



Crime Reports

Stratford Sub Castle *1894*

Alleged “Drunken Spree”

At the Salisbury County Petty Sessions on Tuesday, before Mr. W. H. Mateham (in the chair) Colonel Everett, Mr. J. H. Jacob, and Lieutenant J. A. T. Powell. Frederick Beck and Henry Newbery, labourers of Stratford Sub Castle were summoned for unlawfully and maliciously breaking and throwing down part of a certain railway fence at Stratford Sub Castle; the property of Mr. F. Carey on February 8th, doing damage to the extent of 5s.

Defendants pleaded guilty. PC Holloway said from information received from Mr. Carey, he went to the defendant Newbery, who admitted pulling down the fence. Witness saw the fence in question and saw that 3 yards had been pulled down across the footpath. Further up the village witness found six gates had been taken off their hinges and one had been taken away. Newbery also admitted to witness to pulling the gates off and took him and showed him where they had thrown the missing one in the river. Interrogated by witness, Beck said it was a “drunken spree.”

Mr. Francis Carey, farmer of Stratford Sub Castle, said on Thursday morning the 8th, he saw that his gates had been unhung and that his fence had been willfully broken. When he took out the summons he might say he did not know the extent of the damage done, or he would have claimed £2.

When the policeman brought the defendants to him, they told him that they had had a “drop” of beer.

They were not in his employ.

Superintendent Stephens said that they had not been up before, but this kind of thing was often happening at Stratford Sub Castle and Mr. Carey was a great sufferer from it. It was not once, but many times it had occurred.

The Bench imposed a fine of 10s. and 10s. 6d. costs each, or in default 14 days, allowing a week in which to pay.

Salisbury Times, Friday, 16 February 1894