

Shetland Times 27th April 1889

A HAPPY FAMILY

At the Sheriff Court on Wednesday – Honorary Sheriff-Substitute Mitchell on the bench – Laurence Halcrow, sen., Laurence Halcrow, jr., and John Halcrow, all residing at Fladdabister, were charged with behaving in a disorderly manner and annoying the lieges. They plead not guilty, but were convicted on the evidence adduced, and sentenced to pay a fine of 5s each, or go to jail for three days. The two young men paid their fine, but the old man said he would go to jail. – Laurence Halcrow, sen., John Halcrow, Mrs Halcrow, Ellen Halcrow, and Robina Halcrow were all charged with committing a breach of the peace at Fladdabister, on the 5th April. All the accused plead not guilty. From the evidence adduced, it appeared that Robina and Ellen Halcrow had commenced to delve their land, when the other three accused came up to them, and endeavoured to prevent them doing so. Ellen and Robina then went and commenced to delve at another piece of ground, but were followed by the others, who again prevented them working, and finally took their spades from them. During this ‘operation’ some altercation took place, the noise made by the parties being heard at a distance of over a quarter of a mile. After hearing the proof, the Sheriff found that Robina and Ellen Halcrow were not guilty, but that the other parties were guilty as libelled, and imposed a fine of 5s or three days’ imprisonment, the terms of imprisonment to run concurrently in the case of John and Laurence Halcrow. Mrs Halcrow and John paid the fines, but Laurence again stated he would go to jail. On reaching the prison door, however, he seemed to change his mind, as he paid the fine. Mr Alex. Bain defended Robina and Ellen Halcrow.