



Poaching Charges

Wilts. Assizes. Before Mr. Justice Erle.

William Bradfield and John Boulter were indicted for having unlawfully entered a certain cover called the Ash Bed, on the night of the 8th of November, for the purpose of destroying game, on the property of Mr. Wade Browne.

Mr. Greaves conducted the case for the prosecution, and Mr. Slade defended the prisoners.

About 8 o'clock on the night of Saturday, the 8th of November, Adams and Hampton, Mr. Browne's gamekeepers, were in the grounds at Monkton Farleigh. They heard shots in the Ash Bed, which was a pheasant preserve. They perceived three men, of whom the prisoners were two; the other man was a person of the name of Ricketts. Upon seeing the keepers the men ran away, but they were followed and overtaken. A gun was found on Ricketts, which upon examination, was found to have been but recently discharged. They searched the men, but not finding any game upon them, they did not detain them.

Ricketts then said to the others, '----- your eyes, come and let's stick to them.' They then all returned and attacked Adams, who then drew his sword and cut Bradfield, but the keepers were severely beaten by Ricketts and Bradfield.

The jury found the prisoners Guilty.

Boulter was sentenced to six months', and Bradfield to 12 months' imprisonment."

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