

## SENT ALONG FOR A MONTH.

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A KNOCK-OUT.

Alexander Stuhrit was charged at the Cessnock Police Court on Tuesday, before Major Crane, P.M. that he did assault one James Matchett, at Aberdare on December 9th. Accused was undefended and pleaded guilty, stating that he was drunk. Complainant said that at 6.20 the accused came up to him and took hold of him by the arm remarking "You are drunk, I'll take you to the police." Accused then pulled him along the road in the direction of Cessnock. After proceeding some little distance accused hit him on the head with a bottle and knocked him down. After knocking him down he commenced to kick him in the ribs. As a result of the injuries he had been under medical treatment ever since.

Robert Stanners stated that he saw the accused dragging the old man along the Aberdare Road and near Sheriff's bakery. He hit him on the head with a bottle and knocked him down, and while he was down he continued to hit him with the bottle. Witness and a man named Carroll ran over and when they arrived Stuhrit hit Carroll on the head with the bottle, breaking the bottle. Carroll then returned the blow and knocked him out.

Accused said that he remembered

nothing about it. The P.M. remarked that accused had been frequently before the court, and had it not been for the fact that on this occasion he appeared to have been drunk, he would have sent him to gaol for three months. While to a certain extent drunkenness was the cause, it certainly was no excuse and he sentenced accused to one month's hard labor in East Maitland gaol.

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