

James Law

Mclvor News and Rodney Advertiser

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(Report from Whroo correspondent, dated 11 November, 1862)

FATAL ACCIDENT

It is my melancholy duty to record the death, from accident, of Mr James Law, of the firm of Law and Darrock [Darroch], Quartz Reefers and Crushers, at the White Hills.

Mr Law and a workman named Richard Moss were employed as usual in the claim till six o'clock on Friday evening last [7 November, 1862], when on knocking off work Moss was hoisted up by the windlass in the usual way, standing on the edge of an oil can, used as a bucket, and holding on to the rope, (the shaft is perpendicular for about 140 feet), and when within about 10 feet of the top, the handle of the oil can broke and the can fell to the bottom, striking Mr Law on the head and inflicting a fearful wound.

At the bottom of the shaft is an incline of about 30 feet, and Mr Law was found at the bottom of it insensible but groaning. As soon assistance could be got, Mr Law was carefully hoisted up and conveyed on boards to his residence, about a mile from the reef.

Drs. Horsburgh and McMillan were at once sent for, and although everything which could be done for the sufferer was done, he died at about twelve o'clock last evening, without recovering his senses.

Mr Law is a native of Scotland, and about 28 years of age, and will be buried at the Whroo Cemetery to-morrow.

Mr Moss had a very near chance for his life, scarcely one man in twenty would have been able to have clung to the rope in such a case.

Mr Law is recorded as buried in Whroo cemetery.