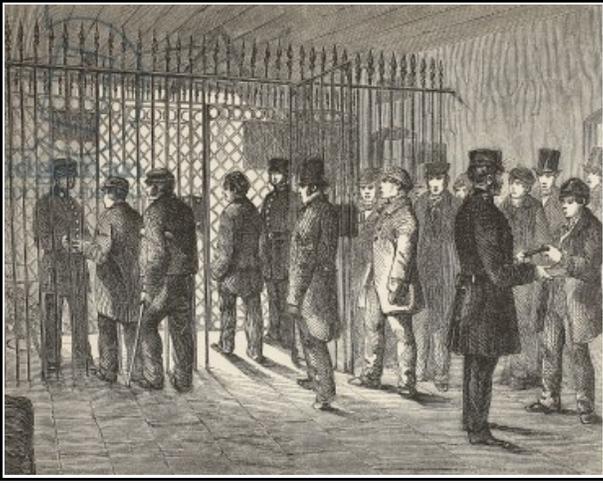


Crime and Punishment

Salisbury



THE ALLEGED MURDER AT SALISBURY

Henry Bungay, sixty-three was arraigned before Mr. Justice Hawkins, at Winchester Assizes, on a charge of murdering John Pitt, at Salisbury, on March 30. The counsel for the prosecution gave the facts of the case, which were supported by a large number of witnesses. It appeared that on March 30, between one and two o'clock in the afternoon the deceased went to the rear of the "Shoulder-of-Mutton inn," Salisbury, which joins a mill race. Shortly afterwards the prisoner went to the same place, and met deceased. The river at that point was formed by three bodies of water passing through sluices, and feeding a mill. The side of the river was protected by wooden railings. The prisoner was observed to have some conversation with deceased; but in consequence of the noise made by the water rushing down, nothing was heard. Two witnesses, however, who were watching, saw prisoner take hold of deceased by the back of the head and shoulder and push him into the river. Deceased caught hold of one of the rails and succeeded in preventing himself from falling, but prisoner again took him by the head and shoulder, pushed him into the water, and with giving any alarm returned toward the rear of the inn. One of the witnesses, at work in the "Shoulder-of-Mutton" yard, missing the deceased, went to the prisoner and inquired where Pitt had gone to and the prisoner replied "He has slipped into the water." Meanwhile the two persons who had witnessed the occurrence went to the spot, and the body of the deceased was recovered. Medical assistance was immediately forthcoming and restoratives administered, but without avail. The medical testimony showed that death had been caused partly by shock and partly from suffocation. The shock was from sudden immersion in the water, habits of intemperance, and disease. Mr. Mathews, in addressing the jury, said this was one of the most peculiar cases he had heard of. As a rule it was the object of murderers to take their victims to a secluded place; but here, according to the evidence, the deceased met his death in the presence of no less than six witnesses. Both men were under the influence of drink at the time, and they followed each other to the riverside. Here, in play, they took hold of each other's right hand, and that resulted in a struggle, during which the deceased was pushed into the water. The jury found prisoner guilty of manslaughter, and he was sentenced to ten years penal servitude.

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