

MBSLIN, NEWMARKET,

CO. CORK.

January 14th, 1922.

C. J. France Esq.,
Standard Hotel,
DUBLIN.

Dear Sir:-

Undermentioned are the particulars requested regarding the destruction of my house and premises by Crown Forces, after an ambush in the immediate vicinity.

(a). My house is situated at the south-western side of a hill, about 1000 feet above sea-level. From this elevation the Crown Forces were, on the 4th January, 1921, attacked very near my house. On that evening - after an interval of two or three hours, reinforcements arrived, and so terrified were we, (I, my wife, and family), eight altogether, that I almost wished we were dead, as we were in danger of being shot any moment. On the following day Crown Forces again came on, and gave us but a few minutes to clear out our affairs. Their orders should be so promptly obeyed, that we had'nt time to remove even half our bedding, when our house was bombed, so that practically ~~half~~ the majority of bedding and furniture were totally destroyed. The next operation was the wrecking of my workshop, - the forge, the windows and shutters, all of which they smashed to matchwood, together with cutting my bellows to pieces, rendering it useless. All this was done as I did'nt report to the nearest Military Barracks, or to the Military passing by my workshop, that the ambushers were on the hill. I had to sleep in the workshop described for the three or four following nights with my family - if we did sleep. Of course I need not say my dwelling was totally destroyed. The walls must be raised to the ground to renovate it.

(b). Owing to my bellows and workshop being partially ~~wrecked~~ wrecked, which was the sole means of keeping my family, I was practically idle for three months, and were it not for a neighbour, who rented me a house which he needed for himself, at £15.0.0. per annum, we would scarcely have survived the Winter, owing to exposure and trouble.

(c). The only assistance I got prior to Loan was £4.10.0. from what source I do not really know.

(d). £50.0.0. is the amount of loan made to me towards the purchase of furniture and tools rendered useless.

(e). I have a picture of my premises from a cutting of a paper, which I enclose with particulars given.

Any other information which you may require at any later date I shall be only too anxious to supply you with.

I beg to state you may use my name and letter as you please.

I am,

Most gratefully yours,

(Sd). Timothy Murphy.

(Blacksmith).