THE LAW MOVES FAST:

On Saturday morning last, about 11 o’clock the Rev. W. X. Johnson, R.C. Clergyman residing in Wollongong, missed a large sum of money, between £80 and £90 in notes and cheques, from his escritoire, and from the fact that his male and female servants, (man and wife) had been absent from shortly after breakfast time, he immediately suspected them. Mr. Johnson, at about 12 o’clock, gave information of the robbery to the Chief Constable, who, after making enquiries, accompanied by constable Kennedy, immediately started in pursuit of the suspected thieves, whom they had reason to believe, had taken their departure by the mail to Appin. The Chief and his assistant pushed on to the top of Mount Keira, with all haste. Arrived at the top they put their horses to the top of their speed, being determined, if possible, to overtake the mail cart before it reached Appin. They succeeded in coming up to it just as it was descending Broughton’s Pass, and to their satisfaction discovered that the lady and gentleman they wanted were passengers by it. They arrested and searched them, and found a large sum of money on their persons. The distance from the top of Mount Keira to the Pass cannot be less than 21 miles, and some idea may be formed of the speed and powers of men and horses when we say that it was done in one hour and ten minutes. They allowed the accused to be taken on to Appin, where they were lodged in safe custody till the next day, (yesterday) when they were brought in to Wollongong, and will appear before the Bench to-day. They came from Appin to Wollongong by the old road down Bulli Mountain; the female prisoner riding on the same horse with the Chief a la pillion, and the male prisoner and constable Kennedy taking ride and walk about. The determination displayed and great exertions made by the Chief Constable and constable Kennedy on this occasion, combined with their other efficient services of late, demands some substantial recognition from the Head of the Police Department, who has a fund at his disposal for such a purpose. We shall be happy to hear that the Bench has taken the proper steps to bring the praiseworthy conduct of Mr. Hildebrand and constable Kennedy under the notice of the police authorities.

—Illawarra Mercury, 1 November, 1858.

1.—An exaggeration. It is about 17 miles.

2.—Throsby’s original track, about three-quarters of a mile south of Bulli Pass.