## The Times Issue 27 August 1846

Page 3 column E

"THE BRIDE'S BROOCH. - An awkward discovery was made last Sunday, at Barcombe church, by the parish clerk, Mr. James Funnell. The clergyman was performing the marriage ceremony for a young couple named Fanny Page and Thomas King, when the clerk contemplating the bride's attire was struck with the appearance of a brooch in her costume which irresistibly reminded him of one worn on a similar occasion by his wife, who died about a year ago. Still he gazed as the service proceeded, and every moment became more assured that the brooch was actually one which he had missed from his late wife's wedding dress about the 13th of last January. The happy pair were in a short time united, and had left the church door, accompanied by a merry party of their friends, and the morning service had been brought to a close, when Funnell, whose suspicions by this time amounted to certainty, spoke to Weston, of the constabulary, on the subject of recovering his lost property. That officer, reckless of disturbing the soft dreams of the blushing bride, instantly made the awkward enquiry, "Where did her brooch come from?" King at once avowed i9t was a love-token from him to his sweetheart during their days of courtship, but was not equally communicative as to the party from whom he had himself received it. They then proceeded to the residence of Mrs. Sophia Skinner, King's sister, and she admitted having given it to her brother, but alleged that she had bought it ten years ago at Brighton. Mr. Funnell, however, persisted in his claim, and Weston took Sophia Skinner into custody, to the utter consternation of the wedding party. On the following day the prisoner was brought before Mr. J. W. Woolgar at Lewes, when the prosecutor positively identified the brooch, by a notch, and also stated that the prisoner had been employed in his house from the 26th of December to the 30th January, when she left, and that a few days afterwards, on looking over the house, the brooch and several other articles were missed. The prisoner alleged that she bought the brooch at Brighton ten years ago, when she lived with Mr. Attree; she was held to bail in two sureties of 10l. each to appear and take her trial at the sessions. - Sussex Express."

	es			