



## *Crime Reports*

### *Stratton St. Margaret 1850-1899*

1850 William PINNOCK, labourer, for stealing three fowls the property of Fanny Large of Stratton. 3 months. *Oxford Gazette* 23-02-1850.

- Joshua COTTRELL for misconduct in the Workhouse. One-month Devizes prison. *The Bath Chronicle* 07-03-1850
- Sophia Loveday of Stratton summoned by Mrs Ann SPARKMAN for assault. Each party to pay 2s. *Oxford Gazette* 01-06-1850.
- Ann HUMPHRIES for breaking 4 panes of Glass at the Workhouse. Six weeks Marlborough Gaol. *Oxford Gazette* 03-08-1850.
- Richard KEENE, beer-retailer for pound-breach. Fined 12s 6d. *Oxford Gazette* 3-8-1850
- Charles KEENE, labourer of Stratton, for stealing a silver watch and a hat, the property of Isaac CLARK of Baydon. *Oxford Gazette* 17-08-1850.
- Sarah SHELTON and Jane NEW stealing piece of linen from shop of Mr. Charles MORSE, draper of Stratton. *Oxford Gazette* 19-10-1850.
- Eliza COOK stealing a pair of boots the, the property of Joseph REEVES of Stratton. Six weeks Marlborough Gaol. *Oxford Gazette* 26-10-1850.

1851 Thomas JACOBS & Henry HARVEY misconduct at the Workhouse, 3 weeks hard labour. Devizes prison. *Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette* 30-01-1851.

- John DAWS misconduct at the Workhouse, 14 days hard labour Devizes prison. *Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette* 30-01-1851.
- Alfred GILES for assaulting and beating Thomas ELLIOT of Stratton. *Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette* 30-01-1851.
- William COOK for 3 weeks and Charles PINNOCK for 14 days in Devizes prison, misconduct in Workhouse. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette* 13-02-1851.
- Eliza MORSE for stealing quantity of flour the property of William HYDE at Stratton. 14 days solitude. *Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette* 13-02-1851.
- Jonathan KEMPSTER for leaving his horse and cart on a turnpike road unattended. *Oxford Gazette* 08-03-1851.
- Charles TANNER for stealing a pair of trousers. Two months Gaol. *Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette* 10-07-1851.
- Thomas DOGGETT for a felony at Stratton, Six weeks gaol. *The Salisbury & Winchester Journal* 18-10-1851.

1852 Mary JERRONE for leaving the service of Ralph WILKINS of Stratton, one-month Devizes gaol. *The Bath Chronicle* 01-01-1852

-Philip WILKINS pleaded guilty to stealing 2 fowls at Stratton, the property of Michael SMITH, Israel KEENE for receiving the same pleaded not guilty but was convicted and sentenced to 3 months, his companion was given four days only. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 11-03-1852.*

-Emily HUNT the wife of Job HUNT, of Stratton, labourer, was charged by Eliza LOVEDAY, of same place, with having assaulted her. The two women are neighbours, and their children having fallen out, was the cause of the pugilistic encounter between them. Both parties bound over to keep the peace. *The Salisbury & Winchester Journal 10-04-1852.*

-Joseph COLDING, shoemaker of Stratton, for stealing an umbrella from church door, while drunk, the property of Superintendent HAYES. Fined 5s and placed in stocks for 6 hours. *The Salisbury & Winchester Journal 15-05-1852.*

-George BOURTON for stealing some coal at Stratton. Two months gaol. *The Salisbury and Winchester Journal 03-07-1852.*

-Elizabeth SEYMOUR, beerhouse keeper of Stratton fined £1 for encouraging drinking, smoking and singing, at 2 o'clock in the morning. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 29-07-1852.*

1853 Martha GORDON for stealing, on 24<sup>th</sup> Dec 1852, an apron and pair of stockings, the property of Ann SELWOOD of Stratton. 2 months hard labour. *The Salisbury and Winchester Journal 12-03-1853.*

-Charles PEOPELL, for leaving the service of John Lea SMITH of Stratton, three weeks Devizes gaol. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 08-09-1853.*

-Elizabeth HINDER for stealing 5s the monies of Richard KEENE of Stratton. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 03-11-1853*

-James REEVES for stealing 2 coats and 4d, the property of Samuel JONES of the counting-house Stratton. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 17-11-1853*

1854 James THATCHER was fined £1 for assaulting P.C. Thatcher at Stratton. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 05-01-1854.*

-John WAKEFIELD was committed to 1-month hard labour for assaulting Sarah NEW at Stratton, and also bound over to keep the peace. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 05-01-1854*

-James REEVES for breaking into the dwelling house of Samuel JONES of Stratton and stealing coats and 4d. 4 months gaol. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 05-01-1854*

-Sarah NEW, 14 days for having assaulted John Wakefield at Stratton. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 23-02-1854*

-A Beer house keeper named KEENE was charged before the Swindon Branch of Magistrates, on Thursday last, with having permitted drunkenness and disorderly conduct in his house at Stratton, on the 26<sup>th</sup> March. - To support the charge, police-constable THATCHER thus swore: - On the night, when I heard a great shouting and bawling inside; on going in I found three men very drunk. They abused and assaulted me, and afterwards followed me out, still continuing to make use of very bad language. KEENE was present but said nothing, on the contrary, he laughed and appeared well pleased at what was going on. Mr. BROWN, who appeared on behalf of the defendant, cross-examined the witness - I undertake to swear a boy named BAKER was not there; Mrs. SMITH was nor there; on other persons but the landlord, landlady. And the three men I have named. I pulled out my watch outside of the house, I did not pull it out inside the house. The men were smoking and drinking. Mr. BROWN on behalf of the defendant, called Wm. BAKER who, in direct opposition, swore - I lodge at KEENE's beer house. I recollect the night the policeman came, the 26<sup>th</sup> of March; I was in the room. The three men were at supper: Mrs Smith was there. I was standing before the fire. Richard KEENE was not there; he went to bed at 8 o'clock. I pulled out my watch, and it was half-past nine, the policeman pulled out his and said it was half-past nine. Two of the men followed him out of the house, but they came back in ten minutes and finished their supper; the men were not drunk. In answer to a question from the bench, witness said that there was no noise or disturbance in the house before the policeman came in.- Ann SMITH corroborated BAKER's statement in every particular, and distinctly swore that the men were not drunk, and that there was no noise or disturbance in the house, and that KEENE was gone to bed when the policeman came in. On one side or the other, there must, we should suppose, be gross and deliberate perjury. It will admit of no explanation. Under the circumstances, the Magistrates dismissed the case. *Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette 04-05-1854*

-Henry BOWLES was committed to the Serssions, for disturbing a congtegation of Primitive Methodists, at Stratton. *Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette 18-05-1854.*

1855 Elizabeth TOWNSEND was charged on suspicion of having stolen a pair of leather slippers from the shop of Elizabeth KEENE of Stratton St Margaret. After a long investigation, the charges were dismissed. *Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette 25-01-1855*

-Edward JEEVES, was indicted by William LEWIS, for a nuisance over right of way at Stratton St. Margaret. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 15-03-1855.*

-Charlotte AUSTIN, for one-month Devizes Goal, for having assaulted and beat Elizabeth HARVEY, at Stratton St. Margaret. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 19-07-1855*

-Elizabeth NEW, for three weeks Devizes Gaol, for feloniously stealing a quantity of wheat in the straw, the property of Thomas ARKELL, at Stratton St. Margaret. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 20-09-1855*

-Four young women, Rose CARTER, Jane SAUNDERS, Ann EATWELL and Mary AVENALL, inmates at Union Workhouse, Stratton Sy Margaret, were charged by the master with misconducting themselves, and creating a disturbance in the Workhouse. Jane SAUNDERS was reprimanded and dismissed, and the others were sentenced 21 days' imprisonment with hard labour. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 22-11-1855.*

1856 Elizabeth Collier and Sarah ADAMS, for fourteen days each, for misconduct at Workhouse, *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 17-01-1856.*

-Rebecca HATHERALL, for one month, Devizes Gaol, for stealing two leather shoes the property of George DAY, of Stratton St. Margaret. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 17-01-1856*

-Burglary at Stratton St Margaret, On Monday night the dwelling-house of Mr. Horton was broken into, and the drawers of a bureau were ransacked; fortunately, one drawer which contained a large amount of money was locked and escaped being forced open. The Robert was evidently perpetrated by an inexperienced hand, and only a great coat and a few articles were stolen. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 07-02-1856.*

-W. WILLIAMS, a horse dealer, was charged by Mr. DAY of Stratton, with having rescued some horses from the road surveyor, which had been seized for impounding. The horses were injuring Mr. Day's fence, but as there appeared to be some doubt respecting the seizure, the Bench gave the defendant the benefit of the doubt, and dismissed the case, but cautioned him not to allow his horses for the future to stray along the sides of the road. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 12-06-1856.*

-Wm. BARRETT was charged with stealing hay, the property of Richard TILLEY and George TILLEY, of Stratton. The jury returned a verdict of guilty, and the prisoner was sentenced to 14 days imprisonment. The prisoner had already been 3 month in prison. *Reading Mercury 05-07-1856.*

