



Crime and Punishment

Seend

1851

Sentenced to six months... William Gale, for stealing a goose at Rowde, and for stealing 7 rabbits at Seend a further period of 6 months. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 10 July 1851**

1852

Roger Gum for stealing some hay at Seend – one month. **Salisbury and Winchester Journal Saturday 3 July 1852**

1854

Committed for trial to the New Prison Devizes --- George Watts, charged with stealing two loaves of bread from the bakehouse of Richard Tucker, his property, at Seend. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 30 March 1854**

Committed for trial at the New Prison, Devizes. --- John Webb, charged with stealing a pewter cup and a leather strap, the property of John White, at the chapelry of Seend. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 1 June 1854**

Committed for trial at the New Prison Devizes, Thomas Brown, charged with stealing one silk pocket handkerchief the property of Thomas Wiltshire, at the Chapelry of Seend. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 22 June 1854**

Sentenced to three months - John Webb, stealing a pewter quart &c. at Seend. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 6 July 1854**

1857

Committed to the New Prison Devizes. - John Jones for six weeks for leaving his family chargeable to the chapelry of Seend. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 29 January 1857**

Charles Shepherd for stealing a rope, value 15s, the property of Michael Marks at Seend – three months' hard labour. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 9 April 1857**

We understand that the cloths stolen from Mr Robbins' wharf, at Honey Street (as stated in our last...) have since been found in the possession of a beerhouse keeper at Seend, who, together with two other men in his employ, have since been apprehended, and are now in custody charged with receiving the same, knowing them to have been stolen. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 4 June 1857**

1858

For re-examination. Robert Green, charged with unlawfully attempting to commit a larceny at Seend.

Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 21 January 1958

1863

Devizes County Court. --- Isaac Burden v George King:- The point in dispute between these parties (who came from Seend), arose out of the sale of a yearling, which plaintiff alleged he had sold to defendant for 5 10s, but which the defendant stated he had bought for £5. The case occupied a very long time, and caused a deal of trouble to the Judge, who took great pains to elicit the real facts. Eventually judgment was given for the plaintiff. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 16 July 1863**

1864

Committed to the New Prison, Devizes. --- Jacob Oram, for fourteen days, for stealing a quantity of pears, the property of John Harris, at Seend. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 27 October 1864**

1865

John Ovens and Noah Hayward, labourers, at Seend Iron Works were charged with stealing seven eggs, the property of Wadham Locke, esq of Seend. They confessed their error, and, after a reprimand from the Bench, were discharged. **Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette Thursday 30 March 1865**

Two bargemen, Stephen Richens and William Shaw, were charged with stealing a quantity of bacon from the premises of John Breach, innkeeper and grocer of Seend. The bacon was missed between Sunday night and Monday morning, and was traced by PC Leversuch to a cupboard in the cabin of a barge. The prisoners had walked as far as Bathampton. Richens was sentenced to three months' imprisonment with hard labour after the first 14 days, and Shaw was discharged. **Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette Thursday 18 May 1865**

1866

Devizes County Court on Monday last. --- George Tayler Sainsbury v George Gum (a farmer at Seend). - To recover £4 2s for tiles. - Ordered to pay the whole on Tuesday month. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 15 March 1866**

Adam Wragg v Emma Robbins. --- The plaintiff in this case is the owner of Seend Wharf, the defendant a well-dressed good looking young woman, who appeared to treat the whole affair with the greatest sang froid. The debt was 19s for coal; and upon being asked how she could pay it? Miss Robbins flippantly replied, "No at all! I have nothing coming in; I have one child to keep; and I can't pay it out of nothing!" An order was however made upon her for 4s a month. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 13 December 1866**

1867

Seend stealing iron. --- At the Melksham petty sessions, a young man named Charles Rawlings was charged with stealing an iron arm and a steel screw from the smithy of Robert Stiles. The property was afterwards found in the shop of Robert Cook, a neighbouring blacksmith, who had taken the articles in lieu of money for repairing a gun for the prisoner. Rawlings was sentenced to a month's imprisonment, and Cook was reprimanded for receiving property which he might have known had not been honestly come by. **Salisbury and Winchester Journal Saturday 2 March 1867**

