

## MURDER IN QUEEN'S COUNTY—RIBBONISM —ANOTHER LANDLORD SHOT.

On the evening of the 5th instant, at eight o'clock, as Richard Ely, Esq., of Ballaghmore Castle, midway between Borris-in-Ossory and Roscrea, was returning to his own residence from the Castle, as he passed through a small gate on the grounds, was fired at by an assassin, who had sheltered himself from observation behind some shrubbery.

The shot took effect in the unfortunate gentleman's arm above the elbow, greatly shattering the arm. Mr. Ely lived till next day at one, and then expired.

The following are all the particulars respecting this diabolical crime, which too clearly shows that the satanic spirit of Ribbonism has been awakened:—

Mr. Ely was going to his brother's house when he was fired at.

He was a gentleman of kind, benevolent, and popular habits, and his savage murder can only be accounted for by a supposition which has been hinted at, that it was in consequence of carrying out the suppression of prevalent poaching habits in that part of the country. Another report attributes his murder to the fact that he was mistaken for a landed proprietor in the neighbourhood; but this is not credible. Other causes have also been assigned; but all is mere conjecture. Mr. Ely was a large sized man, and it is supposed he was passing sideways through the small gate when he was fired at.

A hat was found at the spot of the murder, which is supposed to have been worn by the assassin, and dropped by him in his haste to escape. This may lead, and is reported to have led, to the commencement of a clue which may conduct to the discovery of the murderer. There has been distributed at the various surrounding police stations a description of a person suspected, and who, it is said, has absconded.

(LATEST PARTICULARS.)

Borris-in-Ossory, Monday.

The murder of this estimable gentleman continues to occasion the greatest regret and consternation throughout the district. On this morning the inquest was held before J. Hely Owen, Esq., Coroner for the Queen's County. The following magistrates were also present, viz.:—Henry White, J.P.; B. Thacker, and J. Lister, Esqrs.; and Captain Whelan, R.M., Maryborough—Sub-Inspector Mullen and a large party of police from Borris-in-Ossory and the surrounding stations were in attendance. A respectable jury was empanelled, of which George Steel, Esq., was the foreman. Only two witnesses were examined, who proved the infliction of the wound, and that death was its consequence. These proceedings were merely pro forma, and the jury returned a verdict of wilful murder against some person or persons unknown. The deceased gentleman was unmarried, and about 62 years of age. He resided in a picturesque cottage which was close beside Ballaghmore Castle, the residence of his brother, Robert Ely, Esq. Those houses were not more than two hundred yards apart, and a sister was also an inmate of the Castle. The deceased was in the habit of daily taking his meals at their mansion, and returning punctually to sleep at his own house. On Friday, about twenty minutes past eight o'clock, after dinner, and passing the evening with his brother and sister, to whom he was much attached, he proceeded homewards, by a passage through the farm yard, and whilst passing through a stile into a small shrubbery leading to his house, he was fired at by an assassin, who lay there in ambush. The contents took effect in his left arm, a little below the shoulder. On being wounded, he returned to his brother's house, and there became faint from loss of blood. Messengers were despatched for medical assistance, and Dr. Powell, of Roscrea, was soon in attendance, and took the necessary precaution he thought needful. Next day amputation was deemed necessary, since it was discovered that the bone was broken, destroying the arteries, vessels, and nerves, but he sank in two hours after the operation from the loss of blood and the shock to the nervous system. He underwent the operation with great fortitude. He also underwent, and with minuteness, described the particulars of the attack on him, and stated that he distinctly saw the person who fired at him; and that the assassin must have been within less than two yards of him; and he also stated that he distinctly saw the flash of the pan. At the conclusion of the inquest the magistrates held an inquiry, the particulars of which have not transpired, and if made known at present might frustrate the ends of justice; but, it may be added, the authorities have taken the most active measures for the detection and apprehension of the assassin. The remains of Mr. Ely were, in the course of the day, removed to Kyle, the family burial place, attended by a large concourse of the gentry of the Queen's County, King's County, and county Tipperary.—*Saunders.*

(ADDITIONAL DETAILS.)

