

THE STATE OF OHIO,

IN THE MATTER OF THE DEAD BODY OF

Warren

COUNTY.

Sarah A Weir

Inquisition No.       

By

Geo. W. Carey

Coroner.

TO THE HONORABLE THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS IN AND FOR SAID COUNTY:

I Do Certify That Dr. J. Evans to whom this certificate is delivered for transmission to you, was empowered by me to make a POST MORTEM examination of the Body of Sarah A Weir who, it is thought, came to her death by violence. In accordance with instructions said Dr. J. Evans proceeded to make examination, as follows: Find Mrs Sarah Weir came to her death 1<sup>st</sup> from fracture and dislocation of two or more Cervical Vertebrae. 2<sup>nd</sup> fracture and dislocation of three dorsal vertebrae. 3<sup>rd</sup> fracture left Scapula & Clavicle with dislocation of left Humerus at shoulder. 4<sup>th</sup> double fracture of left forearm. 5<sup>th</sup> left side of Pelvis crushed & fracture of femur near neck. 6<sup>th</sup> left leg fractured at upper & middle third either injury no. 1 - 2 - or 5. necessarily fatal.

The examination was thorough and satisfactory. The time occupied in making it was 1 1/2 hours, and the fee of Five dollars charged therefore is, in my opinion, reasonable and just.

Geo. W. Carey

CORONER OF SAID COUNTY.

Johnson & Watson, Printers, Stationers and Legal Blank Publishers, Dayton, Ohio.

Coroner I.

### SUBPOENA IN CORONER'S INQUEST.

The State of Ohio, Warren County, ss:

Franklin Township.

To W. F. Schenck, Bert Welch, Lidia Beachler, Mrs. Ada <sup>late Welch</sup>

You are hereby commanded to appear before me, the undersigned, Coroner of Warren County, Ohio, at Franklin Ohio

(\*)  
 on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of April A. D. 1903, at 1 o'clock P.M.,  
 to give testimony, and the truth to say before an inquest then and there to be held on  
 the dead body of Mrs Sarah A. Weir found killed on  
the Big 4) R.R. track in Franklin, April 6<sup>th</sup> 1903

Hereof fail not under the penalty of the law, and have you then and there this writ.

Given under my hand and seal this 7<sup>th</sup> day of April.

A. D. ~~189~~ 1903

Geo. W. Carey Coroner.

Warren County, Ohio.

\*If the witness is required to produce papers, etc., here add "and to bring with you and produce at the time and place aforesaid, a certain" [dead, etc., and briefly describe the required deeds, papers, letters, etc.]

# CORONER'S FINDING

AND REPORT TO THE CLERK OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS (§§1221-3, 620).

THE STATE OF OHIO,

IN THE MATTER OF THE DEAD BODY OF

*Warren*

COUNTY.

*Sarah A. Meir*

Inquisition No. *x*

, Before

*Geo. W. Carey*

, Coroner.

TO THE CLERK OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF SAID COUNTY:

On the *7<sup>th</sup>* day of *April* A. D. *1883*, having been informed that the dead body of *Sarah A. Meir*, whose death was supposed to have been caused by violence, had been found at *her Residence at Franklin St.* within said county, I appeared forthwith at the place where said dead body was; and having duly subpoenaed and sworn the below-named witnesses by me deemed necessary (whose testimony reduced to writing, and by them respectively subscribed, is herewith returned), to-wit: *William F. Schmitt*  
*Aida Reichler and Bert. Meier*

I proceeded to inquire how deceased came to her death, if by violence from any other person or persons, by whom, whether as principals or accessories before or after the fact, together with all the circumstances relating thereto; and having heard the evidence and examined the body,

I DO FIND that said deceased came to her death by *Multiple injuries* caused by being struck by Engine on *Big 4 R.R. at Second Street Crossing Franklin St.* *Just as said no blame is attached to R.R. Co.*

I recognized the following named witnesses for their appearance at the succeeding term of the said Common Pleas Court, to wit:

and their recognizances are returned herewith.

The following named witnesses, to wit:

having failed to give security as required by me for their attendance at said term of said court, I committed them to the jail of said county, there to remain till discharged by due course of law.

I arrested the said \_\_\_\_\_ there present, and immediately conveyed \_\_\_\_\_ before \_\_\_\_\_, a \_\_\_\_\_ within and for said county, for examination according to law.

Seal

*Geo. W. Carey*

CORONER OF THE COUNTY.

## DESCRIPTION OF DECEASED.

THE STATE OF OHIO,

IN THE MATTER OF THE DEAD BODY OF

Warren

COUNTY.

Sarah A. Weir

Inquisition No.

By

Geo. W. Carey

Coroner.

To: How Court.

The following is the description of the person over whose dead body the above designated inquest was held by me on April 7<sup>th</sup> 1903, within said county, said body having been found at her home in Franklin Ohio, and also an inventory of all articles of property found on or about his person.

Name,

Sarah A. Weir

Age,

83 yrs Jan'y 28, 1903

Sex,

Female

Residence,

Franklin Warren Co. O.

Place of nativity,

near Farmersville Ohio

Color of eyes,

Blue

Color of hair,

White

Height,

5 ft. 6 inches

Weight,

140 pounds

Condition of teeth,

False teeth

Marks,

See Post mortem report made by Dr. F. Evans "Copy here to attached"

Description of clothing on body, Black Skirt, Black Shoulder Cape, Leather shoes, Black Stock, White Blouse, Skirt, Underwear, fascinator over her head.

