

**BARRISTERS** with his **ASSISTANT** left of him. **SIR WILFRID**, for the Defense, is seated left of the front row of Barristers with his **ASSISTANT** right of him. Four **BARRISTERS**, one a woman, are seated in the back row of the Barristers' seats. **LEONARD** is standing in the dock with the **WARDER** beside him. Down right, **WYATT** is seated on the stool right of the table. The **INSPECTOR** is seated on the chair above the right end of the table. **MAYHEW** is seated left of the table. A **POLICEMAN** stands at the double doors. Three members of the **JURY** are seen, the first a man, the **FOREMAN**, the second a **WOMAN** and the third a **MAN**. The **USHER** is administering the oath to the **WOMAN JUROR** who is standing.

*Audio*  
**WOMAN JUROR.** (holding the Bible and oath card) ... lady the Queen and the prisoner at the Bar whom I shall have in charge, and a true verdict give according to the evidence.

(She hands the Bible and oath card to the **USHER**, then sits.)

(The **USHER** gives the Bible and oath card to the **FOREMAN**.)

*Audio*  
**FOREMAN.** (rising) I swear by Almighty God that I will well and truly try and true deliverance make between our sovereign lady the Queen and the prisoner at the Bar whom I shall have in charge, and a true verdict give according to the evidence.

(He hands the Bible and oath card to the **USHER**, then sits.)

(The **USHER** puts the Bible and card on the ledge of the jury box, then sits on his stool down right)

**CLERK.** (rising) Leonard Vole, you are charged on indictment for that you on the fourteenth day of October in the County of London murdered Emily Jane French. How say you, Leonard Vole, are you guilty or not guilty?

**LEONARD.** Not guilty.

**CLERK.** Members of the Jury, the prisoner stands indicted for that he on the fourteenth day of October murdered Emily Jane French. To this indictment he has pleaded not guilty, and it is your charge to say, having heard the evidence, whether he be guilty or not.

*(He motions to LEONARD to sit, then resumes his own seat.)*

*(LEONARD and the WARDER sit. MYERS rises.)*

**JUDGE.** One moment, Mr. Myers.

*(MYERS bows to the JUDGE and resumes his seat.)*

*(He turns to the JURY.)* Members of the Jury, the proper time for me to sum up the evidence to you, and instruct you as to the law, is after you have heard all the evidence. But because there has been a considerable amount of publicity about this case in the Press, I would just like to say this to you now. By the oath which each of you has just taken you swore to try this case on the evidence. That means on the evidence that you are now going to hear and see. It does not mean that you are to consider also anything you have heard or read before taking your oaths. You must shut out from your minds everything except what will take place in this Court. You must not let anything else influence your minds in favour of or against the prisoner. I am quite sure that you will do your duty conscientiously in the way that I have indicated. Yes, Mr. Myers.

*(MYERS rises, clears his throat and adjusts his wig in the manner taken off by SIR WILFRED in the previous scene.)*

**MYERS.** May it please you, my lord. Members of the Jury, I appear in this case with my learned friend Mr. Barton for the Prosecution, and my learned friends Sir Wilfrid Robarts and Mr. Brogan-Moore appear for the Defence. This is a case of murder. The facts are simple and up to a certain point are not in dispute. You will hear how the prisoner, a young and, you may

think, a not unattractive man, made the acquaintance of Miss Emily French, a woman of fifty-six. How he was treated by her with kindness and even with affection. The nature of that affection you will have to decide for yourselves. Dr. Wyatt will tell you that in his opinion death occurred at some time between nine-thirty and ten on the night of the fourteenth of October last. You will hear the evidence of Janet MacKenzie, who was Miss French's faithful and devoted housekeeper. The fourteenth of October – it was a Friday – was Janet MacKenzie's night out, but on this occasion she happened to return for a few minutes at nine twenty-five. She let herself in with a key and upon going upstairs to her room she passed the door of the sitting-room. She will tell you that in the sitting-room she heard the voices of Miss French and of the prisoner, Leonard Vole.

**LEONARD.** (*rising*) That's not true. It wasn't me.

*(The WARDER restrains LEONARD and makes him resume his seat.)*

**MYERS.** Janet MacKenzie was surprised, since as far as she knew, Miss French had not expected Leonard Vole to call that evening. However, she went out again and when she returned finally at eleven she found Miss Emily French murdered, the room in disorder, a window smashed and the curtains blowing wildly. Horror-stricken, Janet MacKenzie immediately rang up the police. I should tell you that the prisoner was arrested on the twentieth of October. It is the case for the prosecution that Miss Emily Jane French was murdered between nine-thirty and ten P.M. on the evening of the fourteen of October, by a blow from a cosh and that the blow was struck by the prisoner. I will now call Inspector Hearne.

*(The INSPECTOR. rises. He holds a file of papers which he refers to often during the scene. He hands a typewritten*