

25/03/1899

CONSTABLE JOSEPH MURPHY WAS CALLED.

This sensational evidence was confirmed by Joseph Murphy, a Brisbane constable, but not related to the Murphy family of Tent Hill, who deposed that he travelled, from Brisbane in company with Daniel Murphy, of Tent Hill, on the 27<sup>th</sup> December. Daniel Murphy said to witness: "It must have been some member of the family; no one else would have done it, and we shall be the talk of Blackfellow's Creek, and everybody will look down on us."

Witness asked him if there was any member of the family who had gone wrong in the head at any time, or drank heavily.

He said there was not.

This witness had served Mrs. Murphy, the mother of the family, with a subpoena on the previous day to attend the Court then sitting, and in doing so had apparently got a taste of that old lady's quality.

She said; "What do you want me there for? I have been there often enough before. They nearly killed me last time I was there.

The damned wretches want me to say something to bring it home to M'Neill, who worked hard to help them.

They are a damned lot of traitors.

May God grant they may have some trouble themselves before they die. (She had prayed for God's mercy on the murderers when she first heard of the death of her children, and their father at the same time expressed satisfaction that they had gone to church on the previous Sunday)

They think I am keeping something back: I believe they want me to tell a lie, they are a lot of damned wretches all through."