

THE THUGGERY OF NED KELLY'S GRETA MOB

Jacob Wilson sworn and examined.

4403. By the Commission.—What are you?—A farmer.
4404. Did you receive any information from Superintendent Nicolson?—Yes.
4405. What did he do?—He sent out a constable to my place.
4406. Were you ever a man-of-war's-man?—Yes.
4407. What vessel were you on last?—I was discharged from the Dreadnought.
4408. Where do you live?—I lived near Greta. 4409. Were you a selector?—Yes.
4410. Who was your nearest neighbor?—My nearest neighbor was Tom Lloyd.
4411. Did you know Ned Kelly, the outlaw?—Yes.
4412. Was Lloyd any relation of his?—Yes, Mrs. Lloyd is his aunt.
4413. Mr. Lloyd was his uncle, Then, by marriage?—Yes.
4414. Do you recollect when the constables were murdered at Mansfield?—Yes.
4415. When first did you know anything about the police being in search, as far as you were concerned?—I knew the police were in search in 1878.
4416. Was that after the murders or before?—Before.
4417. Did you know who they were in search of?—I knew they were in search of Ned Kelly, after the outrage on Fitzpatrick, on the Eleven-mile Creek.
4418. How far did you live from the house where the outrage was committed?—About four miles.
4419. You knew all the family?—Yes.
4420. You recollect when the constables were murdered at Mansfield?—Yes.
4421. How soon did you see the police after that, looking for Kelly?—I do not remember.
4422. Did the police come to your house—a search party—looking for Kelly?—Yes.
4423. What occurred on that occasion?—They asked me if I had seen anything about the Kellys, we said, "No."
4424. Who was "we"?—There was my son along with me.
4425. Who asked you that?—I think it was Constable Flood.
4426. Did you see any officer?—No, I did not. Jacob Wilson, 5th May 1881. 198 Jacob Wilson, continued, 5th May 1881.
4427. What did they do then?—Some time, in 1879, Superintendent Hare came to my place.
4428. Did you know anything of the Kellys when Constable Flood came?—No, we knew nothing about them.
4429. Was that after the murder of the constables?—I am not certain.
4430. Try and fix it?—I am not certain whether it was after the outrage at the Eleven-mile Creek, or after the murders.
4431. Had you seen the Kellys at that time?—No.
4432. When did you next see the police?—I do not think I saw the police till Mr. Hare came to my place with his horses.
4433. Did he ask you had you seen the Kellys?—Yes.
4434. What did you tell him?—I told him I had not.
4435. Had you?—I had seen Ned Kelly in December or January, after the police were murdered.
4436. You had seen Ned Kelly and you told the officers you had not?—Yes.

4437. Where did you see him?—I went to the Kilfera station early in the morning after sheep. We were fencing for the station, and he crossed the road and bid good morning to me; he was riding a bay horse.

4438. Was he armed?—I did not see any arms; he might have been under his coat.

4439. Mr. Hare asked you might he put his horses into your paddock?—Yes.

4440. What did you reply?—Senior-constable Mills came to my place, and I told him I would not give him any hay; I was frightened to give him any hay, and that if he went to Tom Lloyd's place he could get plenty of hay there. He said they were camped and had put up their tents at the creek, and it was too late to go to Tom Lloyd's place.

4441. What time was this in the evening?—Just dusk.

4442. Did they put the horses in your paddock?—Yes.

4443. Did you give them hay?—Yes.

4444. Did they pay you?—Yes; fifteen shillings every morning for the hay for 21 horses.

4445. Did you refuse at first to give it?—Yes.

4446. Why?—Because I was fearing that the sympathizers would have a "down" on me.

4447. That is the Lloyds?—Yes.

4448. Did you tell the police they might take the hay if they liked?—Yes; Mills said they must have the hay as their horses were knocked up, and paid me for it.

4449. After they went away that time did you give any other information to the police?—Yes.

4450. Who did you see next?—I do not know the name of the policemen, only Senior-constable Mills, but I saw Inspector O'Connor.

4451. Did you offer to give any information to the police?—Yes.

4452. What did you say?—I told Mills, when he asked me if I would have a look-out in Eagan's paddock for horses.

4453. Where was that?—A mile and a half from my place. I did look in Eagan's paddock, and I saw no horses there, only their own horses.

4454. Did you see any trace of the outlaws after that at all?—After that I heard nothing. This was in 1879, and I heard there was nothing before 1880.

