



# *Crime News Neglecting Wife Bishopstone 1893*

Swindon Police Court, Thursday

## **Neglecting to Maintain His Wife**

**Stephen Jordan**, of Bishopstone, was summoned neglecting to maintain his wife, leaving her chargeable to the common funds of the Highworth and Swindon Union. Mr. J. P. Kirby, Clerk to the Guardians of the Highworth and Swindon Union, appeared to prosecute, and Mr. A. W. Boodle defended. The case was proved by Mr. Paul Morse, relieving officer, who said he gave an order for the woman's admission to the Workhouse on February 25th last, defendant having neglected to maintain her. Defendant's wages were 10s. per week and he was now living with his mother.

Mr. Boodle addressed the Bench in mitigation of penalty, and Mr. Kirby said the Guardians did not desire to see defendant sent to gaol, but they wished such penalty enforced as would deter others from neglecting their wives in a similar manner. There were plenty of men supporting their wives and families on 10s. a week.

Defendant offered to take his wife out of the Union and allow her 1s. Per week towards her maintenance. But, he said, he could not have her living with him as long as she was so intimate with other men.

The Bench, after consultation, fined defendant 6s. and 14s. Costs. He was allowed a month for payment.

**Swindon Advertiser and North Wilts Chronicle, 22 April 1893**