Hunter-street, Mrs. Wood, and Mrs. **NOBLETT**, started from the Gas Company's Wharf, on a boating party down the harbour, in a boat belonging to Mr. M'Donald; the boat is thirteen feet in length, and carried sprit and fore-sale; shortly after 2 p.m., they arrived at Clarke's Island, where they dined; after dinner they went a short distance from the island, for the purpose of fishing; after some time the ladies expressed a wish to return homer, when Mr. M'Donald got the mast up, and pulled up the kellick; before putting up the sprit, Mr. M'Donald climbed about eighteen inches up the mast, for the purpose of disentangling a small flag at the top – simultaneously the ladies rose from their seats, and immediately the boat capsized, precipitating the whole party into the water, the boat filling in an instant, and several times turning over and over. Mrs. Noblett caught hold of Mr. M'Donald, who sustained her in the water until assistance was rendered by Mr. **DOBSON,** who heard a shout from Clarke's Island as he was on his way to Sydney, and put back to see what was the matter. When the boat overset, Mr. Wood caught his wife's clothes with one hand and the boat with the other, until, being much exhausted, he clenched his wife's hands as firmly as he could to the stern on the boat, and swam to shore, where his calling attracted Mr. Dobson's attention to the scene of the catastrophe. On Mr. Dobson's arrival he found Mr. M'Donald on the keel of the boat, holding up Mrs. Noblett by the chin. Mr. Dobson took them into his boat, and on his way to the island to take in Mr. Wood, saw Mrs. Wood under the surface of the water, and picked her up, but she appeared to be perfectly dead; her head was under water, and her clothes in the form of a balloon about her. Having taken Mr. Wood on board, Mr. Dobson made for Darling Point, where Mr. Lingard resides, and efforts were made to resuscitate Mrs. Noblett and Mrs. Wood, but without avail; no symptom of remaining life in either having shown itself after being taken from the water. The bodies were then removed from Mr. Lingard's to Rushcutter Bay, where Dr. Shanks was called in, but the unfortunate ladies were past all recovery. An inquest was yesterday held on the bodies, and a verdict of accidental drowning was returned by the jury. Mrs. Noblett was about twenty-eight years of age, and Mrs. Woods some three years younger. Mr. and Mrs. Woods had only been about six weeks married, and Mrs. Noblett was the widow of Mr. Noblett, of Pitt-street, recently deceased. *Herald, April 1*

MANSLAUGHTER. - DEATH FROM AN UNSKILFUL SURGICAL OPERATION

An inquest was held yesterday, at Mr. Parkinson's, Wellington In n, Parramatta-street, on view of the body of **WILLIAM LEWIS**, aged 65 years. It appeared from the evidence of **ENOCH GAZZARD** that deceased had suffered for some time from retention of urine; that Dr. **CUTHILL** had attended him, and drawn off a quantity of water; a man named **WILLIAM MILTON**, who lived in the neighbourhood of deceased, attended after Dr. Cuthill, and on purchasing a catheter in Sydney,

performed a surgical operation which medical men alone are allowed to perform. In evidence adduced, it was proved that Milton, who is not a practitioner, had, by want of knowledge of the use of the catheter, caused a rupture of the bladder, which was the occasion of deceased's death. Dr. **FULLERTON** and Dr. Cuthill made a *post mortem* examination, and found the bladder ruptured to some extent, and in a manner likely to occur by the unskilful used of a catheter; Dr. Fullerton attended deceased after Milton, and detected the false passage made by Milton. The Coroner addressed the jury at some length on the insecurity to life, and the detriment to the public, of such men practising as surgeons, without the necessary qualifications. The jury, after some deliberation, returned a verdict of manslaughter against Milton. *Empire, April 2*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/706, 09/04/1851
THE INQUEST ON THOMAS CONNOR.
As we mentioned in our last, the inquest on the body of **THOMAS CONNOR** terminated in a verdict of manslaughter against **ROBERT HAWKE and THOMAS HAWKE**, father and son, who were thereupon committed for trial.

Hawke has lived with his family in a hut on the Ravensfield estate, for a considerable time; Mr. **C. PRENTICE** rents the estate as a grazing farm, but Hawke lays claim to a portion as being let, or its use granted, to him, and he some months since impounded sheep of Mr. Prentice's from the estate; the matter then came before the bench, when Hawke was unable to substantiate the right to impound. Since that time Mr. Prentice has continued to run his sheep there.

At the time of the former disputes Thomas Connor, an old man of 58 years, was in Mr. Prentice's employ as a shepherd, and recently Connor again entered Mr. Prentice's employment, and was stationed at Ravensfield with the sheep. He expressed some fear of violence from Hawke, but Mr. Prentice told him that the dispute had been long since settled.

On Sunday, the 30th March, Connor was following his flock of sheep on the estate, when Hawke met with him, and impounded the sheep, and commenced driving the flock towards Maitland pound, some three or four miles off. A witness, named **WILLIAM ROBSON**, had been walking with Hawke up to a short time before Hawke seized the sheep, but was not with him at that moment, nor did he join him afterwards; he saw that Hawke and the shepherd were following the sheep, and he (Robson) went towards Hawke's hut, where he found Mrs. Hawke, and while asking her whose sheep they were, he heard a shout from the children, who called out "Oh, mother, they have Tommy down." Robson turned and found that two of Hawke's sons had joined their father and the shepherd; the ground was undulating and he could not well distinguish what was passing, but he saw "something wrong" was going on, and went towards them; he met young Thomas Hawke with a tin pint pot in his hand, and Thomas told him the shepherd had hit him on the nose with it; Thomas Hawke was then in an excited state, and Robson told him he ought not to quarrel. At this time Robson observed the shepherd in a stooping position, ass if rising from the ground, and having his hand on his side; he was evidently in pain, and groaned out "Oh dear;" just then the shepherd turned and saw him (Robson), and pointing to him said "That gentleman," but Robson turned away and went to the hut. This is the only direct evidence as to what passed, excepting the statements of Connor, and the elder Hawke.

Hawke drove the sheep into Maitland, Connor following, and on the road Dr. M'Cartney passed Hawke, and asked what was the matter with Connor; Hawke said he did not think he was much hurt, and said "I went between my son and him." Near

the Long Bridger Mr. Robson overtook Hawke and the sheep, when Hawke said, in answer to Mr. R.'s remark, that he was sorry for what had happened, and that there was some disagreeing between them.

Connor, in his way into Maitland, met Dr. M'Cartney, and spoke to him about his hurts, telling him briefly how he had received them; this was previous to Dr. M'C. seeing Hawker. Connor also met Mr. Prentice, and told him what had passed. On Tuesday, the 1st instant, Connor, whose injuries were not then believed to be so serious, applied for a police office summons against the two Hawkes, for assault, and he told Mr. Carter, the clerk, what had passed between the two Hawkes and himself, and afterwards affixed his mark to the affidavit on which the summonses were issued. On the 2nd instant, the day before he expired, Connor, who was than at the Maitland Hospital, made a formal statement to Mr. Mullins and **THOMAS HAINES** of the occurrence. In all these statements, as deposed to before the coroner, Connor gave as nearly as possible the same general account of the way in which he received the injuries. Connor's statements were to the following effect. After Robert Hawke seized the sheep, saying he should impound them, his son Thomas Hawker joined them, and all three followed the sheep; Thomas Hawke came behind Connor, seized him by the shoulders, and they fell to the ground together, and in the fall a tin pint pot carried by Connor got bent, and scratched Thomas Hawke's nose; Robert Hawke came to them ass they lay, and stood with his legs against Connor's shoulders, preventing him from rising, and he then gave Connor two or three punches with his fist; Thomas Hawke got up, and kicked Connor three times in the ribs; Connor appealed to Robert Hawke not to kill him, when Hawke said to his son "That will do, he has had enough;" Mrs. Hawke came up, and offered to wash and clean Connor, but he refused to have anything to do with her, and went again after the flock. On the way into town, Connor told Thomas Hawke he was afraid he had smashed his ribs; Thomas Hawke replied, "I wish I had killed you, you old devil from hell."

Connor died on the 3rd, about mid-day, and the Hawkes were immediately apprehended on warranty. The post mortem examination of Connor's body by Dr. **BEARDMORE** showed that four ribs were broken; that the injuries had caused very great inflammation of the lungs and pleura, and thus caused death. Dr. Beardmore was of opinion that several kicks might have caused the injuries; they must have been caused by great violence, and he thought the ribs had been broken while Connor was lying on the ground.

SUDDEN DEATH. - On Monday an inquest was held before Mr. **PARKER**, at the Red Lion, East Maitland, on the body of **JOSEPH MILLER**. It appeared from the evidence that deceased was an old man, and was recently sent up to this district with a ticket of leave; he applied on Friday to Major Crummer for a situation as cook, and was told to call the next day, as Major Crummer had heard that a gentleman at some little distance wanted a cook; on Saturday Miller called at Major Crummer's, and waited there, assisting the cook, **HENRY CRESS**, and appearing cheerful; in the evening Cress had occasion to go into town, and on his return at nine o'clock could not find deceased; after searching about with a light he found him lying apparently asleep in the stable, and on trying to rouse him found him quite dead. Dr. **WILTON** was of opinion deceased died from apoplexy; there was no mark of violence on his body. The jury returned a verdict of natural death.

DISTRESSING AND FATAL ACCIDENT. - With feelings of deepest sympathy we record a melancholy accident that befell Mr. **CHARLES ALCOCK**, a son of Mr. Alcock, proprietor of the *Moreton Bay Free Press* newspaper, on Sunday last. It seems that the unfortunate young man was riding near Cowper's Plains, in company

with another person, when owing to the saddle girths becoming loose, he was thrown violently from his horse against a tree. A cart having been procured he was conveyed home to his father's residence at South Brisbane, where Dr. **SWIFT** was promptly in attendance, and after the first day hopes were entertained of the patient's recovery; but unhappily the injuries he had received internally were too serious, and he expired on Wednesday afternoon, to the deep regret of all who knew him. The deceased, we believe, was under nineteen years of age. *Moreton Bay Courier, March 29*

FATAL ACCIDENT. - A fatal accident occurred at Drayton on the 12th instant, to a man named **STAMMERS**, who, with another, was employed in blasting a rock near the boiling down establishment of Mr. **T. AYERST.** It appeared that after the fuse, communicating with the gunpowder, had been ignited, and the men had retired to a distance, Stammers returned, being fearful that the fire had gone out. Just as he reached the hole the powder exploded, the blast completely blowing away a portion of his right side, and killing him on the spot. *Moreton Bay Courier, March 29*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/707, 12/04/1851

CONFESSION OF HAYES. - DISCOVERY OF ANOTHER MURDER.

On Wednesday **WILLIAM HAYES**, now lying in Maitland gaol under sentence of death for the murder of **BENJAMIN COTT**, made an open confession to Major Crummer, P.M., in the presence of the Rev. **DEAN LYNCH** (who has been attending Hayes since his conviction), Mr. **COX**, Mr. **DUNNING**, and Mr. **GEORGE WOOD.** As the matter is under investigation we do not now publish Hayes's statement, but in effect Hayes stated that Cott was murdered on his farm, and that another man named **JOHN AHERNE**, but commonly known as **Bothered Shawn**, was also murdered and buried on his farm; that both murders took place in his (Hayes's) presence, but that he took no part in either, instigated either, or gave any expressed concurrence in either; and that he did not afterwards touch either of the bodies, or bury them. Hayes detailed the way in which he says the murders were effected, and the bodies buried, and mentions the parties who he says inflicted the blows, or were present.

In consequence of Hayes's statements, chief constable Wood, and constables **RAFTERY** and **HUNTER**, on Wednesday afternoon proceeded to Hayes's farm, and dug in the spot described by Hayes as the place where Aherne was buried, being in a small fowl-yard close to and between the huts in which Hayes and his household lived. About three or four feet from the surface of the ground the constables came to the remains of a human body, and the work was then stopped, and the coroner sent for. The coroner called in Dr. **SCOTT**, and under their superintendence the body was uncovered and removed. It was the body of a man of middle age, and about five feet four inches in height, and the size, clothes, &c., all agree with the description given of Aherne, although the remains have not yet been positively identified. We mentioned some time since that Aherne was missing, and had been traced to Hayes's farm, but although search has been repeatedly made for the body no trace of it was found till Wednesday. The unfortunate man had evidently been murdered in a manner very similar to Cott, the skull being dreadfully fractured and beaten in on the right side.

On Thursday an inquest was commenced on the body before the coroner, Mr. **PARKER**, at the Cross Keys, West Maitland, and several witnesses were examined that day, including Mrs. Hayes. About half-past six that evening the inquest was adjourned till Monday morning next, at nine o'clock, for the purpose of enabling the police to procure further evidence, Mrs. Hayes being detained in custody that no communication with other witnesses may take place in the interval.

SYDNEY NEWS.

A murder was committed this morning, between twelve and half-past two, in a house in Durand's Alley, by means, it is supposed, of blows with a poker. The victim, who died immediately on receiving the blows, was a **MARY MOORE**, residing in the house. The landlord, **HARRIS**, was also struck by the same party, and lies at present in the infirmary in a dangerous state. A man named **MICHAEL O'NEIL** is in custody on suspicion of being the perpetrator of the deed.

About one o'clock this morning a seaman named **HENRY ENGLISH** fell from the deck of the schooner *Sea Witch*, lying at the Market Wharf. He was, it seems, intoxicated at the time. The body has since been found.

DISCOVERY OF HUMAN BONES. - Mr. **JAMES BECKETT**, of Parramatta, discovered lying in the forest between Dural and the lower branch of the Hawkesbury the bones of a male adult. The circumstances were made known to Mr. **C.B. LYONS**, coroner for Parramatta, who made personal enquiry, and after several days' search it was ascertained that they were the remains of an aged man who had rented a farm near Box Hill, and that the deceased had attempted to cross the back bush between Dural and Box Hill, and lost his way, so probably in a fit of despair and exhaustion laid himself down between two logs and there died, where the bones were found. *Herald, April 9*

DEATH CAUSED BY INFECTION FROM DISEASED MEAT. - An inquest was held yesterday by the Coroner, at Collie's Hotel, Circular Quay, on view of the body of **RICHARD WOOTON**, aged 44 years. Mr. **BRIDGETT**, chief officer of the *Charlotte Jane*, mow lying off the Circular Quay, deposed that deceased was cook on board that vessel; that it was his duty to cut up the meat for the ship's company, which was served fresh every day ion the harbour; that on Saturday he complained of much pain from a small cut on his right thumb; and that on Sunday, notwithstanding medical aid was procured, he died. Dr. **M'KELLAR** attended the deceased on Sunday, whom he found in a dying state; after his death he made a *post mortem* examination, and found his internal parts diseased. He was of opinion that death had been caused by infection from diseased meat. A verdict to that effect was returned by the jury. *Herald, April 8*

ACCIDENT. - About three o'clock yesterday afternoon Mr. **THOMAS ALLOM**, a builder, was on the scaffold and superintending the erection of a house in Bathurst-street, near the Light-house Tavern, when a portion gave way, and he was precipitated with great violence to the pavement. Medical aid was promptly in attendance, but we regret to learn that the injuries received are of such a nature that it is scarcely possible he can survive. *Herald, April 9*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/708, 16/04/1851

PUBLICANS' ANNUAL LICENSING MEETING.

The following applications were postponed for a fortnight:- …

THOMASS WALKER, Red Lion, East Maitland. The Coroner, Mr. **PARKER**, opposed this application, in consequence of circumstances which he stated at length connected with Mr. Walker's evidence and conduct as disclosed on the inquest on the body of a man who recently died in his house, from drunkenness. Mr. Walker denied the truth of some of the assertions made, and explained other circumstances. The bench postponed the application, for further investigation.

FATAL ACCIDENT. - On Monday afternoon a small settler, named **JOHN MATTHEWSON**, who resides near Hexham, was returning homewards from East Maitland in his cart, being at the time very drunk, when one wheel went into a deep rut in Newcastle-street, and the cart instantly upset, the side coming on Matthewson's

chest. The accident was seen, and people instantly ran to assist him, but when he was released he appeared very much injured, and under Dr. Wilton's directions he was removed to the nearest inn, Mr. Walker's. Matthewson lingered in great pain till eight o'clock that evening, when he expired. An inquest was held on the body yesterday, before Mr. **PARKER**, when a verdict was returned of accidental death.

THE INQUEST ON JOHN AHERNE.

The inquest on the body of **JOHN AHERNE**, commonly known as **Bothered Shawn**, was resumed on Monday, at the Cross Keys. Several witnesses were examined, but as one or two points were not fully cleared up, the inquest was adjourned till nine o'clock on Monday, the 28th instant, to allow time for full enquiries to be made. It was currently reported about town on Monday that the police were again digging at Hayes's farm, in search of the body of a young woman said to be missing, but this was not the case.

SYDNEY NEWS.

JOHN MILTON, who had been apprehended by warrant of the coroner, on a charge of manslaughter, was discharged, the Attorney General declining to prosecute.

ACCIDENTAL DEATHS.

An inquest was held yesterday, at Harbour Inn, on view of the body of **HENRY INGLIS**, late of the ship *Waterwitch*. From the evidence it appeared that the deceased had been drinking for two days previously. Having occasion the night before last to go upon deck, he accidentally fell over into the water, and notwithstanding that every effort was made to save him, was drowned. He was taken up about a quarter of an hour after. Verdict – Accidental death by drowning.

Another inquest was held, on the same day, on the body of **HENRY AMBROSE**, a seaman, lately belonging to the ship *Oriental*, lying at the Circular Quay. The deceased was assisting yesterday forenoon in hauling up cargo out of the hold of the ship, and having neglected to secure the tackling properly, he was accidentally thrown down the hatchway, when he received the injuries of which he immediately died. Verdict accordingly – *Empire, April 11*

SHOCKING MURDER. - Some time after midnight on Wednesday, a most atrocious murder was committed in a house in Durand's Alley. The particulars are as follows:- The place where the murder was committed is a small wooden house situate at the end of the Alley. The occupants were the deceased, **MARY MOORE**, an old man about sixty years of age, named **JAMES HARRIS**, and a little boy about seven or eight of age, whom Harris had provided for since infancy. The parties are in no way related to each other. The house, which contains two rooms, belongs to the old man. Deceased occupied the upper room, at a small rental. According to the boy's testimony, it appears that the deceased was driven home in a cab, accompanied by a man, between twelve and one o'clock on Thursday morning; soon after they entered the house they retired up stairs to deceased's room; the old man and the boy were at this time in bed in the room below; an altercation between the female and her companion immediately ensued, which ended in the former being struck; she thereupon came down stairs and seized a bar of iron from the fire-place, which the other instantly forced from her, and struck her several blows on the head. The ruffian then went out, apparently with the intention of leaving the house, but he had scarcely gone two or three yards when he returned, and with the same instrument literally beat in the wretched woman's skull, scattering the brains about the floor. Death, of course, was the instantaneous result. About this time, the old man, who had been awakened by the noise, appears to have interfered either to save the female or to prevent the escape of the murderer, when he also was savagely attacked, and the injuries he

received about the head render it doubtful he will recover. Information was immediately conveyed to the police, who with Dr. **TIERNEY** were soon in attendance. The old man was then lying on his bed manifesting scarcely any sign of life. Dr. Tierney did all that could be done for him under the circumstances, and with praiseworthy promptitude secured a cab, and had him conveyed to the Benevolent Asylum. On Thursday afternoon he was somewhat better, and gave some hope of recovery, though he was not in a fit state to be examined. On Thursday evening the coroner constituted a court at Mr. Oatley's, the "Sportsman," for the purpose of holding an inquest, and the body having been identified, the inquest was adjourned till Tuesday at 2 o'clock p.m. **SOLOMON COHEN** was the only witness called. He stated that he had seen the body, and knew it to be that of Mary Moore. A man named **O'NEIL** is in custody, on suspicion. It is, however, supposed that the real murderer has not yet been discovered. Of course the police are keeping the strictest look out. *People's Advocate, April 12*. - The inspector of hackney carriages having discovered the cab-man by whom the unfortunate woman Moore was driven to her lodgings, it was ascertained from him, and his statement being corroborated by one or two publicans at whose houses he stopped while engaged by Moore, that O'Neil, the man apprehended on suspicion of having murdered her, is not the man who went home with the unfortunate woman, he was yesterday discharged from custody. *Herald, April 12*

A LOST MAN. - A man named **LOMAX**, who had been for several weeks on a drinking bout, has been missed from his usual place of abode since Thursday morning, and though every inquiry has been made for information concerning him, no tidings can be learnt respecting him. He had made away with everything in his house, of furniture and apparel, and when last seen was suffering under the "horrors," or *delirium tremens.* To make the matter worse, he is a widower, and four children are left in the house totally destitute. *Herald, April 12*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/709, 19/04/1851
BIRTHS.
At Dunmore, on the 17th April, Mrs. **A. LANG**, of a daughter, still born.
SYDNEY NEWS.
PARRAMATTA. - A MAN FOUND HANGING. - An inquest was held on Sunday morning last, at the district hospital, before Mr. **C.B. LYONS**, coroner, on view of the body of a male adult. Mr. **JOHN RYAN**, Chief Constable, being sworn, deposed: I received information yesterday, from **JAMES GURNEY**, that he had found a man hanging in the bush, about three miles from town; O procured a cart and a coffin, went to the spot, situated on the Dog Trap Road, and on the estate of the late Sir John Jamieson found the body of an adult male, suspended to a tree; the feet were about a yard from the ground; the body was suspended by a strip of cotton, part of a sheet, well twisted like a rope, one end tied to the tree, and the other wound the neck. It appears that a previous attempt had been made, for a broken strip was found on the ground, similar to that on the neck. The body had on it a good pair of tartan trousers, a striped shirt, and a pair of socks. I got a pair of sheepskin slippers under the tree, also an old Manila hat, turned up all round, and worn out at the edges; I also found a cotton bag like a large pillow slip, and within it a knife and fort, a pair of slippers, two shirts, a metal tea spoon, one pair Russian duck, and a pair of chequered canton trousers. There as nothing in any of the pockets of the apparel. I strictly examined the spot, but could discover no signs of a struggle; I therefore believe that the deceased hanged himself; the body is in a very advanced state of decomposition.

JAMES GURNEY, a labourer, deposed to having found the deceased as he was following his master's cattle in the bush. Dr. **ROBERTSON** deposed that he had examined the body brought to him by Mr. Ryan, and found the usual appearances of a person who had died of strangulation; deceased had a great deal of hair on his head, of an auburn colour; he was tall, and about forty-five years of age. The body was too far advanced in decomposition to judge whether the hands were accustomed to labour. The jury returned a verdict that the deceased was found hanged. *Herald Correspondent.*

THE LATE MURDER CASE. - The coroner's inquest in the matter of the murder of the unfortunate woman, **MARY ANN MOORE**, was yesterday again postponed for a week; no clue to the murderer having yet been obtained. *Herald, April 16*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/710, 23/04/1851

HUNTER RIVER DISTRICT NEWS. - WELLINGROVE.

FATAL ACCIDENT. - A fatal accident occurred at Byron Plains on Saturday last. As **DARBY FROGGART**, who was a carrier between this and Maitland, was leading a young horse to water, the horse took fright at the rising of a bird near the water, and Froggart incautiously allowing him too long a rope, the animal turned and kicked him in the abdomen, of which he died the following day. Froggart was proceeding on his way to Maitland with loading at the time. April 11, 1851.

CORONER'S INQUEST. - An inquest was held before the coroner at the Benevolent Asylum on Saturday last, upon view of the body of **HENRY HUNTLEY.** The deceased was in the service of Mr. **PARKINSON**, publican, of Parramatta-street; he was about 33 years of age, and addicted to intemperate habits. He fell from his bed on Thursday night and received a contusion on the hip; was taken to the Benevolent Asylum when found on the floor, on the morning of Good Friday; and died shortly after his admission. Dr. **RUSSELL** was of opinion, from the appearance of the body and the evidence adduced, that death was the result of natural causes; but in the absence of a post mortem examination he could not take upon himself to say what was the cause of so sudden a death. The deceased, it seems, had made his bed upon a table, and the fall must have been a severe one. Verdict – died by the visitation of God. *Herald, 21st April*

INQUESTS. - Two inquests have been held since our last publication. One on Saturday last, at Willeroo, on the remains of an old man named **DANIEL HARNETT**, found dead in the bush. He had been for a month from Mr. Cooper's station, where he resided, and nothing was heard of him till his bones were discovered in a gully on the run; Verdict. "found dead."

The other enquiry was held at Kippilaw, on Thursday, on the body of one **WILLIAM WILLIAMS**, in the employ of **JAMES XCHISHOLM**, Esq., who was found dead in his hut. He had been ailing for some time. The immediate cause of death was inflammation of the bowels. Verdict accordingly. *Goulburn Herald, April 19*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/711, 26/04/1851

EXECUTION OF WILLIAM HAYES.

Yesterday morning, at nine o'clock, the wretched man **WILLIAM HAYES**, convicted at the Maitland Circuit Court, in March, of the murder of **BENJAMIN COTT** on the 13th November last, was executed, at the new drop, erected over the gates of the Maitland gaol.

Our readers are aware that on the 9th instant, Hayes made a confession (taken down I n writing, and signed by him) in the presence of Major Crummer, P.M., the Rev. Dean Lynch, Mr. Cox, and others. The confession was to the effect that the two **STAUNTONS**, father and son, killed Cott in Hayes's cabbage ground, in consequence of Cott having threatened to bring **JOHN STAUNTON** (the son) before the magistrates about some money Cott had lent him; that he (Hayes) was coming up to the spot at the time, but was not close to them; that the two Stauntons carried away Cott's body, and put it in the drain; that **JOHN A'HEARN**, alias **Bothered Shawn**, came up suddenly and unexpectedly at the moment they were so carrying away Cott's body, and remained talking with Hayes until old Staunton came back from the drain and chipped the ground where the blood was; that Hayes then returned to his hut, Shawn fallowing close behind him, but that Shawn was struck down by old Staunton with a hoe, and killed by repeated blows, this last murder taking place in the presence of **ELLEN STAUNTON**, and close to the hut; and that during the same night the two Stauntons buried Shawn in the yard in a place Hayes described. In consequence of this statement the ground at that spot was dug up by the police, and the body of a murdered man, agreeing in all respects with the description of Shawn and his dress, was found there, the right-hand pocket of the trousers being cut off.

Since making this confession Hayes had continued quiet, and been very attentive to his religious duties, the Rev. Dean Lynch having before and since been constant in his attendance on the wretched man.

It was generally stated in town on Wednesday and Thursday that Hayes intended to make another confession on the scaffold, and this and the mysterious nature of the murders themselves, caused great excitement to be felt on the subject; and the number of spectators consequently at the execution was very great, and has been variously estimated at from one thousand to three thousand. Hayes looked pale and worn when he appeared on the scaffold; and, apparently from physical weakness, he requested the Rev. Dean Lynch, who was in attendance on him to the last moment, to make a statement or confession for him to the people, which the rev. gentleman did, to the effect given below. After the statement was concluded, the necessary preparations were made, and the bolt being drawn, Hayes fell, and died without a struggle. The necessary officials were of course present, including Mr. **PROUT**, the Under Sheriff, Mr. **COX,** &c. The body hung the usual time, and was then taken down, and delivered over to Hayes's relatives, and the funeral procession immediately took its course to the Catholic Burying-ground, East Maitland, where the body was interred.

The following was the dying confession made by Hayes, as spoken for him by the Rev. Dean Lynch. Hayes solemnly protested that on some day (he could not fix the exact date) previous to the arrival of the Stauntons, his wife and **OWEN COURTENAY** went into Maitland for flour, leaving him and **JOHN A'HEARN** in company; during their absence he sent A'Hearn to cut barley; A'Hearn, he added, cut it in the wrong place, which led (he asserted) to a dispute between them during their dinner, both being nearly drunk. John A'Hearn then flung a bone at him, and he picked up a hoe, and hit him in the head; he did not intend to kill him; A'Hearn lived for half an hour, and then he put him in the place described by himself to Major Crummer, and where the chief constable found his remains. He had completed the burial before his wife and Courtney returned from Maitland. He assured Mr. Lynch that no person had any knowledge of this act or concealment. He did not owe A'Hearn, at his death, more than £1. With regard to **BENJAMIN COTT**'s murder he stated that he did not strike Ben Cott, nor in any way interfere with his remains till Saturday, when he then went and filled up the drain; he declared that **JOHN**

STAUNTON struck him with the wood-axe (not the axe produced in court), and when down old Staunton gave him a blow with another hoe; then the father and son brought him to the drain; John Staunton remained at the drain filling it in, and the old man came back and chipped the ground where the blood was. **ELLEN STAUNTON** was standing at the corner of her hut; he could not say whether she saw the murder or not, but when her father (who was returning from the ground) saw her, he said if she did not go in he would whip the head off her; she put at daylight into a tub of cold water her brother's trousers, which were all bloody. When asked why he before charged the Stauntons with the murder of A'Hearn, Hayes replied that he thought they would thus be brought to justice and punishment. He declared that the money spoken of at Cott's trial was money which he lent to Cott; that Cott owned him (Hayes) at the time of his murder £2 19s. 9d.; thus: 2 gallons of brandy from Mr. Austin's, £1 4s., rum, at Ryan's inn, 3s. 9d., silver lent by his wife to pay Cott to pay his men, £1 12s., total, £2 19s. 9d. He requested Mr. Lynch to express publicly his grateful acknowledgements to Mr. Cox for his unvarying kindness to him during his confinement; and to all the gaol officials for their humanity. He said that he forgave all his enemies, and was reconciled to his fate.

SUICIDE. - On Thursday afternoon, about half-past three o'clock, a man named **ROBERT KEDDIE** shot himself through the head in a small bed-room off the kitchen of Dublin House, in consequence of which he expired about twelve o'clock on the same night. He must have placed the muzzle of the gun in his mouth, as the whole front of the face from the mouth upwards was entirely blown away. Such a spectacle we never beheld, and it is certainly most wonderful that he lived so long after the deed was committed. He was a builder, and at one time carried on a very extensive trade in Maitland, and was considered wealthy. He has left a widow and five children,. and we believe family annoyances induced a great depression of spirits, under which he has been labouring for a considerable time, and which eventually led to the rash act now recorded. The remains were interred yesterday evening in the Presbyterian division of the new burial ground. *Belfast Gazette.* [This is a melancholy termination of the career of one whose many good personal qualities had secured for him the good-will of the community among whom he so long resided, and whose public usefulness in many ways will not soon be forgotten. ED. M.M.]

INQUEST. - Yesterday an inquest was held at Lochend, before Mr. **PARKER**, on the body of **ROBERT ALLEN**, who had died rather suddenly on Thursday. It appeared from the evidence that Allen was a very intemperate man, but generally healthy; he some time since fell from his horse, but received no permanent injury; just recently he had been away from home for a week, after cattle, and the night after he returned his wife said he was very restless, and could not sleep, but did not complain of pain. On Thursday morning Allen went to his father-in-law's, and complained then of a pain in his chest, and wished to be taken home, saying he thought he was going to die, but before he could be removed home, or his wife or a doctor could reach the place, he expired. The jury requiring a post mortem examination, Dr. **SCOTT** performed it, and found that death had been caused by an infusion of serum into the membrane of the heart, but that such excessive inflammation of the stomach and bowels existed that Allen must soon have died from that disease, had not disease of the heart carried him off. The jury returned a verdict of death from natural causes.

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT. - Mr. **HEXTON**, pilot at Moreton Bay, was unfortunately drowned on Tuesday, the 15th instant, in Freeman's Channel, about two miles from the Flagstaff, after returning from the *Cape Horn*. The crew being unable to pull the boat against the strong wind and tide, Mr. Hexton deemed it necessary to

beach her, and in doing so she unfortunately capsized. It is supposed he lost his presence of mind, and let go the steer oar, when the boat came broadside on to the breakers, filled, and upset. He endeavoured to support his head above water with one of the oars, assisted by a man named **JOHNSON**, and had nearly succeeded in reaching the boat, when a sea broke over him, the back wash carrying him away, and he sank in about twelve feet of water, and was no more seen. Two of the crew (**JOHNSON and COX**) had a narrow escape from drowning. Johnson was saved by one of the natives; **GILBERT, GOWER**, and the other seamen, swam ashore. The boat and oars are uninjured. Hexton had been for many years pilot at Moreton Bay. *Herald, April 22*

THE LATE MURDER CASE. - The adjourned inquest on the body of the unfortunate **MARY MOORE**, who was barbarously murdered in Durand's-alley on the night of the 9th April, was resumed yesterday by the Coroner, at Oatley's inn, Pitt-street. The Coroner said he had again to express his deep regret that the police had not succeeded in apprehending the murderer, and he had therefore no further evidence to offer. The jury returned a verdict of wilful murder, adding the following rider:- "The jury unanimously request the Coroner to communicate with the government, requesting that a reward of £50 (or such other sum as may be deemed meet) be offered for the apprehension of the murderer. They also request the Coroner to officially communicate with the proper authorities, as to the abominable filthy condition of Durand's-alley, and the character of its inhabitants: the state in which the locality is now permitted to remain offering every facility for the perpetration of murder and crime of every description. *Herald, April 23*

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT. - On Monday afternoon a Mrs. **CLYDESDALE**, residing on the Liverpool Road, on returning from a place where she had been for some water, missed three children, the eldest of whom is not more than about six years of age. As it was then about dusk, of course instant search was made for the infants, who, after some time, were found – quite dead – beneath a load of heavy timber, cut into billets for firewood, within a short distance from the house. The load of wood, it appears, had been left supported at the shaft by the prop-sticks; during the absence of the mother, it is supposed that the infants must have hung upon the cart behind, causing it to topple over upon them. *Herald, April 23*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/712, 30/04/1851

THE MURDER OF JOHN A'HEARN.

The inquest on the body of **JOHN A'HEARN**, commonly known as **Bothered Shawn**, terminated on Monday, by the jury finding that the body was A'Hearn's, that he was murdered by **WILLIAM HAYES** by several blows on the head, and that there was no evidence to implicate any other person. We are therefore now at liberty to publish the proceedings, and the material part of the first confession of Hayes. The public will then be able to form their own opinion as to the truth of either of Hayes's statements, as tested by each other, by the evidence given on his trial, and by the evidence taken at the inquest on A'Hearn's body.

About the end of August last (apparently on the 31st) A'Hearn was seen alive for the last time, being then left in company with Hayes, on Hayes's farm. On the 31st August a number of immigrants from the ship *Lord Stanley* arrived in Maitland from Sydney, and among them the family of the Stauntons; about the 3rd or 4th September **JOHN STAUNTON** (the son) left the depot, and on the 6th September the whole family left it, and most probably proceeded on that day to Hayes's farm, as they had hired with him. On the 13th November **BENJAMIN COTT** visited Hayes's place,

and never left the farm alive. On the 10th December Cott's murdered body was dug up out of a deep drain on Hayes's farm, and Hayes was apprehended, and subsequently committed for trial on the verdict of the coroner's jury. About this time suspicions first began to be expressed that A'Hearn had met with foul play on Hayes's farm, but although search was several; times made, no trace of him could be found. In March, at the Circuit Court, Hayes was tried for the murder of Cott, convicted, and sentenced to death.

After lying under sentence of death for about a month, when he received the spiritual attendance of the Rev. Dean Lynch, Hayes informed the authorities that he wished to make a confession. On the 9th April, therefore, Major Crummer, the visiting magistrate, took down Hayes's confession, in the presence of the Rev. Dean Lynch, Mr. Cox (the gaoler), Mr. Dunning, and Mr. G. Wood: and the confession was subsequently signed by Hayes, and signed by all present as witnesses.

Hayes, in this confession, described Cott's calling at his house in the evening to ask the loan of a dray and team, nearly similar to what was given in evidence on his trial. Hayes said that Cott and the two Stauntons, father and son, got drunk; that Cott asked John Staunton (the son) outside for four pounds he had given him to take care of; John Staunton denied that he had done so, and words followed, ending with Cott's telling John Staunton he would summon him before the magistrates; that after this Cott refused to enter the house again, but said he would go home. The confession then proceeds thus: "Cott then went towards the cabbage-ground, going home; John Staunton then followed him at a quick pace; I did not see old Staunton at this time; I followed John Staunton, to see what he was running for; when they reached the cabbage ground they had some angry words; I then saw the old man (Staunton) running towards where they were quarrelling; young Staunton then raised an axe, and struck Cott on the head; he had barely fallen to the ground when old Staunton struck Cott on the side of the head also, with a hoe; I saw blood flowing at the time in quantity from Cott; John Staunton and his father then lifted Cott's body, John Staunton taking Cott by both arms, and the old man by his feet; they then took the body and threw it into the drain; at this time John A'Hearn, commonly called Bothered Shawn, came up to me where I was standing near the blood; he put up both his hands exclaiming "Poor Ben, he's dead;" I told him of what had occurred; he said, "That's old Staunton and his son carrying old Ben;" old Staunton then came back to where the blood lay, and commenced to chip the ground where it lay; Shawn then came towards my house; I told him to have supper; he said "Me cannot eat no supper:" I was before him on the pathway going towards Staunton's residence; Shawn followed closely after me; I had just reached the fence at Staunton's hut; I heard something fall heavily behind me; I looked back, and I saw old Staunton standing over Shawn, who was lying on the ground, striking him with the most heavy of the hoes belonging to the farm." Hayes then went on to state that at this time Ellen Staunton was standing outside her hut, looking on at the murder of Shawn by her father, but that he threatened her life if she did not go in; that afterwards John Staunton came up, and that during the night the Stauntons, father and son, dug a hole in the yard, (where a rain water drain had been formed) and buried Shawn in a spot and manner Hayes described, Ellen Staunton being looking on at this burial. Hayes stated that the moon shone bright that night, and that the next morning when he went to cover up his tobacco plants from the sun, he found that Cott's body was not visible in the drain, being covered with something, earth and rubbish. Hayes said, "The murders took place on the Wednesday, and on Saturday I went to the drain and filled it in, and John Staunton assisted me when he returned from Maitland after selling my

milk, about mid-day; I afterwards shook peas on that ground to make it look like the other pea-ground."

In consequence of this confession, Mr. Wood, the chief constable, went with two constables to Hayes's farm that sane evening (the 9th April), and finding the spot in the yard without difficulty, from the description Hayes had given, they came to a human body after digging for an hour and a half. The body and its dress were subsequently recognised by different persons, as corresponding in every respect with Shawn's body and dress, and one witness, **MARY CROOK**, identified the hat found with the body as Shawn's hat. The coroner commenced holding an inquest on the body on the next day, and the inquest was adjourned from time to time for further evidence till Monday last, when it was concluded, as above stated.

