

THE LADY WAS UPSET

From the Lake Wakatip Mail, 4th July, 1863

Arrow Police Court

Florence Halliday surrendered on her bail, to answer the charge preferred against her by the police, for being drunk and disorderly on Saturday night last, and for, on the same occasion, using disgusting and obscene language. The prisoner, who was dressed in a riding habit, and whose manner was very excited, pleaded guilty to the first charge.

Sergeant Lynch sworn, said, on Sunday morning, or rather at 1 o'clock that morning, he saw Miss Halliday ride up the street, being evidently drunk. She tried to ride over everybody who came in her way. At the Morning Star Hotel, she hammered at the door with her whip, and abused Mrs King, the landlady, in the most horrible manner, threatening to horsewhip her if she could get at her. Mrs King is a hard working respectable woman, and has suffered much from the abuse and slander of the prisoner, who is a common prostitute, and a very troublesome character.

The Prisoner, interrupting – “Well, I never! You are a nice fellow to tell such lies. I was only a “little on” your Worship”.

The Court – “You must not interrupt the witness. Ask any questions when he has completed his evidence”.

Sergeant Lynch – On leaving Mrs King's door, the prisoner observed a knot of gentlemen, who had been attracted by the disturbance, standing outside Bullen's store. She immediately backed her horse in amongst them saying, “Kick the b.....s, Jenny”, He then took her into custody.

His worship said, it was only the other day at Queenstown she was brought before him on a similar charge, and cautioned her to be careful what she was about. He fined her 5 pound for this offence.

On the second charge, of using obscene and disgusting language, the prisoner pleaded Not Guilty.

Sergeant Lynch said he heard the prisoner say distinctly several times, “Kick the b.....s”, when she backed her horse into the crowd near Bullen's store. She also swore frightfully outside several stores, where she pulled up to abuse the inmates.

Mrs Watson, sworn, said she was a married woman, residing in the Arrow. On Sunday night, after they had been two hours in bed, her husband and herself were woke up by hearing most obscene language shouted outside the tent. Could not think it applied to her till she heard her name mentioned. Knew the prisoner's voice. She called her most obscene names and swore awfully. Heard her afterwards, a long way up the street, blackguarding everybody.

The Prisoner, very fiercely, “That's a good one! Wasn't you with me on the Dunstan, and in the same position; and what are you now?”

Witness- “I never was in your company, Madam, nor wish to be; no indeed, you low thing!”

The Court-“No arguments here, if you please. Florence Halliday, the charge has been clearly proved against you. I fine you 5 pound; next time you are brought before me, I shall double the amount.

The fine was immediately paid and, with a crushing look at the unconscious sergeant, the fair damsel wended her way home.