

Legal cases involving Susanne Abrahamsen, alias Bottom Belly

Christiansted City Court, Court Proceedings for the Police Court

1849 - 1857, folio 218

Anno 1853, on the 5th of April, the following verdicts were passed.

No. 104/1853 the police – q¹ – detainee Susanna, born at plantation Little Princess

The accused detainee Susanna² from plantation Little Princess about whom it has not been possible to obtain a certificate of baptism, but who, according to the lists of plantation workers kept at the Police Chamber, is 20 years old. She has been apprehended in possession of a silver snuffbox worth \$8, which she, according to her own confession, had stolen from merchant J. Elly moments before, and she had thrown it into a tin jug full of molasses which she had on her person. She claims that she was given the molasses by Deputy Manager³ C. Linkin at Little Princess, but as this implausible claim has been firmly contradicted by Linkin, there is good reason to consider her guilty of the theft of the molasses which belonged to the owner of the plantation, and this is the immediate cause of this case. With further reference to the fact that the detainee is a plantation laborer and could therefore easily get hold of more than she needed herself, and according to her criminal record, which is presented, she has previously been guilty of theft, and in accordance with the value of the stolen goods and the audacity of the theft, which happened right in front of the victim's wife, the penalty, in accordance with Friday the 11th of April 1852 §2 cannot be less than 96 days of forced labor. The question of compensation is dismissed as the owner of the plantation Little Princess, George Phillips, has withdrawn his claim, and the stolen snuff box has been returned to its owner John Ellis.

It is adjudged that:

The accused female Susannah from the plantation Little Princess is to be sentenced to forced labor for 96 days.

¹ Unclear what "q" stands for

² Elsewhere: Susannah, Susanne

³ Danish: Underforvalter

J. A. Stakemann.

St. Thomas Magistrate, St. Thomas Police Station, Police Court records

Protocol B folio 146

In the year 1865, on Tuesday the 7th of March, in the morning at 9 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened at the Police Chamber, administered by the Police Chief in the presence of witnesses Stephan and Madsen

The following case was conducted:

No. 63/1865 The public vs. Susannah Abrahamson⁴

The Police Chief presented a sub. A. report from G: D:⁵ by Police Scribe Tikjøb, stating:

Retailer C. A. Mathisen appears and acknowledges the truth of what he stated in the report and he states that he cannot provide any new information on the matter. He declares that the pair of boots which have been found and also the (...)⁶ leather belt belongs to him. Their value of these is 2\$ and 50 Cts., respectively.

Susanna Abrahamson, married to Johannes Barnes, laborer at the gasworks, appears. She acknowledges the statement given in the report and further states that she did indeed take the boots without having the intention to pay for them when she got money. She had already bought 1 pair of trousers from Mr. Mathisen and had therefore paid \$3, so she had no more money left. She took the boots in broad daylight and she did not hide it from anyone, and it was never her intention to steal

⁴ Elsewhere: Abraham, Abrahams, Abrahamsen

⁵ G: D: presumably means "Gaars Dag" (yesterday)

⁶ missing or unintelligible

them. Regarding the stone which has been found at her place, it is not silver and it has no significant value.

Mr. Carl Mathisen has now been given the boots and the belt which have been handed over, and he declares that he does not insist on punishing the accused⁷.

Due to the situation and the accused's behavior, she is sentenced to 48 hours of imprisonment on bread and water to which she acquiesces, and she is led off to serve the sentence.

Report A folio 146

In the year 1865, on Thursday the 23rd of March, in the morning at 9 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened at the Police Chamber, administered by the Police Chief in the presence of witnesses Hemmingsen and Korndrup.

The following case was conducted⁸

No. 78/1865 The public vs Susanna Abraham and Adelaide Emanuel

The Police Chief presents a report of today's date⁹ from Officers Hansen and Jørgensen, which reads as follows /: enclosed:/

⁷ Slightly unclear. The Danish text says "... at han for sit Vedkommende ikke paastod Anholdte straffet" (on his part, he did not claim (demand) the accused detainee punished)

⁸ Danish: Hvor foretoges da Sagen

⁹ The Danish text says "D.D" (Dags Dato) (today's date)

Adelaide Emanuel states that Susanne Abraham had started causing trouble as early as yesterday evening when she entered the house where she was sleeping, looking for her cohabitant¹⁰, after which she threatened to beat her.

Susanna Abraham appears and admits that she had been at Adelaide's place last evening, but she denies having caused any disturbance on the streets today.

Officer Jørgensen appears and states that from his situation at the Police Chamber, he saw and heard that both suspects were very loud and agitated, causing such a disturbance that the Police Assistant had them called up¹¹.

Due to the disturbance on the street, suspects Susanne Abraham and Adelaide Emanuel are each fined \$2 to be paid to St. Thomas Police Fund¹², which they acquiesce and stand down.

Court adjourned.

Report B folio 154

In the year 1865, on Wednesday the 26th of April, in the morning at 9 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court was convened at the Police Chamber, administered by the Police Chief in the presence of witnesses Rigelsen and H. C. Nielsen.

The following case was heard:

No. 115/1865 The public vs. Susanna Abrahamson

¹⁰ The Danish text says "Concumbant" (latin). Probably Johannes Barnes

¹¹ The Danish text says "lod dem opkalde" (let them call up), presumably meaning that they were taken in (arrested)

¹² Danish: St. Thomæ Politifond

The Police Chief presents a report of today's date from Police Scribe Tikjøb, reading:

Jane Parker appears and confirms the statement given in the report, and she demands that Susanna Abrahamson be punished because she inflicted her son a wound in the head with a stone, without any provocation from her¹³.

Susanna Abrahamson appears, and after being presented with the content of the report, she admits that she did indeed throw a stone into Jane Parker's house with the intention of hitting her or Johannes. It was not her fault that the stone struck the child.

Susanna Abrahamson is sentenced to 24 hours of imprisonment for her actions, and this is made clear to her, and she acknowledges it and is led away, and Jane Parker stands down.

Court adjourned

Report A folio 160

In the year 1865, on Monday the 15th of May, in the morning at 9 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened in the Police Chamber, administered by the Police Chief in the presence of witnesses Stephan and Korndrup.

The following case was heard:

No. 145/1865 The public vs. Susanna Abrahams

¹³ Jane Parker's

The Police Chief presents a report from the 14th of the same month by Police Officer Stephan, reading as follows /: see enclosed attachment:/

Officer Stephan appears, and after verifying his given report, he states that the woman Susanna Abraham, who lives nearby himself on Madame Mountain¹⁴, has been causing disturbances for quite some time. This has not only been reported by the officer himself on several occasions, but also by other neighbors who constantly complain that they cannot have peace from her, not only during the day but also late at night.

Johannes Barnes appears. He was born on St. Croix, does not know his age but estimates that he is 40 years old and belongs to the congregation of the creed of the Moravian Brothers. He has resided here for several years and cohabits with Susanna Abraham. He states that she continuously causes quarrels with himself and also with the neighbors, and on Saturday evening, when she came home after 9 o'clock, she caused so much turmoil and was so wound up that after she had gone to bed, she jumped up again and inflicted Johannes¹⁵ a scratch in the neck with a knife which she had in her hand, but the scratch has now healed. The officer then went to Officer Stephan to get assistance. When he arrived, she continued to scold and cause a racket, and she would not leave until he forcefully removed her from the house.

Johannes Barnes¹⁶ adds that he cannot stand living with that woman and he requests the police to help him get rid of her.

Susanna Abraham appears. She was born on St. Croix, 24 years old, Episcopal, has no fixed employment but works as a handywoman¹⁷. She states that Johannes Barnes had taken up with another woman, and on Saturday, he wanted to remove a table from the house, and it was in that connection that she spoke to him and he hit her, causing her to stab him with a knife she had in her hand. When Officer Stephan arrived, she asked him to let her stay, as she had previously been to the station and been punished, but he still took her there.

¹⁴ The Danish text says "Madamebjerget"

¹⁵ The Danish text says "Comparanten" (the person who is present in court)

¹⁶ The Danish text says "Comparanten" (the person who is present in court)

¹⁷ Danish: Haandlangerske

Officer Stephan appears again, and after having heard these statements, he declares that after he had arrived at the scene where Johannes Barnes had called him, Susanna Abrahams continued to cause so much disruption that he was forced to remove her by force, and he states that he has been called several times previously to keep her under control.

Johannes Barnes further states that last week, he had asked Susanna Abrahams to leave him, and on that occasion, he had given her \$5 to go to St. Croix, which she promised to do, and when Susanna Abraham remarks that she spent the money to buy shirts for him, he denies it.

Based on the above and because Susanne Abrahams is known to the police to be a very bad character who has repeatedly been punished for causing disturbances, she is sentenced to 24 hours in jail on bread and water, to which she acquiesces and is led away, and Johannes stands down.

