



Crime Reports

Seend
1800-1849

1806

At the Assizes for the county of Wilts, which commenced on Monday last at Salisbury..... Jacob Jefferies, charged with bestiality at Seend, was acquitted. **Hampshire Chronicle Monday 28 July 1806**

1816

On Tuesday evening last, about seven o'clock, Mr. Giffard, of Seend, Wiltshire, was attacked on the middle of Calne Hill, near Devizes, by two men who knocked him down, beat him violently, and robbed him of a gold watch in an embossed case, with three gold seals and a gold key attached, and also of a pocket book containing three £1 notes of the Devizes Bank and one £1 note of the bank of Savory, Towgood and Co, Bristol. Every endeavour to apprehend these villains has been hitherto used in vain; one of them appeared to be about 5 feet 8 inches high, stoutly made, and dressed in a dark jacket, red handkerchief round his neck, and light coloured stockings; the other man appeared rather taller, and dressed in a short coat of a dark colour, and light stockings. Mr. Giffard is not yet pronounced out of danger. **Exeter Flying Post Thursday 17 October 1816**

1817

Committed to Fisherton Gaol. William Brunsdon and William Maslen, of Seend, labourers, charged with having, on the afternoon of Saturday the 6th inst entered the dwelling house of James Moore, at Seend, during the absence of the family, and with having stolen from thence a £1 note and 20s in silver, the property of the said James Moore, and also a tea caddy containing six £1 notes, three half-guineas in gold, and about 13s in silver, the property of Johanna Moore. **Salisbury and Winchester Journal Monday 15 December 1817**

1818

Salisbury The business of our Assizes commenced on Monday last, before Mr Justice Abbot and Mr. Justice Holroyd; the former presiding in the Crown Court, and the latter at Nisi Prius. The calendar of prisoners was very heavy, and their trials were not concluded till Thursday morning. The awful sentence of death was passed on the following prisoners, 17 in number: Wm. Maslen, for breaking open the house of James Moore at Seend. Of the prisoners sentenced to death, all have been reprieved excepting William Gale, for sacrilege, who is to be executed on Tuesday the 24th instant. **Salisbury and Winchester Journal, 14 March 1818**

1820

Salisbury General Quarter Sessions 7 years' transportation. George Barnes, for stealing a coat and other articles, the property of James Newman, at Seend. **Salisbury and Winchester Journal Monday 17 April 1820**

1822

Committed to Old Bridewell, Devizes Ambrose Filles, charged with stealing two ash rails and an elm post, the property of Richard Pritchard of Seend. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 2 May 1822**

John Smart, charged with breaking into the dwelling house of James Helps, of Seend, about 3 o'clock on Sunday the 10th inst, during the time of divine service, and stealing 6 one pound notes, thirteen shillings in silver, two shirts, one sheet, a blanket, a pillow case and four yards of canvas, has been committed to the Old Bridewell, Devizes. **Salisbury and Winchester Journal Monday 25 November 1822**

1824

On Tuesday, some men in moving the earth, in order to open a stone quarry at Seend, found the skeleton of a man about four feet below the surface. From the position in which it lay, it is conjectured he must have been murdered and thrown in. **Hampshire Chronicle Monday 16 February 1824**

Committed to Fisherton Gaol William Rawlings, of Rowde, and Ambrose Phillis, of Seend, charged with stealing in the night of the 22nd inst, 3 pigs, the property of Thomas Mill, at Outmarsh, in the parish of Melksham. **Salisbury and Winchester Journal Monday 29 March 1824**

Committed to Old Bridewell, Devizes Joseph Street, charged with stealing a linen shirt, the property of Adam Wragg, in the parish of Seend. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 8 July 1824**

1825

Hard Labour at Devizes House of Correction 2 months Richard Fulloway, for stealing a hay knife at Seend. **Salisbury and Winchester Journal Monday 17 January 1825**

Committed to Old Bridewell, Devizes Edward Knee, for stealing from a hedge, in the parish of Seend, two gowns and a shift, the property of Jane Sims and Elizabeth Tarrant. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 21 April 1825**