4455. Can you say what month in 1880?—In March.

4456. What occurred to you in March 1880 about the outlaws—you mean you gave no further information to the police till March 1880?—No; I did not give any information to the police till April 3rd 1880.

4457. What information did you give then on the 3rd April?—Some hobbles I found; but I was frightened to give any information, because after they had their horses in my paddock the outlaws' friends came to my house at three o'clock in the night and ordered me up, and I would not get up. Then they took a big piece of stick, and said they would get me up; that was James Quinn and John Hart, at the Fifteen-mile Creek.

4458. What relation is he to Steve Hart?—I do not know whether he is any. They came then and called me to get up.

4459. What names did they call you?—An old b—.

4460. And to get up?—Yes; and I said I would not get up, and I asked what they wanted, and they said "Get up;" that was all they said. They then came into my room with the stick and said I was to get up, and I got up and dressed, and I ran away to my neighbors.

4461. What for?—I got frightened of them.

4462. Did they follow you?—They called me back and told me to come down in the creek, and I went down.

4463. Where was the creek?—About fifty yards from my house. They did not say anything going down, and I did not know what they were going to do with me. There they had two horses in a dray with a plough, and two horses tied up—they could not cross the creek, and they asked me to see them across the creek. It was a little deep creek above the crossing place.

4464. Did you see Mr. Sadleir after this?—Yes.

4465. What did you tell him?—Sergeant Whelan was the first one. I told him Jim Quinn had been at my house.

4466. Did you tell Mr. Sadleir you had found any hobbles?—Yes, that was in March 1880.

4467. What did you tell him?—I told him that I found five pair of hobbles in the next paddock to me in some ferns.

4468. Whose paddock was that?—It belonged to the Kilfera station.

4469. Is that known as Patterson's paddock?—Yes.

4470. Whose paddock is next to that?—Tom Lloyd's.

4471. Did you tell him whose the hobbles were?—I told him they belonged to the outlaws, I thought.

4472. Anything else?—Some sort of a cloth they had had some provisions in.

4473. Did you tell him there was a high bank of ferns that you thought they camped in, and sardine tins?—Yes, and newspapers, and all that sort of thing. 199

4474. Did you tell him you thought they camped there constantly?—Yes, I saw a lot of horses at Tom Lloyd's at various times.—three times.

4475. Did Mr. Sadleir ask you to keep a watch on Tom Lloyd's place?—Yes.

4476. In consequence of your telling him the outlaws visited there?—Yes.

4477. Did you see the outlaws at Tom Lloyd's?—I could not tell that.

4478. Did you go up on one occasion believing they were there?—Yes, I went up.

4479. Did you hear the outlaws at Tom Lloyd's?—Yes, I heard Dan Kelly in Tom Lloyd's.

4480. What was that?—I saw six horses tied up to Tom Lloyd's garden, and I thought there were more horses, and I went to a cow-shed about a hundred yards from his dwelling place, and a dog came out and detected me.

4481. Did they always keep dogs about the place?—Yes, and when the dog commenced to bark furiously, and a lot of them came out of the house. I could see that by the candle, and I ran away then.

4482. Were they men or women you saw then?—I do not know. I had not time to see.

4483. Was this night-time?—Yes, dark. I ran into the next paddock, and they came after me and "sooled" the dog.

4484. Hunted you with the dog?—Yes, "sooled" the dog after me, and I crept up into a low cherrytree and they went past me.

4485. Who?—The lot of them. Dan Kelly and young Tom Lloyd. They were within ten yards of me on the other side of the fence, and "sooled" the dog, and called out as if to the police that they would burn the b—. They thought I was the police, I expect, and was watching the place.

4486. Whoever it was, that was what they meant?—They did not say.

4487. Are you satisfied it was Dan Kelly?—I am satisfied it was, because I knew him by his voice.

4488. You knew them for years?—I lived there five years, and knew them since I came there till they took the bush.

4489. How long was this after you gave the information about the hobbles?—It was a week after I found the hobbles before I gave the information. I went to Melbourne and did not want to have anything to do with the police, because every move was in the paper next morning.

4490. Have you any doubt in your own mind that they were the outlaws' hobbles?—No.

4491. Did you give that information?—Yes. I did not give the information at once, because I would not have anything to do with it. I was frightened they would come down and murder me and burn my place.

