



## Death Of Samuel Crouch

Charge of manslaughter

William Waite was charged with feloniously killing and slaying Samuel Crouch, at the parish of West Cholderton

Mr. Edwards prosecuted.

The prisoner was in the employ of Mr. Henly, a farmer, as carter; the deceased was in the habit of attending the same team as under carter. On the 19th of September, they were coming down Cholderton hill, and it was usual to place the drag on the wheel at this place. On this occasion, however, the prisoner negligently remained sitting in the wagon, and let the boy guide the horses down the hill. An accident resulted, the horses having ran over the deceased, and he died some few days after from the effects of the injuries which he received.

In defence the prisoner urged that he had often driven the waggon down the same hill, loaded much more than it was on the day of the accident, and had not put on the drag. He only had 6 quarters of vetches in the wagon.

The Jury found the prisoner guilty of "culpable neglect," which was equivalent to guilty of manslaughter. He was sentenced to be imprisoned three months.

**Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette, 13 March 1851.**