

Transcripts of Newspaper Articles

THE FREEMAN JOURNAL - WEDNESDAY JUNE 9 1886

ORANGE RUFFIANISM IN MONAGHAN.

TWO SOLDIERS SHOT (TELEGRAM FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT)

Monaghan, Tuesday.

To-night at eight o'clock the Monaghan Orangemen, headed by the local brass band, turned out to rejoice over the defeat of the Home Rule Bill. At a certain point a disturbance took place, the consequences of which were very serious. During the disturbance two men of the Royal Irish Fusiliers were shot by those who took part in the demonstration. One man named Edward Murphy received a bullet wound, which, penetrating the face at the right nostril, almost discharged itself on the left side of the neck. The man lies in a dangerous condition. The second man, John Murray, received a bullet in the left thigh. Murphy's depositions are being taken by R J Blakely, Esq JP. Great excitement prevails.

THE DAILY NEWS (LONDON) - THURSDAY JUNE 10 1886

THE PARTY DISTURBANCES IN ULSTER

Monaghan, Wednesday Night.

The two men injured in the riots at Monaghan last night are progressing favourably. Murphy was shot in the right cheek, the bullet emerging at the left side of his neck. Crawford, who was attacked by the militiamen, sustained several ugly cuts on the hand from the buckles of their belts. A loyalist named Girvan has been arrested as the man who fired at and wounded Murphy. Another militiaman names Murray was also slightly wounded by a revolver shot last night.

THE CITIZEN (GLOUCESTER) - SATURDAY JUNE 12 1886

THE RIOTS IN ULSTER (Second paragraph)

Edmund Murphy, private in the Royal Irish Fusiliers, who was shot by an Orangeman at Monaghan on the night of the 8th inst., died yesterday morning in the county infirmary. The man Girvan, who is in custody charged with shooting Murphy, will be charged before

the magistrates to-day. Ten members of the Royal Irish Fusiliers have been arrested on the information fo Girvan.

THE BELFAST NEWS-LETTER - SATURDAY JUNE 12 1886

THE FATAL RIOTS IN MONAGHAN - INQUEST

Yesterday, an inquest was held in the Boardroom of the infirmary by Dr. R.W/ Stewart and a full jury on the body of Edward Murphy, who was wounded on Tuesday evening, and who expired yesterday morning at one o'clock.

No John Dudgeon, S.C.S., watched the case on behalf of the crown.

Two witnesses, named McGuiggan and Donagh were examined, and the latter swore that the deceased had his face towards Girvan when the shot was fired.

Mr. A.K. Young, J.P., deposed to seeing Murphy when he was admitted to the infirmary. He was suffering from a gunshot wound. The ball entered at the back of the neck and came out at the right side of the nose.

Dr George Faris gave corroborative evidence.

The court was adjourned at six o'clock till this (Saturday) morning at eleven o'clock.

THE FREEMAN'S JOURNAL - MONDAY JUNE 14 1886

THE MONAGHAN RIOTS - THE INQUEST ON MURPHY (from our correspondent) - MONAGHAN, SATURDAY.

Yesterday and today the inquest into the circumstances connected with the shooting of Edward Murphy, a private in the Royal Irish Fusiliers, was held by the coroner, Dr Stewart.

Mr Williamson, solicitor, Armagh, represented the next of kin.

Mr George Knight, Clones, appeared on behalf of Goivan, the man who is at present in custody charged with the shooting of Murphy, and Mr John Dudgeon, S C S, represented the Crown.

James Murphy, father of the deceased, identified the body as that of his son.

Francis M^cGuigan deposed that he was present on the occasion of the disturbances. He heard three shots fired. Goivan was the man who fired the shot which took effect on Murphy.

John M^cEntee deposed he saw a shot fired. Immediately after he saw Murphy being assisted to the infirmary. He gave the men some assistance to convey the wounded man to hospital.

Wm A K Young, surgeon, and Dr Ferris, the medical officers of the institution, stated the the bullet entered at the neck and discharged itself at the nose. Murphy died from exhaustion and loss of blood.

Several other witnesses were examined, and the jury after a long consideration could not agree the verdict.

