

Boys Before the Bench 1870-1891

Hindon Petty Sessions

James Scott and George Macey, two boys of Tisbury, were summoned for stealing a bag containing 1½lb of bread, the property of Edward Blandford, at Wardour, on the 16th ult. The charge was clearly proved by another boy named William Gillingham, and defendants were sentenced to 14 days' imprisonment.

Salisbury & Winchester Journal Saturday 15 January 1870

Hindon Petty Sessions

William Harris, a young lad, of Newtown, West Tisbury, was charged with throwing stones at another boy, named William Henry Turner. As the complainant was shown to be a boy of bad character, the case was dismissed.

Western Gazette Friday 01 February 1884

Hindon Petty Sessions

Five lads named Edward Wilkins, Frederick Palmer, William Baker, Thomas Burrige and Harry White, all of Tisbury, were charged with causing obstruction by blocking the pathway to passengers on their way to church on Sunday, May 10. Mr Supt Bull prosecuted. After the evidence of PS Orchard, the Chairman (Major V F Benett-Stanford) administered a severe reprimand and told them that should they appear again on a similar charge, the full fine would be inflicted. Fined in this instance 2s 6d and costs.

Western Gazette Friday 22 May 1885



Tisbury Petty Sessions

Frank Dyer, a youth, of Tisbury, was brought up on remand charged with stealing from the dwelling house of John Hewlett, farmer, of East Tisbury, a box containing a gold ring, five shillings in money, and some books.

Prosecutor's wife gave evidence to seeing someone about prisoner's height, and wearing a similar hat to that now produced, leave her house on July 2nd. On entering the house she missed the box, which contained the things already mentioned.

PC Newman said whilst with prisoner after his arrest, he said he wished to tell the truth about the theft. Witness cautioned him and, at his request provided him with ink to write a confession. This confession as now produced. It was signed in the presence of Supt Bull and the witness.

Prisoner offered to show the police the spot at which he had concealed the box and its contents, and on going there with prisoner, witness found a threepenny piece. The box had been previously recovered by Sergt Randall, also the ring and the books, but the other money was not forthcoming.

Mr Collins, Master of the Tisbury Workhouse, informed the Bench that prisoner had spent twelve years of his life in the workhouse. He was recently allowed to leave on approbation, but he fell into disgrace and was sent back to the Union, to which he never returned. He would accept prisoner into the Union again should the Bench to decide to liberate him.

Prisoner was discharged under the First Offenders Act.

Western Gazette Friday 17 July 1891

Tisbury Petty Sessions

William Turner, a lad, of Tisbury, was charged with stealing two fowls' eggs, the property of the Rev F E Hutchinson, vicar of Tisbury.

Prosecutor explained that Turner had been in his employ between two and three years. For some time past eggs had been missed, and defendant, who was suspected, was watched. He was observed taking the eggs and on Mr Hutchinson being informed, he charged him with stealing them and asked him to produce them, which he did.

Replying to the Clerk, Mr Hutchinson said he did not wish to press the charge. He desired that the lad should have a warning and that he might be induced to return from his course of dishonesty. He suggested that the defendant should be dealt with under the First Offenders Act.

Turner admitted the charge and elected to be dealt with summarily. The Bench ordered him to pay the costs, £1 0s 6d, and to enter into his own recognizances to come up for judgement when called upon.



Western Gazette Friday 17 July 1891