

"Only What She Deserved."

Head Constable Frizelle summoned Wm Barry, Goosehill, for having, on the 15th February, committed an aggravated assault on his wife, Margaret Barry, by striking her with his fist, knocking her down and kicking her.

The defendant appeared.

Margaret Barry was sworn, and in reply to the complainant, said she lived at Goosehill. She remembered last Sunday morning; she was in her own house, and her husband came in.

Complainant: Tell their worships what happened.

Witness—He knocked at the door, and then came and tapped at the window. I asked who was there and he told me. He works in the malt house and was working until that hour.

When he came home where were you?—I was in bed.

Had you a fire?—No.

There was no breakfast ready for him?—No.

Did he ask you why it was not ready?—Yes.

What did you say?—I said I slept on it, and that I would not be a minute boiling a sup of water.

What did he say to you then?—He called me some names, and he struck me on the side of the jaw and knocked me down. When he knocked me down he gave me a kick in the side. When I got up he struck me a few "clouts" in the face. I began to bleed then and he got afraid. I then went to the police barracks.

Chairman—Have you any questions to ask her?

Defendant—I am working night and day, and she was turned out of a house by—

Head Constable Frizelle—Don't mind that; I will tell all later on.

Sergeant Lalor said he saw Mrs. Barry at her house between 10 and 11 o'clock on Sunday last. Her face was covered with old clotted blood, and she complained of having been kicked in the side and of being unwell. The husband works in the malt house and is there all night.

Head Constable Frizelle—Have you made inquiries in connection with the case.

Witness—Yes; I believe she was up late—

Mrs. Barry—Yes because there was a row with—

Complainant—I would not have brought this case on at all, because I believe that what she got she well deserved it. At the same time that could not be helped.

law, and as she came to the barracks and presented a very bad appearance I issued a summons yesterday morning. Then I made other inquiries from a reliable source, and I am justified in stating that what she got she deserved it.

Chairman—What is the general character of Barry?

Complainant—His general character is good. The wife is continually complaining about him.

Chairman—How old are you, Barry?

Defendant—About 28 years.

Complainant—He has seven or eight children. He was working all night and comes home and finds his wife in bed; finds no fire or no breakfast ready for him. He makes inquiries and finds she was out until all hours and in every questionable com-

Chairman—He is very much to be pitied, but he had no right to strike his wife.

Complainant—Had I known what I know now, I would not have issued the summons at all.

Mrs. Barry—I don't want to send him to gaol. Give him another chance.

Mr. Lanigan—If he had not to go so far it would be all right.

Chairman—I daresay she deserved what she got; at the same time no man is entitled to assault his wife, and even if he beats her, he is not entitled to kick her. We have it from the head constable that she deserved a good deal of what she got. We will bind you over in your own recognizances in £2 to keep the peace for twelve months, or in default to go to goal for a month. Give your own bail and that will be sufficient for us.

The defendant, having entered into the necessary bails, was discharged.

Adjourned.