

27th May 1891
65V

PROCEEDINGS of INQUEST

held upon the body of

Aligal Bungah

at

Eastbourne

Received at the Crown Law Offices,

30th May 1891

by

✓

L. Doherty
Clerk

Castlemaine Station. North Western Police District.
27th May 1891.

REPORT of H. L. Goss M. C. 3464,
relative to a married woman named Mrs.
Abigail Burdett, being found drowned
in a tank.

I have to report for the
Coroner's information about 9^o A.M.
this morning I was informed a
married woman named Mrs. Abigail
Burdett 34 years of age was found
drowned in a tank at Hussey Hill
near Castlemaine it appears the baby
who is only 3 months old has been
ailing for about a fortnight giving
deceased very little rest and through
that the cause is attributed. Dr. G. M. Reid
who was in attendance when I arrived
there examined the body and there
were no marks of violence about the
deceased. There are no suspicious

G. Robertson Esq. circumstances surrounding the case
Coroner, please instruct.

H. L. Goss
M^{rs}. Const. 3464

Castlemaine 27.5.91

C 86th/91

Will Mr Tolstrop be good enough to
hold any inquiry as the Coroner is absent
on duty

Geo Douglas
S^{er}. M^{rs}.

C. Tolstrop Esq. W.
Castlemaine

✓ will look in Cupping at
1.15. this day
E. G. Guttery J.P.
27/5/91

C876/91

Castlemain 28.5.91

Depositions attached
for the Coroner's
information

Geo Douglas
Sgt. 4006

J. Robertson Esq. J.P.
Coroner
Castlemain

CORONER'S INQUEST.

[No. 53.]

COLONY OF VICTORIA,
TO WIT.

This Deponent * George William Burydorff
on his oath saith, I am a man no occupation, being blind
residing at Welly Hill East Melbourne

* Christian and
surname in
full.

N.Y. Deceased ^{Theresa} Alispet Burydorff was my wife.
She was abt 34 years of age. I spoke to her last
about 5.30 o'clock this morning; we were
in bed, also our baby. She had not enough
milk for the baby and I got up and lit a fire
and warmed some condensed milk with which
deceased fed the baby. She then asked me to
take the baby and nurse it, I did so, and I
shortly after fell asleep. I think deceased also
slept. Towards seven o'clock I awoke

N.Y. through the baby crying. I ^{nursed} ~~spoke to~~ deceased
N.Y. but got no answer.
I called again and knocked on the wall
and, as the baby continued crying, I called the
boys, Willie Burns and Joseph Cully, who live
with us, and asked them where deceased was. They
could not find her but said that her clothes were
lying in the room. I became alarmed and
sent for Mrs Rowden. Mrs Rowden afterwards
told me that deceased was in the trunk. I felt
her head. I do not know of any cause why she
should commit suicide. She had been worried a
good deal lately through the baby being ill. We were
married 13 years ago and deceased was confined
of her first child about 3 months ago. We always
lived on the best of terms and there was no
disagreement between us. We were much attached

Taken and Sworn before me, the 27th day to each other
of May 1891 at East Melbourne
Le Galtrays Coroner. George Wm Burydorff

CORONER'S INQUEST.

[No. 53.]

COLONY OF VICTORIA,
TO WIT.

This Deponent*

Regina Bowden

on her oath saith, I am a Widow

residing at Willy Hill Castleman

* Christian and surname in full.

N^o.

I have known deceased ^{Theresa} ~~Abigail~~ ^{Burgdorf} from her childhood. This morning about 7.45 she Burgdorf sent for me and asked me to look for deceased. I did so and owing to a boy W. Marcus, saying there was something in the tank I looked into it and found deceased there. She was quite dead, standing on the bottom of the tank in a stooping position, her head just a few inches below the ^{surface of the} water. I sent for Dr Reid.

N^o.

I have been a neighbour of deceased for 7 years and very friendly with her. She always lived happily with her husband and I know of no cause why she should have committed suicide.

Regina Bowden

Taken and Sworn before me, the 27th day
of May 1891 at Castleman
Matthews J.P.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

COLONY OF VICTORIA,
TO WIT.

This Deponent*

William Henry Bowden

on his oath saith, I am a *Wine*

residing at *Leastemair*

* Christian and surname in full.

dit

dit

In consequence of what I heard this morning I looked into the tank at the back of old *Marydorf's* house, and there saw deceased *Abigail Marydorf*, standing on the bottom of the tank, ^{Herein} ~~she appeared to me dead~~ I then went to inform the relatives of deceased.

W H Bowden

Taken and Sworn before me, the *27th* day
of *May* 18*91* at *Leastemair*

A. G. G. G. G.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

COLONY OF VICTORIA,)

TO WIT.

* Christian and
surname in
full.

This Deponent*

George Moore Reed

on his oath saith, I am a legally qualified Medicinal Practitioner residing at Castlemaine

64

On my arrival at this place this morning about 8.45 I was informed that the body of ^{Mrs} Elizabeth Burgdoff was in a tank outside. I ascended a ladder and examined the tank and saw the body entirely submerged in a semi-erect position, her head being about 6 inches below the surface of the water. I seized hold of her hair and dragged the head above water and found that life was extinct. It was reported to me that she had been in the tank upwards of an hour in the same position. I had the water removed and examined the body. There were no external marks of violence on it, but the symptoms of death by drowning manifested themselves almost at once. She had her eyes closed and she was on and her hair was loose. I am of opinion that she got on a box on side of the tank and then on to the projecting bricks of the chimney, got her legs over the tank and slid in feet foremost. The cause of death is asphyxia by drowning.

George Moore Reed M.D.

Taken and Sworn before me, the 27th day of May 1871 at Castlemaine
A. Wolstone Coroner

64

I have this day been an Inquiring touching
the death of ^{Theresa} ~~Aligail~~ Burdorp and find that
it occurred in de Grabs Street, Leestemuisin,
on 27th May 1891 the cause being Asphyxia
by Drowning, her own act.

Leestemuisin 27th May 1891 }

C. G. Galtrop J.D.