

# THE IRISH TIMES

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they murdered a woman in such circumstances, simply because she had done her duty as a loyal citizen. Every effort was made to bring to justice those responsible for the kidnapping and murdering of Mrs. Lindsay. In view, however, of the agreement for the cessation of hostilities it has been clearly impossible to carry the matter any further at the present time. I have no information regarding the fate of James Clarke, her butler or groom, beyond that he was kidnapped at the same time as his employer, and probably suffered the same fate.

Colonel Archer Shee—In view of the fact that this lady gave her life for her country, and that she gave information which resulted in the saving of the lives of a number of the Crown forces, why were not proper steps taken for her protection whether she asked for it or not, seeing that the Sinn Fein rebels have murdered seven women since January 2nd?

Mr. Brown—It was not expected or believed that any such action would be taken.

Colonel Ashley—Are we to understand that because there is a truce a man who writes to acknowledge that he has murdered an old woman is not going to be had up for murder?

Mr. Brown—I understand that no steps will be taken in the matter until the cessation of the truce.

Mr. Moles—Is it a fact that the information communicated by this lady to the authorities leaked out to the Sinn Feiners through official sources?

Mr. Brown—I am not in a position to confirm or deny that rumour.

Mr. Thorne—How long is it since this hap-

pened, and why has not it been brought before the House before?

Mr. Brown—The kidnapping happened on 17th February, but I was not responsible for not bringing it before the House.

### STATEMENT IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

In the House of Lords yesterday,

Lord Selborne drew attention to the murder of Mrs. Lindsay in Ireland, and asked whether she had done anything more than any loyal citizen was bound to do, namely, to give such information to the police against criminals as was acquired by her in the normal experience of her daily life. He said that Mrs. Lindsay was foully murdered by a gang of cowardly assassins, and an attempt had been made deliberately to besmirch her reputation by attaching to her the stigma of a spy and alienate sympathy from her. If she only did her duty as a loyal citizen, her case would be parallel to that of Nurse Cavell, and she would be nothing less than a martyr in the eyes of the whole Empire.

The Earl of Crawford said that the Government had very little information beyond that which had appeared in the Press. He gathered that the noble earl wanted nothing more than an assurance that the Government repudiated in the warmest fashion any allegation that this lady did anything which was inconsistent with her duty as a loyal subject of the Crown. That assurance was whole-heartedly given.