



From the Imber Burial Register

The following is extracted from the Imber parish register of burials, for 1716.

Grimes, a robber, was buried 3rd June. This Grimes, with his companion, _____ Baldwin, having robbed several persons on their return from Warminster market on Saturday, being the 2nd of June aforesaid, after a long and desperate pursuit, were both shot and mortally wounded before sun set of the same day. Grimes, shot by Edward Slade of Chitterne, near Warminster Furze, who was brought dead into Imber, and here buried the day following; and Baldwin, shot by _____ Dyke, of Knook, near Heytesbury, on West Lavington Sheep Downs, who was carried alive to West Lavington, but soon died and was there buried.

“Note Grimes died within an hour after he was wounded, but Baldwin who was first shot, lived till seven next morning. It is not without good reason supposed that Grimes was an old offender, both by appearance of

a scar in his cheek, as also by the account that Baldwin gave of him. Baldwin protested that (so far as himself was concerned) it was the first crime of that nature he was ever guilty of.”

Wiltshire Independent, Thursday 8 May, 1856