

shots very quick; on hearing the first shot I stood still; I thought it was in sport; I had not the slightest idea or conception that it was a shot fired in anger; when the firing continued I went as fast as I could to give assistance; I had not reached the police near the courthouse when three soldiers rushed out in advance of the main body; there was a body of people out before them running; the greater part ran up the Lodge-road, and some towards Miss Wilson's gate, and I think a few came to the corner of the courthouse for shelter in safety; the three soldiers who first came out advanced to O'Brien's corner, where the people had gone; I saw one of them re-loading.

Mr. Graydon—How do you know he re-loaded?

Mr. Cronin—I heard the shots; but perhaps loading is the better term—I saw one of them load and present his musket in the direction where I was; I then rushed towards the courthouse; my eye was not then directed towards the soldiers; when I got to the courthouse door I tried to prevent the people rushing out; I saw a crowd of people rushing out after the three soldiers as well as before them; I got into the courthouse then; I heard no shots fired afterwards, as I could hear nothing, there was such uproar in the courthouse; I did not observe sticks or stones in the hands of the people who were running after the soldiers; I went out very soon after and saw a van drive up; Captain Dwyer's party of military came up; when I saw the van and military come up there were a number of civilians there very excited; Mr. Delmege, the magistrate, was with the cavalcade; no gentleman that I know was with Mr. Delmege; I saw the people much excited, and heard somebody in the crowd say that arms would be used in return to avenge the firing, and as a precautionary measure I ordered the sub-inspector to order his men to load; the great excitement, I suppose, arose from the firing—I have no doubt of it; I addressed the magistrate, Mr. Delmege, knowing he was in charge of the party, and asked had he given directions to fire; he said distinctly he had not; Mr. Delmege was not armed that I am aware, nor did I think it my duty to inquire, as he was my equal magistrate; on ascertaining that the magistrate specially in charge of the party had not given directions to fire, I thought it my duty to address the officer, Captain Eager.

Mr. Graydon objected to evidence of what Captain Eager stated on the occasion.

After some discussion, the jury expressed a wish to hear the evidence.

Witness—I asked Captain Eager if he had received any order from the magistrate, or whether he had given any orders himself; he answered that he neither received orders from the magistrate to fire, nor had he given any himself, and I think he said the men had fired in self-defence; he made no further statement; I then said I considered it my duty to ask him and Mr. Delmege to accompany me in order to ascertain the names of the men who had fired the shots; these two gentlemen went with me for that purpose; the men were standing in lines of about nine abreast; I put my finger into each barrel, and as I found my finger soiled with powder, I said to each man, "You have fired recently, haven't you?" and the reply was, "Yes, I have;" that admission was made in every instance where I discovered the trace of powder.

Mr. Graydon—Did you caution these men at the time that this would be used against them in evidence?

Witness—I did not.

Mr. Graydon—And did you not consider it your duty to do so?

Mr. Coffey—Surely, you will reserve this for your cross-examination.

Witness—I was merely ascertaining a simple fact, and did not consider the men charged or on trial.

After some further observations on the subject, Mr. Graydon observed that he would not object at present, and

The examination was continued—I found traces of powder in the muskets; I examined all, and I found that only ten muskets had been discharged; my attention was afterwards directed to the state of the bayonets; having ascertained that ten muskets had been discharged, I asked each man whose gun was soiled his name; the names are as follows:—John Gleeson, John Dwyer, James Pottings, James Sharpe, William Barnes, Thomas Clarke, Isaac Weston, John Whitbread, John Thompson, Corporal Carter.

Mr. Cronin—I think it right to mention that Captain Eager told me to put opposite Gleeson's name the mark "1st;" I don't know what it means.

Colonel Douglas—There are two men of the same name in the regiment, and that is to distinguish them.

Witness (in continuation)—I asked several of the men if they had heard or received any orders to fire; they said they had heard and received no orders to fire, but that it was done in self-defence, for the party had been pelted with stones, and some of their comrades knocked down senseless.

