

## MAINLY DESERTIONS BUT SOME OTHER SHIP AND SAILOR CRIMES TOO

PORT ADELAIDE: MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8. Before Mr. R. F. Newland]

Desertion from ships.— Mattias Sjøholm was charged by the master of the **Balder** with desertion. Constable Wyman deposed that he apprehended the prisoner on Saturday last in town. Prisoner said that sooner than go on board he would drown himself. Ordered to Gaol for 30 days. In the event of the vessel sailing before the expiration of that period prisoner to be sent on board.— Joseph Bates and Charles Hewitt were charged with desertion from the **Lemnella**. Prisoners pleaded not guilty. The master deposed that prisoners left the ship on Sunday evening without permission. About an hour afterwards they were brought on board by the police. By one of the prisoners— You took all your clothes with you. By the Court— The circumstance of prisoners' desertion was entered in the log. Constable Wyman deposed that he apprehended prisoners on the road to Alberton. They had no bundles with them, but had two or three suits of clothes on. They said they were only going for a stroll. Told them it was too late for that. Took them in custody. By one of the prisoners— You had three suits of clothes on. Prisoners, in defence, said they were only going for a Sunday evening's walk. Committed to Gaol for two months but to be sent on board when their vessel sailed.—

Charles Anderson, Thomas Brown, William Johnson, Thomas Denning, seamen of the **Poictiers**, were charged by the master with being absent from that ship without leave. Prisoners said that they had received permission to go ashore from the master. Arthur Sharp, master, deposed that prisoners were a part of his crew. On Sunday after noon the police reported to him that two of the prisoners had been apprehended on the road to Adelaide. In the evening he was told of the capture of the other two. They left their chests on board. Did not know if their chests were empty or not. Had given them no permission to leave. They had never asked for it. The fact of prisoners' absence was not inserted in the log. Mr. Newland informed the captain that the case could not be entertained until the entry in the log-book of prisoners' desertion had been made. He had better go on board and make the entry at once. This was accordingly done, and on his return Captain Sharp stated that he had searched the prisoners' chests and found them empty. By one of the prisoners— I did not tell you you might leave the ship. I refused to give you tobacco and money. Prisoners declared they had had leave of absence granted them by Captain Sharp, but nevertheless confessed they left the ship with the intention of bolting. Committed for two months, with hard labour.

NEGLECT OF DUTY. — Eight of the crew of the **Eliza** were charged by the master of that vessel with refusing and neglecting to work in the execution of their duty when commanded to do so by their superior officer. All the prisoners pleaded guilty. Prisoners offered some trivial excuses for their offence, the chief of which was that the master had not kept a promise he had made to give them 5s. each. The master expressed his perfect willingness to take them back. They were all good men. The Magistrate to prisoners — 'I give you the choice between six weeks' hard labour in Gaol and that of returning to your duty.' Prisoners chose the former, and were committed accordingly.

*South Australian Register, Tuesday 9 September 1856, page 2*

REFUSAL OF DUTY.— Robert Wells was charged with refusing to work. He had no excuse for so doing. He had no complaint to make against the captain nor against the ship. Captain, to defendant— "Will you go on board?". Defendant— "No. Sir." Captain— "If you go on board I will place you on the same footing as when you left the ship." Defendant— "Thank you. Sir,

but I won't go on board." Captain— "Then, for your own sake I should strongly advise yon to return to your duty,' His Worship intimated that if the captain wished to converse with defendant he had better do it outside the Court. He would commit the defendant to gaol, for three months with hard labour. The captain then complained that some of his crew who had deserted were pointed out to the police by Mr. Warnock, publican, and were not apprehended. His Worship —' Is this the case. Sergeant Sullivan?" Sergeant Sullivan—" No, your Worship, it is not true.' His Worship— "You are wrong; captain, in making such an accusation against a policeman, if you cannot substantiate it." A constable said that Mr. Warnock had told him that he believed some of the Monsoon's crew were in Port. The captain said he was happy to find he was wrong. What he had said he had been told by Mr. Warnock. His Worship remarked that Mr. Warnock should have appeared to give evidence in the matter. The captain then referred to the inconvenience and great pecuniary loss to which the masters of ships were subjected in Port Adelaide because of the desertion of their crews, and recommended the passing of laws for the prevention of the desertion of seamen similar to those which obtained in the neighbouring colonies. A constable, he thought, should be empowered to apprehend a suspected deserter without being in the possession of a warrant to do so. His Worship' said he was unaware that the laws of this colony on the subject referred to could be compared disparagingly with those of Victoria or Sydney, and it was not necessary that a constable should have a warrant to apprehend a man who was supposed to have deserted from his vessel. A few minutes afterwards Mr. Warnock appeared and stated that he merely informed the police that he suspected some of the crew of the Monsoon against whom warrants had been issued for desertion' were somewhere in the Port.

*South Australian Register (Adelaide, SA : 1839 - 1900), Tuesday 12 May 1857, page 3*

Port Adelaide: Wednesday, July 22. [before Mr. R. F.. Newland. ]

Desertions.— James Gibson and Arthur Nightingale, apprentices of the **Cheapside**, pleaded guilty to having run away from that vessel, and were ordered to be detained until the Cheapside sailed. The master enquired if he could lay an information against the person with whom the defendants had been living, as he must have known they were deserters from their ship. His Worship— How do you know he must have known that? Witness said that there were parties living with the person referred to who had arrived here In the Cheap-side. His Worship— Well, you can see what steps are-desirable to be taken In the matter. Drunkenness and Indecency — William Cox was charged with drunkenness, indecent exposure, and with the committal of a nuisance in the cell. To the first offence he pleaded guilty, to the second that he was afflicted with calculus, and to the third that he knew nothing about it. Fined 5s. for each offence. Defendant —I can't pay it. The Magistrate— Then you will have to go to gaol. If you can afford to get drunk you should find money to pay your fine. Committed for one week.

*South Australian Register Thursday 23 July 1857, page 3*

Charles Stanley, seaman of the Ravensworth, pleaded guilty to a charge of deserting from the ship. The Magistrate— You'll have to go to gaol for three months. The captain will apply for you before he sails.

*South Australian Register (Adelaide, SA : 1839 - 1900), Saturday 13 February 1858, page 3*

MARITIME POLICE COURT. Friday, January 28. [Before Mr. R. F. Newland.]

