

## POLICE COURT.

Before Mr. J. H. Fowler, J.P., Richard Power, Clerk of Petty Sessions, Mount Morgan, proceeded against John Patrick Finegan for arrears of maintenance for his wife Alice Emily Finegan. The defendant pleaded guilty. He was ordered to pay £6 15s. and 3s. 6d. costs; in default, a month's imprisonment in Rockhampton Gaol or until such amount was paid. He was allowed until the 17th of July in which to find the amount.

Mr. Power presided at sittings of the Police Court last week.

Herbert Douglas Simmonds was charged with having, on the 15th instant, stolen two bales of fodder, valued at £1 6s. 7d., the property of Thomas Heaslop and Co., Limited, with which is incorporated the People's Cash Store. He pleaded guilty and elected to be dealt with summarily—Senior-sergeant R. M'Kenzie tendered the following statement signed by the accused:—"I am a storeman by occupation at present in the employ of the People's Cash Store, situated in Morgan-street, Mount Morgan. I am a married man and reside with my wife and family in Hall-

street, Mount Morgan. I remember yesterday, the 15th instant. On that date I was in the employ of the People's Cash Store and engaged as a storeman in the back store. At about 2 p.m. on that date I left the store for the purpose of going to the railway goods shed to get a load of goods, included in which were horse fodder, butter, and bacon. On arrival at the goods shed I discovered, on looking at the advice note that there were seventeen bales of fodder for the People's Cash Store, which I immediately commenced to load

bales of fodder for the People's Cash Store, which I immediately commenced to load on my cart, which had been backed into the shed. While thus engaged my brother, Arthur Simmonds, drove up to the shed in his carrying van, which he backed into the shed alongside my cart. After pulling into the shed as I was loading the fodder he said 'That stuff is pretty dear just now.' I replied 'Yes. I will fix you up with a couple of these.' I then completed the loading of the fifteen bales and then placed the remaining two bales on the scales and weighed them. Together they weighed exactly 1 cwt. 2 qr. I then said to my brother 'You can drop these at M'Hughe's. He replied 'All right.' This statement was made in the presence of the railway officials in order to mislead them and make them believe that my action was correct and honest and that they were purchased from the People's Cash Store by M'Hugh. I then conveyed the remaining fifteen bales, with other goods, to the People's Cash Store and later handed in a receipt signed by me, which showed that the full number of bales, namely, seventeen, were placed in the store by me. This receipt was not a correct one. After my weighing the two bales my brother placed them in his cart and drove away with them in the direction of his home. I knew at the time that he was taking them home." The accused was fined £5 and ordered to make restitution to the extent of 13s. 3d., in default, a month's imprisonment in Rockhampton Gaol.

Arthur William Simmonds was charged with having, on the same date, received two bales of fodder which had lately been stolen. He also pleaded guilty and elected to be dealt with summarily. He was fined £5 and ordered to make restitution to the extent of 13s. 4d. in default

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Patrick O'Sullivan, alias Charlie Chaplain, was charged with having, on the 17th instant, stolen a quantity of boot-making tools, clothing, two gold tie pins, and sundries, valued at £5, the property of Akela Petroff. He was sentenced to a month's imprisonment in Rockhampton Gaol.

Thomas Harold Cundy was charged with having indecently dealt with a boy under the age of fourteen years. Senior-sergeant M'Kenzie conducted the prosecution. After the evidence of the arresting constable had been taken the accused was remanded until the 28th instant.