

LEAPED FROM BRIDGE.

EX-SOLDIER'S TRAGIC FATE.

"AS WELL END IT ALL."

What appeared to be a determined case of suicide occurred on Saturday evening, shortly before 6 o'clock, the victim being a returned soldier. A Mrs. Blanch, who happened to be crossing the bridge at that time, was accosted by a man who was wearing a returned soldier's badge. He was dejected and had an utterly down and out appearance, and explained to her that he had been drinking heavily and had gone through some £40 or £50. He then remarked: "To morrow is Sunday, and I will suffer. I might as well end it all. I will throw myself in the river."

According to the police report Mrs. Blanch reasoned with him, endeavoring to dissuade him from taking so rash a step as he had intimated to be his intention. She entreated him to think of the effect such a thing would have upon his relatives. Without replying he removed his hat and coat, and asked Mrs. Blanch to hold them. She declined and he threw the garments upon the bridge rail, over which he pro-

the bridge rail, over which he proceeded to climb. Calling for help, Mrs. Blanch clung to the man, but he kicked himself free from her hold, and leapt into the river. He sank, but immediately rose to the surface and swam a few strokes down stream, then sank again, and that was the last seen of him.

After constant efforts the water police succeeded in recovering the body this morning. From papers found in the pockets of the coat it would appear that his name was William Whnsky, but evidently there had been some doubt regarding this, as a communication from the military authorities, asking for the correct spelling of his name was found in the pocket. Little is known of the deceased, excepting that prior to June 9 he was employed as a stone dresser at the Helidon quarries. A post-mortem examination was held this morning, when death was found to be due to asyphyxia from drowning.

The body was still at the morgue this morning awaiting more certain identification. The following description furnished by the water police may help to identify him:—About 5ft 8in in height, clean shaven, reddish colored hair, brown eyes, full set of natural teeth, large scar on right shoulder. His age appeared to have been about 35 years. The body was clothed in white cotton shirt, marked "MacDonnell and

cotton shirt, marked "MacDonnell and East," blue serge trousers, and vest similar to serge supplied to returned soldiers, black lace-up boots and black socks.