After the occurrence, the Borris-in-Ossory police, under Mr. Mullen, were soon on the spot, and discovered, in a small shade of trees, within seven yards of where Mr. Ely fell, a hat, which, it has been ascertained, belongs to a man named James Delany, who resides with his father on part of Sir Chas. Coote's estate, a short distance from Ballaghmore. Search was made for Delany, but he has not been at his residence since, and the police are actively in pursuit. A description of him has been forwarded to the different police stations.

It has transpired that about a fortnight since, when Delany's father attended at the office of Sir Charles Coote's agent, for the purpose of paying rent, the agent complained of Delany's keeping greyhounds, and of his son James being a poacher. Delany denied that he had any dogs, and offered to take his oath to that effect; and thereupon Mr. Richard Ely, who was present, stated he was surprised that Delany could make such a statement in his hearing—or words to that effect. The agent thereupon tore a receipt which he had prepared for Delany, and said he would require the full arrears to be paid if Delany did not get rid of the dogs.

This is the only cause of offence that poor Mr. Ely is supposed to have given. He was a keen sportsman, but a more generous one never existed; in fact the game on his lands were for the use of his friends, and those, not only of his own class in life, but the farmers and labourers of the district were always welcome, and usually joined his coursing parties. He was never known to prosecute in any court of law in his life.

Delany, the person suspected, has not borne a good character. About four years ago he was tried at the assizes of Nenagh, for the murder of a man named Kishem, by stabbing him, was found guilty of manslaughter, and suffered two years' imprisonment.

The funeral was attended by all the gentry of the surrounding districts, and a good many of the peasantry, but the attendance of that class was not as large as might be expected, considering what a favourite Mr. Ely was. The rector of the parish, Mr. William Roe, offered some most suitable observations over Mr. Ely's grave which were most attentively listened to.

The sad occurrence has created a most painful sensation, nay, panic, through the country, the universal expression being, "when a man, who had the good will of every one, is shot down, no one's life is safe." The district has not been altogether peaceable lately, two gentlemen in the neighbourhood having received threatening notices. It was sought some time since to place the barony of Clomernagh, in which Ballaghmore is situate, under the operation of the Peace Preservation Act, but this (partly for political reasons) was opposed, and the application was not granted. It was also sought to have a police station in a house within twenty yards of where the murder took place, and which had formerly been used as a police barracks; this was also opposed, and among the opponents was Mr. Ely. A meeting of magistrates was held after the funeral, at Borris-in-Ossory; the details did not transpire, but it is the anxious desire of the well-to-do classes that a large force of police should be immediately placed in the locality, under the immediate direction of a special resident magistrate, as it can hardly be supposed that the local J.P.'s can devote their time to a case which, though not, strictly speaking, of an agrarian character, yet will require to be carefully handled, the party charged being closely connected by relationship with half the families in the populous district in which he lived. The present resident magistrate is stationed at Maryborough, which is upwards of twenty miles distant.

It is probable that a county meeting of magistrates will assemble in a few days, and that Sir Charles Coote, who held the deceased in the highest esteem as one of his extensive tenants, will take an active part in it, and a large reward will be subscribed.

The scene of the murder is a short distance from the high road from Limerick to Dublin, and about three miles from the town of Borris-in-Ossory. The property has been in the hands of the Ely family without interruption since Cromwell rested there.

The SOUTH EASTERN GAZETTE says that a remarkable phenomenon has for some time appeared on the Kentish coast. It is an unparalleled quantity of oyster brood extending along the shore from Whitstable to the reculvers. At the foot of the beach everywhere is to be seen this mollusc in its incipient state, resembling a small drop of tallow, adhering to stones, pieces of wood, broken bottles, and even tobacco pipes, gradually increasing in size to the magnitude of a penny.