

GOADBY MARWOOD.

A SAD DROWNING FATALITY occurred at Goadby Marwood on Monday, the victim being William Edward Talkes, aged four years and nine months, son of Mr. Fredk. Talkes, waggoner in the employ of Capt. R. T. O. Sheriffe J.P., Goadby Hall, the little fellow being drowned through falling into a disused ironstone quarry while endeavouring (with a small companion) to catch butterflies. At the inquest, conducted by the District Coroner, Mr. A. P. Marsh of Melton Mowbray, on Tuesday, the mother, Mrs. Rose Maud Talkes, stated that on Monday, after dinner, deceased went out to play, and she did not see him again alive. About five o'clock, Mrs. Mackley came and told her that her little boy, Raymond, had come home and said that Teddy had fallen into the water. To witness's knowledge deceased had never played near the pit before; it was two fields away from their house. He usually played close to home. She thought the child was with his sister, whom she heard near the house. Raymond Mackley, seven years of age, said on Monday he went with Teddy Talkes to try and catch butterflies. He had a net and deceased a jar. They were walking along Mr. Holmes's field by the side of the water when Teddy slipped on a stone and fell in. He ran home and told his mother. George Wm. Richards, electrical engineer, engaged on work at Goadby Hall, stated he was at Mrs. Mackley's house when last witness came and said deceased was in the water. Witness at once went to the pit and dived in a considerable number of times, but could not find any trace of the body. At the spot where the child had fallen in the water would be from ten to twelve feet deep.—P.s. W. H. Jones, of Waltham, said the body was recovered about 7.45. Dr. William Arnold, of Waltham, stated there were no external marks of violence, and he came to the conclusion that death was due to asphyxiation following drowning. The Coroner recorded a verdict of "Accidental Death," and warmly commended the witness Richards for his prompt and plucky efforts in the attempt to rescue the child.