-On Tuesday last the Bishop of Gloucester had a confirmation in the Parish church, Swindon. A number of girls from the Stratton workhouse were confirmed, their clean appearance and neat attire attracted much attention and were highly creditable to the Guardians and the master and matron of the establishment. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 23-10-1856.*

-Thomas RIVERS, a carter in the employ of Mr. S. JONES, Stratton, was sentenced to two months hard labour, for stealing some coal from a load which he had been sent to deliver to a customer. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 13-11-1856.*

-Jas. ALLEN was charged by the police with his house open on Sunday, for the sale of beer, at Stratton. Having been recently fined for a similar offence, the Bench imposed a penalty of £3 10s, to include costs. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 24-12-1856.*

1857 Henry EMBLING for forty-two days Devizes Goal, for stealing one cloth coat and one knife the property of Giles ANDREWS of Stratton. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 26-03-1857.*

-William BARRETT, for one-month Devizes Gaol, for rescuing cattle from the pound, at Stratton. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 04-06-1857*

-David RODERICK, for 21 days Devizes Gaol, for wilful damage in the Union Workhouse, at Stratton. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 04-06-1857*

-Reuben BEECHAY, farm servant, of Mr. Edward JEEVES, of Stratton, was brought up on a warrant, charging him with misconduct in his service in refusing properly to perform his work. Reprimanded, and ordered to pay 7s 6d costs, to be deducted from his wages. *Reading Mercury 5-9-1857.*

-Joseph REEVES, for stealing small quantities of pulse and barley-meal, the property of Mr. Thomas ARKELL of Stratton, 6 months' imprisonment. *Reading Mercury 31-10-1857.*

-William PINNOCK and Edward PAGE appeared to summon, charging them with being drunk and disorderly at Stratton, on the 5<sup>th</sup> Inst. They were fined 10s each and allowed a week for payment. *Reading Mercury 14-11-1857.*

-TENEMENT ACT – Thomas FISHER, of Stratton, applied for a warrant to recover possession of a cottage occupied by Thos. TITCOMBE, at South Marston. The warrant was accordingly granted. *Reading Mercury 14-11-1857.*

1858 William HASKINS, of Stratton, was charged by his master, Mr. Richard CLACK of the same place, shoemaker, with stealing 14s, his property. The case appeared very clear to the magistrate; the prisoner was committed to take his trial at the ensuing Sessions. *Reading Mercury 02-01-1858.*

-Elizabeth NEW, of Stratton, was summoned by her master Mr. William HORTON, of that place, farmer, for stealing a quantity of apples from his orchard: she was sentenced to six weeks hard labour at Devizes Gaol. *Reading Mercury 21-08-1858.*

-George TARRANT, of Stratton, was brought up, charged with indecent assault upon an infant child, three years of age. He was found guilty, but there being peculiar circumstance in the case, and the defendant receiving a good character, the Bench thought that they would be fully justified in migrating the penalty, and they fined him £3 14s, including costs, which he paid. *Reading Mercury 16-10-1858 & Swindon Advertiser 18-10-1858.*

1859 Maria SIMMONS, a filthy woman, for one month for vagrancy, at Stratton. *Swindon Advertiser 14-02-1858 & Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 17-02-1859.*

-Thomas MAJOR, for twenty-one days, for misconduct in the Union Workhouse, at Stratton. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 24-02-1859.*

-Solomon HALE was indicted for the manslaughter of James MINAL of Stratton. It appeared that prisoner went to Kingsdown Inn on 19<sup>th</sup> March. He was ejected from pub with two others, MINAL & BRETT (Minal's son-in-law). A fight started with Brett & Minal got involved, striking Hale, after a few minutes of fighting Minal fell to ground and died following day. Sentence – having already served eleven weeks and being badly beaten, judge gave him one day. *The Salisbury & Winchester Journal 23-7-1859*

1860 -Henry WAKEFIELD of Stratton, summoned for being drunk in charge of waggon and 3 horses. Fined £1 including costs. *Swindon Advertiser 05-03-1860.*

-Mary JOHNSON, dairymaid to Mr Thomas Kirby of Stratton for leaving her service while under contract. Ordered to return and have 8s 6d deducted from wages. *Swindon Advertiser 26-03-1860.*

Phineas BAKER an old and infirm man of Swindon charged with hawking without a licence. Committed to 14 days hard labour. *Swindon Advertiser 26-03-1860.*

-Joseph Henry LYTTEN, for stealing nineteen fleeces of wool, the property of Henry ELLENBOROUGH, at Stratton, was acquitted. *The Hampshire Advertiser 21-07-1860.*

-Elizabeth SEYMOUR, beerhouse-keeper for selling beer during prohibited hours on 8<sup>th</sup> July. Fined 40s including costs. *Swindon Advertiser 06-08-1860.*

-Job HUNT of Stratton St Margaret was charged with torturing and ill-treating a cat, the property of Charles Porter of New Swindon, on the 16<sup>th</sup> inst. A witness, Ann Head, said that on the afternoon of the 16<sup>th</sup>, as she was passing down the lane heading from the Red Cow beer-house to Mr Reynold's she saw the defendant with two dogs. The dogs were tearing something on the grass: the defendant stamped on it and then took it by its hind legs, when she discovered it to be Mr Porter's cat. Defendant positively denied seeing any cat, and said it was a hedgehog and not a cat that his dogs caught. The witness Ann Head was again recalled and, upon being questioned about its being a cat that she saw, said she had no doubt whatever about it she was not more than 10 yards off when Hunt held it up by its hind legs. Charles Porter said that on the 16<sup>th</sup> the cast was missed from the house and had not been seen since. Ordered to pay £1 and 11s costs. And in

default of payment to be committed for one month. Defendant, who became very abusive, said he would take the month. *Swindon Advertiser 27-08-1860.*

-Cornelius TROTMAN and Enos TARRANT, two young men of Stratton St Margaret, were charged with assaulting Edward BARNES, of the same place, at Stratton on the 11th inst. BARNES said – on the evening of the 11th, about a quarter past nine o'clock, I was going down street towards my home when James Hughes spoke to me and asked me to shake hands with him. I did so, and as I was standing talking to him Trotman and Tarrant came up to me and took hold of my person in an indecent manner and commenced pulling me about, one before and one behind me. They did me considerable injury and I was unable to attend to my work for five days. I have offered to make the matter up if the defendants would pay me 3s a day for the five days. Defendants denied the assault and said the charges had been trumped up for the purpose of extorting money. Complainant was in the habit of conducting himself in an indecent manner and, in common with others they had occasionally a game with him. It has been proved, to the satisfaction of the court, that the complainant had been guilty of indecent behaviour, the charge of assault was dismissed, and the complainant ordered to pay 7s costs. Trotman and Tarrant were bound over to be of good behaviour for six months and pay 3s 6d each costs. *Swindon Advertiser 27-08-1860.*

-William FARMER of Stratton was charged by Mr. Edward JEAVER, surveyor of highways, for rescuing a horse from his custody when on way to pound. 14 days hard labour. *Swindon Advertiser 24-09-1860.*

-George Taylor, for two months Devizes prison, for stealing a pair of trousers, the property of Edwin NEW at Stratton. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 20-12-1860.*

- 1861 -John ROBERTS, a wandering vagrant to Devizes Gaol for 12 days. *Swindon Advertiser 18-02-1861.*
- Thomas COX and wife with one child, were ordered to be removed from Stratton to Broughton Poggs, Oxon. *Swindon Advertiser 18-03-1861.*
- Charles WINKLESS was adjudged to be the father of the illegitimate child of Martha SPACKMAN and annual order made. *Swindon Advertiser 25-03-1861.*
- Edward BARNES charged with assaulting Maria BARNES on 13<sup>th</sup>. Fined £1 14s or 21 days in his absence. *Swindon Advertiser 29-04-1861.*
- Mary Ann JONES, a tramp committed to 21 days hard labour for begging in Stratton. *Swindon Advertiser 06-05-1861.*
- Charles WRIGHT, Richard BARTON & James SPARKS, for using nets in the Canal. Fined £5 10s, or 3-months prison. *Swindon Advertiser 17-06-1861.*
- William WARREN & Lovedon THORN of Stratton charged with assaulting James DIX, dix having complained that Warren had been bringing women to their shared bed, so he was unable to sleep. Dismissed. *Swindon Advertiser 29-07-1861.*
- John BISLEY of Stratton, adjudged to be the father of the bastard child of Eliza WILKINS of Wanborough. Ordered to pay 1s 6d per week maintenance. *Swindon Advertiser 29-07-1861.*
- Elisabeth FLIGHT of Swindon, widow, was brought up for unlawfully disposing of a dead body of a newly born female child at Stratton St Margaret. Being seen by Richard HUNT, Constable Barrett was called and followed back to the home, where he challenged the widow and she admitted disposing of the body for a third party. Remanded for one week. *Swindon Advertiser 21-10-1861.*
- George TOLSON, for two months Devizes prison, for leaving his family chargeable to the parish of Stratton. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 14-11-1861.*
- Three Stratton lads for stealing swedes the property of Henry Elborough. Boys given warning and case dismissed. *Swindon Advertiser 02-12-1861.*

