



SWINDON  
SECOND COURT  
(Before Major Calley and Capt. Wykeham Martin).

A PUBLIC HOUSE ROW. – Joseph Sellwood, factory labourer, and William Jones, brickyard labourer, of Stratton St. Margaret, were charged with being quarrelsome and refusing to leave the New Inn beerhouse, Stratton St. Margaret, on the 14th inst. Mr. Tombs appeared for the prosecution, and, after detailing the facts, called Mrs Pope, the landlady, who said on Saturday evening the defendants were in the house quarrelling, and she told them to leave, and she would not allow such conduct. There appeared to be an ill feeling between the defendants, as they had quarrelled in her house a fortnight previous. They would not leave for some time. Some time after they returned, and Jones knocked Sellwood down, which led to a fight. They were both sober. Both defendants admitted this was correct. – Henry Richens a labourer, was called by Mr. Tombs to corroborate the complaint, and Mr. Tombs asked the Bench to inflict a severe penalty, as it was very important that publicans should be protected. Sellwood, who had been a publican, was well known as a disorderly character, and had been forbidden to enter the house at all, Sellwood said the reason he did not leave when requested was that he was afraid of getting his brains knocked out by Jones, whom he had sued at the County Court six months previously. – The Bench ordered each of the defendants to pay a fine of 11s and 19s costs.

William Jones, the defendant in the last case, was then charged with assaulting Joseph Sellwood, under circumstances reported in the charge of disorderly conduct. Sellwood said the assault was committed without the slightest provocation while he was lighting his pipe at the fireplace. Jones denied this, and said it was Sellwood who aggravated him and challenged him to a fight, as he had done scores of times before. – Mrs. Pope was called by Sellwood, but she said Jones was very much aggravated before he struck a blow. – Another witness, John Carter, on the contrary, swore that the blow was given without the least provocation, and that all language that passed between the two men during the three hours he was present was quite agreeable and pleasant. – Jones said this man picked up the poker and struck him across the head with it, which Carter did not deny. – Defendant having called a witness, the Bench inflicted a fine of 1s only, and 14s 6d costs, allowing him until Saturday night to pay.

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