DAWS, Samuel 20 April 1901

Designation	Accident Location	Accident Due to
Driver	Number 8 Landing, Jarrahdale	Locomotive “SAMSON” Collision

Samuel Daws was 27 Years of age when he died as the result of injuries received when his locomotive "Samson" was hit at high speed by runaway wagons at No.8 Landing Jarrahdale. Samuel was married and lived with his wife at Jarrahdale. He is interred at Jarrahdale Cemetery. Samuel was well respected in his community and some 800 people attended his funeral. A coroner's inquest determined that his death was accidental.

OBITUARY
MR. SAMUEL DAWS.
Jarrahdale, April 22.
The largest funeral ever held at Jarrahdale took place this evening, in the interment of the late Samuel Daws, who lost his life in a railway fatality on Friday night last. Some eight hundred people followed his remains to their last resting place, in the Jarrahdale Church of England Cemetery, where the burial service was conducted in the most impressive manner by the rector, the Rev. Dr. Todd. The coffin was heavily laden with beautiful flowers from various Jarrahdale gardens, amongst which was noticed a beautiful wreath from the manager of the Jarrahdale Jarrah Forest Railways, Ltd., Mr. A. C. Munro; also a beautiful cross of white chrysanthemums from Mr. and Mrs. Keetley; wreath of various floral designs from Mr. and Mrs. Alexander McDonald, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lee, Mrs. Cope, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Potts, Mr. and Mrs. Rudall, and many other sympathisers. The funeral arrangements were placed in the hands of Mr. Alex. McDonald. The coffin was carried by eight of the deceased's fellow employees a distance of half a mile. The engine which conveyed the mourners from the bush mills this afternoon was heavily draped in mourning. Funeral service was held at St. Paul's Anglican Church, and was largely attended.

Source: *Trove/Western Mail (Perth) Saturday 27 April 1901 Page 35.*

FATAL RAILWAY ACCIDENT AT JARRAHDALE.
A SHUNTER'S DEATH.
Shortly after midday on Saturday a man named Samuel Daws died in the Perth Hospital, of which institution he had been an inmate for only a few hours. The deceased had been employed as engine driver on the Jarrahdale Timber Company's line.

At a late hour on Thursday night he was driving an engine while some shunting operations were being carried on. In some unaccountable manner two trucks broke away from a train some distance ahead on the same line. There was an incline in the direction of where Daws was standing on his engine, and the run away vehicles came to him at a great pace. Before Daws recognized his danger, the trucks crashed into his engine, throwing him on to the line. Those who went promptly to his assistance saw that serious injuries had been sustained, and Daws was sent to the Perth Hospital with as little delay as possible. The doctors there saw that death was only a question of hours, as Daws had received terrible injuries and so it proved. With but an occasional glimmer of consciousness, Daws lay until a few minutes after midday, when he expired. He was a married man, living with his wife at Jarrahdale, and was highly thought of by the company in whose employ he had been for some considerable time. The body was removed for burial to Jarrahdale, and an inquest will be held there in due course.

Source: *Trove/The Inquirer and Commercial News (Perth) Friday 26 April 1901 Page 7.*

THE FATAL ACCIDENT AT SERPENTINE.

Jarrahdale, April 28

On Friday last the adjourned inquest touching the death of Samuel Daws, late engine driver, from injuries received in the recent railway accident on the Serpentine line of the J.J.F. Railways, commenced in the Court house, Jarrahdale, before the Coroner, Dr Charles Lovegrove, R.M, and a jury of three. Mr H Martin, of Martin and Phillips, solicitors, Perth, watched the case on behalf of the Jarrahdale Jarrah Forests and Railways, and Mr Hearder, of Messrs James and Darbyshire solicitors Perth, on behalf of the deceased's relatives. The inquest was first opened last Sunday, when a jury was sworn in, and inspected the body of the deceased, Daws, and also the scene of the accident. They then adjourned to last Friday. The inquest extended all day last Saturday till half-past 6 o'clock in the evening. The Court was crowded, and great interest was taken in the proceedings.

After the evidence bad been taken Messrs Hearder and Martin addressed the jury, and the Coroner finished his remarks, saying the jury was to find from the evidence given how the deceased came to meet with the injuries, and where and when.

The jury retired at a quarter past 3 p.m, and at 20 minutes to 5 p.m the foreman read the following verdict "We find that the deceased Samuel Daws, died on the 20th instant from shock and injuries received in a railway collision at No. 8 landing, on the Serpentine line, caused by some runaway trucks on the 18th April, which broke away owing to a faulty drawbar, and that there was contributory negligence on the part of the company's servants engaged at the time of the accident. We wish to add two riders; First, we are of opinion that the drawbar should be tested after welding, and that both safety chains should always be linked on timber trains, and that either a telephone line should be erected from I Serpentine points to No 6 mill, or in the alternative, no two trains should be allowed on the same section within 40 minutes of one another second we are of opinion that a hospital should be provided, subsidised by the Government, with proper appliances, to receive and treat patients in any future or similar accident at Jarrahdale.

The Coroner (to the jury): Your verdict is in direct opposition to the evidence. Yon must confine yourself to that evidence. It was pointed out that the chains were linked together. No 1 rider is also in direct opposition to the evidence. As to No 2 rider there are appliances kept at the Jarrahdale Hospital, for I have myself set people's limbs there. What do you mean by contributory negligence ?

Foreman of the jury: Simply contributory negligence on the part of the company's servants. We blame a certain number concerned.

The Coroner : That will amount to manslaughter. You have a right to name such person.

Mr Hearder: I take it. Sir, that such negligence is attributed to persons unknown.

The Foreman : Is it necessary to name anybody?

The Coroner: You surely don't blame all, from the manager downwards ?

Mr Hearder: The effect of this, take it, calls for further police investigation.

The Foreman; It is contributory negligence, not criminal.

The Coroner : You have made such a large verdict: it takes in all the servants of the company,

The Foreman ; It takes in all the company's servants connected with the accident.

Mr Hearder : That is very vague. It would include the traffic manager. The

Foreman : It means all those men actually engaged in the accident. If it is necessary, we can mention every name for negligence.

The Coroner ; Yon can find a verdict in direct opposition to my summing up, but I must be guided by the law.

Mr Hearder (to the Coroner) : I make an application for the impounding of all exhibits connected with the accident.

The Foreman ; We regard all the exhibits as very important evidence.

Mr Martin "I oppose such application. All the exhibits will be properly cared for.

The Coroner : I cannot refuse a thing which I have no power to grant. All reasonable care will be taken of such exhibits.

Source: *Trove/Southern Times (Bunbury) Tuesday 30 April 1901 Page 4.*