

## **DROWNED IN THE HARBOUR**

A harbour employee named Jacob Greenland was drowned on Sunday morning near the Pier head, it being supposed that he fell in the water while on duty before daylight.

On Monday an inquest was held at the George Hotel before S Payne, Esq, Borough Coroner.

**Richard Mayne**, a painter residing at Adrian Cottage, Adrian Street, deposed that the body at the dead-house was that of his brother-in-law, who had been in the employ of the Dover Harbour Board as a boatman. The deceased lived at 3, Round Tower Street and was about 52 years of age.

**The daughter of the deceased** (Jane Greenland, aged 15) said she had lived with him and had charge of his house. She last saw her father alive about 11.30 on Saturday night, when he went home and said that he was going on duty at the Boomhouse. At that time the deceased seemed to be in his usual health, but he had been drinking, although he was not drunk. The deceased was not going to work when he left the house, but he was simply going to the Boomhouse, where he would lie down until 2.30am, when he had to go on duty. He did this in order that he might be ready when called.

**Philip Marsh**, a flagman in the employ of the Dover Harbour Board said he was on duty at the South Pierhead at 2.30am on Sunday morning. About that time the witness went to the watchhouse on the pier to obtain his small hand lamp, and there saw the deceased. He appeared to be asleep, and the witness did not wake him until he had been out to see the tide-gates. Almost immediately he returned to the watchhouse, however, roused the deceased, and told him it was time to go over and put the North Pier light up. He replied that he had no matches, but subsequently the deceased went to the Custom House officer of the watch at the Boomhouse, where he obtained what he wanted. The deceased then went away towards the ferry ladder to get a boat and the witness went on the South Pier to put the south light up. The deceased appeared to be perfectly sober. The witness considered the ladder down which the deceased had to go down to get into the boat was rather dangerous. The rails did not reach to the top of the quay, and they were very slippery. A man named Bowles ought to have been on the North Pier with the deceased to help him to put the light up, but the witness did not see him. Subsequently at 4.30am one of the Harbour Board men named Smith came to the witness and asked whether he had seen or heard anything of Greenland. The witness replied, "Yes, I saw him go away from here when he went to put the North Pier light up." The witness supposed that Bowles, thinking the deceased had forgotten to do his duty, went and put the light up in his stead. Subsequently Bowles went and looked for the deceased in every direction, and with the assistance of the ferryman set to work grappling for him. He picked the body up by the ferry steps shortly before eight o'clock on Sunday morning, and conveyed it to the deadhouse.

**Jeremiah Enright**, Customs House Officer, Dover, said at 2.30am on Sunday morning the deceased came to him for some matches, as he was going to light the lamps on the North Pier. The deceased was quite sober. The witness gave him some matches. Saw the deceased light his pipe, and then he went away and he heard no more of him.

**Mr Clement Walter**, police surgeon, said he was called to the deadhouse on Monday morning. There he saw the body of the deceased, examined it, but found no marks of violence as far as he could see, and his opinion was that the deceased died from suffocation from drowning.

The jury returned a verdict of "Found drowned."