



Charge of Rape at Warminster

John Curtis, 19, labourer, Richard Marsh, 16, labourer, and Sydney Cope, 15, labourer, were charged with committing a rape on Elizabeth Ann Pressley, at Warminster, on the 9th June.

The prosecutrix, who seemed half-witted, stated that two of the prisoners held her, whilst the other committed the offence complained of, and each one of them had connection with her. The two older defendants admitted having intercourse with the prosecutrix, but one of them stated that he did so at her request. The jury found all the prisoners guilty, but recommended Cope to mercy, and sentences deferred till Monday, when his Lordship sentenced Marsh and Curtis to seven years' penal servitude each; and ordered Cope to be imprisoned for a month, and then to a reformatory for five years.

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