1862 Isaac REASON, 14 days Devizes prison, for wilfully damaging a quantity of swede turnips, the property of George POCOCK of Stratton. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 09-01-1862.*

-Thomas SMITH, fourteen days Devizes prison for vagrancy at Stratton. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 23-01-1861.*

-Thomas GIBBS, six weeks Devizes prison, for wilfully damaging a quantity of grass, the property of George REYNOLDS, at Stratton. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 08-05-1862.*

-Caroline YEATES, Francis YEATES and Edwin SELWOOD, all of Stratton, were brought up in custody charged with releasing two horses after being seized by the hayward for the purpose of being impounded. John ILES said he was hayward of the parish, and had seized the horses, and ongoing to the pound the female knocked him down, and the others drove them away. The case was dismissed, as it was proved that complainant was drunk at the time, and the Magistrates asked if he was an ale taster as well as a hayward, as he was drunk then. *Reading Mercury 28-06-1862.*

-Christian BRITTON for assaulting Charles SMITH and his wife for abusing and assaulting other members of the family. After evidence, there appeared to be a dispute between neighbours, so defendants had to pay 12s 6d costs only. *Swindon Advertiser 21-07-1862.*

-Thomas GARRETT, for fourteen days in Devizes prison, for absconding from the Workhouse with a suit of the Union clothing, and a further twenty-one days for assaulting a police officer at Stratton. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 30-10-1862.*

1863 James DODD, for fourteen days Devizes prison, for assaulting Jane ADAMS, at Stratton. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 26-02-1863.*

-George RICKS to Devizes Prison, 6 weeks for stealing coal from Great Western Railway, Swindon. – *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 26-02-1863*

-Harriett GODWIN and Ann Farr, for three months each, and Fanny FORD for fourteen days in Devizes prison, for misconduct in the Workhouse at Stratton. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 12-03-1863.*

-William GREEN was fined 19s 2d including costs for 21 days for assaulting P C Hiscocks on 25<sup>th</sup> April. *Swindon Advertiser 11-05-1863.*

Richard MOSS, fishmonger, fruiterer, etc., surrendered to his bail with receiving a sovereign from Charles Andrews, boy of 6, for some nuts. Case dismissed but with reservations. *Swindon Advertiser 11-05-1863.*

-Hester LAURENCE, for six weeks Devizes prison, for maliciously breaking twenty-four panes of glass in the Union Workhouse at Stratton. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 02-07-1863*

-Job HUNT, for one-month Devizes gaol, for leaving his children chargeable to the parish of Stratton. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 03-12-1863.*

1864 Keziah TOLSON, for twenty-one days Devizes prison, for misconduct in the Workhouse at Stratton. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 24-03-1864.*

-Wm. Hyde was convicted of obtaining the sum of 1s 6d, under false pretences at Stratton, and sentenced to 3 months hard labour. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 31-03-1864.*

-Francis YEATES of Stratton, summoned by Mr. George Trout, beerhouse keeper of Swindon, for being drunk and refusing to leave on 11<sup>th</sup> April. Fined 17s 6d or 14 days. *Swindon Advertiser 25-04-1864.*

-Stephen Farmer, of Wantage, hawker, charged with robbery from the person of Joseph LOOKER of Stratton. Committed for trial. *Swindon Advertiser 23-05-1864.*

-George BRIND was charged with stealing three pieces of wool from his master Mr. JEAVER. As wool had been found behind a shared bed the case was dropped. *Swindon Advertiser 30-04-1864.*

-Alfred CLACK of Filkins for obtaining a Great Coat in false pretences from Mrs. STROUD of Stratton. Case adjourned. *Swindon Advertiser 30-04-1864.* At the trial he was given 21 days' hard labour. *Swindon Advertiser 06-06-1864.*

-John HUNT, charged by William COLLETT, farmer with misconduct in service. Ordered to return to work and pay 4s 6d costs. *Swindon Advertiser 20-06-1864.*

-Elizabeth PINCOCK charged by William LOVEDAY with assaulting him on the 11<sup>th</sup>. Fined 1s and 9s costs. *Swindon Advertiser 20-06-1864.*

-John NEW, with charged with violently assaulting Joseph WEEKS on 23<sup>rd</sup> last outside a Stratton pub. Committed for 21 days and £5 surety. *Swindon Advertiser 01-08-1864.*

-James HATHERELL a boy of 8, charged with setting fire to a hedge the property of Mr ELBOROUGH of Stratton. Case adjourned for further enquires. *Swindon Advertiser 15-08-1864.*

- James DIX was charged by Frederick CLACK with assaulting him at Stratton August, last year, DIX having to be brought up on warrant. Fined £1 and 14s costs or 7 days hard labour. *Swindon Advertiser 15-08-1864.*
- James ATHERILL, for one-month Devizes Gaol, for wilfully damaging a growing hedge, the property of Henry ELLBOROUGH of Stratton. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 25-8-1864.*
- Job STALLARD of Rodbourne Cheney was adjudged as father of illegitimate child of Maria PULLEN of Stratton, ordered to pay 1s 6d per week. *Swindon Advertiser 03-10-1864.*
- George YEATES was charged with being father of illegitimate child of Fanny ADAMS of Stratton, usual order was made. *Swindon Advertiser 28-11-1864.*
- Charles MORSE, for one month, for destroying game at Stratton. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 15-12-1864.*

1865 -George Cox a tramp of Guildford brought up for assaulting P.C. Hiscocks, while demanding overnight accommodation. Released on promising to leave town immediately. *Swindon Advertiser 27-02-1865.*

-Joseph BOULTON for fourteen days, for assaulting Betsy RICHARDS at Stratton. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 11-05-1865.*

-Richard MORSE, for allowing his horses to graze by side of road on 1<sup>st</sup> October. Dismissed. *Swindon Advertiser 16-10-1865.*

1866 -Thomas ARKELL, of Penhill for removing cattle contrary to a court order. Dismissed on a technicality. *Swindon Advertiser 29-01-1866.*

-John LUSCOMBE and James ADAMS pleaded guilty to stealing a pair of reins, the property of John GRAY of Stratton, also to stealing four ducks, the property of William CROSS, of the same place. They were sentenced to three calendar months' imprisonment with hard labour. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 04-01-1866.*

-Henry CHESTERMAN, for fourteen days, for leaving his service without his master's consent at Stratton. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 24-05-1866.*

-Thomas CRIPPS, charged with assaulting George THOMAS at The King of Prussia Inn, Swindon. Fined 1s and costs. *Swindon Advertiser 04-06-1866.*

-Jane & Fanny LEWIS, both with infants in arms, summoned for stealing swede greens, property of Henry TUCKEY. Fined 7s. Sarah KIRBY for same offence could not pay so given 7 days prison. *Swindon Advertiser 04-06-1866.*

-John MILES for being drunk & disorderly on Tuesday last. Fined 10s including costs. *Swindon Advertiser 02-07-1866.*

Eliza LAY & Elizabeth LAY, mother & daughter were charged with the assault of Ann GEORGE, wife of John GEORGE of Stratton. Mother fined £1 including costs, daughter discharged but told to keep out of trouble. *Swindon Advertiser 27-08-1866.*

-John RICHENS, for seven days, for being drunk and riotous at Stratton. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 04-10-1866.*

-William MILLS, for six weeks, for poaching at Stratton. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 08-11-1866*

-Mr. Benjamin Garrett, dealer of Stratton, was charged with removing a cow without an order under the Plague Act. He had bought a cow from Mr. Page, but the cow was found to be sick, he attempted to return the cow, but it was not accepted, he then turned the cow loose and the police had to put it into Mr Edwards field. Fined 4s & 14s costs plus 12s costs to Mr. Smith for the cow's keep until removed legally. *Swindon Advertiser 12-11-1866.*

-John WAKEFIELD for assaulting Ellen GREGORY on 4<sup>th</sup> September. Remanded due to Ellen being ill. *Swindon Advertiser 03-12-1866.*

1867 Charges under The Factories Act – Mt. Thomas TURNER, a brick and tile maker of Stratton, was summoned before Swindon Magistrates, charged with failing to produce register of employees for inspector. Requirements had been explained last May, and he had been warned since. Fined £5 and costs. Also fined costs on 5 other charges. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 24-01-1867.*

-James DODD, for one month, for misconduct in the Workhouse. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 07-03-1867.*

-Ann FARR was indicted for killing her infant child Jane FARR at Stratton. The child was born in the Workhouse April last year. They were admitted in Early January, the child appearing sleepy and heavy, the

mother was asked if the child had received a blow to the head but got no response. On 15<sup>th</sup> January, the nurse heard the prisoner slapping the child. The Guardians they tried to take the child, but she grabbed the child by the throat and died shortly afterwards. Sentence – Penal servitude for life. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 28-03-1867*

-Mary JENNINGS summoned Robert Albion KING for assault at Stratton, defendant ordered to enter into his own recognizance. *Swindon Advertiser 06-04-1868*.

-John BARRETT, for six weeks, for misconduct at the Workhouse. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 18-04-1867*. Joseph SELWOOD charged with assaulting Ann GEORGE at Stratton. Fined 2s and 8s costs. *Swindon Advertiser 22-04-1867*.

