

SAD FATALITY AT THE PENGUIN.

General regret and astonishment were expressed at the Penguin on Thursday evening when it became known that Captain Daniel Anthon, brother of Captain C. T. Anthon, of the Neptune Hotel, had just been taken out of the water dead. It appears that deceased went in to bathe about 3.30 p.m., on the beach just below the hotel. He was in quite shallow water, but a few minutes later some boys in the vicinity noticed that something was wrong, as he was trying to rise, but had his head under water. They at once ran to Templar's billiard room and gave the alarm, Captain J. C. Taylor, Mr H. King, and several other immediately went to Captain Anthon's assistance, and with difficulty, for he was a heavy man, got him ashore. Froth was then coming from the mouth, but he appeared quite dead, and all the efforts tried were of no avail to restore him. He was then carried to the hotel and Dr McCall summoned, who, on arrival, pronounced the captain dead. Captain C. T. Anthon was unfortunately away in Launceston at the time, but was immediately telegraphed for. It seemed the opinion of those present that deceased had been seized by an apopleptic fit, and that this caused the fatality, and it is said that he had had such seizures before. The deceased leaves a widow and five children, the eldest being 15 years of age, who reside at his home at Petterham, Sydney. He had latterly been engaged in the trade between the New South Wales capital and Richmond river, having command of the s.s. City of Grafton. About eight months back, while holding that position, he sustained a paralytic seizure, necessitating him seeking six months' leave of absence, but when his leave expired he had not improved. The greater part of the time he had been staying with his brother, at the Penguin, where he met his death. It

The flag at the Morsey Marine Board office was yesterday placed at half-mast, out of respect to the late Captain Daniel Anthon, who was on Thursday drowned at the Penguin.

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was about 60 years of age, and had for 30 years been engaged in the North-West Coast trade, during which time he had the Don schooner, and was also owner, with his brother, of the schooner Anthon. At one time, too, he was captain of the steamer Pretty Jane, on the Gippsland Lakes. One of his brothers is Captain C. Anthon, of the Neptune Hotel, Penguin, and the other is Captain John Anthon, well known in Devonport, and lately captain of the s.s. Araro and a long-dale, and formerly of the coast and shipping office at Devonport, and was engaged in farming at Sheffield. Captain J. Anthon was in Devonport when a telegram was handed him conveying the sad news of his brother's death, and he immediately came to the coast. The three brothers are natives of Denmark.

THE INQUEST.

The inquest was held yesterday afternoon at the Penguin, before Mr. Casson, Coroner, and a jury of seven, of whom Mr. J. D. McKenna was foreman.

Captain C. T. Anthon, a brother of deceased, stated that deceased had been in the habit of sea bathing, and appeared to derive benefit from it. He was 60 years of age, and a native of Denmark. He had had fits on two occasions, the last one being about seven months ago.

William Bray and Eric Alderson, two lads who saw the whole affair, stated they saw deceased walk into the water knee deep, when he fell on his face. Recovering himself, with some apparent difficulty, and shaking very much, he went still further into the water, and then appeared to flounder about face downwards. He then turned on his side, and the body floated close in to the rocks, still face downwards. They then sought assistance at Templar's billiard room.

Henry King (who was first to get to the scene after the alarm was given) deposed that he immediately turned the body over, and, assisted by Captain J. C. Taylor, brought it to land, and sought to restore animation, although there were no apparent signs of life. They then conveyed the body to the hotel, where further efforts were made, but all to no purpose.

Dr McCall deposed that there was no sign of life when he saw the body. He had not thought it necessary to hold a post-mortem examination, as he was well acquainted with deceased. He had partial paralysis of one side, following two fits, and it was possible that the cold water had caused a third fit, in that deceased had stumbled and not been able to recover himself, and so was drowned. The probability was that he had had a fit.

The jury, after a very short deliberation, returned a verdict that deceased had a fit whilst bathing, and was drowned.

THE FUNERAL.

The funeral took place yesterday, as soon as the inquest was closed, and, although only short notice had been given, there was a large following, amongst others being the Hon John Henry, Mr J. York, Captain Christensen, and others, from the Mercury. The body was taken to the Anglican Church, where the Rev W. Earl conducted a short service, the "Dead March in Saul" being played as the mournful cortege left the building. The body was then interred in the cemetery, Mr Earl giving a short address at the grave.