



Crime and Punishment

Devizes

Street Fighting

Devizes Borough Petty Sessions

Henry Ashley (Devizes) and Edward Staples (Seend) were charged with fighting on Saturday 22 November in New Park Street (Devizes). PC Garrett said he found the defendants fighting in New Park Street. Both were bleeding from the nose, and on inquiry he found that the row originated inside the White Hart Inn. Both men were then put out and renewed the fighting in the street. He induced Staples to go home and Ashley went into his house. When Staples got as far as Northgate Street he returned to see about a friend who, he said, had a horse and cart in the town. Witness followed him shortly afterwards, and on returning to New Park Street he found Staples there covered with blood and dirt. It appeared he had gone into the White Hart or else to Ashley's house and that the fighting had been renewed. An old man named King corroborated the Constable's evidence. Both men were bound in £10 each to keep the peace, and ordered to pay the costs amounting in the case of Ashley to 11s 9d and in that of Staples to 13s 9d.... [Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 4 December 1890](#)