



Crime Reports - Gorsehill - 1850-1899

1878 – Robert KEMPSTER, tent proprietor, Gorse Hill, charged with being drunk and disorderly and assaulting PC Carter on Tuesday 13th. Fined 10s & 8s costs for being drunk and £4 and 10s 6d costs for the assault. **Swindon Advertiser 26-10-1878.**

1879 – Alice MILES, described as on no occupation, Gorse Hill, was brought up in custody charged with obtaining by means of false pretences, on the 11th inst., from Mr. J. G. Westlake, Fleet Street, New Swindon, three pairs of women's shoes; also on 19th of Dec, last, from Mr. Bryan, draper, Bridge Street, two boys cloth coats; and on 18th Nov. last, from Mr. H. F. Reeves, draper, 43, Regent Street, two ladies Ulster coats Caroline MILES her step-mother, was charged with receiving the abovenamed articles, well knowing them to be stolen. On application of Mr. Supt. North both prisoners were remanded for a week. **The Western Daily Press 17-01-1879.**

1880 – Albert Henry NEW v John BARNES. The parties live at Gorse Hill. The claim was £1 19s 4d, for furniture which plaintiff alleged the defendants' wife agreed to take and pay for. Defendant denied any knowledge of the transaction. The plaintiff's evidence being insufficient his order a non-suit, not on the merits. **Bristol Mercury and Daily Post 12-11-1880.**

1889 – Frank MOULDIN, James MITCHELL and James TOMBS, all labourers, for playing pitch and toss at Stratton on Sunday, 13th October. Each fined 10s and 5s 8d costs. **Citizen 25-10-1889**

1891 – George INDER, for being drunk & disorderly at Stratton on Saturday last, was fined 10s and 7s costs. **Citizen 28-03-1891.**

– Peter JAMES, bachelor, a labourer of Gorse Hill, was drunk and disorderly, and refusing to leave The Fox Tavern, Regent Street, on June 15th. **Citizen 19-06-1891.**

– James SMART, innkeeper, and pork butchers Gorse Hill, applied for holdover of The Marlborough Arms Inn, Faringdon from William Ball. Held over for enquiries and representative from brewers. **Jacksons Oxford Journal 22-08-1891.**

-John HOUSE, labourer of Argyle Street for being drunk and disorderly & assaulting the police. Fined £1 5s & 20s costs. **Swindon Advertiser 19-09-1891.**

- Harry STRANGER, labourer of Chapel Street for assaulting & beating his wife Mary on 12th. He had hit her previously when drunk. Bound over in sum of £5 plus 11s 6d costs. **Swindon Advertiser 19-09-1891.**

– Richard LAWRENCE and Henry LAWRENCE, labourers, of Gorse Hill, were summoned for trespassing in search of rabbits on land at Blunsdon Abbey, on Sunday, November 15th. Both pleaded guilty and were fined £1 6s 3d each. **Citizen 27-11-1891.**

1892 – Mary HIGGINS, a married woman, of Gorse Hill, 14 days for stealing 1s 3½d from the till of The Crown, Marlborough Road, on the 19th inst. **Citizen 22-7-1892.**

- George and Henry BARRETT, of Broad Blunsdon, two youths, were charged with stealing two cakes, the property of George CONSTABLE, of Horse Hill. They pleaded guilty, but as the circumstances were very hrd the prisoners were released upon promising to pay costs, 10s, each. The **Citizen 09-08-1892.**

– A distress warrant against the goods of Daniel JEFFERIES, of Argyle Street, Gorse Hill, was granted, in respect of arrears of maintenance of the defendant's son at the Wilts Reformatory. **Citizen 23-9-1892.**

- Frederick HEDGES, G.W.R. employee living in Gorse Hill, was fined £1 and 5s 6d costs for being drunk and disorderly and assaulting P.C. Waters while in the execution of his duty on Saturday night last. The **Western Daily Press 02-11-1892.**

1893 - William HISCOCKS, labourer, of Gorse Hill, was fined 10s and 21s costs, for stealing a coat, the property of Mr. O. E. WRIGHT, landlord of The Golden Lion Inn. The **Citizen 24-2-1893**

– Edward CARPENTER, a butcher, of Gorse Hill, was fined 30s and £1 11s costs, for having false, unjust, and unstamped weights, &c., for use in the way of his trade. The **Citizen 26-05-1893.**

– John KNIGHT in the employ of Mr. Albert HAYNES, grocer of Gorse Hill, was summoned for cruelly ill-treating a mare by working it in an unfit state on the 27th. Mr. W. Foote prosecuted on behalf of the Swindon R.S.P.C.A., and Mr. A. E. Withy defended. Evidence was given by Inspector and a man named Haynes, who said that the animal had a raw wound on the withers, beneath the pad. Superintendent Collett said that the case was not one for a prosecution, and veterinary evidence was given Mr. E. Lawrence for the defence, that the wound on the date of the charge was covered with skin, which would occupy three days. The case was dismissed with costs, and a charge against Wm. Haynes for allowing the horse to be worked was withdrawn. The **Citizen 04-08-1893.**

– George WITCHELL and John GLEESON, both boys, of Gorse Hill, were fined 8s each, to include damages and costs, for wilful damage to growing wheat, the property of Mr. J. K. COLELING, farmer, of Stratton St Margaret. The **Citizen 04-08-1893.**