It will be remembered that Hayes, in his confession from the scaffold, contradicted his former statement as far as related to the murder of Shawn, but persisted in the truth of what he had said about the murder of Cott. In respect to Shawn he then stated that he himself killed Shawn, during the absence of his wife and all others from the farm, on a day that he did not recollect. This is consistent with all the evidence adduced on the inquest. On a day about the end of August, (Courtenay says on the Saturday week after the races, which would be the 31st August), Mrs. Hayes went into Maitland for flour, accompanied by her children, and by Owen Courtenay, a man who had been on and off in their employ, and had then recently entered their service again; they left the farm in the morning, about eight o'clock, and returned in the afternoon, about four o'clock. Shawn had been working about the farm from the time of the races, and had told Courtenay that Hayes owed him about £7; Shawn had said that he was going to leave that same day, to go to Black Creek to get married. When Mrs. Hayes and Courtenay left the farm in the morning, they left Shawn there with Hayes; but when they returned in the afternoon, Hayes was alone, and in the milking yard; Mrs. Hayes said to him, "Is the bothered fellow gone away?" Hayes replied "Oh yes, didn't you meet him on the road?" Courtenay said "No, we did not meet him;" Mrs. Hayes said to Hayes, "Have you paid him the money, the whole of it?" Hayes said "Yes I have paid him all the money except 5s." or "25s.," (Courtenay could not remember which). On the Monday after this, Hayes said, on his return from Maitland, that some immigrants were come up, and he would go in and hire a boy; he did go, and on his return said he had hired the whole family of the Stauntons; the Stauntons did not come to the farm for two or three days after that, Courtenay states, and Courtenay was positive they were not there the day he went for the flour, and that he never saw Shawn afterwards, nor even heard the Stauntons mention Shawn. Courtenay had observed on his return that a drain in the yard, which he had himself dug a long time before to drain off the water from the fire-place, looked as if it had been levelled, and he concluded that Hayes had don so; after this Courtenay observed that the drain did not act well, the water lodging about the fire-place, so that they could not bake the bread well, but although Courtenay and Mrs. Hayes suggested again and again that it would be better to open and deepen the drain. Hayes always refused to have it touched.

As to the mode in which Shawn was killed, Hayes first stated that old Staunton killed him by repeated blows with a heavy hoe; and subsequently that he himself killed him unintentionally with a single hasty blow from a hoe, in consequence of Shawn having first thrown a bone at him (Hayes), and that Shawn lingered for half an hour, after receiving the blow. Dr. Scott, under whose superintendence the body of Shawn was removed, made a post-mortem examination, and he following were the injuries he found: he found the whole of the right side of the head beaten in, and a

fracture extending directly across the skull from the right to the left side, the whole being large enough to admit the closed hand; the wound must have been inflicted with a heavy instrument; Dr. Scott thought there must have been more than one blow, and that one blow must have proved mortal. Dr. Scott found that the right pocket of Shawn's trousers had been cut off. After Hayes's scaffold confession had been made public, Dr. Scott re-examined the head, and he deposed as follows at the resumed inquest: "I have read the statement made by William Hayes on the morning of his execution, and it led me to re-examine the skull of the deceased, John A'Hearn, now further macerated, and I find that its condition id altogether at variance with Hayes's statement, inasmuch as there must have been several blows, and of such a nature that the deceased could not have lived many seconds after the receipt of the blows."

Shawn had it appeared told other persons that Hayes owed him a sum of £6 or £7, being money that he had placed in Hayes's hands for safety, and Mr. and Mrs. Crook, friends of Shawn's, both deposed to his having expressed anxiety to get the money back from Hayes.. At one time Shawn stopped at crook's house, in Maitland, for a fortnight, and he used to go out nearly every morning, with the expressed intention of meeting Hayes on his milk rounds, to ask him for the money; each time on his return Shawn told Mrs. Crook that Hayes had not yet paid him, but would do so the next day, and that Hayes wanted him (Shawn) to go out to Hayes's farm, and stop there till the money was paid.

As it was found that Shawn used occasionally to go to the Wollombi, Black Creek, and Paterson districts to work, enquiry was made there for him during the adjournments of the inquest, but nothing could be heard of him.

Many of our readers have perhaps heard rumours that these two were not the only murders committed on Hayes's farm, and that respecting one person in particular, a young woman, it was said she had gone to Hayes's place some months ago on a visit, having money about her, and that she had never been known since to leave the farm. In this particular case circumstances were named so positively that the police have made enquiries, but the result so far is that no such young woman, or any woman, so visited Hayes's farm or family. It has become the fashion in Maitland to state dreams respecting Hayes, and an anonymous relation of a dream was sent to the chief constable, in writing, giving a very melo-dramatic account of the strangling of a young woman in Hayes's house, but in the absence of more authentic information nothing has followed.

INQUEST. - On Monday an inquest was held before Mr. **PARKER**, at the White Swan In n, on the body of **JOHN DANIELS, alias Old Jack**, a well-known pieman of Maitland. It appeared that Daniels usually carried out pies and cakes on commission for Mr. Masters, and took some out on Tuesday morning, the 22nd, but did not return again till Wednesday afternoon, when he was drunk, and slipped down from the ladder leading to the loft in which he slept, but without apparently hurting himself. As Daniels appeared poorly on Thursday and worse on Friday, complaining of a pain near the heart, **WILLIAM BROWN**, Mr. Master's baker, advised him to go into the hospital. Daniels accordingly walked to the hospital that day, and was received and treated for injuries apparently received from a fall, two of his ribs appearing broken. On Saturday morning Daniels told Mr. Mullins that on Tuesday evening he fell off the Long Bridge, being drunk, and lay there a short time partially insensible. Daniels, who had been a hard drinker, was warned that he could not expect to recover, and on Sunday he died. Dr. **SLOAN**, the medical man who attended him, deposed that he believed Daniels died from the effect both of d rink and

a fall, and thought two of his ribs were broken; there were no marks of violence on the body. The jury returned a verdict of died from a fall while in a state of intoxication.
HUNTER RIVER DISTRICT NEWS. - WEE WAA.
A man of the name of **WILLIAM BOLLARD** was unfortunately thrown or fell from his horse, at Wee Waa, on Sunday, the 13th instant, and expired three days after. He was slightly intoxicated at the time, and riding a lately broken in filly.
DEATH FROM CARELESS DRIVING. - On Good Friday, an aged man, **THOMAS BEGG**, (a messenger we understand, in one of the government offices) was knocked down in George-street by a hackney carriage, the driver of which (whose name is at present unknown), was urging his horses at a desperate speed; and drove furiously on when he saw the injury he had inflicted. Dr. **TIERNEY** was called in, but the sufferer died in the course of a few days; and although the persons with whom he lodged were warned by Dr. T. not to bury him without reporting the circumstance to the police, no such steps were taken; and it was only on Saturday last that the facts of the case came to the coroner's ears. He directly caused the necessary inquiries to be instituted for the apprehension of the driver; and we presume that the body will be exhumed for the purpose of holding an inquest thereupon. *Herald, April 21*
CORONER'S INQUEST. - DEATH BY DROWNING. - On Tuesday morning, an inquest was held by the coroner, at the Rose Inn, George-street north, on view of the body of **JAMES BUTTREY**, a fine little boy, five years of age, who was drowned on Sunday evening, off Lamb's Wharf. The father of the boy, who is storekeeper to Messrs. Lamb, Parbury, and Co., and resides at the Wharf, stated, that on Sunday evening the child was playing about the door whilst his parents were at tea, and, being missed, one of the elder children was sent to look for him; directly afterwards, he was heard to cry "Dada, dada!" from the water, and the father, rushing out, found him struggling close to the brink. The water was about five feet deep there. He was instantly taken out, but life then appeared extinct; and although Dr. **GREENUP**, who was immediately on the spot, used every means for nearly two hours to resuscitate him, it was of no avail. There were two marks on the child's forehead, which were probably caused by falling on the rock. Dr. Greenup gave it as his opinion that death was the result of suffocation from drowning. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death. *Herald, April 14*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/713, 03/05/1851
HUNTER RIVER DISTRICT NEWS. - GRAFTON.
THE BLACKS. - On the 3rd inst., whilst Mr. **TIMOTHY SMALL and CHARLES AVERY** were riding in search of some stray horses on Swan Creek, the latter was speared in the breast by some blacks concealed in a scrub. Avery states that the spear entered about three inches, and was so firmly fixed that it stood straight out from his body, and required considerable force to draw it out. He suffered from much pain at the time, and was quite delirious during the night. He is now, however, quite recovered. On the 6th a blackfellow came and gave information to Mr. Chief Constable **ABBOTT** that whilst three black lads were fishing for eels, near Swan Creek, three days ago, two white man came upon them, and commenced flogging them with their stock whips; that two of the lads escaped, but the third was followed by one of the white men, who flogged him, and struck him with the butt end of his whip till he knocked him down; that as he fell the boy threw a small spear he had in his hand at the white man, who jumped off his horse, took out his knife, and cut his throat; that after the white man left, the father of the murdered boy came and carried away the body, took it across the river in a canoe, and buried it near Mr. Burkett's

station, and that they would go and show the grave to Mr. Abbott. He accordingly accompanied them, opened the grave, and there saw the body; the throat was cut from ear to ear. An inquest was held on the body by **F. PHILLIPS**, Esq., J.P., but we have not heard the result. Before the close of the inquest Mr. Abbott, accompanied by a younger brother of the deceased (who was present at the time) went and inspected the place where the murder was said to have been committed; he found tracks of horses all about the spot, a fishing spear with three lines, and a plain spear. The boy said that the spear which his brother had thrown was found by their father alongside the body, and that he had taken it away at the same time. A reward of £50 has been offered.

CORONER'S INQUEST. - DEATH FROM DROWNING. - An inquest was held by the coroner on Tuesday, at the Hunter River Inn, Sussex-street, on view of the body of **JOHN O'MEARA**, then lying dead on board the brig *Dart*. From the evidence of **JOHN GOODMAN**, cook of the vessel, and constable **TOMLINSON**, it appears that the deceased, who seemed to be a respectable young man, about 25 years of age, took his passage by the *Dart* for Melbourne, and went on board on Monday last. He went on shore several times during the day, and at length returned extremely drunk. In the evening he became very quarrelsome, so much so that one of the men went on shore for a constable; and deceased, getting over the side to go upon the wharf, fell into the water. An alarm was directly given, but it being extremely dark, nearly three quarters of an hour elapsed before the body was found; and then life was extinct. Upon searching the body, twenty-eight sovereigns and some silver were found. No blame could be ascribed to the people on board, everything being done to keep the unfortunate man quiet. Verdict – accidental drowning. *Herald, May 1*

DEATH FROM FURIOUS DRIVING. - Upon the affidavit of Dr. **TIERNEY** the coroner on Monday issued his warrant for the exhumation of the body of **FRANCIS BEGG**, who, as reported in Monday's *Herald*, was run over by a cab on the evening of Good Friday; and an inquest was held on Monday evening, on view of the body, at Mr. Parkinson's public house, Parramatta-street. It appears by the evidence of Drs. **TIERNEY and ROBERTSON**, that the deceased, who was an aged an infirm man, was returning from church on the evening of Good Friday, and whilst attempting to cross George-street, near Wright's Brewery, a cab, driven at a furious pace, knocked him down and passed over him – the driver pushing on without taking any heed of him. He was carried to his lodgings, where he was attended by Drs. Tierney and Robertson, and died on Wednesday evening. Owing to some misunderstanding, his death was not reported to the police until Dr. Tierney made affidavit of the above facts; when the body was ordered to be exhumed, and a *post mortem* examination made by the medical attendants. Their evidence went to show that death had been caused by a most extensive fracture of the scapula, or blade-bone, as also by a fracture of three of the ribs, which had been driven into the cavity of the chest. The coroner said, that active steps were taking for the detection of the cabman, and adjourned the inquest until Monday next. *Herald, April 30*

THE MURDER IN DURAND'S ALLEY. - **EDWARD LOWRY, and MARGARET BAYLEY**, were yesterday apprehended by warrant, on suspicion of being concerned in the murder of the woman **MARY MOORE**, in Durand's Alley. Lowry was in custody a few days ago, for violently assaulting his fellow prisoner. *Empire, April 30*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/714, 07/05/1851

HUNTER RIVER DISTRICT NEWS. - DUNGOG.

MELANCHOLY DEATH. - Yesterday morning a most melancholy event took place in this neighbourhood. Mr. **PATRICK DALY,** a respectable settler on the Auchentorlie estate, was proceeding to this town with his dray and bullocks, taking wheat to the mill; Mrs. Daly was seated on the load. When within one mile of the township, as they were descending a small inclining hill, the wheel of the dray struck a low stump, and the dray was instantly overturned on its face, the unfortunate woman being underneath, and receiving a blow which instantly killed her. An inquest was held this day before **THOMAS COOK**, Esq., coroner, and a jury of thirteen, when a verdict was returned of accidental death by the upsetting of a dray. Mrs. Daly was much respected, and leaves a large family to deplore their loss. Her body was followed to her last resting place this evening by a large and respectable crowd of people.

THE LATE CAB ACCIDENT. - **GEORGE AMBERSON**, the driver of the carriage which knocked down **FRANCIS BEGGS** on the evening of Good Friday (from injuries inflicted whereby the unfortunate man died on the following Wednesday, as already reported in this journal), has been apprehended by the police, and is now in custody, awaiting the result of the coroner's inquest, which will be resumed this morning. *Herald, May 5*

MAN KILLED. - Information has just reached town of a melancholy occurrence which has just happened at Boro. It appears that on Tuesday evening last, there was a "hurrah" fight at Mr. Woodfield's Inn, during which a servant belonging to the house received several blows, and on the following morning was found dead in bed. It is supposed his death was caused by the injuries he received. The chief-constable and the Coroner start off to-morrow morning for the scene of the disaster. The deceased was an Irish immigrant, ex late arrival. From the hurried account given by the messenger, it would appear that the blows were inflicted by the landlord, or in a general quarrel, in which he took part. *Goulburn Correspondent of the Empire*

THE DURAND'S ALLEY MURDER.

EDWARD LOWRY and MARGARET BAILEY, apprehended some days ago on suspicion of having been concerned in or cognizant of the murder of **MARY MOORE**, in Durand's Alley, were yesterday brought before the bench, and after taking the evidence which led to their apprehension, the woman was discharged unconditionally, and the man on entering into his own recognizances to appear when called for. From enquiries made by the police it seems that Lowry arrived in Sydney from Brisbane Water on the 12th ultimo, the murder having been committed on the 9th. The length of his absence from Sydney did not transpire. *Herald, May 3*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/715, 10/05/1851

MUSWELL BROOK. - On Saturday last (3rd May) an inquest was held before **J.B. WEST**, Esq., coroner of the district, at the residence of Mr. **WINGRAVE**, on the body of **SAMUEL HORSLEY**, known as "Long Sam." It appeared from the evidence that the deceased, who was an athletic young man, had, about a fortnight ago, returned to Muswell Brook from a shearing tour up the country, and that he had been drinking to excess for some days past. A few days since he called, about midnight, at the residence of **J. BUTCHER**, a cooper, where he lay down in bed for a time; he was then cold, and trembling very much, and had apparently been laying out somewhere on the damp ground, but had no recollection himself where he had been; he complained of a violent pain and throbbing in his chest, and said he was afraid "his goose was cooked"; towards morning he felt better, left the cooper's house about daylight, got his horse, and rose about a mile to the residence of Mr. Wingrave, where

he complained of a violent pain in the right side; told Wingrave that he thought he must either have caught a violent cold, or was struck with some of the sticks which had been thrown at him at the races, for that he felt himself much worse than he had ever been after a drinking bout; deceased was addicted to drinking; the resident surgeon was sent for, but was absent from home; the pain continued; he was delirious at intervals, and on Wednesday morning died. The jury returned a verdict of died from internal disease, brought on by intemperance.

SYDNEY NEWS.

A butcher named **PATRICK STAFFORD** was handed over to the custody of the Coroner, having on Tuesday evening last violently assaulted one **DENNIS BARRET**, who has since died in consequence of the injuries he received.

DEATH FROM VIOLENCE. - A man named **BARRETT**, a butcher, met with his death about two o'clock yesterday morning in Wilmot-lane, Pitt-street south, under the following circumstances. It is stated that a man named **STAFFORD** and a female named **BRIDGET M'CARTHY** had lived together as man and wife for about six years, but owing to some quarrel between them they separated some three or four weeks ago. The female had, either then or a short time previously, become acquainted with Barrett, who agreed to protect her, and accordingly took up lodgings for her at the rate of twelve shillings a-week in a house in Wilmot-lane kept by an unmarried woman. He visited her regularly every Saturday night, and sometimes oftener. They seem to have agreed very well together, until Sunday evening last, when shortly after they had retired into her room, a quarrel ensued which ended in Barrett's striking the female a blow in the mouth, so severe as to cut her lip through and render it necessary to have it sewed up, which, we believe, was done by Dr. **CARTWRIGHT.** Barrett, however, seems to have repented of his rashness, as he and M'Carthy were on the best of terms soon after. Stafford hearing of the assault, became enraged, and apparently determined to avenge himself the first opportunity. On Tuesday evening, he called at the lodgings of his former paramour, and told her that although he had determined never to live with her again, he would not "allow any b---- wretch to ill-use her." It is stated that he accordingly waited in the lane till he met Barrett, whom he attacked, inflicting injuries of which Barrett died about noon yesterday. Stafford is in custody, and was brought up yesterday at the police office, but remanded until to-day, when the inquest will be held, and the whole matter thoroughly explained. *Abridged from the Empire, May 8*

MELANCHOLY OCCURRENCE. - The family of Mr. **Councillor ROBERTS** have been plunged into deep affliction by the death of his eldest daughter (a fine child in her ninth year), under the following melancholy circumstances:- About a fortnight ago the little girl attempted to fill a teapot from a kettle which was on the fire, and making use of her frock to hold the kettle, the flames caught it, and in a few moments her clothes were burnt to ashes, and she was dreadfully injured. Medical assistance was immediately procured, and although her sufferings were terrible, it was hoped that her constitution would carry her through, and within the last few days she rallied considerably. A relapse, however, took place, and the little sufferer died on Monday. *Herald, May 7*

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT. - On Saturday last one of three brothers named **MAHONEY**, who have charge of a sheep station of Mr. Stonestreet's, at King's Plains, met with his death in the following manner:- It appears the young men were clearing a piece of bush land for cultivation, and had set fire to a large tree on the night previous to the accident. On the following morning the ill-fated individual in question left the hut with an axe in his hand, and, from appearances, it is supposed

was chopping at the tree when it fell. Remaining longer absent than was expected, one of his brothers went to see that what the cause of his detention, when he found his lifeless remains lying under the butt of the tree in a horrible state of emaciation. An inquest was held upon the body by **SAMUEL NORTH,** Esq., coroner of the district, and a verdict returned in accordance with the above particulars. *Bathurst Advocate, May 3*

PAINFUL AND MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT. - A few days ago an accident occurred at one of the sheep stations of **W.H. SUTTOR**, Esq., which terminated fatally to a little boy about three years old, and was nearly proving so to the mother. Attracted by the cries of the child who had fallen into a deep water-hole in front of the house, she rushed out, and perceiving him struggle on the surface of the water, she leaped in to assist him. The attention of a man, who providentially happened to be near, was excited by the mother's screams, and he arrived at the spot barely in time to save her life. The most painful part of the story consists in this, that whilst assisting the grief-stricken mother from her perilous position the poor little fellow was drowned. *Bathurst Advocate, May 3*

MANSLAUGHTER AT BORO. - The Goulburn correspondent of the *Empire* furnishes the particulars of the inquest on the body of **THOMASS HARDEADEN**, whose death was previously mentioned. Hardeaden was a young man aged 23 years, who had not been in the colony long, and who was in the service of **JOSEPH WOODFIELD,** innkeeper, residing at Boro, thirty-five miles from Goulburn. On the evening of Tuesday, the 29th April, Hardeaden had gone to bed early, but was called up again to join a drinking party, consisting of Woodfield, his wife, and another man. Before long words arose between Hardeaden and Woodfield, and at length Woodfield challenged Hardeaden to fight him, and they fought. Hardeaden's sister deposed that Woodfield struck her brother on the neck when the latter was not in a fighting position, and that her brother picked up a stick, and with it struck Woodfield over the eye; that Woodfield again struck her brother with his fist, knocking him down, and that whilst her brother was down Woodfield kicked him three times about the chest, saying, in reply to her brother's exclamation of "Oh, Joe, don't kill me," "You b------, I don't care two-pence about you;" that after being kicked she did not hear her brother utter a word, nor did he answer when she went to him and took hold of his hand and spoke to him. **BORACK**, an Arab, who was present, stated that the men fought for a little time and both fell; that Woodfield then got up and kicked Hardeaden several times, after which Hardeaden never spoke. Hardeaden was carried to bed by Woodfield and a shepherd who was then in the house, and access to him that same evening was denied to his sister by Mrs. Woodfield, who told her that there was nothing the matter with her brother; the next morning, however, when Hardeaden's sister went to see him he was dead. Dr. **GERARD** performed a post moprtem examination, and found bruises on the head, shoulders, and chest; he described the appearances he found on opening the body, and considered that death arose from suffocation, "which not improbably arose from the injuries applied, and which had been detailed in the evidence of the witnesses;" Dr. Gerard thought Hardeaden must have been dead when placed in the bed. Woodfield made a voluntary statement, in which he admitted that they had fought, but could not say what happened after he (Woodfield) received the blow over the eye from the stick, as they had both been drinking; that Hardeaden was alive when he was carried to bed, and for at least an hour afterwards, at which time he saw him. The jury, after two hours' deliberation, returned a verdict against Woodfield of guilty of manslaughter, and Woodfield was thereon committed to gaol.

CORONER'S INQUEST. - Yesterday an adjourned inquest was held at Mr. Parkinson's, Parramatta-street, on the body of **WILLIAM BEGG,** who was knocked down and run over by a cab on Friday evening. Verdict – Died from injuries accidentally received.

An inquest was also held yesterday at the Downshire Arms, public house, on the body of a man named **WILLIAM OSBORN**, who died very suddenly on Saturday night. A post-mortem examination was made by Dr. **HONNOR**; and the jury returned a verdict of died by the visitation of God. *Empire, May 6*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/716, 14/05/1851

EDWARD RIVER RACES. - These races came off on the 22nd, 23rd, and 24th April. … *Second day.* - This day an accident, which we regret to state is likely to terminate fatally, happened to Mr. **J. BROUGHAM**. As this gentleman was riding along the course, for the purpose of clearing it, a horseman came in violent contact with him. Mr. Brougham was thrown to the ground with great force, and was insensible when we left the course. But slight hopes are entertained of his recovery.

ALLEGED PERJURY. - On Wednesday last, Mr. **ALEXANDER CUTHILL**, of Sydney, surgeon, appeared before Mr. **DOWLING**, at the police-office, to answer a charge of perjury preferred against him by Mr. **HENRY COSMO MILTON**, of Ashfield, schoolmaster. It may be in the remembrance of our readers that on the 1sdt of April an inquest was held on the body of an aged man named [**WILLIAM] LEWIS,** who died on the previous Saturday. Lewis had been suffering from retention of urine. Mr. Cuthill was sent for, who afforded the patient relief by the use of a catheter, prescribed such medicine as he considered necessary, and left him under the impression that nothing more would be required; Lewis continued to suffer from the sane cause, and some days after sent several times to Mr. Milton, (who besides his occupation of schoolmaster, followed that of chemist and druggist), who declined attending, and recommended a surgeon to be sent for; at length, however, he was induced to go, provided himself with a catheter, and operated upon the man; the nexy day ort the second day Lewis became worse, and Dr. **FULLERTON** was sent for, who also operated upon the patient; on the day following death put an end to Lewis's sufferings. An inquest was held upon the body, at which Dr. Fullerton and Mr. Cuthill (having jointly performed a *post mortem* examination) gave evidence, the result of which was a verdict of manslaughter against Milton, on which he was committed to gaol to await his trial. The Attorney-General caused the exhumation of the body, and its examination by other medical men, and the result was that the Attorney-General did not consider it his duty to prosecute Milton. Milton now charged Mr. Cuthill with having in his evidence before the jury committed wilful and corrupt perjury, by stating that he cut down into the urethra, and saw the rupture, whereas the urethra was not cut, nor could any rupture be seen. With the exception of the Coroner, Mr. **BRENAN**, whose evidence at to what Dr. Cuthill really did say was scarcely consistent with the words on the deposition, the remaining evidence was almost purely medical, to test the correctness of Dr. Cuthill's alleged statements. The case lasted several days, and on Saturday was dismissed, the police magistrate thinking the evidence so inconsistent and contradictory that he ought not to send the case on to a jury. *Abridged from the Herald, May 12*

WILFUL MURDER. - Last evening an inquest was held by the Coroner at Mr. M. Hooper's, the Cottage of Content, Pitt-street, on view of the body of **DENNIS BARRETT**, then lying dead in Wilmot-street. **PATRICK STAFFORD**, charged with the murder, stood in custody. **ANNE M'NEIL**, residing in the same street with

the deceased, stated as follows:- I know the prisoner Patrick Stafford, and I also know the deceased. On Tuesday night, about half-past eight o'clock, the prisoner came to my house, and enquired for **BRIDGET M'CARTHY**; I said she was out with the deceased; prisoner said he wanted to see Barrett and Bridget, as he had heard that she was ill-used by him, and he (Prisoner) would not allow any man to ill-use her. As I expected them both home I managed to get the prisoner out of the house, and I went with him into Chambers' public-house. Whilst we were there, deceased and Bridget passed by, and the prisoner immediately followed them. Some words ensued between deceased and prisoner. I passed them and went home to lay my baby down, but returned directly. I then saw the prisoner and deceased scuffling. Stafford knocked the deceased down, and, whilst he was on the ground, kicked him twice. Both I and Bridget implored him not to kick deceased; who, at last got up, and called Stafford a cowardly dog, and otherwise abused him. Some words then ensued between prisoner and Bridget. He, however, begged to speak to her, and she and I went to the corner of the lane, and then went to Daly's public-house, and on returning to the lane, where we found deceased standing, prisoner knocked him down and ran away. I went up to deceased, who appeared in great pain, and with the assistance of Bridget and a neighbour lifted him on to a bed. He never spoke afterwards. Prisoner came back to the house several times whilst we were attending deceased. Once he burst the room-door open, and, seizing a knife, said he would be hung for the five of us. A constable came in, but did not apprehend him, and he again went away. I then sent for Dr. **CARTWRIGHT**, who bled the deceased, but the latter died on the afternoon of Wednesday. Bridget M'Carthy states on oath: I have lived with the deceased for the last three weeks. I have lived with him before, but left him to live with the prisoner, with whom I have lived on and off for about six years. The witness then described the scuffle between prisoner and deceased in the same terms as the former witness, adding that a constable came up whilst deceased was ion the ground, but to his request for assistance, the constable answered by advising him to summons prisoner in the morning, and then walked away. Witness also deposed to the second attack made by prisoner on the deceased, after she and the former witness were returning from Daly's, stating that when again knocked down, deceased was kicked by prisoner in a most dreadful manner. **DAVID M'MILLAN**, residing at the corner of Wilmot and Pitt-streets, deposed to his assisting to lift up deceased, as described by the former witness. Dr. **CARTWRIGHT** was called in to attend deceased at three o'clock on Wednesday morning, but the injuries received proved mortal, and Barrett died about three o'clock in the afternoon. A post mortem examination of the body was made by Drs. **CARTWRIGHT and TIERNEY**, who found contusions about the face and head, the bone of the nose broken, and that an effusion of blood on the brain had taken place; they were of opinion the deceased died from the effects of the effusion on the brain, caused by external injury. The coroner having charged the jury, at considerable length, the court was cleared; and at 7 o'clock last evening, the jury found a verdict of wilful murder against Patrick Stafford. *Abridged from the Herald, May 9* [The *Empire* and *Bell's Life* state that the verdict was manslaughter, not murder.]

DEATH FROM IMPROPER MEDICINE. - In the case of **WILLIAM TYNAN** (reported in our Thursday's issue), who, it was supposed, died from taking improper medicine, the jury, who terminated their enquiry on the same day, returned a verdict of died from natural causes; the mistake in making up the medicine being deemed immaterial according to the evidence of Dr. **TIERNEY.** *Empire, May 10*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/717, 17/05/1851

MELANCHOLY DEATH. - We regret to have to announce the death of Mr. **D. BISLAND**, late of the Sir Walter Scott Hotel, Bathurst-street. It appears that Mr. Bisland had been suffering from indisposition. In the hopes a trip might be of service to him, he went away with his son-in-law, Mr. **LOWTHER**, the master of the *Scout*, ketch, trading to Maitland and Raymond Terrace. The vessel was at anchor in the Horse Shoe Reach, and between the hours of one and two o'clock on Saturday morning, Mr. Bisland was missed from the craft; instant search was made for the unfortunate gentleman, when at last his body was found under the bows, life quite extinct. Mr. Bisland was in his 43rd year; he has left a numerous circle to regret his untimely loss. How the accident happened it is impossible to say. *Empire, May 13*

SYDNEY NEWS.

EDWARD FARMER stands remanded, on a charge of having caused the death of one **UNSWORTH** on Sunday last; on which charge he was apprehended yesterday.

SUSPICION OF MURDER.

Late last evening **EDWARD FARMER**, a brass-founder, residing in little Hunter-street, was apprehended by constable **EGAN**, on suspicion of having murdered Mr. **JOHN UNSWORTH**, late a messenger of the commissariat department, whose sudden death, with the inquest thereupon, was reported in the *Herald* of Tuesday last. *Herald, May 15*

MURDER IN COLD BLOOD. Report from America of the murder by Mr. **CORNWORTH HECTOR (**recently ex NZ and NSW) of one **ALFRED M'PHERSON**; survivor a Mr. **FENTON;** all said to be English and also ex NSW.

SUDDEN DEATH. - It is our painful duty to record the sudden death of Mr. **GEORGE SMALL,** merchant, of this city, who was found dead in his bed-room, at the residence of Mr. **GRIMWOOD**, South Head Road, yesterday morning. The body having been brought into Sydney, an inquest was held yesterday evening by the coroner, at the house of the deceased, in Jamieson-street. Mr. **T. GRIMWOOD** deposed as follows:- I know the deceased; he came to my house on a visit yesterday evening (Monday); he appeared to be in his usual health, with the exception of a slight flatulency ; he had some coffee and dry toast; and later in the evening a little weak brandy and water; he retired to rest about a quarter to ten; I showed him into his room; this morning (Tuesday), about 7 o'clock, I knocked at his door, but receiving no answer, I lifted the window-sash, when I perceived that he had not been in bed; I then went into the room, and found him in a kneeling position at the bed-side, one arm over the back of the chair, the other leaning on the bed, as if deceased had been at prayers at the time of the attack; he was quite dead; his countenance appeared to be very little altered; he was about 45 years of age. Mr. **BILLERWELL**, one of the executors, deposed that Mr. Small was possessed of considerable wealth, and had left a will. Dr. **M'KELLAR**, who had been Mr. Small's medical attendant, deposed that he was labouring under disease of the heart, and that witness had felt it his duty to inform him that he was in a very precarious state; witness was of opinion Mr. Small died from disease of the heart. Dr. **A'BECKETT,** who had been recently attending Mr. Small with Dr. M'Kellar, gave similar evidence. The jury returned a verdict of died by the visitation of God. *Abridged from the Herald, May 14*

PARRAMATTA. - MELANCHOLY AND FATAL ACCIDENT. - Mr. **THOMAS QUINTON**, late lessee of the markets, a steady, sober, and respected townsman, was proceeding along with a horse and spring-cart to a dairy farm of Mr. **JAMES GALLOWAY**, about two miles from town. Perceiving a stump before the horse, who was going at as moderate pace, Mr. Quinton tried to pull the horse aside, but the animal refused to answer the rein, and the near wheel came in contact with the stump,

which caused a sudden jerk, and threw Mr. Quinton out of the vehicle on his back; he lay for some time till Mr. **THOMAS PYKE,** farmer, of Prospect, saw the horse going along with the cart in the direction of the farm, and proceeded on the roads till he came up with the sufferer, who was moving his hands in agony, and requested Mr. Pyke to lift him against the fence, which he managed to do, but Quinton could not support himself, and fell down on one side; more assistance was procured, and he was lifted into the cart and taken to the farm. Dr. **ROBERTSON** visited him, and ordered his removal to the hospital the next day, and on Saturday last death put an end to his sufferings. An inquest was held, and a verdict of accidental death returned. *Herald Correspondent*

SUDDEN DEATH. - On Tuesday, the 29th ult., a man named **WILLIAM NORMAN**, who has been seventeen or eighteen years in the employment of Mr. **KITE**, died very suddenly. He was employed as a shepherd by Mr. Kite, at a station called Mulligan, near Shepherd's Bush, about fifty miles from Wellington, and had brought home his sheep in the evening, shortly after which he fell down and expired instantaneously. *Herald's Bathurst Correspondent*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/718, 21/05/1851

ADJOURNED PUBLICANS LICENSING MEETING. - Yesterday the bench met in petty sessions at the adjourned publicans' licensing meeting; … The application of Mr. **THOMAS WALKER**, for the Red Lion, East Maitland, was next called. The depositions in the inquest on the body of **JOSEPH HUMBLER**, a man who died in Mr. Walker's in n some short time since (reported in the *Mercury* at the time) were read, and also a statement by Mr. Walker in explanation of the circumstances. A discussion of some length ensued, Mr. Walker contending that he had not acted in any way improperly towards the man, that his house was habitually kept in a very orderly manner, and that the same thing might have happened in any house. The magistrates, in expressing their opinions, dwelt mainly on the fact that Mr. Walker had supplied, or allowed the man to be supplied, with rum, which afterwards caused his death, although he knew the man to be so intemperate that he would always drink when he could get it, and when by his own evidence, and the observation of others, the man had in a few days had so much drink as to be unwell from it. Finally the bench refused the application. - Mr. Walker then asked the bench to grant the license for the house, of which he held an unexpired lease, to Mr. **WILLIAM CANNON.** It appeared that both Mr. Cannon and Mr. **DANIEL MAHER** had applied for the house. The bench granted the application of Mr. Cannon.

HUNTER RIVER DISTRICT NEWS. - WELLINGROVE.

I regret that I have to report another fatal accident in this district. **CHARLES SMITH**, a carrier, was driving his dray and bullocks across a small creek, as it is called, at Wellington Vale, and had the misfortune to overturn it, when it fell upon him, and injured him so dreadfully that he died in less than an hour after the accident occurred. May 8, 1851

MUSWELL BROOK. - WILFUL MURDER. - On Wednesday last a man named **HENRY BOYLE** was wilfully murdered, about ten miles from Muswell Brook, by a man named **THOMAS BALLARD**, who was afterwards apprehended by the police. An inquest was held before the coroner, and the prisoner was fully committed for wilful murder. Mr. **FOX**, chief constable, and constable **ASHBURN**, brought the murderer into Muswell Brook about midnight on Saturday last, and safely lodged him in the lockup. We have not yet received the report of the evidence taken at the inquest. May 18th, 1851

CHARGE OF MURDER. - A man named **EDWARD FARMER**, a brass founder, was apprehended by the police on a charge of having caused the death of one **JAONE UNSWORTH**, an elderly man, attached to the Commissariat department, who died on Monday. An inquest was held on the body, and the jury returned a verdict of "death from natural causes." Circumstances, however, came to the ears of the police which led to the apprehension of Farmer. He was taken into custody by constable **PATRICK EGAN**, to whom he admitted that he had an altercation with the deceased on Sunday morning about one o'clock, but did not strike him. The enquiry was entered into at the police-office, and Farmer was remanded to the coroner, by whom the exhumation of the body will be ordered. *Bell's Life, May 17*

RENEWED ENQUIRY INTO THE DEATH OF MR. UNSWORTH. - On Saturday evening the resumed inquest on the body of Mr. [**JOHN] UNSWORTH** was held. The body had been exhumed, and a post mortem examination of it made, by Dr. **TIERNEY** and Mr. **HARPUR**, the latter of whom attended Mr. Unsworth in his last illness; the opinion of both medical men was that no violence had been used towards deceased in any way leading to his death, but decomposition was too far advanced to enable them to say that there were no external marks of violence; and they both concurred in Mr. Harpur's previously expressed opinion that deceased died from natural causes, having been ill of cholic for two days. The deceased had on the night preceding his illness gone to the house of a person named **EDWARD FARMER**, to fetch home the daughter and grand-daughter of deceased; it was admitted that deceased did not approve of their visiting Farmer, and that in consequence of his meeting them coming homewards in Farmer's company, an altercation ensued between deceased and Farmer, during which Farmer took hold of deceased's shoulder, and threatened to take steps to make him hold his tongue; deceased's daughter and grand-daughter both swore positively that Farmer used no violence whatever, and neither struck nor beat the deceased. On the other hand, three neighbours of Farmer's deposed that they heard the altercation, and the sound of blows, and one man swore that he saw Farmer knock down and kick the deceased. During the illness of deceased Mr. Harpur treated him for cholic, and deceased never complained to Mr. Harpur of any of his friends that Farmer or any one had beat or illused him, and no mark of violence was perceptible on his body when he was laid out. The jury returned a verdict that the finding at the first inquest was correct, and that the deceased died from natural causes. *Abridged from the Herald, May 19*

INQUESTS. - On Wednesday an inquest was held on the body of a man lying dead at the General Hospital. The deceased appeared to be a sea-faring man, and from the evidence was drinking in a house, in Erskine-street, when in leaving an up-stairs room he reeled and fell down stairs, striking his head against a box. He was taken to the hospital, and died there from the injury thus received. Verdict – accidental death.

Yesterday an inquest was held on the body of Mrs. **JANE REAP WOODRIFFE**, landlady of the Macquarie Inn, Bathurst-street, who died suddenly on Tuesday night. She was subject to hysterical fits, and had been attended by Dr. **BENNETT** for years past; on that night she was heard to fall out of bed, and before a medical man could be called in had expired. Verdict – died from serous effusion on the brain.

