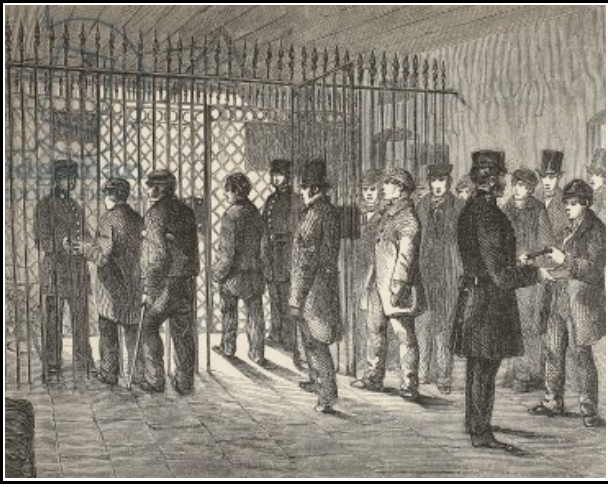


Crime and Punishment

Melksham



Horse Thefts

Melksham Petty Sessions

Francis Day, son of a cattle dealer at Melksham, was charged with stealing a horse from Mr H Day, pork butcher of the same place. The prosecutor and prisoner were out drinking and doing business together all day, and parted in the evening'; shortly after the prisoner was gone Mr Day missed the horse and traced the accused with it to Seend.

A second charge was made against the prisoner of stealing a grey mare from Mr John Ashby of Seend. Prisoner and mare were traced to Manningford, where the mare was found in Farmer Statton's stable. The prisoner went to Paddington by rail from Pewsey.

Superintendent Wolf of Devizes was made acquainted with the loss, and telegraphed to Newbury, where the prisoner was apprehended.

Mr Rawlings appeared for the prisoner and said this was merely a drunken freak on the part of the accused, who had no felonious intention. The Bench, however, committed him for trial at the Assizes, but accepted bail, himself in £100, and two sureties in £50 each.

Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette Thursday 30 March 1865