

CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

MONDAY, MAY 15.

Robert Wilson and James Knowles, were indicted for stealing five blue cloth jackets, ten waistcoats, and fifteen handkerchiefs, from the house of Mr Nathan of Elizabeth-street.

The jury without retiring returned a verdict of Not Guilty.

Francis Humphrey and Thomas Harris, of the Ovens River, were indicted for stealing twenty-three valuable securities of £5 each, and two of £10 each, the property of William Walker—a second count charged them with stealing the same from William Clark, of the Ovens River—a third count was laid against them for stealing twenty-five pieces of paper of the value of three shillings each, the property of William Walker—and a fourth, that the same were the property of William Clark.

The jury acquitted the prisoners.

Thomas Trantor, an exile from Millbank, pleaded guilty to the charge of stealing seven silver spoons, from the shop of Mr. Ham, engraver, of Collins-street, on the 27th April last—the prisoner begged leave to make a statement to the court, in which he accused Mr Alexander, one of the witnesses, of having tempted him to rob Mr Ham, without which he would not have done it. The prisoner was remanded for sentence.

Charles Williams and James Carter were indicted for having, on the 22nd March, stolen from the house of Mr David Anderson, innkeeper, of Burnbank, sundry orders, viz., one for £5 19s 5d, £3, £2, £4 5s, &c., three old and one new £1 notes, with sundry silver coins. The jury without retiring, gave a verdict of acquittal, and the prisoners were discharged.

William Williams, an exile from Millbanks, and Charles Walker an exile from Pentonville were charged with having on the night of the 10th April last, burglariously entered the house of Mrs Ann Dawson, of the Albion Hotel, Williams Town, and stolen from thence, three silver watches, two gold seals, and one piece of silver coin, value 4s. Another count charged the prisoners with larceny. Williams was convicted of larceny and remanded.

Joseph Marshall and Francis Moore, boatmen, late in the employ of Frank Liardet, of the Beach, Melbourne, stood charged with stealing one quart bottle of port wine, value 5s, from their employer's bar, on the 20th April last. The jury found the prisoners guilty, and they were remanded for sentence.

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John Dowd, late of Geelong, was indicted for having, on the night of the 2nd May instant, burglariously entered the premises of John Reardon, publican, Geelong, and stealing therein sundry pieces of clothing. The jury returned a verdict of not guilty, and the prisoner was discharged.

TUESDAY, MAY 16.

Charles Barnes and Job Darlington were indicted for stealing, on the 13th April last, a box containing one thousand cigars, the property of Nicholas O'Connor. Barnes pleaded guilty, and was remanded for sentence. Darlington pleaded not guilty, and the Crown Prosecutor consented to his discharge.

William Tilson was charged with stealing a box containing a hundred and twenty cigars, on the 1st May last, the property of Peter Perkins, oysterman, Great Bourke-street. The prisoner pleaded not guilty.

The jury found the prisoner guilty, and he was remanded for sentence.

Edward Luckett was indicted for stealing at Geelong, on the 5th of May last, a quantity of wearing apparel, the property of Donald Campbell. The prisoner pleaded not guilty.

Donald Campbell sworn—I am a tailor residing at Geelong ; I know the prisoner ; on the 2nd May last I saw him at Riordan's public house, and he then had on a black satin waistcoat which had been sent to me to put buttons on : it had been in my possession on the Friday before. [Waistcoat produced.] This is it ; I got this waistcoat on Friday, missed it on Saturday, and saw it on the prisoner on the following Tuesday ; it was in my shop window ; the door of my shop was generally open ; other property was stolen from my shop at the time this waistcoat was stolen. [Two coats, trousers, and two waistcoats produced.] These are my property, they must have been taken from a box in my house ; I saw them afterwards in a bundle in Riordan's public house.

John Riordan, publican at Geelong, sworn—I know the prisoner ; he and another man came to my house and asked for beds, giving me two bundles to take care of ; I saw the prisoner take a black satin waistcoat out of one of the bundles. [Waistcoat produced]. This is it ; from what I afterwards saw in the conduct of the prisoner and the other man I declined giving them a bed, and returned them to the prisoner and his companion.

The prisoner declined saying anything to the jury, and complained that he had not time to subpoena his witnesses.

His Honor briefly recapitulated the evidence, and the jury immediately found the prisoner

His Honor briefly recapitulated the evidence, and the jury immediately found the prisoner guilty, and he was remanded for sentence.

Joseph Shelvin was indicted for stealing at Geelong on the 4th May last, a box value two shillings and sundry pieces of silver coin, the property of Joseph Cato. The prisoner pleaded not guilty.