-Thomas GIBBS, gardener, pleaded guilty to charge of being in such a position as not to have proper control over a horse of which he was the owner and driver, on the highway at Shrivenham. He was fined £1, and 15s 6d costs. *Reading Mercury 04-05-1867*.

A 50-year-old labourer was jailed for having danced on, and urinated on, the coffin of a woman who had once failed to supply him with enough beer? Thomas WATKINS, of Stratton St. Margaret, a married man with a family, had been employed to sink a well at the house built for the widow of brewer Richard White. Occasionally she gave him some ale to slake his thirst while digging, but the quantity didn't come up to his expectations and he began demanding more. He swore at her and threatened that one day he would get his revenge by dancing on her coffin. After she died two years later, he was seen lurking about St. Margaret's churchyard and when her coffin was left in an open vault as vergers sheltered from heavy rain, he carried out his threat. He was given a six-month prison sentence, the first 14 days in solitary confinement, and the rest doing hard labour. *Swindon Advertiser*.

-John MORGAN and James WOOD, for one month each, for stealing a jacket, the property of Richard WOOLFORD at Stratton. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 09-05-1867*.

-Martha RICHENS summoned for assdaulting Sarah GREEN at Stratton on the 12<sup>th</sup>. Fined 1s and costs. *Swindon Advertiser 24-06-1867*.

-George LINKHORN of Stratton, charged by Emma KEENE as being father of her illegitimate son. Ordered to pay 1s 6d per week. *Swindon Advertiser 24-06-1867*.

-William MONK of Stratton summoned by Mary STROUD as mother of her child. Ordered to pay 1s 6d but when he souted 'Make it half a crown', court changed it to 2s 6d. *Swindon Advertiser 29-07-1867*.

-Thomas WATKINS summoned by William SEYMOUR for outstanding rent & possession of cottage. As Watkins did not appear he was ordered to pay 19s 6d and release cottage by Saturday next. Also, James birch BY Daniel TROTMAN for non payment of rent & possession, ordered to pay back rent of £3 4s at 8s per month and to leave house by Saturday fortnight. *Swindon Advertiser 12-08-1867*.

-Charles KEENE was indicted for stealing 40lbs of tobacco, the property of the GWR. 8lbs had been sold to Mrs. DeBanks, innkeeper for 4s. Given 6 months prison & Mrs DeBanks a warning. *Swindon Advertiser 21-10-1867*.

Charles BOOKER, labourer of Stratton. Charged with wilfully damasing a new building the property of Mr. Habgood, several bricks had been removed, two gates broken from hinges, value 10s, while he was drunk. One months prison and 15s costs. *Swindon Advertiser 25-11-1867*.

-James ILES, twenty-one days for leaving his master's service without consent at Stratton. *Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette 19-12-1867*.

1868 -Charles TURNER of Stratton was charged by Mr. Bird, district surveyor with allowing his horse to stray on the highway on 10<sup>th</sup> June. Fined 5s and 7s costs. *Swindon Advertiser 22-06-1868*

-Henry SPACKMAN was charged by Mr. JEAVER, of Stratton, farmer, with absconding from his service. As it was second time the was committed for one month. *Swindon Advertiser 22-06-1868*

-Charles PAYNE was summoned by Mr. KIRBY, of Stratton, farmer, for failing to complete his haymasking duties, he was hired at 11s per week, but left after first wee. Told to find surities or 1 months gaol. *Swindon Advertiser 22-06-1868*

-Charles MORSE for assault on Martha RICHENS. Morse was father of her illegitimate child and had been paying 2s 6d, but had stopped. Richens had gone round to collect money and when he refused she threatened him with a sythe. An argument started and Morse managed to get the sythe without injury, he then



started swearing and hitting her. As the attack was after the sythe had been taken he was sent to gaol for 1 month. *Swindon Advertiser 22-06-1868*

-Elizabeth LOVEDAY, 18, charged with stealing £1 1s 6d, the property of her master, Mr Charles BOWKER, of Stratton, by collecting a debt from Mrs. Jennings and not returning to the shop. Pled guilty and given one month's hard labour. *Swindon Advertiser 05-10-1868*.

1869 -Edwin STONE, of Stratton, butcher, was adjudged the father of the illegitimate child of Ellen HALLARD, of Shellingford, and an order was made for payment of 1s 6d per week. *Jackson's Oxford Journal 04-04-1869*.

1870 -Joseph GERRING and John PUSEY, both of Stratton, carters, were charged with not having proper control over their horses, at Shrivenham, and were each fined 17s 6d, including costs. *Jackson's Oxford Journal 06-08-1870*.

1871 -John LANE of Stratton, labourer, was fined £1, including costs, for being disorderly at the Victoria Tavern, Shrivenham, and refusing to quit the house when requested. *Jackson's Oxford Journal 14-01-1871*.

-A dark gypsy woman who goes by the name of Lavinia SMITH, was apprehended under the Vagrancy Act, for telling fortunes and fraudulently obtaining a half-sovereign from the wife of Henry HOWLEY, a carter in the employ of Mr ARCHER, of Stratton. The prisoner was sentenced to two months imprisonment. *The Western Daily Press 22-05-1871*.

-Charles GIBBS of Stratton, was charged with furious driving. Mr. W. FOOTE and Mr. HAWKINS proved the case. Fined 2s 6d and costs. *The Western Daily Press 23-06-1871*.

-Ambrose LOVEDAY of Stratton, was charged with assaulting his wife, Ann LOVEDAY, on the 24<sup>th</sup> July. He was bound over to keep the peace for six months. *The Western Daily Press 28-07-1871*.

1872 Johnathon TUCKER was charged with neglecting to enter the services of Mr. Edward REEVES, farmer, of Stratton. On the first of April, TUCKER was hired as a cowman, for one year at 10s per week. He did not enter his service, however, but took another service as 1s per week more money. The bench ordered defendant to enter his service with complainant, and pay 9s 6d costs, including 5s compensation to Mr. REEVES. *The Western Daily Press 11-05-1872*.

-William HILLYER, alias DUNN, a boy of about 14 years, was charged with assaulting Diana HANCOCK of Stratton, on the 22<sup>nd</sup> inst. Committed for seven days, in default of paying 1d and 11s costs. *The Western Daily Press 28-06-1872*.

-Charles LOVEDAY, of Stratton, boiler smith, was adjudged to be the father of the illegitimate child of Mary Ann WYATT, and was ordered to pay 2s 6d a week, and £1 3s 6d costs. *Jackson's Oxford Journal 31-08-1872*.

-John LOVEDAY was charged with stealing 1s 6d the property of Benjamin GARRETT of Stratton. Prisoner pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 14 days hard labour. *The Western Daily Press 08-11-1872*.

-Joseph SELWOOD, of Stratton, was summoned to show cause why he should not give up possession of a cottage held by him of Richard KEENE. Ordered to give up possession in 21 days. *The Western Daily Press 22-11-1872*.

1873 Mr. Edward JEEVES, of Stratton, farmer, was charged with cruelly ill-treating two horses by using them whilst in an unfit state. P.S.Jones, of Highworth found the horses as part of a five horse ploughing team and reported to Mr. JEEVES. Mr JEEVES then put the horses into their stables. The bench took the view that Mr JEEVES had acted as soon as he had become aware so dismissed charges, but as he was wealthy he did pay costs. *The Western Daily Press 04-01-1873*.

- Ann LOVEDAY, of Stratton, aged over sixty and mother of eleven children, was charged with being drunk. Defendant admitted being drunk and quite helpless, but had done it to prevent her husband being drunk. Ordered to pay 7s and costs, in default she was sent to prison for 14 days. *The Western Daily Press 04-01-1873*.

-John LOVEDAY, of Stratton, was charged with stealing a pair of leather leggings from the shop front of Mr. Lloyd, draper, of Fleet Street, New Swindon, on the 18<sup>th</sup> January last. Committed for six-week's hard labour. *The Western Daily Press 08-03-1873*.

