



CORONERS INQUESTS



Henry Lintern

Sudden Death: A Ruined Constitution

The sudden death of Henry Lintern (56), stone mason, which occurred at the common lodging house, Shails Lane, early on Sunday morning, formed the subject of an inquiry held by Mr. F. A. P. Sylvester, deputy coroner, at the Town Hall on Monday afternoon. It appears from the evidence of Philip Clift, lodging-house keeper, that deceased had been his lodger for the past fortnight, and that on Saturday he made no complaint. Earlier in the day, however, he had been to Dr. Wise, who found him suffering from valvular disease of the heart, threatened inflammation of the lungs, and a system altogether broken down. He gave him some medicine and told him to either send or call again on Monday, by which time he would procure him a note of admission into the Workhouse Infirmary. Lintern appears to have consumed nearly the whole of the medicine, but Dr. Wise said had he taken it all at once, it would not have injured him. About 7.30 on Sunday morning another occupant of the room where deceased slept, named William Gilbert, a pensioner, spoke to him, but half-an-hour later he was discovered by the keeper of the house lying dead across the bed, with his legs outside, as if he had been in the act of drawing on his socks. Inspector Hancock was called, but there were no marks of violence or anything suspicious in the room. The Inspector said deceased did but little work, drank considerably, and often slept rough. He had communicated with his relatives, but they had no wish to attend the inquest. The jury found that Lintern died from valvular disease of the heart, arising from chronic alcoholism.

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