

APPEAL LIMERICK SPRING ASSIZES. COUNTY OF LIMERICK.

Bruff Murder Charge.

Mr. Justice Ross, accompanied by the High Sheriff, Mr. John B. Barrington, J.P., sat in the Crown Court this morning, and continued the hearing of County criminal business.

Martin Quilty and Michael Dennehy were indicted for the wife murder of Daniel Downes at Ballydoonee, near Bruff, on the 3rd December last.

The prisoners joined in their challenges and pleaded not guilty.

Mr. Fleming, K.C., and Mr. McElligott (instructed by Mr. J. S. Gaffney, Crown Solicitor), prosecuted.

Mr. P. Lynch, K.C., and Mr. James Reardon (instructed by Mr. R. Fox, solicitor, Kilmallock), appeared for Martin Quilty, and Mr. D. D. Sheehan, M.P. (instructed by Mr. Fox), for Michael Dennehy.

The following jury were sworn to try the case—George Upton (foreman), David McCoy, Patrick Roche, John Quaid, Timothy O'Brien, John Keyes, William Numan, Lawrence Harknett, junior; Thomas Numan, James Lee, John Fitzgerald, Maurice Lee.

Mr. Fleming, K.C., stated the facts of the case and said they were not complicated. The deceased was a labourer residing in a labourer's cottage about a mile from Bruff.

Young children, and his mother-in-law Ellen Gubbins lived with him. Quilty was a farmer living some 40 yards from Downes's house, and Dennehy was a servant in his employment.

Counsel pointed out on the map the situation of the houses, and the approaches thereto, the place being indicated where Downes was shot, and where he collapsed. The 3rd December was a Sunday and Downes after dinner left his house and went to Bruff where he remained until about 8 o'clock.

He returned home, was a little hearty, and sang some songs. About a quarter of an hour after Dennehy came along, whistled or made use of some expression which brought Downes out of his own house, and they got into hand-grips.

father say—"You will not summon me; I will kill you first." He heard Dennehy say "Come on Dan, and I will do nothing to you." When Dennehy got on to Quilty's door was bolted. Witnesses' father did not at this time get inside Quilty's yard.

His Lordship—Did your father go inside the gate at all? Witness—No, sir; he was never inside the gate at all.

A juror—Were you undressed all the time? Witness—Yes, sir.

Witness—My shirt, sir.

By Mr. Reardon—When Dennehy came out against him he had a long in his hand. When Quilty came out he did not hear him say "Downes, are you going to kill me in my own borheen?"

Witness—I did. I do not know who it was that said it, but I heard it come from somebody.

Mr. Reardon—Did you say before the magistrate that it was Quilty said it?

Witness—Why was that? Witness—I don't know.

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FATAL QUARREL BETWEEN SANDMEN.

A quarrel which took place at Corbally yesterday morning between some sandmen who had gone up in their boats to raise sand in the river, had a fatal termination this morning.

In the course of the dispute, it appears that a man named James Shanahan, who was accompanied by his brother Patrick, was struck on the head with a pole, and proceeded to Barrington's Hospital, where his wounds were dressed, after which he left for his home, at the Sandmill.

His condition subsequently became worse, and he died this morning. A man named Matt Crowe has been arrested in connection with the occurrence.

THE INQUEST.

This afternoon, at three o'clock, Mr. James F. Barry, J.P., City Coroner, held an inquest at Barrington's Hospital into the cause of death.

Mr. Craig, P.I., with Head-Constable McKernan, appeared on behalf of the police.

Mr. P. J. O'Sullivan, solicitor, represented Matt Crowe, who was stated to have been in company with the deceased when he sustained the injuries to which he subsequently succumbed.

A jury, of which Mr. Michael Hickey was foreman, were empanelled.

On the application of Mr. Craig, a post-mortem examination of the body of deceased was made by Dr. Holmes, R.M.S., and Dr. Fogarty.

Patrick Shanahan identified the deceased as his brother. Deceased resided at 22, Sand Mill, with witness's brother. He was about 23.

About 7.30 yesterday morning witness and his brother James went up the river in a sloop-out for a boat-load of sand. They proceeded as far as the old castle, near the Lax Weir, where they found John and Matthew Joseph Crowe, Flag Lane, in a boat engaged at lifting sand.

They had ropes, the property of witness's brother, John Shanahan. Witness told Matthew Joseph Crowe that he wanted his brother's ropes. He replied that he would not give this rope as he had no good a right to them as witness. Witness's brother remarked that Matt Crowe had no right to hold the ropes, as he had no call to them.

Witness then made an offer to take the ropes, and Matt Crowe struck him on the face with his fist. The deceased man then came up from the back of the boat, where he was, to witness's assistance.

Matt Crowe went back to the stern of his boat for the shoving pole. Witness was at this time defending himself against Matt Crowe's brother, and he did not see any blow struck, but when he turned round he found his brother lying at his feet bleeding, and the two Crowes had pushed off in their own boat. The brother had a deep wound on the top of the head. Witness lifted up his brother and rowed him in the boat to a point opposite Mr. Quin's premises where he moored her, and deceased and himself walked along the bank to Barrington's Hospital. The deceased made no remark on the journey to the hospital, except to say in reply to witness's question that he had a great pain in his head.

His wounds were dressed at Barrington's Hospital and he proceeded home with witness. Could not say how deceased received the wound on the head. Deceased was subsequently attended at home by Dr. Holmes and Dr. Roberts, who ordered his return to Barrington's Hospital. It was about 9.10 a.m. when the struggle took place in the boat, and they reached the hospital between 10 and 11 a.m. Deceased went to bed after returning home and got rapidly worse. The doctors attended him at about 4.30, and he was removed to the hospital between 5 and 6. Deceased was not married.

