

Daily News (London),
Monday, July 30, 1860

THE POLICE COURTS.

THAMES.

A diminutive Malay seaman, named *Wm. Dixon*, aged 22, was charged with stealing 30 sovereigns, a note for 100 rupees on a bank at Calcutta, four knives, two razors, a silver hand, and other articles, the property of Sheik Hudon, the serang, or chief of a Lascar crew on board the ship *Harkaway*, in the West India Dock.

The prosecutor said that on Monday last he and several others of the crew of the *Harkaway* left the ship, and the prisoner remained on board as ship-keeper. When they returned he found that the prisoner was gone, and the money and other articles above specified had been abstracted from a small box, locked up in a teak wood chest, belonging to him. Both the box and chest had been broken open.

It appeared from further evidence that the prisoner had gone on shore and had purchased a quantity of wearing apparel with a portion of the money, and the rest had been stolen from him by some loose women. He had been to a public house, and had left 8*l.* in charge of the landlady, which he received again the following day. When the prisoner was taken into custody he had only one shilling about him, and he had been robbed of some of the new clothes he had bought. He stated on arriving at the station that he had taken the money and had buried some of it. Unfortunately nothing could be recovered of the property, which the complainant had been saving up for a long time. The cheque upon the Calcutta Bank was a duplicate, and was now useless. It appeared that since the prisoner arrived in this country, in March last, he had signed the ship's articles of two vessels bound for Calcutta, and had received advance notes from the captain of each, and then refused to go in either ship.

The prisoner made a long defence to the effect that he had been ill-used by the prosecutor and others after the robbery; that he had taken no money, and had got no money.

Mr. Yardley committed the prisoner for trial.