Desertion-John Smith, seaman of the *Confiance*, was brought upon a charge of having deserted from that vessel. The Chief Officer appeared and gave evidence that the prisoner was one of the crew of the *Confiance*, and stated that Capt Tweddle could not attend, being in town. In answer to the Bench he said he expected the vessel to sail to-morrow. Committed for one month, to be locked up at the station till to-morrow, and put on board before the ship sailed. Should the ship not sail for a few days he would be sent to gaol.

Attempting to obtain a Passage- William Lawrie was brought up in custody, charged with having been found on board the brig *Hebe* without the consent of the master or owners. Sergeant Dyke stated that when the water-police boarded the vessel as she was going down the river, the prisoner was found secreted in the forecabin. The captain stated that he had only the day before refused him a passage, and was very much annoyed at finding him on board. He told him (witness) to take him on shore and lock him up and punish him if possible. The Magistrate said that if the captain wished to punish him he should have appeared ; as no one was there to prosecute prisoner must be discharged.

*South Australian Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1858 - 1889), Saturday 29 January 1859, page 2*

POLICE COURT-PORT ADELAIDE. THURSDAY, APRIL 26.

[Before Messrs. R. F. Newland, S.M., and Douglas.] NEGLECT OF DUTY John Greer, second officer of the *Grand Triannon*, appeared to a summons by Henry Clark, master, charged with being guilty of neglect of duty on the the 21st April, tending to the damage of the ship. Mr. Andrews appeared for informant. Augustus Davies, surgeon-of the ship, deposed to seeing defendant on the night of the 21st, at 3 o'clock ; he was then sober. Between 10 and 11 he appeared drunk, and betting the captain calling him several times witness reported what he had seen. Defendant came reeling into the main cabin and staggered into the water-closet. Henry Clark, master, stated his finding the defendant off deck, and, subsequently, drunk and fast asleep in the water-closet. It was his watch on deck. The night was dark and squally, and the vessel about 40 miles from Kangaroo Island, under reefed topsails. Considered she was in danger of serious damage from defendant's absence from deck, as they might have been closer in than was supposed. John Coaks, third officer, gave evidence to the same effect. The Bench considered that the offence was not fully supported by the evidence, as there must be some act tending to the immediate loss or serious damage of a vessel, which did not appear, and the penalty being 100l with six months imprisonment, rendered it necessary to have the charge strictly made out. Although they considered defendant's conduct was grossly negligent, and stated that informant could lay an information on a charge for wilful disobedience, which was accordingly proceeded with, and, being proved, defendant was committed for one month with hard labour, the Bench observing that he also was liable to have his certificate suspended by the Board of Trade.

*South Australian Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1858 - 1889), Friday 27 April 1860, page 3*

Port Adelaide: Wednesday, July 31. [Before Mr. G. W. Hawkes, S.M.]

Assault.— Alexander Wells, second mate of the **Gloucester**, was charged by James Townley, a seaman of the same vessel, with assaulting him on the voyage from London . The defendant admitted the assault, but stated that he had acted under provocation. The informant, an elderly man, said he was engaged in painting at the time of the assault, and the only reason he could assign for his conduct was that he had said respecting the defendant, ' Put a beggar on horseback, and he'll ride to the devil.' John Paterson said he heard the expression made use of, and saw the defendant strike the informant twice. He (witness) told defendant he 'was not a man to use an old man like that.' The defendant was fined 1/. and costs.

*South Australian Register (Adelaide, SA : 1839 - 1900), Thursday 1 August 1861, page 3*

Pt Adelaide: Monday, August 12 [Betore Mr. G.W. Hawkes. S.M.]

Refusing duty.— James Townley, seaman of the **Gloucester**, was charged by John Leherle, chief officer, with refusal of duty. Evidence was given that the prisoner was smoking while the other hands were at work, and when told by the prosecutor to turn to he refused, using some insutling expressions. He was committed to gaol for one month with hard labour.— John Birkwell, an apprentice of the Crest of the Wave, was charged with a similar offence. James Hill, chief officer, stated that he gave the prisoner order to go on shore in a boat, but he refused. He had previously been very insolent and insubordinate. He was sentenced to 14 days' imprisonment.

*South Australian Register (Adelaide, SA : 1839 - 1900), Wednesday 14 August 1861, page 3*

POLICE COURT— PORT ADELAIDE. Thursday. September 11.

[Before Messrs. G. W. Hawkes, B. Douglas, and A. Hall.] Stealing. -James Ashton, cook of the Sea Star, appeared on the remanded charge of having- possession of articles belonging to the Sea Star suspected to be stolen. Alexander Loutit, master, stated the boots produced were his. They had the same brand as others in his possession. Could not identify the soap produced. The prisoner still persisted he bought the boots in London, and they were soldiers' dis charged boots. The steward of the vessel stated he oould identify the boots as one of eight pairs he had in charge belonging to the captain. Had soap on board similar to that produced. Committed to gaol for two calendar months.

*South Australian Weekly Chronicle, Saturday 20 September 1862, page 7*

DESERTION.-It is not often Swedish vessels are deserted by their crews here; but in the Veritas it appears they have commenced that pernicious practice, for two hands were found missing on Monday, and two more on Wednesday morning. It is the more annoying to the master, as he had every confidence in the men remaining by the vessel, as he has on previous occasions visited the colonies and never lost a hand.

*South Australian Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1858 - 1889), Saturday 7 March 1863, page 2*

John Golding, a deserter from the ship **Liberator**, since the 15th April, 1862, was sentenced to be imprisoned and kept to hard labour dating three weeks.

Charles Abbott, seaman of the ship **Vernon**, pleaded guilty of assaulting John Austin, chief officer, on board, on the 3rd instant, and was sentenced to be imprisoned and kept to hard labour during fourteen days.

*Empire (Sydney, NSW : 1850 - 1875), Monday 6 April 1863, page 2*

A RUNAWAY-George Gingnan, seaman, of **the Liberator**, was charged on the information of the Shipping Master with being found in the province after the departure of the vessel without a proper discharge. The defendant was ordered to be sent on to the vessel now laying at Wallaroo, and all expenses of his conveyance &c. to be deducted from his wages.

*South Australian Weekly Chronicle , Saturday 16 May 1863, page 2*

Port Adelaide: Monday. October 19. [Before Mr. G. W. Hawkes, S.M.]

George Vincent O 'Shea, a seaman of the **Wycliffe**, was charged with being found in the province without a discharge from that vessel. The Shipping-Master said he had no instructions to prosecute, but that the captain wished the prisoner forwarded to England. No prosecutor appearing, His Worship ordered the prisoner's discharge.

