



Stealing A Whip

Jonah Kent, and George Archer, labourers of Wanborough, in the employ of Mr. Smith, farmer, were charged with stealing a carters whip, at Wanborough, the property of Charles Goddard, on the 22nd of December. The prosecutor, a carter, said he left the whip with his horses on the Saturday night, and on Monday morning he missed it.

None of the men working about there would tell him where it was and he gave information to the police. Kent was cowman on the said farm and several times said he knew nothing about it. Last night the whip was brought to him by Sergt. Walters.

Sergt. Walters said on hearing of the loss of the whip he went to the prisoner Archer's lodgings and saw them both. On asking Archer if he knew anything about the whip he said he said it was over at Pavior's, where he had taken it to have a new thong put on it. He said Kent had given him the whip about three weeks previous, on a Sunday night. He then charged the prisoner, with stealing the whip when King answered "I stood at the stable door whilst Archer went in and took the whip". This statement Kent now repeated to the bench, and was agreed to by Archer.

P.C. Fred Reed also gave evidence of admission made by Archer to him the previous night. He told him he and Kent went to Mr. Smith's stables for the whip after chapel on Sunday night. He added that he knew it was stolen, for they went there for the purpose of stealing, and he (Archer) had been fidgety about it ever since.

Prisoners pleaded guilty, and were committed for one moth's hard labour each.

Swindon Advertiser and North Wilts Chronicle, 27 January 1879