-Robert OSBOTNE and Albert WALKER, both of Stratton, labourers, were charged with being drunk and riotous in Shrivenham, on the 8<sup>th</sup> inst. OSBORNE was fined £1., including costs, and WALKER 14s, including costs, and in default of payment each committed for 10 days with hard labour. *Jackson's Oxford Journal 19-07-1873.*

1874 William WEBB, George WICK and James WHEELER were charged with doing one shilling's worth of damage to a field of mowing grass, the property of Mr. John BUTLER, of Stratton. Fined 10s each including costs. *The Western Daily Press 29-05-1874*

1875 Alfred TRUEMAN and James TRUEMAN, stealing a hat, the property of Ambrose WILLIS, at Stratton & Hannington. *The Hampshire Advertiser 27-03-1875.*

- James CARTER and Francis YARES, greengrocers of Stratton, were each fined 5s and 7s 6d costs for allowing their horses to stray on the highway. *The Western Daily Press 11-06-1875.*

- Edward GAUNTLETT, farmer and Alfred CLACK, grocer, were charged with killing a cat, of the value of 20s, on the 19<sup>th</sup> inst., the property of William BURGE. £1 19s 6d costs. *The Western Daily Press 26-06-1875.*

- William BRAIN and John LEES, of Stratton, fined 25s each for keeping dog without a licence. *The Western Daily Press 24-07-1875.*

-John PAGE, aged labourer, was charged with using a gun without a licence at Stratton on 13<sup>th</sup> August. Master said he had sent PAGE out with gun to scare birds from his wheat. Bench fined him 50s but to ask revenue to reduce to £1. *The Western Daily Press 10-09-1875*

- Edward GREENAWAY, drover, was charged with being drunk and disorderly at Stratton. He did not appear and the bench made an order for his committal for fourteen days. *The Western Daily Press 16-10-1875.*

1876 - James ROBINS, labourer, of Stratton, was charged with assaulting Harriet FORD of the same place. Fined 10s and 7s 6d costs. *The Western Daily Press 15-04-1876.*

- William Robert EASLEY, of Stratton, was charged with converting to his own use an iron bedstead and pallisasses, of which he was bailee, the property of William PECK, furniture dealer, of Reading. As defendant did not appear, warrant was issued. *The Western Daily Press 19-05-1876.*

- Ann WARREN, of Stratton, was fined 1s and 15s costs for assaulting Elizabeth YATES, a single woman living next door to her. *The Western Daily Press 09-06-1876.*

1877 -Frank HUGHES, a young labourer, was charged with being drunk and disorderly at the Jacob's Ladder Inn, Stratton St. Margaret, on the night of the 29th December. P.C.Carter was called to the house, where he found the defendant drunk and using bad language. He had his face blacked over and would not leave when he was told to go, and this was made the subject of a second charge. - Mrs. Dix, the landlady, gave corroborative evidence, and said defendant was so disorderly that she was compelled to send for the police.- The Bench inflicted fines amounting to £1 8s 6d., and refused to allow Mrs. Dix her cost, she having refused to take these proceedings when requested by the police. In default of paying defendant was committed for 28 days. *Swindon Advertiser 15-01-1877.*

- Henry KEENE 13, William Edward LEWIS 13, John LEWIS 10, Thomas SELLWOOD 12, Edward SELLWOOD 15, and Farmer LEWINGTON 7, all of Stratton, were charged with wilful damage to a quantity of beans to the amount of 1s, at Stratton, the property of Mr Noah HORTON, of Rodbourne Cheney, on the 14<sup>th</sup> January. The Bench said KEENE appeared to be a bad boy, and he would have to pay 5s, the others were ordered to pay 2s 6d each. *The Western Daily Press 27-01-1877*

- An order was made for the removal of John WHITEHOUSE, an inmate to Langport, Somerset, his home parish. *The Western Daily Press 27-01-1877.*

- William WILLCOX 17, Edward REEVES 20, William COCKBILL 21, John BUTLER 19, Jesse LAWRENCE 14, Samuel HISCOCKS 18, Henry MAISEY 17, William WILKS 16, Edmond LAY 17, Samuel SHAIL 17, Richard SHAIL 19, and William CHAPMAN 18, labourers, all of Stratton, were charged with wilfully damaging a certain hedge at Stratton, to the amount of 30s, the property of Alfred HUNT, farmer, on the 4<sup>th</sup> November last. The bench fined MAISEY, LAY and CHAPMAN each 2s 6d and 7s costs. HISCOCKS 5s and 17s 6d costs, and the others 5s and 7s costs each. *The Western Daily Press 27-01-1877.*

- Thomas HACKLING, a traveller, was committed for two months hard labour for stealing a cloth coat from a conveyance standing in front of the beerhouse at Stratton Crossroads, on Saturday night. *The Western Daily Press 27-01-1877.*

– Frank BARRETT, a schoolboy, of Stratton was charged with damaging a door, the property of Mrt. L. MORSE, grocer, by writing obscene words on it. The bench gave him a severe reprimand, and ordered him to pay 15s, including costs. *The Western Daily Press 09-02-1877.*

– SWINDON POLICE COURT - A JUVENILE THEIF – David Sewell, aged 12, of Stratton St. Margaret, was charged with stealing a quantity of jam, half-a-pound of cheese, and a pound-and-a-half of moist sugar, from the house of Jane Adams, spinster, of Stratton St. Margaret, on the 13th April. It seems that during the absence of the prosecutrix and her sister, who lives with her, from her house in the afternoon in question the prisoner entered, took the jams from a pot, some currants and raisins from the cupboard, and the other articles from about the place. The workbox was found to have been opened, but nothing was missioned from this. A little girl, daughter of a neighbour, proved the charge. She saw the defendant enter the house at two o'clock and leave it about an hour after, leaving the front door open. – P.C. Carter gave evidence, and stated that defendant admitted, when he charged him, going into the house, taking the things, and eating them. The defendant was a very bad boy and was in the constant habit of stealing the other schoolboys' dinners. He had got quite out of control of his parents and the schoolmaster, and it was only on the morning of the robbery that the schoolmaster sent for him (the constable) to give him a talking to. – The Chairman said if the defendant transgressed again, he would be sent to the Reformatory School. The mother said he had quite got out of their control. He had been punished in every way to no purpose, and they had never scarcely let him out of doors without some one going to watch him, but notwithstanding this he got into mischief. The Chairman said this being the case they would now send him to prison for ten days and order him to be whipped whilst in gaol.

SECOND COURT (Before Major Calley and Capt. Wykeham Martin). ALLOWING A HORSE TO STRAY. – William GREENAWAY, dealer, of Stratton St. Margaret, was charged by the police with allowing a horse to stray on the highway, in the parish of Stratton St. Margaret, on the 13th inst. Sergt. Strong said on the day in question, in Gipsy Lane, about 11 a.m., he found the defendant's horse, and took it to him. The horse had been about Gorse Hill early in the morning. – The defendant said he put the horse in a field, but someone had thrown down the gate and let it out. – Major Calley said 6d would have purchased a lock and prevented this. – Fined 5s and 9s costs.

A PUBLIC HOUSE ROW. – Joseph SELLWOOD, factory labourer, and William JONES, brickyard labourer, of Stratton St. Margaret, were charged with being quarrelsome and refusing to leave the New Inn beerhouse, Stratton St. Margaret, on the 14th inst. Mr. Tombs appeared for the prosecution, and, after detailing the facts, called Mrs POPE, the landlady, who said on Saturday evening the defendants were in the house quarrelling, and she told them to leave, and she would not allow such conduct. There appeared to be an ill feeling between the defendants, as they had quarrelled in her house a fortnight previous. They would not leave for some time. Some time after they returned, and Jones knocked Sellwood down, which led to a fight. They were both sober. Both defendants admitted this was correct. – Henry RICHENS a labourer, was called by Mr. Tombs to corroborate the complaint, and Mr. Tombs asked the Bench to inflict a severe penalty, as it was very important that publicans should be protected. SELLWOOD, who had been a publican, was well known as a disorderly character, and had been forbidden to enter the house at all, Sellwood said the reason he did not leave when requested was that he was afraid of getting his brains knocked out by Jones, whom he had sued at the County Court six months previously. – The Bench ordered each of the defendants to pay a fine of 11s and 19s costs.

William JONES, the defendant in the last case, was then charged with assaulting Joseph Sellwood, under circumstances reported in the charge of disorderly conduct. Sellwood said the assault was committed without the slightest provocation while he was lighting his pipe at the fireplace. Jones denied this, and said it was SELLWOOD who aggravated him and challenged him to a fight, as he had done scores of times before. – Mrs. Pope was called by Sellwood, but she said Jones was very much aggravated before he struck a blow. – Another witness, John CARTER, on the contrary, swore that the blow was given without the least provocation, and that all language that passed between the two men during the three hours he was present was quite agreeable and pleasant. – JONES said this man picked up the poker and struck him across the head with it, which CARTER did not deny. – Defendant having called a witness, the Bench inflicted a fine of 1s only, and 14s 6d costs, allowing him until Saturday night to pay. *Swindon Advertiser 21-04-1877.*

– Charles LOVEDAY, boilermith, of Stratton, was charged with being drunk at Highworth on the 22<sup>nd</sup> inst. Fined 10s and 7s costs. *The Western Daily Press 15-06-1877*.

– Robert COX, of Stratton Cross Roads, fined £1 5s for keeping a dog without a licence. *The Western Daily Press 15-06-1877*.

– STEALING LEAD, William TUNLEY, a master plumber and glazier, and two men employed by him, JONES & BRUSH, charged with stealing 50lb of lead, the property of Messrs. Arkell of Kingsdown Brewery while repairing roofs. *Bristol Mercury 08-12-1877*.

- William MILLARD, a tramp, was charged with tearing up his own clothes whilst an inmate of the casual ward, on Sunday. Committed for six weeks hard labour. *The Western Daily Press 21-12-1877*.

1878 - John WILLIAMS, a tramp, was charged with tearing up his clothes whilst an inmate at the Union Workhouse. This offence is becoming a daily occurrence. Six weeks hard labour. *Swindon Advertiser 23-02-1878*.

– John STONE, butcher, of Stratton, fined 10s for allowing his dog to be at large not under proper control. *The Western Daily Press 19-04-1878*.

– Emma MOORE, a respectably dressed young woman, of Upper Stratton, was brought up in custody charged with stealing a silk umbrella, value 2s, the property of Henry Smith, outfitter, Regent Street, New Swindon. The prisoner had been in Mr. Smith's employ for two months up to Friday last as domestic servant. The Chairman said prisoner appeared to have made a very bad beginning in life, and she was sentenced to one month's hard labour. *Swindon Advertiser 18-05-1878*.

