



# *Crime and Punishment*

## *Bromham*

### *Stealing Potatoes*

A woman named Wheatley of Seend, was charged with stealing a peck of potatoes from the allotment ground at Bromham, the property of Robert Carpenter. It appeared that on the previous Tuesday morning, a man named Powney was working in the field, when he saw two women go to Carpenter's potato pit, stoop down and take something out, with which they walked away. Information was immediately given to Carpenter, and to Inspector Emery, and on examining the pit it was found that about a peck of potatoes had been taken away. Upon this the Inspector went to the woman's house at Seend, and charged her with having taken potatoes from Carpenter's pit. She stoutly denied having done anything of the kind, and finding no potatoes on her premises, the Inspector made enquiries about the village, and thus ascertained that the woman had sold some potatoes to a Mrs Crisp, which upon being examined corresponded both as to sort and colour of soil with those in Carpenter's pit. A summons was thereupon taken out, and as Mrs Wheatley was unable today to give a satisfactory account of the way in which she became possessed of the potatoes, she was committed to prison for 14 days.

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