Report A folio 160

In the year 1865, on Thursday the 18th of May, in the morning at 9 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened at the Police Chamber, administered by the Police Chief in the presence of witnesses Hemingsen¹⁸ and Madsen.

The undertaking of the case

No. 148/1865 The public vs. Susanna Abraham

The Police Chief presents sub. A, a report from the Police Assistant dated the 16th of the current month¹⁹, sub. B, a report from the Police Assistant dated²⁰ from Officer Stephan reading as follows /: attached as appendix:/

¹⁸ Elsewhere: Hemmingsen

¹⁹ The Danish text says "ds", which probably refers to "den samme" (the same (month))

²⁰ In the Danish text it says "s: D:", presumably "samme Dag" (the same day)

Susanna Abraham appears, and Jane Parker's statement regarding report B is presented to her, to which she retorts that when she left the fort on Tuesday afternoon, she went to Jane Parker's house, where Johannes Barnes was, to get the key to her own house. On this occasion, she asked him for \$4 to go to St. Croix, and Johannes Barnes promised her \$3 the next day, and then she left. She denies having insulted or made a scene with Jane Parker. There was a knife on the table and a coat²¹, and she took these things. When she exited the door, she trod on her dress so she almost fell, and thus, she dropped the knife. She denies having thrown the knife at Jane Parker. She also denies having thrown the knife in such a way that it was stuck in the door.

Officer Stephan appears, and after having confirmed his statement in report A, he adds that Jane Parker came to his house to call him even though it was raining forcefully. Jane Parker told Officer Stephan²² that Susanna had stabbed at her with a knife but that she had not cut her, and finally, she had thrown it at her so that it ended up stuck in the door, and when Officer Stephan²³ arrived, the knife was still stuck in the door.

Jane Parker appears and confirms her statement in report B, and she states that after Johannes Barnes had refused to pay her the \$5 or give her 5 shirts, which she also demanded, she became enraged, yelling and screaming and throwing herself to the ground, saying that she would not cease to pursue him until he was in his grave. It was found that she went too far, and when she was ordered to leave the house, she refused, and Jane Parker pushed her out of the door. She returned directly, and that was when she grabbed the knife and stabbed out towards Jane Parker²⁴, causing her to get a minor cut on one hand. She then pushed her out again, and that was when she threw the knife with such force that it was stuck in the wall²⁵.

Susanna Abraham has listened to this statement and contradicts it insofar as it goes against her own.

The case is adjourned in order to summon Johannes Burnes whom it is not possible to locate today. Jane Parker stands down and Susanna is placed in police custody.

²¹ The Danish text says a "kap" ; probably a cape or a coat

²² The Danish text says "Comparanten" (the person who is present in court)

²³ The Danish text says "Comparanten" (the person who is present in court)

²⁴ The Danish text says "Comparantinden" (the person who is present in court) (female)

²⁵ Previously it was stated that it was stuck in the door

Court adjourned

Report B folio 163

In 1865, on Saturday the 10th of June, in the morning at 9 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened in the Police Chamber, administered by the Police Chief in the presence of witnesses Jørgensen and Olsen.

The following case was conducted:

No. 182/1865 The public vs. Susanna Abraham

The Police Chief presents sub. A, a report by the Police Assistant of the same day, reading as follows /: attached:/

Caroline Hudge appears and is presented with the statement given in the report, the accuracy of which she acknowledges, and she is handed the women's dress and skirt, which has been kept in store in the Police Chamber, and which belongs to Ethelinde Andahl.

Susanna Abraham appears and confirms the statement which she gave in the report, and she further states that last night, she took the pieces of clothing belonging to Ethelinde out of Julie Courländer's yard, which was unlocked, and she tossed them into her yard, but she can give no explanation as to why she did it.

Maria De Windt appears and confirms her statement given in the report. She has received all the clothing items which Susanna Abraham took from her, namely 1 pair of trousers, 2 shirts, 1 apron, 1 scarf and a woman's dress.

Susanna Abraham admits to have taken these things yesterday afternoon at 6 o'clock in Lucy Christopher's yard in Palmestræde and she brought them to Seraphine, a woman who lives in Cappe's yard in Dronningensgade. Despite repeated requests to explain why she took these things, she answers that she does not know.

Margritte²⁶ Richard appears and affirms her statement in the report and further states that she found the items which were stolen from her where Maria De Windt said she had seen them, except a fingerbowl of the value of 40 Cents.

Susanna Abraham admits that she had taken those of Margareth Richard's belongings which have been mentioned, except a fingerbowl.

As it is late in the day, the case is adjourned.

As Susanna Abraham has admitted to having committed various thefts, covered in this case, an arrest warrant is issued against her, and she is led away.

Court adjourned.

Report B folio 164

In the year 1865, on Tuesday the 20th of June, in the morning at 9 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened, administered by the Police Chief in the presence of witnesses Christensen and J. Nielsen.

The case at hand:

²⁶ Elsewhere: Margareth

No. 182/1865 The public vs. detainee Susanna Abrahams

The detainee is present and is made aware of the value of the stolen goods, to which she has nothing to add.

Then, the Police Chief reports that the detainee has been punished for fraudulent matters in Police Court case no. 63/1865 with 48 hours in prison on water and bread, in case no. 78/1865 for street disorder with a fine of \$2, in case no. 115/1865 for throwing stones and assault with 24 hours in prison on water and bread, and in case no. 148/1865 for using a knife against another woman, with 6 days of forced labor, but that she is not found charged or punished otherwise in the current jurisdiction.

The detainee admits that the above-mentioned punishments concern herself.

Then the court pronounces the following

Verdict

/: according to the Court register ^[08] folio 282 :/

At which the convict accepts the verdict and is led away, and the case is finalized with reporting and submission

Court adjourned

Court Report folio 281

In the year 1865, on Tuesday the 20th of July, in the morning at 9 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened at the Police Chamber, administered by the Police Chief in the presence of witnesses Christensen and T. Nielsen.

Then, the following case was taken up²⁷:

No. 182/1865 The public vs detainee Susanne Abraham

The pronouncement of the following

Verdict

In the present case, the Court has been legally convinced that detainee Susanne Abraham, 25 years old and from St. Croix, stole various items of women's clothes and kitchen items of a value of 19 West Indian Daler²⁸ and 60 Cents on Friday the 3rd of June this year. The stolen items have been returned to their owners, who have not demanded further compensation. The detainee, who has repeatedly been previously punished, and particularly in Police Court case no. 63/1865 in which she was sentenced to 48 hours of water and bread as punishment for a fraudulent offence, is now convicted for the above-mentioned thefts with a punishment which is deemed appropriate, namely 60 days of forced labor, in addition to paying for the expenditure of her arrest.

It is adjudged that

Detainee Susanna Abrahams is to carry out forced labor for 60 days, whereafter she will be responsible for covering the expenses of her arrest.

²⁷ Danish: derefter blev I Sagen

²⁸ Danish currency. A daler was a silver coin

To be observed by the law²⁹

Report A folio 62

In the year 1867, on Tuesday the 5th of February, in the morning at 9 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened at the Police Chamber, administered by the Police Chief in the presence of witnesses Skibye and Larsen,

The following case was undertaken:

No. 36/1867 The public vs. Susanne Abraham

The Police Chief presents the report from Officer Stephan dated the 20th of last month³⁰, the report from Officer J. Hansen of the 3rd of this month, and from the Assistant of the same day³¹.

Madam Johanne Robles appears, and she is presented with the statement which she gave in the report, and she affirms the truth of this statement adding that she was approached by Officer Stephan and was handed the 3 stolen chemises and 3 irons and thus has nothing to claim.

Susanne Abraham, the accused, appears and she is presented with her statement given in report C, and she affirms it in all things, and she has nothing to say in her defense.

Because of the arrestee's admission of the mentioned theft, she is declared a detainee.

²⁹ Danish: At efterkommes under Adfærd efter Loven (Legal language)

³⁰ The Danish text says "f.M" (the previous (last) month)

³¹ The Danish text says "D.D" (today's date)

The case is then taken up for judgement³²

Report A folio 64

In the year 1867, on Friday the 8th of February, in the morning at 9 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened at the Police Chamber, administered by the Police Chief in the presence of witnesses P. Olsen and H. Jensen.

The case was initiated as follows:

No. 26/1867 The public vs. Susanne Abraham

The detainee is present.

Officer Stephan appears and reaffirms his report A as well as his statement given in report C, and he further states that when he arrived at the detainee's house, he met her daughter Josephine, who immediately informed Officer Stephan³⁹ that her mother had hidden the stolen chemises under a board in the floor. He⁴⁰ lifted up the board to check if there were more stolen items, but he found none. As he has stated in the report, he found some lace which had been torn off the chemises, and he immediately handed them over to Madame Robles.