Another inquest was held yesterday on the body of **ANNE WILSON**, a woman of intemperate habits, who died suddenly early yesterday morning from the rupture of a blood-vessel during a fit of vomiting. Verdict – died from rupture of a blood vessel, the effect of pre-existing disease, accelerated by intemperance. *Abridged from the Herald, May 16*

MURDER. - We have been informed that a man has been committed by the Yass Bench for wilful murder. We have not heard the particulars, further than that the offence resulted in a quarrel between two men living on a station in the neighbourhood. As soon as we can have facts we will communicate them. *Goulburn Correspondent of the Empire*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/719, 24/05/1851
HUNTER RIVER DISTRICT NEWS. - MUSWELL BROOK.
WILFUL MURDER. - On Saturday last an inquest was held before **J.B. WEST**, Esq., Coroner of the district, and a jury of twelve, at the Emu Inn, Merton, on the body of **HENRY BOYLE**, then lying dead at a gunyah about a mile and a half from the village. At the close of the inquest **THOMAS BALLARD**, then in custody, was fully committed, by the Coroner, to take his trial at the next Circuit Court, at Maitland, for wilful murder. It appeared from the evidence that the prisoner and a man named **WILLIAM PACK** were shepherds, and the deceased hut-keeper, at a station of **J.H. BETTINGTON**, Esq., J.P., about a mile and a half from Merton. About four o'clock in the afternoon of Wednesday last Pack was returning to the station with his flock of sheep, the prisoner having arrived with his flock previously, when Pack observed the prisoner and deceased coming towards the hurdles; in two or three minutes afterwards he saw them both on the ground fighting; he went up to them, and laid hold of Ballard, and said "leave the old man alone, Tom;" deceased was a hale old man, grey-headed, about 60 years of age; prisoner then let him go, and walked away. Pack then went round his sheep, put them into the fold, and was tying the hurdles to the stakes, several minutes having elapsed from the time they left off fighting; he then saw Ballard strike the deceased three or four times with a hurdle stake, about four feet long and three inches in diameter; the first blow was across the chest, which knocked him down; the other blows were on the head whilst he was on the ground; the stake was held with both hands, and the blows given with much violence; Pack went up to Ballard and said, "Tom, you have killed the old man;" Ballard then threw the stake away. Pack ran off to Merton and gave information to district constable **MURRY**, who, with some other person, went with all speed to the station, and found Boyle lying on the ground quite insensible, and blood running from a wound on his head; Ballard was then walking round the hurdles; the constable apprehended him, and whilst conveying him to Merton the prisoner said he hoped he had killed the old wretch, and that the Queen would not hang him for killing him, but that he was more drunk than hurt; prisoner at first appeared sober, but he afterwards became very drunk, and lay down on the road about half an hour. Boyle was removed into the gunyah, and during the night was visited by Doctor **WEST**; he still remained insensible from the wounds and bruises, and lingered until Friday morning, about eight o'clock, when he died; a few hours before he expired he was partially sensible, and on being asked who hurt him said, "Tom." The murderer, who had been previously removed to the lock up at Muswell Brook, was, on Saturday last, escorted by chief constable **FOX** to Merton, to be present at the inquest, and on the way had to pass the station where Boyle was lying dead; Mr. Fox took the prisoner near to the gunyah where the body lay, and told Pack, who was there, to take the blanket off which covered the deceased that he might see his head; Pack did so, and whilst the chief constable was looking at it the prisoner immediately went hastily up to the body, and put his hands, which had handcuffs on, close to the right side of deceased's forehead, where there was a wound, and said, "there, that is the blow;" he afterwards said that he never struck the deceased but one blow. Mr. **T.H. FOWLER,** surgeon,

examined the body of Boyle, and found a contused wound on the right temporal bone, about one inch in length; it was in the figure of a cross, and might be inflicted by as blunt instrument; on removing the scalp her found the supra orbital process of the bone was fractured; and on removing the scull-cap found an effusion of blood on the brain; it was coagulated, and amounted to four ounces; the membrane of the brain, and the brain itself, were much engorged with blood; there was also a contusion on the left temple; he believed the state of the brain to have resulted from the external injuries before mentioned, and to be the cause of death, and that it was impossible for deceased to have recovered from these injuries; he also found several bruises about the body, one in particular on the chest, but did not examine the chest, having found inevitable cause of death in the head. The Coroner having addressed the jury, they retired, and returned with a verdict of wilful murder against the prisoner, Thomas Ballard, who was then committed for trial.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/720, 28/05/1851
DEATH BY DROWNING. - On Saturday evening, soon after dusk, a settler named **JOHN FAY**, residing in Mr. Lang's brush, was drowned as he was crossing the Hunter River, near Narrowgut. It is stated that Fay was crossing in a small boat, and had thrown a pierce of meat on to the bank he had approached, and then stepped out himself, supposing he should step on the bank, but the boat having recoiled from the bank a little, Fay stepped into the river, there deep and weedy, and was drowned. Up to Monday evening the body had not been found.
HUNTER RIVER DISTRICT NEWS. - SINGLETON.
MURDER OF AN ABORIGINAL BY TWO ABORIGINALS. - Yesterday a coroner's inquest was held at the Fitz Roy Hotel, by **H. GLENNIE**, Esq., Coroner, on the body of **GERRY GERRY**, or **GREGORY**, an aboriginal, who had been murdered late on Saturday night by two other aboriginals. The evidence went to prove that two of the local aboriginals had had a quarrel about a gin with the deceased, an aboriginal from Byron Plains, which ended in their pursuing him and killing him with repeated blows on the head, apparently with a tomahawk; he died in a quarter of an hour after chief constable **HORNE** had reached the spot where he heard the black crying out, and saw two blacks running away. The jury, by a majority of seven to six, returned a verdict of wilful murder against **JACKEY and JEMMY**. Jackey, who was in custody, was thereupon committed for trial at the Circuit Court, and a warrant was issued for Jemmy's apprehension. [We have not room for the evidence in this publication, having received the report at a late hour. - ED. M. M.]
MURDER. - We have heard that a man, calling himself **FLYNN or FLANNAGAN** (we are not sure which), has been committed by the Yass bench for wilful murder. It appears that he had a quarrel with a man about a dog, and that he fired at that person with a fowling-piece, and afterwards battered his brains out with the butt end of it. *Goulburn Herald, May 24*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/721, 31/05/1851
HUNTER RIVER DISTRICT NEWS. - SINGLETON.
AWFUL AND SUDDEN DEATH. - Another coroner's inquest was held yesterday, at the Fitz Roy Hotel, before **HENRY GLENNIE**, Esq., coroner, and a jury of thirteen, touching the death of **MARTIN BURKE**, a man in the employ of **ARTHUR BLAXLAND**, Esq., of Fordwich, and who expired suddenly on Tuesday night, in the bar of the Fitz Roy Hotel. From the evidence of **SAMUELK HENRY HORNE, PATRICK KERNEY, and JOHN FRAYNE –** it appeared that on Tuesday evening,

between 8 and 9 o'clock, the deceased, who was drunk, came into the "Fitz Roy," in company with Kerney, and was advised to go home by Mr. Horne, as he had been about the town drinking for the last week; Mr. Horne then left him. Deceased was asked by Kerney if he would toss for glasses, which he refused, but said that he would wrestle with him; this, however, was not done; shortly after they noticed the deceased to lean his head upon his arms, upon which Kerney removed him on to a form, so that he could lay down, but he seemed to prefer sitting up; he did not speak afterwards, but sat in the same posture as when placed there, and upon the parties being about to leave the place they looked at him, and upon close examination found that he was dead. Mr. Horne was immediately sent for, and found life was extinct. The coroner was of opinion that the deceased's death was caused by disease of the heart, as deceased had been treated for that complaint. The jury returned a verdict of – Died by the visitation of God.

LETTERS. A series of letters between **JOHN S. PARKER,** Coroner, and **JOHN W.P. BLICK** re his qualifications and status, consequent on remarks made at the inquest on a **JAMES COWAN** at Black Creek [early April]; letter No. 5 reads:-

Morpeth, 14th October, 1850.

Dr. Blick, Black Creek,

DEAR SIR, - The constable from Black Creek has just reported the death of a young man named **BOEN**, informing me that you attended him, and that he was subject to fits; under such circumstances I think that there is no reason to suspect that there was any unfair play, and that his death was the result of natural causes. If you agree with me, the body can be interred, but if you think to the contrary, and that it is necessary to hold an inquest, you will oblige me by writing to me immediately on the subject. It will not take much trouble to exhume the body if this should not reach you in time. - In haste, I remain, my dear sir, yours very truly,

JOHN S. PARKER, Coroner.

[NOTE. NO inquest or press report found; 21/06/2008]

HUNTER RIVER DISTRICT NEWS. - SINGLETON.

MURDER OF A BLACKFELLOW

Yesterday (Monday) a coroner's inquest was held at the Fitz Roy Hotel, Singleton, before **HENRY GLENNIE**, Esq., Coroner, and a jury of thirteen, to enquire into the death of an aboriginal named **GERRY GERRY or GREGORY**, who had been murdered late on Saturday night by two aborigines. The inquest commenced at about 11 o'clock, a.m., and the jury having been sworn, proceeded to view the body, which lay in a stable near at hand. Several deep cuts appeared about the head and face, one under the chin, one under the left eye, another across his ear, severing it in two, and others upon the back part of the head sufficiently deep to have caused instant death. **JACKEY**, one of the murderers, was in the inquest room in the custody of, and handcuffed to, the lockup keeper; the other aboriginal, named **JEMMY**, has not yet been taken, although seven blackfellows were apprehended by the chief constable on Sunday last, but six of them were afterwards liberated.

SAMUEL HENRY HORNE, chief constable of Singleton, deposed that he was at Mr. Alcorn's inn on Saturday night, where he saw the deceased, and Mr. Alcorn was advising him to go home; there was another blackfellow present, and a black gin; at about a quarter to eleven witness was going round the town, when he heard a great noise of cursing and swearing near Mr. **ALEXANDER JOHNSTONE'S,** whose house is situated on the bank of the river; could see no one, being a dark night, but proceeding from the back part of the house witness heard a rush of persons down the bank towards the crossing place of the river; witness heard a blackfellow say, "Which way he go? We lose him," and soon after heard another one running in a contrary direction; towards the back of Mr. Browne's fence he appeared to be quite exhausted

and out of breath; at the same time a black gin came out of Mr. Johnstone's place and went up the street; she was not sober; witness asked her where she was going, and she said to Mr. Cassidy's to stop; witness asked her what the blackfellows were after? And she said, "after blackfellow"; witness called to the blackfellows, when two came up and said they were after a Liverpool blackfellow who wanted to take their gin; they were two short set men, one like the prisoner, and one shorter; it was dark, and witness could not discern their features; they said that they had come from St. Clair after their blankets; they then left witness and went off to Mr. Johnstone's place; witness then went home, and soon after heard dreadful cries of murder, the cries proceeding from the place witness had just left the blacks at; the cries were repeated four or five times; witness returned, and when he got near the spot the cries had ceased; the person crying out appeared to be running; witness then heard several blows, and ran to the spot calling out "are you murdering the man?" when witness heard two men run away; witness immediately fired his pistol in the direction that the men were running; witness then heard some groans, and proceeding down the bank to the spot found the body of the deceased; Mrs. **CARTER and JOHNSTONE** then came down with a light, and witness recognised deceased as the blackfellow he had seen at Mr. Alcorn's; the blood was flowing from his mouth and eyes, and a considerable stream was under him; her was laying on his back; witness left Mr. Johnstone with him while he went to inform Mr. **BROWNE**, and on his return, in about fifteen minutes, he was dead; the cuts on the head and face appeared to have been inflicted with a tomahawk; the next day (Sunday) witness proceeded to their camp, when prisoner was apprehended, having planted himself in a huge iron-bark tree; prisoner said black-fellow and stockman kill my piccaninny long time ago; three tomahawks were found in the camp, bloody, but it might be from opposums; there was no human hair upon them; witness was told by the prisoner's gin that prisoner and Jemmy killed the deceased; when the two blacks spoke to witness they appeared to have been drinking.

Mrs. **CATHERINE CARTER** deposed that late on Saturday night she heard a great noise of screaming and shouting, down the bank of the river, in the rear of her house; she went to the window and stopped there, and heard some heavy blows given; she then heard Mr. Horne's voice, and then a report of a pistol in the direction of the crossing place; witness then came out and went down with Mr. Horne with a light, when she saw a black man on the ground; he was rattling at the throat and foaming with blood at the mouth; her had several deep cuts about the head and face; witness got some water and tried to stop the blood by pouring it on the wounds; witness had seen two black-fellows and a black woman that evening; the woman was very drunk; they were at one fire-place in the shed at the back of our house; witness could not know them again; one was a shorter man than the other; the tall one said that Mr. Browne's black had like to kill one of them with a tomahawk and wanted his gin; they had been making a great deal of noise; witness did not recollect seeing the deceased with them.

ALEXANDER JOHNSTONE, fellmonger, sworn: on Saturday night, about ten o'clock, the prisoner and another black came into my yard to the fire; they were soon joined by deceased, and they talked together in their own language, seemingly in an angry tone; some time after deceased went down to the bank; they had been talking together for about ten minutes, deceased said to them "Bale me want it mol-lungi," (which means woman); after that the two blacks went down to the bank in the same direction as the deceased; witness heard no moiré till the report of Mr. Horne's pistol, having been to bed; when witness heard the shot he came out and went to where the

deceased lay; Mr. Horne was with the body at the bottom of the bank; the life was just ebbing; when the three blacks were in my yard there was a black gin with them, and they seemed to be accusing deceased of being too free with her; after the three blacks went down to the bank the gin remained sleeping by the fire, but when the shot was fired she ran away; witness found a tomahawk the next morning, which was proved to belong to deceased, having been sold to him by Mr. Browne's cook.

EDWARD BROWNE deposed that the deceased came down from Byron Plains to Singleton, to assist him with cattle; the deceased had also been to Maitland and returned from there on Saturday evening; deceased had been employed about four months.

The inquest was now adjourned for one hour, to give time to perform a post-mortem examination. This being done by the coroner, the inquest was resumed.

The coroner stated that he had examined the skull of the deceased, and found five wounds thereon; her had removed the scalp, and found a fracture as big as a half-crown where the skull was driven into the brain. This was sufficient to have caused immediate death. The blows appeared to have been inflicted with some sharp instrument, such as a tomahawk, being about three inches in width. The coroner having summed up, the prisoner was called on if he had anything to say, when the made the following statement:

I been go down to Massa Alcorn's, get a little drunk – all blackfellow get drunk there you know; well, I want to go to camp; Jemmy bale let me go; my gin get drunk; Johnstone fetch it gin from Mr. Alcorn's in a wheelbarrow to his place; Mr. Browne's blackfellow came up with tomahawk and ask "Where black gin?" I say "go camp." Then that fellow bale let me go, he hold my arm; blackfellow belonging to Mr. Browne hit me with tomahawk; I saw Jemmy then at fireplace, and Jemmy not drunk but stupid; Mr. Browne's blackfellow say "You give me black gin;" then he hit black gin with tomahawk and went away; I sit down at fire, and he came again; Jemmy then said "You pi (beat) that blackfellow; Jemmy says "This fellow kill him blackfellow belonging to our place; then Jemmy go pi (beat) him again; I then go camp, and let Jemmy stop behind.

The jury retired for a short time, and not agreeing with their verdict, it was decided by a majority of seven to six that the prisoner Jackey, and also Jemmy, an aboriginal now at large, were guilty of the wilful murder of Gerry Gerry, otherwise Gregory. This verdict was therefore recorded.

The prisoner was then fully committed to take his trial at the next Circuit Court, and a warrant issued for the apprehension of the other murderer, the coroner stating that he fully coincided with the verdict given. May 27th, 1851.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/722, 04/06/1851

BRISBANE CIRCUIT COURT. - This court opened on Monday, the 12th May, before Mr. Justice Dickinson.

Friday, May 16

MICHAEL COLLINS, alias JAMES BRENNAN, was indicted for the manslaughter of **ROBERT SCHOOLS,** at Little Ipswich, on the 9th December. The two men quarrelled and fought in a public-house yard, and in the second round Schools was knocked down and died almost instantly, and it was subsequently found that his neck was broken; Schools had repeatedly challenged Collins to fight before he would do so. Guilty, but strongly recommended to mercy; three months imprisonment, with hard labour.

DAVID SEMPLE was indicted for the wilful murder of **THOMAS YOUNG**, at Ipswich, on the 11th January. It appears from the evidence that Young and Semple had words about Semple's wife; Young walked up and down before Semple's house uttering threats again him in the most gross language, and using worse expressions about his wife; Semple persuaded Young to go away, which Young did, but again returned, repeating his threats and language; Young paid a third visit in the same manner, and was a third time leaving the place when Semple called him back, and going to meet him Semple made a blow at him in the side with a long pocket-knife, inflicting a deep wound; Young fell, and was raised by persons who saw the transaction, and taken to an inn; a doctor was sent for, but Young died in about half an hour from the great internal hemorrhage caused by the wound. The jury returned a verdict of guilty, but recommended Semple to mercy on account of the gross provocation he had received. The judge passed sentence of death, stating that he should forward the recommendation of the jury to the Governor, and if the prisoner had any friends they could also make representations to his Excellency.

BRAIDWOOD RACES. - FATAL ACCIDENTS.

On the first night after the races, a man of the name of **BOND**, who had been for a long time in the confidential employment of **T.M. BOYD**, Esq., was drowned in attempting to cross the river, and has not been up to this time found.

Another man, a saddler in the employment of Mr. **BADGERY**, perished on the road in a state of drunkenness.

A third, on returning from the races on Friday night, ran against a tree and died in a few hours. He was in the employment of Mr. **JAMES ROBERTS**, of Yass, and was here in charge of some of that gentleman's stock. *Bell's Life.*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/723, 07/06/1851

SYDNEY NEWS. - A man named **HORGAN** was, at an early hour his morning, discovered in a house in Campbell-street, with his throat cut. He was instantly conveyed to the Benevolent Asylum, but there is scarcely a hope of his recovery. There is no reason to suspect that the act was done by other than his own hands.

SDHOCKING OCCURRENCE. - We have frequently had occasion to deprecate the culpable negligence so generally manifested by persons keeping fire-arms on their premises, and to deplore the consequences of such negligence when the weapons have been left within reach of children, and even of adult persons unacquainted with their management. We regret to have yto record another instance of shameful carelessness in this respect, and of its fatal result. On Saturday afternoon, two boys named **ABSOLAM**, the elder about ten and the other about five years of age, were playing together in the yard at the rear of premises occupied by a person named **SPARKS**, a tinman, at the corner of York-street and Market-street; on a bench in the yard a loaded pistol had been left, which, melancholy to relate, was seen by the elder of the boys, who took it up and presented it at his brother in play, touched the trigger, the piece went off, the contents lodged in the child's head, and he died on the spot. On Monday an inquest was held on the body, when a verdict of accidental death was returned, the coroner and jury uniting in blaming severely the carelessness of the person who left the loaded pistol within reach of children. *Abridged from the Herald, June 3*

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT. - Intelligence reached Bathurst early yesterday morning, that Miss **MARY WHITE** – sister of Messrs. **PATRICK and PETER WHITE,** met with her death on Thursday night last, by falling over a steep bank of the Queen Charlotte's Vale Creek. It appears she was on her way home to the residence of her brother, Mr. Patrick White, in company with another female in a gig,

and the night being dark, she alighted from the vehicle, and was proceeding on foot in search of the crossing-place to the farm, when she turned off the road too soon and broke her neck by the violence of the fall. Death was instantaneous. *Bathurst Free Press, May 31*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/724, 11/06/1851
DEATH OF A CHILD FROM BURNING. - On Monday an inquest was held before Mr. **PARKER**, at Boughton's Flats, Upper Paterson, on the body of a little boy named **JAMES GRIFFITHS**, three years old. It appeared that on Sunday, the 1st instant, while Mrs. Griffiths was engaged in her house, and her two children were playing about the room, the frock of the little boy caught fire, it is supposed from a gust of wind blowing the flame from the fire out; a scream from the other child drew Mrs. Griffiths's attention to it, and she instantly tore off the burning frock, the only clothing the child had on at the time; she rubbed a red mark on his stomach with some lard, and he appeared so little injured that she thought there was no danger. On the Thursday night following he was suddenly take much worse, and Dr. **PARK** was sent for, and attended, but on Sunday, the 8th, the little boy died from the burns. A verdict of accidental death was returned.
SYDNEY NEWS. - A man named **GEO. BRITTON** was found last night lying in a n insensible state, in the locality known as Blackwattle Swamp; he was conveyed to the Benevolent Asylum, and was discovered dead this morning.
STAFFORD, convicted of manslaughter, was sentenced to one year's imprisonment.
SUDDEN DEATH. - On Monday evening last, a man in the employ of Mr. **WANT**, solicitor, was accidentally killed by a fall from a tree. *Empire, June 4*
IDLE RUMOURS. - Rumour is everywhere afloat, telling all sorts of horrible or improper stories. It was generally reported and extensively credited that Mr. **MICHAEL M'CABE**, publican, of this town, who is gold-digging at Ophir, was struck dead with a pick by one of his mates, with whom he was represented to have quarrelled. We are happy to state that the report if the offspring on the inventive faculty of some wonder-loving gossip, and has not the slightest foundation in fact. *Bathurst Free Press, June 4*
DEATH OF A CHILD FROM SWALLOWING POISON. - There was an inquest held at the Salutation Inn, on the body of a child, which had picked up a piece of corrosive sublimate, unperceived by its parents, and put it into her mouth. On being discovered, the child was put under medical treatment, which for a time appeared to check the influence of the poison, but in a day or two after the fatal symptoms appeared, and afterwards death. Verdict, died from the effect of taking poison. *Goulburn Correspondent of the Herald*
CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT. - Wednesday, June 4. Before Mr. Justice Therry.
PATRICK STAFFORD was indicted for the manslaughter of **DENIS BARRETT**, at Sydney, on the 7th May. The particulars of this case were reported at the time; Stafford sought out and attacked Barrett because Barrett had beaten a woman then living with him, but who had for some years previously lived with Stafford; the men had two or three fights during the same evening, in each of which Stafford got the upper hand, and beat or kicked Barrett while he was on the ground; Barrett was so much injured that he died in the course of the night, from an effusion on the brain arising from the nasal bones being fractured and rupturing a vein. Guilty; remanded for sentence.

DEATH FRIOM BLEEDING A DISEASED HORSE. - On Tuesday last, a man named **WARD** was engaged at the Punch Bowl public-house, Liverpool Road, in bleeding a diseased horse. Some of the blood was on his fingers, and in wiping his brow, the blood appears to have entered a slight abrasure of the skin; he was suddenly taken ill, and shortly afterwards expired. He was a man of good character, and has left a wife and seven children in extreme distress. *Herald, June 6*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/725, 14/06/1851
A MAN DROWNED. - On Thursday morning the steamers *Rose* and *Tamar* both reached Morpeth from Sydney; the *Tamar* left again at two o'clock in the afternoon. Some difficulty had been found in getting the fireman [**JOHN GOODYER**] of the *Tamar* to come on board, as he was on shore drinking, but he was at last induced to come. The steamer had not, however, long left the wharf when the fireman was overboard, and although Captain **PAYNE** instantly threw him a life-buoy, and the boars were lowered without delay, he sunk and was drowned. As various statements are made as to the cause or way in which the fireman got overboard, we do not mention any, as of course an inquest will be held on the body when it is found. Up to yesterday afternoon it had not been recovered. We are sorry to hear the fireman has left a wife and four children, in Sydney.
THE CONVICT SEMPLE. - A very numerous and respectably signed memorial to his Excellency the Governor is about being forwarded to head quarters, praying that the sentence of death passed upon this unhappy man at the last Brisbane Assizes may be commuted to banishment or such other punishment as may seem fit to meet the ends of justice. We trust the charitable application to the fountain of mercy may have the desired effect, as it is evident the unhappy man had reason to believe that an improper intercourse existed between his wife and the deceased. *Brisbane Correspondent of the Herald*
LOWER MURRUMBIDGEE. - TWO WHITE MEN MURDERED BY BLACKS.
The police of this district have found the remains of two white men who were murdered by the blacks on Mr. Reynolds's run, Lower Murray. One of the black fellows (**BILLY THE BULL**) was apprehended by constable **D'ARCY**, of the Moulemain police, and constable **KEATING**, of the Balranald police, on the 30th April, near Mr. Reynolds's station, with much difficulty; the constables afterwards crossed to Mr. Rea's station, on the Lower Murrumbidgee, where they remained for the night. Some time after their arrival at Mr. Rea's station, the prisoner (Billy the Bull) first told the constables that he killed the white man (**CROPPY**), as he had no master but walk about, by striking him above the ear with a tomahawk, and that he often fell; after the first blow he asked him to rise, but he only made a trembling motion with his hand. On the 6th May, Mr. **MOORE**, Chief constable, with three others, escorted the prisoner to where the body of the supposed murdered man was concealed, on the Lower Murray, about five miles from Mr. Reynolds's station. On the arrival of the chief constable at the place he found out that the body had been sunk in the river; the prisoner was very anxious to dive for the body, but was not allowed to do so. The constables then made application to Mr. Reynolds for two blacks that could be depended upon, to which he kindly complied, and gave every assistance in accompanying Mr. Moore back to the river, bringing two blacks with him, who dived for some time apparently without any hopes of success; at last they both dived together and brought up the back bone and ribs; they dived afterwards and then found the skull and other bones. Having obtained all the bones that could be found, the chief constable returned to Mr. Reynolds's station. During the night the prisoner

(Billy the Bull) told constable **MILLS**, when on duty over him, where another white man's bones were hid under a log in Te-walty Creek, about one mile from where the first was found, and that he was killed by a black fellow (**JACKY BEVERIDGE**) striking him on the top of the head with a tomahawk. On the following morning the chief constable took the prisoner to Te-walty Creek, and found the bones as had said, but scattered in the creek, which being dry enabled Mr. Moore to get some joints of the back bone and shoulder blade under the log, but he had to pick some out of the hard clay with a knife; some of the ribs and leg and arm bones were lying further up the creek. On further search the skull was found, having a piece broken in the centre of it, apparently with a tomahawk. As yet no particular information has been obtained more than that the murdered person was in the employ of Mr. **M'LEOD** about 18 or 20 months since, when washing his sheep. A warrant has been taken out for the black fellow (Jackey Beveridge), and Billy the Bull was finally committed on the 16th ult. to take his trial for wilful murder at the next Goulburn Circuit Court. *Correspondent of the Goulburn Herald*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/727, 21/06/1851

INQUEST. - On Monday an inquest was held at the Golden Lion, East Maitland, before Mr. **PARKER**, on the body of **JAMES BRILEY**, known as **Lankey the Pieman.** It appeared from the evidence that the deceased, an old man, was a habitual hard drinker, and had been recently attended by Dr. **WILTON** for illness brought on by intemperance; on Sunday last Mrs. **MAHONY**, a neighbour of Briley's, heard him groaning, and going to him found him complaining of illness; Mrs. Mahony made him some tea, and sent for a person whom Briley wished to see; about the middle of the day Mrs. Mahony took Briley some more tea, and recommended him to go to the hospital, which Briley said he would do; but in the afternoon, when Mrs. Mahony again visited him, she found him kneeling in bed, dead, his head resting against the wall; she immediately sent for Dr. Wilton, who came and found him in this position. The jury returned a verdict of death from natural causes, accelerated by intemperance.

MURDER. - The murder at Yass, lately reported in our paper, appears to be a more serious affair than we at first imagined. It seems that a quarrel took place between the murderer and the murdered about a dog, which ended in the former striking the latter with the butt end of a gun he held in his hand. When the unfortunate fellow was on the ground, the wretch repeated the blows and set on his dog, which dragged the poor fellow's wind pipe out. While on his road to Goulburn under escort, the murdered exulted in stating that no one was present to witness his barbarism, and therefore entertained every expectation of getting acquitted. *Goulburn Herald, June 14*

WIDE BAY. - We have just had a visit from a detachment of the Native Police under Lieutenant Marshall; they endeavoured to apprehend **BOOMER** and **FIREAWAY**, two native blacks who killed Mr. **BLAXLAND** on the Burnett some time ago, but they took the river and escaped, though it is supposed they were wounded; they also apprehended a black called **MICKALY**, **alias PADDY SHAE**, supposed to be one of the murderers of Mr. **GREGOR** and Mrs. **SHANNON** on the Pine River, near Brisbane, some years ago; he goes per *Albion* to Sydney, and from thence will be forwarded to Brisbane; he speaks good English; at his examination he admitted he had heard about the murder and robbery. He was identified as Paddy Shae, and gave that as his name when he was first seen at Wide Bay.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/728, 25/06/1851

DEATH BY DROWNING. - On Friday last the body of **JOHN GOODYER**, the fireman who was drowned from the *Tamar* steamer, was found floating in the river near Hinton. On Saturday an inquest was held on it, at the Hinton Hotel, before Mr. **PARKER**. The evidence of the captain, **CHARLES PAINE**, and of the mate, **JOHN MARSHALL**, having been taken, to the effect that the deceased fell backwards into the water, his head striking the sponson beam as he fell; and that no one touched him, or was near him, deceased falling from drunkenness – the jury returned a verdict of accidental death by drowning.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/729, 28/06/1851
DEATH OF A MAN OF COLOUR. - On his way down the country, on Wednesday morning, Mr. **JAMES SOLOMON** passed the dead body of a Malay, or Hindoo, lying in the road, about six miles fro m Muswell Brook and nine from Scone; the poor man having apparently been killed by the wheel of his dray passing over him, two drays being camped near the body. Mr. Solomon spoke of the matter to several parties at Muswell Brook on his arrival there, but did not hear before he left that any constable or other person in authority had visited the body.
ABDUCTION. - On Monday, four parties named **PATRICK MEEHAN, JAMES MATHER, MARY OATES, and MARY RYAN**, appeared before the Police Magistrate charged with having unlawfully taken out of the possession of her father, one **EMILY BLAKE**, an unmarried female under the age of sixteen years. Mr. Nichols appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Johnson for the defence. The father of the child proved that she was only fourteen years and five months old, and that he was also acquainted with Meehan and his sister Mrs. Oates; they were in the habit of using his house as customers, but Meehan had never paid his addresses to his daughter with his knowledge or consent. Dr. **FULLERTON** deposed to having married the prisoner, Meehan, to **AMELIA BLAKE**; she was represented to him as being the child of a man who had gone to California and left under the care of the woman Ryan, who said that she was seventeen years of age. Several witnesses were examined, and the court having sat two days hearing the case, decided that sufficient testimony had been adduced to warrant the committal of the prisoner. They were admitted to bail. *People's Advocate, June 25*
MELANCHOLY SUICIDE. - We regret to announce the death of Mr. **FERRIS**, of the Bank of New South Wales, by his own hand, yesterday. The deceased (who resided on the North Shore) was found yesterday by a son of Mr. **DIND,** a neighbour, a short distance in the bush, where the unfortunate gentleman had shot himself. *Empire, June 25.* [An inquest was held on the body, subsequently, when it appeared that the deceased, who had been some years employed in the bank, and who had some property, had become dissatisfied lately with the effect of some changes made in the clerical department of the bank, by which he said more duty was cast on him. Some years since the deceased received an injury on the head, and his memory had appeared weakened ever since, but no suspicion was felt that he contemplated such a rash act. The jury returned a verdict that the deceased had destroyed himself while labouring under temporary insanity.]

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/730, 02/07/1851
VESSELS FOR LONDON. - The *Anna Mary*, from the Downs the 6th March, has had a very rough passage, and has lost part of her bulwarks. On the 20th May, in a gale of wind, an apprentice named **ANDREW MAY** fell overboard from off the jib-boom, and was unfortunately drowned.

NEWCASTLE. - The *Antares* was compelled to heave to on the 19th instant, during a heavy gale of wind from the south-west off Cape Howe, when Mr. **WILLIAM ROSS**, a cabin passenger, in a fit of delirium tremens, jumped overboard, and was unfortunately drowned. The deceased was formerly a clerk in the Union Bank of Australia, at Hobart Town. June 26

MELANCHOLY OCCURRENCE. - Mr. **CHARLES JENKINS** was yesterday apprehended for having administered poison to Mr. **MICHAEL FARRELL**, of George-street, publican. Mr. Jenkins having been for some time past labouring under a depression of spirits, Mr. Farrell yesterday afternoon paid him a visit, at his residence, Surry Hills. After some conversation the both proceeded to the Green Isle Inn, South Head Road, when Mr. Jenkins called for a glass of ginger-beer for himself, and a glass of ale for Mr. Farrell. Having drank the ale, Mr. Farrell complained of it as vile stuff, but nothing was thought of it until in a few minutes he became violently ill with violent retching; and shortly afterwards a little child, who, it appears, drank off the remainder, was similarly affected. An examination of the tumbler led to the discovery of a sediment, apparently corrosive sublimate. The circumstances gaining wind, came to the ears of a police officer, who took Mr. Jenkins into custody. Medical aid was in the mean time promptly called in; and by the immediate use by Dr. **BENNETT** of the stomach pump, with the administration of suitable medicines, Mr. Farrell was last night expected to be out of danger. We did not hear whether the child was considered to be in equally safe circumstances. We believe that there is no doubt whatever of Mr. Jenkins' insanity; and he must have taken an opportunity of pouring the mixture into Mr. Farrell's glass while the latter was conversing with another person in the house. They were on the best possible terms with each other. *Herald, June 26*

ABDUCTION CASE. - The Rev. Dr. **FULLERTON** has been summoned to answer the charge of "contracting an illegal marriage between **EMMELINE BLAKE** and **PATRICK MEEHAN."** The case will, we understand, come on for hearing to-morrow. It is said that Mr. Foster has been retained as counsel for the defence. *Empire, June 26*.

THE REV. DR. FULLERTON. - This gentleman's case, which was set down for hearing at the Police-office yesterday, was postponed until Monday next, in consequence of Mr. Foster, who was retained for the defence, being unavoidably engaged at the Supreme Court. *Empire, 28th June*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/732, 09/07/1851

ACCIDENTAL DEATH BY DROWNING. - As a stranger, apparently a poor traveller, with blanket and pot on his back, who had incautiously essayed to mount a mare without bridle or saddle, caught by chance at the bank of the river, was making her swim across the Hunter, nearly opposite the residence of Dr. West, by some mismanagement, it is said by checking the animal and not giving her her head, they both came in collision with a log, when they appeared as if rolling upon each other, and the rider slipped off her back and was swept away by the current. The body has not been seen since it sank. The mare swam to shore safely. This casualty occurred yesterday afternoon.

INQUEST. - An inquest was held on the 26th June, by Dr. **LITTLE**, coroner of the district of Scone, at the Prince Albert Hotel, Aberdeen, on the body of a man of colour, a Malay, who it appeared from the evidence had been killed on the road in the Scone district by the wheel of his dray passing over him. The jury returned a finding of accidental death. Some delay was occasioned in making this matter known to the

proper coroner, in consequence of some person, not acquainted with the boundaries of the Scone district, either sending or taking the report to Muswellbrook, which caused the police of the latter district to visit the body during the night of Tuesday, and on the following morning to forward the report to the authorities at Scone.

DREASDFUL OUTRAGE. - A gentleman arriving yesterday from Carcoar brings information that a fiend [**CORNELIUS O'BRIEN]** in human shape, after using extreme violence towards some female, tied her down to a bed and attempted to burn her to death, after which he succeeded in getting away. The same person states that she [**ELIZA CLARKE]** was lying in a most dangerous state, her life being despaired of. I since hear that the ruffian has been taken. *Bathurst Correspondent of Herald*

DEATH.

Accidentally drowned at sea, on the 23rd June, from on board the brigantine *Meg Merrilies*, on her passage from the Clarence River, and of which vessel he was commander, Mr. **JAMES DAVIS.**

COUNCILLOR JENKINS. - This gentleman was brought before the bench on the charge of lunacy, by virtue of a certificate signed by Drs. **BLAND, RUTTER, and BENNETT.** The case was investigated at some length in the private room; but as usual the Doctors could not agree in their testimony. Dr. **TIERNEY** was of opinion that Mr. **JENKINS** was not insane, while Dr. Rutter was so convinced to the contrary that he had sent a certificate on his own responsibility to the effect that Mr. Jernkins was a dangerous lunatic. It was ultimately determined, however, to hand Mr. Jenkins over to the guardianship of his sureties, by which means, perhaps, both his unfortunate condition and the happiness of his family will be best consulted. *Empire, July 5*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/733, 12/07/1851

DEATHS.

At the Caledonian Hotel, Newcastle, suddenly, on the 27th June, while on his passage from Sydney to the Paterson, **EDWARD**, eldest son of the late **JOSEPH STOREY**, Esq., shipowner of Sunderland, Durham, and Mrs. **THOMAS CROFT**, of Sydney, aged 35 years.

ACCIDENT. - A horse-driver from Maitland had his arm fractured near this township about a fortnight ago. It was caused by the dray wheel passing over it, and was so severe (compound and comminuted) that amputation was considered necessary. It was, however, ultimately decided by the medical men that the limb might be saved, and up to this time the man is progressing favourably. *June 9*

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT. - TUESDAY, JULY 8, 1851

LARCENY. - **ANGELINA MARY HUGHES HALLETT** was indicted for stealing five £1 notes and some silver, the property of **SARAH TEMPLETON,** at Sydney, on the 8th June.

The jury returned a verdict of guilty. The prisoner was sentenced to two years' hard labour in Parramatta gaol, and the judge explained in passing sentence that she had been released at the expiration of about one-fourth of her former sentence for child-stealing, two years, on a medical certificate from the gaol medical man being furnished that any further confinement would permanently injure her health.

