



THE DEATH OF MR JOSIAH EVANS

Mr. Josiah Evans, foreman at the Crown Roller Mills, Manor Place, Dunedin, died in the hospital on Tuesday afternoon from injuries sustained through being caught in a revolving belt at the mill in the forenoon. Deceased, together with two apprentices named Barton and Arthur, were effecting some repairs to the purifying machine, and while so engaged, his leg caught in a belt which was lying loose on a shaft running at a great speed, one end of the belt slipping on to the shaft. He was swung around several times, his head on one occasion striking the doorway, and Arthur, who pluckily went to his assistance, was struck by the flying body and thrown a distance of seven or eight yards. Meanwhile the strain on the belt was so great that it gave way, and the foreman was thrown to the ground in an insensible state, just as the engines stopped.

Medical assistance was immediately sent for, and Mr Mearns arrived and rendered first aid. Dr Hocken, who soon came on the spot, did whatever was possible for the unfortunate man who was then removed to the hospital in the ambulance waggon. There it was found that he injuries were of a very serious nature, comprising fractures of both arms and of the right leg, together with severe scalp wounds. Dr Gordon Macdonald attended to the poor fellow, who, however, gradually sank, dying at half-past one.

Deceased, who was generally respected and liked, leaves a wife and one child only five days old. His life was insured for £300 in the New Zealand Accident Insurance Company (and also in the Government Insurance Department for £150)

Crown Roller Mills striking building in Manor Place was built in 1867 using pressed bricks and Oamaru stone to house Anderson and Mouat's steam-driven flour mill.

Goodman Fielder through takeovers inherited the mill and in 1997 they moved production to Timaru and the mill was decommissioned. It has been reborn as an upmarket restaurant and accommodation.

Josiah Evans is buried in the family plot in Dunedin's Northern Cemetery.