Mr. Coffey—Were the ten men in such a position as to hear that observation?

Witness—I am pretty certain all must have heard it; did not examine if any other persons except the military had arms, as I had no reason to suppose it; did not see Mr. Keane there; wouldn't have known him, nor would I know him now.

At half-past six o'clock the jury adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday morning.

SIXTH DAY—MONDAY.

The inquest was resumed this morning soon after ten o'clock.

John Kelly examined by Mr. Coffey—Lives at Ballyourgell, about two miles from this village; was here on Thursday, 22nd July; heard shots fired that day; was a little bit up from the corner of the bridewell; immediately before I heard the shots fired I was standing close to the potato field; saw the military at the time the shots were fired; the first place I met the military was down at the bridge; accompanied them from the place I first met them to where I have described; walked with the cars at the left hand side until I came seven or eight paces over from the bridewell wall, and I then went to the right side; up to that spot in the lane I saw people at each side of the road; there were men, women, and boys; saw stones thrown; observed stones thrown first near the house at the right hand side, near the bridewell lane, coming up to the courthouse; did not see the persons who threw the stones; they were thrown from behind over me; the lane is narrow, and there was not much room for a crowd besides the military and cars; the breadth of the road at that place is in or about twelve feet, to the best of my belief; it is perfectly impossible that a dense crowd could have congregated between the car-wheels and the wall at either side of the road; witness saw the place since several times;

thinks that 100 or 120 people could be crammed in the space between the cars and the wall; I am now supposing that the people were closely packed, but they were not on this occasion; they were walking along with the military; does not know the length of the potato garden wall; as I walked along I did not see people in the potato or barley fields, nor did I notice any sitting on the wall; took no notice of them, nor did I look to see; the cars were passing along when the stones were thrown; the stones could have hit the people as well as the military; upon my oath they were as much exposed to the stones as the military on cars; was between the cars and the military; was as much exposed to danger as the military; did not see whether there were any military in the front or rear; some of the stones came over my head; did not see the stones strike any person, but I saw them strike the cars; the cars continued moving on while the stone throwing was kept up; did not see any danger to man or horse from what stones were thrown; did not consider that my life was in danger; if I did I would have left the place; as far as I can judge, I heard about twenty shots fired; there might be a few less, or there might have been more; did not go out of the lane until they were done firing, nor did I see the military go out; went back towards the chapel wall for a little time, and when I returned to see the people dead the military had left the lane; got a shot myself in the collar of the coat and shirt; was standing seven or eight yards at the chapel side from the bridewell wall at the time I got the shot; there were two shots fired so close one after the other, that it appeared the same as if a double-barrelled gun were discharged; the wadding of both struck me in the side of the head; thought it burned the hair on my head, and it actually burned the collar of my coat; the ball of one of these two shots went through the collar of my coat, made a hole in the front of my shirt, and struck against the potato field wall; it did not touch my skin; I did not know the soldiers who fired; from the manner the shot struck me I do not think the person who fired could have been more than the length of the musket from me; was stunned, and when I recovered myself I saw a man shot through the temple, with his brains on his trousers and on the wall.

(On suggestion of Mr. Coffey, the witness was directed to go to the spot and calculate the distance by paces from the place where he was standing to where the man lay.)

Examination resumed—The man was up against the wall, about four or five yards from where I was hit myself; I crept on by the wall a short distance, when that shot was fired which hit me, and when I saw the man with his brains blown out against the wall, the stone throwing had ceased; if there were stones thrown, or if there had been any rioting at the time or place, I would have seen it; I am quite positive there was no fighting or stone throwing when I was hit by the ball; would not believe any man who would swear there were stones flung and a man knocked down; saw one stone of middling size pass just by a voter's head, but whether it struck him or not I can't say; upon my oath that was the only stone I considered of any consequence.