– TEARING UP CLOTHES IN THE WORKHOUSE. – William JONES, who appeared in the dock clothed in a sack, was charged with tearing up his clothes whilst an inmate of the casual ward of the Highworth and Swindon Union Workhouse, on Monday night. Prisoner said he tore up the things because they were too filthy to wear. – The Chairman pointed out that the ratepayers of this union could not afford to find clothes for every lazy fellow who chose to come here and tear up his clothes. Prisoner was strong healthy fellow and could afford to earn his clothes. – Mr Superintendent North said prisoner until Monday last was in work at Swindon, as a carpenter, but on that day, he stole a fellow workman's tools, and was booted and pelted out of the town by a crowd. – Committed for two months' hard labour. *Swindon Advertiser 18-05-1878*.

- SWINDON COUNTY COURT – Wednesday (Before C. F. D. Caillard, Esq., Judge). Mr. Barnes on behalf of Mr. Radway, of the firm Dore, Smith and Radway, applied to have Alfred HUNT, of Station Road, New Swindon, late of Dockle Farm, Stratton St. Margaret, committed to prison for not complying with an order made on him by this Court under the Bankruptcy Act. – His Honour suggested that the application should be allowed to stand over until next court to see if some arrangement could not be come to between the debtor and Mr. Barnes, and after some short discussion this course was agreed to. Mr. Boodle appeared for the debtor.

#### Judgement

Summonses. HENRY PEARCE v. EDWARD HILL, tile maker, of Stratton St. Margaret. – committed for 24 days, warrant not to issue for 84 days. *Swindon Advertiser 01-06-1878*.

– Thomas THATCHER, 25, labourer of Stratton, was charged with being drunk in Station Road, New Swindon, on the night of the 24<sup>th</sup> of July, P.C. Cook said the defendant was so dead drunk that he had to be wheeled to the police station on a pair of trucks. As defendant was discharged from the Militia the day of the offence, the Bench inflicted half the normal fine, viz., 5s and 7s costs. *Swindon Advertiser 03-08-1878*.

– George DUNN, a school boy, charged with wilfully damaging a growing fence to the extent of 3d, the property of Henry TUCKER, a small farmer, of Stratton, was fined 12s 3d, including costs and damages. *The Bristol Mercury 04-10-1878*.

- CHARGE OF BURGLARY BY A BOY. - Walter WESTWOOD, a boy 13 years of age, was brought up in custody on remand charged with stealing 17 ozs. Of tobacco and a quantity of copper money from house of Thomas PAGE, shopkeeper, at Stratton Green, on the 27th last, - Mr. Boodle defended. - On the day in question the prosecutor left his house, and on returning found the shop door leading from the back sitting-room open, an entrance to the house having been effected through a window, which was smashed. The tobacco and money was missing from the shop. On the sitting-room table was found a knife belonging to the prosecutor, which had evidently been used to take the lock off the door, the point being doubled up. The same evening the prisoner was seen coming from the direction of the shop by other boys, to one of whom he went up and said, "Do you want an apple?" One of the boys, Frederick New, held out his hand, when prisoner put into his hand half an ounce of tobacco, and then gave some to the other boys. They asked him

where he got it from, to which he replied that a traveller had given him three ounces which he had picked up on the toad. The same evening a Mrs. BAILEY picked up a packet opposite PAGE's house, which he conveyed to P.C. Carter, who, on opening it, found it to contain 11 ounces of tobacco, three halfpence, and eight farthings. P.C. Carter went to the prisoner in consequence of what the other boys said, and took him to the prosecutors house, where he stated three ounces of tobacco which he had was given him by a boy, wearing a pair of leather leggings, who ran past him. On one of the other boys reminding him what he had told them he commenced crying and said it was a tramp who had given him the tobacco.- Cross-examined by Mr. Boodle the constable denied that the prisoner said a boy was running by and dropped the parcel; that a tramp picked it up and gave it to him (prisoner) three ounces to say nothing about it.- This being the case, Mr. Boodle addressed the Court at considerable length, urging that there was a little of evidence against his client with the exception of the variation in his statement when confronted by P.C. Carter as he was holding a kind of preliminary court of enquiry.- The Bench, after consideration, said there was a certain amount of doubt in the case and this the prisoner would have the benefit of be discharged, the Chairman telling him that what had been stated against him that day would be noted down and remembered if he ever came before the court again. *Swindon Advertiser 30-11-1878. & The Western Daily Press 23-11-1878.*

1879 – Alice MILES, 15, of Stratton, charged with obtaining by means of false pretences, on the 11<sup>th</sup> inst., from Mr. Bryan, draper, Bridge Street, two boy's cloth coats; and on 18<sup>th</sup> inst., from Mr. H. F. Reeves, draper, 43 Regent Street, two ladies Ulster coats. Caroline MILES, 30, step-mother, was charged with receiving the above named articles, well knowing them to be stolen. *The Bath Chronicle 23-01-1879.*

– James WILKINS, labourer, od Stratton, for stealing ten cabbages belonging to Thomas PAGE, brickmaker, of the same place, was sentenced to a months imprisonment. *The Bristol Mercury 14-02-1879.*

– George BUSHNELL, of Stratton, was fined 10s for neglecting to comply with an order to send his two children to school. *The Bristol Mercury 25-04-1879.*

– Alfred BOURTON, haulier of Stratton, was summoned by Wilts & Berks Canal Company, charged with fishing in the canal, contrary to the 24<sup>th</sup> section, of the Company's Act of Parliament. Fined £1 and costs. *The Western Daily Press 06-06-1879.*

-George BARKER, carpenter of New Swindon, for being drunk & disorderley and using filthy language in The Street near the vicagage. PC Carter brought the case. Fined 40s & 7s costs or 42 days. *Swindon Advertiser 15-09-1879.*

– Charles BLUNSDEN, 23, labourer of Stratton, was charged with stealing four yards of canvas from Mr. J. Spiller's shop in Bath Road. Prisoner entered the shop to beg. Being refused money, he picked up canvas and walked off. Pleading guilty he was committed for six errsks hard labour. *The Western Daily Press 01-11-1879.*

- Stolen at a field at Stratton St Margaret during night of 1st instant, a mare donkey coming 3 years old, never been shod, has a wart near the anus. Information to Superintendent North Wilts Constabulary, Swindon. (bow Street November 5th). *Police Gazette 05-11-1879.*

– George SMITH, labourer of Stratton, with a group of other boys was charged with abetting in a game of trespass on the lands of Major Calley at Chisledon. *The Western Daily Press 07-11-1879.*

-Henry SIMPSON, 17, and James SIMPSON, 15, labourers of Stratton were charged with riding 3-wheel, 'doppin carts', without reins. Fined 3s and 7s costs or 21 days. *Swindon Advertiser 29-11-1879.*

-Daniel GIBBS, 15, and Hery FISHER, 16, labourer of Stratton were brought up for stealing a 2lb. loaf the property of Francis LOVEDAY, factory employee of the same place on 14<sup>th</sup> inst. Fisher was given a months hard labour, Gibbs who had been up before the bench on several occassions was given 21 days in Devizes Gaol then four years in Warminster Reformatory, with an order on his parents for maintenance. *Swindon Advertiser 29-11-1879.*

– Thomas HYDE, 16, labourer of Stratton was summoned for disturbing a minister of the Primitive Methodist Church at Stratton, and assaulting members of congregation. Fined 20s and 18s costs, or in default 21 days imprisonment. *The Western Daily Press 12-12-1879.*

1880 - George HICKS, Rag and Bone collector, of Stratton St. Margaret, was summoned for allowing a donkey to stray at Stratton. – P. C. Carter found the donkey on Sunday last about 7 a.m., between Stratton and Stratton Green, on the footpath. The donkey had a piece of chain to its neck for a nobble, - Defendant said the donkey did no harm where it was, - Fined 5s and 7s 6d costs. *Swindon Advertiser 30-08-1880.*

1881 – Richard WADRON, farm baliff, to the Rev. S. I. CRAWHALL, vicar of Stratton, was charged with embezzling £7, the property of his master, and also with forging a receipt for the money. *The Bristol Mercury 11-03-1880.*

– James WEBB, labourer, was summoned for damaging an Elm tree, the property of Sir Daniel GOOCH, M.P., at Stratton, and also with assaulting Mr. Gauntlett, occupier, at the same time. Fined £2 6s 6d, or two months. *The Bristol Mercury 20-05-1881.*

- Robert HIGHMAN, 22, assistant teacher, was summoned by the Guardians of the Union for assaulting a lad named William COOK, (a schoolboy and inmate of the Workhouse), on the 27<sup>th</sup> inst. It appears from statements that defendant gave the boy a box on the ear. Later on, he struck the boy with a book, which made him fall to the ground and vomit. He was taken to the hospital and diagnosed with concussion. He was fined 3 with £2 13s costs and declared unfit to work in a school. In default he was committed for one month. *The Bristol Mercury 14-10-1881.*

