

5 a.m. the father awoke and found him dead. The body was still warm, but life was extinct. The father went immediately for Dr. Townend, who promised to go and see deceased, but never went. Dr. Powell made a *post-mortem* examination of the body, and found it clean, well nourished, and no mark on it, and gave it as his opinion that death was caused by suffocation. The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental suffocation."

AN inquest was held at Timaru on 31st March, before B. Woolcombe, Esq., J.P., coroner, on the body of James Bain, aged 29 years, boatman. It appears from the evidence that the deceased and another man named Daniel Anderson were bringing railway sleepers ashore from a vessel in a surf boat, belonging to the George's Street Landing Service, when they got the boat within a few chains of the shore, near a reef, she began to labour heavily, and seas broke over her. The men showed signs of distress, and a whale boat was put off from the shore, but before reaching the surf boat she was swamped by a heavy sea and the two men left struggling in the water. They were seen struggling for about a minute, and then they sank before assistance could be rendered. No blame is attached to any one. The jury returned a verdict to the effect that the "Deceased was accidentally drowned."

AN inquest was held at Selwyn on 4th April, 1876, before C. J. Bridge, Esq., J.P., coroner, on the body of Edith Withell, aged one year and seven months. From the evidence it appeared that the child was playing with her brothers and sisters, when she went away in company of her brother, who is four years old, to the watering place at the creek, about thirty yards from the house, to get a drink of water. In about five minutes the boy returned, he cannot talk, but he made signs to the creek. Deceased's mother and another woman, named Elizabeth Campbell, immediately rushed to the creek, but were unable to find the child. The stream of the creek runs very strong, and deceased was carried about forty-six chains down, where she was found by Charles William Withell half an hour after, and about two feet under water. The jury returned a verdict of "Accidentally drowning in a creek."

AN inquest was held at Kaiapoi on 8th April, 1876, before C. Dudley, Esq., J.P., coroner, on the body of Annie Norrie, aged 31 years. It appears deceased, who was subject to fits, went to the river to draw some water, when, it is most probable, a fit came on, which caused her to fall into the river and be drowned. No marks of violence appeared on the body when examined by the doctor and police. The jury returned a verdict of "Found drowned," with a rider that they were of opinion deceased fell into the river during a fit of epilepsy.

AN inquest was held at Waimate on the 10th instant, before B. Woolcombe, Esq., J.P., coroner, upon the body of Lucretia Voyce, aged 21 years, wife of William Voyce, black-

smith, who died from the effects of poison on the 8th instant. From the evidence adduced at the coroner's inquest, it appeared that deceased was in good health at 2 p.m. on Saturday, the 8th instant, she having crossed over a small paddock to Mrs. Hawkins, a distance of about four chains. She gave Mrs. Hawkins some under clothes for her child, at the same time she told Mrs. Hawkins she was going to leave her husband and go back to her native country, Chili. She then returned to her own house, and at about 2.30 p.m. same date she was found by William Ashbolt, the journeyman blacksmith who boards in Mr. Voyce's. He found her lying on a box in her own kitchen, frothing at the mouth. He ran and told her husband, and then Mrs. Johanna Fraser, and also Mrs. Mary Hawkins, all of whom came in a moment, and they carried her to bed, where she expired. Dr. Cole, from Timaru, made a *post-mortem*, and removed the stomach and liver, placed them in earthenware jars, and sealed them for analysis. The doctor is of opinion she died from poison, most likely strychnine. The jury returned the following verdict, "Died from poison, but there is no evidence to show by whom administered."

Missing Friends.

ARTHUR JOHN GREENLY, son of Rev. J. P. Greenly, of Laverstock, Salisbury, England, left Auckland in 1867 for Napier. He is about 33 years of age, no further description is given of him. Any information which can be obtained concerning him, is to be forwarded to this office.—*vide N.Z. Gazette*, 1876, page 222.

EMMA GOSS, daughter of the proprietor of the Steam Saw Mills, Whately road, Christchurch, aged 19 years, 5ft. 5in., brown hair, fastened on top of head with a comb, pale straight features, left her home about 4 p.m. 13th instant with a man named John Templeman, English, 5ft. 6in., 26 years, stout build, fat face, good looking, dark brown hair, whiskers and moustache, shaved on chin, rather flashy style of dress, lately employed at Hanna and Co., store, Rangiora. Information to be sent to the Commissioner of Police, Christchurch.

WANTED the present whereabouts of Thomas Hayes, native of Sorell, Tasmania, about 5ft. 5in., fair complexion, a young man supposed to have been shearing in the neighbourhood of Christchurch last season. No further description of the missing friend is given. Information to be sent to the Commissioner of Police, Christchurch.

RETURN OF APPOINTMENTS, &c., SINCE LAST GAZETTE.

APPOINTMENTS.

William Fullbrook, and George Norton Reily, to be Third-Class Constables. Acting-Sergeant John Gatward, has been transferred from the Preventive to the Detective Branch, *vice* John McGorman, transferred to Preventive Branch.