



Crime and Punishment

Oaksey

Court Case

William Jacques

William Jacques, of Oaksey, was summoned by Mr Superintendent Luffman, charged with being unlawfully in pursuit of game on the Land of Lady Salisbury, on the night of the 9th of December.

Defendant did not appear.

PS Cross, stationed at Kemble, said he was on duty near Oaksey Wood about a quarter to eleven o'clock on the night of December 9th. Hearing the report of a gun in the wood, he ran up the road and stationed himself in a position where he could command a view of the whole cover. In about five minutes, he saw the defendant come out of the wood and run across to the road. He met him and said, "Well, Jacques, what have you been up to to-night?" He noticed that the defendant's pockets looked rather bulky, and asked him what he had in them. The defendant said "Nothing." He then opened defendant's coat, and found a double-barreled gun (produced), loaded, and a rabbit in each pocket, besides powder, shot, and caps.

Defendant said that Mr White gave him the rabbits, and he had a right of shooting over Morely Farm. Witness told him he knew better than that; he was on the land of Lady Salisbury. He asked the defendant if he had a gun license, and the latter said he had, but refused to produce it. Witness seized the rabbits and gun. The rabbits were sold on the order of a magistrate; the gun was produced in court, both barrels being loaded.

The Bench fined defendant £3 and costs.

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