On 21st ult., two men, apparently horse dealers, called at the New Inn, Seend, and procured change from the landlady (Mrs Crook, a widow with four children) of a £1 note of the "Tamar Bank, Launceston", which proved to be of no value. **Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette Thursday 3 November 1825**

1826

An aged servant of Mr Smith, of Seend Head, was robbed by some fellows, on the evening of 31st ult., in Semington Lane, of two suits of new clothes, which he was carrying home. **Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette Thursday 9 February 1826**

Committed to the Old Bridewell, Devizes Thomas Marsh, charged with stealing from a field in the chapelry of Seend, an iron shovel, property of Henry Scott. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 20 April 1826**

Committed to the House of Corrections, Devizes Ann Vizard, for one month, for leaving the service of Edward Gough of Seend. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 22 June 1826**

Wilts Quarter Sessions Six months hard labour to John Clobour, for stealing a hammer and a knife from Samuel Rawlings of Seend. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 20 July 1826**

1827

Wilts Assizes Sentenced for seven years James Brunsdon for stealing a duck at Seend.
Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette Thursday 9 August 1827

1828

Committed to the House of Correction, Devizes James Willes of Seend, for three months, for disobeying an order of bastardy due to the parish of Steeple Ashton. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 10 April 1828**

Devizes House of Correction 4 months Thomas Stow for stealing two silver spoons at Seend.
Bristol Mercury Tuesday 29 July 1828

1829

Committed to the House of Correction, Devizes Thomas Sadd, for three weeks, for trespassing on the lands of Mr Gough of Seend. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 3 September 1829**

1830

Hard labour for three months: John French, for stealing a silver spoon at Seend. **Salisbury and Winchester Journal Monday 19 July 1830**

A few nights since the house of Eli Rawlins, of Seend, Wilts, was broken into, and a bag containing gold and silver coins to the amount of nearly £40 stolen. A lad, named Nehemiah Jefferies, has been apprehended on suspicion of the burglary, and is committed to the Old Bridewell, Devizes, for further examination. He is also suspected of having committed several other burglaries in that neighbourhood. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 26 August 1830**

Wilts County Sessions For three months, Job Dicks of Seend, for breeches of the Game Laws.
Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 28 October 1830

1831

Wilts Assizes: Roger Gunner, convicted of stealing a hamper and 24 glass bottles, the property of Siney Smith, of Seend, was sentenced to twelve months imprisonment with hard labour. **Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette Thursday 17 March 1831**

Committed to the House of Correction, Devizes: Pharoah Fisher, for one month, for vagrancy in the chapelry of Seend. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 26 May 1831**

Committed to the House of Correction, Devizes; John Perry, for six weeks for stealing a wood fence, the property of Edward Gough of Seend. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 25 August 1831**

Committed to Fisherton Gaol: Isaac Truman, charged with having on the night of the 28th ult, broken into the dwelling house of Daniel Tucker, sen., of Seend, and stolen a considerable quantity of butter and cheese. **Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette Thursday 10 November 1831**

At a Petty Sessions in Devizes on Tuesday last, W Dix, gamekeeper to Mr Bruges, of Seend, was convicted in a penalty of five pounds for shooting a pheasant off the manor of his master. The informer, a

fellow whom the gamekeeper had at a former period been the means of convicting of poaching, pocketed his share of the penalty with great glee. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 17 November 1831**

Committed to Fisherton Gaol: Isaac Witchell, charged with stealing a bay gelding, the property of William Porter of Seend. **Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette Thursday 8 December 1831**

1832

Wilts Quarter Sessions Sentenced to six months Stephen Help and Stephen Cutting for stealing ducks at Seend. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 12 January 1832**

Isaac Truman, for breaking into the dwelling house of Daniel Tucker at Seend, and stealing two pans of butter and other articles. Sentenced to death. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 15 March 1832** From the Criminal Registers this was commuted to Transportation for 7 years.