– Maria BOURNE was fined and ordered to pay the costs of a summons charging her with assaulting Mary CARTER on the 9th inst. The parties are both married women and live in adjacent streets in Horse Hill, and the justification for the assault was that the complainant had scandalised the defendant. The **Citizen 18-08-1893.**

– Two youths of Gorse Hill, were charged with stealing 48 tins of condensed milk, the property of the G.W.R. Co. The lads took a case of milk consigned from Anglo-Swiss Condensed Milk Co. at Chippenham, to Mr W. GOSLING at Swindon. One of them Charles SAUNDERS was sent to prison for 14 days, and the other, Edwin James GORTON, was sent to prison for 23 days, with hard labour. The **Citizen 06-10-1893.**

1894 – Herbert THOMAS, George THOMAS, Albert RICHENS, William NORRIS, Charles GOULING and George DOWSE, Gorse Hill boys, were summoned by Richard Thomas HOLLAND, milk seller, for assault. The youngsters had pelted the complainant with stones and were let off on payment of 2s 1d for costs. The **Citizen 13-04-1894**

– Florence HILL, charwoman, of Gorse Hill, was committed for trial on two charges, the one of stealing various articles of dress and bedding from William GIBBS, of Edmond Street, New Swindon, and the other of obtaining two pairs of boots by false pretences from Daniel O'FARRELL of Commercial Road, New Swindon. The **Citizen 08-06-1894.**

– George GREEN of Gorse Hill, was committed for seven days in default of paying a fine for kicking and striking a boy named William CURTIS, the son of prisoner's next-door neighbour. The **Citizen 10-06-1894.**

– Henry HILLIER, aged 12, of 71, Chapel Street, Gorse Hill, was find 9s and 6d, damage, as well as costs, for doing 6d worth of damage to a bread cart, the property of H. J. Ford, grocer, of Stratton St Margaret. The youngster threw a stone and made a dent in the van. Supt. Collett said that the boys at Gorse Hill were so troublesome he had had to put an extra constable on duty there. The **Citizen 05-10-1894.**

1895 – HARDING – BRUNSDEN – April 23, at the parish church, Calne, by the Rev. Canon Duncan, James PALMER, only son of J. P. Harding, of Dursley, to Emily Agnes, youngest (twin) daughter of the late John BRUNSDON, of Gorse Hill. The **Cheltenham Chronicle 27-04-1895.**

– Jasper TURNER and Walter WOOLFORD, lads of Gorse Hill, pleaded guilty to damaging a hedge belonging to Mr. Tucker, of Regent Street, on August 3rd. They were ordered to pay 9s 1d each. The **Citizen 16-08-1895.**

1896 - Arthur DUNN Road Car Driver – Obstruction of Capital & Counties Rank in Fleet Street. Fined 5s and 7s costs. **Swindon Advertiser 03-10-1896.**

– Application – Tom PHILLIPS, a GWR blacksmith, of Hinton Street, Gorse Hill, on 30/- a week was summoned by Gertrude Nellie HIETT, of Liddiard Millicent for her child. Bench made order of 3s per week. **Swindon Advertiser 07-11-1896.**

1897 – Charles SAUNDERS, of Gorse Hill, was fined £1, including costs, for cruelty to a mare on December 30th. Defendants master paid the fine. The **Citizen 15-01-1897.**

– Sarah A. QUARRELL, of 31, Bright Street, Gorse Hill, was summoned by Dorcas DYER for assaulting her on January 12th, and there was a cross summons. Mr. A. E. Withy appeared for Mrs. DYER. The evidence was so conflicting that the bench dismissed both cases. The **Citizen 22-01-1897.**

– William TOOMBS, Ernest GREY, George KEMBREY and Alfred GERRING, all of Gorse Hill were charged with assaulting Elizabeth FARTHER, a girl of 17, with intent to commit criminal assault, on March 7th. Prisoners were committed for trial. Grey was released on bail, his father becoming surety. The **Citizen 12-03-1897.**

– Charles SAUNDERS and Charles DUNNE, of Gorse Hill, was summoned, the former for cruelty, and the latter for causing cruelty to a gelding, on March 13th. They were fined, Dunn £2 10s, and 6s costs, and Saunders 5s and 6s costs. Dunn paid both fines. The **Citizen 19-03-1897.**

-Ernest WHITTLE, 11, Whiteman Street. For stealing 3s from the till of Henry Wheeler, 16 Whiteman Street on 6th May. Caught red-handed by Ada Rosina Newberry. Six strokes of birch rod. **Swindon Advertiser 15-05-1897.**

-Walter Ashford HOLLEY, 14 of Beatrice Street. Pleaded guilty to stealing a tricycle the property of Thomas Nash of 17 Tennyson Street. As first offence 13s costs. **Swindon Advertiser 13-11-1897.**

- Susan LOVERIDGE, Tent, Stratton Road. For stealing a pocket knife, value 2s 6d, the property of John COMLEY, of 246 Cricklade Road, Gorse Hill. Due to current situation and children being ill a charge of £1 given, this was paid by a friend in court. **Swindon Advertiser 04-12-1897**

1899 - Reginald PONTING, eleven, Arthur THRUSH, nine, and William ARCHER, eleven, of Gorse Hill were charged with placing a stone on the Great Western Railway line near Highworth, with intent to cause an obstruction. Thomas WHITER, the engine driver, said that as he was approaching Highworth he felt the engine give a sudden lurch, and it nearly left the rails. He afterwards found pieces of stone which weighed 66lbs. The chairman sentenced the boys to six strokes each. **Yorkshire Telegraph and Star 21-04-1890.**