*Adelaide Observer (SA : 1843 - 1904), Saturday 24 October 1863, page 4*

Friday. March 4. [Before Mr. G. W. Hawkes, S.M.]

William Marsh, seaman of the **Thracian**, was charged with assaulting the chief officer on board, on the 3rd inst. It appeared that the defendant, with others, was told to wet the decks after coming up from the hold, when he struck the complainant in the face and refused to do work as ordered. He was committed to gaol for four weeks, with hard labour. James Bay, another seaman, was charged with disturbing the peace of the vessel and aiding and abetting the last prisoner.

He was ordered on board with a caution. Michael Meally, contractor, appeared to an information by Francis Cole, laborer, for refusing to pay £2 12s., wages. The information was withdrawn on the defendant under taking to pay into Court the amount due when he received a settlement by the Marine Board for the work done. In the case of Jacob Schofer, seaman of the **Diedrich Pentzen**, charged with assaulting the master of that vessel. Mr. Amsberg, the Consul for Bremer, attended, and stated that the matter had been arranged, and requested the charge to be withdrawn.

*South Australian Weekly Chronicle Saturday 5 March 1864, page 7*

## **POLICE COURT—PORT ADELAIDE.**

**MONDAY, MAY 16.**

**ABSENT WITHOUT LEAVE.—***Wm. Almond*, carpenter of the **Unicorn**, pleaded guilty to being absent from the vessel, on 15th inst., without leave.

**Four weeks imprisonment.**

*James Jackson*, seaman of the *Yatala*, pleaded guilty to being absent without leave on Saturday, 14th.

**Ordered on board.**

*Joseph Edwards*, drunk and assaulting the police on Saturday, was fined 25s., and to pay damage to the policeman's uniform.

Two other seaman for being drunk and resisting the police were each fined 10s.; and a third seaman, for the same offence, was fined 5s.

*Adelaide Express (SA : 1863 - 1866), Monday 16 May 1864, page 3*

Wednesday, March 20. [Before Mr. G. AV. Hawkes, S.M.]



Thomas Jones, seaman of the **Jessica**, for being absent without leave, was committed for one month, and to forfeit two days' pay. George Dwyer, seaman of the **Ayr**, on the information of the Shipping Master, for being found without a discharge after her sailing, was fined £5, or six weeks' hard labor.

*South Australian Chronicle and Weekly Mail, Saturday 11 February 1871, page 10*

Monday. March 6. [Before Mr. E. J. Peake, S.M.]

John Campbell, a seaman of the **Jessica**, was fined £5 for being found in the province without a discharge after the sailing of the vessel.

*South Australian Chronicle and Weekly Mail, Saturday 11 March 1871, page 14*

Wednesday, June 4. [Before Mr. E. J. Peake, S.M.]

Joseph Adams, steward of the **Tongoy**, pleaded not guilty to wilfully damaging sky light and brass work on board the vessel. Mr. Dempster for informant ; Mr. Edmunds for defendant. The evidence of two witnesses proved that prisoner was drunk on the night of the 2nd of June, and went on board and smashed the skylight by kicking it with his heels. The damage- amounted to about £16. Committed for two calendar months, with hard labor ; the amount of damage to be ascertained and deducted from his wages.

*South Australian Chronicle and Weekly Mail, Saturday 7 June 1873, page 14*

POLICE COURT—PORT ADELAIDE. Tuesday, June 24, 1873

Frederick Dickins, seaman of the **Mary Blundell**, was found guilty of disobeying orders, and committed for four weeks. The same defendant, for assaulting the master, James G. Nelson, was committed for 12 weeks with hard labor.

Five seamen of the **Melpomene**, for being absent without leave, each received a sentence of one month with hard labor, and to forfeit two days' pay.

Christopher Lawless and Wm. Edgar, seamen, for disturbing the peace on board the **Tongoy**, were fined 5s. each.

*Express and Telegraph (Adelaide, SA : 1867 - 1922), Wednesday 25 June 1873, page 2*

POLICE COURT—PORT ADELAIDE,

Wednesday, July 9.

[Before Messrs, John Formby and **R. Tapley**.]

Edward Dolan, seaman of the **Ocean Beauty** found without a discharge, pleaded guilty, and was committed for 12 weeks with hard labor.

Philip Vibert and Wm. Beck, seamen, of the **Madeline**, for the like offence, were committed for 12 weeks with hard labor.

Charles McKenzie, seaman, was charged , on suspicion with being a deserter from the **Tongoy**. He pleaded not guilty, and, there not being sufficient proof of his identity, he was: discharged.

*Express and Telegraph (Adelaide, SA : 1867 - 1922), Thursday 10 July 1873, page 2*

MURDER IN THE ROAD STEAD.

A shocking murder was committed on board the barque **Tongoy**, on Saturday night, the victim being the master of that vessel. It appears that after the ship was towed to the anchorage, four of her seamen named Joseph Adams, William Edgar, Thomas McLean, and Ben Rebbeck, were put on board in charge of the police, having been taken from the Gaol to the ship under a warrant of deliverance. These men seemed to have had a mischievous intention even on boarding the vessel, for there were threats heard as to what would happen. On Friday night, Captain

John Moore and Maurice Leonards, seamen of the Esmok, pleaded not guilty to disobeying orders on board. Henry McKee, master, produced the articles with the seamen's names attached, and proved their refusal to do what was ordered. The captain died at sea, and he was acting as captain. Thomas Moyse, chief officer, stated that he ordered the hands to wash the decks about 7 o'clock yesterday morning.

Asked each man by name to do so and they refused. Maurice Leonards pleaded guilty to assaulting the captain on the same day. Committed to gaol for four weeks. — William Broica, Walter Wager, and George Reynolds, seamen of the same vessel, were charged with disobeying orders on the 20th instant. They pleaded not guilty. Thomas Moyse, chief officer, proved the refusal of the men to do the work required. Brown and Reynolds were committed for six weeks, and Wager for four weeks to gaol.

*South Australian Weekly Chronicle, Saturday 23 March 1867, page 3*

Wednesday, October 9. [Before Mr. G. AT. Hawkes, S.M.] William Lucas, seaman, appeared on remanded charge of stealing a grey rabbit, the property of W. G. Nicholls, master of the **David Brown**. Sergeant Brown stated — Was in company with Police-constable Lahey, when the prisoner was taken in charge. He said that he took the rabbit over to Waite's Lefevre's Hotel, and some one took it from him. Prisoner stated that as he was leaving the ship the rabbit jumped into his bosom. He then went to Waite's, and gave it in charge of Mr. Waite, and some one took it from him. Fined 1s., and 5s. value of rabbit, or seven days' imprisonment.