Stephen O'Halloran, Esq., examined by Mr. Coffey—I reside near this village, at Ballycunnane; was here on the 22nd of July; heard shots fired that day; I was through the village in all parts; I am residing in this neighborhood since I was born; have seen and taken part in two or three contested elections; as far as my opportunities enabled me to judge the people were very quiet; there was no rioting, and no disposition to it; saw the polling going on; the voters were allowed to give their votes uninterruptedly; was in court when I heard the shots fired; one window of the courthouse was certainly opened, and I think the one at the other side, for a strong smell of powder came in; previous to the shooting I heard no signs of angry tumult; did not see the military for five minutes after I had heard the firing; had a conversation with Mr. Wilson; in consequence of that conversation I went to examine the cars that came in with the voters; did so with a view of affording my testimony if called on; having that object in view I examined them as carefully and minutely as possible; the examination was made in front of the house; saw no damage on their external condition, but I saw in the large van four stones on the cushions and some blood; in another car I saw one stone; one of the drivers showed me the reins cut; I observed no other injuries, but the driver showed me where an attempt had been made to cut the traces; I am satisfied in my own judgment that I examined all the cars; the horses were not cut, torn, or bleeding; saw the soldiers that Colonel Douglas pointed out as having been injured; he called the attention of the coroner and jury to the state of that man's arms and accoutrements; by direction of the coroner he paraded the men in the yard of the bridewell; this was at the close of the day after the jury had been empanelled; the knapsack of the man had evident signs of the blow of a stone; that man pointed out where he had received a cut in the head, but I did not see any; there was another man with his head bandaged up, and he appeared to suffer a good deal; Colonel Douglas pointed out injuries on the knapsack which he said were caused by violence; don't think they were caused by stones or violence; one of the officers pointed out a gun, the stock of which was cracked across; remarked to the officer at the time that it was impossible to give a blow which would cause that without knocking it out of the man's hand; he said it was, and the man had been knocked down; the wheel of the van going over it would cause the injury, and it was a notion of that sort that suggested the remark I made to the officer; cannot say that I noticed any other injuries; if I had seen cuts and wounds, and mutilated limbs, they would have made an impression on me.

Cross-examined by Mr. Graydon—The whole firing did not occupy more than a minute from the time I heard the first shot; it might have been not more than half a minute; the soldiers might have been murdered in the lane while I was in the courthouse; left the courthouse in four or five minutes after I heard the shots, and went immediately to the lane; when I saw the cars the drivers were with them; it was the drivers pointed out the cars to me as the cars that conveyed the voters; I cannot say the cars were in the same condition then as at the time of the firing; saw only one rein injured near the ring of the bridle; the trace was partly cut; if the stock of the gun had been broken by a blow of a stone it must have been a severe one.

To Mr. Coffey—A sufficient length of time elapsed to allow of stones being put into the car.

Mr. Coffey—I have now, Sir, to ask you to serve notice on the colonel of the 31st Regt. to produce the

muster roll of the escort that accompanied the voters to Sixmillebridge on the 22nd July.

Mr. Graydon—Oh! we have none to produce.

Mr. Coffey—Do you admit the notice served upon you for the production?

Mr. Graydon—We do.

Lieutenant-Colonel Staunton, of the 31st Regiment, was then examined—A party of the 31st are quartered near this village; they are encamped here; there is one captain, two subalterns, one sergeant, and forty rank and file.

Mr. Coffey—Are they the same party that accompanied the voters to Sixmillebridge on the 22nd July?

Mr. Graydon—Don't answer that, colonel; I object to the question.

After some discussion as to the legality of the evidence, the examination was proceeded with—Of my own particular knowledge I don't know that they are the same; I saw Captain Eager within the last few hours; I saw Lieutenant Anthon within the same time; I don't object to answer your questions.

Mr. Graydon—But I do.

Mr. Coffey—We had an assurance, Mr. Coroner, that we should have these men here when the ends of justice required it. I conceive that the ends of justice require it now, and I call for their production.

Mr. Graydon—And they shall be produced whenever you want them.

Mr. Coffey—Well, we want them now.

Colonel Staunton—I cannot act without superior orders, and will not produce them.