– John LONDER, labourer, of Stratton, for stealing a jacket from the Jacob's Ladder Inn, on the 15<sup>th</sup> inst., the property of the landlord, six weeks hard labour. *The Bristol Mercury 22-10-1881.*

1882 – William BROWN, 46, painter, was charged with stealing a horse, the property of Thomas TURNER, Pryor Goldney, at Stratton. The horse was taken from a field the gate of which was locked, and clearly traced into the possession of prisoner, who admitted taking it, but only to do a journey and restore it. Four months imprisonment. *The Bristol Mercury 05-01-1882.*

– James Wilson, 24, 3 Albion Terrace, Swindon, charged with stealing £9 10s of gold, the property of Thomas STROUD of Stratton. Six months. *The Bristol Mercury 07-07-1882.*

– John LEWIS, 15, Stratton was charged with taking a Geneva watch on 22<sup>nd</sup> Sept, the property of Walter GAUNT. Three months. *The Bristol Mercury 03-11-1882.*

– James PACKER, blacksmith, Stratton, was fined 2s 6d and £2 5s 6d costs for assaulting George GEORGE, and oldman, of same place. *Rge Bristol Mercury 17-11-1882.*

– John CARTER, greengrocer, Stratton, for assaulting Abner TOWNSEND of the same place at Crown Inn on 23<sup>rd</sup> November. *Rge Bristol Mercury 08-12-1882.*

1883 – Albert ANDREWS, 11, charged with maliciously wounding Albert DARTON, at Stratton, by cutting his finger off on 4<sup>th</sup> December. Sentenced to fortnights imprisonment and five years in a reformatory. *The Bristol Mercury 05-1-1883.*

1884 – Robert LEWIS, 11, schoolboy of Stratton, charged with stealing small quantity of powder & shot from a shepherd's hut on Mr. OSBORNE's farm at Kingsdown. Six strokes of the birch. *The Western Daily Press 03-10-1884.*

1888 – Charles TURNER, and elderly man, shopkeeper of Stratton, was charged with attemptin to comit suicide on the G.W.R. on July 21<sup>st</sup>. He was remanded. *The Bristol Mercury 24-07-1888.*

– Thomas COLBORNE, wheelwright, of Stratton, summoned by Inspector of Factories for illegally employing a boy named James William MONAGUE for seven days without a labour certificate, also for not displaying an Abstract of Factory Act at Entrances. *The Bristol Mercury 14-09-1888.*

– Thomas WOGAN, smith, and William SIMMONDS, labourer, bothe employed at G.W.R. works, were charged with serious assault on Edward HODDINOTT, dairyman of Stratton on September 9<sup>th</sup>. Two months gaol with hard labour. *The Bristol Mercury 21-09-1888.*

1889 - John LAVINGTON, labourer, of Stratton, and Eliza his wife, were each fined 5s and 7s costs, for being drunk in Station Road, Swindon on 23<sup>rd</sup> April, also Joseph FAULKNER, labourer, of Stratton was charged with having obtained 1s 7d by false pretences from Elizabeth SPACKMAN, of Wroughton on 22<sup>nd</sup> April and committed to Assizes. *Citizen 03-05-1889.*

-Charles FORD, labourer of Stratton, summoned by Henry Arkell for absenting himself from service. He was hired for one year at 9s week winter and 10s summer rates. He had given 14 days-notice and left after being wrongly accused of ill-treating a horse. Fined £1 and 7s 6d coats. *The Western Daily Press 19-07-1889*

– Frederick G. SMITH, of Stratton, for keeping a carriage without a licence on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Fined £3. *Citizen 30-08-1889.*

- Frederick LEGG, Joseph GRABB, William HUNT, William CARPENTER, John BOWLES, Steven WEBB, and Jabez MULCOCK, all labourers of Stratton, charged by P.C. SALTER of fighting on the highway at Stratton on Sept. 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 p.m. Bound over to keep the peace and fined 5s 11d costs each. *The Western Daily Press 27-09-1889.*
- George BOWN, of Stratton, fined 10s and 25s costs for furious driving at Moredon, on October 25<sup>th</sup>. *The Western Daily Press 18-10-1889.*
- Caleb HILLIER, for selling intoxicating liquors for consumption at his premises, The Engineer's Arms, on Sunday week after prohibited hours, was fined £3 and 7s costs. *Citizen 25-10-1889*
- Frank MOULDIN, James MITCHELL and James TOMBS, all labourers, for playing pitch and toss at Stratton on Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> October. Each fined 10s and 5s 8d costs. *Citizen 25-10-1889*
- Lucy Ann BLUNSDEN, wife of Henry BLUNSDEN, labourer, of Stratton, charged with stealing a lady's Geneva watch, a watch-guard, and a silver brooch, value 37s 6d, the property of Mrs. THATCHER of Stratton. Prisoner pleaded guilty, fined £2 1s, paid by husband. *The Western Daily Press 29-11-1889.*
- 1890 – John PENNEY, a lad, of Stratton was charged with unlawfully wounding a mare in foal worth £60, the property of Mr. Fullard FYSON, farmer. Bench dismissed case as accidental. *Citizen 25-07-1890.*
- 1890 – James Beaumont, chimney sweep, of Highworth, was charged with stealing a tin of preserved herrings and a half sovereign from the shop of Mrs. FORD, baker and general dealer, at Kingsdown. Case dismissed. *Citizen 29-08-1890.*
- 1890 – George RUSSELL, of Stratton was summons by the excise authorities for keeping a carriage without a licence. Fined £2 and 7s costs. *Citizen 26-09-1890*
- 1890 – John WEBB, errand-boy, and John PULLEN, schoolboy, were each fined 1s and 8s 9d costs, for stealing apples from the orchard of Mr. T. TYSON, farmer, of Stratton. *Citizen 26-09-1890*
- 1890 – Henry LARNER, carpenter, of Cross Roads, Stratton, was summons by Elizabeth Ann ILES. Bench made order of 3s per week and costs £3 7s. *Citizen 03-10-1890.*
- 1890 – Young WATTS, labourer, of Stratton, charged with stealing 24 feet of Galvanised wire from a fence owner by Mr. A. L. Goddard. The heavy fine of £2 16s and 12s costs were paid by prisoner. *Citizen 24-12-1890.*
- 1891 – John LOEDAY, 47, labourer of Stratton, was charged with an indecent assault on Annie POWELL, an orphan, 13, on the 16<sup>th</sup> inst. Committed to Assizes. *Citizen 27-01-1891.*
- Frederick Stamford, a pedlar, from Chatham, charged with stealing 4s 6d from the till of Henry PEARCE, grocer, of Stratton. One months hard labour, in default of paying 40s fine and costs. *Citizen 30-01-1891.*
- Edward REEVES summons by School Board for not sending his child to school, fined 5s. *Citizen 17-04-1891.*
- Henry TOWNSEND, labourer, charged with stealing ten cabbages, value 1s, from the garden of a widow, Mrs. FISHER on June 28<sup>th</sup>. Fine including costs £2 3s 6d. *The Western Daily Press 30-06-1891 & Swindon Advertiser 04-07-1891*
- William John FORD, 13, of Stratton, for stealing a gold chain from his uncle, Henry Charles Hornblow, of Blunsdon, to receive four strokes of the birch. *Citizen 17-07-1891.*
- Benjamin MULCOCK and Thomas PERRETT, labourers, of Stratton, for fighting in the street on Sunday last. Bound over on bond of £5 for three months plus costs. *Citizen 07-08-1891.*
- James PENNY, carpenter, of Stratton, fined £1 and 13s 6d costs for assaulting Mrs. Sarah SIMS, a neighbour. *Citizen 21-08-1891.*
- George KEENE, William WALKER, Henry BADEN, Arthur TURNER, and Albert KING, youths from Stratton, were charged with playing pitch & toss on Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup>. Fined 6s each including costs. *Citizen 16-10-1891.*
- Joseph MOON, labourer of Stratton, drunk & disorderly on September 5<sup>th</sup>. P.C. Lodge stated the facts, and defendant was fined 5s and 7s costs. *Swindon Advertiser 19-09-1891.*
- Thomas HYDE, of Stratton, charged with refusing to leave Crown Inn, and assaulting landlord, Charles RUSSELL. Warrant for arrest issued. *Citizen 13-11-1891*
- 1892 – James Ernest HILL, Edward James WILKINS, and Richard George Washington WARREN, boys of Stratton, committed to trial for housebreaking & robbery the property of Daniel TROTMAN, on 24<sup>th</sup> January, stealing a pot of jam, six shilling's worth of copper, and other property. *The Western Daily Press 29-02-1892.*

1892 - John Cornwall, 28, of Brockworth, was charged with intermarrying with Elizabeth ROUSE, of Stratton on December 26th, 1891, his first wife Sarah Jane, being then living, first married in 1880 when 17. *Citizen 05-04-1892.*

1892 – Young BOURTON, labourer, of Stratton, was charged with absconding from the workhouse more than two years ago, and with assaulting the porter, Henry Stepney. 14 day's hard labour. *Citizen 16-04-1892.*

1892 – Joh FERRIS, for wilfully damaging a door, the property of Frederick FAIRTHORNE, of Stratton, Fined 10s and £1 11s costs. *Citizen 29-04-1892.*

1892 – George MOORE, of Stratton, charged with stealing several articles the property of Thomas Titcombe, of South Marston. Having been previously convicted he was given 28 days. *Citizen 13-05-1892.*

1892 – William Gunt, G.W.R. worker, summonsed for being drunk & disorderly in Stratton. Fined 8s and 12s costs.