*South Australian Weekly Chronicle, Saturday 12 October 1867, page 7*

POLICE COURT—PORT ADELAIDE. Friday, January 3. [Before Mr. G. W. Hawkes, S.M.] Michael Burke, seaman of the **Darra**, was convicted of disobeying lawful commands on board on the 2nd instant, and was committed for six weeks.

William Anderson, seaman of the same vessel, was committed for four weeks for being absent without leave.

*Express and Telegraph (Adelaide, SA : 1867 - 1922), Saturday 4 January 1868, page 2*

POLICE: COURT—PORT ADELAIDE Tuesday, July 13 [Before Mr. G. W. Hawkes, S.M.] Edward Johnson, seaman of the **Benledi**, pleaded guilty to deserting from the above vessel, and was fined £5, in default of payment to be imprisoned for 2 months.

*Express and Telegraph (Adelaide, SA : 1867 - 1922), Thursday 15 July 1869, page 3*

POLICE COURT— PORT ADELAIDE. Thursday, JULY 15. [Before: Mr. G. W. Hawkes. S.M.]H

Henry Douglas, seaman of the Silver Cloud, was committed for six weeks for deserting the above vessel. Alex McLean, seaman of the Benledi, was fined £5 for being found in the province after the departure of his vessel without a discharge.

*South Australian Chronicle and Weekly Mail, Saturday 17 July 1869, page 10*

POLICE COURT—PT ADELAIDE.TUESDAY, JULY 13. [Before Mr. G.W. Hawkes, S.M.] Edward Johnson, seaman of the Benledi, pleaded guilty to deserting from the above vessel, and was fined £5, in default of payment to be imprisoned for two months.

Wednesday, July 14. William Forbes, seaman of the Britain's Pride, was charged with being absent without leave on the 13th instant. Ordered to be imprisoned till the rising of the Court.

*SA Advertiser, Thu 15 July, 1869 P3*

Wittacombe boarded his ship, and remained on board till Saturday morning, when he purposed getting underway, but the men refused to man the windlass, and in consequence, the signal was made for a shore boat in which the captain landed to procure some help to lift the anchor, intending to go to sea as soon as practicable. At 5 o'clock in the afternoon he returned to his ship, and word was passed along to proceed to sea, and arrangements were progressing for that purpose when the four hands alluded to walked aft and told, the chief officer (Mr. Fergusson) they desired to see the master. The mate called him out of the cabin, and the spokesman asked what was to be done to them — in allusion to their previous misconduct on board. The master replied, "I will tell you on Monday morning." At this time the chief officer was standing a short distance off, without interfering in the altercation, which had no other aspect than a seaman's wrangle. Adams said—" You son of a b---- I will do for you; Take that." At the same instant giving the master a blow with some weapon, which he then threw overboard. The master was immediately felled to the deck, while the cowardly assailants skulked away forwards, and the officers carried the master below. He never again spoke; the fearful blow he had received had gashed the upper lip completely through, and, blood had flown down his throat till asphyxia resulted. At one period the mate felt him press his hand but no other sign of returning consciousness was made, and in an hour he ceased to breathe. After the blow some of the crew were drafted off to procure medical assistance, and as soon as practicable Dr. Gething went, to the ship, but the unfortunate captain was beyond earthly aid. The chief officer restrained the after guard from letting the seamen forwards know the master was dead, and in consequence, the men, on landing, asked whether or not he

was much hurt. Of -course, the police at once took charge of the four scoundrels, and, after searching them, locked them up in safe keeping. Then, at midnight, Sergeant Doyle took with him an officer and visited the vessel, and, after searching the body, he handed to the mate some 60 or 70 sovereigns, and then took particulars of the untimely occurrence from the chief officer and some of the hands. It was

shown that the man Adams had the cook's rolling pin in his hand before he went aft, and that was supposed to be the weapon of death. The Coroner's enquiry will be held to-day, when there is no doubt further particulars will transpire. On Sunday morning all the ships wore their bunting half-masted as a mournful tribute to the deceased whose body was landed at the Semaphore and taken to the Port station. The utmost consternation prevailed throughout the night, as phase after phase of the terrible drama was enacted, and greater sympathy could not be shown for any person. The captain was a young man, on his first voyage as master, and belonged to Plymouth, where his father held a position as officer in the coast guard service. What adds a more melancholy interest to the affair is the fact that but a short six weeks before leaving England he was married. As showing in what trouble he had been placed here is a last letter-

"Barque **Tongoy**, July 26, 1873.—Dear Sir— You will very much oblige your humble servant by letting the public know in Monday's papers how the captain of the Tongoy is being humbugged by his crew. If I hoist the ensign over the boat flag it will be for assistance to pick up the anchor and get under way. Yours faithfully, C. A. "Wittacombe, Master." R. Jagoe, Shipping Reporter." At the time of the delinquents being-taken to the station they had not been informed of the captain's death, and therefore, treated the whole arrangement with the greatest levity, having attained their object in getting ashore from the vessel. When, however, the charge of murder was read over to Adams he rather changed his manner. It is said each man drew lots to decide who should strike the blow which would bring them before a Magistrate, and the lot fell on Adams. It is not yet certain how or what the accessories are to be charged with, but doubtless more will be shortly learned. During Sunday great excitement prevailed when the fact



became known, and for many hours crowds of people were about the Police Station, where the body lies awaiting the inquest.