4492. Were you frightened of the Kellys' friends?—Yes, I lived in a lonely place, and they could come and murder me there.

4493. You would not give the information because it would get into the papers the next day, and they would know it?—Yes. On account of my information Superintendent Nicolson sent for me when I was in Melbourne, and when I came back from Melbourne they asked for me to call at the police station at Benalla, and I called there and saw Superintendent Sadleir. I had a long conversation with him about the matter— about the outlaws—and told him about the hobbles.

4494. Was that after the cherry-tree affair?—No, after I was in the cherry-tree; it was the 14th May I was there, on Wednesday night, and I was there all night.

4495. What information did you give Mr. Sadleir?—About the hobbles, and I was quite sure the outlaws were there off and on; I was quite sure the outlaws were there off and on at that time.

4496. After that did you see any policemen looking at the place where the Kellys had been?—No.

4497. Did you go home after giving the information to Mr. Sadleir?—Yes.

4498. And then you watched the Kellys after that?—Yes.

4499. And saw them at Tom Lloyd's house?—Yes, that was from the 3rd of April until the 14th of May. I did not see anything of anybody about Tom Lloyd's place. I went every night to see if I could see them hanging up their horses.

4500. Did Mr. Sadleir ask you to do that?—Yes, he told me that I should keep a look-out.

4501. Did you ask him to pay you for that?—No.

4502. Did you tell him you would do it if he would appoint your son a constable?—Yes.

4503. Was that the reason?—I applied for my son to join the force in 1879, but Mr. Sadleir said he was too young.

4504. Did you say you would keep a sharp look-out if your son got into the police force?—The superintendent told me if I did anything for them my son would get the place.

4505. Is your son alive now?—Yes.

4506. Is he fit to join the police?—No, he has ruptured himself, and is not fit.

4507. What age is he?—Twenty-one years.

4508. Did you work any further for the police in connection with this matter?—Yes.

4509. Do you think the Lloyds or Kellys knew anything of your working for the police?—They suspected me ever since Mr. Hare had his horses in my paddock.

4510. Did you tell Mr. Sadleir their camp was there in the ferns?—Yes.

4511. Did he send any one out to examine that?—He did not that I know of. Jacob Wilson, continued, 5th May 1881.

4512. Did you know that any party was sent out to watch this place?—They might have sent out for all I know.

4513. What kind of place was this camp in the ferns?—A whole big bush of ferns in the side of the creek, and there were logs and very high ferns.

4514. Did it look as if it had been used?—It was quite easy to see some one had been lying there.

4515. In June you saw Mr. Hare?—Yes.

4516. What occurred?—He sent a constable out to my place, stating that he wanted to see me on urgent business. That was on the 10th of June, and I told the constable I would see the Superintendent the next day, the 11th. He asked me if I could conceal a man in my house, and I told him if he would guarantee my safety I would be willing to do anything for him.

4517. What did you mean?—If any of the outlaws came upon me, that he was to guarantee to protect me.

4518. Did he send a constable then?—Yes.

4519. What name?—George Stephens. 200 Jacob Wilson, continued, 5th May 1881.

4520. Was that the man known as the groom from the Faithfull's Creek station?—Yes.

4521. Did that man go there?—Yes.

4522. Did he remain there?—Yes; he remained with me for a fortnight. He came to my place on the 14th of June. I worked with him every night after at Tom Lloyd's place. We thought we could do better if we could get a night-glass to look at Lloyd's house at night to see who came in it. George Stephens went into Benalla on the 28th of June, and when he got in there at night Kelly was captured, and he came back to me on the 29th, Tuesday, for his blankets, and I told him I was not satisfied with him leaving.

4523. Why?—He might have stopped there for a month after, as the men might have had suspicion of me harboring detectives.

4524. Was he removed?—Yes, he told me he would be in Melbourne that night.

4525. What became of you?—I was left there by myself.

4526. Did you stay then?—Yes, from June to the 17th October.

4527. Why did you come away then?—When the Kellys found that the man at my place was the groom at Younghusband's station, and he had also been in the law courts at Beechworth, and he had been stationed at Glenrowan three months as a porter on the railway, they told me. They called me all the names they could, and said I would harbor the police, and they came at night and often insulted me.

