



Crime and Punishment

*Manningford
Bohune*

Isaac Macklin – Stealing Straw - 1848

COMMITTED TO MARLBOROUGH BRIDEWELL. ... Isaac Macklin, for trial, charged with stealing straw, the property of Simon Waite, at Manningford.

Reading Mercury and Berks County Paper – Saturday, 18 December 1847

OPC Note: Due to the unusually large number of people tried at the subsequent Wiltshire Quarter Sessions, and the minor nature of the crime, the local newspapers make no reference to the trial or sentence handed down to Isaac Macklin. However, the Criminal Register records that Isaac was found guilty of larceny on 4 January 1848 and sentenced to two months imprisonment. The following transcript of a newspaper report provides a statistical summary for the Wiltshire Quarter Sessions held in January 1848.

STATISTICS OF THE CALENDAR. At the Wilts Quarter Sessions lately held, the Calendar contained the names of 87 prisoners for trial, of whom 35 did not exceed the age of 20 years; 28 could neither read nor write; and 32 could only read, and 18 of those but imperfectly. At the period of the sessions, the jails held 109 prisoners who had been committed for a limited period; and, with the exception of 3, the whole number of those prisoners had been committed between the 1st Nov. and the 28th Dec. last, for the following offences: - Misconduct in workhouse, and for leaving family, 41; game laws, 27; fishing, 1; assault, 11; malicious injury, 12; want of sureties, 4; petty larceny, 7; vagrancy, 5; bastardy, 1. Of this number, 10 were females – viz. 7 for misconduct in workhouse, 2 for vagrancy, and 1 for leaving her child. The calendar also shews the number of convicted felons remaining on orders to be 71, of which 2 are under sentence of transportation for 14 years, 4 for 7 years, 4 under sentence of imprisonment for 2 years, 11 for 18 months, 3 for 15 months, 25 for 12 months, and 22 for various periods under one year.

Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette – Thursday, 13 January 1848