John Crowe, Flag Lane, deposed that himself and his brother Matt were engaged lifting sand near the Lax weir yesterday morning. Had ropes belonging to John Shanahan. Between nine and ten o'clock a.m. Patrick and James Shanahan came up in a boat, and Pat Shanahan asked for John Shanahan's ropes. He proceeded to take the ropes away, but witness's brother would not let him. They then had a few boxes. When James Shanahan saw that Matt Crowe was getting the better of Pat Shanahan, he ran for a shoving pole to strike Matt Crowe. Matt Crowe then moved down in the boat and got the pole and struck James Shanahan on the head with it. Witness and his brother then shoved off, and went to work again.

Dr. Holmes, R.M.S., describing the injuries, deposed that the deceased man was brought to the hospital at 10.20 a.m. He was suffering from a scalp wound on the right side of the head, about half an inch long. On examination, found his pulse and temperature normal. Probed the wounds, but could make out no fracture. Then called to see him again at his brother's house, and found him vomiting and complaining of headache. Advised the calling in of another doctor, and Dr. Roberts came. Witness and Dr. Roberts came to the conclusion to order him back to hospital. He collapsed rather suddenly in the hospital this morning at 4.55. Held a post-mortem examination of the deceased this evening in connection with Dr. Fogarty. Found a punctured wound of the scalp on the right side of middle line at vertex; fissured fracture of right parietal bone, extending from posterior superior angle to inferior inferior angle; indicated mark under wound, and about a quarter of an inch of slight fracture; blood-clot beneath bone lying on the duramater covering interior lobe of brain; no injury of brain itself, said in witness's opinion death was due to compression of brain, due to hemorrhage.

Dr. Fogarty agreed with the evidence of Dr. Holmes. The jury found in accordance with the medical testimony. Matt Crowe, who was placed under arrest, was taken before Mr. James Quin, J.P., and remanded for eight days.

LATEST NEWS.

TO-DAY'S TELEGRAMS.

(Special to the Chronicle.)

HOME RULE BILL.

Not To Be Introduced Before Easter.

In the House of Commons to-day the Premier said that the Home Rule Bill would be introduced before Easter.

COAL TRADE CRISIS.

More Hopeful Feeling.

Miners' Executive and Premier Confer.

Negotiations were resumed yesterday between the Government and the miners' leaders. Other activities on the part of parties to the dispute and of the mediators resulted in a hopeful feeling gaining ground. Another element was the attendance at the Executive's meeting of several members of the Labour Party. The Industrial Council, the Cabinet, and a section of Welsh coalowners met respectively during the day to discuss the situation. The conference between the Miners' Executive and the Premier at Downing Street evening was of a lengthy nature, and probably had reference to the scale of minima. It was understood that the situation remains unchanged.

No Minimum Bill.

In the House of Commons yesterday the Premier said it was pure imagination to suppose the Government were going to introduce a law laying down a minimum wage. The strike was very delicate, but he hoped to meet the representatives that day.

To-day's Telegrams.

Surfacemen's Demands Conceded.

The Yorkshire and Derbyshire mine surfacemen have practically agreed to the demands of the surfacemen for an eight hours day and better wages.

Negotiations Re-opened.

Negotiations have been re-opened between owners and employees at Bryn Kinalt Colliery, Blaenau, with a view of starting the pits again.

Miners' Executive Resume Conference.

The Executive of the Miners' Federation resumed their conference this morning at Westminister under the presidency of Mr. Frank Edwards.

Group of Welsh Coal Owners Meet.

The group of Welsh coal owners, including Mr. D. A. Thomas, held another meeting in London to-day. Though they deny that their business has reference to the strike, considerable significance attaches to their presence at Westminster.

Industrial Council Again Resumes.

The Industrial Council resumed its meeting at the Board of Trade at noon. Sir George Askwith presided. When the Industrial Council adjourned, Sir George Askwith saw Mr. Buxton, and afterwards had an interview with the Premier.

Scottish Coal Masters Summoned to London.

The Scottish Coal Masters Committee have been summoned to London by the Premier, and leave Glasgow to-night. Trade is paralysed in Aberdare Valley. At many of the collieries the men are bringing up their tools.

North-Western Railway Company's Train Service.

The North-Western Railway Company have, in response to the representations of several newspapers, arranged to run the three a.m. newspaper train from Boston for another week. The statement that the North-Western Company would only run the statutory number of trains from next week is without foundation.

Miners' Federation Statement.

A lengthy statement was issued by the Miners' Federation.

ESTER.

Triumph.

South Manchester as follows: 7,051 6,472 578 8,062 3,770 4,232 8,121 3,689 2,452 (L) was socialist candidate.

UNION.

Mr. (L) said in the credit balance of (L) Richard Bourke) and inquired if the on credit balances an interview with interest, which had the credit of the used at the auditor: they did not get and they were not edom we have an once meeting won't sir. thought the Local it on their getting y were doing it in other local bodies? but we have a right for said they were suit that they were nager of the bank get assembled to the says have a credit in you have an over current Board won't over draft. Mr. Bourke auditing five years. should be in the past couple of

SPORTING.

The jury found in accordance with the medical testimony. Matt Crowe, who was placed under arrest, was taken before Mr. James Quin, J.P., and remanded for eight days.