



The Melksham And Warminster Murders

John Gurd, alias Louis Hamilton, 29, asylum attendant, was indicted for the wilful murder of Henry Richards, at Melksham, on the 9th April, and also for the wilful murder of Enos Molden, police-sergeant of the Wilts County Constabulary at Corsley, on the 12th April. Mr. Radcliffe, with Mr. H. L. Lopes, prosecuted, and Mr. Hussey Walsh, at the request of the Judge, defended the prisoner. The charge of killing Henry Richards was first taken, the evidence being to the effect that prisoner was formerly engaged to Richards's niece, but through his interference she broke it off. On the day in question the prisoner met Richard at an inn in Melksham, and they left together. Shortly afterwards shots were heard, and Richards fell and died almost immediately.

After a protracted hearing the jury found the prisoner guilty, and Mr. Justice Charles passed sentence of death.

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