Of the ten militiamen charged with assaulting Crawford in the Monaghan riots five were on Saturday discharged, the evidence against them being quite insufficient. Crawford lies in a very precarious condition.

The facts in connection with the disturbances here, a short wire regarding which appeared in your column, are almost unprecedented in this locality. The facts of the affair are as follows. For some time previous to the division being taken on the Home Rule Bill the Orangemen of Monaghan, anticipating the overthrow of the measure, made preparations for demonstration, and, as I am informed, a demonstration which if necessary should be carried out with the help of small firearms. The Orangemen assembled, and preceded by their brass band made a circuit of the town. The crowd was very small which followed the band. There was one very remarkable circumstance in connection with the proceedings. On all former occasions upon which Orange demonstrations were being held in Monaghan the hills around echoed to the imprecations invoked upon the Pope, the air filled with the lusty cheering of the Loyalists for King William, and denunciation of everything and everybody who did not think with the Loyalists rang out in deafening and discordant strains. Such, however, was not the case in last night's proceedings. The procession passed quietly through the town, and no offensive word was spoken until the band room was reached. The town was now in a state of great excitement. Together with civilians the streets were thronged with the men of the Royal Irish Fusiliers. It was evident to the least observant that a breach of the peace would take place. After separating at the band room the Orangemen proceeded down town. A number of the body in passing through the Shambles gave some offence, and this led to the disturbance which has terminated so seriously. An encounter occurred between the Orangemen and Nationalists, and the former drew their revolvers and fired on their assailants. At the first discharge, Edward Murphy, a young soldier, was seen to stagger and fall forward. His companions on raising him found that he was shot through the face, the bullet almost discharging itself at the left side of the neck. Immediately afterwards, John Murray, another soldier received a flesh wound to the thigh. These men were conveyed to the infirmary, where they were attended to by Mr Young and Dr Farrin. The Orangemen, on discharging their weapons, ran towards the country, pursued by a large body of the troops, who were

exasperated at seeing their comrades fall. After an exciting chase some of the Orangemen were overtaken and severely handled.

A woman, native of Tipperary, who sells tinware at the different fairs, was also treated at the infirmary. She received a severe beating at the hands of some Orangemen. The town at present is very quiet, but rioting may be renewed at any moment.

THE IRISH TIMES - TUESDAY JUNE 12 1886

THE MONAGHAN RIOTS - MAGISTERIAL INVESTIGATION (FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT) MONAGHAN MONDAY.

On Saturday evening, at 4 o'clock, a court was opened here to make inquiries as to the assault upon John Crawford, who sustained a fracture of the skull on the occasion of the recent riots.

Captain Keogh, R.M., occupied the chair.

The other magistrates present were- Captain Mansfield, R.M.; Wm. Henderson, J.P.; G.F. Donnelly, J.P.; Surgeon Rushe, J.P.; R.J. Blakely, J.P.

Nine men of the Royal Irish Fusiliers, names James Donnelly, John McTeague, Pat Smith, Joseph Healy, Edward Smith, Patrick Connolly, Joseph McDonagh, James Connolly, and Patrick Keenan, were put forward in custody, charged with being participators in the recent riots.

Head Constable Montgomery said that the prisoners were in custody upon the information of a man named Girvan for taking part in the recent riots. Girvan himself was in custody on a charge of wounding Edward Murphy, who had since died. He is the only witness at present, and as there might be some legal points raised, he (the head constable) would not undertake the responsibility of producing Girvan as a witness. He might say that some of the men charged were not in the riot at all. If that could be satisfactorily proved he would raise no objections to the discharge of these men; but he would ask to have the others remanded.

Captain Keogh - Are the two cases connected in any way?

Head Constable - It appears that after the shooting Crawford was assaulted. I would not undertake to examine him without consulting Crown counsel.

Captain Keogh - If there are any men whom you think had nothing to do with the disturbance they should be discharged at once.

Captain Mansfield - Can you give any evidence to exonerate them?

Head Constable Montgomery - Oh, no, I cannot; but the military authorities can.

