



Assault, Robbery and Livestock Theft

Salisbury Assizes Thursday

Salisbury Assizes. Robert Milsom and Joseph Suddery were placed at the bar, charged with having robbed John Sidney of two shillings and two sixpences, at Bradford, on the 30th of last August. The robbery was committed under very aggravated circumstances, the prosecutor having been desperately assaulted, by the prisoners, who kicked him about the head, drew a knife upon him, passed it across his throat, and cut his neckerchief through. The prosecutor was reduced to a state of insensibility, and continued in that condition for two hours.

The prosecutor swore positively as to the identity of the prisoners, and the Jury found them both Guilty.

Joseph Suddery was then indicted, with James Fisher and George Radford, for stealing a lamb, the property of Thomas Sweetland, at Monkton Farleigh. They were also indicted for killing a lamb, with intent to steal the carcass. John Sidney (the prosecutor in the last case) deposed that on the morning of the 22nd August last, he was awakened by a dog, and on going down stairs, and opening the door, he heard a man walking in the field. He then went into a field, where there were two calves and a lamb, and saw three men, who had the lamb down. The prisoners at the bar are those men. Suddery had a woman's gown on. Witness went up to them, and Suddery hit at him with a stick, but missed the blow, and was then knocked down by witness, who was immediately felled to the ground by Radford with a

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large stake. They went away a yard or two, when Fisher said, "That is the chap that told of my father; let's go back and give him one, or else he'll tell of us." Radford and Fisher then came back, and Radford struck witness again, while Fisher stood over him with a knife in his hand covered with blood. He stooped down, and drew the knife across in the direction of the witness's neck, but only cut the collar of his waistcoat, in consequence of his making an effort to defend himself. The prisoners then went away, leaving him on the ground.

Verdict, Guilty.

His Lordship having directed Milsom to be placed at the bar with the other prisoners, ordered Judgement of Death to be recorded against them all, observing, that he hardly knew whether he should be justified in recommending them to the merciful consideration of his Majesty, and intimating, at all events, that they would be sent out of the country for life.

Salisbury and Winchester Journal, 14 March 1831

OPC Note:

Robert Milson was transported to Van Diemen's Land on the "William Glen Anderson", 31 May 1831.

Joseph Suddery was transported on "Lord William Bentinck" to Van Diemen's Land, 28 April 1832, arrived 28 August 1832.

James Fisher was transported to Van Diemen's Land on the "William Glen Anderson", 31 May 1831.

George Radford was transported, to New South Wales, on the "Portland" 19 November 1831, arrived 26 March 1832.