



CASE: [GSAF 1909.06.26.b.R](#)

DATE: Reported June 26, 1909

LOCATION: Cape Town, Western Cape Province, South Africa.

NAME: Unknown

DESCRIPTION: He was a soldier.

NARRATIVE: A shark was captured. "When opened it contained the body of a soldier in complete uniform. The body was intact save that one shoulder had been bitten off."

INJURY: Fatal, but cause of death was probably drowning. It is unlikely that the soldier went swimming while dressed in his uniform. It is more likely that he fell into the sea, drowned and his body scavenged by the shark.

SPECIES: Not identified, but the shark was said to be 18 feet in length.

SOURCE: Adams County News, Saturday, June 26, 1909

Shark Defying Swimming Apparatus

Although it is alleged that there is a standing offer of \$500 for an authentic case of a shark attacking a man in the water, there are few people who feel inclined to take the risk of trusting to the tender mercies of those omnivorous scavengers of the sea.

Only a few days ago a huge shark eighteen feet long was captured near Cape Town, South Africa, which when opened was found to contain the body of a soldier in complete uniform. The body was intact save that one shoulder had been bitten off.

The harbor of Kingston, Jamaica, has a well deserved reputation of being the resort of hordes of sharks, which renders bathing in its waters a most perilous undertaking. Stephen Holborn of London has devised a plan whereby he may take his daily swim without fear of making a meal for one of these fish. Mr. Holborn, by the way, had two narrow escapes from this fate before he adopted his shark defying device.

His shark protector is a sort of wire cage of light construction, which extends far enough below the water-line to allow the swimmer free use of his legs. The cage is inclined at the bottom so that he cannot be attacked from below and rises sufficiently high to completely guard him from danger in that direction. The apparatus is supported on cork floats, and in this novel and unique arrangement he is enabled to take his maternal exercise without fear of shark or other marine monster.



SHARK-PROOF SWIMMING CAGE.

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