

It is with a view of facilitating inquests by all means possible in suspected cases, that legislation should be passed on this subject, even when the desire exists to prevent useless or irksome inquests.

It is chiefly because this principle has been too often forgotten that laws have been passed at certain places and at certain times, rendering the holding of inquests very difficult.

Let us prevent the holding of inquests whenever no suspicion can exist, but, by all means possible, let us promote the holding of inquests whenever a doubt may exist — let the Coroners have all the powers and means to hold thorough serious inquests. This is what the State should do; this is the first guarantee it should give to the individual. The Coroner's inquest should always exist so as to daunt the criminal, as the constable's presence on his beat prevents the thief's depredations there.

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