

of the 28th, on horseback, and under the influence of drink. When at "Pig Hunting Creek," he missed the ford, got into deep water and was drowned. Verdict—"Accidental drowning."

On the 2nd June an inquest was held at Christchurch, before J. W. S. Coward, Esq., J.P., Coroner, upon the body of William Bennett, aged 28, a labourer. The medical testimony showed that deceased had the left leg fractured and a lacerated wound upon it, caused by the falling upon him of some iron bark logs, at the Dunsandel Railway Station, through the breaking of the chain of a steam crane, the injuries to his leg resulted in death. A verdict of—"Accidental death" was returned.

An inquest was held on the 4th day of June, 1875, at Christchurch, before J. W. S. Coward, Esq., Coroner, upon the body of Napier Gordon Glassford, aged 42, accountant. The evidence showed that deceased was driving a buggy along Oxford Terrace, when the horses shied and bolted, throwing him out with great force upon the road, and fracturing his skull, which resulted in death. Verdict—"Accidental death."

On the 7th instant an inquest was held at Leeston, before Charles J. Bridge, Esq., Coroner, upon the body of Charles Dobbin, aged 40, a farmer. The medical evidence showed that deceased died from contusion of the brain caused by a fall from his horse. A verdict of—"Accidental death" was returned.

On the 7th instant, an inquest was held at Timaru, before B. Woolcombe, Esq., Coroner, upon the body of Robert Ward, aged 44, a farmer. The evidence showed that deceased was returning from Timaru to Mount Horrible, and when about a mile from that place a gate which stands across the public road, and which he had just opened, swung back and so struck the dray in which he was sitting as to capsize it upon him and produce almost instant death from suffocation. A verdict of—"Death from suffocation" was returned, with a rider that the Coroner be requested to take steps to have the gate removed, and to call the attention of the authorities to the danger of such obstructions."

An inquest was held at on the 8th June, at Ashburton, before C. Percy Cox, Esq., upon the body of Joseph Armstrong, aged 40, a gardener. The evidence led to the supposition that deceased, who was returning to his home from Mount Somers on the night of the 5th, lost the track and wandered to a swamp, where he was found dead on the 6th instant. Verdict—"Accidental death from exposure."

An inquest was held on the 9th instant, at Lyttelton, before J. W. S. Coward, Esq., J.P., upon the body of Robert Edis

Protheroe, aged 35, a seaman. The medical evidence showed that death resulted from heart disease, and a verdict was returned of—"Death from natural causes."

An inquest was held on the 12th instant, at Ashburton, before H. J. Winter, Esq., J.P., upon the bodies of three men whose names are unknown, but who are herein described. From the evidence, it was found that on the evening of June 10th, a man named Choat was walking along the beach, about two miles south of the mouth of the Ashburton river, when he saw the wreck of a small vessel, above water mark, and close by her the body of a white man. Further search discovered the bodies of two Maoris, and near the vessel were found lying two sacks of wheat. The wreck is supposed to be a schooner named "The Success," of Auckland, of about fifty tons, some upper works of a small vessel and two life-buoys with "Success, Auckland," marked on the latter, having been found at the mouth of the Waimakariri river, and she is believed to have been wrecked during the heavy gale on the 5th instant. The jury returned a verdict of—"Found drowned." Description of the bodies—A white man, about 24 years of age, about 6 or 6ft. lin. high, well made, about 13 or 13½ stone in weight, brown curly hair, very slight moustache, no other hair on face, tattoo mark on right fore arm of an eagle with a woman riding it with American flag in her hand, in blue and red, "Young America" underneath; the only clothing on was a pair of grey woollen drawers, one grey worsted sock, and one unbleached cotton one, a pair of good dark striped tweed trowsers, a pair of oilskin trowsers, a pair of sailors' sea boots (like Wellingtons), and a belt round waist, no marks on any of them. The second man, apparently a Kanaka, or Maori, judged about thirty years of age, but all flesh having been eaten away from the face, this estimate cannot be of much value, about 5ft. 9 or 10in. high, stout build, black hair, good teeth, tattoo mark in blue on each groin and upper part of thigh, also in blue on right arm o w e h n, and band in blue, half way round the right wrist something like, no clothing except part of the waistband of a pair of grey tweed trowsers. The third man, a Kanaka, or Maori, about thirty years of age, 5ft. 9 or 10in. high, well-made, stout build, about 12 stone, tattooed in blue ink similar to the rough sketch, a woman on right fore arm, name on right arm, three schooners on chest, six stars on left shoulder, name on left arm, and a name extending from centre of chest to top of left shoulder, three rings with consecutive circles on left thigh; the only clothing was a portion of a sleeve of a striped cotton shirt on left wrist, a pair of tweed trowsers, a pair of woollen drawers, and a pair of oilskin trowsers, and one blucher boot, one worsted sock, some tobacco in right hand trowsers pocket.