4528. Who came?—Patrick Lloyd came first, in the afternoon. He is brother to Tom Lloyd. He came riding past my paddock, I was sitting on top of my fence, and he said to me, "You b—— old b——, we will have it in for you." I did not say one word to him, and he said, "We will make it hot for you." This was on the 16th, Saturday night. Two other men came to my place. I did not know them because it was dark. I ran away into my paddock, through stones and grass in my place, and yelled out. I ran away and went in the morning at four o'clock. Walked 13 miles into Benalla.

4529. Have you been driven out of your place solely in consequence of what you did in the Kelly matters?—Most decidedly.

4530. Do you believe the outlaws kept about that quarter?—At times they came there very often.

4531. To Tom Lloyd's?—To Tom Lloyd's very often. I knew that all along they came there very often.

4532. Did you know Byrne?—I did not.

4533. But you knew Dan Kelly and Ned you say?—I never knew other than those two.

4534. What means of support has Patsy Lloyd; how do they occupy their time?—They never do anything but ride about.

4535. Did you ever hear of them as connected with horse-stealing, or anything of that kind?—I often heard them say so, but I knew nothing about it. I know that is what they are supposed to live on— they must live on something.

4536. They did not occupy themselves in any honest work—farming, and so on?—No.

4537. Is there much connection between the house of the Lloyds and the Kellys?—Yes, they are always back and forwards.

4538. Are there always a lot of people stopping at Lloyd's?—Yes, strangers.

4539. Are they residents, or were they strange faces?—They are all friends; that is, a meeting of the whole of the outlaws' friends.

4540. Have you received any remuneration from the Government for keeping Stephens?—Yes; he paid me eight shillings, and he went away. Superintendent Sadleir asked me in Benalla what he gave, and I told him, and he gave me £1 then. I got £1 8s. for that.

4541. And how much for the hay?—Thirty shillings. They were in my paddock two nights and two days.

4542. Did you bear a good character in the district?—Yes.

4543. Were you ever summoned by the police for any offence?—Never in the colony. I can say before this Commission, I am 29 years in this colony, and there is nothing against my character.

4544. Why did you wish to be examined before this Commission?—I wished to be examined because I suffered greatly, and so that I may get compensation from the Government for my loss.

4545. Were you on a selection?—Yes.

4546. How long?—Five years.

4547. Have you paid the rent?—Yes, every rent.

4548. What has been done with the land now?—Somebody else has got it now.

4549. Has it been re-selected?—No. I owed some money, and I am seven months in Melbourne now. A man named De Boos has got it now.

4550. You owed some money on this land?—Yes.

4551. In consequence of those difficulties did you pay your rent?—Yes.

4552. Did you owe some money to a storekeeper?—Yes.

4553. Who was that?—De Boos.

4554. Did De Boos sell your land under the sheriff?—Yes.

4555. Who was the purchaser?—He was himself.

4556. Would it have occurred—would you have been in debt and your land sold if you had been able to remain on it?—No, because I have three big sons, and they have to run away from the district the same as I have. £17 was all the debt I was in.

4557. Did De Boos sell your land for that?—Yes.

4558. How many acres?—Fifty-five acres.

4559. Then it was sold for that?—That £17 I was in debt.

4560. What improvements were on it?—There were improvements on it valued by the Crown lands bailiff at £106, and I have another receipt for clearing five acres valued at £20.

4561. Where are your sons now?—I do not know; I have not heard from them since the 17th October.

4562. They have cleared out?—Yes.

4563. Before that were they living with you?—Yes.

4564. What do you estimate your loss at?—Well, my loss is very great, if I estimate it. I lost my living and I lost my liberty. 201

4565. Was not there some arrangement made between yourselves and the police to make use of it as a station?—Mr. Sadleir said to me, one time I was there, they were going to put up police stations, and he thought my place might be a suitable place to put a station on; and I said it was the

best place they could have, because all the gaps in the dividing ranges coming from Mansfield and into Greta are near there, and it would answer well as the people travel that road mostly.

4566. Who travel that way?—Those outlaws and the horse thieves.

4567. That arrangement came to nothing?—No, it came to nothing; he said he would see what he could do, and that was the last I heard of it.

4568. How long have you been in Melbourne?—Seven and a half months.

4569. What money have you to live upon?—I came to Melbourne with very little money, £26, when I started from Benalla, but I had to give my son some, and I am indebted a good deal in Melbourne.

