

## DROMORE MEETINGS.

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RETURN to an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons,  
dated 10 March 1884;—*for*,

COPY “of REPORTS from Resident Magistrates on DROMORE MEETINGS  
of the 1st day of January 1884, and of DEPOSITIONS and VERDICT at the  
INQUEST of *Samuel Giffen*.”

(*Mr. Trevelyan.*)

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*Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,*  
*10 March 1884.*

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DROMORE MEETINGS.—1st January 1884.

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COPIES of the undermentioned Reports made to the Irish Government by the Resident Magistrates who were on duty at the above Meetings, viz.:—

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COPY of REPORTS from Resident Magistrates on DROMORE MEETINGS of the 1st day of January 1884, and of DEPOSITIONS and VERDICT at the INQUEST of *Samuel Giffen*.

— I. —

JOINT REPORT by Mr. *T. Hamilton*, R.M., Major *Blair*, R.M., and Mr. *Thynne*, R.M.

Dromore Meetings.—County of Tyrone.

Omagh, 2 January 1884.

WE beg to report that we arrived at Omagh by the night mail on Sunday last, and next morning, as ordered, met the military and constabulary authorities at Dromore Police Barrack at 10 o'clock a.m.

Having conferred with Col. Bennett, commanding the troops, and County Inspector Pennington, and having visited the surrounding neighbourhood as far as Trillick, we decided on the following disposal of the force. We previously approved of the places suggested by the leaders on both sides where the meetings were to be held. The places selected seemed to us to be sufficiently far apart:—

At Dromore,—

175 Cavalry;  
400 Infantry;  
397 Police;

With Mr. Hamilton, R.M., and Mr. Thynne, R.M.

At Trillick where a collision was expected:—

75 Cavalry;  
100 Infantry;  
50 Police;

With Major Blair, R.M.

The rest of the force remained at Omagh.

Thinking large bodies of both parties would reach Dromore by roads surrounding it, we organised a system of patrolling by cavalry, infantry, and police from an early hour; the same arrangements were made at Trillick.

At 12 o'clock the Nationalists assembled at the chapel a little outside the town, and marshalled by the Rev. Mr. O'Mahony, c.c., marched in sections of fours (a formation which was strictly observed, and apparently showing some practice in drill) towards the place of meeting, which was in a field close outside the village, at the opposite side to where the Orange meeting was held, in a field near the church.

They were accompanied by several bands in uniform, but had no banners.

The Orangemen for the most part arrived by train at Dromore-road Station, a mile and a half from the village, which from an early hour we had occupied by a force of police.

Major Blair travelled by the 8 a.m. train to Dromore-road, and hearing a shot fired out of one of the carriages, directed all persons who alighted at Dromore Station going to either meeting to be searched for arms. The result was, five pistols and revolvers were found, three on Nationalists and two on Orangemen.

The news that this search was made soon spread, and in consequence numbers of revolvers were left behind in places of safety by both parties.

Shortly after 12 o'clock the Trillick Nationalists, escorted by Major Blair and a force, when entering the village by a bye-road which they voluntarily suggested

gested to come by, were assailed by stones thrown by a few of the Orange party over the heads of the military.

The Nationalists retaliated, but were quickly moved on, and the Orangemen dispersed.

At 12.45 p.m. the main body of the Orangemen arrived by the leading road from the railway station, and when they reached their place of meeting wanted to proceed farther on and parade through the town. As this would have certainly led to a collision, Mr. Hamilton and Mr. Thynne prevented them by force, and obliged them to turn into the field where their meeting was held.

The Orangemen had numerous bands in uniform, and carried large flags and banners. A large Union Jack was planted on their platform. The greater portion of this party wore Orange sashes.

We estimate that there were between 5,000 and 7,000 Orangemen. The Orange party consisted entirely of men, whilst among the Nationalists were a large number of women and boys.

Both meetings then proceeded, and nothing particular occurred until the Trillick Nationalists started on their return about 3 p.m.

They were escorted as before, and proceeded by the same road by which they came, so as to avoid the Orange meeting which was still going on.

