

A GAMEKEEPER COMMITTED FOR TRIAL FOR PERJURY.—On Saturday, at the Huddersfield Police-court, Daniel Fearnley, gamekeeper for Mr. A. Walker, of Mirfield, was charged with having committed perjury on the 12th Oct. last. Mr. Freeman prosecuted, and Mr. Dransfield defended. On the 12th October last, David Jessop, weaver, Hopton, Mirfield, was summoned before the Huddersfield bench for shooting a pheasant out of season, on the 28th September, and was convicted on the evidence of Fearnley alone, and was fined 20s. and costs. Notice of appeal was given, but, as Mr. Freeman expressed it, "the sinews of war not being forthcoming," the appeal was not prosecuted. The evidence which Fearnley gave on that occasion was to the effect that on September 28th, about half-past five in the evening, he being at a distance of about 200 yards from a field at Kirkheaton, occupied by Mr. Mellor, saw David Jessop shoot at a pheasant, which fluttered away into a cover and was not found by Jessop and a man named Hepworth, who searched for it, and that afterwards he fetched a retriever dog which found the pheasant dead but warm. On Saturday Jessop gave evidence to the effect that he never saw a pheasant that day, that he shot at a rabbit which ran into a wood and got away, and that some time after he saw Fearnley coming up Joshua-lane from the direction of Mirfield, in the opposite direction to the field where he (Jessop) had shot at the rabbit. Hepworth, the man who was with Jessop, gave corroborative testimony, and spoke to a conversation which had taken place between Fearnley and a man named Avison and Jessop, to whom Jessop had also spoken, in the course of which Fearnley said he had not heard a gun fired. Allen Holt, son of James Holt, farmer, also testified to this conversation, and to the distance at which Fearnley was seen away and the direction from which he approached. John Redfearn, farmer, Kirkheaton, also deposed to the latter fact; Benjamin Jackson, farmer, Kirkheaton, gave similar evidence, and Ann Sheard, wife of David Sheard, Kirkheaton, said that about ten minutes after the time when the shot was said to be fired she spoke to Fearnley at a stile which was stated to be about half a mile from Mr. Mellor's field.—The Bench, after a short consultation, said they should not take upon themselves the responsibility of deciding on the case, but should commit Fearnley for trial to the Leeds assizes, and they fixed the amount of his bail at £20 and two sureties in £10 each.