

CRICK CHRONICLE

DISTRESSING FATALITY IN THE CITY.

KILLED BY FALLING TIMBER.

Following so rapidly on the gruesome tragedy enacted in Joss's lane on Sunday morning, and the double drowning of the previous two days, another death of a shocking character has occurred in the city within the past twelve hours. While a few men were piling timber in Messrs. F. Spaight and Sons' yard, Honan's Quay, this morning, a little before nine o'clock, the tier, comprising about six tons, suddenly collapsed, and one of the number, a widower named Joseph Hayes, of the Abbey, was caught by the fall and killed on the spot. It took about ten minutes to extricate the body, which, when brought out, presented a shocking appearance. The features were quite unrecognisable, and the other parts of the body badly bruised.

THE INQUEST.

Mr. M. J. DeCoursey, solr., coroner, held an inquest, on the body at one o'clock to-day, in the premises of Messrs. Spaight and Sons, Honan's Quay, the scene of the fatality.

The following were empanelled on the jury:—Robert Lindsay (foreman), Michael McArdle, Edward Moriarty, Daniel Carroll, Michael Lee, James Jordan, James Williams, James J. Ryan, Patrick Bourke, John Moloney, John Gabbett and James Hynes.

Ser. eant Walsh conducted the investigation. Mr. F. M. Fitt, solr., represented Messrs. F. Spaight and Sons, and Mr. Patrick Glynn, stevedore, who employed the deceased.

Patrick Hayes, labourer, Watergate, identified the body as that of his brother, who was a widower and 45 years of age. He last saw his brother alive at twenty past six yesterday evening.

A Juror—What family had he? Three children.

James McNamara, labourer, Nicholas street, stated he was employed by Patrick Glynn, Mungret street, piling timber in Messrs. Spaight's yard this morning. He was accompanied by Joseph Hayes, Thomas Massey, Patrick O'Sullivan, and Daniel Maher in that work. The timber was the property of Messrs. Spaight and Sons, and after discharging the seventh load, while the deceased was carrying the last scantling to the pile, witness noticed it wavering, and sung out at the top of his voice to Hayes to stand clear that the pile was falling. He was slow in getting out of the way, thinking that the warning was a hoax. When witness saw the danger heran to Hayes's assistance, and got caught himself on the side. He did not hear him in time, with the result that the pile came down on him and killed him instantaneously. Witness added that if deceased had responded to the warning given him the accident would not have occurred.

A Juror—Who was responsible for piling the timber so straight against the wall?

Witness—I was in charge of the work.

The Coroner—Why did you pile it in the way the jury has seen it?

Witness—That is the customary way to pile it. I am engaged in that work for twenty years and never saw it piled any other way.

A juror said it was piled with proper care.

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Mr. Moriarty—Wouldn't you think it was too close to the wall?

The witness said it looked curious now, but they should have seen it before it fell to judge.

Thomas Massey, labourer, No. 2 St. Francis Abbey, stated he worked with the deceased at 9 o'clock this morning. He was present when the timber fell on Hayes, and heard McNamara call on him to look out that the scantlings were falling. He did his best to get clear, but was caught before he could do so.

In reply to a juror, the witness said the timber was placed against the wall.

Patrick Glynn, stevedore for Messrs. Spaight and Sons, stated in his evidence that he was responsible for the proper piling of this timber. He was engaged in the work for thirteen years. He was not present at the time of the fatality, but placed one of the most competent men in Limerick to superintend the piling of the scantlings.

Sergeant Walsh—Could you give us any idea why it fell?

The witness said he could not, and, in reply to further questions, said the deceased was not responsible for the work of piling. His part of the work ceased with the carrying of the scantling to McNamara.

There was no further evidence given, and the verdict was death from injuries received by timber falling on deceased accidentally.

The jury added a rider recommending the organs of deceased to the kind consideration of Messrs. Spaight and Sons.

SHOCKING ACCIDENT.

GENTLEMAN SHOTS HIS WIFE DEAD.

A Norwich correspondent telegraphs:—Mr. W. H. Hackblock, of Colishall Manor House, accidentally shot his wife dead yesterday morning. Mr. Hackblock, who is chairman of Morgan's Brewery Company, and an Alderman of Norwich Town Council, having before breakfast seen a rabbit cross the lawn of Manor House, went after it with a gun. On his return he was standing on the front drive extracting the cartridge, when the gun went off, hitting Mrs. Hackblock in the head and killing her instantly. The unfortunate lady had come out of the house just previously, and was standing a few yards from her husband, who was unaware of her presence. Mrs. Hackblock was a lady of advanced years, who had greatly interested herself in the Church and charitable work.

STORM AND FLOODS IN KERRY.

GREAT DAMAGE TO CROPS.

During the early hours of Saturday morning a violent storm prevailed over the East Kerry districts. The storm was accompanied by a torrential downpour of rain, which produced