Immediately on leaving the village this Nationalist party were attacked by a large number of the Orange party, who made a sudden rush across several intervening fences and through a plantation of fir trees; a lively interchange of stone-throwing then took place. Major Blair at once halted the Nationalists and cleared the plantation, which Mr. Hamilton had already, on seeing the collision, occupied by cavalry, who most promptly checked the advance of other large numbers of the Orange party, and with the police cleared the wood.

The Orange party at this time were very violent and defiant, and necessitated the police using their batons and butts of their rifles freely to repel them.

Mr. Thynne also assisted with another party of police to clear the wood, and then joined Major Blair and the Trillick Nationalists, who resumed their march.

After passing the wood the Orange party again headed the Nationalists in the fields on both sides of the road. The Trillick party were again halted, and Mr. Thynne with the police cleared the fields on right of the road. The number of Orangemen on the left kept on increasing, and as the cavalry were detained, having to make a long detour to get out of the wood, Major Blair and Mr. Thynne took with them all the available police and military into the fields on the left, and in attempting to disperse the crowd there, matters assumed such a serious aspect, several revolver shots being heard, that Major Blair and Mr. Thynne read the Riot Act at 3.10 p.m. at different points, and ordered the military and police to fix bayonets and swords and to charge. This effectually dispersed the rioters. The Trillick Nationalists then again resumed their march, and as they approached the junction of the bye-road with the main road the Orange body was approaching the same point by the main road. As it had been previously arranged to escort the Trillick party past the Dromore-road Railway Station, the advance of the Orange body was then checked by the cavalry acting under Mr. Hamilton's orders, to allow the Nationalist party to pass in front. Large numbers of the Orange party then left the road and got into the fields on both sides, shouting and brandishing sticks, and, approaching the Nationalist party, again commenced throwing stones. The Nationalists retreated from the road and got on an eminence to their right, whence they retaliated. There was now very sharp stone-throwing over the heads of the military and police, who were between both parties; but this was quickly checked by the infantry and police being thrown into the fields as skirmishers. At this point Mr. Hamilton read the Riot Act, and the cavalry by his orders charged and drove back the Orange party on the main road. In this encounter in the fields it is alleged the police bayoneted two of the Orange rioters, one dangerously.

The Trillick party then resumed their journey, and nothing further occurred to disturb the public peace.

The Orange party followed to the railway station, and left by special trains.

The holding of these meetings most seriously endangered the public peace, more particularly at a place situated as Dromore is, with regard to the numerous approaches over which both parties desire to travel at the same time, and notwithstanding

withstanding the ample force at our disposal it was a matter of the utmost extreme difficulty to prevent a dangerous collision between the rival parties.

The Orange party were most belligerent and aggressive, and difficult to restrain, in spite of the strenuous efforts of their leaders, who seemed unable to control them.

On the whole it is a matter of much congratulation that under circumstances of extreme difficulty far more serious consequences did not result.

In carrying out this duty we received the most hearty co-operation from the military and police. We cannot speak too highly of the efficient services rendered by Col. Bennett, who during the entire day was indefatigable in his exertions, and under whose personal supervision all the military movements were carried out.

Lieut.-Col. Schwabe, commanding the cavalry, also rendered most valuable aid on every occasion, and by his promptitude and grasp of every situation, and the quickness with which he handled the cavalry on several occasions during the day, very materially contributed to prevent more serious collisions.

The police arrangements were most efficiently carried out by County Inspector Pennington; his experience, advice, and constant attention during the day were invaluable. To District Inspector Kelly much praise is due for his activity, intelligence, and knowledge of his district, which rendered us material assistance.

Under very trying circumstances the conduct of the officers and men of the military and police was most praiseworthy.

(signed) *Thos. Hamilton, R.M.*  
*J. B. Blair, R.M.*  
*H. Thynne, R.M.*

— II. —

Dromore Meetings.—County Tyrone, 1 January 1884.

STATEMENT of Mr. *Thomas Hamilton, R.M.*, regarding Occurrences which came under his own Observation at the Time and Place when and where *Giffen* was Stabbed.

