

Jacob Wykes, John Johnson.

Sexual Offences: rape.

9th July 1718

Reference Number t17180709-37
Verdict Not Guilty

Jacob Wykes , and John Johnson , of St. Clement's Danes , were indicted for a Rape committed on the Body of Ann, Wife of Michael Cooper , of 27 years of Age, the 31st of May last; that he the said Jacob Wykes did against her Will ravish and Carnally know her the said Ann Cooper , and that John Johnson was present Aiding and Assisting . Ann Cooper deposed, that on the day aforesaid, she being desired by one Mrs. Shamber to go to Jacob Wykes's House, at the Globe Tavern in Drury-lane, in order to send for one Capt. Hacket, to desire him to send to Guineas to Mrs. Shamber, she accordingly went about 7 a Clock in the afternoon to the said Wykes's House (who she said had kept a Bawdy House in the Hundreds of Drury; and being asked by the Court, how she knew it to be a Bawdy-house, replied, she had occasion enough to know it to her Sorrow) and that when she came thither there was no body in the House but Wykes the Master, Johnson for the Drawer, and a Porter, whom she desired him to send, to the Italian Coffee-house for Capt. Hacket; that Wykes asked her to go into a Room, and carried her into a back Room, and the Drawer brought her half a Pint of Wine, and then in came Mr. Wykes, saying, Madam, I have sent for Captain Hacket, and takes a Glass of wine and drinks, and going to the Door double locks it, comes to her and says, Madam, G - d - mn my Soul, I must, lie with you: To which she replied, he should not; but he swore he would, and fell to struggling with her, and she was down upon the Ground striving and crying and till she was dead almost; that she still resisting and crying out he hit her several Blows an the Face, stopp'd her Month, held her by the Throat; and she at last recovering herself upon her Knees, but being quite spent with striving and crying out, he slung her cross a low Table and did lie with her there, the Drawer, Johnson, all the while holding the Door on the out-side. That having done, the Drawer opened the Door, and she desired him to call a Constable, but he said, D - mn her for a Bitch, not he; if you make such a Noise I'll kill You. But he afterwards came to her House, and on his Knees begg'd her Pardon, telling her his Master hired him to do it. That not being able to get a Constable, she went away crying with her Clothes tore, and a Mob after her, the next way to Exeter-street, to one Mr. Cater, a Constable, telling him how she had been used: but he refused to go without a Warrant, and so she went to the Justice's and got a Warrant; and that Mr. Cater had told her he desired her to meet him to make it up. To prove this she call'd the Evidences following. Mr. Cater, the Constable, deposed, that she did come to him on Saturday Night, the Day laid in the Indictment, telling him that the Man at the Globe-Tavern had lyen with her whether she would or not, but he thought he was not safe to go without a Warrant. On the Thursday following Mr. Wykes came to her, she said he had struck her twice, but he denied that he had either lyen with her or struck her, but said if he had done her any

Harm he would ask her Pardon, saying indeed he was drunk, and he gave her 10 s. for tearing her Smock. Hugh Reason depos'd, that he was at Cater's House, and she told him she had been abused by Wykes, that he wanted to lie with her, and force her Body, that he had struggled with her and bruised her Arm: but he said he knew nothing of the Matter.

Robert Neal, Clerk to the Justice, deposed, That she came on Sunday Night between 9 and 10 a Clock for a Warrant, sobbing and crying so that she could not for some time speak, and tell him what she came about; she gave an Information against the Prisoner, that he did lie with her upon the Table, and - in her, and more, as in the Information. That when she came her Clothes were much rumpled her Arms bruised, and, as she said, was hurt in other Parts, which he did not inquire into. He added, that he was inform'd that the Prisoner had gone from his House that Night, and was not taken till 5 Days after. Joseph Gamble depos'd, That when she came Home her Gown was torn, all the Sleeve off, her Apron and her Smock torn, her Arms Black and Blue; that she told him she had been used by the Prisoner as has been before declared, and that he threatned that if she did make a Noise he would murder her. He being ask'd by the Court as to her Character, said, she had lodg'd with him five Months, had always behaved her self very modestly, and he never know any thing to the contrary, that had she been otherwise she should never have come into his House, that she was one who always kept, very good Hours, had no Company resorted to her, worked very industriously at her Needle, and, as he had been inform'd, had a Husband at Sea, who sent her sometimes 10, sometimes 30 l. at a time. Margaret Clarks deposed, That the Week following when she saw her, her Arms had several Marks, which she said came by her being so misused by the Prisoner; the same was confirmed by one Ann Clark.

The Prisoner pleaded, That indeed she came to his House on the Day aforesaid about four or five a Clock, that she requir'd for Capt. Harket, be seat for him; that she went into a Room about five Foot from the Bar, that the Door was open all the while, and his Wife in the Bar, that Company calling, above stairs, he did go into the Room to her, and that the having drank one Half-Pint of Wine call'd for another, and having paid for two Half-pint, went away without making any Noise. The Porter deposed, That he was in the Entry all the time she was there, and the Door open all the while, and that his Mistress was in the Bar or Bar Room all the while. The Prisoner then called Persons to her Character, Mr. Jerrings deposed that she was a Common Woman, that made it her Business (as they call it) to Trap People, by pretending to be with Child by them, be Ravish d,&c. Woman that he thought there was not so notorious a Woman upon the Face of the whole Earth; that she had indicted one Mr. Butler, a Gentleman in the Fleet, on such an Occasion, and that he had produc'd no less than 37 Evidences against her. That she had arrested a Person for a Bastard Child, and at the same time own'd that she was not with Child, that he offering her 2 Guineas and a half to make it up, she swore'd - him, had it not been for him she would have got 100 l, of him.

Daniel Singleton depos'd, that by relation, she had ruin'd half a hundred Families, and had employed him and his Partner to arrest a Man for a Bastard Child, and while his Partner was gone, he being with her, she took his Hand and put his middle Finger of his Right Hand to her Body,&c.

One of the Officers of the Court deposed, That she was the oldest Bite and oldest Whore we have, that she had ruin'd several that he knew, and made them run away from their Families.

John Scott, another Officer, deposed, that she has been a Common Woman of the Town for some Years, has been sent to the Work House,&c. Joseph Short, another, deposed, that she had by such Sratagem's got a Note of a Silversmith of his Acquaintance and he was forced to get a Warrant for her to make her deliver it up. In answer to this, she affed to the Court, she was as Innocent of all as an Angel in Heaven. Upon the whole, the Jury acquitted both the Prisoners.

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