

Transcription of the Coroners Inquest of Frederick Hoffman's Death

Record found in:

Title: Coroner's Inquests, 1873-1934
Authors: Decatur County (Indiana). Coroner, (Main Author)
Format: Manuscript/On Film
Language: English
Publications: Salt Lake City, Utah : Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, 1989
Physical: on 2 microfilm reels, 35 mm.

Notes

Microfilm of records located in the Decatur County Court House, Greensburg, Indiana.

Contains reports of inquests establishing cause of violent, accidental and sudden deaths, showing dates of death, inquest, findings, with name, age, sex, color, height and weight of deceased; names and testimonies of witnesses.

Film Notes

Note	Location	Film
Inquests, v. 1, July 1873-Apr. 1900 Inquests, July 1904-Dec. 1948	FHL US/CAN Film	1521556 Items 2-3
Inquests, v. 2, May 1900-Jan. 1934	FHL US/CAN Film	1521680 Item 1

<https://familysearch.org/search/catalog/show?uri=http%3A%2F%2Fcatalog-search-api%3A8080%2Fwww-catalogapi-webservice%2Fitem%2F483286>

Original Images and Transcription included

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Inquest of Frederick Hoffmann Decd

Grensburg Ind Feby 25-1889

On the evening of Feby 20-1889 I was notified that one Frederick Hoffmann residing some eight miles north east of this City had died suddenly and without any known cause. as Coroner of Decatur Co Ind. I immediately went to the residence of the same. I examined witnesses and made due enquiry of all things pertaining thereto in order to find cause of death.

Being unable to find a satisfactory cause of his sudden death with the testimony thus far obtained. I thought it advisable to have a "Post Mortem" examination made. Returning home I requested Dr J. Y. Witt to return with me to the home of deceased and perform a post mortem examination of the body. Thus hoping to find a satisfactory cause of death. With the evidence I had already obtained added to that obtained by the post mortem examination I was fully satisfied that his sudden death was caused by a fit of Apoplexy.

Geo. W. Randall
Coroner Decatur County

attached find Physician's report of the post mortem examination.

On the Morning of Feby 21-1889 The Coroner of Decatur Co Ind. George W. Randall requested that I accompany him to the residence of Frederick Hoffmann (now deceased) and some eight (8) miles east of this City and who had suddenly died from cause yet unknown. on yesterday the 20th inst. arriving at home of deceased and by his coroners request I proceeded to make a "Post Mortem" examination. Taking due notice of all the organs as I proceeded and all else that night did in coming to a correct conclusion as to the cause of death.

Inquest of Ben Hoffman

The Stomach was taken out and internal organs examined except slight congestion on a limited portion of some of the organs. Aliments all were in normal condition bringing the Stomach to my office where I proceeded to make a thorough analysis as circumstances and conditions admitted. Found in Stomach $4\frac{1}{4}$ g of a thick opaque gelatinous mass. which by test showed strong acid reaction. in this fluid there seemed to be a small quantity of opium or its salt. To small for me to do much of any harm. On superficial wounds none on his face. one slightly to the left of left eye. and but ^{little} more than the abrasion of the skin. the other slightly larger and later along the left eye. neither could be of any consequence. face flushed. capillary vessels engorged eyes red and conjunctiva congested. the external jugular vein abnormally full with a history of all the facts and the conditions found by the post mortem. I am led to the conclusion and so state as my diagnosis that he came to his death by Apoplexy.

Green Bay Indian
Feb 22 - 1889

Jy Horta M.D.
Attender of Post Mortem

Relig and Recovery in Clerk's Office
March 5 - 1889

JM Hoffman CLK

Inquest of Frederick Hoffman Died

Greensburg Ind. Feb 25-1889

On the evening of Feb 20-1889 I was notified that one Frederick Hoffmann [sic] residing some eight miles north east of this city had died suddenly and without any known cause. As coroner of Decatur Co. Ind. I immediately went to the residence of the same. I examined witnesses and made due inquiry of all things pertaining thereto in order to find cause of death. Being unable to find a satisfactory cause of his sudden death with the testimony thus far obtained I thought it advisable to have a "Post Mortem" examination made.

Returning home I requested Dr. J G Hill to return with me to the house of deceased and perform a post mortem examination of the body thus hoping to find a satisfactory cause of death. With the evidence I had already obtained added to that obtained by the post Mortem examination I was fully satisfied that his sudden death was caused by a fit of apoplexy.

George W. Randall
Coroner Decatur County

Attached find Physicians report if the post mortem examination

On the morning of February 21-1889 The Coroner of Decatur Co. Ind George W Randall requested that I accompany him to the residence of Frederick Hoffman (now deceased) and some eight miles east of this city and who had suddenly died from causes yet unknown on yesterday the 26 *** arriving at house of the deceased and by his corners requested I proceeded to make a "Post Mortem examination. Taking due notice of all the organs as I proceeded and all else that night did in coming to a correct conclusion as to the cause of death.

Inquest of Fred Hoffman

The stomach was taken out and internal organs examined except slight congestion on a limited portion of some of the organs. Otherwise all were in normal condition. Bringing the stomach to my office where I proceeded to make a thorough analysis as circumstances and conditions admitted.

Found in stomach 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ oz of a thick opaque [sic] gelatinous mass which by test showed strong acid reaction. In this fluid there seemed to be a small quantity of opium or its salt – too small however to do much if any harm. The superficial wounds were on his face. One slightly to the left of left eye. And but little more than the abrasion of the skin. The other slightly larger and better above the left eye. Neither could be of any consequence. Face flushed capillary ***sis engorged eyes red and conjunction congested. The external jugular vein abnormally full with a history of all the facts and the condition found by the post mortem I am led to the conclusion and by state as my diagnosis that the cause of his death by apoplexy.

Greensburg Indiana
Feb 22 1889

J. G. H**** MD
Holder of Post Mortem

Filed and Recorded in Clerks Office
March 5 1889 J.M Thomson Clk