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28/3/16

On January 23rd 1909, I heard my son Thomas calling out, "Dad come quick". I saw him running down Kingsley Road and then a P.C. named Adams running down Forest Road. He said "don't go too near; they have got shooters"; I still kept running down Kingsley Road, and then I saw two men in a van the one driving whilst the other was at the tailboard with a revolver in each hand, and suddenly he fired at me, the bullet whizzing past my right temple. I was still pursuing, when one of them again fired at me, and this time the bullet passed through the cloth of the right leg of my trousers. I still continued in the chase following the murderers down Fulbourne Road, here they were still firing at random on their pursuers. They then turned to the left down Brookcroft Road; still firing until they reached Beresford Rd. After this they turned into Wadham Road. Then I went around into Chingford Rd. Here I met a P.C. who was doing point duty. I said "Come with me quick The murderers are up here meaning Winchester Road. He and another P.C. came running along with me and then we ~~we~~ saw a motorcar that was in pursuit. Into this we all got; also a gentleman who happened to arrive with a breechloading gun in his possession. We proceeded down the Wadham Road as quickly as possible and whilst on the way we were firing at our assailants. Soon the gentleman in possession of the Breechloading Gun left the car and let me have the use of the gun and some cartridges. I fired at our assailants in Wadham Road and the tallest of the two murderers who held a revolver in each hand was keeping up a furious fire on us all the time. Soon they were into Winchester Road, Highams Park; Here Mr North and myself fired on the two men in the van. Shortly they abandoned the van and commenced a retreat on foot. I then noticed the tallest of the two hand his mate one of the two weapons he had been using and then made off

for a fence that was close by. Here it was that Mr North and myself fired at the tallest of the two. He fell this side of the fence and was then seen to turn his revolver on himself, shooting himself in the right temple. I then ran on with two P.C.s; one of them picked up the revolver which had been used by the assassin. I asked the P.C. 747 for the revolver. We then continued to chase the murderer who was now alone. He made his way across to a place called Beech Hall Estate. Here they were erecting some houses, and more shots were fired by the assailant now at large, and a plasterer by name F. Mortimore was shot in the right breast. Then he ran across Oak Hill, through the hedge, around the back of the Oak Public House towards Oaks Cottages; I then reloaded the gun I had with me. Then I saw our assailant creeping behind the hedges with his revolver in his left hand, and he saw me taking aim at him. Then he made for one of the cottages near by and admitted himself by the backway. Soon I saw him at one of the bedroom windows. Then I fired at him, the shots piercing some of the windows of the room. Then detective Nixon came in through the house and said, Don't fire anymore for God's sake as there are 3 or 4 of us inside now. I then entered the house and heard Nixon shout up the stairs to the assailant to surrender, but no answer came. By this P.C. Eagles was firing up the stairs at the door and soon all was quiet for some seconds; Suddenly a loud report rang out and then Inspector Gould of Tottenham made for the room. I then followed Nixon and P.C. Eagles. I then saw a man lying on a bed bleeding from a wound in the right temple and a revolver lying on the bed by his side.