AT 3.15 p.m., accompanied by Colonel Bennett and Colonel Schwabe and some cavalry, I rode from the village of Droimore, immediately after the attack by the Orangemen on the Nationalists, at the Rectory Grounds, had been repulsed, and proceeded by a bye-road towards the Railway Station, so as to head the Orangemen, some 2,000 or 3,000 strong, who were then marching by the main road towards the Railway Station at Dromore-road. In the meantime the Trillick Nationalists, escorted by Major Blair, R.M., Mr. Thynne, R.M., and a large escort of military and police, were also advancing by the old road towards the same station, and would have reached the main road at least half a mile in advance of the Orangemen, but that they were retarded on their march by repeated attacks from large numbers of Orangemen, who, leaving the main body of their party on the road, crossed the fields to assail the Nationalists.

At 3.30 p.m., just as the Nationalists were marching down the old road at A (as shown in map), the main body of the Orangemen had reached B, and their farther advance being checked by the cavalry, acting under my orders, large numbers of them dashed into the field, on the right side of the road at C, and advanced towards the Nationalists, shouting, brandishing sticks, and hurling volleys of stones. The Nationalists then left the old road and got into the field at D, from whence they threw stones freely at the Orangemen over the heads of the military and police. Some of the police then, by my orders, intervened between the rival parties in the field at C, and drove back the Orangemen, while the infantry and police at D drove back the Nationalists, and got them on to the main road leading to the Railway Station.

While these encounters were proceeding the main body of the Orangemen on the road became so riotous, yelling, throwing stones, and firing pistol-shots (the firing I did not see, but Colonel Schwabe told me of it), that I read the



Riot Act, and ordered the cavalry (Hussars) to draw swords and drive back the Orangemen. A few of the Hussars at once advanced with drawn swords, and quickly drove the Orangemen back about 100 yards on the road, which was too narrow for any extended formation. While the cavalry were making this advance large numbers of the Orangemen jumped and tumbled over the low fences on the right and left of the road into the adjoining fields, to avoid being ridden over, and amongst them (as I believe) Giffen, who went into the field at E. At the time he did so a large number of Orangemen were pouring into the field E, having been repulsed at C, and advancing across it towards the Nationalists, who were getting on the main road at F. They were, however, checked by some 20 or 30 police who were skirmishing, scattered about the field, with fixed swords, and at this time, and while the riot was proceeding, Giffen was (as I believe) stabbed, but whether by the police or the Hussars I have some doubt. The Orangemen having been driven back in the fields, on both sides, then returned to the road, and remained there for about 10 minutes until I permitted them to advance towards the Railway Station, the Nationalists then being half-a-mile ahead, and the military and police intervening.

The whole time occupied by this riot, during which Giffen was stabbed, did not exceed 15 or 20 minutes, but a riot more dangerous and threatening during the time it lasted I never witnessed during a very long experience, or an occasion which more fully justified and called for very strong measures for its repression.

At the time the Orangemen were rioting on the roads I saw some of their leaders, gentlemen whom I do not know, exerting themselves to restrain their followers, but they seemed powerless to do so; and on every occasion that offered during the day, as well as at that time, the Orangemen seemed most blood-thirsty and determined to attack the Nationalists, and, but for the large force at our disposal, they would undoubtedly have come into deadly conflict; and armed, as both parties were, with sticks, stones, and revolvers, very much more calamitous results than Giffen's death would assuredly have taken place.

I only heard of Giffen having been stabbed about half an hour after the occurrence, when near the Railway Station, and I then rode back and saw him in the house where he was lying at G, but finding him unconscious, and apparently dying, I returned to Dromore, where I gave instructions for his proper treatment.

On that night, at 9 o'clock, when travelling in a railway carriage from Dromore to Omagh, I was told by Mr. Chas. O. McLoughlin, of Londonderry, a correspondent to the "Freeman's Journal," that he was present at the time the cavalry charged the Orangemen, and that he saw one of them (a Hussar) "give a fellow a drive in the stern with the point of his sword as he was tumbling over into the field at E, where Giffen was stabbed."

The other occurrences of the day are more fully detailed in the joint report made by Mr. Thynne, Major Blair, and me immediately after the meetings.

