

William Hobart Ryan

Murchison Advertiser

1 January, 1909

SUDDEN DEATH.

A sudden death occurred at Rushworth on Wednesday evening last, when Mr Wm. Hobart Ryan died at his residence in Moora Street.

It would appear that about seven o'clock in the evening the old gentleman, who resided by himself, became somewhat unwell and Dr Heily was called in to see him. The old man, who was 85 years of age, had of late become very feeble, and the doctor, recognising his condition, suggested that someone should be procured to attend to him during the night. To this proposal deceased strongly objected, saying that he would be all right.

Dr Heily, however was not satisfied and saw Senior-Constable O'Brien, who visited Ryan about a quarter of an hour prior to his death. As he would not agree to anyone being placed in charge, Senior constable O'Brien asked Mr Brideson to keep an eye to him while he went up the street.

This Mr Brideson did, and about half-past nine o'clock (a quarter of an hour afterwards) found him lying on the floor dead, he having apparently got up for some reason or other.

Deceased was a former resident of Heathcote, but came to Rushworth nearly thirty years ago. For many years he followed mining but later acquired some township properties, which he let and lived on the rent received therefrom.

He lived a rather secluded life and one of his greatest misfortunes was failing eyesight, as he was formerly a great reader. Latterly he became almost blind.

Only on the day previous deceased visited the polling booth and recorded his vote and then appeared to be in his usual spirits.

We understand that he has some family connections at Heathcote.

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8 January,

The remains of the late Mr W. H. Ryan were interred in the Rushworth cemetery on Friday afternoon last. The Rev. J. R. Walker conducted the funeral service.