Mr James B. Ross said that he appeared on behalf of the accused, and they were there on the word of a person who may yet be charged with a capital offence. He, however, had nothing to do with that, but he was now in a position to lay before them evidence which would justify them in discharging many of the men before them.

The case of John McTeague was then taken up.

Evidence was then given to prove that the man had no connection with the riot.

His was discharged.

James McDonagh's was the next case.

It was proved that the man could not possibly be present.

George Irwin, on behalf of the Crown, on being asked was the prisoner a member of the riotous body, declared that he was, and that every man in the dock was there. (Laughter.)

McDonagh was subsequently discharged.

Two other men were also discharged.

After some discussion as to the advisability of producing Girvan as a witness.

The Court adjourned.

MONDAY'S PROCEEDINGS

To-day at 11 o'clock Captain Keogh, R.M., assisted by Captain Mansfield, R.M., Surgeon Rushe, J.P., Patrick Rafferty, J.P., G.F. Donnelly J.P., Captain Richardson, J.P., W.W. Henderson, J.P., and Charles N Tisdall, J.P., proceeded to investigate the circumstance connected with the recent riots and the assault upon Crawford.

Mr John Dudgeon, S.C.S., prosecuted on behalf of the crown.

Mr Jas.B. Ross represented the accused.

Mr Geo. Knight, Clones, appeared in the interest of the accused man Girvan.

The following is a list of the prisoners' names: - Joseph Healy, Carrickmacross; James Connolly, Belturbet; Patrick Smith, Carrickmacross; Park Keenan, Monaghan; Peter Murphy, Monaghan; J. Connolly, Castleblayney.

The first witness examined was John Ballantine. He stated that he was near the Fever Hospital on the evening in question. He heard five or six shots fired in the Shambles. Afterward he saw John Crawford (the injured man), with Girvan and his brother, running towards the hospital. He saw Crawford with a pistol in his hand. He saw the three men mentioned followed by a member of militiamen armed with their belts, He ran into the hospital. He could not identify any of the militiamen. When he was passing through the Shambles, prior to the firing of the shots, there was no disturbance. Crawford was subsequently beaten, and he saw him assisted by Bromer and the two Girvan's.

To Mr Ross - It was after the firing of the shots that I saw the man chased by the militia.

John Allister was the next witness examined. He stated, in reply to Mr Dudgeon, that on the evening in question he passed through the Shambles in company with Ballantine and Houston. In passing through the Shambles they were followed by some persons who called on them to come back. He did not look round, so that he could not say who was following. When they got to the Fever Hospital he heard five or six shots. Afterwards he saw Girvan and the two Crawford running up the road. They were followed by the militiamen, who were about 20 yards behind. The next time I saw Crawford was on the other side of the Fever Hospital, being carried up the lane by Robert Girvan, the son, now present, Robert Bremer, and a brother of Crawford's.

Mr Dudgeon - What state was Crawford in when he was being carried?

Witness - He was bleeding about the head and appeared to be in a weak state. When the militiamen were returning I did not notice where their belts were.

Captain Keogh - Did you know any of the men present?

Witness - I did not.

To Mr Ross - I saw a revolver in Crawford's hand. It was a large revolver. It was a bright revolver. It had the appearance of being a perfectly new revolver. I never saw it before. I could not say whether the revolver had six chambers.

John Henry Houston, examined, and stated in reply to Mr Dudgeon - He remembered going out with Allister and Ballantine on the evening of

the 8th of June. It was about half-past eight when they got to the Shambles. There were about 200 people in the Shambles.

Mr Donnelly - In what manner dose he form that estimate.

Mr Dudgeon - How do you know there were 200 people there?

Witness - Well, there were about 200.

Mr Tisdall - Were there many Militiaman there?

Mr Dudgeon - I'm just going to ask him that question. (To witness)-
What was the crowd composed of?

Witness - Militiamen and civilians both.

Mr Dudgeon - How many militiamen were there?

Witness - I could not say.

Captain Keogh - You could ask him were there more militia than civilians, or more civilians than militia?

Witness - I could not answer that question.