4570. What are you doing?—I have just got a situation to go to to-morrow.

4571. Did you get any employment since you came down?—No.

4572. How many sons have you?—Three.

4573. What ages are there?—One is 21 years, another is 20, and the other is 18.

4574. What were you doing before that, were you all living on the 50 acres?—No, my eldest son had rented a little farm from a man named Cass, at Glenrowan.

4575. Has he gone from his farm?—Yes, after Ned Kelly was captured there were some of the outlaws' friends round his place every night for about a month, and he had to call the attention of his neighbors to look out and help him to watch at night. He went to Glenrowan to the constable in charge there, and informed him of what had happened, but the constable said it was as much as they could do to look after themselves; there were only four constables in Glenrowan, and they could not look after him.

4576. You know Tom Lloyd's house?—Yes.

4577. Supposing you had seen the Kellys there in the evening at eight o'clock, and you had gone into Benalla and given information to Mr. Sadleir that they were there or in Patterson's paddock, would there have been any difficulty in the police getting there?—No, no difficulty if they were ready to go.

4578. How many miles is it from Benalla?—About twelve miles.

4579. Would there be any difficulty in finding Tom Lloyd's house at paddock if they got out at Lurg?—No.

4580. What is the road from Benalla to Tom Lloyd's?—You go to Kilfera station—the Kilfera road they call it.

4581. Up the main road?—Yes, the main surveyed road to Greta, and there is a cleared road up to within five miles of Tom Lloyd's house.

4582. Is it clear at his house?—No, a bush track the last five miles.

4583. Did you give any information to Mr. Hare, the time he sent out the man to stop at your house, Jacob Wilson, continued, 5th May 1881. that you had seen the Kellys about there?—I had a conversation with him.

4584. That you had seen them previous to the man being sent out?—No; I saw Ned Kelly about a month or two after he murdered the police, but I never gave information, for the reason that everything was in the paper next morning, and I would not run the risk.

4585. You are asked did you tell Mr. Hare that you had either seen the Kellys or were sure they were constantly about there?—I said to Mr. Sadleir and Mr. Nicolson, when I was in conversation, that I was perfectly sure they were at Lloyd's house on occasions.

4586. Occasionally?—Often.

4587. Could a party of police have gone out to that camp, to examine it, without you knowing it?—Yes, they may have been there without me seeing it.

4588. Are we to understand that you left that district after the capture of the Kellys from personal fear?—Yes.

4589. That you were afraid to remain in that district in consequence of it being known to the Kelly sympathizers that you were in communication with the police?—Yes.

4590. And had a shelter to one of the police to give information?—Yes.

4591. And that also applies to the case of your sons?—Yes.

4592. And in consequence that your selection of 55 acres and improvements were sold to a party you owed £17 to?—Yes.

4593. And that you have not received anything out of that?—Yes.

4594. Why was Stephens sent to your house?—He was a detective, on the information I gave to Mr. Hare, suggesting that Stephens be sent to my place to watch Tom Lloyd's place, and find out when the Kellys came there.

4595. And you had told Mr. Hare, previous to that, that they were in the habit of coming there?—Yes.

4596. Had you seen them there before?—I had not seen them.

4597. After the time you got up the cherry-tree, had you seen them?—No, I saw them before I got up the cherry-tree; I saw at one time thirteen horses tied up near Tom Lloyd's place.

4598. How long before Stephens was sent to your place, that you saw a number of horses there?—In March, and then we found the hobbles, but I did not give information at once.

4599. Had you seen any unusual gathering of horses between the time of the cherry-tree and the time of the conversation with Mr. Hare?—No.

4600. Is there a well-beaten track from the Lloyds' to the Kellys' house?—Yes; Mrs. Lloyd used to run there with her buggy.

4601. Is Kelly's house on the main road?—Yes, on the old Sydney road.

4602. The road from Greta to Glenrowan?—Yes, the main road from Winton's to Greta, there is no main road to Glenrowan—you have to cross the bush to Glenrowan there.

4603. Kelly's house is on that track?—Yes.

4604. What was the policeman doing while he was at your place?—At the time the Kellys were captured and the time I left the district, the police were twice at my place.

4605. No, I mean Stephens, the man who was at your place—did he go out often to look at Lloyd's place?—Yes. POLICE. 2 C 202 Jacob Wilson, continued, 5th May 1881.

4606. How often?—Every night he could go out. There was a fellow ploughing at my place, and Stephens was prevented from going out, as we did not want any one to know it.