John Collings, bailiff for Mr Hooper of Littleton, and a drover named William Hillier (of Seend), were charged by Superintendent Wolfe with unlawfully removing a bull on the 2nd Sept. The Bench however, after hearing the evidence, did not consider that there had been any intention to evade the law, and after cautioning the defendants as to their future conduct let them off upon payment of the costs (3s 6d). **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 12 September 1867**

1868

Quarter Sessions: Thomas Perry was found guilty of having stolen six pecks of barley, value 7s the property of Job Barnes at Seend on the 24th December and was sentenced to three months imprisonment with hard labour. **Western Gazette Friday 10 January 1868**

Committed to prison at Devizes for re-examination: Adam Freeme charged with stealing sixteen brass taps, the property of the Wilts Iron Company, at Seend. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 19 March 1868**

Committed to prison at Devizes for re-examination: John Hart charged with stealing two rabbits, the property of Emma Gough at Seend. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 31 December 1868**

1869

At the petty sessions last week, before Messrs R L Lopes, H G Awdry and G P Fuller; John Hart of Seend pleaded guilty to stealing several fowls and tame rabbits, and was sentenced to a month's imprisonment. **Salisbury and Winchester Journal Saturday 9 January 1869**

1870

William Thompson, a printer, pleaded guilty to a charge of having stolen a coat, pair of trousers, and a shawl, of the value of £3, the property of Thomas Weston, of Seend, on the 20th October last. He handed in a written statement pleading his penitence, and the Court, taking into consideration that there was nothing else known against him by the police, and that he had been in prison since October, ordered him to be further imprisoned, with hard labour, only for two months. **Salisbury and Winchester Journal Saturday 8 January 1870**

William Sims, 19 labourer, was charged with stealing 11 lead sash weights, value 14s. The property of Wadham Locke, esq at Seend, on 10th June 1870. The prisoner pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to three months imprisonment with hard labour. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 30 June 1870**

Wilts summer Assizes in the Crown Court --- Alfred Wiltshire, 16, labourer, was indicted for committing an abominable offence at Seend on 20th May. The jury found him guilty of an attempt, and his Lordship sentenced him to 12 months' imprisonment. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 21 July 1870**

John Derrick, footman, formerly of Seend, Wiltshire, was ordered to pay 2s per week for the maintenance of the illegitimate child of Mary Hurley, of Kingston Seymour, a young and interesting looking girl, who had been a fellow servant with the defendant at Seend. **Bristol Mercury Saturday 10 September 1870**

1871

Elizabeth Snozell of Seend was summoned for assaulting her mother-in-law, Ann Snozell an old woman 76 years of age on the 21st August, but after hearing the evidence the Bench dismissed the case, whereupon the old lady said "I must have protection, and the half-crown that I paid for the summons as well". **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 31 August 1871**

1872

Melksham Petty Sessions. Friday. --- William Marsh, labourer of Seend, was charged with furiously driving a waggon with one horse through Melksham on the 15th December, and was convicted and fined £15 including costs. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 11 January 1872**

Charles Rawlings of Seend, who did not appear, was summoned for assaulting Mr David Shaw, manager at the Seend Furnace Iron works of the 22nd July. Mr Smith, jun, solicitor of Melksham appeared for complainant, and stated the nature of the assault and called Mr Shaw who proved it to have been most violent and unprovoked. The defendant was convicted and sentenced to six weeks' imprisonment with hard labour. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 8 August 1872**

Melksham Petty Sessions. Friday. --- Henry Hillier, ju, Seend, carpenter, was charged with stealing apples value 3d from an orchard at Seend, the property of Mr William Porter on the 1st Sept. The defendant was cleverly caught in the act by PC Wyall, who had to "go up a tree" for the purpose, and the defendant was convicted and fined 10s and 8s costs. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 3 October 1872**

1873

A cattle dealer named Whale of Seend, has been fined £50 by the Trowbridge magistrates for having cattle suffering with foot-and-mouth disease in his possession, and for moving them on to the highway. The animals were bought in the Bristol market. **Western Gazette Friday 17 January 1873**

1874

Committed to the County Gaol, Devizes. --- Thomas Hitchins, fourteen days for stealing the sum of one shilling and fourpence, the property of Joseph Taylor at Seend. **Wiltshire Independent Thursday 21 May 1874**

