

## THE CONDUCT OF THE JURY.

The following letter appeared in the *Freeman* :—

"Imperial Hotel, Dublin, Saturday, August 12.

"DEAR SIR—I think the public ought to be made aware of the following facts. The jury in the murder case of the Queen v Hynes were last night 'locked up,' as it is termed, for the night at the Imperial Hotel, where I also was staying. I was awakened from sleep shortly after midnight by the sounds of a drunken chorus, succeeded after a time by scuffling, rushing, coarse laughter, and horse-play along the corridor on which my bedroom opens. A number of men, it seemed to me, were falling about the passage in a maudlin state of drunkenness, playing ribald jokes. I listened with patience for a considerable time, when the door of my bedroom was burst open, and a man whom I can identify (for he carried a candle unsteadily in his hand) staggered in, plainly under the influence of drink, hiccapping 'Hallo, old fellow, all alone!' My answer was of a character that induced him to bolt out of the room in as disordered a manner as he had entered. Having rung the bell, I ascertained that these disorderly persons were jurors in the case of the Queen v. Hynes, and that the servants of the hotel had been endeavouring in vain to bring them to a sense of their misconduct. I thought it right to convey to them a warning that the public would hear of their proceedings. The disturbance then ceased. It is fair to add that no more than three or four men appeared to be engaged in the roaring and in the tippy horse-play that followed. I leave the public to judge the loathsomeness of such a scene upon the night when these men held the issues of life and death for a young man in the flower of youth—when they had already heard evidence which, if un rebutted, they must have known would send him to a felon's grave. The facts I am ready to support upon oath.

"WILLIAM O'BRIEN."

The following are the affidavits read by Mr. Sexton, in Parliament :—

"I, Alfred Martin, 21 years of age and upwards, billiard-marker at the Imperial Hotel, Sackville-street, Dublin, make oath and say that on Friday night, the 11th instant, I saw six men whom I knew to be members of the jury in the case of the Queen v. Hynes in the public-billiard room. I do not know where the rest of the jury were at the time, but they were not in the billiard room. There were four persons in the billiard-room at the time who were not members of the jury. They were Mr. Bushe, Major Wynne, Dr. Cusack, and another stranger, a friend of Mr. Reis. I saw the jurors mixing with other persons, who were not members of the jury. Mr. Reis handicapped a game of billiards in which persons not jurors were playing. Mr. Reis was intoxicated. I came to that conclusion from his conduct. He was keeping ringing the bell, and when the waiter came he said he did not want him, and that he never rung. He was making a noise and jumping about. Mr. Campbell the sub-sheriff's son, seeing him smoking cigars, told him he was rather extravagant in cigars. He said that he would smoke as much as he was in the habit of smoking at home. I saw jurors call for several drinks, and Major Wynne joined them in the drink. Mr. Reis remained an hour and a half in the billiard-room. The jurors went up stairs at about a quarter to twelve. I am perfectly convinced that Mr. Reis was under the influence of drink.

"ALFRED R. MARTIN.

"Sworn before me this 17th day of August, 1882, at the Imperial Hotel, Lower Sackville-street, in the county of the city of Dublin, a Commissioner for taking Affidavits in the Supreme Court of Judicature in Ireland, and I know the deponent.

"JOHN STONE, Commissioner."

"I, Elizabeth Josephine Carberry, 21 years of age and upwards, make oath and say—I lodge at the Imperial Hotel. My bedroom is No. 24, which opens on the upper corridor. No. 17, which, I am informed, is Mr. O'Brien's room, is on the same corridor. I have read Mr. O'Brien's letter in the *Freeman's Journal* of Monday last containing an account of the occurrences on the corridor outside my room on Friday night last. I consider the letter gives a very moderate account of the noise and misconduct going on in the corridor on that night. Several persons were taking part in the disturbance. They came to my door several times and turned my handle. They kicked at the door again and again. I thought they would smash the fanlight over the door by knocking it in with their knuckles. Only that my door was locked I believe they would have forced it. From their boisterous conduct I believe they must have been under the influence of drink. When I read Mr. O'Brien's letter I thought he described their conduct very mildly. The disturbance continued from about 12 to 12 30 o'clock.

"E. J. CARBERRY.

"Sworn before me this 17th day of August, 1882, at the Imperial Hotel, Lower Sackville-street, in the county of the city of Dublin, a Commissioner for taking Affidavits in the Supreme Court of Judicature in Ireland, and I know the deponent.

"JOHN STONE, Commissioner."

"I, William O'Brien, 21 years and upwards, make oath and say—I am the writer of the letter which appeared in the *Freeman* of the 14th August, as to the disturbance on the upper corridor of the Imperial Hotel on Friday night, when the jury in the Hynes case were staying at the hotel, and believe that the upper corridor was cleared that night for the accommodation of the jurors, and the only persons who were not jurors who were left to occupy rooms on that corridor that night were Miss Carberry and myself, who are permanent lodgers in the hotel. I swear that my letter gives a true representation of what occurred shortly after midnight on the corridor. The disturbance lasted for a considerable time before my door was burst open. The man who entered my room was under the influence of drink. He was a low-sized, dark complexioned, black-haired man, and wore glasses. After he left the room I rang and complained to the night porter of the intolerable misconduct that was going on. The noise shortly after ceased on the corridor, and on looking at my

watch I found it was twenty-five minutes to one o'clock. I had no opportunity of seeing anybody except the man who entered my room, and whom I can identify, but at least three persons must have been engaged in the shouting, rushing, and scuffling upon the corridor.