Mr. Graydon explained that Colonel Douglas was necessarily obliged to stay in Limerick to-day, but offered to send for him at once.

The Coroner—But surely Colonel Douglas, after the undertaking he made to me, did not leave Sixmillebridge without deputing authority to some one.

Mr. Coffey—It is a gross trifling with the court and with the administration of justice to act in this manner.

Mr. Graydon—We shall send for Colonel Douglas at once, Mr. Coffey.

Colonel Staunton—I have not authority to act in the case.

Mr. Coffey—And I must say that I have met with every obstruction and every obstacle that ingenuity could suggest. Legal skill and military knowledge have been used to prevent the ends of justice in this investigation; and I call upon you, Mr. Coroner, to issue your warrant for the apprehension of these forty men. It is time that justice should be fully vindicated, and that there should no longer appear a difference made between one set of men and another, because one may wear a red coat and the other a black.

After some further discourse,

The Coroner intimated that unless the soldiers were in court at ten o'clock next day, he would issue his warrant for their arrest.

At half-past five o'clock the court adjourned to half-past nine o'clock next morning.

SEVENTH DAY—TUESDAY.

The inquest was resumed this morning at half-past ten o'clock. Mr. J. C. Delmege was in attendance. When the coroner and jury had assembled,

Mr. Coffey said—Now, Mr. Coroner, I have respectfully to ask of you to require the attendance of the military. I call upon Lieutenant-Colonel Staunton for the muster-roll of the escort that accompanied the voters to Sixmillebridge on the 22nd July.

Mr. Graydon—There is no such document in existence. The men shall be brought into court, and it will be for Mr. Coffey to show that these were the men who gave their names to Mr. Cronin.

[After a short delay the escort of the 31st were marched into court fully armed and with bayonets fixed.]

Colonel Staunton was then recalled and examined—There is a person named John Dwyer among these men (points him out).

Mr. Coffey—I have to ask that he be called forward.

Colonel Staunton—Mr. Coroner, I would name the men at once were I only individually concerned. We are not ashamed of anything we have done. We had a very painful duty to discharge, and we did it like men and like soldiers. (Sensation.)

Mr. Coffey—You were not present, colonel, and cannot answer for that.

Mr. Frost—They did it like butchers.

Examination continued—There is no such man as John Whitbread in the regiment; there is one named William Whitbread (points him out). The witness was examined as to the presence of the other men mentioned by Mr. Cronin as those who had discharged their muskets, and proved that all were in court, and that there were not two men in the escort of the same name except Gleeson.

J. S. Cronin, Esq., R.M., was here recalled, and examined by Mr. Graydon—I cannot point out any of the men who gave me their names on that day.

To Mr. Coffey—These names were furnished to me in presence of the captain and Mr. Delmege; I asked them to be present; in examining the muskets I made a mistake in one or two instances; I mistook rust for the trace of powder, and the captain corrected me.

To Mr. Graydon—I made two alterations in the list of names after getting them from the men, at the suggestion of the captain; he told me to put, "first" after Gleeson's name, and in another case I had the name of West, and I altered it to Weston; these alterations were not made in the presence of the men.

Mr. Coffey then announced that the case for the prosecution was closed, observing that there were several witnesses in attendance, whom he would tender for examination at the other side, if required.

The court adjourned for half an hour, and on re-assembling proceeded to hear evidence for

THE DEFENCE.

Henry Keane examined by Mr. Graydon—I live at Beech Park, in this county; am connected with the agency of the Marquis of Conyngham's property; recollect the 21st of July; accompanied by a servant, was at Mr. Goggin's, of Burton-hill; knew the house of a man named Collins; there were voters of the Marquis of Conyngham's in the house that evening; I remember a party of men, from 35 to 40, arrived at Goggin's; each man of this party had a stick; they came up to me at the hall-door and asked me had I freeholders there; I said "find out;" they said they were in the house, and that they would break down the house if not let in; I said they should get rid of me first; Mr. Goggin then came down stairs; they asked him for his vote, and he said he would not give it, that he had promised Mr. Keane to vote for Colonel Vandeleur; they asked to be allowed into the house, and were refused; they then got in by the back way; I went towards the gate and was followed by the people; they turned back; a boy on the top of the hill put his hat on the top of a stick, and I heard a voice cry out, "we've found them boys, run;" it was one of the party said so; the party went up to Collins's house; I followed them; I saw the freeholders caught by the collars; one got a box on the neck and another on the shoulders; some of the freeholders resisted; this business was going on for half an