DEATH BY BURNING. - Yesterday evening Mr. **J. O'NEILL BRENAN**, W.P.M, held a magisterial inquiry (in the absence of the Coroner) touching the death of **WILLIAM CAMPSTEY**, who was literally burned to ashes on Sunday night, under the following circumstances:- The deceased, who resided in a small court off Pitt-street, had been bed-ridden for some time past, and had been in the habit of smoking

in bed. On Sunday evening he, as usual, had had his bed made, and had been left with his candle burning, and his pipe and tobacco. Upon going into the room yesterday morning, a neighbour (Mrs. **HACKETT**), who was in the habit of attending to him, found the bed clothes nearly consumed by a smouldering flame, and the body of the deceased, save the head, entirely burnt to ashes. Dr. **TIERNEY** deposed to having been called in to examine the body, which presented one of the most dreadful sights which he had ever seen. It was clearly proved that the fire must have been purely accidental, and a verdict to that effect was recorded. *Herald, July 8*

OUTRAGE NEAR CARCOAR. - I have obtained some further particulars respecting the woman who was so severely injured by burning near Carcoar. Herr name is **ELIZA CLARKE**, and she resided at King's Plains, about ten miles from Carcoar. On Tuesday last, Mr. **NORTH,** the police magistrate, attended, and took her deposition, she being considered to be in an exceedingly dangerous state. She stated that a man, whom she identified, **CORNELIUS O'BRIEN**, came into her hut, and lit his pipe; he afterwards drew her towards the bedroom, and proceeded to offer violence to her, which she resisted. He then took a firestick, and putting it under her, severely burned her person; after which he left, and she found that the house had been set fire to. The house and its contents were burned to the ground. O'Brien is in the custody of the Carcoar police. *Herald Correspondent, July 7*

TWO MEN DROWNED. - On Tuesday night two men who were camping with their teams at one of the Five Mile Water Holes, mistook their way when on return from Mr. Stammers', where, it appears, they had partaken rather freely of liquor, and falling into a deep pond of water, were drowned. The first notice of the catastrophe was taken I n consequence of their hats being seen on the surface of the waster the following morning. Their names and other particulars have not yet transpired. *Bathurst Free Press, July 5*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/734, 16/07/1851

DEATH OF MRS. CLARKE. - Since Saturday's publication we have made inquiries respecting the death of the unfortunate female reported in our last, from respectable individuals residing near the spot, from whom we learn that the particulars, as then stated, are substantially correct. An inquest was held on the body at King's Plains, but was adjourned to Carcoar, the result of which we have not yet learned. A man of the name of **CORNELIUS O'BRIEN** was apprehended on suspicion, and brought before the Carcoar bench, but as nothing transpired to connect him in any way with the awful deed he was discharged. *Bathurst Free Press, July 9*

SUDDEN DEATH. - We are sorry to have to report the sudden death of Mr. **ROBERT MUIR,** late of Dunmore Mills. We have not seen the depositions taken at the inquest, but from what we have learnt, Mr. Muir, who had been ailing for some little time, was taken suddenly worse on Saturday morning last, and although Dr. **M'CARTNEY** was sent for instantly, before he could reach Dunmore Mr. Muir had expired. An inquest was held on the body of Sunday, before Mr. **PARKER**, and the funeral took place yesterday.

THE NORTHERN DISTRICTS. - At Port Macquarie, a MAN NAMED **SAMUEL ETON** was drowned while attempting to ford a flooded creek; his horse was also drowned.

An old pensioner, recently arrived in the district, also met a similar death.

HUNTER RIVER DISTRICT NEWS. - MUSWELL BROOK.

A YOUNG MAN DROWNED IN THE RIVER. - An inquest was held by the coroner on the 7th instant, on the body of the unfortunate young man who was

drowned here on the 4th, as previously reported. The body was found on the 7th by constable **CUMBERLAND** under a log in the river. The name of the deceased was **CHARLES JOSEPH THOMAS**, and he was an exile by the ship *Randolph*; his passport was found in his pocket; he was a native of Brighton in Sussex; age, 216 years and 6 months. A verdict was returned of accidentally drowned.
MERRIWA.
DEATH BY DROWNING IN A FLOODED CREEK. - An inquest was held at the Fitz Roy Hotel here, by **THOMAS A. PERRY**, Esquire, and a jury of five, on view of the body of **JOHN WEIGHT**, found dead in Smith Rivulet, on Saturday last. It appears that the unfortunate deceased was drowned in attempting to cross the creek during the recent flood, his horse having been found some days previously on the opposite side of it with saddle and bridle on. Floods here are of such unusual occurrence (indeed this is the first we have had for the last three years and a half) that we fear the unfortunate deceased despised the unruly element, and this lost his life in its prime. We understand he had just returned from Maitland, where he had been on a visit to his brother, who has recently arrived in the colony. The verdict of the jury was in accordance with the circumstances, and the remains were interred yesterday. Merriwa, 7th July, 1851
DEATH.
At Dunmore, on the 12th July, inst., **ROBERT MUIR**, Esq., formerly of Glasgow, N.B., aged 35 years.

MAITLAND MERRCURY, 9/735, 19/07/1851
HUNTER RIVER DISTRCIT NEWS. - STROUD.
SUDDEN DEATH. - An awfully sudden death happened here last night, at eleven o'clock. An old servant of the Company's, named **JAMES SLATTERIE**, had just got his discharge, having agreed to accompany a party who are preparing to leave this place in a few days for the gold diggings; he had been with the party during the evening arranging for their departure, and on reaching his lodgings, was in the act of taking off a new boot which he had been trying on, when through the exertion he fell forward, and he never afterwards spoke. He was living in the house of a shoemaker, who immediately on Slatterie's falling ran for Dr. **DOUGLAS**. The Doctor was immediately in attendance, but before he reached the vital spark had fled. It is supposed the unfortunate man must have over exerted himself in trying the boots on, and caused the rupture of a blood vessel. Slatterie was a quiet, inoffensive man, and being well known, his death has caused quite a gloom here to-day. July 13rth, 1851
FATAL ACCIDENT. - On Tuesday last an accident of a most melancholy nature happened to Mr. **BROWN**, innkeeper, Wingello, which, we regret to state, terminated fatally. It appears that Mr. B. was returning from the Bathurst diggings, and when in the neighbourhood of Bigga was for some distance followed by a native dog. Determined on having a shot at him, Mr. Brown loaded a fowling piece with ball, and placing it in the cart which was accompanying him, walked slowly behind the vehicle, waiting an opportunity of firing at the dog. He had not gone far before the piece went off, owing to the jolting of the cart, the ball entering the unfortunate Mr. Brown's body near the region of the heart. Every attention that circumstances would admit of was afforded the poor sufferer, but it was found impossible to stop the extensive hemorrhage which followed. A messenger was despatched to town for Dr. **WAUGH**, who left on Wednesday for the scene of the disaster. However, medical assistance was of no avail. The unfortunate man lingered until Thursday night, when death put an end to his sufferings. *Goulburn Herald, July 12*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/736, 23/07/1851
ACCIDENT. - Yesterday afternoon, as a servant of Captain Hunter's was driving up George-street in a tax-cart, the horse took fright, and rushed in towards Mr. Birnstingl's shop with such violence as to throw the man out. Fortunately the horse was stopped almost immediately, but we believe the driver has sustained very serious injury – his skull and one of his knee-joints were dreadfully fractured. He was promptly conveyed to the Infirmary, where he was attended by Dr. **DOUGLASS**. It is doubtful whether he will recover. *Empire, July 17*
ACCIDENT. - About five o'clock yesterday afternoon, a little boy named [**GEORGE] LOGAN**, aged between two and three years, was knocked down near the intersection of Bathurst-street by Sussex-street, by a cart loaded with flour, and so severely injured that in less than three hours thereafter he expired. Mr. Surgeon **NELSON** and Mr. Surgeon **RUTTER** were promptly in attendance, but their efforts were unavailing to the preservation of the child's life. *Herald, July 17*
MANSLAUGHTER. - DEATH OF AN INFANT FROM NEGLECT. - On Wednesday an inquest was held before the Coroner, at the Union Inn, Parramatta-street, on view of the body of **JANE BRITTON**, an infant only eight months old, who had died on that morning. From the evidence of Dr. **TIERNEY**, who had made a post mortem examination, and from that of the neighbours, it appeared that the father of the deceased had been from home for some time, having left Sydney for the gold diggings; and that the mother, heretofore an exemplary woman, had since given herself up to habits of intemperance; and that from her neglect the child had died. The jury, after a short consultation, returned a verdict of manslaughter against **MARY BRITTON**; and a warrant against the unhappy woman was accordingly issued by the Coroner. *Herald, July 18*
FATAL ACCIDENT IN THE HARBOUR. - Yesterday morning, about half-past 7 o'clock, three ballast boats were sailing between Billy Blue's Point and Goat Island, when, suddenly, a squall broke over them from the high land; and the sternmost boat was capsized. A boat, manned by five of the Water Police, immediately pushed off from Goat Island, and constable **HOLLAND** succeeded in recovering the body of one of the crew; which proved to be that of Mr. **WARLOW**, the owner of that and several of the other ballast boats in the harbour. Search was made during the day for the body of his assistant, **WILLIAM WARNER**, but it was not found at dusk last evening. The body of Warlow was conveyed to the Hero of Waterloo Inn, Fort-street; and the usual means of resuscitation used, but without success. It there awaits the coroner's inquest. Both of the deceased men were highly respected, and each has left a wife and family to mourn his untimely fate. *Herald, July 19*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/737, 26/07/1851
SYDNEY NEWS.
MANSLAUGHTER. - The inquest commenced on the 17th instant, on the body of **GEORGE LOGAN,** an infant aged two years and a half, and who was killed on the 16th instant, by being knocked down by a cart, was resumed yesterday at the Light House Hotel – **GEORGE BURNETT**, the driver of the cart, being in custody. It appears from the evidence that the deceased and his brother, a few years older than himself, were playing in Bathurst-street, on the evening in question, when a cart laden with wheat, drawn by a fresh young horse, and driven by the prisoner, came down the street. Ass it approached the child fell, and the driver not perceiving it, drove on, and the cart passed over its body. He pulled up so soon as he heard the alarm; but not

being at the horse's head, was not in time to save the child's life. Mr. **NELSON** was called in directly, but the poor child died in a few minutes afterwards. The Coroner, in summing up, directed the attention of the jury to those portions of the evidence which went to show that the driver of the cart was not so near to the horse's head as to enable him to pull up suddenly upon an alarm being given. In the present case, it appeared, that the driver was not sufficiently near to his horse's head to prevent the melancholy result; and it would be for the jury to say whether he should, or should not, be sent to take his trial for manslaughter. The jury, after a short consultation, returned a verdict of manslaughter against George Burnett, who was committed for trial under the Coroner's warrant. *Herald, July 21*

CUNNINGHAM'S GAP.

… The blackfellow that murdered Mrs. **SHANNON**, on the Brisbane, has been taken by the black police, and forwarded to Sydney, the expense of which will no doubt open the eyes of the government. *Correspondent of the Moreton Bay Free Press*

FATAL ACCIDENT. - An inquest was held, yesterday, at Mr. Holder's public-house, Parramatta-street, on the body of **TIMOTHY SULLIVAN**, lying dead in the house of Mrs. **HAYES**, Charles-street. It appeared from the evidence that the deceased left his home quite well on Thursday morning, and returned in the evening of the same day, complaining of having been struck on the side by the shaft of his dray. Deceased said that no blame was attributable to any one; he was coming across his dray, when the horse jibbed and the shaft struck him. Deceased was attended by Dr. **CUTHILL** until the time of his death, which took place on Sunday morning. Dr. Cuthill stated death was caused by the fracture of several ribs, which had penetrated the substance of the lung s, and caused internal haemorrhage. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death. *Empire, July 22*

CORNELIUS O'BRIEN. - A report reached town that this man, who was apprehended on suspicion of being concerned in the burning of **ELIZA CLARK**, had been discharged by the Carcoar bench for want of sufficient proof to connect him with the crime, and I subsequently reported that such was the case, considering it only right that as I had reported the circumstances under which his apprehension took place, I should also give the first intimation of his having been released. It appears, however, that my first report was perfectly right, and my second as perfectly wrong. He was, on the 12th instant, fully committed for trial by Mr. **NORTH**, the police magistrate of Carcoar, for having, on the 28th day of June last, feloniously, unlawfully, and maliciously. Assaulted, wounded, and burned Eliza Clarke, **otherwise ELIZA PLANT**, with intent to kill and murder her, and he is ordered for trial at the next Assizes. *Bathurst Correspondent of the Herald.*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/738, 30/07/1851

MURDER OF AN ABORIGINAL BOY. - On Sunday morning, the 6th instant, as Mr. **RICHARD TAYLOR** was walking across from his residence into the township, he discovered the body of a black boy, well known in Armidale as **LITTLE DAVY**, and for some time back in the employ of **MICHAEL MULLIGAN,** butcher, in this town. A magisterial inquiry was held by **R.G. MASSIE**, Esq., C.C.L., and Dr. **MARKHAM** made a post mortem examination of the body, the result of which was the doctor's opinion that the boy had been strangled. There is not the slightest doubt that the poor little fellow was murdered. All the particulars of this dark deed have been forwarded to the Attorney General. Upon the receipt of his reply it is supposed further proceedings will be taken in the matter.

FATAL ACCIDENT. - Yesterday the inquest which was commenced on Wednesday last, before the coroner, on view of the body of **WILLIAM STRIDE**, then lying dead in the Sydney Infirmary, was concluded at the Three Tuns, Elizabeth-street. It appeared from the evidence of Mr. **JAMES WOOD**, of the South Head Road, that the deceased, who was a man of very intemperate habits, had lived in his service, off and on, for the last three years. On Saturday, the 12th instant, deceased had been drunk, and on the following morning was found lying in the kitchen very badly burned. It would seem that he had been sitting before the fire, and when asleep must have fallen forward upon the fire. Medical assistance was procured, and on the following Tuesday he was sent to the Infirmary, where, notwithstanding every care shown to him by Dr. **M'EWEN**, delirium set in, and he died on the 22nd. The jury returned a verdict of died from the effects of an accidental burn combined with delirium tremens. *Herald, July 26*

REPORTED DEATH BY DROWNING. - A report has been circulated in town that Mr. **HENRY HUGHES**, proprietor of Ballyrou and other estates in this neighbourhood, is supposed to be drowned in attempting to cross Campbell's River, when flooded, a few days ago. As the report wants confirmation, we hope it may prove to be correct. *Bathurst Free Press, July 23*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/739, 02/08/1851

SERIOUS ACCIDENT. - Yesterday evening, about dusk, a labouring man named **THOMAS GAMBLES** met with an accident of so serious a nature that small hopes are entertained of his recovery. It appears that the unfortunate man was lying down drunk in Bridge-street, when a dray laden with potatoes was coming along, and one of the wheels passed over his chest, inflicting injuries which, it is believed, will prove fatal. He was immediately taken to the shop of Mr. **C.M. PENNY**, chemist and druggist, of George-street, and from thence conveyed in a coach to the Infirmary. *Empire, July 29*

DEATH OF MR. HENRY HUGHES. - The rumour of the death by drowning of Mr. **HENRY HUGHES**, which was published in Wednesday's issue, turns out to be too true. On Saturday last he was observed by Mr. **THOMAS LEE**, of Woodlands, crossing Street's Fall, the river then being very high. Mr. Hughes, who was leading one horse and riding another, proceeded in the direction of another very dangerous fall on Campbell's river, about half a mile distant from the farm, and has not since been seen or heard of. Curious to know if he had succeeded in crossing, Mr. Lee shortly afterwards strolled to the crossing place and there saw a powerful current. It is not improbable that Mr. Hughes' remains may have been carried a considerable distance. *Bathurst Free Press, July 26*

FATAL ACCIDENT. - A Coroner's inquest was held on the 20th instant, at Bungonia, before **ROBERT WAUGH**, Esq., coroner for the district, on view of the body of **JAMES REID.** The deceased met with his death by falling off the fore-part of a dray on which he was riding, the wheel passing over his body. He lived for about an hour after the accident. We think it right to state that the deceased was perfectly sober when he met with the accident which produced his death. *Goulburn Herald, July 26*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/740, 06/08/1851

SUDDEN DEATH. - On Monday an inquest was held at the Angel Inn, Maitland, before Mr. **PARKER**, on the body of **JAMES BOWMAN**, an elderly man who had been for some weeks living at the Angel as groom. It appeared from the evidence that

the deceased had occasionally complained of a pain about the heart, but had not been under medical care for it; latterly he had complained of a cold; on Sunday morning [crease in paper, line missing] and was seen moving about in his ordinary way by Mr. **STONE**, the cook, and the barman; soon after seven Bowman was engaged in lighting the fire in the bar, when he fell heavily as he was crossing the room, and never spoke again; the barman, **WILLIAM PAYNE**, who was in the bar at the time, ran and lifted him up, and called the cook to help him; Payne informed Mr. Stone that Bowman was in a fit, and by his directions went immediately for medical aid; Dr. **M'CARTNEY** was in a few minutes on the spot, but found Bowman quite dead; there were three slight cuts on the face, apparently caused when he fell, but neither of them would have had the slightest influence in his death; there was also a little oozing of blood from the mouth and nose; death probably resulted from apoplexy or the rupture of a blood vessel. The jury returned a verdict of death from natural causes.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/741, 09/08/1851
ESCAPE OF TWO PRISONERS FROM MAITLAND GAOL. - On Thursday two prisoners escaped from the gaol, one being **PATRICK M'NAMARA**, awaiting trial on a charge of murdering his wife, and the other **PATRICK WELSH**, charged with burglary and larceny. Continues …
NOTICE.
DESCRIPTION OF TWO PRISONERS who effected their Escape from the Gaol at Maitland, on the morning of the 7th August, 1851:-

PATRICK MACNAMARA

Offence, murder; age, 27 years; height, 6 feet; complexion, very florid; hair, black; eyes, hazel; country, Limerick, Ireland. PM on right forearm. Dress – Light fustian trowsers, white Guernsey frock, dark spots, cabbage-tree hat, dark waistcoat with metal buttons. Strong and active.
DEATH BY DROWNING. - An inquest was held on Saturday, at the Water Police Office, on view of the body of **JOHN MACGUIGAN**, a seaman belonging to H.M.S. *Pandora*. **THOMAS JONES**, a seaman on board the same ship, proved that deceased, himself, and some others, were camped on Garden Island, and that about half-past nine o'clock on Friday night the deceased launched a small boat from the island fort the purpose of going on shore at Wooloomooloo Bay, but had not proceeded far when he perceived that deceased had fallen into the water, and was drowning. He gave the alarm, and in a short time Sir **EVERARD HOME** ordered a boat belonging to H.M.S. *Calliope* to be manned, and the crew succeeded in picking up the body. Verdict – accidentally drowned while under the influence of intoxication. *EMPIRE, Aug. 4*
CLARENCE RIVER. - **JESSE HUNT**, a little girl about five years of age, was drowned on the afternoon of the 3rd instant, in a waterhole at the Swamp Station, belonging to Mr. **JAMES AITKEN**. It appears her mother sent her for some water, when she unfortunately fell in. An inquest was held on the body before **O. FRY**, Esq., J.P., and a verdict of accidental death returned. *Herald Correspondent.*
ACCIDENTAL DEATHS. - On Tuesday last a child named **WILLIAM SMALLMAN**, eight years of age, was sent by his parents, who reside at Bulimba, to the well for some water, when it appears that he fell into the well. It was some time before any fears were excited by his absence, and by the time that he was taken out life was extinct, the deceased having been ten minutes in the water. Dr. **HOBBS** was sent for, but medical aid was vain. An inquest was held before Dr. **SWIFT**, and a verdict in accordance with the above circumstances returned.

It is our melancholy duty to report another case of accidental drowning, which occurred yesterday. A little girl, about eighteen months old, daughter of a brick-maker named **MEARA**, residing at North Brisbane, fell into a small waterhole near her parents' residence, and was drowned before her absence had been noticed. *Moreton Bay Courier, July 19*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/742, 13/08/1851
LUNACY. - Recently an unfortunate man, named **EVAN M'LEAN,** was brought before the bench, charged with attempting to commit suicide; he was, after some enquiry, remanded for a week to allow observations as to his sanity to be made by medical men. Yesterday he was again brought up, when Drs. **WILTON** and **M'CARTNEY** certified that M'Lean was a dangerous lunatic, and he was remanded to gaol preparatory to removal to the asylum.
REWARD FOR THE APPREHENSION OF M'NAMARA AND WALSH. - We believe government will offer a reward, on the recommendation of the Inspector-General of Police, for the apprehension of M'Namara and Walsh, who escaped from the Maitland gaol on Thursday morning last, as reported by us. The police have been diligently engaged in searching for them, but hitherto without avail, although it is hoped a clue has been found to M'Namara's movements.
PENRITH. - MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT. - On Sunday, the 3rd instant, the neighbourhood of Emu Plains was thrown into the utmost distress by the following lamentable event. Mr. **HENRY WHYTE**, of Penrith, his wife, and eldest daughter, were on a visit to Mr. Robert Beatson's for the purpose of celebrating the christening of Mr. B.'s eldest child. After the ceremony, the elder members of the party say down to dinner, but Miss W. and Miss B. went into the paddock for the purpose of taking a ride alternately. Miss. W. having mounted, cantered round the paddock once, and was proceeding round as second time, when a number of horses which were feeding there galloped off. The horse on which Miss W. was riding followed at full speed. An attempt was made by a young man to seize the bridle, but unsuccessfully, and the horse redoubled its speed. Miss W. lost her seat, her foot stuck in the stirrup leather, and she was dragged in that state a distance of nearly half-a-mile. The horse was at length run up into a corner, but terrible to relate, he made a dash at the fence, which he leaped, dragging the un fortunate child over with him. It is needless to add, that when the horse was eventually secured Miss W. was a corpse. An inquest was held the following day at Mr. Robert Beatson's, the Australian Arms, and a verdict of accidental death was recorded by the jury. *Herald Correspondent*
GOULBURN CIRCUIT COURT.
This court opened on Monday, August 4, before Mr. Justice Dickinson.
Wednesday, August 6.
MICHAEL COTTER was indicted for the manslaughter of **JOHN CARROLL**, at ------, on the 17th March. Cotter, his wife, Carroll, and other persons, were at M'Intosh's in non that day, drinking together, when Carroll and Mrs. Cotter, after some conversation, went out of the house together; Cotter shortly afterwards missed his wife, and asked M'Intosh where she was; M'Intosh said he did not know, but would go and see; he went out, and discovered Carroll and Mrs. Cotter under such circumstances as left no doubt of their criminal intercourse. Almost at the same moment, Cotter, the prisoner, came up, and seizing a large pole or sapling that was lying on the ground, struck Carroll on the head, and broke in the back of his scull, causing his almost instantaneous death. Prisoner then said ,"I have killed them both, but I caught them in the act, and I now surrender myself to take my trial." Mr.

Purefoy briefly addressed the jury as to the extenuating circumstances of the case, and called Mr. **SIMMONS,** Mr. **FLETCHER**, and Mr. **CARTWRIGHT**, as to the prisoner's character, each of whom spoke of him as a quiet, industrious, and inoffensive man. His Honor summed up, and the jury found a verdict of guilty, with a strong recommendation to mercy. Sentence, six months in Goulburn gaol.

PATRICK FLINN was indicted for the wilful murder of **EDWARD SUGDEN**, at Reedy Creek, on the 4th May, by inflicting divers wounds and bruises on the head with a gun-barrel. This was a peculiar case. Flinn, on the evening of that day, came to a settler's house, and stated that Sugden had come to his hut, armed with a gun, demanding back a dog belonging to Sugden which he (Flinn) had; that Flinn refused to give up the dog, on which Sugden fired at him; that he then in self-defence took the gun from Sugden, and loosed his dog at him, but that Sugden was not much hurt, and had gone home to his master's. On hearing this tale parties went out, and hearing cries of murder, followed the sound, and was thus directed to the spot where Sugden was lying, 60 yards from Flinn's hut, and covered with wounds and bruises. Sugden was removed to his master's hut, but died the following morning, and the post mortem examination disclosed three lacerated wounds on the head, a lacerated wound on the breast, several injuries on the arms, and the left tibia broken. The medical witnesses all agreed that death arose from all these injuries combined, and that the injuries in the head did not alone cause death. Mr. Purefoy, who at the request of the Judge conducted the defence, submitted that the capital charge must be abandoned, as the indictment alleged death to be caused by the wounds on the head. The Attorney General, after questioning again the medical witnesses, admitted this, and the case was therefore sent to the jury as a common assault. The jury returned a verdict of guilty of assault, and the prisoner was sentenced to three years' imprisonment, with hard labour.

GEORGE CUTTER was indicted for shooting at **ALEXANDER BRAND**, with intent to do bodily harm, at Mittagong, on the 4thFebruary; and Brand was then indicted for shooting at Cutter, at the same time and place. The case against Brand was first gone into, and then that against Cutter. Cutter went to Brand's house and demanded to see his wife, and Cutter said that Brand fired at him on his persisting; while Brand said that Cutter, on learning that Mrs. Cutter would not see him, fired at him (Brand), and wounded him slightly. The jury acquitted Cutter, and found Brand guilty. Mr. Purefoy moved in arrest of judgement a technical defect in the indictment against Brand, which was held to be fatal, and Brand was discharged, on entering into his recognizance to appear when called on. *Abridged from the S.M. Herald.*

FATAL ACCIDENT AT COCKATOO ISLAND. - Mr. **J. O'NEIL BRENNAN**, Water Police Magistrate, held a magisterial inquiry at this penal establishment on Tuesday, touching the death of **NICHOLAS COYNE**, a prisoner under sentence on the island. It appears from the evidence of the overseers and others, that on Tuesday morning a "devil" had been made for the purpose of blasting a portion of the rock, and that some altercation took place among the overseers and men as to who should fire it, each being anxious to perform the duty. The deceased had the firestick in his hand, and being asked by the acting overseer to gibe him the stick, he refused, saying, that as he had the trouble to make the devil, he would finish it. He at once fired the blast, when an immense piece of the rock, about half a ton in weight, fell upon him. Pieces of the rock struck others of the gang, but no serious injury, as far as they were concerned, was inflicted. Every exertion was made to rescue the unfortunate man; who, so soon as he was got from under the rock, was taken to the Infirmary; he died in a very few minutes. Dr. **O'BRIEN** deposed to the injuries received by deceased; and

Mr. Brennan recorded as the result of the inquiry, "That he, Mr. Brennan, recommended that on all future occasions, when blasting was going forward, no squib or devil should be made, or the priming put to the hole, before the assisting parties were all cleared well away beyond the reach of probable danger." *Herald, Aug. 7*

ACCIDENT. - **THOMAS BOOTH**, a seaman belonging to a coasting vessel in harbour, was employed in making some repairs at the topmast; while so engaged the mast broke, and the poor fellow was precipitated to the deck. Mr. Surgeon **RUTTER** was in immediate attendance, and directed his removal to the Infirmary. It is feared that the injuries received are of a very serious character. *Herald.*

SERIOUS ACCIDENT. - A man named **JOHN FRAZER**, employed at Mr. Gosling's new building near the Circular Quay, fell off the outside wall, a height of thirty feet, about half-past four P.M. yesterday. The poor fellow was promptly taken to hospital. *Empire, Aug. 8*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/743, 16/08/1851

THE ESCAPED PRISONERS. - No certain trace has yet, we believe, been discovered of the two escaped prisoners, **M'NAMARA and WALSH**. The police are still diligently employed in the search after them.

INTESTATE ESTATES.

JAMES ROCHE, late of Clarence river; money received, £21 18s. 6d; payments made, £2 1s. 11d.; money in hand, £19 16s. 7d.; date of order to collect, April 7, 1851. A soldier, accidentally drowned.

GOULBURN CIRCUIT COURT. - *Thursday, August 7.*

JOSEPH WOODFIELD was indicted for the wilful murder of **THOMAS HARTNEADY**, at Boro, on the 29th April. This case was fully reported at the time. Hartneady was in the service of Woodfield, a publican, and a quarrel taking place between them, they fought with their fists; Hartneady took up a stick, and struck Woodfield on the head, but Woodfield knocked him down with his fist, and when down kicked him several times, and knelt on his chest. At this time Hartneady, who had begged for mercy, became insensible, and remained so till he was taken into the house and placed on a sofa, and next morning his sister, who had been denied access to him by Woodfield, found Hartneady dead. His Honor sent the case to the jury as one of manslaughter, and the jury returned a verdict of guilty of manslaughter; the prisoner was sentenced to two years' imprisonment, with hard labour.

FATAL BOAT ACCIDENT. - On Sunday evening, about eight o'clock, the younger son of Colonel **GIBBES** heard screams for assistance off Kirabili Point, North Shore, and immediately manning a boat, and pushing off in the direction whence the cries proceeded, he succeeded in rescuing the two men, who had been upset in a small sailing boat. The third of their party, a man named **GALLOWAY**, could not be found, although every effort was made to save him, and his body has not yet been recovered. The origin of the accident had not yet been clearly ascertained, but it is attributed to the sheets having been made fast. Galloway leaves a widow and child to mourn his untimely fate. *Herald, Aug.12*

GALLANT CAPTURE OF A MURDERER. - A letter dated Balranald furnishes us with the following particulars of the capture by Mr. **GRAHAM**, landlord of the Balranald Inn, of an aboriginal native named **BILLY THE BULL**, who had recently been committed by the Goulburn bench to stand his trial for murder, but had escaped from the custody of the police when en-route from Balranald to Goulburn. It appears that Mr. Graham was in the vicinity of Mr. M'Cullin's at the Lower Murray, on or about the 25th ultimo, and while stopping at the gentleman's station obtained

information that Billy the Bull was encamped with a tribe of blacks in the immediate neighbourhood, and being resolved, if possible, to rid the country of such a bloodthirsty villain, visited a number of aboriginal camps in the vicinity of the station, and after a little trouble was rewarded in finding the ruffian. Having some knowledge of Billy's mother tongue, he immediately entered into conversation with him, and without exciting his suspicion, drew him out of the camp and persuaded him to walk up to the Travellers' Hut. On his entering, Graham, who was behind him, closed the door and presented a carabine at the fellow's head, but nowise daunted, the black, a powerful ruffian, rushed upon Graham with a view to wrench the carabine from his grasp. The struggle continued for some time without victory declaring on either side until Graham had to call in assistance in the person of a man in Mr. M'Cullin's employ, with which assistance the black was thrown on the ground and secured for the night. On the following day his gallant captor handcuffed him with a piece of dog chain and marched him through the scrub, a distance of forty miles, to the Balranald watch-house; during the journey he passed several native camps, the captive leading his (Graham's) horse. A police escort was daily expected to take "Billy" to Goulburn. The conduct of Mr. Graham cannot be too highly commended. If one half of the landlords in the bush had half the courage and resolution, then would be little cause for the prevailing cry of police protection for the interior. *Daily News.*
REWARD NOTICE, for **PATRICK M'NAMARA and PATRICK WALSH.**

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/744, 20/08/1851
ACCIDENTS. - On Monday … On the same evening a very serious accident happened at Morpeth to a man named **JOHN MURPHY**. Murphy was walking quietly along the footpath, when he stumbled over some logs near Mr. Saunderson's door, and pitched over the bank, there some eight feet high, on to his head. He was taken up insensible, and Mr. **NAINBY** sent for. Yesterday morning Murphy was taken to the hospital in a dangerous state.
M'NAMARA AND WALSH. - No certain trace has yet been discovered of the whereabouts of the two escaped prisoners, **M'NAMARA and WALSH.**
THE IMMIGRANTS BY THE "MALACCA."
… One of them, a fine young woman named **MARY ANNE ALLEN**, was unfortunately drowned three days before the *Malacca* entered the heads. She incautiously had hold of the loop of the main buntline on the port side, and the mainsail suddenly filling, jerked her out of the waist over the bulwarks. The ship, which was going eight knots at the time, was instantly hove-to, and the port cutter manned, but a heavy swell was running at the time, and all efforts to save the ill-fated girl were unavailing. *Herald, Aug. 16*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/745, 23/08/1851
FATAL ACCIDENT. - Yesterday, the Water Police Magistrate, in the absence of the coroner, held an inquiry at Canterbury, touching the death of **JAMES KARROLL**, then lying dead at the said place. It appears from the evidence that the deceased was employed at the Sugar Works at Canterbury, and on Tuesday morning he was on the top loft of that establishment. The hatched were all open to the fourth floor underneath; the top hatch being covered with laths and mats. Deceased went to this hatch, seemingly with the intention of getting a mat; and although shouted to by some of the workmen, who perceived his danger, he took no heed. He leant over the hatch to reach the mat, when the laths and mats gave way, and he was precipitated into the warehouse floor, a depth of thirty-two feet. Dr. **CUTHILL** was sent for, but although

everything was done for the unfortunate man that could be done, he sank under the severity of the injuries, and died in a very short time. Mr. **BRENAN** recorded, that death had been caused by injuries received. The deceased had only arrived in the colony within the last five months. *Herald, Aug. 15*

SUICIDE. - On Wednesday an inquest was held at Colbin, Upper Paterson, before Mr. **PARKER**, the coroner, on the body of **JOSEPH SEALY**. It appeared from the evidence that Sealy, who was about 42 years old, had been for eighteen years in the service of Mr. **THOMAS JONES**, of Colbin, and that although not a habitual drunkard, he would at times "go on the spree," and drink hard for a week. About the 11th instant he asked Mr. Jones for a £1 note, and obtained it and permission to go to Paterson; he remained away a week drinking, and returned on Monday evening, the 18th; he had been accompanied part of the way home by an acquaintance, **GEIORGE KNIGHT**, who saw that Sealy was labouring under the effects of drink, and looked wild; Sealy offered to sell Knight an unbroken filly for £4, and said in the course of conversation that he (Sealy) was a horrid fellow and ought to drown himself, but nothing passed to lead Knight to suspect that he really meditated suicide. On reaching home Sealy took the breaking tackle off his filly, and at the usual hour all the household went to bed. Nothing was seen of Sealy the next morning, but it was supposed he was taking a long sleep after his drinking bout, and it was not until near ten o'clock that Mrs. Jones asked **M'GOWAN**, a neighbour, who called to enquire after Sealy, where she thought he was, as she wished to make him (Sealy) some tea. M'Gowan could not find Sealy in the stable, but on going to the barn found him hanging, quite dead, suspended from a cross-beam, evidently the work of his own hands. The jury returned a verdict that deceased hung himself, while in a state of insanity, caused by intemperance.

ACCIDENTAL DEATH. - Yesterday an inquest was held by the Coroner, at the Dog and Duck Inn, George-street South, on view of the body of **JANE PIKE**, whose death was occasioned by injuries received from a cab on the 31st ult. The driver, **WILLIAM OGLE**, was in custody. It appeared from the evidence, that on the day in question the deceased was in a cart in George-street, when a cab, driven by the prisoner, came down the street at full speed. She tried to avoid it, but the splinter-bar came in contact with the wheel of her cart, throwing her out, and turning the vehicle over, part of it falling on her shoulder and chest. She was directly got from under the cart, and taken to Mr. **PORTER'S,** the chemist. She was then taken, at her own request, to the inn where the jury were then sitting, and where she was attended by Dr. **CUTHILL**. She lingered in great agony until Monday evening, when she died. She was sixty-one years of age, and has left a large family, who reside at Prospect. It was proved to the satisfaction of the jury that the horses had suddenly taken fright at a noise made by two boys who were playing with some chips in the street, and they ran away. Several witnesses deposed to the excellent character of the driver as a careful man, and stated that on the evening in question he had been driving a wedding party during the greater part of the day, and had refused to take even one glass of wine, or leave his horses for a moment. Under the direction of the Coroner, the jury returned a verdict of accidental death, and Ogle was immediately discharged out of custody. *Herald, Aug. 19*

ACCIDENT. - On Wednesday last, **PATRICK REILLEY**, a bullock driver in the employ of **FRANCIS TAFFE**, Esq., of Jujyong, met with a fatal accident under the following distressing circumstances. It appears that Reilley was ordered by the master to yoke up two steers which had just been broken in, and on going into the place where they were secured, one of the beasts rushed at him, and striking the poor fellow

on the chest, threw him to the ground. The injuries he sustained were so violent as to cause death in a few hours. *Goulburn Herald, August 16*
CALIFORNIA.
… A man named [**JOHN] JENKINS** (formerly a waterman in Sydney) was followed after committing a robbery, and apprehended with part of the property in his possession. He was taken before a "Committee of Vigilance," and the case having been stated against him, he was sentenced to be hanged; and at two o'clock in the morning, a noose was thrown over his head, and he was suspended to a pole in an old building. The police attempted to interfere, "but," says the *Alta California*, "they were roughly handled, and had they proceeded they would have been riddled with balls." [See Mercury, 9/746, 27/08/1851, page 3a for a detailed account of capture & execution.]

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/747, 30/08/1851
FIFTY POUNDS REWARD, OR A CONDITIONAL PARDON. Editorial comment: [This is certainly more like the thing than the reward of "five pounds" previously offered for the apprehension of **M'NAMARA. -** ED. *M.M.*]
CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT. - *Wednesday, August 27.*
MARY GRITTEN was indicted for the manslaughter of **JANE GRITTEN**, her infant daughter, aged about ten weeks. The first count charged her with having caused the death of the child by neglecting to give her proper food and sustenance, and thereby starving her. The second count charged her with having, by continuous habits of drunkenness, poisoned her milk, and thereby caused the death of the child. From the evidence of several of the prisoner's neighbours, it appeared that the death of her boy some time since had preyed very heavily upon her; that a few days after her last confinement, her husband left her to go to the gold diggings, and that she had then given herself up to drink; and the result was the death of her child. Dr. **TIERNEY** stated, that on the post mortem examination of the deceased, he found the alimentary canal entirely destitute of either solid or liquid food, and that the body was in a very emaciated state. It appeared from the evidence that since the apprehension of the prisoner her husband had come down from the gold diggings, but had returned again, leaving his wife without the means of defending herself. Not guilty; discharged.
CORONER'S INQUEST. - Yesterday, an inquest was held by the coroner at the Pine Apple Inn, Surrey Hills, on view of the body of **WILLIAM HARRIS**, a fine little boy, about two and a half years of age. It appears, from the evidence of the mother of the child, and also of a neighbour, that on Tuesday morning the mother (who is stated to be a hard-working industrious woman,) having occasion to go to the butcher's shop to purchase meat, left her cottage for some ten minutes – the deceased being on the sofa, and an infant in the same room in a cradle, no one else was in the cottage – and on her return she found that deceased had got down from the sofas, and that, having approached the fire, its clothes had caught and were then smouldering. On seeing its mother the poor child gave two shrieks, and in a short time expired in great agony. Dr. **TIERNEY** was sent for, but did not arrive until after the child had died. Verdict – accidental death. *Herald, Aug. 25*
Tuesday, August 26th
GEORGE BARNETT was indicted fort the manslaughter of **GEORGE LOGAN**, a child of two and a half years old, by driving the wheel of a dray over him, at Sydney, on the 16th July. The prisoner was driver of a dray which was proceeding up Bathurst-street, and was walking a little behind the dray, when the child stumbled and

fell just in front of it, and before the prisoner could get to the horse's head the wheel of the dray passed over the child. Not guilty. *Abridged from the Herald.*

DROWNING. - On Saturday an inquest was held by the Coroner at the Hero of Waterloo Inn, Fort-street, on view of the body of **GEORGE GALLOWAY**, then lying dead there. The deceased was one of the three men whose boat was upset on the night of Sunday, the 10th instant; the other two being rescued by Mr. **GIBBES**, as already stated in this journal. **JAMES LUMSDEN**, one of the party, described the accident, which occurred in putting the boat about opposite the residence of Colonel Gibbes. The sheet was fast, and the deceased was sitting on the thwart, to let go the jib, when the boat capsized. The wind was blowing fresh in strong puffs, and deceased could not swim at all. He leaves a wife and one child. The body was found on Friday evening, by constable **ELLIOTT** of the Water Police, floating on the water between Goat Island and Billy Blue's Point. Verdict accidental drowning. *Herald, Aug. 24*

DEATH FROM SKINNING DISEASED BULLOCKS. - An inquest was held at the house of Mrs. **FINNIGAN**, at Duck River, on the 23rd instant, before Mr. **C.B. LYONS**, coroner for the district, on the body of **JOHN FISHER**, then and there lying dead, and whom it was decided had died from infection from skinning some cattle which had died suddenly. From the evidence of Mrs. Finnigan, the widow of the late **PATRICK FINNIGAN**, it appeared that the deceased John Fisher was a charcoal-burner, residing in a hut on the premises of Mrs. Finnigan; he had skinned two bullocks, which had died a week ago, for the sake of the skins, which he sold; he was an old man, and obtained no medical advice, though his arm was very painful, and there was a black spot on its resembling a burn. Another witness, **JOHN PERKINS**, stated that he was a groom on the premises, and by order of Mrs. Finnigan he took deceased a glass of wine on Friday afternoon, and made him comfortable in bed, as he was very ill, and complained much about his arm; on going to see him about an hour afterwards he found him dead. Dr. **RUTTER** stated that her had examined the body of the deceased John Fisher, and found considerable inflammation of the right arm, extending into the chest; which, together with the evidence he had heard, induced him to suppose that his death had been caused by the absorption of a morbid poison, such as would be communicated by animals dying of the disease which had been prevalent among cattle. A verdict was found that death was caused by absorption of poison while skinning a bullock. *Herald's Parramatta Correspondent*

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT. - Intelligence was received in Sydney yesterday, that on Wednesday last, The Rev. **G.E. GREGORY**, of Canbury, Argyle, was drowned while attempting to cross a creek which was flooded by the recent rains. Mr. Gregory was only twenty-six years of age, and was to have come to Sydney next week to be admitted to priest's orders by the bishop of Sydney at his ensuing ordination. He was most zealous and anxious in the work to which he had been called, and had the prospect of a long life of usefulness before him, when he was removed by the mysterious visitation of Providence. *Herald, Aug. 26*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/748, 03/09/1851

INQUESTS. - On Wednesday last an inquest was held by Mr. **PARKER**, at Paterson, on the body of **JOSEPH MALPASS**. It appeared from the evidence that Malpass, who was habitually an intemperate man, had been for eight days drinking at Mr. Broderick's public-house, Paterson, and reached his usual lodgings afterwards in a very bad state; he got some medicine several times from Mr. **NIND**, chemist, but

gradually got worse, and died on Tuesday evening, the 26th. Some reports having been spread that the rum deceased had been drinking was bad, and had accelerated his death, a bottle was obtained from the inn by the chief constable himself, and another by a man whom he employed; the former was clear and good, and the latter was thick and turbid, but it was not proved whether the bottle had been clean or not. Dr. **SCOTT** performed a post mortem examination on the body, and found that deceased had been labouring under hernia, which must soon have caused his death; there were numerous appearances also found, caused by continued intemperance. The jury returned a verdict of death from natural causes, accelerated by intemperance.