24 January 1884.

(signed) *Thos. Hamilton, R.M.*

### — III. —

#### SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT by Major Blair, R.M.

##### Dromore Meetings on 1st January 1884.

The Castle, Dublin, 28 January 1884.

REFERRING to former reports on this subject, the following are the details, so far as they came under my observation, of the collision with the rioters at the junction of the two roads, when the young man Giffen was fatally stabbed.

While the attack on the Nationalist party was proceeding on the right of the main road, I observed a number of persons were assembling in the potato field on the left again heading the Nationalist party. Mr. Thynne, who was on higher ground than I was at the time, subsequently informed me he noticed  
more

more persons breaking out on the flank of the main Orange body and joining this party in the potato field.

Seeing it was impossible to get the Nationalists past the junction without a collision, I ordered the few police I could spare to fix swords and clear this field. I had first remonstrated with the people in this particular field, and had asked them to retire quietly before I resorted to force. I found them obstinate and combative, and wholly insensible to reason at this particular time, as well as during the whole day.

It should be remembered that we were dealing with men who had started for these meetings generally armed with revolvers, and who, in spite of the search, still had some fire-arms in their possession, which it was reported to me they had fired at the Nationalists, and once at the Queen's troops, when no Nationalists were near.

The Under Secretary.

*J. B. Blair, R.M.*

— IV. —

INQUEST on the Body of *Samuel Giffen*.

DEPOSITIONS and VERDICT.

DEPOSITIONS.

EDWARD C. THOMPSON, M.B., Surgeon, County Tyrone Infirmary, Omagh, in the county of Tyrone, who being then and there duly sworn and examined upon oath, saith,—

I SAW the wounded man, Giffen on the 1st instant. I was on the road near the cross roads. I saw where the different parties were; the Orangemen were on the main road to the railway station leading from Dromore, the Nationalists were then on a hill on the right-hand side of the old road; none of them were on the new road, it was filled with military so far as I could see; stone-throwing was indulged in by both parties; the Orangemen from the road threw stones, the Nationalists from the hill, then a shot was fired from the Nationalists' side; immediately after the cavalry charged down the road. I then jumped into a field on the left-hand side; there were very few people in the field until the cavalry charged. When I got into the field there were some police who had bayonets fixed on their rifles; they were advancing on these men. I remained for a few moments where I was, not knowing where to go for safety; there was no stone-throwing from that field. I heard while standing that a man had been wounded; I went to the place and found the man Giffen, as I thought in a dying state; he was quite unconscious and pulse weak. When I went up to Giffen the police had stopped and turned. I subsequently attended another man nearer Dromore. The parties in the potato field were attacking no party, it would have been quite impossible for them to have done so. It was in the same field that I attended to the other man; when I went up to Giffen no police were there, nor did any of them attend to him; no policeman directed my attention to either of the wounded men. Had the civilians who came to Giffen's assistance not come he would have died there in a very short time. I gave directions as to how Giffen should be transported to the nearest house; I then went to see after the other wounded man; I went back to where Giffen had been taken, and stayed with him until Dr. Warnock arrived, and told Dr. Marshall to be sent for. When I came back into Dromore I reported the occurrence to Mr. Pennington, the county inspector, and said that I believed the man to be mortally wounded. I next saw him in consultation with Dr. Marshall on the following Thursday. He was left in a most uncomfortable state; no person paid any attention to him, except the persons in whose house he was, who were unable to render much assistance; the authorities paid no attention to him whatever. I examined the wound, and am of opinion that the party who inflicted the wound must have exerted his full force, as the instrument went almost through his body. Two officers of the Army Medical Department were present at Dromore that day, and had every possible convenience for the relief and comfort of any party who might get wounded, yet they did not render any assistance.

