

An Inquisition taken this 2nd day of February 1897 at The Yew Tree Brake Lodge in the township of East Dean on view of the body of Maud Dorothy Johnson aged 7 months: Daughter of Edwin Bennett Johnson: Labourer in Crown Woods:

The following Jury were Sworn:

Joseph George Cooper
Francis Hall
Samuel Bright
Tom Beddis
Roger Cooper
Thomas Hall
H Baldwin
James Underwood
Thomas Griffiths
William Parry
James Hawker
John Cooksey

Witnesses:

Lydia Johnson of Yew tree Brake Lodge: Mother of deceased
Richard Macartney of Cinderford: Surgeon

Verdict:

Date of Death: 1st February 1897
Place: Yew Tree Brake Lodge, East Dean
Cause: Convulsions caused by dentition.

Payments:

Jurors	12	
Surgeon	1. 1	R Macartney

Total	1.13	

Newspaper Article: No date given

INFANTILE MORTALITY:

The case of Maud Dorothy Johnson Infant daughter of Edwin Bennett Johnson : Crown Woodman of Yew Tree Brake Lodge Ruspidge

The Coroner and Jury proceeded from Ruspidge to Yew Tree Brake Lodge to hold an inquiry into the death of Maud Dorothy, infant daughter of Edwin Bennett Johnson, Crown Woodman residing at the lodge---- From the evidence of Mrs Johnson it appears that the child who was born on July 12th was healthy, but had latterly suffered from teething. About a week ago the deceased appeared to have caught a cold and some Ipecacuanha wine was given her and poultices applied and she got better. During the week of the 31st they went to bed at about 9.00pm and about 1.00am the child took milk and went to sleep again, but at 3.00am it began to cough. Witness picked her up and she seemed in convulsions and died 10 minutes afterwards. Deceased was insured in the London Edinburgh and Glasgow Association. She was fed condensed milk----- . Dr Macartney said he had examined the body, which was that of a well nourished child, apparently healthy. He had heard the evidence of the mother and was of the opinion that the child died of convulsions caused by dentition ---- The Coroner remarked that he should not probably have held an inquest----- there being no suspicious circumstances and having regard to the highly respectable character of the child's' parents-----but for the fact the Gloucestershire County Council had sometime since passed a resolution requesting Coroners to hold inquests in every case of death of children under two years of age whose lives were insured.

Notwithstanding this rule the trouble of Inquiry in this instance might have been avoided had the child been attended by a medical practitioner who could have certified--- The verdict was that the child died from convulsions following teething