*Express and Telegraph (Adelaide, SA : 1867 - 1922), Monday 28 July 1873, page 2*

## THE MURDER IN THE ROADSTEAD.

### The Inquest.

On Monday, July 28, Mr. E. J. Peake, S.M., held an inquest at Port Adelaide upon the body of Charles Alfred Withecombe, master of the barque Tongoy, who died on July 26th, from injuries reserved on board the vessel. The following was the Jury:— Hugh Quin, William Quin, William Beattie, Charles Hains, Thomas Eve, Charles John Butler, George Hills, Thomas Michelmores, John Anthony, Bonham Evans, Alfred Scarfe, John Westover, and John Hawkes. Mr. Beattie was appointed Foreman. The Jury proceeded to view the body, which was lying in the deadhouse. The deceased appeared to have been aged about 30 years. There was a dread-ful gash across his face, and his head was covered with blood, which was still oozing from the nostrils. On reassembling the following prisoners, who had been in custody on the charge that they did at the Lighthouse anchorage feloniously, wilfully, and of their malicious aforethought, kill and murder one Charles Alfred Withecombe, master of the said vessel, July 26, 1873, were brought in:— Joseph Adams, age 18 years, steward; Thomas McLean, age 21, seaman; William Edgar, age 25, seaman; and Benjamin Rebbeck, age 22, seaman. Although it was arranged that the enquiry should take place at 11 o'clock a.m. it was after 12.30 p.m. before any evidence was taken. The delay in the first instance was caused by a lengthy case in the Police Court, and afterwards by the non-arrival for a considerable time of the Magistrate at the Town Hall, to which place the inquest was adjourned from the Court-House, after the Jury had been sworn in and viewed the body. Sergeant Doyle stated that before Dr. Gething gave any evidence he would like to make a post-mortem examination of the body of deceased. The Magistrate therefore ordered that a post-mortem examination should be made. The Coroner said that the Jury would now hear what evidence the Sergeant of Police was prepared to offer. He begged of the Jury their calm and patient attention to and consideration of the facts and circumstances that would be put before them by the various witnesses. He had just ordered Dr. Gething to make a post-mortem examination, which would make his evidence more complete as to the cause of the man's death. William Bruce Ferguson, chief officer of the ship Tongoy, deposed — Charles Alfred Withecombe, whose body is now lying in the deadhouse, was master of the Tongoy. The ship is now lying in the roadstead. She was anchored there on Saturday night, the 26th instant. I was on board all day. The captain went on shore in the morning. He returned at 5 o'clock. I was present when he came on board. After he came on board he went to the cabin. The four prisoners were men belonging to the ship. They were on board when the captain came. When the captain went to the cabin I remained on deck. The men came to the front of the poop on the main deck, and said to me they wanted to see the captain. Prisoner Adams made that request. The names of the men who came to me are Joseph Adams, Thomas McLean, William Edgar and Benjamin Rebbeck. It was about five minutes past 7 or 7 o'clock when they came to me. I called for the captain to come on deck. He did so. He walked fore and aft on the poop for a bit. I said, when he came on deck, 'The men want to see you.' I cannot say whether the men spoke to the captain first, or the captain to the men. The prisoners asked the captain what he was going to do with them, and he said, 'I will tell you on Monday morning.' The prisoners had then got on to the poop, and were standing around the captain. When he said that he would tell them on Monday the prisoners said they wanted a decided answer. He repeated the same words, 'I will tell you on Monday morning.' The prisoners were all standing close around the captain when he spoke those words. I cannot say which was nearest. Adams

stepped out from the others towards the captain, and struck him a blow across the mouth. I could not see what Adams struck the captain with. It was half-past 7 o'clock, and dark. I was about six feet from the captain when the blow was struck. I had a good view of the captain. When the captain was struck he fell instantly upon the deck. The weapon fell out of Adams's hand on to the deck after he struck the blow, and he picked it up at once and threw it overboard. I was close to Adams when he threw it over. I was in the act of seizing him. It was too dark to form any judgment of what it was. When Adams struck the captain he said, 'You son of a b—, take that.' Adams did not say anything more, but went forward, as I ordered him, with the other three prisoners. The other men made no remark after the blow was struck. Only one blow was struck. Neither of the other prisoners attempted to strike the captain before Adams did so. By the Coroner — Before the blow was struck the men all joined Adams in asking what the captain was going to do with them, and the reply he made was a general answer to them. I did not hear any threats by any of the men. Examination by Sergeant Doyle continued — I carried the master below into his cabin. He was bleeding heavily from the mouth. He was not sensible. He never spoke. He never recovered his senses. I had three of the crew to assist me in carrying the captain down below. I sent for a doctor immediately. The vessel was about two miles from the shore. It was low water. The doctor came off at about quarter-past 10 o'clock. The captain was dead when he came. He died at a quarter-past 9 o'clock. Before the doctor arrived I applied cold water to deceased's face, and held him on the side to keep the blood running out of his mouth. The doctor examined the body when he arrived, and said deceased had been dead for some time. I saw him die. I remember McLean and Adams being brought on board by the police on Thursday afternoon last. They were brought from the gaol on a warrant of deliverance. The captain was not on board at that time. I asked McLean and Adams to turn to when they came on board. They said, 'Not till we have seen the captain.' They then went forward. They did not see the captain till Friday afternoon. I asked them to turn to on Friday morning. They still refused to do so till they saw the captain. When they saw the captain on Friday evening the four prisoners were together. The prisoners Edgar and Rebbeck had not refused duty up to that time. The only two who spoke to the captain on Friday were McLean and Adams. They asked to go ashore to see a Magistrate, and the captain refused to allow them. They did not then use threats or insulting language to the captain. On Friday morning after the captain left I heard Adams and McLean call the captain 'son of a bitch.' This was between 8 and 9 o'clock, after breakfast. They did not make use of threats to strike him. The captain then went away, and everything was quiet till he returned. I remember being in the fore-castle on Friday evening with the captain. I heard Adams threaten the captain. He had an empty bottle in his hand, and said he would knock the captain down with it. The captain did not say anything, and did not remain long after this threat was made. The captain heard this threat. I tried to pacify the men. By the Jury — The captain and I when in the fore-castle were trying to pacify the men. There had been no disturbance among the men except that some of them wished to go before a Magistrate. On the Saturday night when the men came before the captain I was aware of their grievance - that they wanted to see a Magistrate. Nothing was said to justify me in thinking that the captain would be murdered. I had no suspicion of such an assault. There were 13 men and boys all told, including officers, on board before the blow was struck. There were eight in the fore-castle. There were no apprentices among them. The men were well treated on the voyage out. They had plenty to eat and drink. Prisoner Adams was treated more as a brother than a seaman. The captain made him steward on the voyage out. The men were all sober, every one of them, on Saturday night. The captain was sober on Saturday. I had no idea what the captain was going to do with the men on Monday. By the prisoner McLean — The captain knew what he was doing when he came into the fore-castle with the mate on Friday night.

