



Crime Reports

Melksham 1850-1899

1861

The offences which have been reported to the police and the parties not apprehended are as follows:... Jonathan Payne, butcher, Melksham, states that he was robbed, with violence, near the New Inn, at Seend, on the night of the 10th of June. Not the least clue can be obtained to the guilty parties.

Salisbury and Winchester Journal Saturday 6 July 1861

1868

Melksham Disputed Piece Of Land The next case was between a brother and a sister, and the dispute over 30 perches of garden land. Mr. Goldney, (instructed by Mr. Keary, of Swindon) appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Eldin, (instructed by Mr. Rawlings), for defendant. It seems that John Spires, died in 1865, leaving some property to his son and daughter, Isaac Spires and Harriett Bigwood. The dispute was upon the wording of the will, and the land in dispute about 20 perches. The judge decided that the land belonged to the daughter. **Salisbury and Winchester Journal, Saturday, 10 October 1868**

1870

On the 12th instant, Mark Rogers, a sawyer, of Shaw Hill, was charged with stealing a bag containing four knives, a silver pencil case, and other articles, the property of John Seymour, of the White Hart, Melksham, on the 11th instant. The prisoner was committed for trial upon the above charge to the next Quarter Sessions. **Salisbury and Winchester Journal, 17 December 1870**

On the 10th inst. (before Mr R L Lopes), Thomas Neech, a hawker, was brought up by Inspector Luffman, under a warrant, charged with stealing an American clock, the property of Charles Butler, at Melksham, on the 17th of October last. The evidence was gone into, but as there appeared to be some doubt as to whether the clock was taken with a felonious intent, the prisoner received the benefit thereof, and the charge was dismissed. **Salisbury and Winchester Journal, 17 December 1870**

1874

Committed To The County Gaol, Devizes for the week ending July 7, 1874 For Trial. William Tucker, charged with indecently assaulting Mary Elizabeth Davis, at Melksham. **The Wiltshire Independent 9 July 1874**