Another inquest was held by Mr. **PARKER**, on Friday, at Dr. Scott's, Eskdale, on the body of a child named **WILLIAM PARSONS**, two years old. It appeared that Mrs. Parsons, mother of the child, was engaged on Wednesday in her usual occupation, with her children playing about her door, when she missed her little son William, and on enquiring where he was, his brother, of three years old, told her William went towards the well; she went instantly to the well, which was then uncovered, and about twenty yards from the house, and she saw her little boy floating on the water; the well was very full, and she instantly got him out, but he was quite dead. The jury returned a verdict of accidentally drowned.

A third inquest was held by Mr. **PARKER**, on Saturday, at the White Swan Inn, West Maitland, on the body of **JOHN MURPHY**, the unfortunate man whose accidental fall over a precipitous bank at Morpeth, on the evening of the 18th August, we reported at the time. It appeared that the deceased, who was taken to the hospital on the morning of the accident, never rallied from the effects, having sustained concussion of the brain; he died on Friday afternoon last. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death, and requested the coroner to make a complaint about the bank over which the deceased fell being left so unprotected.

M'NAMARA AND WALSH.

It was currently reported yesterday that the escaped prisoner **M'NAMARA** had been retaken, and last evening the capture was announced quite positively. Unfortunately it was not true, and up to last evening no certain trace of the recent movements of either M'Namara or Walsh had been discovered.

DROWNED. - On the night of the 25th ultimo, while the *Eagle* steamer was lying alongside the Brisbane Wharf, at Moreton Bay, the fore-cabin steward, named **JAMES HOGAN**, in attempting to get on board, fell into the water, and was drowned. The night was very dark, blowing and raining furiously, which prevented the people on board from hearing of the accident until enquiries were made by his shipmates, who had come on board all safe from the township. The chief officer, immediately on hearing of the accident, lowered the quarter-boat, but could not find the body, which was picked up by the Customs House boat, on Wednesday. *Herald, Sep. 1*

DISEASED MEAT. - It is melancholy to contemplate the many fatal results that have arisen from skinning the carcases of diseased animals. No later than Sunday last the remains of an unfortunate individual, who lived in May's Lane, were conveyed to the burial ground, whose death was occasioned by the poisonous effects of handling diseased meat, as we stated in a former number. We have also to deplore the fate of another man, named **MURPHY**, from a similar cause. He was taken ill a few days since, while proceeding up the country, and died at Penrith, leaving a widow and several children to bemoan his untimely end. We understand that a subscription is being made in behalf of the destitute family. *Empire, Aug. 30*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/749, 06/09/1851
MAITLAND CIRCUIT COURT. - THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1851

MANSLAUGHTER

MARY JOHNSON was indicted for the manslaughter of her infant child, name unknown, at Maitland, by neglecting to provide for it proper food and nourishment from the 16th February till the 7th March, when the child died.

In opening this case to the jury, the Attorney General took occasion to maker it public, as he said he had done recently in a similar case in Sydney, that any humane person who saw that a man or woman was wasting his or her substance, and neglecting his or her family, could apply to the bench for a prohibition to be issued to publicans and other persons not to supply any more liquor to the offending individual. Such a course would be a blessing to society, and more particularly to the individual thereby saved from destruction. There was particular provision made to this effect in the 63rd, 64th, and 65th sections of the Licensing Act.

The witnesses called were **GEORGE TERRY, ALEXANDER M'MANUS, Dr. MICHAEL M'CARTNEY, ELIZABETH KERRIGAN, and JOHN SCOTTO PARKER.**

Terry knew prisoner, who lived near him in the suburbs of West Maitland; witness knew her husband also; witness's attention was attracted to her house very early in the morning of the 7th March by hearing a female voice crying out in a distressed tone "Oh, my child – what shall I do;" about six o'clock that morning witness went to her house with Mr. Horton to see what was the matter. The witness described having found a child of sixteen or seventeen months old outside the house, but did not see the prisoner of her infant about the place; witness had frequently seen the prisoner drunk; she habitually left her children about the house for hours while she was absent; she was intoxicated the day before the inquest on her child was held; did not remember seeing her intoxicated on any other day within ten days before that, but had done so at different times since her infant was born. Cross-examined: Prisoner did come to witness's house soon after the birth of her infant, and complained that her husband had left her helpless and without food, and witness's daughter gave her some flour; her husband was a steady, hardworking man. - Constable M'Manus knew the prisoner; she was intoxicated the day before the inquest; she came to witness's house about eight o'clock that morning and told him that her child was dead, but afterwards she said it was only a joke; witness reminded her that he had told her something would happen, from her conduct through the town; she complained of having been robbed in a public-house, and asked for a cup of teas, as she had nothing to eat; witness's wife asked her to come in for it, and as prisoner entered a five-shilling piece dropped from her person; witness gave her some food, and advised her to go home to her children; she had no child with her; she had been several times drunk during the week or ten days previous, but had not been apprehended on account of her having a family of young children, and her husband being away from her. Cross-examined: Prisoner came to witness some days previously, and begged to be acquainted with her husband's residence, as she and her children were perishing from want; prisoner could not be in much real want, for she had always means to get drunk. - Dr. M'Cartney remembered prisoner coming to his house, about four o'clock on the morning the inquest was held; she was outside the door, crying out frantically "Oh, Doctor, come down for God's sake, I have murdered my child;" witness hurried down, and found her then leaving his door in the direction of the river; he followed her, and asked her what she meant; she seemed frantic, and said "She'd drown herself, that it was all her own fault, that she'd been drinking at Kerrigan's public house with **SUSAN FLYNN**,

and was induced to remain until her money was all spent; and that when she got home she found her child dead;" the distance from Kerrigan's to prisoner's hut was upwards of a mile; prisoner said she had been at Kerrigan's drinking all the previous day, and did not reach her home till two or three o'clock that morning; witness thought it unsafe to leave her by herself, and took her to the lockup, she expressing her determination two ot three times that she would drown herself; witness left her in charge of constable M'Manus about five that morning; witness could not remember whether she had her child with her at the time, but witness saw the body of a child at the inquest, which she acknowledged to be hers, and to be a fortnight old; prisoner then said that she had no milk, that her husband had left her without food, and that it was notorious she had no milk, the mother's milk was the proper food for such an infant; if intoxicating liquors were taken in quantity by the mother it would vitiate and injure the milk, and eventually remove it altogether; witness saw the body of the child at the prisoner's hut; there was plenty of food there, and sufficient household goods and bedding; there were some other children there in a wretched state; witness performed as post mortem examination of the body, which presented an appearance of extreme emaciation; witness described the appearances he found in the internal organs, no evidence of nutriment of any kind being found; in his opinion the child had died from want of nourishment of more than one day's duration, death having gradually come on; all the organs were healthy; the child died from starvation. Cross-examined: At the inquest prisoner said the child must have died from the other children rolling over it. - Mrs. Kerrigan deposed that she saw the prisoner three times; the first time was some time before the inquest; the second time was two nights before the inquest, and next morning was the third time; on that evening she had some supper, and left again, paying for and taking away a quart of colonial ale with her; prisoner was then in liquor; in the morning prisoner called early, appearing as if she had been drinking, but was just able to walk; she had left six shillings in witness's hands, and in the morning called for it, and had it; prisoner then took a glass of ale, and about two hours afterwards had another glass; again later in the day she took up and drank a glass of liquor belonging to a man there, and she was in and out of the house till late in the evening; witness gave her a plate of soup, on her saying she was hungry; when prisoner left the house finally she was just able to walk. At the prisoner's request Mrs. Kerrigan's deposition at the inquest was put in and read. Mr. **PARKER**, coroner, held the inquest on the body of the child; prisoner appeared greatly distressed; the dead infant was lying in the bed, rolled up in blankets, completely covered up; the body was naked, and looked very dirty and neglected; the prisoner said it was her child, and that she was the cause of it, that drink was the cause of it; she said the child had not been christened, and that she had not given it any name; prisoner afterwards said in the inquest room that she had taken cold when she was confined in the lockup, and that had stopped her milk.

In defence the prisoner said she was unable to get the witnesses she wanted to call, and that she had several times reported to the police to what a destitute state she was reduced by her husband's leaving her, but that she got no help, except an occasional shilling. She said she was always a good mother to her children.

His Honor summed up. The indictment against the prisoner was substantially that it was her duty to protect her child, but that she had neglected to provide it proper nourishment, and that it died in consequence of her neglect. He described to the jury the effect of Dr. M'Cartney's evidence as to the cause of the death of her child, and the substance of the evidence against the prisoner, as admitted by herself and deposed to by witnesses. They jury would have to decide whether the dead child was the

prisoner's, whether she neglected to give it proper food, in consequence of either intentional neglect, or neglect owing to drunkenness, and whether the child died in consequence. If they thought those points established they would find a verdict of guilty; but if they had any reasonable doubt on either they would acquit her.

The jury retired for twenty minutes, and returned with a verdict of guilty, with as recommendation to mercy.

The prisoner was sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment, with hard labour, in Maitland gaol; but his Honor promised to recommend a mitigation at the end of nine months, if her was certainly informed that her conduct was good.

His Honor remarked, in passing sentence, that he trusted the provision s of the Licensing Act, adverted to by the Attorney General, would be put in force in any cases of evident neglect of families by any person of drunken habits.

EDITORIAL.

PROHIBITION OF THE SALE OF LIQUORS.

At the request of his Honor Mr. Justice Dickinson and the Attorney General, made in the Circuit Court during the proceedings in the case of **MARY JOHNSON**, who was on Thursday convicted of the manslaughter of her infant child, by neglecting to provide her with necessary food and nourishment, we republish the three following clauses from the Publicans Licensing Act, 13 Victoria, No. 29, and also the form of prohibition referred to. We may mention that the powers thus given have been several times exercised by the Maitland bench, on affidavits made by the friends of different individuals who by their habits were injuring themselves and wasting the means of their families, and it is to be regretted that a similar application was not made to the bench in the case of the unhappy woman now convicted. [prints LXIII, LXIV, LXV, and the form of prohibition.]

MURDER. - **JOHN MATHEWS**, who was arraigned at the last Circuit Court on a charge of murder, was then brought up, and the crown not being prepared to go to trial in consequence of the continued absence of a material witness, Mathews was discharged on his own recognisance in £100 to appear at the next Circuit Court.

MURDER. - **JACKEY, an aboriginal**, who had been committed for trial on a charge of murdering another aboriginal, was discharged, the evidence being insufficient top prosecute him on the charge.

THE DEFENCE OF PRISONERS. - On Wednesday morning, as will be found by our Circuit Court report, a prisoner named **THOMAS BALLARD** was put on his trial on a charge of murder, and presented a memorial to his Honor praying that counsel might be assigned for his defence, as he had no means to employ one. [continues with discussion of this practise.]

LETTER; *To the Editor of the Maitland Mercury.* From **JAMES BRODERICK**, Paterson, Sept. 4th, 1851: "In reference to the inquest held before Mr. Parker, at Paterson, on the 27th August, I beg to state that the deceased **JOSEPH MALPASS** returned to his lodgings on the 2q1st August. The deceased had been drinking with **HENRY STOCKWELL** in as forge here," … continues re the sampling of the allegedly tainted rum and the reactions of the jury.

MAITLAND CIRCUIT COURT. - WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1851

(Before his Honor Mr. Justice Dickinson)

MURDER

THOMAS BALLARD was indicted for the wilful murder of **HENRY BOYLE**, at Merton, by inflicting, on the 14th May, 1851, divers mortal wounds, bruises, and contusions, on the right side, the left side, the front, and the back of the head, of the

said Henry Boyle, with a certain stick, whereof the said Henry Boyle languished till the 16th May, 1851, and then died.

At the request of his Honor Mr. Purefoy undertook to watch the evidence on behalf of the prisoner.

WILLIAM PACK sworn: Witness was a shepherd in May last; prisoner was also a shepherd; Boyle (the deceased) was hutkeeper; all three were employed together on the station of Mr. **JOHN BETTINGTON**; on Wednesday, the 14th, the occurrence took place, and on the Friday, the 16th, Boyle died; witness was coming home with his sheep on the afternoon of the Wednesday when he saw Boyle and prisoner coming towards him, to help him, as usual; three or four minutes after witness saw them again, sitting on the ground, fighting; witness did not see the commencement, or whether a knock-down blow was struck; prisoner had hold of Boyle by the shoulder with one hand and beating him with the other, Boyle returning the blows; witness went up to them, and said to prisoner "Tom, leave the old man alone," and prisoner left him go; Boyle was perhaps seventy years old, and prisoner between fifty and sixty; witness went away to put his sheep in the fold, and in five minutes after he left prisoner and Boyle he saw Ballard**,** with the hurdle stake produced, strike Boyle a heavy blow on the chest, and another on the forehead; witness went towards them, and said "Tom, you have killed the old man"; prisoner struck three or four blows with the stake, one on the chest, and two or three on the head; prisoner made no reply; Boyle was then lying senseless and bleeding; witness did not see prisoner get the stake, but it was lying loose previously; Boyle did not appear to have got up at all from where witness saw him sitting when first fighting; witness, after the first fight, had taken prisoner away some ten or twelve yards from Boyle; the loose stake lay in that direction, with other stakes, &c. ; witness did not hear any words pass between prisoner and Boyle. Dr. **WEST** was the first doctor who came to see Boyle, but at the inquest on Boyle's body Dr. **FOWLER** attended. Witness attended on Boyle till he died; Boyle came to his senses about midnight on Thursday night, and took some tea from witness. Witness, prisoner, and Boyle had had some rum together, about three glasses each, on the morning of Wednesday; witness was sober that afternoon; prisoner appeared sober, but Boyle was not sober.

Cross-examined: After stopping the fight, witness sent his dogs round his sheep, and got the sheep into the hurdles, thinking the quarrel over; what took place between prisoner and Boyle during that interval of four or five minutes he did not know, but when he next noticed them prisoner was standing over Boyle, striking at him with the stake; could not say where prisoner picked it up; there might be other loose stakes beside the one witness had noticed; prisoner and Boyle had been good friends previously, during the ten days witness had been on the station; witness went for a constable after the occurrence, to Merton, a mile and a quarter off, leaving prisoner and Boyle at the station.

HUGH MURRAY, district constable of Merton, sworn: Witness went to Mr. Bettington's station, and found prisoner walking up and down by the sheepfold; Boyle was lying on the ground, thirty yards off, insensible, and bleeding from wounds on his temple and head; Pack had previously come into Merton, but had not then returned to the station; witness went up to the prisoner and apprehended him, as he told him, for murder; prisoner said the man was more drunk than hurt; witness allowed prisoner to get some clothing from the hut, stopping him from drinking a bottle of some liquor, and then took him to Merton, it being a little before nightfall; before reaching the lockup prisoner appeared to be very drunk; witness then returned to the station, and placed Boyle in the hut. Prisoner made no remark about any stick. Witness remained

at the hut with Boyle all night; Dr. West came to visit Boyle about twelve or one o'clock; Dr. West is the coroner; Dr. Fowler examined Boyle's body at the inquest.

Dr. **THOMAS FOWLER** sworn: Witness made a post mortem examination of Boyle's body; found wounds on the had, and on opening the skull found four ounces of blood effused on the brain: that must have been caused by heavy blows; there was a fracture of the right temporal bone; the effusion of blood was sufficient to case death.

CHARLES FOX, chief constable of Muswellbrook, sworn: Witness had prisoner in charge on the 17th May, on his way to the inquest; took him to near where the body of Boyle lay; prisoner pointed to a wound on the foreheads and said "There, that's the blow;" no answer was made, and they left the spot. That same night, as they were returning, prisoner said he only struck the one blow.

Cross-examined: Witness was not aware that prisoner had ever said that he was first attacked, or that he struck in his own defence, or that deceased followed him and got hold of him after the first quarrel; prisoner did not say there was some dispute about the sheep getting mixed, and that he (prisoner) was rather vexed with him; that was not said to witness, but to constable **ASHBURN**, who was in company with witness and prisoner; Ashburn was not in attendance, being at Muswellbrook; witness was away from the prisoner for a short time at the inquest, Ashburn then remaining with prisoner.

This closed the case for the crown.

Mr. **PUREFOY**, in addressing the jury, remarked that, as had been observed by the Attorney General in his opening address, he was placed at a great disadvantage in taking the case without any previous examination of the circumstances. He thought there was nothing shown in the evidence to show that there was "malice aforethought," which was essential to constitute the crime of murder. The facts disclosed, to his mind, another of those brutal fights so common among men under the influence of intoxication, the fatal result arising from sudden blows struck in the heat of quarrel. The law regarded such a death as constituting the lesser crime of manslaughter. There was but slight direct evidence of provocation from the deceased, but the prisoner stated that the attack was begun by the deceased, after a quarrel about the sheep, and that provocation was again given by the deceased before the second fight. It was in fact only one transaction, the interval being too slight to be regarded as making it two. There was no evidence that the prisoner went to get the stake, or anything to prove that he did not, under the influence of passion, pick it up and strike an instant deadly blow with it. He trusted the jury would feel themselves justified in returning a verdict for the lesser crime of manslaughter. He called as a witness **GEORGE A.F. KIBBLE**, who had known prisoner for two years as a shepherd, and deceased for some short time; prisoner always bore the character of being a remarkably quiet man.

His Honor summed up. It was necessary that the jury should satisfy themselves whether or not the prisoner did cause the death of Henry Boyle in the manner, and by the means, mentioned in the indictment. His Honor read through the evidence verbatim, pointing out the bearing the different portions had on the precise points for the jury to determine. It appeared to him clear that Henry Boyle met his death by blows inflicted on his head as mentioned in the indictment, and that that blow or blows were inflicted by the prisoner; and also that there was no proof of the blows being inflicted in self defence, so as to entitle the prisoner to an acquittal. The question for them he thought would be whether they would find him guilty of murder or manslaughter. To determine this they must consider all the circumstances, to see whether there was such provocation as to render it probable the blows were struck in

the sudden heat of passion. If they felt any doubt on the point he recommended them to find him guilty of manslaughter.

The jury retired for above five hours, and returned with a verdict of guilty of murder.

The sentence of the court having been prayed,

His Honor impressively addressed the prisoner. The prisoner had been found guilty by a most intelligent jury, after a most protracted consideration. That verdict having been returned it was impossible for him to hold out any hope of mercy to the prisoner; but if it was possible for the prisoner or his friends to produce anything that could influence the mind of his Excellency to view his case favourably, he (his Honor) recommended the prisoner's friends to lose no time in making all the exertions in their power. But he could not flatter the prisoner with any hope of mercy, and he recommended him not to buoy himself up with such expectations, but to apply himself at once, with the aid of his minister, to preparations for another world. It was quite clear that on very small provocation the prisoner did strike a deadly blow with a terrible weapon, which caused the death of Boyle. He could not therefore flatter him with any hope of mercy, and it remained but for him to pass the sentence of the law. His Honor then passed sentence of death on the prisoner in the usual way.

MANSLAUGHTER

THOMAS HAWKE and ROBERT HAWKE were indicted for the manslaughter of **THOMAS CONNORS –** Thomas Hawke by casting and throwing Connors to the ground, and beating and kicking him while on the ground, on the 30th March, 1851; thereby inflicting several mortal wounds, bruises, and contusions on his heads, back, stomach, and sides, whereof Connors languished until the 3rd April, at Maitland, and then died; and Robert Hawke by being present, aiding and abetting.

Mr. Purefoy appeared for the defence; attorney Mr. C. Nicholl.

The witnesses called were **WILLIAM ROBSON, GEORGE BRIDGE MULLINS,** and Dr. **FREDERICK JOSHUA BEARDMORE.**

Robson, a miner, was on Sunday, the 30th March, at Ravensfield, where prisoners lived – four miles from Maitland, and performed services there, being a local preacher of the Primitive Methodist persuasion; the prisoners belonged to witness's congregation, and attended service that day; witness remained to dinner at the house of Robert Hawke, the father, and after dinner went with him to the house of a sick neighbour, named **DAWSON**, living half a mile off; in returning towards Hawke's house about half-past one, witness remained behind Hawke for perhaps ten minutes in the bush, and on coming in sight of Hawke again saw him 200 yards a-head, having then a flock of sheep before him, with a man, they all going in the direction of Hawke's house; the man that was following the sheep was within a few yards of Hawke; witness did not then see Thomas Hawke, the son; witness did not join Hawke, but went on towards his house, and when he got within fifty yards of it he Mrs. Hawke – Robert Hawke's wife, and spoke to her; witness saw no more for some time of the prisoners or the sheep, they being then 400 yards from him, and in a valley; witness heard a noise, some of the children calling out to their mother, from the direction of the valley; witness went slowly that way, and when he got within fifty yards of them, he saw the two prisoners and the deceased (the shepherd), and some other of Hawke's children; witness did not go nearer to them; Thomas Hawke came near witness, and said the old man had struck him on the nose with a tin pot; witness understood him to mean the shepherd, and witness remarked that it was very bad to be quarrelling on the Sabbath day; witness saw the old man point to him (witness) and say, "That gentleman ------," but what he said further witness could not say; witness

had not then seen any quarrel between the parties, but he knew there had been from what the young man said, but witness went no nearer, seeing them separated, and thinking no harm had been done; witness saw nothing in Robert Hawke's hand, but Thomas Hawke showed witness the pot he said he was struck with; the old man stood in a stooping position, with one hand on his side, but he did not appear as if rising from the ground; witness did not gather from the old man's appearance that he was suffering from pain; the old man did appear as if rising from the ground, but witness did not see his body move; her did appear in pain, from the way he stood; did not hear him say "Oh dear," or groan; he did not say "Oh dear," in witness's hearing.

[The witness's deposition at the inquest was put in, but Mr. Purefoy objected that the crown could not take this course to throw discredit on its own witness. The Attorney General contended that he could do so, when the witness was obviously an unwilling witness. His Honor suggested that it would be unsafe to press the reading of the deposition, as it might prevent the conviction being upheld, if any took place, inasmuch as the Attorney General, in his opening address, had stated that he believed the witness would prove an unwilling one, and therefore he could not now allege that he was taken by surprise, which alone would render the proposed course correct. The Attorney General said all he suspected previously was that the witness would prove an unwilling witness on the whole, but he did not expect that he would deviate from his evidence as given before the coroner; and he was therefore entitled, on the particular question he wanted the prisoner to answer, to have his deposition read. A number of cases were quoted on both sides, and the point fully argued. The Attorney General pressed the admission of the evidence. His Honor consented to the deposition being read, expressing his own opinion that it would peril the conviction. The Attorney General then decided not to have the deposition read, but putting the deposition into the witness's hands to look through, he afterwards asked him further questions.]

Witness now remembered that the old man did exclaim "Oh dear" about five minutes after Thomas Hawke came up to witness; witness thought it was after the old man had said "That gentleman ---"; the parties remained seven or eight minutes in the valley, in witness's sight, Mrs. Hawke being talking to them; the old man remained stooping at the time, and witness afterwards saw him walking in that position; when witness last saw deceased he was about a mile from Maitland, walking towards the town, the sheep being not far off, driven by Robert Hawke; this was about three miles from Ravensfield; witness told Hawke it was wrong to quarrel on the Sabbath-day, and asked whose sheep they were; witness had not seen the Hawkes in the interval, nor had he any conversation with them since that day about the occurrence.

Mr. **MULLINS**, resident apothecary in the Maitland Hospital, remembered Connors entering the hospital after noon; he died the next morning, before noon; Connors told witness he knew he was in great danger, and that he should die; he got worse, and died; witness considered Connors in danger, and told him so; Connors made a statement about five o'clock on the afternoon of the day he came in, which was taken down *verbatim* by witness; the statement produced was the same, and was signed by witness and two others as witnesses; Connors remained sensible to the last; Connors told witness his name was Thomas Connors; Connors was never placed in a warm bath in the hospital.

[The statement was put in, but Mr. Purefoy objected to its being read as a dying declaration, on two grounds. These objections were overruled. Mr. Purefoy then put in the witness's deposition before the coroner, and it was read; in it Mr. Mullins described, in the third person, the substance of Connors' dying declaration, stating that after Robert Hawke had seized his flock of sheep, Thomas Hawke came behind him (Connors), seized him by the shoulders, and threw him the ground; that Robert Hawke then struck him with his fist as he lay on the ground, and Thomas Hawke kicked him three times in the ribs till his father interfered and said he had had enough;

and that afterwards Thomas Hawke said he wished he had killed him. Mr. Purefoy asked some questions why Mr. Mullins did not in his deposition state that Connors expressed apprehension that he should die – and other questions – contending that these discrepancies or omissions rendered the dying statement inadmissible as evidence. In answer to the Attorney General the witness said he believed he did state it to the coroner. His Honor ruled that the statement was admissible.]

The statement of Connors was then read. He stated that he was on that day feeding a flock of sheep at Ravensfield, when Robert Hawke seized them to impound them, and while Connors and Hawke were following the flock Thomas Hawke came up behind Connors, and threw him to the ground, and in the scuffle a pint pot scratched Thomas Hawke's nose; Robert Hawke struck Connors while he was on the groiundf with his fist two or three times, and Thomas Hawke kicked him three times in the ribs, taking away his breath, until Connors appealed to Robert Hawker not to kill him, when Hawke told his son to leave him alone; afterwards Thomas Hawke said he wished he had killed Connors; the cause of this ill-treatment he assigned to his feeding Mr. Prentice's sheep near Hawke's residence, on ground long disputed by Hawke.

Dr. Beardmore saw Connors professionally on the Sunday evening, for another medical man, and partially examined him, and found him very ill; Connors was then at a lodging house; on the Monday witness believed he saw Connors walking near this house, but he did not see him again till he had been taken to hospital; on the morning of Thursday, the 3rd, witness saw him in the hospital, Connors being then near death; after his death witness examined the body, and found the left lung and the pleura diseased and inflamed; four ribs were broken, on the left side, and two of the ribs had ruptured the lining membrane, which caused the inflammation of the pleura and lung; and from that inflammation witness considered the man died; the inflammation of the lung was recent; there was no external mark of violence; force from the outside must have broken the ribs, and severe kicks might do it; considering Connor's age there was little hope of his recovery from the first, unless he took great care of himself; nothing but the greatest care would have brought about his recovery; with great care a man might recover from such an injury. Cross-examined: A heavy fall against a stump or other obstacle might cause such an injury.

Mr. Purefoy took the objection that the death was not caused as laid in the indictment.

His Honor overruled the objection.

Mr. Purefoy addressed the jury for the defence. With the exception of Connor's dying declaration there was no evidence whatever against the prisoners, but he asked them whether the circumstances under which that declaration was brought before them were such as to make it command their confidence? He then went into those circumstances, contending that they deprived the statement of all reliable value as a dying declaration. It was remarkable that it was not until this day that Mr. Mullins, who took down the statement of Connors, mentioned that Connors was himself aware that he would die from his injuries, or even that he (Mr. M.) told Connors that he would die. Was it not likely, had such a remark been made by Connors or himself, that Mr. Mullins would have remembered it when making his deposition, two days afterwards? If the jury then agreed with him that these facts deprived the dying declaration of all value as such, what remained to throw even suspicion against the prisoners?? All they knew from the other evidence was that a quarrel of some sort did take place about the sheep, in which young Hawke got slightly injured, as he alleged, by Connors. They had on the other hand proof already that Connors was walking

about on Sunday and Monday after the quarrel, and he should show them that he came over to East Maitland to apply for a summons against the Hawkes. Was this consistent with the belief that on Sunday he had four ribs broken, and sio serious an injury inflicted as Dr. Beardmore described? How many opportunities must have occurred between Sunday and Wednesday for his receiving the in jury found after his death. Looking at the feeling evidently existing between Connors and the Hawkes in reference to these sheep, was it not possible that Connors greatly exaggerated when making his statement in the hospital? Unless it was made clear to them that Connors knew he would shortly die his statement was of but slight weight. He should call evidence to prove that up to Tuesday at least Connors had no such impression on his mind. He called

Mr. **DANIEL CARTER**, who deposed that Connors came to the police-office, East Maitland, to make some complaint, about the first of April, but on what exact day witness could not say; Connors appeared suffering from bodily pain, and stooped; he remained in the office a quarter of an hour.

Dr. **ANDREW LIDDELL** deposed that Connors appeared above fifty years of age, and decrepid; did not see Connors after he received the alleged injuries; the injuries described by Dr. Beardmore were not necessarily mortal; they might readily be caused by two men struggling, and one falling heavily undermost; witness saw young Hawke on the second day of the inquest, and noticed a scratch on his facer as if caused by some instrument such as the tin pot produced; there was also an abrasion of the shoulder; a man who had received such injuries as those said to have been inflicted on deceased would be likely to suffer more from walking about as described, and the result would be more likely to be fatal; witness had known Connors personally, and found him an irascible man; the injuries need not have been fatal necessarily had proper medical measures and care been taken; such injuries were not usually fatal. Cross-examined: Witness believed the blows to have been the original cause of death, by inducing inflammation, but that these alone, without subsequent neglect or injudicious treatment, would not necessarily cause death.

JAMES BRADLEY deposed that he lived at Ravensfield, and knew the prisoners, and Connors; on a Sunday he saw Robert Hawke and a preacher pass his hut; shortly after he heard a noise a little way off, and saw a flock of sheep going past, driven by Robert Hawke; Connors spoke to witness, and said Hawke was taking his sheep to the pound, but he would make him sorry for it after this; Connors then went to the sheep, and tried to head the sheep off another way, but Hawke prevented him from doing so, and the flock shortly after got down from a ridge into a valley, where they got out of witness's sight; witness saw no quarrelling afterwards, but lost sight of the parties; Connors was a passionate man, but witness knew no harm of him.

Mr. **JOHN SCOTTO PARKER**, the coroner,. Deposed that he held the inquest on Connors' body, and was shown the declaration of Connors now produced, but did not admit it as evidence, as it was not taken before a magistrate on oath; would not say exactly what he did with the document, but supposed he must have forwarded it to the Attorney General, as he usually did all documents that came before him at inquests, whether he admitted them as evidence or otherwise.

ELIZABETH WARREN HAWKE deposed that she was the daughter of Robert Hawke, and sister of Thomas Hawke; remembered seeing Thomas Connors on Sunday, the 30th March, on her father's ground, with sheep; she saw her father with Connors' sheep going to the pound, and heard her brother Thomas ask her father where he was going with them; her father said to the pound, and that he wanted Thomas to go with him; Connors sent his dog round the sheep; her brother told

Connors to take his dog off, as the sheep were going to the pound; Connors turned round, and struck her brother with a pint pot, knocking him down; her brother jumped up again, and Connors threw the big coat over her brother's head, and got hold of him by the back of the neck; they struggled for a bit and fell to the ground, her brother under; Connors then kneeled on her brother with one knee, and struck him over the head and face; witness called to her mother and Mr. Robson to run, for Connors was killing Thomas; her father ran up, saying he ought to be ashamed to beat a lad like that; by that time her mother and Mr. Robson had got to the top of the hill, and her brother Thomas went to them and showed Mr. Robson the pint pot Connors had struck him with; witness did not see her father or brother kick Connors, nor strike him; if they had done so she must have seen it; witness swore that neither of them did so. This witness was cross-examined as some length.

Mr. **JOHN MAYO** knew the prisoners for above two years, and never heard anything against them.

Mr. **JOEL N. MORCOM** had known Robert Hawke for many ytears, in England and this colony; he always bore a good character for quietness, honesty, and industry.

Mr. **GEORGE WOOD**, chief constable, had known Robert Hawke for nine years, and always considered him a hard-working, quiet man.

The Attorney General replied.

His Honor summed up. Having described the substance of the indictment against each prisoner, his Honor indicated the points for the determination of the jury; calling their attention to the evidence of the two medical witnesses as to the cause of death, as requiring them to determine whether the inflammation that actually caused death was solely and necessarily induced by the blows. If they could not satisfy themselves that this was the case, they could still, if they thought the prisoners did assault Connors, find them guilty of assault; but of they thought they not only did this, but inflicted the injuries described, and that those injuries necessarily caused the inflammation that caused death, then they would find the prisoners guilty as they were charged in the indictment. As to the assault itself, his Honor read over the dying declaration of Connors, commenting on it, and leaving it to the jury to decide what credibility they would attach to it; and contrasted it with the evidence of the young girl, Elizabeth Hawke, which exonerated the Hawkes from striking a blow or giving a kick; and made Connors the assailant. It appeared to him the case would rest very much on the belief the jury paced in the dying statement of Connors, or the evidence of the gril. And here his Honor pointed out what he considered might be the influences bearing on the mind of the girl or of Connors respectively, tending to affect their testimony; and the value to be generally attached to dying declarations. He then left the case to them, after briefly recapitulating the exact points for their determination.

The jury retired for a quarter of an hour, and returned with a verdict of guilty against Thomas Hawke, and of aiding and abetting in the assault against Robert Hawke.

Mr. Purefoy submitted that that was in effect a verdict of acquittal against Robert Hawke, as aiding and abetting would not apply to a misdemeanour, which a common assault was.

The prisoners were remanded for sentence.

A fresh jury had been summoned for Thursday, and his Honor now discharged the jury with the customary tribute of thanks for their attendance and assistance. In doing so his Honor addressed them, briefly but emphatically, on the great advantages enjoyed by British subjects in the institution of trial by jury, as the most complete protection to the liberty of the subject, and the greatest safeguard for public and impartial administration of justice, employed by any nation. He contrasted the

leading features of this system with those of some nations, on the continent of Europe and elsewhere, where trials took place before a single judge, without the intervention of any other power as a guard against the errors any single man was liable to fall into. Then comparing it with the abuse of the system in California and some of the southern states of the United States, he pointed out the great danger to the liberty of the subject wherever the populace took on themselves to interfere violently in the administration of justice, and casting aside the deliberate and formal method of trial by jury provided by the laws, proceeded to trial at once by a body suddenly and illegally constituted, without any responsibility, and as they had frequently had occasion to learn, finished by immediate execution of the illegal sentence. The complete publicity and the trials and examinations in a British court of justice his Honor regarded as one of the most valuable and important features of the system, and he regarded as another most important feature the encouragement held out to prisoners to have their defence undertaken by counsel learned in the law, which afforded another safeguard against any error or oversight in the proceedings.

The court then adjourned till ten o'clock on Thursday morning.

GUNDAGAI. - DESTRUCTIVE FLOOD AND LOSS OF LIFE.

… Ellis's Creek, most dangerous even in half-flood, as the banks are abrupt and high, was equally flooded like the rest; two men were drowned here – one was found stuck up against a tree; the other was a well known carrier, by the name of **JEMMY SMITH**, or the **Sergeant's Jemmy** as he was called.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/750, 10/09/1851

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT. - It is with deep regret that we record the death of Mr. **RODERICK MITCHELL**, second son of Sir Thomas L. Mitchell, Surveyor-General, who, during a heavy gale on the 28th ultimo, fell overboard from the schooner *Beaver*, on her passage hither from Moreton Bay. The deceased, who was one of the most enthusiastic of the "Pioneers of Civilization in Australia," was on his way to Sydney for the purpose of heading the expedition about to proceed in search of Leichhardt. The deceased was a magistrate of the territory, and a Commissioner of Crown Lands, and leaves a large circle of relations and friend s to mourn his untimely end. *S.M. Herald, Sept. 4*

THE SOUTHERN FLOODS. - Two men have been drowned in the Yewan Yewan Creek, commonly called Hillas' Creek, and on the Upper Hume seven lives have been lost in one hut. Mr. **SUGDEN**, blacksmith, wife, and child, and a Mrs. **SHIELDS** and three children, all perished. Mr. Shields and one child were saved, having been washed in amongst some wattles on an island a long way down the river, where they remained two days before they could be taken off. Several people are missing, but as yet hopes are entertained of their safety.

