

## **Labourer Summoned**

PETTY SESSIONS, Wednesday.

Job Whatley, labourer, was summoned by the Local Board for destroying and removing a boundary stone, the property of the Board, near the residence of Mr. James Jones Dicks. Mr. C. J. Jones, solicitor, prosecuted.

The defendant pleaded guilty to breaking the stone, but said that he was ordered and paid to do it by Mr. Dicks, who assured him that is was not a boundary stone, and had he known that it was a boundary stone he should not have touched it. He contended that his employer should have been summoned, as he did it at his order.

The Bench decided that they could not admit his plea, and find him £3 10s including costs, or one month's hard labour. The defendant greatly surprised at the decision, and asked for one month to pay the fine. The Bench would not allow this, and ordered Supt. White to take out a distraint on his household goods if not paid.

The Western Gazette, Friday, 6 June 1890

## **Extraordinary Fracas**

On Monday afternoon a committee of the local Board went to the Bradley Road, near the barracks, to view some land adjoin the house of Mr. J. J. Dicks, another member of the board, respecting the boundary. It seems that the boundary stone of the board, showing the limit of their district, is near Mr. Dicks' land. He maintains that it is on his land, and gave directions to a man to demolish it, and he did so. The man was summoned before the magistrates and fined £3 10s. 6d., which the other members generously subscribed and repaid the man. On Monday the committee, with their clerk, went to the spot to see the boundary stone restored, when Mr. Dicks so far forgot the dignity of his position as a member of the local legislative assembly as to hustle his brother members and the clerk. The result was, they came to blows, and Mr. Dicks shed blood. The affair has caused much gossip in the town, and no doubt will appear in a magisterial court.

**Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette 19 June 1890**