



Crime Reports

Bremhill 1850-1899

1850

Committed to the New Prison, Devizes: John Wheeler for one month for poaching at Bremhill.
Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette, Thursday, 17 January 1850

Committed to the New Prison, Devizes: John Ponting for two months for destroying game at Bremhill.
Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette, Thursday, 21 November 1850

1851

Wiltshire Quarter Sessions. Six Months: Eleazer Humphries for being armed with a gun and killing game in the night time at Bremhill.
Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette, Thursday, 9 January 1851

Committed to the New Prison, Devizes. Henry Lewis of Hilmarton and John Strange of Bremhill for three weeks for leaving their families chargeable to their respective parishes.
Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette, Thursday, 20 March 1851

1852

Committed to the New Prison, Devizes. Ann Clarke for one month, for leaving the service of Charles Hayward at Bremhill.
Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette, Thursday, 27 May 1852

Committed to the New Prison, Devizes. Alfred Gregory for three months, for leaving his family chargeable to the parish of Bremhill.
Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette, Thursday, 7 October 1852

1853

James Smallcombe was charged with stealing a pair of stockings, the property of Charles Vines at Bremhill. Prisoner is a labourer in the employment of prosecutor, and took the articles stolen from a rail on which they had been hung to dry. The jury returned a verdict of acquittal.
Salisbury and Winchester Journal, Saturday, 9 April 1853

Committed for trial: Joseph Chivers, charged with stealing two bushels of potatoes, the property of Thomas Clifford at Bremhill.
Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette, Thursday, 3 November 1853

OPC Note:- From the Criminal Registers: Joseph Chivers, one month for larceny. 3rd January 1854

1856

Committed to the New Prison, Devizes: James Smallcomb for one month for having assaulted and beat John Wheeler at Bremhill.
Wiltshire Independent, Thursday, 7 February 1856

William Haddrell of Bremhill was brought before J. N. Ladd, Esq, mayor, and B. Baily, Esq, on Wednesday, the 5th inst, charged with assaulting John Summers the preceding evening. Fined 12s. 6d. including costs, or in default 14 days imprisonment. After the commitment was made out he paid the fine. **Wiltshire Independent, Thursday, 6 March 1856**

James Smawcomb [really Smallcomb] of Bremhill and Louisa Sumner of Calne, were brought up in custody, charged with being found on Sunday, morning about one o'clock, lying in an outhouse in the occupation of Mr. Hayward in the Quarry. Convicted under the vagrancy act. Smawcomb one month's imprisonment, and Sumner three weeks, with hard labour. **Wiltshire Independent, Thursday, 20 November 1856**

1857

Committed to the New Prison, Devizes. James Smallcomb for three months for stealing half a peck of potatoes, the property of Isaac Hammond, at Bremhill. **Wiltshire Independent, Thursday, 23 April 1857**

1858

Committed to the New Prison, Devizes: John Wall for one month, for unlawfully leaving the service of Nicholas Gregory at Bremhill. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette, Thursday, 5 August 1858**

1859

Committed to the New Prison, Devizes: Joseph Goddard for two months for stealing a quantity of beans, the property of George Hammond at Bremhill. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette, Thursday, 24 February 1859**

1860

Committed to the New Prison, Devizes: Steward Peglar for seven days and to be further imprisoned for six months unless he sooner find sureties for night poaching at Bremhill. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette, Thursday, 19 January 1860**

1863

James Clark and Thomas Clark were charged by P.C. Giddings of Bremhill, and who is also hayward, with pound breach. The Bench considering the case proved, fined each of the defendants £2 to include costs. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette, Thursday, 24 December 1863**

William Palmer, secretary of the Bremhill Friendly Society, was charged by John Ferris with refusing him his sick pay when ill and unable to work, and also with expelling him from the Society. After hearing the evidence of complainant and his son-in-law, also that of J. D. Bishop, esq, surgeon, defendant was ordered to reinstate plaintiff, and to pay to him the sick pay due. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette, Thursday, 24 December 1863**