1892 – Charles APLIN, butcher of Stratton, fined £2 by Local Inspector of Weights & Measures. *Citizen 12-08-1892.*

1892 – William WARREN, of Kingsdown, for disobeying an order to contribute 2s weekly towards the maintenance of his wife, a pauper lunatic, was sent to gaol for a month. *Citizen 12-08-1892.*

1892 – Charles SMITH, 15, of Stratton. For striking Tom George HOLMAN on the head with a stone whilst he was riding past on his bicycle, on the 223 inst. Fined 4s and £1 16s costs. *Citizen 23-09-1892.*

1893 – Robert LEWIS, labourer of Stratton, committed for trial for an unnatural offence, on 16<sup>th</sup> inst. *Citizen 20-1-1893.*

1893 – James PANNELL, a gypsy was summonsed for allowing seven horses to stray on the highway at Stratton. Fined £1. *Citizen 24-02-1893.*

1893 – Thomas Charles HART, labourer for assaulting Charles YEATES of Stratton on previous Sunday, also found guilty of assaulting Mrs. YEATES. *Citizen 24-02-1893.*

1893 – Albert MAY, a painter, of Stratton, summonsed for wilfull damage, to the value of 2s 6d, to G.W.R. fence at Stratton. Fined 10s, Guinea costs and half a crown damage.

*Citizen 17-03-1893.*

1893 – At the insistance of the School Board, fines were inflicted upon John HAMBRIDGE, George PULLEN and William ILES, all of Stratton. *Citizen 17-03-1893.*

1893 – John WEBB, of Stratton, labourer, ordered to pay 3s 6d per week towards the maintenance of his son in Chippenham Workhouse. *The Bristol Mercury 05-05-1893.*

1893 - Albert JEFFERIES and William KITCHENER, boys, of Stratton, were summonsed by Mr. J. K. COLEING of Stratton, for damaging his rose trees. Mr COLEING said he had suffered a good deal for the depredations upon his flowers, but did not wish for conviction. The boys were let off on payment of costs. *Citizen 26-05-1893.*

1893 - George WITCHELL and John GLEESON, both boys, of Gorse Hill, were fined 8s each, to include damages and costs, for wilful damage to growing wheat, the property of Mr. J. K. COLELING, farmer, of Stratton St Margaret. *Citizen 04-08-1893.*

1893 – George PAYNE, 30, coach body maker was indicted for inflicting grievous bodily harm on William George STANLEY, 10, at Stratton, on 17<sup>th</sup> June. Prisoner had fired a toy pistol which had hit boy in leg. Deemed accidental. *The Bristol Mercury 28-06-1893.*

1893 – Albert BARNES, inmate of Workhouse, charged with assaulting Henry STEPNEY, porter at the Workhouse. Six weeks hard labour. *Citizen 08-09-1893.*

1893 – George PULLEN, of Stratton, summonsed for not sending his three children to school. 5s for each case. *Citizen 13-10-1893.*

1893 – William DOLMAN, of Stratton, fined for drunk and disorderly conduct. William GRANT of Stratton was fined 12s with costs, on two charges of being drunk and disorderly at Highworth. *Citizen 20-10-1893.*

1893 – Daniel JEFFERIES, of Stratton, who continues to refuse to contribute towards maintenance of his son sent down for 21 days. *Citizen 15-12-1893.*

1894 – William GREENWAY, farmer of Stratton, for selling milk to which 10 per cent water and 8



percent boric acid had been added. Fined 17s 6d and £3 2s 6d costs. Stephen COX, also a farmer of Stratton was fined 19s 6d and £3 0s 6d costs on similar charge. *Citizen 02-02-1894*.

– Caroline FULLER, 18, charged with wilfully smashing 30 panes of glass at Workhouse, 21 days hard labour. *The Bristol Mercury 07-04-1894*.

– John HILL, labourer, of Stratton for assaulting his cousin, Frank HILL, landlord of Jacob's Ladder. Fined £1 and costs, in default 14 days hard labour. *The Western Daily Press 19-10-1894*.

1895 – George REYNOLDS, 14, labourer, of Stratton, for stealing a garden prong belonging to Mary Ann BEAME, on Jan 4<sup>th</sup>. *Citizen 11-01-1895*.

– William TITCOMBE, labourer of Stratton, was summoned by the Stratton School Board for falsification of a birth certificate. Prisoner pleaded guilty. *Swindon Advertiser 18-05-1895*.

– Arthur TITCHENER, carter, of Stratton, for ill-treating a gelding on Feb 26<sup>th</sup>, by working in unfit state. R.S.P.C.A. officer reported that the horse was lame. James LAWRENCE, manager of Stratton Mill, was also charged with allowing the horse to be used. TITCHENER fined 13s and LAWRENCE £1 6s 6d. *Citizen 08-03-1895*.

– Richard MILLER, wheelwright, of Stratton, for keeping a dog without a licence. *Citizen 28-06-1895*.

– James BUNNEY, printer, of Stratton, fined 1s and 7s costs for being drunk and disorderly on Oct 14, in Old Swindon. *Citizen 25-10-1895*.

1896 - John SIMPSON, labourer of Stratton St. Margaret – Assaulting James FROUD, labourer of Stratton. Case Dismissed. *Swindon Advertiser 03-10-1896*.

–Henry ILES, cab proprietor of Stratton, summoned for completely blocking a street with his cab.

1897 – Henry ILES, road car proprietor, of Stratton, and his son John ILES, were summoned for working a horse whilst in an unfit state. P C Tait & RSPCA Inspector Mr A Bartholomew gave evidence. Henry ILES 10s and costs, John ILES 5s and costs. *Swindon Advertiser 15-05-1897*.

– Lilian Rose EAGLES, 20, milliner, brought up from Devizes Gaol, was indicted for sending Henry Edward PEARCE, of Stratton, on 9<sup>th</sup> Feb, a letter demanding money with menaces, without reasonable cause. Also writing to Frederick George MORTIMER of Swindon, demanding money, threatening to expose him to his wife, unless he sent £3. Two years with hard labour. *Citizen 01-06-1897*.

– DRUNKENNESS – Albert PULLEN, of Stratton, was fined 5s and 4s costs for being drunk and disorderly on September 25<sup>th</sup>. P.C. Davis proved the case. *Swindon Advertiser 09-10-1897*.

– STRAYING – James TROWBRIDGE, dealer, of Stratton was fined 2s 6d and 5s costs for allowing a horse to stray at Highworth on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. P.C. Dalton proved the case. Defendant paid 1s and asked for discount for cash. *Swindon Advertiser 09-10-1897*.

–James SEAGER, aged 48, labourer, indicted for illegally knowing Mary HARPER, imbecile, inmate at Union Workhouse, Stratton. 4 months hard labour. *Swindon Advertiser 30-10-1897*.

1898 – Edward PONTER, 45, labourer, for stealing two fowl, the property of Henry ILES, at Stratton on 7<sup>th</sup> April. Nine months' hard labour. *The Bristol Mercury 01-06-1898*.

1898 – Charles ARCHER, labourer, of Stratton, seven days for being drunk and disorderly, and twenty-one days for assaulting P.C. Davis. *Citizen 13-09-1898*.

1898 – William GILBERT, GWR labourer, of Lower Stratton, for assaulting his neighbour, George Isaac POWELL. Fined 40s including costs. *Citizen 13-09-1898*.

1898 – Harry HARDY, three months with hard labour for breaking into the dwelling house of Amy WESTMACOTT of Stratton, on 17<sup>th</sup> September. *Citizen 20-10-1898*.

1898 – Jesse HUNT, greengrocer and general dealer, of Swindon, for grievously bodily harm on James MOORE, at Stratton, on 27<sup>th</sup> June. Guilty, sentence deferred. *Citizen 27-10-1898*.

1899 – Frederick BEAMS of Stratton, fined £1 and 5s costs for being quarrelsome and refusing to quit the Whale Inn, Swindon; in default 14 days. *Citizen 04-08-1899*.

1899 – George TITCOMBE, William George STANLEY and Harvey PULLE, boys of Stratton, were fined 2s 6d and 3s costs each for playing a game of chance with dice on August 27<sup>th</sup>. *Citizen 03-10-1899*.

1899 – James Clay, was brought on a writ of Habeas Corpus from Gloucester Gaol, for obtaining 10s 6d from Herbert James FORD of Stratton on 9<sup>th</sup> June. Months' hard labour. *The Western Daily Press 18-10-1899*.

1899 – Raymond TOOMBS, 19, baker, pleaded guilty to assaulting Ida SEALY, at Stratton on 1<sup>st</sup> June. 6 months hard labour. *The Western Daily Press 18-10-1899*.

1899 – Henry JARVIS, of The Kingsdown Inn, Stratton, for receiving spirits without correct certificate on July 15<sup>th</sup>, a cask of brandy from Mills & Co., Cheltenham. Fined £10. *The Western Daily Press 20-10-1899*.