

Description Of The Lost Whip.

An ordinary buggy whip with a black handle about two feet long with ferrules of white metal and butt of same.

The butt has two tacks driven through it on each side into the whip.

From the top of the metal butt for six inches up the handle it is bound round with common twine.

The ferrules up the whip are probably six or seven in number and the keeper is of soft green hide bound with common twine and has two tacks driven on each side through the keeper into the whip.

The tacks in the keeper and the butt are not bright tin tacks but ordinary small black iron tacks.

The thong is about as long as the handle and is of plaited leather and has a greenhide fall about two feet long and there is no cracker.

Strict search to be made and look out kept for the whip.

This description is for the police only and the greatest caution must be used to prevent the fact that this whip is being searched for from becoming known.



5/01/1899

Mr. M'Neill, the brother in-law of the victims stated in an interview.

Mr. M'Neill appears to have attended some races during the afternoon and to have returned home sufficiently early to suggest Miss Norah Murphy that she had better go to Gattin to the dance. She replied "Oh, no I'll stop and look after the child."

This was his child who was never content unless he or Miss Norah was with it. He, however urged her to join in the fun. While he was speaking to her Michael Murphy entered the room and said to his mother, "I'm going to take the girls to the dance, missus." Mrs. Murphy then said, smilingly, "Oh, they'd better stay at home." Michael Murphy, however, interjected, "Oh get ready and come," and the girls entering into the spirit of the thing went off and dressed, while he (Mr. M'Neill and Murphy harnessed up the horse in the trap. While they were doing so Murphy put Mr. M'Neill's whip in the trap whereupon Mr. M'Neill gave him his father's whip.

10/01/1899

Joseph Jordan, a butcher, said when the trap passed the Board Hall, after the lights had been put out, he did not notice if the driver had a whip.

7/03/1899

EVIDENCE DANIEL MURPHY SEN.

He presumed his (witness's) whip was taken in the sulky when Michael and the girls left in the sulky, for he had never seen it since.

10/03/1899

EVIDENCE JOHN MURPHY

M'Neill and Michael harnessed the horse. Witness did not know whether they took the whip with them.

11/03/1899

EVIDENCE JOHN CARROLL

He also said he noticed Michael had a whip, and that the man they passed had a grey slouch hat on; also that he wore a blue coat or shirt.

15/03/1899

EVIDENCE THOMAS DREW

He did not notice if Michael Murphy carried a whip.

17/03/1899

Sergeant Arrell further deposed that he did not notice, when passing the Murphys on Boxing Night, if the man driving had a whip.

25/03/1899

W. M'Neill was recalled and resworn. He was allowed a seat.

Witness had been driving with the Murphy's whip.

He could not say if he unharnessed and let the horse go. Sometimes John Murphy did it.

It was not the same horse the Murphy's afterwards took to the dance.

He remembered going up just as the horse was being put in. He could not say if he buckled any of the straps. He did not know who brought the horses from the paddock.

His whip was in the cart, but it was of no use, it being too short.

29/04/1899

M'NEILL RE-CALLED.

He could not say whether he assisted Michael to harness the horse for the purpose of taking his sisters to the dance or not.

He did not know who brought the horse from the paddock.

His whip was in the trap at the time, but was taken out because it was too short.

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