

# Crime and Punishment

*Dinton*



## IGNORANCE & FOLLY

A respectable young farmer, at Dinton, last week, appeared before the Magistrates, at Hindon, Wilts, to ask how to proceed against a woman named Burden (who is in the habit of travelling the neighbourhood of Shaftesbury, Salisbury, and other places), to recover the sum of £8 in gold, which she had fraudulently obtained from him under peculiar circumstances. The woman had prevailed on him to have his fortune told, and, after meeting him several times, she borrowed the money of him, to enable her to “rule the planets,” at the same time stating he was to meet her at a particular spot the next morning, when she would disclose to him the particulars of his future and happiness. Accordingly, at an early hour, the young man hastened to the spot appointed, but found the fortune teller had not arrived, and after waiting several hours he returned home without seeing her, and he had not heard of her, or seen anything of his money, since. As the simpleton could not say where the delinquent was, no proceedings could be taken against her.

*(Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette, 4<sup>th</sup> May, 1848)*