To Mr Dudgeon - When he got to Irwin's gate the crowd began to shout, "come back". He and his companions went on and got into the fever hospital. He did not see Girvan or the Crawfords coming up the road. He saw the militiamen passing, and heard some of them shouting "Follow the other fellow".

Mr Tisdall - All the time you saw the crowd in the Shambles did you see any policeman?

Witness - No.

Mr Tisdall - Did you see a policeman on your way up the road?

Witness - No.

Mr Tisdall - It is very creditable , indeed.

Mr Ross - It was well known that a large body of the police was sent to Belfast.

Captain Keogh - Now, if the magistrate witches the matter inserted in the informations he must have it.

Mr Ross - If there is to be a charge made against the police we must have the whole truth.

Mr Tisdall - Whoever is responsible should have had the men there.

To Mr Ross - I did not look back when they shouted at us to come back. I don't know who they were.

Mr Ross - Were they friends? No.

Mr Ross - Will you take on you to share that they were militiamen?
No, I will not.

Captain Mansfield - Can You recognise any of the men you saw passing the hospital? No I cannot.

To Mr Ross - I did not see a revolver with either Crawford's or Girvan.

Captain Keogh - Well, Mr Dudgeon.

Mr Dudgeon - I apply for a remand.

Captain Keogh - There is nothing against these men that I can see.

Mr Dudgeon - I can satisfy the court that further evidence will be forthcoming. Crawford, who is in a very dangerous state, cannot be examined, so that we cannot have the benefit of his testimony.

Captain Mansfield - He made an information.

Mr Dudgeon - He has made an information, but has identified no one. He may afterwards however, be able to give such information as may assist us to secure a conviction.

After a short consultation with the police. Mr Dudgeon stated that he would produce another witness.

George Irwin was then called, and in reply to Mr Dudgeon stated the he saw all the men in the dock on the road on the evening of the disturbances. Some were armed with sticks and others with belts.

Mr Tisdall - How many men were there on the road?

Witness - About two hundred.

To Mr Dudgeon - I did not see Peter Murphy on the road that night. All the men I saw were militiamen, with the exception of one man.

A young man named John Ards was also examined.

Mr Dudgeon then applied for a remand, which was granted

THE NORTHERN WHIG - WEDNESDAY JUNE 16 1886

THE MONAGHAN RIOTS

Yesterday at twelve o'clock the magisterial investigation into the circumstances connected with the recent riots in Monaghan was resumed. Captain Keogh, R.M., occupied the chair, the other magistrates present being Captain Mansfield; R.M., Surgeon Rushe; J.P., Patrick Rafferty, J.P.; E. Fay Donnelly, J.P.; Charles N. Tisdall J.P. JOseph Healy, Carrickmacross; Patrick Smith, Carrickmacross: Patrick Keenan, Monaghan; and Patrick Connolly, Castleblayney, were put forward in custody to answer the charge of riot and assault which had been preferred against them. Mr John Dudgeon S.C.S., prosecuted on behalf of the Crown. Mr J.B. Ross represented the accused. After hearing the evidence, the magistrates then held a consultation, after which Captain Keogh said that the magistrates had decided to remand the prisoners for seven days. The man Crawford was not out of danger, but as soon as he was out of danger they would admit the prisoners to bail. Mr Ross - I will only ask one thing now, and that is when the prisoners are being brought before the injured man they will not wear the redcoats. Mr Dudgeon - I must interfere, The injured man saw the redcoats, and it would be unfair to bring them before him in any other garb. Captain Keogh - Well, i think that a number of other men should be paraded along with them attired in the uniform. It was arranged that when Crawford was out of danger the Bench would receive £50 and two sureties of £40 in each case.

THE IRISH TIMES - WEDNESDAY JUNE 23 1886

THE MONAGHAN RIOTS - THE PRISONERS IN COURT (from our correspondent) MONAGHAN TUESDAY.

Last evening at 3 o'clock the adjourned special Petty Sessions were re-opened in the Monaghan Courthouse to investigate the circumstances connected with the recent riots in Monaghan.

