

Crime and Punishment

Broad Blunsdon

1850

Swindon Petty Sessions Dec 27 --- Richard Hancock and Thomas Eacott, both of Broad Blunsdon, labourers, were summoned for the double offence of trespassing on land of Mr Jonah Newman, at Castle Eaton, in search of game, and of sporting without a certificate. Neither of the defendants appeared; the trespass was, however, disposed of in their absence. Eacott only was fined £2, including costs, the evidence against Hancock not having been quite conclusive. For the game certificate charge, a warrant was issued to apprehend both defendants.

Reading Mercury Saturday 5 January 1850

1865

Cricklade Petty Sessions Sept 23 --- Jonah Newman of Castle Eaton, farmer, was summoned by Catherine Eggleton, of Blunsdon, for assaulting her on the 5th Sept. Mr Newman summoned Catherine Eggleton for stealing wheat in the ear, lying in his fields. It appears that Eggleton, with two other women, were gleaning in a field occupied by Mr Newman, which had not been raked, and he on finding them there, ordered them off, and commenced horse-whipping them. The Bench considered Mr Newman had used unnecessary force in removing the women, and fined him in the nominal penalty of 7s 6d, to include costs, but dismissed the charge of felony. This decision ruled two other cases, the facts being precisely the same. Reading Mercury Saturday 20 September 1865