

County Tragedy

Man Shot Dead in the Public Road.

Second Man Injured

Arrest of Landowner.

On Saturday evening last about 9.30 p.m. a sensational shooting drama, in which one man was killed and another wounded, took place on the roadside between Brane and Bred.

The dead man is Jeremiah Maher, a native of Cobb, county Carr, who has been working in county Limerick for a number of years, and the injured man is Michael Russell, a native of Dellymore, near Limerick.

The two men were engaged in felling staves for the erection of labourers' cottages in the vicinity, and when the two men were engaged in conversation while the lorry was stationary a quarrel broke up and two shots rang out, both men in the lorry being wounded.

The report of the shots attracted several people to the scene. The men were brought to the cottage of Mr James Carran (father-in-law of Maher) nearby, and spiritual and medical aid requested and the Civil Guards notified.

Rev. Fr. O'Dea, P.P., Oranmore and Dr O'Donnell, Bred, as well as the Guards were quickly on the scene. Maher received the last rites of the Church, and it was found necessary to remove him to Cross Hospital in the doctor's car. The party was only gone five minutes on the road to Cross when Maher expired, about 7 p.m., and the body was returned to the cottage to wait an inquest.

Russell, the second man, had his leg severely lacerated by gunshot, and he was conveyed to the Co. Limerick Infirmary, where he is making very satisfactory progress.

In Arrest.

Meanwhile the Guards proceeded to Brane where they took Patrick Cell into custody, the same being effected at the residence of his estate at Mandeville Castle. They took from him a shot gun and cartridges which he is said to have used in the tragedy.

Cell is a large farmer and stock-raiser, farming about 800 acres, and two years ago a horse bred by him took part in the Grand National. He is a married man of about 40 years of age and father of four children, the eldest of whom is 6 years old and the youngest two months. In his younger days he was in the British Navy.

Maher came to Brane to work for Cell about 14 years ago as a servant, but his employment terminated last January, since when Maher has been engaged as a contractor. He is also a married man and resides with his wife and four children at a place about 100 yards from the scene of the tragedy on Saturday afternoon. His eldest child is 3 years old and the youngest 2 years old.

Charge of Murder

Later in the evening Cell was charged with the murder of Maher and a special court at Bred before Mr T. Tennyson, P.C., and he was committed to custody in the District Court at Bred on the 9th July. He was conveyed to Limerick Jail. Mr R. Fox, M.P., appeared on his behalf.

Inquest Opens and Adjourns

An inquest was held at Bred on Monday by Mr M. B. Jones, coroner for East Limerick.

Inspector Brian represented the authorities.

Evidence of identification was given by James Hughes, brother in law of deceased.

The witness stated that he was a contractor and the deceased an assistant contractor.

Dr James Byrne, Bred, stated that, along with Dr O'Donnell, he used a post-mortem on the body of the deceased. He found a circular lacerated wound on the deceased's left hip. The wound was about two inches deep and went straight in. The bone was completely shattered. As a result of the post-mortem he found a quantity of gunshot powder, a cartridge head, and a cartridge cap. Death in his opinion was due to shock and hemorrhage as a result of a gunshot.

Inspector Brian testified that he was not going to submit further evidence as criminal proceedings were pending.

The coroner then adjourned the inquest until Monday.