Captain Keogh, R.M. Occupied the chair. The other magistrates present were -Captain Mansfield, R.M.; Charles N Tisdall, J.P.; Surgeon Rushe, J.P.; Patrick Rafferty, J.P.

Joseph Healy, Carrickmacross; Pat Smith, Carrickmacross; Pat Keenan, Monaghan; and Pat Connolly, Castleblayney, were put forward in custody to answer a charge of riot and assault preferred against them by the police.

Mr John Dudgeon, S.C.S., represented the Crown.

Mr James B Ross appeared on behalf of the prisoners.

Mr Dudgeon said that in this case he was obliged to apply for a further remand. The injured man, Crawford, was still in a precarious condition, evidence of which he would lay before the court.

MR A.K. Young, J.P., Surgeon, was then examined and stated that he had seen Crawford that day. The man was still in a precarious condition and he would not at present consent to his examination in court.

Mr Ross applied that his clients should be admitted to bail. It was a great hardship to keep these men in prison with so little evidence against them. He was prepared to give any amount of bail, and he hoped the court would see its way to accede to his application.

Captain Keogh said that in face of Mr Young's evidence they could not entertain Mr Ross's application

THE MURDER CASE

George Girvan, who is at present in custody, was next brought forward, charged with shooting at and wounding Edward Murphy, who has since died from his wounds.

Mr Dudgeon S.C.S., appeared on behalf of the Crown.

Mr William McWilliam represented the prisoner.

On application of Mr Dudgeon. The prisoner was remanded.

The court then adjourned.

THE NORTHERN WHIG - FRIDAY JUNE 25 1886

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT - HOUSE OF COMMONS YESTERDAY

THE MONAGHAN RIOTS

Mr. P. O'BRIEN asked whether the commission of inquiry about to be issued by the Government to inquire into the recent riots at Belfast will be empowered to investigate the deplorable occurrence of the 8th inst. At Monaghan; and whether the conduct of the magistrates paid and unpaid, in the several place where riots recently occurred will be investigated by said commissions.

Mr. STANSFELD said the Irish Government did not think it necessary to have sworn inquiry into the occurrence at Monaghan. The whole affair lasted a very short time, and thirty or forty persons were engaged. It had its origin in a personal, not a political or party matter as at Belfast. The inquiry had already begun.

THE TORONTO MAIL - WEDNESDAY JUNE 30 1886

The riots in Monaghan have not been renewed, but Edward Murphy the militiaman who was wounded by a shot from an Orangeman's revolver when the Dublin Fusiliers attacked the Orange procession, has died in hospital and another man is still in great danger. Although there has been no renewed outbreak at Lurgan, the town is in a very excited state and riots are only prevented by the presence of an imposing force of military and police.

THE BELFAST WEEKLY NEWS - SATURDAY JULY 3 1886

THE MONAGHAN RIOTS

On Saturday morning George Girvan was put forward on remand charged with the murder of Edward Murphy, on the 8th June, the the Shambles, Monaghan. The magistrates present were Captain Keogh, R.M., (in the chair), Captain Mansfield R.M.; Surgeon Rushe, J.P.; E.F. Donnelly, Esq., J.P.; and Patrick Rafferty, J.P. Mr John Dudgeon S.C.S. prosecuted and Messers. William McWilliam and George Knight represented the prisoner. Girvan was remanded till to-day (Monday). Joseph Healy, Patrick Smith, Patrick Connolly, and Patrick Keenan were put forward on remand charged with having seriously assaulted John Crawford, in the Shambles, on the 8th inst. Mr Dudgeon prosecuted and Mr. Rushe, in the absence of Mr Ross represented the prisoners. The prisoners were discharged.

THE BELFAST NEWS-LETTER - MONDAY JULY 12 1886

ASSIZES INTELLIGENCE COUNTY MONAGHAN - THE MONAGHAN RIOTS

George Girvan was indicted for the manslaughter of Edward Murphy on the 8th June last.

