



Crime News

Bishopstone

1861

Destroying a Garden Fence

Swindon Police Court, Thursday, February 14

William Cockhead and **William Haines**, both of Bishopstone, were charged with destroying a garden fence the property of Mr. Painter, of Bishopstone. It appeared from the evidence that Mr. Painter's garden was somewhat higher than the road, and that the mound round it was supported by some large stones. These stones being situate at the spot where the idle lads of the village are in the habit of "whiling away" their Sunday afternoons great damage was occasionally done to Mr. Painter's garden fence. On Sunday last the two defendants were seen by the witness **Edward Dereham**, to remove two of these large stones, by which act the fence was allowed to fall down and damage to the extent of 12s. sustained.

Cockhead and Haines admitted being present when the mischief was done, but denied having taken any part in it; the Bench, however, thought differently, and ordered them to pay 16s. 6d. each, damages, and costs.

Swindon Advertiser and North Wilts Chronicle, 18 February 1861