The detainee admits to having cut the lace of two of the chemises, but she had not yet hidden the lace under the floorboard. On request, she declares that after having stolen the chemises, she left her room and went down to the so-called Bockhoel, where she stayed until she was arrested. She had \$1 with her which she spent in the meantime.

³² Danish: optaget til Doms

The case is then recorded for judgement

Record B folio 55

In the year 1867 on Tuesday the 19th of March, in the morning at 9 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened at the Police Chamber, administered by the Police Chief in the presence of witnesses Jørgensen and Freiløv.

The following case was conducted:

Detainee Susanne Abraham is presented.

The Police Chief remarks that after the case was initiated the prisoner had been admitted to the municipal hospital³³ due to suffering from³⁴ (...) and that her sentence has only just been passed because of the large number of criminal inquiries that have been initiated since the onset of his³⁵ constitution.

Then the court texts in the case no. 182/1865 are presented, and are also attached.

Then follows the pronouncement of the following

Verdict

³³ Danish: kommunehospitalet

³⁴ The Danish text originally says "fordi hun var angreben af venerisk Syge" (...because she was struck by venereal disease), but this is crossed over and replaced by: "fordi hun var lidende af en Barkskade" (because she suffered from a bark injury). It is unclear what a "Barkskade" (a bark injury) is

³⁵ The Danish transcription says "hans" (his) - but it is perhaps "hendes" (her)?

According to the Court register³⁶

And then the prisoner declares herself satisfied with the sentence and she is then remanded in custody³⁷ and the case is concluded for description and submission.

Court report folio 4

In the year 1867, on Tuesday the 19th of March, in the morning at 8 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened in the Police Chamber, administered by the Police Chief in the presence of witnesses Jørgensen and Freiløv.

In the following case:

No. 36/1867 The public vs. Susanne Abraham

The following sentence was pronounced:

Verdict

The prisoner Susanne Abraham has admitted that on the evening of the 19th of January at 11 o'clock, she entered Madame Robles' yard No. 4 Kongensgade to steal some clothing items there, knowing that Madame Robles made a living as a washerwoman. Outside the door in the yard, there was a pile of washed laundry, from which the prisoner removed 3 chemises, valued at \$9 – after which she removed 2 irons, valued at \$1, from a kitchen in the yard. After taking these items, she went back to her house, N^o 1 Dronningensgade, where she cut off the lace and the names from the chemises, and then she hid the stolen items under a loose board in the floor.

³⁶ The Danish text says "vide Domprotokollen"

³⁷ Danish: varetægtsfængsel

The prisoner, who has previously been convicted by this Court on the 20th of June 1865 for theft and sentenced to 60 days of forced labor, and who has repeatedly been convicted and punished for offences, including 48 hours of bread and water for a fraudulent conduct, will now, for committing theft again, be punished with an appropriate sentence of 90 days of forced labor, and subsequently, she will pay the expenses incurred during her arrest detention.

Compensation has been waived by the victim, to whom the recovered items have been returned.

Therefore, the court rules:

The prisoner Susanne Abraham shall be remanded to 90 days of forced labor and pay for the costs incurred during her arrest and detention.

This ruling shall be enforced in accordance with the law.

Report B folio 117

In the year 1867, on Friday the 28th of June, in the morning at 8 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened in the Police Chamber, administered by the Police Chief in the presence of witnesses Police Scribe Hermann and Officer Freilev.

The following case was brought forward:

No. 549/1867 The Public vs. Susanna Abrahams

Susanne Abrahamsen, who was arrested today, is presented and states that she was born on St. Croix and is estimated to be 27 years old. The Police Chief presents a transcript of an injunction order³⁸ which was added to her vagrancy report on the 10th of June this year.

On this basis, she claims that she appeared at the police station before the expiry of the 8-day period given to her in the order to provide information that she had obtained work at the gasworks. When she was informed that the Police Chief was occupied with taking statements, she left and returned the next day. When the same thing happened that day, and Officer Stephan informed her that she had to bring a certificate from the gas plant manager, she requested one from Gas Manager Stevens. However, when he refused to provide her with the requested certificate, the matter was dropped. She claims to have worked at the gasworks for two weeks and, since there was no more work available there, she took laundry for soldiers. She was promised work at the gas plant as soon as they received more coal. After that, the detainee is removed, and the case is adjourned.

Report B folio 121

In 1867, on Monday the 1st of July, in the morning at 8 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened at the Police Chamber, administered by the Police Chief, in the presence of witnesses Police Scribe Hermann and Officer Steffensen.

The following case was brought forward:

No. 549/1867 The public vs. Susanne Abrahamsen

Susanne Abrahamsen is present.

³⁸ Danish: tilhold

Upon being asked from where she obtained a silver teaspoon found in her possession, she states that she found it at the place where the garbage carts usually dump the waste. She found it by chance whilst she was working at the Gas Works, at a time when she had to step aside for a natural purpose. She assumed that the spoon was made of base metal and of so little value that she did not think it worthwhile to hand it in at the Police Office.

The accused is then informed that the case will now be decided³⁹, whereupon she declares that she has nothing more to add.

The Chief of Police then attested that Susanne Abrahamsen was sentenced to 60 days of hard labor by the present court's judgment of 20th June 1865 and 90 days of hard labor by the court's judgment of 19th March 1867, both times for simple theft.

The court then proceeds with the case and immediately pronounces the following

Verdict:

The accused Susanne Abrahamsen, born on St. Croix and estimated to be 27 years old, who was last sentenced to 60 days of hard labor by the present court's judgment of 20th June 1865 and 90 days of hard labor by the court's judgment of 19th March 1867, has, in the present case, which was filed against her for violating the order that was given to her on 10th June 1867 under threat of punishment for the first-time offense of vagrancy, admitted that she did not comply with the order's provisions, insofar as it was imposed on her to provide information within 8 days of the date mentioned regarding whether she had obtained work. Likewise, she had to confess that a silver spoon found in her possession, which she claimed to have picked up at the garbage dump, was not reported to the police station to be advertised to find the owner.

For the admitted double offense, she will be punished, which, based on all the circumstances of the case, is estimated to be 24 days of hard labor, 2 times 48 hours of solitary confinement on bread and water, in accordance with Section 7 of the Law of 18th August 1853, and she will have to pay the costs of her arrest.

Therefore, it is ruled that:

The accused Susanne Abrahamsen is to be confined to prison on bread and water for 2 times 48 hours and to pay the costs of her arrest.

To be carried out in accordance with the law.

³⁹ Danish: "blive taget under Paakjendelse" (legal language)

With this verdict, the accused declared herself satisfied and was then taken into custody as a prisoner, and the case was concluded for description and submission.

Register C folio 244

In the year 1869, on Thursday the 9th of November, in the morning at 9 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened at the Police Chamber, administered by the Police Chief, in the presence of the witnesses Officer Skibye and van der Bess, and then followed the undertaking of the case

No. 693/1869 The public vs. Susanna Abrahams.

Report from the 9^{th40} by Officer Stephan is presented.

Susanna Abrahams appears. She was born here, is approximately 30 years old, and she admits that a statement which she has given regarding having found permanent employment is untrue. At the moment, she earns a living from casual work.

She was punished with 6 days of forced labor for providing false information about her occupation, to which she acquiesced and was removed.

Court adjourned.

⁴⁰ The Danish transcription says "5 ds:" which is presumably 5de (the 5th)

Register C folio 270

In the year 1870, on Thursday the 21st of April, at noon at 12 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened at the Police Chamber, administered by the Police Chief, in presence of the witnesses Jørgensen and Leades, whereafter proceeds the conducting of the case:

No. 336/1870 The public vs. Susanna Abrahamson and Ann James.

Report of today's date from Officer Leades is presented.

Susanna Abraham is present. She was born on St. Croix, is (*empty space*) years old. She states that Ann James took the law into her own hands today by taking 6 sugar cakes from her sales stand for a debt of 15 cents that the complainant owed her.⁴¹ The complainant opposed her leaving, but nevertheless, she left with the 6 sugar cakes, whose value is 30 cents.

Ann James appears. She was born on St. Croix, is (*empty space*) years old and is a maid in the employ of Mr. C. Gomez. She states that when Susanna told her that the sugar cakes cost 5 Cts. pr. cake, she put back 2 of the 5 cakes which she had taken. As she was about to leave and told Susanne that their disagreement was now settled, Susanne grabbed her and tore her clothes and fought with her.

As Susanne Abrahams maintains that she took 6 sugar cakes, Officer Jørgensen is asked to go to Mr. Gomez and find out how many sugar cakes Ann James came home with. He returns and states that she came back with 3 cakes.

Since Susanne Abrahams is a frequently previously convicted individual, she is sentenced to 48 hours of imprisonment on bread and water, which she accepts and is removed. The case is closed.