The Solicitor-General (with whom wee Mr. Kisbey and Mr. Shaw, instructed by Mr. Parkinson, Crown Solicitor) said that he has an application to make in reference to the prisoner in the dock. The homicide took place on the 8th June and prisoner was not returned for trial until 26th June. The nature of the charge was one of very considerable importance, and was regarded by the Executive as of vast importance, having regard to the condition of the country during the past few months. After a celebration - of what was supposed to be a great political victory, some men passed through a portion of the town of Monaghan, where there was a large crowd gathered. Some said they were offended and insulted, and some said not. However that was, the prisoner was alleged to have turned round and fired three shots, the third shot sending a ball through the head of Murphy, who died of that wound. The Crown had taken a very serious view of the case, as was seen by him being sent down to prosecute; and from the investigation which he had made he was satisfied that the case could not be tried without a certain result which would, in his judgement, frustrate public justice. The Solicitor-General then read the affidavit of the Crown Solicitor, on which he based his application. The points of the affidavit were that the panel was too small, having been summoned before the case was returned; the case was one about which party feeling was very intense, and the coroner's jury had to be discharged, as they could not arrive at any conclusion in the case; the said homicide having taken place upon a demonstration in connection with the defeat of the late Government of Ireland Bill; having regard to all these facts deponent considered that a fair and impartial trial could not be obtained in Monaghan at the present assizes. There would be a frustration of justice, and he believed that the postponement of the trial essential. The Solicitor-General said that, in reply, an affidavit had been sworn by Mr. Knight, in which it was set out that in the affidavit of the Crown Solicitor the allegation that a fair trial

could not be had was not denied in any part. Upon all these facts, and as the Crown was most anxious to try the case fairly, he asked his Lordship to postpone the trial.

Mr. Dodd said that he appeared, with his friend, Mr Campbell, for the defence and submitted that nothing conclusive had been shown by the Crown to have the case adjourned. It was a curious confession that the Solicitor-General had made that until he came down it was not known that an impartial could not be had. There was one fact which should weight against the postponement, and that was a man named Crawford, who was with the prisoner when the affair happened, was severely beaten, and beaten under circumstances which almost showed that a wanton attack had been made on his life. Fortunately, he was sufficiently recovered so as to appear at these assizes, and if the case was postponed he might not be able to be alive till the next assizes, as he had to undergo an operation. It was a curious fact that no proceedings had been taken by the Crown for the purpose of bringing those who assailed Crawford to justice. He did not see why the Crown Solicitor had not taken the same course in reference to other cases in which there was party feeling. Persons accused of a similar offence belonging to the other side had been put upon their trial at these assizes. The prisoner had also been treated as a condemned man, being brought down handcuffed, and handcuffed to a man who had been convicted. He would respectfully ask his Lordship if he postponed the trial to admit the prisoner to bail.

Mr Campbell said that the grounds put forward for an adjournment by the Crown were extraordinary - that a panel struck before the case was thought off and struck by the Sheriff according to the act of Parliament, would be an improper panel to try it. He argued that a fair trial would be more likely to be had from a jury which had been summoned before the case cropped up at all than if it were adjourned to next assizes in order that a larger panel might be struck, and thus give the Crown a more extensive selection of certain persons. It was no reason either that because a coroner's jury had disagreed that the prisoner should not be tried here. It was most remarkable that not a word or suggestion came from those responsible that there could not be a fair trial at these assizes until the Solicitor-General came down.

Mr Kisbey having replied.

His Lordship said that it was true Monaghan had been in a state of excitement from an early period of the year, and he did not think that the trial at present would allay that excitement. He would therefore, postpone the trial to the next Winter Assizes.

Mr Dodd applied to have the trial postponed to the spring assizes at Monaghan, as it was absolutely necessary that the jury should see the place where the affair occurred.

His Lordship adjourned the trial till the March assizes.

Mr Dodd applied to have the prisoner released on bail. They were prepared to give any amount.

The Solicitor-General opposed the application, stating that the prisoner had recourse to the Queen's Bench.

His Lordship refused to grant the application for bail.

This concluded the business of the Assizes.