4607. But every night he could he went out?—Yes.

4608. Had you any crop on your place?—Eight acres of crop.

4609. Did you leave it standing?—Yes.

4610. What crop?—Wheat.

4611. What were your other two sons doing?—I had one son who was a servant with Mr. Bamford, who has been there two and a half years—a farm, near Benalla.

4612. Where is the other?—He was serving with a man named O'Horan, at Glenrowan.

4613. There was only really yourself living on the place?—That was all.

4614. By Mr. Sadleir.—When you informed me about the hobbles, how long were they there before you told me?—I think they were lying there after I was in Melbourne; there were three pairs of hobbles just as they were taken off the horses.

4615. I will read my note of the conversation I had with you. "Wilson called and reported that some month ago his sons found, under the Bald Hills, in a secluded cover, five pairs of hobbles; the ground was beaten about." The same visit you told about the wires being cut in the fence?—Yes.

4616. I have got it here that your story was that the hobbles had been there a month before you told me?—I did not know how long they were.

4617. Did you find the hobbles there before you came to Melbourne?—Yes.

4618. How long did you remain in Melbourne?—Yes.

4619. How long did you find them before you left for Melbourne?—The same Sunday, Easter Sunday, we found them, and on the Monday I went to Melbourne.

4620. By the Commission.—Did you go to Superintendent Sadleir on your return from Melbourne?—The very minute I came out of the train, on the 3rd of April, there was a note to call at the police station, and I went there at once to see Mr. Sadleir.

4621. Your statement is that you found, on the Easter Sunday, these three wires cut, and the hobbles?—Yes.

4622. They looked quite fresh?—Yes.

4623. You got a letter to go to the barracks?—No, a private message left by Sergeant Whelan.

4624. Did you tell him, when you saw him in that interview, that you saw the hobbles about a month before?—No.

4625. By Mr. Sadleir.—That is not what I said. I have got a note of your conversation here, written at the time on that. I find you called on the 3rd April, and it was your opinion that the hobbles were a month lying?—Some of them. There were five pair of hobbles; two pair looked as if they had been a month.

4626. How long were they lying there before you spoke to me about them?—I think only from the Sunday we found them.

4627. How long were they there before you got them?—There were two pairs looked like a month since they had been worn; but they may have not used them.

4628. When you told me (that was on the 3rd) you found the hobbles on the Sunday before, would it have been any use going to look for tracks?—No.

4629. Would it have been of the slightest use?—No.

4630. Or to go expecting to find the Kellys?—No. I only gave you information for you to find, that they came there.

4631. While you were in the cherry-tree how many men rushed by?—I only saw two men go by, whom I am confident were Dan Kelly and young Tom Lloyd; but I heard plenty on the other side of mc.

4632. Were they the only two men that rushed after you?—There were a lot rushed after me, but I did not see them.

4633. By the Commission.—Did you recognize any other voice in that party?—No.

4634. Did you hear old Lloyd?—No. I heard footsteps of some one on the other side, but I cannot tell who they were.

4635. By Mr. Sadleir.—Did you see any arms with them?—I did not.

4636. And yet you think they were looking after the police—the outlaws?—I am certain sure it was the outlaws. Mr. Sadleir.—I have a note of that visit too.

4637. By the Commission.—What did he tell about that? Mr. Nicolson.—Not a word, not the smallest word. The note about it is simply "A visit from old Wilson, Greta." His story was pretty much

all as it is now. He was sure there were visits of people to the Lloyds, and that is why the action was taken.

4638. By the Commission.—Is there a date to that “A visit from old Wilson, Greta”? Mr. Nicolson.—14th May.

4639. By the Commission (to the witness).—You could not have told on the 14th about the time you were up the tree?—Yes, that is the time I was up the tree, and I did not tell till the 16th. I was sick the day after; I was frightened to death. I told Mr. Nicolson and Mr. Sadleir both.

4640. Did you tell them you had to take refuge in a tree on the night of the 14th?—Yes.

4641. Did you see them take notes?—No.

4642. Did you tell them you had seen Dan Kelly and Lloyd together there?—I cannot tell that.

4643. By Mr. Sadleir.—Did you ever see Dan Kelly after that at Lloyd’s?—No.

4644. You saw Mr. Hare also?—Yes.

4645. Did you tell him about it?—No, Mr. Hare never questioned me.

4646. Did you tell him you had seen him?—I do not know whether I spoke to him about being in the cherry-tree or not, because I spoke to Superintendent Nicolson about that.