Report D folio 210

⁴¹ The Danish text says "Comparentinden" (the person who appears in court) (female)

In the year 1871, on Monday the 6th of March, in the morning at 9 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened in the Police Chamber. Due to other business, the Police Chief was absent, wherefore the Court was administered by Police Assistant Fischer in the presence of witnesses Officers Stephan and Andersen.

The following was conducted:

Susanna Abrahamson, born on St. Croix, about 30 years old, currently employed at the coal yards, appears and admits to stealing the watch with chain presented as evidence from Anton Verliin. She explains that about three weeks ago, he met her on the street one evening and invited her to follow him home. She complied and had intercourse with him, but when she found out that he was not going to pay her more than some Genever to drink, she took the watch, which was on a chair in the room, and left with it. She did not mention it to him at the time, but she claims to have gone to his residence twice later to return the watch and collect her payment, but was unable to find him. She categorically denies taking the silver spoons and claims to have no knowledge of Friborg's House.

Anton Verliin, a 42-year-old Lutheran from Copenhagen, a grocer, testifies that he lost his watch and chain about two weeks ago. Abrahamson had stayed with him overnight, and she left at 5 am. Half an hour after she left, he noticed that the watch was missing. He had paid her 40-50 cents before she left and had also given her some sugar. She had stayed overnight with him once before. He had not seen her since he lost the watch. He was shown the watch and chain, which perfectly matched his description, and he valued them at \$9. He waived his claim for compensation in exchange for the return of his property.

Abrahamson maintains that she did not receive any payment from Verliin but otherwise agreed with his statement. She has no objection to his valuation. She claims that she had not tried to sell or pawn the watch but had given it to Louise Smidten for safekeeping the previous day out of fear that it might be stolen from her home during her absence. She denies taking the watch with any intention to steal it, but only to keep it until Verliin paid her for her services.

A confrontation between Abrahamson and Verliin is inconclusive about the payment, and Abrahamson is removed from the court. The watch is returned to Verliin, who stands down.

The presiding Police Chief rules:

As Susanna Abrahamson has admitted to appropriating a pocket watch belonging to grocer Verliin during a visit to his home, and she is suspected of having committed other property crimes, her residence will be searched, and she will be remanded in custody.

Therefore, it is ordered that:

Susanna Abrahamson's residence will be searched, and she will be remanded in custody.

The ruling is communicated to the prisoner, after which she is removed from the court and the court is tasked with conducting the search.

Report C Folio 37

In the year 1871, on Tuesday the 7th of March, in the morning at 9 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened at the Police Office under the undersigned appointed Police Chief, in the presence of Police Scribe Bredahl and Officer Erichson, and then commences the conducting of the case:

No. 87/1871 The public vs. Susanna Abrahamson

The 2 reports of the 6th of the same month⁴² from Officers Stephan and Andersen and from Officer Skibye are presented.

The defendant appears and states that in the first-mentioned report, the mentioned Kjerestende⁴³ are the lawful belongings of herself and John Adams, which they have bought, except for the spoons which she found on the public dump to the west of town. She claims that the mahogany box which is mentioned in Officer Skiby's report is one that she bought on St. Croix and which she has owned for a long time; she did not sell it to (...)⁴⁴ but only asked him to get the lock repaired and a key made for it.

Her cohabitant⁴⁵ is presently in Nevis and knows nothing of the theft of the watch, but he is familiar with the finding of the spoons. She did not inform or hand them over to the Police because they were dirty and rusty and did not seem to be of any value.

Led away. Case adjourned.

⁴² The Danish text says "ds:" which probably stands for "den samme" (the same) (month)

⁴³ Unclear what "Kjerestendee" means. If it means "Genstande" (items) it would make sense in the context

⁴⁴ Missing or unintelligible

⁴⁵ The Danish text says "Comcumbant"

Report E folio 110

In the year 1871, on Saturday the 11th of March, in the morning at 9 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened in the Police Chamber and in the absence of the Police Chief, the Court was administered by Police Assistant Fischer in the presence of witnesses Officer Basberg and Police Scribe Bredahl, and then commences:

Case No. 87/1871, The Public vs. Susanna Abrahamson.

Louise Smothergill appears and explains that the defendant came to her house last Sunday and asked her to hide the watch and chain for her, which she claimed to have taken from a Spaniard. The informant then received the items only to hand them over to the police, which she did immediately.

Benjamin Fritt appears and confirms the statement which he gave to Officer Skiby. He states that he did not know the defendant personally when he bought the box, but later on, when he found out that she was thief, he handed it in to the Police.

The detainee is again presented and informed of these statements. She has no objections to Louise Smothergill's statement, but she denies the truth of Fitt's statement. During a confrontation between herself and Fritt, she admits to having sold him the box, but she does not remember how much he paid her. She maintains that she bought the box on St. Croix⁴⁶. She is then removed to her arrest, the meeting is adjourned and the case postponed.

The defendant is then presented and informed of these statements. She has nothing to object to regarding Louise Smothergill's statement, but denies the accuracy of Fritt's statement. During a confrontation between her and Fritt, she admits to having sold him the box, but she does not remember how much he gave her for it. She insists that she bought the box on St. Croix.

⁴⁶ In the Danish text, the words "Hun blev derefter afført til sin Arrest, de Mødende demitteredes og Sagen udsat" (She was then led to her arrest, those in attendance stood down and the case was adjourned) is written and then crossed out

Anna Ruan, a maid employed by Mr. Friborg, appears, and she states that she has often seen the defendant in the courtyard where she visited⁴⁷, wherefore she believes that it was easy for her to take the spoons of which 3 were taken in December and 2 last Saturday.

Madame Robles appears. She lives in the same yard, and she states the same as the previous witness in court⁴⁸. She states that 2 of the spoons were taken last Saturday, and the rest previously, as she recalls, in December.

The defendant maintains her earlier statement regarding the acquisition of the spoons. She is then led to her arrest, the people present stand down, and the case is adjourned.

Report D folio 211

In 1871, on Thursday the 16th of March, in the morning at 9 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened at the Police Chamber, in the absence of the Police Chief administered by Police Assistant Fischer in the presence of witnesses Police Scribe Bredahl and Officer Andersen where the following was conducted:

Case No 87/1871 The Public vs Susanna Abrahamson

The defendant is presented. She maintains that she acquired the spoons in the manner previously stated and she adamantly denies having acquired them by theft or having being informed by her cohabitant about his acquisition method other than what she has already explained. She now indicates the time when she found the two spoons about 7 weeks ago and reserves the right to mention that it has been over 6 months since she received the others from her cohabitant. She now states that she found the 2 spoons approximately 7 weeks ago, and⁴⁹ regarding the other 3, she states that her cohabitant sent her to John Christian who handed her the items, and several of the yard's inhabitants witnessed it, but they have now gone to St Kitts and other English islands where they come from. She is unable to name a single of these witnesses and cannot provide any further information about them.

The defendant is removed. The case is adjourned.

⁴⁷ The Danish text adds "hvør hun besøgte" (where she visited), which is then crossed out.

⁴⁸ The Danish text says "foregaaende Comparentinde" (the previous person who is present in court (female))

⁴⁹ Here, the Danish text continues "... og forbeholder, at det er over 6 Maaneder siden at hun modtog de øvrige af Concumbanten..." (and reserves that it is 6 months since she received the remaining [spoons] from her cohabitant), but the sentence is crossed out

The court is adjourned.

Report A folio 61

In 1871, on Tuesday the 21st of March, in the morning at 9 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened in the Police Chambers, and as the Police Chief is absent due to other engagements, administered by Police Assistant Fischer in the presence of witnesses Officers Stephan and Andersen, and then commences

No. 87/1871 The public vs. Susanna Abrahamson

The detainee maintains her previously given statement regarding how she acquired the spoons⁵⁰. The widow Johanne Robles is sent for and appears. She was born on St. Jan, is 34 years old and belongs to the congregation of the Moravian Brothers. She states that since she lives in the same yard as Mr. Friborg and often speaks to his wife, she is well acquainted with the circumstances of the theft, as Mr. Friborg herself has told her. Sometime before (...) ⁵¹ last year, she remembers that Mrs. Friborg told her that she had lost a tablespoon and a teaspoon, and then sometime later, she does not remember how long, she lost one more teaspoon. All the spoons were taken from the kitchen which was closed but not locked at night. On the same night of the 4th, the detainee had slept in Benjamin Fritt's room in the yard, which he had left because she had forced herself upon him and refused to leave. Johanne Robles⁵² saw her leave in the morning.

The detainee denies having slept in Fritt's room on the night in question as the widow Robles has stated, but she admits that she slept there on some occasions, and the last time, which was 5 weeks ago, she had to sleep alone because Fritt refused to sleep with her and he went away. She maintains that it was after last (...) ⁵³ and about 7 or 8 weeks ago that she found the tablespoon and the one teaspoon at the garbage dump as previously stated.

