

## Inquest - Caroline Hurst 1910



On Saturday there was an inquest at Wardour conducted by the Coroner for South Wilts, Mr R A Wilson, into the circumstances attending the death of Caroline Hurst, the wife of a thatcher named Hother Hurst, which apparently resulted from injuries received through an unfortunate fall on the fire during a fit.

Hother Hurst said his wife was 70 years of age. On March 1<sup>st</sup> she had a fit and fell on the fire, being much burnt.

He came home about half an hour afterwards. She was accustomed to have fits and to fall down. Since the accident she had been attended by a doctor, but on Thursday night she became suddenly worse and died.

Sarah Maidment, wife of Francis Maidment, a sawyer, of Wardour, stated that she lived next door to the last witness. On March 1<sup>st</sup> she was with the deceased up to four o'clock in the afternoon and Mrs Hurst was in her usual health.

Witness then went into her own cottage, but had not been in more than two minutes when she heard a scream. She ran back, and found that Mrs Hurst had fallen on the fire, not having quite recovered from a fit. Witness got her into a chair and dressed her burns with oil and the doctor was sent for. Witness had been with her every day since and had helped to nurse her. She became gradually weaker on Thursday and died at 12 o'clock at night.

Dr C A Ensor, of Tisbury, said he saw the deceased at about six o'clock on March 1<sup>st</sup>. She was suffering from severe shock and was extensively burnt over the left side of the head, face and arm. He saw her constantly until within a few days of her death. She never really recovered from the shock, and her death was due to exhaustion following the injuries she had received. He knew she was subject to epileptic fits.

The jury, of whom Mr W Cox was foreman, returned a verdict accordingly.

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