Ellen Hickman sworn—I live at Geelong; I know the prisoner; on the night of the 4th May, I saw him in my brother's shop in Geelong; he took a small box off the counter, and ran away with it; I am confident the prisoner is the man; it was about 9 o'clock at night when this occurred.

Edward Roach, of the Geelong police force proved that he arrested the prisoner from the description he received from the last witness, and that on the following morning the prisoner was in the watchhouse with another man, and was immediately identified by Miss Hickman.

Mr Scott, a licensed victualler at Geelong, proved that on the night in question the prisoner was in and out of his house from seven o'clock in the evening till the time he was taken into custody.

His Honor told the jury that the case against the prisoner rested entirely upon the evidence of Miss Hickman, and it was for them to say whether it was possible for her to be mistaken.

The jury recalled Miss Hickman, and again examined her as to the identity of the prisoner, and she still remaining positive, the jury returned a verdict of Guilty, and the prisoner was remanded for sentence.

William Sutherland stood indicted for forging on the 28th April last, a warrant or order for the payment of money, purporting to be drawn by Andrew Murray, on the Union Bank for sixteen pounds three shillings; a second count charged the prisoner with uttering the same knowing it to be forged. The prisoner pleaded not guilty.

Harriet Moore, residing at the Barrabool Hills, sworn.—On the 28th April last the prisoner came to the Victoria Inn, at about two o'clock in the afternoon; the prisoner came with another man and had some refreshment, when the prisoner presented me the cheque produced, but it was not in the mutilated state then which it now is; I am sure the name of Andrew Murray was then subscribed to it, and the cheque was payable to James Mayers or bearer.

John M'Gregor sworn—I live at the Barrabool Hills: I saw the prisoner at the Victoria Inn on

John at Geelong sworn.—I live at the Barrabool Hills; I saw the prisoner at the Victoria Inn on the afternoon of the 2nd May; a cheque was shown to me for £16 3s. purporting to be drawn by Andrew Murray in favor of Mayers or bearer; the former witness gave me the cheque and on the next day I went to Geelong, and saw the prisoner at Winstanley's public house, and told him I didn't think the cheque was right; he asked me if I had been to the Bank? I said no, that the Bank was not open, and at the request of the prisoner, I went with him to a public house and had breakfast, where the prisoner said the cheque could be easily changed; the prisoner, however, never asked to get the cheque changed, and from there we went to Rickett's public house; the prisoner said Rickett would be sure to change the cheque, but whilst we were there the prisoner ran away; I pursued and gave the prisoner into custody, and when the cheque was produced the prisoner made a grab at it, and it was torn to pieces; the prisoner leaped over the bar at Rickett's, in order to make his escape.

Andrew Murray sworn.—I live at Lake Colac; the prisoner was never in my employment, nor did I ever pay him a cheque for £16 3s.; (cheque produced) no portion of this is in my handwriting.

Ris Honor told the jury there was no evidence that the prisoner forged the instrument, but that the evidence as to the uttering was perfectly clear, and the jury immediately found the prisoner guilty of uttering, and he was remanded for sentence.

George Seitch pleaded guilty to stealing a jacket and three waistcoats on the 4th May last, the property of Robert Murcutt, and was remanded for sentence.

Richard Terry was charged with putting in bodily fear, on the 6th May last, Joseph William Hobson, and stealing from him a pair of spectacles, hat, and stick, and five pieces of silver.—The prisoner pleaded not guilty.

The jury immediately returned a verdict of Guilty, and the prisoner was remanded for sentence.

Charles Jones was charged with stealing at Geelong on the 29th April last, a shawl, coat, and vest, the property of George Scott. The prisoner pleaded not guilty.

George Scott sworn.—I am a publican, and know the prisoner; on the 29th April last he was at my place, where he had been stopping, and I gave him six shillings as he said he had no money to pay his passage to Melbourne; I missed on that day a great quantity of things from my bedroom, which must have been opened by a false key; (coat, shawl, and vest produced) these are

key ; (coat, shawl, and vest produced) these are my property, and they were stolen from me on the night named.

The prisoner in defence said that the coat had been lent him by Scott, and that as for the shawl, one Charlotte Marshall asked him to hold it for a few minutes, and he had no sooner taken it in his hand than he was pounced upon by the constable and arrested. The prisoner called upon two witnesses, whom he had subpoenaed, but who were not in attendance.

His Honor recapitulated the evidence, and the jury, after a retirement of about an hour, acquitted the prisoner, and he was discharged.

Michael O'Shanassy, an elderly man, was acquitted upon a charge of rape.

William Forster, charged with stealing a watch from Thomas Williams, at Geelong, was found guilty, and remanded for sentence.

John May and Mary Wallington, were charged with burglariously entering the dwelling-house of George Carnaby.

Not guilty—discharged.
