



Gang Of Sheep Stealers Discovered At West Harnham

On Saturday, the 23rd Sept, Mr. George Davis, Sheriff's officer, attended by Wicker, constable of Harnham, and two policemen of this city, proceeded to search the dwellings of three notorious characters of the above place, Mr. Brown of Homington, having lost a sheep on the previous night. They found in the house of Truman, a notorious receiver of stolen property, a whole sheep, just put into brine, and the head of a larger sort of sheep, about 5 sacks of wheat, a quantity of barley in sacks, and a large quantity of wheat ears, which had evidently been cut off while the wheat was in the fields. In an outhouse was found a snug mow of barley as taken from the swath, and a quantity of apples was discovered under a mow of straw, the latter of which were owned by Mr. Bell. Mr. Judd, butcher, of this city, compared the mutton found in the house with the flesh left on the skin, and so exact was the fit, that he had not the slightest doubt that the carcass belonged to the skin, which was identified by Mr. Brown. Truman and his wife have consequently been fully committed to Fisherton Gaol, by Mr. Jacob, to take their trial at the ensuing sessions. Mr. Davis found in two other houses in the same parish parts of sheep recently killed; but the meat could not be identified. Several respectable farmers of the neighbourhood were present at the search. One gentleman lost thirty sheep within the last few months, and many others have sustained great losses from a similar cause.

Western Gazette, 5 October 1837