



Crime News - Illegal weights

*Bishopstone
1878*

Illegal Weights and Measures

Robert Cousins, baker, of Bishopstone, was summoned by Mr. Supt. North charged with having in his possession on the 17th inst. 4lb., two 2lb., a $\frac{1}{2}$ lb., two $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., and a $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. weight, all of deficient weight. Mr. North said he gave notice that he would be at Wanborough to examine wights on a certain day. The defendant sent him thirteen weights, which he adjusted for him. On going to his shop afterwards, he found all weights, nine of which were of short weight.

The defendant said he was obliged to keep some weights back to carry on his business. He, however, thinking that there could not be much the matter with those already.

Mr. North said he found all the weights in use in the shop and bakehouse. Last year the defendant sent him two more weights than he did last year.

The Bench said it was a very serious offence to rob poor people by using short weights, and they were determined to inflict such a penalty as would deter others from doing the same, viz. £5 and costs. They also ordered the weights to be forfeited.

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