hour, or three quarters; when the mob found that they could not succeed with the freeholders, they attacked me; one of them swore by the God of Heaven before sunset I would be a corpse, or they would; and another said, "Come boys, put the Devil's guts in the dunghill;" some of them took off their coats; after using this language they ran at the freeholders, took two of them in their arms and brought them to the cars; some of the freeholders came to me and asked me to have an eye to them, and that they would send messengers to me wherever they were; thinks one of these who said this was James Frost, a large, stout man; some of them also said that most likely they would be brought up the mountain road, and to go to Sixmillebridge to get the military to meet them; they went first by the mountain, and then turned to Limerick; sent messengers after them to bring back word where they were brought to; went back to Mr. Goggin in about an hour and a half after I saw Mr. Delmege and the military party; Mr. Delmege and some of the soldiers turned back with me; the rest remained on the road; we proceeded towards Thomondgate; there were about forty persons on guard there; a number of freeholders put their heads through a window, and cheered, and cried out, "Glory to you master, that wouldn't leave us"—(laughter)—heard a fellow say "Go Paddy, to such a place, and tell the boys that Keane, the Devil, has come for his men;" there were three such messages sent; I went to Mr. Delmege and told him that these messages had been sent for the mob, that they were coming in first, and that it he were not alive to his business there would be bloodshed before many minutes, as our party was too small to attack a Limerick mob; the captain ordered the door to be opened in an instant; the door was not opened until it got two or three punches with the butt of a musket; when the door was open I ran up stairs, shook hands with all the men, clapped them on the back, and told them not to lose their courage; they were very glad to see me, and said they were surprised I was so long away; they went down stairs, when Mr. Delmege met them; he asked if they wished to go under his protection and that of the military to the bridge, and they said, "certainly, your honor, we could never think of going without you, we would be murdered."

Mr. Coffey—If this gentleman was one of the firing party I shall have to take a certain course, and this is the time to say, that he may either make a statement or not as he pleases.

Witness—I have no objection to make any statement.

The Coroner—Anything you say here, Mr. Keane, may be used in evidence against you.

Witness—Oh, you're very welcome.

Examination resumed—When we came down stairs the crowd was very considerable, but I saw no disposition to riot; we proceeded on to Sixmillebridge; we met a gentleman in a gig, who groined us, and said, "look at the convicts!" I don't know who that gentleman was; we met two on another jamming-car, who said something to the same effect, with the addition—"Ye will catch it, my lads, going into the bridge;" I don't know who these persons were; they were rather respectable looking, but not gentlemen—(laughter)—we had four covered cars and one open one with my party; I was about the centre of the procession; we met a car and the persons on it said, "the bridge would be ripped up, and that we never would get into the town with our lives; when we got into the town the procession went on straight; there were lots of groaning and shouting through the streets; after passing the bridge I saw the Rev. Mr. Burke, a Roman Catholic Clergyman; did not know Mr. Burke at that time; ascertained his name in about an hour after getting into the court; the people mentioned the names of freeholders, and said they would be murdered another time, when they had not the military to protect them; the people also said, "Here's Keane, the Devil's man—here's Keane, the Souper's man;" there were hundreds of thousands of men there—(manifestations of surprise)—Mr. Burke raised his hand saying, "Be quiet, boys, be quiet;" about the centre of the green, near the chapel, I heard the Rev. Mr. Burke say, "Rescue Keane's men, rescue Keane's men;" there were within three feet of him; there was an observation made by the people at the time, "the boys are gone round; saw some stones pelted at the time; when I heard Mr. Burke's expression I turned round and stamped my foot in surprise; Mr. Burke did not know me at the time; if he did the work would have commenced sooner."

