

5. Do you remember receiving any letters for delivery to persons on your round, something like these, with the notice on them to return to box 912?—Yes; quite a number.

6. Do you recollect having any such letter for Mrs. Stuart?—No.

7. She has told us she received an empty letter with the flap inside, and that when the letter-carrier came she spoke to him about it, and that the letter-carrier said nothing was taken out and nothing put in—it was something to do with the Orangemen—and he had a number like that. Had you any conversation with Mrs. Stuart?—Yes.

8. Was it in the morning?—Yes; the morning after the delivery, I think—or two days after.

9. The date of delivery—you mean the previous call at her house?—No; I think she said I delivered the letter in the morning, and the conversation took place the following morning.

10. What did she say?—She said, “Postman, you delivered a letter here with no contents”; and showed me an envelope with a notice like that. I looked at it. I said, “I never took it; I never interfered with it.” But in a case of circulars it is quite possible for a letter to be posted without contents, and I gave an example—one party addressing, one party posting the envelope, and no letter inside.

11. You told her you had quite a number like that: what were you referring to when you said, “like that”? Did you mean a number of empty envelopes?—No; letters with the “special request” on the top.

12. Quite so—letters with the special request to return to box 912. And you explained how it was possible for the contents never to have been put in at all?—Yes.

13. Did you tell her what the circular referred to?—I have no recollection of doing so.

14. Did you know what the circular referred to?—I did.

15. How did you know?—I heard a letter-carrier say, “I have got one of those envelopes, Box 912.”

16. When was this?—This was in the afternoon after the delivery. He said something about the Orange Lodge, and that was all I knew.

17. What is that carrier’s name?—Rusden.

18. If you had any information other than that about the contents of the circular, was it derived from your looking inside the letters?—No.

19. *Mr. Ostler.*] Were you in this Court when letter-carrier Elliott gave his evidence?—The first part of it.

20. Were you in when I cross-examined him?—You were just at it. I did not hear the whole lot. I left the building to stop Mr. Rusden.

21. Is Mr. Rusden in the room?—No.

*Mr. Ostler.* I would ask that he be kept out while I cross-examine this man. [Arranged.]

22. *Mr. Ostler.*] How many deliveries do you have a day to Mrs. Stuart’s place?—Two.

23. I think she told us it was on the 3rd July that the empty envelope was left?—No, the early part of July.

*Mr. Gray.* The Saturday or the Monday before the meeting.

24. *Mr. Ostler.*] She says that when the postman came round again she asked why she had got a letter with nothing in it, so that it must have been the next delivery after the delivery of the empty envelope?—I myself think I delivered the envelope on the Saturday morning—I am not certain about the date. I think I was asked about it on the Monday morning.

25. When do you say you saw Mr. Rusden and were informed about the contents of this envelope?—It was either in the afternoon or the Monday, as I say. I could not tell you the day. I think it was when I was sitting sorting the letters after the delivery took place—after the morning delivery on Saturday. No; if the delivery was on Saturday it would be Monday.

26. Are you pretty sure it was Saturday you delivered this circular to Mrs. Stuart?—No, I am not.

27. If so, I would point out that it could not have been posted later than Wednesday night?—I said I was not sure when it was.

*Mr. Gray.* Mrs. Stuart said she received it on the Saturday or Monday before the meeting.

28. *Mr. Ostler.*] She was wrong. What I want to get is where, and how, and when you heard from Rusden about the contents of that envelope?—Rusden was not talking to me personally. I sit here and Mr. Rusden sits there, next to me, sorting letters.

29. Who sits on the other side of you?—19 suburbs and 20. There is Mr. Rusden, myself, Mr. Brambley, and then Elliott.

30. When the letter-carriers are sorting letters and they come across one addressed to themselves, they take it out then and there?—That is quite a common occurrence.

31. Mr. Rusden said—what?—I heard him make a remark that those circulars were something to do with the Orange Lodge. That is all I heard.

32. Is that all he said?—That is all I heard.

33. Did you not say when giving your evidence to Mr. Gray that Rusden told you he had got tickets?—Not told me: I never mentioned tickets.

34. How did the conversation come up?—There was no conversation between him and me. I do not know whom he was making the remark to.

35. Did he make it loudly so that every letter-carrier could hear?—No, just in the ordinary way of talking.

36. Were you sorting at the time letters similar to these?—I could not say what I was sorting at the time.

37. Can you say when this was?—No, I cannot; but I think it was in the afternoon, as it were, or the next delivery after the delivery of those letters.

38. Then it was not before you had delivered that letter that Mr. Rusden spoke?—No.