

Crime and Punishment

Alvediston

CAUTION TO GYPSIES

About two o'clock on Sunday morning, the 14th inst., Police Sergeant Mitchell, of Donhead, in company with another officer of the Wilts Constabulary Force, discovered an encampment of Gipsies near the residence of T. King, Esq., at Alvediston, consisting of Harry Burton, familiarly known as the "king of the Gipsies", his two grandsons, and three females.

They had some horses with them, which were browsing in Mr. King's plantation, and had done considerable damage. The policemen marched "the king, the court, and cattle off to durance vile".

On Monday week the case was heard before R. Graves, Esq., one of the Magistrates for South Wilts, who mulcted the party in six pounds damages, which sum was immediately paid, and the maids of honour discharged - not so the other; the Magistrate thinking that a month's secession from state affairs might be beneficial to the aged monarch and his hopeful progeny, adjudged them to spend that time in Devizes gaol, and to pay the expenses of removal thither, amounting to thirty shillings.

Salisbury and Winchester Journal Monday 29 August 1842

