



Crime and Punishment

Minety

Miscellaneous Crime Reports

1851

William Taylor. One month, for maliciously damaging a tree, the property of Robert Peacey of Minety, gentleman. [Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette 16 January 1851](#)

1855

Thomas Packer & William Packer, both butchers residing at Minety, were brought up in custody, charged with stealing a wether teg sheep, at Somerford Keynes, the property of Robert Barton. The Magistrates did not consider that the evidence was sufficient against William Packer, and he was discharged, but his brother was committed for trial. [Reading Mercury 10 March 1855](#)

William Vincent, for stealing a grubbing axe, the property of his master, Mr Taylor, of Minety, one month. [Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette 15 March 1855](#)

1856

James Read & David Timbrell, pleaded guilty to an indictment charging them with stealing a brass furnace, value 10s the property of Joseph Miles, at Minety, on the 26th of January. The former prisoner was also convicted of stealing a lead weight the property of Robert Bath of Minety. Read was sentenced to six months imprisonment, with hard labour. Timbrell was ordered to be imprisoned and kept to hard labour for four calendar months. [Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette 13 March 1856](#)

Elizabeth Barnes, for 21 days, for stealing a set of shirt studs, a pair of ear-rings, and other articles, the property of Alfred Jasper Westmacott, at Minety. [Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette 13 November 1856](#)

1857

James Burge. Not guilty of stealing a ring at Minety, the property of William Knapp. [Bristol Mercury 10 January 1857](#)

Sarah Ann Waldon. Twenty one days for stealing one pair of boots the property of Robert Bath, at Minety. [Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette 9 July 1857](#)

William Vincent. One month for assaulting Job Chappell, whilst in the execution of his office of police constable at Minety. [Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette 10 December 1857](#)

1858

James Packer. Six weeks for assaulting George Bennett, at Minety. [Wiltshire Independent 14 October 1858](#)

1859

James Messenger, of Minety, railway labourer, was convicted on the oath of PC Gerrish, of drunkenness, at Minety, on the 26th June last, and was fined 5s and costs. [Swindon Advertiser and North Wilts Chronicle 8 August 1859](#)

1860

William Hatton. One month for stealing a quantity of veal, the property of Henry Moore, at Minety. [Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette 14 June 1860](#)

Elizabeth and Sarah Telling, two gipsy girls, were brought up in custody of PC Waite, charged with stealing a hair net and necklace from a little girl named Hannah Matilda Jones, of Minety, at Ashton Keynes, on the 4th inst. It appeared, however, that the little girl, the prosecutrix, was very much frightened at the prisoners, and voluntarily parted with the article alleged to have been stolen. The prisoners were therefore committed to the House of Correction at Devizes for 14 days. [Swindon Advertiser and North Wilts Chronicle 16 July 1860](#)

Daniel and John Timbrell, Richard Hatton, Edwin Curtis, Jesse Read and Maurice Smart, all labourers of Minety, were summoned by PC Waite, charged with being drunk and disorderly at Minety, on Sunday, the 8th July last, and were fined £1 each and expenses, or 7 days imprisonment. [Swindon Advertiser and North Wilts Chronicle 13 August 1860](#)

Mr Charles Ody, farmer, appeared to a summons, charging him with assaulting Reuben Weeks, the landlord of the Red Lion Inn, at Minety, on 14th July last. The defendant, it appeared, was very tipsy at the time of committing the offence, but the assault being one of an aggravated nature the Bench inflicted a fine of £2 and expenses, which were both paid. [Swindon Advertiser and North Wilts Chronicle 13 August 1860](#)

John Freeth, a labourer in the employ of the Great Western Railway Company, at Minety, was also summoned by the complainant in the last case, charged with committing an assault on the 20th July last. The prisoner, who admitted that he was very drunk at the time, was fined 5s and expenses, or in default ordered to be committed to the House of Correction at Devizes for 14 days. [Swindon Advertiser and North Wilts Chronicle 13 August 1860](#)

Maurice Smart, of Minety, was brought up in custody charged with stealing, on the 13th instant, at the Union Railway Inn, New Swindon, a leather purse, one half-crown, a knife, a tobacco box, and a brass ticket, the property of Charles Selwood. Smart pleaded guilty to the charge, and was sentenced to one month's imprisonment. [Swindon Advertiser and North Wilts Chronicle 27 August 1860](#)

1861

Maurice Waldron, of Minety, was charged with setting snares for game, on Sunday, the 16th of October, and the following day, on land in the occupation of Mr Wm Wells of Cricklade. It being his first offence, he was fined 20s, to include costs, which he paid. [Reading Mercury 2 November 1861](#)