⁵⁰ Here, the Danish text adds "hvorfor" (wherefore), which is then crossed out

⁵¹ Missing or unintelligible

⁵² The Danish text says "Comparantinden" (the person who is present in court) (female)

⁵³ Here, the Danish text says "Nytaar" (New Year's), but it is crossed out

She maintains this statement during a confrontation with the widow Robles, who then stands down. She is led to her arrest and the case is adjourned.

Court adjourned.

Report B folio 47

In 1871, on Wednesday the 22nd of March, in the morning at 9 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened in the Police Chamber, and as the Police Chief was absent due to other engagements, administered by Police Assistant Fischer in the presence of witnesses Officer Basberg and J. Hansen. The following was then undertaken:

No. 87/1871 The public vs. Susanna Abrahamson

The report of the 21st of the same month by Officer Stephensen and Andersen is presented.

Andreas Sabelon appears. He was born in Flensborg, is 41 years old, and is a guardsman at the dumpsite⁵⁴, and he states that in this capacity, he is present at the site all day, and he therefore knows about anyone who enters the location. A permit from himself is required to collect rags and other waste on the site, and he is certain that the defendant has not received such a permit within the last 1 ½ years and that she has not been on the premises. He knows her well, because as a former guardsman of the convicts, she has been under his supervision.

The defendant is then presented and made aware of this statement. She maintains her claim but she states that it was before (...) ⁵⁵ she appeared at the site to collect rags. She had not seen Sabelon there, but she saw several other people gathering rags, but she cannot name any of them or say anything else about them.

⁵⁴ In the Danish text, it says "og Opsynsmand" (and guardsman), but the "og" (and) is crossed out. Also, the Danish text says "Losseplads" (dumpsite), but this word is crossed out and replaced with "Renovationspladsen" (renovation site)

⁵⁵ Missing or unintelligible

When confronted with Sabelon, she maintains her statement and no agreement is reached.

She is then led away. Sabelon stands down and the case is postponed.

External Police Report folio 41

In 1871, on Wednesday the 29th of March, in the afternoon at 1 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened at the property No. 3 Kongensgade. In the absence of the Police Chief due to other duties, the court was administered by Police Assistant Fischer in the presence of witnesses Officer Stephan and Anderson. At this time, the following case was handled:

No. 87/1871 The public vs. Susanna Abrahamson

The Police Assistant informs the court that Customs Assistant Friborg is ill and bedridden, and therefore, as the detainee has persistently claimed that she acquired the spoons in the manner she previously stated during several extrajudicial hearings since her last appearance in court⁵⁶, it has been necessary to hold the court at his residence.

The detainee is presented.

Customs Assistant Friborg and his wife are present. They both declare that they are convinced that the spoons presented to them belong to them and were stolen from their kitchen, but since none of the spoons have any markings, they do not dare to confirm their possession by swearing under oath. They present spoons which look exactly like the 3 which the detainee has handed over to Officer Andersen, and they state that they belong to the set of which a total of 4 spoons are missing, stolen at the same time⁵⁷ from the kitchen. Mrs. Friborg further states that the tablespoons and the teaspoon,

⁵⁶ Danish: Udenrettsforhør

⁵⁷ In the Danish text, the word "samtidig" (at the same time) has been written and crossed out

which she recognizes with certainty because it was used by one of her children, went missing long before last (...) ⁵⁸ along with a plate potage spoon from the table in an open gallery in the house where they lived at the time, no. 50, Kongensgade. Sometime after (...) ⁵⁹, she lost 2 teaspoons in one night, and then again on the night between the 4th and the 5th both times from the kitchen of their present dwelling which is not locked at night.

Mr. Friberg ⁶⁰ declares that all the spoons are silver plated, and in his estimate their value is a total of \$4.

To this, the detainee responds that she knows nothing of the value, but she must maintain that she acquired the spoons in the way in which she has previously stated, and she knows nothing about whether her partner acquired them illegally. She was not in the yard in no. 50, Kongensgade, and she did not ⁶¹ know that Mr. Friberg lived there.

She is then led away. The case and the court are adjourned.

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Report A folio 62

In the year 1871, on Wednesday the 5th of April, in the afternoon at 3 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court was convened by the undersigned Police Chief at the Police Office, in the presence of Police Scribe Bredahl and Officer Leades as witnesses, where the following case was conducted:

No. 87/1871 The public vs. Susanna Abrahamson

The prisoner is presented.

⁵⁸ Missing or unintelligible

⁵⁹ Missing or unintelligible

⁶⁰ Elsewhere: Friborg

⁶¹ In the Danish text, the word "engang" (even) has been written and crossed out

Court Record in police case⁶² no. 549/1867 is presented, according to which, the defendant was sentenced to 2 times 48 hours of bread and water imprisonment for the first time she committed vagrancy on July 1 1867. The verdict in Court Record police case no. 36/1867 is also presented, according to which she was sentenced to 90 days of hard labor for theft. The detainee maintains that she did not acquire Mr. Friborg's spoons through theft and overall, she maintains her previous statements. After it is made clear to her that judgment will be passed in the case, she is encouraged to state whatever she might know in her defense and when she states that she has nothing further to add, the Court enters the Case and passes the following

Verdict

The defendant Susanna Abrahamson, who in the year 1867 was sentenced to 5 times 48 hours of bread and water imprisonment for the first time she committed vagrancy and 90 days of hard labor for theft, is now accused again of the latter offense. In this regard, she has admitted and confirmed other circumstances that she stole a silver watch worth \$9 from a man with whom she had had sexual relations, which has been recovered and returned to the owner who has waived compensation for the loss. However, no sufficient evidence has been presented to support the allegation that she also possessed some silver-plated spoons that she claimed to have found at the city's garbage dump, but which the alleged owner believes were stolen from him. The defendant's own statement, according to which she must be considered guilty of illegal handling of found property, will be the basis for the case decision. The defendant, who is estimated to be around 38 years old, is deemed suitable to be sentenced to 120 days of hard labor for the committed theft, in accordance with Fr. April 11th, 1840 §1 cf. decree of Jan 6th, 1852 §2, whereby the punishment due under the same regulation §58 will be absorbed. She will also have to pay the costs of her arrest and the execution of the sentence.

Thus, it is ruled by the court

The defendant Susanna Abrahamson is sentenced to 120 days of hard labor and must pay the costs of her arrest and the execution of the sentence. This ruling must be complied with under the law.

This verdict is served on the defendant, after which she is taken away and the case concluded for description and submission.

⁶²The Danish text says "P. S", which presumably stands for "Politi Sag" (Police Case)

The court is adjourned.

Report E folio 121

In the year 1871 on Tuesday the 12th of September, in the morning at 9 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened at the Police Chamber, administered by the Police Chief in the presence of Police Scribe Bredahl and Officer Christensen as witnesses, and then commences the case:

No. 389/1871 The public vs. Susanna Abrahamson

Susanne Abrahamson appears after having served a sentence of 120 days of forced labor for theft in police case no. 87/1871 and is ordered to appear at the Police Chambers in the morning at 8 o'clock on the 15th and 1st of each month to account for her conduct during the intervening period. It is made clear to her that neglect will result in punishment for vagrancy, as for a first-time offender.

Report B folio 68

In the year 1871, on Thursday the 18th of September, in the morning at 9 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened in the Police Chamber, administered by the Police Chief in the presence of witnesses Police Scribe Bredahl and Officer Eriksen, where the following case was taken up:

No. 414/1871 The public vs. Susanne Abrahamson

The Police Chief presents a report from sub. A dated the 27th by Officer Christensen, and a sub. B report of the 27th by Police Assistant Tikjøb, and a sub. C of the 28th of this month from the latter,

and a sub. D report of the 28th of this month by Police Scribe Bredahl, and he remarks that Susanne Abrahamson had been ordered arrested for violating a restraining order that had been issued to her.

Susanne Abrahamson appears and maintains the truth of the statements given in reports B and C. However, she admits that she was not completely undressed and that she has been seen around town for some time after the hurricane of the 21st of last month.

She is placed in detention and the case is adjourned.

Court adjourned

Report C folio 74

In 1871, on Saturday the 30th of September, at noon at 12 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened at the Police Chambers, administered by the Police Chief in the presence of witnesses Police Scribe Bredahl and Officer Haach, where the following case was conducted:

No 414/1871 The public vs. Susanne Abrahamson

Presented were the sub. E Report of the 29th of the same month and the sub. F report of the 30th of the same month by Police Assistant Tikjøb, as follows:

Susanna Abrahamson appears and confirms the statement which she gave in report E. She maintains that she did not take the basket with the potatoes or the larger sales rack, and she cannot give any information whatsoever about it. Regarding her own confiscated sales rack, she declares that she did not demand it back to avoid disputes and quarrels, which she knew would be the consequence since she is considered a thief.