To Mr. *Riordan*.] I attended the Orange meeting on the 1st instant. I left the meeting when it broke up; I saw a paling broken, the Orangemen broke it down; I saw the attack made by the Orangemen on the Nationalists; I consider about 2,000 Orangemen were there. The Orangemen were being driven back by the police and Lancers out of the plantation;

plantation; I saw police afterwards charge a crowd in a field behind the Rectory; I saw no stones thrown. I saw the police charge these parties down the hill with fixed bayonets. The Nationalist party were advancing in the same direction, but not in sight. Before this charge was made I saw something done which I heard was the reading of the Riot Act. The next thing I saw was another attack made by the Orangemen on the Nationalists, as the latter proceeded along the road in the direction of the railway station; I then saw stones thrown by both parties; that attack was repelled by the cavalry; from where the first attack was made to where the second was made, I consider about 400 yards; a few hundred of the Orangemen only were engaged in the second attack. I continued to proceed towards the railway station, and saw the same class of attack continued until the cavalry charged them on the road; when I went into the field (the potato field), there were about 200 others in it. I saw none of these people go in the direction of the Nationalists, who were going along the road where it abutted on this field in which I saw a number of police; they had bayonets fixed on their rifles. I sent for Dr. Marshall, and reported the matter of the wounded man to him. I saw no attack made on the Orange party that day, except by the police. The people who were charged by the police in potato field could not have got at the Nationalist party. At the first charge made by the police behind the Rectory, the people were driven towards the new road where the main body of the Orangemen were stationed. At that time the Nationalists were on the old road; the people were then being driven in the opposite direction of the Nationalists. During the whole time I only saw the crowds repelled by the police with fixed bayonets twice, including where the man was wounded.

Dr. Marshall, to whom I reported the occurrence, is medical officer of the district.

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EDWARD ARCHDALE, of Crocknacrieve, Farmer, in the county of Fermanagh, who, being then and there duly sworn and examined upon oath, saith,—

I WAS at Dromore on the 1st instant; I recollect leaving in the evening about half-past three or four o'clock. I know where the new road comes out on the road; I recollect the Orangemen being stopped on the road; I saw the two parties on that occasion; I saw stones thrown by both, the Orangemen off the three-cornered field between the two roads and the Nationalists from the hill on right of old road; the Orangemen were on the new road; I know the field in which Giffen was wounded; it was all quite quiet when I went into it. I was in the side of the hedge next the three-cornered field; I saw Giffen lying between two ridges on his back; I lifted him into the ridge and sent a messenger for Dr. Thompson, who I knew was close by; no Nationalists were in the field where Giffen was. I then spoke to Major Hamilton, R.M., and told him I would keep the Orangemen back if he put the cavalry into the three-cornered field to keep the parties separate; he then put a lot of police into it. This was before I saw Giffen or the cavalry come back. The cavalry then came on our men on the road, and a lot of them jumped into the fields on both sides. I did not see Giffen brought down to the house. I then went back to see a man of my own named Spatt, who was in the same field as Giffen, but nearer Dromore. At this time there were the cavalry and police between the parties, and not possible for the men in the potato field to come into contact with the Nationalists, not even in front as far as I could see, as the cavalry occupied the road.

To Mr. *Riordan*.] I came to Dromore that day with a party of about 1,000 by train to the railway station, thence on foot to Dromore. Before the meeting commenced I saw no violence used by his men; I cannot say whether Dr. Thompson or I left the meeting first; I was at luncheon at Rev. Mr. Magennis', and while there I saw the Orangemen running past. When I came out, the Orange party were being driven back by the soldiers from the old road towards the new; I went on with the Orangemen some distance, when I saw a party of Orangemen being driven down by the police from behind the Rectory; these men joined in with the others of the procession, which was a considerable length, closely packed along the road. I proceeded about 100 yards, when I observed some disturbance caused by our men breaking across towards the old road where the Nationalists were. This disturbance was slightly continued until the junction of the cross roads; when we reached there the disturbance slightly increased; about 200 of our party went into the three-cornered field. At no time during the day did the Nationalist party make any attack on the Orangemen.

By Mr. *Moore*.] I was about the first to come up to the wounded man. When I went to railway station, I sent one of the Portadown men back to him. I did not know that he was to get any remuneration. I told the resident magistrate in charge, who said an officer knew all about the case, and would see that he was attended to, also before leaving I told the officer with the squadron of Hussars, who had Captain Hamilton's (R.M.) orderly with him. I did nothing further for him beyond giving these directions. I saw him when removed to the house, saw Dr. Thompson in attendance on him, and knew that Dr. Marshall was sent for. I had another man who was also wounded sent home in my uncle's carriage. I walked home myself.

