



Drapers Shop

## Death Sentence for £50 Theft

### The Crime

On Thursday night last the shop of Mr Edward Martin of Hacklestone, in the parish of Fittleton, in this county, was broken into and about fifty pounds worth of linen drapery stolen therefrom.

**Salisbury and Winchester Journal Monday 10 December 1827**

### The Trial

George Phillimore, Simon Tarrant and Jonas Buckland were indicted for a burglary in the house of Edward Martin of Hacklestone in the parish of Fittleton, on the night of the 6th December.

Jane Martin, the wife of the prosecutor, deposed that her husband keeps a linen draper's shop in the above place; that on the night of the robbery she went to bed between 10 and 11 o'clock, leaving everything safe and fast. In the morning when she got up, about 6 o'clock, she found the house had been broken into, by means of a hole in the wall, and the goods charged in the indictment taken away.

William Pearce, the tythingman, from some suspicious circumstances, went to the home of Phillimore, where he saw a large box, and Tarrant standing beside it; this box he opened and it was found to contain the greater part of the stolen property.

Richard Sawyer carries the mail from Pewsey to Marlborough, knows the prisoner, Jonas Buckland; he rode with him to Marlborough on the 13th Dec and bought 4 cotton handkerchiefs of him; prisoner said he dealt in such things and was going to get some more.

Samuel Smith received these handkerchiefs from the last witness and gave them to Mr Martin.

Mary Shepherd knew the handkerchiefs by some treacle stains upon them; which prevented the shop woman from offering them for sale.

His Lordship said there was nothing against Tarrant; he must be acquitted; the other two Phillimore and Buckland were found guilty – Sentence of death recorded.

**Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 13 March 1828**