The court then pronounces the following

Verdict

Since Susanne Abrahamson alias Buttom⁶³ Belly, is guilty of violating an injunction order given to her with reference to the vagrancy protocol and since she is also suspected of committing theft, she is placed in custody until the case is illuminated.

In conclusion⁶⁴

Susanne Abrahamson alias Buttom Belly is to be detained in custody.

The verdict is made clear to the detainee, and she is led away and the case is adjourned.

Court adjourned

Report C folio 75

In 1878, on Tuesday the 3rd of October, in the afternoon at 2 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened at the Police Chambers, administered by the Police Chief in the presence of Police Scribe Bredahl and Officer Wm Andersen as witnesses, and then commences the case

No 414/1871 The public vs. Susanne Abrahamson

The prisoner is present. She maintains that she legally obtained the money which was found in her possession on the 26th of September, and she also maintains that she did not take the saleswoman

⁶³ Elsewhere: Bottom

⁶⁴ The Danish text says "thi eragtes", old legal language. The term is used in order to introduce the conclusion

Drane's sales rack with goods. She states that the reason why she did not comply with the injunction order to appear at the Police Chambers was because she had no clothes to wear.

It is then made clear to her that the case will be taken under consideration, and as she declares that she has nothing further to add to her defense, the Court pronounces the following

Verdict

Because Susanna Abrahamson, who has previously been convicted of theft, has admitted that she did not comply with the injunction order given on the 12th of September this year to appear on the 15th and 1st of each month to account for her conduct in the meantime, and with reference to the decree of the 18th of August 1853 §, she is convicted of vagrancy for the first time, and with reference to the decree of the 6th of January 1852, it is determined that the punishment is to be 12 days of hard labor.

It is adjudged

Susanna Abrahamson is sentenced to hard labor for 12 days.

This ruling is made clear to the detainee, and she is led away and the case is concluded.

In 1871, on Monday the 16th of October, in the afternoon at 2:30, St. Thomas Police Court convened at the Police Chamber, administered by the Police Chief, in the presence of witness sergeant⁶⁵ Hemmingsen and Officer P. Petersen. The case was conducted as follows:

No. 440/1871 The public vs. Susanna Abrahamsen

Susanna Abrahamsen appears⁶⁶. As she has no legal occupation and because she has committed vagrancy for a second time, she has been given an injunction order, in pain of punishment, to appear at the Police Chamber on the 1st and the 15th of each month, in the morning at 8 o'clock, to account for her actions and occupation in the meantime.

Court adjourned

Report A folio 105

In 1872, on Tuesday the 14th of May, in the morning at 9 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened in the Police Chamber, administered by the Police Chief, in the presence of Police Scribe Bredahl and Officer Skiby as witnesses, and the following case was conducted:

No. 166/1872 The public vs. Susanne Abrahamson alias Bottom Belly

Report of yesterday⁶⁷ by Officer Duck is presented.

⁶⁵ Danish: Overbetjent

⁶⁶ The Danish text then says "efter udstaaet Straf af 12 Dages Tvangsarbeide for 1ste Gang begaaet løsgænger /: vide PS No 414/1871 :/" (after having served a punishment of 12 days of forced labor for at 1st violation of vagrancy /: PS no. 414/1871 :/), but it is then crossed out

⁶⁷ The Danish text says "G.D.", which probably stands for "Gaars Dagen" (yesterday)?

Susanne Abrahamson appears and admits that she has put out a sales rack with coal onto the sidewalk several times, but every time she has been warned by the Police, she has removed the rack. She admits that she has then put it back on the sidewalk. Also, she declares that the rack on the sidewalk has not always been her own sales rack but one that belongs to a saleswoman by the name of Maria, who lives in the same yard.

Senior Constable⁶⁸ Hemmingsen appears and testifies that he has repeatedly ordered Susanna Abrahamson to remove her rack and that she had complied, but then she had put it back out again immediately after. She has never told him that the rack belonged to anyone but herself.

For failing to comply with the order given to her by the Police Officers to remove her sales rack from the sidewalk where it obstructed the traffic, Susanne Abrahamson is fined \$2 to be paid to St. Thomas Police fund. She acknowledges this and is led away.

Report B folio 83

In 1872, on Monday the 24th of June, in the morning at 12 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened in the Chamber, administered by the Police Chief, in the presence of Police Scribe Bredahl and Officer Mørch⁶⁹ as witnesses, where the following case was heard:

No. 209/1872 The public vs. Susanne Abrahamson

Susanne Abrahamson appears. The last time she was punished under this Court's ruling was in case no. 87/1872 with 120 days of forced labor for theft, and since she has no steady employment and is well known to be a thieving and often punished individual, she is given an order to appear in court to present proof of lawful employment before the 2nd of July of this year, and it is made clear to her that if she does not do so, the Police will provide her with employment. It is also made clear to her that

⁶⁸ Danish: Overbetjent

⁶⁹ Here, the Danish text says "Küh", which is then crossed out (there is an Officer Kühl)

disobedience of this order will result in punishment as for the second time of vagrancy, after which she stands down.

Report E folio 140

In 1872, on Thursday the 27th of June, in the morning at 9 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened at the Police Chamber, administered by the Police Chief in the presence of Police Scribe Bredahl and Officer A. Petersen as witnesses, during which the following case was conducted:

No. 214/1872 The public vs. Ida Blyden and Susanna Abrahamson

The Police Chief presents the sub. A. report of the 1st of this month by Police Scribe Bredahl, sub. B., another report of the 19th by Officer Jackson, sub. C, another report of the 26th of this month by Officer Mørch, and sub. D. the 2 two more reports of the 26th and the 27th of the same month by Police Assistant Tikjøb. He remarks that Ida Blyden had been hiding from the police from the 1st to the 19th of the same month, and had again been hiding from the 19th to the 26th of the same month. The order for her arrest was given directly after the report of the 1st but when the Officers came to arrest her, she had closed and locked her door or had quickly taken off her clothes so she was standing stark naked in the room, and then she went in to the other inhabitants in the house, fleeing from one room to another. He further remarks that Ida Blyden had previously been sentenced to 12 days of forced labor for⁷⁰ a similar offence which she is now accused of, and that Susanna Abrahamson is an individual who has been punished many times for theft and similar offences.

Ida Blyden appears and confirms the statement which she gave to report D, and she admits that she made use of common swear words. Regarding report A, she admits its accuracy.

Susanne Abrahamson appears and states as she did in report D. Regarding report A, she also admits to its accuracy, but she claims that Ida Blyden was responsible for what happened because she spoke rudely to her.

⁷⁰ Here, the Danish text says "samme" (same), which is crossed out.

Commerce clerk⁷¹ Aaron Cappé appears and confirms the statement which he gave in report D, adding that Susanne Abrahamson is a mischievous and quarrelsome woman about whom the entire neighborhood complains.

Commerce accountant⁷² French appears and affirms the statement which he gave in report D.

Ida Blyden is then sentenced to 12 days of forced labor. Regarding Susanne Abrahamson, the case is postponed until further information on Elizabeth Wood's state of health is received, and she is again remanded in custody.

Report C folio 98

In 1872, on Saturday the 29th of June, in the morning at 9 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened, administered by the Police Chief, in the presence of Police Scribe Bredahl and Officer Heyliger as witnesses, at which the following case was heard:

No. 214/1872 The public vs. Susanne Abrahamson

The Police Chief presents the report from yesterday⁷³ by Officers F. Hansen and Heyliger, and he decides to seek the opinion of the country doctor regarding Ann Elizabeth Wood's state of health before proceeding with further investigation of the case is commenced, and also, he will secure the presence of Susanne Abrahamson by ordering an arrest of her person.

Susanne Abrahamson appears and after having been informed of the content of the presented report, she declares that she did indeed throw a coconut at Cinder⁷⁴, but that the coconut did not hit her, and therefore, the illness cannot have arisen from her actions.

⁷¹ Danish: Handelscommis

⁷² Danish: Handelsbogholder

⁷³ The Danish text says "G.D" which probably stands for (Gaars Dagen) (yesterday)

⁷⁴ Ann Elizabeth Wood

The court then pronounces the following

Verdict

As Susanne Abrahamson, apart from being guilty of disturbing the public peace and order, is also suspected of violent behavior towards Ann Elizabeth Wood alias Cinder, thus causing her child to be born prematurely, she is to be placed in custody until the case is further investigated.

In conclusion⁷⁵

Susanne Abrahamson is remanded in custody.

This verdict is made clear to the detainee after which she is led away and the case is postponed.

Court adjourned.

