

# **KILLED AT WATERFALL**

YOUNG MAN CARRIED OVER.

TRAGEDY NEAR MARYSVILLE.

## **Rescuers' Dangerous Task.**

Falling 40 feet over a waterfall about six miles from Marysville yesterday morning, William Albert Eaton, aged 22 years, of Bent street, Northcote, struck his head on a large rock, and was killed instantly.

He fell into a deep pool at the bottom of the fall, and his body was not recovered until several hours later by a party of men and a nurse. A civilian and a constable had to be lowered by ropes into the pool, where they remained until the ropes were attached to the body. It was then hauled up by seven men.

Eaton, who was a married man with one child, had been camping beside the Talbot Drive, about three miles from Marysville, since Saturday afternoon. Also with him were his mother and father Mr and Mrs W. Eaton, who live in Herbert Street, Northcote. Yesterday morning, the party went to Keppel's Falls, about three miles farther on, where they intended to spend the day. The Fall itself, which is one of the most popular beauty spots in the district comprises three drops of about 40ft each, and are formed by waters from the Taggerty River. The surrounding country is very rugged and the Fall is studded with large boulders and rocks.

Eaton, who had been walking ahead of the other members of the party, was the first to reach the head of the Fall, where he stood on a rock in the middle of the stream within a few feet of the edge of the Falls. The only person who saw him fall was another visitor to the vicinity, whose name is believed to be Dinsdale, a guest at Kitchener House. This man, it is understood, was standing only a few feet away from Eaton, when he saw him slip, fall forward, and disappeared over the edge of the Fall. The man immediately informed Eaton's party, whose view was hidden by dense scrub. Making their way to the side of the Fall they were able, however, to obtain a view of the pool into which Eaton had fallen, at the bottom of the first drop. The pool, which is about 6ft deep and 20ft in circumference, was littered with driftwood, and the only part of Eaton that could be seen was an elbow, which was protruding above the pieces of timber.

## **Helpers' Perilous Task.**

As the pool was inaccessible from either side, Eaton's father decided to seek assistance, and word was sent to Marysville. With Nurse Bolam and Mr.

Frank Barton, Constable Ware immediately left by car for the Fall, and took with him several lengths of strong rope. By this time a large party had gathered at the scene, and seven men - three on one side of the stream and four on the other - were able to lower Constable Ware and Mr Barton by separate ropes down the Fall into the pool. The task was particularly dangerous owing to the fact that the stream narrows quickly at the head of the Fall, and is studded with rocks. Once in the pool the two men had to obtain a foothold on rocks before they could remove the ropes. After considerable trouble the ropes were attached to Eaton's body, which was slowly hauled to the top. Those on top then again lowered the ropes, and Ware and Barton climbed back to safety. They were very much exhausted by their efforts.

An examination of Eaton's body revealed a deep wound on the left jaw, which, it is believed was caused when he struck a large rock protruding from the face of the fall. It is thought that this blow would be sufficient to cause instant death. The body was carried for almost two miles on a stretcher to a motor car, and then removed to Marysville, where it was viewed by Mr. F. J. Barton, J.P., who gave an order for burial. The inquest will be held later.

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