To Mr. *Juror*.] I am not in the Army or Navy. I came with a contingent of about 1,000. I became responsible for my share of the expense of carrying these men to  
Dromore



Dromore for the purpose of opposing the Nationalist meeting. I saw no stones thrown in front of the Rectory. It was necessary for the military to be between the parties; had they not been, there would have been an undoubted chase. I did not know when the Nationalist party's meeting broke up. I am a magistrate.

WILLIAM IRWIN, Stranagomer, Farmer, in the county of Tyrone, who being then and there duly sworn and examined upon oath, saith,—

I WAS at Dromore on the 1st instant. I was at the Orange meeting. I recollect the procession being stopped by the cavalry. I left the road and went into the potato field before the cavalry came forward; there was a great crowd there. I was doing nothing. I heard the cavalry ordered to go forward on the Orangemen; at that time there were no Nationalists in the potato field; the Orangemen and cavalry and police were between me and the Nationalists. While I was in the field I saw a great many people in it. I went across the field and the police came off the old road into the potato field; they formed in line and drove some scattered Orangemen back across the field; there was no disturbance of any kind in the field. I made my way out of the field to leave the way of the police. The Nationalist party started to throw stones at this time from the off-side of the road. I observed that the police when they came into the field, that they had not their bayonets fixed on their guns, but afterwards they fixed them on; I saw Giffen for the first time lying in a potato furrow; I saw a man leave the ranks four or five ridges in advance of the men. The Orangemen had all then run away except one man who was walking; a policeman ran after this one man with his rifle in his hand; he made at the man, and would have stabbed him in a moment had not an officer come forward and prevented him. There was no row in this field. The policeman went back when ordered and fell into line. At this juncture the horsemen came forward. I kept on the road myself. The cavalry were halted, and on looking round I saw a man lying in a potato furrow. I helped to carry him down to the house of Francis Coulter, and saw his wounds dressed. The police came into the field from the old road.

To Mr. *Riordan*.] I came from beyond Trillick in company of the Trillick contingent, which comprised about 200 or 300 persons. George Buchanan was in charge. When the meeting broke up, I went along the road as far as the avenue at the Rectory, the back avenue; when I went there mostly all the party had gone before me; I cannot say there were 500 went in the direction of the Nationalists; we were turned back by the military. I heard one shot fired about the time of the collision at the cross-roads. I do not know who fired the shot.

By Mr. *Moore*.] Before the cavalry had come back along the road I was in the field, and when they came back, I came out to the road. If the officer were in uniform I could identify him.

ROBERT THOMPSON, Killyfaddy, Farmer, in the county of Tyrone, who being then and there duly sworn and examined upon oath, saith,—

I WAS at Dromore at the meeting on the 1st instant. On my way home I recollect a stop being made of the procession by the Lancers near where the old road comes out on the new; at that time I was on the road; I left it out of the way of the cavalry coming back; I went into the field on the left-hand side of the road, a potato field left-hand side going to the station. I saw no police in the field at the time when I went in; I afterwards saw some come in; they came from the old road into the potato field, the old road crosses the new; these police came off the portion of the old road next the railway. When the police came into the field they stood in a line up the side of the field, in a line with the old road; they moved into the field in order to put back parties who were straggling through the field. The police moved across the ridges; at this particular time there was no conflict between any parties in the field. The Nationalists were then on the old road, on the portion between Dromore and the cross-roads; none of the Nationalists were on the side of the potato field. When the police were crossing the ridges the parties were moving before them in the direction of the town. I observed one policeman go a little faster than the rest over a few ridges; that policeman took his gun with a bayonet on it (they all had bayonets on) and strike or jump at a boy or man in the field, I did not know which, the effect of which was that the boy fell into a furrow; he struggled to rise but could not get to his feet; I was nearer the foot of the field. I saw one man go up to him and strive to lift him out of the furrow; he was not able to lift him; this was a civilian. The policeman who did this went back again. I then went up to help the boy who had fallen. I did not know who the boy was; I saw him taken into Francis Coulter's house; he was the same boy who I saw by the policeman; I remained with him till the doctor came. I saw him carried down to the house.