By the Coroner— He did not say anything harsh or unkind to the men. Prisoner McLean— Did he not run down into the fore-castle drunk with a revolver in his hand ? The captain had called Adams a bastard and a liar, and Adams said he was a stinking liar. When he came into the fore-castle Adams called attention to his having a revolver in his trousers, and we all saw it, and then Adams lifted the bottle. Adams's grievance was that the captain called him a bastard. By the prisoner Adams — I did not see any body else strike the captain. I only saw you hit him once. Prisoner Adams — I hit him twice. There was more than me had a hand in it. Christopher Logs, seaman on board the ship Tongoy, said— I was onboard on Saturday night last. I remember the captain coming on board. The boat came alongside about half-past 5 in the evening. When the captain came on board he went down to his cabin. After he went down I saw the mate, who was on the poop. I was standing on the main-deck, about four or five feet from the poop. I know the prisoners, who were seamen on board our ship. While I was standing on the main deck I saw the prisoners go aft. The captain had been below about five minutes when the prisoners went aft. They asked the mate to let them see the captain. Prisoners were then on the main deck in front of the poop. I saw the captain come up on the poop. The prisoners walked up to him. Adams spoke first He asked the captain to let them go ashore to see a Magistrate. The captain told him he would not until they got to Newcastle. The men then went forward and had tea, and the captain went below again. After they had had tea, the four prisoners came aft again. I was then on the main deck about four or five feet from the poop. The mate was on the poop, and Adams said they wanted to see the captain. The mate told the captain, who was below, and he came on deck. The prisoners were then on the main deck, and went on the poop, and Adams said to the captain, ' What are you going to do with us ?' The captain said, Go forward and be quiet, and I will give you a decided answer on Monday morning.' The captain was standing close to the companion. He made a move to go below — had turned from the prisoners as if to go below. As he was going down Joseph Adams came forward and struck him. I cannot say what he struck the captain with. I could see the deceased distinctly when Adams struck him. The poop is about two and a half feet or three feet at the most from the main deck. The captain fell instantly he was struck. He fell on the poop. The men went forward. I do not know what Adams did with the weapon when he struck the captain. I did not see any of the other prisoners strike him or attempt to strike him but Adams. I saw Adams go forward. I did not hear him say anything while going forward. When the captain was struck he did not say anything, but groaned. I saw something in Adams's hand when he struck the captain, but it was too dark for me to distinguish what it was. It was not with his fist that he struck him. When Mr. Fergusson called me I went to assist the captain, and saw no more of the weapon. I remember Adams and McLean being brought on board on Thursday last. They did not turn to. On Friday morning the mate asked them to turn to, but they refused. They did not assign any reason in my presence. I never heard them make use of any threat to the captain on Friday or Saturday up to the time of the assault Edgar and Rebbeck had been working until Saturday morning. Did not see them doing anything during the assault. They were on the poop. By the Jury — I was at my tea on the Saturday in the second cabin. I am boatswain of the ship, and was living aft. It was my duty to be on deck until 8 o'clock. Heard no remark from the men from the time they were brought on board until the assault. I was in the fore-castle when the captain was there. The captain was inclined to put the handcuffs on Adams and McLean. He went below for that purpose, but did not do so. Did not see the captain with a revolver in his hand. The captain was not quite sober, but was not drunk. The belaying-pins are some of iron and some wood. None of them have been missed. The cook had missed his rolling-pin. It was round. Could not say whether it was light or heavy. Adams had a bottle, and threatened if they attempted to put on the handcuffs they would strike captain. He did not say with what. The captain know what he

was about. I am not aware that any of the men had belaying-pins or marling spikes their own property. I have been boatswain of the vessel about a fortnight. Whilst in the fore-castle on the passage out heard of no particular grievance amongst the men to cause bad feeling. The captain never spoke after he was struck. I was not present when he died. The remainder of the ship's company were forward when the assault took place. I and two others assisted the mate to carry the captain below. I had no reason to think the prisoners had any determined intention to assault the captain. Robert Gething, M.D., Edin.— I have seen the body of deceased at the deadhouse. On Saturday night I was called to see Captain Withecombe, of the Tongoy, at the anchorage, at 9 o'clock or a little after. The messenger stated that the captain had received a violent blow, and had been knocked about the mouth. I went as soon as I could. On my arrival at the cabin of the ship I found the captain lying on the table dead. There was a severe wound in the upper lip, but I discovered no external mark of any wound about the head. At your request to-day I have made a post-mortem examination of the body, and have come to the conclusion that death was caused by suffocation, by blood trickling from the floor of the nose, probably from the lip to the throat. That was the immediate cause of death probably. On examining the scalp I found there were no external marks of any injury ; but on its removal from the skull there were four distinct contusions — one on the left temple, one on the top of the head, and one on each side of that. On removing the skull itself, there was found to be a large quantity of extravasated blood on the upper surface of the brain, and also on removing the brain a small portion on the right side of the base. On examining the inner surface of the vault of the skull, it was found fractured from the left temple nearly across, transversely to the opposite side. The origin of this fracture corresponded with the blow on the left temple. These injuries paralysed the brain, so that it took no cognizance of the blood that was trickling down his throat, and suffocating him. By the Jury — There must have been a distinct blow for each contusion, as there are defined marks. It must have been with a blunt instrument. A fall could not have caused any of the contusions, as they were too high on the head. The injuries to the brain and skull would certainly have caused death ultimately. By prisoner McLean — If the captain had fallen down the companion head first the front of his head would have been injured, not the top. By the Coroner — The injuries to the skull were so serious that deceased could not have been sensible after. By Sergeant Doyle — I should have expected to have seen external marks on the scalp if the wounds had been produced by kicks. A heavy blunt instrument must have been used. By the Jury — I should have expected to have found external marks from a blow with a piece of iron, but not from a heavy blunt piece of wood used with great force. By Sergeant Doyle — I do not think the boots of the prisoners (which had not toe-plates or nails) would produce the marks. Alexander Adams, able seaman on board the ship Tongoy, said — I was on board the Tongoy on Saturday night last. Remember the captain coming on board between 5 and 6 o'clock. Did not see where he went to. Remember being in the galley that evening. Heard the mate sing out for help, and on coming out of the galley saw Adams coming forward by the galley from aft Heard him say as he was passing, 'The son of a bitch, I have had my revenge.' I then went aft and assisted the mate to carry the captain below. Did not notice any of the other three prisoners. The mate, two other men and myself carried the captain below. Saw nothing of the disturbance on deck. Remember Adams and McLean being brought on board on Thursday. Have been in their company since. I have heard both of them say that they would have their revenge on the captain. They said this on Friday evening after the captain had seen them. They made the same threats on Saturday after the captain came on board, and about a quarter of an hour before the disturbance took place. Cannot say who was present besides myself when the threats were used. They did not give any special reason for wanting to have revenge. After taking the captain below I and three others came on shore for

