

Threatening to Murder a Paramour Thomas Henly

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At the Police Offices on Saturday, before the Mayor (Alderman Thomas Harris) and ex-Mayor (Alderman J.D. Bishop), Thomas Henly a cooper, residing in Mill Street, was charged with assaulting Sarah Ann Freegard, with whom he cohabited.

The Complainant stated that she was a single woman but for many years past had lived with the prisoner, by whom she had four children, the eldest of whom was 19 years, and the youngest nine years.

He threatened to murder her if she and her family did not get out, and she was now living in a house in the New road. On the 9th Inst., the defendant came into the house and swore he would smash her with a stick, which he held in his hand.

On Friday afternoon last he came again to her house and caught her by the side of the head and knocked her against the wall, at the same time striking her a blow on the face. He brought an axe with him, and said he had come with the intention of chopping her head in two.

Mrs Salter and her son took the axe from him as it was coming down on her head. - **Mary Salter** a Widow woman living in New Road, stated that on the previous afternoon she heard a noise in Mrs. **Freegard's** house, and on going to see what was the matter she saw **Henly** having hold of the complainant with one hand, and with the other he held an axe, as if he was going to strike her a blow, but her son came in just in time to prevent the mischief, and took the weapon from him.

The prisoner then struck **Freegard** with his fist, and threatened to smash her and the things. - **Inspector Cross** proved apprehending the prisoner on Saturday on a warrant. - The prisoner denied that he assaulted the complainant. - He was sent to Gaol for 21 days with hard labour.