

WEST END VICAR'S DEATH.

NO INQUEST ON THE REV. R. W. HADDEN.

No inquest will be held on the body of the Rev. R. W. Hadden, vicar of St. Mark's, North Audley-street, who died suddenly in St. James's-street, Piccadilly, on Friday evening.

The body was taken to the mortuary in Horseferry road in the way customary in cases of deaths in public thoroughfares, and a report of the circumstances was submitted to Mr. Troutbeck. The coroner, however, in certain cases has power to authorize the issue of a death certificate without the formal inquiry being held, and he has decided that the death of Mr. Hadden comes within this category.

Mr. Hadden was walking in company with the Rev. Canon Sheppard, Sub-Dean of the Chapel Royal, when he suddenly fell forward on his face, dead. The deceased had been medically attended for some time past for heart disease, and a doctor's certificate being forthcoming that death from all exterior appearances was due to this ailment, the coroner has authorized that the formal inquiry be dispensed with.

Mr. Hadden, who was 55 years of age, was born at Liverpool, his father being one of the proprietors of the "Liverpool Courier." In his Oxford days he was President of the Union, and in 1877 he entered the Church and became curate of St. Mark's, North Audley-street. He remained there only a year, and was then appointed curate of St. George's in-the-East, and afterwards of St. Botolph, Bishopsgate. In 1888 he became vicar of St. Botolph, Aldgate, whence he removed to North Audley-street in 1893. Mr. Hadden served on the London School Board, the Metropolitan Asylums Board, and various Poor Law authorities.

Shortly after his preferment to St. Mark's, Mr. Hadden's action in marrying divorced persons aroused the indignation of High Churchmen. A protest, signed by many eminent clergymen, was sent to the Bishop of London, but Mr. Hadden persisted to the last in the attitude he had taken up.