



# Crime and Punishment

*Holt*

## Threatening To Murder Wife

Lenient sentence:- On Tuesday last, a fellow named Arthur Penny, of Holt, was brought in custody, charged with brutally assaulting and threatening to murder her. On the previous Saturday night, the neighbours were alarmed at hearing a great disturbance at the prisoner's house, and upon entering found that he had been ill using her, and was actually sharpening a knife, saying he would murder her, and followed her into a neighbour's house to carry his threat into execution, swearing he would kill her if he was hung for it. On the previous Saturday the fellow beat her shamefully and gave her a pair of black eyes. A neighbour went in to part them and came off with two black eyes and his nose bleeding. For this outrage, this infuriated brute was required to find sureties, himself in £20, and two sureties in £10 each, to keep the peace for six months! These atrocities were committed under the potent influence of *beer*.

**Trowbridge Advertiser, 7 December 1861**