



## *Death from Drowning*



**CODFORD** - Thomas Sturgiss, aged 63 years, left the George Inn, Codford, on Wednesday evening, at 7 o'clock, and, on going through Stockton Park, lost his hat and went over the water to procure a lantern, but never returned, and on Thursday his wife raised the alarm, when he was found in a water carriage in Mr Patient's meadow. The man being drowner of the meadows, the cause of the unfortunate accident is the more unaccountable, but in the darkness of the night he must have fallen helplessly into the carriage, and not being to extricate himself became a corpse. He has left a helpless widow to mourn his untimely end.

*(Salisbury and Winchester Journal, Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> November, 1860)*

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*\*The working of floating (irrigation) and maintenance of a water-meadow was done by highly skilled craftsmen called a drowner of waterman, who was often employed by several adjacent farmers.*

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