

**Enquiry into the cause of the Death of Thomas Jones, whose body was found on the road between Bunninyong and Ballarat on the 21st June 1852.**

**Appears John Seach/Leach who on his oath saith as follows:**

I was going on Sis----- this day the 21st June 1852 to look after two carts and two horses which I had lent on Saturday to a man named Thomas Jones and found the cart upset & the horseman about a mile from Ballarat on the Bunninyong Road - the a boy about six years old was under the cart, and the man Thomas Jones was lying underneath the cart with his legs sticking out from the front of the cart.

I called for assistance and a man named Tom who was splitting for Government came to me - at the time we raised the cart the other cart arrived containing the wife of Thomas Jones and two other men. We got the man Thomas Jones from under the cart & found he was dead. - His head was lying under a case - and his face was quite blue. I then immediately proceeded to give information to the Police. There was no one near the cart when I came up to it.

His John X Seach/Leach mark

Sworn before me at Ballarat this 21st June 1852 -

Mosley/Mosby Cockburn J. P.

**Thomas Baker being duly sworn states as follows:**

I was at work in the Bush on the 21st June - splitting for Government when I heard a man call out murder - I immediately ran to the spot when about five hundred yards from the place where I was at work - and saw that there was a cart capsized with a man and a child under it. By main strength we turned up the cart and I saw the man who was a stranger to me quite dead and a boy about six years old - the child was uninjured. We turned him over & saw that he was quite dead.

Just at this time another cart came up containing the wife of the deceased & two other men. When we lifted the cart I found that man's head smothered with the husks in which Gin is packed and the Gin case lying on the top of the seat which was on the man's head. I am therefore of the opinion that the man was smothered.

His Thomas X Baker mark

Sworn before me at Ballarat this 21 June 1852 M

osby/Mosley Cockburn J. P.

**Appears James Connaghty who being duly sworn states as follows:**

I left Bunninyong this morning the 21 June 1852 about 10 o'clock in company with the deceased, Thomas Jones, with two carts each of us driving one. The deceased passed the huts beyond the Creek at Bunninyong - Thomas Jones would not wait for me and proceeded towards Ballarat. I overtook him about a mile from Ballarat.

Deceased's wife and a man named Murray were in my company at that time - when we came up I found the cart turned over and Jones under it. I saw Thomas Baker and his mates John Lock and John Seach at the cart. They were lifting up the cart - Deceased was lying on his side with his face towards the ground. An empty keg was lying near his head - there was also a Gin case which had burst and the husks were covering his face.

James Conaghty

Sworn before me at Ballarat this 21st day of June 1852

Mosby/Mosley Cockburn J. P.

**Appears James Murray who being duly sworn states as follows:**

I am a digger and the mate of the deceased Thomas Jones. We were coming in company from Bunninyong this morning the 21st June, when he told me to go back and bring his wife - when we arrived - we found him dead on the road - I saw some two or three men on the spot when we came up --- ---- his wife. It was about a mile from Bunninyong when Deceased sent me back for his wife - I never saw him again alive.

When I saw Deceased I felt convinced that he had been killed by the upsetting of the cart.

James Murray

Sworn before me at Ballarat this 21st day of June 1852

Mosby/Mosley Cockburn J. P.

**Appears Ann Jones who being duly sworn states as follows:**

I left am the wife of the Deceased Thomas Jones - I left Bunninyong this morning the 21st June at about My husband was driving one cart & I was walking behind the second one with my little boy. When we had proceeded about five miles my husband took the child with him into the cart and went on leaving me behind - I never saw him again alive - Murray and myself and Jim - were in company when we came up to the spot where the cart was turned over.

My husband was lying with his face upon the ground and the little boy was crying by his side. - I believe my husband was killed by the pressure of the cart upon him. - My husband had taken something to drink before breakfast at Bunninyong.

Her Ann X Jones mark

Sworn before me at Ballarat this 21 June 1852

Mosby/Mosley Cockburn J. P.