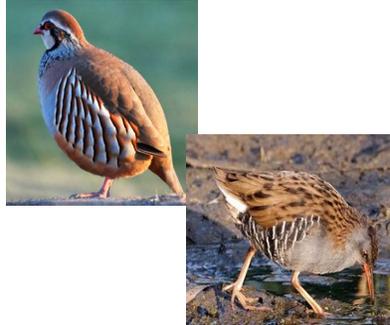




Crime News - Game Bird

*Bishopstone
1877*



Mistaken birds by Robert Dance and Jacob Raisey

"MISTAKING" A PARTRIDGE FOR A CORN DRAKE

Robert Dance and Jacob Raisey, of Bishopstone, were charged, Dance with killing a partridge without a license on the 15th February and also with selling the same without a license, and Raisey with purchasing it of an unlicensed person. Mr Tombs appeared to prosecute.

The defendant Dance was seen near the Rubbing House on the Downs chasing a French partridge, which was being kept on the ground by the fear of a hawk in the air. He caught the bird and afterwards it was sold to Raisey, a farm bailiff. Dance said he did not know what the bird really was. He thought it was a corn drake, and took it to the game keeper to ask him what it was. The keeper said he thought it was a French partridge, which it turned out to be, and he then sold it to the bailiff, who gave it to Mr. Hibberd, his master, who ate it.

The Bench said it appeared a great pity the case had been brought into Court at all, for the man (Dance) really did not appear to know that bird it was. They were, however, obliged to convict, and the fine would be 2s 6d with 12s 4d costs in one case, and 1s and 12s 4d costs in the other. Raisey was fined 2s 6d and 12s 4d costs.

Swindon Advertiser and North Wilts Chronicle 6 May 1878