To Mr. *Riordan*.] I was quite sober during the day. Some of my party broke over the road into the field where the Nationalists were. I saw stones thrown at the cross roads by both parties; that was about 15 minutes before I went into the field; a good many persons were in the field, about 100 more or less when the police came into the field.

By Mr. Moore.] At this time the Orange procession was between these people in the field and the Nationalist party who were on the old road. I did not see that policeman strike at any other. I would not know him again.

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JOHN DUNLOP, Omagh, Tailor, in the county of Tyrone, who being then and there duly sworn and examined upon oath, saith,—

I WAS in Dromore on the 1st instant. I recollect leaving the field where the Orangemen were assembled at about 4 o'clock p.m., in time to be at the railway station, at 4.30. On the way to the station there was a halt at the cross roads where the old road joins into the new; at that time I was in the procession on the new road; I left it on account of the Lancers charging, who were coming from the direction of the station. I went into a field on the left-hand side going towards the station; I saw the other party on the old road; they were going in the direction of the station too, and coming towards us; they were turned into a field on the opposite side; I do not know who turned them. When I went into the field where potatoes were, the police charged, and in the same direction as the Lancers were coming at the same time as the charge was made by the police.

I saw a policeman make a (lounge) or point at some fellow's back. I did not see his face; I turned round and said to the policeman, "That's not right;" he was in front of the rank a pace or two; he then made a point at me; the sword passed my throat on the right side and knocked me down on a potato ridge. I got up and asked the officer in charge to get me his name; he refused to do so. I do not know his name, but can identify him if I see him. A sergeant or head constable then gave me a push and I fell; I cannot say whether the lounge made by the policeman at the other man stabbed him, as I did not hear there had been a man stabbed at that time. I do not know whether he fell or not; I was shoved on; I came back after the policeman to try and get the man's name; I then saw a crowd gathered round a man lying on the ground. I was about six or seven yards distant from the place where I saw the man thrust at by the policeman. I afterwards followed the police to the cross roads; there they were halted and formed into line. I again asked the same officer to give me the man's name, pointing him out; he again refused. I asked his own name; he did not give it, and ordered me away. I then followed the policeman on towards the station. The officer in charge followed them into line along the roadside; eight or 10 men were then ordered to fall out to go back and see what had been done. The officer came forward to me on the pathway, and asked me if I could identify the policeman who had done it. I walked up the ranks saying, I could, and pointed the man out; the officer turned on his heel and walked off. I saw no more and left for the train. I could identify him now if I saw him; he is not here now. The man who was thrust at could have fallen without my seeing him, as I was pushed on. I came from Omagh that day; I had taken no drink before leaving, nor did I get any in Dromore during the day; I only got a bottle of lemonade. I was in a position to see anything that took place. I did not see any of the Orangemen cross the new road to where the National party were; I saw stones thrown freely by both sides at the cross roads; that was before I went into the potato field; no stones were thrown from the potato field, but there were from the road; at the time I saw the man thrust at by the policeman I saw no stones thrown.

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JAMES GIFFEN, Portadown, Tara, Dyer, in the county of Armagh, who being then and there duly sworn and examined upon oath, saith,—

I AM father of the deceased Samuel Giffen, aged 18 years. He left his residence in Portadown on the 1st instant, for the purpose of going to Dromore, in the county of Tyrone; I got information on the same evening that he had been stabbed by a policeman and unable to be removed home. Next day, the 2nd instant, I came to Dromore and went to the place where he was lying, in the house of Francis Coulter, of the townland of Mullinogough, where I remained since in attendance on my son. Hopes of his recovery were entertained till last Saturday evening, when he became worse and continued so till he died on Tuesday morning, the 8th instant, about 3 o'clock a.m. During the time he lay he was attended by Dr. Joseph Marshall, of Dromore.

