

LONDON, DECEMBER 28.

### THE LATE HORRIBLE MURDERS.

Yesterday, the second examination of John Williams, on charges of being the murderer of Marr's and Williamson's families, was expected to take place at eleven o'clock. At half-past nine o'clock, the proper officer was despatched to the New Prison, Coldbath Fields, in order to bring the Prisoner in safe custody.

The Magistrates assembled soon after ten o'clock, accompanied by Counsellor READER, and several other Gentlemen. They were then informed that Williams had committed suicide. On hearing this information, all business was suspended until the arrival of Robinson, the keeper of the lock-up room attached to their office. Before twelve he returned in a hackney-coach, when he stated to the Magistrates, that on going to the Governor of the prison, with their order for delivering the prisoner into his custody, he proceeded to the New Prison, and on his going into William's place of confinement, he saw the turnkey, who conducted him to the cell, and to his great surprise saw Williams hanging to a rail, which partly extended along the ceiling, and is placed for the accommodation of prisoners to throw their linen and clothes on. Williams was suspended to the rail or post by his white neck-handkerchief tied securely about his neck. On inspecting the body, it was supposed that he had not long committed the act; his eyes and mouth were open, and the state of his body clearly demonstrated that he had struggled very hard. The turnkey of the prison locked him up the night preceding, and did not discover any material depression in his spirits, although he had considerably fell away since his confinement.

The Magistrates held a conference upon the steps to be pursued, and it was determined to enter into the further examination of witnesses.

Mrs. Vermillion recapitulated the substance of her evidence on Tuesday night. The Magistrates asked her, Was you not fearful in giving your evidence on Tuesday? I was.—You know that the man has hung himself? I have heard so.—How long has Williams been at home? About twelve weeks; he came on the 2d of October.—Have you ever heard of the circumstance of a Portuguese being stabbed at the end of Old Gravel-lane, between two and three months ago? Yes.—Was Williams at home at that time? He was.—Did you hear any one say that Williams was concerned in stabbing the man? I cannot say positively I did.

Williams stated on Tuesday, when he endeavoured to account for his shirt being bloody and torn, that it happened at Mr. Lawrence's, the Ship public-house, near the Pear Tree. The landlord was out at the time, but his daughter, a very interesting female, most completely denied the statement. Miss Lawrence knew Williams before Marr's murder; he used to be very free, go into the bar, take his glass, and gained her good opinion from his insinuating address. After Marr's murder, he used to say, "Miss L. I don't know what is the matter with me, I feel so uneasy." Once he came into the house greatly agitated, and said, "I don't think I am well, for I am unhappy and can't remain easy." Miss L. answered, "Williams, you ought to know best what you have done." He replied, "Why last night I ate a good supper of fowls, and had plenty of liquor." Miss L. immediately said, "Good eating is not the way to make you unhappy," on which he retired. The Magistrates asked Miss L. if she ever saw Williams in company with any other man? "Only once, to the best of my recollection; he was a stout man; I only saw him, but cannot describe his person."

The examinant was shortly after called in, to clear the character of two persons who were seen in William's company the night preceding the murder of Mr. Williamson and family. Her statement was so correct that the Magistrates were satisfied that the men were exculpated from all suspicion of criminal intercourse.

John Harris, the fellow lodger with Williams, stated, that he had frequently heard him speak of Marr; that he was on board the Dover Castle East-Indiaman; and also that he went with Marr one day into the City.—The morning of Williamson's murder, he accidentally took up William's stockings, and saw they had been washed in cold water; he asked Williams if he had heard of the murder? he replied, "I know it." The examinant never took particular notice of his bedfellow's agitation of mind, although he was very restless at night; turning frequently from one side to the other; he never knew of William's companions, nor ever heard him mention any circumstance tending to lead him to suspect his knowledge of the murders.

Colburn stated, that he was also the bedfellow of Williams, and continued to sleep with him nightly, after the murders. Williams, from the time of the Marr's being murdered, was so restless at night, as greatly to disturb the witness. Williams talked in his sleep in a very incoherent manner, and the witness frequently shook and awakened him, when, on being asked what was the matter, he used to say he had a most horrid dream. After the murder of the Williamson's, Williams one day complained to the witness of his dreadful situation, being greatly afflicted with a disorder. The witness advised him to go to a surgeon, when Williams replied, "Ah! its of no consequence, the gallows will get hold of me soon." The witness only recollected Williams talking once in his dream, and was crying, "run! run!" he called to him three times, and asked him what was the matter; he thought Williams awoke, and answered him in a strange manner.

Mr. Lee, the publican of the Black Horse, New Gravel-lane, stated, that on the night of Williamson's murder, he had an impression on his mind, for which he cannot account, that it would be unsafe for him to go to his bed. After shutting up the house, he went to the door, and there stood for about twenty minutes, and was the first person who arrived at Williamson's

house, after the watchman had sprung his rattle—and he then distinctly heard a voice, as he supposes that of Williamson, exclaiming, very faintly, "Watch, watch," which convinced him that some dreadful violence was then committing.

