McCARTHY Arthur Dennis Joseph15 June 1898

Designation	Accident Location	Accident Due to
Guard	York	Ballast train derailed

Arthur McCarthy was 22 years of age when he died as the result of a derailment. Arthur received fatal injuries when a propelled ballast train derailed throwing him to the ground. He died, from a fractured skull, two hours later in York Hospital. Arthur lived with his widowed mother in Northam he was interred at Northam Cemetery.

FATAL RAILWAY ACCIDENT.
A fatal accident happened on the York-Greenhills line at 9.20 this morning. A Government engine loaned to Smith and Timms, contractors for the construction of the line, was proceeding to the ballast pit ten miles from York with empty trucks. Arthur McCarthy and a man named Kirkham, employed by the contractors as a teamster, were riding in the leading truck. At the six mile crossing the engine left the rails, it is believed in consequence of a stone getting between the points. The six trucks were thrown off and McCarthy sustained terrible injuries, including fractured skull, while his spinal column was broken. Kirkham sustained a compound fracture of the right leg and a fracture of the collar bone. Both were conveyed to the York hospital. It was early seen that no hope could be held out for McCarthy's recovery, and he expired at 1.15 this afternoon. His mother is a widow residing in Northam. Kirkham is progressing favorably, and hopes are entertained of his recovery. His wife and family live in Victoria. An inquest was opened and adjourned to Thursday.

Source: *Trove/Kalgoorlie Miner (WA)* Thursday 16 June 1898 Page 5.

The Recent Green Hills Railway Accident The inquest touching on the death of Arthur McCarthy, who was killed in an accident which occurred on the Green Hills railway last week, was resumed at the court House on Monday last, before the Coroner (Mr.W.D.Cowan, R.M.) and a jury consisting of Messrs. E. Inkpen (foreman), S; Pyke. and W. H. Annear. …….

Authors Note: *A considerable amount was written (more than 1800 words) in relation to the evidence, much of it repetitive, to relate that the wagons were being propelled into the ballast pit when they derailed with some of them capsizing and others rolling onto their sides . Two men, Arthur McCarthy and a man named Kirkham, were thrown to the ground. McCarthy sustained a fractured skull and spinal column and these would prove fatal. Kirkham received a compound fracture of his right leg and a fractured collarbone, he later recovered.* ***MM August 2016***

……..The Coroner then addressed the jury. After a brief consultation the jury returned a verdict to the effect that the deceased met his death in a railway accident on the 15th instant, and from the evidence there was no blame attachable to anyone.

Source: *Trove/Eastern Districts Chronicle (York)* Saturday 25 June 1898 Page 3.