ACCIDENT. - An accident likely to be followed by serious results took place yesterday afternoon. Two boys m of about the age of ten years, named respectively, **JOHN DAVIS** and **WILLIAM JOHNSON**, residing at Pyrmont, were playing with gun-powder, and having laid a train Johnson applied a lighted stick. The explosion took place more rapidly than the boy anticipated, the full force of which went off in his face, burning him very severely. Dr. **FOULIS** was sent for, who ordered his instant removal to the infirmary, where we are informed he lies in a very precarious state. *Herald, Sept. 6*

CALIFORNIA. Another story of man involved with the 'Vigilantes' and only just escaped being hanged; **STUART**, ex New South Wales; two men named Stuart. *From the S.M. Herald*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/751, 13/091/851
MAITLAND GAOL. - The result of the enquiry into the circumstances attending the late escape of the two prisoners, **M'NAMARA and WALSH**, from Maitland Gaol, has been the dismissal of Mr. **JAQMES COX** from the office of Gaoler, "in consequence of the escapes that have taken place from Maitland Gaol during the timer he has held the appointment." Mrs. Cox, of course, leaves with him. …
INQUESTS. - A coroner's inquest was held on Saturday last, the 6th instant, at the house of Mr. **THOMAS INGALL**, at Hinton, before **J.S. PARKER**, Esq., and a jury of five, touching the death of a child named **HENRY INGALL**, there lying dead. From the evidence of Thomas Ingall and **MARY ANN GREY**, it appeared that on the day previous (Friday) the father had missed the child, and sent his female servant to search for him; he also went seeking him himself, and after looking about in several places he found the little boy had fallen down the well, and was floating on the top of the water. The well was about 30 feet deep, had about 4 feet of water in it, and the hole on the top had been but partially closed; he had thought there was no danger, as the child had always been reluctant to go near it. The jury returned a verdict of found drowned, and requested that in future the well should be properly closed.

Another inquest was held on the 8th instant, at the estate of **GEORGE TOWNSHEND**, Esq., at Trevallyn, Upper Paterson, before the same Coroner, upon the body of an **aboriginal named DAVY**, who was found dead in a mill dam. There was no evidence to show in what manner or way the deceased came by his death, and the jury returned a verdict that the deceased Davy died from suffocation and drowning, but how the deceased fell into the said mill dam there was no evidence to show. The body was much decomposed, Davy having been missed for the previous fortnight.

Another inquest was held on the 9th, before the same Coroner, at the Golden Lion Inn, Lochinvar, upon the body of a man named **DAVID EVANS**. The witnesses examined were **MARK TURNER, JAMES DAGGIN,** and Dr. **M'CARTNEY.** They deposed that the deceased, who had lately taken up goods for Mr. Dickson to the gold fields, was on Sunday night, the 7th inst., brought to the door iof the inn in a cart, the party that was with him (Daggin) requesting the loan of a horse; deceased asked Mr. Turner to lift up his head, which he did, when deceased showed a hurt in his neck, and complained of a choaking sensation. Mr. Turner left him for a few moments, when deceased jumped out of the cart and turned against the side of the house; deceased was then carried in and placed on a sofa; deceased appeared senseless, never spoke afterwards, and in half an hour he expired; deceased was possessed of considerable property; the deceased had had a doctor to attend upon him at Cassilis, but the doctor there had given him up; he was suffering from a rupture of one of the arteries of the neck. Dr. M'Cartney had been sent for to attend deceased, but on his arrival at Lochinvar deceased had expired. Dr. M'C. made a *post mortem* examination upon deceased, and found a large aneurism occupying the left side of the chest. Verdict – died from natural causes.

Another inquest was held yesterday, at the Maitland Hospital, before **J.S. PARKER**, Esq., touching the death of a lad, name unknown, about 15 years of age. It appeared that on Thursday the lad had been received into the hospital by the resident apothecary, in a very bad state, and pout comfortably to bed; but yesterday morning he was found dead in his bed. He had been brought down from Singleton, where it was said he had been in the service of Mr. Rankin. Dr. M'Cartney made a *post mortem* examination of the body, and found the heart much swelled and diseased,

and was of opinion that deceased died from disease of the heart. The jury returned a verdict of died from natural causes.

A ROBBER KILLED. - An inquest was commenced yesterday at Mr. Oliffe's public-house, Surry Hills, on the body of **WILLIAM JOHNSON**, then lying dead, and whose death was caused by a gunshot wound. **GEORGE MITCHELL**, junr., was in custody, charged with having caused the death of the said William Johnson. It appeared from the evidence that the deceased was in the act of robbing the premises of George Mitchell, senr. The young man hearing a noise in the yard, went out side, and perceiving the deceased, whom he ordered to stand, which deceased refusing to do, the prisoner fired at him. The contents took fatal effect, causing immediate death. The inquest was adjourned to the Police-office, George-street, on Thursday next, at half-past twelve. Mr. Mitchell was admitted to bail, himself in £100, and two sureties in £50 each, to appear at the Police-office, on Thursday; and the Coroner directed a post-mortem examination to be made. *Empire, Sept. 9*

SUDDEN DEATH. - One of those fearful occurrences which reminds us of the instability of human life, took place at Bland, on Wednesday se'nnight. While Mr. **PARFAIT**, who was formerly a butcher in this town, but who has lately resided upon his cattle station at the place first indicated, was sitting at his breakfast table, he fell back and expired without the slightest struggle. There being no coroner or magistrate within forty miles, the body was interred without an inquisition as to the cause of death being held. The deceased was a young man about four or five and twenty years of age, and had formerly been a rather hard liver; his death is attributed to apoplexy. *Goulburn Herald*

DEATH BY DROWNING. - On Sunday last a coroner's inquiry was held at Collector, before **ROBERT WAUGH**, Esq., coroner for the district, on view of the body of a small farmer in that neighbourhood, named **O'BRIEN**, who had been found dead in a waterhole. It appeared that the deceased was missed on the previous Wednesday from his place of residence, and nothing was heard of him until the following Friday, when his body was found in a waterhole near Collector. Suspicion was at first entertained that death had been produced by foul means, one of the witnesses at the inquest stating that a third party, with whom it appeared he had been at variance, said that he (the third party) would serve him (witness) as he had served the deceased. No credit being attached to this evidence, on account of the ill-feeling which apparently existed between the witness and the person whom he impliedly charged with the death of the deceased. The jury returned a verdict of "Found drowned." *Goulburn Herald, Sept. 6*

THE MANNING RIVER. - We take the following extracts from a letter from the Rev. **J.T. CARTER** to a friend in Sydney, published in the *Empire*, … "I am reminded, in the relation of these interesting circumstances, of one solemn fact, viz., that Mr. **DONALD M'LEOD**, a recent settler here from Lewinsbrook (Paterson's River), who, when dining with me the day previous to his death, offered a portion of his land for a church and burial ground, was suddenly killed by the limb of a tree striking him to the ground, which a native black was falling – so that his own body is the first to consecrate his gift. There was a very large number of people from all parts of the district gathered at his funeral; for he had won the esteem and affection of all he had come in contact with.

DEATH FROM A VENOMOUS BITE. - An inquest was held yesterday, at the Benevolent Asylum, on view of the body of a man named **KING LONG**, whose death had been caused by the bite of some venomous reptile, as reported in yesterday's paper. From the evidence of deceased's wife, it appeared that a fortnight

ago her husband was carrying a log of firewood into the house, and on setting it down he complained that a splinter of the wood (as he imagined) had stuck in his shoulder; the wound got worse until his death, which took place on Saturday last. Dr. **REID** gave it as his opinion that death had been caused by a puncture in the arm, caused by the bite or sting of some venomous reptile, the poison of which had gradually infused itself through the system, producing mortification of the stomach and intestines; the doctor also expressed his opinion that had he been called to see the deceased in an early stage of his suffering, he would have been able to have had recourse to remedied which would probably have counteracted the effects of the bite. The jury returned a verdict of died from the effects of the bite or sting of some venomous reptile. The deceased has left a widow and two children. He was thirty-nine years of age. *Empire, Sept. 9*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/752, 17/09/1851
MANSLAUGHTER. - Yesterday, the Coroner resumed the inquest (adjourned on the 8th instant) touching the death of **WILLIAM JOHNSTON**, who was shot by Mr. **GEORGE MITCHELL**, jun., on the night of Sunday last. Mr. Mitchell was in custody; and Mr. **G.R. NICHOLLS** appeared on his behalf. The inquest was held at the Sydney Police-office. From the evidence of several of the neighbours of Mr. Mitchell, who lives on the Surry Hills, it was shown that on the night of Sunday last, Mr. Mitchell, jun., was heard challenging some man who had been seen retreating from his father's premises. Two shots were heard; and the deceased was found dead in the adjoining paddock. The witnesses stated that robberies were of constant occurrence in the neighbourhood of Surry Hills, and that the deceased was not known in that locality. Dr. **TIERNEY** stated that he had examined the body of the deceased, and had found it perforated by thirty-six shots. The Coroner, in summing up, said that this was one of those painful and extremely difficult cases which must be decided by a superior tribunal. It was evident that the deceased had been on the premises of Mr. Mitchell, sen., with evil designs; but whether his son was justified in shooting him when he attempted to make his escape was a question which another jury would decide. The Coroner put it to the jury whether, under the circumstances, Mr. Mitchell was justified in shooting the deceased, at whom he had once fired, and who was endeavouring to escape from his father's premises. The jury, having retired for some time, returned a verdict of manslaughter against Mr. Mitchell, who was accordingly committed for trial; but allowed bail, himself in £100, and two sureties in £50 each. *Herald, Sept. 12*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/753, 20/09/1851
ANOTHER MURDER BY THE BLACKS. - We have to add to the catalogue of crime with which our pages have recently been defiled, by reporting another barbarous murder, committed by the aboriginal natives in the Burnett district about a fortnight ago. The victim was a Mr. **STREET,** who was depasturing some sheep of his own on Mr. Trevethan's run. Mr. Goode, of the Burnett inn, who arrived in town yesterday, informs us that the murdered man was beaten in a most barbarous manner by his murderers, and that some of his sheep were driven off. We are not in possession of any further particulars. - The report of the murder of a man on Mr. Hay's (late Mr. Corfield's) station, mentioned by a correspondent in our local contemporary, and noticed in our last issue, is confirmed. *Moreton Bay Courier, Sept 6.*

BURNETT DISTRICT AND LOWER CONDAMINE – MORE MURDERS BY THE BLACKS. - We are informed by a gentleman who arrived from the Burnett district a few days ago, that the aboriginal natives had murdered a man, and his daughter, about twelve years of age, on the station of Mr. Wilkins, twelve miles fro m Gayndah, about three weeks ago. The names of the victims did not reach us. - We also learn, from the letter of a correspondent at Myall Creek, dated 27th August, that news had just been received of the blacks having murdered a man on Messrs. Dangar and Ferrett's station on the Lower Condamine, three days before. Three of the native police, with such assistance as could be spared, had started in pursuit of the murderers. … *Moreton Bay Courier*

SAIKLOR DROWNED. - On the passage of the *Oriental*, from Batavia to Sydney, in a gale of wind from the north-east, a seaman named **DAVID ISBASTER**, having missed his footing on the fore-top-gallant rail, fell overboard and was drowned. The life buoy was hove overboard after him, within a few yards of which the man was struggling, but not being able to swim he sank, and was not again seen. The ship was hove about, and the buoy picked up shortly after the fatal occurrence.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/754, 24/09/1851

DEATH BY DROWNING. - On Sunday an inquest was held before Mr. **PARKER**, at the Cross keys Inn, West Maitland, on the body of **JANE BOUSHER.** It appeared from the evidence that Mrs. Bousher was a young woman, and had not been married many months; she was addicted to drinking, and when much in liquor appeared low spirited, and occasionally had fits; on the night of Friday last she drank several glasses of ale, and slept in her clothes that night; the next morning her husband went to work as usual, leaving his wife still on the sofa; during that morning Mrs. Bousher appeared low-spirited, and remarked to her landlady, **ELIZABETH STEVENS**, that she need not be surprised to hear of her being dead or drowned some day; Mrs. Stevens remonstrated with her for talking this way, and in further conversation Mrs. Bousher told her that her heart was heavy about a child she had left in Sydney, at a boarding-school; Mrs. Stevens however thought she had no real intention to commit suicide, and as Mrs. Bousher got calm she pursued her ordinary avocations, and Mrs. Bousher passed her, and went into the privy, which is placed on the banks of Wallis's Creek. Some short time after, when dinner was ready, Mrs. Stevens went into the orchard and called Mrs. Bousher, but could see nothing of her; she then for the first time got alarmed on remembering the words Mrs. B. had uttered, and alarmed the neighbours; something white was seen floating near the middle of the creek, and a boat being got it was found to be the body of the unfortunate woman, buoyed up by her clothes. In a few minutes after the body was got to the bank Dr. **SCOTT** was in attendance, and tried every means to restore animation, but in vain; there was no mark of violence on the body, or apparent disturbance of her clothes. The jury returned a verdict that the deceased drowned herself, while labouring under temporary insanity.

FATAL ACCIDENT. - An inquest was held yesterday, at the Three Tuns Tavern, corner of King and Elizabeth-streets, on view of the body of **ALEXANDER ANDERSON**, then lying dead in the infirmary. It appeared from the evidence that deceased was an apprentice on board the barque *Phoenician*, and was 17 years old. About noon on Tuesday, the deceased was aloft sending down the main spencer, when he fell from the gaff to the quarter hatch, and thence to the half deck. He fell on his back from a height of twenty feet. The hatch broke his fall. When picked up he was quite insensible, and never spoke. The weather was too rough to take him immediately on shore to the infirmary, but a medical man from a neighbouring ship

attended, and prescribed for him. When the weather moderated he was removed to the infirmary, being still insensible, and was there attended by Dr. **NATHAN**. The fall had, however, caused concussion of the brain, and Anderson never rallied, or recovered sensibility, and died early on Wednesday morning. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death. *Abridged from the Empire, Sept. 19*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/755, 27/09/1851
MORETON BAY. - MURDER. - The Burnett district, I am sorry to say, has been the scene of a most deliberate murder, committed by a Chinaman upon a very respectable European. The particulars are as follows:- An overseer to Mr. **J.B. REID**, named **JAMES HOLBERT**, has occasion some few months since to complain n of a Chinaman for some offence committed on the station, for which the Chinaman was sentenced to imprisonment; at the expiration of his sentence he returned to the station, expressing contrition for his former conduct, but having a short time afterwards been trusted with fire-arms to defend himself from the aboriginals, he took the opportunity one day when poor Hulbert was proceeding in the direction of the men's huts before him to discharge his gun at his victim, when only a few feet distant from him; the result, as might be expected, was fatal – the ball having passed through the body, causing death about an hour after the deed was committed. It is stated that the murderer prevented his victim from receiving a drink of water on his managing to crawl to the hut inhabited by other Chinamen. *Herald Correspondent*
SHOCKING ACCIDENT. - Between the hours of six and seven p.m. on Friday, **JAMES BARHAM**, a butcher, residing at the Parramatta Road, fell into a boiler of scalding water, in which he was scalding pigs. He is very severely scalded about the head, neck, and shoulders. Dr. **JESTINGS**, of the Glebe, was in immediate attendance, and although the patient is at present suffering severely, hopes are entertained of his ultimate recovery. *Empire, Sept. 22*
FRIGHTFUL MURDER BY THE BLACKS AT WIDE BAY. - By the *Albion* schooner, which arrived on Thursday last from Wide Bay, intelligence has been received of the murder by the blacks of Mr. **GEORGE NELSON STREET**, lately of Cassilis, who had recently moved his sheep from the latter place to Wide Bay for the purpose of forming stations there. About three weeks ago he was missed from his temporary station, and search being immediately made, his body was discovered the following day frightfully mutilated by the spears of the natives. In so dreadful a state was the body that it was necessary to bury it where it was discovered. We are sorry to add, that no sooner was the murder of their master known, than his shepherds left his flocks to the mercy of the blacks, and broached a cask of wine which had just arrived at the station. Some of the flockholders in the neighbourhood hearing of this most disgusting proceeding, by force broke in the head of the cask, and Mr. Trevethan, on whose run poor Mr. Street's sheep were for the present depasturing, took charge of them and the rest of his property. Mrs. Street is still at Cassilis awaiting advices of her unfortunate husband's settlement in his ill-chosen district. Mr. Street, who was in the very prime of life (about 36 years of age), was universally esteemed for his many excellent qualities. There were upwards of twenty spear wounds in his body. We are told, that previous to leaving Sydney, some presentiments of his fate oppressed him; and that he gave to a friend his ring, begging him "if he were killed by the blacks to wear it for his sake." *Herald, Sept. 22.* [A correspondent, in the *Herald* of the 23rd, states that Mr. Trevethan's station is in the Burnett district, 200 miles from Wide Bay.]

ARRIVALS. - (SHIPPING). - The brig *Jack* left Brisbane on Sunday, the 14th, at 10 a.m. , with a strong wind from the south-west; same day made the River Bar, and when crossing, a seaman named **ALEXANDER SUTHERLAND** was thrown overboard and lost. He was in the act of bearing off a boat, and while being hoisted on the davits, she was struck with a sea under the bottom, which unshipped her tackles. About the same time the painter of the life-boat towing astern broke; both boats having got adrift the pinnace was lowered, but she also drew the bolts and got away; the second officer jumped over the stern and succeeded in saving the pinnace, but the jolly-boat sank.

FATAL ACCIDENT. - An inquest was held yesterday at Mr. Ryan's house, Bank-street, Chippendale, on view of the body of **THOMAS DUCKWORTH**, then lying dead at his late residence in Banks-street. The deceased's horse and cart ran off in Union-street, Pyrmont, on Saturday evening. The deceased's son, a lad of about eight years old, was in the cart at the time – the deceased having left the boy in charge of it while he entered a shop on some business. When the horse ran off the deceased came out of the shop and endeavoured to stop it, and the iron of the step of the cart caught the deceased on the thigh and turned him round under the wheel, which passed over the lower part of the abdomen. The boy was thrown out of the cart but escaped uninjured. Dr. **CUTHILL** immediately attended, and found the deceased suffering from severe internal injuries of the lower part of the abdomen, and a compound fracture of the right thigh, one of the fractures extending to the knee joint. The injury which caused death was that of the abdomen – the bladder and a portion of the bowels bring ruptured. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death. *Empire, Sept. 23*

FATAL ACCIDENT. - On Sunday last, an aged man named **JOHN SIMPKIN**, who resided in a small cottage near Mr. Lane's, on the Vale Creek, mounted a horse and started off at a gallop from his door, and had not proceeded far when the animal fell and threw him on his head. A violent concussion of the brain was the consequence, which caused almost immediate death. An inquest was held over the body on Monday, and a verdict of accidental death returned. *Bathurst Free Press, Sept. 20*

INQUEST. - Yesterday a magisterial inquiry was held before Mr. **O'NEIL BRENAN** and a jury (the Coroner being indisposed), on the body of **JAMES HOLLAND**, which had been found floating in Cockle Bay on Monday last. A witness named **THOMAS AUSTIN** deposed that he was on the Ultimo side of Darling Harbour on Friday night last, and heard a voice call out "Murder – Oh God, am I to be drowned; ih, Lord have mercy upon me – here I am;" Austin came round to the wharves and reported the matter to the police, but nothing could be founds, although men on board two vessels at Barker's wharf said they heard the screams, but thought they came from the other side of the harbour. Dr. **M'EWAN** on Tuesday examined the body found, and found appearances about the neck and face more indicative of death by strangulation than by drowning, a swelling being found under the right ear which might have been produced by a violent blow, or by violent pressure, such as twisting a neckcloth with a man's hand. Yesterday Dr. M'Ewan made a post-mortem examination, but the neck and face had become so decomposed as to prevent a proper examination, no other parts of the body being so much decomposed. Dr. M'Ewan still retained the same opinion as to the cause of death. The inquiry was adjourned till Wednesday next. *Abridged from the Empire, Sept. 25*

APPREHENSION OF AN ALLEGED MURDERER. - At the Adelaide police office, on the 6th September, **WILLIAM LYNCH, alias BURNS**, was charged with having been concerned in the murder of a turnkey in the gaol at Parramatta, in December, 1842. "The only evidence taken (says the *Adelaide Times* was that of Mr.

ASHTON, governor of the gaol, who identified the prisoner by the marks on his arm, and by his general appearance, as the man advertised in the *Gazette*, that ran away from the gaol of Parramatta, after murdering the turnkey. The prisoner was remanded for a week." *S.M. Herald*

DEATH BY DROWNING. - Yesterday a magisterial enquiry was held before Mr. **J. O'NEIL BRENAN** (the coroner being ill) and a jury, on the body of **MARTIN BURKE.** Burke was cook on board the *Dublin*, lying at the Flour Company's Wharf, and on last Saturday evening was intoxicated, and was last seen sitting at the staboard gangway between ten and eleven o'clock; the next morning he was missing, and his hat was found on the break of the forecastle; it being supposed from this that he had fallen overboard a search was made with a grappling iron, and the body was found and raised; there was no mark of violence on the body, and the trowsers were loose as if deceased had fallen overboard from the ship's head. The jury returned a verdict of found drowned. *Abridged from the Empire, Sept. 25*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/756, 01/10/1851

THE LATE MURDER BY THE BLACKS AT WIDE BAY. - By a latter which has been received by Messrs. T. Hall and Co., of Castlereagh-street, (the agents of the late unfortunate Mr. **STREET**) and which has been addressed to them by his overseer, we learn that, as has too often happened in those frightful cases, mad undiscriminating revenge caused the murder of Mr. Street. It appears that a short time ago a native black was killed by some stockmen, who, having partially burnet the body, buried it in a careless manner. It was soon found by his tribe, who vowed revenge on the first white man that fell into their hands, and that fearful fate befell Mr. Street, who, as we have mentioned, had only just driven his flocks into the district, and was one of the kindest and most humane of men. *S.M. Herald, Sept. 27*

INQUESTS. - On Sunday last an inquest was commenced at Paterson, before Mr. **PARKER**, on the body of **FANNY HALLET**, a young woman. The inquest was adjourned in order to allow time for Dr. **SCOTT** to analyze the contents of the stomach.

On Monday an inquest was held at East Maitland, on the body of **PATRICK M'NAMARA**. M'Namara was an old man, addicted to habits of intemperance, and resided at Berry Park; on Tuesday, the 23rd September, he was in East Maitland, being the polling day, and got intoxicated; later that evening he was taken charge of by three constables, being then very noisy, but instead of taking him to the lockup, they kindly took him to the house of a friend, Mr. **M'LAUGHLIN**, wheelwright, with whose consent he was laid in the stable, on a platform, being made comfortable with bays, hay, and a man sitting up for some hours to see that he was all right; the next morning M'Namara appeared to be still labouring under the effects of drink, and complained of pain and soreness in his belly, but refused to enter Mr. M'Laughlin's house; Mr. M'Laughlin therefore sent word to his family, and that (Wednesday) afternoon M'Namara was taken homer in a bullock dray, appearing to suffer much pain from the jolting. No medical man was however sent for, all parties seeming to think that M'Namara was only suffering from the effects of drink; he still continued unwell throughout Thursday, and in the middle of Thursday night he sent for some neighbours, who came and saw him; about three o'clock on Friday morning M'Namara was suddenly taken much worse, appearing speechless, and before his son could bring his neighbours in again he expired. A post-mortem examination was made by Dr. Scott on Friday, when the only bruises visible were some on the knuckles, and a cut on one knee, but none of them sufficient to have influenced his

death; death had been caused by inflammation of the intestines, which might have been in Dr. Scott's opinion, caused by exposure to cold, or by a fall, or a bruise, and in either case would be much aggravated by intemperance. The jury returned a verdict of death from natural causes, accelerated by frequent acts of intemperance.

DEATH BY INHALING THE FUMES OF CHARCOAL. - An inquest was held on Thursday, at the Cottage of Content, Pitt-street, on view of the body of **WILLIAM ASHTON**, late steward of the brig *Thomas and Henry*, who was found dead in his berth at six o'clock the same morning. It appeared from the evidence of Captain **BENNETT** that the brig was to be smoked on Wednesday, to destroy the rats with which she was infested, and the deceased offered to remain on board the vessel during the night. He was properly cautioned not to go below, and was desired to lift the corner of the tarpaulin covering the hatch occasionally to see that the charcoal continued burning, and that the vessel was safe; he was left in charge of the vessel, but was afterwards seen by Mr. **NEVIN**, the second mate, in Clarence-street, and in a state of intoxication; it was then midnight, and as he said he was returning to the brig, Mr. Nevin cautioned him not to go below decks. Deceased replied that he did not intend remaining on board, but would just go and see that the vessel was safe, and the fire burning. But instead of returning ashore he descended to his berth, and on Mr. **WATTS**, chief mate, coming on board about six a.m. on Thursday, he found the door of the companion open, and discovered the deceased lying dead in his berth. Some paper had been pasted over the joint of the door to keep the smoke in, but deceased had torn it off. The body was viewed by Dr. **TIERNEY**, who expressed his opinion that death had been caused by impeded respiration, the effects of the burning charcoal. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death. The deceased was a young man. *Empire, Sept. 27*

MELANCHOLY OCCURRENCE. - On Tuesday last a jockey named **ASHE**, recently arrived from Adelaide, and of considerable repute on the South Australian turf, while engaged in "sweating" for the coming Drapers' Races, suddenly fell down in a state of insensibility, and expired in a few hours. The deceased was in the service of Captain Fitz Roy. *Bell's Life, Sept. 27*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/757, 04/10/1851

COMMUTATION OF BALLARD'S SENTENCE. - The sentence passed on **THOMAS BALLARD**, who was convicted at the later Circuit Court of the murder of **HENRY BOYLE**, and sentenced to be hung, has been commuted into ten years' hard labour on the roads. Yesterday Ballard left Maitland Gaol to perform this sentence.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/758, 08/10/1851

ADJOURNED INQUEST. - On Saturday last the adjourned inquest on the body of **FANNY HALLET** was resumed, and after the examination of two other witnesses, Dr. **SCOTT** gave evidence as to his analysis of the stomach. He detailed his experiments at some length, and although 5 distinct kinds of poison had been sought for, and in no case less than 3 different tests had been made use of, no poison had been detected. The other evidence was not material. Verdict, died from paralysis of the heart, but how induced there is no evidence to prove.

SYDNEY NEWS.

Yesterday afternoon **EDWARD CONROY**, in the service of Mr. **PEMMEL**, miller, of Parramatta-street, was struck dead by the fly wheel of the engine.

THE MURDER AT PARRAMATTA GAOL. - LYNCH, alias BURNS, whose apprehension at Adelaide for the murder of a turnkey at Parramatta gaol, about nine

years since, was recently announced in these columns, arrived in Sydney yesterday by the *Phantom* from Adelaide, and the necessary measures for bringing him to trial will be immediately instituted. *Herald, Oct. 3*

THE PARRAMATTA MURDER. - **WILLIAM BURNS** was yesterday brought before the Police Magistrate, charged with being one of the three men who, on the 4th December, 1842, effected their escape from Parramatta Gaol, and murdered the gatekeeper. Corporal **HOWELL**, of the Adelaide Mounted Police, deposed that he knew prisoner, at Adelaide, by sight for about two years, but not by name until the period of his apprehension (as stated by the last witness) when he heard him called William Burns; he was apprehended on another charge, but subsequently detained on the charge of murdering a turnkey of Parramatta Gaol; when charged with the latter offence before the Adelaide bench, the prisoner denied the charge, and endeavoured to prove that at the date of its perpetration he was elsewhere, in which attempt he failed; witness assisted in escorting the prisoner to Sydney, and on the passage he several times forced a conversation on the subject of the offence with which he was charged, and on one occasion, in spite of his (witness's) advice to day nothing which might criminate himself, he insisted on making a statement – in order, he said, that if anything to the contrary should hereafter be reported of him, he (witness) would be able to contradict it; he said, "There were three of us – **M'DONALD, M'CANN**, and myself, apprehended on a charger of highway robbery, and were confined in Parramatta Gaol awaiting our trial; we saw a chance of making our escape, and having secured the Governor and one of the turnkeys, made our way towards the front gate or entrance, and demanded the keys, which the turnkey refused to give up, at the same time rushing towards or throwing himself across the gateway; we wanted to secure him also; either M'Donald or M'Cann, handed me a cutlass, and we made our escape;" he (witness) asked him whether he came out a free man to the colony, to which he replied, "I was convicted at Clonmel, and sent to Norfolk Island; there my sight was affected, and I was removed to -----" witness did not recollect the place; had seen the description of **LYNCH**, in the *New South Wales Government Gazette*, and having compared the prisoner therewith, believes him to be the person so described. The prisoner was then remanded for further evidence on Monday next. The prisoner stood with the utmost composure, and asked no questions of the witnesses touching their depositions, but seemed exceedingly anxious about the reward offered for his apprehension, which he considered the police were not deserving of. *Herald, Oct. 4*

MAGISTERIAL INQUIRY. - Yesterday, in the absence of the Coroner, an inquiry was held by Mr. **O'NEILL BRENAN**, Water Police Magistrate, on board the barque *Moselle*, lying off Campbell's Wharf, touching the death of **DANIEL M'CLOUD**, then lying dead there. From the evidence of **ROBERT MORRISON**, a seaman belonging to the barque, it appears that deceased, who also was one of the crew, went to his berth about twelve o'clock on Tuesday night, being then under the influence of liquor. No one saw him get up from his bed, but yesterday morning, about six o'clock, his body was seen floating in the waster just under the ship's lee, and was picked up by the carpenter. It was supposed that, having had occasion to go on deck in the night, and being intoxicated, he must have fallen overboard. Mr. Brenan recorded a verdict of accidental drowning. *Herald, Oct. 2*

ACCIDENT. - About 8 o'clock on Wednesday evening, constable **ROSS** found a man lying on the Botany Road, wounded and senseless, and lost no time in having him removed to the Sydney Infirmary. He was quite unable to give any account of himself, but his name is supposed to be **WILLIAM CHEESEMAN**; and it is

conjectured that having fallen off his cart, the wheel passed over his head. We regret to add that but small hope was entertained of his recovery. *Herald, Oct. 3*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/759, 11/10/1851

MANSLAUGHTER

GEORGE MITCHELL was indicted for having, at the Surry Hills, near Sydney, on the 8th September last, killed one **WILLIAM JOHNSON**, by shooting him from a musket.

The deceased Johnson had been, it appeared, on the premises of the prisoner's uncle for some unlawful purpose, and the prisoner, who is about sixteen years old, was aroused, and went out, when Johnson endeavoured to make his escape, but was fired after by young Mitchell, and subsequently it was found that some of the small shot with which the gun was loaded had entered the lungs, and caused Johnson's death. Mitchell made two statements, one at the time to the effect that deceased had robbed the kitchen when he endeavoured to escape, and another subsequently that deceased had not robbed, but was going to rob. The facts that Mitchell ran after the man who appeared endeavouring to escape, and then fired after him, were proved by two or three neighbours, but the actual circumstances attending Johnson's being on the premises could only be gathered from Mitchell's statements.

In summing up his Honor directed the jury that they must find the prisoner guilty unless that Johnson had actually committed a felony, or was discovered in the act of committing it, in which case attempts to effect his capture would be justified.

The jury returned a verdict of not guilty, and Mitchell was discharged.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/760, 15/10/1851

FATAL ACCIDENT WITH FIRE-ARMS. - On Wednesday last three Maitland parties were returning together from the Meroo diggings, and dined at a hut on Crabby Creek, Goulburn River, some fifteen miles beyond Merton. The united parties numbered nine persons, including Messrs. **W. DREW, E. COX, THOMAS GARRATY, BRETT, THOMSON**, and two other men, and two lads; and they had three drays, Mr. Drew's, Mr. Garraty's, and Mr. Brett's. After dinner the drays started again in the order named; Mr. Cox, who was riding, had been shooting that morning, and his gun was left behind resting against the slabs of the hut; Thomson suggested to Cox that he might as well take on the gun, to which Cox assented. Thomson then walked on with the gun, overtook the drays, and put the gun on the tarpaulin on Garraty's dray, and he then got himself into the dray, and lay or sat down in the back part of it; at this time Garraty was sitting in the front of the dray, driving, and a lad was also seated in the dray; Thomson had been there but a few minutes when Garraty turned round, and seeing the gun drew it towards him; the gun was loaded, and unfortunately cocked, and the trigger catching in a fold of the tarpaulin the gun exploded, and the whole charge lodged in Garraty's right side; the unfortunate man staggered out of the dray and fell forward on the road, and before Drew could get off his dray, and back to him, he was dead. The body was taken on to Merton, where an inquiry was held by Captain **PIKE** and Mr. **OGILVIE**. It was found impossible to obtain boards to make a coffin at Merton, or subsequently at Jerry's Plains, and Mr. Drew kindly took charge of the body, and drove it down on poor Garraty's dray, wrapped up in the tarpaulin, and on Friday evening he reached Maitland, and performed the melancholy duty of handing over the body to the friends of the deceased. Garraty was well known in this neighbourhood as a man of sterling worth; he was formerly a soldier, and had been for some years a small settler, residing at

Narrowgut, near Morpeth, where he has left a wife and six young children to mourn his loss.

SYDNEY NEWS. - On Sunday afternoon **THOMAS CONNOLLY**, a lad of about five years of age, fell into a well on the spare ground adjoining the new church on Church-hill, and was drowned.

MAN SHOT. - Last week, a man named **ALEXANDER GOLDING** was killed by a sawyer on the Richmond River. Both parties, it appears, had been drinking together for some time previous to the occurrence taking place. In course of drinking some altercation having ensued, **M'DONALD**, the man charged with the offence, seized his gun and deliberately shot his victim through the body. M'Donald is in custody, but the state of this river district is truly disgraceful, for when we consider that the banks of the Richmond and its tributaries, for hundreds of miles, are almost solely tenanted by numerous bands of lawless individuals in quest of cedar, that there is only one solitary policeman, and only one resident J.P. in the district, with a bench (the nearest) 100 miles distant, it is little a matter of surprise that crimes are so rife and so little thought of as they are in this district, *Empire Correspondent, Oct. 3*

INQUEST AT GOULBURN. - On Saturday last, a coroner's inquest was held at the old township, by **ROBERT WAUGH**, Esq., coroner for the district, on view of the body of a little girl named **KELLY**, who was drowned in the Wollondilly river, on the previous day. It appeared that deceased and her brother, who is a little her senior, were tending cattle on a flat close to the river, and that deceased was amusing herself with dabbling in the stream with a stick. She overbalanced herself and fell in, sinking immediately, and when she arose again, she was half-way towards the opposite bank. Before she could be rescued she sank a second time, and did not rise again. A verdict of accidentally drowned was accorded. *Empire Correspondent.*

LONGEVITY. - At inquest was held at the Union Inn, Church-street, Parramatta, before Mr. **C.B. LYONS**, coroner, on view of the body of **GEORGE CAINES**, then and there lying dead. From the evidence adduced it appeared that deceased had lived on the family estate of Mr. **THOMAS ROBERTS**, at South Creek, many years; he was ninety-six years old. On Monday evening he came to Mr. **RICHARD WEBB'S** (Union Inn) and asked to be allowed to sleep in the stable, which was granted; the next morning he was very ill, and a gentleman gave deceased some brandy, but he died. All was done for him that could be done. The jury returned a verdict of died by the visitation of God. *Herald, Oct. 11*

SUDDEN DEATH. - Yesterday afternoon, as **ALICK GLEESON**, employed as a wharf labourer, was returning, in company with a fellow labourer, from his work, and had proceeded as far as Mr. S. Peek's stores, in George-street, he suddenly fell, apparently in a fit. Dr. **HARPUR** was almost immediately on the spot, but the vital spark had fled. He was conveyed to his residence in Market-street. Deceased, who had only been married three weeks, was about thirty-five years of age, and was seemingly a strong, muscular man. *Herald, Oct. 11*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/761, 18/10/1851

DEATH FROM BURNS. - On Thursday an inquest was held before Mr. **PARKER**, coroner, at the White Swan, Maitland, on the body of **PRISCILLA BROWNING**, aged 66 years. It appeared from the statements made by the unfortunate woman to the medical men who attended her that on the night of the 24th September she was at home, at Morpeth, and was sitting up, waiting for her husband, when her petticoat caught fire from a log on the hearth, and she being unable, from the boisterous weather, to make any neighbour hear, was greatly burnt on the abdomen, legs, chest,

&c., before she could out the fire out. Her husband afterwards returned home so drunk that she could not make him sensible of her state, and he lay on the bed till six o'clock nest morning, when she got him to go and call up Mr. **NAINBY**, the chemist. Mr. Nainby attended immediately, but finding her so much burnt he advised her to go to the hospital, to which she expressed great repugnance, entreating Mr. Nainby to attend her. This he promised to do, and for several days he pursued the usual course of treatment for severe burns, but at length persuaded Mrs. Browning that she had far better go to the hospital, where she would get proper medical treatment and attendance. Mrs. Browning then went to the hospital, where she remained six days, under Dr. M'Cartney's care, and then died, her case having been hopeless from her first admission. Dr. **M'CARTNEY** deposed that death arose from the burns, and he stated that Mr. Nainby's treatment, as described, was perfectly correct. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death from burns, and added the following rider: "We attach much blame to her husband for allowing the deceased to remain for several hours unattended to, and for not calling in medical assistance in time."

THE FATAL ACCIDENT TO THOMAS GARRATY. - We are requested by Mr. **COX** to correct a slight error in our account of this unfortunate accident; the gun was not cocked, nor did the tarpaulin catch the trigger, but the hammer of the gun was caught by the tarpaulin as poor Garraty was drawing it towards him, and being suddenly released again the gun exploded.

FATAL ACCIDENT. - We regret to have to record the death, from accident, of Mr. **EDWARD BARTLETT**, of Wallah, Namoi River. On the 24th September Mr. Bartlett, in company with his brother, Mr. **F. BARTLETT**, was riding after cattle, when he came violently in contact with a tree, and received very severe contusions on the head and shoulders, and was also injured internally. Dr. **MILNER** was sent for, and Mr. Bartlett lingered for ten days, but died on the 4th October, having been in a hopeless condition from the first. Mr. Bartlett was much respected, and was in the prime of life, and in good health, when he met with the unfortunate accident. He has left a wife and two children to mourn their sudden loss.

WRECK OF THE "MARIER." - [Gives details of bodies, or body parts, found, then lists the names of passengers.] Concludes: An inquest has been held on the bodies, the finding of which has not been made known, and their interment taken place in the neighbourhood of the wreck; but we hear that it is probable they will be disinterred and brought into town for the purpose of a more respectful burial. *Portland Guardian*

WIDE BAY. - We have been requested to publish the following extract from a letter recently received from the above named locality:- "There have been 3 murders committed in this district lately, within the space of a few days, by the blacks. …

DEATH.