1866

Calne Petty Sessions, Wednesday. William Haddrell of the parish of Bremhill was summoned by Mr. John Ryall, to surveyor of the Calne Highway District, for allowing his donkey to stray on a Highway at Bremhill in the 7th of May instant. Mr. Bakewell appeared for the defendant and contended that the surveyor had not proved that the donkey belonged to the defendant, but on the Bench proposing an adjournment he admitted the ownership and urged a mitigated penalty as defendant had not been personally cautioned by the surveyor. Fined 1s and costs. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette, Thursday, 24 May 1866**

Alfred Hand of Bremhill was summoned by Mr. W. H. Fry of Foxham for ill behaviour as a servant in husbandry. It appeared he was very insulting and abusive to the complainant's other servants, one of whom left him in consequence, and the others threatened to do so. After the examination of several witnesses, the defendant was ordered to pay the costs; and on the application of his master, the Bench discharged him from his service. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette, Thursday, 13 September 1866**

Calne Petty Sessions, December 17 Game Trespass: Henry Freegard and William Gale of Bremhill were summoned for a like offence on lands the property of the Marquis of Lansdowne, on the 10th inst. The case was proved by P.C. Giddings. Freegard was fined 1s. and 8s. costs; Gale (who was not at all polite to the Bench) was fined 2s. 6d. and 8s. costs. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette, Thursday, 20 December 1866**

1870

Calne Borough Police. William Haddrell of Bremhill was charged by the Inspector with using profane and obscene language in Curzon Street on the night of 25 ultimo. He was fined 5s. and 7s. costs. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette, Thursday, 7 July 1870**

1880

Wilts. Quarter Session. Stephen Simkins, 20, labourer. Pleaded guilty to an indictment charging him with stealing, at Bremhill, a gelding, the property of William Simpkins, his father. This was a painful case. Sentenced to 12 months hard labour. **Bristol Mercury, Thursday, 1 July 1880**

1884

Stephen Jennings 49, labourer, was indicted for stealing at Bremhill a pair of spectacles and case and a handkerchief, the property of Joseph Eatwell; also with stealing at the same place a handkerchief, the property of Frederick Haddrell. Mr. G. K. Lopes prosecuted. The prisoner was acquitted on each charge. **Western Daily Press, Thursday, 3 July 1884**

Stephen Jennings, 49, labourer, was indicted for stealing a handkerchief, at Bremhill, the property of Frederick Haddrell. Mr. R. R. Lopes prosecuted, and the prisoner was undefended. Prisoner was also charged with stealing one pair of spectacles and case, and a handkerchief, at Bremhill, the property of John Eastwell. The jury acquitted the prisoner. The Chairman said he agreed with the verdict of the jury, although he had not the slightest doubt that the prisoner had stolen the articles. There were a number of previous convictions recorded against prisoner, in one of which he had been sentenced to two years' penal servitude, and he had a very narrow escape of going back to penal servitude. **Western Gazette, 4 July 1884**

1891

Wilts. Quarter Sessions. John Griffiths, 15, labourer, was accused of stealing, at Bremhill on February 22nd, from a barge lying in the Wilts. and Berks Canal, a pair of trousers, vest, cap, handkerchief and a watch chain, the property of William Ingram. Sentence: Two months' hard labour. **Bristol Mercury, Wednesday, 8 April 1891**

1896

Wilts. Fanny Spackman, 19, domestic servant, bailed on committal, was indicted for endeavouring to conceal the birth of her child, at Bremhill on the 3rd November 1895. Sentenced to 14 days' imprisonment without hard labour. **Western Gazette, Friday, 17 January 1896**

1899

The general quarter session for Wilts. held at the Town Hall yesterday. Fred Witts of Trowbridge was indicted for obtaining 17 sacks of potatoes, value £6 3s., from Caroline Ponting of Bremhill by false pretences, on the 12th April. The Hon. H. L. Lopes prosecuted and Mr. Parr defended. The jury found the prisoner guilty and he was sentenced to three months' imprisonment. **Western Daily Press, Wednesday, 28 June 1899**