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THE FATE OF MRS. LINDSAY.

WHY SHE WAS SHOT

STATEMENT BY THE SOLICITOR-GENERAL.

Lieutenant-Colonel Archer Shee asked the Chief Secretary, in the House of Commons yesterday, whether he had seen the reply given by the so-called Minister of Defence of the rebel Government in Ireland to Mrs. E. Benson with reference to the kidnapping and murder of Mrs. Lindsay and also of her butler; whether Mrs. Lindsay did convey information to the Crown forces with reference to an ambush; whether the letter which Mrs. Lindsay wrote to General Strickland pointing out the consequences to herself should the captured rebels be executed was written while this lady was in the custody of the Sinn Feiners, and if he could state why, if Mrs. Lindsay did give information of the ambush, proper protection was not accorded to her, in view of the obvious danger of her being kidnapped and murdered.

Mr. T. W. Brown (Solicitor-General for Ireland)—My attention has been called to the letter of the so-called Minister of Defence, a copy of which I am circulating with the official report. As regards the second part of the question, I am informed that Mrs. Lindsay did warn the Crown forces of a possible ambush in the hope of saving the lives of members of the Crown forces. In doing so she acted as every good citizen in Great Britain or Ireland is bound to act. As regards the third part of the question, a letter purporting to come from Mrs. Lindsay after her disappearance was received by General Strickland. In accordance with the settled policy of the authorities it was decided not to pay any attention to it, because it was the common practice of the rebels to threaten to murder people if certain of their adherents who had been duly convicted were executed. In reply to the last part of the question—At the time that Mrs. Lindsay gave information to the Crown forces she neither asked for protection nor was there any reason to believe that it would become known that she gave such information, or that the rebels would have murdered a delicate old lady if the facts came to their knowledge. On somewhat similar occasions houses have been burned, but this was the first occasion on which