

## RUGG TELLS HIS STORY.

### TRYING TO THROW THE GUILT FOR THE TOWNSEND ASSAULT ON APPLEFORD.

Coroner Baylis, of Oyster Bay, continued his examination of witnesses touching the assault upon Mr. and Mrs. James C. Townsend yesterday afternoon, at the Nassau House, in the village of Oyster Bay. The negro, Charles H. Rugg, who assaulted Sealey Sprague, at East Meadow, was taken there on the 9 o'clock train from Long Island City. Rugg was in apparent good health and spirits, until the train reached Mineola, when he was taken with a violent fit. He was at once taken from the car by Under Sheriff Warnock to the freight building, and Dr. Skinner was called to attend him. He soon recovered and was taken on the noon train to Oyster Bay. The officials had kept secret the fact that Rugg would be present at the examination, and there were not very many there. District Attorney Fleming was present and examined the witnesses. Joseph Appleford and his brother both testified that they had never seen the overalls or hammer found at the Townsend place. The former said that he did not see Rugg on the day of the Townsend assault. Rugg was then called, and he identified the watch and chain stolen from Mr. Townsend as the one he pawned in West Houston-street for \$10. Rugg added that he got the watch from Joe Appleford on the evening of the Townsend assault. It was 4 or 5 o'clock when he first spoke to Appleford. The latter said that he knew where there was some money, and he wanted Rugg to assist him in getting it. He told the witness to go around to the Townsends' by the road, and he would go across the lots. He had the overalls on when he came out of the house. Rugg continued his testimony as follows: "When I got to the corner of the house I heard some one groaning; I went to the door. Just as I got to the threshold Appleford told me to go back to the corner. After he did the deed he went off by the rear, the same way he came. I went back by way of the road and met him at Reardon's. I had seen Appleford a good many times before. It was not that man, [pointing to Joe Appleford.] I know it was an Appleford, the one sworn last, [William Appleford.] I think it was him."

William Appleford was asked to stand up. "That is the man," said Rugg earnestly. "I got back to Glen Cove about 7:30 the same night. Appleford gave me \$30, besides the watch. I do not know how much money he got. The money was one twenty-dollar and one ten-dollar bill."

Rugg was taken out of the room as soon as his evidence was concluded. The crowd in the room hooted and shouted after him. Several called out: "Let us have him. Hang the murderer." He was taken back to Long Island City handcuffed and closely guarded, the officials fearing that an attempt would be made to take him from them. As he left the village a large crowd followed, hooting and threatening him. At every station on the railroad a great many men boarded the train to see the prisoner.