



# Crime and Punishment

## *Minety*

### **Court Case**

### **Harry Hunt**

Harry Hunt, a travelling showman, was brought up in custody of PC Orchard charged with stealing a silver ring, value 2s, the property of Blanche Barrett, of Woodward's Farm, Minety, on the previous afternoon.

It appeared that the complainant, who was eight years old last birthday, left school on the previous afternoon with other children and was wearing a silver ring on her finger. They passed the prisoner on the road with two vans. Prisoner said, "Polly, give me that ring, will you?" Complainant said she must not give it away, and walked on towards home. Prisoner called after her again to give him the ring, and she again refused. The prisoner then told the children the vans were going into the public-house yard close by, and if complainant would give him the ring, he would let her into the show for nothing. Complainant pulled the ring off her finger, and held it in her right hand, so that the prisoner should not have it. The prisoner, it was alleged, went towards her, took her hand and opened it, and took the ring.

PC Orchard proved apprehending the prisoner, who denied stealing the ring. He said he did not think it was anything but a penny one, and complainant gave it to him to see the monkey show. He at once handed the ring from his waistcoat pocket.

The bench took a lenient view of the case, and fined the prisoner 12s 6d, including costs.

Western Daily Press 14 October 1881