

MORGA SENTENCED TO DEATH.

Prisoner Unmoved at Judge's Words.

Recommendations to be Made to the Executive.

Stefan Morga was sentenced to death on Tuesday morning, at the Cairns Sittings of the Circuit Court, for the wilful murder of a fellow countryman, Zaharey Beznosuk, at the Cairns wharves on January 21st, 1922.

In pronouncing sentence, His Honor, Judge Jameson, said—

"Stefan Morga, I shall be asked in the usual way for my report to the Executive, and I shall place before the Executive the facts of this case. I think I may say it is a case which may be distinguished from ordinary cases of murder. I cannot agree with everything your advocate has said, because if that were taken to be the law, or even sentiment upon such cases, it would lead to an evil state of affairs in the community. I shall, however, point out that you seemed to be suffering from a sense of injury; not that that deprived you of your reason. If that had been so, the defence of insanity would have been put up. The jury have found you guilty of wilful murder, and in my opinion it would be impossible for twelve honest men to come to any other conclusion. At the same time, certain recommendations, which have been made on your behalf, will be placed before the Executive. It is to them the appeal for mercy lies; not with me.

"The sentence of the Court is that you will be returned to your former

The sentence of the Court is that you will be returned to your former custody, and at a time and place to be appointed by the Governor-in-Council, you be hanged by the neck until you are dead."

Morga showed no signs of agitation, as he was calmly led from the dock.