



# People News

*Bratton*

## *ECCENTRIC MR HENRY WILLIAMSON*

A retired tradesman, at Seend, near Melksham, had his coffin made of copper brought home a few days since; but his spouse, thinking she had copper vessels enough in the house, would not admit it. A neighbour, however, gave it house room, where it is waiting the demise of its provident prospective tenant. **Royal Cornwall Gazette Saturday 21 June 1834**

Died at Seend, on Tuesday morning, Mr Henry Williamson. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 10 October 1839**

The remains of the late Mr Williamson, of Seend, whose death we lately noticed, were carried to their resting place at Bratton last week, in a hearse followed by three mourning coaches.

The deceased was a very eccentric character. Several years ago, he had a copper coffin made, in which he requested that his body should be deposited. He also had prepared the iron palisades to surround his tomb. Among his other requests were, that his body should be kept a fortnight, and that his grave should be ten feet deep, all of which, we are told, have been complied with. He was formerly a cooper; but has of late years lived upon the interest of the money he had accumulated. **Salisbury and Winchester Journal Monday 4 November 1839**