

THURSDAY

CUTTING AND MAIMING.—*Patrick Foley*, aged 30, an Irish labourer, was charged with cutting and wounding *John Furnis*, at Woodhurst; and *Michael Farren*, aged 35, another Irish labourer, was charged with aiding and abetting him in the act.—*Furnis*, the prosecutor, lives at Woodhurst; on the 10th of August he left work about eight o'clock; between nine and ten he was going, with *Benjamin Thompson*, to the Horse Shoes; it was moonlight; saw three Irishmen against the door, with their hooks; two stood together, the other a little way off; did not speak to them; was going towards the door, and the Irishman swung his hook round, and chopped him on the shoulder; the other two came up, and struck him while on the ground; he received four cuts; he got up, pushed the door open, and called out for help, the Irishmen came running out, and his brother came to his assistance.—*Benjamin Thompson*, shepherd to Mr. Allpress, confirmed this statement; saw the wounds inflicted on prosecutor and his brother; there had been no quarrel between them and the Irish; there was no provocation given.—*Susannah Stokes*, landlady, remembers ten Irishmen coming into her house, on the night in question; they had two hooks and eight sickles with them; *Cooper* and *Thomas Furnis* were there; two went out first, and soon after three more left the house, and a minute or two after heard a man call out for help; opened the door, and saw two Irishmen striking *John Furnis* with their hooks, as he lay on the ground; called to *Thomas Furnis* to assist his brother, or the Irishmen would kill him; *Patrick Foley* rushed out first, *Thomas Furnis* afterwards, and then *Michael Farren*, who flourished his hook or sickle at her head; some one said *Thomas Furnis*'s head was off; *Cooper* was amongst the first that went out; the Irishmen ran away.—*Robert Cooper* was in the house when the ten Irishmen came in; when *John Furnis* called out, he, with *Thomas Furnis* and the 5 Irishmen, rushed out; he saw *John Furnis* on his hands and knees, and *Patrick Foley* cutting him with a hook; saw *Michael Farren* swing his hook at Mrs. *Stokes*.—*Edmund Castle*, surgeon, of Somersham, described the nature of the wounds, particularly that on the nape of the neck of *Thomas Furnis*, and a very serious wound in the thigh; his finger was so much mutilated that it was obliged to be amputated; he was in danger of losing his life from the effects of the wounds; *John Furnis* had also two dangerous wounds on his arms, and one on the shoulder; he never had witnessed such a scene.—*Mr. William Fyson*, farmer, for whom the prisoners were employed, had given them no tickets for beer; did not see them after nine o'clock that night.—*John Cox*, constable, of Woodhurst, deposed to the violence of the prisoners' conduct, when he went to take them into custody in Mr. *Knatt*'s stable; they threatened to stab him with hay forks; Mr. *Knatt* came to his assistance with his gun, when they took them into custody.—Both the prisoners declared themselves innocent; but the jury found them guilty, and the CHAIRMAN, in a most impressive address, sentenced them to twelve months' imprisonment to hard labour each.