4647. Did you see Ned Kelly at Lloyd’s after that?—No, not Dan Kelly.

4648. By the Commission.—Did you see Ned Kelly after the murders of the police at Mansfield?—Yes.

4649. You said just now you could not say whether it was before or after the murders?—I said two or three months after the murders. I do not remember whether it was December or January when he crossed the road. 203

4650. By Mr. Nicolson.—Do you remember seeing me once in the office?—Yes.

4651. You applied for your son about the police force?—Yes.

4652. And in the course of our conversation you told me something about mounted men coming to Lloyd’s house in the evening?—Yes.

4653. Did you not ask me to send a man there to watch there?—No; you asked me could I take a Jacob Wilson, continued, 5th May 1881. couple of men out, and that you would pay for them, and I said to you that I would be quite willing if you would promise me to protect me if anything happened, and you said you would, and it was all right, and it was a very dangerous matter for me to take a man there.

4654. Are you aware that just a day or two after that, that I met old Tom Lloyd in the road?—No, I am not.

4655. Do you remember one time in the Kilfera road seeing me talking with Tom Lloyd, both of us on horseback?—I remember it very well, but I did not know it was you then;—you had a big coat on.

4656. Do you remember, on that particular road, one afternoon seeing me talking with Tom Lloyd, both of us on horseback, and you went back?—Yes, I do, perfectly well. Tom Lloyd had a bundle of boots on his saddle. I did not know you, and I did not like to look much, because Tom Lloyd might be inquisitive.

4657. Are you aware that Tom Lloyd abused you to me?—No.

4658. He did abuse you as a personal enemy, and that he had his eye on you. I did not send two men there?—No.

4659. I did not send Stephens to you?—No.

4660. Are you aware that Stephens was a man very well known as working at the railway?—Yes, but I did not know that then.

4661. Are you aware when I proposed to send Stephens to your place that it was impossible, as he was almost as well known as you were there; was he not known to the people all about?—Yes.

4662. Was he not known to the Lloyds?—I do not know.

4663. Are you not aware that Stephens, the railway man, was known as a railway guard?—I know he was well known to them all about there as being a railway guard.

4664. Would it have been a proper thing of me to have sent Stephens to take care of you—a man so well known as a Government servant?—No, it would not be the proper thing to send him.

4665. Are you aware I was removed from the district soon after that?—Yes, in the latter end of May. I told you distinctly—“If you send men to my place, send dirty-looking men, who would not be detected as being policemen.”

4666. By the Commission.—Did Stephens go out in the day?—No, only night.

4667. He was not known to be there by the outlaws’ friends?—Oh, they knew that he was there. They knew there was a man, because I stated to them that there was a man stopping at my place. He was going up shooting—that was the yarn I gave them—and I allowed him to leave his horse in my paddock till he was ready to go up; and when the Kellys were captured this man disappeared.

4668. Did they know it was Stephens at that time?—No, they said where was the man gone that was stopping at your place. I said we ran out of provisions, and said he could go and stop where he liked. I made it up to clear myself.

4669. He came to your place on the 14th of June?—Yes.

4670. Did you know his name was Stephens?—Not till he told me himself.

4671. How soon did you know that?—The same day he came.

4672. To your knowledge did the people about there know he was Stephens that was in the pay of the Government in June?—Yes, they did, because he had been three months on Glenrowan railway station, and they were going up there with their produce, and he was helping to unload on the railway.

4673. Did the people round there know that he was in your house as Stephens. Did he show himself about the neighborhood that they would know?—Yes.

4674. You said they did not know he was there?—They knew it was Stephens, because two men ploughing my land knew him directly they saw him, and their names were Petersons, living at Greta.

4675. Did Stephens tell you he was dismissed from the railway service?—He told me, of course. I knew it when he came to me what he was. He told me he had been on the Glenrowan railway station, and that he was dismissed. McDonald did not know but that he was dismissed.

4676. Who was McDonald?—The publican.

4677. Did Stephens tell you he knew the Kellys by appearance?—No.

4678. Did he say he would know them if he saw them?—No.

4679. By Mr. Hare.—He saw them at Faithfull’s Creek?—Yes.

4680. Did he not say he knew the outlaws?—Yes, he said if I saw Byrne ever, he had a double lip.

The witness withdrew.