

convenient one in which either to veil a guilty complicity, or, in the case of the Highlanders, to escape that imputation of being an "informer" which is so hateful to the Celtic heart.

There is, however, an equally modern and less remote instance of a similar sort. In 1828, in Suffolk, Maria Martin was slain by her false lover—a crime known in sensational literature as "The Murder in the Red Barn." The step-mother of the deceased (says Mr. Chambers in his "Book of Days") gave testimony on the trial that she had received in a dream that knowledge of the situation of the body of the victim which led to the detection of the murderer.

The late Mr. Serjeant Cox, at a meeting of the Psychological Society in the year 1876, narrated a remarkable case which had come within his own experience in which dreams had played an important part, and the evidence for which he had himself heard given on oath in open court.

A murder had been committed in Somersetshire. A farmer had disappeared and was not to be found. Two different men, living in different villages, some distance from where the farmer had disappeared, both had a dream upon the same night, and stated the particulars to the local magistrates. They said they had dreamed on that particular night that the body was lying in a well in the farm-yard. No well was known to be there at all, so the two men were laughed at. Some persons, however, went to the yard and, although there was no appearance of a well, they at last found one under some manure, and the body was in it; then, of course, on the principle of the proverb, "He who hides can find," the public began to suspect the two men themselves. But it was finally proved that the farmer had been murdered by his own two nephews, who had afterwards disposed of his body thus. Before these dreams the dreamers had known nothing about the well in the yard. The nephews were hanged for their crime.—*Argosy*.

JUDGES WHO HAVE NOT RETIRED.—A London news agency circulated a rumor to the effect that the Master of the Rolls would resign his position before the long vacation, and that he would be succeeded by the Attorney-General. The statement should be read with a great deal of reserve. Lord Esher has already been retired at least four times—by the newspapers. Just before the long vacation the legal atmosphere of the east end of the Strand becomes charged with rumors, and the ubiquitous reporters of the law courts are busy with their speculations. Months back they started the canard that the Lord Chief Justice was anxious to retire, and he was only prevented from doing so by the fear that Sir Richard Webster would be promoted to his position. Lord Coleridge has taken up a strong position on the Home Rule question, and it is well known that he has not viewed Sir Richard's conduct of the Parnell Commission with particular favour. But for none of these reasons does he still retain the most lucrative judicial appointment next to the Lord Chancellorship. The explanation of these unfounded and somewhat absurd rumors is that judges are in the habit of retiring during the long vacation, and immediately a member of the bench is entitled to his pension the gossips begin to make free with his name.