



# *Crime and Punishment*

*Seend*

## *Trowbridge Highways Board post removed Illegally*

David Maundrell, Eli Pearce, George Earle Rawlings, Edward Cook, Edward Young and James Cook, all young men and lads of Seend, were charged upon the information of Mr Blandford, surveyor to the Trowbridge Highway Board, with unlawfully pulling up a post or spur, value 6d, fixed by the side of the road at Seend, on the night of the 8th January...

For some time past several depredations had been committed in this village....

Mr Shrapnell appeared for the defendants and complained of their having been taken from their beds by the police upon this charge, and he said the post pulled up stood so as to be a common nuisance to the public. The Chairman said that supposing it was a nuisance due notice should have been given of the intention to abate it and nine o'clock at night was not a proper time to pull it up if notice had been given.

The magistrates then retired and upon their return into the Court the Chairman said that the police were on the spot, and very properly so, for the purpose of detecting the parties who committed these depredations, and the defendants were caught pulling up this post, which was clearly an unlawful act. For which there must be some punishment inflicted. The defendants were then fined 5s each, with a caution as to their future conduct.

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