Committed to the House of Correction, Devizes Henry Crook of Seend, for 20 days, for beating his wife. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 4 October 1832**

Henry Freeme, Henry Smith and Isaac Freeme, for assaulting Isaac Freeme the elder at Seend. 3 months imprisonment in the County Gaol, and to enter into recognizances to keep the peace. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 25 October 1832**

1833

Wiltshire Assizes. John Long and James Watts, stealing from the person of James Truman, at Seend. **Salisbury and Winchester Journal Monday 4 March 1833**

Committed to the House of Correction, Devizes Henry White, for one month, for violently assaulting Daniel Barnes, of Seend. **Salisbury and Winchester Journal Monday 21 October 1833**

John Somner has been committed to Fisherton Gaol, charged with having feloniously stolen from the person Thomas Bundy at Seend, a silver watch and other articles, his property. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 1 August 1833**

6 Weeks John Sumner (24) stealing a watch at Seend. (Solitary) **Salisbury and Winchester Journal Monday 21 October 1833**

Committed to the House of Correction, Devizes. Mary Ann Orchard, of the chapelry of Seend, for 12 months, for being a lewd woman. **Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette Thursday 21 November 1833**

1834

John Lloyd and William Budd, for having, on the night of the 15th inst, burglariously broken into the dwelling house of Jacob Little, at Seend, and carried away a quantity of wearing apparel and other articles. **Salisbury and Winchester Journal Monday 24 February 1834**

Wilts Assizes John Lloyd, 18, and William Budd, 18, Burglary at Seend. **Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette Thursday 13 March 1834**

John Lloyd and William Budd, burglary at Seend. 1 month imprisonment, and 7 years transportation. **Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette Thursday 20 March 1834**

Committed to Fisherton Gaol. Thomas Webb and William Sadd, charged with having feloniously stolen two lambs, the property of James Scott, at Seend. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 22 May 1834**

Wilts Quarter Sessions. 7 years transportation William Gage for stealing a watch at Seend. **Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette Thursday 10 July 1834**

Wilts Assizes. Thomas Webb and William Sadd, for stealing two lambs, the property of James Scott at Seend. 14 years transportation. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 17 July 1834**

Committed to the House of Correction, Devizes. Isaac Jefferies, for twenty days, for wilfully breaking the windows of the dwelling house of Jacob Jefferies, of Seend. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 2 October 1834**

1836

Committed to the House of Corrections, Devizes. Job Dicks of the chapelry of Seend and William Clark, of Atworth, for two months each. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 5 February 1835 1836**

Devizes Borough Sessions, Friday. William Kemble was convicted of stealing a hat, the property of John Crouch on the 6th June. John Crouch, who is a miller and lives at Potterne, was employed on the 6th June last at the New Prison; he came back from dinner about two o'clock, and hung his hat on a nail inside the prison mill; about six o'clock, on going for it, it was missing; and hearing that the prisoner had been seen with it, he hurried after him and overtook him at the New Inn, Seend, on entering the Inn, he found the prisoner sitting down with the stolen hat on his head, who, on seeing him exclaimed, "well brother dost thou can you relieve a fellow on the road?". Witness immediately claimed his hat; when the prisoner said, "Take it, it is not worth much" and then asked forgiveness. 2 months imprisonment. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 9 June 1836**

Wilts Assizes Held at Devizes. George Watkins was charged with breaking open the dwelling house of John Woodman, on Sunday, the 29th May, and stealing various articles therefrom. John Woodman said that he lived at Seend, in the parish of Melksham; that on the 29th May he locked up his house and went to chapel, and on his return he found that the window had been broken, the door unlocked, and a great number of things stolen. Robert Woodman went to Rowde, Bradford &c in search of the prisoner, and found him with several of the stolen articles upon him. The Jury found Watkins guilty, and his Lordship told him that he had always considered house breaking a very serious offence; it was necessary that poor people, who had not servants to watch their houses, should be protected by the law; he should therefore pass upon him a severe sentence. 14 years transportation. **Salisbury and Winchester Journal Monday 25 July 1836**

Wilts Assizes held at Devizes. Transportation for 14 years. George Watkins, for breaking open the dwelling house of John Woodman at Seend, and stealing various articles. **Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette Thursday 28 July 1836**

For trial. Joseph Somner, charged with having violently assaulted Charles Barrett, and for want of sureties, at Seend. **Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette Thursday 1 December 1836**

