

Crime and Punishment

Dinton



HINDON

At the petty sessions, on Wednesday, before Mr R. Graves, Mr A.R. Graves, Mr J. Locke, and Mr V.F. Benett-Stanford, George John Simmons, grocer, of Teffont Magna, was summoned for cruelly beating a donkey, at Dinton, on the 4th ult. Mr G. Chitty, of Shaftesbury, appeared for defendant. James Wright said on the day in question he saw the defendant beating the donkey with a large stick at Dinton. Simmons was then in the cart, but he got out of it and beat the donkey cruelly, till it fell down. The defendant's cruelty was the talk of the parish, and a day or two afterwards witness informed the police that he had never before seen such cruel treatment. Edward Wild, another witness, said he also saw the defendant beating the donkey with a large stick for 200 yards along the road, till it fell into the ditch. The Bench said they looked upon this as a very gross case of cruelty, and, taking into consideration the position of the defendant, they thought they should not be doing justice if they did not fine hi, the full penalty. They therefore mulcted him in the sum of 5 £. and costs.

(Salisbury and Winchester Journal, Saturday 6th March, 1869)