NEWRY REPORTER - THURSDAY AUGUST 26 1886

THE MONAGHAN SHOOTING CASE.- THE QUEEN V GEORGE GIRVAN

Mr Campbell (instructed by Mr M^cMullen) moved to have the prisoner admitted to bail pending his trial. The accused is confined in Armagh Goal, charged with the murder of one Edward Murphy, in the town of Monaghan, on the 8th June last. The coroner's jury which investigated the case were unable to come to any conclusion, but eventually the prisoner was returned for trial by the local Bench on a charge of wilful murder. The facts were so shadowy, counsel said that the bill was thrown out by the Grand Jury, and then accused was arraigned on a charge of manslaughter, but the Crown applied for an adjournment till next Assizes, on the ground that the excitement existing not only in Monaghan, but in other parts of Ireland, would prevent a fair trial being had, and Mr Justice Andrews yielded to the application, and adjourned the trial till March next. The evidence showed that on the day in question Girvan, accompanied by two men named Crawford and a man named Mitchell, was leaving the town of Monaghan, and when they arrived at a place called the Shambles there was a body of militiamen there, varying in number from twenty to one hundred. According to the extraordinary story told by the Crown witnesses, no interference of any kind took place on the part of the militiamen with any of the four men. Yet they had the curious fact remaining that Girvan and one of the Crawfords commenced to run away before the militiamen, who were said to be merely walking, and three shots were fired from a revolver. The two first did not take effect, but the third struck Murphy, who sustained injuries causing his death. From the affidavit of the prisoner and the men who were with him, it was quite clear, however, that an unprovoked attack was made upon them, and under these circumstances he thought it would be only reasonable not to keep the man in goal till March.

Mr Justice Monroe asked what position in life the prisoner was in.

Mr Campbell said he believed he was a coachman.

Mr Hart (instructed by Mr Parkinson, C.S) said he appeared for the Attorney-General, but did not oppose the motion if substantial bail was given. He thought it right, however, to say that it was at the insistence of the prisoner's counsel at the Assizes that the trial was postponed. The evidence against the prisoner was that when he was arrested three empty cartridges were found in his possession and the bullet fitted these. He was slowly identified as the man who had fired the shots. There was no doubt however, that some provocation was given to these men, and that they thought the militiamen were pursuing them at the time the shots were fired.

Mr Campbell - One of the men was actually brought to hospital with his skull fractured.

Mr Justice Monroe said it was a case for bail, as manifestly there was great provocation. He would admit the prisoner to bail - himself in £100, and two sureties in £50 each.

THE NORTHERN WHIG - TUESDAY MARCH 8 1887

ASSIZES INTELLIGENCE- MONAGHAN

CROWN COURT

Yesterday morning, at ten o'clock, Mr Justice Harrison sat in the Crown Court, County Courthouse, Monaghan, and resumed the hearing of the criminal business. Mr W.S. Bruner, J.P., High Sheriff, occupied a seat on the bench beside his lordship.

CHARGE OF MANSLAUGHTER

George Girvan was indicted with having, on the 8th June last, been guilty of the manslaughter of a member of the Monaghan Militia named Edward Murphy.

Mr Kisbey, Q.C., and Mr Shaw, B.L.(instructed by Mr R.E. Bailie, Crown Solicitor), prosecuted, and the prisoner was defended by Mr. W.H.Dodd, Q.C. And Mr Campbell B.L. (Instructed by Mr Wm. McWilliams, solicitor, Monaghan).

William Donaghy and Francis McGuigan were examined and gave evidence as to the occurrence on the evening in question. They saw the prisoner in the Shambles that evening, and saw Girvan there. There were three shots fired, and Murphy fell.

John Holland, a member of the militia, was examined, and deposed that he was in the Shambles on the evening in question and saw the prisoner. He heard some one saying there were Girvan and Crawford. He afterwards saw Girvan firing a shot. Edward Murphy was at the time on the footpath facing Girvan. He heard Girvan firing a third shot, and then Murphy fell. Girvan then ran up the road towards the cathedral. He went up and turned towards the hospital. Witness followed him up the to the crossroads, and witness saw him going down the road a good bit.

Cross examined by Mr Dodd, Q.C. - When he first saw Girvan and Crawford he did not see anything in their hands, and if they had had anything he could have seen it. Girvan fired the three shots. After the third shot was fired he saw the revolver in Crawford's hand. They both ran up the low road. Girvan passed Crawford, and then Crawford followed him. He saw no one interfering with Girvan or Crawford. Witness had no revolver.

