



Steeped Barley

## Excise Evasion Case

An excise case was heard on Friday last at Devizes, before T. Scott Esq., and Ernie Warriner, Esq., two of our county Magistrates, in which Mr. Robert Saunders, of Great Wishford, was charged with concealing from the sight of the excise officers, 10 bushels of steeped barley, for the purpose of evading the duty.

The solicitor to the excise attended on behalf of the Crown, and Mr. Swayne, solicitor of Wilton, for the defendant. The fact the concealment was proved by two excise officers; and the defence was, that the carter had concealed it for the purpose of giving it to the horses. Notwithstanding some very able observations from Mr. Swayne, the Magistrates said they felt bound to convict; but, in consequence of this being the first offence, they mitigated the penalty from £200 to £50.

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