1862

John Connory, of Rethdrum, in the County of Wicklow, Ireland, was brought up in custody of PC Tibble, charged with committing an act of vagrancy, by wandering abroad and begging alms in the parish of Minety. The prisoner was ordered to be discharged, on promising to leave the neighbourhood. [Swindon Advertiser and Weekly Gazette 17 February 1862](#)

Eliza Hale, of Minety, was charged by Mr Day, of Chaddington Farm, with neglecting to enter his service, after having made an engagement to do so. Mr Day said he saw the defendant, Eliza Hale, at the late Wootton Bassett hiring fair, and he then engaged with her to enter his service as an assistant dairymaid, and he gave her a shilling to bind the bargain. She had, however, never entered upon her duties, nor returned the "earnest" money. In reply to the Bench, Mr Day said that no written agreement was signed either by him or the girl. The Bench said that, in the absence of any written agreement, they had no control over her unless she had entered the service. The case was therefore dismissed. [Swindon Advertiser and Weekly Gazette 2 June 1862](#)

1863

James Packer, of Minety, labourer, was summoned by John Freeth, of the same place, charged with assaulting complainant on the 25th May last. Defendant, who did not appear, was also charged with a similar offence, on the same day, on Mr Richard Wheeler, landlord of the New Red Lion. Both charges were fully established, and the defendant was ordered to pay a fine £1 and costs in each case, or in default 14 days' imprisonment. [Swindon Advertiser and Weekly Gazette 15 June 1863](#)

1864

James Curtis, of Minety, was summoned for fighting and drunkenness in the public street, at Minety. Fined 5s and costs. [Swindon Advertiser and Weekly Gazette 18 April 1864](#)

Thomas Cruse, a Hawker of cloth, was on Thursday brought up in custody of PC Hughes, charged with being drunk and riotous, on the previous day, at Minety. Fined 5s and costs. [Swindon Advertiser and Weekly Gazette 1 August 1864](#)

George Barnett, of Minety, thatcher, was summoned for assaulting Eleanor Pitt, and was fined 10s and costs. [Swindon Advertiser and Weekly Gazette 10 October 1864](#)

1865

Eliza Warren, of Little Hinton, servant to Mr Henry Manner, of Minety, farmer, was brought up with a warrant, for refusing to enter her service, after being hired at mop. She was ordered to enter her service forthwith, and pay the costs. [Swindon Advertiser and Weekly Gazette 25 April 1865](#)

James Messenger, late of Minety, was summoned for refusing to contribute to the support of his aged mother, Ann Messenger, now chargeable to the Parish of Minety. Defendant pleaded inability, arising from an expensive family and want of employment. The evidence was not sufficient, and no order was made by the Bench. [Swindon Advertiser and Weekly Gazette 11 September 1865](#)

Edward Price, David Packer, Alfred Wilmott and Percy Wilmott, boys of Minety, were summoned for damaging a fence, the property of Mr Brown, farmer. Mr Jones, solicitor, of Malmesbury, prosecuted. The alleged damage arose from the boys collecting acorns. Fined 3d each and costs. [Swindon Advertiser and Weekly Gazette 6 November 1865](#)

Edwin Kambury, coal agent, and **Henry Monday**, railway porter, were summoned for nutting and damaging underwood at Minety on the 27th August last, the property of Mrs Fitzgerald. James Messenger was called in the case but failed to prove that any damage had been done; it further transpired that an ill feeling existed between him and defendants. Case dismissed complainant paying expenses. [Swindon Advertiser and Weekly Gazette 11 December 1865](#)

1866

Enoch Tidmarsh, of Minety, was summoned for assaulting Maurice Price, of the same place, on the 6th March. Mr Chubb appeared for the defendant, but as both parties seemed to have had a fight a few nights previous, and there seemed to have been provocation on the part of the complainant, defendant was fined 6d and 7s costs. [Swindon Advertiser and Weekly Gazette 12 March 1866](#)

John Packer, of Minety, dealer, was charged by the police with moving two cows after sunset, on the 26th of April. The defendant was stopped by the policeman at Ashton Keynes, at nine o'clock in the evening. He had an order in proper form, and he now pleaded ignorance of the regulation prohibiting cattle being moved after sunset. Fined 9s to include costs. [Reading Mercury 12 May 1866](#)

William Reed, of Minety, was summoned by Mr Hill for allowing a horse to stray on the highway at Minety, on 26th May. Fined 1s and costs. [Swindon Advertiser and Weekly Gazette 11 June 1866](#)

John Brown, of Minety, was charged with allowing three horses to stray on the highway at Minety, on 17th May. Dismissed on payment of costs. [Swindon Advertiser and Weekly Gazette 11 June 1866](#)

Collins Skuse and William Tucker, of Minety, were both summoned for allowing a horse to stray on the highway. Each was fined 1s and 7s costs. [Swindon Advertiser and Weekly Gazette 8 October 1866](#)

