



# CORONERS INQUESTS



## Luke Harding

Inquests taken before Mr. Coroner Sylvester:

At Westbury Station, on Luke Harding, aged 28. The deceased resided at Rudge, and had been employed for some years on the Wilts and Somerset Railway as a packer. On Saturday afternoon he left Westbury Station to return home, and was seen about six o'clock sitting on the rails of the Frome branch under the second bridge from the station by the driver of an excursion train to Weymouth. The driver blew the whistle, applied the breaks, and reversed the engine; but the buffer of the engine knocked against his head against the bridge, causing fracture of the skull and laceration of the brain. All the ribs on one side were also fractured.

Verdict, "Accidental death."

**Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette, Thursday, 22 July 1869**