James Duffy, militiaman, was on duty with two others, White and Corr. He saw three or four persons when he came to Dublin Street. There were about thirty militiamen there. He saw when the four men went down a bustle starting, and then he heard a shot. He with two companions doubled down, and then he saw the prisoner Girvan firing a shot, and Murphy fell. Murphy was standing at the sidewalk, and Girvan in the middle of the road.

Cross examined by Mr Campbell - He saw no room before the shot was fired, but he saw a bustle. He did not see Mitchell knocked down and kicked. He heard a shot fired, and then came down the canal bridge. There were either three or four shots fired. After Murphy fell he heard either one or two shots. Girvan fired them, and then ran away. He could not say whether any person followed him. Murphy had not on his red coat at the time. He swore before the magistrates that he had on his red tunic, but that was a mistake, as he was drunk at the time.

William O'Neill deposed that he saw Murphy on the evening in question. He went up with him towards Beech Hill, and they saw the prisoner, who had a revolver in his hand. He fired two shots, and then a

third, and Murphy fell. The prisoner fired at the crowd behind him, and Murphy was in the crowd.

To Mr Dodd- Witness heard that Crawford was beaten.

Patrick Corr said that he and two others were told off as military police. He saw the shots fired and Murphy fall. He saw the person who fired the shots, but could not tell who it was.

By Mr Campbell - Witness was not drunk on that night. He saw the men going up the street, and they were doing nothing, nor interfering with anyone. At the inquest he said there was a row before there was a shot fired. That might not be true. Witness did not go up. The crowd might have made short work of him.

William White deposed that he heard three shots fired on the night in question. He went up to the place after he heard the first two. He saw the prisoner there were no militiamen round him. There were some about three or four yards from him.

Sergeant O'Rorke remembered the 8th June last. He heard on that evening that a row had occurred in the Shambled, and he went out the main road and met Girvan and Andrew Crawford. He asked Girvan what had occurred, and Girvan replied that John Crawford was badly beaten, and he then said that he was followed out of the town by a lot of militiamen. Somebody, he said, struck him, and he knocked him down with a stick. Witness went out to a house to which he was directed, and found John Crawford, who was badly beaten. He had him conveyed to the Infirmary. Witness asked Girvan to go with him to the town, but as he seemed disinclined to go, witness arrested him. He then had him searched, and found on him three empty revolver cartridges. The prisoner then addressed his mother, asking her if she had not seen him fire them off before he went into town, and she replied that she had. Witness found no revolver on the prisoner.

Three medical witnesses were examined, two of whom - Mr Young and Dr Ferris- gave it as their opinion that the bullet had entered at the back of the neck and made its egress at one of the nostrils. The other witness Dr O'Reilly - said he considered that the bullet had, from all he could see, entered at the front and come out at the back.

Mrs Girvan, the prisoner's mother, was examined for the defence. She swore that on the evening in question her son had not his revolver with him. The cartridges found on him that evening had been fired off by him in his own garden, because it was the anniversary of the day upon which his father stormed the walls of Sebastopol. Some of the family always fired on that day a few shots in remembrance of the day.

John Crawford was examined, and deposed that he accompanied Girvan through the Shambles, and he was knocked down, and that having a revolver, he fired two shots. He saw no revolver with Girvan. There were other shots fired to the number of six. From the beating he got that evening he had to go to the County Infirmary, where he had been for two months. Girvan went up the high road, and the witness went up the low road. The reason he went by that road was to accompany his brother, Wm. Crawford.

Andrew Crawford corroborated the evidence of his brother.

John Mitchel deposed that he was going home on the evening in question through the Shambles. He was knocked down by the militiamen, who beat him with their belts. His eye was injured by a blow. But for a man named Maguire he would have been beaten much more.

Counsel on both sides having addressed the jury. His Lordship summed up.

The jury, after a short consultation, found the prisoner not guilty, and he was discharged.

This concluded the criminal business of the Assizes.