



Crime and Punishment

Homington

Homington, House Robbery

On Monday last, a man named James Crowter was brought up before Mr Pinckney, at the Magistrates' Clerk's Office, Salisbury, charged with stealing a pair of boots, some bacon, and piece of bread, the property of Thomas Street, of Homington. The prosecutor lives with his father, who on Saturday morning last got up and went to his work about half past four. His son's boots were then lying on the floor of the kitchen. The son got up about half past five and found the door open and his boots gone. He also missed two or three pieces of bread, and about half pound of bacon from the pantry. Information was forwarded to Mr Superintendent Matthews at Salisbury, who at once suspected the prisoner, and caused a description of him, as well as of the boots, to be circulated amongst the police of the division. The prisoner had only been discharged from gaol on the previous Thursday, having been sentenced to two terms of six weeks' imprisonment by the Hindon Bench for stealing the clothes of carters in the neighbourhood of Fyfield and Alvediston. About three o'clock in the afternoon, Police Constable Rolfe met the prisoner between Quidhampton and Bemerton and took him into custody. He was wearing Street's boots and a portion of the missing bread was also found in his possession. It appears that on leaving gaol he was detained by the police on suspicion of another robbery in the Hindon division, but as the property had not been recovered, he was discharged, Mr Matthews having given him plenty of food and 6d to help him on the way. He was committed for trial at the assizes.

Salisbury and Winchester Journal 16 February 1867

Crown Court before Lord Chief Baron Kelly

The first bill returned against James Crowter, who pleaded guilty to stealing a pair of boots and a small quantity of bread and bacon, the property of Thomas Street, of Homington. He was sentenced to two calendar months' hard labour

Western Gazette 29 March 1867 and Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette 28 March 1867