Seend. -- On Monday last that well known character, Peter Abbott was charged with lying in the road at Shurnhold, in his usual helpless state of drunkenness, on the previous morning at half-past one o'clock. PC Ruddle had to get a pair of trucks, as usual, who state that he was not drunk, but that his legs gave out. **Wiltshire Independent Thursday 21 May 1874**

1875

Swindon Police Court. --- William Dolman and John Dolman, bargemen on the Wilts and Berks Canal, were charged with stealing a tow line, the property of another bargeman named John Snowsell, of Seend. The prisoners were discharged. **Western Daily Press Saturday 19 June 1875**

1876

Bristol Police Court. --- Eliza Bailey was charged with attempting to commit suicide near Bedminster Bridge. On Tuesday the prisoner charged a boatman with assaulting and robbing her between Bath and Keynsham, and the case was sent before Mr Ireland, county magistrate, who having investigated the affair dismissed it. The woman returned to the city and was seen by PC 211 while in Clarence Road to try and jump into the water. She was then apprehended. In answer to the bench she said she was a native of Seend in Wiltshire. The bench remanded the prisoner for a week. **Western Daily Press Thursday 22 June 1876**

1883

Melksham Petty Sessions March 2nd. --- Ernest Barnes a young man of Seend was summoned for assaulting Ernest George Freeme on the 25th February. It appeared the complainant, a boy of nine or ten years of age, was with others in a field belonging to defendant's father driving the calves, and when spoken to he threw a stick at defendant and was insolent, when defendant admitted he gave him a "touse" on the head. - Case dismissed. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 8 March 1883**

Tewkesbury Borough Petty Sessions, Saturday. --- Robert Pullin of Seend, Wilts, was charged with being drunk and disorderly in Church Street on the preceding day. PC Trigg stated that defendant was making a great noise. He had a scythe in his hand, which he had to take from him, and witness received complaints that he had been running after children. Defendant said he had nothing but a shillings worth of ginger beer and some cakes at Ashchurch Station. Fined 2s 6d and 7s costs. **Gloucester Citizen Tuesday 14 August 1883**

1884

Wilts Quarter Sessions --- A bill against Albert Elles for an assault at Seend was thrown out. **Western Daily Press Thursday 3 July 1884**

1885

Long Ashton. --- A naval pensioner named Solomon Hillier aged 43 living at Seend, Wilts, was charged by P S Windmill with having stolen on the 1st inst a gold ring, value £3 the property of Mr Abraham Bragg, of the Bath Road Hotel, Totterdown.... He was bound in £10 to appear at the petty session on Friday. **Western Daily Press Tuesday 6 October 1885**

1886

William Gibson, 65, seaman, pleaded guilty to obtaining 10s from Emma Townsend at Seend, by a false pretence on the 8th March, and having been convicted before of a similar offence, was ordered to be imprisoned for twelve calendar months' hard labour. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 8 April 1886**

Israel Butler (Hartmoor) v James Trueman and Robert Sumner --- Trueman appeared but owing to a mistake in the name, the summons had not been served upon Sumner. The claim was for 9s for hauling three loads of wood. It appeared from the evidence that the defendants were commissioned by Mr Oliver Kimber, of Seend, to do some work in connection with the timber in question, and that the plaintiff was engaged by them to remove three loads. Trueman said he did not know what the agreement with the plaintiff was, but they had only paid 1s 6d a ton for hauling other wood, whereas the plaintiff had charged 3s for about half a ton. - The case was adjourned until July 12th to enable the summons to be served upon Sumner. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 10 June 1886**

Melksham Petty Sessions, Dec 3rd. --- Isaac Trueman, of Seend, was summoned by the excise for using a carriage on the 19th August last, without a license. Mr Ware, supervisor, prosecuted, and Mr Brereton, excise officer of Melksham gave evidence. - It appeared defendant took his wife and family in his light conveyance for which no license duty had been paid, to a flower show. - Fined 4s 6d including costs. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 9 December 1886**

1887

Melksham County Court. --- The bi-monthly sitting of this court was held on Saturday. Mr John Hayter, tailor, applied for the committal of Mr Frederick Boucher, gentleman of Seend, for disobedience of a judgment summons against him for non-payment of a tailor's bill of £5. As there was no tangible evidence of defendant's means, the Judge adjourned the application till next court. **Bristol Mercury Tuesday 5 April 1887**

