



George Webb - Complainant & Defendant in One Day

City Petty Sessions - Police – Yesterday

Before the Mayor and Richard Hetley, Esq.

John Aldren, a sub-contractor on the Wilts, Somerset and Weymouth Railway, was charged with using threatening language towards George Webb, recently a porter on the South Western Railway. The defendant denied the charge. The Bench, however, thought the case proved, and ordered him to pay the costs, and enter into his own recognizances to keep the peace towards the complainant for one month.

George Webb, (the complainant in the last case) was then charged with obtaining goods, by false pretences, from Mr. Nash, draper, and Mr. Roe, stationer. The prisoner went to the shop of Mr. Nash, and requested to be supplied with some shirts to show to some of the railway porters, and which he promised to return again in a week, in the event of their not being approved of.

Considerably more than that period had now elapsed, and as they had not been returned, Mr. Nash was under the impression that they had been illegally disposed of. The prisoner went to Mr. Roe's, about the end of April, and asked to be allowed to take away a couple of purses, to show a lady of Southampton, and as he had before made purchases at the shop, Mr. Roe acceded to his request.

The articles, however, had not since been heard of. The prisoner said he sent the shirts to a person named Smith, a bricklayer, at Romsey, who had not returned them; the purses he forwarded to a young woman named Elizabeth Long, who was staying with a family at Radley's Hotel, Southampton, and who has since gone to London.

He was about to receive some money through one of the Salisbury banks, and would be quite willing to pay for the articles. The Bench thought that, inasmuch as the property had not been discovered, no felonious intent had been proved, and accordingly the prisoner was discharged. Mr. Nash subsequently informed the Mayor that he understood the shirts had been sold to the driver of one of the mail carts for the sum of six shillings, and Mr. Roe's purses have since been found at one of the inns in the city, where they had been left in payment for drink.

Salisbury and Winchester Journal, Saturday 23 Jun 1855