Report C folio 98

In 1872, on Monday the 1st of June, at noon at 12 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened at the Police Chamber, administered by the Police Chief in the presence of Police Scribe Bredahl and Officer Duch⁷⁶ as witnesses, and then commences the case:

No. 214/1872 The public vs. Susanne Abrahamson

⁷⁵ Danish: Thi eragtes (legal language)

⁷⁶ Elsewhere: Duck

The country doctor's statement of the 1st of this month is presented.

Susanne Abrahamson appears and the presented statement is made clear to her, and then she is sentenced to 12 days of forced labor for disorderly conduct and causing a public disturbance. She acquiesces the sentence and is led away.

Report A folio 110

In 1872, on Thursday the 18th of July, in the afternoon at 2 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened at the Chambers, administered by the Police Chief in the presence of witnesses Officer Skiby and Bockmand – and then commences the case:

No. 241/1872 The public vs. Susanna Abraham alias Bottom Be(...) ⁷⁷

A report from Police Scribe Bredahl of the 16th of the same month and a report from Officer Böckmann of (...) ⁷⁸ are presented.

Susanna Abraham appears and states that the reason why she did not appear for the vagrancy protocol on the 15th of the same month was because she suffered from rheumatic pains in her back. The injunction order of the 12th of September 1871 regarding the vagrancy protocol is emphasized again, and she is given a period of 8 days from today's date to find a legal occupation. Stands down.

Report C folio 104

⁷⁷ Missing or unintelligible

⁷⁸ Missing or unintelligible

In 1872, on Wednesday the 21st of August, in the afternoon at 2 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened, administered by the Police Chief in the presence of Police Scribe Bredahl and Officer Kühl as witnesses, during which the following case was heard:

No. 299/1872 The public vs. Susanne Abrahamson

The Police Chief presents the sub. A report of today's date from Police Scribe Bredahl, and the sub. B report of the same date from Police Assistant Tikjøb, and he remarks that he has ordered the arrest of Susanna Abrahamson, a woman who has previously been punished for theft as well as vagrancy because she did not comply with a vagrancy protocol injunction order of the 16th of October 1871 according to which she was to appear on the 1st and the 15th every month, as she failed to appear on the 15th of this month.

Susanna Abrahamson appears and states, in accordance with her statement in report B, that illness prevented her from complying with the order of the 15th of this month, but that she sent a message about the fact to the Police Chamber through the man who is referred to in the report.

Court adjourned.

Report C folio 104

In the year 1872, on Thursday the 22nd of August, in the morning at 9 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened at the Police Chamber, administered by the Police Chief in the presence of Police Scribe Tikjøb and Officer Heyliger as witnesses, and then commences the case:

No. 299/1872 The public vs. Susanna Abraham alias Bottom Belli⁷⁹

Susanna Abraham alias Bottom Belli is present.

Valentin Louis has been summoned and appears. He was born on Dominique, is approximately 50 years old, Catholic. He states that on Monday morning at approximately 5 o'clock, he met Susanna Abrahams⁸⁰ outside St. Thomas Bank, and she was carrying a large bundle of clothes on her head. She stopped Valentin and asked him to⁸¹ go to the Police Chamber for her and speak to the Police Assistant and tell him that she was ill and unable to comply with⁸² the order to meet at the Police Chamber⁸³. For his trouble, Valentin Louis⁸⁴ would be given 5 Cts. He promised to comply with her request, but he forgot to do so, and the next day, when he met Susanna, she asked him if he had remembered to do it, as she would otherwise be arrested and punished. He told her that he had not brought her message to the Police Chamber.⁸⁵

Susanna Abraham states that she gave Valentin the message in question on one of the days of last week, and that the following day, she was told by him that he had not delivered the message. The bundle which she had on her head consisted of the mat on which she sleeps, and she came from her night's dwelling in Anduze's property, 29 Dronningensgade, to walk down to Schou Wellenck's warf to hide the mat in the doghouse at the same place. Led away to an Ident(...)⁸⁶room.

Louis stands down. Case adjourned.

Court adjourned.

⁷⁹ Elsewhere: Belly

⁸⁰ Elsewhere: Abrahamson

⁸¹ In the Danish text, it says "...bad ham om han at vilde gaae" (asked him if he would go), but the words "han" and "vilde" are crossed out

⁸² In the Danish text, it says "...til at efterkomme hans Paalæget" (to comply with his order), but the word "hans" is crossed out

⁸³ The Danish text adds "hver 15 Dag" (ever 15 days), but it has been crossed out

⁸⁴ The Danish text says "Deponenten" (the person who appears in court)

⁸⁵ The Danish text adds "Han har ikke modtaget de 5 Cts." (He has not received the 5 Cts), but it is crossed out.

⁸⁶ Missing or unintelligible

Report A folio 120

In 1872, on Friday the 23rd of August, in the afternoon at 2 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened at the Police Chamber, administered by the Police Chief, in the presence of Police Scribe Bredahl and Officer Madsen as witnesses. The case was carried out as follows:

No. 299/1872 The public vs. Susanna Abrahamsen

The arrestee Susanna Abrahamsen is presented.

The Police Chief presents the Court Record of the Police Case⁸⁷ no. 87/1871 the public vs. Susanne Abrahamsen, in which she was sentenced to 120 days of forced labor, and he attests that in the case no. 214/1872, she was subsequently sentenced to 12 days of forced labor for fighting and disorderly conduct in the streets, but apart from that, she has not been accused or punished under the present jurisdiction.

The arrested person is then notified that the case will now be brought under consideration, and as she declares that she has nothing further to present, the court takes up the case and issues the following:

Verdict

The accused Susanna Abrahamson who was first sentenced to 2 x 48 hours of prison on bread and water for vagrancy in the year 1867, and who has since been punished several times with forced labor for theft, is now accused of having violated the restraining order given to her on the 16th of October 1871 in which she was obliged to appear at the Police Chamber on the 1st and the 15th of every month to provide information about her occupation during that time. She failed to appear at the Police Chamber on the 15th of that month. In addition, she is charged with having taken illegal lodgings at night, as she was found lying in No. 76 Kronprindsensgade shipyard⁸⁸ by the patrolling Officer between the night of the 20th and 21st of that month. Regarding this part of the accusation, she has admitted its accuracy, and she admits that for quite some time, she has found

⁸⁷ The Danish text says "P.S", presumably meaning "Politi Sag" (Police Case)

⁸⁸ Danish: Værft

accommodation in yards and open spaces during the nights, but regarding the first part of the accusation, she has endeavored to make it clear that she did indeed comply with the order, as she had a messenger pass on the required information to the Police Chamber. Since such a method of communication cannot be considered authorized by law or sufficient to provide the police with the information it seeks, her claim cannot be given any weight, and she will therefore be punished. The punishment for the offense which she has committed, falling under the regulations of §2 of the decree of the 18th of August 1853, it is deemed appropriate to be set at 60 days of forced labor under the same decree's §8. She is to be placed in custody until the completion of the sentence and will bear all the costs associated with her arrest and punishment's execution.

It is adjudged that⁸⁹

Susanne Abrahamson is sentenced to 60 days of forced labor and is to remain in custody until the sentence is executed. She will also bear the costs of her arrest and punishment's execution. She is to comply with the law's conduct.

Court adjourned.

Report E folio 234

In 1874, on Saturday the 24th of January, in the morning at 9 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened at the Police Chamber, in the absence of the Police Chief administered by the Police Chief⁹⁰ in the presence of Police Scribe Bredahl and Officer Nielsen as witnesses, and then the following case was conducted:

No. 42/1874 The public vs. Susanne Abrahamson

⁸⁹ Danish: Thi Kjøendes for Ret (legal language)

⁹⁰ This seems slightly odd – as the Police Chief is absent. The Danish text says ”... og I Politimesterens Embedsforfald administreret af Politimesteren I Overværelse af ...”

The Police Chief presents a report of today's date by Police Official⁹¹ Tikjøb.

Susanna Abrahamson appears and confirms the statement which she gave in the presented report, and she adds that due to illness, particularly pains in the neck, she has been unable to present herself at the Police Chamber. She maintains her denial of having taken Nelson's things, but she admits that she is indeed familiar with Nelson's apartment and she lives in the neighboring yard to it.

Jospeh Nelson appears and confirms his statement given in the presented report.

The Court, considering that Susanne Abrahamson has been convicted multiple times for theft, orders an investigation of her residence, and due to her being subject to an arrest warrant, orders her arrest until the case is sufficiently clarified.

This is made clear to the arrestee, who is led away. Nelson stands down and the case is adjourned.

Report A folio 227

In 1874, on Saturday the 28th of January, in the morning at 9 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened at the Police Chamber, administered by the Police Chief in the presence of Police Scribe Bredahl and Officer Duck as witnesses, where the following case was handled:

No. 42/1872 The public vs Susanne Abrahamson alias Bottom Belly

Sub. a report from yesterday⁹² is presented by Officer Mc Cabe and sub. (*empty space*) a report from today⁹³ by Police Official⁹⁴ Tikjøb.