Mr. Coffey—I beg, Mr. Coroner, you will take down the last answer, "if he did, the work would have commenced sooner."

Witness—I say that because there were such cries for Keane the Devil, and for Keane the Souper; there was no serious stone-throwing then opposite the chapel; two men ran at one of the cars, and caught a freeholder by the collar; pushed them off; there was a rush on me then by the people; a soldier came to my protection; he swore he'd stick the fellows if they broke in upon the line, or words to that effect; he appeared to be annoyed; Mr. Burke came up and put one hand on the soldier's neck, and the other on the gun or the arm; the soldier spoke very stiff to him, and threatened to stick either him or one of those men who were assisting him if they interfered with his duty; ran in front to the captain when I saw that; told him that one of his men was grossly insulted, and that they could not stand the treatment they were getting, and that bad work was commencing; he did not turn round, but answered, saying, "I have more to do here than I can do—go back and tell the other officers;" made my way back to where I had been before; found the work was getting a little hot there; the soldier was gone away, and there was no account of him; saw Mr. Burke again; he was within four or five yards of me; Mr. Burke said, "Boys, stand to your religion;" "fight for your religion;" I am not certain which, and it might have been both; there were hundreds of voices roaring out "fight for your religion;" some of the people were wheeling their sticks; saw Mr. Burke before that go to three or four of the cars; he asked the parties if they were voting against their religion; there was a rush of people to the cars; they ran front and pelted front just before we came to the barley garden; as we got into the lane there was a cabin and a dunghill; forced five or six times people away from the cars; they were trying to pull out the voters; jostled them away, but took them gently; did this three times, to two people at each time; the military assisted me twice; the first place was where Mr. Burke interfered; the next at the dunghill, and the third near the corner of the bridewell wall; at the second place a soldier interfered; some people were at the side of the house near the potato field; several pelted at the soldiers; there was one woman in the party; a soldier was struck with a stone; he was hit on the neck or throat; he fell forward a little; made a run for the stone; it was a flat stone about five inches long, four inches wide, and two inches thick; that was the soldier who was next me; I could see what was passing in front but not in rear; while I was running for the stone I saw two men going to the car that I was after, and attempt to pull out two men; they had one of them half way out; I gave one of them a box and knocked him against the wall at the other side; there were then three stones pelted at me, or four; two of the stones hit the leaf of my hat and raised it off my head; I did not see who pelted these stones; the same stones went into the covered car; stone-throwing had become brisk about the time the soldier was hit; I heard a shot fired in a few seconds after the stones were thrown at me; it appeared to me to be in front; I kept my ground behind the cars; the procession moved on slowly; I was several times checked; when the stones were thrown at me there was a check of some seconds; should say from half a minute to a minute; saw a crowd of six or seven men in a small space near the barley garden pelted; the wall over them was well lined; the people in the barley field were also pelted; there was a row of people on the wall, with breaks between them; thinks the stones were thrown with violence; one stone hit one of their own men, and knocked him down; and the blow was broken against the wall; the man was not knocked down, but—

Mr. Coffey—My God, Sir, did you not say this moment that he was knocked down?

Mr. Graydon—Indeed, he did not.

The Coroner—The witness most distinctly stated that the man was knocked down.

Witness—I meant stumbled; went on a few yards, and heard a number of shots fired; saw no soldier lying on the ground; after the shots were fired I saw three men falling; saw the party these men belonged to pelted; that was on the right-hand side of the road near the trees; there were six or eight men in the party to which they belonged; my voters were running away, and I followed them; put my hands around them, and brought them back; pushed them on in the direction of where the other soldiers were; and who had their guns pointed up; saw lying what I considered a dead soldier almost twelve yards from the corner of the road; saw two men run towards him—the first man that came up made a stroke with both his hands, whatever he had in them; it was over his head the stroke was made; he let go whatever he had

(Continued on seventh page.)