



## **Gamekeeper, Charged With Assault**

### **County Petty Sessions Assault by a gamekeeper**

A gamekeeper named James Petty, in the service of the Earl of Pembroke, was charged with assaulting a woman named Sarah Ford, of Groveley. The defendant, it appeared, caught the complainant picking acorns in Groveley Wood, he shook them out of her apron, and it was alleged did so rather roughly, raising her clothes somewhat indecently.

Mr. Mayo, who appeared for the defendant, contended that the woman was in point of fact trespassing, and the defendant had merely used such violence as was necessary to compel her to give up the acorns.

Another gamekeeper was called as a witness, and he said the complainant had no right picking the acorns in the wood, as the acorns were wanted for the game, it was their instructions to take them away from any person they might find gathering them there, and strew them on the ground.

The Bench dismissed the case.

**Salisbury and Winchester Journal, Saturday, 10 October 1868**