

Appendix.

The Forged Will at Hereford.

For some reason which is not very clear, the "will" of James Shipway which Davies discovered at Hereford, did not form a part of the indictment against him. It is, however, a document of some interest, for not only is it the link between the forged wills at Gloucester and Worcester, but it indicates the object which Davies had in providing himself with the old swords which he directed the temperance "boots" to leave in the hotel cellar until they had become rusty. No one can doubt that in due course had not his career been stopped, he could have palmed off these "crusader's swords" upon Colonel Shipway and his solicitors, and, perhaps, by the aid of another grave digging license from the Home Secretary, discovered the "ring of the King" in James Shipway's coffin.

This document, of which we now give an exact transcript taken from the Registrar's certified copy, is wrapped up in a modern sheet of foolscap indorsed:

JAMES SHIPWAY,
WHIDBORNE.

With the exception of the word "Shipway" which is in different ink and handwriting this is a genuine endorsement made in the Hereford Registry about twenty years ago.

[STAMP.
ONE SHILLING]

*Extracted from the District
Probate Registry at Hereford.*

In the Consistory Court of the Diocese of Hereford.

In dei noie Amen the vj day off Januari in the yare off o' lorde m^vxl^{iiij} I Iames Shipway off Whitborn Herefford Beuerstane and Mangottsfield being sicke in body nevetles hole in mynde make my testament and last Wyll in thys ma'n folowyng Imprimis I bequeth my sole to Almighty God to . . . Ladi Saint Agnes and all the holy comp and my bodie to be buried wⁱⁿ the Churchyord off Whitborn or Mangottsfield Itm I bequethe to my Sonne Iohn of Mangottsfield and Beuerstane who my sole Sonne being will bear my arms