

### ATTEMPTED MURDER.

At Bathurst, about 9 o'clock on Saturday morning, Charles De Clouet, son of a well-known family, fired two shots from a revolver at his wife. One of the bullets was embedded in the back of her skull, the other entered at the back of the ear, and came out at the temple near the side of her nose. The deed was committed at the Oxford Hotel, where the parties were residing. De Clouet and his wife had breakfast together; it was noticed at the table that they were not on speaking terms. The husband was the first to leave, his wife following shortly afterwards. A little later the people of the hotel heard Mrs. De Clouet crying, and directly afterwards the licensee of the hotel heard a scuffle and words in De Clouet's bedroom. Thinking there was something serious happening he rushed upstairs, but had only reached the landing when he heard the report of the revolver, and saw Mrs. De Clouet fall out of the bedroom doorway on to the passage. Blood was streaming from the wound in her head. Lawler saw she had been shot, and rushed to her assistance, and caught her in his arms. On looking into the room where De Clouet was still Lawler saw him pointing the revolver again at his wife, and had not time to prevent De Clouet firing a second time. The bullet struck her on the side of the temple. When Lawler picked up the wounded woman she exclaimed "Oh, Charlie, don't," and as soon as she was hit by the second shot she became unconscious. Directly De Clouet fired the second shot he calmly and without a word walked out of the hotel with the revolver in his hand and gave himself up to the police. At the station he handed the revolver to the constable, saying, "I have shot my wife; here's the revolver, take me in charge." They have four young children. Mrs. De Clouet, in her depositions, said she had been married to De Clouet ten years. They had quarrelled recently at Mudgee and agreed to separate. On Wednesday he threatened to shoot her, as he said she wanted to return to Mudgee. On Saturday she said she would tell his brother Tom if he did not do something for her. Then he took out a revolver from his coat pocket and shot her twice. Her baby was on the floor when he attempted to shoot her. She had given him no provocation. Since she came to Bathurst she had been dressmaking, as her husband had not been in employment for some time. Something of an unpleasant nature occurred at Mudgee, but she preferred to say nothing of it. When questioned by her husband at Mudgee she told him that a resident of Mudgee had been in her bedroom with her, but he did not stay the whole night. She had written to the man against her husband's wish, but had promised her husband not to write again. Since she had been in Bathurst she had often said she still loved the man. She quarrelled with her husband long before anything of this character happened. He had accused her when she was innocent.

The matter has caused a good deal of excitement as his family have been residents of Bathurst for many years.

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