



## *Yatton Keynell*

### **Theft of Hay**

At the County Magistrates' Clerk's Office on Wednesday, before F. H. Goldney, esq., Albert Crewe, 22, formerly residing at Christian Malford, but late of Ford, was brought up in custody, charged with stealing 56 lbs. weight of hay, and one hay rope, value 3s. 6d., the property of George Butler, of West Yatton, farmer.

The prosecutor stated that on the 19th. inst. He had a hayrick in a field in the parish of Castle Combe, called Long Ground, composed of sanfoin hay. He had examined the hay produced, and it was in all respects similar to that in the rick.

William Griffin, shepherd to the last witness, deposed that at six o'clock on the evening of the 19th inst., he put the hay cord now produced in the cut where he had been cutting hay. The next morning he discovered that some hay had been cut from the rick, and that the cord was gone. The hay produced was the same sort as the rick. He had been in the habit of cutting hay from the rick.

Charles Croker, landlord of the White Hart, Ford, said that the prisoner had been living with him for some time. On Monday night last he saw the prisoner at home, but he did not observe anything with him. On the following morning witness went to his stable, where prisoner kept a horse, and he saw hay of the quality of that produced. He asked prisoner where he got the hay from, and he said, "I bought it of Mr. Goulter, of Littleton Farm."

P.C. Roach deposed that on the 20th inst. he received information of the loss of the hay, and after visiting Mr. Butler's rickyard he went to the prisoner's lodgings. In the loft in the stable he found the hay produced and some in the manger in the stable. He also found the hay cord in the stable. He then proceeded to Marshfield Road, where he found the prisoner, whom he charged with stealing the hay and cord, and in reply he said, "I know nothing about the rope nor how the hay came into the loft." The prisoner afterwards said that he bought the hay of Mr. Billett, of Marshfield.

Inspector Daniels deposed that he heard the accused say to the last witness that he bought the hay from Mr. Billett.

The prisoner was remanded till today, when he was fined £2.

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