



Wood Bundles

## **Charged with Stealing Wood**

Thomas Smith alias Cox, was charged with stealing wood, the property of Mr. Coward of Roundway. It appeared that the hedges and bounds of Mr. Coward had been very considerably damaged by some lawless persons, cutting and carrying off the wood. At about twelve o'clock at noon of the 16th June, Mr. Coward's carter saw two men in a certain hedge cutting wood, and a third man carrying it across the lane. One of the men in the hedge was Cox. There were three large bundles cut on the day; and one of them Cox sold within an hour after it was cut for 6d. this bundle, composed of large sticks of hazel wood, was produced, and gave the magistrates an idea of the mischief done. The charge was clearly proved, and the man fined 20s. - third part on damage 18d. - costs 8s. 6d. It is supposed that the wood stolen is generally brought to Devizes, and sold for the purpose of sticking kidney beans.

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