1837

Committed to the New Prison, Devizes. Sent for trial, William Barnes, charged with refusing to answer questions lawfully put to him concerning a felony at Seend. **Salisbury and Winchester Journal Monday 27 February 1837**

Wilts Easter Sessions. James Barnes was convicted of stealing the skin of a horse, the property of Mr E Chapman of Seend, and sentenced to one months imprisonment (solitary). It appeared that Mr Chapman had a favourite horse for six years, and that on its dying, he caused it to be buried in a field near his house; that the skin was subsequently stolen, and that the prisoner had offered it for sale to Mr Singer of Westbury. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 6 April 1837**

Committed to the New Prison, Devizes. Eliza Coles, for twenty days in solitude, for a misdemeanour in the service of Mrs Scott, of Seend. **Salisbury and Winchester Journal Monday 28 August 1837**

1838

Wiltshire Quarter Sessions. Two months to James Hancock for stealing hay at Seend. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 11 January 1838**

1839

Committed to the New Prison, Devizes Charles Wilbee, for twenty days, for leaving the service of Joseph Berry at Seend, to whom he was an apprentice. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 13 June 1839**

Committed to New Prison, Devizes. William Rawlings, for three months, for leaving his family chargeable to the chapelry of Seend. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 31 October 1839**

On Monday night, the larder of Mrs Peter Awdry, of Seend, was broken open, and about 40lbs of beef and a fine turkey were stolen. **Wiltshire Independent Thursday 26 December 1839**

1840

Committed for trial Thomas Eyles, charged with having stolen one pair of horse harness, the property of Gracious Cox. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 16 April 1840**

Wilts Assizes. Thomas Allen stealing, and Lucy his sister receiving, sugar and bacon, the property of Hohn Snozhill, at Seend. Thomas one week, Lucy one month hard labour. **Salisbury and Winchester Journal Monday 24 August 1840**

Sent for trial, John Little, a burglary in the dwelling house of Roger Watts, at Seend. **Salisbury and Winchester Journal Monday 16 November 1840**

1841

Committed for trial. Thomas Bell, alias Harris, obtaining two sovereigns from W Ludlow Bruges, Esq at Seend, by fraudulent pretences. **Salisbury and Winchester Journal Monday 31 May 1841**

For trial, William Hillier, remanded from the last Quarter Sessions, unless he sooner find two sureties in £10 each, and himself in £20, to keep the peace for 12 months, for having assaulted Rebecca, his wife, at Seend. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 28 October 1841**

1842

For trial W Clark and R Townsend, having burglariously broken open the dwelling house of Mr G Gum, at Seend, and stealing a number of guineas. For re-examination W Aust and J Townsend, charged with the same offence as W Clark and R Townsend. **Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette Thursday 20 January 1842**

Transportation for life, William Clark and Moses Baker, a daring burglary at Seend. **Salisbury and Winchester Journal Monday 14 March 1842**

James Cornick, indicted for committing a rape on the body of a widow woman named Sarah Long, at Seend, was acquitted. **Salisbury and Winchester Journal Monday 14 March 1842**

A brutal and daring outrage was committed on Monday night, the 9th inst between 11 and 12 o'clock. at the top of the canal lock at Seend kept by John Woodman. Two villains called him up under the pretence that a barge was waiting to pass through. The poor man, who is 75 years of age and bears an excellent character for integrity and sobriety, came to their call as soon as possible and began to unlock the paddle, when one of the men commenced beating him with his fists demanding his money. The villain then beat him about the head unmercifully with a broom stick, causing the blood to flow profusely. The old man, notwithstanding, happily escaped into his house, and instantly locked the door. One of the men was close after him, and declared "we will break the door open if you do not give us the money". He then put through a chink of the door 4s 3d, with which they went off. Woodman's head is much bruised and several contused wounds inflicted, one two inches in length, and laying the parietal bone bare. **Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette Thursday 19 May 1842**

1843

Wiltshire County Sessions. James Staples for stealing a pig, the property of William Taylor of the Chapelry of Seend, was sentenced to 12 months hard labour. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 13 April 1843**

Benjamin Deadman, charged with stealing two pairs of worsted stockings, one pair of shoes and other articles, the property of John Rumsey; the prisoner was found offering them for sale at Seend. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 6 July 1843**

