

Durrington In The News

Wholesale Sheep-stealing

The following are the circumstances which led to the apprehension of Robert Allen, whose escape from custody was noticed last week:- A day or two before Appleshaw Fair, in November last, 20 sheep, the property of Mr Glass, jun., of Worton, near Devizes, were stolen from one of his father's fields. From information which Mr Glass obtained about a month afterwards, Mr Robert Allen, an extensive sheep-dealer, living at Poulshot, in that county, was apprehended on suspicion of having stolen them; but the Magistrates before whom he was examined at Devizes, having some doubt of his guilt, admitted him to bail. Subsequent circumstances, however, induced the Magistrates to have him apprehended a second time, and he was on Friday fully committed to take his trial at the next Assize. It appears that these sheep were, with a number of others, driven past Mr Glass's house, in *broad day*, to Durrington, and there re-marked, and on the following day taken to Appleshaw fair, and sold, together with 41 others, to a Mr Skinner, a highly respectable dealer at West Smithfield, London. Mr S. afterwards took the sheep to Kingston fair, and sold them to a Mr Lewington, of Chertsey, in whose possession they were found by Mr Glass, a few days ago, and easily identified.

(Salisbury and Winchester Journal, Monday 20th January, 1834)