

## Johnny Gilbert's Death.

On Friday evening, 12th May, 1865, Senior Constable Charles Hales, in charge of the police at Binalong, received information that the notorious bushrangers, Gilbert and Dunn, were at one of Mr Macaush's stations near the town, and he at once told off Constables John Bright, Michael King, and Hall, the four going to the house of one John Kelly, of Binalong Creek, and remained there till next morning; but not being able, because of the dogs barking, to approach the house from the front, the police went on foot in different directions, arriving simultaneously at the back of Kelly's house. When they got within 100 yards of the place they concealed themselves behind a bush fence and watched until Kelly came out of the house and again went inside, after which Kelly's wife came out and was followed by her son who went and yoked up some bullocks.

Senior Constable Hales beckoned to the lad, and when he came up, the police asked him if there were any strangers in the house. The boy said "No." The police, who disbelieved him, then went towards the house. Then Kelly came out and saw them approaching, and rushed inside calling out "Look out, the place is surrounded with troopers."

A general firing between the police and the bushrangers then took place, after which the latter escaped from the house, and ran through a paddock, occasionally turning and firing. The police fired several shots, and were gaining on Gilbert and Dunn, when the former, taking up a position behind a tree, aimed his rifle at the police, but it missed fire. At this time a distance of only 50 yards separated the two parties. Hales and Bright then fired at the same time, and Gilbert fell dead, the bullet from Bright's weapon striking him. Dunn made off through the scrub on foot to Julian's station, some ten miles away, where he stuck up the inmates and helped himself to a horse, saddle and bridle, and was soon off again.

Gilbert, who was a native of Canada, was about three and twenty years of age at the time of his death. Before taking to the bush in 1862 he was a stockman at Marengo. During his bushranging career he took part in a great number of daring outrages, and with his own hand shot

rages, and with his own hand shot Sergeant Parry who, deserted by his comrades, attempted to defend the Gundagai mail in 1865.

Gilbert's comrade, Dunn, was captured on the Murrumbidgee Creek, near Dubbo, in the same year, by Senior Constable Elliott and Constable Hawthorne. Dunn shot the former in the leg, and was himself wounded, and was subsequently brought to Sydney, where he was tried, convicted, and hanged in Darlinghurst Gaol.—

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