Susanna Abrahamsen is present.

⁹¹ Danish: Officiant

⁹² The Danish text says "G.D" (presumably Gaars Dagen") (yesterday)?

⁹³ The Danish text says "D: D:" (Dags Dato) (today's date)

⁹⁴ Danish: Officiant

Marcelie Wye and Mary Hazzell each appeared separately and repeat the statements which they had given in the report dated yesterday, and then, they stand down.

The Police Chief remarks that because no new evidence has emerged in the present case regarding whether Susanna Abrahamson⁹⁵ has committed the theft of which she is accused, and because she has also proved that she has legal employment, she is released and the case is closed.

Court adjourned

Report C folio 214

In 1874, on Saturday the 28th of March, in the morning at 9 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened at the Police Chamber, in the absence of the Police Chief administered by the Police Chief in the presence of Police Scribe Bredahl and Officer Christensen as witnesses, and then commences the case

No. 149/1874 The public vs. Susanne Abrahamson

Report by Street Officer Andersen of the 26th of this month⁹⁶ is presented

Susanne Abrahamson appears and admits that she is the one who placed the chamber pot with excrements out in the street outside her room, but she states, in her defense, that she does not have access to the shed in the yard or to the privy which is located there.

She is imposed a fine of \$ 5 for placing a chamber pot with uncleanness on a public street. The fine is to be paid to St. Thomas Police Fund, and since she is unable to pay the fine, she is immediately placed in prison to serve the sentence.

⁹⁵ The Danish text adds "skulle have" (should have), but it is crossed out.

⁹⁶ The Danish text says "ds", presumably "den samme" (the same) (month)

Report A folio 119

In 1876, on the 6th of April, in the morning⁹⁷ at 9 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened at the Police Chamber, in the absence of the Police Chief administered by Police Assistant Petersen in the presence of Police Officers Duck and Vincey as witnesses, where the following case was conducted:

No. 193/1876 Interrogation of⁹⁸ Susanne Abrahamsen alias Bottom Belli for theft

The report by Police Officer Kocks of the 27th of last month is presented, by Police Assistant Petersen and from the same day from Police Officer H. Christensen⁹⁹.

The accused appears and states that she was born on St. Croix and does not know her age. She has been here for many years. She has been punished with forced labor 3 times for theft.

She is presented with Police Officer Kocks' report and states that the chicken which she sold to Kocks was her lawful property. When presented with Police Assistant Petersen's report, she also claims that¹⁰⁰ she gave another chicken, which belonged to her, to Tyllis Bentzen, because she had nothing to feed it.

The accused is taken into custody, and the hearing is adjourned.

Report A folio 120

⁹⁷ The Danish text says "F.", presumably meaning "Formiddag" (morning)

⁹⁸ In the Danish text, the word "Bottom" is written and crossed out

⁹⁹ In the Danish text, these lines include many abbreviations. It says " Frl blev Rp af 27 f M fra Pbt Kocks, af G D fra Pol. Ass. Petersen og af s D fra Pbt H. Christensen"

¹⁰⁰ Here, the Danish text adds "den Høne" (that hen), but it is crossed out

In 1876, on Saturday the 8th of April, in the morning at 9 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened, in the absence of the Police Chief administered by Police Assistant Petersen in the presence of Officer Duck and Andersen as witnesses, where the following case was conducted:

No. 193/1876 Interrogation of Susanne Abrahamsen alias Bottom Belly for theft.

The accused is presented.

Police Officer Kock appears and confirms his previous statement and f(...)¹⁰¹ remarks that he has returned the chicken in question to Caroline Hatchette, who unequivocally recognizes it as her own.

The accused Susanne Abrahamsen¹⁰² appears and maintains her earlier explanation and claims that she had bought the chicken, which she later sold to Police Officer Kocks, along with 3 other chickens, from a man in the market, at the cost of \$ 1,85.

As the arrestee Susanne Abrahamsen must be considered (...) ¹⁰³ to be a thief, and since it is deemed necessary to secure her person during the furthering of the inquiry, an arrest on her person is declared and is made clear to her.

Kocks¹⁰⁴ stands down. The detainee is led to the arrest. Hearing postponed.

Report A folio 122

In 1876, on Tuesday the 11th of April, in the morning at 8 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened at the Police Chamber, in the absence of the Police Chief administered by Police Assistant Petersen in the presence of Officers Mathiasen and Wincey as witnesses, and then the following case was conducted:

¹⁰¹ Missing or unintelligible

¹⁰² Elsewhere: Susanna Abrahamson

¹⁰³ Missing or unintelligible

¹⁰⁴ The Danish text says "Compt." (the person who is present in court)

No. 193/1876 The public vs Susanne Abrahamsen for theft.

Accused presented.

Caroline Hatchett appears and states the following: She lives in no. 57 and 58 in Kr. Pr. Gade¹⁰⁵, the same house in which Police Officer Kocks lives. 8 days ago¹⁰⁶, 2 chickens were missing in the morning, 1 large white-yellow one and another one which is black and white. On the following Monday, she then saw that a chicken which Police Officer Kocks had bought from the detainee on the same day was the larger of the two which she has mentioned and which had been stolen from her. On the same day, the accused approached her¹⁰⁷, and Kocks gave her the chicken back, and she asked her not report her to the police, and she would pay her before answering (...) ¹⁰⁸ During a couple of (...) ¹⁰⁹ the two mentioned chickens (...) ¹¹⁰. She believes that the chickens were stolen during the night from an open space in the yard which leads to a large gate, which is closed at night, and a back door, which is not closed at night.

The accused¹¹¹ maintains her previous statement and continually claims that she bought the chicken in question at the market from a boy whom she does not know. She admits that she asked Caroline Hatchett not to turn her in, but that was because she did not like going to the Police Chamber.

Caroline Hatchette stands down. The accused is led to the arrest. The examination is postponed.

Report D folio 136

¹⁰⁵ Kronprindsensgade

¹⁰⁶ This is actually unclear in the Danish text, which says "I Fordags 8 D" (before 8 D), which is presumably to mean "8 days ago"

¹⁰⁷ Caroline Hatchett. The Danish text says "Compt" (the person who is present in court)

¹⁰⁸ Missing or unintelligible

¹⁰⁹ Missing or unintelligible

¹¹⁰ Missing or unintelligible

¹¹¹ The Danish text says "gjentag" (repeat), but it is crossed out

In 1876, on Saturday the 15th of April, in the afternoon at 1 o'clock, St. Thomas Police Court convened at the Police Chamber, in the absence of the Police Chief administered by Police Assistant Petersen in the presence of Officers Mathiasen and J. Jensen as witnesses, and then commences the case:

No. 193/1876 Examination of Susanne Abrahamsen for theft.

The defendant is present and maintains her previous statement.

The defendant is released and stands down. The hearing is concluded.

Frederiksted Municipal Court¹¹²

Court record for the Police Court 1865-1883

Verdict

in the case no. 238/1878, the Police vs. Susanna Abrahamson from Pl: Prosperity

Delivered on the 27th of June, 1878.

On the 28th of last month, the prisoner Susanna Abrahamson or Andall alias Bottom Belly alias Theodora from Pl: Prosperity was found to be in the possession of a white, embroidered head scarf which had been stolen along with a skirt from Miss Charlotte Holst's dwelling no. 63 Prindsensgade in this town on the evening of the 27th of March this year, and after several excuses, she finally admits that she had found the mentioned scarf on the morning of the 21st of April this year whilst she was bringing water to the pumps on occasion of a fire which had broken out on the same morning in Prindsensgade, at the gate of the property where Miss C. Holst lives, in no. 63 Prindsensgade. Even though she is repeatedly presented with the improbability that the scarf in mention, which went

¹¹² Danish: Byfoged

missing in the evening of the 27th of March this year, when it was hung on the fence to the property no. 63 Prindsensgade, should have been found at the gate to the same property by her on the 21¹¹³ of April this year, she continuously maintains this explanation, and she, who has been punished several times before, including by the St. Thomas Court of Extraordinary Justice's judgment of December 8, 1876 for receiving stolen goods with 8 months of penal labor, is now to be sentenced according to the law of April 11, 1840, § 58 cfr: § 79 for illegal handling of found property to a penalty, which is estimated to be 60 days of penal labor, and the headscarf will be returned to its owner, Rebecca Battist of Pl. Upper Love.

It is adjudged that

The prisoner Susanna Abrahamson or Andall alias Bottom Belly alias Theodora from Pl: Prosperity, shall be sentenced to 60 days of penal labor. The judgment shall be carried out in accordance with the law.

¹¹³ Danish: Forbedringshusarbejde