

**THE KEILOR DROWNING
FATALITY.**

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AGE.

SIR,—As some slight inaccuracies have appeared in the public press concerning the fatal accident which befell my sons David and Joseph last Saturday at Keilor, I will, with your permission, correct the same. According to the evidence given at the inquest on their bodies, the facts are that three of my sons, David (10), Joseph (8) and Kenneth (6), went with a company of mates, including James M'Adam (12), for a bathe in the Saltwater River, about half a mile from my residence. M'Adam whilst paddling about in the water got out of his depth and sank. One of my boys' comrades, named Waddell, cried out, "Save Jim, Dave." My boy David, although unable to swim, at once rushed in to the assistance of his comrade M'Adam, but was himself quickly foundering about out of his depth, M'Adam in the meantime fortunately escaping and reaching the land. My son Kenneth, seeing the dilemma in which his brother was placed, called out to M'Adam, "Oh, Jim, save Dave, he tried to save you." This aroused the attention of my son Joseph to his brother's danger, and he at once rushed in to Dave's assistance, with the result that we are now mourning the loss of our two eldest sons.

Whilst thanking most cordially the medical gentlemen who unsuccessfully attempted to restore animation to their poor little bodies, and also the numerous friends who have forwarded their condolences to his bereaved mother and myself, we feel we cannot allow the inaccuracies in the press reports to pass uncorrected, as the only comfort left their parents is the thought that their sons died as heroes should—in doing their duty.—Yours, &c.,

DAVID YATES.

Raccourse Hotel, Keilor, 23rd December.