the doctor and police. By the Jury — Did not report to the officers that I heard the threats made. Never heard the four prisoners having any conversation in the forecastle about what they intended to do. By prisoner Rebbeck — I never heard you or Edgar say you would do anything wrong to the captain or mate. James Francis, seaman on board the Tongoy, said — I remember being in the galley with the last witness on Saturday night. While there I heard a scuffle, but I did not know what it was. The last witness and I came out of the galley at the same time. When I came on deck I did not see any of the prisoners till nearly aft. We saw McLean first; then the prisoner Adams, who said, 'I have done for him now, the son of a bitch. I have got my revenge.' I then went aft I did not see anything of the disturbance. The captain was lying on the deck, and I assisted to take him below. I remember Adams and McLean being brought on board on Thursday. I did not hear them use any threat, except when the captain was going ashore on Saturday morning, and while he was in the boat, I heard them abuse him. I remained in the cabin after the captain was taken down till the doctor arrived. He had then been dead about three-quarters of an hour. He seemed at first to be choking. I called the mate, and he laid him on his side. Some blood came out of his mouth, and I afterwards placed him on his back, thinking he was all right, and gave him some water, which he swallowed. Afterwards he vomited again, and I lifted him up. He sprang forward as if mad, and fell back in my arms. I did not see him breathe afterwards. By the Jury — I never heard the other two prisoners, Edgar and Rebbeck, make any threats towards the captain. I was shipped in the colony for the run to Newcastle, New South Wales. Luke Gibney, seaman on board the Tongoy, deposed — I shipped in Liverpool. I was on board on Saturday night last. The prisoners are my shipmates. Before the captain came on board on Saturday evening I heard a conversation between the four prisoners. They said they wished the captain would come on board, as they wanted to know what he was going to do with them, and that they would not turn to until they saw the captain. This conversation was in the forecastle and on deck. All hands were on deck, but it was a straggling conversation, and I do not know who heard it. After the captain came on board the prisoners had a conversation in the main chains, and were still talking about wanting to know what the captain would do with them. The prisoners asked the captain what he was going to do with them, saying they would not turn to in the ship, and they wanted a decided answer. The captain said, 'I will tell you on Monday morning.' I do not know what reply the prisoners made. I was amidships, and we all went forward and had tea. After tea either Adams or McLean asked the cook whether the captain had done his tea. The cook told them he was writing. The four prisoners consulted. Some of them wanted to go down to the captain's cabin, but Rebbeck said they had no right to do so. The four prisoners agreed to go aft. I was going out of the forecastle, and walked about while they were aft, and till I was called by the captain. They asked the mate if they could see the captain, who came on deck. They asked him what he was inclined to do with them. The captain said, 'I have told you before I will give you a decided answer on Monday morning.' This went on for some time. I was forward all the time, and heard the captain say, 'Where is Luke?' which is my name. I went aft to within about a yard and a half of the poop, and asked him if he wanted me. He asked me if I refused duty. I replied, 'No, Sir.' He called the mate and asked him if I had not refused duty on Saturday morning. The mate told him he asked me, and I had not come on deck. I said that I had told the mate that I would not man the windlass without the full number, as four had refused duty. I heard that he was going to get men on board to weigh the anchor, and I said I would not assist unless he got a crew, as I was the only one in the forecastle willing to work. I said I did not want to refuse duty, as I wanted to go home in the ship. The captain said, 'I will put you all ashore on Monday morning.' The captain was walking away from the prisoners, when they got on the poop, and closed around him, when he turned and said, 'Now, now !' holding up his hand. He turned again to go down into his cabin,



and was just at the companion when the prisoner Adams took some weapon from under his coat, saying, 'Am I a bastard?' and struck the captain. The deceased fell, and the mate ran to catch Adams, who then struck the deceased again when he was down. He only struck him twice. I could see the blows struck distinctly, but could not see in what part the captain was struck. The mate and Adams ran aft, and I think that Adams threw something overboard, but I could not see. McLean then struck the captain with his foot when he was down. I cannot say what part he struck him, but it was above the breast. The other prisoners did not do anything. After seeing McLean kick the captain I walked for-ward ; the prisoners followed. I gathered from the discourse of the prisoners, especially McLean and Adams before they went aft, that they intended to have a row with the captain. I do not remember what they said specially. Their language was not very pointed, but abusive. I know the cook's rolling-pin. I saw it under Adams's shirt when he came forward to have his tea, previous to his assaulting the captain. He took it out from the breast of his shirt, but I do not know where he put it then. It was about four or five inches in circumference and a foot and a half long. It was quite round and smooth. I have never had the pin in my hand. I never noticed it particularly before. I have heard it said it was the cook's rolling-pin. There was no unpleasant-ness in the fore-castle coming out, and I did not hear the prisoners threaten the captain or mate. There was a row between the captain and McLean, and I think the captain had a down on McLean for the best part of the passage. I have heard the captain rail and roar at him. I did not hear the prisoners make any plan to assault the captain, or do him any injury. Edgar and Rebbeck never refused to do duty till Saturday morning. On Friday night McLean and Adams thought the captain was going to put irons on them. He brought the carpenter and boatswain with him. Adams and McLean said they would not have the irons put on, and they got some bottles, using some threatening language to the captain. I was lying in my bunk, and Adams said there was a 'shooter' in the captain's pocket. There were insulting words used, but no blows were struck, and the captain went away. The prisoner McLean here cross-examined the witness as to the kick said to have been given by McLean, trying to show that as witness could not, state exactly where the kick was given he could not state that one was given at all. On witness reiterating his statement, McLean said, 'I cannot say more; I did not kick him.' Prisoner Edgar rose and said, 'I saw McLean kick him.' Witness continued. By prisoner Adams— I saw you strike the captain twice. Prisoner Adams — I did not push between the captain and mate after striking the first blow. I struck him twice after the mate came up, and McLean kicked him. Prisoner Rebbeck here made a statement to the effect that he did not go aft with the intention of having a row. The men only said they wanted an answer as to whether the captain would send them ashore. Prisoner Adams— We all came aft with the intention of having a row. Witness to Sergeant Doyle— McLean asked me if I would join them to have a row with the captain. I do not know whether Edgar and Rebbeck were asked to join. John Smyth, police-constable, deposed— On Saturday last I went on board the Tongoy with Constables Workman and Read. Found the captain was dead. Brought the four prisoners ashore. Was present when they were charged with murdering the captain. I heard Sergeant Doyle caution them. Prisoner Adams asked me in the yard if it was a fact that the captain was dead. I told him, ' Yes;' that he died before I brought them from the ship. He said nothing in reply. He only sighed. Thomas Doyle, Sergeant of Police, said— On Saturday night, about 35 minutes past 9 o'clock, Alexander Adams made a report of a disturbance on board the Tongoy, I sent Constables Smyth, Workman, and Read, who went in company with Dr. Gething to the ship, and returned to the Station with the prisoners about quarter-part 12. In consequence of what was stated I locked the prisoners up and went on board with Workman. Left the body in charge of Workman, and made all enquiries. Searched the deceased, and found £70 in gold in his pockets, 12s. 1d. in silver,