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EDWARD C. THOMPSON, M.B., Surgeon, County Tyrone Infirmary, Omagh, and JOSEPH MARSHALL, M.B., Medical Officer, Dromore Dispensary, district Dromore, both in the county of Tyrone, who being then and there duly sworn and examined upon oaths, saith,—

WE this day made a post-mortem examination of the body of Samuel Giffen, aged apparently about 18 years. The body was well nourished; there was no external mark of violence, with the exception of a small incised wound at back part of the left hip, situated midway between the anterior-superior spine of the ileum and the great trochanter of the left hip. The wound was about an inch long and five inches in depth, and

and followed a direct course inwards towards the abdominal cavity, supposing the position of the body to be slightly slanting. On opening the cavity of the abdomen we found evidence of intense peritonitis, with some bloody effusion. The intestines were greatly swollen and congested, and matted together by an exudation. The wound was carefully followed, air passed through it, and on examining the peritoneal in the lower part of the abdomen, we found the internal opening of the wound, the position of which exactly corresponded with the external opening. The intestines were not injured. We are clearly of opinion that death was caused by peritonitis, the result of the wound in the upper and backpart of the left hip.

Mr. H. H. MOORE, who appeared on behalf of next-of-kin, asked Drs. Thompson and Marshall could they form, from their examination of the wounds, any opinion as to the level at which the instrument was directed which inflicted the wound?—It must have been at the level of the hip of the boy, and not above or below.

Can you form any idea of what instrument was used which inflicted the wound?—Yes, a long blade of any kind, such as a sword bayonet; an ordinary bayonet would not inflict the wound.

WILLIAM S. LOVE, Medical Practitioner, Omagh, in the county of Tyrone, who being then and there duly sworn and examined upon oath, saith,—

THAT I was present at a post-mortem examination on the body of Samuel Giffen, and that I concur with Drs. Thompson and Marshall as to the cause of death of the deceased. I also concur with Drs. Thompson and Marshall as to their evidence relative to the character of the wound.

#### VERDICT.

County of Tyrone, to wit:—An inquisition taken for our Sovereign Lady the Queen, in the town of Dromore, in the parish of Dromore, in the barony of East Omagh, and in the county of Tyrone, the 9th day of January, in the year of the reign of our Sovereign Lady Queen Victoria, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith, &c., before John G. R. Porter, one of the coroners of our said Lady the Queen, for the said county, on view of the body of Samuel Giffen, then and there lying dead, upon the oaths of Mathew Henderson, William Sproule, Daniel Martin, Thomas Gorman, William O'Kane, John Campbell, Noher Meenan, Joseph McLoughlin, John McNulty, John Corry, Joseph Gilmore, Wm. W. Scott, John McMeehan, John Stewart, Wm. Charleton, Edward Beacom, Hamilton McKeraghan, Robert Bond, John McCusker, Henry McGuigan, James O'Brien, Hugh McDermott, good and lawful men of the said county duly chosen, and who, being then and there duly sworn, and charged to inquire for our said Lady the Queen, when, how, and by what means the said Samuel Giffen came to his death, do, upon their oath, say the deceased Samuel Giffen died on Tuesday, the 8th day of January 1884, in the townland of Mullinogough, and that his death was caused by peritonitis, the effects of a wound received in the upper and back part of the hip joint; said wound was inflicted by a policeman. In witness whereof, as well the said coroner, as the said jurors have to this inquisition, set their hands and seals the day and year, and at the place first above-mentioned.

(signed)	<i>Mathew Henderson.</i>	(Seal.)	<i>Joseph Gilmore.</i>	(Seal.)
	<i>Daniel Martin.</i>	"	<i>Edward Beacom.</i>	"
	<i>Thos. Gorman.</i>	"	<i>Hamilton McKeraghan.</i>	"
	<i>William O'Kane.</i>	"	<i>John McCusker.</i>	"
	<i>John Campbell.</i>	"	<i>Henry McGuigan.</i>	"
	<i>Noher Meenan.</i>	"	<i>James O'Brien.</i>	"
	<i>Joseph McLoughlin.</i>	"	<i>Hugh McDermott.</i>	"
	<i>John McNulty.</i>	"		
		(signed)	<i>John G. R. Porter,</i>	(Seal.)
			Coroner.	

