



Crime Reports

Fittleton

1850-1899

1851

Wilts Quarter Sessions. William Stone (aged 44) pleaded guilty to a charge of having stolen some bread and cheese, the property of Ann Rolfe at Fittleton. Sentenced to three months' hard labour. **Salisbury and Winchester Journal, Saturday, 12 April 1851**

1852

Wilts Lent Assizes. Thirza Hillier pleaded guilty to the charge of stealing a pair of pattens at Fittleton – 14 days. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette, Thursday, 11 March 1852**

1854

For Trial Richard Kent, charged with having maliciously stabbed Thirza, his wife, with intent to do her some grievous bodily harm, at Fittleton. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette, Thursday, 18 January 1855**

1858

Petty Sessions July 30: Thomas Rawlings, charged with trespassing in search of fish, at Fittleton on July the 1st, was fined £1, including costs, and, in default, was committed for 21 days. **Salisbury and Winchester Journal, Saturday, 31 July 1858**

1860

Petty Sessions: Abraham Lay, an old offender, was charged with disorderly conduct in the street at Fittleton and remanded until Pewsey Petty Sessions. **Salisbury and Winchester Journal, Saturday, 15 December 1860**

1861

Petty Sessions April 5th. Abraham Lay of Fittleton labourer, was brought up under a warrant charged with assaulting Sergeant Manley, at Enford, on the night of Easter Monday, whilst in the execution of his duty, was convicted and fined £10, and in default was committed for one month, with hard labour. **Salisbury and Winchester Journal, Saturday, 13 April 1861**

Committed to the New Prison, Devizes. Thomas Maslen for three months, for poaching at Fittleton. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette, Thursday, 19 September 1861**

1864

Petty Sessions Jan 1: James Stone, Stephen Stone and Charles Oram of Fittleton were summoned for trespassing in pursuit of conies in a plantation at Fittleton on the occupation of C. Raikes, esq, on the 22nd December. The defendants received good characters, and as Mr. Raikes did not wish to press for a heavy penalty, they were fined in the mitigated penalty of 10s and costs. During the hearing of this case Mr. Raikes retired from the Bench. **Sherborne Mercury, Tuesday, 12 January 1864**

Everley Petty Sessions April 29th: Stephen Holmes, Edward Holmes and Samuel Lay, labourers, were charged by Sergeant Manley, with riotous behaviour and disorderly conduct in the street at Fittleton on the night of the 23rd April. The two Holmes' (being old offenders) were ordered to be bound in £10 each for their good behaviour for twelve months, Lay was ordered to pay the costs. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 5 May 1864**

1865

Everley Petty Sessions March 31. Stephen Holmes and Edward Homes, brothers, of Fittleton were charged with maliciously damaging certain young trees growing in Netheravon Park, the property of Sir M. H. H. Beach, Bart, on the night of the 18th March. The prisoners were detected by Sergeant Manley, who was passing through the park between eleven and twelve o'clock, and was assaulted by the prisoner Stephen Holmes. He then called up the steward, Mr. Newton, and they found that five trees had been cut and pulled up on that night. Mr. Newton stated that since Christmas there had been 26 young trees destroyed. The prisoners were fined £5 each and in default were committed for three months each, with hard labour. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette, Thursday, 6 April 1865**

William Ward, 56, labourer, pleaded guilty to having skins, the property of George Kilmister, at Fittleton. Two previous convictions having been proved, the prisoner was sentenced to 7 years' penal servitude. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette, Thursday, 29 June 1865**

1866

Pewsey Petty Sessions May 11. Thomas Jacobs of Fittleton, dealer, was summoned for removing two sheep skins, at Hacon, on the 20th April, without their being effectually covered, and Job Litytle, dealer, of Inkpen, Berks, was also summoned for removing two sheep skins, at Collingborne Kingstone, on the 18th of April, contrary to the Order of the Privy Council of the 24th March last. Both defendants said they were not aware of the order prohibiting the removal of skins, and as the new Order in Council only came in force on the 16th April, they were only ordered to pay 1s each. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette, Thursday, 17 May 1866**

1867

Committed to the New Prison, Devizes. Abraham Lay for fourteen days for poaching at Fittleton. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette, Thursday, 21 February 1867**

Pewsey Petty Sessions. John Keel and Noah Cottrell, labourers, were charged with being on the premises of Mr. Melsome for an unlawful purpose, at Fittleton on 27th July. Sergeant Lucas stated that he found the two defendants on the premises at half past twelve at night, Keel being in the dust-coop in the stable, and Cottrell being in another part of the stable. Mr. Melsome did not now wish to press the charge, and they were both discharged. **Salisbury and Winchester Journal, Saturday, 17 August 1867**