"WILLIAM O'BRIEN.

"Sworn before me this 17th day of August, 1882, at St. Andrew-street, in the county of the City of Dublin, and I know the deponent.—WILLIAM J. RYAN, a Commissioner to Administer Oaths in the Supreme Court of Judicature in Ireland."

"I, Richard O'Connor, assistant porter in the Imperial Hotel, Sackville-street, Dublin, make oath and say that shortly before twelve o'clock at night on Friday, the 11th instant, I saw Mr. Reis, and the other jurors in the case of the Queen v. Hynes, coming up stairs from the billiard-room. In passing me Mr. Reis raised his hand as if to strike me, and as a rough sort of joke. He just looked in at the door of the coffee-room, and went up stairs. He was under the influence of drink. I know Mr. Reis for three years past. When going up to his bedroom I heard Reis ask where did the women sleep. The night porter said it was three storeys higher up. Reis said 'Let us go up to them.'

RICHARD O'CONNOR.

"Sworn before me this 17th day of August, 1882, at the Imperial Hotel, Lower Sackville-street, in the county of the city of Dublin, a Commissioner for taking Affidavits in the Supreme Court of Judicature in Ireland, and I know the deponent.

"JOHN STONE, Commissioner."

The following affidavits, supplementing those read in the House of Commons by Mr. Sexton, M.P., were read by Mr. Mayne, T. C., at the meeting of the Dublin Corporation on Monday :—

"I, William Fenley, 21 years of age and upwards, make oath and say I am waiter at the Imperial Hotel, Dublin. On Friday, 11th inst., the jurors in the case of the Queen v. Hynes left the sitting-room about 20 minutes past twelve o'clock, and went up stairs. In the meantime I heard them going up and down roaring and bawling, and some of them were in their stocking feet. They came back to the sitting-room between half-past twelve and one, and called for some drink and a pack of cards. The bar was then closed. I saw Margaret Walsh going upstairs at the time when the jurors were on the corridor above. I told them that the bar was then closed, and that they could get no cards. A little dark man with spectacles, answering to the description of Mr. Reis, asked me for roast chicken and ham, and roast pork. They remained there until a quarter to one.

"WILLIAM FENLEY.

"Sworn before me this 17th day of August, 1882, at the Imperial Hotel, Lower Sackville-street, in the county of the city of Dublin, a Commissioner for taking Affidavits in the Supreme Court of Judicature in Ireland, and I know the deponent.

"JOHN STONE, Commissioner."

"I, Elizabeth Ennis, housekeeper in the Imperial Hotel, Sackville-street, Dublin, make oath and say that on the night of Friday, the 11th instant, after twelve o'clock, I went upstairs to put a mattress on the corridor for one of the police who were in charge of the jury. I saw a gentleman running up and down the landing in his stocking feet and kicking the boots from before the doors on the corridor. I asked him did he know his number, and he said, 'Duce a bit of it.' Then I gave him in charge to a waiter, who took him away and I saw no more of him. He appeared quite unsteady from drink and inclined for amusement. After that I heard Mr. O'Brien's bell ring. I know the gentleman was one of the jury, and I identify him as Mr. Reis.

"ELIZABETH ENNIS."

"Sworn before me this 17th day of August, 1882, at the Imperial Hotel, Lower Sackville-street, in the county of the city of Dublin, a Commissioner for taking Affidavits in the Supreme Court of Judicature in Ireland, and I know the deponent.

"JOHN STONE, Commissioner."

"I, Robert Boylan, coffee-room waiter at the Imperial Hotel, Sackville-street, Dublin, 21 years of age and upwards, make oath and say that I gave the jury the principal part of their dinner on the night of Friday, 11th inst. I supplied whiskey, gave sherry and claret to two of the jurors. They all had drinks, but Mr. Reis ordered a bottle of champagne, and told me to bring two glasses for Mr. Barrett, the foreman, and himself, and I supplied them with a large bottle of champagne, which they drank between them. That was at eight o'clock in the evening in the jury-room where they were dining. Mr. Reis asked me in a jeering way could they have a ladder to get down from the window. Shortly afterwards Mr. Reis left the jury room to go down to the billiard room. Several other jurors left to go to the lavatory, and several remained in the jury room. They were then divided into three different parties in different parts of the house. I went away for the night about nine o'clock, and know no more about it.

"ROBERT BOYLAN.

"Sworn before me this 17th day of August, 1882, at the Imperial Hotel, Lower Sackville-street, in the county of the city of Dublin, a Commissioner for taking Affidavits in the Supreme Court of Judicature in Ireland, and I know the deponent.

"JOHN STONE, Commissioner."

"I, Francis Brady, hall porter of the Imperial Hotel, Sackville-street, Dublin, 21 years of age and upwards, make oath and say that on Friday, the 11th instant, I saw, I should say, six of the jury in the case of the Queen v. Hynes in the billiard-room that night from about half-past eight until a quarter to twelve. People passed in and out of the billiard room as usual that night. I saw Major Wynne and Mr. Reis in close conversation, but did not see them drinking together. Major Wynne was not one of the jury. I had an altercation with Mr. Reis—he came out of the billiard-room and sat upon a form in the hall and lit his cigar. I told him that it was against the rules of the house to smoke in the hall, that there was a smoking