

William Talmage

Rushworth Chronicle

7 March, 1913

Shocking Fatality.

A man named William Talmage, 32 years of age, an emigrant from England, met his death in a shocking manner on Monday afternoon last.

Deceased, who has been in the employ of Mr Jno. Davey, licensee of the National hotel, Moora, for the past 18 months, was engaged with the latter in conveying a waggon load of manure from Rushworth to Moora. Three horses were in the waggon, and deceased was driving, and it appears that when they were going down a hill about half-a-mile from their destination the prop-sticks of the shafts dropped down.

Without stopping the horses Talmage, who was standing on the shafts, endeavoured to replace them, but his foot slipped and he fell in front of the wheel. The horses were stopped immediately, in fact before the wheel had passed over him, but the tremendous weight merely pressing against his chest had torn the lungs, and it did not take Mr Davey long to ascertain that the poor fellow was in a very bad state. He collapsed, and beyond muttering a few words did not rally, but died an hour and a half afterwards, and about five minutes before the arrival of Dr Heily.

A watch which was worn by deceased at the time was battered out of shape, and proved what a weight must have been against the body.

Deceased had a brother at Cowra, in New South Wales.

A magisterial inquiry touching the death of deceased was held at Rushworth on Tuesday afternoon last before Mr R. Nicholls, J.P. Evidence to the effect that no external marks were visible on deceased's body bore out the testimony of Dr Heily, who deposed to having made a post mortem examination, and discovered the right lung was ruptured, which would be responsible for internal haemorrhage. The heart of deceased was also fatty and quite empty, the latter fact indicating profound nervous shock.

A verdict of accidental death was recorded.

Buried at Rushworth is a W. Talmage.