

Crime and Punishment

Chicklade



COUNTRY NEWS

Salisbury, May 2.

On Friday evening the 22d ult. Thomas Sheppard, of Chicklade, in this county, was attacked near a coppice, called Stone-Anger coppice, in the parish of Abbots-Ann, near Andover, Hants, by two footpads, who knocked him down, and robbed him of about nineteen guineas and some silver, and then dragged him into the wood, where they tied his hands behind him, and his legs together, and afterwards bound him to a tree; in which wretched situation he continued till Tuesday morning last, when he found means to gnaw asunder the cord, and release himself from the tree, and by crawling and rolling he reached the turnpike road, where he was found about nine in the evening, and carried to a house in the parish of Abbots-Ann, and the next day was moved to his father's house at Cholderton, where he lies in a most dreadful condition, and his recovery is doubtful. He is at present delirious, but has his intervals of sense. This poor unfortunate man lived near eight years as a Servant with the Rev. Dr. Scroope, at Chicklade; from whence he set out on foot the 20th, with a design to buy lean cattle, in order to sell them again, and told his wife he should return the same night or next morning.

(*Oxford Journal* , Oxfordshire— 7 May, 1774)