Wilts Summer Assize. --- Rosanna Duckett, a hawker, was indicted for attempting to commit suicide by jumping into the canal at Seend, near Melksham. A verdict of not guilty was returned. **Wiltshire Daily Press Saturday 9 July 1887**

1888

Robert Robson, Arthur Jones and Sidney Brown were summoned for trespassing in pursuit of game at Seend, on the 8th ult, on land belonging to Mr W H Bell - Complainant proved the case himself, and the defendants were fined 10s each including costs. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 9 February 1888**

George Ovens was summoned for assaulting Caroline Bailey. The alleged offence took place on Whit-Monday at Seend Club. Complainant had previously unsuccessfully attempted to compel defendant to contribute towards the support of her child, and on meeting him in the club field she held up the child near his face, asking him to look at it, when he struck her with his hand. - A fine of 10s including costs was inflicted. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 7 June 1888**

Melksham Petty Sessions. Friday. --- George Ovens and Fred Taylor were summoned for a breach of the peace by fighting at Seend on the 1st June; and John Ovens was charged with inciting the men to a breach of the peace by saying "Go it, men, never mind the police" and other expressions. The two belligerents were bound over to keep the peace for six months and pay costs. John Ovens was ordered to pay costs only. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 12 July 1888**

1889

At the Bath City police court on Thursday Arthur Jones, of Seend, Wilts, was fined 5s and costs on a summons charging him with ill-treating a horse by working it in an unfit state on the 7th inst. John Jones, Seend, was also summoned for allowing the horse to be ill-treated by having it worked. The defendant admitted that the horse was lame, and pointing to his hand, to which he had an accident, he asked why he was not summoned for that? He had had "his poor old Tom" for some years and three years ago it met with an accident. Fined £1 and costs. The defendant, on leaving the court, said to the chairman, "I

am much obliged to you, gentleman; I hope I shan't be here no more; you're a nice gentleman, and I hope you'll go to heaven." **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 21 March 1889**

1889

William Irving, of Trowbridge, a militia recruit who had just completed his preliminary training, was charged with stealing a pair of boots, value 3s, the property of Herbert Cox, another recruit, of Seend, on June 29th.... Inspector Tyler stated that on examining the prisoner's bundle at the railway station he found a pair of boots, which the prosecutor identified as his. - The prisoner, who pleaded guilty, was fined £1 2s including costs. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 4 July 1889**

1890

Melksham Monthly Petty Sessions. At the Town Hall on Monday. --- Three youths named Jesse Bodman, Worthy Ludlow and Francis King were charged with having stolen four tame pigeons belonging to Mr William Porter, Seend Row, on the night of the 1st inst. It appeared from the evidence that although the prisoners had taken the birds away from the premises they afterwards let them go and they returned to their owner. Under these circumstances the prisoners were discharged. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 13 February 1890**

Melksham Petty Sessions June 6th. --- Eliza Pierce was summoned for assaulting Mary Harris on the 16th May. The parties live at Sell's Green, in the parish of Seend, and in one sense of the word are neighbours, having adjoining gardens, and the alleged assault was committed over a wire fence, through which the children of one of them were in the habit of trespassing. It was also incidentally mentioned that defendant had, just previous to the wrangle, taken a share of a pint of ale, which probably helped to make matters worse. The affair, however, was a very trumpery one, and the Bench dismissed the charge, ordering each party to pay her own costs. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 12 June 1890**

William Sartin of Seend, labourer, was charged with neglecting to comply with a bastardy order, obtained by Elizabeth Teagle (now Cousins) against him in September 1879, under which order there was £4 due. Prisoner who said he had no means was committed for six weeks. **Bristol Mercury Friday 17 October 1890**

1892

Melksham Police Court. Thursday before Mr H H Ludlow Bruges and Mr C Awdry. --- William Stevenson was brought up on a charge of stealing a scythe and hoe at Seend on Tuesday from the premises of Mr Breach, farmer. He was sent to gaol for two months. **Western Daily Press Saturday 10 September 1892**

1893

At Trowbridge, Arthur Henry Gore of Seend was fined £1 for travelling on the Great Western Railway without a ticket. **Taunton Courier and Western Advertiser Wednesday 11 October 1893**

William Escott boatman of Seend, Wilts, was summoned for permitting a horse to stray on the highway at Northstoke on the 20th July, and fined 10s to cover costs. **Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette**
Thursday 10 August 1893