

# SAD TRAGEDY.

## ACCIDENT AT GROODY.

### Mother of Family Killed.

#### INQUEST PROCEEDINGS.

A young married woman, named Mrs. Nora Coffey, wife of a labourer, living at Ballclough, was killed almost instantly while cycling from her home towards Limerick on Monday, as a result of a collision with a motor car proceeding out from the city.

Her daughter, Maureen, was badly injured, and lies in a rather serious condition in Barrington's Hospital.

It appears that the deceased woman had the child sitting on the back of the machine. When the impact occurred they were both thrown, and the unfortunate woman received extensive injuries, to which she succumbed before reaching the hospital.

#### CHILD IMPROVING.

There is some improvement in the condition of the child, who has regained consciousness.

Mrs. Coffey leaves four children.

Mr. J. S. McNeice, Solicitor, Deputy Coroner, with a jury, opened an inquest at Barrington's Hospital on Tuesday touching the death of the deceased.

Inspector W. Brazill, G.S., conducted the enquiry, and Mr. D. G. O'Donovan, solr., appeared for Dr. J. McPolin, Limerick, the driver of the car.

#### INSPECTOR'S STATEMENT.

Opening the proceedings, the Inspector said that the inquest was being held to investigate another of the very unfortunate accidents which were becoming all too frequent in Limerick. In the present case the fatality had already been determined, and the circumstances were very sad. In these accidents, be they small or serious, the Garda authorities were determined to do everything possible to avoid such regrettable occurrences. Week after week they were called on to investigate these unfortunate cases, and he was speaking in a very general sense, with no reference to the

present case. It was only last week that another inquest was held to investigate a similar case, involving death, as a result of a motor accident.

The first witness called was John Coffey, Ballyclough, Ballysimon, husband of the deceased, who stated his wife was 38 years. He last saw her alive at 7 p.m. last evening. He had seen the body and identified it as that of his wife.

#### EXTENSIVE INJURIES.

Dr. J. Clohessy, House Surgeon, Barrington's Hospital, stated that the deceased woman was admitted to the hospital at 8.30 last night with her daughter Maureen. He performed a post-mortem examination to-day, and found abrasions and contusions of the legs, arms and face, with lacerated wounds on the head. There was a fracture on the right side of the base of the skull, and death, in his opinion, was due to laceration of the brain and shock and haemorrhage.

Inspector—Would the injuries be consistent with being struck by a car?

Dr. Clohessy—They could.

This concluded the evidence, and the Inspector applied for an adjournment, stating that the papers in the case would have to be sent to the Attorney-General.

#### SYMPATHY WITH RELATIVES.

The Coroner then adjourned the enquiry. He expressed deep sympathy with the husband and family of the deceased, and said the tragedy was particularly sad at this season.

Inspector Brazill associated himself with the Coroner's remarks.

Mr. D. G. O'Donovan said that on behalf of the driver of the car, he, too, wished to express sincere sympathy with the husband on the tragedy. It was also rather tragic for the driver, who felt deeply distressed over the occurrence.

The enquiry was then adjourned indefinitely.

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