Corbett, a coal-porter, who lodged at Mr. Lee's, was well acquainted with Williams, stated, that on the night of the murder of the Williamson's, he was in company with Williams at Mr. Lee's, where they had four six-pennyworths and a pot of porter, in company with a man, lame of one foot. He did not know him, never saw him before, nor heard of him since. After having had this liquor, Williams proposed that they should adjourn to the King's Arms, Mr. Williamson's house, but Corbett declined drinking any more, and went to bed, and Williams and the lame man left the house together, with the purpose, as he supposed, of going over to Mr. Williamson's.

The witness informed the Magistrates, that Williams spoke to him on Monday, and wished to see him. He had endeavoured, but was not allowed by the keeper. His reasons for wanting to see him arose from an expectation that he would have told him something of importance. The Magistrates regretted that the witness had not come to them in the first instance, when he could have satisfied them of all suspicion attached to his character in being acquainted with Williams.

Mrs. Orr again gave her evidence, as described in yesterday's paper. On the subject of the chissel, Mrs. Vermillion corroborated the accuracy of the witness, and said, that she well remembered the chissel, from the marks on it. The Magistrates asked Mrs. Orr what she thought were the motives for Williams running out of the house when the watchman entered? She replied, "to look after the chissel, and finding that the watchman had picked it up at her door, he returned in a great passion, which now convinced her he intended to break into her house."

Several other witnesses gave their testimonies.

It appeared that Williams used very often to say, as he was lurking about, "that house is very easy to enter! there is a good escape backwards." These words he had the audacity to mention to Mr. Lee a short time since, when he related a circumstance of a duck being stolen from his premises.

Williams had been to the East-Indies in the same ship with the late Mr. Marr, and they returned in the Dover Castle East-Indiaman, a year and a half ago.—Their names are registered on the ship's books, viz. Timothy Marr, Captain's Servant; John Williams, Able Seaman. Williams often spoke of Marr being his shipmate. The good conduct of Mr. Marr, induced Mr. Richardson, his Captain, and Mr. Lloyd, of Fetter-lane, who knew him from a boy, to put him into business; and Williams frequently saw Mr. Marr. William's had a good education; the publicans, &c. in Shadwell always thought well of him.

The man whom Corbett mentioned as being lame, the Magistrates have obtained information of, and despatched the Officers to bring him from the Docks.

It is expected the Officers will return this day from Marlborough, with the man taken in custody at that place. It is not thought Williams had more than one or two accomplices.

JANUARY 1.

### WILLIAMS THE MURDERER.

HIS INTERMENT.

Yesterday the final arrangements were made by the Magistrates at Shadwell Police Office, for the consignment of this monster to the infamy due to his atrocious crimes. Mr. CAPPER, the Magistrate, had waited on the Secretary for the Home Department, for the purpose of considering with what justice the usual practice of burying culprits of a similar description, in the cross roads nearest to the spot where the offence of suicide is committed, might be departed from in this extraordinary instance of self-murder.

About ten o'clock on Monday night, Mr. ROBINSON, the High Constable of the Parish of St. George, accompanied by Mr. MARCHIN, one of the Constables, Mr. HARRISON, the Collector, and Mr. ROBINSON'S Deputy, went to the prison at Cold Bath-fields, where the body of Williams being delivered to them, was put into a hackney-coach, in which the Deputy Constable proceeded to the Watch-house of Saint George, known by the name of the Round-about, at the bottom of Ship-alley. The other three Gentlemen followed in another coach, and about twelve o'clock the body was deposited in the black hole, where it remained all night.

Yesterday morning, about nine o'clock, the High Constable, with his attendants, arrived at the watch-house with a cart, that had been fitted up for the purpose of giving the greatest possible degree of exposure to the face and body of Williams. A stage, or platform, was formed upon the cart by boards, which extended from one side to the other. They were fastened to the top, and lapping over each other from the hinder part to the front of the cart, in regular gradation, they formed an inclined plane, on which the body rested, with the head towards the horse—and so much elevated, as to be completely exposed to public view. The body was retained in an extended position, by a cord, which passing beneath the arms, was fastened underneath the boards. On the body was a pair of blue cloth pantaloons, and a white shirt, with the sleeves tucked up to the elbows, but neither coat or waistcoat. About the neck was the white handkerchief with which Williams put an end to his existence. There were stockings, but no shoes upon the feet.—The countenance was fresh, and perfectly free from discolouration or livid spots. The hair was rather of a sandy cast, and the whiskers appeared to have been remarkably close shaven. On both the hands were some livid spots. On the right hand side of the head was fixed, perpendicularly, the maul with which the murder of the Marrs was committed. On the left,

also in a perpendicular position, was fixed the ripping-chissel. Above his head was laid, in a transverse direction upon the boards, the iron crow; and parallel with it, the stake destined to be driven through the body. About half past ten, the procession moved from the watch-house, in the following order:—

Mr. Marchin, Constable of Shadwell.  
Mr. Harrison, Collector of King's Taxes.  
Mr. Lloyd, Baker.  
Mr. Strickland, Coal Merchant.  
Mr. Burford, Stationer.

