

January 20, 1911.

STRANGE SHOOTING AFFRAY.

A Plough Monday Incident.

Engine Driver Charged at St. Ives.

Daniel Saddington, engine-driver, of Woodhurst, was brought up in custody at a Special Court at St. Ives yesterday, charged with shooting, with intent to do bodily harm, at Walter Cowling, a farmer's son, at Woodhurst, on January 9th.

Walter Cowling said about 10.15 on the day in question he was with Tom Furniss, Fred Ding, Ernest Cooper, and Bert Broughton. He saw defendant and Mrs. Dickinson come down Church-street. Defendant was on a tricycle, going towards his home. Witness and his friends were behind them. At the corner near Mrs. Dickinson's witness's companions left him. As defendant and Mrs. Dickinson were going home, George Furniss joined them and went towards home with them. As witness was leaving his friends, he saw someone standing on the road opposite Mrs. Dickinson's house, about 50 yards away from witness. A gun was fired then, and some of the shot struck his right hand, on which the marks now showed. Witness fell down, and Tom Furniss picked him up. He could not swear who shot the gun off. His hand bled furiously for a few minutes. Tom Furniss was within five yards of witness when he was struck. Furniss was just on one side, out of the direction of the fire. All his companions were close by. There was no one in front of witness as far as he could see. The four others were on the village side of witness, round the corner, and, he believed, out of the line of fire, and he was just on the verge of the corner when the shot was fired. Afterwards witness went home, which was about 700 yards. He examined his right hand, took three shots out with a pin, and went to bed. The marks were little more than skin deep. The shot was like small sparrow shot.

Ernest Cooper, of Woodhurst, labourer, said on the night in question, about 10.15, he was with the last witness, Tom Furniss, Fred Ding, Bert Broughton, and George Furniss. They were all in Church-street, Woodhurst. He saw defendant with his tricycle and Mrs. Dickinson, and they went towards their home, and George Furniss with them. Witness and the others followed, going part of the way home with Walter Cowling. Just before getting to the corner, witness saw defendant come out of Mrs. Dickinson's house and stand in the middle of the road. Witness heard a gun go off, and saw Walter Cowling fall on the road. Tom Furniss picked him up. He could not say for certain who fired the gun off, but defendant, George Furniss, and John Saddington were standing in the road together. He did not see any flash of a gun, but the report came from one of the three. He saw no gun, but saw Cowling's hand bleeding. It was nearly full moon, and they could see fairly well. Cowling soon got over the shock, and went home. He did not see anything of the defendant and the other two men after.

Supt. Gale asked for a remand until Monday, when he could complete the case.

Prisoner's brother offered bail. The Bench agreed to accept bail, the prisoner's brother in £5, and another surety for £5.

INTERESTING WEDDINGS.