

## **Notes: Francis Potoky - 1820 born Arad, Hungary.**

### **Transcript from Murchison Mirror (West Australia) 17 March 1893**

As we are going to press we hear that a serious accident has occurred at Mt.Magnet. From the meagre information at our disposal we find that a "German", lately taken on to work at Attwood and Ford's claim, has received such injuries that P.C.Thomson had to ride from Mt.Magnet Milly to summon Dr.Monteith. It seems the unfortunate man had fired a shot in a drive and called out to be hauled up. By some unaccountable means the poor fellow fell from the rope a distance of 20 feet. the shot firing as he reached the bottom of the shaft added to the catastrophe. The man was terribly injured about the upper part of the body and head. Dr.Monteith answered his summons by arriving here on Thursday evening and will push on to Magnet this morning.

### **Transcript from Murchison Mirror 24th March 1893**

We regret to record the death at the Magnet of Frank Potoky aged 60, a miner, employed by Messrs Attwood and Ford.

At 4pm 15th March Potoky had fired a charge in the water shaft and called out to be hauled up. Evidently something was wrong as Potoky had only held on to the rope with his hands. When hauled about 20 feet he had let go and the charge exploding immediately - it is presumed that the deceased received the full force of the shot, as he fell by the mouth of the drive. A. McDonald immediately was lowered and found Potoky lying in the water at the bottom of the shaft. On being spoken to he said "I am alright". McDonald bent the rope around the injured man. Potoky was hauled to the surface, when it was found his injuries required immediate surgical attention. P.C. Thompson left Magnet on Thursday morning for Dr.Monteith. By hard riding he reached Milly Hospital ( a distance of 66 miles) at 4 pm. Dr.Monteith left Milly with all despatch, camped at Cue and arrived at Magnet at 7pm on Friday.

Potoky was already buried having died at 2pm on the 16th--20 hours after the accident. the poor fellow had only arrived at the Magnet on the 14th of March. The great expense entailed in sending for Dr. Monteith, caused the men on the Monarch Claim to form a sick fund to be called "The Monarch Medical Fund" with payment of 2 shillings per week.