

## Crime and Punishment

Seend

## Canal Boatman Flees

Melksham, Wilts, Dec 26 1809

Escaped early this morning from justice (charged on a violent suspicion of stealing a brown mare, the property of Mr Adam Wragg, of the Chapelry of Seend, in the parish of Melksham, in the county of Wilts, coal merchant), George Naish, a tall stout man, about 22 years of age, 5 feet 10 inches high, dark ruddy complexion, straight dark hair, very broad long chin, which makes him appear long featured, darkish eyes, a little marked with small pox, and has a large fleshy hand; in his talk speaks thick, as if his tongue was too large for his mouth; and has been, for several years, a boatman on different canals, and some time since worked on the Paddington canal. It is probable he will be trying to get employ either as a boatman upon a canal, or as a canal digger.

Whoever will apprehend the said George Naish, and give information to the said Mr Adam Wragg, or to Mr N P Phene, attorney, Melksham, so that the said George Naish may be committed to prison, shall receive Ten Guineas reward from the said Mr Wragg.

**Oxford Journal Saturday 13 January 1810**