

# Inquest On Officer And Civilian.

## HOW CAPT. O'DEA WAS KILLED.

Tipperary, Tuesday.—The story of the tragic encounter in the village of Lisvernane, Glen of Aherlow, County Tipperary, on Sunday night, when Captain John O'Dea, of the National Army, and Jerry Kiely, of the anti-Government forces, were killed, was told at the inquest on the remains, held by Dr. Park. Morrissey, Coroner, Tipperary, and a jury at Galbally.

Sergeant Patrick English stated he left Galbally for Lisvernane on Sunday night in company with Captain O'Dea and a party of 18 or 20 men. "We arrived at Lisvernane," said witness, "about 10.15. Before we approached the house of Stephen McDonagh, we saw a man outside, and found he was McDonagh, the owner of the house. We immediately rushed the house, and McDonagh held the door till he was pulled away by Capt. O'Dea. A woman inside called out, 'Go away; there is no one here.' We then forced the door and found an irregular (Jerry Kiely) standing about five paces into the kitchen with a revolver and a Thompson gun. He immediately opened fire with the revolver, and shot Captain O'Dea and wounded Private Goggin. Captain O'Dea, after being hit, rushed round the house, and sat down on a dunghill and remained there. When found, 15 minutes afterwards, he was dead. Kiely fired the first shot."

Private John Hayes deposed:—"We halted about 200 yards on the Galbally side of the village. Captain O'Dea told me we were going to search McDonagh's house, and we did so. We ran to the door, and Mr. McDonagh, who was outside, held the door. Captain O'Dea kicked the door twice, and when the door was opened the captain was shot immediately, and ran to the back of the house. Mr. McDonagh must have rushed into the house the moment the door was opened. I saw Captain O'Dea going round to the back of the house, and I followed him. He said he was wounded, and told me to fire into the back of the house. He asked me to say an Act of Contrition with him."

Dr. E. Duggan, A.M.C., deposed:—"He was called at 2 o'clock on Monday morning to see the body of Captain O'Dea. He found an extensive gunshot wound through the breast, at the level of the third rib, and an exit wound over the shoulder blade, on the right side. The bullet, in its passage, passed through the main vessel and lacerated the lung. Death was due to shock and hæmorrhage, as a result of the gunshot wound.

The jury returned the following verdict:—"We find that Captain O'Dea was shot by Kiely whilst in the discharge of his duty. We tender to the relatives of deceased our deepest sympathy."

A military officer said that the members of the Galbally force joined in the vote of sympathy.