1869

Everley Petty Sessions. Friday. Abraham Goddard, an apprentice to Mr. John Jolliffe, at Haxton Fittleton, grocer &c, was summoned under the new "Masters' and Servants' Act" for absconding from his apprenticeship, on the 5th May. Defendant did not appear. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette, Thursday, 3 June 1869**

Everley Petty Sessions. Friday. William Drewett, of Fittleton, Edwin Drewett, of Enford, and George Hatchman, of Haxon, labourers, were brought up in custody under warrant, charged with misdemeanour in the service of Mr. George Melsome, of Fittleton, farmer. Complainant stated that on the evening of that day defendants were working in his hayfield, when the latter two defendants commenced fighting, and all hands stopped, and the former defendant left the field, and consequently three loads of hay were not taken up that night, and the work was otherwise neglected. The Bench ordered the first defendant to pay 3s 6d, or to be imprisoned seven days, and the other two, whose faces were very much disfigured, 9s 6d each or be imprisoned for fourteen days. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette, Thursday, 1 July 1869**

1870

Everley Petty Sessions. Thomas Forder, of Fittleton, Robert Sawyer and Henry Dowse, of Netheravon, were summoned by George Cook, of Figheldean, labourer, for having assaulted him. The complainant stated that he had been to Netheravon with his wife shopping, and was returning shortly after ten o'clock at

night, when on nearing Chouldton gate he was struck in the mouth with a stone which cut his upper lip. Other stones missed him. He searched about and found the defendants hiding behind a bush, and at once accused them of throwing the stones. Elizabeth, wife of complainant, corroborated her husband's statement, and identified Sawyer as being close to the gate when a stone passed her husband and missed him. The defendants were each fined 2s 6d and costs 12s 6d or seven days' imprisonment. **Salisbury and Winchester Journal, Saturday, 2 July 1870**

Henry Pennils and William Pennils, of Enford, and Henry Harris, of Fittleton, labourers, were summoned by Samuel Turner, of Netheravon, gamekeeper, for unlawfully taking trout, value 1s, from a stream of water, the property of C. Raikes, esq., CSL., at Netheravon, on the 21st ult. Fined 5s and costs 8s each. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette, Thursday, 15 September 1870**

Shaftesbury: Obtaining goods by false pretences. Jane Smith, the wife of Jesse Smith of Fittleton, was on Wednesday brought up in custody before Mr. W. H. Fricker (Major) charged with obtaining by false pretences four yards of flannel, value 10s, from Messrs. Barnes, drapers, of this town, on the 1st October last. It appeared that prisoner had been in the employ of Mrs. Sharp, of Motcombe, as an occasional servant, and on the 1st of October called at prosecutor's shop and asked for four yards of flannel for her mistress. She was served therewith by an assistant named Brice, and took the material away without paying for it. It was therefore entered in Mrs. Sharp's account. Superintendent Brown apprehended the prisoner at Fittleton on Monday last. On being charged with the offence she said, "I know I did have the flannel in Mrs. Sharp's name, but I'll pay her for it if she will forgive me. I sold the flannel at Salisbury for 7s 6d.: Prisoner said she had nothing to state in answer to the charge, and she was committed for trial at the ensuing Quarter Sessions at Dorchester. **Salisbury and Winchester Journal Saturday 31 December 1870**

1883

Wilts Quarter Sessions. William Lawes, on bail, charged with stealing fowls at Fittleton, was acquitted. **Bristol Mercury, Friday, 19 October 1883**

1885

Everley Petty Sessions. Jonas Manns, a labourer, summoned his employers, the executors of Mr. George Kilmister, to recover the sum of £3 18s. For Michaelmas money and wages due to him. Complainant said that he agreed with Mr. Hall, defendant's bailiff, to work for them for twelve months at 10s per week and £3 over at old Michaelmas. He worked up to 30th September last, when Mr. George Kilmister, Jnr., ordered him to go to work on a farm at Longstreet. This complainant refused to do, alleging as his reason that he was engaged to work on Fittleton farm only. Mr. Kilmister refused to pay him or find him any work on Fittleton farm, although he applied to him five days successively for it. Complainant therefore claimed the sum above stated. In cross examination, complainant admitted having worked at Longstreet farm during the past year, but he always returned to Fittleton at night. Edwin Hall, defendant's bailiff, said he hired complainant as he had stated, but there was no arrangement that he should not work at any particular place. Mr. Ruddle one of the defendants, and Mr. George Ilmister also gave evidence, and the Bench dismissed the case. **Coventry Herald, Thursday, 5 November 1885**