



Stolen Hat

Devizes Borough Sessions, Friday. William Kemble was convicted of stealing a hat, the property of John Crouch on the 6th June. John Crouch, who is a miller and lives at Potterne, was employed on the 6th June last at the New Prison; he came back from dinner about two o'clock, and hung his hat on a nail inside the prison mill; about six o'clock, on going for it, it was missing; and hearing that the prisoner had been seen with it, he hurried after him and overtook him at the New Inn, Seend, on entering the Inn, he found the prisoner sitting down with the stolen hat on his head, who, on seeing him exclaimed, "well brother dost can you relieve a fellow on the road?". Witness immediately claimed his hat; when the prisoner said, "Take it, it is not worth much" and then asked forgiveness. 2 months imprisonment.

Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette, Thursday, 9 June 1836