

WILLIAM ANDERSON, ARTHUR CHERLIN, Theft > stealing from master, 12th September 1905.

678. WILLIAM ANDERSON (31), and ARTHUR CHERLIN (27) , stealing 275 rings and other articles, the property of William Charles Spikins, the master of Anderson.

MR. ROTH *Prosecuted*; MR. BURNIE *Defended* Cherlin.

ALFRED GEORGE MASKELL . I am manager to Mr. Spikins, jeweller, at 305, Old Kent Road—in July and August, 1904, Anderson was employed by Mr. Spikins as an assistant in that shop—about August 13th he stayed away, and I received this letter from him: "29, Paris Street. Dear Sir,—I shall be able to resume work Thursday morning. Yours obediently, W. Anderson"—I had one letter before that that got burnt—he left on Saturday, the 13th, and I got a letter on the 15th, saying that he had seen the doctor, and that he should not be able to attend business yet—the letter produced I received about the 17th—he did not return, nor again communicate with us—no reason was given—about a week afterwards I found plated chains placed in the window amongst the gold ones—they were substituted to nil up the gap—in consequence of what I found I communicated with Mr. Spikins—stock was afterwards taken.

Cross-examined by Anderson. I did not miss any stock while you were there—when the stock was taken some gold watches were missing—there went about 600 watches in the window, and fresh stock was coming in—the stock missing was not all from the window; we had a surplus stock as well—I had no suspicion of you at the time, nor till about a week afterwards—I should not be likely to miss £400 worth of jewellery from a large stock like ours—watches and rings might have been taken without my finding out, because they were continually coming in, and so much was deducted from the amount, and so much was put in the window, and they hung in bunches in a crowded window, twelve in a row—I said at the Police Court that you had substituted imitation for gold chains—on the Saturday you asked me, "Can I put my coat on, I feel very ill?"—that is the reason I did not suspect you, as it is usual to ask permission on such a matter, and you put your coat on at once, said you felt very unwell, and that you did not expect to be back on Monday—you did not look unwell, but you said so, and I had sympathy with you, and gave you the permission asked—your request put my suspicions off, as I thought you were unwell.

WILLIAM CHARLES SPIKINS . I am a jeweller, of 305, Old Kent Road—Anderson was in my employment as assistant in July and August, 1904—in consequence of a communication I received on August 25th, 1904, I went and examined my stock—I missed 33 silver watches, 18 gold, 275 rings, 38 gold chains, 31 gold brooches, 8 metal watches, 27 gold charms, and 21 gold bracelets—the total value of the stock missing is £434 14s. 3d.—I have been shown a diamond ring, a chain ring, and a gold watch—they are my property, and down in the list as having been stolen—the chain ring has my stock number and the cost—it was made for me, and has my initials inside—the diamond ring has the number and the cost roughly filed out of it; I applied acids to it, and that brought

up my original number, and the cost price—the watch also has had the number and the cost roughly filed out—I applied the acid to that, and it brought up the cost only—the prisoner had no authority to deal with any of the property except as an assistant in the shop.

Cross-examined by Anderson. I cannot say about, the Old Kent Road, but the watch is one of my stock watches—my stock mark is the same at Deptford as in the Old Kent Road—I had an assistant named Segal working for me in the Old Kent Road—I said at the Tower Bridge Police Court that a watch had been pledged by Segal's wife—I have not taken any further action with regard to that, not having seen the watch since, but I know it is one of my watches—I had been away a fortnight for my holidays at Broadstairs., but I was in the habit of coming three

or four times a week to the Old Kent Road shop, and putting things straight in passing—I have been there sometimes three or four times a week, and sometimes I have missed a fortnight—if goods are transferred from one shop to another they are invoiced, and the invoice is sent in a proper business way, and they are charged for just as they would be to a stranger—the metal watches are not expensive; the eight would not cost more than 30s., or £2 at the most—I think you had the metal watches, because you gave two brooches to a man at Southampton, and they were returned to me.

Cross-examined by MR. BURNE. The value of the diamond ring produced is, I think, about 30s. or £2—the other one produced cost something like 10s. 10d., and the gold watch 25s.—I have seven establishments—there is a stock mark on all my goods—I stocked the whole of the goods myself, and their names are written by me at my shop in the Old Kent Road—on the chain ring the number has not been obliterated.

BETSY PHILLIPS . I am single, and live at 46, Mount Street, Bethnal Green—I have known Cherlin about twenty months—I was engaged to be married to him two weeks after Whitsun, 1905—he made me a present of this diamond ring about August last year—I returned the ring to him about ten days before Christmas—I was in his shop every week I could, or sometimes twice a week—it is a jeweller's shop at 15, Little Earl Street, Seven Dials—I have seen Anderson in that shop about four or five times.

Cross-examined by MR. BURNIE. That is during eighteen months.

DORA PHILLIPS . I am the wife of Aaron Phillips, and live at the same address as my daughter—in August or September last year Cherlin made me a present of this chain ring—I gave it to my daughter, and she returned it to him before Christmas last.

GEORGE TWYMAN . I am caretaker at 15, Little Earl Street, where Cherlin's shop was—Anderson visited the shop for two or three months last year—I saw him in the shop in August, 1894. and on other occasions—I wrote from six to nine letters for Anderson to Cherlin—I did not keep count of how many I wrote—they were written in August and September—there was one written after that—that was to somebody else—I said at the Police Court that I wrote the letter which was shown to me then, to Anderson, and that Cherlin dictated it—this is the letter dated from 15, Little Earl Street, Cambridge Circus: "August 29th, 1905. Dear

Sir,—Will you kindly call early evenings. Kindly let me know what time to expect you, and I will wait for you" [*This was addressed to Anderson at 305, Old Kent Road*—I wrote that because Cherlin was unable to write English—he told me what to say—I have seen these rings before—I returned one of them to Mrs. Phillips at Cherlin's request—on May 20th this year I pawned it for Cherlin for 7s. with Mr. Clarke in Longacre—I also pawned the diamond ring at Brabington's in Wardour Street for £1 on January 9th this year.

