



### **Stealing and Receiving Beans and Bran**

Saturday (Before Justice Crowder). Robert Coster, who yesterday pleaded guilty to stealing beans, the property of W. H. Gulliver, at Collingbourne Kingston, and bran, the property of Anna Catherine Johnson, the same place, was sentenced to six month's imprisonment.

### **Larceny at Collingbourne Kingston**

Robert Coster (40) was indicted for stealing two bushels of bran, and two gallons of beans, the property of Mr. Gulliver and Mrs. Johnson, at Collingbourne Kingston, on the 3rd of January last; and Edward Coster (60) was charged with receiving the property, knowing it to have been stolen. Robert Coster pleaded guilty, and the other prisoner not guilty.

Mr. H. J. Swayne prosecuted.

The case against Edward Coster rested mainly upon the evidence of James Mould, a sergeant of police stationed at Collingbourne Kingston, who on the evening of the 3rd of January saw the prisoner going towards his home at Cadley. From information he received, he subsequently went and searched the house, and found some beans and bran. Prisoner said he received them of his brother, who, having killed a pig, had no further use for them. He afterwards varied his story. The policeman did not then take him into custody, but went into the station to get his lamp, with the view of proceeding to the house of the prisoner's brother, about two miles distant. On going out he saw the prisoner going with all possible speed in the direction of his brother's house. He was thereupon detained, and eventually locked up. He denied all knowledge as to how his brother became possessed of the property.

His Lordship thought the evidence insufficient to prove a guilty knowledge, and the prisoner was consequently acquitted.

**Wiltshire Independent, 17 March 1859**