

ACTIVITY: Swimming, after falling overboard

CASE: GSF 1852.10.09.R

DATE: Reported October 9, 1852

LOCATION: Off Coal Cliff, New South Wales, Australia.

NAME: James Rogers

BACKGROUND

TIME: Sunrise

NARRATIVE: The steamer *Keere* was on a passage from Sydney to Wollongong. James Rogers was coming down from the masthead with the night light when he fell overboard. Captain Sainthill immediately brought the vessel to and lowered a boat. Rogers was only five or six yards from the boat and swimming strongly when he suddenly disappeared. It was thought he had been taken by a shark.

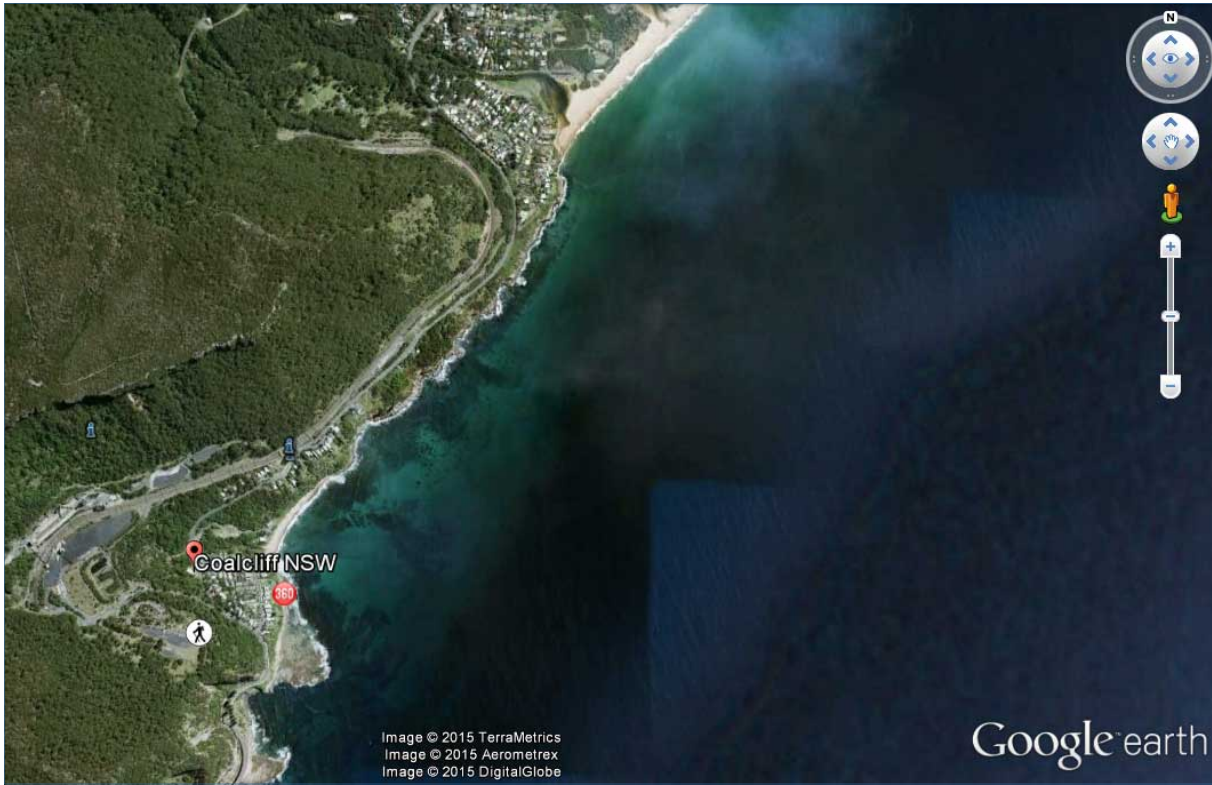
INJURY: Fatal

SPECIES: Not identified.

SOURCE: The Maitland Mercury & Hunter River General Advertiser, Saturday October 9, 1852, page 2



A melancholy accident occurred, by which one of the seamen belonging to the *Keere* steamer, named James Rogers, was lost overboard and drowned, on her passage from Sydney to Wollongong, off Coal Cliff. It appears about sunrise on Sunday morning the poor fellow was coming down with the night light from the masthead when the accident happened. Not a moment was lost in bring the vessel to, and lowering a boat. Captain Sainthill was on deck at the time, and there could not have been a lapse of more than from five to eight minutes until the time of his sinking; he swam strong, and they had but little doubt of saving him. It was imagined he was taken down by a shark from the sudden manner in which he disappeared being only five or six yards from the boat and about twenty from the vessel.



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