



SWINDON POLICE COURT  
THURSDAY

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 missed 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.

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