1844

Committed for trial to New Prison, Devizes. John Payne and Emma his wife charged with stealing apparel, the property of Samuel Foot at the Chapelry of Seend. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 4 April 1844**

Sentenced to four months with hard labour, Emma Payne, 27, stealing apparel at Seend (John Payne, 25, acquitted). **Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette Thursday 18 April 1844**

For trial Charles Curnick, charged with having embezzled the sum of twenty seven shillings, the monies of Thomas Moore of Seend. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 25 July 1844**

Committed to New Prison Devizes for trial. James Staples and Thomas Newman, charged with stealing 16 geese, the property of Robert Hart at Seend. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 1 August 1844**

Transportation for 10 years, James Staples and Thomas Newman, stealing geese at Seend. **Salisbury and Winchester Journal Saturday 24 August 1844**

William Hillier for assaulting and beating Rebecca Hillier, at Seend. Two months imprisonment and to find sureties to keep the peace for 12 months, himself in £20, and two sureties in £10 each. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 22 August 1844**

1845

Committed for trial. John Eyles charged with stealing a quantity of apparel from the dwelling house of William Sartain at the Chapelry of Seend. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 24 April 1845**

1846

Committed for trial Thomas Smith for stealing a shovel the property of Joshua Marsh at Seend. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 1 January 1846**

Committed for trial. William Hillier, charged with having assaulted and beat Rebecca Hillier at Seend. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 8 January 1846**

Sentenced to six months William Hillier, for berating Rebecca Hillier at Seend. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 15 January 1846**

Committed to the New Prison Devizes. Richard Hunt for two months, for maliciously burning a quantity of straw and manure, the property of Edward Gough, at Seend. **Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette Thursday 2 July 1846**

Last week the poultry yards of Mr Wiltshire, of Red House, Melksham, and Mr Sloper of Seend, were extensively robbed of fowls and geese; and on Friday, through the active exertions of Superintendent Foley and Sergeant Merret, two suspicious characters, Escot and Brown, of the Forest, Melksham were apprehended and committed for trial on the charge. **Salisbury and Winchester Journal Saturday 14 November 1846**

1847

Committed To The New Prison, Devizes. For Trial Jon Dicks, charged with stealing a half a bushel of potatoes, the property of William Whale at Seend **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette, 20 May 1847**

Six weeks to Job Dicks for stealing half a bushel of potatoes at Seend. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 8 July 1847**

One month to William Sheppard, stealing a handkerchief at Seend. **Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette Thursday 28 October 1847**

Committed to the New Prison Devizes for trial. Thomas Ruddy, charged with having threatened to take away the life of James Ruddy at Seend. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 11 November 1847**

On Tuesday a man dressed in rustic garments was observed by police inspector Tipper entering Bath from the London Road, with a sack containing three live turkeys. The inspector's suspicion being excited, he took the man into custody. At the station house, the prisoner gave his name as Thomas Smith. The inspector searched the "Hue and Cry" and there found that a man of the same name was advertised, answering in description to the person and dress of the prisoner, as having absconded from Seend, in Wiltshire, after stealing some geese. Information of his capture was immediately communicated to the Wilts police, and one of the inspectors arrived on Wednesday morning in Bath, with a warrant from the authorities for his apprehension. The prisoner, after having been taken before the magistrates was transferred to the jurisdiction of the Wiltshire magistrates. **Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette Thursday 25 November 1847**

Committed to the New Prison Devizes. Hugh Harris and Henry White, for maliciously breaking four squares of glass in the dwelling house of James Tucker at Seend. **Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 23 December 1847**

1848

Committed to the New Prison, Devizes. Abel Ovens, two months, for assaulting Ann Drew, at Seend. **Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette Thursday 29 June 1848**

1849

Committed to the New Prison Devizes for trial. James Abbot, charged with having threatened to take the life of Elizabeth Abbot, his wife, at Seend. **Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette Thursday 26 July 1849**

Committed to the New Prison Devizes for trial. Thomas Ruddy charged with having assaulted and threatened to shoot James Ruddy at Seend. **Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette Thursday 25 October 1849**