

**National Library Wales 4/58/2**  
**Parish of Llanarmon Dyffryn Ceiriog**  
**Court of Great Session witness examination**  
**Accused, John Hughes, Servant**  
**Sworn testimony given by Morris Edwards, May 1774**

The examination of Morris Edwards of Llanarmon Duffryn Ceiriog in the said county [Denbighshire], Farmer, taken the tenth day of May 1774 before Pyrce Maurice, one of his Majesties Justices of the Peace for the said county in relation to the detestable crime of bestiality with a cow committed by John Hughes (then of Llanarmon aforesaid and now of Llanfilin in the said county servant man) in June 1772.

The said examinant Morris Edwards (being sworn) saith that in June 1772 being shearing season he went early in the morning to his neighbour's house (viz) to one David Hughes's (the said John Hughes's father) to enquire whether they sheared their sheep on that day that he might examine whether any of his the said Morris's sheep had strayed among the said neighbour's, and that finding the said David Hughes did not shear their sheep that day he went further to two other neighbours houses on the same occasion and that on his return from those last mentioned neighbours houses about seven o'clock in the morning of that same day he did see the said John Hughes driving three cows in his the said father's ground (the property of his said father as he apprehended) and that the said John Hughes ran after two of the said cows endeavouring to make them stand still as the said examinant apprehended but he failed to make them stand still, that he then went after the third cow being a red brinded cow and of a midling size, which red brinded cow stood still, and that he did see the said John Hughes stretching and extending his armes about the back parts of the same cow and his breeches fallen down about his heels, and he moved his backside and body as mankind do when in copulation with womankind, he further saith that he continued in that posture and action about a quarter of an hour all which tyme the same cow stood still and stood upright on her legs but her head was in a declining posture downwards to the ground being uneven, and that when he quitted the same cow he did see him pull up his breeches but was the distance of a field from him and could not perceive the said John's penis or whether or not he penetrated in the cow's body, he further saith that he the said examinant did not braid [abraid?] the said John of his brutal behaviour or discover it to anyone else of a long time by reason his mother had sorry enough and the said examinant further on his oath saith that the first time he discovered the behaviour of the said John Hughes with the cow was to one Hugh Evans of Llanarmon aforesaid blacksmith at a reaping day at this examinant's field in September or October in the year 1772.