At Wallah, Namoi River, on the 4th October, Mr. **EDWARD BARTLETT**, in the 35th year of his age, deeply regretted, leaving a wife and two children to deplore his loss.

A CHILD DROWNED IN A WELL. - Yesterday evening an inquest was held by the Coroner, at the Three Crowns public-house, Church-hill, on view of the body of **BARTHOLOMEW CONNOLLY**, a child of five years of age, whose death took place on Sunday last under the following circumstances: **DANIEL O'CONNELL**, residing in Gloucester-street, stated that on Sunday he and Bartholomew Connolly, the father of the deceased, were walking in the neighbourhood of Church Hill, when a child belonging to witness came screaming after them, saying that little Connolly had fallen down the well in the ground where the new church is building. Both ran towards the spot, the father by one side of the ground and witness on the other. When witness got to the well, Connolly had already reached it, and had got down, but was so

weak and excited that he could not get at the body, and was dragged out of the well in a fainting state. A grappling iron was then procured, and after some delay the body of the poor child was got up. He was quite dead. The only person present when the child fell in was witness's son, who is only six years old, and not competent to give evidence. A verdict of accidental death was returned. *Herald, Oct. 14*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/762, 22/10/1851
FATAL ACCIDENT. - About five o'clock on Wednesday afternoon, a man named **THOMAS MAPLES** was driving a cart from Sydney to his home on the Newtown road. He had two females in the cart with him, named **ANN ROGERS** and **CHARLOTTE LACKEY, alias STEWART.** When about for miles from Sydney, Maples was turning his cart off the road, into the bush, towards his home; one of the wheels of the cart came in contact with the high bank of the road, and the cart upset, and Charlotte Lackey, who was said to be living with Maples as his wife, was killed on the spot. The body was conveyed to her residence, where it awaits a coroner's inquest. *Empire, Oct. 17*
FATAL ACCIDENT, AND INQUEST. - Last week an inquest was held by Dr. **PARSONS**, on the farm of Mr. **RICHARD DRIVER,** situated at Kemp's Creek, Cabramatta, on the body of a man named **HENRY JONES**, aged 73, who had been in the service of Mr. Driver for 27 years. Deceased went out on the ground, and was missed the same day, but, notwithstanding the strictest search, the remains were not found till Thursday, when the right foot was burned and separated from the leg, while his body and clothes were severely scorched. A fallen tree, burned down, was close to him. The jury returned a verdict of "found dead," but would not offer any opinion how he came by his death. Deceased is extremely regretted by the master in whose employment he had been for so many years. *People's Advocate, Oct. 18*
CALIFORNIA.
Another 'vigilante' execution; names **SAMUEL WHITTAKER** (ex Sydney, *Lady Kennaway)* and ROBERT M'KENZIE, ex England; also mentions "a Mrs. **HOGAN**, a woman who, with her husband, formerly kept a public-house in Sydney." … Mrs. Hogan was in custody of the committee, and it was supposed would be sent on to Sydney. Also another case, **JAMES STUART alias BERDUE**, convicted but reprieved.

A young man named **WINDRED** (a native of this colony), who was convicted of the robbery with Berdue, was also by Stuart's confession declared to be innocent. Windred escaped from prison, and we believe arrived in Sydney some months since. A subscription was being raised for Berdue, who was coming on to Sydney.
GOVERNMENT GAZETTE. - FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1851
TWENTY-FIVE POUNDS REWARD, OR A CONDITIONAL PARDON.
Whereas it has been represented to the government that **SAMUEL EIGHTEEN**, who was seen on the 29th June last with his drays at the Big Creek on the New England Road, about thirty miles from Port Macquarie, has not since been heard of, and that there is reason to believe that he has been murdered; …

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/763, 25/10/1851
COMMITTAL. - **WILLIAM BURNS alias LYNCH**, who has been some time in custody, was this day committed to take his trial at the Criminal Court, on a charge of murdering **ABBOTT**, the turnkey of the Parramatta Gaol, in 1842.
MEMOIR OF THE LATER RODERICK MITCHELL, ESQ.
(*From the S.M. Herald)*

Concludes: Mr. Mitchell, full of that excitement so frequently a concomitant with deeds of noble enterprise, embarked in a small craft [the *Beaver*], in hopes to come to Sydney sooner than by steamer; and, as it has been our painful duty to record, in a former number of this journal, he fell overboard during a storm and perished.

INQUEST ON A MOTHER AND CHILD. - Yesterday evening an inquest was held at the Half Moon Inn, South Head Road, on the bodies of **MARY ANN M'KENZIE** and an infant child. It appeared that M'Kenzie was 29 years old, and of taciturn, reserved habits; latterly she had appeared ailing, and had been taking medicine, but consulted no medical man, nor did her father or brother suspect anything particular was the matter. Yesterday morning, about four o'clock, he heard the latch of the back door lifted up, and knowing that no one slept down stairs but the deceased, he concluded she had gone onto the yard. About an hour afterwards his son went to the water-closet, and there found his sister quite dead; the alarm was given directly, but all help was unavailing. A medical examination by Dr. **TIERNEY** showed that she had been recently delivered, and had died from exhaustion, consequent on the hemorrhage produced by the umbilical cord not being tied. In the cesspool was found the body of a female child, which had evidently been suffocated there immediately after being born. There was no mark of violence on the body of either mother or child. The Coroner having charged the jury , they returned the following verdict – "Died from exhaustion while being delivered of an illegitimate female child, which child we also find was suffocated in the cesspool of the water-closet, in which the mother was delivered, immediately after its birth." *Abridged from the Herald, Oct. 21*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/764, 29/10/1851

HUNTER RIVER DISTRICT NEWS. - RICHMOND RIVER.

MELANCHOLY OCCURRENCE. - On the 21st ult. a melancholy event occurred at a hut belonging to a man named **M'DONNALD**, a sawyer and boat-builder, situate near the junction of the north arm with the main branch, of the Richmond River. Towards the evening of that day a man of the name of **SANDY GOLDING** called at the hut above described, and commenced abusing Mrs. M'Donnald in shameful language, upon which the husband took the part of his wife, and a quarrel ensued. Goulding took up the largest portion of a boat oar and threatened the other therewith when M'Donnald said, "Sandy, you are too strong for me, and I must defend myself;" he took down a fowling-piece, with which he was pushing away Goulding, when the piece went off, and the contents (small shot) entered the chest a little below the right nipple, which caused death in about twenty minutes. M'Donnald was taken to Tabulam bench, and there committed for trial. He is considered a quiet inoffensive man, and has a wife and large family of children depending upon him for support.

CHILD LOST. - [ADVERT.]

Re: **BLICK,** male, aged 11, Belmont & Black Creek roads; missing since Saturday. **JOHN W.P. BLICK**, Belmont, October 28th.

MANSLAUGHTER. - Yesterday an inquest was held at the police-office, before the Coroner, on the body of **JOHANNA HILTON**. It appeared from the evidence that Mrs. Hilton, described as a respectable married woman, thirty-four years old, on Wednesday afternoon was accompanying a friend, **MARY ANN GORMAN**, homewards from Kent-street to Redfern. On their way the two women called at the Rising Sun in n, Parramatta-street, and had several glasses of rum together; the landlord, Mr. **WILLIAM FORD**, was not at home, and the liquor was supplied by the bar-boy, **JAMES HUGHES**; the women appear to have been dancing also in the bar. Mrs. Gorman did not become drunk, but Mrs. Hilton did, and when Mrs.

Gorman left for home, between five and six o'clock, Mrs. Hilton requested the bar-boy to put her somewhere out of the way till she recovered. The boy Hughes then led Mrs. Hilton out into the yard, to a place where a fender lay, covered with mats, anmd on this Mrs. Hilton sat down, and was soon asleep, her head resting on her shoulder, and in this position she remained some hours. Mr. Ford came home about six o'clock, and having heard then women had been in his bar, drinking and dancing, he made enquiry of Hughes, who told him what had passed, and where Mrs. Hilton was; Ford went out and looked at her as she sat asleep on the fender, but from that time took no further notice of her till ten o'clock. About ten o'clock that night **GEORGE DRURY**, a man drinking at the house, was asked by Ford to help him put a drunken woman into the stable; Drury consented, and Ford and Drury then went out, and found Mrs. Hilton laying on the flags near the back door, and lifting her by the legs and waist, they carried her in to the stable, Drury tumbling over her from drunkenness; Drury thought she was laid cross-ways to the door. The stable was a weather-board building; the night was very cold, and Drury remarked this to Ford, and also that Mrs. Hilton appeared very cold, but nothing appears to have been placed under or over Mrs. Hilton to shelter her from the effects of cold. The next morning early, on Ford's going to the stable to see how she was going on, he found her dead. Her body was then lying with the head next the door, and some inches lower than the legs, and the medical men examined, Drs. **TIERNEY and RUSSELL**, found a quantity of half digested food in and about the mouth, which the unfortunate woman, from the position in which she lay, had been unable to eject. The cause of death was found to be congestion of the brain and lungs, all the other organs being in a healthy state. Both medical men were of opinion that the woman would not have died had proper care been taken of her, the exposure to the cold of the night having greatly accelerated her death. Some bruises were found on the face of the deceased. The coroner, in summing up, instructed the jury that this appeared to him a clears case of man slaughter against Mr. Ford, the duty of a publican being expressly to protect and take care of persons, helpless from drunkenness, more particularly when they became in that state in his house. Mr. Ford addressed the jury, stating that this was an unexpected position that he was placed in, and explaining the extent of his personal knowledge of the whole transaction. The jury retired for half an hour, and returned with a verdict of manslaughter against William Ford, who was committed for trial of the next Criminal Court. *Abridged from the Herald, Oct. 25*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/765, 01/11/1851
ESCAPE. - An aboriginal native known as "**BILLY THE BULL**" under committal to stand his trial for a murder perpetrated on the Lower Darling, is reported to have effected his esc ape from the lockup at Balranald. *S.M. Herald*
RECOVERY OF DR. BLICK'S SON.
Returned safe and well; interesting story, page 3a.
MELANCHOLY AND FATAL ACCIDENT. - **RICHARD FLETCHER**, an apprentice on board the *Bolivar*, Captain Murray, now lying at the Circular Quay, whilst in the act of hooking on the main sheet, unfortunately missed his footing and fell overboard; being unable to swim, he struggled and sank almost as soon as he touched the water. The chief officer, Mr. Jenkins, seeing the accident, immediately jumped overboard, one of the seamen also taking the water at the same time, but neither was able to save the unfortunate boy. Grappling irons were procured from the Waterman's Hut, and the body recovered on the first cast. Drs. **NACKELLAR, GRENUP, and ALLEYNE**, were promptly in attendance, and used every effort their

skill could suggest to resuscitate the body, but without avail. Fletcher was a native of London, and had been with Captain Murray about three years and a half. *Empire, Oct. 29*

MELANCHOLY DEATH OF MR. JAMES SMITH, OF SMITHFIELD PARK, EASTERN CREEK.

An inquest was held on Tuesday last, the 28th inst., at the Bell and Crown Tavern, kept by Mr. **JOHN BOOTLE**, Western Road, halfway between Parramatta and Penrith, on view of the body of the late Mr. **JAMES SMITH,** aged 55 years, then and there lying dead. **CATHERINE CHARLOTTE DICK**, having been sworn, stated – I am the daughter of Mrs. **ELLARD**, wife of Mr. Ellard, music-seller, of Sydney; I am on a visit to Mrs. Smith, of Eastern Creek, about two miles from this house; I came here on Sunday morning last, the 26th instant, to see Mrs. Bootle, who is Mr. Smith's daughter; yesterday morning (Monday), as I came in at the back door of this house, I learnt that on Sunday morning there had been a quarrel between Mr. and Mrs. Bootle; Mrs. B. went to her father's (the deceased's) residence, about nine o'clock at night; the servant-maid went with her; she returned accompanied by the deceased between eleven and twelve yesterday morning; Mr. Bootle was at home when she came; she said, "I am come for some clothes," then went to her bed-room to get them, but her husband said she should not have them, and endeavoured to prevent her taking any, but she obtained possession of a small box, which she handed to her father; I left the room but returned, and on coming in saw the deceased strike Mr. Bootle with the hand le of a riding whip, which had a bone knot on it. Mr. B. then struck Mr. Smith with an iron bar. I did not see him strike any one else but deceased, who had his hat on. Mr. Smith struck Mr. Bootle first. I ran out of the room; Bootle and Mr. Smith quarrelled; Bootle said his wife should not go; this occurred a few minutes before the blow was struck. I left again and went to Mrs. Smith's, and returned with her very soon, and saw Mr. S. lying on the bed; he said something to Mrs. Smith; I heard him say afterwards, "do not send for the doctor." - **CATHERINE HOWARD**, a servant of Mr. Bootle's, and **ELEANOR SMITH**, a daughter of the deceased, were called; but were so unwilling to give evidence that nothing material could be elicited from them, except the facts from Miss Smith that Dr. **RUTTER** was sent for, and that her father died before daylight the following morning. - Dr. Rutter deposed that when he arrived he found Mr. Smith lying on his back, perfectly insensible, with a contused and lacerated wound on the right side of the head; he lingered till three o'clock the following morning, when he expired. He made a post mortem examination, and found a wound on the superior part of the parietal bone, with a slight fracture corresponding to that wound, and depression of the lower portion of the same bone, together with effusion on the brain, which injuries were the cause of death; the iron bar on the table would cause such a wound with the flat part of it. Here Miss Eleanor Smith expressed a wish to give further evidence, to which the coroner assented: She stated that her sister and Mr. Bootle had quarrelled; she saw the iron bar in Mr. Bootle's hand; when Mr. and Mrs. Bootle were wrangling in the taproom, her father and Mr. B. were together there; Mfrs. B. was behind the counter; she (the witness) was in the passage; it was about five minutes after that she saw the iron bar in Mr. Bootle's hand; then it was that she saw her father's head cut; she also saw the bone knob on the whip when her father had it in his hand; she (witness) went to her father's bedside, when he said his head was giddy, and it was time to go home. This closed the evidence, and the coroner explained the law, as laid down in "Sewell's Law of Coroners." The jury, after some consideration, returned a verdict of manslaughter

against John Bootle, who was committed to take his trial. *Abridged from the Parramatta Correspondent of the Herald.*

CHILD BURNED TO DEATH. - On Friday last the daughter of **WILLIAM VANE**, of Triangle Flat, a little girl of about five years of age, caught fire during the absence of her mother, who had left the house for a bucket of water, when so severely was she burned before the flames were extinguished, that death took place almost immediately. The body was being conveyed to Bathurst for interment on Monday without an inquest being held; but information of the circumstances was communicated to constable **MARSH**, when Captain Sutherland's invaluable services were called into requisition, and the forms of an enquiry were gone through at Mr. Shortill's, Coach and Horses inn, with the usual verdict in such cases. An igneous fatality appears to rest on this family, as this is the second daughter whose existence has been terminated by fire within a short period. *Bathurst Free Press, Oct. 29* ***

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/766, 05/11/1851

HUNTER RIVER DISTRICT NEWS. - MUSWELL BROOK.

BOYS, BEWARE OF GUNPOWDER!

A most lamentable accident has befallen two fine boys at Merton, of the respective ages of 12 and 9 years, sons of Mr. **MURRAY**, the district constable. It appears that, in the absence of their father, they, on Monday last, contrived to get possession of a flask containing nearly one pound of gunpowder, which had previously been secreted in a secure place, and which they carried outside the house, and, as is supposed, applied to a lighted stick, when the powder exploded, dreadfully injuring them both, about their faces, and one of their arms. It is uncertain n how the catastrophe happened exactly, nobody witnessed it, and ever since the poor youths have been lying insensible in bed. But little hope is entertained of the recovery of the eldest; but everything which the promptitude and skill of Dr. **WEEST**, of Muswell Brook, can do for them, it is perhaps needless to state is unremittingly afforded to the young sufferers.

DETERMINED ATTEMPT AT SUICIDE. - On Sunday night a woman named **MARY ANN WILLIAMS** was in the Brisbane lock-up, having been confined for disorderly conduct, when Constable **CONROY** heard a peculiar noise emanating from her cell, and, on opening the door found that she had fastened a long strip of the blanket round her neck, and, winding it round a bar in the cell had the end in her hand, while she leaned forward with the full weight of her body. She was already nearly strangled, and Conroy immediately tore off the blanket rope and secured her while he sent for Dr. **SWIFT**. On that gentleman's arrival, such remedies as were necessary were applied, and the woman having been copiously blooded, a strait jacket was fastened on her, and she was placed on the guard-bed. On subsequently visiting her, the constable found that she had released her arm from the strait jacket, and having taken off the bandage and opened the wound made by the lancet was bleeding to death. She was again secured, and subsequently removed to the hospital. She was yesterday brought up at the Police-office, and evidence having been given by her husband and others that she had broken and destroyed household property to a large amount, and that she was of generally intemperate and disorderly habits, she was adjudged to find two sureties in £10 each, to keep the peace and be of good behaviour till Monday, the 17th of November next. *Moreton Bay Courier, Oct. 18*

FATAL ACCIDENT. - We regret to state that a man named **PATRICK MOONEY**, fifty-two years of age, met his death on Monday afternoon from the falling of a tree. The deceased, who had lately purchased a small farm at the German's Creek, went out

on the afternoon in question with his son, for the purpose of cutting down trees. While engaged in this operation, one of the trees in falling struck against an adjoining one, and in the concussion detached a splinter from it, which hit the deceased on the temple, and felled him to the ground. Medical assistance was speedily procured from the settlement, but the injuries were too extensive to admit of any hope of saving the patient's life. He lingered until about two o'clock on the following morning, when he expired without having spoken or betrayed any sign of consciousness from the time of the occurrence of the accident. *Moreton Bay Free Press, Oct. 23*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/767, 08/11/1851
WILFUL MURDER. - **NEWING**, a Chinese, arrived at Bathurst gaol last Friday, whither he had been committed to take his trial for the wilful murder of **HEAM**, another Chinese, by the Mudgee bench. It appears that the prisoner and deceased came in the same ship to this colony, and quarrelled during the voyage, since which time the best state of feeling has not prevailed between them. They were subsequently employed by Mr. **BROWN** at one of his stations on the Big River, about 80 miles from Mudgee, one as a shepherd and the other as hut-keeper. Some quarrel having taken place about a damper, Newing resolved on revenge. To accomplish his purpose he fastened a shear blade on the top of a stick, with which he stabbed Heam whilst stooping at the fire to lift a pot tea, and was in the act of rushing upon him with a bowie knife, but was prevented by the Europeans who where in the hut at the time. Then wounded man only survived a few hours. Two spears, fashioned by Newing after the same manner as the one with which the fatal blow was struck, had been previously broken by the men on the establishment. After the commission of the deed the miserable Chinaman expressed a wish to die immediately, stating that his countryman was waiting for him – a superstition, it appears, peculiar to his country in cases of murder. Great difficulty was experienced by the police who escorted him to town, in persuading him to travel, and the only way in which they could succeed was by telling him that he would at once be executed upon his arrival at Bathurst. He attempted suicide by strangulation of the way, whilst the police were asleep, but the guttural noise made by his choking awoke them, and the completion of the deed was thus prevented. *Bathurst Free Press, Nov. 5*
THE GOLD FIELDS.
(From the Empire). NOV. 1. - A man was, in the language of my informant, *smashed* by the falling in of a bank, yesterday. Doctor **GWYNNE**, of Parramatta, whilst exerting himself violently with a crowbar, ruptured a blood vessel, but is fortunately recovering, at the Louisa.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/768, 12/11/1851
UNFOUNDED RUMOUR. - On Sunday morning a rumour was currently circulated in Maitland to the effect that Mr. **HINCHCLIFFE,** storekeeper, who recently went to the Turon on a trading excursion, had reached Jerry's Plains on his return, and there fell suddenly from his horse, dead. Mrs. Hinchcliffe immediately hired a vehicle, and hurried off in great distress to meet the body of her husband, but was agreeably surprised to hear of his safety on the road, and to meet him alive and well at New Freugh. If this rum our originated in a joke it was a very cruel and reprehensible one.
FATAL ACCIDENT. - On Saturday evening last, the 6th instant, a man named **DWYER**, who latterly occupied a small farm at Darby Murray's Flat, about three miles from Goulburn, met with an accident, which, though severe, was not expected to terminate fatally. It seems that Dwyer was standing with a team of horses opposite

Mr. Dunn's inn, in Auburn-street, waiting the return of a person who had a moment before left him, when the horses became restive, and made a motion to be off. Dwyer ran to the leading horse's head, and in trying to stop him, the animal turned short round, throwing the man to the ground; he was immediately trampled under the feet of the tam, and when extricated it was found that his thigh was broken. He was conveyed to the hospital, where he was attended by Drs. **WAUGH** and **GERARD.** The fracture was quickly reduced, and matters progressed favourably until the following Tuesday, when it was found that no purgatives would act upon the system, the sufferer must have received some extensive internal injury. Dr. Waugh was constant in his attendance, and administered such medicines as he considered necessary under the peculiar circumstances of the case. A little before 6 o'clock on Wednesday morning, Dwyer raised himself up on the bed on which he was lying, and after vomiting, fell back and expired. The deceased has left a widow and several children to deplore their loss. *Goulburn Correspondent of the Empire.*

A BOY DROWNED. - On Thursday last a youth of about ten years of age, named **PATRICK EVERS**, got out of his depth whilst bathing in the river opposite the factory wall, and was drowned. The unfortunate little fellow, it appears, had been left by his mother in charge of Mr. **LONERAGAN**, of George-street, whilst she proceeded to her husband, who is now gold-digging at the Turon. Observing his hair wet on the day previous and divining the cause, Mrs. L. cautioned him against going into the water, but apparently without effect. Proceeding to the river in company with a number of boys of his own age, he once more indulged in his favourite pastime, and lost his life. It is reported that notwithstanding the water was only six feet in depth, three men who stood on the river bank at the time of his disappearance, took no other steps for his rescue than poking about the spot where he sank with long poles, and it was not until the arrival of Mr. Loneragan, who at once plunged into the river, that the body was found, sitting on the river bed in from five to six feet of water. The professional services of Dr. **CONNELL** having been procured, every means of resuscitation were resorted to, but the vital spark had fled. An inquest was held over his remains yesterday, before Captain Sutherland, and a verdict returned in accordance with the above facts. *Bathurst Free Press, Nov. 8*

DEATHS.

On the 6th November, in child-birth, aged thirty-two years, **EMMA BAILEY**, the beloved wife of Mr. **EDGAR HYLAND,** of Lower George-street, Sydney.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/769, 15/11/1851

SUICIDE. - Yesterday evening an inquest was held by the coroner, at the Wooloomooloo Inn, on view of the body of **ANN M'BEAN**, then lying dead at her residence, Brougham-street, Wooloomooloo. From the evidence it appeared that the deceased, who was 65 years of age, had been labouring for some time past under mental derangement, aggravated of late by the death of her youngest son. She was in the habit of wandering about late at night, and had on Sunday so wandered away, not returning home until 3 o'clock yesterday morning. Her daughter had requested a woman employed in the house to wash to keep an eye upon her mother, who however contrived to slip away again about 9 o'clock, and the alarm was soon after heard, that she had thrown herself into the water in Wooloomooloo Bay. Assistance was promptly rendered, and the body was taken out and conveyed to Robinson's baths, where every means was taken to resuscitate it, but without success. The jury returned a verdict, "that deceased had put an end to her existence by frowning herself, whilst in a state of temporary insanity." *Herald, Nov. 11*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/770, 19/11/1851
REPORTED MURDER BY THE BLACKS.
It was reported in Brisbane last evening that Mr. **ALEXANDER ROSS**, son of Mr. **NEIL ROSS**, of the M'Intyre Brook, had been murdered by the blacks on the Dawson; and that four men in the employment of Captain Coutts had also been killed in the same neighbourhood. *Moreton Bay Courier, Nov. 10*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/771, 22/11/1851
INQUEST. - An inquest was held at Portland Head, on Saturday last, 15tyh instant, on the body of **MARY ANN DAY**, aged one year and seven months, who was found drowned on the previous day, in the Hawkesbury, immediately opposite her father's residence. From the evidence it appears that the child had strayed away from the house and found her way to the river, into which she fell. The jury returned a verdict of accidental drowning. *Herald's Windsor Correspondent*
FATAL ACCIDENT. - On Monday last an inquest was held upon the body of **WILLIAM CARPENTER**, at the Black Bull Inn, before Captain **SUTHERLAND**, when it appeared from the evidence that the deceased and a number of other diggers started from the Turon for the Pyramul Creek on Saturday week. On their arrival he stripped to bathe, and plunged into a water-hole head foremost, under the impression that the water was deep. Not appearing for several seconds, and the surface of the water becoming a little discoloured with blood, one of his comrades rushed into the hole, and lifted him from the bottom, where he lay in a state of paralysis caused by the violence of the concussion. From the time he was taken out of the water to the hour of his death he was incapable of moving his limbs, and after being conveyed to the Turon, was recommended for removal to Bathurst by Dr. **JOHNSON**. The unfortunate man breathed his last just as the cart arrived in town, opposite Mr. Morgan's inn. Upon inspection by Dr. **BUSBY**, the vertebrae was found to be so severely injured that the head could be moved upon the neck with the greatest ease. Having given his opinion that death had been thus caused, the jury returned a verdict of accidental death. *Bathurst Free Press, Nov. 19*
CATTLE DISEASE. - We have been informed that as many as ten head of cattle have been lying nearly a week in the paddocks on the Sydney side of the Newtown turnpike. Several had been skinned early last week, and were lying in a putrid state when inspected last Tuesday. They were not burned before Friday, and the fatal part of the neglect remains to be noticed in the fact that one of the men employed in skinning them became infected in consequence of having received a scratch in his hand, and he now lies in a hopeless state from the effects of the virus with which he was inoculated; a boy also, merely wheeling away the flesh in a barrow, became infected, and is at this moment in a precarious state. *Empire, Nov. 18*
THE "TRAFALGAR." - Captain **WRIGHT** has apprised the parents of Mr. **JAMES STEWART**, jun., who sailed hence in the *Trafalgar*, in March last, of his death, which took place at sea on the night of the 24th April last, in lat. 52S., long. 50. He was engaged in reeling the mainsail during a heavy gale and fell overboard. Captain Wright was at the helm, and threw him a hen coop and ropes, and out the ship about, and had a boat lowered immediately, but every exertion was useless. The deceased was a fine young man, just completing his seventeenth year, and his untimely end is a severe blow to his bereaved family. *Herald, Nov. 18*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/772, 26/11/1851

FATAL ACCIDENT. - We are sorry to have to record the loss of a human life, arising from the obstinate refusal of the oysterman, **JOSEPH WINCHESTER**, to exchange or sell his donkeys, so that they might be got out of the way. Winchester and his cart were yesterday out on their way to Morpeth, when he met a return dray of \Mr. Nott's, near Mrs. Muir's, drawn by three powerful horses; the horses took fright at the donkeys, and turning short round, attempted to run up the steep bank above the road; the reins and harness gave way to the sudden strain, and the driver, **JAMES HAMPTON**, finding the dray going over, tried to jump clear, but the edge of the dray fell on his neck, or the side of his head, and inflicted a fatal injury, Hampton living but a short time afterwards. **JOSEPH HAMPTON**, his brother, was in the dray with him, and was also injured in the overturn, his arm being torn open inside, from the elbow to the wrist, laying bare all the tendons and muscles. Joseph Hampton is under the carer of Dr. **SDCOTT**, and will, we trust, receive no permanent injury from the accident. James Hampton was well known in this neighbourhood, having been for a length of time in the employment of Mr. **REEVES.** - We may add that the general feeling against Winchester, arising from this fatal event, is deepened by the fact that he was some time since offered a good horse for his two donkeys, by a gentleman who, with his wife, narrowly escaped death in the same way, but Winchester refused the offer.

MELANCHOLY DEATH OF JAMES BURNETT, Esq.

Details of life; letter from **WALTER MURRAY**, spring cart accident in crossing a creek between Nyang and West Meath: "The body was in such a state as not to be recognised at first glance. Before removing the body (which I thought was not possible at first) I sent for the nearest magistrate, Mr. **W.E. SMITH**, who very kindly lost no time in coming to the spot; he said he could no nothing as a magistrate, as there was no evidence to show how the unfortunate gentleman came to his end. I then had blankets passed under the body as it floated on the water, in which it was wrapped up, and had it conveyed with much difficulty to Westmeath, where this day I performed the last sad rites to the remains of a man, whom living I highly esteemed for his many amiable qualities; and highly honoured for his shining abilities. …" *S.M. Herald, Nov. 22*

BRISBANE CIRCUIT COURT. - *Wednesday, Nov. 12*

ANGER, a native of China, was indicted for the murder of **JAMES HOLBERT** on the 1st September; but owing to there being no competent interpreter in court, the case was adjourned till the following morning.

INQUEST. - On Wednesday an inquest was held at the Three Tuns Tavern, Elizabeth-street, on the body of **JOHN ILLINWORTH.** From the evidence it appeared that on the 17th September Illinworth was intoxicated, and riding along George-street at a gallop, pulling his horse from side to side of the street, when he ran foul of a baker's cart, the shaft of which struck his leg, and entered the horse's chest, killing the horse on the spot, and throwing Illinworth off. Illinworth received serious injury on the cap of the knee, and was taken to the Infirmary, where he lingered for some time. As he was a strong healthy young man the surgeons endeavoured to preserve his life without amputation, but an extensive abscess formed about the knee-joint, and Illinworth gradually sunk from weakness, and died on Tuesday. The jury returned a verdict of died from injuries accidentally received. *Abridged from the Herald, Nov. 21*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/773, 29/11/1851

THE INQUEST ON JAMES HAMPTON. - On Tuesday and Wednesday last an inquest was held, before **J.S. PARKER**, Esq., Coroner, at the Victoria Inn, East Maitland, on the body of **JAMES HAMPTON**, whose death we recorded in our last. The circumstances deposed to were very similar to those we reported, but the following evidence of **THOMAS RUTTER**, the only eye-witness (except Joseph Hampton, and Winchester himself) puts the matter, as regards Winchester, in a worse light than we were informed: "I saw **JOSEPH WINCHESTER**, the owner of the donkeys, drive them very close to the horse team, which frightened the horses; Winchester had plenty of room to have kept clear of the horse-tream, and it appeared to me they were chaffing each other; Winchester never went up to assist them till I called him, and made a joke of the occurrence. * *
By a juror: is it your opinion that the horse team was pressed to the side of the road by the driver of the donkeys, that the horses could not escape without bolting up the cliff as stated? Yes, it was the case." **JOSEPH HAMPTON** was too ill to be removed to give evidence. The jury returned a verdict as follows: -
"We are unanimous in certifying that the deceased James Hampton came to his death by injuries inflicted on his head, and we find that the said injuries were caused by the upsetting of a dray drawn by three horses, the said three horses having been frightened by Joseph Winchester's donkeys, and it having been represented to the said Joseph Winchester that the said donkeys are a public nuisance, and greatly endanger the safety of the public, the said Joseph Winchester agrees to deliver the said donkeys over to the foreman, and that they are in future to be kept out of the way, and never employed anywhere in this neighbourhood; and we recommend that the said Joseph Winchester be admonished and discharged."
- We may add that the foreman of the jury was Mr. **JOHN NOTT,** whose dray and horses it was that the Hamptons were driving. Mr. Nott gave Winchester, we believe, £8 for the two donkeys, on condition, under a penalty of £20, that Winchester shall never introduce any more donkeys here; and it is understood that a public subscription is to be raised to defray the £8, to enable Mr. Nott to destroy the donkeys. An accident elsewhere recorded will probably prove the necessity of the latter proceeding.
ACCIDENT TO MR. AND MRS. E. DOYLE. - On Thursday the two donkeys which Mr. **NOTT** bought from **WINCHESTER**, as above stated, were being driven temporarily to a paddock near Lochinvar, when they were met by Mr. and Mrs. **EDWARD DOYLE** on horseback. Mrs. Doyle's horse took fright at the donkeys, and Mr. Doyle seized its bridle to restrain it, but the horse plunged and buckjumped till it threw Mrs. Doyle, and dragged Mr. Doyle off also. Mr. Doyle was unhurt, but Mrs. Doyle received a cut across the forehead, and was a good deal shaken by the fall.
DEATH FROM SKINNING A DISEASED BULLOCK. - An inquiry ewas held yesterday by the coroner, at his office, touching the death of **PETER MOFFATT**. It appeared from the statements of Drs. **CUTHILL and FULLERTON**, that on the 14th instant, Moffatt was engaged in skinning a bullock, whish had died from disease, on the Surry Hills, and received while doing so a slight wound in the finger of the right hand; Moffatt, a stout healthy man of about forty years, thought little of this, but from some unpleasant feelings called on Dr. Cuthill, who told him he was in great danger, and sent him home. Dr. Cuthill saw him again on the 15th, and found the symptoms much worse; Moffatt suffered but little pain, but there was a general coldness of the extremities, and the pulse had become very weak. Moffatt now became alarmed, and Drs. Cuthill and Fullerton saw him twice on the 16th; the pulse at the wrist was not

perceptible, and the action of the heart had nearly ceased; Moffatt still suffered but little pain, except at intervals. Medicines to restore the action of the vital powers had been given, but during the night of the 16th diarrhoea set in, the breathing became laborious, and on the 17th Moffatt died. A post mortem examination showed that the heart was healthy, but empty, the pleura greatly inflamed, both lungs congested, the liver and kidneys much enlarged and congested, and spleen softer and darker than usual; the bowels were severely inflamed in patches. The superficial veins of the diseased arm were found much diseased, containing a white fluid pus, but the deeper veins were healthy. Both medical men considered the wound received while skinning the diseased bullock, and the poison thus imbibed, as the cause of death. Drs. Cuthill and Fullerton, although neither of them had any sore or wound, felt much inconvenienced after performing the post mortem examination, the palms of the hands having a prickling sensation attended with numbness, and their rest being broken for several nights; they considered it dangerous to perform a post mortem examination on persons dying from this cause, and that it would be highly dangerous to require a jury to view the exhumed body of Moffatt; Dr. Cuthill had since been called on to attend different persons in the neighbourhood of Moffatt's late residence, for fevers, &c. which were attributed to their having touched Moffatt's dead body. The jury found that the deceased had died from disease produced by as morbid poison, absorbed into the system by accidentally wounding his finger whilst engaged in skinning a diseased bullock. *Abridged from the Herald, Nov. 26*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/774, 03/12/1851

THE COACH ACCIDENTS ON THE BATHURST ROAD. - On the following day, as the mail from Bathurst was proceeding round the bend of the road near Kendall's house, one of the leaders shied and forced the team over the bank. Chief constable **HUTCHINSON** at once proceeded to the spot. Six of the passengers are now lying at Nairn's, very severely injured. Mr. **GALVIN** is the chief sufferer; the coach appears to have fallen on him across his neck. Mr. **SULLIVAN** suffered in like manner, but not so severely. Neither are pronounced out of danger. Mr. **NOBLE** was also much bruised, as was also Mr. **EDWARDS** (of the firm of Nott and Edwards, Sydney.) Mr. **FINN**, who arrived at the scene of the accident almost immediately after chief constable Hutchinson, bled Mr. Galvin, who, as well as Mr. Sullivan, was placed on a stretcher, and conveyed to the nearest place of accommodation. There is no hope of Mr. Galvin surviving. The passengers say that the driver, **THOMASS TIGHE,** was sober, but that he was driving too near the side of the road. The driver states that the off leader shied, and jumped across the other horses. The chief constable had the mails forwarded on by a cart, which Mr. Nairn furnished for the purpose. *Herald, Nov. 28*

SUDDEN DEATH. - An inquest was held yesterday, at the York tavern, corner of Argyle and York-streets, on view of the body of **ELLEN MULLIGAN**, aged 35, then lying dead. It appeared from the evidence, that on Wednesday evening, the deceased who had been out washing during the day, returned to her home, and was suddenly taken unwell. She went to the house of a neighbour, who lived about one hundred yards off, but finding that she was getting worse, a carriage was obtained, and in it deceased was carried to her own abode. Drs. **HARRISON** and **SMITH** were sent for, but previous to their arrival she had expired. A *post mortem* examination was made by the doctors, and from their testimony it appeared that death was caused by the rupture of a blood vessel in the region of the heart. Deceased was a woman of

temperate habits. She was a widow, and has left two children to deplore their loss. Verdict – "Died by the visitation of God." *Empire, Nov. 28*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/775, 06/12/1851
INQUEST, UPPER PATERSON. - On Monday an inquest was commenced at Penshurst, Upper Paterson, before Mr. **PARKER**, coroner, on the body of **SARAH VICKERS,** who had died shortly after her confinement. It is understood further investigation will be made in the matter, and we do not therefore report the proceedings.
DEATH BY DROWNING. - On Wednesday an inquest was held at Windemere, before Mr. **PARKER**, coroner, on the body of **PATRICK M'GUIRE**. It appeared from the evidence that M'Guire, who was a cripple, was employed at the Windemere boiling establishment as cook and hut-keeper, and that he was frequently in the habit of swimming in the river, and was cautioned by the men, whom he had told he was subject to cramp. On Monday evening last M'Guire was seen to drink a quantity of colonial wine, and became intoxicated, and subsequently was missed, and by the river side was found his water bucket, and also his clothes and crutch. Search was made, and his body was seen floating in the middle of the stream, some forty yards further down; he was quite dead when got out of the river. An examination of the body by Dr. **M'CARTNEY** disclosed no marks of violence. The jury returned a verdict of found drowned.
COOLABARABRAN, NOV. 30. - I am sorry to have to inform you that Mr. **ALGAR** has been shot dead by some wretch. I cannot send you the particulars, as it happened some distance from home.

A very sudden death occurred at Mr. Cox's station, Round Water Hole, eleven miles from here, on Sunday, the 23rd instant. A man named **JOSEPH BLACKLOCK**, who was taking down wool for Mr. **J. HALL**, was encamped there that day, and was in the act of taking down some birds from the top of his dray when he fell off, quite dead, without a word. He looked a very healthy man, but had long complained of his head. *Correspondent.*
CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT. (*Abridged from the Herald)*
This court opened on Monday, December 1, before his Honor the Chief Justice.
CONTEMPT OF COURT.
On the motion of the Attorney General, **WILLIAM FORD**, who had been committed for trial for manslaughter, but against whom no information had been filed, was fined sixty shillings for contempt of court by insulting, under the portico of the court-house, Mr. Surgeon **RUSSELL**, a witness in the case.
MANSLAUGHTER. - **JOHN BOOTLE** was indicted for the manslaughter of **JAMES SMITH**, by striking him with an iron bar, on the Western Road, on the 27th October.