Emanuel Curtis was summoned by Wm Smith of Minety, innkeeper, for an assault committed on complainant on the 27th Sept. last. Fined 5s and 7s expenses. [Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette 1 November 1866](#)

1867

John Smith alias Thomas Smith, (not present), was charged by Edward Sadler, with killing partridges out of season. Edward Sadler, of Minety, stated that on the 26th August he was at Swillborough, and heard a shot fired, about seven o'clock in the evening, and running to the spot together with a Mr Hiscocks, saw Smith in the act of picking up a partridge, one of three. Prisoner had shot them upon the ground. Prisoner was a sawyer. He (witness) was nearly half a mile off when he heard the shot. Prisoner was out of the footpath through the field. Mr Henry Hiscocks, farmer, of Minety, corroborated the evidence of the former witness. Prisoner had asked him to take the birds and say nothing about it. Fined £1 19s, including costs. [Swindon Advertiser and Weekly Gazette 11 November 1867](#)

1868

Lewington Howse and Mr Brain, farmer, of Minety, was summoned by Mr Hill, surveyor of Malmesbury Highways, for allowing his horse to stray on the bye roads of Minety. Mr Chubb appeared for Mr Hill, and cited several cases in support of the complainant. The magistrates fined the defendant 10s including costs. Mr Brain, of Minety, was likewise summoned for allowing his horse to depasture on the bye roads. This case was dismissed. [Wiltshire Independent 11 June 1868](#)

1869

George and Ann Davis, labourer, 36, and his wife, 24, were charged with breaking and entering the dwelling house of Joseph Binnell, at Minety, on 7th May, and stealing therefrom 1s 9d, pair of boots, a shirt, 2 loaves of bread, 1 lb cheese, tin canister of coffee, and numerous other effects. They both pleaded guilty. They were each sentenced to 6 months' hard labour. [Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette 1 July 1869](#)

James Curtis. One month for assaulting Mary Ann Timbrell, at Minety. [Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette 11 November 1869](#)

1870

William Vincent, of Minety, was brought up in custody, charged with an offence committed on the 5th October 1868, at Hankerton. On that date, prisoner, with others, went on lands belonging to the Earl of Suffolk, in pursuit of game, and not without result, for the next day they sold a lot of rabbits. The police saw the prisoner, and took from him four wires. The other men were convicted at the time the offence was committed, but Vincent absconded, and has since been living in Wales. A few days ago he again made his appearance in Minety, and a warrant for his apprehension was immediately issued. He was now fined £1 or in default 14 days. [Wiltshire Independent 14 April 1870](#)

T Clappen, of Minety, dealer, was charged with cruelly ill treating ten fowls, by confining them in such a manner as to subject the same to unnecessary pain and suffering. Mr E Hampton, of Cirencester, and Mr Garland, of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, prosecuted. From the evidence it appeared that the fowls were tied in couples and packed one upon the other in a hamper measuring only 18 inches by 10, and this was even smaller at bottom than top. The consequence was that one of the fowls was suffocated. Defendant said he was merely the carrier of the fowls, and he knew nothing more about them; but the Bench held that if it was so, he undertook the same with a knowledge of their being so packed, and fined him 15s, including costs. [Western Daily Press 26 October 1870](#)

1872

Solomon Hiller, who did not appear, was summoned for shooting a partridge at Minety. Fined £5 and costs, or three months' imprisonment. [Western Gazette 19 January 1872](#)

1873

John Godwin, Innkeeper, of Minety, was summoned by Mr Supt Woodman for keeping his house open during prohibited hours. Mr Jones appeared for the defendant, and asked for a remand, to enable him to obtain the attendance of witnesses. He stated that two dealers were in the house, and alleged that they were not there for the purpose of drinking, but of dealing. He said that one was Mr Brown, of Minety, the other Mr Philip Whale, of Brinkworth, and he proposed to call both these persons as witnesses. Mr Woodman objected to a remand, as he was ready to prove the case. The Bench thought the ends of justice could be met by an adjournment, which was therefore granted. [Western Daily Press 3 January 1873](#)

John Collar, of Minety, labourer, was charged with cutting, wounding, and kicking his wife at Minety the previous night. Remanded till Saturday. [Western Daily Press 1 August 1873](#)

Charles Greenslade, of Minety, was charged with being drunk and incapable. Defendant appeared in court so drunk that the bench fined him £1 for the former offence, and ordered him to be kept at the lock-up for the night. [Western Daily Press 5 September 1873](#)

W Packer, of Minety, charged with allowing his horse to stray, was fined 12s, including costs. [Western Daily Press 5 September 1873](#)

1874

Joshua Brown, of Minety, was summoned for being drunk and riotous at Minety. PC Orchard proved the case. Fined 5s and 12s 6d costs. [Western Daily Press 6 February 1874](#)