Probable cause of death, <sup>on right R.R.</sup> Multiple injuries, caused by being struck by Engine, drawing mail train (known as 2057 in charge of Conductor J. F. McAlooney) at 2<sup>nd</sup> Street crossing Franklin Ohio and due an station at 3.30 P.M. "no blame attached to R.R. Co."

## INVENTORY OF ALL ARTICLES FOUND ON OR ABOUT SAID BODY:

Nothing except

one small purse

one silver Dime

one small Hat, and

one umbrella.

all of which I gave to her son James Weir

Testimony

In the matter of Deast of  
Sarah A. Davis killed by Big 4. Mail Train Apr. 6 1903

Mr. F. Schenck, being duly sworn says his age is  
46. His occupation Dealer in Ice Coal Stone  
Residence Franklin Ohio

Ques did you see this accident yesterday that  
resulted in the death of Sarah A. Davis.

Ans. Yes, Sir

Ques. Will you please give me your statement  
as when and how it happened.

Ans. Yesterday afternoon April 6<sup>th</sup> I was sitting  
in my Coal Office east of the track of the big 4 -  
between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> street Franklin O. about 3.30  
I heard the warning whistle looking out of my  
North window saw the deceased moving across  
the track that crosses second street. I noticed the  
gates vibrating, and almost at the same instant  
saw the Engine strike her throwing her about 40  
feet. I should judge to the S. E. side of track  
I ran to where she lay and she was apparently  
dead.

Ques. Had you been looking out of window before  
this happened and did you notice how the gates  
were.

Ans. No. I was called to the window at the  
sound of the whistle.

Ques. do you know whether the gates were up or  
down when the whistle sounded.

Ans. They were down when the Engine struck her

Ques. Was the watchman Mr. Harsler there at the time.

Ans. I did not see him at the time the Engine struck her

he was probably in the house, or his office.

Ques How far is your office from where this accident happened.

Ans About 300 feet and my window was closed.

Ques were you acquainted with the deceased and if so do you know if she was heard of leaving Ans. I knew the lady but do not recollect of her being heard of leaving.

Ques did the Engineer give the danger whistle before coming to the crossing

Ans. Yes there were 3 or 4 sharp whistles and that is what called my attention to look out window

W. F. Schenck

Lida Beichter being just duly sworn says her age 36 occupation work in Harding Paper mill Residence Franklin O

Ques did you see this accident yesterday that resulted in the death of Mrs Hair

Ans Yes Sir. I was sitting at the window in the rag room when I heard the whistle and I looked out and she was about 1/2 across the track. I did not see the engine strike her as the train shut off my view. The engine blew danger whistle several times very shrill. I did not notice whether the gates were up or down. as my attention was drawn to the woman on the track

Ques were you well acquainted with Mrs Hair

Ans Yes Sir

Ques and do you know she was quite deaf.

Ans Yes Sir she was quite deaf, and on yesterday she either had a fascinator or Black veil tied over her ears

Ques please state what window you was at in the play room when this accident happened

Ans I was on north side of East window on the first floor and facing the R. R. track, and reason I looked my attention was called to it by the Ganger signal

Lida Reichler

Bert. Welsh being first duty sworn says his age is 34 yrs. occupation Dealer in Iron & Lead Jobs  
Residence Franklin Ohio

Ques did you see this accident that resulted in the death of the deceased

Ans Yes Sir

Ques. will you please give me the particulars  
Ans About 3:30 P M yesterday I started down the High tracks to 2<sup>nd</sup> Street going to the Potts I was probably 1/2 way between 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. Train whistled coming into town and I crossed over on side track. Saw Mr. Hassler the watchman start to let the gates down. Saw him stop them and let a big pass over. girl then the deceased and four children came into view from behind the warehouse the gates were coming down. two of the children started and ran across before they were down the deceased and the other 2 children huddled. she the deceased turned round faced north and then

H

Went around gate to almost the Center of Street & she attempted to walk directly across track. The Whistle Sounded but it did not seem to attract her attention I and Mr Hurdler both called to her, but she took no heed of our calls. When Engine was about 30 feet from her she looked up & saw it but did not attempt to escape the danger she was in. I am sure the gates were down before the train reached the 1st Street Crossing which is a Square away - and. I saw the deceased go around the north end of the gate when they were down. Every precaution taken by the R.R. Co to prevent this accident at this Crossing at this time.

Ans Apparently every thing was done that could be done by the trainmen & trackman to prevent this accident.

Ques Was the Bell ringing at this time

Ans, Yes Sir.

Ques - did the deceased seem to be Confused.  
Ans No she walked slowly and made no effort to get out of the way of the train. we might of prevented her going upon the track had we thought she would of done so. as she could of stopped on the switch 15 ft. from track train was on and then we expected her to die.

Bert Welsh

5

The Deceased was a very sprightly woman for her age she lived near where she met her death and was accustomed to going to town and passing over the crossing almost daily. At this time a train was approaching the gates were down but no doubt thinking she could safely get across before the train reached the crossing she went to the upper end of the gate passed around and went in upon the track - and as she reached near the center of track the train was upon and struck her and she was killed instantly.

The Engineer was continuously blowing danger signal. The deceased no doubt got confused after passing the gate and hardly knew what to do had she stood still after passing the gate she would not get struck.

The train was the mail train and arrived at the station at Franklin O. at 3.30 P.M. when on time.

“Mr. Dr. Carey Corcoran”