

*Regina v. Sleeman.* Nov. 26, 1853.

CONFESSION.—ADMISSION IN EVIDENCE.

*Circumstances under which the confession of a prisoner charged with arson, was admitted in evidence on an indictment for such offence.*

On this indictment for arson, before *Martin, B.*, evidence was received of the prisoner's confession, which had been given upon the person having charge of her saying, "Don't run yourself into more sin, but tell the truth." The prisoner had previously denied her guilt on the witness expressing her regret at her situation and inquiring whither she were guilty or not.

The *Court* said, the evidence was admissible, as no threat or inducement had been held out, and confirmed the conviction.

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*Regina v. Luckhurst.* Nov. 26, 1853,

INDICTMENT, INADMISSIBILITY OF EVIDENCE OF CONFESSION MADE UNDER THREAT.

*Held, that the confession of a prisoner was inadmissible in consequence of the witness saying "If you don't tell me, I will give you in charge to the police till you do tell me;" and the conviction was quashed.*

On this indictment, before *Cresswell, J.*, at the last Maidstone assizes, it appeared that evidence had been received of the prisoner's confession to one Willard, who had gone to the prisoner and said, "If you don't tell me, I will give you in charge to the police till you do tell me." The question as to the admissibility of the evidence had been reserved on the prisoner being found guilty.

The *Court* said, that as the confession was made under a threat it could not be received; and the conviction was accordingly quashed.