

Crime Reports

Trowbridge 1850-1899



1857

Attempted Suicide A man named George Spender, while in a state of intoxication, recently inflicted wounds on his arm and throat with a razor, causing a great loss of blood, and producing very great prostration. He was soon attended by Mr. Taylor, surgeon, and under his skillful treatment is rapidly recovering. **Salisbury and Winchester Journal, Saturday, 16 May 1857**

1871

A murder has been committed at Trowbridge, Wilts. At ten o'clock on Wednesday, William Handell, a native of Trowbridge, went for a walk through Steeple Ashton Park with a girl named Emily Pullen, who belongs to Worcester. Yesterday morning she was found murdered in the wood. Handell was apprehended and was committed for willful murder. **Yorkshire Post and Leeds Intelligencer, 15 September 1871**

1878

Committed to H.M. Prison, Devizes. Henry Hall, seven days for vagrancy, at Trowbridge; **Western Gazette, Friday, 3 May 1878**

1889

William Irving, of Trowbridge, a militia recruit who had just completed his preliminary training, was charged with stealing a pair of boots, value 3s, the property of Herbert Cox, another recruit, of Seend, on June 29th. Inspector Tyler stated that on examining the prisoner's bundle at the railway station he found a pair of boots, which the prosecutor identified as his. The prisoner, who pleaded guilty, was fined £1 2s including costs. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette, Thursday, 4 July 1889**

1890

James Sainsbury was summoned for being drunk in Bradley Road on May 10th. P.C. Walters found him insensibly drunk lying in his trucks, and had to wheel him to the police-station. Fined 10s. **The Western Gazette, Friday, 6 June 1890**

Ann Andrews, of Trowbridge, was fined 10s for being drunk and disorderly in the Holvi on May 27th. **The Western Gazette, Friday, 6 June 1890**

1899

The general quarter session for Wilts held at the Town Hall yesterday. Fred Witts of Trowbridge was indicted for obtaining 17 sacks of potatoes, value £6 3s, from Caroline Ponting of Bremhill by false

pretences, on the 12th April. The Hon. H. L. Lopes prosecuted and Mr. Parr defended. The jury found the prisoner guilty and he was sentenced to three months' imprisonment. **Western Daily Press, Wednesday, 28 June 1899**