Bootle, a publican, living on the Western Road, having had a few words with his wife, she left him in a pet, and went home to the house of her father, leaving her sister and another lady, visitors of hers, at Bootle's house; the next day she came for her clothes, accompanied by her father; Bootle, who had been engaged in opening some syrup, and had an iron bar in his hand, refused to allow his wife to hand over her band-box to her father; an altercation ensued, and Mr. Smith struck Bootle a severe blow on the forehead with the heavy end of a whip-handle, cutting it open; Bootle raised his hand and struck Mr. Smith on the side of the head with the iron bar; Mr. Smith fell, was removed to bed nearly insensible, and medical assistance called in; but he died in the course of the night. Bootle was described as a quiet inoffensive man.

Mr. Holroyd, for the defence, urged that the injury was most probably inflicted by Mr. Smith's head coming in violent contact with the bar when raised by Bootle to protect himself fro m a second blow with the whip handle.

Guilty, with a recommendation to mercy.

Sentence, six months' imprisonment.

MANSLAUGHTER

ALEXANDER M'DONALD was indicted for the manslaughter of **ALEXANDER GOLDING**, by shooting him, at Richmond River, on the 21st September.

Both men were sawyers on the Richmond; on the day named Golding and another sawyer named **WILSON** went to M'Donald's hut, and remained drinking rum till the evening; Golding got quarrelsome, abused Mrs. M'Donald grossly, and called her foul names; M'Donald told Golding he was a liar, on which Golding ran out, and got a boat paddle, with which he rushed back to strike M'Donald; M'Donald saw him coming, ran to his gun, and ordered him to stand off; Golding pressed on, M'Donald raised his gun to the rest, Golding struck at him, and at the same instant the gun, which was still at the rest, went off, and Golding was shot dead. M'Donald afterwards made his coffin, and attended his funeral.

Mr. Holryd was addressing the jury to show that thje discharge was acidental, when

His Honor stopped him, and put it to the jury if they thought a case of accident had not been clearly proved. The jury at once acquiesced, and acquitted M'Donald, who was discharged.

BRISBANE CIRCUIT COURT. - Before Mr. Justice Therry. *Thursday, Nov. 13*

ANGEE, a Chinaman, was indicted for the wilful murder of **JAMES HOLBERT**, in the Burnett district, on the 1st September. Mr. Holbert was overseer in the employment of Mr. **J.B. REID**, and Angee and other Chinese were shepherds in his employ and under Holbert's orders; Holbert had for some offence brought Angee before the Gayndah bench, by whom he was sentenced to imprisonment in Brisbane gaol; three days after Angee had again reached the station, after being released, he was seen by two other Chinese to approach Mr. Holbert from behind with a gun, which he fired at him when three or four yards off, the ball entering Holbert's back and passing out at his stomach; Angee then ran away, and Holbert staggered to a hut, and died there in a short time, the only Chinaman who had courage to stay with him after he was shot being **FOOKSEE**, who afterwards hung himself because the constables were going to take him to Brisbane to give evidence. Guilty; sentenced to death.

Friday, Nov. 14.

MOGGY MOGGY, **an aboriginal native**, was indicted for the wilful murder of **WILLIAM BOWLER**, by spearing him, at the Pine River, on the 21st September, 1847. Bowler, **JAMES SMITH**, and **WILLIAM WALTER**, three sawyers, were at work near the Pine River on that day, when a lot of blacks, who had frequently been about them, acting in a friendly manner, attacked them, and speared Bowler so much that although Smith and him escaped together, Bowler died six days after in Brisbane hospital; Smith positively identified the prisoner as one of those blacks, and said he saw him spear Bowler; prisoner now said his name was **MAKE-I'-LIGHT**, to which form the indictment was altered. An interpreter named **JAMES DAVIS**, who had been fourteen years among the blacks, deposed to the difficulty of distinguishing one black from another. Guilty; sentenced to death, the Judge being unable to hold out any hope of mercy in that place.

MORE MURDERS BY THE BLACKS. - We are sorry to state that intelligence was brought to the settlement on Monday last, by Mr. **FREDERICK BRACKER**, which

confirms the report published in a supplement to this paper, dated 10th instant, of the murder of that gentleman's brother-in-law, Mr. **ALEXANDER ROSS,** on the morning of the 23rd October, at a place on the Dawson River, distant 70 miles from Port Curtis, 100 miles from Gayndah, and about 3 miles from a place called the Fish Hole. It appears that the lamented deceased had gone to assist Captain Coutts in removing from a station on the frontiers which he had occupied for about seven weeks, and which was distant about 75 miles from the nearest river. On this station Captain Coutts had 11,000 sheep, out of which he lost 1200 of full growth, besides 1500 lambs; and, more melancholy still, two of his men had been most barbarously murdered by the natives while he was staying there; and, to crown this catalogue of misfortunes, Mr. Alexander Ross has fallen a victim to the relentless enmity of the native tribes in that remote part of the country. It appears that the last melancholy event took place when the party had travelled about 20 miles on their return from the station alluded to. On the morning of Mr. Ross's murder, all the sheep had started from the spot which they had occupied during the night, and had reached about two miles from the camping ground when the occurrence took place. Just as they were leaving Mr. Ross came into the camp from the forest with the bullocks, and had his breakfast, after which the bullocks were yoked up, but not put to the dray. The deceased was engaged with two men securing the tarpaulin over the dray, when the blacks came out from the scrub, about half-gunshot off. Mr. Ross's mare was in a log yard, but not bridled or saddled, and the other two men had their horses ready for mounting. There were about 250 natives, and after a brief struggle Mr. Ross was killed, but the other two escaped, and carried the news of what had occurred to the party in front. Messrs. **COUTTS, JOHN ROSS, M'INTYRE** and **LIPSCOMB** immediately went back to try to recover the dray and supplies, but whether they succeeded in doing so was not ascertained, as the writer of the letter rode forward to obtain assistance; but it was feared it would scarcely be in time. There never had been known to be such a general muster of natives in all that border as there was at the date of the letter. No less than four tribes of blacks were at the time hemming in Captain Coutts and his handful of men. Altogether, since the place was occupied, there had been no less than thirty one persons murdered by the blacks. *Moreton Bay Free Press, Nov. 20*

DEATH BY DROWNING. - On Friday evening the coroner held an inquest at the Three Tuns Tavern, Elizabeth-street, on view of the body of **THOMAS DUFFY**, then lying dead in the Sydney Infirmary. **JOHN WILLIAMS**, of George-street, stated that he was fishing at the Queen's Wharf on Friday morning, and hooked something which appeared to be very heavy. It proved to be the body of the deceased. He was quite dead. His hands were extended as if he had been attempting to swim. There were no marks of violence on the body. The Queen's Wharf is a very dangerous place in the night time, being imperfectly watched; and the wharf itself in a dilapidated condition. From the evidence of the sister of the deceased, it appeared that he had been drinking lately. The jury returned a verdict of found drowned, but by what means no evidence had been adduced. *Herald, Dec. 1*

SYDNEY NEWS. - THE GOLD FIELDS.

TURON. - NOV. 25. - A man with a horse team, from Bathurst, had both his legs broken yesterday afternoon, about three miles from Sofala.

NEALE'S POINT. - Nov. 26. - It is currently reported here that a man has died from the bite of a snake up at Mundy Point. I have seen a great many of these venomous reptiles about, but this is the first accident of this kind I have heard of here.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/776, 10/12/1851

PATRICK MACNAMARA. - A man was yesterday morning apprehended by Constable **SHORT**, on suspicion of being **PATRICK MACNAMARA**, who on the 9th August effected his escape from the Maitland Gaol, where he was under committal for the murder of his wife. He of course denied that his name was Macnamara; he said his name was **PETER MURRAY**, and that he was a native of Limerick; he at first refused to accompany Short, and drew out a knife, saying that he could beat three or four policemen; assistance however arrived, and the prisoner was secured; on the way to the watch-house, he said to the constable, "Mate, they have been a long time looking for me, and now that they have me, I suppose they will hang me like a ------ dog." He answers in every particular to the description published of Macnamara in the *Gazette* – 6 feet in height, of florid complexion, black hair, hazel eyes, a native of Limerick, with the letters PM on right fore arm. He stands remanded until Wednesday next. *S.M. Herald, Dec. 5*

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT. - TUESDAY, DEC. 2.

(Before Mr. Justice Dickinson)

MURDER

WILLIAM LYNCH was indicted for having on the 4th December, 1842, aided and abetted one **JOHN M'CANN and JAMES O'DONNELL, alias M'DONNELL**, in the murder of **HENRY KINGSMILL ABBOTT**, a turnkey in the Parramatta gaol.

The Solicitor-General conducted the prosecution, and Messrs. Holroyd and Meymott the defence.

On the 23rd of November, 1842, the prisoner with the other two men named, were confined in the Parramatta gaol, on the charge of highway robbery. On the 4th December, of the same year, whilst one of the turnkeys was engaged in adjusting the straight jacket on a rather troublesome lunatic, the prisoners managed to escape from their cells into the yard. They immediately provided themselves with fire-arms and a cutlass, but in attempting to pass out through the gate, they were met by the deceased, who of course attempted to prevent them from passing. Some altercation ensued, which resulted in M'Cann's firing a ball through the body of deceased. One or two other turnkeys witnessed the occurrence, but were afraid to interfere least they should share the same fate. Immediately after murdering Abbott, the prisoners licked the other turnkeys up, and then succeeded in making their escape unmolested. Since that time, the prisoner had not been heard of until the 5th of September last, when he, in consequence of information received by the police, was apprehended in the city of Adelaide on the charge now preferred against him. His identity was proved by **THOMAS ALLEN** and **JOHN KAYLE**, both turnkeys in the Parramatta gaol at the time of the murder. A farmer named **MATTHEW JAMES EVERINGHAM** and Mr. **GILBERT ELLIOTT,** (Sheriff) also gave evidence as to the prisoner's identity. Mr. **BETHEL LYONS**, the coroner of Parramatta, and the Rev. Mr. **BOBART**, who attended the deceased in his last dying moments, and took his dying declaration, likewise gave evidence tending to establish the case against the prisoner.

His Honor summed up at some length, and the jury, after some deliberation, returned a verdict of guilty. The prisoner was remanded for sentence.

On the next day he was brought up, and sentenced to death, the learned Judge stating that he could discover no mitigating circumstances in the case.

The prisoner, after sentence, besought permission to address the court, and admitted that he was the person charged in the indictment, but denied that he had any hand in killing Mr. Abbott; he saw the wicket open, and instantly took the opportunity of endeavouring to escape, but he asseverated solemnly that he used no violence to any

man, nor was a party to any. After escaping he got away into the interior, and by honest industry got a living, and finally found his way to Adelaide, where he married into a respectable family, and where he now had living a wife and children; during the many years that had elapsed since his escape he had never committed any offence against the laws, but always earned his living honestly.

DEATH BY FIRE. - An inquest was held yesterday, at the Blue Lion public-house, corner of Clarence and Market streets, on view of the body of **MARGARET LEWIS**, then lying dead at the residence of her parents in Clarence-street. It appeared that about 10 A.M. on Tuesday the mother of the deceased child left her house on business, and left the deceased under the verandah for safety. Soon afterwards, she was observed to have set her clothes on fire by means of some Lucifer matches, though how obtained was not known. Assistance was immediately rendered and the flames soon extinguished; but the poor child, who was about three years of age, was so much burned that all human remedies proved unavailing, and she expired about two o'clock yesterday morning. Verdict, "death caused by accidental burning." *Empire, Dec. 4*

FATAL ACCIDENT. - About one o'clock yesterday afternoon, a boy about seven years of age, named **WILLIAM COX**, fell into a waterhole at Newtown, and was drowned. The body lies at the residence of his parents, at Camperdown, awaiting a coroner's inquest. *Empire, Dec. 6*

SYDNEY NEWS. - THE GOLD FIELDS.

THE TURON. (*From the Empire)*

SOFALA, DEC. 2. - An accident occurred last night at Golden Point, through the incautious discharge of a pistol, whereby a woman, seated with an infant in her arms, at her tea in her tent, nearly lost her life. Several slugs entered her person, which had to be extracted by the knife, yet hopes are entertained of her recovery.

AWFULLY SUDDEN DEATH. - On Friday last, Mr. **ARCHIBALD OSBORNE**, J.P., who had been sleeping at the house of Mr. **BATTLEY**, the clerk of the bench at Brisbane Water, fell down dead while walking in the rear of the premises; Mr. Osborne was apparently in good health and spirits a few minutes before he was discovered lying dead. He was in his thirty-sixth year, and has left a widow and two children; he was a son of the late Dr. J. Osborne, R.N., of Illawarra. *S.M. Herald, Dec. 4*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/777, 13/12/1851

SUDDEN DEATH. - On Thursday an inquest was held before Mr. **PARKER**, at Glenarvon, near West Maitland, on the body of **ROBERT HARDING.** It appeared from the evidence that Harding had at times been very intemperate, and had latterly been troubled with a difficulty of breathing; some two months since he engaged with Mr. **CHARLES WOODWARD**, of Glenarvon, to do what work he could; during the last few days his difficulty of breathing increased, and on Tuesday morning, early, he was seized with vomiting of blood, and again in the evening; on Wednesday morning he appeared ailing, and remained in the hut, and about nine o'clock that morning a neighbour, named **WILLIAM BAYLEY**, entered the hut to get a drink of water, and found Harding trying to change his shirt; Harding told Bayley he was afraid to move much, for fear of bringing on the vomiting again, and Bayley had scarcely left the hut when Harding called him back, having been taken with another fit; his appearance had changed so much that Bayley ran for Mr. Woodward, who came, and found Harding dying, and in a very short time he expired. Dr. **M'CARTNEY**, from the evidence given, and his knowledge of Harding, gave his opinion that he had died from the

rupture of a blood-vessel at the chest. The jury returned a verdict of died from natural causes.

PATRICK M'NAMARA. - Yesterday this man was forwarded up by steamer from Sydney, in custody of two Sydney policemen, and was lodged in Maitland gaol. It will be remembered that he was committed for trial on the charge of murdering his wife; escaped from Maitland gaol; and was recaptured in Sydney last week. - M'Namara was to have been brought up again at the Sydney police-office on Wednesday, but the following paragraph from the *Empire* of Thursday shows why he was not:- "**IN RE PETER MURRAY, ALIAS PATRICK M'NAMARA.** – The above named prisoner was not brought before the bench at the police office yesterday, in consequence of a bench warrant having been issued against him by their Honors the Judges, upon the certificate of Mr. Dillon, the Crown Solicitor, who was present when M'Namara pleaded not guilty to the indictment charging him with the myurder of his wife, at the Maitland assize previous to his escaping from the prison. Consequently M'Namara will be forwarded to the gaol at Maitland."

INFANTICIDE. - One of those diabolical cases of maternal, and perhaps paternal, depravity, has just transpired here – the first of this kind and we hope the last we may ever hear of in this district. Information having been communicated to the chief constable, about 11 A.M. on Tuesday, that the dead body of an infant was lying on the beach immediately behind the pound, Mr. **DAVIS** at once proceeded to the place, and found the body as described, placed a constable in charge, and immediately reported the circumstances to the magistrate (Mr. **D.W. MEARES**), by whose instructions the body was conveyed to the Farmer's Inn, for the purpose of holding a magisterial inquiry, the coroner, Mr. **ALICK OSBORNE**, being for some time absent in Sydney. Mr. Davis deposed that he found the body of a male infant about midway between high and low water mark; the eyes had been picked out, and part of the cheek had been eaten away by the birds. Dr. **FALDER** made a post mortem examination at the request of Mr. Meares, and was decidedly of opinion that the child was born alive, was at full maturity, and was a fine stout infant. *Wollongong Correspondent of the Herald.*

SERIOUS ACCIDENT. - Yesterday afternoon, a little boy, about five years of age, named **JAMES WORTHINGTON**, was amusing himself in Mr. Chisholm's paddock, on the South Head roads, by letting a mare with stones and pulling her tail. A young woman named **ANN LENNON** was passing by, and cautioned the child, but he still persisted in his dangerous sport, until the mare kicked him in the forehead, and knocked him down. He rose, but fell again. Miss Lennon ran for the child's father, who conveyed him to the infirmary, where he now lies in a precarious condition. *Empire, Dec. 5*

MORETON BAY. - THE BLACKS. - The conviction of the aboriginal at the late assizes has caused considerable sensation among the blacks in the neighbourhood. Since it has been fully understood that he is to be executed, they appear perfectly satisfied, and several of them no w acknowledge his guilt, and state further that he was one of the murderers of the unfortunate Mr. **GREGOR** and Mfrs. **SHANNAN.** It is certain that he is considered a terribly bad fellow even among his own colour. …

CORONER'S INQUEST. - On Saturday evening an inquest was held at the White Conduit House, Rushcutter's Bay, on view of the body of **WILLIAM KING**, then lying dead there. From the evidence of several of the neighbours, it appeared that the deceased was toll-keeper at the gate of the new South Head Road; that latterly he had been unusually depressed in spirits, and expressed a longing for death. On Saturday morning he was missed from the gate, and suspicions being excited, search was made,

and soon afterwards the body was found in the bay, floating about twenty-five yards from the shore. He was quite dead; there were no marks of violence on the body. The jury found a verdict that deceased drowned himself while labouring under temporary insanity. He was reputed to be possessed of considerable means, and was a man of extremely temperate habits. *Herald, Dec. 8*

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT. - On Sunday last, a little girl, about four years old, named **ELIZA FIELD**, being left alone in a cottage at Michelago, her clothes caught fire, and she was unfortunately burnt to death before any assistance came to her aid. She was the youngest daughter of Mr. **JAMES FIELD**, shoemaker, of Goulburn, who was unfortunately drowned while bathing in the Wollondilly, in November, 1849.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/778, 17/12/1851

MAN DROWNED AT THE ABERCROMBIE. - On Sabbath last, a party of twelve men were on their way from the Turon to the Araluen diggings; when they came to the crossing-place of the Abercrombie, one of the party named **SAMUEL HYNDS**, of Maitland, went in to bathe, and was carried down by the current into a whirlpool, and was drowned; one of the party named **MICHAEL FITZPATRICK**, of Gloucester-street, Sydney, reported the event to our chief constable to drag the place. Where it occurred is seventy-five miles from Goulburn. One of the party went in to try to raise the body, but could not on account of the hole being full of rocks and stumps. *Herald's Goulburn Correspondent, Dec. 10*

PATRICK MACNAMARA. - This man, apprehended a few days ago in Sydney, and subsequently charged with having broken gaol, at Maitland, and escaped therefrom while under committal for the murder of his wife, was last night forwarded under escort, by the steamer, to Maitland. It did not transpire in evidence, but we are aware of the fact, that the public are indebted to Mr. **PINHEY**, of Parramatta-street, chemist and druggist, for the apprehension of this ruffian. On Thursday se'nnight, Macnamara passed Mr. Pinhey's shop, and was at once recognised by that gentleman, who resided for several years at Maitland, as the Macnamara who was committed at the Maitland bench for the murder of his wife, who subsequently made his escape from gaol, and for whose apprehension a reward has been offered in the *Government Gazette.* Mr. Pinhey followed him, confronted him, and addressed him as Macnamara the murderer; and then, after exchanging a few sentences, beckoned a constable from the lock-up, close by, and gave him into custody. Mr. Pinhey, we presume, is entitled to the reward offered for Macnamara's apprehension, which, however, will doubtless be but of small consideration with him, in comparison with the consciousness of having performed an act which will lead to the punishment of so flagrant an evildoer, and thereby benefitting the community of which he has shown himself to be so worthy a member. *S.M. Herald, Dec. 12*

DEATH BY DROWNING. - On Sunday afternoon a girl named **MARY ANNE BRIND**, fifteen years old, who was in the service of Mr. **C.A. M'DOUGALL**, of Glenarvon, went to the river (Hunter) to bathe, a neighbour, **ELIZABETH HAMMOND**, accompanying her to the top of the bank; Mary Anne Brind remained in some quarter of an hour, in spite of the repeated request of her companion to come out, and at length she got out into deep water and after vainly struggling for a short time, sunk. Elizabeth Hammond screamed for assistance, and several persons came after a short time, one of whom went for Mr. M'Dougall, who was from home; but although active search was made for the body, it was not found till the next morning. On Monday an inquest was held on the body before Mr. **PARKER**, when a verdict of accidentally drowned was returned.

HUNTER RIVER DISTRICT NEWS. - SINGLETON.
A MAN DROWNED. - Yesterday (Monday) an inquest was held at Brinkburn, near Black Creek, before **HENRY GLENNIE**, Esq., coroner, upon the body of **JOSEPH OSBORNE**, then lying dead. From the evidence of **JANNETT HEXHAM** and **JOHN SHANNAHAN** it appeared that on Friday, the 12th instant, the deceased was seen to come down the bank of the river opposite Hexham's house, where he took off his clothes with the exception of his shirt, entered the river and swam about half across; he was then seen apparently upright in the water, the crown of his head being only visible. Mrs. Hexham, seeing him in danger, went and told her husband, and then returned to the river with him, but could see nothing of deceased. Several men went into the river, but were unsuccessful in their attempts to find the body. On Sunday the body was taken out of the river between twelve and one o'clock, having been seen floating by the witness Shannahan. The jury returned a verdict of accidentally drowned. December 16th, 1851.
REMARKABLE DEATH. - An inquest was held yesterday, in Phillip-street, on view of thr body of **JOHN MORAN**, who died suddenly on Thursday night. It appeared from the evidence, that the deceased, who was seventy years of age, had been taken with a sudden fit of weakness, and had fallen down with his mouth close to the ground, and died of suffocation. The jury returned a verdict accordingly. *Empire, Dec. 12*
DEATH BY LIGHTNING. - There was a violent thunderstorm in the Blue Mountains on Thursday afternoon. A young man named **DRAKE**, a carrier, went under a tree for shelter, and had scarcely been there a second when the lightning was attracted by the tree, which acted as a conductor, and conveyed the lightning to the unfortunate man, who was killed on the spot. *Herald, Dec. 12*
A MAN MISSING. - The barque *Francis,* from San Francisco, arrived in this port on the 6th instant, and on the previous day (Friday) a passenger named **MICHAEL COONEY** was missed out of the vessel; it is supposed he fell overboard off Sydney Heads; but if so, the accident was not observed by any one on the boat.
DEATHS.
On the 24th January last, in the 33rd year of his age, on board the *Haddington*, at sea, two days' sail from Aden, from congestion of the brain, Mfr. **EDWARD PIGON**, of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company's service, brother of Mr. **ROBERT PIGON,** West Maitland.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/779, 20/12/1851
DEATH BY BURNING. - On Wednesday an inquest was held at the Wheat Sheaf Inn, Morpeth, before Mr. **PARKER**, on the body of **EMILY LAMB**, a little girl of between three and four years old. It appeared from the evidence adduced that on Tuesday **WILLIAM LAMB**, the deceased girl's father, burnt off his stubble wheat, in readiness for a crop of corn; he was in the field watching the fire, when one of his elder daughters ran out to him, to help watch that the fire did not extend to a neighbour's land; the little girl, Emily, appears to have followed her sister out of the house, unperceived by her mother, and while Lamb and his elder daughter were busily engaged attending to the fire, the poor little girl got too close to the burning stubble, and before her father, who soon saw her unfortunate state, could reach her, she was dreadfully burned. Mrs. Lamb and a neighbour, Mrs. **ORSFIELD,** took the poor child in to Mr. Nainby's, the chemist, who gave some medicine to ease it, telling the mother the child could not survive; Mr. Nainby subsequently went to see her at Lamb's house, but the poor child died that night. Evidence at great length was taken

to prove whether or not much drinking had been going on at Lamb's – and particularly whether Lamb and his wife were sober; Lamb was sworn to be sober by several witnesses, and Mrs. Lamb, who appeared to Mr. Nainby and others in liquor, was pronounced sober by some witnesses, and by Dr. **MALLON**, who examined the body of the child at the inquest. The jury returned a verdict that the death was accidental, from burning, and that the parents were not drunk; and they added the following rider – "We would call the coroner's attention to the manner district constable **M'GUINNESS** gave his evidence, and his appearance, which evidently showed that he, constable M'Guinness, was under the influence of liquor at the time he was before the court."

THE GOLD FIELDS. - TURON.

On Friday last a little boy about four years old was killed by the upsetting of a cart on the sidling pinch a short distance from Sofala. The side of the vehicle fell upon his head and chest and literally crushed him to death. There were several other children in the cart at the time, all of whom fortunately escaped unhurt. The remains of the boy were carried to Dr. **JOHNSON** by the bereaved father, but of course medical aid was out of the question. The mother it is said was intoxicated at the time.

ACCIDENTAL DEATH. - Between four and five yesterday afternoon, a Mr. **FREDERICK FINLAY** was violently thrown from his horse, near Dishington's public-house, George-street, South; his skull was fractured, and he survived but a very few minutes. The body was taken into Dishington's, and Mr. Surgeon **AITKIN** was immediately in attendance, but it was of no avail. *Herald, Dec. 13*

CORONER'S INQUEST. - An inquest was held on Saturday, at the house of **MICHAEL GANNON**, at Cook's River, on view of the body of **JAMES WALTERS**, then lying dead at his late residence, on the Cook's River road. It appeared from the father of the deceased, that o n Friday evening he was drawing a load of wood into Sydney. Deceased was on top of the load. The father was walking near the horse, with the reins in his hand. The road in some places is very uneven, and one of the wheels went into a rut, and capsized the cart, throwing off the wood and deceased. His father immediately took him home, but he expired in two hours afterwards. Deceased was only seven years old. Dr. **TIERNEY** examined the body of deceased. He found the ham of the right thigh was broken; also several scratches and contusions on the body. In the doctor's opinion, death was caused by lesion of some of the internal organs. Verdict – "Accidental death." *Empire, Dec. 16*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/780, 24/12/1851

SINGLETON.

DEATH BY DROWNING. - An inquest was held on Saturday last, at the residence of Captain **WILLIAM RUSSELL**, of Ravensworth, before **HENRY GLENNIE**, Esq., coroner, upon the body of **MARY STEWART**, a fine young girl, about fifteen years of age, who had met with an untimely death through bathing in a waterhole. From the evidence of **ANN HINDMARSH** and Mr. **WILLIAM RUSSELL**, the eldest son of Captain Russell, it appeared that the two girls, Hindmarsh and deceased, had taken the opportunity, while the men on the farm were at dinner, at noon on Friday, of going to a waterhole in the creek near Captain Russell's residence, where both the girls, after having undressed, entered the water, when the deceased got out of her depth, and sank. Hindmarsh immediately hurried back to the house and gave an alarm, when Captain Russell's son and several men from the farm ran to render assistance. Mr. Russell plunged into the waterhole, and, after several attempts, succeeded in recovering the body, when every exertion that humanity could suggest

was used to resuscitate the body, but without avail – life being extinct. The jury returned a verdict of accidentally drowned. Mr. Russell, jun., although suffering from illness, lost no time in exerting himself to save human life, and we are sorry that his humane efforts were not crowned with success. December 22.

SYDNEY NEWS.

On Sunday morning, about eight o'clock, the body of an infant, apparently about three days dead, was found in a cigar box under a rock at the water's edge in the Domain. It was removed to the dead house at the Infirmary.

LIVERPOOL. - INQUEST. - An inquest was held at the Union Inn, Liverpool, on Wednesday, the 17th, before Mr. **C.B. LYONS**, coroner for the district, on view of the body of **ELLEN BARRATT**. **SUSAN BARRATT** deposed that the deceased was her child; she was three years old. Witness had taken the dinner out of a pot of boiling water, to which she sat down, when the child screamed out; on looking round she saw that she had upset the contents of the pot over her; her thighs were much scalded. Dr. **RUSSELL** was sent for, who said that the child's death was almost inevitable. She died at ten o'clock next morning. The jury expressed themselves satisfied that the death was quite accidental, and returned a verdict accordingly. *Herald's Parramatta Correspondent*

FATAL ACCIDENT. - On Thursday an inquest was held by the Coroner, at Dishington's Tavern, Parramatta-street, on view of the body of **EDWIN PURNELL**, then lying dead there. It appeared by the evidence that deceased, who was about 22 years of age, was riding a spirited horse down Brickfield-hill on Wednesday afternoon, when he was suddenly thrown. He was taken into Mr. Dishington's house, and surgical assistance was procured immediately, but he expired in about twenty minutes after the accident. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death. *Herald, Dec. 20*

WAGGA WAGGA. - DECEMBER 15.

On Thursday week, Mr. **JOHN CRICHTON** was killed by a fall from his horse near Booranbong, in this neighbourhood. The animal was perfectly quiet, but hand a tender mouth; the bridle had a powerful bit, and in mounting he somehow or other gave a check with the bit which threw the animal back on its haunches, and the unfortunate man fell with such violence that caused the rupture of a blood vessel and rendered him insensible. Medical aid was applied for with all haste; but it was of no avail, the unfortunate man died the same night.

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/781, 27/12/1851

MURDER OF A NATIVE BLACK BY ABORIGINES. - On Thursday (Christmas Day) an inquest was held before Mr. **PARKER**, at the Rose Inn, West Maitland, on the body of **JACKEY**, **a native black lad**, about seventeen years old. It appeared from the evidence that Jackey had been for years in the service of Mr. Fitzsimmons, of Gora, Castlereagh River, and that he had just come down the country with Mr. Fitzsimmons's drays. On Wednesday Jackey received from Mr. Fitzsimmons a shilling to buy some food, and sixpence from another person to buy drink; late that evening Jackey was seen by this latter person, **PATRICK ROURKE**, then stopping at Mr. Young's inn, the Queen's Arms, West Maitland, to enter Mr. Young's yard in company with four other aboriginals (of the Maitland or Sugarloaf tribes); they appeared all more or less in liquor, and Rourke subsequently saw them drinking something out of a quart bottle they brought there with them; at a later hour, between ten and eleven o'clock, Mr. Young being in his yard saw **MURPHY, a Maitland black**, leaving the yard; Mr. Young was aware there had been a number of blacks

about his yard that afternoon and evening, but as the blacks made a practice of camping at the back of the yard he took no particular notice of them; Mr. Young was under the impression that all the blacks had left his yard about eight o'clock. That evening being Christmas Eve, Mr. Young was up till about one o'clock, his back windows being open to let in the breeze; **STEPHEN BALCOMB**, the night watchman, was about the street, and in and out of Mr. Young's yard, on his beat, all night; and chief constable **WOOD,** with come policemen, were about the streets till near two o'clock. None of these parties heard a noise of any kind from Mr. Young's yard during the night, yet next morning early Jackey was found lying dead near the lower fence, having been killed by two heavy blows from a waddy; a bondi, or club, was seen near him, with marks of blood on it. As soon as the alarm was given, the police were informed, and the six following aboriginals were apprehended: **MURPHY, TOMMY POTTS, MARTIN, and KING JOHN,** of the Maitland tribe; **JEMMY and RICHARD WISEMAN**, of the Sugarloaf tribe. Some blood was seen on the clothes or skin of some of them, but nothing further was elicited to being home the deed to either. The jury returned a verdict of wilful murder against some aboriginals, unknown. We are sorry to learn, last evening, that Jackey's body was still lying unburied at the back of Mr. Young's yard. [All later brought before the bench for drunkenness, see 2d]

THE GOLD FIELDS. - THE TURON. – (*From the S.M. Herald)*

FLOOD AND LOSS OF LIFE AT THE TURON.

ERSKINE POINT, DEC. 19. - Yesterday afternoon we were visited with a storm (or rather the effects of a storm) of no ordinary description; …One unfortunate party, a Captain **ROBINSON** (who formerly had command of one of the Sydney coasters) and two other men, were at work in a tunnel on Little Oakey Creek, about a quarter of a mile from its junction with the Turon River, when the waters rushed in upon them before they could make their escape. It appears that Captain Robinson was carried by the stream to the junction, and from thence about 500 yards down the Turon River, where on my return his body was being taken from the river in a dreadfully bruised condition from coming in contact with the trunks of trees, rocks, &c., no part of his clothing remaining excepting a leather belt; he was immediately carried into a tent occupied by the miners in the employ of Messrs. Trappitt and Co., on this point, and every means was used by two medical men to restore life, but without success; the other unfortunate person (his mate), whose name I believe is **RICHARDS,** from Adelaide, is no doubt still in the tunnel, and parties are now employed in digging down to endeavour to find his remains. …

CORONER'S INQUEST. - Yesterday, an inquest was held by the Coroner, at the Three Tuns Tavern, Elizabeth-street, on view of the body of a female infant, which, as reported in yesterday's *Herald*, was found in a box in the Outer Domain, on Sunday last. Constable **LUCAS**, stated, that some boys who were bathing found the box among the rocks, and ascertaining its contents gave the alarm. It was taken to the Infirmary. Dr. **NATHAN** stated, that the infant had apparently been born at the full time of uterogestation, but, having made a *post mortem* examination, he found that the lungs had never been inflated; and his opinion was, that the child had been still born. There were no marks of violence on the body. Under the Coroner's direction the jury found that the infant found concealed had been still born. *Herald, Dec. 24*

MAITLAND MERCURY, 9/782, 31/12/1851

INQUEST. - On Friday an inquest was commenced before Mr. **PARKER**, at the Northumberland Hotel, West Maitland, and was resumed on Monday, by

adjournment, at the Bricklayer's Arms, on the body of **WILLIAM FURLER,** a child of three years old. It appeared from the evidence adduced that Mrs. Furler (the deceased child's mother (and who was in custody, resides in Durham-street, West Maitland, her husband not living with her, and that she occasionally drinks, and her house was described as kept in a disorderly manner; the little boy was neglected by his mother when she was drinking, and was at times left unprotected and uncared for when she was away at work washing; the neighbours had frequently given it food, when crying from hunger, and had occasionally cleaned it when very dirty; none of the neighbours however appear to have thought the mother habitually neglected or ill-treated her children. Some months since the child was ill, and was attended by a medical man at the mother's request, and since that time it had not looked so well; on Christmas Day a neighbour heard Mrs. **FULLER** calling out, and crying that her child was dead, and on going to her house he found the child lying nearly dead; he went for medical assistance, but was unable to obtain it, and the child died soon afterwards. A post mortem examination was made by Dr. **M'CARTNEY**, who found that the child presented every appearance of having been much neglected and left without proper nutriment, but that its death was caused by disease of the stomach and intestines, caused by inflammation, the inflammation having been apparently of long standing. The Coroner pointed out the law of manslaughter as bearing on the case, expressing his opinion that the woman was chargeable with the death of her child, but the jury acquitted her of manslaughter, returning a verdict of died from natural causes.

DUBBO. - MURDER.

About three weeks ago an exile going under the name of **WILLIAM KNOT**, committed two fearful crimes. William Knot and his mate (the latter a married man) had some words arising through a black gin, his comrade properly objecting to the hut being the domicile of his sable "chere amie." Upon such similar expressions, we presume, Knot shot his comrade through the two arms, inflicting most serious wounds. The wife fell all but dead on the floor, and the poor man was more concerned about his family, begged of William to go with his flock, that he would not say a word about it, and everything would be forgotten. The culprit started after a horse running conveniently, and mounting he left this dreadful scene for one which the devil destined would be of a moiré serious nature. He arrived at a station where the owner of the horse happened to be; the latter claimed the animal in a very quiet manner, without even a quarrel. W. Knot shot him through the heart. Poor Alger, without a sentence, but merely crossing his arms on his breast, and closing his eyes languidly, and as if a pious idea had been his last, fell on his knees and expired. The direction of the criminal could not for some time be properly ascertained, though the Dubbo police were doing their duty in a praiseworthy manner. Knot was known to be at a station one day, and one hundred miles away the next; but however was closely chased by Mr. chief constable **LANG** and **FREDERICK MAHER**, who fell in with two horses he had broken down, one the animal which caused his crime; these two or three indefatigable constables, after riding hundreds of miles, were on his track, and drove him as into a well in the Wellington mountains. The next day of the seizing the lost horse, they made sure to capture him, when information came to Wellington of his camp within a few miles of the latter place. A party, composed of civilians and police, came on him while fast asleep, and his arms lying by his side, exhausted of fatigue; his captors only had a pleasant walk, but nevertheless deserve the thanks of the public for their activity. *Correspondent of People's Advocate*

A HUSBAND CHARGED WITH MURDERING HIS WIFE. - IPSWICH, WEDNESDAY, DEC. 17

I regret that my report must commence this week with accidents and offences. *Imprimis*, and the most melancholy one is that of the death of Mrs. **HONORIA FOLEY**, wife of **HENRY FOLEY**, formerly a publican in this town. The circumstances relating to her death are these – that her body was found floating in the river yesterday morning, she having been missing since Saturday night last. An inquiry was immediately commenced by Dr. **DORSEY,** acting coroner of the district, and continued today, when the doctor was assisted by Messrs. **PANTON** and **RANKIN.** In cases of this kind it is but justice to an accused party to reserve particular remarks until a jury decide; I shall therefore merely state that the unfortunate deceased's husband was taken into charge for the wilful murder of his wife. *Correspondent of Moreton Bay Courier.*

HENRY FOLEY, the person mentioned above by our Ipswich correspondent, as having been detained on suspicion of having caused the death of his wife, was examined yesterday at the Ipswich police-office, before Messrs. Dorsey, Barney, and A. Hodgson, and was remanded till Monday next. The chief circumstances of suspicion, as we are informed, are these:- The prisoner had alleged that he last saw his wife at about three or four o'clock on Saturday afternoon, when she left him to go to the residence of Mr. M'Intyre, a short distance from Ipswich; but a man in the employment of Mr. Panton distinctly swears that about nine o'clock that evening he saw the prisoner and his wife going towards the Bremer, near the sport where the body was afterwards found, and that Foley was using very strong language to her, and vowing that she should never repeat some misconduct, which he mentioned. When the body was found on Tuesday, there was a cut on the forehead, and several other wounds on the person; and the intestines were protruding from the body in large quantity, and in a very shocking manner. *Moreton Bay Courier, Dec. 20*

THE CONDEMNED CONVICTS.

The death warrant for the execution of **ANGEE**, the Chinaman convicted of murder at the last Brisbane assizes, has been brought down by the under-sheriff, who arrived by the *Eagle* yesterday. The executioner arrived by the same conveyance. The sentence of the law will be carried into effect on the culprit on Tuesday morning, the 6th of January, (to-morrow fortnight).

The other condemned convict, "**MAKE-I-KIGHT"**, the aboriginal native, also convicted of murder, is respited for the present, pending some inquiries concerning the identity of the convict, of which the learned judge who tried the case seems to have entertained a doubt; but it is understood that no hopes of mercy are to be held out to the prisoner in the event of that doubt being decided against him. *Moreton Bay Courier, Dec. 22*