THE ASSIZES.

WESTERN CIRCUIT.

WINCHESTER.—CHARGE OF MANSLAUGHTER.—John Jones, a druggist of Romsey, was indicted for manslaughter, in having administered a certain drug to Mrs. Georgiana Sergison Smith, the wife of Capt. Smith, of Jermyns, near Romsey. The deceased had consulted a physician for a slight weakness, and had been prescribed a tonic mixture, which Mr. Jones, the prisoner, had several times prepared. Mrs. Smith sent her servant for a fresh supply, which ought to have contained a certain portion of salicine, but the prisoner used instead another ingredient, which was one of the most vegetable poisons. Shortly after having taken a dose of the mixture, Mrs. Smith suffered the greatest agony. Mr. Taylor, a surgeon, of Romsey, was immediately sent for, but the lady, in spite of all that could be done, had meanwhile died.—Mr. Poulden addressed the jury at a very considerable length, and called a great number of respectable witnesses to prisoner's character, which was of the highest description.—His lordship summed up, and the jury returned a verdict of Not Guilty.

FIRST ATTEMPT WITH POACHERS.—Thomas Knapp was indicted for the wilful murder of Charles Payne.—Mr. Poulden, who appeared for the Crown, said that he should not offer any evidence in this case, and a verdict of acquittal was taken.—The prisoner was then charged with having wounded James Call, with intent to do him some grievous bodily harm.—It appeared that on the night of the 26th of February, 1848, three men, named John Call, James Call, and Charles Payne, set out on a poaching expedition, of Cadlande, were out watching, and at about half-past twelve they twice heard the report of a gun, whereupon the keepers went round to a cover, called Shaplands, to which they thought the poachers were likely to go. They saw five men coming towards them. Two of the keepers seized two of the poachers, and a fight ensued, in which James Call, who was a little boy, coming up, he was met by the prisoner, who struck him violently with a gun which he had in his hands. A desperate struggle ensued, during which one of the poachers got away, and Charles Payne lost his life thereby. James Call and the prisoner fought for some time, when at length he struck Call a blow which rendered him insensible. On coming to himself he found Payne and the other two keepers struggling on the ground with two of the poachers. Knapp had made his escape and absconded. Three of the others were apprehended and tried for the manslaughter of Charles Payne, but the judge was of opinion that, at the time the keepers tried to apprehend them they had no right to do so, and, therefore, that the prisoners had a right to resist the keepers. They were accordingly acquitted of the murder, but convicted, on an indictment, for night-poaching. In the present case, however, the first assault was made by the prisoner on Call, so the present indictment was preferred against him, he having been taken into custody in November last.—The jury found the prisoner Guilty.—Sentence respited.

MIDLAND CIRCUIT.

NORTHAMPTON.—SERIOUS CHARGE AGAINST A FARMER.—Thomas Tollington, aged 68, a farmer, of very respectable connexions, was indicted for a serious assault upon Elizabeth Willmot.—According to the statement of the prosecutrix the assault was committed upon her during the absence of the family at church. On her cross-examination, she owned that she had rendered herself indecently to or before a man of the name of Frisby, or to or before Samuel Latimore, or any one else.—The former deposed that in her presence he had complained to Mr. Goward of the prisoner, and had stated to him that he would not remain if she did, because she pulled them (the men) about so, and was so indecent in her language and conduct. Told his master a dozen times about it. She told him that she was in the family way by a man named West.—Cross-examined: She was pulling them about so all the time they were at work; she could not help it, she pleased herself in comfort. Was obliged to turn his back, and set his face towards the wall, and kick at her, but, notwithstanding this, she returned to the charge.—Samuel Latimore confirmed the last witness's statement. He had frequently jumped upon his back (accompanying that act by disgusting language, and this witness swore to her conduct with relation to her clothes which cannot be described). He did not like to do it, but could turn his face to the wall. Saw Frisby do so, and still she went on. She pulled Frisby about most. Had made numerous solicitations to prisoner.—The jury almost instantly returned a verdict of Not Guilty.

NORTHERN CIRCUIT.

Breach of Promise of Marriage—Damages £600.

YORK.—KILNER v. RAWLINGS.—This was an action for a breach of promise of marriage. It appeared that the plaintiff is about 50 years of age, and filled the position of cook to Mr. G. Taylor, of Bilton. The defendant is now a considerable farmer. In the year 1823—a long time ago—when in poorer circumstances, he paid his addresses to the plaintiff, and

"Having won the cooky's love,
And banished other beaux,"

the plaintiff gave birth to two daughters consecutively, of which he was said to be the father. The defendant's love then cooled, the plaintiff's soft compliance having hardened his heart; and he thenceforth transferred his affections to another, by whom he had a daughter he had two children. After an absence of upwards of 20 years the defendant's tranquil peace returned to his first love, and in July, 1847, he wrote to her "to put up the banns, he would come over on a Saturday or Tuesday to be married to her;" but again was faithful Betty doomed to be deceived. The defendant suddenly changed his mind, and married the woman for whom he had lived with her two daughters, by whose industry she was supported. In all other respects, except her unfortunate connection with the defendant, the plaintiff's character was irreproachable.—Two young women, of very respectable appearance, were called to prove that the defendant had offered the plaintiff £600 to stop the present proceedings, and that the defendant is a large and thriving farmer.—The jury found a verdict for the plaintiff—damages, £600.

