

Crime and Punishment

Hankerton



County Petty Session Tuesday 5 February 1889

Before Sir R H Pollen, bart., C Pollen, esq., Captain Napier Miles & W H Luce, esq.

Trial of George Woodward

George Woodward, labourer, of Hankerton, was charged with stealing, in April 1885, a pair of hames and a chain, the property of John Painter, haulier, of same place.

Painter said he did not see them until shewn them by PC Hill on the 19th December last. He had a sale in 1885 when the hames and chain were missed. Prosecutor's son indentified them as the same hames he had had mended by the blacksmith. The defendant's brother, Enoch, said he borrowed the chain and hames about five years ago, of J Painter's son-in-law, and a harrow. When he did so, Painter's son-in-law said. "You might as well keep these hames, as keep borrowing them." To which he replied, "All right," and, acting on the suggestion, kept them. The Bench said the hames ought to have been taken back, but after so long a period they could not send the case for trial; so dismissed it.

Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 7 February 1889