6½d. in copper, and a ring, which I handed to the chief officer. The chief officer had his watch and chain, and I took his receipt for the other property. On Sunday afternoon I read the charge to Adams, and cautioned him in the usual way. He said nothing then, but afterwards sent for me, and I went to the cell. He said, 'When you told me to say nothing, I did not know what to do, but I want to tell you we are all in it McLean kicked the captain, and I struck him twice with the pin.' I said, 'What sort of a pin was it? was it a belaying-pin?' He replied, 'No; I don't know what sort of a pin it was.' I said, 'Was it anything like the cook's rolling-pin?' He said he could not say. He went on to say 'We all rushed up around the captain.' This morning the charge was read to the four prisoners, but they said nothing. By the Jury — I never heard that the prisoners cast lots as to who should strike the blow. I have made enquiries, but cannot learn that anything of the sort was done. The Coroner said this was a very grave and serious enquiry that he had called upon them to make touching the death of this Captain Withecombe. It was a very serious and grave matter upon public grounds; it was a very serious matter with respect to the relation of the masters of ships to the crews who navigated them and the system of navigating; it was a very serious matter for the public at large, and therefore he need not tell them how careful they must be in their analysis of the evidence they had heard. It seemed perfectly clear, as far as he could follow the evidence, that Adams with a sort of predetermined idea, went with three other men with the purpose of bullying the captain of the ship into his consent to certain things they wanted. It seemed, also, that Adams openly expressed his determination to have revenge, and afterwards expressed gratification at having got revenge. There was vindictiveness shown both before and after the event, and he struck the man, who never spoke again. The life ebbed away, and the medical man had told them how it was — that his skull was literally broken to pieces. He had a frightful wound, and the hemorrhage was very great, and the paralysis was so instantaneous that there was no power in the system to make an effort at self-relief by vomiting the blood. He was suffocated by this blood, but would have been a dead man from the blows he had received. The doctor's evidence led him to suppose that the blow might have been made with an instrument constructed for the purpose, consisting perhaps of heavy balls attached to a common centre, which, used with rapidity once or twice, would make the wounds. The doctor had explained to them the helpless state of the man. The blow killed him. Who struck the blow? Adams struck the blow, therefore Adams killed him. But there was evidence that another man gave another blow. It would be well to examine McLean's boot to see if it caused the wound on the mouth. McLean struck the man when he was down. How far he caused or hastened his death they could hardly say, but the two were connected together. The evidence about the other two men was that they were, as it were, banded together in opposition to the captain in reference to some things he refused to grant them, but it did not appear by the evidence that there was any preconceived malice on their part. He did not think, however, they should altogether separate the four men. He thought their verdict should embrace the other two, because it was right that a Jury of their countrymen should express their opinion as to their participation or not, and it was right that a higher Court should investigate the matter as regarded the four men. But that he would leave to their consideration. Their verdict must embrace the two who were the actual perpetrators of the crime. Their case could not escape investigation, but as to the other two he left it to them to consider whether there was sufficient evidence to put them on their trial. They all participated in jostling the master, because they all pushed up to him and made themselves seriously participants in the matter. But how far a Jury in a higher Court would say they were participants he could not say. That this was the crime of murder there could be no question. There was no Jury but would consider that the two men went prepared to do their worst. The Jury retired at 6 o'clock to consider their verdict, and at 10 minutes past 7 they returned, when the Foreman stated that they had unanimously found Adams and McLean guilty of the wilful

murder of Charles Alfred Withecombe on the 26th instant; and Elgar and Rebbeck guilty of being accessories to the fact. The Magistrate expressed his obligation to the Jury, and said he was sorry they had been kept so long. He must also congratulate the public on the careful and judicious verdict that had been returned, as there could be no doubt justice required that the prisoners should be taken to a higher Court for trial. It was a most serious matter that a captain of a vessel should, on board his own vessel in a peaceful port, be treated in so foul and brutal a manner. The prisoners were then severally informed that if they wished to make any statement they could do so, but that whatever they said would be taken down and might be used in evidence against them. Joseph Adams replied that he had nothing to say. Thomas McLean said he should reserve his defence, but he was not guilty of wilful murder. William Edgar said he should reserve what he had to say. Benjamin Rebbeck, who appeared much affected, said he was innocent of the captain's blood. He asked how could he be guilty when he had never gone near the captain nor given him a wrong word. His Worship, addressing the prisoners, said the Jury had found them guilty — Adams and McLean of the wilful murder of Captain Withecombe, and Edgar and Rebbeck of being accessories to the fact ; and it was his duty to commit them to take their trial at the next Criminal Sittings of the Supreme Court. The proceedings terminated shortly before 8 o'clock.

*South Australian Register (Adelaide, SA : 1839 - 1900), Tuesday 29 July 1873, page 6*

#### POLICE COURT—PORT ADELAIDE.

Tuesday, March 2. [Before Mr. G. F. Dashwood, S.M.]

Henry Newman, a seaman of the **Childers**, charged with assaulting E. Pilcher, master of the vessel, was sent to gaol for 12 weeks with hard labor.

Thomas Mayne, a seaman of the **Rapido**, was charged by the master with disobedience of orders, and was ordered to be imprisoned for 14 days with hard labor.

*Express and Telegraph (Adelaide, SA : 1867 - 1922), Wed 3 March 1875, page 2*

POLICE COURT—PORT ADELAIDE. Monday, July 10.

Henry Ashley, seaman of the **Mary Blundell**, was fined 5s. and costs, for disturbing the peace of the vessel. In default to be imprisoned for seven days with hard labor.

Joseph William Kightly, apprentice of the **Wistaria**, charged with desertion, was ordered on board.

*Express and Telegraph, Tuesday 11 July 1876, page 2*