HOME CIRCUIT.

Extraordinary Accusation.

At the Aylesbury assizes, Benjamin Isaacs, aged 34, was charged with feloniously receiving 13 watches, 30 brooches, 100 rings, 100 shirt studs, and other valuables, the property of Edwin Revell, he well knowing the same to have been previously stolen.—On the night of the 20th of June, 1847, the house of Mr. Revell, jeweller, at Slough, was burglariously entered, and all its contents swept off. In the following December, a man named Brown, who had been convicted of house-breaking, and was confined in Reading prison, volunteered certain statements, involving his own guilt as principal, and implicating the prisoner as the receiver of some of the plunder obtained at Mr. Revell's house, but also of that which was the produce of many other similar outrages. In addition to this, Brown stated that he had been assisted by a man named Constable in the burglary at Mr. Revell's. Constable, who was at that time in another prison, under sentence for house-breaking, at first denied all knowledge of the matter, fearing lest he might get himself worse off than he was, his sentence being only one of seven years' transportation; but, on reflection, he determined, as he said, to "chance it," and sent for the governor, to whom he made a circumstantial confession, implicating in many essential points what had previously made by Brown. In consequence of this, Brown and Constable were sent to Slough to be examined; and the prisoner was taken into custody. Elias Isaacs, the Jew Anchor, in Petticoat-lane, Whitechapel, though nothing was found in it to corroborate the charge. On the first examination the prisoner was remanded, and at the second he did not appear. On the day named, however, he failed to surrender himself, and handbills were extensively circulated about London, offering a reward of £20 for his apprehension. In the course of six days these bills attracted the attention of an artist, lodging in the house of one Lazarus, in Union-street, Blackfriars-road, who remembering that a Jew had been the stranger had recently made his appearance in the house as "My uncle Jackson from Birmingham," and had never permitted it to be seen, compared the description of the absconded party with the stranger, and ultimately gave such information as led to his apprehension, when he turned out to be "Mr. Benjamin Isaacs, of Petticoat-lane." The principal witnesses examined to-day were Brown and Constable, and according to their evidence it appeared that they fell in with each other at Hampton Wick, some time in 1847, when they started to go to Portsmouth, intending to enter her Majesty's service. They, however, got no further than Guildford, when, after trying their hands at robbery on the railway, they turned back, and from that time till February they engaged in numerous burglaries, in all of which they were armed, and assaulted. On these occasions, these worthies now alleged that they always took their plunder to Mr. Isaacs' house. Among these occasions was that on which they took Mr. Revell's property to the prisoner, who took them up-stairs, and asked what they had got; on this they tumbled the contents of their pockets on a bed, and asked £5, according to Brown, "and £30 according to Constable. Though the property was worth at least £200, the prisoner only offered to give £15 for it, which they refused. On this they bargained for the rings, and in the course of the deal the alleged receiver purloined three rings, but being detected in this, he excused himself in saying "they were only gilt." This circumstance being explained, they renewed the deal for the whole lot, which was finally bought for £15, and immediately removed from the house by the prisoner, who told them that "he always did so, and sent such property out of England as soon as he got possession of it." After the two men had glass were treated to some refreshment, and having been paid £15 in gold, went away, remaining absent till they had spent all the money, when they set to work on another similar job, which they disposed of to the prisoner, and so continued until they were at length arrested in the act of robbing a dwelling-house. After all, only extended over a course of three months.—Mr. Prendergast, having cross-examined the two men at great length, addressed the jury on behalf of the prisoner, contending that they could not attach any credit whatever to the statements of the two convicts.—Several respectable people, chiefly of the Jewish persuasion, then spoke to prisoner's character.—The Jury returned a verdict of Not Guilty.

The Coggeshall Burglars.

CHELMSFORD, MARCH 8.—William Tansley, 35, gardener; Samuel Wade, 30, gardener; William Ellis, 28, labourer, were indicted for burglariously breaking and entering the dwelling-house of James Pinch, and stealing £2 in money, and a quantity of pork and other articles, the indictment alleging also that the prisoners beat the prosecutor, and attempted to hang him, and also stealing £2 in money, and a quantity of pork and other articles, the indictment alleging also that the prisoners beat the prosecutor, and attempted to hang him, and also stealing Elizabeth Wright, and attempted to burn her to death. William French, 34, publican, and John Crow, 16, otter, were also indicted for the indictment, the charge being that during the ill-treatment inflicted on Mr. Finch and his servant. They also were examined, and other evidence given in corroboration of the charge against the accomplice, and to support the charge against the prisoners, who were charged as accessories. It was shown that the prisoner Tansley, Wade, and Ellis, had been in constant companionship with Wade, and evidence was given to show that on the night of February last, they were seen to leave Coggeshall, under the assumed name of Crone. With regard to the other prisoner, John Crow, the principal evidence against him consisted of the fact of his having driven his brother to London after he had escaped from the officers, in a gig belonging to the prisoner French, and of his having concealed himself in his house for the prisoner Crow, he denied that he was there; but upon the officers obtaining the key of a shed in the yard, that prisoner was discovered concealed in a sort of false ceiling, but upon that occasion he made his escape from the officers, and was apprehended in London some time after, when, about to be sent to Botany Bay, he was brought to Hare-de-Grace