



Coroners Bills

1752-1796

Castle Combe

County coroners were introduced in England in around 1194 once established other boroughs and liberties sought the right to have their own coroner. Often in Medieval times the coroner also assumed the role of the sheriff and his duties weren't limited to holding inquests on dead bodies although almost a full time post they were unpaid for the duties apart from those that were deemed murder of manslaughter when they would receive 13s. 4d. From the 24th June 1752 a law was passed allowing the coroner to claim £1 for every inquest they attended not held in a gaol and also to claim 9d per mile travel allowance from the place of residence. Inquests held in any gaol were performed at a rate totalling no more than £1. These costs were to be paid from the county rates. In cases of homicide the coroner also received the former fee of 13s. 4d. The coroners submitted their bills at the quarter session sittings for approval.

Year	Date	Surname	Given Names	Coroner		Details of Inquest	Place of Inquest	No. of Miles Travelled	Coroners Bill			Notes
				Surname	Given Names				£	s	d	
1772	13-Sep	Besant	John	Clare	William	Found dead in Leigh Wood	Castle Combe	16	1	12	0	
1766	31-Mar	Pern	Robert	Clare	John	Consumption	Devizes, Bridewell	0	1	0	0	Late of Castle Combe; Committed by James Montagu, Esq., for divers misdemeanours
1767	12-	Taylor	Isaac	Clare	John	Died of a bad fever and not	Castle	16	1	12	0	

	Feb					from any violence done him, as reported by William Gardener or any other person	Combe					
1763	13- Jan	Taylor	William	Clare	John	Found dead in a field; no marks of violence; Sudden natural death	Castle Combe	16	1	12	0	