And

Mr. Gale, Superintendent of Lascars in the East India Company's Service—all mounted on Grey Horses.  
The Constables, Headboroughs, and Patrols of the Parish, with Cutlasses.

The Beadle of St. George's in his Official Dress.  
Mr. Robinson, the High Constable of St. George's.  
The Cart with the BODY.

A large body of Constables.

An immense cavalcade of the inhabitants of the two parishes closed the Procession.

On arriving opposite to the house of Mr. MARR, the Procession halted for about ten minutes, and then proceeded down Old Gravel-lane, New Market-street, Wapping High-street, and up New Gravel-lane, when the procession again stopped, opposite to the King's Arms, the house of the late Mr. WILLIAMSON. From thence it proceeded along Ratcliffe-Highway, and up Cannon-street, to the Turnpike-gate, at which the four roads meet, viz:—the New Road into Whitechapel—that into Sun Tavern-fields—the back lane to Well-close-square—and Ratcliffe-highway. The hole, about four feet deep—three feet long, and two feet wide, was dug precisely at the crossing of the roads, four or five feet from the turnpike-house. About half-past twelve o'clock, the body was pushed out of the cart, and crammed neck and heels into the hole, which, as it will have been seen from the dimensions, was purposely so formed, as not to admit of being laid at length. The stake was immediately driven through the body, amidst the shouts and vociferous execrations of the multitude, and the hole filled up, and well rammed down. The parties forming the Procession then dispersed.

The concourse of spectators on this awful occasion was immense. Every window of the streets through which the procession passed, was crowded beyond example, but there was not the slightest interruption or tendency to disorder. For the most part, a general silence prevailed, as the procession moved, being only interrupted by occasional ejaculatory curses.—When the cart stopped at Mr. MARR'S—at Mr. WILLIAMSON'S—and at the hole—there were universal shouts and expressions of execration. A hackney coachman, who had drawn up near the top of Old Gravel-lane, bestowed two or three cuts on the body as it passed, accompanied with an ejaculation, which it is unnecessary to repeat.

From the appearance of the body, Williams is conjectured to have been about 30 years of age. He was near six feet in height, with a strong fierce countenance. When the procession began to move, there were two men in the cart, to prevent the body rolling off; but their assistance appearing to be superfluous, they descended, and the body was then left perfectly exposed to the view of every spectator.

During the last half hour the crowd had increased immensely—they poured in from all parts, but their demeanour was perfectly quiet. All the shops in the neighbourhood were shut, and the windows and tops of the houses were crowded with spectators. On every side, mingled with execrations of the murderer, were heard fervent prayers for the speedy detection of his accomplices.

### FURTHER PARTICULARS.

When the procession reached that part of the New-road, which is intersected by Cannon-row, the cart stopped close to the hole dug for the reception of the body of the suicide and reputed murderer. After a short pause a man mounted the platform, and laying hold of the suicide by the wrists, precipitated him into the hole, and then descended and drove a stake through the body with the identical pin-maul which had been used in murdering the family of MARR. A barrel of unslaked lime was next emptied over the corpse, and the earth thrown into the hole. The procession consisted of several Magistrates on horseback, the headborough and constables of the district, with their appropriate batons, the officers of police and patrols with drawn swords, and many thousands of the populace, who occasionally interrupted the silence and solemnity of the spectacle by expressions of sympathy for the unhappy sufferers, and their surviving friends, and in execrations on the memory of the murderer.

The writer of this had a close view of the suicide, and even in death his features exhibited an appearance of ferocity and barbarity of which the human countenance could hardly be believed to be susceptible.

### DISSOLUTION OF CO-PARTNERSHIP.

THE Co-Partnership of RING and HARTT will be dissolved by mutual consent, on the 10th day of MAY next.—All Persons having demands against said firm, are requested to send them in without delay; and all those indebted, are desired to make immediate payment. FREDERICTON, MARCH 21, 1812.

### FOR SALE,

A Valuable FARM on the River NASHWAACK, situated about 16 miles from Fredericton, now in possession of Mr. Robert Sutherland.

Terms of payment may be known by applying to Mr. Angus M'Bean adjoining the premises, or to the Subscriber at Saint John.

ALEXANDER M'LEOD,  
Saint John, 7th March, 1812.