

PERJURY.

The Paterson correspondent of the *Mercury* gives a full report of the Police examination of Ann Baldwin charged with perjury. After her evidence on a former occasion had been proved,

John Larkins deposed: I have heard the information made by me on the 23rd January last read; it is true; I remember the Friday on which I was brought to the court-house in custody; I was put in the dock; Michael Maher, Richard Mara, and Nebuchadnezzar Lansdown were in the dock with me; we were all charged with committing a rape upon Adelaide Baldwin, the present defendant; I saw her give evidence in the box where I now stand; I heard her swear that I committed a rape on her on the Tuesday night previous; she also swore that the other persons aforesaid charged with me with the same offence also committed a rape upon her; it is untrue that I committed a rape upon her on the night of Tuesday, the 19th of January—the day she swore to; I did not see any of the other men charged commit a rape upon her; I was with Lansdown in his hut on that Tuesday night; I did not lay violent hands on the defendant on that night, nor did I see either of the others do so, I live in one hut with Maher and Mara, but not with Lansdown; on Tuesday, the 19th January, I was shearing sheep for my master, Maher and Mara were also at work for him; I went to Lansdown's hut about one hour after sundown on that day; I remained until about ten o'clock; Baldwin and his three daughters were there; we had some drink, and the old man sang songs; I drank some wine that I got from my master before I came to Lansdown's; at Lansdown's I had three or four nobblers of rum; I left Maher and Mara in our own hut when I left; a whistle would be heard from Lansdown's hut to our hut; I heard parties go by whistling; I did not see them; they went down the road; I don't know who they were; the Baldwins and I left at the same time; Baldwin shook hands with me; we left Lansdown in his hut; I parted with the Baldwins outside of Lansdown's hut; I went to our hut; Maher and Mara were then in bed; I spoke to them; told them I had been in company with the Baldwins and Lansdown, in Lansdown's hut; it was between ten and twelve o'clock that I got into bed; it might take me ten minutes to go from Lansdown's hut to my own; the attorney who defended us came without our knowledge; I remained in the lock-up from one day to the next day, when the case was tried; whilst I was in the lock-up we did not instruct anyone respecting the charge; I never courted defendant.

Michael Maher deposed: I am in the service of Dr. Lindeman, as general servant; I remember Friday, the 22nd January, when I was first put in the dock with Richard Mara, John Larkins, and Nebuchadnezzar Lansdown; we were charged with committing a rape upon Adelaide Baldwin, the present defendant; I saw her give evidence in this box; she swore the four of us rushed her; she swore all four of us were together when the offence was committed; she said it happened on the Tuesday before the Friday that we were brought up; it is not true that I committed a rape upon her or laid hands upon her that night, or at any other time; it is not true that I with the three other persons charged, committed a rape upon her that night; the others did not at any time while I was with them; on leaving work that evening Richard Mara and John Larkins came in the hut where I was, also a man by the name of Syminton—a man of Dr. Lindeman's; I heard defendant say in her depositions we each of us committed the offence with her, each in four minutes; I do not know whether she meant the whole of us, or each separately; that statement is not true; I did not have conversation with her at all that night; it was about half-past six o'clock on the Tuesday night when the other men came into the hut; they did not seem to have had any drink in them; Syminton did not stop long; he came back about 7 o'clock; Syminton and I lay outside the hut; Larkins and Mara was in the hut; Mara was in bed; Syminton remained to between ten and eleven o'clock; to the best of my belief Mara was in bed all the time; Larkins was not in the hut when Syminton left; I went into the hut during the time

Mara was in bed all the time; Larkins was not in the hut when Syminton left; I went into the hut during the time Syminton was there to "redde" my pipe—Mara was then in bed; went to bed in the hut between ten and twelve o'clock; Syminton stayed a bit after, talking; when Larkins came home he told us that he had been at Lansdown's, and that he had had some drink—that Baldwin was getting cranky with his daughter—that he was listening outside the hut and heard them pass by; I spoke to Larkins about the case of rape, and I said she had a good cheek to lay such a charge against us; I said it would be a good thing to prosecute her for perjury, and I say so now; I was ordered by my master, Dr. Lindeman, to come here; I suppose it is we who will have to pay the lawyers; I spoke to Larkins about prosecuting defendant, after we were discharged on the charge of rape.

Rich Mara deposed: I am in the service of Dr. Lindeman; I remember the Friday when I was put in the dock with John Larkins, Michael Maher, and the shepherd Lansdown; we were charged with committing a rape on Adelaide Baldwin; I saw her give her evidence in this box; while she gave her evidence there she said myself and the three others with me committed a rape upon her, on the 19th of January between nine and ten o'clock; it is not true that I and the other persons charged with me committed a rape on her that night; it is not true that I laid hands on her that night; I heard defendant that night speak outside of the slab and say, "Dick come with me, my father is killing my mother, and he has fired two shots at me and made a hole in my dress;" this happened after I had been asleep; Larkins and Maher were in the hut at the time; Larkins said to Maher "You go with her;" Maher did go out to her; I think I was shearing on the Tuesday, the 19th of January; before supper I went in and laid down on the bed—Larkins lay along with me; we drank some wine during the day—Larkins, Maher, and me; perhaps I went out of the hut after I went to bed but not far; I cannot say if Larkins went out that night, or how long he was away; Syminton was at the hut that night—I cannot say how long he stayed; I have no wife; I believe Larkins and Maher are single men; I cannot say how long Maher was away from the hut that night.

The bench committed the defendant to take her trial at the next Criminal Court to be held at Maitland.