Cross-examined by MR. BURNE. I said before the Magistrate that I knew Anderson as a casual visitor during the past twelve months—that would mean before July 19th; before I was before the Magistrate—I do not remember what time in August I saw him—I used to do all the correspondence for Cherlin, and I kept the books—he is a Russian Jew, and does not write English.

HENRY CAVANAGH . I am assistant to Mr. Clarke, pawnbroker, of 55, Longacre—I produced at the Police Court this chain ring which was pawned with me on May 20th, 1905, by Twyman for 7s.

FRANK LAMB . I am assistant to Mr. John Brabington, pawnbroker, 27, Wardour Street—this diamond ring was pledged with me on January 9th last for £1.

CHARLES BEAVER . I am assistant to Mr. T. Layman, pawnbroker, 31, Whitechapel Road—this watch was pawned with me on October 26th, 1904, for 15s.—the address given was 134, Christian Street, Whitechapel.

PERCY SAVAGE (*Sergeant M.*) On July 9th I went to 15, Little Earl Street, Seven Dials, and arrested Cherlin on another charge—I searched the shop—in a safe I found three pawn tickets relating to the three articles before me—I was with another officer, Willis, at the time—on July 18th at 7 o'clock I went there again, accompanied by Willis, who in my presence said to Cherlin, "We are police officers, and we are making inquiries respecting a

quantity of jewellery stolen from the Old Kent Road in August of last year," and producing three pawn tickets, he said, "These three pawn tickets were found in the safe at your shop; they relate to the stolen property. How do you account for your possession of them?"—Cherlin said, "The ring pledged at Brabington's is my property; I bought the stone and made the ring up. The other two tickets were given to me by a man named Segal, who lives at Leytonstone"—later, whilst we were searching the shop, he said, "You don't want to be hard on me; I was a fool not to have known what you were when you called on me last August. I know I told you I bought the stuff and melted it all up, but you won't find anything here" (he meant that as part of what he had said last August, when I had an interview with him) and "If you help me to get out of this I will help you to get Anderson; he was here last week, and promised to call again this week, and to get some money to get me out of my trouble"—he was taken to the station, and charged with being concerned with Anderson in stealing and receiving the jewellery stolen from Mr. Spikins—he said, "I should not have been such a fool as to keep the tickets had I known they were stolen"—at the back of the Court on August 2nd he made this further statement, "I know I wrote letters to Anderson, but

there is no harm in that"—Anderson said at that time, but not in Cherlin's presence, "I am willing to give you every assistance in my power to recover the property; I want all the charges brought against me and settled."

Cross-examined by Anderson. I have not traced Segal—I never sent to ask you why you did not plead guilty.

Cross-examined by MR. BURINE. We have had no address of Segal given us—I said before the Magistrate that Cherlin said, "The other two pawn tickets I have bought from a man named Segal, of Leytonstone"—that statement was made before the committal.

Re-examined. I produce a statement made by Anderson which was taken down in writing in Cherlin's absence—Nicholls, my superior officer, was present—Anderson signed it, and I witnessed his signature.

By Anderson. You gave us information as regards the charge made against you—we have not recovered all the property in this case—you assisted in the statement I wrote out, and you signed.

MARSHALL KNOTT (*Detective M.*) On July 19th I went to Cherlin's shop, 15, Little Earl Street, about 5 p.m.—I was there when Anderson came in—he asked the young lady behind the counter if Arthur was in—I went behind him, and told him I believed him to be William Anderson—he said, "No, that is not my name"—I said, "I believe it is, and shall arrest you for stealing £430 worth of jewellery between July 11th and August 13th last from 305, Old Kent Road, the property of Mr. Spikins"—he said, "Yes, that is right"—on the way to the station he said, "He has made a mistake in the value of the stuff"—he was searched at the station—I found on him a gold watch, a metal chain, and a metal ring, and a gold pin which was identified as the proceeds of another larceny; also two pawn tickets, and there was a letter containing a forged order for some jewellery.

Cross-examined by Anderson. I do not remember your saying, "You have made a mistake in the price; somebody else has had a picking"—I do not remember any message being sent to you in prison."

ALFRED NICHOLLS (*Detective-Inspector M.*) I received a letter and submitted it to the Commissioner of Police, and in consequence of instructions went to see Anderson in gaol—he made this statement in my presence, which I witnessed the signature of [*The material parts of the statement relating to this case was read, and was:* "In July, 1904, by means of a character which I forged on a bill head, I obtained a situation as assistant salesman to Mr. Spiking, 305, Old Kent Road, and was in that place till 11th August the same year. Whilst there I succeeded in stealing a quantity of jewellery, the greater portion of which I sold to Cherlin; the other I took with me to New York," and, "I took the jewellery I had stolen from Spikins to him (Cherlin). The jewellery was all perfectly new"].

Cross-examined by Anderson. You gave information with regard to a charge I knew nothing about, and the whereabouts of the property as far as you could, I believe—I believe you rendered us every assistance in tracing the stolen property.

Anderson, in his defence, said he did not agree with the quantity of jewellery put down to him as having stolen; that somebody else must have taken it; that he was very sorry, and he had given what information he could.

GUILTY . ANDERSON then PLEADED GUILTY to a conviction of felony at Winchester on June 23rd, 1903, in the name of William Jackson. There was another indictment against him (See page 1441). Five years' penal servitude. CHERLIN — Three years' penal servitude.